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SENSEX 52,306.08 (-282.63)
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GOLD 47,298.00 (+287.00)
SILVER 88,259.00 (+744.00)

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CAPSULE

HARYANA EX-CM OP CHAULTALA TO WALK FREE
New Delhi: Former Haryana Chief Minister OP Chautala, who is serving a 10-year prison term in a teacher recruitment scam case and is out on parole, will be freed from Tihar jail as the Delhi Government has granted a six-month remission of sentence, officials said.

MONSOON LIKELY TO ELUDE DELHI TILL JUNE
New Delhi: Delhi is unlikely to receive monsoonal showers till the end of June and the maximum temperature in the city is predicted to hover around 40 degrees Celsius till then, according to the IMD.

KARNAM MALLESWARI IS SPORTS VARSITY'S 1st VC
New Delhi: India's first female Olympic medalist Karnam Malleswari has been appointed the vice-chancellor of Delhi Sports University, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said.

J&K political future hinges on all-party meet outcome

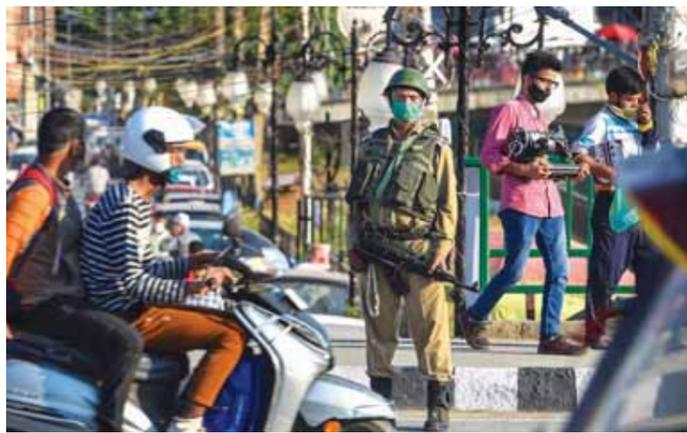
Centre to break ice with J&K leaders today

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

The return of political normalcy in Jammu & Kashmir and conduct of elections will largely depend on the outcome of the crucial all-party meet convened by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the leaders of the Union Territory in New Delhi on Thursday.

Former Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister and PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti arrived in Delhi on Tuesday. Though the meeting is taking place in the national Capital, the security has been beefed up all across the Union Territory of J&K. A high alert has also been sounded along the Line of Control and the International border to prevent any misadventure from anti-national elements at this crucial juncture.

After the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019, it is for the first time that more than one dozen leaders from the region, including four former Chief Ministers and four Deputy Chief Ministers, would be sitting together under the



A security official stands guard ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meeting with political leaders from Jammu & Kashmir, in Srinagar on Wednesday. This will be PM Modi's first interaction with all the mainstream political parties of Jammu & Kashmir since August 5, 2019, when the Centre abrogated the States special status and bifurcated it into two Union Territories: J&K and Ladakh

same roof with the Prime Minister to share their opinions and give suggestions to kick-start the stalled "internal" dialogue process.

Now the question arises in the absence of any concrete agenda of the meeting, whether the Centre Government would be able to break the ice or the mainstream leaders would return home empty handed.

Inside reports suggested the Central Government is keen on pushing the agenda of timely completion of process of delimitation of Assembly constituencies so that Assembly polls can be organised in due course of time. Voices have been raised in support of restoring the statehood of Jammu and Kashmir as part of biggest confidence building

measure. The same demand has been raised by the leaders from both the regions and the Union Government too is committed to grant statehood to J&K at an appropriate time.

Delta Plus variant cases double in 24 hrs in India

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Karnataka on Wednesday joined the list of States reporting infectious Delta Plus variant of Covid-19, a mutated version of highly contagious Delta variant, taking the total number of reported cases to 46 across the country, more than doubling a day after the reported 22 cases on Tuesday.

Maharashtra tops the list so far with 21 cases followed by Kerala and Madhya Pradesh which are already on alert. The Centre has issued them advisory amid concerns over likely third wave of the pandemic in the country in the next few months. Presently, the



A medic collects a swab sample from a man for Covid-19 testing in New Delhi on Wednesday

Delta Plus virus is prevalent in nine countries across the world — the US, the UK, Portugal, Switzerland, Japan, Poland, Nepal, China, and Russia. However, the Delta variant has been detected in 80 countries.

Detected for the first time in India and now known as "Variant of Concern", experts fear that the virus may be lurking in more parts of India, for which genome sequencing is a key to detect these cases. They said it is just a matter of time when more cases will trickle in from other States.

Karnataka Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar Karnataka on Wednesday confirmed the two cases, one of which is from Bengaluru, while the other is from Mysuru. He said that the information has been shared with the Union Health

Ministry and a further course of action is being planned. The Minister said the State Government is monitoring the emergence of new variants and it has decided to set up six genome labs in the State. "Wherever we have a suspicion, we are doing genomic sequencing. We are doing random checks of five per cent of the total samples checked."

The strain has been tagged as a "Variant of Concern" by the Centre. "The new Delta Plus variant of the coronavirus is extremely transmissible, and even walking next to a Covid-19 patient who is a carrier of this variant without a mask may lead to the spread of infection," AIIMS director Randeep Guleria said to a news channel.

Covid-19 IN INDIA	
TOTAL CASES:	3,00,81,484 (+53,601)
DEATHS:	3,92,004 (+1,313)
RECOVERED:	2,90,55,058 (+67,579)
ACTIVE:	6,22,596
MAHA:	58,97,587 (+10,066)
KERALA:	28,42,248 (+12,787)
K'TAKA:	28,19,465 (+4,436)
TN:	24,43,415 (+6,596)
DELHI:	14,33,366 (+588)

Once bitten, twice shy! Akhilesh's no to Cong, BSP ties

SP keeps door open for small caste-based parties in UP

VIRENDRA NATH BHATT ■ LUCKNOW

With the political activities gathering momentum in Uttar Pradesh and main political players scouting for allies, Samajwadi Party national president Akhilesh Yadav ruled out alliance with big players like the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and the Congress, but kept the door ajar for the small caste-based parties.

Having burnt the fingers in 2017 UP Assembly polls and 2019 Lok Sabha elections by forging alliance with the Congress and the BSP respectively, Akhilesh ruled out any tie-up for the Uttar Pradesh election next year and said his party would join forces with like-minded smaller parties.



"Those who want to defeat the BJP, I appeal to them to help the Samajwadi Party," he added. "My experience with big parties is not good, I will not get into any alliance with them," Akhilesh said. Ruling out a "Bua-Bhatija" repeat act after his 2019 alliance with BSP flopped, Akhilesh admitted that a few BSP leaders were in touch with him.

On the Congress, he said the party was too weak in UP to beat the BJP. "We did not have a good experience with them in 2017 — we gave them over 100 seats but we could not win. The people of UP have rejected the Congress," said Akhilesh, sidestepping a question on Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's mission to rebuild the Congress in the State.

Captain returns home without audience with party high command

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

A day after Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh was given a deadline to fulfil all pre-poll promises by the All India Congress Committee (AICC) three-member panel, the senior Congress leader returned to Chandigarh without meeting the Gandhis — Congress interim president Sonia Gandhi, party vice-president Rahul Gandhi, and general secretary Priyanka Gandhi — commonly addressed as the party high command.

On the other hand, Rahul continued meeting the party leaders from Punjab for the third consecutive day, including the State Congress president Sunil Kumar Jakhar, Rajya Sabha member Partap Singh Bajwa and Finance Minister Manpreet Singh Badal. Rahul also met Punjab party affairs in-charge Harish Rawat, who apprised him of panel's meeting with the Chief Minister.

At the same time, taking strong note of the recent statements by the Congress MLA and firebrand leader Navjot



Singh Sidhu, the high command may also summon the former cricketer soon. Notably, the Chief Minister lodged strong objection against Sidhu's "two families taking advantage in the State" remarks, regarding which the high command has also sought details.

Pressure seems to be mounting on Capt Amarinder with the party high command taking a tough stand, and conveying it to the CM that he has to fulfil all the promises made to the people before the State goes to 2022 polls.

Even as Rahul continued to meet the State party leaders, especially those criticising the Chief Minister, a rendezvous with Capt Amarinder was not on his list.

India meets Taliban on and off to secure its interests

Qatar envoy confirms Indian officials' meeting

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As part of New Delhi's bid to secure reconstruction investments in Afghanistan amid ongoing US troops' withdrawal and likely formation of a new power structure, Indian officials have been meeting Taliban intermittently, including in Doha, but have kept the talks away from public glare.

Qatar's special envoy for counter-terrorism and conflict resolution Mullaq bin Majed al-Qahtani has been on record stating that India was engaging with the Taliban.

According to reports, Indian officials and Taliban have been in intermittent contact at different levels.

India is also pushing for a comprehensive ceasefire in Afghanistan amid reports of violent onslaught of Taliban to take over the provinces of that country.

The US has planned a complete withdrawal of its forces from Afghanistan by



Afghan militiamen join Afghan defense and security forces during a gathering in Kabul on Wednesday

September 11. This will end nearly two decades of American military presence in the war-torn country.

At a webinar organised by the Arab Center in Washington DC on Monday, the senior Qatari diplomat said that he believed the Indian side was engaging with the Taliban as the group could be a key component in the future of Afghanistan.

The Taliban and the Afghan Government are holding direct talks in the Qatari capital city Doha to end the war

Banks recover 40% losses from Choksi, Nirav, Vijay Mallya

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Assets worth ₹9,041.5 crore, representing 40 per cent of the total loss to the banks due to the PNB credit fraud case involving diamondaire Mehul Choksi and his nephew Nirav Modi besides liquor baron Vijay Mallya have been handed over to the public sector banks. These assets were seized by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) as part of the money laundering probe against them.

The alleged siphoning of funds by the trio has led to a combined loss to the public sector banks to the tune of ₹22,585.83 crore.

"Due to the cooperation and help extended by ED, public sector banks have already recovered ₹1,357 crore by selling the shares earlier. Thus, the banks shall be realising total amount of ₹9,041.5 crore through sale of a part of assets attached/seized by ED under the provisions of PMLA," the agency said in a statement.

The ED attached/seized assets worth ₹18,170.02 crore which included assets worth ₹969 crore located in foreign countries.

Dawood's nephew Iqbal Kaskar held by NCB in drugs case

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Mohammed Rizwan Iqbal Hasan Shaikh Ibrahim Kaskar, nephew of Karachi-based underworld don Dawood Ibrahim Kaskar, was on Wednesday arrested by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in connection with a drug-related case. Armed with a production warrant, the NCB picked up Iqbal from Thane prison — where he has been lodged for past five years — and taken to the NCB headquarters for questioning. After several hours of questioning, Kaskar was placed under arrest.

Kaskar's name had cropped during the interrogations of several accused arrested in connection with the seizure of drugs made in central Mumbai. Detailed report on P5

Guv meddling in House affairs: WB Speaker to Birla

PNS ■ KOLKATA

With the relationship between Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee continuing to deteriorate in the wake of his regular talk about the worsening law and order situation, Bengal Assembly Speaker Biman Banerjee has reached out to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla accusing Raj Bhavan of regular "interference" in the proceedings of the House.

In a virtual meeting, the Bengal Speaker has accused the

Governor of needlessly withholding the Bills passed in the State Assembly.

"I told the Lok Sabha Speaker about the excessive interference of Governor Dhankhar in parliamentary democracy and the functioning of the Assembly. Despite being passed by the Assembly, several Bills are lying with the Governor as he has not signed them. This is unprecedented in the history of West Bengal's parliamentary democracy. Such a thing has never happened before," he said.

Offers galore to end job hesitancy

Indigo offers 10% discount on airfare, McDonald 20% on meal for vaccinated

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

From discounts in flight tickets, waiver on car servicing charges and free mobile charge to heavy rewards are being offered to get people vaccinated. In a move to dispel vaccine hesitancy, rumours and myths surrounding the Covid-19 jobs corporate sectors, business class and elected representatives are throwing in a little something extra to reward those who have gotten their shot or encourage those who are dragging their feet.

IndiGo airline, India's largest domestic budget air carrier, is offering 10 per cent discounts on flight tickets to those who get vaccinated; McDonald's is offering a 20 per cent discount on meals; an MLA is offering free mobile recharge while another MLA is offering reward of ₹10 lakh for the village that achieves 100 per cent inoculation; Central Bank of India Ltd is offering higher interest on deposits from recipients of at least one dose; boAt is offering 25 per cent discounts on its product; and Beer Cafe's offer gives its consumers a 10 per cent discount on their first job, and 20 per cent on the second one.

In the nation Capital's Saket, Select CITYWalk is offering various "encouragement packages" for inoculated

consumers. The list is long.

To claim the discounts, people must show their vaccination certificates issued by the Government.

IndiGo airline, India's largest domestic budget air carrier, has launched a Vaxi Fare scheme, giving a 10 per cent discount on airfare on single, return and multiple journeys across India for passengers who are vaccinated with either first or both doses of Covid-19 vaccines. IndiGo airline is the first airline to offer such a discount to domestic passengers.

The catch is that only limited inventory is available under the offer.



has a "buy one, get one free" offer during their Sunday brunch and on select spirits at their lounge and restaurant, Kitchen District.

It is also a discount on spa

sessions. In Delhi, special discount is being offered by Delhi's Zaika's restaurant located in Yamuna Vihar, to those who have taken vaccines against corona.

Ranchi tops in health & nutrition reforms under Niti Aayog programme

Aayog aims at improving ease of living in 112 underdeveloped districts

PNS ■ RANCHI

Ranchi has emerged as the best performing district in terms of health and nutrition reforms and bagged the third position in overall performance under the Aspirational District Programme (ADS) of Niti Aayog, which aims at improving the ease of living in 112 underdeveloped districts across India.

Another Jharkhand district, Simdega bagged the fourth position in overall performance and eight in health and nutrition under the ADS programme, the annual Niti Aayog stated in its annual 2020-21 report released recently. Simdega also bagged the fourth position in Financial Inclusion & Skill Development.

Palamu stood fourth among the 112 aspirational districts in terms of Agriculture & Water resources. However, no Jharkhand district managed to make it to the list of top 10 best performing districts in terms of education under the programme.

"Districts are prodded and encouraged to first catch-up with the best district within their state, and subsequently aspire to become one of the best in the country, by competing with, and learning from other districts," the official website of Niti Aayog states.

According to the website, Health & Nutrition, Education, Agriculture & Water Resources, Financial Inclusion & Skill Development, and Basic Infrastructure are this programme's core areas of focus. After several rounds of consultations with various stakeholders, 49 key performance indicators have been chosen to measure progress of the districts.

At least 19 of 24 districts in Jharkhand are among the 112 districts selected for the programme. As per a report submitted by the Niti Aayog to United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), most of the 112 districts selected for the ADP were underdeveloped and some affected by LWE.

In the past one year, the State launched several programmes to combat malnutrition. The government launched the mobile malnutrition treatment van project to address the nutritional needs of children and also increased the number of institutional deliveries, a step towards better health of pregnant women and newborns, officials said.

The Niti Aayog, as per its annual report, sanctioned comprehensive projects to reduce anaemia and malnutrition in five Jharkhand districts and equip schools with smart classrooms in 19 districts of the tribal state.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), if the prevalence of anaemia in a population is 40 per cent or higher it is categorized as a severe public health problem. National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4) highlights that around 70 per cent of children in the age bracket of 6-59 months, 62.6 per cent of pregnant women and 65.2 per cent of women in the reproductive age are anaemic in Jharkhand.

Launched in January 2018 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the ADP has been lauded by several foreign organisations, including UNDP, which recently stated that the ADP should serve as "best practice" for other countries where regional disparities in development status persist for many reasons.

SIT summons Sukhbir Badal for questioning on June 26

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

A day after the Punjab Government's constituted Special Investigation Team (SIT), probing the Kotkapura police firing incident, questioned the former Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal, it summoned his son and SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal for questioning on June 26 (Saturday).

The SIT has summoned Sukhbir Badal as he was the Deputy Chief Minister and Home Minister when the Kotkapura police firing took place on October 14, 2015.

Besides the senior Badal, the probe panel has already questioned the then Director General of Police (DGP) Smedh Singh Saini.

KOTKAPURA FIRING CASE

The SIT is probing that who gave the clearance to the district police for opening firing at the mob protesting sacrilege incidents and if the police action was justified.

The Punjab Police SIT, led by ADGP LK Yadav, questioned SAD patriarch Badal at his official residence for nearly two and half hours.

High drama was witnessed when the former Chief Minister questioned the presence of non-SIT member — a retired Director Prosecution Vijay Singla during questioning. Sources said that Badal objected to Singla questioning him since he was not a SIT member while Akali leaders said that the DIG cannot be

THE PUNJAB POLICE SIT, LED BY ADGP LK YADAV, QUESTIONED SAD PATRIARCH BADAL AT HIS OFFICIAL RESIDENCE FOR NEARLY TWO AND HALF HOURS

replaced for questioning by the retired director of the prosecution department and that it was an illegal act.

Badal's political adviser Harcharan Singh Bains said that the former Chief Minister also questioned the SIT on why it could not widen the probe to investigate the Congress and the AAP hand in sacrilege conspiracy to defame and destabilize the then Akali gov-

ernment. Badal was Chief Minister of Punjab when the incident of police firing at Kotkapura and Behbal Kalan had taken place in October 2015 following protests over the sacrilege of Guru Granth Sahib.

Bains said the Punjab and Haryana high court had stated that former IG Kunwar Vijay Partap, who was a member of the earlier SIT, politicized the probe. Therefore, Badal told the SIT that after the High Court remarks, it needed to be probed at whose behest had Kunwar tried to vilify the Akalis and Sikhs against his head.

The earlier SIT, headed by then ADGP Prabodh Kumar, including then IG Kunwar as its member, had questioned Badal on November 16, 2018, in the same case.

U'khand CM releases coffee table book on Kumbh

PTI ■ DEHRADUN

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Tirath Singh Rawat on Wednesday released a coffee table book on Kumbh.

Titled "Kumbh: Aastha, Virasat aur Vigyan", the book contains photographs related to the event, its historical background and the scientific aspect of the religious congregation, an official release here said.

Speaking at the launch, the chief minister said Kumbh is a symbol of India's cultural heritage and faith and congratulated the publishers.

Rawat said the book will help people understand the cultural significance of Kumbh.

Two more NDA exam centres in U'khand

PTI ■ DEHRADUN

The National Defence Academy (NDA) examination will now be held at two more centres in Uttarakhand apart from Dehradun.

The two new centres for NDA examination in Uttarakhand are Almora and Srinagar Garhwal, an official release here said.

Chief Minister Tirath Singh Rawat thanked the UPSC for giving its approval to the two new NDA exam centres in Uttarakhand saying it will help the youth of the state who appear in large numbers for NDA exam.

Jharkhand extends ongoing lockdown-like restrictions till July 1

PNS ■ RANCHI

Government on Wednesday extended the ongoing lockdown-like restrictions up to July 1 amid a significant drop in Covid cases and positivity rate, which the government has attributed to strict restrictions to prevent the spread of coronavirus in the State.

"The trajectory of Covid cases has seen a downward trend in the state, but we cannot afford to be complacent. The current restrictions will continue in the best interest of our people and the government will take necessary steps as per the situation in the coming days," Chief Minister Hemant Soren after the government announced the extension of the ongoing lockdown.

Jharkhand on Wednesday reported two Covid casualties, one each in Simdega and Dumka, while the active caseload in the state dropped to 1364 as at least 190 Covid

patients recovered in the state against 139 people found infected by SARS-CoV-2 virus on the day, a bulletin released by the National Health Mission (NHM) highlighted. The death toll in the state reached 5104 on the day.

At least four Jharkhand districts — Pakur, Dumka, Khunti and Godda — did not report fresh cases of Covid-19 on Wednesday, while none of the 24 districts reported a spike of more than 30 cases. East Singhbhum, as per NHM data, reported the highest spike of 25 cases on the day, while Ranchi reported 10 cases of Covid-19.

The state on Wednesday tested swab samples of 63,944 residents and around 0.2 per cent of them were found infected by the deadly virus. So far, over 3.44 lakh people have been affected by Covid-19 in the state and 98.12 per cent of them have recovered, while 1.47 per cent of them could not survive, reveals government data.

The active caseload in Ranchi dropped to 444 on the day, while that in East Singhbhum came rose to 156. Among other districts, Dhanbad reported a spike of 14 cases against 16 recoveries, while Latehar reported a spike of 12 cases against 11 recoveries. At least 16 districts reported a single-digit-spike in cases on Wednesday.

As per government data, the growth rate of Covid-19 was 0.03 per cent in Jharkhand against the national average of 0.13 per cent, while the doubling rate in the state was 2129.46 days against the national average of 545.48 days.

The state on Wednesday administered the first dose of vaccine against Covid-19 to 111816 residents and close to 90,000 of the beneficiaries were in the age group of 18 years to 44 years, a separate report from NHM stated. The second jab of vaccine was administered to 19013 residents on the day.

Govt jobs for those securing medals in International sport events, says Haryana CM

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Wednesday said that the players who will secure medals in international sports events will be given government jobs so as to encourage them and incentivise budding players.

The Chief Minister was interacting with Olympic medalists on International Olympic Day here. The Minister of State for Sports and Youth Affairs, Sandeep Singh was also present on the occasion. Khattar said that besides getting government jobs in the Sports Department, international level medal winning sports persons would be appointed on deputation basis in the Education Department as well as in other Departments.

He said that if sports persons excelling in their field are appointed as coaches or trainers then young sports persons can be greatly benefited. Extending

greetings on International Olympic Day, he said that sports persons should join such Departments where they find better opportunities to excel.

He pointed out that the government has formulated an excellent policy to promote sports. Under this policy, along with 3 per cent reservation, government services are being provided according to the medals won by the sports persons. Apart from this, the State Government is enhancing sports infrastructure along with renovation of sports stadiums to promote sports activities, he added.

He said that Khelo India Games will provide better opportunities to the young generation to excel in the field of sports. The CM added the Sports Department has taken a good decision to plant saplings on International Olympic Day. The government has made laborious efforts to meet the need of oxygen supply during the second wave of Covid-19 pandemic. Now, more attention

has been paid to planting trees to improve the environment. The Forest Department has set a target of planting three crore saplings this year under Saghan Van Yojana, he said.

As part of this, trees will be planted on Panchayati land in rural areas and Government land in urban areas. This year, more and more trees will be planted and Oxy-vans will be developed, he added.

6 CR FOR GOLD WINNERS IN TOKYO OLYMPICS

Haryana Minister of State for Sports and Youth Affairs Sandeep Singh informed that 30 players from the state have been selected for the upcoming Tokyo Olympic Games. Rs 5 lakh has been provided to each of these players as preparation amount, he said. The Minister said that a cash amount of Rs 6 crore will be given for gold medal winners in the Olympic Games, Rs 4 crore for Silver medal winners and Rs 2.50 crore for bronze medal winners.

