

OPINION 6
SATAN IN GOD'S
OWN COUNTRY**WORLD 8**
GIRLS SCHOOLS REOPEN
IN AFGHAN CITY OF HERAT**MONEY 9**
GDP LIKELY TO GROW AT
10-10.5% IN FY2022: REPORT

NEW DELHI, TUESDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹3



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12 SPORT

Late City Vol. 31 Issue 310

*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

French Portal: 7.5mn euro Rafale bribe paid

Indian agencies didn't act despite being informed in 2018: Mediapart

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The French journal Mediapart, which in the past few months has frequently reported alleged wrongdoings in the Rafale fighter jet deal, has claimed in the fresh expose that more than 7.5 million Euros were paid as kickbacks to secure the contract with India.

The web portal also alleged that the Indian investigative agencies did not take any action even though they were apprised of the issue in 2018. The agencies included the Central Bureau of Investigation and the Enforcement Directorate (ED), according to the portal.

In the latest revelations, the journal alleged bogus invoices were used to enable French aircraft maker Dassault Aviation to pay at least 7.5 million Euros in secret commissions to a middleman to help it secure the Rafale deal with India.

India and France inked the Government-to-Government deal for procuring



36 Rafale jets off the shelf from the manufacturer at a total cost of seven billion Euros (₹59,000 crore). At least 25 jets have already been inducted into the IAF and the remaining planes will come by the end of the next year.

Mediapart reported in July that a French judge has been appointed to lead a "highly sensitive" judicial investigation into suspected corruption and favouritism in the Rafale deal.

"Mediapart is today publishing the alleged false invoices that enabled French aircraft manufacturer Dassault

Aviation to pay at least 7.5 million euros in secret commissions to a middleman to help secure the sale of 36 Rafale fighter aircraft to India," the journal said in its new report on Sunday.

It alleged that despite the existence of "these documents," the Indian probe agencies decided not to pursue the matter. It involves offshore companies, dubious contracts and "false" invoices.

"Mediapart can reveal that detectives from India's federal police force, the Central Bureau of Investigations (CBI), and

colleagues from the Enforcement Directorate (ED), which fights money laundering, have had proof since October 2018 that French aviation firm Dassault paid at least 7.5 million euros (equivalent to just under ₹650 million) in secret commissions to middleman Sushen Gupta," Mediapart claimed in the report.

"This was in the context of the French firm's long and ultimately successful attempt to secure a 7.8 billion-euro-deal in 2016 to sell 36 of its Rafale fighters to India," it said.

In a report in April 2021, the online journal claimed that it was in possession of documents that showed Dassault and its industrial partner Thales, a defence electronics firm, paid "middleman" Gupta several million euros in "secret commissions" in connection with the deal.

According to the April report, the bulk of the payments were made before 2013. "According to an accounts spreadsheet belonging to Sushen Gupta, an entity called simply 'D', which is a code he regularly used to designate Dassault, paid ₹14.6 million to Interdev in Singapore over the period 2004-2013," the report said.

Continued on Page 2

Journalist died from car hit in Lakhimpur: UP

Vehicle belongs to Minister's son; SC unhappy at sluggish investigation, wants another HC ex-judge to monitor SIT probe

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Uttar Pradesh Government on Monday informed the Supreme Court that journalist Raman Kashyap killed in the violent incident at Lakhimpur Kheri died of the impact of the car owned by Union Minister Ajay Mishra's son and not by lynching by farmers. Meanwhile, expressing displeasure on the delay in the probe, the apex court said it has no confidence and does not want the one-member judicial commission appointed by the Uttar Pradesh Government to continue probe into the Lakhimpur violence in which 8 people were killed — four farmers hit by vehicles and 3 lynched — on October 3.

Representing the UP Government, a noted lawyer said that probe found that the journalist was crushed by the car owned by Union Minister Ajay Mishra's son. Reacting to this information, Justice Surya Kant said "that innocent jour-



nalist's cause of death was different than what was projected. Impression given was he was beaten to death."

Retired Allahabad High Court judge Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava was named by the State Government earlier to enquire into the eruption of violence on Tikononia-Banbirpur road in Lakhimpur Kheri district. The bench headed by Chief Justice NV Ramana, in a hearing conducted through video conferencing, suggested to the State Government that the monitoring of the ongoing probe be done by a former judge of a "different High Court" to infuse "independence, impartiality and fairness".

"We, somehow or the other, are not confident and we do not want any judicial commission appointed by your State Government to continue," said the bench, also comprising justices Surya Kant and Hima

Kohli. The bench referred to two FIRs, one pertaining to mowing down of the farmers and the other related to subsequent lynching of BJP activists by the mob, and said prima facie it appeared that evidence was being procured to protect the accused in the first case.

"We are inclined to appoint a former judge of a different high court to monitor the investigation on a day-to-day basis and then see how the separate charge sheets are eventually prepared," said the bench.

Speaking for the apex court bench, Justice Kant suggested the names of justices Ranjit Singh and Rakesh Kumar Jain, both former judges of the Punjab & Haryana High Court, and said they are experienced in the field of criminal law and would oversee the SIT probe till filing of the chargesheets in the cases. The State Government has to respond to it by November 12.

CRPF jawan shoots dead 4 colleagues in Sukma

PNS/PTI ■ SUKMA

Four Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel were killed and three others were injured when a disgruntled constable fired at his colleagues in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district on Monday.

Constable Reetesh Ranjan opened fire around 3.15 am at a camp of the CRPF's 50th Battalion in Lingapalli village, some 400 km from Raipur, with an AK-47 assault rifle.

Seven personnel were seriously injured in the incident and were rushed to the Bhadrachalam Hospital where four succumbed to their injuries. The dead were identified as constables Rajmani Kumar Yadav, Rajib Mondal, Dhanji and Dharmendra Kumar. Two among the three seriously injured were airlifted to Raipur for treatment.

Ranjan was overpowered and was questioned. The CRPF has ordered a court of inquiry into the incident.

Chief Minister Bhupesh



Baghel expressed grief over the killings and urged officials to take appropriate action so that such an incident is not repeated.

"The motive behind the firing is yet to be ascertained and an investigation is on into the incident," an official said.

Constable Ranjan was immediately held and his interrogation is underway, he said.

Sukma Superintendent of Police Sunil Sharma told PTI that Ranjan was scheduled to be on sentry duty at the camp from 4 am and after getting ready for it, he allegedly opened fire at his colleagues who were sleeping in a barrack.

"Around 40 to 45 jawans were sleeping inside the barrack at that time. After all the bullets in Ranjan's rifle got exhausted, he was overpowered and captured by some of his colleagues who woke up on hearing the sound of gunshots," the official said.

"As per preliminary information, Ranjan and the victims had been exchanging jokes and teasing each other for last two-three days. The accused might have been offended with the teasing and hence, took such a step," Sharma said.

However, the exact motive behind the incident will be known after an investigation, he said.

Of the deceased jawans, three belonged to Bihar and one was from West Bengal, it said.

CRPF's inspector general and Sukma's additional superintendent of police reached the spot, while Bastar IG, Sukma's collector and Superintendent of Police will also go there, it added.

Security at Ambani's house tightened after cabbie alerts police

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

More than nine months after the recovery of a Gelatin sticks' laden Scorpio and a threatening letter inside a vehicle on Carmichael Road, the Mumbai Police on Monday once again beefed up security in and around Mukesh Ambani's residence "Antilia" after a taxi driver sounded them about the possibility of a fresh threat to the industrialist and his family.

The police tightened the security around Mukesh Ambani's 27-storey residence "Antilia" on Carmichael Road in south Mumbai, after a taxi driver informed the city police control room that two persons in a tourist car asked him the address of Antilia.

Informed police sources said that around 1 pm, two people travelling in a WagonR car with tourist number plate asked the address of Antilia outside Esplanade court.

Having found their conduct suspicious, the taxi driver dialled the police control room and alerted the police. Among other things, he told the police that he found a few bags inside the car.

Not wanting to take any chances, the police increased the security around "Antilia" as a precautionary measure.

"Immediately afterwards, we tried to trace the tourist car but it is yet to be traced. The tourist car number provided by the taxi driver proved to be incorrect. We are scrutinising the CCTV footage along the road in front of Esplanade Court," a senior official said.

Meanwhile, the taxi driver was taken to the Azad Maidan police station for recording his statement.

It may be recalled that on February 25, a Gelatin sticks' laden Scorpio and a threatening letter inside the vehicle, in the vicinity of Ambani's 27-storey residence "Antilia".

Ansals get 7 years jail for tampering Uphaar proof

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A Delhi court Monday awarded 7-year jail terms to real estate barons Sushil and Gopal Ansal for tampering with evidence in the 1997 case of Uphaar cinema fire which had claimed 59 lives.

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Pankaj Sharma also imposed a fine of ₹2.25 crore each on the Ansals.

Besides, the court awarded 7-year-jail term each to former court staff Dinesh Chand Sharma and two others — PP Batra and Anoop Singh — in the case and imposed a fine of ₹3 lakh each on the them.

"After thinking over nights and nights, I have come to the conclusion that they deserve punishment," the judge said.

He said the circumstances during which the instant crime was committed showed the deep disrespect which the convicts had for the law and the judicial process and for the victims.

"The foundation of judiciary is premised on the trust



and confidence of the people and any action which is aimed to thwart the said foundation cannot be permitted and is required to be dealt with utmost strictness," it said.

It said the sentencing in the case must respond to the cry of the society.

While imposing fine on the convicts, the court noted that the DLSA (Delhi State Legal Services Authority) had suggested in the Victim Impact Report (VIR) that victims had suffered "incalculable harm" and the quantum of compensation also proposed was "incalculable".

The fine was imposed after analysing the income proofs submitted by the convicts.

The court held that the Ansals were better placed in terms of financial capacity than

others to provide compensation to the victims.

The court said that the amount of fine imposed on each convict will be paid as compensation to the victim AVUT, after disbursing the cost incurred by the prosecution.

"Since no amount of compensation can alleviate the agony, trauma and the pain suffered by the family members of the victims, however, compensation in the form of money can provide some succour to them," the judge said.

Rejecting convicts' plea seeking mercy, the court said that misplaced sympathy or unwarranted leniency will send a wrong signal to the public giving room to suspect the institutional integrity and would affect its credibility.

Inadequate sentence would do more harm to the justice system and would undermine the public confidence in the efficacy of the law as society could not long endure such assaults on the justice system, it said.

Centre places order for 1 cr doses of Zydus Cadila jabs

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India's Covid-19 vaccination platter has become wider and varied with the Centre placing an order for one crore doses of the world's first Plasmid DNA Vaccine, ZyCoV-D at ₹265 per dose.

"Zydus Cadila has received an order to supply one crore doses of ZyCoV-D, the world's first Plasmid DNA Vaccine, to the Government of India at ₹265 per dose and the needle-free applicator being offered at ₹93 per dose, excluding GST," the pharma firm said.

So far, Bharat Biotech's Covaxin, Serum Institute of India's Covishield and Russian made Sputnik are being offered in the Government national vaccination drive launched on January 16.

Pfizer, Astra shots produce more antibodies than natural infection

50+ generate more natural antibodies than those below 50 years: Study

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

People who receive the Pfizer or AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine have antibody levels significantly higher than those infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, according to a study published in Scientific Reports journal on Monday. Interestingly, the team led by researchers at the University of Montreal in Canada also found that these antibodies were also effective against the Delta variant.

More than that, what sur-



prised the researchers most was that antibodies produced by naturally infected individuals aged 50 and older provided a greater degree of protection than adults below 50 years of age.

In the study, 32 non-hospitalised Covid-19 positive Canadian adults were recruited 14 to 21 days after being diagnosed through PCR testing

in 2020, before the Beta, Delta and Gamma variants emerged.

"Everyone who had been infected produced antibodies, but older people produced more than adults under 50 years of age," said Jean-Francois Masson, a professor at the University of Montreal.

"In addition, antibodies were still present in their bloodstream 16 weeks after

their diagnosis," Masson said. Antibodies produced after an infection by the original viral strain also reacted to SARS-CoV-2 variants that emerged in subsequent waves, namely Beta, Delta and Gamma, with a reduction of 30 to 50 per cent in reactivity.

"But the result that surprised us the most was that antibodies produced by naturally infected individuals 50 and older provided a greater degree of protection than adults below 50," said Joelle Pelletier, a professor at the University of Montreal.

"This was determined by measuring the antibodies' capacity to inhibit the interaction of the Delta variant's spike protein with the ACE-2 receptor in human cells, which is how we become infected," he added.

Padma Vibhushan conferred on Jaitley, Sushma, Fernandes

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former Union Ministers George Fernandes, Arun Jaitley and Sushma Swaraj and former President of Mauritius Anerood Jugnauth were on Monday conferred the Padma Vibhushan posthumously for their exceptional and distinguished service in two civil investiture ceremonies held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

The face of women boxing in India MC Mary Kom, who is a six-time AIBA women's boxing champion, Shri Shri Vishwesha Theertha Swamiji of Udipi (posthumous), popularly known as Shri Pejavara Swamiji, were also honoured with the Padma Vibhushan by President Ram Nath Kovind in



Bansuri Swaraj, daughter of former Union Minister Sushma Swaraj, receives Padma Vibhushan from the President on behalf of her mother PTI

the presence of Vice President Prime Minister and Union Home Minister among others. Continued on Page 2

Winter Session of Parliament from Nov 29

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Cabinet Committee on Parliament Affairs has recommended that the Winter Session of Parliament be held from November 29 to December 23. Like previous sessions of Parliament in the last one and half years, the Winter Session will be held adhering to Covid-19 protocols. The session will have around 20 sittings, said officials.

The Winter Session of Parliament was not held last year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which also led to curtailment of the Budget and the Monsoon Sessions. "The CCPA (Cabinet Committee on Parliament Affairs) which is chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has recommended the dates for the Winter Session of Parliament from November 29 to December 23," said officials.

SAMEER WANKHEDE DEFACTION CASE

HC seeks Nawab Malik's response

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In twin separate developments linked to mid-sea drug bust case, the Bombay High Court on Monday directed Maharashtra Minister Nawab Malik to file his reply on a ₹1.25 crore defamation suit filed against him by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) Zonal Director Sameer Wankhede's father Dnyande

On a day when he upped the ante over the alleged involvement of Wankhede's sister Harshada Dinanath Redkar involved in the drug business, Malik found himself in a spot of bother as he came to contend with two defamation cases filed against him --- one filed in the high court by Sameer Wankhede's father Dnyande

Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Mazgaon.

Advocate Arshad Shaikh, who appeared for Dnyande Wankhede, rooted for the high court restraining Malik from making "defamatory" statements against NCB's zonal director and his client's son Sameer till the high court heard. "Everyday something or the other is posted hence I am here. This morning only Malik put a tweet about Sameer Wankhede's sister-in-law," Shaikh told the court.

Senior Advocate Atul Damle, representing Malik, told the court that he had no instructions from his client to make any statements or give undertaking in court. He also opposed the maintainability of the suit filed by Dnyande on behalf of his son Sameer. He sought two to three days' time for his client to file his reply.

Vacation judge Madhav Jamdar directed Malik to file a reply by Tuesday in view of the fact that the suit was against

defamatory statements made against the petitioner's family members. "If you can give reply on Twitter then you better reply

Minister gives 'proof' of officer's role in drug trade

Mumbai:Not letting NCB's Zonal director Sameer Wankhede to go off the hook, Maharashtra Minister and senior NCP leader Nawab Malik on Monday shared what he called a "proof" of the alleged involvement of the former's sister-in-law, Harshada Dinanath Redkar, was involved in the drugs business.

Sharing the "proof" showing Redkar listed as "Respondent and Advocate" in a 2008 case registered under the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, Malik tweeted: "Sameer Dawood Wankhede, is

here also," Justice Jamdar told Damle, before passing the order asking Malik to file his reply on Tuesday.

your sister-in-law Harshada Dinanath Redkar involved in the drug business? You must answer because her case is pending before the Pune court".

In his response, Sameer Wankhede said: "Good work, dear friend, by circulating the name of a woman. In fact, when we issue a press release, we don't share the names of women to protect their dignity".

In his retaliation, Wankhede said that he was not even in service when the case happened in January 2008. The NCB officer said he married Kranti Redkar in 2017.

BJP slams Bengal for delaying VAT cut on oil

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The BJP on Monday lashed out at the Bengal Government for failing to follow the example of Prime Minister Narendra Modi by slashing taxes on petrol and diesel and threatened a prolonged movement if Chief Minister would not take immediate measures to address its demands.

In a hard-hitting statement Bengal Opposition Leader Suvendu Adhikari said "after the Prime Minister generously took a lead in reducing excise duty on petrol and diesel following which all the BJP-ruled States including an economically weak state like Tripura ... reduced VAT on fuel but this Bengal Government which has been shedding crocodile tears over rising fuel prices has decided against doing so ... today we have protested inside the State Assembly and tried to take out a rally from our State party

office but Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's police acting like a slave has stopped us from doing so."

The police jammed all the routes through which the saffron MPs and senior leaders would take out a rally leading to heated arguments between the two sides in front of the BJP State office. Getting tricked and trapped by the cops the leaders and about a thousand cadres were then forced to disperse from the starting point of the procession.

Asking the Chief Minister to follow in the footsteps of her Uttar Pradesh counterpart Yogi Adityanath, the Bengal BJP leader said "we want Mamata Banerjee to learn a lesson from UP Chief Minister or else we assure you that we will intensify our movement and force this Government to slash oil prices." Attacking Banerjee for "talking big and thriving on dole and subsidy politics" the BJP leader said "in UP Adityanath Government

has created 4.5 lakh jobs whereas in Bengal this Chief Minister instead of filling up 10.5 lakh Government posts is reducing the voters into beggars by indulging in dole and subsidy politics ... this will take Bengal nowhere towards our Prime Minister's dream of Atma Nirbhar Bharat (self reliant India)."

He warned the State Government to reduce the power tariff too failing which the BJP will start a prolonged movement in the State. "When Mamata Banerjee came to power the power tariff was around ₹3-4 now it has gone to about ₹10 ... we warn her to take steps to cut power tariff or else we will start a prolonged movement," he said.

On why the Centre was not bringing petrol and diesel under GST regime Bengal BJP president Sukanto Mondal said that the question should better be asked to the chairperson of the GST council and not the BJP.

Centre made ₹4L cr from oil price hike: Didi

Kolkata: Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday attacked the Centre for "doing nothing about the rising petrol and diesel prices" and allowing the people of India to suffer the brunt of inflation caused by the dearer fuel.

"The Centre has raised ₹4 lakh crore on account of rising petrol and diesel prices ... rising petrol prices has halted all the Government's projects ... it has adversely affected farmers ... how the farmers will carry out their agriculture if the diesel prices continue to go up like this ... but they will do nothing to address this problem ... let alone fuel prices ... they are not even giving enough vaccines which is why our vaccination drive is getting hurt," Banerjee told an audience.

Claiming that her Government had done everything envisioned by the great icons like Tagore, Vidya Sagar, Nazrul and others Banerjee said "Bengal has truly implemented the pro-people programmes ... today it has set an example before the whole world on implementation of social welfare schemes ... in economic sector we are developing rapidly and soon become a frontline State".

J&K urges film fraternity to renew its old romance with it

Jammu: Ahead of the peak winter season the Union Territory administration has kick started a fresh campaign urging the film fraternity to renew its decades' old romance with Jammu & Kashmir. On Monday, Secretary, Tourism & Culture, Sarmad Hafeez pitched for making the UT as the premier shooting destination of India during the national level Film Tourism symposium.

During the event, jointly organised by the Ministries of Tourism & Information & Broadcasting in Mumbai, the Tourism Secretary dwelt in detail on the long and age old relationship Jammu & Kashmir has had with Bollywood and other film platforms of the country.

On the occasion several Bollywood producers shared their experiences of Kashmir and said that they have special love for the place. They assured of their support in turning UT to film shooting again.

He also reminded the film industry of its warm and affectionate relationship with Jammu & Kashmir which the people of the UT so fondly recall. He appealed the members of film world to take up this thread of warm relationship forward and start re-visiting Jammu & Kashmir in good numbers for shooting.

Asking the film fraternity to partner with UT administration in this regard, Sarmad Hafeez said the Government has recently put in place a comprehensive Film Policy by which film shooting and production in J&K has been institutionalized and incentivized.

In a detailed presentation about the Film Policy, he outlined the thrust areas and scope for working on film projects in J&K.

He said for the first time shootings in the UT have been incentivized and requisite infrastructure for the same is being made available.

Salesman employed by a Kashmiri Pandit shot dead

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

A local salesman employed by a Kashmiri pandit businessman was shot dead by terrorists in Zainakadal area of Srinagar late Monday evening.

