

OPINION 6
EDUCATION FOR AN
EMPOWERED INDIA**WORLD 8**
COVID DEATHS IN RUSSIA
HIT DAILY RECORD**AVENUES 10**
IMPORTANCE OF
CLASSROOM ORIENTATION

NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹3



the pioneer

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12 SPORT
Late City Vol. 31 Issue 311
*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable
Published From
DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR
RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH
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96 nations OK India's Covid vax certificates

UK approves Covaxin, no self-isolation from Nov 22

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ninety-six countries have agreed to mutual recognition of Covid-19 vaccination certificates with India, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said on Tuesday.

"The Government continues to be in communication with the rest of the world so that beneficiaries of the world's largest Covid-19 vaccination programme are accepted and recognised, thereby easing travel for education, business and tourism purposes," Mandaviya said in a statement.

"At present, 96 countries have agreed to mutual recognition of vaccination certificates and also those who recognise Indian vaccination certificates of travellers fully vaccinated with Covishield/WHO approved/nationally approved Covid vaccines," Mandaviya said.

Meanwhile, a week after Australia permitted entry to those administered Covaxin vaccine, the UK Government on Tuesday said the Indian vaccine will be added to the list of approved Covid-19 vaccines for international travellers from November 22, meaning that



those inoculated with the Bharat Biotech-manufactured shot will not have to self-isolate after arrival in England.

Covaxin has been given an okay in various countries till now. But despite approval for the jab, direct travel to some countries is not functional yet, as the Indian Government has extended the suspension on scheduled international passenger flights till November 30, 2021 amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

Only countries that have air-bubble pacts with India offer direct flights to their location.

The encouraging development the UK approving

Covaxin came days after the World Health Organization's (WHO) Emergency Use approved Covaxin, which is the second most used formulation in India. Covishield, the India-manufactured Oxford-AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine, was added to the UK's approved list last month.

Announcing the forthcoming addition of Covaxin, British High Commissioner to New Delhi Alex Ellis said, "More good news for Indian travellers to the UK. From November 22 travellers fully vaccinated with a Covid vaccine recognised by the WHO for Emergency Use Listing, including Covaxin, will not

have to self-isolate; so joining those fully vaccinated with Covishield."

The changes will come into effect at 4 am on November 22.

Besides Covaxin, China's Sinovac and Sinopharm, both on the WHO Emergency Use Listing, will be recognised by the UK Government as approved vaccines for inbound travel, benefitting fully vaccinated people from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Malaysia. These fully vaccinated passengers will not be required to take a pre-departure test, day-8 test or self-isolate upon arrival.

"As we continue to recover from the pandemic and expand our recognition of international vaccines, today's announcements mark the next step in our restart of international travel," said UK Transport Secretary Grant Shapps.

"The red list and quarantine system remain vital in protecting our borders and as we've said, we will not hesitate to take action by adding countries to the red list if necessary," UK Health Secretary Sajid Javid said.

Hamlet in China's territory, not in Arunachal, says Govt

Area has been under Chinese control since 1959: Centre

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Days after a Pentagon report noted that China has built a village along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Arunachal Pradesh, the Indian security establishment said here on Tuesday the hamlet is in territory controlled by China.

It was also clarified that the village with more than 100 dwelling units was built in the area under the Chinese control since around 1959 itself. The Chinese forces overran an Assam Rifles post then and maintained an Army post since then, sources said here.

This assertion came after the annual report by the US Department on Military and Security Development released on Thursday last week said China has built a village in a disputed area in the Arunachal Pradesh sector.

"The village along the disputed border in the upper Subansiri district is in the territory controlled by China. They have, for years, main-



tained an Army post in the region and the various constructions undertaken by the Chinese have not happened in a short time," sources said.

They said the village was built in an area that was occupied by it around six decades back. "The village has been built by China in an area that was occupied by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) after overrunning an Assam Rifles post in 1959, in an operation known as Longju incident along the frontier in Arunachal Pradesh."

The annual United States Department of Defence report on military developments involving China underlined the US perception of the tension along the LAC and also referred to the creation of a Chinese village in Arunachal Pradesh. The report was submitted to the US Congress.

In a chapter on the China-India border standoff, the US Department of Defence said, "Sometime in 2020, the PRC (People's Republic of China) built a large 100-home civilian village inside disputed territory between the PRC's Tibet Autonomous Region and India's Arunachal Pradesh State

in the eastern sector of the LAC." "These and other infrastructure development efforts along the India-China have been a source of consternation in the Indian Government and the media."

The village in question is located on the banks of the River Tsari Chu, and lies in the Upper Subansiri district of Arunachal Pradesh, an area which has seen clashes between India and Chinese soldiers even before the 1962 war.

While China has maintained a small military outpost in the area for more than a decade, the situation changed drastically in 2020, when it constructed a full-fledged village and stepped-up road construction activity inside Indian territory in the region.

Continued on Page 2

China has made huge build-up in Tibet region: Centre to SC

New Delhi: The Centre on Tuesday told the Supreme Court that China has made a huge build-up in the Tibet region and the Army needs broader roads to move heavy vehicles up to the India-China border to avoid a 1962 war-like situation.

It informed the top court

that feeder roads like from Rishikesh to Gangotri, Rishikesh to Mana, and Tanakpur to Pithoragarh which lead up to the northern border with China connect Army camps at Dehradun and Meerut which have bases of missile launchers and heavy artillery.

PTI

CAPSULE

PAK GETS ADVANCED WARSHIP FROM CHINA

Beijing: China has delivered its largest and most advanced warship to Pakistan as it seeks to beef up the Navy of its all-weather ally in the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean, where it has increased its own naval presence in recent years. Designed and built by China State Shipbuilding Corporation Limited (CSSC), the frigate was delivered to the Pakistan Navy in a commissioning ceremony in Shanghai.

P8

B'DESH'S EX-CJ SINHA GETS 11 YRS IN PRISON

Dhaka: A Bangladeshi court on Tuesday sentenced in absentia former top judge Surendra Kumar Sinha, the country's first chief justice from the minority Hindu community, to 11 years in jail on two counts of graft in a case over the laundering and breach of trust.

P8



The Pioneer

wishes its readers
Happy Chhath Puja

All Defence deals by UPA involved kickbacks: BJP

Slams Cong over French portal's bribery charge in Rafale deal

PNS ■ DELHI

The ghost of Rafale fighter jet deal has raised its head again with a French media report saying commissions were paid between 2007 and 2012 for facilitating the jet contract with India, prompting the BJP to launch a scathing attack on the Congress saying there was not "a single defence deal" which did not involve "commission" during its regime and alleged that "the address of corruption is 10 Janpath", the residence of Congress president Sonia Gandhi.

"The fresh French portal has proved that the Sonia-Manmohan-led Congress Government during 2007 to



2012 indulged in rampant corruption. Rahul and Sonia Gandhi broke all records of commissions and created a world record," charged BJP national spokesperson Sambit Patra here as the Congress accused the Modi Government of conducting an operation to "cover-up" corruption in the Rafale fighter jet deal and asked why it did not initiate an investigation into the role of a middleman despite recovering incriminating documents from him.

Continued on Page 2

Keep fighting, truth with us, says Rahul

Cong accuses BJP of silence, 'op cover-up'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Sharpening his attack on the Modi Government, former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday asked his party colleagues to not stop or be afraid of fighting against the "corrupt" Central Government "as truth was with them in every step."

His remarks came a day after a French investigative journal Mediapart made fresh claims that 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.

Congress accused the Modi Government of conducting an



operation to "cover-up" corruption in the Rafale fighter jet deal and asked why it did not initiate investigation into the role of a middleman despite recovering incriminating documents from him.

"When the truth is with you in every step, then what is there to worry about? My Congress colleagues — keep fighting like this against the corrupt Central Government. Don't stop, don't get tired, don't be afraid," Rahul Gandhi said in a tweet urging party members to corner the BJP led NDA Government on this issue.

Continued on Page 2

Bullets fired from guns of Min's son, Ankit: FSL

PREETAM SRIVASTAVA ■ LUCKNOW

Trouble is mounting for Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Mishra and his son, Ashish Mishra, as Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) report has confirmed that shots were fired from the licensed guns of both the accused Ashish Mishra and Ankit Das, during the Lakhimpur Kheri violence on October 3.

The Lakhimpur police had seized weapons — rifle, revolver, repeater gun and pistol — licensed to Ashish and Ankit. Ankit is nephew of former BSP MP Akhilesh Das. All the firearms were sent for forensic testing on October 15, the report of which came in on Tuesday. The two are currently lodged in the Lakhimpur Kheri District Jail.

Ashish, the prime suspect, was arrested along with 12 others in the case.

He was named in an FIR following allegations that he was in one of the vehicles that mowed down four farmers protesting over UP Deputy



Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya's visit. Farmers had alleged that Ashish and Ankit had fired several rounds during the violence. However, the two accused had denied this.

On October 3, the lives of 8 people were claimed, four of them being farmers protesters who were allegedly mowed down by the vehicles in the convoy of Ashish. The farmers have claimed that Ashish was driving the SUV that allegedly crushed the four farmers. They also alleged that Ashish and Ankit had fired several shots during the violence.

The Supreme Court on

Monday expressed unhappiness over the pace of probe by the Uttar Pradesh police in the Lakhimpur Kheri case. The top court bench headed by CJI NV Ramana recommended a retired HC Judge to monitor the probe and filing of separate chargesheets in mowing down of protesting farmers by a vehicle and the lynching of the accused cases.

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi said it is clear from the Supreme Court observation that there should be an independent enquiry to get justice in the Lakhimpur Kheri case.

Continued on Page 2

Fadnavis accuses Malik of deal with terrorists

Ex-CM produces papers; NCP Min retorts, vows to drop 'H bomb'

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Hours after leader of Opposition Devendra Fadnavis sought to link him to the underworld by alleging that he and his family had purchased a huge plot of land at "a throw-away price" from two henchmen of Karachi-based Dawood Ibrahim, Maharashtra Minister Nawab Malik on Tuesday threatened to drop a "hydrogen bomb" on Wednesday seeking to expose Fadnavis' mafia links when the latter was the CM between 2014 and 2019.



Delivering on what he had called his promise of "a post-Diwali blast", Fadnavis accused Malik of having purchased 2.80 acre plot of land from the "front man" of Dawood's sister Haseena Parker — Mohammad Salim Patel — and 1993 blasts accused and Badshah Khan at a throw away price in 2005.

Releasing the documents relating to a 16-year-old transaction at his much-awaited



news conference, Fadnavis said M/s Solidus Investments Pvt Ltd (SIPL), a firm linked to Malik, had struck a "land deal" with Mohammed Salim Ishaq Patel and Sardar Shahvali Khan, both close aides of Dawood. "Shahvali Khan is a convict sentenced to life imprisonment in the March 1993 Mumbai serial bomb blasts," he said.

Continued on Page 2

R Hari Kumar appointed Navy Chief

PNS ■ DELHI

The Government on Tuesday appointed Vice Admiral R Hari Kumar as the next Navy chief after Admiral Karambir Singh retires on November 30. Vice Admiral R Hari Kumar is presently heading the Western Naval Command.

Born on April 12, 1962, Hari Kumar was commissioned on January 1, 1983, into the Executive Branch of the Indian Navy. During his long and distinguished service spanning nearly 39 years, he has served in a variety of Command, Staff and Instructional appointments. Vice Admiral R Hari Kumar's Sea Command includes INS Nishank, Missile Corvette, INS Kora and Guided Missile Destroyer INS Ranvir.

Continued on Page 2

Punjab CM gives in under Sidhu's pressure to axe AG

Cabinet accepts all his demands, Govt to appoint new DGP in State

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Virtually succumbing to pressure, the Congress Government led by Charanjit Singh Channi on Tuesday agreed to almost all the demands of Punjab Congress president Navjot Singh Sidhu apparently ending the deadlock between him and the Chief Minister.

The Cabinet, in its meeting, decided to remove Amar Preet Singh Deol as Punjab Advocate-General by forwarding his previously sub-



mitted resignation to the State Governor.

"The resignation of the AG has been accepted by the Cabinet today and the same has been forwarded to the Governor...The new DGP will also be appointed soon from the panel of names submitted to the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)," said Channi while addressing the media after the Cabinet meeting.

The decisions came a day after Sidhu launched a direct

attack in public against his own party's Government over key appointments, including APS Deol as Advocate-General and IPS Sahota as the state Director General of Police (DGP). Notably, Sidhu has all along been opposing Deol and Sahota's appointment, and had even stepped down as the State party chief seeking their removal.

In an apparent attempt to show that the two were now on the same page, Channi and Sidhu held a joint press briefing where the State Congress chief expressed satisfaction with the Cabinet's decisions, and assured to fully support the Government.

An attempt was made to send across a message that a compromise has been arrived at between the two sides.

Continued on Page 2

Over 80 migratory birds found dead in Jodhpur, viral disease suspected

PTI ■ JODHPUR

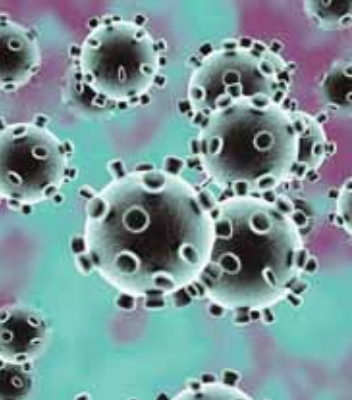
Over 80 demoiselle cranes have been found dead in Karpada village of the district in the past three days, with health officials suspecting that the birds have fallen prey to the viral Ranikhet disease.

Carcasses of the migratory birds, known as Kurjan here, were first spotted by local wildlife activist Bhajan Lal Nain on Saturday. He informed the wildlife department and other wildlife activists, following which the forest department swung into action and sent a team to the spot.

Senior veterinarian Sharavan Singh Rathore said around 100 sick birds are being treated and prima facie they are infected with Ranikhet viral disease.

Continued on Page 2

Kerala logs 6,409 new Covid cases



Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala recorded 6,409 fresh coronavirus infections and 384 deaths, raising the caseload to 50,27,318 and the fatalities to 34,362, the state government said on Tuesday.

With 6,319 more people recovering from the virus since Monday, the

total recoveries touched 49,21,312 and the active cases reached 71,020 today, an official press release said.

Of the 384 deaths, 47 were reported over the last few days and 337 were designated as Covid deaths after receiving appeals based on the new guidelines of the Centre and Supreme Court directions, it said.

As many as 68,692 samples were tested in the last 24 hours. Among the 14 districts, Thiruvananthapuram recorded the highest with 972 cases followed by Kollam (789) and Ernakulam (767).

Of the new cases, 32 were health workers, 23 from outside the state and 5,988 infected through contact, with the source of it not being clear in 366.

There are currently 2,27,732 people under surveillance in various districts, of whom 2,21,995 are in home or institutional quarantine and 5,737 in hospitals. **PTI**

Maha crosses milestone of 10 cr Covid jabs

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In a landmark of sorts, Maharashtra on Tuesday crossed the milestone of 10 crore Covid-19 vaccination doses, even as the fresh infections went up marginally in the state from 751 to 982 and deaths rose from 15 to 27 during the last 24 hours.

"Today at 4 PM Maharashtra crossed the benchmark of administration of 100 Million covid Vaccine doses. It was possible with active involvement of all District officers, Maharashtra additional chief secretary (health) Dr Pradeep Vyas said.

Till 5 pm on Tuesday, 4,07,875 were administered vaccines in various parts of the state. So far, 6,80,28,164 have received their first dose in the state, while 3,20,37,073 have got their second dose. "A total of 10,00,65,237 have been vaccinated till date in Maharashtra," a senior official said.

Complimenting the Maharashtra government for crossing the 10 crore vaccination mark, Director-Critical Care, Fortis Hospitals Mumbai and

Member of the Supreme Court-appointed National COVID19 Task Force Dr Rahul Pandit, said, "It was a proud moment when India completed administration of 100 crore doses towards the end of October 2021. Standing in the second week of November, today, Maharashtra has completed 10 crore vaccine doses to eligible beneficiaries! This is undoubtedly a milestone worth cherishing. The state has successfully administered the first dose to 6.8 crore people, and 3.2 crore have been fully vaccinated."

"This accomplishment is a fruition of tremendous hard work, strategic acumen and timely intervention by the state and civic authorities, governing bodies, healthcare workers, community caregivers and responsible citizens. However, we must not let our guards down, and honour the efforts made across the past 19 months. If precautions and Covid-19 appropriate behaviour is not maintained, cases will be on the rise again.

Celebrations like Christmas, New Year are coming up soon, stay alert and be cautious.. Let's be responsible and

encourage and help more and more people to get vaccinated," Dr Pandit added.

Meanwhile, with 27 fresh deaths reported on Monday, the total number of deaths in the state increased from 1,40,403 to 1,40,430, while the total infections -- with 982 new cases -- went up from 66,18,347 to 66,19,329.

As 1,293 patients were discharged from the hospitals across the state after full recovery, the total number of people discharged from the hospitals since the second week of March last year increased from 64,60,663 to 64,61,956. The recovery rate in the state stood static at 97.62 per cent.

The total "active cases" in the state dropped from 13,649 to 13,311. The fatality rate in the state stood static at 2.12 per cent.

Mumbai with 3559 active cases emerged as the first in the state in terms of maximum number of "active cases" in the state, while Pune with 2903 cases stood second in the state, followed by Ahmednagar (2311), Thane (1369), Raigad (545), Aurangabad (473), Nashik (392) Palghar (308), Sangli (280) Satara (218) and Solapur (246).

CBI seeks Centre nod to invoke Official Secrets Act over submarine leaks

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has sought sanction from the Government to invoke the Official Secrets Act against arrested Navy officers accused of passing on confidential information about India's submarines to "unauthorised persons" in lieu of bribe.

As the CBI probe in the case has revealed that confidential and sensitive information were leaked by the booked Navy officials, the agency has decided to slap Official Secrets Act against them, an official said.

Last week the agency charged a serving and two retired officers under the Prevention of Corruption Act and criminal conspiracy under the Indian Penal Code.

Following a reference from the intelligence agencies, the CBI had registered a FIR against two retired Navy officers for trading confidential information on naval projects in September. The CBI has not made the FIR public. Sources said the FIR mentions that "confidential information on procurement of three hulls" was leaked to outsiders for illegal gratification.

"Information regarding operations/procurement was leaked from various Navy offices" and that the retired officers bribed the serving officers for those details, according to the FIR.