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Table with 6 columns: Sr No., Loan Account No., Type of Loan, Name of borrowers and co-borrowers, Section 13 (2) Notice Date, Outstanding amount as per Section 13 (2) Notice, Property Address. Contains 4 entries.

You are hereby called upon to pay the amounts to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited) as per the details shown in the above table with contractual rate of interest thereupon from their respective dates and other costs, charges etc. within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to initiate proceedings, under Section 13 (4) and section 14 of the SARFAESI Act, against the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinabove to realize the amount due to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited). Further you are prohibited under Section 13 (13) of the said Act from transferring the said secured assets either by way of sale/lease or otherwise.

Authorized Officer IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited) Date : 24.06.2021 Place : Dehradun

MLA Fatehjung writes to high command refusing Govt job offer to son

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Congress party, it seems, has switched into a damage control mode as the controversy over giving government jobs to the two legislators' sons on "compassionate grounds" refused to die down, dividing the Punjab party unit.

As a part of the same, Qadian MLA Fatehjung Bajwa has turned down the State Government's job offer to his son Arjun Fatehjung Bajwa. At the same time, the party leadership is also reportedly in talks with Ludhiana North MLA Rakesh Pandey expecting the same.

Notably, the Cabinet, in its June 18 meeting, has decided to appoint sons of two Congress MLAs — Arjun Pratap Singh

Bajwa (Fatehjung Bajwa's son) as Punjab Police Inspector; and Bhisam Pandey (Rakesh Pandey's son) as Naib Tehsildar on "compassionate grounds" as "special cases".

The move came more than 30 years after both the appointees had lost their respective grandfathers in terrorist attacks in 1987. While Fatehjung's father, Satnam Singh Bajwa, who was also the former Minister, was killed in a terrorist attack in Amritsar; Pandey's father Joginderpal Pandey was killed by terrorists in Ludhiana when insurgency was at its peak in Punjab.

Fatehjung Bajwa, it has been learnt, has given in writing to the party high command that he does not require a government job for his son.

Sources informed The Pioneer that Punjab party affairs in-charge Harish Rawat has approached the Qadian MLA asking him to give in writing that he did not require the job. On visit to Delhi a day before, Fatehjung handed over the letter to Rawat. Reports are that Rawat would also talk to Pandey to follow the suit.

Notably, Fatehjung's elder brother and party's Rajya Sabha MP Partap Singh Bajwa had appealed to the two Congress MLAs to reject the government's proposal.

Even as the party high command was engaging in resolving the power struggle between the top Punjab leaders, a new controversy hit the party and the State Government hard over the

Cabinet's decision to give jobs to sons of two Congress MLAs.

Five Cabinet Ministers — Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa, Tripat Rajinder Singh Bajwa, Razia Sultana, Charanjit Singh Chahni, Sukhbir Singh Sarakania, Chanrjit Singh Channi — have opposed the move.

Besides, Punjab Congress president Sunil Jakhar, dubbing the decision as "wrong", had requested the Chief Minister for its review. Other than that, Congress MLAs Kuljit Nagra, Amarinder Singh Raja Warring, Pargat Singh, Harjot Kamal, have also questioned the government's move, besides Navjot Singh Sidhu and Pargat Singh.

Fatehgarh Sahib MLA Nagra had stated that the peo-

ple's representatives must work for the people and not for personal gains. "The Cabinet should rollback the decision. We should meet the promise of 'Ghar Ghar Naukri' instead of giving jobs to the kin of MLAs who don't need it," he had stated.

Appealing to the MLAs not to accept the jobs being offered to their sons, Gidderbaha MLA Warring stated that it would "amount to cheating with the common man".

Pargat Singh had, in fact, gone to the extent of calling the move as "horse-trading".

Moreover, Punjab Youth Congress president Barinder Singh Dhillon also expressed dissatisfaction with the move saying that the needy need it first.

उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लि० (उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का उपकरण) कार्यालय अग्रिमारी अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण खण्ड, लक्सर, हरिद्वार ई-निविदा सूचना

NORTHERN RAILWAY CORRIGENDUM 01 Notice for inviting tender for Development of Bareilly Cantt Goods shed of Moradabad Division through Public private Partnership model was published vide Tender notice no. 12/19/2021 on 05.06.2021. However, the Pre-bid meeting as scheduled earlier on 23.06.2021 through online platform is now decided that it will be conducted offline and is re-scheduled for 29.06.2021 (Tuesday) which will be held at Manan Hall, DRM office, Civil Lines, Moradabad at 12.00 pm.

उत्तराखण्ड सहकारी डेरी फेडरेशन लि०, मंगल पड़ाव, हनुमती-263139 05946-255867, 265358. Email: ucdf4u@yahoo.com, ucdfid@gmail.com निर्माण कार्यों हेतु टेकेदारों का पंजीकरण

No Rath Yatra except in Puri, says Orissa HC

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Putting an end to speculations on conduct of Rath Yatra at multiple places in the State, the Orissa High Court (HC) on Wednesday refused to intervene in the State Government's decision to allow the car festival of Lord Jagannath only in Puri this year.

The court's decision came in response to several writ petitions filed before it seeking permission for holding of the festival at multiple

temples, including Baldevjw in Kendrapada district.

However, the court refused to intervene in the matter and quashed all the pleas.

Earlier this month, the State Government cancelled Rath Yatra in all parts of the State except Puri in view of the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic. However, rituals relating to the annual festival may be performed in the respective temple premises, it was informed by the Government.

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS PUBLIC NOTICE General Public is informed that I have changed my name from Vartika Bhandari (old name) to VARTIKA FRIEDA BHANDARI (New name). In future I should be known by VARTIKA FRIEDA BHANDARI D/o Vikrant Bhandari, Address: 173-C, Rajpur Road, P.O-Rajpur, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

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Differently-abled man mauled to death by leopard in Pauri

PTI ■ PAURI

A 38-year-old physically challenged man was mauled to death by a leopard in Bironkhal area of the district, officials said on Wednesday.

Dinesh Chandra was attacked by the leopard hiding behind the bushes just 50 metres away from his house in Bhaosoda village on Tuesday morning and dragged away.

Villagers found his half eaten body some hours later, Gram Pradhan of the village Surendra Dhaundyal said.

Forest guards have been deployed in the village so that people do not feel unsafe, Kumar DFO Mukesh Kumar said.

A compensation of Rs 50,000 has been provided to the next of kin of the deceased, he said.



COVID-19

HC pulls up State Govt

Observes Covid deaths caused due to incomplete preparations

PNS ■ NAINITAL

The Uttarakhand High Court pulled up the State Government for the 700-page affidavit filed in the court, observing that it was misleading and stating that the deaths from Covid-19 in Uttarakhand were caused due to the incomplete preparations of the Government.

HC division bench of chief justice RS Chauhan and justice Alok Kumar Verma made these observations and issued directions to the State while hearing on public interest litigations related to the health services in the State and planned resumption of the Char Dham Yatra in the State.

Chief Secretary Om Prakash, Finance Secretary Amit Singh Negi and Tourism Additional Secretary Ashish Chauhan were also present virtually during the hearing. The Government submitted a 700-page affidavit regarding which the HC stated that it appeared to be misleading.

The court also observed that the Government had itself ignored Covid guidelines and its enforcement was absent during the Ganga Dussehra recently when many bathed in the Ganga at Har Ki Paudi in Haridwar.

The court has sought the Government's response on various points. State's Health Secretary has been directed to explain how many villages in the State are not linked by road,

High Court division bench of chief justice RS Chauhan and justice Alok Kumar Verma made these observations and issued directions to the State while hearing on public interest litigations related to the health services in the State and planned resumption of the Char Dham Yatra in the State



The court also observed that the Government had itself ignored Covid guidelines and its enforcement was absent during the Ganga Dussehra recently when many bathed in the Ganga at Har Ki Paudi in Haridwar

the distance of such villages from the nearest road head, the total number of ambulances with the health department, the number of ambulances with 108 emergency service, the places where all these ambulances are deployed, the number of ambulances functioning and inoperational, the status of implementation of the recommendations by the high-powered committee of child experts for the third wave, the total number of hospitals and wards and the paediatric wards there-

in for treating children, the Government hospitals still lacking paediatric ward and the status of oxygen concentrators and other facilities in primary health centres at village level.

The Chief Secretary and Tourism Additional Secretary will appear in the court on June 28 and explain the decision taken by the State Cabinet regarding the Char Dham Yatra.

The matter will be taken up for hearing again on July 7.

149 NEW CASES, 5 DEATHS REPORTED

RECORD NUMBER (1,24,031) OF PEOPLE GIVEN VACCINE SHOTS

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The State health department reported only 149 new cases of Covid 19 in Uttarakhand on Wednesday. The cumulative count of patients in the state has now increased to 3,39,127.

The department also reported deaths of five patients from the disease on the day after which the Covid death toll climbed to 7,068. With the recovery of 152 patients on Wednesday the total number of recovered patients in the state has increased to 3,23,377.

The recovery percentage from the disease is now at 95.36 and the sample positivity rate is at 6.32 per cent in the State.



Out of the five deaths from the disease reported on Wednesday, two each occurred at HNB base hospital Srinagar and Base hospital Kotdwar. The department also reported

11 such deaths on the day which had occurred in the past were not reported earlier.

Dehradun district reported 43, Almora 21, Nainital 14, Champawat 13, Haridwar and Pithoragarh 12 each, Udham Singh Nagar 10, Uttarkashi eight, Chamoli six, Bageshwar five, Pauri and Rudrapurag two each and Tehri one case on the day.

The State now has 2,877 active patients of the disease. Dehradun district is at top of the table in the list of active cases with 606 cases while Haridwar is in second position with 374 active cases. Pithoragarh has 331, Nainital 235, Bageshwar 202, Almora 200, Pauri 182, Champawat

141, Tehri 133, Rudrapurag 122, Uttarkashi 121, Chamoli 116 and Udham Singh Nagar 114 active cases of the disease.

The State reported seven new cases of Mucormycosis (Black fungus) on Wednesday after which it now has 472 patients of the disease. Death of one patient from Black Fungus was reported on the day. A total of 83 patients have so far died from this disease while 68 have recovered.

In the vaccination drive a record 1,24,031 people were vaccinated in 871 sessions held on the day. A total of 7,45,468 people have been fully vaccinated while 31,67,934 people have been partially vaccinated in the State.

AIIMS-R gears up for 3rd wave of pandemic

Institute builds up facility to treat 150 Covid-infected children at a time

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

In view of the apprehensions raised by the experts that the probable third wave of Covid-19 would affect children more, the administration of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Rishikesh here has started making necessary preparations.

Apart from imparting special training to the staff members, the institute is building a ward with 100 beds for Covid infected children.

The director of AIIMS Rishikesh, Dr Ravikant said under the plan, focus is on the number of beds required for the treatment of children and medical equipment.

"We are planning to keep 100 beds reserved for children. These include 50 oxygen beds and 50 ICU beds. Necessary

equipment is being arranged for these beds. A team of expert doctors has been constituted for proper treatment of children," he said.

The Dean, Hospital Administration, AIIMS- Rishikesh, Dr UB Mishra said a team of 55 trained residents and 50 nursing staff is available for the treatment of children in AIIMS. In addition, there are 15 NICU's trained nursing officers to treat newborns with critical conditions less than one month of age.

"There are 30 beds in the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit and 25 beds in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. In case of children getting infected during the possible third wave of Covid, it will be possible to treat 150 children at a time in AIIMS," he said.



KUMBH TESTING SCAM

Main accused close to BJP leaders: Cong

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Putting the responsibility of the Covid-19 test scam during Kumbh Mela in Haridwar at the doorstep of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and its leaders, the Uttarakhand Congress has claimed that the owner of the company involved in the scam has close links with BJP leaders.

Spokesperson of the Uttarakhand Congress Garima Dasauni also released a series of pictures in which Sharat Pant the owner of the Max Corporate Services is seen with top central and State leaders of the BJP.

Max Corporate Services was awarded contract of the Covid-19 tests in Kumbh in Haridwar and is under scanner for the scam believed to be



worth several crores of rupees. Dasauni said Mallika Pant, wife of Sharat Pant, is also the co-owner of the company involved in the scam. She added Pant happens to be the nephew of Bhuvan Joshi who is the PA of the Union

Parliamentary Affairs Minister. The Congress leader alleged that Pant got the contract due to the relationship with Joshi and proximity with the BJP leaders.

She said the pictures with top leaders of the BJP prove

that Pant was very close to them and due to their patronage he was able to do a scam of this proportion.

"The manner in which the Government and administration went into a sleep after awarding work of testing to the company and never bothered to monitor its work proves that Pant and his company were deliberately given a free hand to play with the health and lives of the people of Uttarakhand. The Uttarakhand Government should seek an unconditional apology for spreading the contagion of Covid-19," she said.

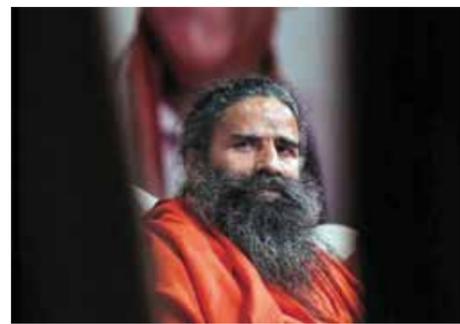
Dasauni added the Kumbh test scam has tainted the image of Uttarakhand and for it the people of the state would not forgive the double engine Government of BJP.

IMA U'khand files complaint against Ramdev, Balkrishna

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Uttarakhand chapter of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) has filed a complaint against Baba Ramdev and his associate Balkrishna for allegedly hatching a conspiracy to launch and market Coronil by claiming it to be a medicine of Covid-19 and defaming the allopathic system of medicine.

In the complaint lodged at the Cantt police station of Dehradun, president of Uttarakhand Dr Arvind Sharma, secretary Dr Ajay Khanna, treasurer Dr Sanjay Upreti on behalf of IMA Uttarakhand have demanded action on Ramdev and Balkrishna under relevant Sections of Indian Penal Code (IPC), Disaster Management Act and Epidemic Diseases Act. The association has also written a letter to the Director



General (DG) of Uttarakhand Police requesting him to take necessary action.

The IMA is miffed ever since Ramdev had that allopathy is a "stupid and bankrupt" science. He had purportedly said all medicines used against Covid-19 have failed and the doctors don't have any treatment.

When the allopathic doctors raised their strong objection and Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare termed his statement unfortunate, Ramdev took back his statement.

He, however, shot an open letter to IMA and posed 25 questions related to allopathy to

them. In one such question he said doctors should not fall ill if allopathy is all powerful and has all good qualities. This letter further angered the IMA and it threatened to slap a defamation suit on Ramdev. The association has now filed a complaint against Ramdev and Balkrishna.

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Cong leader Navprabhat to knock EC's door

MADAN KAUSHIK MISLEADING PEOPLE ON THE ISSUE, SAYS CONG

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Continuing the ongoing debate over the election of Chief Minister Tirath Singh Rawat to the Uttarakhand Assembly before September 9 and its legal provisions, senior Congress leader and former Minister Navprabhat has decided to approach the Election Commission of India (ECI) on the issue.

While interacting with *The Pioneer*, Navprabhat who is considered an expert on constitutional matters said that he is making necessary preparations for bringing the issue to the notice of ECI.

He said the BJP has creat-

ed a situation of instability in the State and it should be cleared in the interest of the people.

On BJP State president Madan Kaushik's statement that Section of 164 of constitution provides for election of any Minister who is not a member of the House within six months, the Congress leader said no one is challenging Section 164 but the by-elections are held as per the Representation of the People Act (RPA) which clearly says that by-elections cannot be held if the remaining term of the Assembly is less than one year.

Navprabhat said if the by-

BY-ELECTION ISSUE

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Navprabhat said if the by-

election is held it would be illegal and it would be challenged in the court of law.

Meanwhile, spokesperson of Uttarakhand Congress Garima Dasauni has accused Kaushik of misleading the people on the issue by deliberately entwining the Section 164 (4) of constitution and 151 (A) of RPA.

She said the calculation of one year for Gangotri Assembly seat would commence from April 22 when the MLA from there passes away which clearly means that the by-election cannot be held there. She said the BJP believes that it is above the constitution and is ready to keep all rules and regulation at bay.



Acharya Balkrishna presents a sapling to a child during Ayurvedic campaign launched in association with Haridwar Roorkee Development Authority in Haridwar on Wednesday

PURNIMA BISHT ■ DEHRADUN

Menstrual cup — ignored life-changer for women & environment

Though many women have termed the use of menstrual cups as a life-changer due to their various advantages, most of the women population in Uttarakhand is still unaware of this menstrual hygiene product. Many of those who do know about it are reluctant to use them.

A menstrual cup is a kind of feminine hygiene product that is mainly made up of medical-grade silicone but unlike non-biodegradable sanitary pads, it can be used for several years.

However, its use is quite lesser than sanitary pads. "Sanitary pads obviously seem much easier to use than

menstrual cups because we use it externally rather than inserting it. However, the process of using a menstrual cup also becomes easy after the initial two-three uses," said Dehradun resident Sandhya Dwivedi.

She said that switching to a cup changed her life for good.

"I used to spend at least Rs 500 every month on sanitary pads and tampons but it has been three years since I started using the menstrual cup which I had bought for about Rs 400," stated Dwivedi.

Megha Gupta, a postgrad-

uate student stated that she had ordered the menstrual cup online during the lockdown last year but it took her four months to finally use it.

"I had done my research before buying the menstrual cup about how it is eco-friendly and light on the pocket too but I could not gather the courage to use it. There was a fear of inserting an object inside my body but I saw a bunch of YouTube videos and finally did it after four months. It took me some time to figure out how to insert it properly but once I got it, I haven't switched back to sanitary pads,"



said Gupta.

Some women might find it messy initially while using the menstrual cup but this initial struggle overshadows all the

benefits the usage of cups provide like comfortable and odourless menstruation, saves money and environment, opined Gupta.

Talking about menstrual cups, gynaecologist Dr Sujata Sanjay stated, using a menstrual cup is quite easy due to its design and when it is inserted properly it collects the menstrual blood rather than absorbing it.

The cup must be emptied regularly as per the flow but it can easily collect blood for longer hours than sanitary pads and tampons, informed Sanjay. She said that menstrual cups can be used for eight to ten years but they must be kept in proper hygienic conditions. "It is crucial to wash the cups properly after every wash and

store it properly in order to avoid any uterus infection," stated the gynaecologist. She said those who use pads for hours without changing them often go through uterus infection which is not common while using cups.

"The menstrual cup also acts as a barricade which prevents the internal part of the vagina from infection due to any external agents," Dr Sanjay added.

She further stated that sanitary pads are used in abundance but their proper disposal remains a big concern. Besides this, many women dis-

pose of the used sanitary pads with usual garbage that might cause the spread of infection. Such factors make the menstrual cup a better option than other options available, stated Dr Sanjay.

On being asked why only a few women use menstrual cups, she said the main reason is that most of the people in Uttarakhand are neither aware of its name nor the product itself.

According to her, the unavailability of the product in the local market is also one of the factors due to which people do not use menstrual cups.

Follow Covid norms to blunt 3rd wave: Govt

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Wednesday strongly felt that the number of cases in the third wave will not be to the extent that the health system comes under strain if people religiously followed COVID appropriate behaviour (CAB) and States wisely implemented containment strategies.

"At least 2.2 per cent of India's population has been affected by the disease so far. This should also make us wary of protecting the still vulnerable or susceptible 97 per cent population. We cannot let our guards down, hence, continued focus on containment is critical," Union Health Ministry Joint Secretary Lav Agarwal said at a media workshop organised by UNICEF in partnership with the Ministry on the need to bust myths about vaccines and vaccination and reinforce the importance of CAB.

"If we keep following containment and Covid appropriate behavior, then the third wave, even if it comes, will not have the number of cases that

'If vaccinated, you are protected for next 6/9 months from virus'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

If you have been vaccinated then likely chances are that you are protected from the coronavirus for the next six-nine months. This was stated

by senior Union Health Ministry official Veena Dhawan at an event here.

She also said there was no evidence that supports interchangeability of vaccines' brands.

Responding to a question on the effectiveness of cocktail vaccines or mixing different vaccine doses, senior ministry official Veena Dhawan said as per the evidence available, the vaccines are not "interchangeable".

"A full analysis is yet to be made on the subject. Cocktail vaccination is not to be followed and we should take the same doses of the vaccine," she stressed.

On Adverse Event Following Immunisation (AEFI), Dhawan said the first 30 minutes post vaccination are crucial.

"That is why people are

kept under observation. Serious or severe side effects

are mostly seen in the first 30 minutes," she added.

On day 3, Covid jab numbers remain less than day one figures

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Countrywide Covid-19 vaccination numbers continued to remain less than the day one figures. On Wednesday, the tally stood at 58.34 lakh vaccine doses till 7 pm in the evening as per the Union Health Ministry statement.

This is much less when compared to the first day of the revised phase of vaccination drive launched from June 21 when the country reported a record number of over 84 lakh shots administered to the citizens. On Tuesday also, the vaccination process covered only around 51 lakh people in the country.

"More than seven crore vaccine doses have been registered so far for those in the age group 18-44 so far," said the statement.

Overall the cumulative Covid vaccination coverage of the country crossed 30 crore (30,09,69,538), as per the 7 pm provisional report. At

least, 41,23,073 vaccine doses were administered as first dose and 68,903 vaccine doses given as second dose in the age group 18-44 years on Wednesday.

"Cumulatively, 7,02,11,075 persons across 37 States/UTs have received their first dose and a total 14,98,113 have received their second dose since the start of Phase-3 of the vaccination drive."

Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have administered more than 10 lakh beneficiaries of the age group 18-44 years for the first dose of Covid vaccine, so far, said the statement.

Talking about the infection rate, the statement said that India has reported 50,84,848 new cases in the last 24 hours.

As per the IMA complaint, since over the last one year, Ramdev has allegedly been propagating false information on social media against medicines being used by the medical fraternity, Government of India, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and other frontline organisations in treatment of Coronavirus infection.

ED seizes Unitech's land parcels, ₹81.10 cr copter in money laundering case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached 101 land parcels and one helicopter worth ₹81.10 crore in a money laundering probe against the Unitech Group.

The attached land parcels are situated in Santacruz, Mumbai and are owned by the Shivalik Group. The helicopter is owned by King Rotors Air Charters Pvt Ltd, an associate company of Shivalik Group.

The ED probe revealed that Unitech Group had diverted 'Proceeds of Crime' to the tune of ₹574 crore to the Shivalik Group and in turn, the entities of Shivalik Group had purchased the land parcels and helicopter from this.