This is the second incident of targeted killing in less than 24 hours in the capital city. On Sunday evening, a police constable was shot dead outside his home in SD colony area of Batmaloo triggering panic among the local residents.

According to ground reports, a local salesman identified as Mohd Ibrahim, resident of Aштangu Ghat, Bandipora was shot at from a close range in Zainakadal area of downtown Srinagar.

According to local reports, Ibrahim had received a bullet injury in the head. Bleeding profusely he was rushed to a nearby

hospital where reportedly he succumbed to his injuries. Ibrahim was working at the shop of Roshan Lal Mawa, a Kashmiri pandit who returned to Srinagar after three decades in 2019.

Roshan Lal along with his son Sandeep Mawa was welcomed by the local residents in the area and was accorded warm reception when the duo relaunched their business. In 1990, Roshan Lal had himself suffered bullet injuries when terrorists opened fire on him.

Initially, he migrated along with his family to Jammu and later shifted base to New Delhi where he restarted his family business.

Sandeep Mawa, chairman J&K Reconciliation Front, a body that promotes harmony and brotherhood between Pandits and Muslims, helped his father to set up their family business in Srinagar.

MoU signed between University of Kashmir and Chinar Corps

PNS ■ JAMMU

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between University of Kashmir (UoK), Srinagar and Chinar Corps at Gandhi Hall, University of Kashmir on Monday enabling soldiers posted in the valley to pursue distance education courses. A total of 18 courses are presently available for enrolment by the Army personnel, which will be increased in due course of time.

As per the MoU the type of courses being made available to Army personnel ranges from six months Certificate Courses to one year Diploma Courses and two years Post Graduate Courses.

After the formal signing of the MoU, Professor Talat Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, UoK addressed the gathering and emphasized on core values of UoK and mentioned the vital significance of long term MoU which will benefit the soldiers posted in Kashmir.

Addressing the gathering Lieutenant General D P Pandey said the initiative will empower the soldiers of the Chinar Corps performing their duties in difficult terrain and challenging environment. The courses featuring in the MoU including MA/ MSc (Maths), MA (English), MA (Urdu), MA (Education) under 2 year courses and PG Dip (Computer Applications), PG Dip (Web designing), PG Dip (Cyber Law), PG Dip (Tourism Management) etc in the Diploma category.

French Portal: 7.5mn...

From Page 1

It said Interdev was a shell company with no real activity and administered by a straw man for the Gupta family.

The report said according to another accounts spreadsheet belonging to Gupta, which only covers the years 2004 to 2008, Thales paid \$2.4 million to another shell company.

In another report in April, Mediapart claimed that Dassault paid \$1 million to Gupta for manufacturing 50 large replica models of Rafale jets, even though the plane maker provided inspectors of French anti-corruption agency Agence Française Anticorruption no proof that these models were made. The deal became controversial.

Rafale manufacturer Dassault Aviation and India's defence Ministry have previously trashed allegations of any corruption in the contract.

India's Supreme Court too in 2019 dismissed petitions seeking a probe into the deal saying there was no ground for it.

In a statement published in April,

reacting to Mediapart's report on the investigation, Dassault Aviation stated that the group, "acts in strict compliance with the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention and national laws".

The Congress accused the Government of massive irregularities in the deal, alleging that it was procuring each aircraft at a cost of over Rs 1,670 crore as against Rs 526 crore finalised by the UPA Government during the negotiations for the Medium multi-role combat aircraft (MMRCA).

Prior to the Lok Sabha elections in 2019, Congress raised several questions about the deal and alleged corruption, but the Government rejected all the charges.

The Government has maintained it cannot disclose the details of the price because of a confidentiality agreement with France, and the strategic reason of not showing its hand to India's enemies. It said that the current deal also includes customised weaponry.

The Supreme Court heard a public interest case on the deal and in November 2019 said it saw nothing wrong in it.

ronmentalists from Karnataka who has planted more than 30,000 saplings and has been involved in environmental conservation activities for the past six decades.

The Prime Minister said in a tweet: "Attended the first of the Padma Award ceremonies for the years 2020 and 2021. I felt extremely happy to see grassroots level achievers being recognised for their exemplary efforts to further public good. Congratulations to all those who have been conferred the #PeoplesPadma".

President Kovind presented Padma Vibhushan to Jugnauth (posthumous), who had "immensely contributed in deepening the special relations between Mauritius and India".

Hat-trick in NEET

New Delhi: Three fifth rank holders of NEET 2021 are from Sri Chaitanya Educational Institution. Commenting on the impressive results, Sushma Boppana, Academic Director of the institution, said, "The credit goes to the hard work put in by our students and the guidance by the faculty, as well as the quality test preparation imparted at Sri Chaitanya."

Ahmednagar hospital fire: Six staffers suspended

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Having taken serious cognisance of the laxity on the part of the staff at the Ahmednagar district civil hospital leading to massive fire mishap on November 6 in which 11 Covid-19 patients were killed, the Maharashtra Government on Monday suspended six staffers — comprising District Health Surgeon, two doctors and three nurses — pending a detailed inquiry into the incident.

Making an announcement about the disciplinary action against the hospital staff after his visit to the hospital on Sunday, Maharashtra Health Minister Rajesh Tope said that of the suspended staff — two nurses Asma Sheikh and Channa Anant — had been compulsorily retired.

Tope identified four doctors suspended in connection with the fire as District Health Surgeon Dr. Sunil Pokhrana, Dr. Suresh Dhakne- Medical Officer, Dr. Visakha Shinde - Medical Officer and Sapna Pathare, Staff Nurse.

Talking to media persons during his visit to the hospital, the State Health Minister had said the state government

would allocate funds for fire safety audits in all district hospitals in the State. "We will also create a post of fire safety officer in each of the district hospital facilities," he said.

Tope said that there was a need for fire safety audits in all district hospitals. "We will create a separate fund for the purpose," he said.

Tope said that the high-level committee appointed to look into the circumstances leading to the break-out of fire at district civil hospital at Ahmednagar in western Maharashtra.

Seventeen Covid-19 patients were undergoing treatment at the ICU of the hospital, when the fire broke out there at 10.30 am on Saturday. Of the patients, 10 died on the spot, while one more person succumbed to burn wounds later. Six others are undergoing treatment at some other ward of the hospital.

Incidentally, Saturday's was the fifth mishap to have taken place in the state since early this year. Of the mishaps, three took place in designated Covid-19 hospitals, while one in at a hospital where Covid-19 patients are undergoing treatment.

// शुद्धि पत्र //

मेसर्स राधे गोविन्द स्टील एण्ड एलॉयज प्राइवेट लिमिटेड, ओ.पी. ज़िंदल इण्डस्ट्रीयल पार्क, ग्राम- पूंजीधरा, तहसील- तमनार, जिला- रायगढ़ (छ.ग.) स्थित प्लाट क्रमांक 102, कुल क्षेत्रफल- 2.39 हेक्टेयर में स्थापित उद्योग के एस.एम. इंगट्स / बिलेट्स (श्रु इण्डक्शन फर्नेस) क्षमता- 59,400 टन प्रतिवर्ष (2 गुणा 10 टन सीसीएम) से बढ़ाकर 1,48,000 टन प्रतिवर्ष (4 गुणा 12 टन सीसीएम) को स्थापना के लिए पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई बाबत दिनांक 07/08.10.2021 को प्रकाशित जनसुनवाई से संबंधित सर्वसंबंधितों को सूचना में जनसुनवाई का दिन गुरुवार के स्थान पर दिन बुधवार प्रकाशित हो गया था। अतः लोक सुनवाई दिनांक 11.11.2021, दिन- गुरुवार, समय प्रातः 11:00 बजे, स्थान- बंजारी मंदिर के समीप का मैदान, ग्राम- तराईमाल, तहसील- तमनार, जिला- रायगढ़ (छ.ग.) पढ़ा जावे।

सदस्य सचिव
छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल,
नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर

PUBLIC NOTICE

To be known to all that my client, by Shri Ram Raj, S/o Late Sh. Swami Nath Raj, R/o H.No. 77, Gali No. 15, Wazirabad, New Delhi-110084, Allottee/Owner of Plot No. 423, Pocket-3, Block-D, Sector-25A, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, UP. Area covered 22.00 Sq.Mtrs., Situated at Rohini, Delhi, has applied for a certified copy of the aforesaid property vide File No.F-1617788/2012/LAB/Rohini in DDA. The Original Document i.e. Demand Court Order dated 08/11/2021, in this effect has been lodged in P.S.Crime Branch, Delhi. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above Address/Phone No. 9711324309 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property, can personally inform or write to Deputy Director/LAB (Ro) or Director/LAB(Ro), C Block, 3 Floor, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi.

Public Notice

General Power of Attorney was executed on 20-09-2021 in favour of MR. ANIL KUMAR AGARWAL son of Late SHRI BHAWATI PRASAD AGARWAL, resident of A-002 OMAXE FOREST SPA, SECTOR-93B, NOIDA, duly registered in Noida A/G STAMP on dated 20-09-2021 and Agreement to Sell was not registered, so it is informed to all concerned that the said Commercial Shop No. 206 and 210, first Floor Spice World Plot No.-2 Block-K, Sector-25A, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, UP is going to be transferred in favour of SMT. SANYOSH GUPTA wife of NARESH KUMAR GUPTA resident of A/03 TOWER No1 PURVANCHAL SILVER CITY-2, SECTOR-P/2 GREATER NOIDA. If any has/have any objection hereto may file his/her objection along with the sufficient proof in the Commercial Department of the Noida Authority within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.

UPDESH KUMAR (Advocate)

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ALPANA DEVI W/O SH. MADHUSUDAN R/O RZF-1/83A, GALI NO. 1, 3RD FLOOR, MAHAVIR ENCLAVE NEAR SAI MANDIR, SOUTH WEST DELHI, NEW DELHI-110045 STATE THAT BOTH THE NAMES ALPANA DEVI AND ALPANA DEVI ARE OF SAME PERSON AND I WILL BE KNOWN AS ALPANA DEVI FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.

PD(9102)A

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all including General Public that My Client Sh. Vijay Bhanot and his wife Smt. Rita Bhanot, both R/o J-6/64, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi-110027, do hereby declare that he and his wife Rita Bhanot have Severed / Broken all their relations with his son namely Sh. Amit Bhanot, his wife Rupali and Children Ms. Akshaya daughter aged about 13 years and son Bharat aged about 12 years and disowned all of them from all their moveable and immovable properties including J-6/64, Rajouri Garden, Factory at Bawana and Godown etc and all other properties as well as Cash, Banks Balance, Fixed Deposits, Invest-ments, Shares, Debentures, Gold, Jewellery, Ornaments, and all goods and belongings. The aforesaid Sh. Amit Bhanot and his family shall have no right, title and interest in the present and future properties. Any body dealing with the aforesaid Mr. Amit Bhanot and his family, shall be doing so at their own risk and consequences and my client shall not be responsible for any of the acts, deeds and things of Mr. Amit Bhanot, Rupali and children Akshaya and son Bharat. My client have withdrew their Consent and permission by which Mr. Amit Bhanot and his family were living with them and requested them to vacate aforesaid Property. My client in his old age, do not want to loose their peace and comforts at the instance Mr. Amit Bhanot, his wife and children.

Ravinder Kumar Gupta,
Advocate (D-314/86-DBC)
Delhi High Courts, New Delhi Ph: 9313508678
B-22, BGS Block, Tiz Hazari Court, New Delhi-54

COMMUNICATION WITH DIRECTOR OF HIGHER EDU ON FUNDING

DU seeks details from 12 college principals

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi University has sought details of all communication exchanged between principals of 12 colleges fully funded by the city Government and the Director of Higher Education.

The action comes in the wake of accusations made by the Delhi Government's Department of Higher Education.

In a letter written to Delhi University Vice-Chancellor Yogesh Singh, the Government asked him to take action against the principals of 12 Delhi Government-funded colleges. The department accused them of "inciting teachers" and "creating a hostile education environment" over funding issues.

"Instead of providing Utilisation Certificates on time, adhering to the conditions of pattern of assistance, managing the accounts properly, evolving mechanisms for generation of internal resources, the principals have been inciting teachers and staff



by utterances, creating a hostile educational environment. The principals in their leadership role have been leading adverse critical and embarrassing chants," the letter read.

Following the letter, Delhi University's Assistant Registrar (Colleges) wrote to the principals asking them to provide all communication made with the Director of Higher Education and other officials.

Twelve DU colleges are fully funded by the Delhi Government and funds have been a bone of contention between the two sides.

In a statement, AAP MLA Atishi, Chairperson, Standing Committee on Education (Delhi Vidhan Sabha), alleged

that there is a lack of transparency from colleges.

"As per the terms and conditions of the grant, it is necessary for college principals to submit Utilisation Certificates in order to get funds. However, the colleges delay this process in every quarter.

On one hand, the colleges do not fulfil the basic process and on the other they turn around and say that the Delhi Government is not giving funds. It is beyond comprehension as to why the UCs are delayed

and why do the colleges blame the Delhi Government when the delay is on their end?

"It is paramount to understand the reason behind the lack of transparency in these colleges that they do not want to explain where funds have been utilised.

At the same time, it is concerning that the principals, while being party to the delay on the end of the colleges, incite the teachers by spreading lies about the Delhi Government not releasing funds," she said.

Case can't be made against me on half-truths: Khalid

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former JNU student leader Umar Khalid told a court here on Monday that statements of the witnesses in the Delhi riots conspiracy case were written by someone else and given to them as police did not have any evidence and a case can't be made against him on half-truths.

Khalid and several others have been booked under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), a stringent anti-terror law, and are accused of being the "masterminds" of the north-east Delhi riots in February, 2020 which had left 53 people dead and over 700 injured.

Arguing his bail plea before Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat, senior advocate Trideep Pais read out the statements of three protected witnesses and claimed that they were contradictory and cooked up.

During the proceedings, Pais read out a police allegation from the chargesheet regarding an alleged secret meeting in Delhi's Seelampur area on January 23 and 24 last year in which Khalid had allegedly directed that the protests be



escalated to riots and result in the spilling of blood of policemen and others.

Denying that it was a secret meeting, Pais argued that its pictures were taken and uploaded on Facebook. "I did not know that secret meeting were put up on Facebook. Does it really look secret to this court?" he asked.

He also called the protected witness "Sierra", who gave a statement to the police on this alleged secret meeting, "cooked up". "From the statement, it is clear that Sierra is the tea seller who comes and gives tea in the meetings. He is the only witness who says that the meet-

ing was secret. All other witnesses do not claim this. They all contradict each other," Pais said.

He added, "How would a person speak in front of a tea seller and spill the entire beans of conspiracy? The witness waits from January to June and appears miraculously before the police. Clearly a cooked-up witness."

Pais asked how a tea seller miraculously know the names of all the people in the secret meeting, including those who are not even there.

The advocate submitted, "He said Natasha Narwal was present but she was not there. Should you believe this man?"

"You [Police] can't have half-truths to go and make a case against me. Clearly, these statements are written by someone else, given to these people to pass them off as theirs because you don't have any evidence. So, you call people to the police station and tell them that I want to implicate so and so," the lawyer said.

Pais further said that after Sierra did not record the statement before the Magistrate under section 164 of CrPC, the police moved on to another protected witness "Smith".

Delhi Govt hikes minimum wages for labourers



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Monday announced an increase in the minimum wages of unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled labourers, saying it will help them tide over the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and price rise.

The hike takes the monthly wages of unskilled workers from ₹15,908 to ₹16,064 while that of semi-skilled workers will increase from ₹17,537 to ₹17,693, a Delhi Government statement said.

The monthly salary of skilled workers has been increased from ₹19,291 to ₹19,473, it said. "The minimum wage paid to labourers in

Delhi is higher than any other state in the country. The working class troubled with Covid and inflation will receive some relief from the increase in minimum wages," Sisodia said.

Sisodia, who is also Minister in-charge of the labour department of the Delhi Government, issued an order to increase dearness allowance of unskilled, semi-skilled and other workers of Delhi, it said.

The monthly salary of matriculated but non-graduate employees has been increased from ₹19,291 to ₹19,473 and the monthly salary of labourers with graduate and above educational qualification has been increased from ₹20,976 to ₹21,184.

Strike by advocates in Delhi district courts today

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Co-ordination Committee of All District Bar Association of Delhi has passed a unanimous resolution to go on a strike in all the District Courts of Delhi on November 9. The advocates are agitating against what they call "partial, biased judgment" and against the principle of criminal Jurisprudence passed by a judicial officer in the matter of Member of Bar Council of Delhi Rajiv Kholsa.

The Co-ordination Committee of All District Bar associations discussed the judgment against Rajiv Kholsa and said it was against principle of Criminal Jurisprudence and decided to abstain from work on Tuesday. The members of the Co-ordination committee will also meet Chief Justice of Delhi High Court to resolve the issue.

Dengue surges in Capital



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The national Capital reported an alarming surge in dengue cases with 1,171 fresh cases reported in a week and nine reported deaths due to it this year, according to a civic report released on Monday.

With this, the total number of persons affected with dengue this year has reached 2,708 till November 6, the report said.

A senior civic body official said that 319 more cases of dengue reported in Delhi but patients were infected in other

cities and traced in Delhi while, 78 patients infected with the disease did not provide their address.

According to the data, this is the highest number of fatalities due to dengue recorded in a year in the national capital since 2017 when the total death count officially reported had stood at 10, same as in 2016 (10).

In 2015, the city had witnessed a massive outbreak of dengue, when the number of dengue cases reported has crossed 10,600 in October

itself, making it the worst outbreak of the vector-borne disease in the national capital since 1996.

As per the data provided by the civic agencies, a total of 1,072 cases and one death were logged in the entire year in 2020. The number of deaths due to dengue had stood at two (2019); four (2018); 10 (2017); and 10 (2016).

Dengue mosquito larvae breed in clear, standing water, while those of malaria thrive even in dirty water. Cases of vector-borne diseases are usually reported between July and November, but the period may stretch till mid-December.

Also, 166 cases of malaria and 88 cases of chikungunya have also been reported this year in Delhi. In the previous years, the total dengue cases reported were 4431 (2016), 4726 (2017), 2798 (2018), 2036 (2019) and 1072 (2020), as per the report.

Malaria, dengue and chikungunya are accompanied with high fever and therefore, doctors feel that people might suspect that they have contracted Covid-19.



Security personnel detain a member of the Youth Congress protesting against the 2016 Indian banknote demonetisation, in New Delhi on Monday

ACTION ON POLLUTION

Joint meeting with depts concerned on Nov 9: Rai

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

While Delhi witnessed 'air emergency situation' due to noxious air quality, a joint meeting is going to be held on Tuesday to discuss ways to reduce pollution in the national capital, Environment Minister Gopal Rai said on Monday.

"We have called a joint meeting of all the concerned authorities at the Secretariat on Tuesday at 12 pm - the Environment Department of the Delhi Government, DPCC, all MCDs, DDA, PWD, and the Irrigation and Flood Control Department. The aim of the meeting is to discuss newer, better measures and initiatives we can take to curb pollution levels in Delhi, and reduce its adverse impact on the health of the people of Delhi," Rai said.

Delhi recorded average air quality at 372 micrograms per cubic, although stubble burning pollution share load in city air pollution reduced to 30 per-

cent as per SAFAR. The monitoring agency said reports of farm fires were received at 400 places in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh.

Rai, briefing media said discussions will be held on what steps can be taken to help the people of Delhi breathe better.

"Scientists say that the main reason behind increasing pollution is stubble burning in neighboring states, incidents of which only increasing and I have requested the Union Environment Minister to convene an emergency meeting so that the governments of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh take emergency steps to cut down on stubble burning," Rai added and mentioned he inspected water sprinkling on the road to control dust pollution near the Supreme Court.

He also said that preparations in full swing for Chhath Puja festivities by the Delhi Government in a thousand localities all over the capital.

DELHI HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

Delhi HC seeks LG, CAG stand on plea for auditing

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court Monday sought the stand of Delhi Government, Lieutenant Governor and Comptroller and Auditor General of India's on a petition seeking the audit Delhi Healthcare Corporation (DHC) accounts.

A bench of Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh issued notice on the public interest litigation by Abhijit Mishra, a financial economist, and asked the respondents to file a short reply.

The petitioner asserted that since its incorporation in 2016, the CAG has not reviewed or inspected the books of accounts and operations of DHC, a registered company which provides administrative services to hospital and health units.

The petitioner has argued that the Delhi Government not only incorporated the DHC without the approval and authorization of the L-G but also allocated funds to it in contravention of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act, 1991.

It is stated that the CAG has not received any request to audit the books of accounts and operations of DHC from the Delhi government till date and its annual report or audit report was not tabled before the Legislative Assembly in 2016, 2017, 2018 or 2019. The petition has contended that the Corporation is functioning in violation of Articles 239AA and 299 Constitution of India Act.

