OPINION 8

THE INTERNATIONALE:

KUMBH OF PROTESTS

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ASHWIN WANTS TO BE THE BEST: LAXMAN 14 SPORT

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the pioneer

WORLD 11

NIGERIAN GOVERNOR SAYS 279

KIDNAPPED SCHOOLGIRLS ARE FREED

BJP goes full throttle in Bengal Yogi storms Mamata bastion

Modi to address 20 rallies, first on Mar 7; BJP plans over 800 rallies

PNS NEW DELHI

The BJP is set to roll out a mega campaign blitzkrieg in poll-bound West Bengal with Prime Minister Narendra with Prime Minister Narendra Modi visiting the State on March 7 to address his first public rally after announce-ment of poll dates by the Election Commission. Apart from Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP national president JP Nadda are likely to share about 120 pub

likely to share about 120 public rallies among them in the poll-bound Bengal, BJP sources

Out of at least 800 rallies to be addressed by the national BJP leaders in the State, the Prime Minister will address 20, party sources said. Sources also said that the PM's Brigade Ground rally would also be attended by the people from across the country from as far as Uttarakhand.

The Home Minister and the BJP president are likely to address 50 rallies each in the State which goes to eight-phase polls for its 294 seats.

Chief Ministers of the BJPruled States, all key Central Ministers and a number of BJP

Ministers and a number of BJP
MPs are to descend down on
Bengal to give power to the
party's campaign.
The party is also trying to
draw some of the Bollywood
stars to match TMC's glamour, colour and the punch.



7, the Prime Minister will hold at least six public rallies in Assam where the BJP is confident of victory for the second

Modi would focus in north and middle Bengal where party had fared well as also in southern part which is a TMC stronghold.

There could always be Besides 20-odd rallies in more rallies by the Prime workers from other BJP-ruled West Bengal, beginning March Minister "if the situation States too are extending their

demands", sources said while pointing out that he is in demand in other States too. The Left-Congress-Indian

Secular Front has already had their electoral "Brigade-show" of strength on February 28.

In the run-up to the Sunday rally, party workers are holding corner meetings to

invite people to the rally. BJP

helping hand to make the Sunday Parade Ground show at

Kolkata a grand success.

The elections for the 294
Assembly seats in West Bengal
will begin on March 27. The State is going to witness eight-phase Assembly polls this year.

In Assam, the Assembly elections shall be held in three

phases beginning from March 27 with the final round of voting taking place on April 6.
Meanwhile, Uttar Pradesh

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday attacked the Mamata Banerjee Government for allowing love jehad and cow

smuggling in the State.
Yogi, who was speaking at
a rally near Bulbulchandi in
Malda district said how rampant cases of "love jehad is happening in Bengal with the State Government allowing that to

CAMPAIGN BLITZKRIEG

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The party is also trying to draw some of the Bollywood stars to match TMC's glamour, colour and the punch

happen."

The UP Chief Minister who promised to stop all that anomalies if the BJP came to power in Bengal said, "In UP we have made a law against love jehad and have brought the menace under control... but in Bengal the Trinamool Congress is allowing this to happen."

TMC MLA Jitendra **Tiwari joins BJP**

Hooghly: Amid an ongoing exodus from, the ruling Trinamool Congress ahead of the West Bengal Assembly elections, two-time party MLA from Pandabeswar in Paschim Barddhaman district and former Asansol mayor, Jitendra Tiwari, joined the BJP on

Storming the bastion of the Mamata Banerjee-led Trinamool Congress govern-ment, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that West Bengal, which once led the nation, was now facing a lawless situation.

"West Bengal has always been a land of cultural nation-alism in India. It has been the land of revolution for the country's freedom struggle. Today, the anarchical situation in West Bengal created by TMC, CPM and Congress over the years has hurt the entire country," Yogi said on Tuesday.

Launching his West Bengal assembly election campaign from Malda, which is considered a minority-dominated district of North Bengal, Yogi Adityanath said that every worker of the party had come here to connect to the Bengali brothers and sisters to re-establish the identity of Bengal and carry forward a new change

carry forward a new change through this.

Attacking the TMC for promoting cow slaughter in the state, Yogi said that Durga Puja gets prohibited in Bengal today while cow slaughter has been taking place unabatedly.

"People's sentiments have been burt through cow smug-

been hurt through cow smug-gling but the state government remains silent. Now there is an attempt to ban the slogan of 'Jai Shri Ram' and the BJP workers are being attacked," the UP CM He also assured the people

that once the BJP government was formed in West Bengal, a ban on cow slaughter would

PM, Shah hail BJP's stellar



on Tuesday

follow within 24 hours.

On keeping farmers unaware of the schemes launched by the Central gov-ernment for their welfare and growth, Yogi said that the party which could not work for the well-being and safety of the poor, the farmers and the women had no right to remain in power.

Warning Chief Minister
Mamata Banerjee against
spreading misinformation
about Ayodhya, Yogi said: "I
would like to tell the Bengal government that there was a government in Uttar Pradesh that used to fire bullets at Ram devotees in Ayodhya. You have seen the fate of that govern-ment. Now it is the TMC gov-ernment's turn in Bengal."

Yogi also questioned
Mamata why the Central gov-

ernment schemes were not implemented in West Bengal. "On my way from Bagdogra to Malda, I could not find any concrete house. The TMC is afraid that if it gives benefits of the schemes of the Center then the people will not vote for TMC," he said.

Giving a glimpse of the development model of UP, Yogi said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi always dreamt of providing a roof to every homeless person and to fulfill his dream he made every possible effort and more than 40 lakh houses had been constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana in UP.

Similarly, in West Bengal, people are not getting the benefits of Ayushman Bharat, including health insurance of Rs. 5 lakh which is applicable all over India, he added.

Yogi said the UP govern-

ment had effectively controlled the spread of encephalitis which had taken the lives of more than thousands of kids over the years. "Today, this

Continued on Page 11

Stop pleasing future boss: Adhir to Anand

Sonia forms panel led by JP Aggarwal to screen Assembly candidates in WB

PNS NEW DELHI

Fissures widened further in the Congress a day after senior Congress leader Anand Sharma slammed the party leadership for its tie-up with the Indian Secular Front (ISF) in the poll-bound West Bengal. On Tuesday, Bengal Congress chief Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury hinted at a possible split in the party when he questioned the intention of his colleague "who is trying to please his future boss' in a reference to speculation that Sharma may join the BJP.

"If his intention was honest, he could have simply called me. I would have explained the decision of alliance partners to him...but he thought it was bet-ter to tarnish the image of the



ical boss," Chowdhury said.

Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury is Leader of the Congress in the Lok Sabha.

Anand Sharma of criticising the Congress without any reason. "Anand Sharma is more vocal against Congress without any reason. He is simply blowing the issue out of proportion," Chowdhury stated.

In response to the criticism over alliance with Furfura Sharif cleric Abbas Siddiqui's

Congress to please somebody who could be his future polit-

The West Bengal Congress chief went ahead to accuse

ISF, Chowdhury took to twitter to respond to Sharma. "Know Your Facts, Anand Sharma ji. Would urge a select While Sharma is Deputy group of distinguished Congressmen to rise above

always seeking personal comfort spots & stop wasting time singing praises of PM (Narendra Modi)," Chowdhury mentioned. Amid the continued war of

words between two party veterans over the alliance partners for Assembly elections in West Bengal, Congress chief Sonia Gandhi on Tuesday constituted a screening committee under the chairmanship of

Continued on Page 11

54 students in Karnal Covid +ve, classes suspended

rifty four students of a school P near here have tested Covid-19 positive leading to suspen-sion of classes and other acad-

emic activities.

Karnal Chief Medical Officer Yogesh Sharma said three students of Sainik School Kunjpura had tested positive for the virus on Monday fol-lowing which the health department took samples of 390 students and staff members

of the school for testing.

"The reports revealed that 54 students are Covid-19 pos-

54 students are Covid-19 positive," Sharma said.

Deputy Commissioner Nishant Kumar Yadav said the school building and its hostels have been declared as a containment zone. The Sainik Schools are run by the Sainik Schools Society under the Ministry of Defence and the

students stay in hostels.

The Haryana education department had reopened schools for classes 9-12 in December last year and classes 3-5 from February 24.

show in Guj local body polls Party grabs 2,085 of 2,771 seats whose results were

declared on Tue

PNS NEW DELHI

The ruling BJP on Tuesday scored a big win in Gujarat local polls by winning all 31 district panchayats and leading in 2,085 of 8,474 seats across various municipalities that voted on Sunday in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's home State and establishing a wide gap with the closest rival

Congress.
The PM and Home Minister Amit Shah hailed the BJP's impressive show in Gujarat.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) bagged 16 seats on its debut in Gujarat.

The BJP gained a lead by winning 2,085 seats, while the Congress won 602 seats so far across various municipalities, district and taluka panchayats in Gujarat where results for 2,771 seats out of the total 8,474 were declared on Tuesday.



"Results of the Nagar Palika, Taluka Panchayat and District Panchayat polls across Gujarat give a crystal clear message — Gujarat is firmly message — Gujarat is firmly with the BJP's agenda of development and good governance. I bow to the people of Gujarat for the unwavering faith and affection towards BJP," tweeted

Shah hailed the results of the municipal corporation elec-tions in Gujarat, saying the BJP won around 85 per cent of the seats it contested and that the party continues on its "development journey" under the leadership of Modi.

The Home Minister too

targeted the Congress, which saw a dismal performance. He said the Opposition party won only 44 seats, the number which the BJP won in Bhavnagar corporation alone. "The municipal corpora-

tion poll results have again established Gujarat as BJP's stronghold. The BJP continues on 'Vikas yatra' under the leadership of PM Modi. Today's results are one of the best results in Gujarat," the Home Minister said.

"The BJP has won around 85 per cent of the seats it con-tested, and the Congress has suffered badly in this election. The Congress won only 44 seats across the whole State, while the BJP bagged 44 seats in Bhavnagar corporation alone," he added.

The Home Minister con-

gratulated Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, Deputy Chief Minister Nitin Patel and the newly-elected State BJP chief CR Patil

elected State BJP chief CR Path for the party's performance. BJP president JP Nadda said, "I thank the people of Gujarat for reposing their faith in BJP, a symbol of develop-ment and trust, in local body elections."

Continued on Page 11

CAPSULE GOVT NETS ₹77,815 CR IN SPECTRUM AUCTION New Delhi: Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Jio cornered more

than half of the telecom spectrum auctioned by the Government over the past two days, offering about ₹57,123 crore to consolidate its holding of the scarce resource that are used to carry mobile call and data signals.

ACCEPTANCE OF COVID-19 JAB HIGH AMONG WOMEN New Delhi: Covid-19 vaccine acceptance among pregnant women and mothers is the highest in India, the Philippines and some Latin American countries, according to a survey of 16 countries that asked questions premised on a safe and free preventive with 90 per cent efficacy.

GHAZIPUR BORDER CLOSED AGAIN

New Delhi: The Delhi Police on Tuesday afternoon closed the Ghazipur border again, hours after it reopened a portion of NH-9 for traffic movement, officials said.

AIR 'MODERATE' IN NOIDA, GURUGRAM, FARIDABAD Noida: The air quality was in the "moderate" category in Noida, Gurugram and Faridabad, while it was "poor" in Ghaziabad.

Haryana Bill reserves 75% pvt sector jobs for locals

PNS CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Tuesday said Governor Satyadeo Narain Arya has given assent to the Bill providing 75 per cent reservation in the private sector to job seekers from the State.

The Haryana Assembly had late last year passed the Bill, a key poll promise made by the ruling alliance partner Jannayak Janta Party.

Addressing a press conference here, Khattar said, "The Haryana Governor today gave his assent to the Bill entailing 75 per cent reservation in the private sector to job seekers

from the State government

Continued on Page 11.

Kisan stir halts ₹35K-cr Delhi-Katra e-way in its tracks ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

A fter Covid-19 pandemic, now the ongoing farmers' agitation has cast a shadow on agitation has east a shadow on the proposed Delhi-Katra Expressway corridor. This includes the Punjab stretch which has been converted into a Greenfield project by pro-viding a direct link from Nakodar onward to the five his-Nakodar onward to the five instoric towns of Sultanpur Lodhi, Goindwal Sahib, Khadoor Sahib, and Tarn Taran, leading up to Amritsar.

However, in the absence of a mandatory public hearing of the affected villagers due to ongoing agitation, the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) of the Union Environment Ministry has deferred the ₹35,000-crore project to be executed by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) under the Union Road Transport and Highways

The total length of the proposed project is 361.656 km — 262.656 km for Punjab Section of Delhi-Katra Expressway plus 99 km for Greenfield Amritsar Greenfield Amritsar Connectivity. About 24,700 trees will make way for the much-hyped project. The Delhi-Katra Expressway pro-poses to cover journey from Katra to Delhi in about seven hours and from Jammu to Delhi in just over six hours.

Going through the project details submitted by the project proponent (NHAI) and the Gurugram-based EIA consultant Feedback Infra Pvt Ltd, the EAC members noted that the proposed alignment will also cross 55 canals, 20 drains, four rivers, five nallah and three ponds in the Punjab Section of Delhi-Katra Expressway, whereas, 20 canals, 14 drains, 3 river and 1 pond will be crossed by the proposed alignment of Amritsar connectivity.



The public hearing was conducted in December 2020 at all eight districts of Punjab namely Sangrur, Patiala, Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Gurdaspur, Tarn

Taran and Amritsar by the Punjab Government. Sources said the Government had proposed to complete the landmark Katra-Delhi expressway corridor by 2023.

The Government hopes that it will promote religious tourism as the road will connect the holy cities of Katra in Jammu and Amritsar in



The project involved the diversion of forest land. About 76 hectares of Protected Forest (roadside and canal-side plantations declared as forest) will be affected by the proposed expressway.

Application for forest clearance is yet to be submitted, noted the EAC members in a meeting held on February 11,

Also, the project alignment is crossing the Beas River and Kali Bein conservation reserve. About 3,949.7 hectares shall be acquired from 3,199

landholders (including 1,716 nos. of private titleholders) for the project. The NHAI claimed that the

project shall provide multifold benefits like reduced travel time as well as employment to the locals. As per the law, the public hearing for Gurdaspur district was held on December 7, 2020 as a stretch of 44.812 km of expressway is to pass through 45 villages of the said district. However, it could not be completed in view of the farmers' agitation.

"It was also alleged by the villagers that no prior information regarding public hearing was given in their village. The attendees urged to postpone the public hearing till pone the public hearing till 'Kisaan Aandolan' is concluded. To control the law and order situation, the public hearing was postponed by the Presiding Officer," noted the EAC which then decided to defer the pro-

NOTICE

My name Nasreen Akhtar W/o late Ashfaq Ahmad my D.O.B. 01/07/1956 R/o-L/3/18 K.D.A. Colony, Jajmau, Kanpur

NOTICE

I Pratham Yadav S/o Rambahadur Singh R/o Mini LIG 210 Barra-5, Kanpur-208027 have changed my name to Pratham Singh Yadav for all future purposes.

NOTICE

In some documents my name written as Syed Haider Askari, where as my correct name is Haider Askari S/o Nagi Askari H.No 5 Sarfarajganj Hardoi Road, Chowk, Lucknow -226003 Please change as above for all future purposes.

NOTICE

I Ratna Mishra D/o Daya Shankar Pandey Purevanshidhar, Redigarapur, Teh Patti, Pratapgarh UP. I have changed my name from Ratna Mishra to Bindu Mishra Now vide affidavit Date 06.06.2019

NOTICE

I Jabar Tiwari R/o Vill Bhikharipur Post - Hafizabad Daulatpur Distt. Unnao-209868 have changed my name from Jabar Tiwari to Jhabbar Tiwar vide Affidavit No-45 AE 251031 Dated 26 Feb 2021 before Kanpur Court U.P.

NOTICE

Mr. Manojit Das Gupta S/o P K Das Gupta, Original Sale Deed book no.1, khand 14688, on pages 119 to 156 at serial no. 16398, shop no. 8A fountain plaza Sharda Nagar scheme missing the last page Mobile no. 9839338999

NOTICE

I. PALTHYA MAMATHA wife of No 14863359N NK/WH Paitnya Santosi presently residing at resident Colony Pathipaka Thanda, Vill - Pathipaka Post - Sai Reddy Pally, Teh -Nekkonda, Distt - Warangal Rural, State - Telangana, PIN - 506369 have changed my DOB from 18 April 1997 to 01 July 1997 vide Affidavit dated 24 Feb 2021 before Collector Court Lucknow Name and Place of Court.

NOTICE

I, Army No-JC 288415 Nayab Subedar Naveen Kumar S/o Ramchandra Jat, R/o-Badrai, Tehsil-Charkhi, Dadary Bhiwani, Haryana, hereby declare that my wife's name is wrongly registered as Urmila Devi in office record. In Aadhar Card and other documents her name is Urmila Kumari which is correct.

NOTICE

I Mangal Singh Army No. 6949819 H. Rank N/K R/o Vill-Gandheriya, Po-Madhwapur, PS-Sandna, Mishrikh, Sitapur, declare that my father name is Brajesh Kumar Singh & DOB. 06.06.1963, mother name is Singh. DOB. Shyama 01.01.1967 & Younger brother name is Brihaspatimani Singh & DOB is 23.03.2003.

NOTICE

LOSS OF SHARE CERTIFICATE

I, Mrs. Vinod Nahata (Folio No. 34071), have lost the Original Share Certificate No. 34143 having Distinctive No.s 538681-538780, issued to me by M/s. Ganesha Ecosphere Ltd. Finder may please Contact me at G-72, 2nd Floor, Lajpat Nagar - 2, New Delhi - 110024. Mob. +91-9971566821 Or 011-29810302

SP, BJP clash in assembly over withdrawal of cases

The Uttar Pradesh assembly ■ on Tuesday witnessed noisy scenes during the question hour as the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and Samajwadi Party members traded charges over withdrawal of criminal cases by the UP government in the state.

The ruling party members alleged that cases against terrorists were withdrawn during the previous Samajwadi Party regime while the opposition benches trashed the claim, saying cases against "rioters" were withdrawn by the BJP govern-

Replying to a question of Bahujan Samaj Party member Shyam Sundar Sharma, Law Minister Brajesh Pathak said that from April, 2017 to July, 2020, as many as 670 cases were withdrawn by the government in 'janhit' (public interest) and the cases pertain to political leaders and workers"

He said that after the government formation, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had announced the decision to withdraw "political cases" in the interest of justice and to reduce the burden of pending cases on the judiciary.

In his supplementary query, the member asked about the political cases and sought a list of all people with their party affiliation whose cases were withdrawn. To this, the minister said that political cases were not denied but those with less serious charges were withdrawn.

Explaining the process of withdrawal of the cases, the minister said, "After an application is made for withdrawal of cases, a 13-point report is sought from the district magistrate concerned and then the committee consisting of principal secretaries of Home and



Rising fuel prices rock assembly

Lucknow (PNS): The issue of rising fuel prices rocked the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly on Tuesday with Samajwadi Party MLAs staging a walkout over it. Raising the issue during the zero hour through adjournment notice, leader of opposition in assembly Ram Govind Chaudhary said the prices of LPG cylinders had increased significantly and the people were also getting fewer subsidies. He said in 10 months' time, the price of an LPG cylinder in Ballia had increased by over Rs 240.

In an apparent reference to the UP assembly polls next year, Chaudhary said, "If the government does not wake up now, then there will be a silent

Law departments go through it before a final decision."

He added, "The law does not permit discrimination on basis of parties; it would not be appropriate to take names; if name of the Samajwadi Party,

revolution in 2022."

"The prices of petrol and diesel are increasing almost every day. This is impacting the farmers and the common man," he said.

Opposing the notice, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Khanna said the government was working to minimise the impact of the rise in prices of essential commodities and petroleum products. He said the Covid pandemic had caused a huge setback to the economy of the state as it adversely impacted the revenue of the government and caused huge additional expenditure for strengthening the health infrastructure to fight

the pandemic. The minister said despite

the Speaker permits, I can make the list of the persons whose cases were withdrawn

In his reply without taking

the rise in price of diesel, there was no hike in tariff by the PSU UP State Road Transport Corporation (UPSRTC). He said in 2017, the UPSRTC charged 95 paisa

per km which had been

increased only by 10 paise. The minister said the claims about inflation made by the leader of opposition were based on incorrect information. He said the government was working for the welfare of the common people which had also been established by the victory of the BJP candidates in the recent bypolls to UP assembly seats.

Not satisfied by the gov-

ernment's reply, the Samajwadi Party members walked out from the House.

the minister said that the previous government withdrew cases against the accused involved in serial blasts in Lucknow, Varanasi and Gorakhpur and detained under

His reaction led to a sharp attack from Leader of Opposition Ram Govind Chaudhary who alleged that the government had taken back cases of their own men. "Even the chief minister has withdrawn his own criminal cases,'

"The cases against rioters were withdrawn. Those who orchestrate riots are terrorists," Chaudhary said, alleging that the minister had not responded to the main question. The SP members then trooped into the well of the House, raising slogans against

the government.
Pathak said while the first cabinet meeting of the Yogi Adityanath government in 2017 had decided on waiver of crop loans of farmers while the first cabinet headed by Akhilesh Yadav in 2012 had decided on withdrawal of cases against terrorists.

The leader of opposition, taking exception to the comment, said, "The minister should show the relevant file and cabinet note in which the word 'terrorist' is mentioned.'

Replying to him, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Kumar Khanna said that on March 15, 2012, a circular was issued by the then chief secretary seeking details of such cases, terming those lodged in jails as innocent.

Law Minister Pathak said that he had the list of all the persons against whom cases were withdrawn and added that if the speaker permitted, he could make it public.

Speaker Hriday Narayan

Dikshit, however, said that there is no need for this."

Pathak said that his government would continue to withdraw "political cases" in future also in public interest.

Uproar over pushing bills without voting

PNS LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party leaders again staged a protest and came into the Well of the UP Legislative Council after the Chairman pushed the Uttar Pradesh Recovery of Damages to Public and Private Property Bill, 2021, with voice vote, ignoring the opposition demand for voting to clear the bill on Tuesday.

Amidst uproar, the Chairman first adjourned the House for 15 minutes and later called the day. The House will now meet on Wednesday

morning.
The Uttar Pradesh Assembly on Monday had passed both the bills, including one that relates to recovery of damages to public and private properties from protesters, amid opposition demands that it be referred to a select committee.

The Uttar Pradesh Goonda Control (Amendment) Bill, 2021 which was also passed by the Assembly, however, was referred to the select committee by the Chairman of the Council. Reports said that as soon as both the above bills were tabled in the Council for clearance, the Samajwadi Party opposed it and demanded that the bills be referred to the select committee.

Council Chairman Kunwar Manvendra Singh, amidst uproar, referred the Uttar Pradesh Goonda Control (Amendment) Bill, 2021 to the select committee but he pushed the other bill by

the clearance of the bill and demanded to put them to

They raised slogans and came into the Well following which the House was adjourned for 15 minutes and later for the day.

According to the Uttar

Pradesh Recovery of Damages to Public and Private Property Bill, 2021, protesters found guilty of damaging government or private properties will face imprisonment of one year or a fine ranging from Rs 5,000 to Rs 1 lakh. The Uttar Pradesh Goonda Control (Amendment) Bill, 2021 is to empower joint and deputy commissioners of police to act under the legislation. This law will be effective only in Lucknow and Gautam Buddha Nagar districts where the police commissionerate system has been implemented. Till date, the district magistrate and the additional district magistrate have the right of hearing and taking action under the section. But now, in the commissionerate police system of Lucknow and Noida (Gautam Buddha Nagar), the joint and deputy commissioners of police will be empowered to take action.

The Goonda Act allows police to keep habitual offenders under preventive detention for a year. According to the law, a 'goonda' is a person who, either himself or as a member or leader of a gang, habitually commits or attempts to commit or abets the commission of offences

Modi an authentic brand of good governance: Naqvi

PNS LUCKNOW

Union Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi on Tuesday said that the assembly elections to be held in four states, including West Bengal, were a battle of mandates between participation of communal votes versus viability of inclusive development.

Addressing the Bharatiya Janata Party workers in Rampur after receiving the Covid vaccine shot, Naqvi said that the "political mood" of the country had changed. He claimed that Prime Minister tic brand of development and good governance. "He (Modi) has made a successful

attempt to bring the light of development to every needy through the resolution of inclusive development and inclusive empowerment without any discrimination," he added. The BJP leader averred that gone

were the days of climbing the ladder of politics with rhetoric. "Some political parties consider politics as their birthright due to heritage. Such people are failing on the 'test of karma'," he said. Earlier, Naqvi got the first shot of the

coronavirus vaccine at Dalmia Hospital of the district. He said that the 'Made in coronavirus vaccines were



"He (Modi) has made a successful attempt to bring the light of development to every needy through the resolution of inclusive development and inclusive empowerment without any discrimination"

absolutely safe and appealed to everyone, who was eligible for the vaccine, to get vaccinated and make India Covid-free.

Farmer sprayed with bullets for lodging molestation report

A farmer was sprayed with bullets in Nauzarpur village under Sasni police station of Hathras district on Monday evening for daring to lodge an FIR against the assailants for molesting his daughter.

The accused were exerting pressure on the girl's family to withdraw the report and had been threatened with consequences.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath took a serious note of the farmer's killing and directed Awasthi to slap 1 assailants and arrest them within 24 hours. The chief minister also directed the district administration to provide all support to the deceased's family. On Tuesday, the family refused to cremate the body, demanding that the accused be arrested first. However, on the district administration's assurance of stern action, they performed the last rites. The daughter of the deceased farmer told the police that her father had lodged an FIR against Gaurav Sharma and others. She said that her father, Amrish Kumar Varma (48), was working at the field when Gaurav and five others came and sprayed him with bullets on Monday evening.

The family members rushed him to the

hospital where he was pronounced brought.

The deceased sustained bullet injuries on the head and chest. He had succumbed to his

ward by a few people," said a doctor on emergency duty in the district hospital. Station House Officer of Hathras Gate

police station Jagdish Kumar said that a case had been registered against Gaurav Sharma and others on the complaint of the deceased's familv members. 'We have also invoked provisions of the

National Security Act (NSA) and formed teams to arrest the main accused, Gaurav Sharma. and others involved in the crime," the SHO ty. The deceased had lodged an FIR against the main accused and others after his daughter was

molested in the market by them a few days ago. The main accused had warned the deceased to withdraw the case or face the consequences. To take revenge, Gaurav and his associates shot him," the investigation officer said. Meanwhile, local opposi-

tion leaders put the blame of the farmer's killing on the Yogi Adityanath government's failure to control the deteriorating law and order situation in the state and the rising crime against women.

injuries when he was brought to the emergency Pradesh. If a father dares to register a case against molesters then he is sprayed with bullets. Despite tall claims, the Yogi government

has failed to check rising crime against women and girls," alleged a Congress leader. Samajwadi Party leaders also reacted strongly, claiming that the BJP, after failing to save the life of common man, tried to shift

"Women and girls are unsafe in Uttar

blame on other political parties. To conceal their failure of providing dere just propagated that the kill

security to sexual assault victim, the ruling belong to SP which is a complete lie," a SP leader said.

U.P. Projects Corporation Ltd. Notice No.: 02/PCL/PM/UNIT-7/2020-21 **Short Term e-Tender Notice**

U.P. Projects Corporation Limited (AU.P. Government undertaking) invites item

rate Tenders (two envelope system) from eligible contractors/firms registered in U.P. Projects Corporation Ltd., Lucknow for **Maintenance Charges of 01 no** cutter suction Dredger (IMS 7012) of 250 M3/Hr (solid) capacity. The tende documents can be downloaded from the website https://letender.up.nic.in during the period **04.03.2021 to 10.03.2021**. The tender should be submitted upto 3:00 pm on 10.03.2021. The technical bid shall be opened on same day a 4:00 PM at the office of Project Manager, U.P. Projects Corporation Ltd. Unit-7 Left Bank, Gomti Barrage, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow

PROJECT MANAGER U.P. Project Corporation Limite Unit-7, Lucknow

All depts to promote women empowerment

Lucknow (PNS): In its commitment to ensure security, safety and self-reliance of women and daughters, the Yogi Adityanath government has directed all government departments to organise programmes related to women empowerment on the occasion of International Women's Day on March 8.

These programmes will be held under the ongoing Mission Shakti that started in February and will contin-

The Agriculture Department will be organising about 250 seminars with a special focus on women farmers and groups and more than 30,000 women farmers and entrepreneurs will be imparted training.

For promoting women farmers, the Agriculture department will also be holding interactive sessions with scientists and officers who will be sharing new techniques of progressive farming.

To be conducted virtually, the programme will be held on March 8 for three hours.

For imparting technical knowledge and solutions to he agricultural problems, special interactive programmes will be held with women scientists and experts of universities and Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Lucknow.

Under the first module of Rabi Season 2020-21, a three-day Kisan Pathshala with a total of five lakh participants will be organised in 8,000 gram panchayats. In addition, five tehsildars will be awarded by the Revenue Department on March 8 for the disposal of grievances of

Along with this, tehsildars and revenue inspectors who have made most registries of women account holders under the Varasat campaign will also be awarded.

More funds sanctioned for Ayodhya airport

fter the Central government released Rs 250 crore A for the construction of the airport in Ayodhya, the Yogi Adityanath-led Bharatiya Janata Party government has sanctioned Rs 321.99 crore to purchase additional land for the construction of Maryada Purushottam Shri Ram Airport.