On March 4, the ED had conducted searches at 35 locations in NCR and Mumbai on the premises of Shivalik Group, Trikar Group, Unitech Group and Carnoustie Group.

"After analysis of seized records followed by the disclosures of various persons, the above diversion of Proceeds of Crime has been unearthed," the agency said.



3 fashion designers summoned to explain cash payments by leader

New Delhi: Famous fashion designers Manish Malhotra, Sabyasachi Mukherjee and Ritu Kumar have been asked by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to appear before it to record their statements in connection with some cash payments made to them a few years ago by a politician in Punjab.

An ED source related to the probe told IANS, "A notice has been sent to the three fashion designers to appear before the ED."

The source said that the three designers were paid in cash by the politician for designing the dresses for a wedding ceremony a few years back. "And there was no record of the cash transaction in their IT returns."

So they have been called to present their side," the source said. However, the source did not name the politician.

Malhotra, Mukherjee and Kumar are known for their designer collection in India as well as in other countries. Many corporates and Bollywood personalities wear dresses designed by them.

IANS

'NEP 2020 committed to equitable education to all'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Wednesday at the G20 Education Ministers' meeting said that the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, envisages equitable and inclusive education for all, with special focus on children and youth, especially girls, from socially and economically disadvantaged groups who are more at risk of being left behind.

"NEP 2020 provides for early vocational exposure in middle and secondary school along with smooth integration into mainstream education. It aims that by 2025, at least 50 per cent of learners in the school and higher education system would have expo-

sure to vocational education. It also provides for vocational education to be aligned to skill gap analysis and mapping of local opportunities," said Minister of State for Education Sanjay Dhotre at the virtual conference of G20.

India attaches great importance to the collaboration between G20 countries in the field of vocational education and training.

Dhotre reaffirmed the support of the Government of India to the collective efforts of the G-20 countries to develop strategies to ensure smooth transition from education to work.

A joint Meeting of Ministers of Education and Ministers of Labour and

Employment was also held virtually. G20 Ministers exchanged views on transitions from school to work. Sanjay Dhotre represented Ministry of Education in the meeting. Ministry of Labour and Employment was represented by MoS (Independent Charge) Santosh Gangwar.

"The member countries of G20, recognise the need to equip our youth well for a smooth transition into the workplace after completing their education.

This is especially important for learners from socially and economically disadvantaged population groups, who are more at risk of being left behind," said Dhotre.

Ramdev moves SC, seeks stay on proceedings in cases

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Yoga guru Baba Ramdev on Wednesday approached the Supreme Court seeking a stay on the proceedings in multiple cases lodged against him in various States over his remarks on allopathy and its treatment protocol for Covid-19.

In his petition, Ramdev sought the quashing of many FIRs lodged by Indian Medical Association (IMA) in Patna and Raipur branches and asked for a transfer of the FIRs to a Delhi court.

Ramdev has been booked under Sections 188 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant), 269 (negligent act likely to spread infection of disease dangerous to life), 504 (intentional insult



with intent to provoke breach of the peace) and other provisions of Disaster Management Act, 2005 in many States based on the complaints by IMA chapters.

As per the IMA complaint, since over the last one year, Ramdev has allegedly been propagating false information on social media against medicines being used by the medical fraternity, Government of India, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and other frontline organisations in treatment of Coronavirus infection.

Nadda hails Modi for fulfilling Mookerjee's goal of 'national integration'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Accusing the Nehru-led Congress Government of "ignoring" the demand for a probe into the death of Bharatiya Jan Sangh (BJS) founder Syama Prasad Mookerjee in Kashmir while demanding the removal of Article 370, BJP president J P Nadda on Wednesday complimented Prime Minister Narendra Modi for fulfilling Mookerjee's goal of 'national integration' by abrogating the special status to Jammu & Kashmir.

A day before the all party meet on J & K called by the Prime Minister, the BJP president said Mookerjee agitated against 'ek desh main do vidhan, do Pradhan and do nishan' system and removal of Articles 370 and 35 A. These aims of Mookerjee, he said, have been achieved by the Modi-government.

Mookerjee died in police custody in Kashmir on June 23, 1953 while protesting against the requirement of a permit for entry to the Kashmir valley.

Nadda said Mookerjee's mother had written to Nehru seeking a probe into the death of the BJS founder but the Congress government "ignored and pushed it under the carpet". However, successive BJP governments at the Centre



have themselves not setup a probe leading to his death in Kashmir valley.

The BJP president said Mookerjee had died in "doubtful circumstances".

While paying tributes to the late leader who, he said, sacrificed his entire life for the nation, the BJP President said national integration as sought by Mookerjee was realised by Modi's "strong willpower" and Union Home Minister

Amit Shah's "skilled strategy".

Modi led BJP leaders' tributes to the BJS ideologue on his 68th death anniversary.

"Remembering Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his Purnya Tithi. His noble ideals, rich thoughts and commitment to serve people will continue to inspire us. His efforts towards national integration will never be forgotten," Modi tweeted.

Home Minister Amit Shah said Mookerjee sacrificed himself to safeguard India's identity and integrity, and saved the country from another division.

LPG can now be booked through CSC

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

To make it more accessible to every rural household, a new LPG connection can now be booked through the Common Service Centre (CSC). The CSC has taken the lead in helping Centre's Ujjwala beneficiaries in bookings for the refills.

Ujjwala scheme is one of the flagship programmes of the Modi Government to provide LPG gas connection to women of rural areas and especially to those from the weaker section of the society.

Linking the Ujjwala beneficiaries and also new connections through CSC digital kiosk can serve consumers close to their place of residence. CSC has so far done online booking for one crore Ujjwala beneficiaries.

"We have requested Oil companies to enable other support services through CSC as change in name, address, request for additional cylinder etc. Booking for new connection through CSC is still to be allowed by the oil companies through CSC and once these services are extended, CSC can provide all services to Ujjwala beneficiaries in villages," said CSC MD Dr Dinesh Kumar Tyagi.

Though the connection was provided by the government to women, however, refilling due to logistics still remained a concern. Many factors constrained the increase in delivery centers close to the place of residence.

204 lakh tonnes of foodgrains to be distributed among poor amid looming third wave

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In view of the anticipated third wave of Covid-19 that is expected in 6 to 8 weeks, the Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved allocation of 204 lakh tonnes of foodgrains at an estimated cost of ₹67,266 crore for extending the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) (PMGKAY) to provide free ration to over 80 crore people, mostly poor, by five more months till November-

end. The free supply of grains will ameliorate the hardships faced by the poor due to economic disruption caused by the coronavirus, an official statement said.

Health experts have alerted state governments about the third wave of pandemic and have advised ramping up of the health facilities.

The approved monthly allocation of five kg foodgrains per person to 81.5 crore beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act is for five more months between July and November this year. The second phase of PMGKAY was launched for May and June as the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic hit the country.

The sanction of around 204 lakh tonnes of additional foodgrains free of cost would entail an estimated food subsidy of ₹64,031 crore. As the Centre would bear the entire expenditure towards this scheme without involving States and UTs, an additional expenditure of about Rs 3,234.85 crore would be required for meeting the transportation and handling charges, as well as FPS dealers' margins, taking the total cost to ₹67,266.44 crore, an official statement said.

Early this month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi while addressing the nation had announced that the Centre's free food programme PMGKAY will be extended for five months till Diwali.

Five-kilo foodgrains per person per month is provided free of cost under the PMGKAY to 81.5 crore beneficiaries covered under National Food Security Act (NFSA), it noted. This is over and above distribution of highly monthly subsidised foodgrain of 5 kg per person given at Rs 1-3 per kg via ration shops to poor beneficiaries covered under the NFSA.

The Food Ministry will decide on the allocation of wheat and rice.

It may also decide on the extension of the lifting/distribution period under Phase III and Phase IV of the PMGKAY as per operational requirements, arising out of adverse weather conditions like monsoon, snowfall, etc..

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Registrar Office: Plot No. 216, Sector-C, Uda Industrial Complex, Rajpur-432211 (Chhattisgarh), Corp. Office: Monnet House, 11, Masjid Moth, Greater Kailash-II, New Delhi-110048 (INDIA) Phone: +91 11 29218542-46; Fax: +91 11 29218541 Email: isc_monind@monnetgroup.com; Website: www.monnetgroup.com CIN-L51103CT1982PLC009717

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given Pursuant to Regulation 29 & 47 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation, 2015, that a meeting of Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 29th June, 2021 at the Monnet House, 11, Masjid Moth, Greater Kailash-II, New Delhi-110048. Inter-alia, to consider and approve the Audited Financial Results of the Company for the Quarter and financial year ended on 31st March, 2021. This intimation is also available on the website of the Company (www.monnetgroup.com) and on the website of the Stock Exchange (www.bseindia.com).

By order of the Board of Directors
MONIND LIMITED
(Formerly Known as Monnet Industries Limited)
Priya
Company Secretary

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority
Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P.)
Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tenders are invited from firms/contractors registered with UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & <http://etender.up.nic.in>. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

(A)	1. 01/Noida/GM/SM(WC-9)/ET/2021-22, Name of Work- D/o Village (Basic & Infrastructure Facilities in Primary & Junior High School in Village Under Work Circle-9), Noida. Cost-Rs. 47.06 Lacs.
2.	01/GM/SM(WC-4)/ET/2021-22, Name of Work- M/o Village (Necessary work in Parishadi School Under Operation Kayakalp in Work Circle-4 Area), Noida. Cost-Rs. 33.78 Lacs.
3.	02/CGM/SM(WC-1)/2021-22, Name of Work- C/o Required work in Primary and Junior High School in Village - Nayabans and Sector-11, 12 under Operation Kayakalp), Noida. Cost-Rs. 33.58 Lacs.

Which can be uploaded by date 05.07.2021 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 06.07.2021 at 11.00 AM

General Manager
Noida
CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

ICICI Bank
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23, Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005

PUBLIC NOTICE: Builder Cancellation
This is to bring to your notice that ZAFAR NAWAZ ALI KHAN/ SAIMA KHAIRY (borrower/s) has availed Home loan facility vide facility agreement number LBGUR00002438557 located at Flat No 502, 5th Floor, Tower 5, Pyramid Urban Homes, Sec 70 A, GURGAON.

The borrower/s has failed to pay the contractual amount to the builder as per the terms and conditions of the agreement.

The Bank had informed the same to the borrower through letter dated JUNE 19, 2021 informing that PYRAMID URBAN HOMES has cancelled the allotment of the above mentioned property. You are therefore requested to resolve this matter with the builder within 7 days from the date of this publication.

Please take further notice that post cancellation of the allotment of the said property ICICI Bank shall not be bound and/or responsible for any other allotment done by the builder.

Dated: June 24, 2021
Place: Delhi/ NCR
For ICICI Bank Limited
Sd-

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking)
Corporate Identity No. UA40109UP2001SGC025867/2358, V.C.V. Gaba Singh Urja Bhawan, Kamwali Road, Dehradun-248001, Telephone: 0135-2763672-76, Fax: 0135-2760289, Website: www.uktpdcs.gov.in

E-TENDER NOTICE (NIT)
TENDER SPECIFICATION NO. CCP-II/5/2021-2022
Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd., Dehradun invites e-tender for following turnkey work:

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Quantity (Km.)	Estimated Cost (₹)	MAAT for best three years out of last five financial years (in ₹)	Earnest Money (₹)	Cost of tender document including GST (₹)
1.	Construction of 33 kV line from 33/11 V/S Dwarahat to SPV Plant at Kivi-Chhanagolu for power evacuation under block Dwarahat, Distt. Almora	3.5	1,359 CRORE	2.72 CRORE	2.72 LAKH	11 800
	Construction of 33 kV line from SPV Plant Mahantgaon to SPV Plant Rastogi Green for power evacuation under block Dwarahat, Distt. Almora	1.5				

Date & time of Prebid conference in online mode: 05.07.2021 at 12:00 Hrs.
Last Date & Time of online request for Tender and submission of tender in online & off line mode: 22.07.2021 upto 17:00 Hrs.
Date of opening of Part-I of tender in online & off line mode: 23.07.2021 at 15:30 Hrs.

For further details, please visit our website www.uktpdcs.gov.in
Superintending Engineer
No.: 249/EE(CM)/UPCL/A-2 Date: 22.06.2021
Corporate (Contract & Procurement-II)

"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION" Use L.E.D. Bulb to Save Electricity (Toll Free No. 1912)
Pay Electricity Bill Online 24x7 from www.upcl.org (For Information on Electricity theft, Informer may report to Toll Free No. 1800 180 4185 / Fax No. 9135-2760911)

Wearing mask compliance still low in country despite being worst hit: Survey



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Mask wearing compliance still remains low in India despite it being one of the worst hit by the second wave of Covid-19, according to findings of a survey.

The mask compliance at vaccination centres also remains low, as per the survey conducted by online social media platform LocalCircles.

"Despite the most lethal Covid-19 wave that any country in the world has experienced so far, India's mask compliance is still low as indicated by the survey finding where 67 per cent of citizens say there is limited or no mask compliance in their area, district, or city," it said. The survey received over 33,000 responses from citizens located in 312 districts of the country.

According to the survey findings, only 32 per cent of citizens in the survey note that there was limited mask compliance at the vaccination centre they recently visited.

Many respondents noted that their family members have gotten Covid-19 a few days after receiving vaccination at centres, citing the high possibility of some vaccination centres being superspreaders as some people were not even following masking protocols.

It is a major concern that requires an immediate action to make sure that such centres do not become superspreaders, as per the findings of the survey.

The survey tried to find out how people in cities and districts, including at the vaccination centres, are complying with wearing a face mask.

It also sought to find out if

people are wearing the right masks that give them protection, or are they wearing any mask just for the sake of it. Lastly, the survey sought to gather citizens' pulse if the state governments should make the wearing of masks outside home mandatory in districts with active Covid-19 cases.

It found that only 44 per cent of the Indians were wearing cloth masks which may not provide them with the needed protection against the highly transmissible variants like Delta.

The findings of the survey indicate that one in two Indians were wearing cloth masks that provide limited protection from Covid, it added.

Many Indians since 2020 have been using cloth masks, some even using ones made at home, assuming that they will provide the necessary protection from Covid-19 while that may not be the case with the new Delta variant, it said.

On the question whether the state governments should make wearing of masks outside home mandatory if a district has any covered cases, 91 per cent of the respondents okayed the proposal while 8 per cent decided against it.

BJP leaders to ensure vax, food in UP villages

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Embracing the motto of 'Sewa hi sangathan', the BJP has decided to send party workers, leaders and lawmakers to villages and ensure vaccination of local residents and to distribute rations among the needy. In the two-day meeting of the national BJP leaders with Ministers, the RSS and party workers, that ended on Tuesday, the BJP decided to contest the election under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

Starting on the death anniversary of Jan Sangh founder Shyama Prasad Mukherjee on Wednesday, the fortnight-long programme will continue till his birth anniversary on July 6. As per the party's strategy, workers will reach every vaccination booth and set up a help desk to assist people. On June 25, they will go for a mega plantation drive to achieve a record breaking target of planting 30 crore saplings.

On June 27, BJP leaders will stay at every booth to listen to PM's 'Mann Ki Baat' and connect the public with the Central and State welfare schemes.



Earlier, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath asked all his Ministers to camp at every block from June 21 and inspect development and welfare works of the government and solve the problems of the people, if any. The ministers have already started camping in the blocks. BJP in-charge Radha Mohan Singh held a meeting with booth workers of booth number 292 and exhorted them to work for the welfare of the people and gave the slogan 'booth jeeta to sab jeeta'.

"The booth is the first step towards the victory of the party. If you can win the booth, you can win the election," Singh told workers. He also talked about the UP government's achievements and asked the workers to spread the good work done by the government.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, along with his Ministerial colleagues, paid floral tributes to founder of Jana Sangh Shyama Prasad Mukherjee at Civil Hospital on Wednesday.

After MPs, BJP MLAs too seek separate State in Bengal

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

After BJP MPs Soumitra Khan and John Barla it is now the turn of the saffron party MLAs to make demands for a separate State.

BJP MLAs from Dabgram-Fulbari and Naxalbari-Matigara Sikha Chatterjee and Ananda Roy Burman have raised their voices for a separate State comprising the North Bengal districts. Both Dabgram-Gulbari and Naxalbari-Matigara are the satellite townships of Siliguri — the largest city in North Bengal which is also called the gateway to the North East.

Backing Barla the BJP's Alipurduar MP, Chatterjee on Wednesday said that "neither the Left nor the Trinamool Congress Government have taken any measure to develop the backward regions of North Bengal and its people ... so the only way development can be achieved in North Bengal is by making a separate State here.... If anyone raises a voice for a separate State it is

well within one's rights to do so because everyone has a right to develop in a democracy and our constitution declares that India is a democratic country of which we are the free citizens."

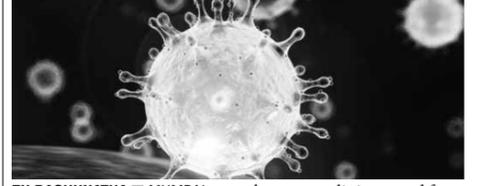
Roy Burman too backed Barla saying "the Alipurduar MP has done the right thing by demanding a separate State because from our long experience we have seen that the Government from Kolkata only takes care of the southern part of the State and leaves the northern part to starve State ... this cannot go on for long and the local people are gradually awakening to their cause of a separate State which is the only way through which their all-round development can be achieved."

Curiously Barla continued to raise his demands for a separate State the way he did before the BJP State president Dilip Ghosh rejected views that the saffron party had anything to do with such demands. "It is his private statement and the BJP has got nothing to do with it ...

maybe such leaders are making such statements out of frustration after seeing their workers being battered and their properties looted every day."

Refusing to withdraw his demand for separate State despite his party's "declared stance" against it and partly buttressing the argument of Ghosh the Alipurduar MP on Wednesday said "what else can I do as a BJP MP ... I am seeing the people of my party being hounded out by the Bangladeshi supporters of the Trinamool Congress ... here are several families who have come from Assam border in Cooch Behar district ... they have fled for their lives ... their properties have been looted by the Bangladeshi Trinamool men ... these are the sons and daughters of the soil and are being attacked by the foreign intruders backed by the ruling party ... this cannot be tolerated and so I have no other way but to raise my voice for a separate State ... I will take it to the Governor of Bengal and even New Delhi."

Maha logs 10,066 new cases, 508 deaths



TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

With not much of a change in the Covid-19 situation, Maharashtra logged 10,066 fresh infections and 508 deaths, even as 11,032 patients were discharged after full recovery from various hospitals in the State.

In a significant development, Maharashtra achieved a milestone as it crossed four crore Covid-19 tests. Of the 4,01,28,355 samples sent to various laboratories across the State so far, 59,97,587 have tested positive (15.01 per cent) for Covid-19 until Wednesday.

A day after the State recorded 9,043 infections and 482 deaths, the daily infections rose by 1043, while the deaths increased marginally by 26.

Of the total 508 deaths reported on Wednesday, 163 were new fatalities, while the remaining 345 were "old and unaccounted deaths" which have been added to the State's Covid-19 tally as part of the ongoing reconciliation process.

With 508 deaths, the Covid-19 toll in the state jumped from 1,18,785 to 1,19,303.

With 10,066 fresh infections, the total infections in the state rose from 59,87,521 to 59,97,587.

As 11,032 patients were discharged from the hospitals across the State after full recovery, the total number of people discharged from the hospitals since the second week of March last year increased from 57,42,258 to 57,53,290. The recovery rate in the state rose from 95.90 per cent to 95.93 per cent.

The total "active cases" in the state dropped from 1,23,340 to 1,21,859. The fatality rate in the state rose from 1.98 per cent to 1.99 per cent.

Mumbai recorded 23 deaths and 863 infections. As a result, the Covid-19 toll in

the metropolis increased from 15,315 to 15,338, while the infected cases in Mumbai went up from 7,21,099 to 7,21,963.

Mumbai with 18,711 cases emerged as the first in the State in terms of maximum number of "active cases" in the state, while Pune with 17,378 stood second, followed by Thane (13,059), Sangli (9543), Kolhapur (9142), Satara (7061), Ratnagiri (5615), Sindhudurg (5504) and Raigad (4571).

Currently, 6,58,863 people are in home quarantine while 4,196 people are in institutional quarantine.

6,02,163 people vaccinated in a day in State

PNS ■ MUMBAI

As many as 6,02,163 people were administered Covid-19 doses across Maharashtra on Wednesday, in what was described as the highest-ever number of vaccinations performed in the State.

Announcing this, State Additional Chief Secretary (Health) Dr. Pradip Vyas said: "Today we have bettered the performance of yesterday and have administered the highest ever number of Covid-19 vaccination doses in a single day in the State. As many as 6,02,163 doses were administered till 7 PM and the figure is likely to increase further."

Vyas went on to congratulate the district health authorities across the State. "Great work done by the district teams. Congratulations to all District teams," he said.

Kerala is not a safe place for women: Prof

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Late VKN, who enlightened Malayalam readers with his humorous stories and novels had described Kerala as a land of 'Poricha Vadhu' (Malayalam for Fried Brides). This was not to pepper his story with hilarity that VKN made use of this term.

The bursting of kerosene stoves and the immolation of newly-wed brides were routine events in Kerala's social life.

The last three days saw Vismaya, a final year BAMS student who was married off to an assistant motor vehicle inspector, dead in her husband's house allegedly as a result of physical and mental torture. Kiran, her husband, had demanded a limousine, 100 sovereigns and a 120 cents plot of land (worth ₹2 crore in local real estate market) to tie the nuptial knot. After two months of marriage, the bridegroom expressed his displeasure with the brand new Toyota Corolla car which was given by Vismaya's father Thrivikraman as dowry.

"Life turned out to be hell

for her because of the physical assaults carried out by Kiran, his mother and sister. On Monday morning she was found dead under mysterious circumstances in her husband's house. My daughter would not commit suicide. She had great dreams. She dreamt of becoming an Ayurvedic doctor, specialize in Indian system of medicine and serve the poor," Thrivikraman told *The Pioneer*.

Kiran and his family members assaulted Vismaya non-stop during the last three days of her life. The young lady had sent pictures of the injuries on her body to her brother along with the threatening words used by the husband. The 30 year old husband is heard telling Vismaya that he was not happy with the car given by her father and insisted that she ask her family members for a luxury car. "I am a Government officer and deserve more than this," were his catchwords throughout the two months-long ordeal.

Archana (24) at Thiruvananthapuram succumbed to burns she suffered

on late Monday night at her husband Suresh's house. A nursing graduate, Archana was confined to her in-law's house after the marriage and her husband was tormenting her parents for ₹3 lakh since the wedding function was over. According to neighbours, Suresh always stored diesel in the house since his marriage for reasons known only to him.