BJP MP launches Chhath Puja preparations at Yamuna bank despite ban by DDMA



BJP MP Parvesh Verma during a cleanliness drive on the banks of Yamuna river, New Delhi on Monday

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

BJP MP Parvesh Verma on Monday performed rituals and launched preparations for Chhath Puja at the Yamuna Ghat near the ITO here despite a ban by the Delhi Disaster Management Authority to perform it on the river's banks.

The West Delhi parliamentarian, accompanied by BJP workers and members of the 'purvanchali' community, attended a 'puja' and began preparations for the festival that started on Monday.

People belonging to some parts of eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are referred to as 'purvanchalis'.

The Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) in its order on October 29 allowed Chhath celebrations at "designated sites" barring the banks of the Yamuna.

It has directed adminis-

trative and police officials to ensure strict compliance of all its Covid-related orders.

Asked if any action will be taken against the BJP MP, a senior police officer said he had gone there as part of Chhath Puja preparations.

"If anyone is found violating DDMA orders on November 10 when the main puja will be performed, strict action will be taken against them and they will be prosecuted," the officer said.

Verma had on Sunday asserted to defy the ban on Chhath at Yamuna's banks and challenged Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to stop him.

The DDMA order also said that any violations of its guidelines are liable to prosecution according to legal provisions, including those of the Indian Penal Code and the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

UNTREATED WASTEWATER

Chadha slams Haryana, UP for polluting Yamuna

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Amid reports of frothing in the Yamuna River, Delhi Jal Board Vice Chairman Raghav Chadha expressed his anguish at the Uttar Pradesh and Haryana Governments, saying that they must play their role to ensure water gets treated before being released in the river.

In a statement, the DJB Vice Chairman said, "It appears that the governments of UP and Haryana are not bothered about releasing untreated wastewater into Yamuna.

The Delhi Jal Board (DJB) has been constantly working to further enhance and augment its 'Sewage Treatment Plant' (STP) capacities so that untreated effluents are not released into the Yamuna," he said.

Explaining how the frothing is taking place because of UP Irrigation Department's carelessness, Chadha said, "The Okhla Barrage is under the UP Irrigation department, and

because of its lackadaisical attitude, water hyacinth plants grow all around. One needs to understand that when these hyacinth plants decompose, they release surfactants like phosphates."

Chadha also said, "When this water, filled with huge amounts of surfactants like phosphates, falls in Kalindi Kunj from a height, it produces foam, which gradually accumulates and floats on the surface of the water. This foam gets difficult to remove."

Elaborating on further causes of foaming and frothing of River Yamuna, the Vice Chairman said, "Apart from this, the paper and sugar industries operating in Meerut, Muzaffarnagar, Shamli and Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh also release untreated wastewater containing surfactants, which is then released into Yamuna through the Hindon Canal at Okhla Barrage near Indira Kunj. This causes foam to grow and accumulate in the Yamuna."



Security guard held for demanding ₹30 lakh from businessman

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A 29-year-old security guard was arrested for allegedly demanding extortion of ₹30 lakh from a businessman using jailed gangster Neeraj Bawana's name, police said on Monday.

Mahavir Sharma, a resident of west Delhi's Pitampura, tried to extort money from the businessman, who was his former employer, to take revenge after he was removed from his job for indiscipline about six months ago, they said.

Police said in August this year, Shrama sent two handwritten letters through courier to the office of the businessman in Rohini demanding money.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Rohini) Pranav Tayal was received in the office of the businessman on August 5 through courier. The letter contained a demand of ₹30 lakh as extortion in the name of gangster Neeraj Bawana.

The matter was reported to police on August 14 at south Rohini police station, based on which an FIR was registered in the matter.

During the probe, the courier service was identified and CCTV footage of the area was scanned to identify the accused. Employees who were removed from their jobs like Sharma were also questioned, police officials said.

The accused sent another letter demanding extortion on October 30 and the details of the letter helped the investigation team in identifying the extortionist, they said.



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

None of the eight countries (including India) recognize or legitimize Taliban Government. India also does not recognize it, which is why it has not invited Afghanistan

The NSAs of seven countries confirmed participation in 'Delhi Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan'

Pakistan has all along insisted the participation of the Taliban during the talks on Afghanistan and therefore declined India's invitation.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

"A senior diplomat from the High Commission of Pakistan was summoned by the Ministry of External Affairs today and a strong protest was lodged on the incident of unprovoked firing at Indian

Meanwhile, the Gujarat Police have registered an FIR on charges of murder and

As per the FIR, ten unidentified PMSA personnel, five each onboard two boats, are accused of opening fire at the Indian fishing boat 'Jalpari' at around four pm on Saturday, killing one Sridhar Chamre

Last year in February, there was a spurt in the number of fishermen getting caught by Pakistan in the high seas. The Gujarat government had then told the state legislature that PMSA had seized 11 fishing boats and 63 crew (fishermen) in four different incidents between February 13 and 18 last year. Twenty-three of these fishermen were caught by Pakistan on a single day — February 13, 2020.

The apex court said for 70 years there was access to justice without any complaint and now there is a problem with physical hearing. **PTI**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The other change made to the rules is the way MRP is

“In the Legal Metrology
(Packaged Commodities)

“When one or more packages intended for retail sale are grouped together for being sold as a retail package on promotional offer, every package of the group shall comply with provisions of rule 6. In the said rules,

"To safeguard interest of consumers, the Department of Consumer Affairs under Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has omitted the Rule 5 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities), Rules 2011 defining the Schedule II prescribing the pack sizes of various types of commodities. A new provision has been introduced to indicate the unit sale

As per the amendment, the manufacturers will have to make additional declarations to

The ministry further stated that earlier, the month and year in which the commodity is manufactured or pre-packed or imported was required to be

For reducing compliance burden and removing the ambiguity of declaration of date on pre packed commodities for consumers, the declaration has now been required to the month and year in which the commodity is manufactured for the pre packed commodities.

“The provisions of declarations of MRP has been simplified.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Passengers, however, would have to provide either their PAN number, Aadhar or virtual ID (VID). This would be verified with the help of a one-time password. As per the scheme, pass-

In a statement, the airline says that as part of the launch of the new service, customers will be able to enjoy a 12-month EMI option at no additional cost (no interest).

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The opposition party claimed that a “fake bogey of corruption” was raised by the BJP over the buying of VVIP helicopters during UPA_II rule and asked if it was being

Taking to his official Twitter handle, Rahul Gandhi said, "Earlier #Augusta was corrupt, now it has been washed in the BJP laundry!"

New Delhi: Former Supreme

Last Month, the Appointments Committee of Cabinet had approved Justice

Justice Bhushan had retired from the Supreme Court on July 4, where he had led the

Prior to that, Justice Bhushan was the Chief Justice of the High Court of Kerala. He was elevated as permanent Judge of the Allahabad High Court on April 24, 2001.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

"Birthday greetings to respected Advani Ji. Praying for his long and healthy life. The nation remains indebted to him for his numerous efforts towards empowering people and enhancing our cultural

Modi has been personally extending birthday greetings to the party patriarch and mentor to a generation of BJP leaders, with a visit to his residence since he became prime minis-

Lauding him, Shah said he spread the party's ideology among the masses and gave a pan India shape to its organisation. Nadda praised the veteran leader for taking the party to the masses and playing a key role in the country's development. While wishing him a long and healthy life, he said the nonagenarian leader was an inspiration to crores of party workers.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Dedicated walkways for 'Palkhi' will be developed on either side of the above-mentioned

devotees, saints and Bhagvan Vitthal for their blessings for the projects.

He said that faith in Bhagavan Vitthal remained unwavered throughout the turmoils of history and "even today, this Yatra is one

He said this is the land where the Lord resides even today for the sake of the devotees. This is the land about which Sant Namdev J Maharaj has said that Pandharpur is there since the world was not even created, he said.

He said this is the land where the Lord resides even today for the sake of the devotees. This is the land about which Sant Namdev J Maharaj has said that Pandharpur is there since the world was not even created, he said.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Sonowal welcomed them into the party and asserted that the northeast regions have established their identity under the Modi government which has ensured that Union ministers and bureaucrats regularly visit the area to address issues facing it.

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

Date : November 09, 2021
Place: Delhi/ NCR

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited



उत्तराखण्ड शासन

 75
आज़ादी का
अमृत महोत्सव

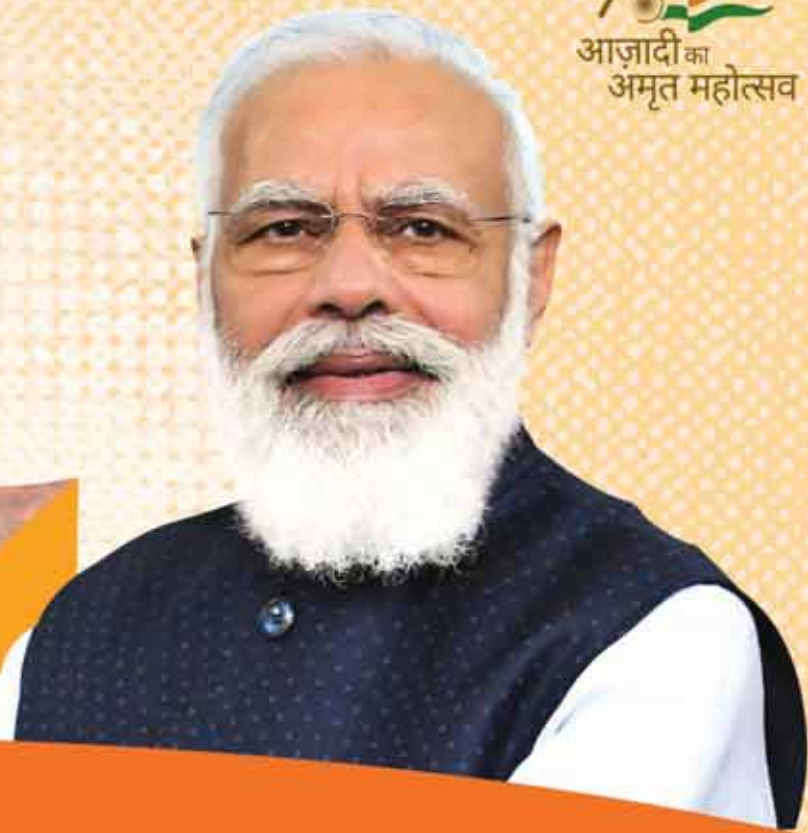
22^{वें} उत्तराखण्ड राज्य स्थापना दिवस की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं



“ उत्तराखण्ड राज्य स्थापना दिवस की 21वीं वर्षगांठ की आप सभी को हार्दिक बधाई एवं शुभकामनाएं। इस अवसर पर मैं महान स्वतंत्रता संग्राम सेनानियों, राज्य निर्माण के अमर शहीदों, वीर बलिदानी सैनिकों को नमन करते हुए अपनी देवभूमि को सबका साथ, सबका विकास एवं सबका विश्वास की भावना के अनुरूप देश के अग्रणी विकसित राज्यों में स्थापित करने की प्रतिबद्धता अभिव्यक्त करता हूँ। हमारा प्रदेश युवावस्था में प्रवेश कर चुका है तथा हमारी सरकार युवा प्रदेश की आशाओं एवं आकांक्षाओं को पूर्ण करने हेतु संकल्पबद्ध है।

आइये, आज के दिन हम ये प्रण लें कि हमारे प्रधानमंत्री आदरणीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के विजन के अनुरूप हम प्रदेश स्थापना के रजत जयंती वर्ष सन् 2025 तक अपने प्रदेश को भारत का एक श्रेष्ठ राज्य बनाएंगे। ”

जय हिन्द, जय उत्तराखण्ड

पुष्कर सिंह धामी
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तराखण्ड


“ देवभूमि की असीम संभावनाओं पर विश्वास करते हुए आज उत्तराखण्ड की सरकार, यहां सर्वांगीण और सर्वस्पर्शी विकास के महायज्ञ से पूरी ताकत से जुड़ी है। जिस अभूतपूर्व गति से इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर निर्माण सहित सभी विकास कार्य हो रहे हैं, वह उत्तराखण्ड के सामर्थ्य को दिखाता है। 21वीं शताब्दी का तीसरा दशक, उत्तराखण्ड का दशक है। ”

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी

नये इरादे-युवा सरकार

- मुख्यमंत्री महालक्ष्मी योजना में माताओं एवं नवजात बालिकाओं को दी जा रही है आवश्यक वस्तुओं की किट।
- प्रधानमंत्री किसान सम्मान निधि योजना से अब तक प्रदेश में 8.93 लाख किसान हुए लाभान्वित।
- कोविड से प्रभावित क्षेत्रों के लिए लगभग ₹600 करोड़ का राहत पैकेज। 13 लाख लोगों को मिला लाभ।
- उत्तराखण्ड कोविड वैक्सीनेशन की शत प्रतिशत प्रथम डोज लगाने वाला देश का प्रथम राज्य बना।
- 207 प्रकार की पैथोलॉजी जांच सरकारी अस्पतालों में निःशुल्क।
- NDA/CDS एवं लोक सेवा आयोग की प्रारंभिक परीक्षा पास करने वाले उत्तराखण्ड के होनहार अभ्यर्थियों को राज्य सरकार आगे की तैयारी के लिए दे रही है ₹50000/- की आर्थिक सहायता।
- देश के 27 हजार अस्पतालों में उपचार हेतु आयुष्मान कार्ड मान्य।
- प्रधानमंत्री शहरी आवास योजना (ग्रामीण) में ₹169.87 करोड़ व्यय कर 12662 परिवारों को आवास आवंटित।
- 87 आक्सीजन जनरेशन प्लांट स्थापित, 91 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई।
- 5 महीने तक लगभग 35 हजार आंगनवाड़ी कार्यकर्त्रियों को ₹2-2 हजार की प्रोत्साहन राशि दी जायेगी।
- आंगनवाड़ी कार्यकर्त्रियों के मानदेय में ₹1800 तथा मिनी आंगनवाड़ी कार्यकर्त्रियों तथा आंगनवाड़ी सहायिकाओं के मानदेय में भी की गई ₹1500 की मासिक वृद्धि।
- आशा एवं आशा फेसिलिटेटर को 5 महीने तक ₹2-2 हजार की प्रोत्साहन राशि।
- हरिद्वार और पिथौरागढ़ के मेडिकल कॉलेजों के लिए ₹140 करोड़ की धनराशि स्वीकृत।
- कोविड उपचार में तैनात चिकित्सकों को ₹10-10 हजार की प्रोत्साहन राशि।
- राजकीय स्कूल के कक्षा 10 व 12 तथा डिग्री कॉलेज में अध्ययनरत छात्रों को निःशुल्क मोबाइल टेबलेट।
- भारत नेट फेज-2 में 6 हजार ग्राम पंचायतों को इंटरनेट से जोड़ा गया।
- अतिथि शिक्षकों का वेतन ₹15 हजार से बढ़ाकर ₹25 हजार।
- केदारनाथ धाम में आदिगुरु शंकराचार्य की समाधि व प्रतिमा का लोकार्पण और ₹400 करोड़ के निर्माण कार्यों का लोकार्पण एवं शिलान्यास।
- मुख्यमंत्री वात्सल्य योजना के अन्तर्गत 21 वर्ष की आयु तक के युवाओं को ₹3000 प्रतिमाह तथा निःशुल्क राशन व शिक्षा की व्यवस्था।
- मुख्यमंत्री घस्यारी कल्याण योजना के तहत 2 रुपये प्रति किलो पौष्टिक चारा उपलब्ध।
- प्रधानमंत्री गरीब कल्याण अन्न योजना के अन्तर्गत 62 लाख व्यक्तियों को 5 किलो चावल और 1 किलो दाल निःशुल्क।
- उत्तराखण्ड से द्वितीय विश्वयुद्ध की वीरांगना एवं पूर्व सैनिक की पेंशन ₹8 हजार से बढ़ाकर ₹10 हजार प्रतिमाह की गई।
- विभागों में लगभग 22 हजार रिक्त पदों पर भर्ती प्रक्रिया गतिमान।
- एम.बी.बी.एस. इंटेर्न्स के स्टाइपेंड को ₹7500 से ₹17000 किया गया।
- समूह 'ख' एवं 'ग' के रिक्त पदों पर भर्ती हेतु अधिकतम आयु सीमा में एक वर्ष की छूट।
- टनकपुर-बागेश्वर, डोईवाला से गंगोत्री-यमुनोत्री रेल-लाइन के सर्वे की मिली सहमति।
- हल्द्वानी, देहरादून, हरिद्वार, रुद्रपुर में आउटर रिंग रोड का होगा निर्माण।
- “सुन्दर लाल बहुगुणा प्रकृति संरक्षण पुरस्कार” प्रारम्भ करने का निर्णय।
- राजकीय विद्यालयों के कक्षा 12 के 100 टॉपर्स को 5 साल तक उच्च शिक्षा की तैयारी हेतु छात्रवृत्ति।
- युवाओं को बड़ी सौगात, प्रदेश के सभी प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं की फीस माफ।
- उत्तराखण्ड के नेशनल पार्कों व चिड़ियाघरों में 18 साल तक के बच्चों का निःशुल्क प्रवेश।
- किसानों को ₹3 लाख और महिला स्वयं सहायता समूहों को ₹5 लाख तक का ऋण बिना ब्याज के।
- ऑल वेदर रोड परियोजना के अन्तर्गत स्वीकृत 670 किमी. लम्बाई के सापेक्ष 645 किमी. लम्बाई में कार्य गतिमान।
- ऋषिकेश-कर्णप्रयाग रेल लाइन का कार्य प्रगति पर।



Methane debt

Methane emission is a major contributor to global warming and deserves due attention

The preliminary draft of COP26 has been released at the end of the first week of deliberations on climate change in Glasgow. By next week, if the countries come to an understanding to restrict the rise in global warming, they will come up with the Glasgow Pact. That will list the promises each country makes to clean up their respective environmental messes. There are promises galore. India, for example, has made five of them, ranging from lowering carbon emissions to increasing renewable energy sources and net zero commitments. However, most countries do not talk about the methodology for keeping their promises, how they will specifically tackle each of the factors causing unsustainability, viz, unchecked growth, selfish exploitation of land and labour and wanton consumerism. The developing and developed worlds continue to stall progress in talks on the question of global carbon debt. The latter never explain why they cannot stop all greenhouse gas emissions even though they have achieved economic progress. The former never say at what point they will achieve a modicum of growth and at which point they can commit to net zero. Neither do both sides talk about agreeing to differentiated responsibilities on common goals. If this is what it is, The Glasgow Pact will make news, more for its promises than fulfillment prospects.

The COP26 will be known for its Glasgow Methane Pledge that asks countries to cut methane emissions by 30 per cent over 2020-2030 and agree to strict reporting standards. Over 100 countries signed it. Six of the world's biggest emitters took the pledge — the US, Brazil, Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Mexico. The other four in the top 10 — India, China, Russia and Iran, did not sign up. Methane, a potent greenhouse gas, has a short atmospheric lifetime of around 10 years. So, temperature warming stops the moment the emissions are cut. Methane emissions arise from agriculture, ruminant belching, animal waste, loss of biodiversity and leaking of the gas from fossil fuel production. Methane emissions have contributed to 0.5 degrees Celsius of global warming to date, compared to CO2's 0.8 degrees Celsius. At least 50 per cent of methane emission reductions are needed to a saving of 0.2 degrees Celsius. Healthier human diets and better animal husbandry and agricultural practices are required to control emissions. Even in an agricultural country like India, it is not impossible, given the modernisation processes being adopted in the agriculture sector. Even without the pledge, India would anyway have to deal with the high cost of feeding cattle because their food entails the use of water and energy-intensive crops. Improved agricultural practices would displace thousands of people for whom alternate work needs to be found. These are some of the economic by-products of methane emission reduction that may be deterring countries from taking the pledge.