293 new Covid cases, 4 deaths in Karnataka

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Karnataka logged 293 fresh Covid-19 cases and four deaths on Tuesday, taking the total number of infections to 29,90,528 and the toll to 38,122.

The day also saw 323 discharges, taking the total number of recoveries in the state so far to 29,44,422, a health department bulletin said.

Out of 293 new cases reported on Tuesday, 187 were from Bengaluru Urban, as the city saw 106 discharges and two deaths. The total number of active cases in the state is now 7,955. While the pos-

itivity rate for the day stood at 0.36 per cent, the Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was 1.36 per cent.

Out of the four deaths reported on Tuesday, two were from Bengaluru Urban and one each from Belagavi and Dakshina Kannada. Dakshina Kannada followed Bengaluru Urban in number of cases with 21, followed by Mysuru 18, Kolar 12, Hassan 10, while the rest were scattered in other areas.

Bengaluru Urban district topped the list of positive cases, with a total 12,53,177, followed by Mysuru 1,79,330 and Tumakuru 1,20,903.

GENERAL INFORMATION
KNOW TO ALL MEN BY ALL MEANS.
All the people are informed that My Clients Mr. Rahul Ranjan and Mr. Ravi Ranjan, S/o Mr. Salyendra Sharma, Address - Deh Masaudhi, Patna, Bihar buying Plot No. 370 -A, Khasra No. 140, E Block Shyam Vihar, Dindarpur, Najafgarh, New Delhi from its present owner Mr. Vijay Kumar, S/o Mr. Kishore Chand.
If anyone has any objection to the purchase/sale of this plot requested to contact within 10 days of the publication of this notice.
Akhilesh Kumar (Advocate)
Mob: 8826559479
Enrl. No. DI2380/2018

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS
CHANGE OF NAME
I, PRAMOD KUMAR DWIVEDI S/O Shri Shiv Narayan Dwivedi, R/o Flat No. C-12/A-33, Mudra Vihar, Sector-23, Noida-201301, Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh have changed the name of my minor son PRATYAKSH, DOB-21.12.2011 and he shall hereafter be known as PRATYAKSH DWIVEDI.
PD (9103)A

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, Mira Halder wife of Shri Sudhir Ranjan Halder resident of D-738, First Floor, Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi-110019 is the owner of Entire Second Floor, without terrace rights, measuring 90 Sq. Yds., of Property No. 1343-C-3, Gali No. 13, measuring 90 Sq. Yds., carved out of Khasra No. 93, situated at Govind Puri, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019, by virtue of Sale Deed, which is duly registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, New Delhi, as Document No. 9513, in Additional Book No. 1, Volume No. 13504, on pages 38 to 45, on 29/09/2014, in the year 2002. Relinquishment Deed was executed, I do not have original / photo copy of death certificate of Shri Dharam Singh and Surviving Member Certificate of his Family with respect to the said property.
Place : New Delhi
Dated: 09/11/2021
Satish Khatana (Advocate)
Delhi High Court
98100-16397

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS
CHANGE OF NAME
I, PRAMOD KUMAR DWIVEDI S/O Shri Shiv Narayan Dwivedi, R/o Flat No. C-12/A-33, Mudra Vihar, Sector-23, Noida-201301, Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh have changed the name of my minor son PRATYAKSH, DOB-21.12.2011 and he shall hereafter be known as PRATYAKSH DWIVEDI.
PD (9103)A

Office of the Executive Engineer U.P.R.E.D. Bareilly
Address:- Vikas Bhawan , Bareilly
e-Procurement Notice
Letter NO: 1675 /RED/Tender/2021-22 dated: 01-11-2021
The Executive Engineer, U.P.R.E.D. Bareilly on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites the percentage rate bids through e-tendering system from the eligible and approved Contractors registered with UP RED, in appropriate class A, B, C, and D as the case may be. The Bidder may submit bids for any or all of the works
01. Name of work as per table.

S. No	Name of District	Name of work	Total estimated cost without GST (in Lac)	Bid security (EMD) (in Rupees)	Cost of Bid document including GST (in Rupees)	Period of completion including rainy season
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Twarit Arthik Vikas Yojna 2021-22 Vidhansabha - Aonla

1	Bareilly	Laying work on Khadjanja from village Amla Ramnagar road to Rasulpur.	29.737	59500.00	2354.00	3 month
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Note :- All the tenders are being invited in anticipation of the budget.
02. Date of availability of Bid documents on website:- 12-11-2021
03. Last Date/ Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement 09-12-2021 up to 12.00 Noon
04. Date of opening of bids through e-procurement 10-12-2021 at 12.30 pm
05. The Employer has right to issue addendum/corrigendum as per ITB clause-9 on-line which will not be published in any news paper. All prospective bidders are advised to keep regular watch and visit e-tender portal regularly.
For further details please log on to <https://etender.up.nic.in> and download the bid document
Executive Engineer
Rural Engineering Department, Bareilly
On behalf of Governor of UP
UP:- 169508 Date 9.11.2021 विज्ञापन वेबसाइट
www.upgov.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।

DELHI JAL BOARD: DELHI SARKAR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (M)-4
NEAR TRANSPORT AUTHORITY MAIN BURARI ROAD DELHI-84
"STOP CORONA: *Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"
NIT. No. 33 (Item No. 1,2) (2021-22) E.E. (M)-4.

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Date of release of tender e-procurement solution	Exempted Money	Tender fee (Non-refundable)	Last date/time of receipt of tender through e-procurement solution
1.	Providing and Laying of sewer line by 250 mm dia SSW-9 in E-Block and D-Block in L1, Bagh in AC-18, under A.E.E. (M)-18 JD 2021_DJB_210719_1.	25,94,908/-	08.11.2021 4 PM onward	Exempted vide office memorandum No. F-9/42020-PPD and DJB endorsement No. DJS/2020-21/Misc-II(P1)9/1 Dated 23.12.2020.	500/-	Technical bid will be received 25.11.2021 : 3.00 PM & opening of Financial bid after completion of technical bid & confirmation of EMD from Bank.

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://tendersprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 577 (2021-22)

(S.K SINGH)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (M)-4

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CBSE to use advanced data analytics to check adoption of unfair means in its exams

New Delhi: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) will use advanced data analytics to ensure fairness in the examinations it conducts by identifying centres where there is a high probability of recourse to unfair means.

Examinations have to be conducted in a standardized and fair manner. All efforts are made to prevent the adoption of unfair means through monitoring by appointing external observers and flying squads, and use of CCTV, said Antriksh Johri, Director (IT), CBSE.

"We have decided further to improve upon it by using advance data analytics to detect cases and centres where there is a high probability of recourse to unfair means during examinations," he said. A pilot analysis has been done on January 2021 Central Teacher Eligibility Test (CTET) examination data in collaboration with the Central Square Foundation and Playpower Labs to develop algorithms to identify suspicious data patterns at the centre

and the individual test-taker level.

"Based on the analysis results and the algorithms developed, CBSE has decided that such analysis will be extended to other administered examinations. The board will use advanced data analytics to detect, respond and therefore, in the long run, prevent any irregularities in academic testing across all major CBSE administered exams in the country," Johri said.

He said based on such analysis, CBSE aims to identify examination centres where the data indicates the existence of malpractices during the conduct of examinations.

"Post this, appropriate measures can be taken by CBSE to strengthen the reliability of the examinations and to deter any such malpractices in the future. This will be used to strengthen the reliability of National Achievement Survey, Central Teachers Eligibility Test and board examinations conducted by CBSE," Johri said. **PTI**

Fadnavis...

From Page 1

Fadnavis charged that there was a "direct underworld" connection in the deal involving the purchase of a prime plot of land worth several crores located on LBS Marg at Kurla in north-central Mumbai by Malik-linked SIPL for mere Rs 30 lakh. Malik's son signed the "land deal".

Demanding a probe into the "land deal" by a competent authority, the former Chief Minister said, "There is a direct connection in the land deal with the underworld. I have documents of five property deals. Four properties purchased were linked to the underworld. I will hand over the documents to the competent authorities -it could be the police, ED or NIA and demand a probe. As promised, I will also hand over copies of the land deal documents to NCP chief Sharad Pawar".

Charging that Malik did a "land deal" with two individuals involved in the serial blasts that rocked Mumbai in 1993, Fadnavis said, "His (Malik's) family purchased land from two Dawood's aides at rates cheaper than

market prices.

The two were about to get convicted under the TADA (Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Prevention Act). Under TADA, all properties of convicts get attached and come under government control. Looks like the duo sought and got the help of Malik to save prime land from being attached under TADA law."

"At a time when the market rate was Rs 2,053 per square foot in that vicinity of Kurla, Malik's family bought the prime plot of land at the rate of Rs 15 per square foot (the deal was initially made for Rs 25 per square feet and the rate was brought down to Rs 15 per square feet. In all, Malik's family paid a small sum of Rs 30 lakh to purchase a property worth several crores," the Leader of the Opposition said.

Fadnavis said the land deal was executed when Malik was a minister in the previous Congress-NCP Government at that time.

On his part, Malik dismissed Fadnavis' allegations by saying the latter was making "a mountain out of a mole hill" and said that the much-touted about "a post-Diwali blast" fizzled out even before it could be heard.

Hamlet in China's territory, not in Arunachal, says Govt

From Page 1

The US Department of Defence report said, "Despite the ongoing diplomatic and military dialogues to reduce border tensions, the PRC has continued taking incremental and tactical actions to press its claims at the LAC." Last month, Eastern Army Command Chief Lieutenant General Manoj Pande told reporters visiting Arunachal Pradesh that China continues to construct "dual-use" border villages which can also be used to position soldiers. China's policy of building up habitations along the LAC in Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh is a part of a multi-billion dollar plan to ramp up infrastructure in the Tibet region. This includes the development of massive road and rail infrastructure to border towns and a plan to reportedly build more than 600 fully developed villages in the region.

Bullets fired from guns of Min's son, Ankit: FSL

From Page 1

She further alleged that the Uttar Pradesh Government was standing with those who trampled down the farmers.

"In the Lakhimpur massacre case, it is clear that the Uttar Pradesh Government is standing with those who trampled upon the farmers," Priyanka tweeted in Hindi on Monday. She further alleged that the "father of the person who is the main accused in trampling upon the farmers (Minister of State for Home) has the protection" of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Keep fighting, truth with us, says Rahul

From Page 1

Convening a Press conference, Congress spokesperson Pawan Khara alleged that the BJP Government has sacrificed national security, jeopardised the interests of the Indian Air Force and caused loss worth thousands of crores of rupees to the State exchequer.

The documents detailed the stance of Indian negotiators during the final lap of negotiation and in particular how they calculated the price of the aircraft. This gave clear advantage to Dassault Aviation (Rafale), Khara claimed, citing the Mediapart report.

"The "operation cover-up" by the Modi Government to bury the melting pot of corruption, kickbacks and collusion in Rafale deal is once again exposed," he said. "The BJP Government undermined national security, jeopardised the interests of the Indian Air Force and caused loss worth thousands of crores to our exchequer," Khara said.

Each revelation in the "murky affair in the last five years, every single allegation and each piece of the puzzle leads right up to the topmost leadership of the country-- the Prime Minister's doorstep", he said.

Khara alleged that the latest revelations in "operation cover-up" reveal the "dubious nexus" between the Modi

Government-CBI-ED to bury the corruption in the Rafale deal.

The Congress leader asked whether it is not correct that the Enforcement Directorate (ED) recovered "secret Defence Ministry documents" from the middlemen in a raid conducted on March 26, 2019. The documents, he claimed, included the "benchmark price document" of August 10, 2015, the "record of discussions" by the INT of the Defence Ministry, the "excel sheet of calculations made by Defence Ministry" and "Eurofighter's counter offer of 20 per cent discount to government of India". Khara alleged that a note of June 24, 2014, sent to Dassault by Gupta, offering a meeting with "the political high command" was also recovered and asked if such a meeting had taken place with the "high command" in the Modi Government.

"This is nothing short of endangering national security, sedition and a gross violation of Official's Secrets Act," he alleged. "Why did the ED not pursue these evidences further to investigate the scam? Why did the Modi Government then not take action against Dassault, the political executive or the defence ministry officers who leaked the documents? Which 'Chowkidar' sold India's national secrets?" Khara asked.

All Defence...

From Page 1

Patra said during the Congress regime no defence deal was finalised without a commission and "the UPA Government indulged in a deal within a deal but even then could not seal a deal", Patra said.

The Modi Government had inked the deal on September 23, 2016, to procure 36 Rafale jets from Dassault Aviation after a nearly seven-year exercise to procure 126 Medium Multi-Role Combat Aircraft (MMRCA) for the Indian Air Force did not fructify during the UPA regime. A batch of Rafale jets has already joined the Indian Air Force this year amidst continuing a stiff standoff between the Indian Army and the Peoples Liberation Army on the Eastern Ladakh along the Line of Actual Control.

Patra said, "We had not seen the agreement of purchase but an agreement of commission has definitely come before us and the Congress Government not only engineered a conspiracy to grab commission but it has already been gone into their

hands".

Sharpening its attack on the Congress which had earlier accused the Modi Government of receiving commission in the jet deal, the BJP leader sought to ask "Who says Corruption has no address?", Its address is 10, Janpath and since the arrival of the BJP Government corruption has become homeless and Gandhi family have turned help- less," he said.

Patra said the INC (Indian National Congress) should be renamed as "I Need Commission" and alleged that the Congress' dissatisfaction with the cut on offer was behind the failed negotiations when it was in power.

He mounted a direct attack on the Congress leadership, particularly on Rahul who has been alleging corruption in the purchase of the fighter aircraft by the Modi Government and accused him of spreading "canard, disinformation and lies". Patra sought Rahul Gandhi's response to the fresh revelation by French investigative journal Mediapart.

He should respond to this from Italy, Patra said, citing reports that

the Congress leader is currently not in India.

BJP leader castigated the Congress Government for delaying all defence purchases with what he said an intent to extract commissions and thus leaving Indian security in jeopardy.

"Under the UPA Government's regime for ten years Indian Air force did not have fighter aircrafts and for a decade only agreement was made and deal was deliberately stuck solely for extracting the commission... this agreement was not for the aircraft purchase but for the commission", Patra alleged.

Political battle over the matter has heated up after Mediapart made fresh claims that bogus invoices were used that enabled 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.

According to Mediapart's investigation, Dassault Aviation paid the kickbacks to the intermediary in Mauritius between 2007 and 201 when the Congress-led UPA was in power between 2004 and 2014.

Month-long ‘Anti Open Burning Campaign’ from Nov 11



Low visibility due to a thick layer of smog in New Delhi

PTI

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai on Tuesday said that in order to curb air pollution the second phase of the anti-dust campaign will be run from November 12 to December 12.

Addressing the media at Delhi Secretariat, Rai said, “To curb instances of open burning in Delhi, we will be launching ‘Anti Open Burning Campaign’ from November 11 to December 11 in the Capital. And 550 teams from 10 depart-

ments have been handed over responsibility for the same.” The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader said an important high-level meeting on pollution was held and soon concrete measures will be implemented.

While Rai is yet to hear from the Union Environment Minister Bhopendra Yadav, Delhi’s AQI improved slightly from severe to very poor. According to SAFAR winds coming from the north-west direction at 925 mb are favourable for transport of stubble related pollutants to

Delhi. “However, its impact on Delhi’s PM2.5 has reduced as wind speed has reduced. Tuesday’s share of crop residue burning is 30 per cent in PM2.5. The AQI is likely to improve further but remain in very poor category,” it added.

Meanwhile, the city Government has directed all departments to form their own anti-dust cells.

“GRAP will further crack down on the source of pollution. Gensets and open fires will be banned while public transport will be promoted in

accordance with GRAP. Water-sprinkling will be accelerated as 400 tankers are set to make rounds across Delhi to reduce pollution. Spraying of the biodecomposer over 4,000 acres will be completed by November 20,” Rai said.

Sharing the minutes of the meeting, the Minister said representatives of all agencies – the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), all three wings of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCDs) attended.

“The meeting concluded with five crucial decisions being taken to bolster the fight against pollution in Delhi. The four main sources of pollution in Delhi include dust pollution, vehicular emissions, burning of waste and landfills and stubble burning which are responsible for heightening the intensity of pollution from within the Capital,” he said.

“First, while we know it is not in our hands to control the external sources of stubble burning pollution in Delhi, we will launch a complete prohibition on open burning throughout Delhi.

This ‘Anti Open Burning Campaign’ will be run for a month from November 11 to December 11.

Free biodecomposer in Punjab after win: AAP

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

AAP leader and Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai on Tuesday said free spraying of the Pusa biodecomposer will be ensured in Punjab to curb crop residue burning if his party forms the Government in the State.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is the main Opposition party in Punjab, where Assembly elections are slated for next year. Farmers cannot be blamed for unrestrained crop residue burning in neighbouring States as it is the Governments there which have failed to provide an alternative, Rai said.

The share of farm fires in Delhi’s pollution rose to a three-year high of 48 per cent on Sunday, and on Monday, Government agencies reported 5,450 farm fires, the highest this season, in the neighbouring States of the national Capital.

“Farmers are not at fault. Any statement against them does not make any sense. The Governments had to provide a solution. We have shown (how stubble burning can be curbed) in Delhi. Other States lack the will to do it,” the Environment Minister said “We will ensure free spraying of bio-decomposer in every field in Punjab if we form a Government in the State ... Like we did in Delhi,” Rai told reporters in response to a question.

He said that Punjab, which generates around 20 million tonnes of paddy straw annually, will become free from crop stubble burning if the AAP forms a Government in the State. The Delhi Government has made arrangements for free spraying of Pusa bio-decomposer, a microbial solution which can turn stubble into manure, over 4,300 acres belonging to 844 farmers in Delhi.

City’s air quality improves, still very poor

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday raised concerns about the deteriorating air quality as the overall Air Quality Index (AQI) settled at 404 micrograms per cubic on the National Ambient Air Quality Index (NAAQI).

“On November 9, AQI 404 (401 to 500 - Severe), PM10 - 414 (351 to 430 - Very Poor) PM2.5 - 265 (Above 250 - Severe),” CM Kejriwal tweeted.

According to the System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research (SAFAR), winds coming from the northwest at 925 millibars (mb) are favourable for the transport of stubble-related pollutants to Delhi.

In its short-range air quality weather forecast, SAFAR said, “Air quality improved from severe to very poor during the day.