The construction of Ayodhya airport is going on on a war footing and air services are expected to start

The state government has approved a total amount of Rs 1,001.77 crore for purchase of 555.66 acre additional land for the construction of the international airport. This also includes Rs 321.99 crore. Besides, a budgetary provision of Rs 101 crore has been proposed for the development works of the airport in the state's annual budget for FY 2021-22, a government official

The Central government, on October 4, 2018, selected the Ayodhya airstrip for the Ayodhya-Hindon air route. On November 6, 2018, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had announced construction of the airstrip at Ayodhya for landing large aircraft such as A 320 and In order to develop an international level airport in Ayodhya, it was decided to develop the airport for

Code-E B777-300 type aircraft. For the operation of civil air services in Ayodhya, a memorandum of understanding was signed on February 24, 2014, between the state government and

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda

(FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

BRANCH: BHARAHUKHATA, CHAURE BAZAR, FAIZABAD Mob.:9554968227 Email.: chaure@bankofbaroda.co.in

Sale Notice For Immovable Properties "APPENDIX-IV-A [see Proviso Rule 6(2)& 8(6)] E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and

ement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6) of the Security Interest(Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s), Mortgagor (s)and Guarantor (s)that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned account/s. The details of Borrower(s) /Mortgagor (s)/ Guarantor (s) /Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below-

Date & Time of Auction: 07.04.2021, 02:00 PM to 06:00 PM Status of Possession- Constructive Name & Address of the Borrowers/ Guarantors & Date of Demand & Possession Notice/Amount of Debt **Description of Immovable** Property BRANCH: Chaure Bazar Faizabad

Address:- Vill Paroma & Post: Chaure Bazar, Kotwali Bikapur Distt: Ayodhya Pin code: 224209. **Guarantor:-(1)** Mr. Siya Ram Verma S/o Ramdulare. **Address-** House No. 82 Vill: Bharahukhata Post: Chaure bazar, Thana/Kotwali: Bikapur, Distt: Ayodhya Pin code: 224209. (2) Mr. Siya Ram S/o Mahadev. Address:- House No. 266 Vill & Post: Paroma Thana/Kotwali: Bikapur, Distt: Ayodhya Pin code:

Date of Demand Notice: 12.06.2020 Date of Possession Notice: 19.09.2020

Outstanding Amount: Rs. 8,63,970.98 + Interest thereon & other charges w.e.f. 24.02.2021 (minus Plot No. 572 & 576, South: Plot amount if any paid after the demand Notice and Possession Notice)

Borrower:- M/s Ramji Shyamji Iron Industries through it's prop. Ramji Yadav alias Shyamji S/o Mahadev, adopted son of Khaderu. propertry consisting of Equitable mortgage of Property consisting of Plot No. 317 owned by Ramji Yadav alias Shyamji S/c Mahadev, adopted Son of Khaderu situated at village Paroma, Pargana Paschimrath Tehsil Bikapur, Distt Ayodhya Total area: 0.819 hect. Bounded as under: East: Plot

No. 575 and Rasta, West: Plot No.471 & railway line, North: No. 575 & 573.

Price 21,52,710/-(EM) 2,15,271/-**Bid Increase** Amount

Reserve

03.03.2021 to 06.04.2021 Between 10:00 AM from 4:00 PM

03.03.2021

to 06.04.2021

Between

10:00 AM

from 4:00 PM

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Bank of Baroda secured website i.e. www.bankofbaroda.in/ e-auction.htm & https://ibapi.in. Also prospective bidders may contact the authorised officer on Mobile No. 9554968227 Date: 03.03.2021 Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda Place: Faizabad.

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Dacoits hold courier company staffers hostage, loot ₹4.35L

Tn a daring incident, armed miscreants looted Rs 4.35 lakh in cash, and two CPUs and mobile phones after taking the employees at the gun-point in the office-cum-godown of a courier company in Ravindrapalli under Ghazipur police station area on Monday night. There is a police station nearby and the area has houses several senior bureaucrats and politicians. The accused downed the shutter of the

godown while fleeing.
Police unsuccessfully tried to cover up the case and later registered a case of dacoity and illegal detention. In a CCTV footage, six miscreants riding two different motorcycles were seen reaching the godown. One of the miscreants was seen standing outside while five entered the godown, as per claims made by company officials. In his complaint, Satyam Gupta of Jankipuram (sector-H) in Gudamba said the branch office-cum-godown of the

Ravindrapalli and online work is done from the office.

On Monday night, sales representatives Ashish and Ravi, along with staffer Alok, were counting the cash collected and orders received during the day. "Around 10:40 pm, five miscreants entered the godown after lifting up the shutter and trained pistols at all the employees. They collected the cash, CPUs and mobile phones and locked them inside the bathroom before leaving the scene. They also downed the shutter while leaving," Satyam stated in the FIR.

The employees gave calls to the landlord after which they were rescued. They later called Satyam, who heads the official work. Satyam reached the office and browsed through a CCTV footage before informing the police. A team of police reached the scene and scanned the CCTV footage.

A police spokesman said three teams of crime branch are working on the case. "Besides

the crime branch, a team of Lucknow Commissioner of Police has also been roped in. The police are scanning the CCTV footage and questioning some people. The police are also gathering information from company employees," he said. The incident exposed the tall claims of the Lucknow police who boasts of being

tech-savvv.

Dacoits are giving sleepless nights to the Lucknow police even after commissionerate system was introduced to ensure a robust system and prevent heinous crimes. Prior to the Ghazipur dacoity case, masked miscreants had stormed the house of an executive engineer of Sugarcane department, Yogendra Kumar Srivastava, and looted goods worth over Rs 6 lakh at the gun-point in Vibhuti Khand police station on the intervening night of December 23 and 24 last year. The probe into the

case is still underway. On December 17, 2020, a wholesale dealer had accused a Forest dept to plant 30 crore saplings

Lucknow (PNS): The Forest department has set a target of planting 30 crore saplings this year. A review meeting in this regard was presided over by Principal Secretary, Forest, Sudhir Garg at the Forest Directorate on Tuesday. Garg directed the officials concerned to ensure that plantation is carried out like a *jan andolan*. He asked the officials to make sure that sufficient number of saplings are made available for the purpose.

'There should be coordination with other departments that will be carrying out the plantation and meetings be held with senior officials as well as the divisional level officials from time to time. As per CM Yogi Adityanath's direction, compost prepared at gaushalas should be purchased and used for the plantation work instead of chemical fertilisers," he said.

The principal secretary also gave directions for the identification of heritage trees, a work which has been delayed for a long time. He told the officials that the information regarding heritage trees should be given to the State Biodiversity Board.

Both pre-registration, walk-in options available tomorrow

People above 60 years and those above 45 with co-morbidities will have the option to take a call between pre-registrations and walk-in to get the Covid vaccine jabs at hospitals on March 4. According to district immunisation officer Dr MK Singh said it will be 40 per cent walk-ins and 60 per cent pre-registrations at the vaccination centres in Lucknow. However, he said they are still in the process of planning the vaccination sessions. State immunisation officer Dr Ajay Ghai said they will increase the vaccination centres for the drive scheduled for March 4. The target for this month in the state is to administer Covid vaccine jabs to 40-50 lakh people. "Across the state, there were 200 vaccination centres at the soft launch on March 1, but there will be more than 1,500 vaccination centres on

that a larger number of population gets vaccinated," he said. Dr Ghai said the response on Monday was good at most of

March 4. The aim is to ensure

COVID VACCINATION

the districts. On whether it is difficult to maintain the cold chains in hot weather, he said it is not an issue. "We have been carrying out routine immunisation for years together and we have a robust cold chain system," he Meanwhile, Additional

Chief Secretary Amit Mohan Prasad directed all the DMs and CMOs on Tuesday to carry out Covid vaccination on six days (Monday to Saturday) at all the medical colleges and district hospitals. He said at the remaining government hospitals, the vaccination will be carried out on Monday, Thursday and Friday and at private hospitals four days in a week.

"Those who choose preregistration will be vaccinated from 9 am to 11 am while others from 11 am onwards on firstcome-first-served basis," he said. Prasad said that since there is a problem of connectivity in rural areas, no beneficiary will be returned. He added that on three special sessions will be organised in every district which will be dedicated to women and the teams of vaccinators will also comprise women.

Meanwhile, in the focused sampling which was carried out in the state, a total 3,15,05,760 samples were collected, of which 3,09,02,049 tested negative and 6,03,711 tested positive. The antigen positivity came out to be 0.047 per cent while the RT-PCR positivity 0.051 per cent. The total positivity was 0.049.

On Tuesday, 25 people tested positive for coronavirus infection in Lucknow while five patients recovered. There are 274 active cases in the district.

Across the state, 105 people tested positive, including 9 from Gautam Buddh Nagar, six from Meerut, and four each from Kanpur & Varanasi, pushing the UP case tally to 6,03,632. There was one death in the state and it was in Hardoi. Besides, 98 patients recovered, taking the recovery figures to 5,92,901 while there are 2,082 active cases

Fraudster taking physical test of Excise police held

PNS LUCKNOW

fraudster who was taking Athe physical test of Excise police in place of another can-didate in Gudamba ran out of luck after invigilators checked his Aadhaar card. He was later handed over to police. UP Subordinate Services Selection Commission organised the physical test at Sri Guru Govind Singh Sports College for the candidates who applied for the post of excise cops on Tuesday.

During the physical test, a candidate, identified as Deependra (21) of Bharatpur in

appeared for a race. The invigilators found that it was issued on March 1. The invigilators sought an explanation from him and also called police. It later surfaced that the Aadhaar card was fake and Deependra was interrogated. During interrogation, Deependra owned up his crime and disclosed that he was taking the exam in place of Anuj Jurail of Hasanpur in Agra. He also told the police that since he needed money, he generated fake Aadhaar card and appeared for the test.

Meanwhile, police ascer-

his Aadhaar card when after he whose body was recovered from Gomti river in Madiaon. According to police, the deceased was identified as Anjum Husain (52) of Saadatganj. Son Rizwan identity the body at mortuary. Anjum was a zardozi artisan and had left his house on February 27. He had sent a message to Rizwan stating that he (Anjum) was under depression for being unable to clear the debts and going to end his life. He further said that on coming to know that a body had been recovered, he reached the mortuary and identified the deceased as his

MoU to install CBG plant at Kanha Upvan signed

 $T^{
m o\,check\,pollution,\,a\,mem}$ orandum of understanding (MoU) was signed here on Tuesday evening between Lucknow Nagar Nigam, Bharat Biogas Energy Limited and JBM Renewale Private Limited to install a 150 tonnes capacity compressed biogas (CBG) plant at Kanha Upvan.

group of miscreants of looting

Rs 2 lakh in Kakori. Police had

doubted the claims of the vic-

tim, saying they did not find

any eyewitness to the case.

The victim, identified as

Chandra Shekhar Lodhi of

Dubagga, had given a com-

plaint in this connection. The

case was not treated as that of

dacoity. The police had later

detained an accused, identified

as Gulab Singh of Kakori. In June 2020, masked mis-

creants had committed dacoity

at the house of a retired secre-

tariat employee, Harikrishna

Verma, in Kakori. The police

had worked out the case later.

group of 6-7 robbers had

attacked senior food inspector

Uday Pratap Singh of Vikalp

Khand-3 with a knife and held

his family members hostage

before decamping with Rs 1.25

lakh in cash, a motorcycle,

mobile phone and ornaments.

The police did not treat this

case as a that of dacoity and

registered a case under Section

On October 6, 2020, a

The move was made after the Governor Anandiben Patel stressed on taking measures to control pollution. According to an official communiqué released on Tuesday

in presence of Mayor the step would turn out to be Sanyukta Bhatia between the officials of Lucknow Nagar Nigam, Bharat Biogas Energy Limited and JBM Renewal Private Limited.

The release claimed that the plant would generate 15,000 cubic metre of gas, 20,000 to 30,000 tonnes of organic urea, along with 1-1.5 lakh litre liquid fertiliser.

The CBG plant, which is fully automatic, will be very useful for cane and paddy crop beside it will also facilitate green gas.

a milestone in checking global warming besides maintaining a healthy and pollution-

free environment. It may be mentioned that recently a programme was held in Raj Bhawan in presence of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Governor Anandiben Patel in which the importance of installing CBG plant in the cow shelter homes was highlighted after which the CM gave the go ahead for the project in all major cow

shelter homes of the state.

RLD to hold 9 kisan panchayats

Lucknow (PNS): In an exercise to gain support of the farmers, Rashtriya Lok Dal will be organising nine Kisan Panchayats from Wednesday to March 20 in west UP and in Prayagraj. Dubey said the Kisan Panchayats would be held in Saharanpur (Nakud), Bulandshahr (Jahangirabad, Anoopshahr), Baghpat (Dhikuali), Gautam Buddha Nagar (Bhatta Parsaul), Modi Nagar (Bhojpur), Baghpat, Tanda (Ambedkar Nagar), Bareilly (Bahedi) and Prayagraj.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for notice of the general public that a political party is proposed to be registered by the name of "Rashtriya Samvidhanwadi Party" office of the party is located at Village - Rampura, Post - Haidarpur, Distt - Auraiya Uttar Pradesh, pin code - 206129. This party has submitted application to the Election Commission of India, New Delhi for the registration as political party under section 29(A) of the Representation of Peoples Act, 1951- Name/Address of the office-Bearers of the party are follows: (1) President: Ashok Kumar Dohre, Village Rampura, Post - Haidarpur, Distt - Auraiya Uttar Pradesh, Pin code - 206129. (2) General Secretary: Ramdas Suman, Village & Post - Kalani, Distt - Chhatarpur, State - Madhya Pradesh, Pin code - 471001, Treasurer: Tula Ram, Village & Post - Sanpher, Distt. - Auraiya, State - Uttar Pradesh, Pin code - 206121. If any one has any objection to the registration of "Rashtriya Samvidhanwadi Party they may send their objection with reasons thereof, to the secretary (Political Party) Election Commission of India, Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi - 110001. Within 1 Month (30 days) of the Publication of the notice.

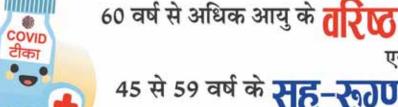


- गेहूँ विक्रय के पूर्व किसी भी जनसुविधा केन्द्र, साइबर कैफे से खाद्य विभाग के पोर्टल fcs.up.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन पंजीकरण कराना आवश्यक।
- इस वर्ष ओ०टी०पी० (O.T.P.) आधारित पंजीकरण की व्यवस्था, पंजीकरण हेतु वर्तमान मोबाइल नं० ही अंकित करायें, एस०एम०एस० द्वारा प्रेषित ओ०टी०पी० (O.T.P.) भरकर पंजीकरण प्रकिया पूर्ण करें।
- अपनी खतौनी में खाता संख्या पंजीयन में दर्ज कर अपने कुल रकबे एवं बोये गये गेहूँ के रकबे को अंकित करें। संयुक्त भूमि की दशा में अपनी हिस्सेदारी की सही घोषणा पंजीयन में करें।
- कृषक अपना आधार संख्या, आधार कार्ड में अंकित अपना नाम आदि सही अंकित करें।
- बिक्री के समय क्रय केन्द्रों पर किसान के स्वयं उपस्थित न होने पर पंजीकरण प्रपत्र में परिवार के नामित सदस्य का विवरण एवं आधार नम्बर फीड कराना अनिवार्य।
- विक्रय के उपरान्त केन्द्र प्रभारी से पावती अवश्य प्राप्त
- खरीफ विपणन वर्ष 2020-21 में धान खरीद हेत् पंजीकरण करा चुके कृषकों को गेहूँ विक्रय हेतु पुनः पंजीकरण कराने की आवश्यकता नहीं, परन्तु उक्त पंजीकरण को संशोधन कर पुन: लॉक कराना होगा।

कृषक किसी भी सहायता के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800-1800-150 या सम्बन्धित जनपद के जिला खाद्य विपणन अधिकारी, तहसील के क्षेत्रीय विपणन अधिकारी या ब्लॉक के विपणन निरीक्षक से सम्पर्क कर सकते हैं।







45 से 59 वर्ष के सह-रूग्णतायुक्त* महिला एवं पुरुषों के लिए

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स्थान	दिन	समय
मेडिकल कॉलेज एवं जिला चिकित्सालय	सोमवार से शनिवार	प्रातः 9 से सायं 5 बजे तक
अन्य स्वास्थ्य केन्द्रों पर	सोम, गुरु एवं शुक्रवार	प्रात: 9 से सायं 5 बजे तक

आरोग्य सेतु एप के माध्यम से पंजीकरण एवं बुकिंग की जा सकती है। कोविन पोर्टल के माध्यम से बुकिंग हेतु लिंक - http://selfregistration.cowin.gov.in

आयुष्मान भारत योजना तथा सी.जी.एच.एस. सुविधा से आच्छादित निजी चिकित्सालयों में कोविड टीका ₹250 प्रति डोज़ की दर से उपलब्ध

सह-रुग्णतायुक्त* के अन्तर्गत आने वाली बीमारियां

Heart failure with hospital admission in past one year. 2. Post Cardiac Transplant/Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) 3. Significant Left ventricular systolic dysfunction (LVEF <40%) 4. Moderate or Severe Valvular Heart Disease 5. Congenital heart disease with severe PAH or Idiopathic PAH 6. Coronary Artery Disease with past CABG/PTCA/MI AND Hypertension/Diabetes on treatment 7. Angina and Hypertension/Diabetes on treatment 8. CT/MRI documented stroke AND Hypertension & Diabetes on treatment 9. Pulmonary artery hypertension AND Hypertension /Diabetes on treatment 10. Diabetes (>10 Years OR with complications) AND Hypertension on treatment 11. Kidney/ Liver/ Hematopoletic stem cell transplant: Recipient/On wait-list 12. End Stage Kidney Disease on haemodialysis/ CAPD Current prolonged use of oral corticosteroids/immunosuppressant medications 14. Decompensated cirrhosis 15. Severe respiratory disease with hospitalizations in last two years/FEV I <50% 16. Lymphoma/ Leukaemia/ Myeloma 17. Diagnosis of any solid cancer on or after 1st July 2020 OR currently on any cancer therapy 18, Sickle Cell Disease/ Bone marrow failure/ Aplastic Anemia/ Thalassemia Major 19. Primary immunodeficiency Diseases/ HIV infection 20. Persons with disabilities due to Intellectual disabilities/Muscular Dystrophy/ Acid attack with involvement of respiratory system/ Persons with disabilities having high support needs/Multiple disabilities including deaf-bli









10-day book fair to from March 5 | One killed for

5-14 March 2021

11:00 AM to 09:00 PM

Bal Sanghralaya wn, Chambah, Lucknow

the karma," Chandel said.

Director of Lucknow Book

Fair Aakarsh Chandel said 'no

mask, no entry' rule will be fol-lowed, as will all the SOPs in view of the pandemic. "There

will be free entry and a mini-mum discount of 10 percent

will be given to book lovers," he

said. He also talked about the

never-ending benefits of books

in the virtual world. "Books are

known to be the best friends

and have been playing a signif-

icant role in the growth of the

society since ages," he said. National Book Trust,

Rajkamal, Lokbhar, Vani

Prakashan, Central Hindi

Directorate, Publication Division, I&B Ministry, Uttar

Pradesh Hindi Sansthan, National Council for

Promotion of Sindhi Language, National Council for

Promotion of Urdu Language,

Children's Book Trust, Sri

Ramakrishna Mission, Rational

Thinkers Cafe, Oswal

Publishers, Sultan Chand,

Prakashan Sansthan and many

other publishers and distribu-

tors will be participating in the

book fair. There will be local

writers' stalls for free display

and sale of books.

PNS LUCKNOW

Deputy Chief Minister Dinesh Sharma will inaugurate the 10-day Lucknow Book Fair at Bal Sangrahalaya Lawns in Charbagh on March 5. Convener Manoj Singh Chandel informed mediapersons on Tuesday that the book fair is returning after a gap of a year and a half, thanks to the Covid-19 pandemic due to which the book trade suffered losses to the tune of Rs 26,000 crore and 80 per cent out of those were educational books.

"The Central and state governments have eased the norms for organising the event and we have taken the initiative to organise the book fair," Chandel said. The theme of the book fair this year is 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.

"A variety of programmes such as book releases, 'Meet the writer', kavi sammelan, mushaira, singing & dancing, quiz, drawing, slogan writing and story writing competitions will be held during the 10 day book fair. Bibliophiles can enjoy a variety of cuisines too,"

The special attraction at the book fair will be 'Opti Kumbh Expo 21' wherein a free-of-cost

comprehensive eye test for everyone will be launched. 'This is being organised specially because during the Covid pandemic, most of the studies were carried out online, thus affecting the eyesight of students," he said.

The smallest Bhagavad Gita, that can fit into a palm, will also be launched at the book fair. "It has been made by the publishers in a different manner. There are people who like to carry it with them. Various scientists, IITians and doctors have shown an inclination towards Bhagavad Gita and believe in its emphasis on

U.P. Projects Corporation Ltd.
(ISO 9001:2015 Certified Company) (A U.P. Government Undertaking)
Office: Unit-7, Gomti Barrage, Left Bank, Gomti Nagar, Lucknov

Short Term e-Tender Notice

U.P. Projects Corporation Limited (AU.P. Government undertaking) invites item rate Tenders (two envelope system) from eligible contractors/firms registered in U.P. Projects Corporation Ltd., Lucknow for Operation Charges of 01 no cutter suction Dredger (IMS 7012) of 250 M3/Hr (solid) capacity. The tender documents can be downloaded from the website https://etender.up.nic.in/during the period 04.03.2021 to 10.03.2021. The tender should be submitted upto 3:00 pm on 10.03.2021. The technical bid shall be opened on same day a 4:00 PM at the office of Project Manager, U.P. Projects Corporation Ltd. Unit-7 eft Bank, Gomti Barrage, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow

PROJECT MANAGER U.P. Project Corporation Lim Unit-7, Lucknow



n a bizarre case of 'honour' killing in Amethi, a youth was sprayed with bullets by the family member of a girl of another caste. The sensational killing took place late Monday night, six years after the marriage. Reports said that Sudhir Srivastava, hailing from Karaundi hamlet of Hathiyakala under Kotwali police station in Amethi, was in love with Lakshmi Mishra, hailing from neighboring Maudali hamlet. Both wanted to get married but the girl's family opposed the affair as the boy belonged to another caste. Both tried to convince their families but finding no solution, they got married against the wishes of the girl's family and were living happily for the last six years.

Sudhir's brother Dileep revealed that late Monday night, the family members of the girl and unknown goons intercepted his brother near the house when he was coming back home. The accused suddenly opened fire. As his brother ran to take shelter, the assailants chased him and sprayed him with bullets.

The victim was later rushed to the community health centre where the doctor pronounced him dead. Dileep accused the girl's father Kamta Prasad Mishra, brother Asheesh Mishra and their accomplices of being behind the killing. Sudhir's family also wrote a letter to Chief Minister Yogi



Adityanath demanding fair probe and stern action against the accused.

The police said that a case was registered against Asheesh Mishra and others and they were trying to arrest Asheesh to extract the names of the other assailants involved in the killing. The body of the victim was sent for post-mortem on

In Budaun, three youths were killed and another sustained serious injuries in a road mishap in Faizganj Behta area, police said on Tuesday.

Additional Superintendent of Police (Rural) Siddharth Verma said that Abdul, Ragib, Yunus and Sohail, hailing from Lakshmipur village, were returning from Chandausi on a motorcycle when they were hit by a potato-laden tractor-trolley near Suraini village on Asafpur-Chandausi road late Monday night.
While Ragib and Yunus

were killed on the spot, Sohail died on the way to hospital. Abdul sustained critical injuries and was admitted to a private hospital in Chandausi by his family. The bodies were sent for

UP's first population clock comes up at university

Uttar Pradesh's first population clock was inaugurated at gate number 2 of Lucknow University by Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Ashwini Kumar Choubey and state's Health Minister Jai Pratap Singh on Tuesday.

Director of Population Research Centre and head of LU's Economics department Prof MK Agarwal said the aim of setting up the clock at a van-tage point is to make people aware that the population figure is ticking over.

"Everyone can look at the clock, be it someone commuting on the road or by metro. Since its installation, it has also become a selfie point. This clock will spread awareness about the fact that the population of the country has increased to 1.39 billion. We have placed a caption 'Population of India today' over the clock," he said.

Agarwal said the figures given by the clock are projected figures and the clock is programmed by the department. "We will update further with more programming. It is not the exact birth that is recorded every second but the likely figure which we get through projection. We have data coming from various sources and we revise the projection of fig-ures accordingly," he pointed out. He said they were able to set up the clock at a cost of Rs 1.5 lakh.

Agarwal said they also got Rs 5 crore from the Central government for the construction of Population Research



Centre building. "Currently, the centre operates from the Economics department," he

Meanwhile, the Population Research Centre (PRC), department of Economics, also held a knowledge dissemination workshop at the university. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has established the network of 18 Population Research Centres (PRCs) spread over 16 major states, with the mandate to provide, inter alia, critical researchbased inputs related to the health and family welfare programmes and policies at state and national levels. The PRCs are autonomous in nature and administratively under the control of their host universities and institutions, Agarwal said.

A mobile app called RCH-ANMOL was also launched, as were the logo of PRC and its website.

Choubey highlighted the important role of evidencebased research in success of health policy, especially in Covid-19 times. He underlined that the government is running several schemes to enable the reach of health facilities to the bottom section of the population. He mentioned the importance of research as 'Jai Anusandhan' along with 'Jai

Jawan, Jai Kisan and Jai Vigyan'. JP Singh highlighted the success of the state government in handling the pandemic through digital initiatives, and RCH-ANMOL app is the latest one. LU Vice-Chancellor Prof AK Rai stressed on the need of better infrastructure facility and teaching staff for the PRC.

The keynote speaker was Dr DK Ojha, director general of Statistics, Government of India.He highlighted the recent and most appropriate research done by different PRCs of the country. The session was also attended by mission director, NHM (UP), MS Aparna Chaudhari.



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY (A Statutory Institute governed by the NIFT Act 2006) (Ministry of Textiles, Government of India) Campus, Mawpat, Umsawli Shillong – 793012, Megha

RECRUITMENT NOTICE ADVT NO. NIFT/RECT./04/2020-21

The National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Shillong Campus, invites applications for the below mentioned post to be

SI. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Post	Level as per 7th CPC
1	Machine Mechanic	01	4
2	Lab Assistant – AD Department	02	2
3	Stenographer Gr-III	01	4

RAJASTHAN STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION, JAIPUR

E-BID NOTICE

ransport.Rajasthan.gov.in/rsrtc एवं rsrtc.procure247.com के माध्यम से जहां है.

19.02.21

19.02.21

19.02.21

19.02.21

ई–ऑक्शन का सम्पूर्ण विवरण, नियम एवं शर्ते वेब–साईट पर उपलब्ध है।

वि०सं० 202/2020-21

ई—ऑक्शन में शामिल होने से पूर्व बोलीदाता द्वारा EMD राशि जमा कराना अनिवार्य है।

की नकारा वाहनो एवं स्केप का

Joint Director (I/c)

EMD Deposit EMD Deposit BID Start BID End

03-03-21 04-03-21 05-03-2

03-03-21 04-03-21 05-03-2

03-03-21 04-03-21 05-03-2

03-03-21 04-03-21 05-03-2

08-03-21 | 09-03-21 | 10-03-2

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Financial advisor

19.02.21 08-03-21 09-03-21 10-03-2

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि CIN:U31200UP2003SGC027460 अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना

अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा विद्युत वितरण मण्डल

कानपुर देहात के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित विवरण अनुसार कार्य हेतु अनुभवी व सक्षा निविदादाताओं द्वारा निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है, निविदा सम्बन्धी पूर्ण सूचना वेबसाइट https://etender.up.nic.in पर देखी जा सकर्त है। क0सं0 1 अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सं0 120 / वि०वि०मं०का०दे० / 2020-21 विवरण विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-पुखरायां के अधी-आवेदित सरकारी एवं गैर सरकारी संयोजने को ऊर्जीकृत करने का कार्य। क0सं0 अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सं0 121/वि0वि0 मं0का0दे0 / 2020–21 **विवरणः** विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-पुखरायां के उपखण्ड-सिकन्दरा अन्तर्गत ३३ के०वी०. ११ के०वी० एवं एल०टी० लाइनों के आकस्मिक अनरक्षण एवं मरम्मत क कार्य। क0सं0 3 अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सं0 122 / वि०वि०मं०का०दे० / 2020-21 विवरणः विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-पुखरायां वे अन्तर्गत विभिन्न क्षमता 630 के0वी0ए0, 400 कें0वी०ए० एवं 250 कें0वी०ए० के वितरण परिवर्तकों के क्षतिग्रस्त प्लिंथ की मरम्मत क कार्य। क0सं0 4 अल्पकालीन ई-निविद सं0 123/वि0वि0मं0का0दे0/2020-21 विवरणः विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-पुखरायां व अन्तर्गत 33 के0वी0 विद्युत लाइनों व आकरिमक अनुरक्षण एवं मरम्मत का कार्य क0सं0 5 अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सं0 124 / वि०वि०मं०का०दे० / 2020-21 विवरण विद्युत वितरण खण्ड-पुखरायां के उपखण्ड-अकबरपुर के अधीन पावर परिवर्तकों व क्षतिग्रस्त अर्थिंग के स्थान पर नई डीप बोर अर्थिंग का निर्माण कार्य। अधी0अभि0, वि0वि0मं0, कानपुर देहात

राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें

Six labourers killed as truck overturns

ing children, were killed and over a dozen others were seriously injured when a truck overturned on them on Etawah road near Maukhas village under Bhognipur Kotwali police station in Kanpur Dehat late Monday night. On getting information about the mishap, the police rushed there and sent the injured to Pukhrayan community health centre from where eight seriously injured labourers were referred to the district hospital.

According to reports, hundreds of Mainpuri and Kannaui every year to harvest the potato crop. This year too, on being called by the potato growers, many labourers of Kalauli Tir village of Hamirpur in Kanpur Dehat and Barnao village of Ghatampur (Kanpur Nagar) along with families and the labour contractor were going to Sirsaganj in Firozabad on Monday. On reaching Bhognipur crossing in the night, they boarded a truck laden with coal for Sirsaganj. While a few of them sat in the driver's cabin, the remaining male labourers sat over the coal. When the truck was near Maukhas village on Etawah national highway, it suddenly overturned and the labourers were

CITYBRIEFS

VIDYA KA PARV

PCS SELECTION

United World School (Indiranagar)

celebrated 'Vidya ka Parv' to mark the

re-opening of primary schools. Teachers

welcomed the students and the school

was decked up with balloons, colour-

ful posters and flowers. The children,

wearing masks and carrying sanitiser

bottles, attended the school in large

numbers. All the Covid-19 protocols

Three former students of City

and

Gupta

Kumar Gupta,

Saumitra Dev

Verma. While

Amit Kumar

Sapna

and

Montessori School were selected in the

UP PCS this year. They include Amit

Saumitra Dev have been selected as

deputy jailors, Sapna Verma has been

selected as a sub-registrar. CMS founder

Jagdish Gandhi said he hopes that the

three CMS alumni will perform well in

were adhered to at the school.

the local residents rushed to the spot and carried out a rescue operation. Meanwhile, cops from Bhognipur Kotwali also reached there and sent the injured to the Pukhrayan CHC where six of them, including children, were pronounced dead. Of the remaining 15 labourers, eight were seriously injured and they were referred to the district hospital. Superintendent of Police Keshav Kumar visited the hospital and took stock of the situation.