On Tuesday evening Suchitra (19) was found dead, hanging in her husband's house. Suchitra's wedding was solemnised on March 21 with Vishnu, a Government employee working in Utrakhhand. Sunil, father of Suchitra, told media that there was no possibility or reason for his daughter resorting to the extreme measure. The Police is yet to disclose anything about the death of Suchitra.

The Kerala State Crime Records Bureau in its report has stated that 65 brides were found murdered/dead under mysterious circumstances in the State during 2020-21. "The list is endless and we take note of these only deaths only if there is some sensational news

behind the deaths. Last year, Kerala men set new trends in how to murder young wives. Uthara, a young wife got killed in snake bite. Investigation revealed that her husband got her bitten by a deadly cobra to get rid of her after the honeymoon," said Prof V T Rema, women's activist and former principal of Government Arts College, Palakkad.

She said though there were laws, the investigating agencies do not pursue the murders/deaths because of lethargy and inherent weaknesses.

"Kerala is not a safe place for women or girls. These heart-rending events prove beyond doubt that parents of girls should be vigilante against prospective bridegrooms," said the professor, known for her knowledge in philosophy. At the time of going to Press, a widow whose daughter Priyanka was found dead in her house at Thiruvananthapuram following physical assault by her husband Unni Rajan Dev, son of late Malayalam film artist Rajan P Dev.

6,596 new cases in TN



People wait to receive the token for the Covid-19 vaccine at the Ramanathapuram healthcare centre in Coimbatore on Wednesday

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

There has been reasonable improvement in Tamil Nadu's relentless war against Covid-19, according to the release issued by the Directorate of Health and Preventive Medicine on Wednesday evening.

The State logged 6,596 new cases on Wednesday while the death toll of the last 24 hours showed 166 casualties. Both the new cases and fatalities were lesser than that of Tuesday which showed 6,895 and 194 respectively.

There were 52,884 patients undergoing treatment for the pandemic across the State as on Wednesday evening. The State

has not lowered its guard in testing people for the disease. More than 1.66 lakh persons were tested across the State while 10,432 persons came out of hospitals fully cured and rejuvenated, said the release. The death toll till date reached 31,746 while the number of laboratories with Covid-19 testing facilities shot up to 273.

Situation in the districts of Coimbatore, Erode and Tirupur (the industrial hub of the State) has improved. While Coimbatore which had topped the table of districts with highest number of Covid-19 cases showed 793 (the highest in Tamil Nadu), the districts of Erode (686) and Tirupur (419) recorded a dip in the number of new cases.

Pakistani smuggler killed as BSF foils narcotics smuggling bid in J&K

PNS ■ JAMMU

A narcotics smuggler was neutralised immediately after one of the alert jawans of the Border Security Force (BSF) unearthed a sinister plot to smuggle narcotics worth ₹135 crore from the Hiranagar sector of Kathua district early on Wednesday morning.

The smugglers were apparently provided logistics support by the Pakistani rangers to smuggle the huge consignment weighing 27 kgs inside the Indian territory.

According to a BSF spokesman, "During the wee hours, a vigilant BSF troop thwarted a drug smuggling attempt by Pakistani smugglers on the Kathua border and seized about 27 kgs of heroin."

IG BSF Jammu Frontier NS Jamwal, who visited the location along the International Border (IB) told reporters that border troopers deployed near one of



the border outpost in Hira Nagar sector noticed some suspicious movement on IB from the Pakistan side and alerted its men. When the Pakistani smugglers came closer to the IB, they were challenged and fired upon.

"During a search of the area, the body of a Pakistani smuggler and 27 packets of heroin were found near the fence," said IG BSF. "We have gathered all the material evidence and soon we will lodge a strong protest with our Pakistani counterparts," he added.

NCB arrests Dawood's brother Kaskar

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Incarcerated Mohammed Rizwan Iqbal Hasan Shaikh Ibrahim Kaskar, younger brother of Karachi-based underworld don Dawood Ibrahim Kaskar, was on Wednesday arrested by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in connection with a drug-related case.

Armed with a production warrant, the NCB picked up Iqbal Kaskar from the Thane prison — where he has been lodged for the past five years and taken to the NCB headquarters here for questioning. After several hours of questioning, Kaskar was placed under arrest by the NCB.

Kaskar's name had cropped during the interrogations of the several accused arrested in connection with the seizure of drugs made in central Mumbai. Among other cases, the name of Kaskar, who is suspected of running his brother Dawood's realty empire and other businesses in Mumbai for the past couple of decades or so, figured in connection with the recent seizure of 15 kgs of Cannabis which was sent from Kashmir to Mumbai.

It may be recalled that on July 17, 2019, then 30-year-old Iqbal Kaskar and two of his aides were arrested by the Mumbai police in connection with extor-

tion-cum-organised crime. Kaskar was arrested at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport here on Wednesday night, while his wife was trying to flee to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Based on the information provided by Rizwan Kaskar, the police had arrested two of his aides Ahmedraja Afroz Wadharia (24) and Ashfaq Rafique Towelwala (34) in connection with the same extortion-cum-organised crime case.

All the three arrested gangsters were allegedly involved in organised crime. Initial investigations have revealed that the three gangsters had handed extortion threats to several businessmen in the city.

Rizwan Kaskar's arrest was a fallout of the arrest and interrogation of Dawood's gang member Fahim Machmach, in an extortion case.

Machmach was arrested at the city international airport when he returned from Dubai on July 15, 2019. During the interrogation, Machmach told the police that it was he who introduced Ahmedraja Wadharia to Rizwan Kaskar and also to the members of the Chhota Shakeel gang.

Machmach's arrest came in connection with a dispute between traders deal-

ing with imported goods. In one of the taped telephonic conversations, Machmach handed out a threat to the complainant in June 2019 in an earlier case and told the latter not to seek money from Ashfaq Towelwala.

The police went to search Rizwan Kaskar's residence on the afternoon of July 17, 2019 in an effort to avoid his arrest. Rizwan Kaskar and his wife attempted to fly to Dubai, only to be arrested at the airport.

Iqbal Kaskar is Dawood's second relative to have been arrested in recent years. It may be recalled that Danish Parkar, nephew of the fugitive don Dawood, was detained and sent to jail by Nagpada police in March 2006 to ensure that he did not create any trouble.

The passport authorities had initiated a verification procedure suspecting that he had acquired a forged passport.

Danish, son of late Haseena Parkar, elder sister of Dawood Ibrahim, had been detained by Nagpada police under provisions of the Bombay Police Act, as a passport verification process was initiated in connection with the passport acquired by him. The detention was ensured against Danish creating any problem during the passport verification process.

Opening of tender for Central Secretariat buildings postponed again

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Public Works Department (CPWD) has extended the last date of submission of bids and opening of technical bids for the construction of the first three buildings of the proposed new Common Central Secretariat from Wednesday to July 14. This is the second time the deadlines have been pushed in a week, with the earlier extension being from June 16 to Wednesday.

According to CPWD officials, the last date of submission of bids for the construction of the first three buildings of the proposed new Common Central Secretariat from Wednesday to July 14. The CPWD had invited bids for three new office buildings under the Common Central Secretariat along Rajpath at a

cost of ₹3,269 crore and ₹139 crore was set aside for five year's maintenance in April this year.

These new buildings will come on the plot where the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts is currently located. The Modi Government's mega project to redevelopment of central vista and construction of a new parliament building has become a bone of contention as the opposition parties are demanding to scrap the project in view of the Covid pandemic.

The redevelopment of the Central Vista -- the nation's power corridor -- envisages a new parliament building, a common central secretariat, revamping of the 3 km Rajpath from Rashtrapati Bhavan to India Gate, new prime minister's residence and prime minister's office, and a new vice president enclave.

Hardcore woman Maoist surrenders before police in Maha

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

A hardcore woman Maoist with a bounty on her head, who was wanted for involvement in 15 encounters, an incident of arson and four major offences, surrendered before the Gadchiroli police in eastern Maharashtra.

Identifying the surrendered Maoist as Anju Asaram Achala, a resident of Motha Zalia in Dhanora teshil of Gadchiroli district with various aliases like Shashikala, Guni and Zuri (30), the police said that she had joined Tipagad Naxal Dhalam in 2006 as member and gone on to become the Tipagad Area Committee Member.

According to Gadchiroli police, she was personally involved in 20 crimes including 15 encounters. The Maharashtra Government had

announced ₹6 lakh as bounty against her arrest.

With her surrender, the total number of Maoists who have surrendered before the Gadchiroli police between 2019 and 2021 has gone up to 39. Those surrendered four Divisional Committee Members (DVCM), two Dalam Commanders, three Dept. Commanders, 29 Dalam Members and one Jan Militia Member.

A senior Gadchiroli police official said that "frustrated and fed up with life besieged with violence, Maoists were getting 'attracted' to the surrender policy announced by the Maharashtra Government. The policy involves a rehabilitation programme.

Apart from intensified anti-Naxal operations, the Gadchiroli police undertake various kinds of civic action



Anju Asaram Achala, a hardcore woman Maoist with a bounty on her head, surrendering before the police at a function held in Gadchiroli district in eastern Maharashtra

programmes like Janjagran melawas, Rozgar melawas, Women Melawas and Village Visitations (Grambhet), "which deeply impact the minds of common people". Under the Grambhet programme, senior police officers visit the homes of relatives of Maoists who can

be persuaded to abdicate violence. "These activities contributed to the surrender of Anju Achala," the police official said.

"Simultaneously, we build a constant pressure upon the Naxalites to surrender before the police," the official said.



A peacock dances during the monsoon season, at Thondamuthur on the outskirts of Coimbatore on Wednesday



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PAPER WITH PASSION

The plus?

The Government seems to be at a crossroads in its tackling of Delta+ variant despite best intentions

Three steps the Union Government has taken in the last couple of days attest to a change for the better in its COVID-19 management policy. The first is the accelerated pace of vaccinations in the country. Over 8.3 million doses were given on a single day on Monday, the highest so far, beating the April 1 record of 4.8 million. In the first week of May, when the second wave of the pandemic was at its peak, single-day vaccinations hovered around 1.6 million. On Tuesday, however, the pace slowed down with some States experiencing a massive fall in the numbers. While the intention of the Government is honourable, to set a scorching pace to reach herd immunity at the earliest, it needs to ensure that the exercise does not become an event but is part of an organised, consistent process. Two, the Government has declared the Delta+ mutation as a Variant of Concern (VoC). The announcement came within hours of the Union Health Secretary saying the variant is only a Variant of Interest (VoI). Such an open contradiction of its Ministry may be unique for this Government, but it shows the latter is proactive and moving ahead with caution, having drawn flak for failing to recognise the Delta variant earlier.



Three, the Government has cautioned the States against unchecked opening up of the lockdown, recommending a close watch on adherence to safety protocols. In perhaps its first, comprehensive advisory to the States concerning Delta+, the Government has asked them to step up monitoring in the six districts

in three States where cases of the new variant have been detected, increase testing, contact tracing, and vaccination. However, this is only a bit of the task done. Vaccinations continue to be problematic. The Government does give daily data about the number of doses at hand, but transparency is needed about the doses expected from the Indian and foreign manufacturers and the numbers apportioned to the states. This will enable to streamline the vaccination process. There is now an obvious rush to get free vaccinations leading to a fear of a reduced rush for paid vaccinations in private hospitals. Is it the right time for the Government to take over the procurement and supply of 100 per cent of the vaccinations to rationalise the process? India is yet to nail the vaccine efficacy issue. If it is a case of the more mutations the lesser the efficacy, then the Government has to come clear on a big-picture approach than reactive ones. There are reports of Bharat Biotech releasing data of its third phase trial to the Government regulator, but somehow the company shuns transparency. Also, the campaign to remove vaccine hesitancy is still to go national, presently restricted to the imagination of village-level teams. The unlock remains an issue of grave concern, with neither the States nor the Centre coming with tangible mechanisms to prevent safety violations without affecting economic activity.

PICTALK



People with motorcycles travel by boats to cross the flooded Ganga river, at Kachchi Dargah in Patna

Red ball

The new, World Test Championship, format has accorded competitiveness to all cricket games, even against lesser names

The World Test Championship was launched to bring excitement back into the longest format of the game, vis-à-vis the faster T20 matches, across the globe. The inaugural season, which started immediately after the end of ICC Cricket World Cup 2019 and concluded with the first ever WTC Final in Southampton between India and New Zealand on Wednesday, was the first ever multination ICC event which was played with the red ball. The idea to start the championship in the ultimate format was to give relevance to every bilateral series that is played as the points were awarded to each team after the end of every series and the top two teams with the maximum number of points by the end of a two-year cycle make it to the final and fight for the silverware. Ever since the WTC format came into act, the Test matches saw the rise in level of competitiveness. The teams now go for the kill in every game because a win would get them extra points as against a draw. Earlier, teams used to rest all format players for the red ball matches against the not-so-fancy opponents but now, under the new format, even after winning the series before all the matches are played, team's don't rest their main players and would rather start with the strongest possible eleven in all the matches.

The competitiveness that was missing from the Test matches was installed back into the game by this WTC championship and it has certainly added an extra flair in the bilateral matches. Now the matches against teams like Bangladesh and Windies also have the same relevance as that of the matches against Australia or England. However, there are still a few things that needed to be sorted out to make it even more interesting and worthy, like the number of points awarded after every Test match win should be the same, irrespective of the number of matches in the series. Every game should be offering equal points and not like a five-match Test series will offer 24 points per Test win as compared to 60 per win in case of two match series. That is quite unfair. There were discussions about if one game is enough to determine the winner, like in case of this year's championship, or the ICC should consider having a proper Best of Three final to get the winner.

Constitution, courts & a Prime Minister

Among a host of obstacles in the path, even with the President on his side, Nepal's Supreme Court has given Prime Minister Oli a rap on the knuckles



RISHI GUPTA

The ongoing political instability in Nepal has deteriorated with the Supreme Court's verdict on June 22. In a big blow to Prime Minister KP Oli, the apex court quashed the appointment of 20 new Ministers in the Oli Cabinet. These Ministers were appointed after Oli managed to crack a deal with a faction of the Janata Samajbadi Party led by Mahanta Thakur and Rajendra Mahto to support his minority Government. The acting Prime Minister, Oli, had appointed these Ministers, including two deputy Prime Ministers, on June 4 and 10. Meanwhile, these Ministers were appointed when the House of Representatives stood dissolved, and the Supreme Court was examining a pile of petitions against the House dissolution on May 21. The Supreme Court has stoked the fanfare and enthusiasm among Oli's supporters for the second time in a row. On February 23, the court had quashed the unilateral move by President Bidya Bhandari to dissolve a functional Parliament and declaration of new elections in March and April. The first House was dissolved in December 2020 after Oli feared that his tussle with Maoist Party chief Prachanda would fall, which eventually happened in May.

However, Oli has been trying to play out the Constitution for months, using the President's Office. As a result, of this nexus between Oli and Bhandari, Nepal again stands at a crossroads similar to the days of the political transition from monarchy to democracy in 2006. The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear hundreds of petitions filed against President Bhandari's decision to dissolve the House for a second time. While the hopes are high that the court may restore the House, it brings severe administrative challenges to the Government. At present, Oli is left with only five Ministers in his cabinet, including himself in charge of several portfolios. As per the Constitution, Oli should have continued with his previous Cabinet as no new appointment can be made under a dissolved House, or the Government in question has not faced the vote of confidence. However, the power-sharing between Janata Samajbadi



Party itself was based on new portfolios and one deputy premiership.

As a result, Oli has asked his Ministers and loyalists in the Cabinet to resign en masse. However, amidst two back-to-back defeats in the apex court, the moral question for Oli has to be his resignation as for the last one year, he has merely been interested in the PMO for his political survival rather than focusing on COVID-19 and acting upon corruption charges levied on his fellow Ministers.

Unreliable Oli: Many in India believe that New Delhi facilitated the Janata Samajbadi Party's decision to support Oli. As a result, a long-term critic to India, Oli went on to record to say "differences with India have been resolved". If this is the case, India has taken the biggest strategic risk by trusting an untrustworthy Oli. For the last five years, Oli has been spitting venom against India's goodwill in Nepal. From raising the border issue to manipulating cultural and religious facts to suit his ultra-nationalist outlook, he unilaterally included India's sovereign territory in a new political map of the country. However, even after everything seemed to be favouring



KP SHARMA OLI IS A PRODUCT OF POLITICAL EQUATIONS AND CALCULATIONS, AND HIS CORD FUNCTIONS AS PER THE POLITICAL SUITABILITY. THEREFORE, HOPING A FRIENDLY OLI WILL BE NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE TASK FOR INDIA

India in Nepal, Oli once again alleged his claim on yoga as a Nepali practice and "not Indian". While Oli may still hold the powerful office in Nepal, India needs to think beyond him to keep open borders safe and prevent cross-border activities from affecting India's national security.

Oli is a product of political equations and calculations, and his cord functions as per the political suitability. Therefore, hoping a friendly Oli will be next to impossible task for India. On the other hand, China continues to benefit from political instability in the Himalayan country.

Before the second wave of COVID-19 had hit, India had supplied more than two million doses to Nepal. On the other hand, China promised to supply the second commitment of vaccines with four million doses. Meanwhile, the dragon has shown its unhappiness over media reports on the procurement. It exposes China's commercial intent in supplying the vaccines at about \$10 per dose (\$1186 Nepali) than its desired humanitarian intent. Meanwhile, Oli does not seem bothered with Chinese micro-management of Nepalese political affairs, its territorial expansion on the

Nepalese soil, brutal policies on Tibetan refugees living in Nepal and artificial humanitarian acts. The two large photographs of Chinese President Xi Jinping continue to grace the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website in Nepal at the cost of deteriorating relations with India.

Conclusion: The political instability in Nepal is the least desired by the people of Nepal under the current circumstances. Before Nepal, there are immediate challenges in terms of medical infrastructure, employment, economic development, infrastructure and leadership, which are clearly not on Oli's agenda. Therefore, while the people of Nepal await the court's verdict on the fate of Oli as Prime Minister, the latter himself should pave the way for a stable Nepal by resigning on moral grounds. Also, Nepal needs to understand that China may be a "big brother", but it is ill prepared to deal with dragon's ill-intended expansionist outlook where India is an "elder brother" it always needs.

(The author is an ICSSR Doctoral Fellow at the JNU and Visiting Fellow at the Asian Institute of Diplomacy and International Affairs, Kathmandu. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THEY'RE OUR KIDS, GO TO THEM!

Sir — With regard to 'Corona's orphans: Kids of a lesser god', June 23, it is extremely pitiful that thousands of children in India have lost one or both parents in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. And the prospect of a surge of abandoned minors worries many. Heart-rending stories in the media and desperate calls for help on social channels reveal a devastating truth of our times.

The intention is good, the schemes are fine but how will orphaned children avail of these benefits? Can we expect small or adolescent orphaned children going to the Government departments, filling up forms, submitting certificates and availing of this scheme? The direction has to be in reverse.

Instead of orphans seeking help from the Government, it is the State machinery which should send its officials to meet these orphaned children, prepare details and arrange a smooth transfer of stipends and educational loans. The entire task devolves upon the State Governments, who will have to provide data to the Centre.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

KIDS OF A LESSER GOD

Sir — According to UNICEF, India has over 30 million orphan and abandoned children. Unfortunately, the existing Corona crisis is adding unknown numbers of orphans to the list. In times of crisis of this magnitude, some miscreants try to derive undue benefit by resorting to human trafficking, which surely is a blot on society. These unscrupulous people tend to hoodwink gullible persons, who are easy targets. Their sentiments are exploited for exorbitant sums of money. The business of child trafficking and criminal trading is rampant and must be dealt with an iron hand.

The National and State Commissions for Protection of Child are empowered by law to take legal action against such criminal activities. Social activists, NGOs, newspapers and the aware citizens must report and publicise such incidents so that timely action can be taken against those engaged in illegal activities.

Caution ahead



Delta Plus variant, a mutated version of the more aggressive B.1.617.2 strain that drove the second wave of infections in India, is undergoing additional mutation called K417N which could become a "variant of concern" if unchecked as the variant is causing a surge in cases. India would see a faster surge if aggressive COVID-appropriate behaviour is not followed and insisted upon. The Delta plus is a variant which is of same lineage as the Delta variant, with a slight change as there is one more mutation found, which could be a cause of concern because this mutation, the K417N, is something which may change the virus to some extent

as far as its infectivity is concerned.

The B.1.617.2 variant is characterised as being highly infectious. The spike protein is what helps the virus enter and infect human cells, and the K417N mutation has been associated with immune escape, or evasion, that leaves it less susceptible, or more immune, to the vaccine or any form of drug therapy. India should not take this virus casually as this virus is changing and changing to survive and infect more people, therefore we have to be ahead of the virus.

The UK did a very good job by having an aggressive lockdown for many months and when they started opening up, the new variant caused the surge in number of cases. What it means is we are also in a vulnerable situation and if we are not careful right now then three or four months from now, we will have a similar situation and that is why we need to be very aggressive; it is mutating, changing, new variants are coming up. With this danger of Delta Plus variant looming heavily, we have to tackle it on war footing.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

People must be made aware about the due process of adoption by the Government. The Central Adoption Resource Authority regulates the adoption of the orphaned, abandoned children. In fact, the whole process must be streamlined to avoid delays.

Recently, the SC also came to the rescue of those orphaned by the crisis and gave instructions to the Government about their protection. This critical issue must be addressed and heeded so that they can get their rightful due a dignified life.

Vijay Singh Adhikari | Nainital

A DAMP SQUIB

Sir — Despite much political excitement around an Opposition party, the Rashtra Manch meeting hosted by Nationalist Congress Party chief Sharad Pawar in the Capital turned out to be a damp squib with a majority of the Opposition parties giving it a miss and many of them sending in sec-

ond-line leaders.

The NCP was subsequently at pains to explain that Pawar was only playing the host and did not organise the meeting. It also explained that there was no deliberate exclusion of the Congress. Other than the Congress, the DMK, the RJD and the BSP too did not send any representatives to the meeting.

It has been reported in the media that this meeting of Rashtra Manch was held by Sharad Pawar to unite anti-BJP parties is totally a showpiece rather than serving a desired purpose. Moreover, the meeting should not be misconstrued as a big political step taken by Pawar to exclude the Congress from any potential opposition grouping, pointing out that several Congress leaders were invited but they did not attend.

Chitra Krishnan | Vashi

SOUNDBITE

Chiranjeevi garu, on behalf of the State Government, I thank you for your kind words of appreciation. The credit goes to team effort.



Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister — YS Jagan Mohan Reddy

We will not raise interest rates preemptively because we think employment is too high, because we fear the possible onset of inflation.

US Federal Reserve Chair — Jerome Powell

It is totally in the hands of makers as to what role they offer. I am known as a comedian and people have enjoyed my comic avatar for the longest.