Winds coming from the northwest direction at 925 mb are favourable for transport of stubble-related pollutants to Delhi. However, its impact on Delhi’s PM2.5 has reduced as wind speed has reduced.

Today’s share of crop residue burning is 30 per cent in PM2.5. AQI is likely to improve further but remain in very poor category,” it added.

Meanwhile values of suspended particulate matters (SPMs) on the NAAQI were abnormally higher than prescribed standards of the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD). SAFAR monitored PM 10 at 370 and PM 2.5 at 226.

Woman alleges rape by man on pretext of job

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Police has registered an First Information Report (FIR) after a woman alleged that a man raped her after forcefully taking her to a hotel room in Dwarka on the pretext of providing her a job.

Police said that the hotel manager Sanjay Kumar Mahto (28) has been arrested and police teams have been sent to different locations to arrest the accused, who is absconding.

According to Shankar Choudhary, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Dwarka district, the incident took place on November 6 and according to the victim’s complaint, a man named Ankit Sehrawart had been contacting her on the pretext of providing a job.

“On the day of the incident, he picked her up on his bike and allegedly took her to a hotel. When she refused to check-in to the hotel, the accused assured her that he knows everyone and claimed that his mother is an officer in

She alleged in her complaint that he also threatened her and tried to kill her and locked her inside the room

the Delhi Police,” said police.

“The woman alleged in her complaint that the man forcibly made her drink liquor and raped her against her will. He even tried to strangle her and injured her face by hitting with his ‘iron kara,’ victim claimed.

She alleged in her complaint that he also threatened her and tried to kill her and locked her inside the room.

After the incident, the man fled from one of the back doors of the ground floor room as the front door was locked from inside, police said.

Police said that they received a call from the victim, who stated that she was in some hotel and shared her live

location on WhatsApp with the Investigation Officer, who then tracked her location.

According to police, on reaching the spot, the main entrance of the hotel was locked from inside and the victim was spotted crying in the balcony of the second floor of the hotel. No hotel owner or manager was found there. Police had to break open the gate of the hotel and the victim was rescued and sent to DDU hospital.

“The woman was medically examined and a case was registered under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and an investigation is underway,” said the DCP.

AAP MLAs take charge of Chhath preparations in city

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Keeping in mind the importance of the Chhath Puja, AAP’s Ministers and MLAs have taken charge of the preparations on Chhath Ghats.

AAP leaders on Tuesday were seen conducting inspections across Delhi, making sure no loophole left behind in the preparations. AAP Delhi State Convenor and Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai inspected Chhath preparations at Bhalswa Lake and said that top notch facilities from tents to CCTV cameras have been organised on site.

Party senior leader and MLA Atishi inspected the preparations at several Chhath Ghats such as at Giri Nagar, Tilak Khand, Gali Number 1, Gurudwara Park, Prawasi Park, Ward 91, Astha Kunj Park and Karpuri Thakur Camp.

Rai said that no other state government is making preparations like the Kejriwal Government and Chhath is being held in true Delhi style. He said that 800 Chhath Ghats have been prepared by the



Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai visited Bhalswa Ghat ahead of Chhath Puja celebration, during a smoggy day in New Delhi on Tuesday

Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer Photo

Kejriwal Government with all necessary provisions for the Mahaparv.

Inspecting the site for Chhath Puja, Rai said, “Chhath Puja have been made at 800 different sites in Delhi. Tents are being built, CCTV cameras installed, public conveniences being arranged. As you are witnessing the Bhalswa Ghat right now over this entire stretch, preparations have been made for thousands of people to worship and celebrate the fes-

tival. The few remaining sites are also well underway to be completely ready by today,” he said.

“Our only wish is to help the people of Purvanchal to celebrate Chhath Puja without any obstacles. I would also like to urge the people to practice great caution and strictly adhere to COVID-19 guidelines throughout Delhi which have been kept in mind while making the arrangements,” he added.

Juvenile among 3 people held in encounter with police near AIIMS

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has apprehended three people, including a juvenile, after a brief encounter near AIIMS on the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday.

According to Benita Mary Jaiker, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), South district, during patrolling in Kotla Mubarakpur are, the police personnel spotted three persons on a bike.

“On suspicion, they signalled the motorcycle to stop for checking, but the rider accelerated and tried to escape from the spot. The police gave a chase. When they reached Office Block in Kidwai Nagar East, the pillion rider took out a gun and fired at the police. Police also shot at the pillion rider, who sustained injuries on his leg. All three accused were apprehended,” said the DCP.

“They were identified as Abhi Saurav, Gurudev Singh and one juvenile. Police recovered two country-made pistols and one live cartridge from their possession,” said the DCP.

The injured Saurav was admitted in AIIMS Trauma Center. A case has been registered at Kotla Mubarakpur police station and further investigation is underway, the DCP added.



Cong leaders hold protest, demand cut in VAT on petrol, diesel

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A large number of Delhi Congress workers held a dharna outside the Delhi Secretariat, demanding the Delhi Government to reduce ‘Value Added Tax’ (VAT) on petrol and diesel.

Delhi Congress president Anil Kumar said that despite many State Governments, including Punjab, reducing VAT on petroleum products following a nominal reduction on excise duty by the Centre, the Delhi Government has not followed the suit, though Chief Minister Arvind had toured poll-bound Punjab and promised to ‘replicate’ the “Delhi model of development” there.

Kumar said “If Kejriwal is ready to implement the Delhi model of development in Punjab then why cannot he implement the idea of reducing oil prices in Delhi as done by the Punjab Government.”

The protesting Congress workers shouted slogans such as “Petrol Diesel par VAT kam karo-kam karo”, “Jhoot-Loot ki Sarkar Nahi Chalegi- Nahi Chalegi” etc.

“The Delhi Government had collected over Rs 25,000 crore on VAT from petroleum products in last seven years, but has spent hardly any money on Delhiites,” he said.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal often claims that ‘he is the son of Delhi’, and this is an apt opportunity for him to prove his ‘Delhi’ credentials, and provide relief to the people by reducing the oil prices, which will automatically bring down the prices of all



Ranjan Dimri



PTI

the essential commodities, he added.

Addressing the Congress workers, Kumar said that the Arvind Government should cut the petrol and diesel prices by Rs 10 and Rs 5 respectively.

“Delhiites have been find-

ing it tough to overcome financial difficulty caused by the Covid-19 pandemic destruction, unemployment and soaring prices of essential commodities as CM Arvind’s ‘Delhi model of development’ was a flop show,” he added.

No construction without building plan in G’gram: Addl Commissioner

Gurugram: Additional Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation Gurugram (MCG) Dr Vaishali Sharma said that no construction should be done within the limits of MCG without an approved building plan.

Those indulging in construction activities without approved plans will face action, the MCG official added.

Dr Sharma made this statement while presiding over the meeting of the Building Plan Review Committee at the MCG office on Tuesday.

She said that compliance with Haryana Building Code should be ensured effectively.

“Online arrangement has been made by the government for building plan approval. There is a system to apply for building plan approval on the Haryana Online Building Plan Approval System (HOBPAS) through any architect registered with the Council of Architects. Provisional certificate is received within 24 hours of application and construction can be started,” she informed.

In the meeting, the officials

of the Planning Wing informed that for any kind of assistance regarding the building plan, one can contact the planning branch of the office of the MCG located in Sector-34. A special help desk has been created for this, on which Planning Assistant has been deployed. Before applying online at this help desk, one can get the original documents checked so that the application is not rejected.

A survey of the under-construction buildings should be conducted within the municipal limits and if the construction work is going on in those buildings even after being sealed, then its report should also be prepared,” she said.

“The enforcement teams should work more effectively and prevent unauthorized constructions at the primary level. Also, all the architects should be given clear information about the rules and despite this, if any architect flouts MCG rules, then action should be taken to blacklist him,” she added.



VOTER REGISTRATION AWARENESS

Govt depts can play vital role: CEO Ranbir Singh

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Chief Electoral Officer of Delhi, Dr. Ranbir Singh interacted with Heads of various Departments in a virtual meeting to seek co-operation for creating awareness amongst their employees, their families and clients/consumers regarding voter registration and electoral services during the ongoing Special Summary Revision -2022.

He directed all government departments to establish Voter Awareness Forums (VAFs).

These departments included the DTC, Women and Child Development, NDMC, SDMC, EDMC, DMRC, Delhi Jal Board, Delhi Police and Delhi Cantonment Board, among others.

According to the CEO, establishing these forums will make their employees and their families more aware of voter verification and electoral services through engaging activities and hands-on experience.

Dr. Singh further said that Voter Awareness Forums will operate in all government departments, non-governmental organisations and institutions, corporations, and other organisations. All employees of the concerned office are eligible to join. Head of each organization/departments/office will appoint one person to serve as the Nodal Officer.

Sacked man held for killing ex-employer’s wife for revenge

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Police has arrested a 31-year-old man for allegedly killing the wife of his former employer after she asked her husband, an assistant professor in Delhi University, to remove the man from his job.

The accused has been identified as Rakesh, who works as a driver.

Police said that he allegedly strangled 32 year-old Pinki to death and gave her electric shocks when she was alone at her home in West Sant Nagar in Burari on Monday.

According to Sagar Singh Kalsi, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), North district, Rakesh confessed to the crime while police were patrolling in Burari area on Monday evening.

“The police recovered Pinki’s body from her home. Thereafter, a case under Section 302 (murder) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) was registered at Burari police station and Rakesh was arrested,” said the DCP.

“During interrogation, Rakesh told police that he had met Viorender Kumar, who works as an ad-hoc assistant professor in Delhi University, around three years ago,” said the DCP.

Kumar gave his taxi to Rakesh and a room to his family on the top floor of his house. Rakesh was not getting a salary every month and he had asked Kumar to give him the whole amount whenever he needed, according to the police.

Mizo CM asks Shah to replace CS over Hindi

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

The language barrier has once again become a bone of contention between the BJP-led Government at the Centre and the PU Zoramthanga-led Mizo National Front (MNF) Government in the State. The Chief Minister has urged the Union Home Minister Amit Shah to replace his chief secretary Renu Sharma, a 1988 batch officer, saying she does not have a working knowledge of the Mizo language and while State Ministers do not follow Hindi, some even do not even understand English. The MNF is also a constituent of the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

The latest language controversy hit the State after the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) appointed Sharma as Mizoram's new chief secretary, ignoring Zoramthanga's request to elevate additional chief secretary J C Ramthanga to the post. Sharma assumed charge on November 1, succeeding Lalnunmawia Chuaungo, who took voluntary retirement.

Chuaungo had succeeded Arvind Ray, an IAS officer of the 1984 batch as the Chief Secretary. Whether or not Ray was familiar with the Mizo language could not be ascertained. But there are several officers of AGMUT (Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram and all Union Territories) cadre posted in Mizoram and who are not familiar with the local language.

A former bureaucrat who was posted in Mizoram said that the working language in the secretariat is English. "There are several officials posted in the State of AGMUT

cadre. Language is a problem but most of the work is being done in English," he said adding that MNF prefers mizo officials by and large.

Sharma, along with Rajiv Verma, a 1992 batch officer, was suspended by the MHA for dereliction of duty during the coronavirus outbreak after she failed to ensure public health standards and strict compliance of the lockdown rules, last year.

In a letter to Home Minister on October 29, the Chief Minister said the Ministry of Home Affairs appointed Renu Sharma as the State's Chief Secretary when his Government wanted to promote Additional Chief Secretary J.C. Ramthanga to the post.

"The Mizo people by and large generally do not understand Hindi. None of my Cabinet Ministers understand Hindi. Some of them even have a problem with English. With such a background, a Chief Secretary without the knowledge of a working standard Mizo language will never be effective and efficient," Zoramthanga wrote.

"Whether it is the UPA Government or the NDA Government at the Centre, this has been a practice since the creation of Mizoram State. It is a well-known fact that in other States of India, a chief secretary, who does not know even the basic working language of the respective State, is never posted (there) at all," read the letter.

In his letter, Zoramthanga said never in the past, since the creation of Mizoram, the Centre has posted a chief secretary who did not have working knowledge of the Mizo language.

"I have been an NDA part-

ner from the beginning up to this time. While many of the States are changing themselves from one alliance group to another, I am the only one in the whole of Northeast who has been a faithful partner of the NDA. I, therefore, believe that I deserve a special favour and consideration for this faithful friendship with the NDA," he wrote.

"Considering all these facts and circumstances, the proposal of Chief Secretary, which was given even to my predecessor Congress Chief Minister, if it is denied to me, the Congress party and all other Opposition parties will make a mockery of me for faithfully serving the partnership of NDA. I, therefore, earnestly request you to modify the order and kindly accept my proposal," Zoramthanga said.

This is not the first time that language has become an administrative flashpoint between the Centre and the State Government.

In 2014, immediately after the BJP came to power at Centre, a similar problem cropped up when Kamla Beniwal had to be shunted out of Mizoram Raj Bhawan within two months of her appointment for the same reason.

Last year, in April, Zoramthanga found himself in a similar situation when Modi convened a meeting with Chief Ministers of nine States, including Mizoram, to discuss the impact of pandemic and extension of a national lockdown. Emerging from the virtual meeting, Zoramthanga said he could not understand anything as "they were all speaking in Hindi."

Follow right procedures while processing disciplinary action against staff: Centre to Depts



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre has asked all its departments to follow vital procedures while processing disciplinary cases against employees, failure of which has led to intervention by courts.

According to a Department of Personnel Training (DoPT) order, the charged officers also tend to take advantage of these procedural flaws in processing of disciplinary cases at various stages of their examination like Sharing of documents, approval of article of charge by the disciplinary authority, sharing of UPSC advice and general examination of the charged officer, to quote a few.

"It has been observed that the disciplinary authorities (DAs), while processing the disciplinary cases under the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1965, sometimes fail to appreciate the vital procedural requirements/timelines provided under the said rules, albeit unintentionally, which are required to be mandatorily followed to ensure justice and bringing the cases to logical conclusions," the order said. Non-conformity to the

requirements as per the established rules also leads to intervention by the courts on the ground of denial of proper opportunity to the charged officers for defending themselves appropriately and, consequently, setting aside of disciplinary proceedings, it said.

These procedural lapses have also been noticed in various cases referred to the DoPT order.

The Personnel Ministry has come out with a flow chart for better understanding of rules in their application by the DAs.

"It is felt that this exercise will facilitate the Administrative Ministries/Departments to deal with the disciplinary cases effectively," it said in the order issued on Monday to all secretaries of central government ministries and departments.

It is, however, clarified that the detailed provisions under relevant rules and instructions issued thereunder may be duly followed in its application and, in case of any ambiguity or conflict of the indicative flow chart with any of the existing rules/instructions, the extant rules and instructions will prevail, the ministry said.

India logs lowest daily rise in Covid cases



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a sign of relief, India on Tuesday saw the lowest daily rise in coronavirus cases since early February with 10,126 fresh infections in the past 24 hours, the lowest in 266 days, according to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

At the same time on the Covid-19 vaccination part, more than 74 crore adults have received the first dose so far, 35 crore people have got the second dose and total vaccinations stand at over 109 crore. Around 188 crore vaccine doses are ultimately needed for all adults.

"Availability of the vaccine is not an issue. We have even

started exports. People will have to come forward to take the vaccine," said an official from the Ministry. In the last 24 hours, 59,08,440 vaccine doses were administered. However, in the last few weeks, the pace of vaccination has slowed down.

He said that in the last 24 hours, a total of 322 deaths have also been reported, which increased the overall fatality toll to 4,61,389.

The recovery of 11,982 patients in the last 24 hours has increased the cumulative tally of recovered patients to 3,37,75,086. Consequently, the country's recovery rate stands at 98.25 per cent, the highest since March 2020.

The active caseload stands at 1,40,638, the lowest in 263 days. Active cases presently constitute 0.41 per cent of the country's total positive cases, the lowest since March 2020.

Also in the same period, a total of 10,85,848 tests were conducted across the country pushing their cumulative number to 61.72 crore.

Meanwhile, the weekly positivity rate at 1.25 per cent has remained less than 2 per cent for the past 46 days now.

The daily positivity rate stands at 0.93 per cent, which has also remained below 2 per cent for 36 days and less than 3 per cent for 71 consecutive days now.

ED seizes assets under PMLA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached assets worth ₹ 61.38 crore, under Prevention of Money Laundering Act in its ongoing investigations regarding siphoning of public funds from Bhushan Steel Limited (BSL), Bhushan Energy Limited (BEL) and others.

The attached assets consist of agricultural land in Raigad, Maharashtra, warehouses in entities under the control of erstwhile promoters of BSL.

The ED had initiated money laundering investigation on the basis of complaints filed by Serious Frauds Investigation Office (SFIO) under various provisions of Companies Act, 2013 and Indian Penal Code against Bhushan Steel Limited, Bhushan Energy Limited and others involving siphoning of

public funds, the agency said.

"During the investigations under PMLA, it was revealed that Neeraj Singal alongwith B.B. Singal (former promoters of BSL) and others had diverted funds from BSL through an elaborate and complex web of transactions by way of routing of public funds in the garb of unsecured loans given by Bhushan Energy Limited to their associate companies, which were ultimately utilized for acquisition of various immovable properties. The elaborate and complex web of transaction was structured to project these assets as untainted," it said.

The ED has also provisionally attached assets worth ₹9.28 crore beneficially owned by Vinay Mishra, Vikas Mishra and Anup Majee under the PML Act in the illegal coal mining case of West Bengal.

India, Isreal sign bilateral innovation agreement to boost def, strategic ties

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With the objective of further strengthening defence and strategic ties, India and Israel have entered into a Bilateral Innovation Agreement (BIA) to promote innovation and accelerated research and development in start-ups.

Giving details here on Tuesday, defence ministry officials said as a tangible demonstration of the growing India-Israel technological cooperation, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Directorate of Defence Research and Development (DDR&D), Ministry of



Defence, Israel inked this BIA pact. It will also cater to the development of dual use technologies.

The agreement was signed between DRDO chief G Sathesh Reddy and Head of DDR&D Daniel Gold in New Delhi here on Tuesday.

Under the agreement, start-ups and industry of both countries will work together to bring out next generation technologies and products in the

areas such as Drones, Robotics, Artificial Intelligence, Quantum technology, Photonics, Biosensing, Brain-Machine Interface, Energy Storage, Wearable Devices and Natural Language Processing. Products and technologies will be customised to meet unique requirements of both the countries. The development efforts will be jointly funded by the DRDO and DDR&D, Israel. The technologies developed under the BIA will be available to both countries for their domestic applications, they said.