The deceased included Ramesh labourers from different villages of (41), Pinki (45), Chandrawati (14) of Kanpur Dehat go to Etawah, Firozabad, Barnao of Ghatampur, and Radha (42) her daughter Komal (8) and son Suraj (4) of Kalauli Tir village of Hamirpur. The labourers injured seriously were identified as Sajan, Rajjan Devi, Sumitra, Vimla, Shivlal, Lalaram, Surendra and Shikha.

The injured said the truck's driver Jai Prakash, a native of Aligarh, was inebriated and was driving the truck at high speed. They said despite their repeated requests to slow down the truck, he refused to heed to their advice and suddenly lost control over the wheel and the truck overturned. Jai Prakash was also injured and was admitted to the community health centre.



Samajwadi Party workers protesting against the rising prices of LPG, petrol and diesel

Experts discuss challenges in fight against Covid-19

PNS LUCKNOW

Atwo-day workshop on 'Material development on health and risk communication: To fight against Covid-19' was organised under the joint aegis of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University and Indian Science Communication Society on Tuesday. The workshop was organised with the support of National Council for Science and Communication, Technology Department of Science and Technology.

Prof Rajesh Kashyap from SGPGI's Haematology department shared his experience of Covid-19 management with everyone at the workshop and gave information about the vigilance and rescue measures related to it through pictures. "We have to take care of our own safety as well as that of others. Whatever material we are preparing for the awareness of people should reach the common man and we should also pay attention to it," he said. He explained that even after being cautious, due to mistakes or habits, people can contract the infection. He also talked about mental health and said that it is important to have spirituality in life.

The programme was presided over by dean of academic affairs, BBAU, Prof Rana Pratap Singh, who said: "We have to identify the challenges that we face in bringing information related to science and research work, and then formulate strategy to tackle the same. Our devel-

UP- 161425 Date 1.3.2021

opment model is also responsible to some extent behind such a global pandemic because we are damaging the environment in the indiscriminate race of development. We have to consider our development model to maintain the balance between humans and environment," he said. He also stressed on working on econtent. The chief guest was advisor to Science and Engineering Research Council, Department of Science and Technology (DST), Dr Manoj Pataeriya, who said that when the whole world is facing Covid-19 crisis, India has emerged as a solution and the vaccine manufactured in India is reaching different countries.

He said DST is trying to make people aware about coronavirus by providing right information related to it. He also told everyone about the Covid Katha, a multimedia guide in which all the information related to Covid-19 is provided in detail. It has also been translated into various Indian languages. He also talked about the efforts being made on a personal level to get safe from Covid and gave several suggestions too. Dean, School of Mass Communication, Prof Gopal Singh said it is necessary for all to strictly follow the guidelines related to Covid-19 as the situation still remains a matter of concern. "Banners, posters, newspapers, e-content and other means of communication can be used to spread awareness related to Covid among the general public," he added.

"STOP CORONA: Wash your Hands & Wear Mask, Maintain Social Distance" DELHI JAL BOARD: DELHI SARKAR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (N)-II

	NEAR TRANSPORT AUTHORITY MAIN BURARI ROAD DELHI-84									
l.	NIT. No.44 (Item No.1) (2020-21) E.E (North)-II.									
	S. Name of Work	Name of Work Estimated Cost (Rs.) Oute of release of tender in e-procurement solution		Earnest Money	Tender Fee (Non- refundable	of tender through				
	 Providing and laying 450/500 mm dia sewer line from Trenchless Technology for making separate out fall for E,FA,B and K-Block Model Town in AC-18, Model Town under E,E(North)-II. (Re-Invitte). LD 2021_DJB_200695_1 	27,07,704/- 01.03.2021 03 P. M. onward		Exempted vide office memorandum No: F.9/4/2020- PPD and DJB endorsement No: DJB/2020-21/Misc-II (PT)/971 Dated: 23.12.2020	500/-	Technical bid will be received 22.03.2021, 3:00 PM & opening of Financial bid after completion of technical bid & confirmation of EMD from Bank.				
1:	Further details in this record can be seen at b	ttne://aoutn	rocurement delhi	aou in						

Tender Notice No.: 7820202021

SCRAP GROUPA

SCRAP GROUP B

SCRAP GROUP C

SCRAP GROUP D

TATA ORD 56 BUSES

TATA ORD 01 TRUCK

TATA ORD 12 BUSES

3 TATA S.C. 01 BUS

राज.संवाद / सी / 20 / 10435

LEYLAND ORD 04 BUSES

TATASTAR LINE 12 BUSES

LEYLAND ORD 02 BUSES

BURNTOIL

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

E-Tendering Tender Notice

Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering)/ North Central Railway/ Prayagrai, for and on behalf of the President of

Dated: 22.02.2021

India, invites E-TENDERS System on prescribed form for the following work up to 13.30 hrs. on 24.03.2021. The details of the Tender are as under:

S	T. No.	Name of Work	Approx Cost (₹)	Completion period	
1		Widening of existing RUB Br. No.84 by inserting 2x4.5x3.5m Box at Km 1231/ 3-5 in Kanpur-Tundla section in Firozabad sub Division under ADEN/NCR/FZD.	₹ 49342504.00	08 Months	

Date of Opening of Tender: 24.03.2021, Elegibility Criteria for Similar work: Bridge using box-pushing technique under Railway track. Note: (1) The complete information along with tender document of above E-TENDERS System is available on Website www.ireps.gov.in. upto 13:30 hrs. on the due date of tender opening i.e. 24.03.2021 (2) Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Digital Signature Certificate issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. (3) Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in any other form / letter head if attached by vendors shall be straightway ignored and shall not be considered. (4) The tenderers shall submit a certificate as given in tender document in standard format for tender having advertised value more than 50 Lakh without which their tender may not be considered and shall be summarily rejected. (5) The supplier / contractor of goods and / or services would be subject to GST Act and Rules as applicable from time to time. (6) Document being attached should be signed by the tenderer on its body. (7) This tender notice has also been uploaded on www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in. (8) The Tenderer/Bidder shall mandatorily submit Bid security declaration form as given in tender document for non submission of Bid security/EMD (Earnest Money) deposit otherwise tender offer will be considered as incomplete offer & shall be summarily rejected. (9) In case of any difficulty nelpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. (10) Tender on line can be submitted upto 13.30 hrs. on 24.03.2021. (11) Along with other instructions given to ternderer, Tenderers are required to pay special attention on Para 10.0 of Tender document for document submission alongwith tender & para 12.0 of Tender document for bid security declaration /EM deposit & security deposit. (12) E-Tender forms shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers. (13) The tenderer has to submit necessary documents in compliance of clause 1 to 18 (Part-I) of GCC July' 2020 mandatorily, herwise offer will be considered as incomplete offer and accordingly shall not be considered 268/21 FA

f North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in **y** North Central Railway@CPRONCR

WORKSHOP

their respective fields.

UGC- Centre of Advanced Studies, Social Work department at Lucknow University organised a 3-day national level workshop online on gender bud-

geting, sponsored by Union Ministry of Women and Child Development. The special guest was director of Higher Payment Programme, MS University (Vadodara, Gujarat) Prof MN Parmar. His speech focused on the importance of gender budgeting in context to equality of women. He mentioned constitutional provisions for equality and women empowerment. He praised the steps toward policy implementation and women-oriented programmes. The chief guest was DSW (LU) Prof Poonam

UPMRC RECRUITMENT

Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation has started recruitment for the posts of AMs (operations), station controllers, train operators and maintainers. An official said UPMRCL has invited online applications from eligible candidates for direct recruitment against six posts of assistant managers (operations), 186 posts of station controllers, train operators and 52 posts of maintainers and others. "UPMRCL provides all the details regarding recruitment only on its official website The applicants are requested not to rely on other sources for recruitment-related queries. UP Metro conducts written exams and selection is made on merit basis," the official said.

AYODHYA-AMBEDKAR NAGAR CIRCLE, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, AYODHYA **E-Tender Notice** lo 1018 /3 KAM Ayo Ambe/E-Tendering/2021

The S.E. Ayodhya Ambedkar Nagar Circle, U.P.P.W.D., Ayodhya on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invite the percentage rate bids online from the eligible and approved Contractors registered with UP PWD, class A,B,C in Bridge works. Bidders are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 4 of the is to Bidders to qualify for the award of the contract.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

SL. No.	Distt.	Name of Work	Estima- ted cost (Rs. in lacs)	Bid Security (Rs.in lacs)	Cost of bid Documents	Times of Comple- tion	Address of Executive Engineer Executing the Work	Address of Supe- rintending Engineer	Address of Chief Engineer
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Bara- banki	Construction of 3x4x4 mt Box culvert and approach road in km 2 of Godwa Gwari link road.	50.60	4.53	Rs. 2354.00	12 Months	Executive Engineer CD-1, PWD, Barabanki	Superintending Engineer, Ayodhya Ambedkar Nagar Circle, PWD,	Chief Engineer Ayodhya Zone, PWD,

3- Time allowed for completion is including Rainy Season. 4- Validity of bid will be 90 days. 5- Bid docum with detailed terms and conditions will be available online on website http://etender.up.nic.in. 6- Bids must be submitted online only at e-tendering portal of http://etender.up.nic.in from 05-03-2021 to 10-03-2021 upto 12.00 hours. Bidders have to upload/download all documents according to the provisions of G.O No. 1/2018/3070/78-2-2018/42 IT/2017(22) Dated 03-01-2018. Technical bids received online will be opened on 12 03-2021 at 12:30 hours. 7- Technical evaluation of tenders is to be done by Prahari Software, the details of which are available in NIT enclosed with Bid Document

(Kishore Kumar Pahuja) Superintending Engineer Ayodhya Ambedkar Nagar Circle, P.W.D, Ayodhya



Governor/Chancellor Anandiben Patel giving medal to a gold medalist at MGKVP convocation in Varanasi on Tuesday

Education has vital role in building a powerful nation: Anandiben

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Governor and Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi Kashi (MGKVP) Vidyapeeth Anandiben Patel on Tuesday said, 'The education has an important role in building a powerful and overall developed nation in the present era of knowledge-science and glob-

Delivering the presidential peech in the 42nd convocation function of the MGKVP, the Governor threw light on new National Education Policy (NEP) and said, it will help in imparting qualitative education, innovation and making available the research-related requirements in the present changing circumstances. The education is base in building

the nation and society through individual and also building the human personality, the Governor said and exhorted the students go ahead and make progress and then the nation will progress.

Delivering the convoca-

tion speech virtually, the chief guest and Secretary, Department of Science & Technology, Government of India Prof Ashutosh Sharma said that there are challenges in current higher education and added, the new National Education Policy (NEP) will help in facing the challenges and will also help in making the nation an attractive destination for higher education wordwide. The new NEP has the potential to transform India into a vibrant knowledge hub and Jagat Guru, he said adding,

the new NEP brings about a range of changes in the higher education aiming to improve it with the goal of creation of greater opportunities fir individual employment. He exhorted the students to take risk if want to make innovation and research and also appealed them to make innovation from the things learnt during the

study.
Earlier, the V-C Prof TN Singh read out welcome address and said, apart from science and technology, the universal ancient value has also glorify our Indian tradition as the process of permanent development is possibly only by having trust to these. So, there is a need of the hour that the new generation should be encouraged for the purpose, he said adding, the university is gradually heading towards this. A total of 67,353 graduate and 14,218 postgraduate students were given away degrees while the gold medals were given away to as many 59 students. Tripti Singh of MPEd received the prestigious Dr Vibhuti Narayan Singh Gold Medal Award for topping the university. The degree of PhD was given to as many as 40 students, while one student got the degree of DLitt. Suraj Kumar and Amrita Kaur were honoured for their outstanding performance in the field of

The Governor released varsity sovenier and also unvelied some projects of the university. Vanshidhar conducted the proceedings and the registrar Saheb Lal Maurya offered a formal vote of thanks in the last.

Opposition confusing people on farmers' issue: Maurya

The country's misfortune is that Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, sitting on the constitutional post, has made a statement that is an attempt to help the enemy of the country under the guise of farmers and to raise the morale of the malevolent elements. This will not be tolerated. This was said by Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya through a tweet.

Earlier, in the context of from house to house. Every the farmers' movement, Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya had remarked that the opposition is confusing the people of the country. People are not shying away from going with anti-national forces for personal gain. This is indeed a matter of sorrow, he added.

City unit president Ganesh Kesarwani said that work will be done to awaken people activist has come up to tell the truth of the peasant movement. There is nothing in the new agricultural laws that are anti-people. Spontaneous peace is being disturbed in the country. Such negative politics is not in anyone's interest. This is also a conspiracy to tarnish the image of the country all over the world.

Yamunapar District President Vibhavnath Bharti

everything. He knows that the Central government is engaged in increasing the income of farmers. How can the farmer, who is being given six thousand rupees in aid, be deprived of that. Every farmer of the country is with the Central and State Government. This will be confirmed in the coming election also, the Deputy Chief Minister added.

Process of reservation of posts in panchayat polls going on

The process of reservation of posts in the three-tier panchayat elections in Prayagraj is going on. The reservation for the panchayat elections will be released by Wednesday. Objections will then be sought. Its final list will also be released by March 15. In relation to the réservation, officials have to see that the seat which was not reserved in the last five elections that has to be reserved. Reservation for the pan-

final step. The reservation process started a fortnight ago. The work is going on fast. The team of District Panchayat Raj Adhikari is working. Reservation of panchayats is being done as per the 2011 cen-

District Panchayat Raj Officer Renu Srivastava informed that first the seats will be reserved for the members of the Gram Panchayats. Its reservation is being done at the block level. This process is vation of village heads is being given. Reservation of village heads will also be completed by Tuesday evening. It will be released to the public on Wednesday. Along with this, reservation is being done for Kshetra Panchayat members and Zilla Panchayat members as well. In this area panchayat member reservation is being done at the block level. While the reservation of the District Panchayat members is being done at the district level.

District Panchayat Raj officer informed that in addition to block pramukh is being done at the district level. It is also almost finalised. The reservation of the district panchayat president has already been finalised. This seat will be normal this time. He informed that reservation for all posts will be done by Wednesday. Objections will then be sought. Wednesday. The final list will be released by March 15 after the objections

NCR taking long strides towards 100 per cent electrification

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ALLAHABAD

North Central Railway is taking long strides towards 100 per cent electrification. Indian Railways have targeted cent per cent electrification of its entire network. NCR being its important constituent, providing critical connectivity to the eastern, western and southern parts of the nation to the northern part, is taking long strides in the speedy electrification of its section. The important trunk routes of the zone are already electrified,

and in addition to these, unelectrified sections on branch lines are also being electrified at a rapid pace.

In pursuance of this target, the Bhandai-Udi More- Etawah single line section in Agra Division of NCR received EIG sanction for Energisation of OHE at 25 kV, AC single phase, 50 Hz on February 27, 2021. The very next day a trial was also conducted by elcLoco. No.22282 of Jhansi loco shed before regular running of electric trains in this section.

Apart from it, during the

current year 2021, in the first two months, electrification of 'Chola Yard in connection to Bi-directional Automatic Signaling work on Line between Aligarh-Gaziabad section, Energisation of OHE of 132/25 kV, Traction Sub-Station at Sonbhadra' over Chunar-Chopan Section, Energisation of OHE for Hot Axle Siding at Unchdih Station, and for provision of nine Auxiliary Transformers at three different locations have also

been completed. These electrical works will not only ensure seamless operation of rail traffic across the remove the bottlenecks created by the need to change traction. These works will increase the operational efficiency, enhance the line capacity and improve the average speed of

The electrification of these sections will reduce the use of imported fossil fuels thereby improve energy security to the nation. These will also result in reduction of Green House Gas

There is deep relation between Sanskrit and Indian culture: Mishra

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

 $F^{\text{ormer Ambassador in}}_{\text{Maldives and Additional}}$ Secretary in Ministry of External Affairs Akhilesh Mishra on Tuesday said, 'There is deep relation between Sanskrit and Indian culture and due to this rich language India is known to be nation of

Delivering convocation speech in the 38th convocation function of Sampurnanand Sanskrit University (SSU), Mishra said, 'It is the effect of Sanskrit that the feeling of global brotherhood is being seen in the world and one can also see the tradition of unity in the country.' Sanskrit is language of world welfare and the the Governor and Chancellor word in Devbani is originated from merits, he said and exhorted the students to go



Governor/Chancellor Anandiben Patel presenting certificate to a gold medalist at SSU convocation in Varanasi on Tuesday

ahead to achieve success in the

In her presidential address of the university Anandiben Patel said, 'It is Sanskrit language and ancient culture due

to which India is united but it is a matter of grave concern that this rich language could not get the recognition which it deserves.' The government has given importance to

this language but at the same time there is also need that the Sanskrit scholars should come forward for the purpose, he said adding, Sanskrit is not only a language but also the soul of Indian culture. The SSU can play a vital role in awakening the new generation about this rich language, she said further.

policy to promote the study of

Mishra gave away 58 gold medals to 29 students. A girl student of Acharya Meena Kumari topped the university and received the maximum 10 medals, Sumitranandan and Ashutosh Mishra received five gold medals each. Padmashree Ramyatna Shukla was honoured with the prestiaward 'Mahamahopadhyay'.

The registrar Rajbahadur Sanskrit in the new education conducted the proceedings.

Ad for recruitment of principal, assistant teacher posts issued

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

Advertisement has been dissued for the recruitment of Principal and Assistant Teacher posts in 3,,049 nonaided junior high schools of Uttar Pradesh. The examination for a total of 1,894 posts, including 390 of Principal and 1,504 of Assistant Teacher, will be held simultaneously on April 18. One question paper will be asked for the assistant teacher and two question papers will have to be given to the candidates for the post of Principal. A total of 150 questions will be asked in the twoand-a-half-hour exam. Candidates can apply online application from March 3.

On December 4, 2019, the Yogi government approved the seventh amendment of the Uttar Pradesh Accredited Basic School (Recruitment and Conditions of Service of Junior High School Teachers). Through this, the written examination of recruitment was made. The government issued a mandate in this regard on February 19. The advertisement was to be announced on February 25 but due to the petition against written examination in the High Court, the advertisement was released on Examination Monday. Regulatory Authority Secretary Anil Bhushan Chaturvedi said that this recruitment is valid for

this examination.

The exam regulatory authority secretary said that the educational qualification, application fee, syllabus, examination period etc for online application to appear in the selection examination 2021 is on the website made by NIC. Along with the registration form, a link of State Bank of India and online application form is also available for depositing the application fee.

There will be no opportunity to amend the entries in the online application. Hence, the candidates are required to check the entries before making the final save. The candidate will also have to upload a self-attested letter to this effect. It has also been said that candidates should not apply more than one online.

It may be noted that the registration for online application will start from March 3. Last date of registration: March 17, last date for submission of application fee: March 18, last date for completion of application and taking print: March 19, scheduling of examination centres: March 25, examination admit card to be issued: April 9, written examination: April 18, assistant teacher and Principal First Question Paper: 10 am to 12:30 am, second question Paper for Principal: 2 pm to 3 o'clock, answer key to be released on website: April 23, examination Results to be

DC reviews security arrangements for Mahashivratri

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE VARANASI

Ameeting was held on Monday under the chairmanship of Divisional coming from Godowlia will Commissioner (DC) Deepak Agrawal to review security and other arrangements at Kashi Vishwanath (KV) temple on the forthcoming festival of Mahashivratri. One of the Dwadasjyotilingas sees a huge Phatak Gali as this arrangerush of devotees on this auspicious occasion. Addressing the meeting, Agrawal said that attractive tableaus will be placed at all the four gates.

ple from the eastern gate, 20 and exit from the emergency. He instructed the

the VIPs and physically challenged persons will enter from Chhattadwar and exit from the second gate. The devotees enter the temple from Dhundiraj Ganesh (Bansphatak) on the western gate while the other locals will enter from the southern traditional gate at Saraswati ment will remain as usual.

Besides, the DC informed that four LED screens will be installed for the convenience of devotees to watch all activ-According to him, no one ities at Garbrih live continuwill be allowed to touch the ously. Appropriate informa-Shivlinga in the Garbgrih (sanctum sanctorum). The pilgrims coming from Maidagin will enter the temdoctors will be available on metres before Chhattadwar the temple premises for any

the route of Shiv Barat and during the procession no vehicles would be allowed to move from Maidagin and Godowlia sides to the KV temple and for parking of vehicles, arrangements would be made at various places including Queen's College, Townhall, Lahurabir and Machhodari.

In Mahashivratri Festival at Rajghat, the local artistes will present programmes on March 11 while Kavi Sammelan will be held on March 12 and Kailash Kher's programme on March 13. The DC instructed the concerned officers for extensive cleanliness of the ghats, lighting arrangements and maintenance of the roads.

Exhibition will also be held at the same venue in which there will be stalls of Manikarnika Gali gate while officers concerned to repair various departments. The ated.

meeting was also attended by IG (Range) Vijay Singh Meena, DM Kaushal Raj Sharma, SSP Amit Pathak, KV temple CEO Sunil Kumar Verma and others.

Meanwhile, the DM instructed all the SDMs and BDOs at a meeting to ensure proper arrangements at Panchkoshi March as a large number of pilgrims go for Panchkosi Parikrama on Mahashivratri. He said that apart from

proper cleanliness of the entire Panchkoshi Yatra route, repairing of the roads and water and street lighting arrangements should be ensured, along with making Dharamshalas, public buildings and toilets clean and removal of all encroachments. He said that no laxity in this direction would be toler-

Jail inmates make furniture worth one crore rupees

ALLAHABAD (PNS): Prison is not only a place for punishment, but new avenues of life can also be found from there. In order to connect the jail inmates to the mainstream of society, detainees are being made skillful in Naini Central Jail. The detainees here have prepared furniture worth one crore during the corona period, on which the Judge is also sitting. Under the rehabilitation scheme, detainees are being made skillful in the workshop of Naini Jail. In this, all kinds of wooden furniture as well as iron lockers are also being taught. During the corona transition, where economic activities were closed all over the country, in this prison workshop, detainees made furniture worth more than one crore following the covid guidelines.

the district jails of the state in addition to the High Court. Incharge Jail DIG Allahabad Division PN Pandey said that the furniture made by the detainees will also be introduced in the market. For this, by not organisng the exhibition or any kind, it will be directly contacted by the traders and supplied to them. The Governor's chair is also constructed here for the sitting of the Judges in the High Court. Trainer Dashrath Prasad said that the Governor's Chair is constructed for the courts and high courts of the entire state. Also, the furniture of the District Court is also supplied from here. If any individual also wants to get the furniture made by the inmates of the jail, then the jail administration can be contacted. For this, This furniture has been sent to along with the amount of fur-

niture manufactured, one has also been given the facility to give one's desired wood. With a view to increase the income of the prisoners, now this system has been opened for the common people. The new detainees in the workshop in the jail are also being skilled in the work being done here. Under trial prisoners are made to work in the workshop, but the prisoners who want to learn this work, they can make themselves skilled by learning the work of furniture making in this workshop. The purpose of this workshop is that after release from prison, the detainee can not only be self-supporting, but can also lead a respectable life.

SUICIDE: In a shocking

incident, a 19-year-old girl died by commtting suicide in her hostel located at coaching.

Churchlane under Colonelganj police station on Monday. On receipt of information, police reached the spot and brought the body down and sent it to the mortuary for an autopsy. Originally from Fatehpur, Manisha was a student of BSc and also studied in coaching at Colonelganj. Police said that information has been given to family members. Further action will be taken after their arrival. Manisha was a resident of Badnapur village undder the Ghazipur police station of Fatehpur. Her father Pradeep Yadav is a farmer. In September last year, she came to stay at the Preeti Girls Hostel at Church Lane in Colonelgani. She was a second year BSc student in Smt. Rama Agrahari Women's College, Fatehpur. While living in the city, she also studied in

Kanpur Metro to receive first train set in Sept

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation Ltd Managing Director Kumar Keshav reviewed the progress of work of the Kanpur Metro project. He said that Metro eight trains would be run between IIT-K and Motijheel. He said the civil construction work of the Kanpur Metro project was continuing at a rapid pace due to not only fast decisions but the dedication and commitment to accomplish the work on time.

The MD was on a two-day visit and reviewed the construction work of the Kanpur Metro project and expressed pleasure at the pace of the work. He reviewed the construction work being carried K to Motijheel) and gave necessary instructions to

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Shekhar visited the primary

school of Khevra Katari in

Kalyanpur block on Tuesday.

He found the school was facing several problems and directed the officials concerned to

ensure that all construction and

other related works were done

under the government's

visit the homes of students and

convince parents to send their children to school and also

apprise them that the schools

had opened and proper safety

and security measures were

ment had taken a decision to

start the government primary

schools from March 1 onwards

and thus he had decided to

inspect schools to find out

whether all measures for safe-

ty of children had been adopt-

ed. He said the school was run-

ning classes 1 to 5 and it had a

total strength of 201 students.

He found that only 48 per cent

of the children had reported on

teachers out of which eight

were present. He said the gov-

ernment had issued a weekly

classes looking into the Covid

protocol and other safety mea-

and teachers and cross-checked

the quality of teaching by ran-

domly asking questions about

the chapters and their contents.

He interacted with children

He said there were nine

the first two days.

He said the state govern-

being adopted there.

He advised the teachers to

Kayakalp Yojana.

Divisional

Kanpur Div



MD Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation Ltd, Kumar Keshav addressing presspersons on Tuesday.

DC visits primary school

out at the priority corridor (IIT- Polytechnic Metro depot and

On this occasion, Director (Functions and Infrastructure) Sanjay Mishra and Director (Rolling Stock and Systems) Atul Kumar Garg were also present.

The MD directed officials to accomplish all preparations and arrangements related to the arrival of the first Metro train set in September 2021 so that the trial run could be ensured in November 2021. He inspected all technical rooms in a specific way at IIT-K Metro station and directed officials and contractors to install electrical, signaling and telecom systems as soon as possible.

He got an overview of arrangements and lighting samples to be made for the lighting at the IIT-K station.

attention of the DC towards the

problems faced by the school and sought his help in resolving the issues. He said two

rooms were in a dilapidated state and needed immediate

repairs. The DC directed the

BSA, PWD EE and GDO to get

wall was too low and this had

led to unlawful activities being

carried out by miscreants on

the school campus once the

school closed for the day. He

said the boundary should be

raised to 7 feet and directed the

officials to get it done on pri-

ority through the installment

One person had encroached upon the school land and the DC

directed the SDM and the CO

to jointly check it out and

remove the encroachment in

the failure of the safai karma-

charis to report on duty to

clean the campus and toilets

and directed the DPRO to

ensure it was solved and clean-

ing was done at least once a

that the school had acquired

computers but it could not be

started as there was no specif-

on priority basis.

computers as well.

The DC said it was good

He said that it be done

À large number of officials

under CSR soon so that chil-

dren could get the benefit of

concerned accompanied the

He expressed concern over

from the gram sabha funds.

The DC said the boundary

it repaired within a month.

Missing minor girl recovered from well

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE KANPUR

nine-year-old girl missing A for the past two days was recovered from a 20-foot deep dry well in Bairi Alipur village in Bilhaur Kotwali police area on Tuesday afternoon.

She remained in the well in an unconscious state for two days before she was rescued and sent to a hospital.

According to reports, the daughter of a farmer went to dig potatoes from the field on Sunday afternoon. When she did not return home till late evening, her kin searched her everywhere and on failing to trace her they informed the police about her disappearance. On Monday, the circle officer also carried out a search operation along with a sniffer dog squad but failed to recov-

Superintendent of Police (Rural) Brijesh Kumar Srivastava said on Tuesday morning, a police team was again deputed on the job and when a sub-inspector threw stone in the dry in a dilapidated house, he heard someone moaning in it. Immediately, with the help of villagers, the police took the injured girl out from the well and admitted her to a nearby community health centre (CHC).

The girl told the police that she had gone to the dilapidated house to pluck plum leaves to feed the goats on Sunday afternoon. She said when she was plucking leaves, Shivam (22) suddenly arrived there and stopped her from doing so. He also slapped her and pushed her into the well and she fell

The SP (Rural) said Shivam was taken into custody for quizzing and investigations were on. He said the youth would be punished.

KDA camp office opens in Akbarpur Mati PIONEER NEWS SERVICE KANPUR

The camp office of Kanpur

ic computer room so there was inaugurated by KDA Vice Chairman Rakesh Kumar Singh in Akbarpur Mati on Monday.

District Magistrate (Kanpur Dehat) Dinesh Chandra Singh praised the efforts of the KDA for the development of the area and assured to extend necessary support of the district administration for the cause.

On his request, the VC assured the DM to organise a workshop there soon to spread awareness about various provisions of the KDA applicable in the Mati

Addressing the gathering, the VC said that 51 villages of Kanpur Dehat were included in the development area of the KDA and the camp office was opened there to carry out planned development in these

He said the residents of these villages would have to get proper layout approved from the KDA for carrying out development/construction in their area. He also described the var-

ious legal provisions and other formalities to be complied with prior to starting any construction work and the penalty for violation of the

KDA officials and employees would be present in the camp office on every Monday, Wednesday and Friday to redress the villagers' grievances.

Tehsildar Ajit Kumar Singh was made the zonal Incharge of Mati area. He would be assisted by assistant engineer SD Tewari and junior engineer Rajesh Niranjan.

ADM (Kanpur Dehat) Pankaj Kumar, KDA secretary SP Singh, additional secretary Dr Gudakesh Sharma, joint secretary KK Singh, tehsildar Ajit Kumar Singh, executive engineer RRP Singh along with other officers and employees were present. Law and public relations officer Shashi Bhushan Rai conducted the programme.