Actor — Sunil Grover

Read reports that England cricketers may not be able to have family members with them Down Under this winter.

Former England skipper — Michael Vaughan

The scheme shall come into force with the effect from the date of its publication in the Delhi gazette.

Delhi Lieutenant Governor — Anil Bajaj

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

BACKWARDS AS 'FORWARD' IN UP

Rajbhar or otherwise, the names don't matter, but the point is to let the 'backwards' take the lead



BISWAJEET BANERJEE

Is it a coincidence that the state presidents of all the major parties in Uttar Pradesh namely, Bharatiya Janata Party, Samajwadi Party, and Congress belong to the backward castes, or is it a compulsion that has pushed all the major players in UP to woo the backwards by projecting them as state presidents? It is a political reality that the party which will be able to garner the maximum support from the backwards will win Uttar Pradesh. The BJP state president, Swatantra Dev Singh, and the Samajwadi Party state president, Naresh Uttam, are Kurmi, an influential backward caste after Yadavs. The Congress state president, Ajay Kumar Lallu, is a Senthwar, another backward caste.

The results of the 2017 assembly elections and the 2019 general elections show the importance of the votes of the backwards in UP politics. "The BJP was able to win these elections only because it was able to stitch a social alliance between its core, upper caste, and middle-class base and the intermediary castes, constituting more than 50 per cent of the state's electorate," Nomita P Kumar of Giri Institute of Development Studies in Lucknow said. The forthcoming electoral battle in Uttar Pradesh represents a matter of survival for the four major players. After the BJP fared poorly in the West



Bengal assembly elections and got a drubbing in the state Panchayat polls, a message went down the political corridors that it is losing its sheen. A loss in UP would intensify the pressure on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and that could prove detrimental to the party in the 2024 elections.

Senior BJP leaders confirm that the RSS and the BJP leadership have asked senior leaders to contest the elections. The Chief Minister, Yogi Adityanath, and Deputy Chief Minister, Dr Dinesh Sharma, who are members of the Upper House, will contest from Gorakhpur and Lucknow, respectively. For the Samajwadi Party it is a fight for its relevance. It secured only five seats in the 2014 general elections. It lost the 2017 assembly elections despite an alliance with Congress. In 2019, it lost again when it had an alliance with BSP. The party lost these elections under Akhilesh Yadav's leadership. There are reports that Akhilesh Yadav is not willing to forge an alliance with big parties but is ready to share seats with smaller caste-based parties. Samajwadi Party has almost finalized an alliance with the Mahan Dal, a small caste-based party that is popular among the backward Maurya, Kushwaha, and Saini castes. On the other hand, BJP too has started putting its house in order. Sanjay Nishad of Nishad Party and Anupriya Patel of Apna Dal (S) recently met Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The meeting is considered crucial in the backdrop of backward politics and BJP losing the Rajbhar support after Om Prakash Rajbhar of Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party walked out of the National Democratic Alliance.

Rajbhar has formed 'Bhagidari Sankalp Morcha' - a conglomeration of small parties and the front will field candidates in the 2022 assembly elections. The Morcha includes Babu Singh Kushwaha's Jan Adhikar Party, Krishna Patel's Apna Dal, Prem Chandra Prajapati's Bhagidari Andolan Manch, Baburam Pal's National Uday Party, Ram Sagar Bind's Bharat Mata Party, Ram Karan Kashyap's Bharatiya Vanchit Samaj Party, Anil Chauhan's Janata Kranti Party and All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen of Asaduddin Owaisi. Arun Rajbhar, son of Om Prakash Rajbhar, said that the Morcha will emerge as the king-maker. "We have the support of Backwards, MBCs, and Muslims. This is a very potent force which has the potential to topple the apple cart of big parties," he said.

(The writer is Executive Director (News), The Pioneer, Lucknow. The views expressed are personal.)

Fuel, healthcare, online businesses spur prices



SHIVAJI SARKAR

The recovery process, the SBI says, needs a cut in fuel prices by tax rationalisation as otherwise non-discretionary spends will continue to get distorted and cause inflation

The Indian economy may have started recovering with the pandemic unlock but galloping inflation, increasing healthcare expenses, and rising unemployment are major banes.

The global economy is to rise by four per cent and India would marginally benefit from it with some rise in exports. A World Bank report wants India to create 90 million jobs in non-agricultural organized sector - a Herculean task as most private sector offices are either closing down or slashing operations. Humanitarian crises, hunger deaths, and societal conflicts are growing.

Latest figures indicate 12.69 per cent inflation primarily on account of F2 - food and fuel. The fuel price rise is hitting every sector of the economy with nobody to correct it. The basic price of petrol remains still around ₹35.99 and over ₹65 are the central and state tax components. The edible oil prices have reached crisis points with a 62 per cent spike, Food Secretary Sudhansu Pande says. This follows withdrawal of edible oil from essential commodities list in September 2020

A State Bank of India report says that massive increase in healthcare, especially in the hinterland, steadily rising fuel prices, and online delivery of articles will increase inflationary pressure much higher on the one hand, while crowding out other consumer spending on the other, putting a big question mark on overall growth that is still being driven by consumption demand. Month-on-month increase in inflation on non-institutional medicines, x-ray, ECG, pathological and other clinical tests is taking a heavy toll not only in urban areas but even on the rural populace.

The SBI report has questioned the headline inflation figures announced by the ministry. It says that price movements convey important information about the scarcity of particular goods and services like health and medical care as of now. Health expenditure, which currently constitutes five per cent of overall inflation basket, may jump to at least 11 per cent. (It may be noted that health expenditure is around ₹6 lakh crore or five per cent of the private final consumption expenditure). This is likely to also result in a squeeze in expenditure on other items of discretionary consumption.

The daily increase of fuel prices is another bane. "And if we look at credit card spends since December, CPI computed inflation for the five-month ending April is higher than the CSO estimate on an average by 60 basis points and the higher oil prices had forced consumers to ration out discretionary spends in December," says SBI chief economist Soumya Kanti Ghosh. It means the actual inflation is 60 per cent more than the CSO figures.

The RBI has virtually given credence to the SBI finding as it estimates ₹2 lakh crore losses on economic output. It says that it may not reflect on GDP but there would be a considerable value loss across the economy. The SBI report clarifies it as the share of non-discretionary spend which has jumped to 59 per cent in April and 52 per cent in March and "this does not augur well".

The inflation is to further rise as the US has matched its interest rate rise. It would



THE RBI HAS ALREADY LOWERED ITS GDP PROJECTION TO 9.5 PER CENT FROM 10.5 PER CENT. IT HAD HOPED 18.5 PER CENT RECOVERY IN THE FIRST QUARTER, CONSIDERED LOW BASE GIVEN THE CONTRACTION LAST YEAR. IT IS NOW SCEPTICAL DUE TO THE SECOND WAVE OF LOCKDOWN THAT SEES DECLINE IN DEPOSITS, INDICATING HIGHER HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES, AND LOWER SAVINGS

(The writer is a senior journalist. The views expressed are personal.)



impact India as well as there would be commodity price-rise globally. The RBI upon the government's suggestion has suppressed interest rates but it will not help keep prices low. It will make it difficult for the RBI to manage the conflicting targets of inflation, exchange rate, and adequate liquidity amidst weak growth.

The RBI has already lowered its GDP projection to 9.5 per cent from 10.5 per cent. It had hoped 18.5 per cent recovery in the first quarter, considered low base given the contraction last year. It is now sceptical due to the second wave of lockdown that sees decline in deposits, indicating higher household expenses, and lower savings. Additionally, currency holding - cash - with the people decelerated to 1.7 per cent during April against a growth of 3.5 per cent last year.

It substantiates what the SBI says that extra expenses on households have increased manifold. Also, there has been an increase in use of online delivery platforms which is not considered by the NSO and if the NSO considers online prices, there will be 10-15 basis points (bps) impact on CPI inflation. The SBI says

that the online delivery adds to inflation. The RBI says that the increased healthcare and other expenses have impacted domestic demand. That is the reason of delayed recovery of manufacturing, core sector and other activities.

The recovery process, the SBI says, needs a cut in fuel prices by tax rationalization as otherwise non-discretionary spends will continue to get distorted and cause inflation.

The RBI has given another formula. It has gone a bit beyond and wants to partner with the private sector - in short a prescription for further denuding the PSUs. The recommendation should make the authorities rethink on privatisation.

Over the last few years, major PSUs have consistently increased payouts to the government despite a dip in their profitability. Since 2016, as per an official dictat they are paying a minimum 30 per cent of their profit after tax or five per cent of their net worth, whichever is higher, as dividend.

The 100 government companies declared a dividend of ₹71,857 crore during 2018-19, according to the CAG. In 2021,

the PSUs paid a dividend of ₹39,022 crore (against an estimated ₹34,717 crore), the RBI paid ₹99,000 crore dividend, and other banks paid ₹1,619 crore in 2020-21. In short, a major part of the government expenses are being funded by the PSUs. The government's efforts to sell PSUs are being stonewalled by a poor economy. It should rather change its policies to strengthen the PSUs.

Despite this the India remains an investment destination. A healthy flow of FDI into the country corroborates India's strength and attracts attention of global investors, the Confederation of Indian Industry says. Total equity, re-invested earnings, and capital rose 10 per cent to the highest ever \$81.72 billion during 2020-21.

The RBI expects recent government boost in capital expenditure to spur activity and investment. For all this, however, there has to be a major shift in policy thrust. While private investments must rise, the government must relook at strengthening PSUs to tide over the crisis that is beyond the capacity of the private sector. This would alone cut prices and boost demand.

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

ON A DAY INDIA VACCINATED MORE THAN 84 LAKH PEOPLE, DELHI ADMINISTERED ONLY 76,259 OUT OF MORE THAN 11 LAKH DOSES AVAILABLE. WHY?
— UNION URBAN DEVELOPMENT MINISTER HARDEEP SINGH PURI



HARDEEP JI: PLS FOCUS ON PROVIDING ENOUGH VACCINES FOR THE YOUTH, RATHER THAN JUST ABUSING ARVIND KEJRIWAL ALL THE TIME.
— DELHI DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER MANISH SISODIA

Aviation industry: Pandemic-hit Phoenix waiting to rise

Indian aviation is expected to incur \$4 billion worth of losses in 2021 and it is not easy to even out the operational costs before 2023

The COVID-19 pandemic has clipped the wings of the aviation industry the world over. In India, the lockdown banning air travel has hit this industry the worst. As a ripple effect, the tour and travel and the hospitality industry have also been hit.



GYANESHWAR DAYAL

Downsizing has led to people in these industries losing their jobs and a lucky few are working on half, reduced meagre salaries. International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) pegs the losses of the aviation industry at \$370 billion. Air travel is down 60 per cent. This has led to airlines shutting most of their operations. They continue to incur fixed costs without the grounded fleets not earning a dime. According to the Indian rating

(The writer is a columnist and a documentary film-maker. The views expressed are personal.)

agency ICRA, domestic passenger traffic between May and September 2020 was only 11 million in comparison to 70 million in 2019.

An aviation expert, PS Nair, says Indian aviation is expected to incur \$4 billion worth of losses in 2021. Nair says, "These losses are not easy to even out. A very careful and integrated approach is required to rejuvenate the aviation industry. Everything would depend upon the economic recovery of the country. But aviation stands a good chance, as it has no alternative. If you have to travel, you have to take a flight; virtual flight is not an option."

India is the seventh-largest civil aviation market in the world. It is the third-largest aviation market in terms of



domestic operations. The country has the potential to overtake the United Kingdom and become the world's third-largest aviation market in terms of handling air passengers within the next five years.

The best minds in the aviation industry recently had a brainstorming session under the aegis of the Air Travellers Association (ATA). GS Bawa, General Secretary, ATA, feels

that the recovery will take years, if not decades. The recovery is linked to Covid-19 vaccination programs and testing procedures worldwide. He feels operational costs would not breakeven before 2023.

PS Nair, the former CEO, Delhi Airport and founder-CEO of HIAL says that the industry has a good chance to bounce back as fundamentals of the country's economy are still favourable. For a few years before the pandemic, the aviation sector of India had registered a steady growth and India had overtaken Japan to become the third-biggest domestic market. Private investors were showing interest in developing the country's airports but Covid-19 struck and stalled everything.

Efforts are already on in the industry as well as in the government to make the turnaround possible. To encourage the development of the aviation industry, the government plans to invest up to \$1.83 billion and develop airport infrastructure and aviation navigation services by 2026. The Culture and Tourism Minister Prahlad Patel is hopeful of early revival, saying the tourism and aviation industries will be back with a bang because the government is linking its vaccination program with the drive to revive the tourism sector. The government is also working on a uniform policy for travel and protocols for vaccinated travellers. The Minister recently launched the Confederation of Hospitality, Technology and

Tourism Industry, an industry body of travel and hospitality tech players like Airbnb, EaseMyTrip, OYO, and Yatra. The idea is to help small operators in the tourism sector.

Nair, however, feels optimistic because the country aims to open 100 new airports by 2024 of which 30 projects are already in progress. Plans are on to have 200 more airports by 2040. The infrastructure boost coupled with a rise in demand should see the Indian aviation industry flying high. "The Government must support the industry. If you increase the fares, the demand may further come down, if you don't losses would mount," says Bawa.

On its part, ATA has a few recommendations for helping out the aviation industry. It has

asked the government to compensate airlines and airports to the extent of their operating losses and give them some tax relief. It wants a government package for maintaining operations in tier-2 and tier-3 cities. This will improve passenger confidence. The traffic will improve bringing sustainability to the sector.

Bawa has also asked the government to relax the travel restrictions for those who have been vaccinated. "Restrictions like the RTPCR tests and quarantines should not be mandatory for the travellers with both jobs," he says. The ATA has suggested that for inland travel, a pass with a fitness certificate can also be issued. 'Yatra Setu' on the lines of 'Arogya Setu' can be a good step in this direction.

Myanmar trial of Australian adviser to Suu Kyi still not set

Bangkok: The case of an Australian economist and adviser to Myanmar's ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi who like her was arrested when military seized power in February remained in legal limbo Wednesday as a court considered where he should be

tried. Su Kyi, her advisor Sean Turnell and three former Cabinet ministers were charged in March under Myanmar's official secrets law, which is punishable by up to 14 years in prison.

Turnell has not appeared in public since he was detained on February 6 and did not attend Wednesday's court hearing. AP

Myanmar's junta leader attends military conference in Moscow

AP ■ MOSCOW
The leader of Myanmar's military junta on Wednesday attended an international conference in Moscow, an appearance that reflected Russia's eagerness to develop ties with it despite international opprobrium.

The military in Myanmar ousted the democratically elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi on Feb. 1, saying her party's landslide victory in elections last November resulted from massive voter fraud. It has not produced credible evidence to back its claim.

Security forces have brutally suppressed widespread popular protests against the military takeover, killing hundreds of protesters and carrying out waves of arrests.

The junta's leader, Senior Gen. Min Aung Hlaing, claimed in Wednesday's speech at the conference organised by Russia's Defence Ministry that it was trying to consolidate a democratic system in the country that has "degraded".

On Tuesday, Min Aung Hlaing met with Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu, who hailed strong military cooperation between the countries.



Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu, left, and Commander-in-Chief of Myanmar's armed forces Senior General Min Aung Hlaing walk past the honour guard prior to their talks in Moscow, Russia on Tuesday

"We pay special attention to this meeting as we see Myanmar as a time-tested strategic partner and a reliable ally in Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific region," Shoigu said at the start of the meeting.

He added that "cooperation in the military and military-

technical field is an important part of relations between Russia and Myanmar" and praised Min Aung Hlaing for strengthening the country's military.

Shoigu said that Russia would work to expand ties with Myanmar based on "mutual understanding, respect and trust."

PUBLIC NOTICE
ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005

The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Sachin Mittal, Shyaji Ram Choudhary, H No- 61 D First Floor, Arjun Nagar, Safdarjung Enclave, Delhi, A/c No:- LBJAI0003779154	Flat No E808, E809, E804, E805, 8th Floor, Pink Pride, Khasra No 9, Village Jaisinghpura Bass Bhankrola Tehsil Sangarner, Jaipur, Rajasthan, Jaipur- 303902	15-Apr-2021, Rs. 1,30,100/-	31/07/2020
2.	Abdul Nasir,reshma Nasir, House No-13 2190 Pul Banranari Street, Lakhi Gate Kitabsher Shaharanpur, Saharanpur, A/c No:-LBDEL00002737510	Flat No 306, 3rd Floor, Tower B, Durva Greens, Plot No Gh 08a, Sec Chi -V, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 93,79,437/-	30/04/2018
3.	Abdussalam, Ehtesham Ahmad, 405 Saba Sahkari Awas Samiti Apartment, Plot No D 3 Sector 44, Noida, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:- LBNO00001820032	Kph-2-1201, Kensington Park-1, Jaypee Greens Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 41,13,238.3/-	31/10/2018
4.	Abinash Kumar, Anjani Kumari, F-9/ 124-B, Katwaria Sarai, Delhi, Haryana A/c No:-LBGUR00002437442	Flat No-14- 701, 7th Floor, Tower 4, Arawali Homes Sec 4, Gurgaon, Haryana	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 14,29,160/-	31/07/2018
5.	Ajay Bhatnagar, Rashmi, H No 336 Vasant Apartments, Old Delhi Road, Gurgaon, Uttaranchal A/c No:- LBGUR00001888624	Flat No. 401, Block- C2, 4th Floor, Vistas Unitech, Sector-70, Gurgaon, Gurgaon, Haryana	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 35,32,946.3/-	31/10/2018
6.	Ajay Giri, Sunita Giri, House No B 44 Chahal House Mansarovar, Colony Moradabad, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:-LBGUR00001919445	Unit No-Idi-15-303, Kove Jaypee Greens Sports City, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 52,87,885/-	31/01/2017
7.	Ajay Giri, Sunita Giri, House No B 44 Chahal House Mansarovar, Colony Moradabad, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:-LBGUR00001925884	Unit No-Idi-15-303, Kove Jaypee Greens Sports City, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 3,91,700/-	31/01/2017
8.	Akashjain, Neha Jain, Flat No I 1204, Apama Sarovar, Grande Nalla Gandia, Hyderabad, Telangana A/c No:- LBDEL00002358175	Flat No C 1006, 10th Floor, Tower C, Vardhman's Springdale Tower A B C D, Sector-03, Dharuhera Distt Rewari, Rewari, Haryana	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 47,37,420/-	31/03/2019
9.	Alok Ranjan, Pinki Ranjan, U24 A/34 Gf Pink Town House Dlf Ph-iii, Gurgaon, A/c No:- LBGUR00003122066	Flat No-2101, 21st Floor, Tower A, Misty Heights, Plot No Gh-01 Sector-03, Adjoining Techzone-4 Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 61,35,841/-	30/09/2018
10.	Alokumar, Somashi Shahi, 6b 106 Plot No Gh-4, Aditya Garden City Sec-6, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:- LBGUR00002436557	Flat No B 106, Ff Plot No 6/g-4 Sec 6, Aditya Garden City Vasundhara, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 16,38,043/-	30/11/2018
11.	Amresh Chandra Verma, Aarti Verma, Ke-15 Kavi Nagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:-LBNO00002074973	Flat No- C-503, 5th Floor, Block-c, Amritsar One, Nh-1 Shubham Enclave, Amritsar, Punjab	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 23,88,824/-	30/11/2018
12.	Amishy Raz, Syeda Rana Jabben, E-110-a 2nd Floor Backside Abul, Fazal Enclave-1, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002416058	Flat No 1701, 17th Floor, Tower-c, Circuit Heights, Amuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority, Plot No- Gh-g4 Sec-25 Jaypee Sports International Y, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 31,74,927/-	31/01/2017
13.	Bhikam Chand Korwa, Poonam, Delhi Govt. Officer's Flat No- 505 Block No-2 Motia Khan, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00001929242	Flat No-205, 2nd Floor, Tower-a5, Plot No-gh001, Sector-113, Unitechunihomes Phase-3, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 26,44,472.3/-	31/08/2018
14.	Aniruddh Singh, Priti Singh, Plot # 92 Mandangiri Villagedr Ambedkar Nagar, Delhi, A/c No:-LBDEL00003049213	Flat No 307, 3rd Floor, Tower-c, Bulland Elevates, Plot No Gh-3a, Sector 16c, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 39,92,544/-	31/10/2018
15.	Anjneya Ashirva Dhanrajwaj, Kunwar Pal Sharma, Flat No 2104 Sant Sunder Dassi, Cghs, Plot No-21 Sector-12 Near Saminter National School Dwarka, Delhi, A/c No:-LBNO00003260734	Flat No 1508, 15th Floor, Block-A, Antriksh Vally, Plot No Gh-015d, Sector-01, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 60,54,457/-	30/04/2019
16.	Ankur Seth, Anshul Seth, 648 4th Floor, Chirag Delhi Near Shiv Mandir, Delhi, A/c No:- LBGUR00003106059	Flat No 1705, Tower A, 17th Floor, Misty Heights Sec Sports City, Gh-01, Sector Adjoining Techzone 4, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 65,04,688/-	30/06/2018
17.	Arun Khanna, Anjana Khanna, M. Khanna And Co.(p) Ltd., 44 Uday Park August Kranti Marg, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00001953921	Unit Reference No-gdi0162504, Garden Isles, Jaypee Greens Sector-133, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 70,37,745/-	30/09/2017
18.	Arvind Verma, Sheetal Verma, 2c Pocket 3 Phase Imsayur Vihar, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00001843006	Kgt-5 - 901, Knight Court, Jaypee Greens, Noida Sector 128, Noida Greater Noida Expressway, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 42,18,485.6/-	30/04/2019
19.	Arvind Kumar Mishra, Harendra Kumar Mishra, Shanti Mishra, 880/31, Laxman Vihar, Gali No.1, Opposite Apna Enclave, Gurgaon, Haryana A/c No:- LBNO00001939030	Flat No Ld 1- 16- 503, The Kove Jaypee Greens Sports City, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 42,84,560/-	31/07/2018
20.	Arunesh Vj,shilpa Vj, 171-a Express View Aptt Block Super, Mig Sector-93, Noida, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:- LBNO00002041768	Unit No Krh0221804, Krescent Homes, Wishtown Noida Jaypee Greens, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 93,44,615/-	31/12/2017
21.	Bhartiagarwal, April Jain, 4 2nd Floor Siddvinak Aptm15115/1 Ward No-1deuor Road, Delhi, Haryana A/c No:- LBGH20003070824	Flat No 604, 6th Floor, Tower A, Misty Heights , Plot No Gh 01 Sector Sports City Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 45,03,513/-	28/02/2019
22.	Bhaskara Manna, Bonny Amanna, Plot No B/ 2 First Floore E, Block Nirajan Park Najafgarh, Delhi, A/c No:- LBGUR00003084308	Plot No 1901, Floor 19th, Tower A, Misty Heights Sport City, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 67,03,770/-	30/06/2018
23.	Braj Kishore Poddar, Smriti Mahajan, B 3/8 2nd Floor Ganga Triveni Apts Sec 9 Rohini, Delhi, A/c No:- LBNO00002239710	Bc0b041206, Flat No 1206, 12th Floor, Tower-b4, Jaypee, Boulevard Court Pocket Gh-e Sec-19 And 22, Jaypee Greens Sports City East Mirzapur, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 9,21,304/-	30/09/2016
24.	Brijesh Kumar Bankoti, Sushma Bankoti, Flat No 127 Green View Apartment Sec 17g Vasundhra, Ghaziabad, A/c No:- LBGH20000218786	Flat No-2102 21st Floor Tower A, Unnati The Aranya Residency, Plot No Gh 02, Sector 119, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 44,33,359/-	28/02/2019
25.	Chandni Sharma, Ravi Kumar, House No- B-281, Sector-122, Gautam Buddha Nagar Udhac A/c No:- LBNO00002964385	Flat No 1001, 10th Floor, Tower - G, Elegent Splendor, Plot No Cph-g05 Sector-techzone-iv Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 41,91,959/-	31/12/2018
26.	Diwan Singh Panth, Janki Bisht, B-133 Maidan Gadi Vill, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00001902227	Ks-3-19-602, Kasia Jaypee Greens, Sport City, Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 40,92,548.3/-	30/06/2018
27.	Asharanigupta, Manish Gupta, D 288 First Floor Sarvodaya Enclave, Delhi, A/c No:-LBDEL00002002769	Flat No 102, 1st Floor, Ldi 19, The Kove, Jaypee Greens Sport City, Gautam Budh Nagar Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 29,44,587/-	30/11/2017
28.	Gaurav Sharma, Pradeep Kumar Sharma, 99, Alameda Boulevard Point Cook, victoria, Victoria, A/c No:- LBDEL00001941892	Unit No Krh0231801, 18th Floor, Krescenti Homes Jaypee Greens, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 51,93,757/-	31/10/2016
29.	Gauravsingh, Shalu Singh, 7/169 Geeta Colony, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002891319	Flat No-1201, 12th Floor, Tower-d, Circuit Heights, Plot No-gh-g4 Sec-25, Jaypee Sports International Veida Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 35,82,459/-	31/08/2017
30.	Gianender Singh, Jayanti, H No-1123 Ward No-23 Sonapat, Sonapat, Haryana A/c No:- LBGUR00002057318	Or- 53, Orchid Villa, Indus Satellite Greens, Satellite Greens, Indore, Madhya Pradesh	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 51,02,107/-	30/09/2015
31.	Gurdeep Singh, Shubhjit Kaur, Ac-7 Ground Floor Ganga Ram Vatika Tiklag Nagar, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:- LBDEL00002299213	Flat No-2602, 25th Floor, Tower A2, Victory Ace, Plot 2, Plot Gh 02, Sector-143, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 54,41,156/-	30/09/2018
32.	Hartinder Singh Bhatia, Maninder Kaur Bhatia, C-248 Janak Puri, Delhi, A/c No:-LBDEL00002234142	Gd0113502, Flat No 3502, 35 Floor, Wishtown Noida Jaypee Greens, Garden Isles Tower, Gdi-11, Sector 133, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 25,44,517.99/-	30/11/2017
33.	Hatinder Singh, Rajinder Kaur, Surjeet Fuel Depot, 3/13, West Patel Nagar, Delhi, A/c No:-LBNO00001890258	Flat No. Ks3- 10-204, Kasia Jaypee Greens, Sports City Gautam Budhnagar Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 20,90,715.97/-	31/12/2017
34.	Hridayesh Kumar Mishra, Preeti, House No-13 A Block Gali No-7 Vidyapati Nagar, mubarakpur Dabas Sultanpuri Block-c, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:- LBDEL000003217688	Flat No-1905, Tower-a, 19th Floor, Antriksh Valley Plot No Gh-15d, Sector-11, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 54,74,296/-	30/04/2019