Israel has emerged a major defence partner of India since diplomatic relations were established between the two countries in the early 1990s.

Cooperative societies aim at boosting cyber protection

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Cooperative societies, including banks across the country, can now look towards a comprehensive Cyber-Security Framework developed by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) to secure their operations from crooks lurking in the cyber world.

The Framework titled "Cyber-security and IT Guidelines for User Interaction" outlines the minimum requirements that the cooperatives will need to follow in developing and implementing strategies, policies, procedures and related activities aimed at mitigating the risks of



cyber threats and attacks, said Sundeep Nayak, MD, NCDC.

Former national cyber security coordinator, Dr Gulshan Rai, the brain behind the guidelines shared key features of the document saying that it has four levels detailing systems and structures that need to be set up in an organization; steps to be taken to secure and protect the system / IT assets among others.

The move to develop a cyber-security framework

comes close on the heels of the Centre's decision to computerize all Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) across the country and link them with District Central Cooperative Banks, State Apex Cooperative Banks and NABARD to make them e-friendly. However, this will not be easy, India is among the top 10 countries facing cyber-attacks and in the recent past, cooperative societies too have found their database breached by cyber predators.s

Currently, there are about 65,000 PACs which the Centre plans to increase to more than 3 lakh in the next five years to realize the vision of making the country Atmanirbhar or self-reliant.

EC announces dates for biennial polls in Maha, Telangana

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Tuesday announced biennial elections to the legislative councils in Maharashtra, Telangana, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh from 42 local authorities' constituencies will be held on December 10.

In a statement, the EC said that the term of office of

the eight sitting members of the Maharashtra Legislative Council from seven local authorities' constituencies is going to expire on January 1 next year.

With regard to local authorities' constituencies election, the EC has laid down the guidelines that if at least 75 per cent of the local authorities in a local authorities' constituency are func-

tioning, and in addition at least 75 per cent of the electors out of the total electorate of the constituency are available, then electorate is treated as available for electing representatives to the legislative council, it said.

According to the information received from the chief electoral officer (CEO) of Maharashtra, the existence of constituent local body

functioning is more than 75 per cent in five out of the seven local authorities' constituencies, the EC said.

The commission has decided to hold biennial elections to the Maharashtra Legislative Council from five local authorities' constituencies for six seats, including two of Mumbai.

In another statement, the EC said the term of office of

the 12 sitting members of the Telangana Legislative Council from nine local authorities' constituencies is going to expire on January 4 next year.

The commission has decided to hold biennial elections to the Telangana Legislative Council from the above-mentioned nine local authorities' constituencies, it said. In another statement, the EC said the

term of office of the 25 sitting members of the Karnataka Legislative Council from 20 local authorities' constituencies is going to expire on January 5 next year.

Now, the commission has decided to hold biennial elections to Karnataka Legislative Council from the above-mentioned 20 local authorities' constituencies, it said. The term of office of 11 sitting

members of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council from eight local authorities' constituencies had expired on August 8 this year.

The commission having re-assessed the COVID-19 pandemic situation in Andhra Pradesh and after taking into consideration all relevant facts, has now decided to conduct biennial election to the Andhra

Pradesh Legislative Council from eight local authorities' constituencies, the statement said.

While the polls for all the legislative council seats will be held on December 10, the counting of votes will take place on December 14, the EC said.

The election process has to be completed by December 16.



RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

One can say that 'marriages are made in heaven', but the grandeur and extravaganza of weddings are definitely made in India. As Covid-19 cases decline and business is gradually coming back to normalcy crossing ₹1.25 lakh crore during Diwali this year, traders are gearing up for record sale in the upcoming wedding season beginning from November 14, the day of Dev Utham Ekadashi, (considered as auspicious day) to December 13.

It is estimated that wedding business will cross the Rs 3 lakh crore mark with over 25 lakh marriages to be solemnised across the country. A KPMG report estimated India's current wedding market at \$50 billion, growing rapidly every year.

Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) general secretary Praveen Khandelwal said that in Delhi alone, more than 1.5 lakh weddings are expected to take place this season, which is likely to generate a business of about ₹50,000 crore. In the last two years, due to Covid and very few Muhurt days of weddings and many restrictions imposed by the government, marriages were held on a very small scale and in small numbers resulting in a

very dull market.

Traders are keeping all arrangements up to date with them to meet the possible rush of customers. Khandelwal said that about 20 percent of the expenditure of each marriage goes to the broom-bride's side while 80 percent of the expenditure goes to other third agencies working in solemnising the marriage.

Diwali business sales this year have already crossed Rs 1.25 lakh crore, which is a record in the last 10 years. Similarly, sales on dhanteras were also estimated to be over ₹60,000 crore.

Acharya Durgesh Tare, Chairman of Spiritual and Vedic Knowledge Committee of CAIT and an eminent vedic scholar said that Dev Uthani Ekadashi or Prabodhini Ekadashi falls on the 11th day from Diwali in the Shukla Paksha after Diwali in the month of Kartik.

Tare said that according to the calculation of stars, November 14th, 28th, 29th and 30th November and in the month of December 1st, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 11th, 12th and 13th December are auspicious days for the purpose of holding marriages. After that, the star sinks for a month till January 14 and then again the

auspicious days will starts from January 14.

Khandelwal said that before the wedding season, a large amount of business happens in the repair and white wash of houses. Apart from this, jewellery, sarees, lehenga-chunni, readymade garments, clothes, footwear, wedding and greeting cards, dry fruits, sweets, fruits, worship items, grocery, food grains, decoration items, electrical utility, electronics and many gift items etc are usually in demand and it is expected to do good business this year.

According to Khandelwal, in this one month marriage season, about five lakh weddings will have an estimated expenditure of ₹2 lakh per wedding, while in about five lakh weddings the cost per wedding will be around five lakh per wedding, 10 lakh weddings will cost 10 lakhs per marriage, four lakhs marriages will cost 25 lakhs per marriage, 50 thousand marriages will have 50 lakhs expenditure per wedding and 50 thousand marriages will be such in which 1 crore or more money will be spent.

Overall in this one month wedding season around ₹3 lakh crore will flow through the wedding purchases in the markets.

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PAPER WITH PASSION

Supreme leader

There is nothing left for Xi to achieve other than moulding China into the country of his dreams

Being the “core” of no less than the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has its advantages. President Xi Jinping gets to write a resolution at the end of the 19th Central Committee that will chart the course of China for the next 28 years. The resolutions are quite rare and the Chinese people and the world alike eagerly await the content of the latest one, only the third in the 100-year-old history of the party. The first one — the Resolution on Certain Issues in the History of the CPC — was issued in April 1945, four years before the founding of the People’s Republic of China in 1949 and just before the victory in the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression (1931-45), as well as World War II. This resolution summed up the experiences of the revolution and the lessons learnt from the failures in fighting the Kuomintang and the Japanese and “Leftist and Rightist” tendencies that needed to be rectified within the party. The second resolution — The Resolution on Certain Questions in the History of the CPC Since the Founding of the People’s Republic of China — was issued in 1981, nearly three years after the beginning of the reforms and opening-up and five years after the end of the 1976 Cultural Revolution. This summed up the experiences of the “first 30 years” of the country, identifying and learning from the mistakes of governance, bringing closure to the Cultural Revolution and giving direction to the reforms. The third resolution, to be drafted under Xi’s leadership, is to be titled, “Resolution on Major Achievements and Historical



Experience of the Party’s Centuries of Struggle”. From Xi’s point of view, he has completed the first step of ‘national rejuvenation’ of making China a moderately prosperous society. The second task ‘socialist modernisation’ is to be realised by 2035 and thereafter, China has to become a great modern socialist country around 2049. The resolution will lead the CCP to its 20th Party Congress in late 2022 when Xi may seek a third term of power. As it is, the Chinese have amended rules so he can remain President for life, inserted his ‘Xi Thought’ into the party Constitution and made him, like Mao, the ‘core’ of the party. There is nothing left for Xi to achieve other than moulding China into the country of his dreams. Coming at such a juncture in time, the resolution may not raise one issue, that is of Xi’s successor. The Chinese leadership succession may remain vague for years to come until Xi is in the chair. To the President’s comfort, around a dozen politburo members are reaching the age of 68 next October. That is the customary retirement age for the CCP’s top leaders. Xi is 68 too but is an exception. The fourth resolution may come in 2047 or 2052, two years before or three years after the 100th anniversary of the formation of the People’s Republic of China in 1949.



People flock to markets to buy Chhath Puja items, in Delhi

Brothers-in-arms?

Killing fellow jawans is the most heinous crime in uniform and points to a faulty retention policy

The latest incident of fratricidal killing in the CRPF ranks on Monday in Sukma, Chhattisgarh, is an ominous trend. Such deadly conduct of a trained trooper who should have ideally been a disciplined soldier is a pointer to the deeper malaise gripping the CRPF. While the political parties have sought to target the combined strength of the constabulary in the Armed Forces for their political objectives, the leaders of these forces have also been supportive of the kid-glove treatment to the jawans who are unfortunately portrayed as “bechara” (helpless) whereas they are supposed to deliver under adverse scenarios for which mental toughness is more important than physical toughness. The recurring cases of fratricide in the paramilitary forces, especially the CRPF, call for an overhaul of the discipline enforcement mechanisms within the ranks. For this, the foremost measure should be to get out of the ‘bechara’ syndrome for the jawans who are far well placed in terms of salary and perks as also lifestyle in contrast to the average citizenry from the countryside. In a nutshell, the ‘bechara’ connotation for the jawans is simply outlandish and detrimental for the force. It is also thankless for the taxpayers who fund the relatively good earnings and facilities for the jawans.

The lack of cohesion and discipline in the ranks is further compounded by the paramilitary bosses to shrug off such criminal actions of a section of the jawans as an outcome of mental stress. Without going into any scientific investigation, the CRPF hurriedly issued a statement after the Sukma incident that “due to some emotional stress leading to sudden psychological disbalance”, the offender constable “lost his control and in a fit of rage opened fire on his colleagues.” It amounts to protecting a criminal committing mass cold-blooded murder. On the face of it, the induction of such eccentric personnel in its ranks points to the faulty recruitment and retention policy wherein the psychological profile of the recruits is apparently given a go-by. The CRPF must liaise with the local police to ensure that the offender jawan gets death penalty for committing the most heinous crime in uniform and detailed background checks must be undertaken if he was a defaulter in terms of discipline and suitably punish his superiors, too. Nothing should be brushed under the carpet and discipline must be ensured to send a strong signal to the ranks which alone could be an effective deterrence to check recurrence of such incidents.

Education for an empowered India

The National Education Policy 2020 is being implemented at a stage when India is fully ready to take a comprehensive view of its future manpower needs

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the member States of the UN are a call for global action ‘to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030’. These 17 goals are interlinked; action in one area would impact all others as well. The SDG-4 is to ‘Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all’. Education acculturates, liberates and leads from darkness to light. No democratic society, that assures equity and equality to one and all, could do so without fulsome universal education, so precisely and comprehensively worded in the SDG-4. While the goal is universal, the path to attain it would depend on specific requirements, resources, and cultural context of individual nations.

The Constitution of India had directed the State to ensure free and compulsory elementary education to all. In spite of several constraints, it accelerated the process to a level that now there is no community, group or organisation that does not demand quality education for both boys and girls. Further, every nation needs to enhance its cognitive capital, as it alone would be a major vehicle for its progress and development. It is in this background that in the third decade of the 21st century, countries are upgrading their education policies.

Education prepares people, and people ignite change which in the current context is being seriously impacted by socio-cultural and economic impact of information and communication technologies; ICT. It is indeed fascinating to recall how the education system has changed in India during the last seven decades. India has already begun implementing its new education policy; the NEP 2020. The experiences gained during the last seven decades would be handy in the fruitful implementation of new plans and projects aimed at achieving the SDG-4.

A thorough review of the Indian education scenario after



the independence comes from Professor Jagdish Lal Azad. Azad never lost faith in education even in the most excruciating circumstance: “I don’t know how I escaped the murderous spears of the ruthless killers. I, however, saw the dead body of my mother, with her throat pierced, her left leg half burnt and her lifeless eyes half open”. He served the Planning Commission as Head of Education. An incorrigible researcher, now in his 101st year, he presents an overview of how India has strived to extend the outreach of education to every nook and corner of the nation in his latest book — *Indian Education since Independence*.

Nobel Laureate Gunnar Myrdal, the illustrious author of the treatise *Asian Drama*, considered the need for planning as “the intellectual matrix of entire modernisation ideology”. In the Indian Context, Azad infers: “The edifice of planning, however, had to be built keeping in view the political-administrative set up visualised by the Indian Constitution, particularly the federal character of the Indian administration, under which the constituent units are as much responsible for plan formulation and implementation as the Union Government”.

A paradigm shift did take



EDUCATION IN INDEPENDENT INDIA HAS CONSISTENTLY FACED THE INADEQUACY OF RESOURCES, TRAINED MANPOWER AND COMMITMENT AND COMPETENCE ON THE PART OF FUNCTIONARIES AT VARIOUS LEVELS

place in the early nineties when economic policies laid emphasis on liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation. It led to focus on cooperative federalism which envisages that the Central and State Governments should be guided by broad national concerns of using available resources for larger benefits of people.

The NEP 2020 is being implemented at a stage when India is fully ready to take a comprehensive view of its future manpower needs, emerging aspirations of the youth and even the possibilities of demographic dividend, a possibility that could be availed globally. The Indian system is accustomed to a traditional memory based pattern that has to be transformed drastically to experiential, holistic, integrated, inquiry-driven, discovery-oriented, learner-centered, discussion-based, flexible, and, of course, enjoyable. This would be a tough transition.

Based on his research, Azad indicates: “It may be conceded that in our situation, the problems of educational management are as complex and unwieldy as their size. The inadequacies of the present management structures in education particularly at the State and District levels to cope with the far too complex

challenges thrown up by the fast developing educational system in the post-independence period have been highlighted ad-infinitum.”

Consequently, changes within the system are critical, be it content, pedagogy, teacher preparation, preparation of textual materials or online and offline learning. Education in independent India has consistently faced inadequacy of resources, trained manpower, and the levels of commitment and competence on the part of functionaries at various levels.

Serious efforts are being made to ensure that every child gets that much-promised equality of opportunity in growing up a dignified citizen who has not only acquired educational but has imbibed courage, competence and character. The oft-repeated phrase of the 20th century that future empires shall be empires of knowledge has come true. Only those nations would advance further and earn global respect which shall consistently enhance their cognitive capital. The NEP 2020 is fully conscious of it and a very encouraging canvas is unfolding before the youth of India.

(The writer works in education and social cohesion. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MORE REASONS TO WORRY

Sir — India has recovered significantly after the COVID-19 pandemic in terms of normality. However, the economy and education sector is still lagging behind in the race. The overall daily caseload has minimised to nearly 10,000 and the fatalities, too, have decreased. But, in the meantime, different variants of other viruses have been germinating. Whether it be the mosquito-borne Zika virus or the Alphavirus in animals. These incidents and cases are alarming for people as well as the Government. The mosquito-borne diseases like dengue and malaria are already a havoc in India and now the Zika virus adds to the pain.

The symptoms of this virus include fever, headaches, dizziness, joint ache and weakness. Therefore, each one of us needs to be very careful, otherwise the daily rise in cases can be dangerous. The UP Government needs to put extra effort on Zika so that before it is contained before it grapples masses. It would be much better if we maintain hygienic conditions at home and remain hydrated. If the fever and other problems remain for long, prefer to see a doctor and take serious treatment. Our health is in our hands. Though we cannot always control our surroundings, we can inculcate measures that help us stay safe.

Aman Jaiswal | Delhi

THE CAPTAIN’S UP FOR A NEW INNINGS

Sir — It is a test of captaincy for the 79-year-old Amarinder Singh. Not that he was not a Captain at all in his long political career. In the army and then as the head of executive in Punjab, Captain Amarinder Singh has no shortage of experience by any stretch of imagination. On the contrary, his understanding of politics and exposure to the basics of administration is second to none. After his unceremonious ouster from the post of Chief Minister, Amarinder has taken the fight to the Congress camp. And now that he has formed his own party, Amarinder is a free bird.

The Punjab Assembly elections are not far away; Amarinder’s presence

Surplus food needs proper care



Telangana Chief Minister KCR goes live that the Centre refused to buy the grains but Bandi Sanjay shows a letter from the Centre agreeing to buy paddy upto 22 January. He also shows a letter where KCR urges the Centre not to buy the parboiled rice. The Congress also plays its own role in compounding the issue. The sum total of all these utterances seem so convincing that people are dumbfounded and are clueless on how to respond. Therefore, the problem continues, suicides happen and hunger goes

unabated and unattended in a country which claims to feed 1.3 billion people without any problem.

What an irony that godowns in the entire country are overflowing while we are way ahead in the Hunger Index, putting ourselves to shame even before Pakistan and Bangladesh. The main problem knowingly or unknowingly ignored by the parties is that Telangana has produced over and above its past record, thanks to bountiful rains and continuous availability of water and power. The problem is with the surplus production of paddy which has added to the present situation. Unless there are radical reforms in the federal structure, this battle continues and may even aggravate as elections draw closer. Let the States be given freedom to negotiate with foreign countries directly but route the export through the Central Government. Can’t they converge on issues where both can benefit keeping the routine politics aside for a common cause? .

D Nagarajuna | Hyderabad

may not have taken the winds off the Congress’s sails but the Captain flexing his muscles can do crucial damage to the grand old party’s prospects of scraping through because at present that is what is expected of the party. Amarinder Singh, whose influence in some pockets cannot be undermined, is sure to try his best to foil the chances of his former party with which he was associated for more than 40 years.

Ganapathi Bhat | Akola

CHINESE AUDACITY AT THE BORDER

Sir — The Pentagon’s latest annual report to the US Congress on China contains a disquieting piece of information (and a satellite image) for India. It brings to light the building of a 100-home civilian village with the potential to double up as a military camp in a disputed region in Arunachal Pradesh. The report considers the so-called village as part of ‘incremental and tacti-

cal’ actions taken by China to lay claim to some areas along the LAC as its own. It is significant that China is turning more and more assertive and aggressive despite India’s alliance with the US through the Quad.

It is baffling that India is in denial when China is flexing its muscles by putting up many permanent structures in areas where there were none. India is found wanting in taking a robust and proactive approach to PLA’s attempts at annexing Indian territories. It is a paradox that the Modi Government claims to be strong and at the same time turns a blind eye to the reality of Chinese encroachments. Prime Minister Narendra Modi denied Chinese intrusion and gave China a clean chit which he should not have done.