NCL registers increase in production

CORRESPONDENT ■ SONBHADRA

 $M^{\text{aintaining its outstanding}}_{\text{performance in coal pro-}}$ duction, the Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) has produced 103.94 million tonnes (MT) of it in the first 11 months (from April to February) of the current financial year. It is about 6.01 per cent more than the production during the same period of the last fiscal year and about 101 per cent of the target set till February 28 in the current financial year. Similarly the NCL has despatched a total of 98.29 million tonnes of coal to all its customers, including power stations, in the first 11



cial year. The NCL also performed well in the overburden removal (OBR) till February in the current financial year with a growth of 19.46 per cent removed 348.63 million cubic metres overburden. In opencast mines, overburden is the portion of deposits above million tonnes of coal.

the coal seam which is required to be extracted for coal excavation and is an important component in the growth of the company. In the current financial year the NCL has been given the responsibility of producing and despatching 113.25

Meeting of FPOs held

CORRESPONDENT MIRZAPUR

months of the current finan-

Ameeting of farmer pro-ducer organisations (FPOs) was held under the presidentship of District Magistrate Praveen Kumar Laxkar in the meeting hall of

were sponsored by it. However, there was plan to provide help to other FPOs too in future, she added. On the occasion Mukesh Pandey, manager, 'Nav Chetna Krishak Utpadak Samooh,' said NABARD was active to develop the rural areas



of FPOs. District Manager NABARD Anupriya apprised the DM that help was being given to those FPOs which

Collectorate on Monday. The meeting started with making the DM aware of the activities for promoting farming. Rajesh Pathak said that with the financial assistance of ₹60 lakh provided through Agriculture department their company was going to produce developed seeds shortly. He said that their

company helped the farmers during lockdown by sending their vegetables worth ₹3 lakh to the market and gave payment to them on the spot. Keshav Tiwari said his company was involved in producing black rice which was not only a grain but was to be used as medicinal diet for patients of certain diseases. He got appreciation in the meeting for his innovative ideas. Dr RS Singh said that his FPO was involved in farming of medicinal plants Tulsi and lemon grass which was a profitable job at less expenditure. Anubhav Dubey said his company was also involved in the farming of medicinal plants. The meeting was also attended by district agriculture officer, Pawan Kumar Prajapati, assistant director, fisheries, Mukesh Kumar Sarang, BHU scientist Sri Ram Singh and IFFCO representative GP Tiwari.

Rally flagged off

CORRESPONDENT ■ JAUNPUR

The Communicable Disease Control Campaign ■ will be run in the district from March 1 to 31 It was launched by District Magistrate Manish Kumar Verma from Rajkiya Lilawati Devi Hospital on Monday. The DM flagged off the communicable control disease campaign rally



District Magistrate Manish Kumar Verma

ed at Rajkiya Lilavati Devi Government Hospital and after passing Disease Control Campaign on Monday Lines Road ended

Collectorate. On the occasion the DM said that in order to make the campaign successful all departments concerned should prepare action plan and work with dedication. There should be not be any kind of negligence in the campaign, he said. On the occasion Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr Rakesh Kumar, Additional Chief Medical Officer (ACMO) Dr RK Singh, Dr VP Singh, Dr Narendra Singh, Dr Rakesh Singh, District Project Manager, National Health Mission, Satyavrat Tripathi, and others were present.

Youth found dead

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

A youth was found dead under unknown cir-cumstances at Piparadaand near Medical College building under Dehat Kotwali police station on Monday. As per reports, Ratan Shukla, a resident of Gangaaut village under Dehat Kotwali police station, was doing a job in Gujarat. On Saturday he had informed his elder brother that he was reaching home. When he did not come and could not be contacted on his mobile phone his family members started searching for him. They were shell-shocked when his body was found lying on the road near their house. On seeing the marks of injury on the body the police speculated that it look like a case of accident. On the other hand, his family members suspected it to be case of murder. Taking the body of the deceased into custody nation

ARRESTED: Chilh police arrested one accused in a case of cattle smuggling on Monday. S-I Bharat Bhushan Singh was on routine patrolling when he was tipped off by an informer about the presence of an accused in connection with the case of cattle smuggling at Purjagirin which was registered at the police station on February 7 this year. The SI, who was investigating the case, raided the place with the police team and arrested him. The arrested accused was identified as Kailash Yadav, of Mujehra village under Chilh police station.

Language and cultural diversity forms culture of a country'

Kanpur Divisional Commissioner, Raj Shekhar inspecting a primary school in

entire school to check the facil-

ities under Kayakalp Yojana

like drinking water, tap line and

cooking of mid-day meals and

also tasted the food and

expressed satisfaction. He

Shekhar also checked the

then took a round of the appreciated the work of

cook and the helpers.

He later interacted with

The headmaster drew the

teachers and the headmaster

and advised them to visit the

homes of the students and

convince the parents to send

their children to school.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Mahila Mahavidyalaya Principal Dr BR Agarwal, while addressing the celebrations of "International Mother Tongue Week on Tuesday, said the objective of this celebration was to lay emphasis on multilingualism and cultural diver-

She said language and cultural diversity formed the culture of any country. She said it was the duty of every Indian to ensure that he or she gave priority to their mother tongue and refrained from demeaning other languages. She said more such events should be held so as to instill love and respect for mother tongue.

Addressing the students, Dr Jyoti Kiran said that to keep India strong and united, emphasis had to be laid on promoting multilingualism, adding that the more the country had polyglots the more smoothly the nation could integrate. She said Indian multilingualism was enormous in size, with over 1,600 mother tongues reducible to about 200 languages for a population of about 1.30 billion people, with the population of many of the linguistic minorities being larger than many European coun-

She said multilingualism in India was a product of its history and a reflection of its diverse cultures. She said



International Mother Tongue Week.

maintaining multilingualism and in changing its nature. She said planning for the development of Indian languages started at the school level to ensure, in theory, that it allowed the multilingual base to continue. She said for the students, the motivation to learn several languages arose from advantages which might possibly act as incentives for learning more languages and these advantages ranged from better jobs to enjoying diverse cinema, reading magazines and travelling. She said language was only an indirect cause of lower opportunity, low social status, and therefore, discrimination and the multilingual, multiethnic and multicultural character of India necessitated the inclusion of several languages in the

curriculum for schools. Later she announced the schools played a vital role in winners of the essay writing

and speech contests. In essay writing, the first prize was bagged by Gulafshan, the second by Ritika and the third by Shreya, In speech contest, the first prize was bagged by Shreya, the second by Ritika and the third by Khushboo.

Prominent among those present on the occasion were Nausheen, Shreya, Mahi, Priya, Kalash and Shail.

CSJMU TO FOCUS ON RESEARCH & AI: V-C: The new Vice Chancellor of Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University, Kanpur, Prof DR Singh, after taking over the charge of the university held an informal meeting with the members of the academic council and other faculty mem-

He said it was truly an honour to head a very prominent university of Uttar Pradesh and excellence of a university

was always recognised by its research work and thus the focus would be to promote research work and artificial intelligence. He said to make India self-reliant and selfdependent it was essential that the academics imparted in India were as par with the West and thus more emphasis had to be laid on AI and research work. He assured all the heads of departments that the fund crunch would be solved on a priority basis so that each department excelled in its area of excellence and produced ideal citizens for the country. He said the New Education

Policy emphasised upon the need to bring in more transparency and expand multidisciplinary centres of excellence. He said today the need was to improve knowledge and end rote learning, which was a major set-back in India becoming a force to reckon with in the times to come. He said when the West was marching ahead on AI, India too had to gird up its loins and ensure that AI boosted the knowledge base of the country and brought in excellence at par with the developed nations.Prof Singh said in college, grading home-work and tests for large lecture courses could be tedious work. He said certainly AI would replace human grading and bring in more perfection and quality. He said AI would impact education from the primary levels to higher edu-

Office building of AHTU inaugurated

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

 $S_{(SP)\ Ajay\ Kumar\ Singh}^{uperintendent\ of\ Police}$ inaugurated the office buildof Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) at Police Lines on Sunday. Speaking on the occasion the SP said that the human trafficking was a menace. On he occasion he expressed the



hope that inspector Sabir SP Ajay Kumar Singh inaugurating the office building of Anti-Ali made the incharge of the Human Trafficking Unit on Sunday

unit will be successful in checking the crime with his team of experts. During the inaugural function ASP (City), CO Lines, CO Sadar, reserve inspector police lines were present along with the staff deployed at Police Lines.

personnel retire

CORRESPONDENT ■ SONBHADRA

s many as eight officers and As many as eight office of the form the following of the the Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) at the end of February. Among the retired personnel from NCL head-

Ĥarish Chandra Srivastava, Chief Manager (Excavation), Santosh Kumar Sharma, Office Superintendent (Grade A-1), Materia

Management

Department. Satya Narayan Singh, Assistant Supervisor (Grade-C), Light Vehicle department, and Babulal Yadav, electrician (Grade-V), Civil department (township administration). At a fuction organised at the headquarters in honour of the retired colleagues Director (Finance), NCL, Ram Narayan

Dubey, who was the chief guest thanked all the retired colleagues for their services rendered for the progress and prestige of the company. Dubey urged all the retired employees to get vaccinated in order to protect themselves from Covid-

He wished all the retired employees to remain healthy, satisfied and prosperous with their families. Those present during the programme shared their memories and experiences related to their retired colleagues and wished them and a pros-



(Technical/Project & Planning)

SS Sinha, who was the special

guest during the programme

while referring to the contri-

bution of retired workers said

continuously as a result of

retired employees also shared their experiences related to service ife as well as

perous life.

On the occa-

sion the

19 and also wished them a their personal life. During the happy and healthy life. Director programme General Managers of NCL headquarters, heads of department along with other officers and employees were present. Meanwhile functions were also organised in honour the company is progressing of retired officers and employees in various coalfields and their hard work and dedication.

Politicians, VIPs come forward for jab In a first, IAF to join

day after Prime Minister Aday after rinne winner.

Narendra Modi led the taking the Covid-19 vaccine, a battery of politicians cutting across party lines and VIPs from various walks of life came forward to inoculate themselves on the second day of the second phase of the vaccination programme aimed to cover persons over 60 years of age and those between 45-59 years with co-morbidities.

Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan and his wife took the first dose of Covid-19 vaccine at the Delhi Heart and Lung Institute on Tuesday. Soon after getting vaccinated, the Minister said, "I request everyone to get vaccinated. After 28 days of the first dose, everyone should get their second dose. Do not worry if you experience minor side-effects, but do let your doctors know."

Speaking about the CoWin platform, he also said, "There were some glitches in the CoWIN platform due to the high number of registrations all of a sudden. On Monday around 34 lakhs people had registered on this platform till last night. The number of people registering for the vaccination is increasing rapidly."

He added, "I would like to

request all hospitals to update the schedule for 28 days so that people don't face any issue. The Government is ensuring the availability of the vaccine for the whole country so that everyone can get vaccinated."

The others who got inoculated on Tuesday included Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh who received the first dose of Covid-19 vaccine at RR Hospital in the national capital while Union Minister of Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi received the first shot of Covid-19 vaccine at Rampur, Uttar Pradesh.

Ûnion Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad also took the anti Covid-19 shot in Patna for which he paid ₹250

As many as 2,08,791 people above 60 years of age and those aged 45-60 years with comorbidities have taken the first dose of the vaccine, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan told the weekly press

conference here.



Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan and his wife being administered the first dose of Covid-19 vaccine at the Delhi Heart and Lung Institute on Tuesday in the

Don't take Covid-19 lightly, cautions Min

PNS NEW DELHI

While maintaining that India's current positivity rate suggests Covid pandemic is under control, the Union Health Ministry cautioned people about not taking the virus lightly after the vaccination programme has started and avoid large gatherings, parties, weddings etc. "These could be super spreading events," warned Dr VK Paul, Member (Health), NITI Aayog.

As Gujarat, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Delhi, apart from Kerala and Maharashtra reports upstick in cases each passing day, Paul who is also the chairperson of the National Task Force on Covid-19, V K Paul, blamed on the wedding season coinciding with elections in some of them as a few of the reasons for the resurgence of infections.

Paul said he got the information after taking inputs various Governments, which engaged with the Centre deputed teams there to find out the probable causes behind the steady rise in the number of cases.

"People have gone lax on the Covid protocols. The reasons which the States have cited behind this laxity include crowding at wedding functions and elections. Many states

comorbidities will have to produce a medical certificate attested by a registered medical admitted this during the interaction with the teams deputed

there," Paul said. Notably, municipal elections and other local body polls have been conducted in Gujarat and few other states recently, while West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Assam and Puducherry are sched-uled to go to the polls in March-April.

Wedding ceremonies also act as superspreaders of the disease since they attract a substantial crowd, often throwing social distancing norms to the

Union Health Secretary Raiesh Bhushan said though certain states including Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh are seeing a surge in number of Covid-19 active cases, "the fact remains that recovered cases are still more than 97 per cent and India's active cases are less than 2 per cent (1.51 per

He pointed out that, "According to the World Health Organisation, if 140 tests per million are being conducted per day and the case positivity rate is at 5% or below, it means the Covid-19 pandemic is under control. We are very close to that mark at 5.11% overall case positivity."

cination at the Covid-19 vaccination centre. This phase is likely to cover close to 270 milK'taka Minister gets vaccinated at home, Centre seeks report on vaccination protocol violation



Taking exception to a Karnataka Minister's act of getting vaccinated at his residence, the Union Health Ministry called it a violation of protocol and has sought a report in the matter. However, the Minister BC Patil brazened it out saying that his decision to take the vaccine at home cannot be considered wrong.

The video and pictures of health officials administering the vaccine at Patil's home were widely shared on social media where people talked about the misuse of processes by the minister at a time when Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah among

Beneficiaries will have to register on the Co-Win website and book an appointment for vaccination. There is also an option for booking a walk-in appointment after registration. While Government hospi-

free of charge, the price has been kept at ₹250 per dose in private ĥospitals. R S Sharma, the Chairman of the Empowered Group (EG) on COVID-19 Vaccine

tals will provide the vaccine

Administration, said there were no glitches in the system. What happened was that people were looking for an App on Playstore which appeared similar to Co-WIN and started using that, when no mobile App meant for registration is actually present right now, he gone to the hospital to receive

Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan said at a press briefing on Tuesday that "This is not allowed in the protocol. We have asked for a report from the State Government."

However, the minister in question justified his action, arguing that, "There were many people in the house and I would have to wait for around half an hour at the hospital is why I took it at home."

He added that there were certain privileges and his decision to take the vaccine at home cannot be considered wrong. Patil said that he had only called health officials home for the vaccine.

the registrations were opened up at 9 am, we had about 50 lakh registrations on our site. Though there were some glitches in the first version of the Co-WIN which was launched on January 16, we have had no glitches in the new version of the system," he said.

The number of transactions and data transmission will be very large, he said adding that "We want data to be secure and free from cyber-attacks. We are taking best security practices. We are only collecting data in the form of name, age and gender as we need to monitor the second dose."

Total number of hospitals which are involved in this job are 26,000-27,000. There are 12,500 private hospitals,

'Desert Flag' in UAE

The IAF, for the first time, will take part in exercise 'Desert Flag' in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), starting Wednesday. The Indian pilots will test their skills with their counterparts of air forces of USA, France Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Bahrain and host UAE in the more than 20 day long multi-national exercise.

Giving details of the prestigious annual exercise, IAF officials said here on Tuesday the exercise is scheduled from March 3 to 27 at the Al-Dhafra airbase, UAE. The drill will take place in the strategically impor-

tant Persian Gulf region.

The IAF is participating with six SU-30 MKI, two C-17 and one IL-78 tanker aircraft. The C-17 Globemaster will provide support for induction and de-induction of the IAF contingent.

The Su-30 MKI aircraft will undertake long range ferry, routing direct from India to the exercise area with aerial refueling support from IL-78 tanker aircraft. The aim of the exercise is to provide operational exposure to the participating forces the US besides Rafales and Mirage-2000s of the French Air

while training them to undertake simulated air combat operations in a controlled environment. The participating forces will get an opportunity to enhance their operational capabilities along with mutual

exchange of best practices. The large-scale exercise involving diverse fighter aircraft from across the globe will provide the participating forces, including IAF, a unique opportunity to exhchange knowledge, experience, enhance operational capabilities and interoperability. Exercising and interaction with the participating nations in a dynamic and realstic warfare environment will also contribute to strengthen international relations, they said. The Indian jets will fly along with F-15 and F-16s of

Over the last decade, IAF has regularly hosted and participated in multi-national operational exercises, wherin collaborative engagements are undertaken amongst the best air forces of the world.

Incidentally, the IAF participation comes at a time when India has forged strong ties with countries in the Gulf region. Army Chief General M M Naravane was the first chief to visit Saudi Arabia and UAE in December last year. Moreover, the UAE provided mid-air refuelling facilities to the IAF for bringing their Rafales from France over a 7,000 km journey to Ambala in September last year.

Kangana, her sister move **SC**, seek transfer of cases

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $B_{\text{Ranaut and her sister}}^{\text{ollywood actress Kangana}}$ Rangoli Chandel have moved the Supreme Court seeking transfer of cases pending against them in Mumbai to a court in Shimla, alleging there would be threat to their lives if the trial proceeds there because of "personal vendetta" of Shiv Sena leaders against them.

The actress and her sister said they apprehend that if trial in these cases are conducted in Mumbai, there would be a "material threat" to their life and property as the Shiv Senaled Maharashtra Government

The plea has sought transfer of trial of FIRs and complaints registered against them, including a complaint case filed by veteran lyricist Javed Akhtar against Ranaut alleging defamation, from Mumbai to a competent court in Shimla in Himachal Pradesh.

It said that Akhtar had filed a complaint case against Ranaut alleging criminal defamation after the actress had given an interview to a news channel last year in which she had talked about a meeting with the lyricist in 2016.

It has further sought transfer of an FIR lodged in Mumbai by one Ali Kashif Khan Deshmukh which relates to Chandel's tweet in which

2. Total No. of Works

4. Period of completion:

9. Opening date of Bid;

6. Class of Contractor

3. Estimated cost:

5. Bid Cost

she had expressed her anguish over attack on doctors

during COVID-19 pandemic. It said subsequently, Twitter account of Chandel

was suspended after which Ranaut had spoken on a social media video against it. The plea said Khan had lodged an FIR against Ranaut and Chandel for the alleged offences under various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), including 295A which deals with deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class.

It said that the same com-

plainant had also filed a complaint casebefore the Metropolitan Magistrate, Andheri, against the

"Multiple proceedings on the same cause of action clearly demonstrates how the said complainant is just trying to harass the petitioners herein," the plea has alleged.

The plea has also sought transfer of an FIR lodged by one Munawar Ali for the alleged offences of sedition

Circle Head

CORPORATION

OF INDIA

(Circle Office, Lucknow West)

BRANCH SHIFTING

Those with specified practitioner at the time of vacsaid. "Since last morning, when lion beneficiaries. has been "harassing" them. "The petitioners face a threat unto life if the trials pro-In our endeavor to consolidate and strengthen ou EC slashes public notice | Cong targeting its stalwarts who are ceed in Mumbai, because of services to our customers, Punjab National Bank personal vendetta of Shiv Sena Circle office Lucknow West presently functioning at leaders against the petitioner proposed to be shifted to new address at Puniab herein," said the plea, filed recently through advocate time for registration of backing rightful agenda of Modi: BJP National Bank, STC Lucknow Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar (opposite to Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital Neeraj Śhekhar.` Lucknow on 11.04.2021. new parties to 7 days

PNS NEW DELHI

reeping in view the prevail-King restrictions on account of Covid-19, the Election Commission (EC) on Tuesday reduced the public notice period for registering new political parties from 30 days to seven days in all the five poll-bound States. This relaxation will remain in force till March 19, the last date for filing nominations in Assam, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry, and till April 7 for West Bengal (the last date for filing nominations for the last phase in the State).

The order said a party seeking registration with the Commission has to submit an application within a period of 30 days following the date of its formation. According to officials, 60 to 70 political parties have approached the poll body in the past two-three months seeking registration.

As per the existing guidelines, the applicant association should publish the proposed name of the party in two national daily newspapers and two

local daily newspapers, on two days for submitting objections, if any, with regard to the proposed registration of the party within 30 days from such publication. The EC has announced general elections for the legislative Assemblies of West Bengal Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry on February 26. It has been brought to the notice of the EC that in view of the Covid pandemic situation, there was dislocation and delay in moving applications for registration, which in turn led to delay in registration as a political party. After considering all aspects of the matter, the Commission has given a relaxation by reducing the notice period from 30 days to 7 days for the parties who have published their public notice on or before February 26. For all parties, including those which have already published the public notice in less than 7 days prior to February 26, objection, if any, can be submitted latest by 5.30 p.m., on March 2 or by the end of the originally provided 30-day period, whichever is earlier.

CCTVs in offices of probe agencies: SC expresses displeasure over delay

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $T^{
m he}$ Supreme Court Tuesday expressed displeasure over the Centre for "dragging its feet" by seeking more time on the issue pertaining to installation of CCTV cameras in the offices of investigating agencies including CBI, ED and NIA.

A Bench headed by Justice RF Nariman, which observed that this issue concerns the rights of citizens, said it is not accepting theexcuses given in the letter filed by the Centre seeking adjournment in the matter. "We are getting a distinct impression that you are dragging your feet," the bench, also comprising Justices B R Gavai and Hrishikesh Roy, told Solicitor General Tushar

Mehta who was representing the Centre.

The apex court had on December 2 last year directed the Centre to install CCTV cameras and recording equipment at the offices of investigating agencies — the Central Bureau of Investigation, National Investigation

Agency, Enforcement Directorate, Narcotics Control Bureau, Department of Revenue Intelligence, Serious Fraud Investigation Office and any other agency which carries out interrogations and has the power of arrest.

PNS NEW DELHI

In the backdrop of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's full-time praise of 'dissident' Congress leader Gulam Nabi Azad, a compliment which the latter richly returned this week, the BJP on Tuesday expressed it's "sadness" over "Congress targeting" its stalwarts who are backing the "rightful agenda" of

BJP took a dig at the Congress amid a vocal dissent within the opposition party, saying its ideology is all about fulfilling the Gandhi family's "ambition", and anyone speaking against it or standing with the rightful agenda of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is cas-

BJP's national spokesperson Sambit Patra told a press conference here that the Congress will "castigate" anyone who wants democracy in the party, wants its president to be elected, speaks in favour of politics of development or stands with Modi's rightful agenda.

While stating that the G23, a reference to the group of 23 senior Congressmen pushing for an organisational overhaul in the party, is an internal matter of the opposition party, Patra said it is "saddening" to see senior leaders like Ghulam Nabi Azad and others being targeted.

The Congress is now all about four leaders, he alleged, referring to its president Sonia Gandhi, her son Rahul and daughter Priyanka Vadra —

both party general secretaries and Priyanka's husband Robert Vadra.

'Their only agenda is 'hate Modi'. It has grown to such an extent that Congress workers are protesting on the streets against their own leaders who have praised good works of Modi," he said answering a question.

Azad had praised Modi at an event -G-23 meet in Jammu on Saturday, saying he speaks frankly about his past as a teaseller and does not try to hide his background from the world.

Modi left everyone guessing, last month, while speaking in the Rajya Sabha in the last session of the Parliament as he went on praising the retiring

NIA takes up WB railway station bomb blast case

PNS NEW DELHI

 $T^{
m he\ NIA\ has\ taken\ up\ investigation\ of\ bomb\ blast\ at}$ Nimita Railway Station, Murshidabad, West Bengal after re-registering the case originally registered by the State police.

The bomb explosion at Nimita Railway Station in Murshidabad had caused serious injuries to 22 people including Jakir Hossain, Minister of State for Labour, West Bengal Government.

The case was initially registered as FIR No. 05/21 dated February 17, 2021 under various Indian Penal Code Sections and the Explosive Substance Act against unknown miscreants at Azimgani GRP PS, Azimganj Murshidabad on the statement of Md. Allarakha.

"The NIA re-registered the case as RC-04/2021/NIA/DLI and has taken over the investigation today. Investigation



NIA said in a statement.

Meanwhile, the NIA registered a case related to conspiracy by terrorist organisation, Lashker-e-Mustafa, a frontal outfit of JeM. The case relates to conspir-

acy by frontal terror organiza-tion Lashkar-e-Mustafa working at the behest of proscribed terrorist organisation Jaish-e-Mohammed to carry out terrorist activities in Jammu area with the aim of threatening the sovereignty, integrity and secu-

The case was initially registered as FIR number 16/2021 of Gangyal Police station, Jammu on February 6, 2021 under section 18, 20 of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. The NIA has re-registered this case as RC-01/2021/NIA/JMU on March 2, 2021 and has taken over the investigation.

The arrested accused Hidayat-ullah Malik is the chief of Lashker-e-Mustafa. During searches, one hand grenade, three magazines and 28 rounds with other incriminating material were recovered from his possession, it said. Hidayat-ullah Malik had done reconnaissance of many security installations in Jammu and Delhi in 2018 and 2019 for carrying out terror attacks.

He has been associated with other terror groups in past and has furthered subversive and terror activities in Kashmir

WHEAT UNDER OMSS (D) FOR THE PERIOD STARTING FROM 05/03/2021 TO 31/03/2021

Food Corporation of India UP Region invites bids from empanelled traders/bulk consumers for sale of Wheat under OMSS (D) lying at various Depot of FCI/SWS/CWC under FCI divisions, of UP Region on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS". The empanelled parties may participate in the tender through E-auction by using login-id and password provided to them by M/s mjunction service Ltd. Schedule of Tenders through E-auction/Depot-wise offered quantity of wheat as well as MTF is available on http://www.fci.gov.in and http://www.valuejunction.in/fci Empanelment of bulk consumers and traders is a continuous process. Interested bidders may contact help desk provide by M/s miunction on Toll Free No. 18001027136 for empanelmen and bidding through e-auction. **GENERAL MANAGER (REGION)**

T.C./3V. Vibhuti Khand, Gomati Nagar, Lucknow-226 010 (U.P.)

Phone No.: 0522-4914232, 4914229, Fax No.: 0522-4914232, 4914264

E-mail Id: agmcommlup.fci@nic.in, agmcrup.fci@nic.in

NOTICE INVITING FINANCIAL BIDS FOR SALE OF

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, SOUTHERN (R&B) CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR

Phone:0680-2281582, e-mail: sescpwd@yahoo.co.in 1s t Corrigendum to Bid Identification No, SE, SC (R&B)-BAM-10/2020-21 vide Office Order No. 336 did. 10.02.2021 No. 486 // Date. 24.2.2021

The following modifications have been made in the Bid identification No. SE, SC (R&B)-BAM

Avalabilety of Bid document in the website: From 15.03.202i, 10.00 AM to 31.33.20Z1, 4.00 PM instead of 26.02,2021 10=00 AM to 15.03.2021 4.03 PM Bid shell be received only online upto 4.00 PM on 31,02.2021 instead of 4.00 PM on 15.03 2021

Date of Opening of Bid : 03.04.2021 at 11.30 A.M instead 16.03.2021 at 11.30 A.M All other terms and conditions of the DTCN shall remain unchanged. Superintending Engineer Southern(R&B) Circle, Berhampur OIPR-34103/11/0012/2021

B-788 OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, JEYPORE (R&B) CIRCLE, JEYPORE INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)

Bid Identification No. S.E.J.C (R&B)- 19/2020-21

BUILDING WORKS

03 (Three) Nos. Rs. 351.78 Lakhs to 389.07 Lakhs

09(Nine) Months to 10(Ten)Months Rs. 10,000/- Each "A", & 'Special' Class

7. Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal: From 10.00 hours of 08.03.2021 17.00 hours of 22.03.2021

17.00 hours of 22.03.2021 10.00 hours of 23.03.2021

Superintending Engineer Jeypore (R&B) Circle, Jeypore

tal https://tendersodisha.gov.in

Superintending Engineer Jeypore (R&B) Circle, Jeypore

OIPR-34108/11/0016/2021

8. Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the Portal;

10. Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid:

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-PAPER WITH PASSION—

Scorcher ahead!

Climate change is real; not acknowledging it is not going to protect us from the inevitable

If the rising temperatures in the last few days of February and an unusually hot March are bothering you, it is because most of the northern, western and eastern parts of India breached the 30°C-mark nearly two to three weeks before they usually do. In fact, the country needs to brace for a hotter-than-usual summer this year as the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast that day temperatures are likely to be 0.86°C higher than normal in the north, northeast, parts of east and west India between March and May. The worst impact is likely in Odisha and Chhattisgarh, where the maximum temperatures will deviate 0.86°C from their usual averages. Last week, Bhubaneswar was the first region to record 40°C anywhere in the country this year and Delhi, Himachal Pradesh.



Haryana and Uttar Pradesh should brace for summer temperatures anywhere from 0.46°C to 0.71°C above normal. The IMD last month had said the minimum temperature recorded in the country in January was the warmest for the month in 62 years, with South India being particularly warm. It is not surprising that we experienced a shorter winter and are getting warnings of a sizzling summer ahead as, according to a Government report on current climate change impacts and future scenarios till the end of the century, India needs to control greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions on a war footing. The failure to do so will mean major heatwaves, droughts, cloudbursts, floods and a more

degraded coastline, says a report by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM).

Worryingly, India's average temperature rose by around 0.7°C during 1901–2018 and, unless urgent steps are taken to control GHG emissions between 2070 and 2099 average, the temperature will rise by approximately 4.4°C relative to the recent past (1976–2005) average). The high GHG emissions would increase the heat on Earth's surface by 8.5 watts per square metre. Called RCP8.5, this is the worst-case scenario used by climate modellers worldwide. In a medium GHG emissions scenario, called RCP4.5, the average temperature in India would rise by 2.7°C in the last 30 years of this century. Before that, during 2040-2069, India's average temperature would rise by 2°C in a medium emissions scenario, and by 2.4°C in a high emissions scenario. Despite all nations making pledges under the 2015 Paris climate agreement, current emissions are taking the world to the worst-case scenario, though other development pathways are not only available but economically more attractive in the medium and long term. So, the only option before us is to go green, else we will perish because we are already feeling the effects of a planet that has been pushed to breaking point. The most recent examples of this are the Chamoli tragedy in Uttarakhand and the "Big freeze" in Texas. It is the collective responsibility of the peoples, every business and every industry on the planet to fight climate change so that we leave a greener, cleaner world for our children and not a dying planet.