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date : June 24, 2021
Place: Delhi NCR
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

Hisar Spinning Mills Limited

(CIN NO.L17112HR1992PLC031621)
9th K.M. Stone, Hisar-Bhiwani Road, V.P.O. Dabra (Hisar) 125005
NOTICE
Pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, notice is hereby given that a Meeting of Board of Directors of the company is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 29th June, 2021, to inter-alia, consider and approve the Company's audited Financial Results for the quarter and year ended on March 31, 2021.

The information is also available on the Company's website i.e. www.hisar spinningmills.com and also on the website of the stock exchange, where securities of the company are listed, viz. BSE Ltd. - www.bseindia.com. (Scrip code: 521068, Scrip Name: HISARSP).
By order of the Board
For Hisar Spinning Mills Limited
Sd/-
(Anurag Gupta)
Managing Director
Place : Hisar
Date: June 22, 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is inform to all concern that Shri Shahnal S/o Late Jaswant Singh Rio Vill Hoshiyarpur Noida Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh was the owner of Residential Plot No H-19, H-20 and H-21, Sector-145, Noida Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar U.P.
Shri Shahnal has expired on 26.04.2021. He had executed a registered WILL of said above plots in favour of shri shiva yadav S/o Shri Madan Pal Yadav Rio Vill Sorikha Jahidabad Sector-115, Noida U.P. vide WILL dated 03.09.2013 duly registered in the office of Sub Registrar-I, Gautam Budh Nagar UP in Book No. 3, Volume No 414 on pages 53 to 62 at Document No. 2272 dated 03.09.2013.
Now the above plot are going to be transferred through the above WILL in favour of Shiva Yadav S/o Shri Madan Pal Yadav Rio Vill Sorikha Jahidabad, Sector-115, Noida Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar Uttar Pradesh if any one has/have may file his/her objection along with the sufficient proof in the Residential Plot Department of Noida Authority Sector-6, Noida within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.
Shiva Yadav

E-TENDERING PRESS NOTICE

The Executive Engineer, CD-I Irrigation & GNCTD Opp. ESI Hospital, Basai Darapur Office Complex New Delhi-110027 invites on behalf of the President of India online percentage rae tender from approved and eligible contractors for the following works:-

1. NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/07 (ID No. 2021_IFC_204435_1) H.O.A:- 2711-Non Plan. Name of Work:- Repairing and Renovation of Khyala Bridge at RD 41490 and Raghuraj Nagar Bridge at RD 42930 on Najafgarh Drain. E.C. Rs. 36,70,076/- period of Completion 60 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 25.06.2021 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)
2. NIT No.EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/13 (ID No. 2021_IFC_204439_1) H.O.A:- 4515-Plan (RDB). Name of Work:- Improvement of main road at village Bagdola in Bijwasan Constituency. E.C. Rs 23,16,968/- period of Completion 30 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 25.06.2021 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)

Note:-
1. Details of above mentioned works & eligibility criteria can be seen and downloaded the web site <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>
2. Amendment(s) alteration(s) / corrigendum if any, will be available at website only.

Executive Engineer
Civil Division-I
Irr. & Flood Control Deptt.,
Govt. of NCT of Delhi
DIP/Shabdarth/0115/21-22

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General Public is hereby informed that one male Namely: **Unknown S/o: Unknown, Address: Unknown** was found unconscious on Footpath at Gate No. 03, Lady Harding Medical College, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Marg, New Delhi and admitted to Lady Harding Medical College vide MLC No. 1125/21. During the treatment Doctors declared brought him dead on 19.06.2021.

The body has been preserved in Lady Harding Medical College's Mortuary, Delhi for 72 Hrs. In this regard a case has been lodged vide DD No. 13A dated 19.06.2021 at P.S. Mandir Marg, New Delhi. The description of the dead male is as under:- **Age:** Approx 50 years, **Sex:** Male, **Height:** 5'1", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Oval, **Hair:** Long & black beard, **Built:** Normal, **Wearing:** White -blue colour checked T-shirt and red-blue print colour dhoti. If any one having any information about this dead male please inform undersigned.

SHO
RS. Mandir Marg, New Delhi
Ph: 011-23366730, 8750870522

DP/284/NDD/2021

Office of the Executive Engineer, Sub Transmission Division Doda Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDC), Jammu Power Development Department

Email: xenstdoda@gmail.com, Tel No: 01996-295112

e- NIT No: STD/Doda/Capex 21-22/08 of 2021, Dated 11.06.2021
INVITATION:-

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, the Executive Engineer, STD Doda, JPDC Jammu, hereinafter referred as "Employer", invites online e-bids from reputed Companies or Class 'A' registered contractors for "Stabilization/Improvement of 33KV Khealani-Doda Line, 33 KV Marmat line and adjoining taps by way of replacement of compromised insulators, installation of 33 KV isolator, setting right of jumpers and Guys etc." under the jurisdiction of Executive Engineer, STD Doda, JPDC Jammu.

1. Bidders are advised to study the Bidding Document carefully. Submission of e-Bid against this SBD shall be deemed to have been done after careful/conscious study and examination of the procedures, terms and conditions of the Standard Bidding Document with full understanding of its implications.
2. The tender document is available at website <http://tenders.gov.in>. Interested Bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below:

A. Tender Document Sale/Download Start Date:- 14.06.2021 10.00AM
B. Tender Document Sale/Download End Date:- 05.07.2021, 04:00 PM
C. e-Bid submission (start) date & time:- 14.06.2021 10:00AM
D. e-Bid submission (end) date & time :-05.07.2021 4:00PM

Sd/- (Er. Jarnail Singh)
Executive Engineer,
Sub Transmission Division,
JPDC, Doda.

No. DI/J-1238-P/21 Dated : 22-06-2021

N K Textile Industries Limited

Registered office: Omaxe Square, Plot No. 14, 5th Floor, Jasola District Centre, Jasola, New Delhi-110025

CIN: L17299DL1983PLC163230, Tel: +91 11 61119313
Email Id: n.ktextiles123@gmail.com, website: www.nktil.com

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the meeting no. 02/2021-22 of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on 30th June, 2021 (Wednesday) at the registered office of the Company at Omaxe Square, Plot No. 14, Jasola District Centre, Jasola, New Delhi-110025 at 5.30 PM to discuss the following agenda items:

- i. To take on record the Audited Financial Results (Standalone and Consolidated) of the Company for the Financial Year ended on 31st March, 2021 in terms of Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirement) Regulation, 2015.
- ii. To discuss any other business with the permission of chair.

By Order of the Board,
For N K Textile Industries Limited
Sd/-
(Balbir Singh)
Director

Russia fires warning shots to deter UK warship in Black Sea

AP ■ MOSCOW

A Russian warship fired warning shots after the British missile destroyer Defender had ignored a notice against intrusion in Russia's territorial waters. It said that a Russian Su-24 bomber also dropped four bombs ahead of the British ship to persuade it to change course. Minutes later, the British warship left the Russian waters, the ministry said.

The incident marked the first time since the Cold War that Moscow has used live ammunition to deter a NATO warship, reflecting growing risks of military incidents amid soaring Russia-West tensions.

The Russian Defence Ministry said the Russian war-

ship fired warning shots after the British missile destroyer Defender had ignored a notice against intrusion in Russia's territorial waters. It said that a Russian Su-24 bomber also dropped four bombs ahead of the British ship to persuade it to change course. Minutes later, the British warship left the Russian waters, the ministry said.

The Russian Defence Ministry said it has summoned the UK military attaché in Moscow to protest the British destroyer's maneuver.

The UK Ministry of Defence did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Iran: 'Sabotage attack' on civilian nuclear center thwarted

Tehran: Iranian authorities have thwarted what they called a "sabotage attack" targeting a civilian nuclear facility near the country's capital, state TV reported on Wednesday, as details about the incident remained scarce.

The attempted attack against a building belonging to Iran's Atomic Energy Organization "left no casualties or damages and was unable to disrupt the Iranian nuclear program," Iranian state television reported, adding that authorities were working to

identify the perpetrators. Iranian media offered no details on the kind of attack, saying only that the move targeted a sprawling nuclear center located in Karaj city, just some 40 kilometers northwest of Tehran.

When asked for comment, an Iranian official referred to the initial report by Nournews, believed to be close to Iran's Supreme National Security Council. The official spoke on condition of anonymity as they did not have authorization to discuss the matter with media. AP

Warren Buffett resigns from Gates Foundation

New York: Warren Buffett is resigning as a trustee from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The announcement comes weeks after Bill and Melinda Gates announced that they were divorcing after 27 years of marriage but would continue to jointly run the foundation, one of the largest charitable foundations in the world.

Gates was formerly the world's richest person and his fortune is estimated at well over \$100 billion. AP

Blast outside JuD chief Hafiz Saeed's house kills 3 in Lahore

PTI ■ LAHORE

A powerful car bomb exploded outside the house of the 2008 Mumbai terror attack mastermind and banned Jamat-ud-Dawa (JuD) chief Hafiz Saeed here on Wednesday, killing at least three people and injuring 21 others.

The blast took place at a police picket outside Saeed's residence at the BOR Society in Jauhar Town, resulting in serious injuries to some police officers guarding his house. The

ISRAEL OK'S DEMOLITION OF PALESTINIAN HOME

Jerusalem: Israel's Supreme Court on Wednesday upheld the decision to destroy the family home of a detained Palestinian accused of a deadly shooting.

Moody's cuts 2021 India's growth forecast to 9.6 pc

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Moody's Investors Service on Wednesday slashed India's growth projection to 9.6 per cent for 2021 calendar year from its earlier estimate of 13.9 per cent, and said faster Covid vaccination will be paramount in restricting economic losses to June quarter.

The US-based rating agency said high-frequency economic indicators show that the second wave of Covid-19 infections hit India's economy in April and May. With states now easing restrictions, economic activity in May is likely to signify the trough, it said in a report on India.

"The virus resurgence adds uncertainty to India's growth forecast for 2021; however, it is likely that the economic damage will remain restricted to the April-June

quarter. We currently expect India's real GDP to grow at 9.6 per cent in 2021 and 7 per cent in 2022,"

Moody's said in a report titled "Macroeconomics India: Economic shocks from second Covid wave will not be as severe as last year's". Flagging low inoculation rate, it said faster vaccination progress will be paramount in restricting economic losses to the current quarter. As of the third week in June, only about 16 per cent of the population had received one vaccine dose; of those, only about 3.6 per cent had been fully vaccinated.

While infection rates have been declining and restrictions relaxed in many regions, vaccination rates remain low. As a result, the risk of subsequent waves that could require further lockdowns cannot be ruled out.

Govt liberalises guidelines for voice BPO industry

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Wednesday announced liberalisation of guidelines for other service providers (OSPs) and said that the move would position India as a strong global destination for voice BPOs.

The distinction between domestic and international OSPs has been removed.

A BPO centre with common telecom resources will now be able to serve customers located worldwide including in India. The easing of guidelines would lead to cost-saving and better utilisation for BPO companies. With removal of the distinction between domestic and international OSP centres, the interconnectivity between all types of OSP centres, is now permitted. "We have today extensively liberalised OSP guidelines... This revolutionary step will make India a global destination for BPOs," Communications Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad told reporters.

Sensex breaks 3-day winning streak

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The BSE Sensex nursed losses on Wednesday after three days of gains, weighed by selling in Reliance Industries, finance and metal stocks despite firm Asian cues.

Persistent foreign fund outflows added to the selling momentum, though a recovery in the rupee capped the losses, traders said.

The 30-share BSE benchmark ended 282.63 points or 0.54 per cent lower at 52,306.08 in choppy trade. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty declined 85.80 points or 0.54 per cent to 15,686.95.

Kotak Bank was the top loser among the Sensex constituents, shedding 1.32 per cent, followed by L&T, Tata Steel, TCS, Axis bank, ICICI Bank, HDFC and Reliance Industries.

On the other hand, Maruti, Titan, Bajaj Finserv, M&M, UltraTech Cement, HDFC Bank and SBI finished with gains of up to 2.33 per cent.

UK HC rejects Nirav Modi's extradition plea

HAS 5 DAYS TO APPEAL FOR ORAL HEARING

PTI ■ LONDON

Nirav Modi has lost the first stage of his extradition appeal in the High Court here, just over two months after the wanted diamond merchant's extradition to India was ordered by UK Home Secretary Priti Patel in the estimated USD 2-billion Punjab National Bank (PNB) scam case.

The case was before a High Court judge for a decision "on the papers" submitted for the appeal to determine if there are any grounds for an appeal against the Home Secretary's decision on April 16 or the Westminster Magistrates Court February ruling in favour of Modi's extradition to India to face charges of fraud and money laundering.

A High Court official confirmed that the permission to appeal was "rejected on paper" on Tuesday, which leaves the

50-year-old jeweller with a chance for his lawyers to make his case at a brief oral hearing in the High Court with a renewed "leave to appeal" application for a judge to determine if it can proceed to a full appeal hearing.

Cases against fugitives, economic offenders to be actively pursued: FM

New Delhi: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday said the government will actively pursue cases against economic offenders to bring back defrauded money of banks. The remark came soon after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) said the Debts Recovery Tribunal (DRT) has sold shares worth over ₹5,800 crore of United Breweries Limited (UBL) that were earlier attached under the anti-money laundering law as part of an alleged bank fraud probe against fugitive liquor baron Vijay Mallya.

DoT allocates 5G trial spectrum to MTNL

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Department of Telecom on Wednesday allocated the spectrum for 5G field trials to the state-owned telecom firm MTNL with C-DoT as its technology partner, according to an official source.

Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea were given the spectrum in May to conduct 5G trials across select cities in India.

"(The) DoT has allocated spectrum to MTNL for 5G trials in Delhi. It will conduct trials in partnership with C-DoT," the official source told PTI. The state-owned telecom firm will conduct trials in the Najafgarh area of Delhi.

According to the DoT, 5G technology is expected to deliver 10 times better download speed than that of 4G and up to three times greater spectrum efficiency. The duration of the trials at present is six months. This includes a time period of two months for procurement and the setting up of the equipment.

FDI in April up 60 pc to USD 4.44 bn: Govt data

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Foreign direct investment into India increased by 60 per cent to USD 4.44 billion in April as against USD 2.77 billion in the same month last year, government data showed on Wednesday. Total FDI, including equity, re-invested earnings and capital, rose 38 per cent to USD 6.24 billion in April this year, as against USD 4.53 billion in April 2020, as per the data. "During April, 2021 FDI equity inflows amounting to USD 4.44 billion were reported in the country which is an increase of 60 per cent over the FDI equity inflow of April, 2020 (USD 2.77 billion)," the commerce and industry ministry said in a statement. Measures taken by the government on the fronts of foreign direct investment (FDI) policy reforms, investment facilitation and ease of doing business have resulted in increased FDI inflows into the country, it added.

NMDC another impressive performance in FY21

India's largest iron ore producer, NMDC has produced 34.15 million tonnes and sold 33.25 million tonnes of iron ore during the financial year 2020-21. This is an 8% growth in production and 6% in sales from the 31.49 million tonnes produced and 31.51 million tonnes sold during FY 2019-20, achieved in an undoubtedly challenging year.

NMDC's turnover for FY 2020-21 is ₹15,370 crore against ₹11,699 crore during FY 2019-20.

LIC chairman inaugurates Go Live of e-PGS project

LIC of India crossed another milestone today by embarking upon a new Centralized Web-based Workflow-based IT platform for its Group Business operations. Chairman of LIC of India, MR Kumar inaugurated the Go Live of the project e-PGS in a formal ceremony held today at 10:30

Hours at Yogakshema, Central Office, Mumbai in the presence of Managing Directors Vipin Anand, Mukesh Gupta, Raj Kumar and S Mohanty, Shri Rakesh Sharma, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of IDBI Bank received the first digital receipt, generated on new IT platform, to the Bank as Master Policy Holder in one of its group policies from

The inaugural ceremony was joined online from 204 locations across the entire country.

Mask compliance still remains low in India despite most lethal Covid-19 wave: Survey

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Mask wearing compliance still remains low in India despite it being one of the worst hit by the second wave of Covid-19, according to findings of a survey.

The mask compliance at vaccination centres also remains low, as per the survey

conducted by online social media platform LocalCircles. "Despite the most lethal Covid-19 wave that any country in the world has experienced so far, India's mask compliance is still low as indicated by the survey finding where 67 per cent of citizens say there is limited or no mask compliance in their area, district, or city," it said.

The survey received over 33,000 responses from citizens located in 312 districts of the country.

According to the survey findings, only 32 per cent of citizens in the survey note that there was limited mask compliance at the vaccination centre they recently visited.

DELHI JAL BOARD: DELHI SARKAR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SOUTH)-II
JAL SADAN : LAJPAT NAGAR: NEW DELHI-110024

STOP CORONA-Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene

NIT NO.04/S-II/2021-22
Press Tender

S.No.	Name of work	Reserve price	Date of release of tender in e-procurement solution	Last date and time for download & RTGS through e-procurement solution
1	Augmentation of water supply in B-Block,NDSE -II by P/L 150mm dia Loop line across Ring Road by trenchless technology upto B-Block,NDSE-II under EES I. (AC-42 Kasturba Nagar)	3303712/-	2021_DJB_204767_1 23.6.2021	13.7.2021 upto 2.00 PM

It is for publishing in the leading newspaper please. Further details in this regard can be seen at govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in

ISSUED BY P.R.O.(WATER) (Sd/-) (G.Shulam Sajjad)
Advt.No.S.V.135/2021-22 EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SOUTH-II)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

It is notified for the information of rail passengers that Railways have revised the timings of the Special Trains on below mentioned stations as under :-

Train No. & Name	Station	Existing Time		Revised Time		Date
		ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.	
08237 Korba - Amritsar Junction Special Express Train	Kosikalan	17:16	17:18	17:23	17:25	with immediate effect
02883 Durg - Hazrat Nizamuddin Superfast Special Express Train	Jhansi	02:10	02:20	02:15	02:25	

NOTE : The time-table at other stations of the above special trains will hold good.

Note: All norms of the State and Central Government regarding COVID-19 including Social distancing, sanitization etc., must be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.

For any kind of information such as arrival/departure timings and stoppages enroute, the passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTEs App.

RailMadad Helpline No. 139
Visit RailMadad website: www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in & download Railmadad app.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Your Convenience - Our Concern
Visit us at : www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PREMIUM MERCHANTS LIMITED
Registered office: Omaxe Square, Plot No. 14, 5th Floor, Jasola District Centre, Jasola, New Delhi-110025
CIN: L51909DL1985PLC021077.Tel: +91 11 81119658
Email Id: premiummerchants123@gmail.com, website: www.pmltd.com

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the meeting no. 02/2021-22 of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on 30th June, 2021 (Wednesday) at the registered office of the Company at Omaxe Square, Plot No. 14, Jasola District Centre, Jasola, New Delhi-110025 at 4.00 PM to discuss the following agenda items:

To take on record the Audited Financial Results of the Company for the Financial Year ended on 31st March, 2021 in terms of Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirement) Regulation, 2015.