G David Milton | Maruthancode

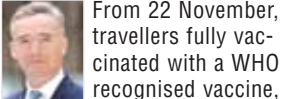
Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUND BITE

A Chief Secretary without the knowledge of a working standard Mizo language will never be effective and efficient.



Mizoram Chief Minister —Pu Zoramthanga



From 22 November, travellers fully vaccinated with a WHO recognised vaccine, including Covaxin, will not have to self-isolate.

British High Commissioner to India —Alex Ellis

I was bitterly affected by my early failures but Ekta Kapoor helped me fight depression and gave me a new start.



Actor —Anita Hassanandani

Unfortunately, we fell short and no one is more disappointed than us as a side. We aim to come back stronger.

India captain —Virat Kohli

The Taliban makes the life of sisters and daughters hellish. This will not be accepted at all in UP.



UP Chief Minister —Yogi Adityanath

FIRST COLUMN

NEGOTIATING ROAD ACCIDENTS IN HIMACHAL

Maximum accidents in the State are attributed to overspeeding followed by negligent driving



Himachal Pradesh, popularly known as Devbhoomi, is a favourite tourist destination. It has limited air and rail connectivity and roads are the lifeline not only for the people of the state, but, also for the development of tourism, hydropower projects and the rapidly expanding industrial hubs. The state has witnessed rapid expansion in terms of highway construction and broadening of roads. However, road accidents remain one of the main concerns. Human errors are responsible for over 93 per cent of the total accidents in Himachal and about 30 to 35 per cent accidents occur on the national highways.

Till October 15, 2021, 817 persons were killed and 2,617 injured in 1,862 accidents. In hilly roads, curves are designed for maximum speed of 45 km per hour speed, but drivers often negotiate a curve at a speed of 70 km to 80 km per hour. That causes accidents. Climate factors like landslides that block roads along with heavy rains and flash floods also result in roads and bridges being washed away, leading to loss of life and property. Remote areas have the problem of less number and frequency of buses and other vehicles which leads to overcrowding, increasing the chances of accidents.



The Road Accident Data Management System (RADMS) says in three years ending June 2019, the maximum accidents in the state are attributed to over speeding, followed by dangerous and negligent driving, wrong overtaking, bad road conditions, drug and alcohol abuse and other reasons including adverse weather conditions and mechanical faults. During this year, 98 per cent of the accidents that involved vehicles plunging down hillside occurred in rural areas while only two per cent of such road mishaps took place in urban areas. Out of these, 418 accidents (22.4 per cent) were caused due to vehicles veering off the road and rolling down steep hills, claiming 392 lives and injuring 672 persons.

District-wise accident mapping, analysis and micro-management have helped the police identify mishap-prone stretches and reasons for the accidents. A data bank has also been created on the basis of daily accident mapping with the categories of vehicles involved, dangerous and vulnerable stretches, black spots, timings and the reasons for accidents. According to Director General of Police, Himachal Pradesh, Sanjay Kundu: "Some of the safety measures adopted include Doppler radars to check speed and deployment of traffic police at vulnerable points. The focus of police has shifted to road safety. We have requested the state government to provide interceptor vehicles to control over-speeding and traffic police stations on busy national highways."

The students and faculty innovators of IIT Mandi in Himachal Pradesh have developed a smart road monitoring system that will help prevent accidents occurring at sharp turns and enhance traffic management, especially in the hilly areas. The research team has created the system that can be used for speed detection, vehicle counts, enhanced traffic management, by employing the micro-electro-mechanical systems (MEMS) and internet of things (IoT) technologies. According to KV Uday, Assistant Professor of School of Engineering, IIT Mandi: "The developed system comprises two layers of detection units to alert the drivers. It will detect the type of vehicle passing through the unit and if it is heading toward the curve, the drivers on the other side will be alerted about the incoming traffic through a signal."

Bad roads and negligence of drivers result in death and disability which need to be ruled out by taking special initiatives like providing training to the drivers and the vehicle's road worthiness must be maintained to prevent mishaps. Roads safety infrastructure like crash barriers and parapets along with proper signage should be ensured.

(The writer is a senior journalist and Chairman, Panwar Group of Institutions, Solan, Himachal Pradesh. The views expressed are personal.)

How true is India's hunger ranking?

Welthungerhilfe's Index cannot be considered an academic exercise for sure, at best a political stunt to show certain developing countries in bad light

Recently Germany-based Welthungerhilfe ranked India at slot 101 among their hunger list of 116 countries. The report has put serious aspersions on India's efforts to provide nutrition food to its citizens, with only 15 countries behind it. Welthungerhilfe's Hunger Index in India has declined from 38.8 in the year 2000 to 27.5 in 2021, indicating that hunger has come down in the last two decades. The poor ranking in hunger gives critics of the PM Narendra Modi government ammunition to criticise the regime for incidence of hunger has increased during the coronavirus pandemic.

The research report has problems that need to be dealt with. The details of report, data, analysis and even methodology appears faulty. It cannot be used to determine the trajectory of domestic policy-making and feedback of ground realities. It cannot be considered as an academic exercise for sure, at best an extended political stunt to show certain developing countries and their regimes in a bad light. That too is done shabbily. India certainly needs to appropriately assess its nutrition problem, it must be dealt with all seriousness. However, Welthungerhilfe's report deserves to be binned.

Hope India's mission in Germany has already sent their rebuttal to this report, if not, then it must me sent in harshest words and that too quickly. Let us understand the methodology and data used in this index; and how they affect the index. First, the results published on India in Global Hunger Index do not exactly match the production figures of these commodities by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. The production of food grains and other food items like milk, eggs, vegetables, fruits, fish, etc. has been increasing in India. If we look at the last two decades, the total production of milk was only 777 lakh tonnes in the year 2000, which increased to 2000 lakh tonnes by 2020 and our daily per capita milk production has reached 394 grams. The total production of eggs was 11440 crores per year in 2019-20, as compared to only 3050 crores in the year 2000. That is, now the per capita availability of eggs has reached 86. Along with this, the availability of vegetables, fruits, meat, pulses and edible oils and other food items has all increased at an unprecedented rate. Surprisingly, the per capita availability of these food items is far less in the countries, which are shown above India.

More problems; to prepare the Hunger Index, they have to use National Sample Survey Organisation's (NSSO's) food consumption data as per the notified methodology; but interestingly, no survey of NSSO has been published after the year 2011-12. It may be mentioned that the publication of the 2015-16 Round of NSSO in this regard was with-



EARLIER, NO QUESTIONS WERE RAISED ON THE METHODOLOGY OR DATA USED IN PREPARING THE HUNGER INDEX. BUT DUE TO THE LOW RANKING OF INDIA IN TERMS OF HUNGER AND ERRORS IN THE DATA USED IN THIS REGARD, THE METHODOLOGY AND DATA USED IN PREPARING THIS INDEX HAVE COME UNDER SCRUTINY

(The writer is Professor, PGDAV College, University of Delhi. The views expressed are personal.)



drawn by the government due to serious deficiencies therein. So, if the Hunger Index for 2021 has been prepared using the same data from 2011-12, it would be ridiculous.

A thorough analysis of the data is essential before we make any commentary or design government policy.

Major problem areas; Welthungerhilfe's Global Hunger Index, does not collect any data itself, on consumption of food items, but only makes use of data compiled by the World Food Organization (FAO). In the past, the FAO has been dependent on the National Nutrition Monitoring Board (NNMB), a premiere Indian organisation, regarding data on food consumption. The NNMB states that the FAO and Welthungerhilfe in their methodology estimate the consumption of food on the basis of per capita consumer spending published by the NSSO. But NNMB says that they did not conduct any survey of food consumption in rural areas after 2011 and in urban areas after 2016. Welthungerhilfe also appears not to have used data from the Board but a Gallop Survey by a private organization without any justification.

More holes in the survey; do these indicators used in the Global Hunger Index really measure hunger? If these indicators are the result of hunger, then rich people who have no problem with access to food, why should their children be stunted and wasted. The 2016 data from the National Institute of

Nutrition (NIN) for 16 states shows that even among the rich (owning cars, homes), 17.6 per cent and 13.6 per cent children, respectively, suffer from stunting and wasting. And, mothers with overweight and obesity (with adequate access to food) were more likely to have children with signs of stunting (22 per cent) and wasting (11.8 per cent).

Earlier, no questions were raised on the methodology or data used in preparing the Hunger Index. But due to the low ranking of India in terms of hunger and errors in the data used in this regard, the methodology and data used in preparing this index has come under scrutiny.

The report says the mortality rate has decreased in children under the age of 5 years, and incidence of stunting in children under the age of 5 years has also decreased. But a paradox in this report is that recently during the pandemic, the proportion of population with evidence of malnutrition has increased; so also the proportion the wasted children under the age of five years.

This report is published every year. Although this report compares hunger in different years, the report acknowledges that the index, ranking and indicators given in this report are limited to this year only. That is, a comparison cannot be made between different years in this regard, as there is a difference in the sources of data and methodology in different years.

The organization has prepared the formula of hunger

index in such a way, where there are three equal parts - one third part is food availability, the other third is the mortality rate of children under 5 years and the remaining third is malnutrition among children. There are two indicators of malnutrition in children under the age of five - wasting and stunting. That is, a total of 4 indicators and 3 dimensions are used in the hunger index.

Periodic surveys are conducted by the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) regarding malnutrition among children and those figures can be considered reliable. Similarly, data on mortality rate in children is collected on actual basis, even that does not indicate any problem. It is noteworthy that the proportion of children stunted below 5 years of age has declined from 54.2 percent between 1998-2002 to 34.7 percent between 2016-2020. That is, now children are getting taller than before. Experts believe that since babies are getting taller than before, they are getting thinner (so-called wasted) due to their increasing height, which is a good sign. In such a situation, there is a flaw in the methodology of measuring hunger, by simultaneously using data on wasting, with declining incidence of stunting.

The time has come to call out such motivated surveys. And developing countries must come out together to bring out reports giving a better picture of ground realities, not a mere jugglery with numbers.

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

WE'LL FORCE CHIEF MINISTER MAMATA BANERJEE TO REDUCE THE VAT. THE POLICE MIGHT TRY TO STOP US BUT WE'LL FIGHT THEM.
—BENGAL BJP CHIEF
SUKANTA MAJUMDAR

THOSE LECTURING US ON OIL PRICES SHOULD FIRST ANSWER WHERE THE STATE GOVERNMENT WILL GET ITS MONEY FROM?
—WEST BENGAL CHIEF MINISTER
MAMATA BANERJEE

Goa turns into a hot poll pot

The BJP will seek votes in the name of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The other parties, too, have not announced chief ministerial candidates

The battle lines for the assembly elections are drawn in the tiny state of Goa, which is going for polls early next year. The poll scene is likely to be crowded, with at least eight parties contesting. The ruling BJP and opposition Congress-and some outside contenders like Trinamool Congress and Aam Admi Party -- are in the fray. This multi-cornered contest might result in fragmentation of the votes as no party would be in a position to get a majority.

Why are regional parties like the TMC and AAP eyeing Goa? Firstly, parties, including the NCP, AAP, and TMC, have national ambitions. But to be recognized as a national party, constitutionally, a party must have at least two percent representation in the

KALYANI SHANKAR

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

Lok Sabha from four states, or poll six percent of votes in the Assembly or Lok Sabha in at least four states, or have at least four MPs from any state.

Secondly, though Goa is the smallest state with just two Lok Sabha seats and a 40-member Assembly, it cannot add significantly to the kitty of any party either in Parliament or assembly but the vote share counts.

Thirdly, Goa's tiny constituency size does not need enormous resources for election. Also, language is not a barrier for most Goans speak English.

Fourthly, those going with the aim of expansion like Mamata Banerjee or Arvind Kejriwal, or even Sharad Pawar, are nursing prime ministerial ambitions.

Finally, the other parties smell a chance as Congress and the BJP matter are only two main parties and a third party has an opportunity to emerge as an alternative.

The elections will be fierce with issues ranging from the environment to mining and handling of COVID. No party has any chief ministerial candidates so far.

The top leaders from the BJP, Congress, Trinamool Congress, and AAP have already launched high-profile

campaigns. Regional players like Goa Forward Party (GFP) and Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party (MGP) have also thrown in their hats.

The BJP will seek votes in the name of prime minister Narendra Modi. The other parties, too, have not announced chief ministerial candidates.

As for the Congress, the loss of former Goa chief minister Luizinho Faleiro to the TMC last month was a huge setback. The party is now down to four MLAs from 17 MLAs, three of whom are ex-CMs of Goa - all spent forces.

The TMC has big ambitions to expand in Goa, with the West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee visiting the state already to launch her campaign. Her adviser

Prashant Kishore has been doing the groundwork.

The TMC has inducted several leaders in the last few weeks, including bureaucrat-turned-politician Elvis Gomes, former AAP convenor in Goa, and former East Bengal footballer Alvito D'Cunha, tennis stars like Leander Paes and former Congress leader Nafisa Ali. The TMC and AAP will only cut into the secular votes of Congress.

The AAP, too, has considerable political ambitions. It has been offering freebies like free electricity up to 300 units a month, 80 percent reservation for locals in private jobs, and an employment allowance for the tourism and mining sectors.

Kejriwal is trying to rope in MGP MLA Ramkrishna

alias Sudin Dhavalikar. The MGP was once Goa's ruling party, and the BJP entered Goan politics with its support. But after the BJP poached in to the MGP, the party left the BJP alliance.

The upcoming assembly polls will not be easy for the BJP because of the anti-incumbency. The disunity in the opposition might perhaps make things easier for the BJP. Corruption and anti-incumbency are the two crucial factors.

BJP has also promised free water to every home. It has also promised 10,000 new government jobs and launched an outreach programme, "Sarkar Tumchya Dari" (government at your doorsteps).

The Church also plays a role, with local parishes wield-

ing much influence. Almost half of the BJP's incumbent MLAs are Christians; The BJP is keen to continue its Goa experiment to show that it is not an anti-minority party. The recent visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Rome when he hugged the Pope and also invited him is part of the BJP's scheme for winning Goa.

The BJP is worried about the Shiv Sena and the Revolutionary Goans, a new party attracting the youth. The Sena plans to contest 22 Hindu-majority seats to hurt the BJP.

The poll tie-ups are going on, and the final picture will emerge only closer to the polls. The coalition is the only option for Goa if it does not vote for one party with a majority.

GLOBE TROTTER

AT LEAST 18 KILLED IN NIGER MINE COLLAPSE

Niaméy: At least 18 people were killed and 7 injured after a gold mine collapsed in the Maradi region of Niger. Hundreds have been gathering in the village of Dan Issa, peering with shock into the mine which collapse over the weekend. Many residents are small-scale miners who work in the shaft.

MAN WITH KNIFE SHOT DEAD IN NORWAY

Copenhagen: A man reportedly armed with a knife threatened passers-by on the streets of the Norwegian capital, Oslo, on Tuesday, before being shot dead by police, officials said. Norwegian media published footage of the alleged attacker, naked from the waist up and wielding a knife.

CHILEAN PREZ IMPEACHED OVER PANDORA PAPERS

Santiago: President Sebastian Pinera was impeached by the lower house of Chile's congress, setting up a trial in the nation's Senate over allegations he favoured the sale of a family property while in office. The accusation stems from publication of the so-called Pandora Papers, which revealed offshore financial dealings of prominent figures around the world, including Pinera, one of Chile's wealthiest people.

US VP ARRIVES IN PARIS FOR FOUR-DAY TRIP

Paris: US Vice President Kamala Harris landed in Paris on Tuesday at the start of a four-day visit and charm offensive aimed at shoring up the US relationship with France, America's oldest ally. Washington's relations with Paris hit a historic low this year after a US-British submarine deal with Australia scuttled a French deal to sell subs to the Australian navy. Late last month, President Joe Biden told French President Emmanuel Macron the US had been "clumsy" in its handling of the US-British submarine deal with Australia.

China delivers largest, advanced warship to Pak

PTI ■ BEIJING

China has delivered its largest and most advanced warship to Pakistan as it seeks to beef up the navy of its all-weather ally in the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean, where it has increased its own naval presence in recent years.

Designed and built by China State Shipbuilding Corporation Limited (CSSC), the frigate was delivered to the Pakistan Navy in a commissioning ceremony in Shanghai, the CSSC announced in a statement on Monday.

The Type 054A/P frigate was named the PNS Tughril, state-run *Global Times* reported on Tuesday.

Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque said that the commissioning of the PNS Tughril ensures balance of



power in the Indian Ocean.

In the context of the overall security paradigm of the region, Tughril-class frigates will strengthen Pakistan Navy's capabilities to respond to maritime challenges to ensure sea-war defence, maintain peace, stability and balance of power in the Indian Ocean region, he said, according to the *Global Times* report.

The PNS Tughril is the first hull of four Type 054 frigates

WITH AN EYE ON INDIAN OCEAN

being constructed for the Pakistan Navy and the vessel is a technologically advanced and highly capable platform with enormous surface-to-surface, surface-to-air and underwater firepower, besides extensive surveillance potentials, the daily quoted a Pakistan Navy's statement.

Being equipped with state-of-the-art combat management and an electronic warfare system along with modern self-defence capabilities, the Type 054A/P frigate can simultaneously execute a number of naval warfare missions in a highly intense multi-threat environment, it said.

The frigate is the largest and most advanced warship China has ever exported, CSSC said. China which shares all-

weather strategic ties with Pakistan has emerged as the biggest weapons supplier for the Pakistani military. Besides the advanced naval ships, China also partners with the Pakistan Air Force to build JF-17 Thunder fighter aircraft. Observers say the military cooperation in recent years focussed more on the navy as China gradually stepped up its naval presence in India's backyard, the Indian Ocean.

Besides building its first military base in Djibouti in the Horn of Africa in the Indian Ocean, China has acquired Pakistan's Gwadar port in the Arabian Sea which connects with China's Xinjiang province by land in the \$60 billion China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

B'desh's ex-chief justice Sinha sentenced to 11 yrs

PTI ■ DHAKA

A Bangladeshi court on Tuesday sentenced in absentia former top judge Surendra Kumar Sinha, the country's first chief justice from the minority Hindu community, to 11 years in jail on two counts of graft in a case over money laundering and breach of trust.

Dhaka Special Judge 4 Shaikh Nazmul Alam sentenced the former chief justice, who currently lives in the United States, to seven years in prison for money laundering and another four years for criminal breach of trust. The prison terms will run concurrently.