The buildings of the banking district, Frankfurt, Germany

AP

Blind relief

The Govt, in its effort to win the upcoming Assembly polls, is offering one relief, too little

The Bharatiya Janata Party held its national executive meeting in Delhi on Sunday to discuss "ways to serve people", as Prime Minister Narendra Modi put it on his Twitter account. The meeting assumes significance for two reasons; one that it comes just months ahead of the Assembly elections due in five States, and second that the BJP's in the recent bypolls held for three Lok Sabha and 29 Assembly seats across 13 States has received mixed response; not to mention how it was clean swept in West Bengal and Himachal Pradesh, the home state of party president JP Nadda. The meeting was attended virtually by party Chief Ministers and party State presidents, except for UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, who managed to make it to Delhi and was all praise to PM Modi for his "contribution". The meeting included, of course, lauding the party accomplishments, jibes at the Opposition parties and blaming them for violence; however, it ignored significant issues such as fuel prices, farmers' agitation, growing religious disharmony in the country and the Chinese intrusion at the LAC and, of course, the crumbling economy.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who too was present in the meeting, lauded the "commendable work of vaccination done in India" and slammed the Opposition for raising questions on vaccination carried by the Government from the very beginning. Economy, however, was not much talked about. Incidentally, a day after the meeting also marked five years of demonetisation (note ban), which the ruling BJP had touted as a revolutionary step to put an end to corruption and revive the economy. What happened after that is history. The struggles it induced upon the middle-class have now shaped into inflation, as warned by the former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. The simplest example is fuel. In 2014, when the ruling dispensation came into power, the prices of petrol and diesel in Delhi were ₹71.51 and ₹57.28 a litre respectively. The prices for the same have gone up to ₹103.97 and ₹86.67 a litre respectively, that too after the Government decided to reduce the Central Excise Duty on petrol and diesel recently. After relentless price hikes over the last six years, this tiny relief might not necessarily help the BJP win votes in the upcoming Assembly polls, especially when the Aam Aadmi Party's list of freebies looks more appealing.

Satan in God's Own Country

Our GenNext will tell you that they have not read books dealing with India's culture and tradition because they get it all from their smartphones

Not a single day passes in Kerala without reports of adolescent girls, young ladies and even middle-aged women eloping with 'Casanovas' whom they come across on social media. The sugar-coated messages sent by 'predators' either through WhatsApp or social media pages would have them enslaved to the former and that's how they fix up the rendezvous as the prelude to the path of self-destruction. By the time the victim learns that she has been cheated, she would have crossed the threshold of salvage.

If the victims of the social media drama have been designated as preys of Love Jihad, the West Asian countries to where they are allegedly transported would have boasted of armies of sex slaves. We are good at finding alibis for all our failures. These elopements would continue to hog national limelight till we find out a mechanism to regulate social media usage.

Yet another development is the new found passion among young and old alike for pornographic videos which are mailed through WhatsApp service. Eight-year-olds to octogenarians are passionate about watching the nauseating "art". The social media platforms have succeeded in converting the consumers as addicts. You are fed with pornographic videos for two days and on the third day, chances are that you will wait anxiously for the new videos portraying new forms of "art". Remember, it is not because of any fault on the part of the "customers" that they get addicted to social media sites.

A comprehensive probe by Gerald Posner, an internationally acclaimed investigative writer who had authored best-selling books like Case Closed (on the assassination of John F Kennedy), God's Bankers (a 200 year history of the finances of Vatican) and Pharma (a shocking revelation of the stories behind global pharmaceutical giants and their bloody techniques) and Jim Winston, a clinical psychologist, has found that social media giants employ



KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

dirty games to woo young and old alike to sit glued to the screens, enter into forbidden relationships or watching nauseating pornos!

Before explaining what Posner and Winston came across, let me say that the pandemic induced shut down of educational institutions and the shift to online classes in States like Tamil Nadu and Kerala saw the elopements and addiction to pornography touching new heights during the last 18 months. Girl students who managed to get smartphones were wooed by Casanovas, and instead of connecting to classrooms where teachers should have led them to the world of modern sciences, technology and literature, they reached the hotel rooms and lodges from which there was no possibility of any returns. "It is worse than drug addiction and thousands of lives have fallen by the wayside," said C Prakashan, a former scientist with the Regional Analytical Laboratory of the Government of Kerala.

Pramod Pathak, a management guru and columnist of repute, said the parents were responsible for the state of affairs. "We are struggling to create technophiles out of this generation and forgot to



THE EXTENSIVE SOCIAL MEDIA USE WILL LEAVE MILLIONS OF KIDS STRUGGLING WITH LONG-TERM EMOTIONAL HEALTH PROBLEMS, ISSUES OF INTIMACY AND SEX AND STUNTED CRITICAL THINKING AND SOCIAL SKILLS

impart any lessons on Sanskaar. The great works of Kalidasa have become alien to them," said Prof Pathak. Chances are that a big majority of our GenNext would tell you that they have not read any books dealing with India's great culture and tradition because they get it all from their smartphones.

No studies have been held till now to learn the impact of social media on adolescent brains. "The period of adolescence is the most critical and crucial phase after infancy. It is during this period that the human brain registers its growth and its productivity gets going. The adolescents do not have the strength to counter digital overstimulation caused by social media. The crave for social connection is more powerful than hunger for food," Posner quotes Winston's findings.

The social media giants have used this weakness of the human brain as their main weapon. "Winston developed a curriculum that links social media, technology and the adolescent brain. The Handbook of the Adolescent Digital Media Use and Mental Health features dangers to young minds posed by an era of hyperconnectivity," said Posner.

He says that the overuse of

social media is a medical threat. "Extensive social media use will leave millions of kids struggling with long term emotional health problems, issues of intimacy and sex and stunted critical thinking and social skills," Said Posner.

Winston's team of clinical psychologists and conventional teachers found that no studies have been held to find out the biological effects caused in the human brain by social media. The adolescents do not have any influence or control over the frontal cortex region of the brain. It is this region that determines social interaction and impulse control. "Social media 'likes' trigger activation in the same region of the brain as drugs and alcohol. They are neurobiologically incapable of reading Tolstoy's *War and Peace* even as an adult," says Posner and signed off with another shocker. "Social media giants hire PhDs who have studied the field and they use the information to make their platforms more addictive and to expose adolescents to deviant peer norms and around the clock peer feedback. Social media is dangerous to teens," said Posner. Is anyone listening?

(The writer is a Special Correspondent with The Pioneer. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

INFERNO WREAKS HAVOC, YET AGAIN

Sir — The recent fire tragedy in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of Ahmednagar civil hospital, which killed more than ten COVID-19 patients, is another in a list of similar ones in Maharashtra. Two Mumbai suburban COVID-19 hospitals witnessed similar accidents last year. It is obvious that regardless of strict regulations to make COVID-19 hospitals fire compliant, loopholes continue to exist and beg to be plugged. 'Short-circuit' is a convenient cause for the authorities to fall back upon when fire destroys lives and properties.

It is quite clear that safety norms on fire are disregarded by many hospitals. Most hospitals in India lack even basic fire fighting mechanisms. Safety measures even in the best of hospitals are nothing more than a work in progress. The casual approach to standardising protective aspects in hospitals is numbing. But for the serious negligence, it is apparent that many lives could have been saved in every hospital fire. In a fire emergency, the two unofficial commandments — extinguish and evacuate — have to be accorded top priorities. Inexperienced workers and inefficient higher supervision can contribute to avoidable fire incidents. The Supreme Court directions on safety standards are there to be scrupulously followed. The State Government should do more than suspension and compensation.

Ganapathi Bhat | Akola

TAMIL NADU BATTERED BY RAINS

Sir — We are being treated to a different and difficult experience in Tamil Nadu by the natural phenomenon of floods, though not for the first time. The heavy rainfall has flooded Chennai and most parts of Tamil Nadu so much that it looks like a rerun of the 2015 deluge. To trot out a cliché that captures the situation, the fury of the floods has thrown normal life out gear. Heavy rains within a short span of time explained in terms of 'mesoscale phenomena' have exacerbated the scale of the disaster. It is a mercy that there has been no loss of life

It's not all over for Team India



Team India's T20 World Cup journey came to a sad end after Afghanistan was defeated by New Zealand in a match that was the last hope for India. Indeed it was a disappointing tournament, but lashing out at our players and calling them names is just not the right spirit. The Indian cricket team is still NOT out. Bilateral series, tournaments and World Cups keep coming. There's nothing like 'out' in sports. Cricket is a glorious game of uncertainties and one can never pre-

dict a winner on the given day. Champion teams like Australia, New Zealand and South Africa have never won the T20 World Cup. But they play with the same zeal and spirit every single time.

Our players would, perhaps, be more disappointed than we are. But it was just not our day. As fans, it is okay to criticise in a healthy way, but abusing, booing and personal trolling is not justified in any way. We should support our players and hope for a much better tournament next time. The sport of cricket should be played to spread international peace, friendship and harmony. Of Course the game can evoke passion and being the most loved sport in India, showing disappointment is not wrong as long as it stays within the boundaries. There will be more World Cup trophies to win and till then, we are IN the game.

Sahasra Nirvriti Vislesha | Secunderabad

till now. Still we have reason to worry that it is predicted that floods are all set to worsen in the next couple of days.

According to the Indian Meteorological Department's forecast, heavy to very heavy rain could batter the State for the next three to five days due to low pressure in the Bay of Bengal. We have to gear up to cope with the floods as best as we can. The State Government has responded well by carrying out emergency evacuation of thousands of people from low-lying areas and by opening up relief centres to accommodate the evacuees.

G David Milton | Maruthancode

EVERY PARTY FOR ITSELF IN POLITICS

Sir — With the Punjab BJP president Ahwani Sharma announcing to field BJP candidates on all the 117 seats in the impending Assembly polls in Punjab, the decision has come across as a disappointment to the former Punjab CM Capt Amarinder Singh, who, after burning his bridges with the Congress, has recently floated his own outfit the Punjab Lok

Congress, pinning hopes on a seat-sharing arrangement with the BJP. This, simultaneously, is also an indication of the BJP thinking of having no political truck with any party in the Assembly election, due early next year in the State.

Interestingly, a similar public perception had emerged when Captain Amrinder had met Union Home Minister Amit Shah and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval after his exit from the Congress. However, going by the saying, 'there is many a slip twixt the cup and the lip', anything in the politics is not final given that any out-of-the-blue development to upset one and all stakeholders' expectations, their political equations as well as electoral prospects or fortunes, cannot be ruled out till the last day of the polling. Hence, let's wait and watch what way this political cookie in Punjab crumbles this time around!

Azhar A Khan | Rampur

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUND BITE

The Opposition parties never hit the road during the pandemic and confined themselves to Twitter to spread suspicion.



Union Minister —Nirmala Sitharaman

I strongly condemn the terrorist attack targeting the residence of Iraqi Prime Minister al-Kadhimi.

US President —Joe Biden

I want to wish everyone who is going through the arduous journey of cancer treatment, a lot of love and success.



Actor —Manisha Koirala

Why can I see there are two camps within the Indian team? One camp is with Kohli and one against him.

Former Pakistani bowler —Shoaib Akhtar

I have stood on principles and am not among those who changed their stand after dethroning Capt Amarinder Singh.



Punjab Congress chief —Navjot Singh Sidhu

FIRST COLUMN

CLEARING THE AIR
AROUND DELHI'S SMOG

Credence of a popular belief does not necessarily become an evidence of that belief



VINAYSHIL GAUTAM

The Diwali season has had its predictable landmarks. The crescendo of rising prices has been in the headlines. There has been token and dramatic government action to establish its responsiveness. Many have played their role in blaming crackers for the air pollution in Delhi. When any theme becomes as common as that of pollution the courts cannot be left far behind. The strange thing about Delhi pollution is that it starts rising, almost exponentially, a few days before Diwali and continues for a week-10 days after Diwali. Crackers neither begin that early, nor go that late.

The galloping rate at which pollution multiplies cannot be attributed in volume or spread to the depth of cracker experience. Eye witnesses testify that in the neighbourhood agricultural areas of Delhi, fires are set to the stubble during this period and the rest is a matter of the smoke streaming across the territory of the national Capital.

A belief reportedly gaining ground is as follows: The role of crackers in spreading pollution is incontrovertible. When something reaches that intensity of belief, evidence is seldom asked for and a suo moto case is made out in popular psyche against the reported provocation, in this case 'crackers causing the present level of pollution'.



It can be nobody's case that crackers do not cause pollution. What really needs examination is the extent and depth of pollution and its correlation to the causative factor. The correlation with the causative factor, in the absence of any evidence-based study, very often becomes a matter of popular belief. In the camouflage of this belief many other causes can walk in undetected.

It is said that the burning of the stubble around Delhi is a convenient way of getting rid of that agricultural waste. It is possible to keep the timing of the agricultural waste during Diwali season and get away without too much of attention.

Be that as it may, it belies a popular notion of village 'simplicity' which is fed to popular psyche from the school text book stage. They believe that those practicing agriculture are 'simple' people who are delinked with nuances of 'information technology' and are invariably victims of urban exploitation. This is glib. One has to spend some time in villages, at a participatory level, to appreciate their sharpness and information. It is indeed as it should be. To appreciate that would be an important step in finding an effective solution.

Effective solution to Delhi's extra-ordinary pollution level cannot stop with chants on its 'undesirability' and unilateral verdicts on crackers as the 'prime cause'

The truth is, this Diwali season the Air Quality Index across NCR has been more disastrous than usual. Given the court's mandate, reference crackers, there was tangible reduction at least in the noise of crackers on the Diwali eve and on Diwali. The air pollution, nevertheless, rose in a significant measure as compared to in previous years. The linkage therefore in a dramatic reduction in bursting of crackers and an equal rise in air pollution needs an explanation. It does give rise to the hypothesis of the 'death of innocence' in rural areas and a deliberate attempt to walk through with nonchalance, a road of convenience.

The time has come to recognise that credence of a popular belief does not necessarily become evidence of that belief.

As information technology and reach of social media grows beyond just the word of mouth, there is bound to be the 'death of (presumed) innocence'. One says this because very often, innocence is based in fond beliefs or popularly held notions. That gives credence to certain partial truths which become larger than life size. So-called 'innocence' can be constructively educated.

(The writer is a management consultant. The views expressed are personal.)

Power sector: Missing
the wood for the trees



UTTAM GUPTA

One gets a sense that discoms are not honouring their commitments with regard to lifting quantities mentioned in the Power Purchase Agreements

On October 30, 2021, the Ministry of Power notified two sets of rules under Electricity Act, 2003 viz. Electricity (Timely recovery of costs due to Change in Law) Rules, 2021, and Electricity (Promotion of generation from renewable sources of energy by addressing Must Run and other matters) Rules, 2021. The stated objective of the rules is to inter alia sustain economic viability of the electricity sector and ease financial stress of various stakeholders.

An idea of the stress can be gauged from the losses incurred by power distribution companies (discoms) — the most crucial link in the supply chain. Mostly owned and controlled by the State governments, discoms purchase electricity from independent power producers (IPPs) and public sector undertakings (PSUs) such as National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) (besides supplies from their own generating stations), etc. under long-term power purchase agreements (PPAs) which cover 95 per cent of the total electricity supply.

During 2015-16, the losses of discoms were ₹52,000 crore. After decreasing to ₹17,000 crore during 2017-18 (this was primarily due to a massive bail-out package given in November 2015 under Ujwal Discom Assurance Yojana or UDAY), these increased to ₹30,000 crore during 2019-20 and further up to ₹58,000 crore in 2020-21. This also impacts the cash flow of generators as discoms owed them around ₹82,500 crore (end March 2021).

How do the aforementioned rules seek to address the stress?

In the first set of rules, at the outset, we need to understand the connection between the cost and the 'Change in Law'. The cost of fuel — primarily coal which contributes to over 2/3rd of power supply — accounts for a major share of electricity generation cost. In most of the PPAs, this is 'pass through' — a jargon for increasing tariff to neutralize increase in fuel cost. This in turn, can happen in the normal course say due to increase in the international price of coal. It can also arise due to what is termed as 'Change in Law'.

To put things in perspective, let us look at some facts relating to two ultra-mega power projects (UMPP) each of 4000 MW capacity set up over a decade back by Tata Power Ltd (TPL) and Adani Power Ltd (APL) respectively in Gujarat.

Unlike most other PPAs wherein fuel cost is pass through, TPL/APL agreed to charge from discoms low tariff at ₹2.26 per unit and ₹2.35 per unit — using tariff-based competitive bidding [TBCB] methodology. While, TPL is based entirely on imported coal, APL uses 70 per cent domestic and 30 per cent imported coal. This unique arrangement was meant to shield consumers from any hike in fuel



OUR POLITICAL CLASS DOES NOT EVEN WANT TO RECOGNISE THE FUNDAMENTAL FACTORS THAT PUT DISCOMS UNDER STRESS, FORGET ADDRESSING THEM. TILL THAT HAPPENS, THE GOVERNMENT WILL ONLY ROLL OUT MORE OF SUCH HIGH-SOUNDING MEASURES; ATTEMPTS THAT ARE NOTHING BUT SHEER OBFUSCATION

(The writer is a policy analyst. The views expressed are personal.)



cost. The intent was to set up many more such projects to make power available to the users at 'affordable' and 'stable' price but things did not pan out as intended.

In 2012, TPL/APL petitioned the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) seeking 'compensatory tariff' — a sophisticated nomenclature for hike in tariff. They argued that following an order of Indonesian government in September 2011, fixing a minimum export price (MEP) of coal, they were forced to pay more which should be compensated. This was instantly allowed by CERC (February 2014) and confirmed by the Appellate Tribunal for Electricity (APTEL) (December 2016). The Supreme Court (SC) after initially rejecting the claim (order of April 2017), finally directed CERC 'to amend the PPAs to enable pass-through of fuel price escalation subject to a cap' (order dated October 29, 2018).

Currently, the position is all hikes in fuel costs including due to the 'Change in the Law' have to be paid for by the discom — even when this is disallowed under PPA (albeit original). Now, the Government wants to ensure that the generators are paid promptly. However, making a provision in the rules per se does not guarantee that timely payments will be made. Given their unrelenting precarious financial position, when, discoms are unable to make even normal payments leading to huge pending dues, how will they be able to pay for increase in fuel cost arising from the change in law or any other reason.

As for the second set of rules, these are driven by an international commitment under the Paris Agreement on Climate (2015) — reiterated at the Glasgow summit — that India will have 175 GW (giga watt) of generation capacity based on renewable energy (RE) sources by 2022 and 450 GW by 2030.

The rules assign to RE based units the status of a 'must-run' power plant; such plants shall not be subjected to curtailment or regulation of generation or supply for any reason other than technical constraint in the electricity grid or for reasons of security of the grid. Furthermore, in the event of a curtailment of supply, compensation shall be payable by the procurer to them at the rates specified in the agreement for purchase or supply of electricity.

One gets a sense that discoms are not honoring their commitments even with regard to 'lifting quantities mentioned in the PPAs' — forget making timely payments. This is true. But, the way to deal with such situations is also provided for under the agreement between the generator company and the discom. This is a standard practice in any contract between the seller and the buyer.

Even so, to make rules that give 'must run' status to a particular segment is unfair and discriminatory. While, the Government may be well within its rights to give incentives for promoting RE based plants, this can't be stretched to a point of favoring them over others say, those based on natural gas or coal even in their running. In such matters, all plants should be meted out the

same treatment.

Whether, it is recovery of costs or concern over off — take, the problem lies elsewhere. It has to do with the fragile finances of discoms. This in turn, connects with their huge under-recovery on sale to poor households and farmers, at a fraction of the cost of purchase, wheeling and distribution or even free (in recent years, this trend has got aggravated as Chief Ministers merrily go around promising free power to their vote banks); high aggregate technical and commercial (AT&C) losses - most of it is plain theft and inflated tariff allowed to power generators under cost plus formula.

In a bid to force discoms make timely payments, in the past, the Government had come up with measures such as insisting on LC (Letter of Credit) arrangement (under it, the bank guarantees payment if the buyer/discom doesn't); deducting money from the funds transferred by Centre to States as per the Finance Commission recommendations, denial of loan if a discom continues to make loss etc. None of these yielded any result. The rules notified on October 30 are two more additions to that series.

These are all cosmetic solutions to problem that requires deep surgery.

Unfortunately, our political class does not even want to recognize the fundamental factors that put discoms under stress, forget addressing them. Till that happens, the Government will only roll out more of such high-sounding rules/measures; attempts that are nothing but sheer obfuscation.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

I HAD ANNOUNCED FREE PILGRIMAGE IN THE STATE BUDGET ALREADY. KEJRIWAL COPIES MY SCHEMES. HE IS A COPY MASTER.
—GOA CHIEF MINISTER
PRAMOD SAWANT



IT IS PRAMOD SAWANT WHO'S COPYING US. WHEN I SAID WE WILL GIVE ELECTRICITY FREE, HE GAVE WATER FREE.
—DELHI CHIEF MINISTER
ARVIND KEJRIWAL

Will COP26 be just another PR event?

If India is serious about climate change, it can ill afford to beat around the bush and play into the distraction of greenwashing, false or weak solutions

Of all the 25 Conference of Parties (COPs) that have preceded the current one, COP21 or The Paris Agreement as it is popularly known, has to be the most celebrated. It signaled a breakthrough in international climate negotiations after two decades of impasse. For a brief moment in Paris, it seemed that nations can indeed rise above their differences and deal with the defining issue of our times together. Six years after that momentous day it is abundantly clear how mistaken and naïve we were to believe in this global mirage. Global temperatures are now perilously close to the 1.5°C mark and the world is headed for a temperature rise in excess of 3°C this century



SANDIP CHOWDHURY

(The writer is Project Officer, Climate Justice, Oxfam India. The views expressed are personal.)

which would most likely cause many ecosystems and eventually human societies to collapse.