To discuss any other business with the permission of chair.

By Order of the Board
For Premium Merchants Limited
Sd/-
Balbir Singh
Director

DIN: 00027438
Place: New Delhi
Dated: 23.06.2021

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that one male namely Unknown, S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown, Age 35 years, Height 5', Complexion Shallow, Face Round, Built Medium, Wearing Red colour shirt, sky blue colour jeans pant and bare footed was found injured Near Wazirabad Bridge, Delhi on 31.05.21, during treatment he got expired. In this regard a case FIR No. 367/21 dated 01.06.21 U/S 279/337 IPC has been registered at PS Wazirabad, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this male deceased may be kindly inform to the undersigned.

SHO
PS: Wazirabad, Delhi
Ph.: 8750870131

DP/1290/N/21

UJVN Ltd.
(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprise)
H.O. "UJWAL" Maharanji Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephone-0135-2763808 Fax 0135-2763588
CIN No. U40101UR20015G025866 Website: www.ujvnl.com

RO No. 471 Tender Notice Date: 23.06.2021

Office of the Executive Engineer (E&M) SHP, UJVN Ltd., Rishikesh, invites sealed tender from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

Tender No.: NIT No.02/EE(E&M) (SHP)/Rishikesh/2021-22
Name of Work/Supply/Service etc.: Supply, fixing and testing of vector surge protection relay and associated items at Lapd SHP (2 X 750 kW Dunao) in District Pauri Garhwal and Pilangad SHP (2x1125 kW) in Distt Uttarakash

Estimated Cost:- Rs. 6,27,760.00 (including GST)
Date of availability of bid document on website:- 23.06.2021
Last date for submission of Tender:- 24.07.2021 up to 17.00 Hrs.
For full & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from Nigam's website www.ujvnl.com

Executive Engineer (E&M)(SHP), Rishikesh
"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

Office of the Executive Engineer, Sub Transmission Division Doda
Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDC),
Jammu Power Development Department
Email: xensiddoda@gmail.com, Tel No. 01986-295112, CIN No. U40300JK2013SGC003898

e-NIT No. - STD/Doda/Capex/2021-22/09 of 2021, dated: - 11.06.2021
INVITATION

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, the Executive Engineer Sub Transmission Division Doda - JPDC, hereinafter referred as 'Employer', invites online bids from reputed Companies or Class 'A' registered contractors for "Design, Engineering, Manufacture, Survey, Supply, Transportation, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 1x3.15 MVA, 33/11KV Receiving Station at Bahra, Baderwah in District Doda." under the jurisdiction of Executive Engineer, Sub Transmission Division Doda, JPDC, Jammu.

1. Bidders are advised to study the Bidding Document carefully. Submission of e-Bid against this SBD shall be deemed to have been done after careful/conscious study and examination of the procedures, terms and conditions of the Standard Bidding Document with full understanding of its implications.
2. The tender document is available at website: <http://jptenders.gov.in>. Interested Bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below:-

A. Tender Document Sale/Download Start Date:- 14.06.2021 10.00AM
B. Clarification start and end date:- 14.06.2021 10.00AM to 16.06.2021 05.00PM
C. Tender Document Sale/Download End Date:- 07.07.2021 12.00PM
D. e-Bid submission (start) date & time:- 17.06.2021 10.00AM
E. e-Bid submission (end) date & time:- 07.07.2021 12.00PM

Sd/- (Er. Jarnail Singh)
Executive Engineer,
Sub Transmission Division,
JPDC, Doda.

No. DIP/J-1236-P/21 Dated : 22-06-2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No-23, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005

The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Jankey Bhalabh Soni, Prashant Kumar, N 1408 Prateek Laurel Sec 120, Noida, Uttar Pradesh A/C No:- LBNOD0002374209	Plot No- C-8-06, Soni Palm City Sector- 32 32a Buddha Khara Village, Karnal, Haryana	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 46,93,051/-	31/10/2016
2.	Jatinder Kaur Kharbanda, Haminder Singh, 13/7, C-Block 37 Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi. A/C No:- LBNOD0001946597	Flat No- LD 1 03, 1901, The Kove Jaypee Greens Sports City, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 40,31,697/-	31/03/2016
3.	Jitender Kumar Ahuja, Payal Ahuja, House No- 15 B, 1st Floor Bk Nit No- 5 Nr Garden, Faridabad, Haryana A/C No:- LBNOD00002206955	Flat No- 05B, 1st Floor, Block- K Amritsar One, Shubham Enclave, Gt Road Village, Daburji, Amritsar, Punjab	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 35,25,737/-	30/04/2019
4.	Kapil Kumar Jain, Sachin Jain, 66 Old Anarkali, Krishna Nagar Delhi-51, Delhi, New Jersey A/C No:- LBNOD0001932421	KRH 0122204, Wishtown, Krescent Homes, Jaypee Greens Sector-129, Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 69,83,709.7/-	31/10/2017
5.	Kautilya Srivastava, Kamal Narain Srivastava, E 25 Second Floor, Lajpat Nagar, Delhi, Haryana A/C No:- LBDEL00002443876	Flat No 1101, 11th Floor, Tower C, Circuit Heights, Plot No Gha G4 Sec-25 Jaypee Sport Sinter National Yelida Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 32,77,437/-	30/04/2017
6.	Amikumar, Geeta, 211 Bamnoli Village, Delhi, A/C No:- LBDEL00002058717	Flat No- 603, 6th Floor, Block B, Nikhil Park Royale, Mauza Chamrauli, Kharsa No 209, 210, Mauza Chamrauli, Taj Ganj Ward, Agra, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 44,19,723.93/-	31/08/2018
7.	Kumar Kundan, Kumar Sudarasan, 10 A 109 Dayanand Colony, Lajpat Nagar, Delhi, A/C No:- LBDEL00003092569	Flat No 2005, Tower E, 20th Floor, Plot No Gh- 01, Misty Height S Sec- Sports City Adjoining Tech Zone- Iv Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 62,12,422/-	31/07/2018
8.	Manas Gandhi, Mahesh Kumar Gandhi, 6/15 2nd Floor Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi, A/C No:- LBDEL00001955058	Unit Reference No- LDI- 04 1201, The Kove Jaypee Greens City, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 48,71,811/-	31/10/2016
9.	Maneesh Tiwari, Nivedita Tiwari, Flat No- 202, Tower 10, Silver Citysec- 93A, Noida, Uttar Pradesh A/C No:- LBNOD00001893963	Flat No- KRH0010402, Krescent Homes, Jaypee Greens, Sector-129, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 98,16,208/-	31/12/2017
10.	Manish Kumarjha, Jyothi Jha, 12/18 3rd Floor Ashoka Road Shipra Suncity Indrapuram, Ghaziabad, A/C No:- LBGH200002172686	Flat No 2001, 20th Floor, Tower D, Mascot Soho Manorath, Plot No Gh- 4b/1, Sector 16, Greater Noida West - Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 53,32,887/-	30/04/2018
11.	Mirza Ashraf Beg, Farooz Bano, Flat- 2602, Uae Alshikhah Fatema, Bnt Mobark Mirza Ash Rafbeg, Sharjah, Uae A/C No:- LBNOD00001880529	Flat No. KM72A902, Kosmos Jaypee Green, Sec- 129 And 134, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 50,41,117.6/-	31/03/2017
12.	Mohammad Ayoub Khan, Mohammad Ismail Khan, 32 III H Nehru Nagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh A/C No:- LBNOD00002043941	KS3-33-202, 2nd Floor, Kasia Jaypee Greens Sports City, Sector-128, Gautam Budh Nagar Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 38,66,014/-	30/09/2017
13.	Mohit Nakra, Shweta Nakra, H No D- 346, Sector- 47, Noida, A/C No:- LBNOD00001981408	KUBOO524011, Kube Jaypee Greens, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 84,69,062/-	31/10/2018
14.	Mukesh Jangpangi, Ganga Jangpangi, 370 Top Floor Chirag Delhi, Delhi, A/C No:- LBDEL00001918946	Appts No- 0403, 4th Floor, Tower B3, The Residences, Unitech GHP 0001, Sector- 117, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 53,92,285.1/-	31/05/2018
15.	Mukesh Jangpangi, Ganga Jangpangi, 370 Top Floor Chirag Delhi, Delhi, A/C No:- LBDEL00001925847	Appts No- 0403, 4th Floor, Tower B3, The Residences, Unitech GHP 0001, Sector- 117, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 52,93,208/-	31/05/2018
16.	Namrata Kataria, avesh Kumar, C-311 312 Nayay Khand Indrapuram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh A/C No:- LBNOD00002850869	Flat No 1104, 11th Floor, Tower- C, Bulland Calisto, Plot No Gh- 02B-1, Sector- 10, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 9,90,982/-	31/07/2018
17.	Naven Kumar, Anita Rani, 100 Ground Floor Shakar Nagar Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh A/C No:- LBNOD0000279699	Flat No 2101, 21st Floor, Block K1, Imperial Greens, Plot No Gh 01B, Sector 16, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 42,96,165/-	31/12/2018
18.	Naven Naveen, usha Rani, B- 69 Sewak Park Uttam Nagar, Delhi, A/C No:- LBDEL00002075979	Flat No- 1117-B, 11th Floor, Tower- 9, Chinar Homes, Kishanpurazirakpur, Zirakpur, Punjab	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 76,50,029/-	13/10/2014
19.	Neeraj Vats, Dbs Infosoft Solutions Pvt Ltd, Varsha Vats, 4/72 Ashok Mohalla Nangoli, Delhi, A/C No:- LBDEL00002055445	Unit NOKM00161705, Flat No. 1705, 17th Floor, Tower Km-16, Kosmos Wishtown Noida At Jaypee Greens Noida, Sector 128, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 54,53,928.4/-	31/07/2016
20.	Nirmal Sagar, Shiv Shankar, H No-90p Nr. Uniworld Opp., of Morderment Sector- 41, Gurgaon, Haryana A/C No:- LBDEL00002028874	Flat No- T2-603, 6th Floor, IBD Belmont Park, Treasure, Kelod Halaindoret- 603, Indore, Madhya Pradesh	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 95,48,293/-	30/09/2015
21.	Nisha Singh, Priyanka Harish Chawla, House No. 116-117, Top Floor Pocket- 3, Sector-25 Rohini, Delhi, A/C No:- LBDEL00002895023	Flat No F020403, 17th Floor, Tower F02, Sare Green Parc, Phase 2 Vill Wazirpur Mewka Sec 92, Gurgaon, Haryana	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 70,33,282/-	31/05/2019
22.	Pankaj Sood, Pooja Sood, H No-156 Durga Nagar Ambala Cantt, Ambala, A/C No:- LBDEL000002047143	Plot No 1, Street No 82 B-11, Second Floor, Sector- 82B, Vatika India, Gurgaon, Haryana	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 77,90,975/-	31/07/2018
23.	Parmanand, Luxmi, 181/3 Sec-10 Road, Gurgaon, Haryana A/C No:- LBGUR00001983343	1706 17th Floor, T16, Green Par C-2, Sector 92, Gurgaon, Haryana	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 69,00,784/-	31/05/2016
24.	Pawan Kumar Verma, Dhiraj Kumari, B-1449/115, Durga Puri, Street No-3 Shadra, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh A/C No:- LBDEL00001955386	Property No- FL3FU, A2-06-0606, Flat No. 0606, Tower- A2, Unitech Unihomes- 3, Sector-113 Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 21,04,155/-	31/05/2019
25.	Manish Raj, Pushp Lata Sinha, F-298, 3rd Floor, Lado Sarai, Delhi, A/C No:- LBDEL00002133789	Flat No 1218, 12th Floor, Tower C, 16th Park View Gaur Yamuna City, Pocket-3 Mirzapur Site, Sector 19, Ahmednagarayelida Yamuna Expressway, B/h Raghvendra Mandir, Adhav Mala, Bholegaon, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 26,03,497/-	28/02/2017
26.	Pradeep Sharma, Sharda Sharma, G-626, Kartar Nagar- Block Near Vimal Garg House, Delhi, A/C No:- LBDEL00002861126	Flat No A 22, 22nd Floor, Tower 9, Ryme, Plot No Gh-06A, Sector- CHI- Vgreateer Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 28,62,227.99/-	31/05/2019
27.	Pritpal Singh, paramjeet Kaur, 253, Gali No- 5 Bhol Nath Nagar Shadra, Delhi, A/C No:- LBDEL00001218260	Flat No- 227 A, Type- B, Pocket- E, 6F, Ground Floor Type- Anand Nagri, Delhi, Delhi	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 9,95,551/-	30/04/2017
28.	Priyanka Jain, Rahul Jain, D1804 Amrapali Platinum Sec 119 Noida, G B Nagar, Noida, A/C No:- LBNOD00003091093	Flat No 405, 4th Floor, Tower D, Misty Heights, Plot No GH-01, Sec- Adjoining Techzone- Iv Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 36,39,753/-	30/04/2019
29.	Raghavendra Madhu, Geetha Madhu, H No- 88 Flat No- B-2kh No 20/1 S/F Savitri Nagar, Delhi, A/C No:- LBDEL00002013530	BS204C0602, Flat No C602, 6th Floor, Tower- 4, Studios- II Jaypee Greens Sports City East, Pocket- Gh-04, Buddha Circuit, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 8,02,601/-	31/12/2017
30.	Raj Mohan, Lalitha Shanmugam, I-11 South Moti Bagh Nanakpuri, Delhi, A/C No:- LBNOD00002028820	Flat No 312-B, 3rd Floor, Tower- 6, Chinar Homes Sector- 20, Village Kishanpura, Chandigarh, Punjab	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 1,20,72,291/-	13/10/2014
31.	Rajat Rastogi, Samarth Rastogi, D-147 2nd Floor Prashant Vihar, Delhi, A/C No:- LBGHZ00001935524	Apparment No GD10252703, 27th Floor, Wishtown Noida, Garden Isles Jaypee Greens, Sector-133, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 28,91,391.5/-	31/10/2017
32.	Rajesh Kumar Singh, Brajesh Kumar Singh, RZ-729/A Ugf, Gali No 11 Raj Nagar Part- 2, Deep Parmarth School Palam Village, Delhi, A/C No:- LBGUR00002417418	Unit No 2006, 20th Floor, Tower B, Unnati The Aranya Residency, Gh-2, Sector 119 Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 73,57,668.30/-	28/02/2019
33.	Sumit Agarwal, Neelam Agarwal, G-4/5 Ground Floor Rama Park, Mahan Garden, Uttam Nagar, Delhi, Haryana A/C No:- LBDEL00001981491	Unit No- 0701 Floor 7, Tower- 0D1, Block- 00D, Unihomes- 3, Sector 113, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 14,22,109.16/-	31/03/2019
34.	Rajinder Singh, sharmila Devi, H. No.- 10, Gali No 02, Pataudi Road, Gurgaon, Haryana A/C No:- LBDEL0000386987	H No 10, Gali No-2, Pataudi Road, Delhi, Delhi	03-Apr-20	



MELTING BOUNDARIES

Actors are no longer defined by the medium they most often dabble in. By TEAM VIVA

So many performers are today flexing their acting prowess with equal ease on, both, streaming platforms and films. Here is our pick of five of such versatile talents:

Mukul Chadda

Mukul left New York and a thriving career as a banker because his heart craved for a life in the arts. He arrived in Mumbai without a blueprint for his future but memories of doing theatre in college and attending classes at the Lee



Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute began to guide his choices. He soon found himself working in films like *Ek Main Aur Ekk Tu*, *Island City*, *I, Me Aur Main* et al along with shows like *Bichoo Ka Khel* and *Gurgaon*. He also played a jovial and rather clueless boss in the Indian adaptation of the popular American sitcom, *The Office*. This month, he is celebrating the release of an OTT series, *Sunflower* and the much-awaited film *Sherni*. In the former, which is a dark crime comedy, he plays a rather mercurial, short-tempered character and in *Sherni*, he portrays a rather unimaginative spouse who believes his wife's government job is a 'recession-



nered critical and popular appreciation.

Sayani Gupta

This graduate from the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), is truly a new-age star whose unconventional choices have resulted in a very interesting creative journey. Sayani made her debut in 2012 in *Second Marriage Dot Com* but her breakout role was as the visually-challenged love interest of



proof' meal ticket for life. Chadda is emerging as an actor who can effortlessly adapt to cinematic and OTT narratives without missing a beat.

Radhika Apte

From someone who made her debut in 2005 with a fleeting appearance in a now-forgotten film, *Vaah! Life Ho Toh Aisi!*, Radhika has grown enormously to become the unofficial queen of OTT productions and an acclaimed film actor, be it in commercial hits like *Badlapur* and *Andhadhun* or an independent film like *Raat Akeli Hai*. Many credit her with changing the scope and span of female performances in OTT shows. Her ability to exude both charisma and earthy simplicity has seen her churn out flawless performances in titles as diverse as *Manjhi - The Mountain Man*, *Parched*, *Phobia*, *Pad Man*, *Lust Stories*, *Bazaar*, *A Call To Spy*, *Stories by Rabindranath Tagore*, *Ghoul*, and *Sacred Games*. Along with that, she has scooped up various awards and also gar-

Kalki Koechlin in Shonali Bose's acclaimed film, *Margarita With A Straw*. She gave another noticeable performance, as part of the ensemble cast, in Leena Yadav's *Parched*. In Anubhav Sinha's, *Article 15*, her wrenching histrionics gave the film much of its truthfulness. In films like *Axone*, *Jolly LLB 2*, *Fan*, and *Baar Baar Dekho*, her presence was unmistakable and each performance was different from the other. She also went on to command stardom in the OTT hit *Four more shots please!*. Sayani has

demonstrated time and again that, as an actor, she will never let herself be boxed in a specific genre or format.

Vikrant Massey

Vikrant's journey has been chequered and spans diverse platforms. Starting with the 2004 television series, *Kahaan Hoon Main*, he tried his best to adapt to the entertainment trends of the day by working in shows like *Dharam Veer*, *Balika Vadhu*, *Baba Aiso Varr Dhoondo*, and *Qubool Hai*. His debut film appearance in *Lootera* (2014), and then a role in *Dil Dhadakne Do* (2015) showed us a glimpse of the actor who has more potential than he has been given credit for. With 2017's critically acclaimed film *A Death In The Gunj*, he



showed what an accomplished actor he really is and even won a Filmfare Award nomination in the category of Best Actor - Critics. In the OTT space, he has carved a niche for himself with success stories like *Mirzapur*, *Criminal Justice* and in the second seasons of *Broken But Beautiful*. And bigger film roles are also coming his way, including the lead role opposite Deepika Padukone in

Chhapaak (2020) and a starring role in the recent *Ginni Weds Sunny*, opposite Yami Gautam.

Jaideep Ahlawat

For this FTII graduate, the success of his idol, Irrfan Khan, was a beacon in the dark years he spent struggling for meaty roles. In 2008, Jaideep made his debut in a short film *Narmeen* and went on to play many small parts till his role as Shahid Khan in *Gangs of Wasseypur* (2012) and as Khalid Mir in *Raazi* (2017) got him some much-deserved attention. But stardom and a Filmfare award came



with the Anushka Sharma-produced web series *Paatal Lok*. This performance truly heralded his arrival as a star who could lead a show as its protagonist. Even in an anthology like *Ajeb Daastaans*, he stood out for his portrayal of a gay man who is unable to embrace his sexuality openly. Today he is being offered diverse roles in OTT productions as well as films. Even as Jaideep treads a path that was painstakingly carved by predecessors like Irrfan and Manoj Bajpayee, there is no doubt that he has already created a success story that is uniquely his own.



Regional rules digital waves

ANANT ROONGTA says that localised content has been taking centre stage on OTT platforms

As the diversity in content takes centre stage, OTT as an industry has reached new heights. For the global entertainment scene, the past year has been a mixed bag. After rigorous turmoil, the industry partially got back on its feet because of the rise of OTT consumption. With the advent of work from home culture, coupled with outdoor restriction, streaming platforms witnessed a jump in subscription revenue. Interestingly, after a few years of launch, OTT platforms reached a new level of subscription revenue when compared to the broadcast industry which took years to gain the current levels. This, in turn, has provided an opportunity to not only experiment with content but also create something that resonates with the audience.

Wider growth

With hyperactive internet users and increased internet penetration in the country, studios and platforms are creating storylines inspired by people's behaviour in the region. The notable thing here is that the content is either dubbed in multiple languages with the scripts and references that make people connect with a show across the country or it is created for a specific region. A good example of that would be MX Player's *Samantar* that has a suspenseful storyline that any Maharashtra could relate to. Such regional content is especially consumed in the native areas of the country amidst the digital progression and easy availability of smartphones at an affordable price.

Regional content creation has its advantages, an immersive storyline could potentially be created at 30-40 per cent lower cost with larger viewership. Consumption of regional content is expected to double, with over a billion of the population having a smartphone by the next decade. Currently, streaming services have more subscribers than people with a cable connection. As per a report by FICCI, regional languages will make up 60 per cent of television consumption by 2025 from around 55 per cent in 2020 and around 50 per cent of streaming video consumption from 30 per cent in 2019. Keeping the demand for regional content in mind, big media platforms like Amazon Prime Video, Zee5, Hotstar and Voot are keen on producing regional content for the masses.

Scope

Regional markets have a lot of potential and scope in the future because many of them are underserved, which means there's room for growth. Due to the increase in demand, marketers have realised that simply dubbing Hindi or English advertising into local languages will no longer suffice, therefore they have started including modest local language additions to their ads or are attempting to compose local language scripts in English. With digital platforms making significant progress in terms of content creation — as they seek new methods to thrill their audiences — local material will receive a significant boost, which will benefit regional cinema greatly.

Future of the digital era

The consumption of digital content has unquestionably expanded dramatically over time. People have been riveted to the screen for Marathi comedy, south-Indian action, Bengali crime thrillers, and romantic narratives in all languages, and OTT platforms have recently discovered that regional shows are attracting the most viewers. The consumption of regional material is expected to increase in the next few years, particularly on streaming platforms, as non-metro audiences continue to lead internet user growth.

(The author is managing director of a film studio which was set up in 1946.)

Since the pandemic has taken cover, most of our lives have been consumed by the digital world. Be it work, entertainment or socialising, digital screens have become an indispensable part of everyday life.

Excessive screen time is putting an enormous strain on your eyes, which can be really harmful in the long run.

Want to combat increased screen time in easy and effective ways? Read on for five ways to give your eyes a protective detox from digital screens.