"(Justice) SK Sinha is the principal beneficiary of the laundered money," the court said in its verdict.

Sinha, 70, was sentenced to 11 years in prison in a case involving the laundering of Tk 4 crore (\$4,70,000) taken in



credit from the Farmers Bank, now known as the Padma Bank.

The judgment came four years after Sinha resigned while on a visit abroad as the government alleged he was involved in corrupt practices.

Sinha served as the 21st Chief Justice of Bangladesh from January, 2015 to November, 2017.

Sinha, Bangladesh's first chief justice from the minority Hindu community, has

alleged that he was forced to resign because he opposed Bangladesh's incumbent "undemocratic" and "authoritarian" regime.

Among the 10 others tried in the case, Tangail residents, Md Shahjahan and Niranjana Chandra Saha, were acquitted as the charges against them were not proven.

The rest have been given different terms of jail and slapped with fines.

AKM Shamim, former managing director of Farmers Bank, has been jailed for four years and fined Tk 50,000.

Ranjit Chandra Saha, a personal aide to Justice Sinha, and his wife Shantri Roy got three years each and fined Tk 10,000.

Five other former officials of Farmers Bank were sentenced to three years in jail each and fined Tk 25,000.

Other than Sinha, three others were tried in absentia as they were on the run.

Riot police sent in amid standoff at Poland-Belarus border



Migrants from the Middle East and elsewhere gather at the Belarus-Poland border near Grodno, Belarus on Monday

AP ■ WARSAW, POLAND

Polish riot police reinforced Poland's eastern border on Tuesday, a day after hundreds of migrants tried to storm across the razor-wire border fence from Belarus. Thousands of migrants still remained on the outskirts of Nigier's capital, Niamey, killing 20 children.

Teachers and parents have said that the deaths highlight the dangers of the temporary classrooms.

"Our hearts are with the children and families affected. Our most sincere condolences to the families of the victims and their communities," UNICEF's representative in Nigier Stefano Savi said in a statement.

said Tuesday that a large group of Belarusian forces was moving toward the migrants, who were camping out on the border.

Major Katarzyna Zdanowicz, from the region's border guards, estimated 3,000-4,000 migrants were along the border, including about 800 in the vicinity of the large makeshift migrant camp. She also said there was a greater concentration of Belarusian services on the border to "control, steer and direct these people."

She said the Polish assessment comes from aerial observations, and alleged that Belarus authorities were taking journalists to the border area to present the situation to the people of Belarus as propaganda.

Virus deaths in Russia hit daily record after work limits

AP ■ MOSCOW

Covid deaths in Russia hit a new record on Tuesday and new confirmed cases remained high two days after a nine-day non-working period ended in most of the country's regions.

The state coronavirus task force reported 1,211 Covid-19 deaths, the highest daily death toll in the pandemic, and 39,160 new cases. The task force has reported around 40,000 cases and over 1,100 deaths every day since late October.

Russian President Vladimir



Visitors sit inside a cafe in Moscow, Russia, on Tuesday

AP

Putin ordered many Russians last month to stay off work between Oct. 30 and Nov. 7. He authorized regional govern-

ments to extend the number of non-working days if necessary, but only five Russian regions have done so.

Fire sweeps through school in Niger, killing 20 children

AP ■ NIAMEY, NIGER

More than 20 children were killed and dozens more injured when a fire swept through a school in Niger's second-largest city, Maradi.

Three classrooms made of straw were consumed by the fire at the pre-school and primary school called 'AFN', taking the lives of the children aged between 3 and 8, the government said late Monday.

An investigation has been launched to determine the cause of the fire and where it started, the Regional Direction of National Education confirmed.

Straw huts are often used as temporary classrooms in overcrowded schools in Niger in West Africa. In April a fire fueled by high winds burned through an elementary school on the outskirts of Nigier's capital, Niamey, killing 20 children.

Teachers and parents have said that the deaths highlight the dangers of the temporary classrooms. "Our hearts are with the children and families affected. Our most sincere condolences to the families of the victims and their communities," UNICEF's representative in Nigier Stefano Savi said in a statement.

उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल संसाधन विकास एवं निर्माण निगम
कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, निर्माण शाखा, हरिद्वार

पत्रांक : 2806 / निविदा / 563 ई-निविदा सूचना दिनांक 08.11.2021
इस कार्यलय पत्रांक सं 2805 / निविदा / 562 दिनांक 08.11.2021 द्वारा जल जीवन मिशन कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत जनपद हरिद्वार विकास खण्ड भगवानपुर क्षेत्रांतर्गत कलालहटी पम्पिंग पेयजल योजना का निर्माण एवं तत्सम्बन्धी कार्य हेतु राज्य सरकार की वेबसाईट <http://www.uktenders.gov.in> के माध्यम से दिनांक 09.11.2021 से 23.11.2021 तक ई-निविदा (e-tender) आमंत्रित की जा रही है। निविदा की नियम एवं शर्तें उपरोक्त वेबसाईट से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

अधिशासी अभियन्ता

"जल संचय-जीवन संचय" कृपा जल स्रोतों को प्रदूषित होने से बचाइये
"वैधानिक चेतानी-जल स्रोतों को प्रदूषित करना दण्डनीय अपराध है।"

UJVN Limited
H.O. : "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephone: 0135-2763808, Fax No.: 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com

R.O. No. 837 Tender Notice Dt. 09-11-2021

Office of the Executive Engineer, (M&G) Mohamadpur Power House, Gurukul Narsan -Haridwar invites sealed tenders from experienced firms for following works/supply for Mohamadpur Power House:-

Tender No. - 22 & 23/EE/M&G/MPH/2021-22

Name of work: 1- Supply & replacement of hydraulic tubes, fittings, various valves etc. at Mohamadpur Power House.
2- Annual cleaning & Up keeping of Mohamadpur Power House.
Estimated Cost: Rs. 8,86,690.00 (GST Extra), Rs. 6,89,789.00 (GST Extra) respectively
Date of availability of Tender document on website: 10-11-2021 from 11:00 hrs.
Date of Receipt of the tender: 30-11-2021 upto 17: 00 hrs.
For all details, bidders are advised to visit our website www.ujvnl.com Executive Engineer (M&G)

"Avoid Wasteful use of Electricity"

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice

Chief Engineer/TMC, Northern Railway, Headquarters office, Baroda House, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites 01 No tender through E-Procurement system for supply of the following items:-

S. No.	E-Tender No.	Description of item	Qty.	Due date Time
1	A39P90TMC2021	ANTIWEAR HYDRAULIC OIL (HLP-68 TYPE) VG-68GRADE FOR TRACKMACHINES.	37800 Ltrs.	03.12.2021 at 11:30 hours.

NOTE:-1 The complete information of above E-Procurement tenders are available on website "www.ireps.gov.in". The firms who desire to participate against E-Tenders, are advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which they would be required to have a class-III digital certificate from certifying agencies authorized under IT Act 2000, by Govt. of India. Manual offers against E-Tenders will not be accepted. Tender notice No. 219-S/1/TMC/17/2021-22 Dated: 09.11.2021 2574/2021

Serving Customers With A Smile

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियन्ता,
लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खण्ड, धमतरी (छ0ग0)

पू. क्रमांक / 4505 / व.ले.लि. / JJM/EE&MS/DWSM/2021-22/धमतरी,
दिनांक:- 02 / 11 / 2021

संशोधित निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

इस कार्यालय द्वारा जल जीवन मिशन अन्तर्गत आमंत्रित निविदा सूचना क्रमांक-173 से 189 / धमतरी दिनांक-18.10.2021 (जी.क्रमांक-64606) को आमंत्रित की गई निविदा के निविदा क्रमांक क्रमशः 182, 183 दिनांक 18.10.2021 सिरस्टम नम्बर-85668, 85689 की अनुमानित लागत में आंशिक संशोधन किया जाता है:-

समय सारिणी:-

क्र	निविदा क्र/दिनांक सिरस्टम टेंडर क्र	कार्य का विवरण	पूर्व अनुमानित लागत (रु. लाख में)	संशोधित अनुमानित लागत (रु. लाख में)
10	182 / 18.10.2021, 85668	विकासखंड नगरी के घाम सिंहावा Retrofitting	299.81	219.68
11	183 / 18.10.2021, 85669	विकासखंड नगरी के घाम कसपुर Retrofitting	273.63	220.90

अन्य नियम एवं शर्तें यथावत रहेगा।

हस्ता / -
कार्यपालन अभियन्ता,
लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खण्ड,
धमतरी (छ0ग0)

R.O. NO: 64990/6
R.O. Date: 08/11/2021

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
(DEPARTMENT : ELECTRICAL/TRS)

Sr. DEE-TRS-GZB acting for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tender against Tender No. 230-TRS-GZB-2021-22-06. The details are as under:

1. Name of the work	2. Approx cost of work	3. Last Date & Time of Submission of tender bid of tender	4. Date & Time of opening of tender document	5. Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen
"Hiring of Truck model Tata-407 or similar vehicle like Mahindra Road king or canter or Ishtar for 24 months".	Rs. 15,95,230.80	01.12.2021 (11:00 Hrs.)	01.12.2021 (After 11:00 Hrs.)	www.ireps.gov.in

Note : (i) The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement System (IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in e-tender system. (ii) For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. (iii) No manual offers are acceptable. (iv) Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only.

No. 230-TRS-GZB-2021-22-06 Dated: 09.11.2021. 2578/21

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)
E-TENDER No. 2021RS11741TC

Director, Railways Stores (W), Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, Government of India invites e-tender for procurement of 72,000 Nos. Constant Contact Side Bearers (CCSB) for BG bogie wagons to RDSO Specification No. WD-62-Misc-17 with latest revision, CCSB (64000 Nos.) variant B to drawing No. WD-12008-S/1 for BOXN type wagons and WD-62-Misc.-17 with latest revision. CCSB (8000 Nos.) variant C to drawing No. WD-12007-S/01 for BOBRN type wagons.

2.0 The interested tenderors are advised to visit the website <http://ireps.gov.in> for details of the tender and submission of their e-bids.

3.0 No manual offers will be accepted against e-tender.

4.0 Tender will be closed at 15.00 hours on 22.12.2021.

Director, Railway Stores (W)
Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, New Delhi.
for and on behalf of the President of India. 2576/2021

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanhalli Hour Main Road Bangalore 560068

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 (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Sonia/ Shobhit S/ LBBNG00004406024	SCHEDULE 'A' All That Piece and Parcel of The Property Being Vacant Site Bearing Present Mahadevapura City Municipal Council Katha No.38, Earlier Katha No.98/5, Situated At Chinnappanahalli, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, Measuring East to West: 80 Feet and North To South: 60 Feet, Totally Measuring About 4800 Square Feet With All Rights, Appurtenances Whatsoever Hereunder or Underneath or Above Surface, Schedule 'B' (Property Conveyed Under This Deed) 427 Square Feet Undivided Interest in The Immovable Property Mentioned in Schedule-A Above. Schedule-: 'C' (Apartment Conveyed Under This Deed) Description of The Residential Apartment to Be Constructed By The Purchaser/s Through The Builders Over The Schedule 'A' Property Purchased From The Vendors in 'Pratham Regency' Flat Number: 203, Floor: Second Floor, Type of Flat: Residential, Details of Accommodation: Three Bedrooms, Hall, Dining and Kitchen, Super Built Area: 1600 Sq.ft Corresponding Undivided Share in Land: 427 Feet, Construction Specifications: Rcc Roof With Mosaic Flooring and Home Wood Additional Facility: An Ear-marked Car Parking in The Ground Floor/ Date of Symbolic Possession- 06.11.2021	25.03.2021 Rs. 40,82,050/-	Bangalore

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 10, 2021
Place: Delhi/ Ncr

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LTD.
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking) (Corporate Identity No. UA49190UP2001SGC0258672358)
Victoria Cross Vijeta Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwal Road, Dehradun-248001
Phone No.: 0135-2763672-76, Fax: 0135-2760289, Website: www.uktenders.gov.in

CORRIGENDUM TO E-TENDER NOTICE

This office e-tender specification no. CCP-II/16/2021-2022, invited previously, for supply of 50 Nos. 500kVA, 11/0.433KV, Copper wound, Distribution Transformer is hereby extended due to unavoidable reasons. The e-tender can be purchased and submitted upto 17:00hrs. of 25.11.2021. Part-I of the e-tender shall be opened on 26.11.2021 at 15:30hrs.

For further details, please visit our website www.uktenders.gov.in.
Superintending Engineer
Corporate (C&P-II)

No.: 475/EE(cm)/UPCL/A-2 Dt.: 09.11.2021
Save Electricity in the Interest of the Nations Use LED Bulb Save Electricity, (Toll-Free- 1912)
"Pay Electricity Bill Online 24x7 from www.upcl.org" (For information on Electricity Theft, Informer may report to Toll Free No. 1800 180 4185/Fax No.: 0135-2760911)

SPECIAL TRAIN-2021
For the convenience of passengers, Railways have decided to run the following Special Train as per the schedule given below :-

06215/06216 Mysuru Jn - H. Nizamuddin - Mysuru Jn Superfast Express Special Train (Weekly)					
TRAIN NO. 06215		STATIONS		TRAIN NO. 06216	
ARR.	DEP.			ARR.	DEP.
---	20:10	Mysuru Jn.		03:30	---
17:50	---	H. Nizamuddin		---	05:10

Days of Run : 06215 Ex. Mysuru on every Friday from 12.11.2021 till further advice and 06216 Ex. H. Nizamuddin on every Monday from 15.11.2021 till further advice.

Accommodation : AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & 2nd Seating (Reserved)

Stoppages : Hassan, Arsikere Jn, Birur Jn., Davangere, Harihar, Ranibennur, Haveri, Hubballi Jn, Dharwad, Belgaum, Miraj Jn, Sangli, Karad, Satara, Pune, Daund Chord Line, Ahmednagar, Belapur, Kopargao, Manmad Jn, Bhusaval Jn, Khandwa, Itarsi Jn., Bhopal Jn, Bina, Jhansi Jn, Gwalior, Agra Cantt and Mathura Jn stations.

[Note: The above Special Train will have the reserved accommodation only.]

The Passengers are advised to please check the Time Table of this train at the stations enroute through RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or log on to the Railway enquiry website <http://www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or may download the NTES App.

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

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2572/2021 Serving Customers with a Smile

RBI lifts restrictions on Diners Club International

ALLOWS ONBOARDING OF NEW CUSTOMERS

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank on Tuesday lifted restrictions on Diners Club International and allowed it to onboard new domestic customers.

The restrictions have been lifted with immediate effect, the central bank said in a statement.

The RBI had on April 23, 2021, imposed restrictions on Diners Club International Ltd from onboarding new domestic customers onto its card network from May 1, 2021, for non-compliance with the norms on Storage of Payment System Data.

"In view of the satisfactory compliance demonstrated by Diners Club International Ltd. With the RBI circular...On Storage of Payment System Data, the restrictions imposed, vide order dated April 23,



2021, on on-boarding of fresh domestic customers have been lifted with immediate effect," the RBI said.

In April 2018, the RBI had directed all system providers to ensure that within six months the entire data (full end-to-end transaction details/information collected/carried/processed as part of

the message/payment instruction) relating to payment systems operated by them is stored in a system only in India.

They were also required to report compliance to the RBI and submit a Board-approved System Audit Report conducted by a CERT-In empanelled auditor within the timelines specified therein.

States borrowing cost falls sharply to 6.81% from 7.02%

PTI ■ MUMBAI

After spiking to a record 7.02 per cent last week, the borrowing cost for the States has declined sharply to 6.81 per cent at the weekly auctions held on Tuesday, mainly because they raised shorter tenor funds and 37 per cent less than notified.

Last week, the cost of debt for three States had peaked to the highest this fiscal at 7.02 per cent, up 12 bps over the previous week, despite most of the notified States drawing down less or not participating in the auctions.

According to rating agencies Ibra and Care Ratings, the reason for the lower cut-off at 6.81 per cent was driven by the cut in the Central excise duty and VAT by some states on petrol and diesel but left the spread between the 10-year G-secs and state debt widened to 64 bps from 61 bps last week, as the duty cut will cushion the inflation. The ₹ 17,000 crore

Also the share of the 10-year State bonds in total issuance in Q3 declined to 44% from 52% in Q2

GST compensation was another reason for the lesser appetite for funds this week.

Also the share of the 10-year State bonds in total issuance in Q3 declined to 44 per cent from 52 per cent in Q2, leading to the massive decline in the cut-off. As a result, the weighted average cut-off decreased by 21 bps to 6.81 per cent, led by a decline in cut-offs across tenors.

According to Care Ratings, the weighted average cost of borrowings across states and tenures declined by 21 bps to 6.81 per cent from last week, while the weighted average yield of the 10-year state bond was 6.93 per cent, lower by 6

bps from the last week.

So far this fiscal, the state borrowings have declined by 16.4 per cent on an annualised basis, and today's auction was a whopping 37 per cent lower than indicated as six states undertook lower-than-indicated borrowings while Andhra borrowed ₹1,000 crore even though it had not earlier indicated to do so.

At today's auctions, five States raised ₹6,000 crore, which is 37 per cent less, and this would have been lower having it not been for Andhra, which despite not being part of the indicative calendar raised ₹1,000 crore. Five States that were listed in the calendar did not participate in the auction.

Market borrowings by the states so far is 16 per cent less than that in the corresponding period of the last fiscal, as 27 states and two UTs have raised Rs 3.88 lakh crore so far against Rs 4.64 lakh crore a year ago - down 12 per cent year-on-year.

Domestic passenger traffic accelerates in Oct 2021 with sequential growth of 24-25%: ICRA

Domestic air passenger traffic grew by ~24-25% at around 87-88 lakh in October 2021, compared to ~71 lakh in September 2021. The same reflects a Y-o-Y growth of ~67%. The airlines' capacity deployment for October 2021 was around 46% higher than October 2020 (~72,000 departures in October 2021, against 49,150 departures in October 2020). On a sequential basis, the number of departures in October 2021 were higher by ~18%, as Covid-19 infections demonstrated a downward trajectory.

Commenting further, Mr. Suprio Banerjee, Vice President & Sector Head, ICRA said, "For October 2021, the average daily departures were at ~2,400, significantly higher than the average daily departures of 1585 in October 2020, and higher than ~2,100 in September 2021. The average number of passengers per flight during October 2021 was 122, against an average of 117 passengers

per flight in September 2021. Though the recovery continued in October 2021, demand continues to be subdued from the corporate traveller segment as reflected by passenger traffic being lower by ~28% in October 2021 compared to pre-Covid levels."