Since India embraced the free-market economy three decades ago, it has made considerable progress in uplifting the living standards for millions of people but at great cost of its environment. India is one of the most polluted countries in the world now and can always be found at the bottom of Environmental Performance Index rankings (168 out of 180 countries in 2020). It took only a year of a natural calamity (COVID-19) to push 75 million Indians to poverty. We are looking at a future where the country will be pummeled by floods, cyclones, droughts and other



extreme events on a regular basis and with increasing intensity. It would be prudent on our part to take climate change with all the seriousness that it deserves — not as a burden imposed by global climate treaties but as a genuine measure to safeguard the country's wealth and citizenry.

If India is to be serious about tackling climate change, it can ill afford to beat around the bush and play into the distraction of greenwash-

ing, false or weak solutions. India has already joined the bandwagon by borrowing flimsy concepts like emissions intensity and carbon sinks in its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The new fad is Net-Zero and many think-tanks are busy telling us whether India should become net zero in 2060 or 2070 even when the fate of the planet will largely be decided in the next nine years. India is set to meet its target of reducing the emission intensity of its GDP by 33 to 35 per cent by 2030 from the 2005 level and it will most probably achieve the target 40 per cent cumulative electric power-installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources too.

But these are merely per-

centages which means the absolute emissions will still be high as India's energy demand skyrockets. Most of the climate action measures being taken in India and indeed around the world (even if well-intentioned) are like putting band-aids on a leaking cauldron with multiple holes, that too from inside. It is not the band aids that needs to be tweaked but the cauldron (read flawed economic system) needs to be changed altogether.

Climate leadership is not about organizing massive global conventions, making lofty promises or paying large amounts of money while still perpetuating the same system that is causing global warming. Sadly, the history of COPs shows that it has

become PR event where the powers that be talk about everything but the root cause of the problem. Can India break this climate politeness in COP26 and become a genuine climate leader by doing the hard but indispensable talk around a flawed economic system that is incompatible with planetary health and security. Can it challenge the macrostructures that cause unsustainability — limitless growth, insatiable consumerism, wanton exploitation of land and labour — and exhort the world to reimagine progress and development. There are no indications whatsoever of such a radical change in the mindset of our political and economic masters. In fact, we are in a race to the bottom as we

continue to dilute environmental protections and social safeguards in the pursuit of temporary progress and permanent ruin.

A stable climate is what makes life possible on Earth. Overconsumption — the structural imperative of the dominant economic system in the world threatens this vital stability. Lack of climate action since the last three decades means we have to race against time to control the damage. The time for finger-pointing is well and truly over and COP26 talks that overlooks the fundamental problems of a rapacious economy is nothing but headline-grabbing band-aids or as the young climate activist Greta Thunberg puts it — 'blah blah blah'.

GLOBE TROTTER

CHINA PROVIDES 3L VAX DOSES TO NEPAL ARMY
Kathmandu: China's military on Monday gifted health materials, including 3,00,000 Covid-19 vaccine doses, to the Nepal Army, an official statement said. The People's Liberation Army (PLA) handed over the Nepal Army with 3 lakh doses of Vero Cell vaccines, 100 units of oxygen concentrators and other health materials, according to a press release issued by Nepal Army headquarters.

POLAND UPS SECURITY AT BORDER WITH BELARUS
Berlin: Poland has increased security at its border with Belarus, on the European Union's eastern border, after a large group of migrants in Belarus appeared to be congregating by the frontier, seeking to try to force their way into Poland, officials said Monday. Video footage from Belarusian media showed people using uprooted trees to try to get through a fence.

GERMAN COVID INFECTION RATE HITS RECORD HIGH
Berlin: Germany's coronavirus infection rate climbed to its highest recorded level yet on Monday as what officials have called a "pandemic of the unvaccinated" gathers pace. The national disease control centre, the Robert Koch Institute, said the country has seen 201.1 new cases per 1,00,000 residents over the past seven days.

PARTIES SIGN DEAL TO FORM NEW CZECH GOVT
Prague: The Czech Republic gained a new Government on Monday after two party coalitions that garnered a sizeable chunk of votes in the country's parliamentary election last month signed a power-sharing deal.

7 HACKERS HELD IN GLOBAL RANSOMWARE CRACKDOWN
Washington: Seven suspected hackers linked to ransomware attacks that have targeted thousands of victims have been arrested since last February as part of a global cybercrime crackdown, European law enforcement authorities announced. The FBI and the Justice Department were expected to announce criminal charges tied to ransomware later Monday as well as the seizure of \$6 million, according to a US official, who was not authorised to discuss the matter by name ahead of a conference and spoke on the condition of anonymity.

Pakistan lifts ban on extremist group TLP

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

The Pakistan Government has lifted the ban on the extremist group Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) as a quid pro quo to the outfit calling off the recent anti-government protests that claimed the lives of over 20 people, half of them police personnel.

The TLP was declared as a proscribed organisation in April this year after violent protests by the group to force the government to expel the French ambassador over the issue of blasphemous cartoons published in France.

The government, which recently struck a secret agreement with the TLP, on Sunday issued a formal notification to remove the headline Islamist party from the list of proscribed organisations after the TLP committed to behave and follow the law in future.

"In exercise of the powers conferred under sub-section (I) of Section 11U of the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997 (as amended), the federal government is pleased to remove the name of the Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan from the First Schedule of the said Act as pro-



scribed organisation for the purpose of the said Act," reads the notification, which has been seen by the PTI.

The TLP launched protests on October 18 from Lahore and announced to march to Islamabad to force the government to expel the French ambassador and release the chief of the outfit Saad Rizvi.

At least 21 people, including 10 policemen, lost their lives during fierce confrontation between the TLP workers and law enforcement authorities in recent days.

After the bloody clashes, the group had reached Wazirabad town on the Grand Trunk Road when a "secret agreement" was reached with the government on October 31.

Though the agreement was not revealed, sources said that

it included a commitment by the government to lift the ban on the TLP which was imposed in April this year after similar violent demonstrations.

The notification stated that the TLP had been placed in the First Schedule as a proscribed organisation by the federal government on April 15 this year on the recommendation of Home Department of Punjab.

Prime Minister Imran Khan had on Saturday approved the revocation of the ban on TLP.

It is expected that the government may also release Rizvi to satisfy the TLP and convince it to send back its hundreds of workers who are still sitting at Wazirabad and waiting for their leadership to decide if they should go home or re-launch the protest.

However, it is not clear if the government has given any commitment regarding expulsion of the French ambassador which was the key demand by the TLP. The Government had already released more than 2,000 activists of the TLP before the lifting of the ban and the group would now be free to take part in all sorts of political activities.

Burhan says he will not be part of Sudan Govt after transition

AP ■ KHARTOUM

Sudan's top general promised that he won't hold a government position after planned elections in July 2023, speaking two weeks after he toppled a transitional Government in a widely condemned coup.

The military leader, Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan, has repeatedly promised to hand over power to an elected civilian government eventually. His weekend announcement that he will not run for office does not preclude other top generals from shedding their military titles and becoming candidates.

On October 25, the military dissolved the country's transitional Government and detained more than 100 Government officials and political leaders, along with a large number of protesters and activists. Since then, at least 13 anti-coup protesters have been killed due to the excessive force used by the country's security forces, according to Sudanese doctors and the UN.

On Sunday, security forces tear-gassed demonstrators and rounded up more than 100 people, most of them anti-coup teachers in the capital of Khartoum.

In comments aired on Sunday by the *Al-Jazeera* satellite television news network,



People burn tires in Khartoum, Sudan on Sunday

AP

Burhan also said that security forces were not responsible for the protesters' deaths.

Burhan has maintained the military was compelled to take over because of quarrels between political parties that he claimed could lead to civil war. But the takeover also took place less than a month before he was supposed to surrender the leadership of the country's top governing body to a civilian.

Sudan has been in the midst of a fragile transition to democracy that began after a popular uprising forced the military's removal of longtime autocrat Omar al-Bashir and his Islamist government in April 2019. For weeks before the coup, there had been mounting tensions between

military and civilian leaders over the pace of the transition.

In another development, the powerful leader of Sudan's large paramilitary group, the Rapid Support Forces, made his first public comments since the coup. Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo said in a video statement released by his office late on Sunday that the generals seized power to "correct the course of the people's revolution" and achieve stability.

He accused a "handful" of political parties in the government of monopolising power and neglecting the people's interests. Dagalo, who is known as Hemedti, has been seen by Burhan's side in many of the post-coup meetings with international diplomats.

Report: NSO spyware found on 6 Palestinian activists' phones

AP ■ JERUSALEM

Security researchers disclosed on Monday that spyware from the notorious Israeli hacker-for-hire company NSO Group was detected on the cell-phones of six Palestinian human rights activists, half affiliated with groups that Israel's defense minister controversially claimed were involved in terrorism.

The revelation marks the first known instance of Palestinian activists being targeted by the military-grade Pegasus spyware. Its use against journalists, rights activists and political dissidents from Mexico to Saudi Arabia has been documented since 2015.



A successful Pegasus infection surreptitiously gives intruders access to everything a person stores and does on their phone, including real-time communications.

It's not clear who placed the NSO spyware on the activists' phones, said the researcher who first detected it,

Mohammed al-Maskati of the nonprofit Frontline Defenders.

The hacking began in July 2020, according to researchers. Shortly after the first two intrusions were identified in mid-October, Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz declared six Palestinian civil society groups to be terrorist organi-

zations. Ireland-based Frontline Defenders and at least two of the victims say they consider Israel the main suspect and believe the designation may have been timed to try to overshadow the hacks' discovery, though they have provided no evidence to substantiate those assertions.

Israel has provided little evidence publicly to support the terrorism designation, which the Palestinian groups say aims to dry up their funding and muzzle opposition to Israeli military rule. Three of the hacked Palestinians work for the civil society groups. The others do not, and wish to remain anonymous, Frontline Defenders says.

Abu Dhabi issues law on divorce, inheritance for non-Muslims

AP ■ DUBAI

The capital of the United Arab Emirates has issued new rules governing divorce, inheritance and child custody for non-Muslims in Abu Dhabi, the country's state-run news agency reported.

The report on Sunday by the WAM news agency said Abu Dhabi would create a new court to handle these cases, which will be held in both Arabic and English to be better understood by the emirate's vast foreign worker population.

Change in child custody will allow parents to share joint custody of their children, WAM reported. The law also introduces the idea of civil marriage, allows wills to be



drawn up granting inheritance to whomever a person chooses and deals with paternity issues.

Abu Dhabi is one of seven sheikhdoms that make up the UAE and the new law affects only this sheikhdom. While the oil-rich emirate is the capital of the nation, Abu Dhabi's population is dwarfed by that of neighboring Dubai.

The new law comes after authorities last year said they

would overhaul of the country's Islamic personal laws, allowing unmarried couples to cohabit, loosening alcohol restrictions and criminalizing so-called "honor killings." Abu Dhabi also ended its alcohol license system in September 2020. The UAE as a whole in September of this year announced yet another plan to stimulate its economy and liberalize stringent residency rules for foreigners.

Traditional Islamic values remain strong in the federation. The roughly 1 million Emiratis in the UAE, a hereditarily ruled country long criticized for its suppression of dissent, closely toe the government line. Political parties and labor unions remain illegal.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Amitabh Thakur/ Neelam Mishra/ LBDEL00002441546	Flat No-301 and 302, 3rd Floor, Tower Wing-D, Type 2&3 BHK in "Shivraj Residency" Omaxe City, Ajmer Road, Jaipur Rajasthan/ November 03, 2021	June 23, 2021 Rs. 70,35,194/-	Delhi/ NCR

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : November 09, 2021
Place: Delhi/ NCR

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION & PUBLICITY
GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
Block IX, Old Secretariat, Delhi-110054
Tel No. 011-23814616, e-mail : dirip@nic.in

FNo.20(23)/DIP/Event Mang. Agency Epanel/2021-22 / Date:-

CORRIGENDUM

Please refer to Tender ID No.:2021_DIP_210346_1 on dated 28.10.2021 this is for information for all the prospective bidders that "Revised Schedule of Tender due to gazetted holiday on Chhath Pooja on dated 10.11.2021." The following re-schedule of online tender for "Empanelment of Event Management Companies" is as under:-

S.No.	Event Description	Date and Time
1	Date of Uploading of RFP at e-Tender portal	28.10.2021
2	Pre-Bid Meeting	12.11.2021 at 2:30pm
3	Last date receipt of pre-bid queries	16.11.2021
4	Date for publication of response to the queries raised during pre-bid meeting	18.11.2021
5	Last date of submission of Bids	25.11.2021 till 5:00pm
6	Last date of Submission of EMD	25.11.2021 till 5:00pm
7	Opening of Technical Bids	29.11.2021

The detail of RFP along with terms and conditions etc. is available on the E-procurement, GNCT of Delhi and department's website <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in> & http://publicity.delhigovt.nic.in/wps/wcm/connect/DOIT_Publicity/information+and+publicity/home, respectively can be downloaded there from.

The Pre-bid meeting is scheduled on **12.11.2021 at 2:30 PM** in Media Hut, DIP.

This issue with the prior approval of Competent Authority.

Sd/-
DIP/Shabdarth/0404/21-22
Director, DIP

US needs unity to fight climate change: Obama

Glasgow: Former US President Barack Obama says he believes that President Biden's climate package will be "historic" and he welcomed the efforts of all US politicians, Democrats and Republicans, in working toward slowing down global warming.

"I believe President Biden's Build Back Better bill will be historic. But I know Joe Biden wanted to do even more," Obama said. "Both of us have been constrained by the fact that one of our two major parties have decided to not only sit on the sidelines, but express hostility towards climate science and make climate change a partisan issue." AP

China's CPC kicks off key 4-day conclave

PTI ■ BEIJING

Hundreds of senior officials of the Communist Party of China (CPC) began a key four-day conclave here on Monday to deliberate and pass a rare "historical resolution" of the 100-year-old ruling party and pave the way for an unprecedented third term for President Xi Jinping.

The 19th Central Committee of the CPC started its sixth plenary session. About 400 full and alternate members of the CPC Central Committee are taking part in the plenum, state-run *Xinhua* news agency reported.

Xi, the General-Secretary of the CPC Central Committee, delivered a work report on behalf of the Political Bureau and made explanations on a draft resolution on the major achievements and historical experience of the CPC's 100 years of endeavours, the report said.

Xi, 68, holds China's all three power centres - General-Secretary of the CPC, Chairman of the powerful Central Military Commission (CMC) which is the overall high command of the military, and the Presidency is set to complete his second five-year tenure next year.

First Chinese woman walks in space, scripts history

Beijing: Chinese military pilot Wang Yaping scripted history on Monday when she became the country's first woman astronaut to walk in space as she moved out of the under-construction space station and took part in extravehicular activities along with

her male colleague. Wang and Zhai Zhigang moved out of the space station core module called Tianhe and spent 6.5 hours of the space-walk in the early hours of Monday and successfully returned to the module, *Xinhua* news agency reported. PTI

Appeal for Identification

General Public is hereby informed that a male dead body **Name:** Unknown, **S/o** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** Approx. 20-25 years, **Height:** 5'7", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Sex:** Male, **Built:** Thin, **Face:** Round, **Wearing :** White Shirt and Jeans was found dead at HC Sen Marg OPP PS: Kotwali, divider, Delhi. In this regard, a **DD No. 32-A**, dated **01.11.2021** has been lodged at PS: Kotwali, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far. Any, person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

SHO
P.S., Kotwali, Delhi
Ph. : 011-23977100, 8750870121

DP/1670/N/2021

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is here by informed that this girl (depicted in the photo) namely: **Jyoti D/o Sh. Mohal Lal R/o H. No-293, Block-G, J.J. Colony, Sawda, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped from her home since **26.10.2021**. In this regard DD No. **153A** dated **26.10.2021** has been registered at **PS. Kanjhawala, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far.

Her physical description is as under:-

Sex: Female, **Age:** 18 years, **Height:** 5'5" ft., **Complexion:** Shallow, **Built:** Medium, **Face:** Long, **Wearing:** Green Colour Suit & Salwar and Spectacle on Eye and Sports shoes in Feet.

Any person is having information or clue about this missing/ kidnapped girl may kindly inform to the following:-

SHO
P.S. Kanjhawala Delhi
Ph. No. : 011-25951486
Website:<http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Tel. No. : 011-24368638/24368641
Fax No. : 011-24368639
Mob. No -8750870324
DP/1163/RD/2021

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL
HOSPITAL AND CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR
Telefax :- 0194-2496089, Email Id:- xenmhchdk@yahoo.in

(Gist of e-tender)
NIT NO: MHCHD/TS/2021-22/186/e-tendering
Dated:- 06.11.2021

For and on behalf of the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir state, e-tenders, valid for 180 days, are invited from the Registered, reputed & experienced firms as detailed in the NIT for below mentioned works:

Name of Work:- SITC of VRV/VRF based HVAC Facility System at MED Hut, Kulgam
Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs) :- 10.00
Cost of T/Doc. (In rupees) :- 1000
Time of completion (in months) :- 01 Months
Technical Sanction No :- 138 of 11/21
AAA accorded vide :- SEMK/TS-26/AA/03 OF 2019-20 Dt:-21.09.21
Position of funds: Available

1. Downloading of Bids:- The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from **06.11.2021 (18.00 hrs)** and can be downloaded from **06.11.2021 (18.00 hrs)**.

2. Uploading: The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site from **07.11.2021 (10.00 hrs) to 18.11.2021 (15:00hrs)** in two (02) covers.

3. Opening of Bids:- The bids received upto due date and time shall be opened on **19.11.2021 (14.00 hrs)** or any date convenient to the department in the **office of Executive Engineer, Srinagar.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
MHCHD, Srinagar

No. DIPK-12143/21 Dated:- 08.11.2021

FPIs can invest in InvITs, REITS debt securities: RBI

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank on Monday said FPIs have been permitted to invest in debt securities issued by Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) and Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs).

Necessary amendments to Foreign Exchange Management (Debt Instruments) Regulations, 2019 were earlier notified in October. An announcement was made in the Union Budget 2021-22 that debt financing of InvITs and REITs by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) will be enabled by making suitable amendments in the relevant legislations.

Accordingly, it has been decided to permit FPIs to invest in debt securities issued by InvITs and REITs, the RBI said in a circular.

"FPIs can acquire debt securities issued by InvITs and

REITs under the Medium-Term Framework (MTF) or the Voluntary Retention Route (VRR)," it said.

Such investments shall be reckoned within the limits and

Sebi allows FPIs to write off debt securities

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Markets regulator Sebi on Monday allowed foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) to write off all debt securities that they are unable to sell.

This will be applicable only to such FPIs who wish to surrender their registration, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) said in a circular.

"In view of the requests received from various stakeholders, it has now been

shall be subject to the terms and conditions for investments by FPIs in debt securities under the respective regulations of MTF and VRR.

decided to permit the FPIs to also write off all debt securities in their beneficiary account which they are unable to sell for any reason. "This shall be applicable only to such FPIs who wish to surrender their registration," Sebi said. In September, the regulator permitted FPIs to write off shares of all the companies that they are unable to sell. For the write-off, the process prescribed in the operational guidelines has to be complied with, it added.

GDP likely to grow at 10-10.5% in FY2022: Report

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Domestic rating agency Brickwork Ratings on Monday revised its growth estimate for the country's gross domestic product (GDP) to 10-10.5 per cent in the current financial year from an earlier expectation of a 9 per cent growth. Many economic growth indicators are suggesting a faster-than-expected revival in economic activities, it said. "We revise our GDP estimates for FY22 to 10-10.5 per cent from 9 per cent estimated earlier," the credit rating agency said in a report released on Monday.

It expects the GDP growth for Q2 FY22 to be at 8.3 per cent (year-on-year), on the back of a 7.4 per cent contraction in Q2FY21. The country's GDP grew at 20.1 per cent in the first quarter of fiscal 2022.

The agency believes that the subsequent quarters too



will see recovery if there is no resurgence of the virus in the form of a third wave.

"Amid the waning possibility of a third wave, we expect the economy to register better growth in the remaining part of the year," it added.

The downside risks of a possible third wave to growth too are limited due to the progress achieved in vaccination, it said. However, downside risks emanating from rising crude oil prices, mineral products, increasing costs of raw materials and freight rates, disruptions in semiconductor supply and coal supply shortages are likely to downplay the growth momentum, the agency said.

Paytm IPO subscribed 18 per cent on Day-1

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Paytm's ₹18,300-crore IPO - India's largest public issue to date - was subscribed only 18 per cent on the first day of bidding on Monday.