Mount Sinabung spews volcanic material during an eruption in Karo, North Sumatra, Indonesia, on Tuesday

The right path

Modi's plans and policies speak volumes about his intention to empower the 'real' farmers at the grassroots

housands of farmers in India die by suicide every year as they see no option to get out of the debt trap. The poor and marginal farmers depend upon loans for purchasing seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, irrigation and even harvesting. Most of these growers find it more convenient to borrow at heavy interest rates from moneylenders or big cultivators rather than from banks, thanks to the cumbersome paperwork and the



broker-bank officials' nexus. However, these deaths, as recorded by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), fail to shake the collective conscience of society and are just another figure for most of us. Ironically, there is no outcry, no borders are sealed, no tractor rallies organised, no national monuments sieged, no violence. This is because these deaths don't affect the interests of the politically connected and powerful "arhatiya" community that drives the Agricultural Produce Marketing Community (APMC) in Punjab, Haryana and parts of Western Uttar Pradesh. This strong community is at loggerheads with the Government over three new agri laws for shielding its own interests. Prime Minister Narendra Modi recent-

ly endorsed the provisions made for the agriculture sector in Budget 2021-22 and reit-

erated that the Government is working for small and medium-level farmers. One might argue that Modi is not concerned about the farmers camping at Delhi's borders and project him as "anti-farmer" and "pro-corporate", but his plans and policies speak volumes about his intention to empower the "real" farmers at the grassroots. The Prime Minister has said that India needs to expand its agriculture sector to the global market for processed food. He also emphasised that the number of agro-industry clusters near villages should be increased so that the rural populace gets farm-related employment in the vicinity. It is indeed a plan that will likely empower the marginal and small farmers. If the Government succeeds in providing market access to these farmers (small and marginal) beyond *mandis*, it would prove to be a milestone. Further, the Government has increased the agriculture credit target to ₹16.50 lakh crore and infrastructure fund to ₹40,000 crore, besides doubling the micro-irrigation fund. All this proves that the Government is striving to bring systemic changes in the agriculture sector with the focus on empowering the "have-nots" among the farmers. We also would like to see the real farmers get empowered and not the ones with enough resources and money to camp at Delhi's borders for months and hold the Government to ransom.

The Internationale: Kumbh of protests



The agrarian issue is being politicised by media magicians but, for the farmers, it's a question of livelihood and existence

reen mango flowers are now bursting and kites dance in the sky while bright yellow, purple flowers bloom one last time and farmers in Tihar Jail, New Delhi, welcome a silent spring. The warm air rustles the yellow plastic tents at the Ghazipur Border, flowing from AH2 to the Tikri Border, announcing a new season and the next phase of the Farmers' Revolution begins.

It's been over a month since farmer leader Rakesh Tikait's tears galvanised the farmers from Uttar Pradesh (UP) to Rajasthan and much has happened over the spring — Basant Ritu — since then. Lakhs of devotees have cleansed themselves taking dips in the holy Ganga from Haridwar to Prayagraj, Prime Minister Narendra Modi may have shed expiatory tears as he reassured his followers that the three farm laws are good for farmers and for business. But the farmers of the world are not convinced.

Recently, major US-based farmer groups like Agrarian Trust, National Farmers Union and 87 other organisations have started an international movement expressing solidarity with the farmers' revolution. Over 50 Canadian organisations have also extended support. They have been exerting pressure on their public representatives too to end this "injustice". Their criticism comes from having suffered due to the market-led agricultural policies since the 1960s in the US. This is no longer an "international conspiracy" or "attack on India's sovereignty" or "sedition" perpetrated by "international media celebrities like Rihanna or Greta" but a moment of true global solidarity beyond race and religion.

Foreclosures and debt have destroyed millions of US farm families. Suicides and despondency plague rural America while Big Ag grows. It's not only the older generation but young farmer leaders like Severine Fleming who have supported the farmers' revolution. All, save for the corporate media, see the invisible hand behind these



THE FARMERS

REVOLUTION IS

GETTING READY

FOR THE HOT

led the Big Ag to India's doors and sacrificed Indian farmers for agri-dollars.

India farmers are jubilant about the US support but, as the harvest season nears, some of them are now returning with the stories of their struggles and indignation to their villages to work the fields, while others farmers are on the road to Delhi's borders. In Haryana, media reports indicate, hundreds of villages have pledged to send one person from each house to join the revolution. The farmers' revolution is getting ready for the hot summer. Although the Modi Government's version occupies the media discourse, the farmers may have outwitted the Government once again. How? With the help of the

returning farmers, their unions and leaders have now expanded their base far beyond Delhi's borders. YouTube videos and independent vernacular citizen journalists have spread each update across the country. The tune of Farmer Revolution's Haryanavi anthem — "Modi ji hum Dilli aage" — now sways young and old farmers from Bengal to Rajasthan.

From Ganganagar to Kerala, the farmer unions have that the movement has reached a mature stage, it will spread even faster. Even the Government is finding it hard to call them "a handful of farmers" as it did in early January. Now the discourse has become "crowds don't get the work done". The movement today represents not just farmers but all those who work the land — migrant workers, labourers, urban *mandi* workers and the traders. This is a

united rural India resisting a

corporate auction. Meanwhile,

SUMMER. the Government has unleashed the biggest round of privatisation of public assets ALTHOUGH THE MODI since Yeltsin's Russia. No one knows why fuel **GOVERNMENT'S** prices have skyrocketed. Why **VERSION OCCUPIES** taxes and cess keep increasing, squeezing the middle THE MEDIA class, and yet arterial roads of DISCOURSE. THE Delhi have potholes? The fuel prices directly impact farmers' input costs and offset the FARMERS MAY HAVE OUTWITTED MSP calculations. India is THE GOVERNMENT being rigged for food infla-ONCE AGAIN vastly outperforms against the highly subsidised imports

> The agricultural bubble is soon going to burst; the collateral will be rural India and millions of lives. History

from countries like the US.

will repeat itself as from its ashes shall emerge a new class of neo-zamindars that shall profit from each morsel. The US is a fine example of this, where four corporations control over 80 per cent of the food and about 50 per cent of all produce is wasted!

The Modi Government needs to correct course by abandoning the laws and making a fresh start with farmers, for their movement is no longer an Indian affair or internal matter as the External Affairs Ministry is already involved in this diplomatic issue.

We as a nation should remember that India loses face in the world only because democracy dies at home. This is an agrarian issue that is being politicised by media magicians, swaying public opinion inciting more hate in society. But for the farmers, at home and abroad, it's a question of livelihood and existence. We need to stand in solidarity because it's a fight tion. Indian agri produce for the survival of our soul and roti, together.

> (The author writes on agriculture and environment, and is a former Director -Policy and Outreach, National Seed Association of India. The views expressed are personal.)

ITERS TO THE EDITOR

CONGRESS MUST BOUNCE BACK FAST

Sir — It is said that the BJP is afraid of losing a State and the Congress is shy of winning one. It does not matter for the BJP how big or small the State is, it just wants to form a Government there.

Though it had a minuscule presence in Puducherry, the astute power game of the BJP ensured its indirect control over the Union Territory (UT). Assam, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal and Puducherry are going to polls shortly, and the party has a stake in each State. But what about the Congress? The Congress' grip over the States is loosening each passing day.

For the Congress, the intention to go all the way and the determination to win appears to be missing. That the Congress is enjoying power in only three States is an unmistakable sign of decay and degeneration in the party. Of the three, the wind may change direction in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh anytime. So, what's the party left with? When a party is reluctant to learn even after repeated drubbings, nothing can infuse hope among the people in the party's future.

Despite top leaders saying "enough is enough", nothing has been done to revive the party. The flip-flops over Rahul Gandhi assuming the party presidentship should end. Either he should assume party presidentship or leave politics. Even at the cost of some leaders leaving the party, the Congress must resolve its issues soon. Ganapathi Bhat | Akola

FULL SPEED AHEAD WITH INOCULATION

Sir — This refers to the editorial 'Taming the virus' (March 2). By taking the jab, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given a promising impetus to the pace of vaccination in the second phase. This phase of vaccination for senior citizens and those above 45 with comorbidities is expected to witness a good footfall or inoculation rate.

So far, the drive hasn't matched up to India's immense population challenge but the opening of centres at private hospitals and flexible options for registration can give it a big boost. All Chief Ministers,

Make the cyber system robust



he Maharashtra cyber department has submitted a provisional report to the State Government on the recent massive grid failure. If the massive power outage in Mumbai in October last year is the result of a Chinese cyber campaign against India, it should be a cause of concern for the Indian Government. If it is true, it means none of our establishments, including the Defence Research and Development Organisation and other institutions

related to national security, are safe from malware attacks by foreign forces. A cyber threat is looming large on India's

security and the Government needs to counter it effectively. According to unverified sources, the 100-page report confirms that a malware attack was behind the blackout and about 14 Trojan Horses and eight GB of unaccounted data was found in the system installed at the Maharashtra State Electricity Board.

An American firm has said that the Chinese could have introduced the malware. The State Government, however, did not want to confirm which country was behind the possible malware in the system as it felt there could be far-reaching international ramifications. However, it's time for the Centre and State Governments to think about and act upon it. Our Government must devise a robust system which is not to be breached by the hostile foreign nations. India must be prepared for cyber war.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

Union and State Ministers and Opposition leaders must follow suit so as to encourage others for inoculation. Not only politicians but also bureaucrats and elebrities must take the jab.

Since February 13, India's seven-day rolling average of daily COVID infections has shown a steady surge, signalling a fresh need to ramp up the campaign. India's vaccination strategy is closely intertwined to its economic fortunes. A GDP contraction of eight per cent in 2020-21 requires a big bounce-back in the new year. But the restrictions on interstate movement in response to February's COVID surge are symptomatic of persisting jitters.

N Sadhasiva Reddy | Bengaluru

STOP HARASSING WOMEN FOR DOWRY

Sir — India has an alarming trend of dowry deaths, harassment and domestic violence, and yet society is indifferent towards it. It was heart-wrenching to watch a video on the social media in which a girl in Gujarat

committed suicide. She recorded a video message and then jumped into a river. She was allegedly facing harassment from her husband since their marriage in 2018.

A case of abetment to suicide has been lodged against the husband. Her story is similar to the plight of lakhs of women who face harassment on a daily basis either in office spaces or inside their homes.

Despite several NGOs championing the cause of women rights, strict laws for crime against women, special courts and women-only branches in police, nothing seems to have changed on the ground. Women are still vulnerable and are subjected to various sorts of atrocities by their relatives. Even the religious organisations, which keep crying foul over one or the other issue, keep silent over women's issues until it is related to religious tenets. Asim Sohail | Bihar

> Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

The Budget that the Madhya Pradesh Government presented today is a pack of lies. It is directionless, hopeless and just a maze of data.





make efforts to adopt a new Constitution in October of this year by a national referendum, and transition to a

one of the possible options Armenian Prime Minister

- Nikol Pashinyan

semi-presidential system should be

Another day another FIR, yesterday Javed chacha with help of Maharashtra Government got a war-



— Kangana Ranau

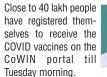


I want to play for West Indies'. That's where my heart is. I'm never going to turn down anything pertaining to West Indies cricket at

Cricketer

this particular time.

— Chris Gayle



Union Health Minister — Harsh Vardhan

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CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

We still have a narrow window for vaccinating most people amid the falling number of new infections



RAJINDER **DHAMIJA**

year ago the Coronavirus made its entry into the country. Since then, we have come a long way from the hard lockdown beginning in March-end to the second phase of the vaccine rollout which started from Monday with Prime Minister Narendra Modi taking a shot. By opting for the ICMR vaccine, he sent a clear signal that our indigenous vaccines are safe. Right now we are at a crucial stage of the pandemic's trajectory as we still have a narrow window for vaccinating the maximum number of people amid the falling number of new infections in most parts of India. This is the time to focus on mitigation with no scope for complacency. The pandemic is not over until it is actually over in all States and the virus does not have an adequate number of susceptible individuals to infect and survive. We need to chase the virus aggressively rather than the contagion chasing us.



It has been a sort of partial success so far as we have managed to keep infections as well as mortality rates low as compared to many countries in the West with a better infrastructure and capacity to contain and mitigate the virus. However, still more needs to be done as we enter into the next stage of the trajectory with an upsurge in cases in Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Gujarat and looming signs of increasing numbers in Delhi. Vaccine hesitancy remains an issue, with half of the eligible people coming forward for the inoculation. This is a universal phenomenon seen across the globe. Much of this is due to misinformation on social media and the tendency of many individuals to wait and watch. This needs to be aggressively countered and the State has made all efforts to quell this phenomenon. This all-out effort by the Government needs to continue in order to accelerate the vaccination drive which can gain momentum if more vaccines are made available to the public and in the open market so that everyone can get the jab on demand both through the public as well as private healthcare system.

The second strategy should be to continue mass-scale RT-PCR testing. There is no reason to scale down testing as we have seen lately in many States because that can be disastrous, especially with new mutant variants of the virus making entry into our cities. These variants will be seen in India as it is difficult to stop the transmission in view of relaxation of movement in an era of necessary international travel. More genomic sequencing would perhaps help us in early detection of these new variants arriving in the country and within India. We need to prepare for the inevitable and the focus should remain on both COVID-appropriate behaviour as well as vaccinating the masses.

Third, we need to create resilient district health systems. A weak link in most States is the poor status of district hospitals. In contrast to the prevailing political and bureaucratic response with focus on hardware (beds, ventilators, oxygen, and so on) in healthcare facilities, we should also focus on software development (capacity building and better-quality health workers) which is more important. The current pandemic provides us opportunity and finances to influence politicians and bureaucrats to build resilient and responsive health systems at both primary and secondary healthcare centres in States. Since health is a State subject, a collaborative and collective effort both by States and the Centre should be made to augment these district hospitals. Excellence in secondary healthcare is crucial and well-placed, well-funded, well-staffed and well-equipped district hospitals should be developed as the most important component of the healthcare chain to respond to future outbreaks. We have the opportunity to create a resilient secondary district healthcare system that is responsive to the needs of the public with focus on preventive, promotive, curative and restorative patient care.

(The writer is Head of Neurology Department, Lady Hardinge Medical College and SSK Hospital, New Delhi.

A less talked about crime against women



Witch-hunting is used as a tool to subjugate women and there will always be a new reason to brand a woman a witch in the hinterlands of India

Tcan never forget the night when the entire village, including women, armed with weapons came to attack a helpless woman on the suspicion of being a witch. I would also have been killed with her had I not called the police, recalls 72-year-old Birubala Rabha, a victim-turned-crusader from Assam's Goalpara district, referring to a ghastly incident that took place in a small vil-

lage on the Assam-Meghalaya border in 2007.
This year the primary school-educated Rabha was the recipient of the Padma Shri, India's highest civilian award for her crusade against witchhunting. The award was a much-deserved pan-India recognition of her work. Rabha, ostracised and branded as a witch, devoted her life for the cause of other women like her, and, through her organisation Mission Birubala, has been the force behind the State's law to check the practice of witch-hunting in Assam.

There is no dearth of women like Rabha in Assam, who came close to death or got killed, as more than two-thirds of its districts reported incidents of witch-hunting. As per the State Government's records, 107 people, mostly women, got killed between 2011-2019. Locally, even a village on the Assam-Meghalaya border, is called "dainigaon (village of the witches)", where many

ostracised women live in isolation.
"In rural hinterlands, a *Deodhani*, *Bez* or an *Ojha* (people who allegedly specialise in healing, casting out unclean spirits and telling fortunes) wields tremendous influence. They often target a widow, a single or a guardian-less woman.....with little or no formal education and label her a witch, when they are clueless about a malaise. Many poor people fall into their clutches, not solely out of superstitious belief, but also because of their inability to pay for a qualified doctor", says a 2014 field report from the districts of Goalpara and Sonitpur, conducted by the Partners for Law in Development (PLD), a Delhi-based legal resource group.
Rightly, Rabha in her 'Manuhe Manuhor Babe'

campaign, cautions gullible villagers against falling prey to such quacks who are nothing but "money-making racketeers exploiting people's ignorance."

The PLD's field study in Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand and Chattisgarh, also reveals that "women are more often targeted for material motives." Dibyajyoti Saikia, a human rights activist, who leads a Guwahati-based organisation, Brothers, feels that "individual factors like personal rivalry, jealousy, conspiracy come into play in such targeting in semi-urban and rural areas." Mamani Saikia, district co-ordinator, Goalpara, further explains that "in calculated attacks, gender relationship determines the selection of gets, often driven by ulterior interests like grabbing a property or for sexual exploitation, whereas, in surprise attacks, which are more violent in nature, the goal is supposedly to eliminate an evil."

Dalit and marginalised women are doubly prone to such attacks because of systemic patri-archy and also because of their social identity. However, Natyabir Das, a medical practitioner and a co-ordinator of Mission Birubala, says: "Though women as victims are more in number but in recent times, men are also facing such accusations."

officer and a media The views expressed are personal. Now, as per the National Crime Records



AS INCIDENTS OF WOMEN BEARING THE **BRUNT OF PERSONAL** VENDETTA AND UNFOUNDED SMEAR CAMPAIGNS CONTINUE TO POUR IN FROM MANY PARTS OF INDIA, THE ISSUE OF WITCH-HUNTING **DESERVES GREATER** ATTENTION NOT ONLY FROM THE LEGAL POINT OF VIEW BUT FROM A WIDER SOCIO-ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE



Bureau, more than 2,500 people, mostly women, got killed in such incidents between 2000-2016, while many believe that the number is much higher, as most States don't list witchcraft as a motive for murder.

Nevertheless, some States like Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Rajasthan, Assam, Maharashtra and Karnataka have framed anti-witchcraft Acts. Commenting on the existing Tonahi Pratadna Nivaran Act, 2005, Chhattisgarh, Dinesh Sharma, a doctor-turned-activist and founder of Andhshraddha Nirmoolan Samitee, rues that "hundreds of cases are pending under the Act. Many victims have died and without fast-track courts, the purpose of the Act is somewhat defeated.

Moreover, in such incidents of organised community violence, the law cannot overlook the complicity and accountability of a village sarpanch or a kotwal."

Association for Social and Human Awareness, Ranchi, Iharkhand, echoes similar sentiments. He says: "Though more than 1,300 women were killed since 2000 in the State, there's no official data available under the Prevention of Witch (DAAIN) Practices Act, 2001. Some cases get registered under the IPC and only one or two get convicted, while almost the entire village is responsible for such killings."

Assam's new Act, notified in 2018, has been feted as India's or special Acts, vests enormous

toughest anti-witch-hunting law, which makes any offence under it non-bailable, cognisable and noncompoundable.

However, the State's ADGP, LR Bishnoi, highlighted that the wider scope of legal protection included in the Act with the setting up of special courts and addition of new offences related to targeting, humiliation and ostracism, and so on are hitherto not part of the IPC.

Dibyajyoti Saikia opines that "the Act is yet to make any visible impact.... and the police still have a tendency to settle cases through a compromise." Natyabir Das says that agencies like the ASTEC (Assam Science Technology and Environment Council) have been chipping in through awareness drives, but admits that "a thorough training of police officials is required." Executive Director, PLD, Madhu Mehra, states that the Assam Act is definitely an improvement, Ajay Agarwal, Secretary, more like the Rajasthan Act. But, unlike Rajasthan, the State is yet to frame rules regarding compensation and rehabilitation.

Manisha Behal, Executive Director, North East Network, a Guwahati-based women's rights organisation, also laments that the menace could have been better tackled on the ground by the frontline workers had the rules been in

Many activists point out that the existing legal regime, be it the IPC power with the police, who are often found to be wanting in their preventive and protective role, particularly when the victim is poor or a

Thus such Acts remain merely as pieces of paper failing to make any dent in the impunity attached to the practice. The legal vacuum for compensation of losses due to social ostracisation, forced displacement, or deprivation in livelihood opportunities is another drawback. Mehra, however, is sceptical about the actual realisation of compensation even if such a provision gets legal backing as the process of conviction is a long-drawn affair, with the accused mostly being as poor as the

Many activists vouch for sociolegal measures like dialogue and awareness creation to help people distinguish between what is a socially permissible act and a crime. Some also voice the need for a central legislation reviving the Prevention of Witch-Hunting Bill, introduced in the Lok Sabha in 2016.

Witch-hunting is used as a tool to subjugate women and there will always be a new reason to brand a woman as a witch. As incidents of women bearing the brunt of personal vendetta and unfounded smear campaigns continue to pour in from many parts of India, the issue of witch-hunting deserves greater attention not only from the legal point of view but from a wider socio-economic perspective.

NT**COUNTER**POINT

TIE-UP WITH THE ISF MILITATES AGAINST THE CORE IDEOLOGY AND GANDHIAN SECULARISM, WHICH FORMS THE SOUL OF THE CONGRESS. —CONGRESS LEADER **ANAND SHARMA**





WE ARE IN CHARGE OF A STATE AND DON'T TAKE ANY DECISION ON OUR OWN WITHOUT ANY PERMISSION. —BENGAL CONGRESS CHIEF **ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY**

Don't treat Puducherry differently from the rest of India

The writer is a retired Indian Information Service

Do nominated members in other State legislatures, Union Territories and in Parliament, too, enjoy voting rights during a trust vote?

xpressio unius est exclusio alterius (expression of ✓one subject, object or idea is the exclusion of other subjects, objects or ideas)", is a maxim in Latin, which is heard quite frequently in law classes as well as in courtrooms. It finds application in the construction of Constitutions, statutes and similar instruments. This phrase came to mind after watching the proceedings in Puducherry that led to the fall of the V Narayanasamy-led Congress Government last week.

The resignation of Narayanasamy as the Chief Minister (CM) has not surprised any of the political observers. The only question being asked by them is why did it take four years for Narayanasamy to quit his post.

Though the BJP is accused of political manipulation, encouraging defections from



The views expressed are personal.)

"Why did the Congress high command appoint Narayanasamy, who had not contested the 2016 Assembly election as CM, superseding many party heavyweights in the Union Territory?" wonders Kolahala Srenivasan, political chronicler of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. "There were seasoned leaders like former CM Vaithilingam and A Namasivayam who were in

the running for the top post,"

the ruling party to topple the

Government and MK Stalin,

The writer is a

the president of the DMK, is accused of murdering democracy, the fact is that the fall of the Congress Government was bound to happen from the day Narayanasamy was sworn in in

says Srenivasan. Narayanasamy, the allpowerful Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office The nomination of three (PMO) during the United

Progressive Alliance (UPA) regime under Manmohan Singh, had been defeated in the Lok Sabha election held in 2014. Sources say that the interests of other Congress leaders were overlooked by the party high command while appointing him. Apparently, there was strong discontent-ment among the Congress MLAs when he was handpicked by the party president. The appointment of Kiran Bedi, the former super cop of Delhi as the Lieutenant Governor (L-G) of the Union Territory (UT), was like opening another war front by the BJP. Consequently, the running battle between the CM and the L-G hogged the limelight in the last four years. This style of functioning of the L-G was a new experience for the population of the UT and naturally, Narayanasamy got annoyed!



Union Home Ministry was also on expected lines. But the nominated legislators getting a chance to cast their votes in the trust vote held on Monday has to be explained by the BJP's national leadership.

What sealed Narayanasamy's fate was the resignations Lakshminarayanan, MLA and former Minister who was also the Parliamentary Secretary to the CM and that of D Venkatesan, an MLA belonging to the DMK. These resignations happened 24 hours before

trust

Lakshminarayanan had been complaining since 2016 that the party was not recognising his seniority and experience. He was hurt when he was overlooked by Narayanasamy when Speaker Vaithilingam resigned to contest the 2019 Lok Sabha poll and appointed first-time MLA Sivakozhunthu as the

presiding officer of the House.

The resignation of John Kumar from the House, too, speaks about the discontentment that had set in. John Kumar was elected as an MLA in 2016 but resigned his seat to facilitate the election of Narayanasamy to the House. Though John Kumar was elected subsequently to the House in 2019, he too fell out with Narayanasamy eventually.
Though Venkatesan, the

DMK MLA, announced his resignation from the House well in advance, the party leadership in Tamil Nadu kept

silent over the issue. Despite the declaration by Venkatesan that he quit from the House with the concurrence of his party leader (MK Stalin), the DMK did not do anything till Tuesday to buy peace with him. It was on Tuesday that the party's general secretary Durai Murugan announced the removal of Venkatesan from all official posts in the party.

Last month saw Stalin deputing party MP and moneybags Jagathrakshakan to rejuvenate the DMK in the ÚT. 'This gave rise to many doubts in the minds of the Congress and DMK leaders in Puducherry. What we saw during the last two days was the impact of this decision," said Srenivasan.

The question why Jagatrakshakan was sent to Puducherry at this juncture remains unanswered. Narayanasamy did not include

in the Government and this resulted in a lot of heartburn. Though the Congress and

his alliance partner, the DMK,

the DMK challenged the L-G's nomination of three BJP leaders to the Assembly, the apex court upheld her act. But how the nominated members were allowed to cast their votes in the Assembly reminds one of the Latin maxim "expresso unius..."

Do nominated members in State legislatures, other UTs and in Parliament, too, enjoy voting rights. There cannot be one rule for Puducherry and another for the rest of the country. Let's have the same rules for the whole country. This was what Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared when Parliament abrogated Article 370: "Now people in Jammu and Kashmir enjoy the same status as that of the rest of the Indians." People of Puducherry, too, should get the same status. Shouldn't they?

LUCKNOW | WEDNESDAY | MARCH 3, 2021

Govt nets ₹77,815 cr in spectrum auction

JIO TOP BUYER WITH RS 57,122 CR

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Jio cornered more than half of the telecom spectrum auctioned by the government over the past two days, offering about Rs 57,123 crore to consolidate its holding of the scarce resource that are used to carry mobile call and data signals.

Telecom giant Bharti Airtel bid Rs 18,699 crore to pick up 355.45 megahertz (MHz) out of the 855.60 MHz of radiofrequency, giving it "most formidable" spectrum holding in the country.

Vodafone Idea Ltd, which is facing a huge liability of unpaid statutory dues of past, bought spectrum worth Rs 1,993.40 crore, Telecom Secretary Anshu Prakash told reporters here.

In all, some 60 per cent of the spectrum offered was sold, according to Prakash, who said the bids came at the

floor price -- or minimum radio frequencies allocated to price that was acceptable to the government. In the first auction of radio airwaves in five years, the government offered 2,308.80 MHz of spectrum in seven bands, at a reserve price of nearly Rs 4 lakh crore. However, airwayes in the premium 700 MHz and 2,500 MHz bands went unsold.

The telecom secretary said 855.60 MHz of spectrum was bought for Rs 77,814.80 crore

in the two-day auction. Spectrum refers to the

the mobile industry and other sectors for communication over the airwaves. This includes FM or AM radio broadcasts and even other wireless forms of communication like Bluetooth and Wi-Fi. Mobile phones also use

these same radio waves to transmit voice calls and data. These frequencies come in different bands, supporting specific technologies as well as governing speed of transmis-

Spectrum acquired in 5 circles to boost 4G coverage, capacity: Vodafone Idea

acquired by it in five circles will help boost 4G coverage and capacity, enabling the company to offer "superior digital experience" for its cus-

In a statement issued after the conclusion of the spectrum auctions on Tuesday,

New Delhi: Telecom operator
Vodafone Idea Ltd (VIL) on
Vodafone Idea Ltd (VIL) on
Vodafone Idea Ltd (VIL) on Tuesday said spectrum trum holding post-merger to create further efficiencies in

With the telecom industry gearing up for 5G play, VIL hoped that large quantum of spectrum in globally harmonised bands would be made available for all operators in the future at fair prices.

326.65

390.60

345.70

393.95

Sensex rises for 2nd day on gains in IT, | India's fuel demand auto shares, reclaims 50,000-level

PTI ■ MUMBAI

 $B_{\text{spurted by 447 points to}}^{\text{enchmark BSE Sensex}}$ close above the psychological 50,000-mark on Tuesday following hectic buying in auto and IT counters amid positive domestic and global cues.

The 30-share index swung nearly 633 points during the session before ending at 50,296.89, showing a rise of 447.05 points or 0.90 per cent.

Likewise, the NSE Nifty climbed 157.55 points or 1.07 per cent to settle at 14,919.10, extending gains to a second

Among Sensex stocks, Mahindra & Mahindra was lead gainer rising by 4.98 per cent. NTPC rose by 3.83 per cent, Bajaj Auto by 3.53 per cent, and Tech Mahindra by 3.44 per cent. TCS, Maruti, Infosys, HCL Tech, Nestle and Bharti Airtel were among the

On the other hand ONGC, HDFC, Dr Reddy's, PowerGrid and SBI suffered

Of the Sensex constituents, 25 shares ended with gains.

Sectorally, BSE auto surged the most with 3.18 per

cent gains, followed by IT (2.85 per cent), teck (2.84 per cent) and industrials (2.20 per cent). All the 19 sectoral indices closed in the green.

Broader smallcap, midcap and largecap indices too rallied 1.60 per cent, 1.55 per cent and 1.11 per cent, respectively - outperforming the benchmark.

Analysts said investor sentiment remained upbeat due to encouraging

Gold tumbles ₹679, silver crashes ₹1,847

New Delhi: The Gold prices on Tuesday tumbled ₹679 to ₹44,760 per 10 grams in the national capital, due to bleak international market trend and rupee appreciation, according to HDFC Securities. The precious metal had closed at ₹45,439 per 10 grams in the previous close.Silver also crashed by ₹ 1,847 to ₹67,073 per kg from the closing of ₹68,920 per kg in the previous day trade.

tinued buying in auto stocks with IT sector also being a major contributor in the rally".

GDP numbers for the third

Vinod Nair, Head of

quarter as well as returning of

calmness in global bond mar-

kets after the last week's tur-

Research at Geojit Financial

Services said, "An improved

outlook post-February auto

sales numbers resulted in con-

Rupee rises by 18 paise to 73.37

Mumbai: The rupee rose by 18 paise to close at 73.37 against the US dollar on Tuesday, ending its three-day losing streak on the back of gains in domestic equities amid improving risk appetite.