Use eyeglasses with BLU-cut lenses

This one is a must-have if you are part of the WFH team. If excessive screen time is absolutely unavoidable for you because of work, this is the solution for you. Eyeglasses with BLU-cut or computer lenses are an easy and effective way to protect your eyes. These lenses keep at bay the harmful effects of blue rays emanating from digital screens. These not only add protection and functionality to your work life but also undeniable style for the virtual meetings you attend throughout the day. Check out John Jacobs' high-quality yet affordable BLU eyeglasses range to balance out excessive screen time. Give your eyes the digital detox they deserve.

Reduce screen brightness on all devices

Adjusting screen brightness to suit the time of the day and your lifestyle is an easy way to reduce eye strain. Almost every digital device available today has settings for night mode and yellow light. These can be automated to custom timings and aligned with your schedule seamlessly. Lux is an interesting app available for android devices that allows you to customise and adjust your screen brightness. It has features like renowned blue light filtering with easy navigation guides and a smooth, simple interface.

Take frequent breaks from the screen

Sometimes, there is nothing more effective and relaxing for



Visual relief

Ever get a nasty headache in the middle of a workday? Do your eyes start watering while binge-watching your favourite series? TEAM VIVA is here with some helpful suggestions to help your sore eyeballs

your eyes than a good ol' fashioned coffee break! Give your eyes rest in between work meetings and assignments and chill with a cuppa. Listen to calming music or simply meditate on your day — but keep the phone down and let your laptop go to sleep for a 15-minute periodic break every now and then. This will not only boost your productivity but also combat watering or burning eyes that occur due to continuous and uninterrupted screen exposure. We love Country Bean's aromatic and innovative flavours for our much needed coffee breaks!

Increase the font size on your devices

A lot of what we do on our screens involves reading. Almost every digital device today has settings that allow you to adjust font size. Larger font size is essential to ensure that all the other measures you take for protecting your eyes work together in harmony. This helps you relax your eyesight and reduce the strain.

Techlicious' guide on how to increase text size on phones, tablets and computers is a handy read for this purpose.

Use The 20-20-20 rule



Here's a recommendation straight from the ophthalmologist's office! You must be wondering, what is the 20-20-20 rule? It recommends that digital screen users divert their attention from screens every 20 minutes and look at objects 20 feet away for 20 seconds. This one really works and is

advised as an add-on even when you wear computer eyeglasses and switch the night mode on in your devices. Download the Eye Care 20 20 20 app, it automates the process for you when you are working or watching something and makes it super easy to follow this useful tip. Balancing work, entertain-

ment and social life are essential. However, it's equally important, if not more, to take care of our health. Luckily, these simple hacks can help us all effectively combat the negative effects of increased screen exposure. Go on, give your eyes a better chance to last in the long run.

TRENDBLAZER



JOINING A SELECT LIST: VIDYUT

Actor VIDYUT JAMWAL has signed with the reputed Hollywood talent management agency Wonder Street, known to represent international action heroes such as Tony Jaa, Michael Jaa White and Dolph Lundgren.

"I'm excited to be associated with some of the hardest working people of Hollywood," Vidyut said, of his new association.

fairtalk

BADSHAH



"Yes, I truly believe in the power and magic of India, its culture, especially its music and instruments that so frequently end up being lost in this new digital age. It is our responsibility as representatives to keep this magic alive and represent this richness to the world and bring India on the world map."

dailytalk

AMIT MASURKAR



"*Sherni* was a difficult film to score because of the complex intersections in the story. I felt safe with Naren Chandavarkar and Benedict Taylor because I knew they would put the story and the theme first. They have the sensitivity and depth to understand a layered narrative."

JUST SOME TOUGH LOVE: DIESEL

Actor VIN DIESEL has spoken out about the reported feud between him and Dwayne Johnson.

The subject came to light in the July/August 2021 issue of *Men's Health* magazine, where Diesel opened up about Dwayne's involvement in the *Fast & Furious* franchise.

He said, "The role played by Johnson was a tough one to embody. I had a lot of tough love for him to get the perfect performance."



THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW

Union Cabinet Minister for Education, Government of India, Dr RAMESH POKHRIYAL NISHANK says that YUVA will encourage a stream of authors who can write on a spectrum of subjects to promote Indian heritage, culture and knowledge

What is the genesis of the YUVA: Prime Minister's Scheme For Mentoring Young Authors?

The Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, in his *Mann Ki Baat*, on January 31, called upon 'youngsters to write about our freedom fighters, events associated with them and tales of valour during freedom struggle from their areas'. That provided us with the vision to launch the first-ever multi-lingual authors' mentorship scheme at the national level to provide a platform to the young writers to pen their thoughts on various known and unknown facets of the National Movement as part of the *Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav* programmes.

What are the main salient features of the scheme?

Any young and budding writer below the age of 30 years (as of June 1, 2021) is eligible to participate in the ongoing 'all India contest'. It will end on July 31. The contestants can send their entry in any of the 22 languages listed in the 8th schedule of the Constitution and English, provided their entry in any way relates to the National Movement. They need to send their entry in a maximum of 5,000 words, and if selected, through a well-structured Mentorship programme, the scripts will be developed by the authors into a full-fledged book. A total of 75 authors will be selected under the scheme, and on selection, they will be offered a scholarship of ₹50,000 per month for six months. Moreover, the National Book Trust, India, which is the Implementing Agency for the Scheme, will be publishing the books, and would also offer royalties to the authors, in original language as well as possible translated editions, as per its norms. So, the scheme is structured to provide a 360-degree exposure to the young authors to



the exciting world of writing, creating, ideating, editing, publishing, interaction with the national and internationally acclaimed authors, and seeks to open a door to a world of creative opportunities.

This type of scheme has not been attempted on a national scale before. How does it aim to encourage authorship and the writing aspirations of the Indian youth?

A nation's literature is an important way to chronicle a nation's journey through time. This scheme, in under-

standing the power of words, aims to encourage young writers to hone their craft so that they can optimise their potential and become thought leaders of the future. It aims to encourage authorship and the writing aspirations of the Indian youth by providing them an opportunity to present their work before the reading masses.

Since you are also an acclaimed author, how do you see the scheme?

As an author myself, I can attest to the fact that becoming a writer is a tough

process as it demands a lot of time and effort. This is even more so when there is a dearth of available opportunities that can acknowledge and hone raw talent. At the time when I started writing, there was no easy way to publish written work. It is with the knowledge that young writers across India face similar challenges, that we have introduced this scheme — to make authorship more accessible and to create a platform that many writers like myself did not get in the past.

How do you think this scheme will help young authors in the future?

I believe that this scheme will allow many young writers to publish their work and that I, in turn, will inspire them to work further on their writing skills. I think a majority of the young authors selected through this scheme will go on to inculcate a great literary acumen and will become prolific writers of the future. They will definitely put India on the literary map of the world and one or more of them might even win international awards like the Nobel Prize in Literature. I say so because I believe that the young writers of India are capable of both writings about history and creating history.

The core of the YUVA theme is India@75. What is the vision behind it?

The scheme is an opportunity for the youth to display their work on a prestigious platform, but it is simultaneously a chance for them to delve into the defining period of India's history. Since proficient writing requires voracious reading, this theme of the National Movement will encourage the young authors to learn about the freedom struggle, its celebrated heroes and their sacrifices for the nation. In the process, they might encounter unsung heroes, whose stories are yet to be written and they might write

these stories themselves. So the idea is to gift the youth the knowledge of their country's past in a way that also allows them to effectively contribute to it — by documenting history through their writing.

A crucial facet of the PM's YUVA scheme is its multilingual submissions. Can you highlight this aspect?

India's societal landscape is recognised the world over for its opulent diversity with regard to culture, traditions and value systems. But our country is especially well-known for its multi-linguistic character because many languages harmoniously coexist to create a varied linguistic panorama. And as each language is unique in its mode of description and vocabulary, we want to ensure that the perspectives and stories from across the country's multi-lingual fabric are portrayed in this scheme to create a rich narrative of India, its glorious past and its illustrious future. This will promote a much better understanding among various linguistic factions in contemporary times.

The scheme also includes NRI(s)/PIO(s). What is the idea behind this?

The scheme wants to give all people, who are rooted in India's culture and ethnic background, a chance to write about the country's national movement, its heroes and its history in general. And to ensure that Indians from across the world can participate and express their view about the country, this scheme has allowed submissions from PIO(s)/NRI(s). We should also never forget the crucial role played by the Indian diaspora community in furthering the cause and ideals of the national movement and identity.



DISABLED RECEIVE AID

A Samajik Adhikarita Shivir for distribution of aids and assistive devices to divyangjan under the ADIP Scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, was organised by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) in association with ALIMCO and District Administration Jamnagar at Dhanwantari Auditorium, near DKV Circle, Jamnagar, Gujarat.

A total of 6,225 aids and assistive devices valued at ₹3.57 crore were distributed free of cost to 3,805 divyangjan at Block/Panchayat levels by following the SOP prepared by the department because of the pandemic.

Speaking on the occasion, Vijay Rupani, Chief Minister, Gujarat, said, "The society which does not care about divyangjan is itself a disabled society. Under the leadership of the Prime Minister, the central government has implemented various welfare schemes in the interest of the country. In 2016, the 'Right To Person With Disability Act' was brought under the leadership of the PM, which not only provides more security but also ensures and protects the fundamental rights of the person with disabilities across the nation."

Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Thaawarchand Gehlot, said, "The Central government has released around 8.06 crore funds in Gujarat under scholarship program benefiting 2,808 beneficiaries. Around 709 railway stations, 10,175 bus stops and 683 websites have been covered under Sugama Bharat Abhiyan. Looking at the interest in sports among the divyangjan of the country and their good performance in Paralympics, the Ministry has decided to establish five Divyangta Khel Kendra in different parts of the country."

Addressing the occasion, Anjali Bhawra, Secretary, DEPwD, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, elaborated on the details of the schemes. She said that the government has taken several steps for employing divyangjan and skill training programmes are being conducted to empower them.

The high-end products which are to be distributed in the camp include 220 battery-operated motorised tricycles, 665 tricycles, 385 wheelchairs, 998 crutches, 621 walking sticks, 60 rollers, 185 smartphones, 437 smart cane, 40 daisy player, 24 Braille kit, six Braille cane, 856 MSIED kit, 165 ADL kit (for leprosy), 606 hearing aids, 765 artificial limbs.

Anjali Bhawra, Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Person with Disability (DPEwD), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India, Dr Prabodh Seth, Joint Secretary, DEPwD, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, D R Sarin, CMD ALIMCO were present virtually and Ravi Shankar, Collector, Jamnagar, also attended the function 'in person'.

Best Indian companies to work

SYNCHRONY BAGS 5TH PLACE

Synchrony, a consumer financial services company, has been ranked 5th among India's Best Companies to Work for in 2021 by the Great Place to Work Institute (GPTW). This recognition highlights Synchrony's efforts to create an environment that is caring, inclusive, collaborative, and innovative despite the challenges posed by the pandemic. Synchrony has earned the coveted recognition for four consecutive years and the rank has gone up to 5th this year from 27th last year.

The company has more than 120 people with disabilities and more than 42 per cent women employees. In the face of the unprecedented pandemic, the company prioritised the health, safety, and wellness of employees, and quickly moved its workforce home. The company provided employees with assistance for the set-up of ergonomic office

space at home along with a comprehensive benefits programme. It also helped employees balance the new demands of work and life and stay motivated and focussed through virtual engagement activities.

Speaking on the occasion, Andy Ponneri, Senior Vice President and Business Leader, Synchrony India, said, "Being recognised as a Great Place to Work, especially in this challenging year, further demonstrates our commitment to being a company that puts people first and maintains a high-trust culture with a positive and empowering working environment. At Synchrony, our employees are our greatest asset and we are committed to supporting their wellbeing and success."

Recognising employees' continued desire to help others, Synchrony also launched its 'Gear Up Campaign', which leveraged employee, partner, and cardholder networks to make and distribute protective gear such as masks and face shields. Synchrony's Diversity Networks further promote an inclusive culture that celebrates individuality and fosters collaboration.

POWERGRID MAKES IT

The Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), a Maharatna PSU under the Ministry of Power, Government of India, has again been recognised as a 'Great Place to Work'

by the Great Place to Work Institute (GPTW), which is a gold standard for workplace culture assessment. It has been ranked 68 in the largest workplace culture study in the country through an objective and rigorous workplace culture assessment process.

POWERGRID has also won the recognition of being India's Best Employers in the Nation-Builders 2021 category. Figuring consistently in GPTW's Best Workplaces List is a testimony of its sound human resource management policies and employee-friendly approach.

Earlier, POWERGRID has also been recognised in the coveted Forbes Global Best Employers List.

India organises summit on green hydrogen initiatives

India hosted a two-day summit on Green Hydrogen initiatives involving the BRICS nations. The event was anchored by NTPC Ltd. The virtual summit brought the best brains, policymakers and major stakeholders from the BRICS nations deliberating and discussing at length the future of hydrogen

in the energy mix. As the world rapidly moves to decarbonise the entire energy system, hydrogen is poised to play a vital role and build on the rapid scale-up of renewable resources across the world. Hydrogen, when produced by electrolysis, using renewable energy, is known as 'green

hydrogen'. It has no carbon footprint. This gives hydrogen the edge over other fuels to unlock various avenues of green usage. The summit aimed to address the challenges in terms of technology, efficiency, financial viability and scaling up. Green hydrogen blending up to 10 per cent may be adopted in CGD net-

works to gain widespread acceptance. Further scaling up with greening of hard to abate sectors (like steel and cement) through hydrogen is to be explored. Many countries have brought out their strategies and defined targets and roadmaps based on their resources and strengths.

International Yoga Day celebration



VIT-AP UNIVERSITY

International Yoga Day celebrations were held virtually on June 21 at VIT-AP University. Durga Shaktamma and Dandu Srinivasa Raju (Senior Faculties, Art of Living), Dr Uma Valli (Ayurvedic Physicians), Dr Agam Das Goswami (Faculty, VIT-AP University) attended as Resource Person for this celebration.

Dr Uma explained the importance of Ayurvedic treatments. The Vice Chancellor of VIT-AP University, Dr S V Kota Reddy, Registrar Dr CLV Sivakumar, Live Club Coordinator, Dr CH Deepak, students, teachers and staff participated in the celebrations. SPMCIL

Tripti Patra Ghosh, chairman and MD, SPMCIL, highlighted the impor-

'The International Day of Yoga has been celebrated annually on 21 June since 2015, following its inception in the United Nations General Assembly in 2014'

tant developments of modern yoga in her inaugural address during the online camp organised at the corporate office of SPMCIL. She urged to adopt yoga regularly in daily life.

Sunil Kumar Sinha, Director (HR) and Ajay Agarwal, Director (Finance) were also present online. Yoga sessions and various programmes were also organised in all the units of the SPM-CIL.

SRM INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Over 100 students and staff of SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST) participated in the virtual lecture-demonstration, on yoga for immunity and wellness, held on the occasion

of International Yoga Day. A live demonstration was conducted by a yoga scholar from S-VYASA, Dr Rakshita Nayak.

SRM MCH & RC's Pro Vice Chancellor (Medical and Health Sciences) Lt Col Dr A Ravikummar said, "Self-discipline can help master the world, not in terms of being a ruler but understanding the meaning of life and knowing how to lead a healthy life. Good health should consist of being mentally, physically, and spiritually well. If one has a calm mind, the body will also be calm. This is what yoga teaches us — to control our body, mind and spirit."

The vote of thanks was presented by SRM MCH & RC's Dean (School of Public Health), Dr Padma Venkat.



Dr Vinay Sahasrabudhe, President, ICCR, Ministry of External Affairs and Member of Parliament, releases a new edition of Gagananchal in New Delhi. Chief Editor of Laghu Udyog Samachar, GOI, Harendra Pratap and Editor of Gagananchal, GOI, Dr Ashish Kandhway and professor of Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Dr Umapati Dikshit were also present.

LIC crosses milestone

LIC of India crossed another milestone by embarking upon a new centralised web-based workflow-based IT platform for its Group Business operations. The Chairman of LIC of India, M R Kumar, inaugurated the 'Go Live' project, 'e-PGS', in a formal ceremony in the presence of Managing Directors Vipin Anand, Mukesh Gupta, Raj Kumar and S Mohanty. The inaugural ceremony was joined online from 204 locations across the entire country by all the zonal managers, executive directors in charge of central office departments, regional managers, unit heads and all employees of the Group Business Vertical of LIC of India.

The new technology platform is designed to provide centralised collection and payment accounting with a high level of bank integration through the host to host connectivity and provide very innovative features of seamless and integrated banking with automatic reconciliations. The new system, e-PGS, is capable of providing comprehensive self-servicing capabilities through a customer portal where corporate customers will be able to view their data, initiate actionable processes, lodge and track claims.

Some of the services will be launched on the green channel with end-to-end processing at the customer level itself without manual intervention

from the Insurer's Office. All the features and services will be launched in a phased manner spread over the next three months.

Vipin Anand, MD of LIC, informed that the new technology platform is designed to cater to the expectations of technology-intensive corporate customers and will change the face of customer service on a group business platform. The new system is capable of high-level integration with customers' technology systems for seamless transfer of data and services. LIC will soon launch a customer awareness campaign for new IT system capabilities so that the benefits can be reaped by all customers to save time and energy.

K S Nagnyal, Executive Director for Group Business informed that the Group Business Vertical of the corporation, which accounts for 77.69 per cent share of group business of the Life Insurance industry, will leverage the new IT platform for enhancing the customer experience at a world-class level and the same will support in marketing and servicing of group business operations. The Group Business vertical of LIC specially caters to various term insurance needs and retirement solutions for employers on the group platform. It is felt that the launch of a new IT platform marks the beginning of a new era in customer servicing for group business.

STAR WARS



With just two goals scored, England are the lowest-scoring side to ever top a group at a Euros but their defence is yet to be breached

JOB DONE FOR ENGLAND

AFP ■ LONDON

Raheem Sterling scored the only goal as England found an attacking spark to beat the Czech Republic 1-0 at Wembley on Tuesday and clinch top spot in Group D at Euro 2020.



Raheem Sterling (10) scores England's opening goal against Czech Republic on Tuesday

four points. The Czech Republic will join them in the last 16 as one of the best third-placed teams.

"Different sorts of tests. All of our next opponents will be different games. There is a lot of good things we are doing. We are getting minutes for a lot of the players. Ninety minutes for Harry Maguire was important tonight. Jordan Henderson getting 45 minutes is a step forward. A lot of positives."

bringing in Saka among four changes to his side. Chelsea midfielder Mason Mount was unavailable as he was isolating due to coronavirus protocols while Southgate opted to leave Phil Foden out to prevent the risk of a suspension.

off the post after he collected a raking pass from Luke Shaw. As chants of "Football's Coming Home" rang around the stadium, captain Kane — heavily criticised for his toothless performances in the tournament so far — shot from distance and Grealish let fly.

England broke the deadlock in the 12th minute, when Grealish, on the left side of the penalty area, lifted the ball to the back post, where Sterling headed in for his second goal of Euro 2020.

England started brightly in the evening sunshine and Sterling went agonisingly close in just the second minute but could only watch as his deft chip over the goalkeeper come back



Croatia captain Luka Modric, center, celebrates after scoring his side's second goal against Scotland

Modric breaks Scotland hearts

AFP ■ GLASGOW

Scotland's shot at reaching the knockout stage of a major tournament for the first time were ended in a 3-1 defeat to a Luka Modric-inspired Croatia at Hampden Park on Tuesday that took the World Cup runners-up into the last 16 of Euro 2020.

Zlatko Dalic said of the 35-year-old. "We expect that Luka will go down, lose his strength, but he is the force that pulls the whole team. Anything I would say about Luka would not be sufficient. I'm very proud to have such a player as part of our team."

forced to isolate as close contacts and, roared on by 12,000 fans inside Hampden, started on the front foot.



Lahiri wasn't expecting to qualify for Olympics

Cromwell: Indian golfer Anirban Lahiri says he wasn't expecting to qualify for the Olympics given his below par performance this year but now wants to make it count by returning with a medal from the Tokyo Games.

the country at the 340th position. "I know what it is to be an Olympian as I've done it before (in Rio) and I don't want to be just an Olympian. I want to win a medal, I want to do something that makes a difference," said the 33-year-old.

Jadeja becomes No 1 Test all-rounder



New Delhi: India's Ravindra Jadeja on Wednesday dislodged West Indian Jason Holder as the world's top all-rounder in the latest ICC Test rankings.

Kiwis inch closer towards WTC title

NZ need 139 runs to win the inaugural edition

PTI ■ SOUTHAMPTON

Rishabh Pant lived by the sword and died by it while his India seniors found it difficult to survive against a probing New Zealand attack, which left its batsmen with a gettable 139-run target to win the World Test Championship final.



India's Ajinkya Rahane walks back to pavilion after he gets out on Day 6

ply one of the few captains who have now got Indian team out for less than 250 in six consecutive innings, a testimony to his brilliant cricketing acumen and near perfect execution by his bowlers.

Jadeja to nick it behind the stumps. Before that delivery, he had bowled short balls pegging the batsmen on backfoot and then ensured that his feet doesn't move to the pitch of the ball.

Haryana to give ₹6 cr to Tokyo Gold winner

Chandigarh: Haryana government on Wednesday announced that sports persons from the state who win Gold medal in the upcoming Tokyo Olympics would be given a cash amount of ₹6 crore.

Call off Ashes if families can't accompany players: Vaughan

Former England skipper Michael Vaughan believes the iconic Ashes series should be cancelled if families are not allowed to travel with the players for the four-month long tour of Australia due to strict Covid-19 protocols.

shouldn't be criticised if they decide to pull out of the series due to such restrictions. "Any ENG player that pulls out of this Ashes, if they seriously can't see their families for FOUR MONTHS, has my full backing. Families are the most important part of a players make up. And even more so in the current climate! FOUR MONTHS with no family on Ashes Tour?," he tweeted.

England cricketers will not have their families with them for the upcoming tours of Bangladesh and Pakistan starting in September, before they participate in the T20 World Cup campaign from October.

Morgan insists historic tweets 'taken out of context' London: Dismissing accusations of racism against him, England's World Cup-winning captain Eoin Morgan said the historical tweets, allegedly mocking Indians, were "taken out of context."

Pandemic Games will show 'true Olympic values': Tokyo 2020 chief

The stripped-back Tokyo Games, held despite the ongoing pandemic, will highlight the Olympics' true values, Tokyo 2020 chief Seiko Hashimoto said as organisers mark a month to go.

IOC Vice President John Coates, second right, and Tokyo 2020 Olympics Organizing Committee President Seiko Hashimoto, right, listen to a brief as they inspect one of the Olympics venues in Tokyo



IOC Vice President John Coates, second right, and Tokyo 2020 Olympics Organizing Committee President Seiko Hashimoto, right, listen to a brief as they inspect one of the Olympics venues in Tokyo