The initial public offering of Paytm's parent company, One97 Communications Ltd received bids for 88.23 lakh equity shares against the offer size of 4.83 crore shares, according to information available from stock exchanges.

The portion set aside for retail investors has been subscribed 78 per cent, while the reserved portion of non-institutional investors was subscribed 2 per cent, and qualified institutional buyers have put in bids for 16.78 lakh shares against 2.63 crore shares set aside for them.

Other tech IPOs such as those of Nykaa and Zomato Ltd had received stronger investor demand on their opening days but they were much smaller compared to Paytm's share sales.

Paytm has priced its shares



in a price band of ₹2,080-2,150 per share, valuing the company at ₹1.39 lakh crore at the upper end of the price band.

The share sale closes on November 10. Share allotment is likely to take place on November 15, and the shares are expected to be listed on November 18.

The offer comprises a fresh issue of equity shares worth ₹8,300 crore and an offer for sale (OFS) of shares worth up to ₹10,000 crore.

The OFS, or secondary share sale, consists of the sale of shares worth up to ₹402.65 crore by founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma.

Top chipmakers set to submit semiconductor data to US Govt

PIANS ■ NEW DELHI

Leading South Korean companies Samsung Electronics and SK hynix were set to hand over their semiconductor data to the US government by Monday (US time).

According to a statement on Sunday by the South Korean Ministry of Economy and Finance, the chipmakers were preparing for a "voluntary submission" to hand over their internal data to the US.

In late September, the US Department of Commerce asked major chip companies and automakers to "voluntarily" share business information to address the global chip crisis, following President Joe Biden's executive order to secure and strengthen America's supply chains for key products.

The South Korean government has said it will strengthen the chip supply chain partnership with the US.

Freight rates perk up some more, but diesel singes margins

PIANS ■ NEW DELHI

With the monsoon withdrawing, consumption recovering, and infrastructure activity picking up, freight rates saw a sequential recovery in October. However, with diesel prices ruling high after a scorching run-up, the overall profitability of transporters remains below levels seen in the closing quarter of last fiscal, ratings agency Crisil has said in a report.

CRISFrax or pan-India CRISL freight index captures changes in freight rates on a sequential basis. What makes it first-of-its-kind in India is that it also tracks the free cash flows, or FCF (pre-EMI) of transporters on an ongoing basis. Higher FCF would typically lead to higher demand for commercial vehicles.

Over the past 2-3 years, the domestic road freight transportation industry ran into many speed-breakers. The axle load norms caused a discernible drop in fleet utilisation levels in fiscal 2019, while the BS-VI norms led to a 10-15 per cent increase in the prices of new trucks in fiscal 2020. Then came the Covid-19 pandemic



and the sharp economic contraction.

In the first quarter of fiscal 2021, fleet utilisation rates plunged with most consumption and demand centres locked down. A sequential recovery was visible with a gradual reopening of the economy over the next three quarters. Amid all this, freight demand recovery was sporadic across segments; FMCG/FM CD recovered faster than discretionary segments such as readymade garments/textiles, and other consumer durables. Even within states, recovery varied based on the pandemic caseload and unlocking levels, the report said: In such scenarios, transporters, logistics service providers, original equipment manufacturers and financiers need to know the predicament of freight use rs, taxonomised by sectors, routes, applications and platforms.

Sensex jumps 478 pts as HDFC, Infy advance

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmark Sensex rallied 478 points on Monday after gains in index majors HDFC, Infosys and Kotak Bank despite a negative trend in the global markets.

After a volatile session, the 30-share index ended 477.99 points or 0.80 per cent higher at 60,545.61.

The broad based Nifty surged 151.75 points or 0.85 per cent to 18,068.55 as 40 of its constituents ended with gains.

Titan was the top gainer in the Sensex pack, rising over 4 per cent, followed by UltraTech Cement, Bajaj Finserv, Tech Mahindra, Kotak Bank and HDFC.

On the other hand, IndusInd Bank was the top loser in the Sensex pack, tanking over 10 per cent after the lender admitted to having disbursed 84,000 loans without customer consent in May owing to a "technical glitch".

M&M, SBI, Maruti, Asian Paints and TCS were also among the laggards.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Certificate(s) for the under mentioned Equity Shares of the Company have been lost/misplaced and the holder(s)/ purchaser(s) of the said Equity Shares have applied to the Company to issue duplicate Share Certificate(s). Any person who has a claim in respect of the said Shares should lodge the same with the Company at its Registered Office within 21 days from this date else the Company will proceed to issue duplicate certificate(s) to the aforesaid applicants without any further intimation

Folio No	Name of shareholder	No of Shares	Distinctive Nos	Certificate No.
0168021	1. Vishnu Prakash Gupta 2. Usha Gupta	100	From 10915501 to 10915600	20029

Name of Shareholder(s): 1. Vishnu Prakash Gupta 2. Usha Gupta
R/o 375 Sector 11, HUDA, Panipat, Haryana
Dated 09/11/2021

Name of Company : IG Petrochemicals Limited
T-10, 3rd Floor, Jai Ram Complex, Maia Neugi Nagar, Panji, Goa 403001, India

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, WATER RESOURCES CIRCLE BARAN

आज्ञा: F-/SEWR.Circle/NIT-3/2021-22/1685 दि: 29/10/21

Bids for Construction of Anicut behind Tapasavi ki bagichi in village Shahabad, Tehsil-Shahabad, District-Baran (Rs. 317.79 lac) are invited from interested bidders (registered in appropriate class) from 03.11.2021 (9:30 AM) to 02.12.2021 till 18:00 Hr. Other particulars, terms & conditions may be seen on the procurement portal eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in, sppp.rajjasthan.nic.in, diportal.rajjasthan.gov.in and www.rajjasthan.gov.in.

NIB No.: WRD2122A0279
UBN No. WRD2122WSO801280

Sd/-(Hemant Sharma)
Superintending Engineer,
Water Resources Circle Baran

DIPRC/11182/2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

TO WHOM SO EVER IT MAY CONCERN

This is to inform the General Public that the following share certificates of M/s Tulive Developers Ltd. having its registered office at 147, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Fort, Mumbai-400001 registered in the name of the following Share holder, have been lost/ misplaced by them.

S. No.	Name of the Shareholders	Folio No.	Certificate Nos.	Distinctive Nos.	No. of Shares
1.	Bhagwan Das Makhlajani	M0301	1106 970060	129061-129110 2930868-2931067	50 200

250

The Public is hereby cautioned against purchasing or dealing in any way with the above referred Share Certificates.

Any person who has any claim in respect of the said shares certificates should lodge such claim with the company or its Registrar and Transfer Agents CAMEO CORPORATE SERVICES LTD., Subramanian Building, No. 1, Club House Road, Chennai-600002. Within 15 days of publication of this notice after which no claim will be entertained and the company shall proceed to issue Duplicate Share Certificates.

PRAKASH MAKHLAJANI
Name of Legal Claimant

Place: New Delhi

Himalaya Food International Ltd

CIN: L70102DL1992PLC047399

Regd. Office: 118, 1st Floor, 12 Gagandeep Building, Rajendra Place, New Delhi-110008

Tel. +91 11 45108609, Fax: +91 1704 225178
E-mail id: cs@himalayainternational.com
website: www.himalayafoodcompany.com

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 that the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on **Saturday, November 13, 2021 at 11.00 a.m.** at Head Office Shubhkhera, Paonta Sahib, H.P - 173025, arrangement is made for participation of Board members electronically through video - conferencing facility, inter-alia, to takeon record the Unaudited Financial Results of the Company for the Quarter ended **30th September, 2021.**

In terms of the Code of Conduct for Prevention of Insider Trading in Securities of Himalaya Food International Limited, the Trading window is closed from **1st October, 2021 to 15th November, 2021.** The said notice may be accessed on the stock exchanges websites at www.bseindia.com.

For Himalaya Food International Ltd
Sd/-
Surabhi Maheshwari
Company Secretary

Date: November 8, 2021
Place: Delhi

India needs to tap hydro resources to achieve 500 GW RE capacity target: RK Singh

New Delhi: In a bid to achieve the target of installing 500 GW (giga watt) renewable energy capacity by 2030, India needs to tap its hydro resources, Union Minister RK Singh has said.

The Minister made the remarks at an event organised to mark the 47th Raising Day of power PSU NHPC on Sunday. "Prime Minister

Narendra Modi has set a target of installing 500 GW (giga watt) renewable energy (RE) capacity by 2030. We will do that instead we will exceed the target. "But to install such an amount of RE capacity we need a balancing source and that balancing source is hydro, this is where the role of NHPC becomes more important," the Minister said in his address.

UJVN LTD.
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road Dehradun-248006
Telephone No.: 0135-2763808 & Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866 Website: www.ujvn.com

Ro.No.- 829 Corrigendum Dated- 08.11.2021

Due to unavoidable reason the Term & condition of **e-Tender No. 12/EE(Maint.)/Khodri/2021-22** are altered as following:
Similar work: Supply of submersible/ VT /Centrifugal pump of minimum capacity 60 HP.

All other terms & condition and Dates will remain same. For downloading tender documents and other details, Kindly visit e-procurement portal "https://uktenders.gov.in"

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity" Executive Engineer(Maintenance), Khodri PH

Appeal for Identification

General public is hereby informed that one person Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: About 60 Yrs., Height: 5'5", Sex: Male, Complexion: Wheatish, Build: Thin, Face: Oval, Eyes: Normal Black, Hair: Normal Black, Wearing: White-Shirt and Black Pant, Place of Recovery: Found in unconscious condition on 13.10.2021 near 18 Ashoka Road, New Delhi and brought to RML Hospital where doctor declared him dead. In this regard DD No. 30-A, Dated 13.10.2021 has been lodged at Police Station, Parliament Street, New Delhi. Any clue come to notice please inform undersign.

SHO
P.S. Parliament Street, New Delhi
DP/349/NDD/2021 Ph.: 011-23361100

AXIS BANK Retail Lending and Payment Group (Local Office Branch): Axis House, Tower-2, 2nd Floor, I-14, Sector-128, Noida Expressway, Jaypee Greens Wishtown, Noida-201301, U.P.

Axis Bank Ltd., 3rd Floor, Gigaplex, NPC 1, TTC Industrial Area, Mughal Sarai, Airoli, Navi Mumbai 400 708, Registered Office: "Trishul", 3rd Floor Opp. Samarsheshwar Temple Law Garden, Ellisbridge Ahmedabad 380006.

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property is mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Secured Creditor will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on 09/12/2021 for recovery of Rs.15,87,493/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Eighty Seven Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Three Only) dues as on 28.10.2021 with future interest and costs due to the secured creditor from 1. MR. RAVAL PALLI UDAR & 2. MRS RACHNA UDAR in Loan Nos. PHR012600451371, HTR012600492613 Please refer the appended auction schedule for detailed details:-

KNOWN ENCUMBRANCES (IF ANY)	Not Known
RESERVE PRICE (IN RS.)	Rs.28,20,200/- (Rs. Twenty Eight Lakh Twenty Thousand And Two Hundred Only)
EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (IN RS.)	Rs.2,82,020/- (Rs. Two Lakh Eighty Two Thousand Twenty Only) through DD/PO in favor of 'Axis bank Ltd.' payable at Delhi.
BID INCREMENTAL AMOUNT	Rs. 10,000/- (Rs.Ten Thousand and only)
LAST DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS / TENDER WITH EMD	Till 7 th December 2021 latest by 05:00 P.M. Axis House, Tower-2, 2nd Floor, I-14, Sector-128, Noida Expressway, Jaypee Greens Wishtown, Noida-201301, U.P. addressed to Mr. Santosh Singh.
DATE, TIME, AND VENUE FOR PUBLIC E-AUCTION	On 09 th December 2021, between 11:00 A.M and 12:00 Noon, with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each at web portal https://www.bankauctions.com e-auction tender documents containing e-auction bid form, declaration etc., are available in the website of the Service Provider as mentioned above

SCHEDULE DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF THE BUILT UP APARTMENT BEARING NO. C-748 ON 7TH FLOOR IN BUILDING/ TOWER NO. 12 HAVING A SUPER AREA OF 109.63 SQ. MTRS (1180 SQ. FT.) COVERED AREA 846 SQ. FT. BALCONY & UTILITY WARD 140 SQ. FT. AND COMMON AREA 194 SQ. FT.) ALONGWITH UNDIVIDED AND IMPARTIALLY PROPORTIONATE SHARE IN THE LAND UNDERNEATH THE BUILDING AND UNDIVIDED PROPORTIONATE SHARE IN THE COMMON AREAS OF THE BUILDING INCLUDING ALL EASEMENTARY RIGHTS ATTACHED THERETO ALONGWITH RIGHT OF USE TO GENERAL COMMONLY USED AREAS AND FACILITIES EARMARKED FOR COMMON USE OF ALL OCCUPANTS WITHIN THE SAID COMPLEX TOGETHER WITH RIGHT TO USE THE RESERVED CAR PARKING SPACE IN THE COMPLEX, BEING PART OF THE RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX NAMED "RIVER HEIGHTS" SITUATED AT VILLAGE NOOR NAGAR, PARGANA LONI, TEHSIL & DISTRICT GHAZIABAD, U.P.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the secured creditor's website i.e. <https://www.axisbank.com/auction-retail> and the Bank's approved service provider M/S C1 India Private Limited at their web portal <https://www.bankauctions.com>

The auction will be conducted online through the Bank's approved service provider M/S C1 India Private Limited at their web portal <https://www.bankauctions.com>

For any other assistance, the intending bidders may contact Mr. Santosh Singh (Mobile. No. +91-9995626667) Authorized officer of the Bank during office hours from 9.30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Date : 09-11-2021
Place : Ghaziabad U.P.

Sd/-
Authorized Officer,
For Axis Bank Ltd.

Sale Notice

The under mentioned Assets will be sold through auction on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for recovery of dues as per court orders, in the following cases:-

S. No	Case Details	Asset Details
1.	ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Kulvinder Singh FAO 213/2015	Vehicle No-NR, Make & Model- MARUTI ERTIGA, Manu Year-2013, Reserve Price: Rs 80000, EMD Amount Rs 8,000, DD/PO of EMD has to be made in favour of ICICI Bank Ltd, payable at Delhi
2.	ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Mehkar Singh CM(M) 549/2020 & CM APPL 27986/2020	Vehicle No-UP16DT4118, Make & Model- CHEVROLET ENJOY, Manu Year-2015, Reserve Price: Rs 50,000, EMD Amount Rs 5,000, DD/PO of EMD has to be made in favour of ICICI Bank Ltd, payable at Delhi
3.	ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Subodh Kumar CM(M) 602/2020 & CM APPL 30659/2020	Vehicle No-UP14FT6208, Make & Model- RENAULT LODGY RXE, Manu Year- 2016, Reserve Price: Rs 150000, EMD Amount Rs 15,000, DD/PO of EMD has to be made in favour of ICICI Bank Ltd, payable at Delhi
4.	ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Jitendra Chaturvedi CM(M) 22/2020	Vehicle No-UP14FT7814 Make & Model- CHEVROLET SAIL UVA LT, Manu Year- 2016, Reserve Price: Rs 50000, EMD Amount Rs 5,000, DD/PO of EMD has to be made in favour of ICICI Bank Ltd, payable at Delhi
5.	ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Pankaj Devi C.S. No. 3685/17	Vehicle No-DL11W1442, Make & Model- TATA ACE, Manu Year- 2015, Reserve Price: Rs 40000, EMD Amount Rs 4,000, DD/PO of EMD has to be made in favour of ICICI Bank Ltd, payable at Delhi
6.	ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Makhan Garg Suit No. 3630/17	Vehicle No-DL11W5114, Make & Model-TATA ACE, Manu Year-2015, Reserve Price: Rs 30000, EMD Amount Rs 3,000, DD/PO of EMD has to be made in favour of ICICI Bank Ltd, payable at Delhi
7.	ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Girraj Ex No.192/21	Vehicle No-DL11V4764, Make & Model- TATA ACE CNG, Manu Year-2015
8.	ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Archana Raj CM (M) 573/2020	Vehicle No-UP14ET7203, Make & Model- CHEVROLET ENJOY LT, Manu Year- 2015, Reserve Price: Rs 45000, EMD Amount Rs 4500, DD/PO of EMD has to be made in favour of ICICI Bank Ltd, payable at Delhi
9.	ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Meenakshi Singh Khawar CS DJ 6476/18	Vehicle No-UP16ET3403, Make & Model- NISSAN MICRA, Manu Year-2017
10.	ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Subodh Kumar 471/17 (Id No. 3180/17)	Vehicle No-UP14FT7914, Make & Model - TATA INDIGO ECS, Manu Year- 2006
11.	ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Pushpa CS (Comm) No 587/19	Vehicle No-UP14GT2066, Make & Model- MARUTI WAGON R GREEN LXI, Manu Year- 2017
12.	ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Rajkumar, CS (Comm) 2386/19	Vehicle No. HR26DT5871 Make and Model: MARUTI BALENO DELTA PETROL, Manufacturing year 2018

Auction Date:- 24 November 2021 From 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.
Place of Auction:- Godara Yard, Khewat No. 166/1, Near Atul Kataria Check, Behind Gyan Devi, School, Sec-17, Sukhrali, Gurugram- 122022
Contact Person:- Rajeev Ranjan (8584874809)/ Jitendra Kumar (7304914763)

Terms of Sale

The particulars of the said asset specified herein above have been stated to the best of the information and knowledge of the undersigned, who shall however not be responsible for any error, misstatement or omission in the said particulars. The interested participant/s are therefore requested, in their own interest, to satisfy himself / themselves/ itself with regard to the said asset and other relevant details pertaining to it before submitting the bids. All bidders are required to come at auction site with original DD/PO of EMD amount in favour of ICICI Bank Limited, payable at Delhi (Wherein applicable) along with original KYC document to participate in the auction.

Successfully bidder shall have to deposit sale amount (Excluding EMD amount wherein applicable) within 5 days from the auction date by the way of pay order/demand draft/RTGS/NEFT. In case if you fail to make the remaining sale amount within 5 days, your EMD amount will be forfeited.

The intending bidders may visit at **ICICI Bank Ltd, 1st Floor, SD Tower, Community Center, Plot No-7, Rohini Sector-8 New Delhi- 110085** for details and inspection of the said hypothecated vehicles.

DOCYARD

DR SHOBHA GUPTA

Medical Director and Infertility Specialist

MOTHER'S LAP IVF CENTRE – PITAMPURA, NEW DELHI



Untreated thyroid can lead to infertility



Infertility is defined as the inability to conceive after one year of regular intercourse without contraception. It is one of the medical, social and psychological burdens in the world. About 18–20% of couples in reproductive age are infertile.

The thyroid hormone regulates cellular function; abnormal thyroid function can affect your fertility. Undiagnosed and untreated thyroid disease can be a cause for infertility or frequent miscarriage.

According to the Indian Thyroid Society about 70 per cent of women with PMS have low thyroid levels, which make the ovaries less able to produce progesterone leading to PMS symptoms. 25.6 per cent of the Indian population have thyroid dysfunction and possibly resulted in infertility.

Having trouble getting pregnant? Your thyroid could be the problem - and your doctor may not even know it. Standard blood tests miss up to 80 percent of cases in which low tissue thyroid levels are causing or contributing to infertility.

Underactive thyroid (hypothyroidism) is a condition in which the thyroid gland doesn't produce enough of certain important hormones. For women, there is a link between hypothyroidism and infertility. Low levels of thyroid hormone can interfere with ovulation, which impairs fertility. In addition, some of the underlying causes of hypothyroidism — such as certain autoimmune or pituitary disorders — impair fertility.

Seema Arora (name changed on request), 29, a working professional, her world came to an end when she got to know that she can't be pregnant. As thyroid is very much common in today's lifestyle, Seema was diagnosed with thyroid but she ignored it and did not go for regular maintenance check ups. After 1 year when she underwent TSH blood test she got to know that she is suffering from hypothyroidism due to which she is now unable to conceive.

Since standard thyroid blood tests are not sensitive enough to detect low ovarian tissue levels the majority of the time, women must find a knowledgeable physician who understands that standard tests will often not be useful in detecting low ovarian thyroid levels.

Symptoms: The symptoms of hypothyroidism can be of many types. Some patients show no symptoms, while others show some marked symptoms. The symptoms usually depend on the severity of the hormone deficiency and the rate at which it develops in the patient. The symptoms are usually milder at the beginning but develop gradually as the condition deteriorates.

The general symptoms are weight gain, fatigue, constipation, muscle and joint aches, sluggishness, and intolerance towards cold weather, abnormal and irregular periods, fatigue, and sleeplessness. The skin may turn dry and thick. The hair may become coarse or thin. At times eyebrows disappear and nails become brittle.

Diagnosis: If you feel the above mentioned symptoms immediately go for a TSH (thyroid stimulating hormone) test, Chest X-ray, T4 or thyroxine test.