Dollar demand eased after a pullback in crude oil and bond yields which supported the rupee sentiment, analysts said. At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened at 73.32 against the greenback and witnessed an intra-day high of 73.31 and a low of 73.48.

February 2020-21 were USD 255.92 billion, compared with USD 291.87 billion during the same period of last year, exhibiting a negative growth of 12.32 per cent.

to rebound in 2021-22 with 10% growth

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's fuel consumption is likely to rise nearly 10 per cent in the fiscal year beginning April 1, as a reflating economy drives petrol and diesel demand, according to Oil Ministry's projections.

Petroleum product consumption in 2021-22 could hit 215.24 million tonnes, compared to the revised estimate of 195.94 million tonnes consumption of the current fiscal year ending March 31, the ministry's Petroleum Planning

and Analysis Cell (PPAC) said. This will be the fastest pace of fuel product consumption in

As the economy rebounds from its worst contraction on record and industrial activity picks up, fuel consumption is projected to rise.

An over two-month-long lockdown imposed to curb the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic had shrunk demand to less than half as most vehicles went off roads, trains stopped plying and airlines halted operations.

The reopening of the economy has brought demand back but diesel - the most consumed fuel in the country - is yet to reach pre-pandemic lev-

Indian mobile retailers' body slams Amazon, phone vendors

IANS NEW DELHI

The All India Mobile Retailers Association (AIMRA) has written a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, stressing that Amazon's operations in India should be suspended until a probe into the company is done.

AIMRA, a trade union that represents more than 1.5 lakh mobilephone retailers in the

1390.85 1413.75

1119.00 1155.65 131.55 133.55

1610.85 1643.60

276.55 287.90

241.00 244.80

14481.00 14522.20

1851.25 1907.50

2893.10 2930.90

430.05 439.05

167.05 170.55

331.00 338.25

454.20

510.10

33.40

28.80

248.85

55.75

180.50

140.75

68.45

149.30

990.90

450.00

260.05

95.40

553.60

106.45

775.20

67.70

40.25

854.00

79.00

131.75

709.40

153.75

157.95

7.91

903.00

833.70

562.95

69.80

310.90

13.66

114.10

2218.35 2256.00

4617.55 4658.05

114.65

1180.05 1209.70

396.10

348.70

country, said that Amazon, along with leading mobile brands, have joined hands to derail the retail industry and put small retailers' life in danger. The association said that Amazon is doing business in India with the strategy of deftly dodging the regulators and politicians.E-commerce companies promote sales on their platforms through their own preferred sellers.

Tata Motors 5.13 ONGC

Wipro 4.46 Dr Reddys -1.09

Adami Ports 4,09 Power Grid 0.95

Hero Motor 3.91 Coal India -0.55

4010.00 4100.00

480.55 483.60

6405 95 6475 00

606.50 608.75

6520.00 6607.95

425.70 432.00 157.40 161.85

887.00 896.70

290.50 298.75

105.30 106.00

1910.00 1924.90

13024.65 13057.30

393.70 395.05

445.05 452.75

935.00 964.95

428.10 430.20

713.80 718.95

290.00 297.45

121.45 122.90

2075.30 2092.55

118 50 120 00

273.20 275.90

2162.20 2212.50

1997.15 2022.25

903.00 905.50

2215.80 2238.10

1939.00 1994.20

5158.95 5200.00

175.55 179.20

5515.00 5582.40

257.80 258.80

128.00 128.40

1888.30 1905.35

118.30 118.60

30.60

30.80

523.15

413.00

323.00

91.75

516.00

407.05

322.05

142.00

29.65

29.55

50,296.89

TOP GAINERS TOP LOSERS

Balai Auto 3.56 Power Grid -1.79

Tech Mahi 3.44 Dr Reddys -1.06

-0.27

11.40

936.00

488.85

31.00

426.00 157.65

950.00

902.00

92.50

534.00

290.50

105.55

407.05

325.45

395,95

459.90

935.00

443.90

395.95

715.10

31.95

296.85

123.75

279.80

1519.95

905.00

128.05

1451.00

119.55

2096.50 2102.35

119.90 120.00

2172 30 2220 00

2034.00 2034.15

2246.45 2255.00

1939.00 2000.00

5180.00 5230.65

175.85 182.20

263.50 265.20

1922.55 1926.35

130.00

120.35

1944.95 1945.00

13066.90 13130.00

4100.00 4140.00

6425.00 6570.55

610.00 614.20

11.52

488.85

433.45

164.00

932.35

299.70

107.50

419.00

335.90

404 75

461.00

968.75

443.90

739.70

31.95

124.55

284.80

TCS 2.88 SBI

Exports dip marginally in Feb; trade deficit widens to USD 12.88 bn

PTI NEW DELHI

A fter recording positive growth for two months in

a row, India's exports dipped marginally by 0.25 per cent to USD 12.88 billion, according to preliminary

399.50

4472.00 4478.05

956.90

221.30

85.25

49.50

96.75

3450.00

91.15

349.05

1163.65

109.00

217.95

102.45

65.05

584.85

248.20

146.95

889.30

159.75

177.75

636.00

800.00

826.15

5039.15

1489.55

934.90

217.50

830.95

83.65

45.70

1483.80

92.40

2162.00 2182.50

3417.00

88.10

750.00

346.85

1127.00

93.50

215.95

95.70

63.90

530.00

248.20

146.35

885.30

149.00

160.40

629.95

785.00

804.00

4990.00

1123.95 1139.30

1851.00 1859.90

1170.15 1244.50

1230.00 1445.50

1513.40 1698.60

1579.00 1630.00

3050.00 3129.50

9790.00 9961.65

1040.00 1072.10

1299.00 1315.00

3619.00 3880.00

1100.00 1331.05

DRREDD

HCLTECH

TRENT

HSCL

BANKBARODA

HEROMOTOCO 3370.00

JSWENERGY

BRITANNIA

ADANIPOWER

HINDUNILVR

ENGINERSIN

HINDALCO

JAICORPLTD

IBREALEST

IDFCFIRSTB

NATIONALUM

APOLLOTYRE

AUROPHARMA

SBICARD

BEML

COALINDIA

IINDALSTEI

SYMPHONY

DELTACORE

HINDPETRO*

BALKRISIND

FEDERALBNK

JUBLFOOD

BAJAJFINSV

TATACONSUM

TATAMETALI

POWERGRID

TATACOMM

CUMMINSIND

MOIL

VOLTAS

ESCORTS

NAUKRI

LTI

-4.40

INDIGO

KOTAKBANK

HAVELLS

VEDL

ATGL

GAIL

4390.10 4406.20

928.85 953.70

220.05

905.85

83.20

47.80

93.80

87.05

738 50

345.25

214.70

99.80

64.50

214.40

830.00

83.00

43.80

92.05

85.45

733.00

339.00

91.30 105.35

213.25

94.75

63 45

1099.05 1204.40

EQUITAS

1465.00 1485.60

3393.40 3448.90

2141.00 2178.00

1119.80 1144.30

data released by the government on Tuesday. Imports grew 6.98 per cent

28.10

3961.00

26.10 27.65

3785.00 3947.55

26.50

3854.00

to USD 40.55 billion during the month, the data showed. The trade deficit stood at USD 10.16 billion in February

2020 Exports during April-

311.50 340.00

550.00 559.00

19490.10 19820.05

309.00 329.50

531.90 537.00

18810.05 18867.95

169.55 175.50

435.05 440.95

2520.00 2599.30

5419.40 5542.00

1365.00 1389.90

505.00 511.05

1619.00 1702.35

1917.95 2103.40

225.45 236.90

871.00 878.30

496.75 510.35

983.55 991.55

706.55 720.45

134.40 136.30

218.00 220.40

197.05 201.45

370.70 383.55

2840.00 2929.40

243.10 244.65

345.00 355.50

195.00 202.00

7142.15 7818.00

5114.00 5287.30

1276.50 1292.40

7275 70 27745 70

251.40 257.80

198.50 210.90

1583.70 1599.75

1133.65 1162.55

1501.60 1508.80

340.30 345.25

1154.30 1197.95

1650.00 1724.45

96.05

389.00

256.70

713.55

83.80

432.45

23.05

112.70

109.55

128.30

493.80

97.85

27.10

57.00

384.60

252.60

703.20

83.00

194.60

399.00

22.80

107.65

98.55

127.35

4184.45 4198.65

2172.15 2270.55

125.00

593.00

401.00

618.95

334.60

17.95

896.85

935.00

106.00 109.55

126.60

613.75

406.50

175.50

620.15

336.65

18.05

906.75

966.00

THERMAX

WELCORP

CEATLTD

SUNTECK

SWSOLAR

IPCALAB

HDFCAMC

SPARC

EIDPARRY

WESTLIFE

JCHAC

MCX

PGHL

ICICIGI

AMBER

KRBL

VGUARD

MAHINDCIE

DALBHARAT

KPITTECH

IAMNAAUTO

JYOTHYLAB

BAIAIELEC

GODREJIND

PNCINFRA

ORIENTCEM

MINDAIND

CENTURYPLY

MINDACORF

PHOENIXLTD

BAJAJHLDNG

COROMANDEL

DBCORP

KPRMILL

KTKBANK

TIINDIA

CYIENT

GET&D

ASTRAZEN

JINDALSAW

GALAXYSURF

HERITGFOOD

SUNDRMFAST

JKCEMENT

CCL

NIACL

BAJAJCON

NATCOPHARM

RAIESHEXPO

ARVINDFASN

TATAINVEST

VAIBHAVGBL

FORCEMOT

SCHNEIDER

LEMONTREI

METROPOLIS

OIL

TAKE

FINOLEXIND

UJJIVANSFB

INTELLECT

SYNGENE

J&KBANK

WHIRI POOL

OBEROIRLTY

GODREJAGRO

ADVENZYMES

ABBOTINDIA

PNBHOUSING

GEPIL

APLAPOLLO

1400.00 1459.10

1119.00 1167.75

1650.00 1654.30

14547.15 14690.00

1929.00 1929.00

2950.00 2950.00

133.40

410.65

279.90

352.00

241.00

430.05

1196.75

167.30

455.00

337.00

524.20

635.00

34.25

426.20

1514.90

29.25

248.85

562.95

348.65

196.90

55.75

183.35

1482.60

143.15

149.30

454.70

127.00

95.55

568.80

310.90

107.60

840.95

3609.00

100.00

782.00

999.95

68.00

114.50

1965.00

866.70

641.65

80.05

132.60

349.90

712.80

233.85

246.30

828.00

4650.00

505.30

159.65

1152.55 1160.00

3575.00 3750.00

1307.00 1328.55

1059.25 1097.50

3496.65 3496.65

2350.00 2433.00

2681.95 2681.95

40.60

3600.00 3690.10

68 45

2749.00 2833.20

2424.00 2472.00

6750.00 6801.15

1449 95 1464 60

3229.00 3242.00

223.85 227.45

1005.00 1024.70

135.50

291.50

254.00

1211.75

171.65

340.35

535.00

640.85

34.40

444.00

1521.00

29.25

262.55

567.55

358.75

204.00

57.80

1508.80

144.40

154.55

459.00

129.65

98.00

572.35

323.35

110.50

853.00

107.00

791.00

68.65

115.45

1965.00

663.50

81.55

365.00

725.00

246.50

248.65

828.00

517.15

41.05

NIFTY 50

SCRIP	OPEN	HIgh	LOW	LTP	CHAN
NIFTY 50	14865.30	14959.10	14760.80	14919.10	157.
TATAMOTORS	331.10	347.20	326.45	345.15	16.
M&M	832.95	868.00	820.05	857.00	37.
WIPRO	419.70	433.10	418.25	432.90	18.
ADANIPORTS	697.60	724.70	696.00	721.25	28.
HEROMOTOCO	3352.00	3490.00	3351.50	3481.20	131.
NTPC	108.45	113.70	107.90	112.45	4.
BAJAJ-AUTO	3822.00	3962.15	3781.50	3950.00	135.
TECHM	944.50	971.00	942.00	968.65	32.
INFY	1282.25	1310.00	1279.20	1308.65	41.
TCS	2960.00	3025.00	2948.00	3018.20	94.
BPCL	474.50	482.40	462.00	469.80	14.
MARUTI	7060.00	7235.00	7030.00	7223.25	208.
CIPLA	792.60	815.00	790.80	811.90	22.
HDFCLIFE	714.95	727.80	706.25	723.80	18.
GRASIM	1275.00	1298.50	1261.00	1296.00	30.
HCLTECH	933.85	957.90	928.60	949.50	19.
NESTLEIND	16302.00	16620.00	16289.75	16610.00	317.
EICHERMOT	2584.00	2611.00	2530.00	2605.00	48.
JSWSTEEL	406.80	414.95	401.00	412.35	7.
BHARTIARTL	540.50	544.00	528.85	541.70	9.
HINDUNILVR	2162.00	2183.90	2140.55	2181.40	38.
IOC	102.25	104.10	101.75	102.35	1.
DIVISLAB	3470.00	3521.95	3455.50	3518.00	56.
SUNPHARMA	609.00	616.35	604.50	614.30	9.
ITC	207.00	210.80	206.50	210.00	3.
BAJAJFINSV	9850.00	9965.00	9779.10	9897.80	123.
BAJFINANCE	5300.00	5410.00	5262.05	5333.00	66.
ASIANPAINT	2386.00	2402.55	2359.00	2391.00	28.
ULTRACEMCO	6375.00	6473.85	6312.10	6436.10	71.
TITAN	1469.00	1474.00	1450.00	1468.15	16.
SBILIFE	876.75	886.00	870.50	886.00	9.
BRITANNIA	3411.80	3450.00	3395.00	3447.20	35.
HDFCBANK	1575.70	1587.50	1551.00	1573.00	14.
LT	1479.30	1489.65	1458.15	1486.00	13.
TATASTEEL	730.45	739.75	723.15	735.40	5.
ICICIBANK	610.00	616.50	599.00	611.85	3.
INDUSINDBK	1075.00	1086.30	1060.00	1074.00	6.
GAIL	145.45	146.90	143.60	145.10	0.
RELIANCE	2122.00	2130.00	2089.10	2108.95	7.
SHREECEM	27710.00	27800.00	27280.05	27789.75	82.
AXISBANK	730.45	740.50	722.00	730.45	1.
KOTAKBANK	1845.00	1868.40	1820.10	1850.20	4.
HINDALCO	344.25	349.30	338.75	344.60	0.
SBIN	395.00	399.55	390.55	394.70	-0.

NIFTY NEXT 50

156.15

229.35

4479.90

115.90 116.65

152.50

223.35

4390.15

112.75

153.50

603.00

154.35

229.00

4473.40

COALINDIA

POWERGRID

DRREDDY

ONGC

SCRIP	<u>OPEN</u>	<u>HIgh</u>	LOW	<u>LTP</u>	CHANG
NIFTY NEXT 50	34787.55	35233.00	34708.25	35151.35	599.30
LTI	3640.55	3894.00	3627.00	3870.15	262.10
DMART	2908.45	3106.00	2885.50	3086.00	177.55
HINDZINC	302.00	322.90	301.70	314.50	14.35
IGL	498.00	518.50	498.00	515.20	21.00
ADANITRANS	763.00	797.40	753.55	786.00	27.95
ALKEM	2831.00	2961.00	2821.05	2920.60	93.30
LUPIN	1026.80	1057.60	1026.80	1052.00	28.85
HAVELLS	1120.95	1163.80	1118.05	1142.50	30.35
BAJAJHLDNG	3598.00	3695.50	3595.00	3690.00	95.90
ADANIGREEN	1155.00	1175.00	1134.00	1169.95	28.95
PETRONET	254.00	257.45	252.10	256.90	5.50
BANDHANBNK	341.50	347.30	338.00	345.60	7.20
DLF	309.70	314.95	307.55	313.70	6.40
PEL	1900.00	1938.00	1889.10	1918.15	38.85
PFC	127.95	131.65	127.55	129.45	2.60
CONCOR	571.95	582.00	568.60	573.80	11.30
INDUSTOWER	254.95	259.30	251.40	257.00	4.75
PIDILITIND	1711.00	1735.00	1701.50	1730.00	31.85
GICRE	198.00	204.65	197.00	201.30	3.65
UBL	1197.90	1212.90	1180.00	1208.90	20.15
NAUKRI	4959.00	5038.00	4870.55	4990.00	80.20
TORNTPHARM	2450.00	2488.70	2421.05	2478.90	39.20
NMDC	134.20	134.85	131.60	133.50	1.95
AUROPHARMA	885.00	889.00	868.75	886.55	12.90
SIEMENS	1919.95	1945.00	1903.35	1935.00	26.90
MARICO	402.00	408.05	401.00	407.45	5.65
HINDPETRO	252.00	257.90	248.10	251.00	3.50
TATACONSUM	628.50	636.00	622.00	632.90	8.35
CADILAHC	437.35	442.50	434.90	441.00	5.70
DABUR	507.40	512.50	504.80	512.35	6.50
OFSS	3170.00	3248.75	3170.00	3190.00	37.25
MCDOWELL-N	550.00	556.25	544.00	552.40	6.05
COLPAL	1585.10	1605.50	1583.55	1600.35	17.25
ICICIGI	1430.00	1465.00	1423.05	1441.20	14.10
ICICIPRULI	475.00	480.15	471.50	476.75	4.60
BOSCHLTD	15250.00	15500.00	15200.00	15371.60	143.35
GODREJCP	690.00	696.30	680.00	692.00	5.75
INDIGO	1675.00	1698.90	1667.00	1687.20	12.50
PNB	41.15	41.65	40.70	41.10	0.30
BIOCON	397.80	399.90	392.10	398.25	2.60
MUTHOOTFIN	1306.00	1327.00	1300.55	1309.85	7.75
SBICARD	1127.00	1139.00	1090.05	1103.40	5.05
ABBOTINDIA	14550.00	14685.75	14450.00	14546.25	48.50
AMBUJACEM	278.90	283.40	277.10	278.80	0.90
PGHH	13070.60	13149.00	13021.35	13051.00	34.25
HDFCAMC	2950.00	2954.95	2892.05	2945.20	6.45
MOTHERSUMI	231.95	235.60	226.15	231.70	0.43
BANKBARODA	84.00	85.25	83.05	83.35	0.13
DUINDARODA	04.00	05.25	00.00	03.33	0.00

1779.00 1812.95 1760.05 1770.00

Open TATAMOTORS 395.70

BSE 500

BHARTIARTL	542.95	543.95	529.05	541.25	SUNPHARMA	609.25	616.30	604.45	614.4
IRCTC	1969.00	1989.00	1869.75	1897.15	ASHOKA	113.30	113.30	110.30	111.5
JUSTDIAL	813.00	972.40	813.00	966.75	TECHM	947.00	970.35	943.95	967.8
IDEA	11.13	11.49	10.90	11.38	TATAMTRDVR	132.75	140.55	131.20	139.9
BHEL	49.50	52.20	49.25	51.75	SRTRANSFIN	1350.00	1376.05	1331.30	1351.0
INFY	1280.00			1304.05	INFIBEAM	103.90	103.90	98.10	99.8
RCF	98.50	100.15	83.70	90.10	DMART	2947.00	3106.35	2887.05	
RELIANCE		2130.00		2106.20	BOMDYEING	76.80	83.15	75.75	80.0
IBULHSGFIN	222.80	235.40	222.80	228.95	DEEPAKFERT	212.30	212.30	197.60	
MARUTI	7052.00			7215.25	M&MFIN	208.00	209.60	205.00	207.3
DEEPAKNI					LUPIN				
	1587.00	1662.90		1607.55		1024.00		1024.00	
TATACHEM	752.00	752.00	723.60	733.25	DIVISLAB	3475.00		3455.80	
BPCL	477.00	482.40	462.00	469.00	INDIAMART	8582.00		8118.35	
IGL	500.00	518.30	499.00	514.75	CHOLAFIN	528.90	540.15	524.00	
TCS	2970.00			3010.55	GRASIM	1277.00		1263.10	
IOC	101.90	104.00	101.70	102.15	ULTRACEMCO	6390.00		5727.90	
BAJFINANCE	5308.00	5410.00	5262.00	5307.95	EPL	218.90	224.65	218.90	223.
ITC	206.90	210.80	206.40	209.80	ABFRL	195.65	208.55	195.00	206.
TATASTEEL	733.90	739.75	723.40	734.55	STAR	830.00	890.00	830.00	888.
ASHOKLEY	131.00	133.90	128.65	132.60	TRIDENT	13.80	14.29	13.74	13.9
SAIL	79.45	81.50	77.70	78.85	ACC	1766.15	1812.00	1760.00	1771.7
NAVINFLUOR	2697.80		2687.55	2806.25	MINDTREE	1654.00		1640.00	1741.0
HDFC	2619.00			2564.90	EXIDEIND	208.80	210.50	206.90	
TATAPOWER	100.45	100.80	98.00	100.40	MFSL	879.80	906.65	868.35	895.8
NTPC	108.00	113.60	107.85	112.60	MAHLOG	479.60	486.55	476.00	
OFSS		3242.00		3202.95	GSFC	101.50	107.20	97.50	98.5
AXISBANK	734.70	740.25	720.00	731.40	BANDHANBNK	342.50	347.00	338.15	344.3
NBCC	50.45	54.00	49.95	52.30	COCHINSHIP	388.20	426.00	388.20	
ICICIBANK	612.40	616.15	598.95	610.50	GNFC	336.80	339.50	316.30	325.
RBLBANK	238.95			236.30	BHARATFORG	618.15	646.95	617.00	
		241.00	233.80						
ADANIENT	858.00	876.65	852.55	872.55	HUDCO	54.40	54.95	51.60	52.0
PNB	41.25	41.65	40.70	41.00	ADANITRANS	761.90	797.35	753.40	
MOTHERSUMI	231.55	235.65	226.20	232.55	RITES	262.00	272.80	255.80	
BEL	147.90		146.50	151.45	JKPAPER	148.80	161.75	146.50	
ONGC	116.00	116.65	112.80	113.45	NESTLEIND		16631.55	16290.30	
M&M	835.35	875.00	821.00	859.90	JSWSTEEL	409.00	414.85	401.25	413.5
ADANIPORTS	700.00	724.45	696.40	720.35	MUTHOOTFIN	1309.00	1326.35	1300.45	1307.0
L&TFH	107.90	109.40	106.40	107.00	CENTURYTEX	491.30	526.25	486.85	519.
HINDCOPPER	165.10	165.10	149.40	150.50	IFCI	9.45	11.04	9.45	10.6
INDUSINDBK	1072.10	1085.40	1060.00	1072.95	AJANTPHARM	1751.40	1761.05	1722.80	1755.0
HDFCBANK	1578.00	1587.00	1550.90	1566.40	PAGEIND	28380.50	29548.00	28355.25	29359.9
WIPRO	419.00	433.00	418.35	430.70	RAIN	164.20	168.50	160.25	160.7
ASIANPAINT	2380.00	2402.75	2359.05	2390.85	SUZLON	5.92	6.03	5.84	5.9
SCI	117.00	124.40	116.00	124.40	RVNL	32.50	33.40	32.20	
CIPLA	795.00	814.90	790.55	812.10	CASTROLIND	136.90	139.80	135.55	137.9
GUJGAS	568.00	568.00	525.20	532.25	PIDILITIND	1710.00		1701.55	
EICHERMOT	2582.50			2601.85	HONAUT		46679.75	45620.00	
UPL	600.10	608.05	580.25	589.25	BATAINDIA	1478.30	1500.00	1467.80	
MMTC	51.00	52.55	45.20	50.65	MGL	1158.05	1201.05	1158.05	
MRF									
		90300.00	88500.00		TATAELXSI	2657.80		2570.85	
APOLLOHOSP	3089.00			3100.80	GLENMARK	470.00	482.05	468.00	476.2
CANBK	157.05	162.05	156.85	158.70	DUDEE	-		2-1	nerway and

TVSMOTOR

GMRINFRA

BAJAJ-AUTO

72.35 (+18P) 72.43 (+11p)(-8p) 23 24 25 2

		T277111 10711	77.77	-		
529.00	576.80	* Provisional			10.1.	
58.55	59.10	■PTR GRAPI	HICS_	inverte	ed Scale	MA
242.00	246.30	- Unni	1103			
143.70	144.80	AMBUJACEM	278.45	283.35	277.15	278.9
307.55	313.25	SUNTV	512.00	516.25	503.65	512.4
869.00	886.50	MRPL	43.95	46.00	43.25	43.6
1090.45	1107.50	HINDZINC	300.00	322.70	300.00	315.2
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FBI chief to face questions on extremism, Capitol riot

AP ■ WASHINGTON

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m BI\, Director\, Chris\, Wray\, is\, set}$ to testify for the first time since the deadly January 6 deadly riot at the US Capitol, with lawmakers likely to press him on whether the bureau adequately communicated with other law enforcement agencies about the potential for violence that day.

Questions about the FBÍ's preparations for the riot, and investigations into it, are expected to dominate Wray's appearance Tuesday before the Senate Judiciary Committee. He's also likely to be pressed on how the FBI is confronting the national security threat from white nationalists and domestic violent extremists, and whether the bureau has adequate resources to address the

The violence at the Capitol made clear that a law enforcement agency that revolutionised itself after the September 11, 2001, attacks to



deal with international terrorism is now scrambling to address homegrown violence from white Americans. The Biden administration has tasked his national intelligence director to work with the FBI and Department of Homeland Security to assess the threat.

Wray has kept a notably low profile since a violent mob of insurrectionists stormed the Capitol two months ago. Though he has briefed lawinformation with local law enforcement hearings, Tuesday's oversight hearing will mark Wray's first public appearance before Congress since before November's presidential election.

The FBI is facing questions over how it handled intelligence in the days ahead of the riot, and whether warnings it had of potential violence reached the correct officials. Last week, for instance, the acting chief of the Capitol Police

said a January 5 report from the FBI made its way to investigators within the police force and to the department's intelligence unit but was never sent up the chain of command. The report warned about concerning online posts foreshadowing a war" in Washington the following day. The FBI has said the report, which it says was based on uncorroborated information, was shared through its

joint terrorism task force.

the US cannot afford to have more foreign workers. "His successor President

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The Biden administration

has indicated that it is still

undecided on ending the

Trump-era ban on issuing new

H-1B visas, with the Homeland

Security Secretary Alejandro

Mayorkas asserting that the US

government's top priority is the acute needs of individuals flee-

ing persecution.
The H-1B visa, the most

sought after among Indian IT

professionals, is a non-immigrant

visa that allows US companies to

employ foreign workers in spe-

ciality occupations that require theoretical or technical expertise.

Technology companies depend

on it to hire tens of thousands of

employees each year from coun-

In January, then-President

Donald Trump had extended

the ban on issuing new H-1B

visas till March 31, arguing that

the country is having a very

high unemployment rate and

tries like India and China.

on ending H-1B visa ban of the executive orders of Trump including several of those related to immigration like the lifting the Muslim visa ban or those related to Green Card, the one that imposed ban on issuing H-1B has still not been lifted. It will expire on

March 31, if Biden does not

issue a fresh proclamation. 'What is the status of the review of the Trump era visa bans for H1B visas and has the White House decided to lift those bans before they expire at the end of the month?" Mayorkas was asked at a White House news conference on Monday. "I don't really (know)- I

hate to end the questioning on a question. The answer to which I am not certain. But this goes to what preceded us. We have so much work to do to repair and to restore and to rebuild that we have a prioritisation matrix and of course, the acute needs of individuals fleeing persecution is a high priority. Which brings me to this meeting this morning," Mayorkas said in response.

Biden admin 'undecided' | Myanmar police fire tear gas, rubber bullets at protesters

AP ■ YANGON

Police in Myanmar repeatedly used tear gas and rubber bullets on Tuesday against crowds protesting last month's coup, but the demonstrators regrouped after each volley and tried to defend themselves with barricades as standoffs between protesters and security forces intensified.

Myanmar authorities have escalated their crackdown on the protests in recent days, making mass arrests and firing into the crowds. The United Nations said it believed at least 18 people were killed on Sunday by security forces. Foreign ministers from Southeast Asian countries were meeting Tuesday to discuss the increasingly volatile crisis.

Despite the crackdown, demonstrators have continued to flood the streets — and are beginning to more rigorously resist attempts to disperse them. Hundreds, many wearing construction helmets and



Protesters wearing safety helmets flash three-finger salutes during an anti-coup protest behind a barrier on a blocked road in Yangon, Myanmar on Tuesday

gathered in Myanmar's largest city of Yangon, where a day earlier police had fired repeated rounds of tear gas. They dragged bamboo poles and debris to form barricades, chanted slogans and sang songs at the police lines. They even threw banana skins onto the road in front of them in a bid to slow any police rush.

The mainly young demon-

tear gas canisters were fired but soon returned to their barri cades. Videos posted on social media showed similar chaotic scenes in the Insein neighborhood of northern Yangon.

Protesters also took up their flags and banners to march through the streets of Dawei, a small city in southeastern Myanmar that has seen almost daily large demonstrations against the coup.

Nigerian Governor says 279 kidnapped schoolgirls are freed

AP ■ GUSAU

Hundreds of Nigerian schoolgirls abducted last week from a boarding school in the northwestern Zamfara state have been released, the state's governor said Tuesday. Zamfara state governor Bello Matawalle announced that 279 girls have been freed. Gunmen abducted the girls from the Government Girls Junior Secondary School in Jangebe town on Friday, in the latest in a series of mass kidnappings of students in the West African nation.

An Associated Press reporter saw hundreds of girls dressed in light blue hijabs and barefoot sitting at the state Government House office in Gusau.

After the meeting, the girls were escorted outside by officials

Some of the students wait for a medical checkup after their release meeting with the state Governor Bello Matawalle, in Gusau, northern Nigeria on Tuesday

and taken away in vans. They appeared calm and ranged in ages

"Alhamdulillah! (God be praised!) It gladdens my heart to announce the release of the abducted students of GGSS

Jangebe from captivity. This follows the scaling of several hurdles laid against our efforts. I enjoin all well-meaning Nigerians to rejoice with us as our daughters are now safe," Matawalle said in a post on Twitter early Tuesday.