With effect from October 18, 2021, Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has allowed restoration of permitted capacity to 100.0% for the domestic operations. In ICRA's view, the increase in permitted capacity to 100.0% levels is a step in the right direction, given the onset of the festive season. It may be recalled that the MoCA had reduced the permissible capacity deployment to 50% of pre-Covid levels, with effect from June 01, 2021 due to the resurgence of the second wave of the pandemic. It had subsequently increased the permitted capacity to 72.5%, with effect from August 12, 2021 and increasing the capacity further to 85.0% with effect from Sept 18, 2021.

Covid vaccine developer BioNTech sees profits rise

AP ■ BERLIN

German pharmaceutical company BioNTech, which partnered with Pfizer to develop the first widely used Covid-19 vaccine, said Tuesday that its earnings grew again in the third quarter.

BioNTech, which is based in Mainz, reported a net profit of more than 3.2 billion euros (\$3.7 billion) for the July-September period. That compares with the company's loss of 210 million euros (\$243 million) in the same period a year earlier and a second-quarter profit of almost 2.8 billion euros (\$3.2 billion).

Vaccinations with the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine started ending in December.

BioNTech reported revenue of nearly 6.1 billion euros (\$7.1 billion), up from 67.5 million euros (\$78 million) in the third quarter of 2020.

It said that more than 2 billion doses of the Covid-19 vaccine, marketed as Comirnaty, had been delivered this year as of Nov. 2.

Sensex, Nifty decline on profit booking in financials

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmark Sensex declined by 112 points on Tuesday due to profit booking in index-heavyweights HDFC twins, Kotak Bank and Bajaj Finance despite a positive trend in global markets.

After a volatile trading session, the 30-share index ended 112.16 points or 0.19 per cent lower at 60,433.45 with 16 of its constituents ending in the red.

The broader Nifty of the National Stock Exchange fell by 24.30 points or 0.13 per cent to 18,044.25 as private banks and FMCG stocks declined.

HDFC Bank was the top loser in the Sensex pack, shedding nearly 2 per cent, followed by HDFC, Bajaj Finance, NTPC, Maruti, Kotak Bank and PowerGrid. On the other hand, gains in M&M, SBI, Reliance Industries and ICICI Bank helped restrict losses.

"After a positive opening,

the domestic market traded lower as private banking stocks were under pressure following dull global markets," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

Despite the passage of the long-awaited infrastructure bill, the gains in the US market were capped as investors cautiously awaited the US inflation data, he stated.

Sectorally, BSE metal, finance, consumer durables, bankex and FMCG indices fell up to 0.91 per cent, while industrials, capital goods, auto and oil and gas indices rose up to 1.39 per cent.

Broader midcap and smallcap indices rose up to 0.82 per cent. Deepak Jasani, Head of Retail Research, HDFC Securities, said, "On a day when the volumes on the NSE were a little below recent average, capital goods, auto and oil & gas indices gained the most while metals, banks and FMCG indices fell the most.

Asian stock markets lower after Wall St hits record again

Beijing: Asian stock markets fell Tuesday after Wall Street rose to a record for an eighth day.

Tokyo, Hong Kong and Seoul declined while Shanghai advanced. Wall Street's benchmark S&P 500 index added 0.1% on Monday, boosted by

gains for construction-related stocks after Congress last week approved a \$1 trillion infrastructure bill. Also Monday, the deputy chairman of the Federal Reserve, Richard Clarida, said conditions to raise interest rates might not be met until late next year.

Rupee pairs early gains

Mumbai: The rupee pared initial gains to settle marginally up by 1 paisa at 74.02 against the US dollar on Tuesday amid a lacklustre trend in domestic equities.

At the interbank forex market, the domestic unit opened strong at 73.92 but erased early gains to finally close at 74.02, up 1 paisa

from its previous closing of 74.03.

During the session, the domestic unit witnessed an intra-day high of 73.85 and a low of 74.09 against the US dollar. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, fell 0.13 per cent to 93.93.

Indian dairy industry to grow by 9-11 pc in FY22: Report

Mumbai: The dairy industry is expected to grow by 9-11 per cent in 2021-22, driven by a revival in economic activities, increasing per capita consumption of milk and milk products, changing dietary preferences due to rising urbanisation, and continued government support to the dairy industry will drive demand, it added.

The industry-wide demand to grow by 9-11 per cent in the financial year 2021-22, Ibra said in a report maintaining a stable outlook for the dairy industry over the long term.

Revival in economic activities, increasing per capita consumption of milk and milk products, changing dietary preferences due to rising urbanisation, and continued government support to the dairy industry will drive demand, it added.

Domestic milk production is estimated to increase by 5-6 per cent in the financial year 2021-22, supported by a normal monsoon and early onset of the flush season in some regions, the report said. **PTI**

WESTERN RAILWAY

BULK ADVERTISING RIGHTS

Sr. DCM(Comml.), Western Railway, Mumbai Central invites Tender as per details given as follows: (1) **Tender Notice No. & Date :** CA11-OOH-BAROB-SE1-21, dated: 02.11.2021.

Work and location : Bulk advertising rights at Bandra ROB-At South-East of ROB near harbor Line track for display of advertisements by dismantling existing hoarding structures & replacing with erection of new hoarding structure of size 40' x 40' (1) facing East, for a period of five years, **Approx. cost of Work (For 5 Years) :** ₹ 6,60,58,578/- (excluding taxes etc.). **EMD:** ₹ 13,21,200/-.

(2) **Tender Notice No. & Date :** CA11-OOH-BAROB-SE2-16, dated: 02.11.2021.

Work and location : Bulk advertising rights for display of advertisement on Vacant, Terminated & Expired FCFS hoarding available at BA-ROB, at South East of Bandra ROB facing East of size 45' x 45' (1) i.e. by dismantling & replacing with new structure of total area admeasuring 2055 sq.ft. for a period of five years, **Approx. cost of Work (For 5 Years) :** ₹ 5,57,62,057/- (excluding taxes etc.). **EMD:** ₹ 11,15,300/-.

Date & Time of closing of online submission : Upto 15.00 hrs. on 03.12.2021 for each tender.

Note : (1) Please visit our website www.ireps.gov.in to download the tender document, corrigendum and further details. (2) Cost of tender and EMD shall be accepted only through online net banking or E-payment gateway. (3) Bidder should regularly visit website to keep themselves updated. 0534

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WESTERN RAILWAY

ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT OF BOMBARDIER

Divisional Railway Manager (Rolling Stock) EMU Carshed Mumbai Central Division, Western Railway, Mumbai 400 034 invites E-tenders for the following electrical work: **Tender No.:** DRM-RS-2021-22-17, Dated: 08.11.2021. **Name of Work :** Comprehensive Annual maintenance Contract of Bombardier electric fitted, 3 Phase EMU (MRVC-II, ICF-79, ICF-52 & ICF-12) Rakes for 2 years through OEM. **Location :** Mumbai Central, Kandivali and Virar Carshed. **Estimated Cost of Work:** ₹ 61,97,76,403.20. **EMD:** Nil. **Date & Time of Submission :** Not later than 15.00 hrs. of 03.12.2021 in the prescribed manner. **Website particulars :** The tender can be viewed and submitted through website www.ireps.gov.in. **Validity Offer :** 45 days from the date of opening. 0535

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APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that this person **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** 40 Years, **Sex:** Male, **Height:** 5'8", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Built:** Medium, **ID Mark:** Cut mark on Right Eye, **Wearing:** White Colour Cloths, was found dead on 03.11.2021.

In this regard a DD No. 128A, dated 03.11.2021, has been lodged at P.S. GTB Enclave, Delhi. The Dead Body has been preserved at GTB Hospital Mortuary, Delhi for 72 hours for identification.

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 about his known and relatives or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

SHO

P.S. GTB Enclave, Delhi

DP/623/SHD/2021

Ph. 011-22137444, 7065036031

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL



General public is here by informed that this girl **Name:** Saniya Bano, **D/o** Sayad Asraf Ali, **R/o** A-2/47, Gali No. 13, Iswar Colony, Phase-V, Aya Nagar, New Delhi, **Age:** 13 Years, **Height:** 4 feet 1 inch, **Face:** Long, **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Green Colour Suit-Salwar, has been missing since 12.10.2021 from the area of

P.S. Fatehpur Beri, New Delhi.

In this regard a FIR No. 439/21, dated 13.10.2021 has been registered at P.S. Fatehpur Beri, New Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this girl but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following.

SHO

E-Mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Fax: 011-24368639

Ph. 011-26659611, 8750870826

Ph. 011-24368638, 24368641

DP/763/SD/2021

PUBLIC NOTICE				
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005				
The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.				
Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Sachin Aggarwal/ Himanshi Gupta/ S/o Ratan Lal Agarwal 1/9888 A Gali No. 3E West Gorakh Prak Shahdara North East Delhi Delhi 110032/ LBDGR00003180405	Flat/ Unit No. F on The First Floor, of Tower 3, at Salarpuria, Gardenia, in H.I.G. Plot No. 2A- 01, Bidhannagar Sector 2A Comprising A Portion of Land With C.S Plot No. 214/2493 (Part), Mouza- Gopinathpur, J.I No. 85, Khatian No. 147, 151, 163, Touzi No. 1, Under P.S - Faridpur, Additional District Sub-Registrar Durgapur, Su-divisiomn, Durgapur, District - Burdwan Within The Jurisdiction of Durgapur Municipal Corporation, admeasuring An Area of 1537 Sq. Ft (Saleable area) Little More or Less Together With Allotment one Utility Room and one Open Terrace Attached To The Said Flatadmeasuring 981 Sq. Ft Saleable area and One Ground Covered Car Parking Space.	19/07/2021 Rs. 12,06,537/-	31/01/ 2021
The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.				
Date : November 10, 2021 Place : Delhi/ NCR				
Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited				

PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mr. Jai Parkash is the owner of Property No. 37, area measuring 60 sq., YEs, out of Khassa No. 79 /15, Situated at Shiv Park, Uttam Nagar, Now known as WZ-37, Gali No. 18, Om Vihar, Phase III, in the area of Village Hastal, New Delhi "Said property" by virtue of GPA, AT&S & Will dated 28.08.1987, All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner wants to sell the Said property to someone who wants to purchase the same by taking Home loan from our client Fullerton India Home Finance Ltd. If anybody has any objection/s upon the said property, and its ownership / Its Title / Mortgage, Sale, Etc. the kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.	Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mrs. Nedam Sachdeva and Mrs. Veena Kwatra are the owners of Property bearing No. 5, 50 Sq.Yds, Khassa No. 78/59/1, Village Hastal, Om Vihar Extn., Now known as Om Vihar, Phase III, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi "Said Property" by virtue of Gift Deed dated, 14.07.2020, Registration No. 8303, All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner wants to sell the Built up Upper Ground Floor, without roof rights of the Said property to some one who wants to purchase the same by taking Home loan from our client Fullerton India Home Finance Ltd. If anybody has any objection/s upon the said property, and its ownership / Its Title / Mortgage, Sale, Etc. the kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.	KINDLY TAKE NOTICE THAT THE NBCC DOES NOT POSSESS THE COMPLETE TITLE DOCUMENTS FOR PROPERTY BEARING NO. B-1, RANJEET SINGH BLOCK, ASIAN GAMES VILLAGE, 110049 THEREFORE "SALE OF PROPERTY" IS A MISMONOR AND GENERAL PUBLIC IS ADVISED TO BEWARE. WE WERE TAKEN IN BY SUCH MISMONOR IN THE NOTICE AND NOW WE ARE IN LITIGATION AGAINST NBCC

PRAKASH WOOLEN & SYNTHETIC MILLS LIMITED						
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CIN-17291UP1979PLC004804						
PH: 0591-2223008/18, Fax-0591-2223009, Email:info@prakashwoollen.com, Website: www.prakashwoollen.com						
Extract of Standalone Unaudited Results for the Quarter And Half Year Ended 30/09/2021						
(Rs in lakhs)						
Particulars	Quarter ending (30.09.2021)	Peceding 3 months ended (30.06.2021)	Corresponding 3 months ended in the previous year (30.09.2020)	Year to date figures for current period ended (30.09.2021)	Year to date figures for the previous year ended (30/09/2020)	Previous year ended (31.03.2021)
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Total income from operations (net)	2560.95	1252.96	2767.00	3813.91	3912.94	9823.60
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before Tax and Exceptional Items	64.27	(65.68)	169.72	-1.41	30.35	495.51
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax and after Exceptional Items	64.27	(65.68)	169.72	-1.41	30.35	495.51
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax and Exceptional Items	65.15	(63.07)	139.83	2.08	25.13	377.36
Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	65.15	(63.07)	139.83	2.08	25.13	383.42
Equity Share Capital (Face value Rs 10 each)	1025.98	1025.98	1025.98	1025.98	1025.98	1025.98
Other equity	-	-	-	-	-	-
Earnings per share for discontinued & continuing operations (of Rs. 10/-each):						
(a) Basic	0.63	(0.61)	1.36	0.02	0.24	3.68
(b) Diluted	0.63	(0.61)	1.36	0.02	0.24	3.68
Notes:						
1. The above results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on November 09, 2021.						
2. This statement has been prepared in accordance with the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 (Ind AS) prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 and other recognised accounting practices and policies to the extent applicable.						
3. Previous year/ quarter figures have been regrouped wherever required.						
4. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Unaudited Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Unaudited Financial Results are available on the website of the Stock Exchange (www.bseindia.com) and on Company's website (www.prakashwoollen.com)						
*Place : Village Amhera (Amroha)				By Order of The Board		
Date : 09-11-2021				For Prakash Woollen & Synthetic Mills Limited		
				Sd/-		
				Vijay Kumar Gupta		
				Whole Time Director & CFO		
				DIN: 00335325		

IMPORTANCE OF CLASSROOM ORIENTATION



The transition from home to school marks the beginning of an important phase in the life of a child. DHWANI JAIPURIA tells us how a good classroom orientation, among other things, helps to optimise children's preschool learning experience

Pre-schooling is a child's first exposure to formal learning outside of the familiar setting of home. To help the child make a positive start to this foundational learning, a good classroom orientation is both important and essential.

All children are natural born learners. They are gifted with sharp senses and a fresh mind that is curious to grasp knowledge of everything they see, hear, taste, smell and touch. This formative natural learning takes place in the protective environment of home and usually under the guidance of parents. By the age of three, a child's mind is ready for formal foundational learning, comprising of literacy, numeracy and rudimentary critical thinking and problem solving. This is the time for the commencement of preschool education.

The transition from home to school marks the beginning of an important phase in the life of a child. Having grown and learned in the familiar surroundings, the child is usually wary of the new setup of the preschool and of being taught by teachers, who, till that point, are strangers. It is nothing short of a

challenge for the preschools and teachers to make this transition easy and comfortable for the toddler.

A good classroom orientation, among other things, helps to optimize children's preschool learning experience. It keeps them motivated and fosters better relationships between students and teachers and between students themselves. It is best accomplished by a smart seating arrangement.

Semi-Circle or Horseshoe Seating

The traditional seating system of rows of desks facing the blackboard is not conducive for preschool learning. It creates a sort of hierarchy (frontbenchers, backbenchers) among children and makes it difficult for them to interact and mingle with each other. Learning outcomes are also affected as the children in the front get better teacher attention than those at the back. A better option is to have the seating arrangement in the semi-circular or horseshoe shape. In this arrangement, all children get the equal attention of the teacher in the middle.

Roundtable or Full Circle Seating



Dhwani Jaipuria
Director, SRJ Edu Services
Pvt Ltd.

CLASSROOM ORIENTATION ALSO DEPENDS UPON THE PRESCHOOL LEARNING PROGRAMME. THE FOCUS INITIALLY SHOULD BE ON MAKING CHILDREN COMFORTABLE IN THE NEW SET UP AND PREPARING THEM MENTALLY AND EMOTIONALLY FOR FOUNDATIONAL LEARNING

For bigger classes, a roundtable seating arrangement that has children and a teacher seated facing each other is a good option. In the absence of the roundtable, they can simply be seated in a full circle arrangement which fosters the feeling of collective group learning in class.

Group or Pair Seating

Group or pair seating is an excellent way of encouraging children to get along with each other. The seating can be in the form of several groups of four or two students seated together. This arrangement fosters social emotional development in children. It instils confidence and a sense of cooperation and teamwork in them.

Optimise classroom orientation

Pre-school focuses on children's all-round development by inculcating in them literacy, numeracy, life skills, critical thinking, problem solving and by building their gross and fine motor skills. It is done through a wide range of activities for which different classroom orientations may be called for.

Teachers must adopt a flexible approach and align the activities

with the most appropriate seating arrangement. They have to be proactive in ensuring complete participation and engagement of children in class. A good teacher, gifted with the qualities of patience, attention, empathy and compassion, can get the best learning outcomes from students in a well oriented classroom.

Classroom orientation also depends upon the preschool learning programme. As much as possible, the focus initially should be on making children comfortable in the new set up and preparing them mentally and emotionally for foundational learning. Games, rhymes, role-playing, and creative activities put children at ease and at the same time help to develop their vocabulary, speech, and motor skills.

Classroom orientation in pre-schooling should be planned for each of these activities. Besides the seating plan, the classroom should be well-lighted, well ventilated, and have colourful décor to create a happy ambience in which children can feel comfortable.

The ultimate aim of a good classroom orientation is always to maximize student participation and learning outcomes.

Pre-schooling, being the foundation of learning, needs a good classroom orientation to positively shape a child's attitude towards education for the rest of his or her life. For when the learning is optimized, the schooling truly achieves its goal.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Real education should consist of drawing the goodness and the best out of our own students.

— Cesar Chavez

MSC ADVANCED AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGIES

The University of Sheffield, UK is inviting applications for its MSc Advanced Aerospace Technologies course starting in September 2022.

Take your knowledge of Aerospace Engineering to the next level on this specialist one-year course.

Alongside traditional aeronautical subjects such as materials, structures, aerodynamics and propulsion, you will study concepts of systems integration and flight control, essential to the production of more efficient and environmentally-friendly aircraft and aerospace systems.

Duration: 1 year full-time

Eligibility: Holders of a three year/ 4 bachelor degree with a minimum of 60% or "first class" from a reputable university in Aerospace Engineering. Overall IELTS score of 7.0 with a minimum of 6.5 in each component. Overall IELTS score of 7.0 with a minimum of 6.5 in each component.