Treatment: Hypothyroidism can be treated in many ways. However, a doctor chooses the line of treatment on the basis of a number of variables like the underlying cause of hyperthyroidism, the age of the patient, the size of the thyroid gland and the presence of coexisting medical illnesses.

If you are found to have hypothyroidism, thyroid hormone replacement is very effective in restoring fertility. It may take 1-2 months to normalize your thyroid hormone levels with medication; and once you start medication, you must check your TSH levels to confirm they are in the normal range. You will usually need to continue the medicines for the rest of your life and recheck your thyroid function every 6 months or so.

Millions of people have an undiagnosed thyroid problem, and don't realize that it is the source of the other health challenges they face. Infertility is a major health threat due to thyroid and many other conditions that are often the direct result of undiagnosed and untreated thyroid conditions. In order to lead a healthy life I would recommend that all patients who recognise any of these symptoms should go for a TSH test.

WARMFOODS

SWEET POTATO: One sweet potato provides 400% of the vitamin A your body requires each day. This benefits both your eyes and your immune system, which is your body's fight against infections. It's also beneficial to your reproductive system as well as your organs such as the heart and kidneys. The flesh of some is white or cream-colored. Other colours include yellow, red, and purple. Sweet potatoes have gained the moniker "superfood" due to their high nutritious content. Carbohydrates are found in copious amounts in sweet potatoes. Some cooking methods, such as baking, roasting, and frying, boost the glycemic index of the food, causing blood sugar to spike. If you have type 2 Diabetes, consult your doctor or a dietitian for advice before using it in your diet.



SURGERY

IS NOT A FEAR

Over 35,000 knee replacements have been performed in India last year. DR AKHILESH YADAV shares ways to take care post-surgery

The prevalence of joint pain is not new and uncommon these days as a higher proportion of young and middle-aged population have been spotted in this limelight. While COVID has been a major threat to overall health, yet people affected with the infection have been immobilised for long either due to home quarantine or hospitalization. Further the ill-effects of the virus have also triggered weakness in the muscles and joints.

Clouding myths pertaining to the post-surgical quality of life of knee replacement have kept many patients with chronic knee pain in the dark. While there is a dire need to raise awareness among masses about the advancements in technology in the field of joint replacement surgeries, also a minor effort from those undergoing such surgeries to adapt to a healthy lifestyle can also turn out the outcomes to be more fruitful.

Attributed by a plethora of reasons including family history, age related degeneration, obesity, physical inactivity, acquired infections like rheumatoid Arthritis, osteoporosis and other inflammatory ailments, in association with the COVID complications are the triggering factors for the onset of joint pain. Nutrition deficiencies including Vitamin D3 and B12 are the major contributing factors that have



Dr Akhilesh Yadav

Senior Hip & Knee Replacement Surgeon, Centre for Knee and Hip Care, Ghaziabad

severely impacted the bones and cartilage that provide strength to the joints.

According to the recent data provided by Joint registry (ISHKS), over 35,000 total knee replacements (TKR) have been performed in India last year and there is an upsurge in these procedures in the last five years. As per an estimate around 20 crore Indians (especially above the age of 50 years) suffer from some form of knee-related problems. The major causes include degenerative arthritis like osteoarthritis, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Unicompartmental arthritis among many others. Among such a major-

ity of the population at least 20 per cent of them are having a poor quality of life and are suggested for an immediate knee replacement procedure.

Advanced knee replacement procedures are sustainable

Though most TKR are sustainable in more than 90 per cent of the cases and have a life of around 15-20 years, over time the knee replacement fails due to a variety of reasons. In such cases patients may be required to undergo a Revision TKR (RTKR) due to the increased swelling and painful knee joints. Patients may also feel stiffness, instability that may hinder their day-to-day activities.

In some of the cases due to trauma or an injury to the bone, it may make it harder for the surgeon to use standardized implants during a revision surgery, where specially designed implants are required.

Avoiding such complications of injury to the joints or adjacent areas and taking certain precautionary measures can ensure an enhanced lifespan of the implants and avoids the need for a revision knee replacement surgery.

Maintain an optimal Body Mass Index (BMI) – Poor eating habits and a sedentary lifestyle often post surgery ends up in unwanted weight gain. It is thus advised to eat a healthy and balanced diet along with regular mild exercises to main-

tain the BMI.

Physical activity and regular exercise – regular exercise is a must, and always consult the treating doctor for moderation, before taking up heavy workouts. It is usually advised for brisk walking, basic physical exercise like aerobics for at least five days a week.

Regular walk- To decrease the chances of re-do surgery, it is important to increase the pace of walking pace and distance after a few months of surgery. Walking is purely an individual capacity. At the end of two months, one should be able to walk 1-1.5 km per day which can be increased to 250 meters by the end of 3-4 months, till the three km per day mark is achieved.

Yearly check-ups- TKR patients must visit the surgeons yearly to keep a check on loosening in the joint which can be dealt with time. Patients with lifestyle ailments such as diabetes and hypertension should regularly measure and monitor the same. Diabetic patients are at elevated risk of developing infections even months after the surgery and hence the blood sugar should be monitored regularly.

If these measures are properly addressed then the lifespan of knee replacement surgeries may result in long term benefits. In case of any problem at any point, it is important to get information from the concerned surgeon.

MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT IVF

IVF seems to be the most preferred treatment choice for most couples worldwide. DR RADHIKA BAJPAI bursts a few myths around it



Infertility rates are increasing more than ever in urban households, and IVF seems to be the most preferred treatment choice for most couples worldwide. Due to its high success rate and the safety protocol involved, it is generally considered a gold standard for infertility treatment. However, even though IVF is a widely adopted procedure, many opposing opinions, thoughts, and even misconceptions exist about IVF being a viable option for treatment. These notions often have no scientific backing and can often be discouraging and dangerous for couples opting for IVF to become parents.

Most common delusions that exist about IVF treatment:

Myth 1- IVF increases the chances of Multiple Births

This notion is the exact opposite of what IVF involves. During natural birthing, the number of embryos implanted within the uterus is unknown and cannot be physically controlled in any manner. IVF allows parents-to-be complete control over the number of embryos that can be implanted. Yes, ultiple embryos may be fertilized and can be implanted, but that alone doesn't make it a risk.

Myth 2- IVF Cycles Can Eventually Lead to Cancer

During IVF treatment, your gynaecologist will prescribe certain fertility drugs (gonadotropins) during your period cycles for egg production. The general misunderstanding of gonadotropins causing ovarian cancer has no definitive study or evidence contributing to the growth of tumors in the ovaries. However, one must underscore the fact that the use of hormonal treatment has always been associated with certain unavoidable side effects.

Myth 3- A Woman's Ovarian Reserves Decreases

As women grow older, ovarian reserves naturally deplete during the reproductive cycle. An IVF cycle includes the harvest of multiple eggs, but it certainly does not decrease ovarian reserves, therefore, providing a lower possibility of infertility due to insufficient ovarian reserves.

Myth 4- Hyperstimulation cannot be Controlled

As the concern around hyperstimulation of ovaries during the IVF cycles remains, it is delusional to believe that hyperstimulation cannot be controlled. However, various methods are devised to manage ovarian response and ensure it does not go beyond unwanted levels, thanks to advancement and innovation.

Myth 5- IVF is the Ultimate Fertility Solution

Though IVF is a tested and viable method to assist in conceiving a child, it is not a complete form of infertility treatment. Other treatments such as Intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) are also used depending on the patient's needs. Other misconceptions around age being a factor exist too. Both young and old couples can opt for IVF if they have trouble conceiving due to various factors.

The writer is Consultant, Birla Fertility & IVF

All about gestational Diabetes

There is no sure short way to prevent gestational Diabetes but inculcating healthy habits reduces the risk. DR ANUBHA SINGH tells you more

Gestational Diabetes is the temporary form of Diabetes that occurs during pregnancy when the body stops producing or responding to insulin sufficiently. It usually affects pregnant women usually during mid to later part of the pregnancy, from the fourth month of pregnancy onwards.

It is usually diagnosed through a blood test between 24 – 28 weeks of pregnancy. With good management of gestational Diabetes, one can significantly reduce the risk of complications to both mother and baby and also improve the chances of a normal delivery. Many times, the blood sugar levels go back to normal after delivery but it puts you at a higher risk of type-2 diabetes. That is why regular blood tests are necessary to keep a check.

Causes During pregnancy, the body produces certain hormones which make it difficult for your body to use the insulin produced thereby creating a state of Insulin Resistance.



Insulin is normally required for the body to use glucose in the blood as an energy source. With insulin resistance, one's own insulin struggles to help the body use glucose for energy and hence glucose levels in the blood rise leading to gestational Diabetes.

Apart from this, there are few other causes as well which puts you at risk:

- ♦Hormonal changes which is normal during pregnancy can be a cause for the spike in blood sugar levels
- ♦If you are obese or overweight before pregnancy, there are higher chances of you suffering from gestational Diabetes
- ♦If you are prediabetic or

suffered from gestational diabetes in the past.

♦If anyone in your close family has Diabetes, it increases your risk of suffering from diabetes as well

♦If you suffer from PCOS

♦If you delivered a baby weighing more than 9 pounds in the past

Signs and symptoms

- ♦Fatigue
- ♦Blurred vision
- ♦Extreme thirst
- ♦Nausea
- ♦Frequent bladder, vaginal, or skin infections
- ♦Frequent urination

Prevention There is no sure short way to prevent gestational diabetes but inculcating healthy habits reduces the risk of gestational Diabetes. It also reduces the chances of obesity and type-2 diabetes in future.

- ♦Seek professional help, talk to your gynaecologist about it
- ♦Understand gestational Diabetes and its treatment options
- ♦See a dietitian for advice

regarding healthy diet and regular exercise.

♦Understand how to treat low and high blood sugars

Complications It is extremely important to control the blood sugars during pregnancy to prevent complications to both mother and baby. Poor control of Diabetes increases the risk of having a large baby-making normal delivery difficult, baby can develop malformations of spine, heart and other organs, baby can develop low blood glucose, risk of baby dying around time of birth and risk of baby developing Diabetes later in life.

Treatment Diet control and especially less consumption of sugar, frequent checking of blood sugars will be needed, frequent baby scans will be needed and if blood sugars are not well-controlled delivery of the baby may have to be brought forward; if this fails to control blood sugars, Insulin injections will be needed.

The writer is Medical Director, Shantala Fertility Centre, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi

INBRIEF

Making an impact

Lucknow's Ruchi Tandon is raising funds for her 19 yrs old son Anant Tandon who is fighting Brain Cancer. He had been diagnosed with Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG), which is a Grade IV cancerous brain tumor. It is a rare and one of the deadliest forms of brain cancer.

Anant started experiencing constant lightheadedness, difficulty walking, arms and legs weakness, blur vision and double vision, all of these within a span of just 3 weeks.

After a series of CT scans and MRI they were given the dreadful diagnosis of DIPG on May 23, 2021. A surgery was also performed to place a VP Shunt in his brain to relieve the pressure on June 10, 2021. He then underwent radiation therapy, which was all very traumatizing for him as he had to stay in the hospital for a duration of 49 days. Now that he had com-

pleted his radiation therapy clinical trials were our last hope for a miracle and fortunately enough Dr. Sabine Mueller from University of California, San Francisco is ready to give him admission in the ONC206 trial.

The expected duration of the treatment shall be 2 years. The cost for the entire treatment shall be between 1 to 2 crores.

Piyush Jain, Co-Founder and CEO, ImpactGuru.com said, "Cancer is amongst the Top 3 categories on our healthcare financing platform that raise the maximum amount of funds. High awareness of this long-term illness, hefty cost associated with Cancer care and the sense of urgency to ensure timely treatment contribute to the large wave of generosity amongst the public.

The fastest Cancer case fundraiser on ImpactGuru was from last year, Rs. 2 crore raised in 48 hours.

KNOWLEDGE IS THE ‘I’

On the occasion of RAJA RAO’s 113th birth anniversary, KHUSHBU KIRTI pays tribute to the man who was among the first to infuse Indian sensibilities and metaphysics into the English narrative

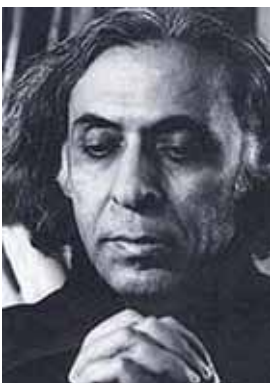
Raja Rao (November 8, 1908 - July 8, 2006), the profound writer, is renowned for appropriating English for the Indian narrative, while very much keeping Indian values and ethics alive in the writings. The novelist and short story writer was a path-breaker in Indian writing in English. He was one of the three founding pillars, along with RK Laxman and Mulk Raj Anand, of the same. Rao set the standards high and extensively used the technique of Indian metaphysics and sensibilities to embellish his writings. His thought-process can be attributed to his *Vedantin* grandfather. Born in Hassan, Mysore, he was an exemplar scholar who completed his graduation from Madras University and, subsequently, went to the University of Montpellier, France, on a scholarship. Much like his protagonist Rama, from *The Serpent and the Rope*, Rao was an intellectual who always only added to the oblivious universe of definitions for the Truth. Even though he lived outside, he couldn’t accept the binary opposites of the West, couldn’t and didn’t want to fight the Indianness out of him. Rama says, “*Duality is anti-Indian; the non-dual affirms the truth.*” Only in *The Chessmaster and His Moves*, does it seem that the writer arrives at some semblance of a metaphysical unity. While a lot of readers called his writings convoluted, I find divinity in them,



truth submerged in mystery and oblivion, but truth itself. While Madeline finds Rama to be abstract, I felt he knew and felt things in a very different manner. He said, “*Man is, and cannot be happy but be happiness itself.*” Herein, lies the essence of man. Humans are abstract in nature, we are the emotion itself and accepting this fact is hard for a lot of people. Here’s what Sartre had said, what all philosophers ultimately say — ‘the truth is the Is-ness, that action and existence is the only reality. Rao

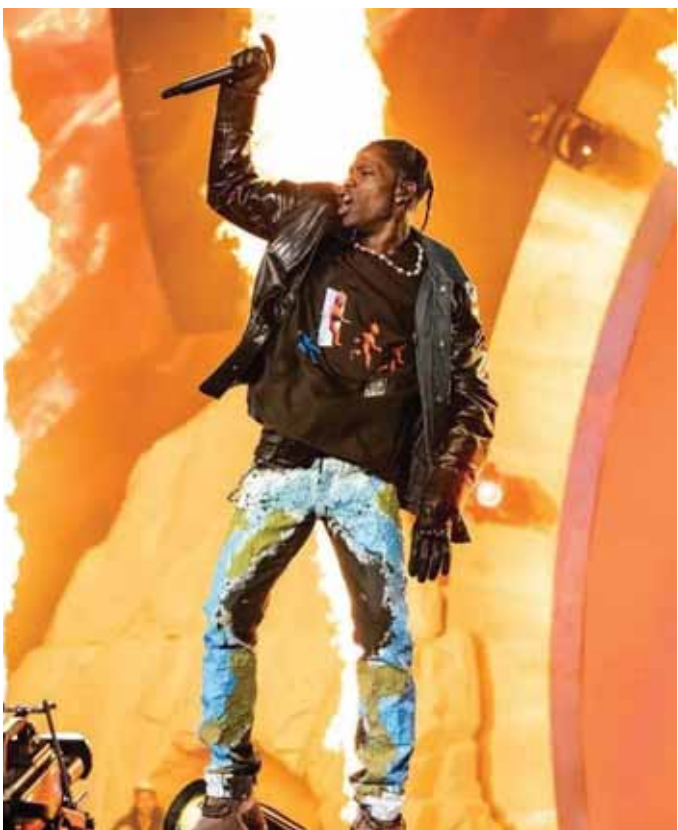
believed that and explained what spirituality in East actually was, only in between the lines of his masterpieces of novels, unpolluted by the occidental touch. He taught courses like Marxism to Gandhism, Mahayana Buddhism, Indian philosophy, Metaphysics, and so on, at the University of Texas, Austin, as professor of Philosophy. For him, India was ‘mysterious and infectious’. He felt pure bathing in the Ganges. He was on an enter-

prise, like we all are — “*Life is a pilgrimage I know, but a pilgrimage to where, and of what?*” He returned to India, looking for answers, lived in the ashram of Gandhi and got in touch with Nehru. He was a part of the Indian movement as a writer. Not only did he edit the anthology, *Changing India*, wrote essays like *Whither India*, *The Meaning of India*, and so forth, but also participated in the Quit India Movement in 1942. He also published a biography of Gandhi called *Mahatma*



Gandhi: The Great Indian Way in 1998. The Padma Bhushan awardee went on to win numerous awards, including the Neustadt International Prize for Literature in 1988. He also received the Sahitya Akademi Award for *The Serpent and the Rope* in 1964. The novel is famously called his ‘spiritual autobiography’. In one of his most seminal works and his first novel, *Kanthapura*, he expressed discomfort writing in English, an ‘alien’ and colonial language. Rao maintained in the much-celebrated preface of the novel, “*The telling has not been easy. One has to convey in a language that is not one’s own the spirit that is one’s own. One has to convey the various shades and omissions of a certain thought-movement that looks maltreated in an alien language.*” Thus, began his quest to accurately translate Indian sensibilities in English in the narrative, so as to convey

the true meaning of Indian essence to the world. EM Forster praised *Kanthapura* as ‘the finest novel to come out of India’. Kanthapura, the village, is the microcosmic representation of the macrocosmic reality of the nation at the time, bringing at the surface the fight by Gandhi. Hence, he documented the freedom struggle in a small space. Like him, the protagonist here, Moorthy, too, fights not only with the outside world (physically) but also has on-going internal battles. The struggle between good and evil is rampant in this post-colonial novel. It is interesting to note that Rao never translated the Indian words that didn’t have equivalent meanings in English. He took to an old ideology of Indian narration style and, thus, also has as the narrator — Achakka, his mouth-piece (the old lady who always narrates tales). Rao wrote other significant works like the metaphysical and philosophical comedy, *The Cat and Shakespeare: A Tale of India* (1965). The blend of fantasy and realism has, at its background, the famine of 1942. Some popular short stories by him include *On The Ganga Ghat*, and *The Cow And The Barricades*. The Raja Rao Award for Literature was especially created in 2000 to honour the man, with his permission. It was bestowed seven times to recognise writers between the years 2000-2009.



A recipe for destruction

After the unfortunate deaths that occurred during hip-hop artiste TRAVIS SCOTT’s show at Houston, last week, it has emerged that chaos is a part of a very popular formula

Travis Scott’s high-energy performances are known for being chaotic and fun-filled shows with concertgoers encouraged to take part in a raucous nature involving mosh pits, crowd surfing and stage diving. Last week, something went terribly wrong. At least eight people — between the ages of 14 and 27 — were killed during a crowd surge at the Grammy-nominated rapper’s Astroworld Festival performance in Houston. A sizeable group of the 50,000 in attendance pushed toward the stage at NRG Park as a timer clicked down to start the performance before the chaotic scene began emerged.

People in the crowd reported lots of pushing and shoving during the performances leading up to Scott’s set, which is normal at his shows. He’s often encouraged fans to bypass security and rush the stage, but none of those previous situations resulted in fatalities.

“Travis Scott’s whole aesthetic is about rebellion,” remarks *HipHopDX* editor-in-chief Trent Clark, who has attended several of his performances. “The shows have a lot of raging. With the death of punk rock, hip-hop has indeed adopted and patterned the new generation of mosh pits. It’s not uncommon to see a lot of crowding and raging or complete wild behavior at a Travis Scott show,” he adds.

Scott is an eight-time Grammy-nominated rapper who is one of music’s biggest young stars. The Houston-born musician founded his festival in 2018 on the heels of his chart-topping album *Astroworld*, which was led by the infectious song *Sicko Mode*. He also has a three-year-old daughter with Kylie Jenner, who announced in September that she is pregnant with their second child.

“Scott is legendary in the hip-hop community for his beyond high-energy performances, where he really tries to rile up the crowd,” observes Noah Shachtman, editor-in-chief at *Rolling Stone*. “That makes for some really fun shows and made for a couple of scary incidents.”

In a tweet posted Saturday, Scott said he was ‘absolutely devastated by what took place last night’. He pledged to work ‘together with the Houston community to heal and support the families in need’.

No matter where the investigation ultimately leads, tragedies like the one at the Astroworld Festival have been happening for a long time. In 1979, 11 people died in a scramble to enter a Cincinnati, Ohio, concert by The Who. At a soccer stadium in England, a human crush in 1989 led to nearly

100 deaths. But with Scott getting into trouble before for the two past shows, Shachtman thinks the rapper will get a ‘hard second look’. In 2017, Scott was arrested after he encouraged fans to bypass security and rush the stage, leaving a security guard, a police officer and several others injured during a concert in Arkansas. In a separate incident, he was sentenced to one year of court supervision after pleading guilty to reckless conduct charges stemming from a 2015 incident in Chicago at the Lollapalooza music festival.