US sets sanctions over Russia Opposition leader's poisoning

The Biden administration announced sanctions of Russian officials and businesses Tuesday for a nearly fatal nerve-agent attack upon opposition leader Alexei Navalny and his subsequent jailing.

Senior administration officials did not immediately identify the Russian officials targeted. The Biden administration also announced sanctions under the US Chemical and Biological Weapons Control and Warfare Elimination Act for 14 businesses and another enterprise, most of which it said were involved in production of biological and chemical agents.

munity concluded with high confidence that Russia's Federal Security Service used the Russian nerve agent Novichok on the dissident last August, a senior administration official said.

Tuesday's sanctions would be the first of several steps by the Biden administration to "respond to a number of destabilizing actions," said one of the administration officials, who briefed reporters on the condition they not be identified further. The sanctions are the first against Russia by the Biden administration, which has pledged to confront President Vladimir Putin for alleged attacks on Russian opposition figures and hacking abroad,

agencies and US businesses. President Donald Trump had spoken admiringly of Putin and resisted criticism and many proposed penalties of Putin's Government.

EU slaps sanctions on 4 Russia officials over Navalny arrest

AP ■ BRUSSELS

The European Union on ■ Tuesday imposed sanctions on four senior Russian officials over the jailing of opposition leader Alexei Navalny, who is President Vladimir Putin's most high-profile political foe.

Saudi envoy disputes **Crown Prince role in** Khashoggi killing

AP UNITED NATIONS

Saudi Arabia's UN ambas-sador on Monday disputed the US intelligence report which concluded that the Saudi crown prince approved an operation to kill or capture dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi, saying in a tweet: "Let us all move forward to tackle the serious business of world issues!!"

Abdallah Al-Mouallimi said the newly declassified Central Intelligence Agency report "is based on could've, should've and would've and does not rise to anywhere close to proving the accusation beyond reasonable doubt."

Though intelligence officials stopped short of saying Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman ordered Khashoggi's murder in October 2018, the four-page document described him as having "absolute control" over the kingdom's intelligence organizations and said it would have been highly unlikely for an operation like the killing to have been carried out without his approval.

Al-Mouallimi said in a series of tweets that "the Prince courageously accepted moral responsibility, presented the accused to the justice system, and pledged to reform the intelligence orga-

FROM PAGE 1

YOGI STORMS MAMATA BASTION

life-threatening disease has been completely eradicated from the state," he added. Yogi said 25- 30 years ago youths used to come to Bengal from UP and north India for work but now people from Bengal were migrat-

Describing the incident of a video in which an 85year-old mother was allegedly beaten by miscreants, Yogi said that her video and her situation brought tears in his

"Enough is enough. On May 2, when our government will come into power, these goons who are roaming free in West Bengal will be begging for their lives,"

STOP PLEASING FUTURE BOSS: ADHIR TO ANAND

veteran Delhi Congress leader JP Aggarwal. The screening committee constituted for the eight-phase Bengal Assembly polls starting March 27 also have Mahesh Joshi and Naseem Khan as members besides some ex-officio members, including the State Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) president and the AICC incharge for West Bengal. The panel would screen the probable party candidates and put forward its recommendations to the Central Election Committee of the Congress chaired by party chief Sonia Gandhi.

The grand old party also formed a screening committee for poll bound States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. While party veteran HK Patil will chair the Kerala Screening Committee with former CM Oomen Chandy and former Union Minister Tariq Anwar as its member, Digvijay Singh will head TN and Puducherry with senior leaders KS Alagiri, K Suresh and former Puducherry CM V Naranswamy as its members.

The Congress divide came in open when Sharma, who was a Union Minister in the Manmohan Singh Government, took to social media to slam the party's tieup with ISF saying it was against the "Gandhian and Nehruvian secularism" and the party cannot be selective in fighting the "communalists".

"CPI(M)-led Left Front is leading the secular alliance in West Bengal of which the Congress is an integral part. We are determined to defeat BJP's communal and divisive politics and an autocratic regime. The Congress has got its full share of seats. Left Front is allocating seats from its share to the newly formed Indian Secular Front-ISF," Choudhary wrote on Twitter.

Objecting to Anand Sharma's choice to call Left-Congress-ISF coalition "communal", Chowdhury accused him of "only serving" the BJP. Anand Sharma's attack on Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury came close on the heels of a meeting of G-23 in Jammu, where senior leader Ghulam Nabi Azad praised PM Narendra Modi for not forgetting his roots.

HARYANA BILL RESERVES 75% PVT SECTOR JOBS FOR LOCALS

will notify it soon."

The Haryana State Employment of Local Candidates Bill, 2020 provides quota for local people in private sector jobs that offer a salary of less than ₹50,000 a month. The quota will initially apply for 10 years, according to

Apart from tackling unemployment among local people, the State Government said the law will discourage the influx of migrants seeking low-paid jobs, which has

a "significant impact" on local infrastructure and leads to the "proliferation of slums". The Bill covers private companies, societies, trusts and partnership firms in the State. It provides for training to eligible local candidates when qualified people are not available.

It defines local candidates as those domiciled in the State. For domicile status, a person should be born in ana or have lived there or at least 15 year

Giving 75 per cent reservation in private sector jobs was a key poll promise by Dushyant Chautala's JJP, which is the BJP's coalition partner in the State. Chautala described the assent given by the Governor as "happiest moment for the youth of Haryana."

'The rules on this new law will be framed soon and published," he said at Faridabad.

PM, SHAH HAIL BJP'S STELLAR SHOW IN GUJ LOCAL BODY POLLS

Counting of votes is still underway since in 81 municipalities, 31 district panchayats, and 231 taluka panyats where elections were held on Sunday.

There are total 8,474 seats across the three local bodies. Candidates in 237 seats remain unopposed, the State ection Commission (SEC) said.

Bye-elections were also held for two seats in taluka panchayats and 24 seats in municipalities. As per the results available till 1 pm, the BJP has so far bagged 2,085 seats, while the Congress has won 602 seats across these local bodies, the SEC said. New entrant AAP has won 15 seats, Bahujan Samai

Party 5, while Independents have won 42 seats, it said. In municipalities, the BJP has so far won 803 seats and the Congress-159. In district panchayats, the BJP has till now bagged 246 seats and the Congress-55.

In taluka panchayats, the BJP has so far emerged victorious in 1,036 seats and the Congress in 388 seats. More than 58,000 poll and security personnel are involved in the counting being conducted at 542 centres in Gujarat, the SEC said. Another round of disappointing results has badly hit

the Gujarat Congress, which had in 2017 delivered a strong performance in State elections. Gujarat Congress chief Amit Chavda and the leader of the Congress legislature party, Paresh Dhanani, resigned today long before all the results were declared. Last week, the BJP swept polls across six key municipal corporations of Ahmedabad, Surat, Rajkot,

seats. The AAP registered its presence in Surat by winning 27 seats at the cost of the Congress, which failed to win any in that town. Arvind Kejriwal, reveling in AAP's performance, indicated that he was preparing his party for the 2022 Gujarat Assembly elections. He said the rivalry was now

Vadodara, Bhavnagar and Jamnagar, winning 483 of 576

between the BJP and the AAP, with the Congress nowhere in the reckoning.
On his victory trip to Surat on Thursday, Kejriwal said AAP would seek votes from the people of the State

in the next Assembly polls based on the performance

of the party's 27 newly-elected corporators. Reacting to AAP's political forays in Gujarat, BJP's State chief CR Patil jibed that Kejriwal was holding a roadshow to celebrate the large number of AAP candidates who had lost their election deposits - forfeited when a candidate fails to get one-sixth of the total valid votes.

AAP and Asaduddin Owaisi's AIMIM also contested in the Gujarat local body polls, apart from traditional rivals BJP and Congress. The AIMIM fielded candidates in minority-dominated seats of Modasa and Bharuch municipalities. It also contested in the Godhra munic-

ADMK in dilemma as BJP wants to rope in Sasikala

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN **CHENNAI**

Chief Minister Edappadi Palaniswamy and his deputy O Panneerselvam are facing the biggest test in their political career wants the duo to accommodate VK Sasikala, former aide to J Jayalalithaa, in the AIADMK led alliance to fight the April 6

Assembly election. Palaniswamy, who ruled out any possibilities of Sasikala getting accommodated in the AIADMK would be doing a vault face if he agrees to the diktat of the BJP. The Hindutwa party's directive to the AIADMK leadership is a follow up to a report by various intelligence agencies that Sasikala and her nephew TTV Dhinakaran are capable of spoiling the chances of the AIADMK's winnability in 40 to 45 constituencies in southern districts of Tamil Nadu.

"The BJP wants the AIADMK to win the election because then it could remote control Tamil Nadu from New Delhi. But both Palaniswamy and Panneerselvam know well that if they yield to the

command of the BJP, it would be the end of their political careers," said Sam Rajappa, long time observer of Tamil Nadu politics.

Panneerselvam, who was sworn in as Chief Minister following the demise of Jayalalithaa on Dec 5, 2016 was ousted by Sasik: ala and her close relations to pave the way for her to become chief minister.

Though she was unanimously elected as chief minister by the AIADMK legislature, the Supreme Court order upholding the Bangalore Special Court's verdict sentencing Sasikala to four years rigorous imprisonment came the next day. That spoiled her chioef ministerial dreams as he had to surrender in Parappana Agrahara Central Prison to serve her term.

Palaniswamy was handpicked by Sasikala to stand in as chief minister in her absence. But when Dhinakaran, her nephew decided to take over the dministration by ousting Palaniswamy, the BJP intervened and made EPS and OPS to patch up. The duo eased out Sasikala and Dhinakaran from the party and established their control over the AIADMK and the government.Now that Sasikala has

come back to Chennaiafter serving her term in the jail, she has staked her claims. This has upset the Palaniswamy-Panneerselvam duo. Dhinakaran', who had launched Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhakam (AMMK), claiming that the AIADMK has become made a volte face and declared that the outfit had been launched to retrieve the AIADMK.

Palaniswamy had successfully completed four years in power and has been looking at a second shot at the chief minister's chair when the BJP has asked him to take the AMMK into the alliance fold. Amit Sha, union home minister, who was in Chennai on Sunday is believed to have told EPS and OPS tp patch up with Chinnamma (as Sasikala is ldressed by her cadre).

Sasikala belongs to the Thevar community, which is quite powerful in southern districts. In Dravidian Tamil Nadu, it is the caste factors that determine the fate of elections. The Vanniyar dominated PMK walked away with 23 seats from the AIADMK in Saturday's seat sharing talks. The BJP has been offered 20 seats by the AIADMK but the former expressed unhappi-

ness over what has been offered to it. Seat sharing talks between the AIADMK and the BJP have been held up because of the uncompromising stance of both the parties.

AS Gurumurthy, editor, Thuglaq and advisor to Tamil Nadu said that while averse to the AIADMK's alliance with the AMMK, he would strongly oppose any kind of merger between the two parties. "Though both the DMK and AIADMK are corrupt, the DMK is a dynastic party while the AIADMK is democratic. If Sasikala and her family members return to the AIADMK that will be the end of the AIADMK founded by MGR and nurtured by Jayalalithaa," Gurumurthy had said on January 15 during the Thuglaq

While the DMK is expected to ink the deal with Congress in a day or two, the AIADMK is faced with issues like the anger of Vijayakant-led DMDK which wants an equal number of seats as was given to PMK. A clear picture of the political landscape before the assembly polls would emerge in three days, according to sources in AIADMK.

Manmohan: Unemployment high in India due to Govt's 'ill considered demonetisation decision'

Thiruvananthapuram: Attacking the Centre, former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh on Tuesday said unemployment is high in the country and its informal sector is in shambles following the "ill considered demonetisation decision" taken by the BJP-led government in 2016. He also criticised the central government for not holding regular consultations with the states. Inaugurating a development summit virtually organised by the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Development Studies, an economic think tank aligned to the Congress ideology in poll-bound Kerala, Singh said temporary measures by the central government and the RBI to paper over the credit problem cannot blind us to the looming credit crisis ahead that could affect the small and medium sector.

"Unemployment is high and the informal sector is in shambles, a crisis precipitated by the ill considered demonetisation decision taken in 2016", he said at "Pratheeksha 2030." The summit was organised to launch a Vision Document, a framework of ideas for development of Kerala well in advance of the state elections. He observed that in Kerala and many other states, public finances were in disarray with states having to resort to excessive borrowing, which creates an intolerable burden on future budgets.

"Federalism and regular consultation with states, which was the cornerstone of India's economic and political philosophy as enshrined in the Constitution, no longer finds favour with the present Central government," he said.

Singh said while Kerala's social standards are high, there are other sectors that need strong attention in the future. There are many roadblocks ahead that the state has to overcome. The global downturn of the last two or three years, aggravated by the pandemic, has made the global interface of Kerala more fragile. "While the increased use of digital modes of work may keep the IT sector afloat, tourism has been hit badly and the rate at which the pandemic is galloping in Kerala poses challenges for this industry", Singh said.

BJP to unleash high-voltage campaign in Puducherry

Bengaluru: The BJP plans to unleash a high-voltage campaign in Puducherry with a battery of central leaders as it seeks to wrest power in the union territory in the coming assembly elections.

The party in-charge for Puducherry Nirmal Kumar Surana said the BJP would field about ten star campaigners in the UT, where elections to the 30member assembly would be held on April six.

They include Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP president J P Nadda, and Union Ministers Amit Shah, Nirmala Sitharaman and Smriti Irani, he told PTI here.

Modi and Shah have already launched the party's campaign in the tiny union territory. Surana, who is Vice-President of Karnataka unit of BJP, said discussions were underway with the All India NR Congress (AINRC) and AIADMK on seat-sharing for the elections and it would be

finalised as soon as possible.

Asked if the NDA plans to declare its Chief Ministerial candidate, he said: "All the matters are getting discussed".

Surana said Puducherry Assembly Speaker V P Sivakolundhu, who quit on Sunday citing health reasons, is in touch with the BJP and would decide on joining the party in a

Sivakolundhu won from the Lawspet constituency in the 2016 assembly elections on a Congress ticket. His brother V Ramalingam joined the BJP in Karaikal in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah during his campaign visit on Sunday.

"He (Sivakolundhu) wants his brother (Ramalingam) to contest from his constituency (Lawspet)", Surana said.

On how many seats the NDA hoped to win in Puducherry, he claimed that according to his assessment the Congress would not be able to win even a single seat. Puducherry is now under President's rule after the Congress government headed by V Narayanasamy fell on February 22 on being reduced to a minority following a spate of resignation of Congress MLAs and a DMK legislator.



n MBA degree from a premier Indian B School can give several lucrative opportunities to earn. Many might have this question in their mind, 'What exactly do MBA in their mind, 'What exactly do MBA graduates do at work after business school?'. This largely depends on the area of specialisation that they choose and the organisation that they join. Some organisations ensure that the MBA graduates have an experience in

all functional areas.

They make them have a short stint in marketing, finance, operations human resources and even in International Business. There are others who make them take executive assistant roles, and make them get the experience of working with the top leadership of the organisation. There are others who make them work in core functional areas of business. The initial period of six months goes in understanding the culture of the company along with the organisational politics.

During the initial years an MBA in sales and marketing generally spend time in research and generate lists of potential customers, provide input on customer briefs, prepare presentations and sales literature. They also help to develop client relationships and retain existing accounts. They assist in evaluating new clients and maintain records. They also work with experienced sales and marketing professionals, attend meetings, and participate in other networking activ-

With the union budget of 2021 focusing like never before on pronged, holistic approach - including preventive care, curative care, and well-being, there will be a bigger push toward a healthier country. To meet the demand for healthcare solutions that was generated last year, there has been many frugal state-of-the-art innovations associated with touchless diagnostic tools, ventilators, medical and surgical devices that support better patient outcomes and faster healthcare administration in hospi-

At a national scale, there has been an unprecedented push towards digitisation through upskilling across sectors. The main reason why it is considered as an 'unprecedented push towards digitalisation, is because this was not limited to just the key employees who were used to the IT infrastructure that was provided, but also all the support staff that included the Admin, HR, Finance, Training and development, etc. to get aligned with the new protocols of communication and also be effectively able to perform the organisations functions without any lacuna. This sea of change was not any different for the health care professionals of the country.

Without any differentiation of urban or rural, all doctors were expected to get used to online consultations, ordering online diagnostics and prescriptions, resulting in the patients getting the said medicines at home, based on the diagnosis. While there was initial reluctance by some of the doctors

KNOW YOUR JOB

During the initial years, an MBA in sales and marketing generally spends time in research and generates lists of potential customers, provides input on customer briefs, prepares presentations and sales literature, says DR RAMAKRISHNAN RAMAN

ities. An MBA Finance helps in assisting the process of developing and reviewing budgets.

They also provide accurate cash -flow projections to the finance division. They work on the monthly budget and work closely with experienced finance executives in decision making. They help in general ledger management, reconciliation of balance sheets; follow up with various internal stakeholders; prepare monthly schedules for specific accounts and support in the monthly book closing process for expense accrual and accounting adjustments, and also manage prepaid expenses. Some organisations make the MBA finance graduates prepare statutory financials, make notes to accounts and schedules; coordinate external and internal audits; answer audit queries. They also make them support the accounting

An MBA in operations is expected to have the ability to thrive in a fast-paced environment as well as work under pressure, especially when there are clients facing operation roles

manager/finance director on expenses and balance sheet analysis, compliance with internal controls and complying with internal controls for accounting functions.

An MBA Operations person is expected to have a customer — focused, 'service first' mentality. He /she is expected to assimilate data rapidly and create timely resolutions and solutions to all levels of stakeholders. He/she is expected to be proactive in assessing the processes & procedures and evaluate room for enhancement.

An MBA in operations is expected to have the ability to thrive in a fastpaced environment as well as working under pressure, especially when they are in a client facing operation roles. An MBA specialised in human resources (HR) works alongside the HR Business Partner and HR

Operations teams as well as the local Management team to provide generalist HR support to the business. An HR Generalist works alongside the HR Centres of Excellence and is responsible for the management and administration of employees through the entire employee life cycle including onboarding, HR Programme support, offboarding among others.

Irrespective of the specialisation MBA graduates are expected to create and present impressive presentations to the internal and external customers of the organisation. They are also expected to be good in using software and data management tools, which can help their reporting managers in better decision making.

The writer is Director — Symbiosis Institute

of Business Management (SIBM) — Pune & Dean — Faculty of Management — Symbiosis International (Deemed University)

Children should be taught how to think and not what to think by equipping them with the weapons of discernment and knowledge.

Make way for online school

The first online school of India has been launched in the Millenium city of Gurugram in Delhi-NCR. Known as Cyboard School, the salient feature of the virtual school is a hybrid model of delivery encompassing a mix of online classes which will be followed by physical camps spread over 30 days in a year and city-level interactions. The school targets enrolment of about 5000 students in Classes I to III by the end of March 2021.

A brainchild of two serial entrepreneurs and visionaries —Rajat Singhal, Co-Founder & CEO, and Kunal Singhal, Co-Founder & CTO, the model aims to overcome the drawbacks in conventional K-12 education, including lack of personalised learning, lack of requisite infrastructure and good teachers, limited studentteacher interaction and increased dependence on tuitions and impart futuristic education to students through expert faculty members, rrespective of any geographical barriers.

"The online K-12 segment is projected to be nearly 3.7 times its existing size of \$1.16 billion by 2025. The pandemic has underscored the significance of digitisation across sectors and education is no exception," said Singhal.

Masters programme

PNS NEW DELHI

The ILAMED is going to start its Masters Course in Micropigmentation & Microblading for doctors with live sessions followed by hands-on training. This is the flagship programme which is the most sought after in the field of Aesthetic Medicine. This course is designed by experts for all the practitioners, which helps them in adding a new dimension to their practice and answers most of the clients' needs. This programme covers the latest techniques and procedures which are followed around the world by the eminent aesthetic medicine expert including the best practices. the eminent aesthetic medicine expert including the best practices as per the global standards.

This Masters Course is backed by the best Institutes and Associations around the world along with the renowned faculty who are having more than two decades of experience in the field of teaching and training

This course is certified by The Plastic Surgery Center of Western

The duration of this course is seven days. The curriculum is very detailed and covers most of the important topics and procedures which are delivered in the form of lectures, and the candidates are given hands on training on Live Patients which helps them to enhance their skills in their clinical practice.

This Masters programme covers most of the key topics related to Micropigmentation and Microblading such as Introduction to PMU & Microblading (Basic & advanced), full blown reconstruction (Alopecia), faux skin, eyebrows micropigmentation, Lip micropigmentation, Lip Blush, Lip Tint, Lip correction, Eyeliner Micropigmentation, BB glow, BB glow Blush, BB Glow contouring, Scalp micropigmentation (SMP), Scalp Microblading (SMB), PMU correction and many more. To get enrolled one can call/whatsapp on +917838606869/9599224093. For more information you can email info@ilamed.org and log on to www.ilamed.org.

pskilling surgeons must Tips to stay relevant

To fill the gap of technical superiority, industry-academia partnerships should initiate programmes that allow the surgical residents to get acquainted with the future of surgical care, says Dr SVS DEO



and staff, everyone was quick to overcome their limitations in technology for the larger benefit of the patients and the country at large. The demand for healthcare solutions also prompted fast-tracking digitisation initiatives by the Government and providers. One such game changer was the Government approval for telemedicine usage in India. This changed the landscape of how doctor-patient visits were being managed in India, resulting in making healthcare more accessible to both urban and rural areas across the country.

Another outcome of the pan-

the larger public to become more willing to undergo regular health check-ups to ensure that they remain healthy. This has resulted in identifying more people with different adverse health conditions. This situation has put additional stress on the current healthcare ecosystem resulting in the need for better and faster treatment protocols to support patient care and outcomes. This is an area that can be upgraded by upskilling the medical fraternity. While there ismultiple such continuing medical education for Masters in Medicine (MD), there are only limited options for demic has been the acceptance of Masters in Surgery (MS) speciali-

sations, related to new age tech-

To fill this gap of technical superiority, industry academia partner-ships should initiate programmes that allow the surgical residents to get acquainted with the future of surgical care. Such programmes should engage with resident surgeons/fellows early on in their career, equipping them with knowledge on robotic/tech-enabled surgery and its clinical applications. Facilitating such programmes with Robotic-Assisted Surgery (RAS) will allow the residents to understand the functionality, and scope for such tech-enabled surgical pro-

These kind of programmes can give the budding surgeons theoretical knowledge about how the robot works, and the clinical applications of the technology that will be imparted by trained and successful RAS practitioner. Early RAS sensitisation programmes may lead to better adoption of technology which could result in not just reducing the learning curve, but also enable the country's surgical healthcare landscape to function more effectively.

The writer is Professor & Head, Department of Surgical Oncology, BRA-IRCH, AIIMS,

Skills such as basic calculation of construction cost, estimation of appreciation and basic

knowledge of building codes come in handy for a real estate manager, says ANNUJ GOEL

with buildings and skyscrapers during your childhood, a career in the real estate sector can be a rewarding choice. From relationship manager to direct sales executives, there are several roles to make a head start in the property market. However, like every other job, you must be equipped with a gamut of skills to succeed and stay relevant in the real estate industry.

Skills such as basic calculation of construction cost, estimation of appreciation, knowledge of rules related to stamp duty and registra-tion charges, and basic knowledge of building codes etc., come in handy for a real estate manager. Here is a list of five critical skills needed for landing a job in a real estate firm:

Communication skills: If you are foraying into a career in the real estate sector, be prepared for a oneon-one with the potential homebuyers. Excellent communication skills are an essential part of the job. The executives must be able to lay bare the features of the project in simple words.

As real estate investment is a cost-intensive proposition, one must be able to spell out the pros and cons as well as the approximate 'Returnon-Investment (ROI) clearly. You can develop these skills gradually by



practising in front of a mirror and taking feedback from friends about your body language.

Active listening: Along with

effective speaking skills, active listening is equally important. Attentively listening to the exact requirements of the customer is essential. Only then you will be able to suggest him the options in the given budget and configuration.

Being enthusiastic, empathetic and honest with the customer will automatically incite your interest in him. You can also develop active listening skills by listening to online podcasts and making notes out of

Negotiation skills: It is business

at the end of the day. You must be able to convince the customers that they are making the right choice. However, as real estate investment is heavy on the pocket decision, be prepared for a lot of questions.

Be thorough with the details and communicate effectively. Satisfying the customers with all their queries and being honest will put you in the right stride. Learn to negotiate effectively. Following up is a part of the process, and you must be persistent in keeping track of a beneficial lead.

Tech-savvy: Being tech-savvy is not about being a cybersecurity expert. It is about essential computer skills such as making a presentation, excel sheet and use of social media. Being comfortable with technology saves a lot of time and lets you better manage your clientele.

Social cues and local dialect: Be repared to face people from every ncome strata and background While meeting an international client, you must be presentable with adequate mannerisms. While dealing with a native client, you might have to incorporate some local sayings and serve them accordingly. Knowledge about the local dialects, societal trends and using it to seal the deal will be immensely useful. The writer is Managing Director, Goel Ganga

Higher education summit

PNS NEW DELHI

The Indian Education Network recently hosted the 9th edition of the Higher Education Summit in association with Shobhit University at Le-Meridian Hotel. The objective of the summit was to discuss the new education policy, its implementation on the ground and the

challenges and solutions to it. Over the years, the Indian Education Network hosted successful editions of the summit. Last year, the education sector around the world and more so in India has seen a big shift due to pandemic. The Covid-19 pandemic has put a lot of restrictions on traditional classroombased teaching and learning in educational

institutions and has transformed it into digital-based education. This year,the summit witnessed many delegates from higher education institutions, including industry veterans and representatives from the Ministry of HRD, AICTE and other Government authorities who shared their thoughts and insights on higher education in India

Kunwar Shekhar Vijendra-Chancellor, Shobhit University, said: "Disruption due to COVID-19has given us a reason to innovate new things, to create new things, to do new things. I take this opportunity to congratulate our Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the dynamic Ministry of Education for taking this step when the word was not able to do anything."

Int'l recognition for IP varsity teacher

PNS NEW DELHI

n assistant professor of nano-An assistant processor at science & technology at University School of Basic & Applied Sciences (USBAS) Dr Satyabrata Mohapatra has been assigned as the editor of coveted international nano -science research journal — NANO.

This Singapore-based research journal has tendered this responsible assignment seeing his outstanding contributions in the field of nano- science & technology. Around 110 peer-reviewed



research papers in the related field in the international journals are already to his credit. He leads a multi-functional nano-materials laboratory at the university.

It definitely makes for a special mention that Stanford University, USA had adjudged Dr Mohapatra as among the World's top 2 per cent scientists in the field of applied physics some times back.

While, the university is busy promoting a culture of research at present, this news will definitely boost the endeavour.

Young researchers conference

PNS NEW DELHI

¬he Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Dwarka, New Delhi, in collaboration with, JNU Jean Monnet Module, Centre for European Studies, School of International Studies, Iawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, is organising an online Young Researchers Conference 2021.

The theme is "Global Dynamics and Emerging Trends: India and Europe' on March 4 and March 5, 2021. This conference Director General, ICCR.

intends to deliberate upon the emerging trends, global changes and current socio-economic and political crises in changing landscapes and how these crises pose challenges to India,

and Europe.

His excellency Ugo
Astuto, Ambassador of the European Union to India has kindly consented to address the inaugural session of the conference on March 4, 2020. The guest of honour of the inaugural session is Dinesh K Patnaik,



n today's era of digital technology, survival of many organisations is contingent on how they leverage cutting-edge technologies to transform their workplaces into augmented environments. However, for this transfor-mation to happen, organisations must make prudent decisions and avoid the costly buy, not build talent strategy — opting for expensive new hires instead of re-skilling or up-skilling the existing employ-

Skill advancement is not a static process, rather it is crucially important to continue it at all levels. If one envisions to form an organisation that is constantly learning, growing, and achieving its targets, they need to have learning employees who are keen to adopt new skills and move in pace with ever-evolving business land-

scape.

Up-skilling is a term well-known. With technology causing a tectonic shift in the workplace and creating new possibilities that can be fully realised only by a modernised workforce, there is an ever-increasing need for students and employees to learn new skills and competencies that are required for the emerging job market.

Here we have rounded up a list of courses that can help you upskill d boost your job prospects.

Cloud Architect Certification

Programme: This specialised course offered by one of India's course offered by one of India's leading ed-tech company, Intellipaat, equips you with proficiency in Cloud and DevOps. As part of the program, you get to work on real-world projects in AWS, Azure, DevOps, Python, Java, Splunk, Linux, and much more. In this program, it will more. In this program, it will cover 11 courses, 26 industry-based projects, and the CAP-STONE Project. As part of this masters in Cloud Computing, you will also receive official course material issued by Microsoft for integrating on-premises identity Infrastructure with microsoft Azure' and implementing securiin Azure Development

Data scientist master's programme: This course offered in joint collaboration introduces students to integrated blended learning, equipping them with expertise in both AI and data science. This advanced course will make students industry-ready for skills in AI and data science and consequently render them job-ready.

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Application deadline: April 15, 2021 & October 15,

The Swinburne University

of Technology, Australia

invites applications for its

Australia Awards for brilliant

available for undergraduate,

postgraduate, or TAFE study at

the university. Candidates must

meet the criteria as per their

Aspirants must send the com-

pleted application with the

required documents as per

their respective nationalities.

Applicants must need to have

good grades in their previous

academic study, equivalent to

the minimum Grade Point

Average (GPA) for their desired

English is not your first lan-

guage, you will need to show

that your English language

How to apply: To apply for

Application deadline: The

this bursary, applicants must

have to complete the applica-

tion procedure via an online

last date to apply for this award is April 30, 2021.

skills are high enough to suc-

ceed in your studies.

Language requirement: If

degree at the university.

Supporting documents:

Admission requirements:

country guidelines.

Eligibility: The bursary is

candidates.