At the time, Chicago officials said Scott encouraged fans to vault security barricades. However, no one was injured. “In terms of energy, he wants the energy he’s giving out on stage to be reciprocated from the audience, almost in defiance,” shares Julian Kimble, who wrote a concert review on Scott’s 2018 Astroworld performance for the Washington Post. He called the rapper one of the most electrifying performers he’s seen.

“I’ve seen him telling people, ‘Don’t listen to security. Forget security. This is for y’all. This is for the fans,’” he reveals. “With regards to last week, that’s an example of how things can go wrong. There’s a lot of negligence across the board. I don’t think there’s one bad guy or culprit. It’s a sweeping structural failure with what happened.”

Shachtman said he hopes the tragedy will help tweak Scott’s approach toward his show. He enjoys the rapper’s performances but wants a safer atmosphere where people can still have fun - especially for those eager to find some enjoyment at live shows during the pandemic.

“I would expect that they’ll be increased measures to make sure concertgoers can have a great time, but do so without getting killed,” said Shachtman, who grew up on New York hardcore punk rock music. He said that he’s no stranger to mosh pits, but he adds that “there’s a big difference between a mosh pit, even a giant one, and a life-threatening situation.”

Scott is a scheduled headliner for the Day N Vegas Festival next weekend. But any performance involving Scott could come under some scrutiny for crowd control measures and other safety concerns now.

“Concert promoters pay hundreds of thousands of dollars for security at both private and public (events). That’s got to be deployed properly. Or else, we’re going to see another one of these incidents,” believes Shachtman.

—AP



The many faces of love

UMA NAIR elaborates on PRADIPTAA CHAKRABORTY’s *Mirza Sahiba* and other artworks which are a part of the ongoing exhibition, *Ae Mohabbat*, at Alturaash Gallery

Subramanyan as well as Jogen Chowdhury, believes that the idea of contemporary is to create a corollary of characters.

Expanding on some of his artworks, his *Mirza Sahiba* is more about the inherent instinct to imagine the future and act in the present — a tragedy that leaves us heartbroken in this folk tale.

Chakraborty creates a masterpiece as he shows us the journey’s end when Mirza helps Sahiba off the horse. There is something about the tragic romance of *Mirza Sahiba*.

Along with the two lovers are angels with bows and arrows. The bows and arrows stand for a metaphor of life, a symbolism of Indian tales from myth and reality; the allegory of life and death that



can be seen even in the great story of Dronacharya and Arjun. When you look closely you discern that Chakraborty has the technique of a muralist, his detailing looks like frescoes from another era. As a composition this work is a masterpiece of many metaphors and meanderings.

Amongst the six works that are on display, another magnificent work is *We Are Mosaics*. This is a panoramic canvas full of earthly delights and hybrid humans and characters that remind us of *Panchatantra*, *Aesop’s Fables* and other stories from the past. The title is taken from a famous poem by Anita Krizan. Most art lovers walk towards it first. For Asif Kamal, the young, dynamic director of Alturaash, this is an exhibition that will create ripples for its brilliance of conceptualisation and its design spatialities.

The application of both colour and contour reaffirm the brilliance of this *shishya* of Subramanyan and Chowdhury. The show, *Ae Mohabbat*, at Alturaash Arts runs till December 9, 2021.

RINGSIDE VIEW

Artist Ranjan Kaul presents his fourth solo exhibition titled *Ringside View* that tells the moving story of the recent traumatic times through the painter’s eye. Kaul continues to evolve his nuanced oeuvre that chronicles and portrays humdrum situations and quotidian life by infusing them with drama, colour and emotion. He portrays real-life stories not merely as an active participant, but as an empathetic and perceptive observer, from the ringside, as it were, from a vantage point. **When:** November 11-18 **Where:** Open Palm Court Gallery, Indian Habitat Centre



HANUSSEN (1988) — FILM SCREENING

An Hungarian film, *Hanuszen* centres on an Austrian soldier who becomes a clairvoyant after he is shot in the head during World War I. He is able to read minds and predict the future. Before long, he has foreseen Hitler and the Nazis’ rise to power, and he soon finds himself in danger. It spans from the end of WWI, where Klaus Schneider who would later become known by his stage name Erik Jan Hanussen is injured in combat and sent to an infirmary where he hones his skills as a hypnotist and mind reader, and follows his career as a clairvoyant all the way to his fateful prediction of the Reichstag fire in February 1933. Recipient of the Golden Camera Award for Best International Actor at Germany in 1991, *Hanuszen* has a run time of 140 minutes and was directed by István Szabó. **When:** November 9, 6:30 pm **Where:** CD Deshmukh Auditorium at IIC



PARAMPARA SERIES

Celebrating Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Dr Raja and Radha Reddy, Indian Kuchipudi dancing couple, gurus and choreographers, are back with the 25th edition of the *Parampara Series*, a national music and dance festival. Spread across two weekends, the first weekend will witness *jugalbandi* concerts from Pandit Ronu Mazumdar, the renowned flautist, and Yamini Reddy, Kuchipudi dancer, on November 12; Gauri Diwaker, Kathak dancer, and Bhuvanesh Komkali, Hindustani classical vocalist, on November 13; and Pandit Shubhendra Rao, sitar player, and Vidushi Saskia Rao, cellist and composer, accompanied by Pandit Ramkumar Mishra, tabla maestro, on November 14. **When:** November 12-14, 7:30 - 8:30 pm **Where:** Natya Tarangini, Saket, New Delhi

IIC DOUBLE BILL MUSIC RECITAL

Indian classical music has an enigmatic charm, with an immense power to draw a person one step closer to the ultimate divine power. At 6 pm, there will be a Hindustani vocal recital by Meelu Verma from Delhi, disciple of Guru Savita Devi, Pandit Mohinder Sarin, Pandit Ram Narayan Mani Tripathi and Nargis Warsi accompanied by Ustad Kamal Ahmed on the sarangi, Ustad Badloo Khan on the harmonium and Ustad Akhtar Khan on tabla. This will be followed by a sitar recital at 7 pm by Dhruv Bedi from Delhi, disciple of Pandit Budhaditya Mukherjee, accompanied by Saptak Sharma on the tabla. **When:** November 11, 6 pm onwards **Where:** CD Deshmukh Auditorium at IIC





I'VE BEEN IMMENSELY PROUD OF HOW THE TEAM HAS PLAYED. NOW I THINK IT'S TIME FOR THE NEXT LOT TO STAKE THIS TEAM FORWARD

— VIRAT KOHLI

ROHIT, ASHWIN HELP KOHLI-LED INDIA END ON WINNING NOTE

PTI ■ DUBAI

Captain-in waiting Rohit Sharma made shortwork of a modest target with an elegant half-century after spinners reigned supreme as India on Virat Kohli's last day as shortest format captain ended their T20 World Cup campaign with an emphatic nine-wicket victory over Namibia here on Monday.

Rohit, who is set to take over as India's white-ball captain, smashed 56 off 37 balls with seven fours and two sixes and got fabulous support from another supremely stylish KL Rahul (54 not out off 36 balls) as India chased down the target of 133 in only 15.2 overs.

It was nothing more than a stroll in the park for the Indians, who basically caught the Namibians by the scruff of their necks with spinners Ravindra Jadeja and Ravichandran Ashwin, snaring six wickets between them.

Then, Rohit dazzled and Rahul sizzled with some breathtaking pick-up pull shots while Suryakumar Yadav (25 not out off 19 balls) showed his 360 degree hitting skills to end a rather disappointing tournament on a sweet note.



But three comprehensive wins against smaller nations came only after the horse had bolted the door.

As outgoing coach Ravi Shastri pointed out, a "mentally and physically" drained Indian team couldn't switch on

during big-match pressure situations as Pakistan and New Zealand literally embarrassed an out of sync team.

The last three games were flawless but it was two matches too late, something that will certainly haunt Kohli, whose

white ball captaincy tenure is set to end with no ICC trophy to show for his efforts.

On the night, India's spinners were just too good for the unheralded Namibia batters as India restricted the minnows to a modest 132 for 8 in their

inconsequential final T20 World Cup match.

Already ousted from the tournament after losing to Pakistan and New Zealand in their first two games, India looked relaxed and the the Namibians were all at sea as

they are not used to playing world class slow bowling operators of this calibre.

Jadeja (4-0-16-3) and Ashwin (4-0-20-3) took six wickets between them for 36 runs to make it a lop-sided contest after Namibia, courtesy their opener Stephan Baard (21) and Michael van Lingen (14), had added 30-plus runs in the first four overs.

Once Van Lingen was dismissed by a short ball and extra pace from Jasprit Bumrah (4-0-19-2), the will to fight was not evident on the African nation's batters when Jadeja and Ashwin jointly operated. Mohammed Shami (0/39 in 4 overs) was the only bowler who had an off-day.

Jadeja saw Craig Williams jumping down the track and stopped on his tracks and pitched on length to get enough away turn. Williams missed it and stood mid-pitch looking completely bamboozled.

Baard was out to a typical Jadeja arm ball, which he tried to sweep and was caught plumb in-front.

Once Jadeja got a coupe of wickets, it was Ashwin's turn to get into action as he removed Jan Nicol Loftie-Eaton (5),

inducing a cut, a shot that landed into slip fielder Rohit Sharma's palms and then bowled one with the angle that cleaned up Zane Green (0). In between he also removed rival skipper Gerhard Erasmus (12).

But the highlight of India's fielding effort was a superb

diving catch by Rohit at short cover when he had roughly 0.16 seconds reaction time to pluck the ball inches above the ground to dismiss JJ Smit (9).

Namibia's plight was understandable as they hit only eight fours and two sixes in the entire innings while consuming 58 dot balls.

► Scoreboard

NAMIBIA (BATTING)	INDIA (BOWLING)
D Wiese (26)	R Jadeja 4 (15, 3wkt)
S Baard (21)	R Ashwin 4 (20, 3wkt)
M Van Lingen (14)	J Bumrah 4 (19, 2wkt)
Total 132 (8 wickets, 20 overs)	
INDIA (BATTING)	NAMIBIA (BOWLING)
Rohit Sharma (56)	Jan Frylinck 2 (19, 1wkt)
KL Rahul (54)	Bernard Scholtz 1 (11, 0wkt)
S Yadav (25)	Michael V. Lingen 1.2 (13, 0wkt)

► Total 136 (1 wicket, 15.2 overs)

► points table

Team	Matches	NRR	Points
England	5	+2.464	8
Australia	5	+1.216	8
South Africa	5	+0.739	8
Sri Lanka	5	-0.269	4
West Indies	5	-1.641	2
Bangladesh	5	-2.383	0

Team	Matches	NRR	Points
Pakistan	5	+1.583	10
New Zealand	5	+1.162	8
India	5	+1.747	6
Afghanistan	5	+1.053	4
Namibia	5	-1.890	2
Scotland	5	-3.543	0

Indian players pay tribute to renowned coach Tarak Sinha

PTI ■ DUBAI

The Indian cricket team on Monday wore black armbands in their final T20 World Cup game against Namibia as a mark of respect to renowned coach Tarak Sinha who died last week.

Sinha groomed some of India's finest cricketers, including current wicketkeeper batter Rishabh Pant, Shikhar Dhawan and Ashish Nehra. "The Indian Cricket Team

is wearing black armbands today to pay their tributes to Dronacharya Awardee and widely respected coach Shri Tarak Sinha, who sadly passed away on Saturday," said the BCCI in a statement.

Sinha died on Saturday after a prolonged illness. He was 71. Sinha was a father figure in Delhi's famous Sonnet Club, which has produced some of the country's finest players who ruled domestic and international cricket.

James Vince replaces Jason Roy

PTI ■ DUBAI

Explosive England opener Jason Roy has been ruled out of the remainder of the T20 World Cup with a calf injury and James Vince has been drafted into the squad as his replacement.

Roy sustained a calf injury in England's defeat to South Africa in their final Super 12 match in Sharjah. Roy looked to be in a lot of pain and could not walk back to the dressing room on his own. He was seen on crutches after the game.

"I'm gutted to be ruled out of the World Cup. It is a bitter pill to swallow," said Roy in a statement.

"I will be staying on to support the boys, and hopefully, we can go all the way and lift that trophy. It has been an unbelievable journey so far, and we have to continue expressing ourselves and concentrating on us.

"The rehab has already started, and even though I've torn my calf, I'm going to give myself the best chance of being ready for the T20 tour of the Caribbean at the start of next year."

Rohit is looking over things for a while now: Kohli

PTI ■ DUBAI

India captain Virat Kohli on Monday confirmed Rohit Sharma as his successor for the national T20 captaincy, saying that the senior opener has been "over-looking things for a while now".

Rohit, who is Kohli's deputy in the white-ball format, is tipped to take over India's T20 leadership from the three-match series against New Zealand at home, beginning November 19.

"I've been immensely proud of how the team has played. Now I think it's time for the next lot to stake this team forward. Obviously Rohit is here and he's overlooking things for a while now," Kohli said during the toss ahead of India's final T20 World Cup match against Namibia here.

"It's been an honour for me, I was given the opportunity and I tried to do my best. But it's also time to create some space and move forward."

Tonight's game also marks the end of



Ravi Shastri's tenure as head coach along with some other support staff members, including bowling coach Bharat Arun.

Kohli had announced his decision to give up T20 captaincy before the World Cup. He has also stepped down as captain of his IPL franchise Royal Challengers Bangalore.

Speculation is rife that the superstar batter might also lose the ODI leadership role in near future.

Players should prioritise nation over IPL: Kapil

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

World Cup-winning former India captain Kapil Dev believes the country's cricketers "prioritise IPL" over national assignments and the onus is on the BCCI to make better schedules to avoid the "mistakes" committed during the ongoing T20 World Cup.

India failed to make it to the semifinals of the ICC event, paying heavily for the back-to-back early losses in the Super 12 stage. New Zealand clinched the last available semifinal spot on Sunday to knock Virat Kohli's men out of the tournament.

"When players prioritise IPL over playing for the country, what can we say? Players should take pride in playing for their nation. I don't know their financial condition so can't say much," the 62-year-old former captain told 'ABP News' but did not dwell on the



specific reason for his statement as the IPL has not clashed with any India matches.

The event did, however, end very close to the T20 World Cup this year because of the scheduling issues created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"...I feel that first in line

should be the country's team and then franchises. I'm not saying do not play cricket there (IPL), but the responsibility is now on the BCCI to plan its cricket better.

"To not repeat mistakes we committed in this tournament is the biggest learning for us," he added.

Australia set to tour Pakistan after 24 years

PTI ■ LAHORE

Australia have agreed to tour Pakistan for the first time in 24 years for a full series next year, providing a much-needed shot in the arm for the country's cricket following the recent pullouts by England and New Zealand over security concerns.

Australia, who last toured Pakistan in 1998, will play three Tests in Karachi (March 3-7), Rawalpindi (March 12-16) and Lahore (March 21-25) as part of the World Test Championship.

Lahore will also be the venue for the four white-ball matches to be played from March 29 to April 5, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) announced on Monday.

In September, New Zealand, who were already in Pakistan, went back home without playing a game due to a security threat and soon



after, England too announced they won't be touring the country ahead of the T20 World Cup, dealing a huge setback to the PCB's efforts in bringing high-quality international cricket to the country.

Australia coming to Pakistan is

a big win for the recently-appointed PCB chief Ramiz Raja, who did not expect the Aussies to tour after England and New Zealand withdrew. England were criticised heavily for not touring the country.

We didn't make runs, no other reason: Gavaskar

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian batters' failure to score enough against strong teams was the primary reason for the team's ordinary campaign in the T20 World Cup, said legendary former captain Sunil Gavaskar, urging the side to change its approach in power-play overs.

India were knocked out of semifinal contention after losing their first two Super 12 games against Pakistan and New Zealand at the ongoing showpiece in the UAE.

"The way Pakistan and New Zealand bowlers restricted our batters, didn't let them score freely was the main reason why India didn't progress. Dew was making batting easy (in second innings) because the ball wasn't turning, spinners' balls were going straight," he told Sports Tak.

"Batting second was an advantage but



if you had 180 odd runs then your bowlers would have got those 20-30 runs cushion. When you are making 111 (against New Zealand) then dew doesn't come into the picture.

We didn't make runs and that is the main reason, nothing else."

Gavaskar is not in favour of wholesale changes in the team and urged the side to revisit its approach to power-play over.

OTHER SPORTS

Milan derby ends in draw

AP ■ MILAN

Inter Milan was the more disappointed side after the Milan derby match ended in a 1-1 draw, despite AC Milan being the team that missed out on taking the outright lead of Serie A. Former Milan midfielder Hakan Calhanoglu converted a penalty for Inter in the 11th minute — and celebrated fiercely against the club he left in June on a free transfer after four years. Milan leveled thanks to an own-goal by defender Stefan de Vrij shortly after, and Inter also had a penalty saved in a high-tempo first half.

"For us the glass is half empty," Inter coach Simone Inzaghi said. "We missed so many chances and a penalty, and we deserved more.

"But we faced a great team that is top because it deserves to be. And we're continuing to improve ... Milan and Napoli are going at an incredible rate



but there are many games left and there's time and space."

Stefano Pioli's Milan remained level on points at the top of the Italian league with Napoli, which drew 1-1 against Hellas Verona earlier. Inter was third, seven points below the top two.

"The glass is half full," Pioli said. "It's clear that you always play to win, especially when it's a derby match. "We suffered a bit in the first 20 minutes of the second half but then we got back on top again. On the whole, I'm happy because we played well against very strong opponents."

Boxing coach Rana wants more counter-attacks

New Delhi: India's newly-appointed men's boxing head coach Narender Rana would like his wards to take a step back inside the ring, improve their self-belief and preferably stay off social media during competitions as he spelled out his vision on how to take the sport forward after an insipid Olympic campaign.

The 49-year-old, who returned to the country on Monday after his maiden outing as head coach during the world championships in Belgrade, revealed that he took away bronze-winner Akash Kumar's (54kg) phone to keep him focussed ahead of the semifinals. Akash was India's lone medal winner at the event.

"I took his phone away after quarterfinals because he was bombarded with calls and messages," Rana said. **PTI**

SC East Bengal announce 33-member squad for ISL

Panaji: SC East Bengal on Monday announced a 33-member squad for the upcoming Indian Super League (ISL) in Goa, with the Kolkata club hoping to improve upon its disappointing performance last year under a new coach.

The Kolkata giants, who had finished ninth last year out of 11 teams, have signed Spanish coach Jose Manuel Diaz for this season, which begins on November 19.

"The squad has balance and a mix of youth and experience. We have players who have been there in the league from its inception. The foreign players have also played at the highest level and we believe the overall depth of this squad is good," said Diaz.

SC East Bengal will have ISL Golden Glove winner Arindam Bhattacharya in goal this season, having jumped ship from ATK

Mohun Bagan. The likes of India international Adil Khan will strengthen the backline with Raju Gaikwad adding experience after extending his stay.

Former Perth Glory defender and Australian centre-back Tomislav Mrcela will marshal the troops from the back, supported by Croatian U-21 national team stopper Franjo Prc, who was part of Italian Serie A side Lazio.

The midfield has been bolstered by India U-23 international Amarjit Singh Kiyam who will have support from seasoned campaigners like Md. Rafique, Jackichand Singh and Bikash Jairu. Ajax youth academy product Darren Sidoel and Slovenian midfielder Amir Dervisevic will also pull the strings for the Kolkata-based club, both having rubbed shoulders with some of the best in the business. **PTI**

Verstappen wins in Mexico

AP ■ MEXICO CITY

Red Bull earned itself one heck of a Formula One fiesta. Max Verstappen won the Mexico City Grand Prix with a dominant race Sunday to stretch his season championship lead over Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton. Teammate Sergio Perez was the first Mexican driver in race history to not just lead the race, but also to earn a podium when he finished third.

And the result pulled Red Bull nearly even with Mercedes in a team championship worth millions of dollars at the end of season.

While Verstappen and Perez basked in the chants of "Olé! Olé!" from the massive crowd during the podium ceremony and Perez's father wildly waved the Mexican flag, Hamilton could only watch and listen.



He had to know he's running out of time and races to catch Verstappen in pursuit of a record eighth F1 season title. Verstappen now leads Hamilton in the championship by 19 points with four races left, starting next week in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Verstappen won in 2019 and likely will be favored to

again. The two have traded the lead several times this season, and even crashed into each other twice, in F1's tightest title chase in years. "Today with their superior speed, if they work to carry that into the next ones, we may be in trouble, or we will be in trouble," Hamilton said.