With technology causing a tectonic shift in the workplace and creating new possibilities that can be fully realised only by a modernised workforce, there is an ever-increasing need to learn new skills and competencies that are required for the emerging

job market

Content Writing Course: This course teaches you to become a potential content creator & skills to translate thoughts into words that can attract everyone. It upgrades your resume with certifications and industry experience, differentiating your profile from masses and accelerates your career to a better job profile. The course enables participants file. The course enables participants to translate their thoughts into structured words and explore new ways to express themselves in the best possible way at the workplace. It enables the participants to investigate deeper into any topic and become a deemed expert by developing skills pertaining to creating oping skills pertaining to creating, evaluating, reorganising, repackaging, strategising and presenting content. Taking the course helps in improving one's persuasive skills which comes in handy especially for professionals in sales, marketing, advertising and communications. This course shapes you into a dynamic writer who can write on any subject at any forum which drives conversations and actions on social media, search engines, e-commerce, blog and landing pages.

PGD in software development (Big Data): This comprehensive

wish to deep dive into the world of Big Data, its key processes and industrial applications. This course teaches in-depth about concepts related to Big Data such as data warehousing, real-time processing, data processing and Big Data analytics. Students also get to work with tools like Java, Python, Spark, Kafka, and Hive etc. The program includes seven -pluscase studies and projects which will assist you in sharpening your real-world skills.

Professional teaching: Suraasa is a leading teacher-growth-focused EdTech and JobTech platform, offers internationally-recognized UK Level 6 Teaching Qualifications in India. Designed by a team of veteran educationists, cognitive scientists, and data scientists in consultation with thousands of teachers and industry specialists, the two qualifications — Professional Graduate Certificate in Teaching & Learning (PgCTL) and Diploma in Teaching aim to help teachers accelerate their professional growth and be successful in creating a high impact learning environment in heir classrooms.

They empower teachers with 21st Century teaching skills, crucial diploma program offered by to engage the new generation of UpGrad is designed for those who Gen Z and Gen Alpha students.

'Demand for cyber security professionals on rise'

Advancement of digitisation has spurred an increase in cybersecurity solutions leading to lucrative options, says DR SANJEEV KUMAR SHARMA

▼n COVID-19-era world economy and society are now interconnected by supply chains, communications technology and travel. The rapid growth of the number of appliances, devices, vehicles and infrastructure devices, vehicles and infrastructure are linked which is foremost to the overly interconnected world. Rise in demand of digitalisation services creates a network of Internet of Things devices to enable better consumer experience but also raises the high incidence of cyber attacks.

Cyber security jobs have been one of the hottest jobs for students today. The demand is unmatched in any other technology domain. Companies across the world have been continuously targeted for cyber-Attacks. This scenario has given massive opportunities for professionals willing to enter the security domain. Cyber security today serves as a major source of employment and a lucrative career option. First step is to acquire basic cybersecurity skills, followed by choosing a specific domain based on personal interest and market demand. For a successful career, students need to get in-depth training, develop skills, and acquire specific certifications in security.

India faced around seven lakh

cyber-attacks in August 2020 report by (MeITY). As per the report India was ranked third and one of the biggest victims of cyber-attacks in recent years, makes it even more exigent.

In recent years Government and private players have introduced a flurry of specialised and standalone courses on cyber security. From part-time to distance learning to online mode with varied provisions for certification, diploma and degree programmes, these courses have found much popularity among students as well as career professionals.

The professionals are focused on delivering technologies that help move business operations forward while preserving sensitive information. Despite the recent increase in popularity of cyber security as a course in our universities, colleges and institutes, are not much enough. The demand of cyber security experts in India has even less than a paltry 10,000 professionals. For a second largest economy of world



Dr Sanjeev Kumar Sharma Dean Academics, Sanskriti University

India and sustained by the second largest population of the world with expanding digital footprints, such a miniscule number is grossly insufficient. Therefore, it is time that cyber security as a specialised discipline with all its attendant sub-disciplines becomes an integral component of any IT syllabus being taught within our university systems as well as outside.

Innovations and trends in technology have a direct impact on digital security. Recent advancement of digitisation and the Internet over things has spurred a significant increase in cybersecurity solutions. We are moving forward and creating a digital and smart world that gives no place for vulnerable cybersecurity and mediocrity.

Apart from a relevant degree in technology, students need to have a basic knowledge about advanced cybersecurity concepts, extensive cybersecurity work experience, industry certifications, knowledge of regulatory policies is usually required to make a career in cybersecurity. The rise in cyber attacks is increasing the opportunities for professionals from all backgrounds who want to make a career in cybersecurity. Even people from Humanities can make a career in

recent parliamentary report states that Adue to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns, the Indian automotive industry suffered ₹2,300 crore loss per day and an estimated job loss in the sector was about 3.45 lakh. This report clearly indicates that there is still a missmatch in the education we impart to the youth and the demand they have to meet at

This gap will widen further if we don't initiate structured reforms and initiative in the next Union Budget, which will be tabled in less than a week's time. The dream of achieving a self-reliant \$5 trillion economy completely depends upon the education and the skill level of its citizens.

Training the workforce to get adapt to

With the advent of COVID-19 vaccines and India's emergence as the soft-power in the medical industry, companies are considering the year 2021 with full of hopes. They are slowly and steadily adapting to the new normal by upskilling, relearning and learning the importance of advanced technologies in order to retain their relevance and competitiveness in this digital era. At this juncture, the public and private partnership can help to bring the major shift in skilling/reskilling programmes in tandem with the government skilling programs.

Apart from this, the academic

the digital setup

curriculum in schools and colleges must be

rebooted to remain in sync with the current realities of the post-pandemic era. It is alarming to see how India despite being renowned for its large talent pool, most graduates are unemployable due to mismatch of their skill sets with industry requirements. The Ministry of Education and Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship should work together to come up with a new curriculum and skilling programs as per the industry standards.

New job opportunities demands new

In order to cope with the company's new transformation, the existing and new workforce also needs to have constant skilling, reskilling and upskilling. The new job requirements will also demand the knowledge of a new set of areas including IoT, mechatronics, robotics, 3D printing, Al. machine and deep learning, analytics, virtual collaboration, automotive design, and computational thinking

A lot of training programmes is the need of the hour to build the capacity of these workforces.

Even the current time demands a complete change in the mindset of youth and their parents. An engineering student's goal should be getting a job, becoming financially independent than merely holding a degree. Once this mindset sets in, there is no way india can be taking the lead in becoming a hub for manufacturing, and supplier of skilled talent.

Continuous reskilling programmes in organisations

dmissions are now

open to various

programmes at the

Faculty of Science and

Humanities (FSH) at SRM

Institute of Science and

Technology (SRMIST),

Kattankulathur and for

Medicine and Health

Sciences programmes at

SRM Medical College

Hospital & Research

Centre (SRM MCHRC),

Science & Humanities,

SRMIST offers various

Undergraduate and Post

Under the Faculty of

Kattankulathur.

Surveys have found out that those companies who launched successful reskilling programmes are also the ones who were able to better address the skill gaps caused by technological disruptions or to implement new business models or strategies in order to stay relevant and competitive.

The lesson here is that simply getting started on reskilling programmes makes organisations better prepared for potential tuture role disruption-and is preferable to waiting. There is a need for continuous skilling programmes and they should not be short term. Companies need to understand that whatever talent reskilling or redeployment they do should also be used to expand their reskilling capabilities going forward. The writer is Ankit Shyamsukha, CEO, ICA Edu Skills

How to apply: Students yo---t---to---register---at: h t t p s : //l o g i n . u n i -hamburg.de/idp/profile/SAML2

the University of Hamburg iinvites appli-cations for merit awards. These opportunities are available for international students to concentrate fully on their studies and gives them the opportunity to develop their

Eligibility: You are entitled to funding if you are pursuing an academic degree at the universität and enrolled in degree programme for at least two semesters (master's students can apply after one semester). Not hold German citizenship and are not eligible for the federal student loan

Upload: CV, letter of motivation: use this form (PDF), proof of social and/or intercultural activities (if applicable), a record of achievements: STiNE printout or list of course certificates.

Master's students and doctoral researchers submit their final certificate, evaluations from two professors or junior professors at Universität Hamburg. In justified cases, other teaching staff at Universität Hamburg can also prepare evaluations.

Admission requirements: The applicants need to enrol at Universität Hamburg at the time of application. Language: English

HR ADMIN & RECRUITMENT AT K21 **ACADEMY**

Location: Work From Home Stipend: ₹8,000-₹12,000 per month Link: internshala.com/i/7308350 Deadline: March 9, 2021

CUSTOMER SERVICE AT CLERK-TECH Location: Work From Home

Stipend: ₹20,000 per month Link: internshala.com/i/7308351 Deadline: March 9, 2021

CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP MGT AT REACH 2 FITNESS

Location: Delhi, Faridabad, Gurugram Stipend: ₹15,000-₹20,000 per month Link: internshala.com/i/7308353 Deadline: March 9, 2021

CONTENT WRITING AT PROMOTEDIGITALLY

Location: Lucknow Stipend: ₹6,000-₹8,000 per month Link: internshala.com/i/7308355 Deadline: March 8, 2021

MARKETING AT BYJU'S APP

Location: Ranchi Stipend: ₹18,000 per month Link: internshala.com/i/7308357 Deadline: March 7, 2021

FRESHER JOBS PRODUCT MANAGER AT INTERNSHALA

Location:Gurugaon Stipend: ₹6.6-₹8.28 lakh per annum Link: internshala.com/i/7308360 Deadline: March 18, 2021 Skill(s): MS-Excel, English Proficiency

RESEARCH EVANGELIST AT DEEPTHOUGHT EDUTECH VENTURES

Location: Remote Stipend: ₹3-₹5 lakh per annum Link: internshala.com/i/7308361 Deadline: March 25, 2021

AUV LAUNCHED TO SANITISE SPACES

he Mahindra University has launched an Autonomous Unmanned Vehicle (AUV) Disinfecting Robot, Mahindra Universite UV Desinfectant Robot Autonome (MUDRA). This robot is designed to disinfect rooms labs, offices, shop floors, and various other

spaces using MANTED Ultraviolet C INTERNS!

Mahindra University said: "We are

(UVC) rays. Dr Yaiulu $Medury,\,VC,$

constantly focused upon enabling solutions that impact our day to day lives in a positive sense. In this pandemic time, safety is of paramount importance. I am proud that we have created an indigenously designed, developed in-house and funded disinfecting robot, that helps in the sanitisation of surfaces thereby, ensuring that spaces remain infection free.'

The robot has been designed to navigate autonomously on the floor without needing any extra infrastructure. It maps and plans its nath to move around, and avoids obstacles and re-charts its path intelligently. It moves from room to room on a floor automatically without any human intervention. In addition, it has the capability to operate elevators and move from one floor to another using Wi-Fi or wireless connectivity.

The robot is is completely safe and non-hazardous to humans as it automatically switches off its UVC function whenever it detects human presence.

ONLINE TALENT SEARCH EXAM FOR CAT

for CAT21/22

7, 2021.

T.I.M.E. Talent Search

Examination (TTSE)

aspirants on March

conducted in two

slots viz., 10 AM and

The test will be

he Triumphant Institute of Management Education (TIME) is a test-prep institute with a pan-India presence and is headquartered in Hyderabad.

From its entrepreneurial roots in 1992, the institute today has 251 centers and has trained over 22 Lakh students for various courses since The institute is

conducting the

6 PM. Students can choose to write the test any slot. Attractive performance-based fee waivers (up to 100 per cent on CAT

classroom/online courses) will be available for the students. A minimum assured discount of 10 per cent of the total course fee will be given to those who write the free mock and enroll in the mentioned courses before March 7, 2021. Interested students can register using the link given

below: https://www.time4ed ucation.com/local/ar ticlecms/page.php?i *d=4430*. To know more: https://www.time4ed ucation.com/ index.php.

Graduate programmes from the College of Science and Humanities, School of Management, and School of Law. Several UG and PG programmes are also available for stu-dents in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences that has the College of Pharmacy, College of Physiotherapy, College of Occupational

Therapy, College of Nursing, School of Public Health, among others.

SRM all set to welcome students

The soft launch of application forms for Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, and Faculty of Science and Humanities was held at the Institute's

premises in the presence of SRMIST's (Medical) Lt Col

Dr A Ravi Kumar, Director (Admissions) Dr KS Director Lakshmi, (Communications) R Nandakummar, Assistant Director (M&H) Venkata Ramakrishnan, Assistant Director (S&H), Dr Vivek Shivhare, Dean (FSH) Dr I Jothikumar, Dean (Law) Dr CA Gurudath, Dean (Dental) Dr N Vivek,

Dean (SHP) Dr Padma

Venkat, Dean (Pharmacy)

Dr V Chitra, Dean

(Physiotherapy) Veera Goutham and Dean (Occupational Therapy)

Dr U Ganapathy Sankar. FSH and SRM MCHRC has several disciplines that prepare students to fill that growing need and take advantage of that growing

opportunity. Admissions to any of these programmes will be based on the eligibil-

ity, Board examination marks, department level examination conducted by the respective schools in SRM and

one-to-one interaction. Candidates applying should have secured a minimum aggregate of 50 per cent in the Boards. Indians and non-resident Indians can apply.

Interested students can visit the site: www.srmist.edu.in for more information.



Pitch will be similar to last 2 Tests: Rahane 'Ashwin constantly

PTI AHMEDABAD

ndia's Test vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane on Tuesday said there is no need to take criticism of the spin-friendly pitches in the country "seriously" as not a word is spoken about the "damp" tracks elsewhere and England can expect another turner in the fourth Test.

There has been a lot of talk about the spinning tracks in the second Test at Chepauk and the pink ball game at Motera which ended inside two days. The fourth and final Test starts on March 4.

"I think the wicket will be similar to the second Test match in Chennai, spinning track. Yes, pink ball made the difference and it came much quicker off the wicket compared to red ball and we had to make adjustments," Rahane said during a virtual media conference.

"Wicket will be a lot similar to last two Test matches," he

Rahane, for the first time in many years, shed his reticence when asked to respond to the criticism from former England players that the pitches have not been ideal. Some have even urged the ICC to act against India for preparing a turner.

"See, let people speak what they want to. The wickets, when we tour abroad, no one speaks about how seaming they are. They always speak about the technique of the Indian batsmen, I don't feel we need to take seriously what people say," Rahane was sharp in his

response.
"...You see, when we tour abroad, the first day wicket is damp. When wicket becomes grassy and behaves up and down, then the pitch becomes dangerous but we haven't complained about it or we have never spoken about it."



'VERY SIMILAR PITCH'

Young England opener Zak Crawley too echoed Ajinkya Rahane's sentiments on the Motera strip which he believes will be "similar" in nature but red ball will make it "slightly easier" for the batsmen.

'Yeah, I think it will be a very similar pitch this week. It wasn't easy to score for sure, but it was the same for both sides, and they played very well compared to us. So, we had our chance to bat first and did well and unfortunately, we didn't play well as we needed to," Crawley said at a virtual confer-

Quizzed whether batting will be easier in the final Test as it will be a red ball game again, he answered in affirmative.

"It depends on the pitch obviously, but I do think that it will be slightly easier. I felt that the pink ball was a bit harder (to play) and that ball skidded on quite quickly, which is why Axar got so many wickets through leg before and bowled."

Axar's arm ball will be a massive threat, conceded "I think he still has that ball in his armoury for sure and he'll

still be a massive threat with that one (red ball). But I think it might not skid on with the same pace as the pink ball but it won't be completely different," explained Crawley.

Crawley was the only half centurion for England in the last

"Yeah, it's nice to score some runs. I probably had the best (chance) to face seamers early, but still nice to score some runs, nonetheless," he said, adding that hopefully he will have the game-plan in the final

The 23-year-old, lavished praise on left-arm spinner Axar Patel, who has grabbed 18 wickets from two Tests.

"You know, he (Axar) is a very good bowler, especially in these conditions, he has been very accurate, he doesn't give you much to score, and he has got one that goes straight on, in these conditions, one (to) turn, so he is very good bowler," said



Indian cricket team head coach Ravi Shastri on Tuesday received the first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine at a city hospital in Ahmedabad. Besides Shastri, no other member of the team's support staff was inoculated

reinventing himself'

PTI MUMBAI

 $R^{\rm avichandran\ Ashwin\ is\ a}_{\rm thinking\ cricketer,\ who\ is}$ constantly reinventing himself, said former India batsman VVS Laxman, insisting that preparation is key to the veteran off-spinner's success.

Ashwin recently became the fourth Indian bowler to take 400 Test wickets, when he achieved the feat by dismissing Jofra Archer in the pink ball Test at Ahmedabad. He also became the second fastest bowler to reach the landmark after Sri Lanka spin wizard Muttiah Muralitharan.

"I think he's (Ashwin) a very intelligent person. When you're playing at the highest level, then it's not only about your skill, it's about your preparation, your planning and execution is so critical.

"So, he works out what are the weaknesses of the batsman. He plans those dismissals and that's why I think he is reinventing himself," Laxman, a veteran of 134 Tests, said on Star Sports show Cricket Connected.

To prove his point, Laxman cited the example of Steve Smith's trouble against Ashwin during India's recent tour Down Under.

"We saw recently in the Australia series how he (Ashwin) troubled someone as great as Steve Smith and that's another thing that makes Ashwin or any champion player special, that he wants to be the best and compete against the best," he said.

Former India opener Aakash Chopra too lavished praise on Ashwin, saying he is one of the biggest match winners the country has ever produced.

'78 Test matches for 400 Test wickets. Let the naysayers be! He's been absolute phenomenal with the craft that he has displayed over a period of time and as he's growing as a bowler, he's picking a lot of wickets. So, that question mark is also getting answered quite nicely," said

Chopra.
"I feel that he's an absolute rockstar. He's one of the biggest match winners that India has ever produced, of course Anil Kumble will still remain at No 1," added 43year-old, who has played 10 Tests for the country.



Ash, Root in contention for ICC Player of Month

easoned India off-spinner SRavichandran Ashwin along with England captain Joe Root and West Indies' new batting sensation Kyle Mayers were on Tuesday nominated for the ICC Player of the Month for their exceptional performances in February.

Ashwin played three Tests against England and scored 106 in the second innings of India's second Test victory at Chennai and took his 400th Test wicket in the third Test victory at Ahmedabad.

"Scoring a total of 176 runs across these games with taking a total of 24 wickets, Ashwin is the deserving candidate to be nominated in the men's category for February," the ICC release

"England Test captain Joe Root makes it to the list of nominations again this month for his outstanding performance with the bat and the ball. He scored a total of 333 runs and took 6 wickets overall in the 3 Tests that he played against India," it further stated.

From the West Indies, Test debutant Mayers played two matches against Bangladesh and had a match-winning knock of 210 to help his team successfully chase a target of 395 at Chittagong.

In the women's section, Tammy Beaumont and Nat Sciver of England along with Halliday of Brooke New Zealand have been

third T20 World Cup

Chris Gayle said on Monday he is focused on the "bigger picture" of winning a third T20 world title with the West Indies later this year, ahead of the veteran batsman's return to International cricket this week.

The 41-year-old was named in the Windies' 14-man squad for the threegame T20I series against Sri Lanka, which starts in Antigua on Wednesday.

Gavle, who was part of the Wor T20-winning sides in both 2012 and 2016, played the last of his 58 T20Is against England in March 2019.

The Windies will attempt to defend their title in India in October and

"I want to accomplish, starting off by winning the series, but the bigger picture is actually to get three T20 titles under my belt," Gayle told a press con-

"That's actually the goal I'm setting in my head — winning the T20 World Cup. The World Cup is still a long way off but by the time you quint (blink), it's World Cup time."

Gayle has made 1,627 T20I runs with a highest score of 117 at an average of over 32.

"I want to win the series," Gayle added. "I want to get off to a good start. It's really good to be back. Hopefully I can perform, help the team, and put the



team in a winning position."

He is one of four openers in the West Indies squad, but said that he could be used lower down the order

"It seems like I'm the number three specialist now," he said. "It's not a problem. I'm good at playing spin, I'm as good at playing fast bowlers as anyone as I'm an opener.

"But with West Indies cricket, whatever role they want me to play, I'm willing to play that particular role. If it's opening, I'm ready, number three, number five — I'm pretty much flexi-ble. I will still be the best number five in the world, best number three in the

Gayle focused to win Leach eager to learn from Ashwin, Axar n't be Test cricket and it would-

PTI ■ LONDON

By his own admission, England's Jack Leach is in awe of the exploits of Ravichandran Ashwin and Axar Patel during the pink ball Test and he is eager to learn the nuances of spin bowling from the Indian duo in the fourth and final match, starting here on Thursday.

Ashwin and Axar used the spin-friendly Motera pitch to great effect and picked up 18 of match to demolish the visitors.

"When you see players having so much success, like Ravichandran Ashwin, who has just got to 400 Test wickets and has a lot of experience in India, and Axar Patel, who has had a great start to Test cricket, of course, you try to learn from them," Leach wrote



in a column for Sky Sports. "It's important not to look at it too emotionally though and think 'I just want to bowl exactly like them!'.

The 29-year-old left-arm spinner felt the experienced

Ashwin was very clever in the way he changed his seam posi-

"He (Ashwin) will bowl to the same spot but the way it gets there and whether it hits the seam or hits the lacquer varies and the ball reacts very differently," Leach observed. 'Then Axar is someone

who seems to present every ball the same, a squarish seam, then a few skid on and the odd one grips — that has been so effective on the wickets we've Leach is up for the chal-

lenge that awaits him in the final Test and sounded confident after picking up the wickets of top four Indian batsmen in the third Test.

...We're all keen to learn and are excited by the challenge; you have to be because if it was all easy then it would-

n't be as much fun when you have those good moments. It's something that I'm relishing, he said. "I was really pleased with

the way I got the wickets, lbw and they were all from straight balls, obviously the balls before spin and then you get the wicket with the straight one."

He said he will not get a better four-wicket than he grabbed in the last Test in the form of Rohit Sharma, hwar Pujara, Virat Kohl and Ajinkya Rahane.

"I'm pleased with the wick-

ets that I've taken, bowling to some of the best players in the world in their own backyard. I don't think I'll get a better fourfor and I feel like I've held my own really; that gives me a lot of confidence moving forward,"

LOCAL SPORT

Bhambri/Myneni enter

ITF tourney Q-F

seeded pair of Luca Castelnuovo and Eric Vaneshlboim 6-1, 6-1 to enter the quarterfinals of the doubles event of the second round of the men's singles main draw at the UP open World Tennis Tour ITF Men's \$15000 event at Vaijyantkhand Mini Stadium here on Tuesday. Meanwhile, four Indians, including qualifi-

Lucknow: Star Indian Davis Cuppers Yuki

Bhambri and Saketh Myneni thrashed second

er Suraj Prabodh and Manish Kumar, advanced and round of single's event

In the opening round, Suraj Prabodh played ousted Italian MarcoBrugnerotto 7-6(7), 6-3 while Chennai lad Manish Sureshkumar fought hard to break the winning momentum of another qualifier Dimitri Baskov of Moldova 2-6, 6-2, 6-2 in a thrilling tie.

S Prajwal Dev faced a tough challenge from junior player Adit Sinha of USA before winding up in his favour 7-6(2), 4-6, 6-0. Siddarth Vishwakarma defeated local wildcard Chinmay Dev Chauhan 6-3, 6-4 . Lakshit Sood and Digvijay Pratap Singh were the other Indian players to move into the round of sixteen.

Earlier, UP sports minister Upendra Tiwari inaugurated the event. UPTA president Navneet Sehgal and director (sports) RP Singh were also

NAGAR AYUKT XI WIN

Nagar Ayukt XI beat Jalkal XI by five wickets in a league match of Lucknow Nagar Nigam Cricket Tournament at KD Singh 'Babu' Stadium on Tuesday. Batting first, Jalkal XI piled up 140 runs in allotted 20 overs with Raja Dhanuk (50) and Anurag (39) being the top scorers. In reply, Nagar Ayukt XI achieved the target in 17.5 overs for the loss of five wickets.

BRIEF SCORES:

JL XI: 140 (Raja 50, Anurag 39,; Amit Kumar 13/3) NA XI: 143 (Ankit 50, Manish 33; Amit

SP TO OFFICIATE

BCCI on Tuesday announced SP Singh of Lucknow to be the official scorer of India-South Africa women's series to be held at Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana International stadium from March 7. AP Singh of Kanpur and Prashant Chaturvedi of Prayagraj will also perform the duties of scorers. JS Lxmi and Nilim Joglekar will be the match referees while Nandan, KK Srinivasan, Ulhas Gandhe and BK Ravi have been appointed umpires for the series.

HANDBALL TRIALS

The selection trials of Uttar Pradesh senior women's handball team will be held at Chowk Stadium on Wednesday. The UP team will take part in the 49th National Senior Women's Handball Championship to be held at Bareilly from March 17.

WUSHU PLAYERS SHINE

The UP team bagged two gold, three silver and seven bronze medals in the 29th National Senior Wushu Championship, held at Mohali.

The Medal winners: (Gold) Bhanu Singh,

Suraj Bhati; (Silver) Shivam Bhati, Milan, Huma Khan; (Bronze) Bulbul, Vishakha, Manisha Bhati, Rahul Bhati, Rishabh Nagar, Ashok.

Money gets more importance than cricket in IPL: Steyn

South Africa pace great Dale Steyn has claimed that Scricket takes a back seat at the Indian Premier League, insisting that money is given more importance than the game in the lucrative T20 tournament. Justifying his on-and-off IPL career, Steyn said this

was one of the reasons he had not featured regularly in the world's biggest franchise-based T20 tournament. "I think when you go to the IPL, there are such big squads and so many big names and so much emphasis on maybe the amount of money players earn

and everything like that, so sometimes, somewhere down the line, cricket gets forgotten," said Steyn, who was part of the Royal Challengers Bangalore squad in In January this year, Steyn announced that he is opting out of the IPL 2021 but will play other leagues

around the world. Steyn's decision influenced RCB to release him ahead of the IPL 2021 auction.

Steyn has played 95 IPL matches, picking up 97 wickets with a best of 3 for 8. But the South African's repeated injury break-

downs didn't help his cause as he just featured in 12 IPL matches in the last three seasons. The South African pacer, who is representing Quetta Gladiators in the Pakistan Super League 6, said he took the break as he needed time off from the game

and also because he found playing in other leagues

around the world more rewarding as a player.
"When you come to like the PSL or the Sri Lankan Premier League, for that matter, there is an importance on cricket. I have only been here for a couple of days and I have had people in and out of my room, just wanting to know about where I have played and how I went about it," Steyn said.

"Whereas, when I go to something like the IPL that gets forgotten and the main topic is how much money did you go for in this IPL? That's just me being brutally honest. I wanted to stay away from that and really put more emphasis on playing and bringing good vibes to good cricket teams and tournaments I feel are worth it," he added.

Vinicius rescues point for Real knock their opponents out of the titl



AFP MADRID

Real Madrid's chances of chasing down La Liga leaders Atletico Madrid were dealt a blow on Monday as they needed a late Vinicius Junior equaliser to secure a 1-1 draw with Real Sociedad.

It could have been worse for Zinedine Zidane's side, with Vinicius' finish in the 89th minute preventing what would have been a damaging defeat after a weekend in which both Atletico and Barcelona had won.

Atletico's victory over Villarreal on Sunday put them six points clear of Real Madrid, an advantage that is now only cut to five ahead of next week's Madrid derby at the Wanda Metropolitano. Atletico also have a game in hand.

The result ends Real Madrid's run of five consecutive wins while Portu's brilliant header for Real Sociedad early in the second half was also the first goal conceded by the reigning champions in five games.

It represents an important shift in momentum. A few days ago Atletico might have hoped just to hold on to first place next weekend but now they could spy an opportunity to all but

Madrid had 20 shots to Real Sociedad's six but lacked edge in the final third, with the injured Karim Benzema watching on from the stands. "We've had games where we won and maybe we didn't deserve to win and maybe we didn't deserve to will as well, we can't change anything," said Madrid coach Zidane. "We have to keep going. There is a long way to go."

Richarlison boosts Everton's top-4 bid



Liverpool: Everton boosted their bid to earn a top-four finish in the Premier League as Richarlison sealed a 1-0 win against struggling Southampton on Monday.

Carlo Ancelotti's side won for the first time in six home league games thanks to Richarlison's early

Everton's last success at Goodison Park had come against Arsenal just before Christmas, but ending a run of three consecutive home league defeats lifted them to within two points of fourth-placed West Ham.

The seventh-placed Toffees have a game in hand on West Ham, as well as Liverpool and Chelsea, who occupy the places directly above them.

Crowds can be avoided at least initially in IPL: Wadia PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $P^{\text{unjab Kings co-owner Ness Wadia}}_{\text{feels the IPL can avoid crowds initial-}}$ ly in the tournament and also wants to know from the BCCI that why his team's base in Mohali has not been picked among the potential venues for the 2021 edition despite a low Covid-19 caseload.

Delhi, Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Chennai have been shortlisted as potential venues but the BCCI is yet to take a final call on the matter.

"We have written to the BCCI to find out under what criteria they have selected the venues and why they have not selected us. We were hoping to have games in Punjab," Wadia said. "Some of the teams will not have a

home advantage, those are the concerns. The cases in Chandigarh and Mohali are not that much, I don't know on what basis they have shortlisted the venues," he added, referring to Chandigarh's 69 new cases on Monday. The 2020 edition of the IPL was held

in the UAE in empty stadiums but there is a possibility that the upcoming edition

at home will allow spectators with the

Covid situation improving drastically since the last IPL. The current India-England Test series too is being played in front of lim-

I am surprised at the exclusion of Mohali Cricket Stadium for the upcoming IPL season. I urge and appeal to @BCCI & @IPL to reconsider their decision. There is no reason why Mohali can't host IPL and our Government will make all necessary arrangements for safety against #Covid19.

Expressing surprise over the exclusion of Mohali from the list of venues short-listed for the upcoming IPL, Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh on Tuesday appealed to the BCCI to reconsider the decision

ited fans.

1:36 pm - 02 Mar 21

However, Wadia feels IPL is a much tougher challenge logistically compared to a bilateral series and crowds can be avoided at least initially due to safety con-"I think it would better to have no

crowd initially and then evaluate the Covid-19 situation as the event progresses. There is no question that the IPL is tougher to organise than a bilateral series. We want whatever is best and safe for the players and the bio-bubble.