Fee: Overseas (2022 annual fee): £26,200

MSC DIGITAL HEALTH SYSTEMS

The University of Strathclyde, Glasgow is inviting applications for the MSc Digital Health Systems course starting in September 2022.

This one-year Master's degree is the perfect conversion pathway for recent graduates looking to move into the health and care sector. It's also ideal for existing practitioners.

Eligibility: Minimum second-class Honours degree, or international equivalent in any subject. English language minimum score of IELTS 6.0.

Fee: £22,400 for international students for 2022/23

SWI targets technology and storytelling to bridge communication gap

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In the backdrop of the existing Covid-19 pandemic, Sesame Workshop India (SWI) has taken its water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) initiatives to the next level. SWI has partnered with Planet Water Foundation and is targeting the diarrheal season (diarrhoea death's peak in the month of January) to renew and reinforce the need for washing hands and maintaining hygiene as a sure-shot means of avoiding the disease which is the 8th-highest cause of deaths globally.

Safe drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene are crucial to children's health and well-being. With the growth

in digital communication techniques, SWI has focused on technology and storytelling to bridge the communication gap, and reach out to the children and their families to catalyse a paradigm shift in the habits of the masses.

Kristen Steele, Vice President, Planet Water Foundationsaid that "Handwashing is a cost-effective, healthy hygiene habit that can prevent many diseases amongst people and save lives. While the pandemic has led to an increase in the levels of awareness about handwashing, we aim to continue to emphasize upon the sustenance of this hygiene behaviour with Sesame Workshop India.

Make use of mechanical engineering degree

The general perception of mechanical engineering is that it is not a computer-driven degree. However, it has been fully IT-driven hands-on over the last two decades in all technology fields, says ROHIT LATHER

The world is seeing a remarkable shift from conventional jobs to digital jobs. Computer and automation driven systems have penetrated our day to day lives in a big way. COVID-19 has impacted industry strategy. They have started to adopt work digitisation, automation of tasks, and acceleration of organisational transformation and reskilling and upskilling workforce. As a result, we have seen a surge amongst students to take up a career in computer disciplines. After high school, students taking up mechanical engineering, electrical, or civil engineering feel left out of the future. The question that comes to one's mind is what to do with a mechanical engineering degree?

The general perception of mechanical engineering is that it is not a computer-driven degree. However, mechanical engineering has been fully IT-driven hands-on over the last two decades and is a need in all technology fields. One of the reasons for this perception is the limited resources at educational institutions for industrially used mechanical engineering software available to students, which is notably not required in computer engineering. Also, there is an insufficient understanding of opportunities amongst mechanical engineering students.

Mechanical engineering is a flexible, cross-functional degree in terms of career profiles. For example, all the computer-driven machines produce a lot of data; this data will play an essential role in improving or designing the devices. However, data doesn't eliminate the need for a mechanical engineer; instead, it acts as an enabler. "The emergence of data science" has increased the number and



variety of job options for mechanical engineers. They can now combine "machine learning" with engineering to address a wide range of challenging technical problems, "from water desalination to gene expression" – Head, ME Department Carnegie Mellon University.

In addition to technical knowledge, future mechanical engineers will have the following skills: communication, management, teamwork, creativity, initiative-taking abilities and problem-solving. Again, I quote Robert Leduc, President, Pratt & Whitney, "We need adaptable engineers who speak a common language and solve issues for the entire system, blurring functional lines and titles."

Powerful new technologies are likely to be

adopted by 2025 coming up in the following sectors, which cannot be designed, developed or produced without the help of mechanical engineers.

- ♦Automotive: electric vehicles, autonomous vehicles, advanced driver assisted systems, safety and crash testing
- ♦Industry 4.0: Internet of Machines, process automation, Machine learning, Quality management
- ♦Manufacturing sector: 3D Printing, Digital Twins, 4D Modelling
- ♦Automation sector: Robots, Humanoid, Artificial intelligence and Machine learning
- ♦Energy sector: Power generation, energy storage, energy efficiency, renewable energy, alternative fuels
- ♦Materials: Lightweight materials, energy-efficient materials, biomaterial, composites
- ♦HVAC (Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning): Inverter technology, air quality monitoring
- ♦Aerospace: Aeroplanes, advanced aerospace technology, drones, rockets
- ♦Nanotechnology: Nano-material, Nano-devices
- ♦Supply Chain: Transportation, storage, automation
- ♦BioMedical: Medical device industry
- ♦Labs: Scientific and modern labs

As per World Economic Forum (WEF), these new technologies are set to drive future growth across industries and increase the demand for new job roles and skill sets.

A qualified mechanical engineering computer literate graduate can get employed in many industries and job profiles like automotive, computer and IT, management and

finance. In addition, being an entrepreneur is an excellent choice for a mechanical engineering graduate considering the versatile skills they acquire during the graduate program at the university or college. Mechanical engineers can work on ambitious projects and take up leadership roles.

The high demand jobs directly related to mechanical engineering in India include aerospace engineer, analyst, automotive engineer, CAD engineer, instrumentation and control engineer, design engineer, defence engineer, industrial engineer, maintenance engineer, mechanical engineer, nuclear engineer, production engineer, process automation engineer, project managers, robotics engineers, quality engineer, and more.

The following are the emerging and high demand jobs in India for mechanical engineers: Acoustic consultant, AI specialist, clinical technologist, corporate investment banker, fintech Engineer, IOT specialist, mining engineer, ML specialist, patent attorney, production manager, technical sales public works engineer Technology analyst and many more.

As per World Economic Forum (WEF) Future Job Reports, the top 10 skills in 2020 were: complex problem solving, critical thinking, creativity, people management, coordination with others, emotional intelligence, judgement and decision making, service orientation negotiation and cognitive flexibility. However, keep in mind that most recruiters accept applications from any discipline, so do not restrict yourself to many opportunities in the job market.

The writer is HoD, Mechanical Engineering, School of Engineering and Technology, The NorthCap University

Way forward for higher education

Education is one of the worst affected sectors during the pandemic. It has thrown a new challenge in every student's life. According to a UNESCO report, the learning losses are around 32 crores students including 3.5 crore university students in India has been badly affected. Negative economic impact of learning losses is already being studied by many researchers. According to an OECD report, school students affected by the closures might expect 3% lower income over their entire lifetimes yielding an average of 1.5% lower annual GDP. Researchers will take longer to assess the impact of pandemic-caused learning losses on their attitude, motivation, values, as well as their future civic and social engagements.

Meanwhile, the pandemic has made every teacher and student resilient and forced them to get adapted to the new challenges. They opted for technological platforms to continue their teaching-learning process. Indian educational institutes have adjusted to the new normal despite the initial hiccups of adhering to the usage of technology. In many learning situations, students' engagement in concrete experience, active experimentation, construction and deconstruction of physical artefacts, and intense collabora-

tions play a crucial role in facilitating deeper learning. Consequently, in spite of their affordances and advantages, in many situations, the online classes fall short of providing an ideal environment for such experiential engagements.

Reopening of university campuses is essential for restoring the academic engagement of students. Now, physical classes are being considered to be safe with appropriate following of COVID SOPs including maintaining physical distance and use of hand sanitisers in all classrooms, offices, etc. After a significant decay of COVID-19 and an excellent growth in vaccination, Indian university campuses are gradually reopening across the country with many students turning up for physical classes.

With the reopening of university campuses, the learning gap due to the pandemic can be narrowed and more students are expected to enroll themselves enthusiastically. In hybrid teaching, different groups of students simultaneously attend the classes physically and virtually. Teachers have to simultaneously address the learning needs of in-person as well as online learners.

The writer is Prof. Sanjay Goel, Director (Institute of Engineering & Technology) JKU, Jaipur

Acing DU-JAT 2021 with AIR-2

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Aditya Babbar scored an All India Rank 2 in the recently declared results of the Delhi University's Joint Admission test (DU-JAT). Around 20,000 students from all over the country had appeared for the computer-based admission test in pursuit of admission to undergraduate management programmes at Delhi University, which was

held in two shifts on 27 September, 21.

This year the test was conducted by Delhi University in collaboration with National Testing Agency (NTA) and the results were announced on 28th October 21. Aditya, who studies in Hansraj Model School is a student of Pratham Test prep, who with this milestone is eligible for admissions to the prestigious institution Shaheed Sukhdev College of

Business Studies. This year 17 of the total top 25 students are from Pratham Test Prep who have meritoriously cleared the BMS DU exam.

DU-JAT is the Delhi University's most sought admission test conducted annually for management programmes like BMS/BFIA/ BBA (Economics). Delhi University Joint Admission Test (DU JAT) is annually conducted across 18 cities for

admissions to six stipulated colleges, offering Bachelor of Management Studies (BMS), and eight other colleges which offer B.A. (Hons) in Business Economics and BBA (FIA) programmes at DU's affiliated institutes.

DU-JAT, BMS DU Entrance Exam becomes special because it is the only medium to get admission to the management programme offered by Delhi University.

SRMAP to produce design thinkers for a self-reliant India

PNS ■ KATTANKULATHUR

SRM University-AP organised its University Research Advisory Council Meeting on Monday, November 08, 2021. Dr V K Saraswat, NITI AAYOG, chaired the meeting as the Chairman of the Council. Dr P Sathyanarayanan, President, SRM University-AP, Prof VS Rao, Vice-Chancellor, SRM University-AP, Prof D Narayana Rao, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, SRM University-AP, Dr Vinayak Kalluri, Registrar-in-Charge were among other dignitaries.

In his keynote speech, Dr V K Saraswat



congratulated SRM University-AP for their remarkable progress as a university in the past two years. As a nascent university, SRMAP has already made its reputation as a progressive research university of the new era with numerous laurels to its credit.

Prof D Narayana Rao, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, presented an overall roadmap of SRMAP and progress in research so far and the way forward. The university proudly houses 4500 students and 180 faculty with a few foreign nationals among them.

Stanford Research recognises the faculty of SRM University-AP among the world and top 2 per cent researchers. The university has published 678 papers in Scopus Indexed journals. The faculty are working on 38 projects with an outlay of 19.17 crores funded by the Government of India and Industry Giants.



FILL THE GAP

With digital revolution, corporates are on the hunt of students who match skills they need as one complete package, says DR KULNEET SURI

With the digital revolution at its peak, the corporate are in the hunt of students who match the skills they need as one complete package. They need skilled candidates who perfectly match the skills that are most in demand in the current times.

However, there is no magic wand to slay the advancing dragons, we, being responsible for the overall honing up of the skills, aptitude, and attitude of our students, has to see to it that our students successfully get into the zone demanded through the industry's talent acquisition strategies. But for that to happen it is important to have a clear understanding of these so-called 'talent acquisition strategies'.

Education experts believe that flexibility is the key and only it can make a big difference in the times to come. The idea is to look beyond the obvious career options of the career that are made available to students in related industries and jobs that need or have similar sets of skills. Considering the scaling demand of skilled candidates who are ready for the future jobs in the corporate world,

top B-schools in Delhi-NCR, have designed curriculum and pedagogy in such a manner that by the time students graduate and enter the professional arena, they are well-equipped with the essentials needed to nail it in the industry. Students get prepared as per the latest industry trends and practices and make them capable enough to thrive in the time that's about to come next.

Listed below are few of the categories of the jobs that will have a lot of scope in future and would be easily taken over by management students. These job openings will be a challenge to fill in the near future. This is where management students will have a clear advantage over the competition as they are instilled with the required skill set needed to succeed on these profiles.

This does not at all mean that the scope for management graduates will remain restricted to these profiles only. Management students certainly have a very wide scope of career opportunities in front of them and this is primarily so because management is one field which has its applicability in every single industrial sector.

Experts believe that flexibility is the key and only it can make a big difference in the times to come. The idea is to look beyond the obvious career options of the career that are made available to students in related industries and jobs that need or have similar sets of skills

Software Engineering
Experts from the industry estimate that since 2018, every new graduate will have at least three jobs available from the computer science domain. This is not a surprising figure since our estimates tell us that by 2020, two lakh software engineering jobs will need to be filled and thus a good number of managers will be required to lead these fresh teams.

General and Operations Manager
Reports reveal that there is at least 10-12% growth expected in the demand for professionals on the job roles of general manager and operations manager. This means about 6 lakh jobs are waiting to be filled in the coming five to seven years, mainly due to either new requirements or to fill the gaps created by job shift/retirements. This is where business schools like ours can help the recruiters find the right talents for such important profiles.

Medical Services Manager
The requirement of candidates for this position overlaps with the country's labor shortage in the industry. This may be either due to brain-drain or the not-so-hefty pay

package. But as per estimates, some seventy thousand to one lakh business graduates/postgraduates will be required in the field by the year 2020. That means some 20% overall increase in employment.

Information-Security Analyst Manager
You must have heard about the rapidly blooming cloud-based technology. Its proliferation is a driving force for the creation of more and more related jobs and thus the need for the skilled candidates. Microsoft alone has reported that from 2018, North America alone will need more than 2.5 million cloud computing workers, which will largely include information security analysts. Imagine how many jobs will be there in this domain if we talk on the worldwide level. You can imagine how much scope there is in terms of jobs in this sector for business school students to manage such a wide and strong workforce.

The above options might sound tough and different but are the best ones in terms of providing the management students with the best of career opportunities.

The writer is Senior Director at Institute of Management Studies, Noida

Be a multi-purpose health worker

Multi-purpose health workers provide treatment in an emergency or in a disaster area where hospitals and medical facilities are not available, says ARUNA SINGH

Multi Purpose Health Worker works or providing treatments related to health problems in an emergency or in a disaster where the hospitals and medical facilities are not available. The concept of a Multi Purpose Health Worker (MPHW) was conceived in India in the year 1974 for the delivery of services pertaining to impediment of diseases and epidemics such as Malaria, Leprosy, Tuberculosis, and water borne diseases. It involves dissemination and promotion of health education in various rural and sub rural areas. In a developing nation like India, optimum health of the citizens cannot be achieved without the involvement of willing, trained and health conscious people.



Aruna Singh
Delhi Paramedical and Management Institute, New Delhi

To have a healthy and a happy population, there is a need of such individuals and a lot of universities have come up with diploma level courses in this field to encourage more and more individuals to get enrolled. This course again came in vogue in present days. Those candidates have these qualities and the passion of the spirit of service they can make a good future in this career.

Responsibilities & Nature of Work
A health worker has a broad spectrum of responsibilities to shoulder, spanning adoption of preventive measure, organization of health seminars, vaccination campaigns and so on. The basic responsibilities of multipurpose health worker is to completely understand the impact of socioeconomic factors on the same, they also provide prompt treatment for minor illness and skilled first hand treatment in case of accidents and injuries, make peoples know about the importance of sanitation, safe drinking water, hygiene etc., management of fire explosions, food crisis, famines and related issues; to participate in national health and family welfare programs; also check the status of health care facility and mid day meals in local schools.

The responsibilities and profile of a health worker is multi faceted. Apart from the ones sited above, there could

be countless tasks depending on the area and its healthcare wants.

Course and eligibility
Candidate should have passed Class XII in any recognised board. In this course candidate will learn how to give medical facilities and services in a time of emergency or any natural calamity problem. In this course training is being given to candidates to rescue from any epidemic situations, like providing food, medications, vaccinations, etc. Candidate can also apply in this job directly by giving SSC entrance exam.

Career and placement
After the diploma, candidates are eligible for both Government and Private sector. Both males and females have equal opportunities in this field. In present days States like Haryana and Chattisgarh have more demands of multipurpose health workers. After the completion of diploma in multipurpose health worker, candidates can apply for Health Ministry, Ministry of Family Planning and Ministry of Environment as well as also work with any government and NGOs.

Remuneration
In starting time candidate can earn around ₹10,000-₹15,000 per month. With experience salary will increase to ₹25,000-₹30,000 per month. Candidates can open their own clinic and work in any private clinic as well.

Education is one of the worst affected sectors during the pandemic. It has thrown a new challenge in every student's life. According to a UNESCO report, the learning process of around 32 crores students including 3.5 crore university students in India has been badly affected. Negative economic impact of learning losses is already being studied by many researchers.

Meanwhile, the pandemic has made every teacher and student resilient and forced them to get adapted to the new challenges. They opted for technological platforms to continue their

teaching-learning process. Indian educational institutes have adjusted to the new normal despite the initial hiccups of adhering to the usage of technology. They tried their best to provide seamless support in providing continuous education in the times of the pandemic and transformed themselves to join the new era of online learning. However, even now, many teachers and students feel that online classes are only a poor replacement of physical classes.

Often they also do not provide an ideal connection between a student, peers, and their teachers. Reopening of university campuses is essential for restoring the

MIND IT

academic engagement of students. Now, physical classes are being considered to be safe with appropriate following of COVID SOPs. After a significant decay of COVID-19 and an excellent growth in vaccination, Indian university campuses are gradually reopening up across the country with many students turning up for physical classes.

With the reopening of university campuses, the learning gap due to the pandemic can be narrowed and more

students are expected to enroll themselves enthusiastically. However, the pandemic is not yet over. Hence, blended and hybrid learning are the plausible options for uninterrupted education under the current circumstances.

Hybrid teaching is different from blended teaching. In hybrid teaching, different groups of students simultaneously attend the classes physically and virtually. Teachers have to simultaneously address the

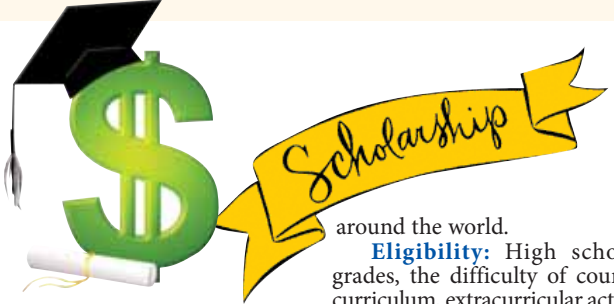
learning needs of in-person as well as online learners. Hence, designing effective hybrid classes also requires a re-imagination of the learning spaces and a redesign of the classroom. On the other hand, in blended teaching, full group of students alternates between physical and online engagements.

In blended teaching, online learning complements the physical classroom learning through online learning resources as well as online communication and collaboration platforms to create an enriching learning experience. Properly designed blended teaching can take advantage of the best features of both

physical and online learning.

Online, hybrid, as well as blended models of teaching are here. Effective usage of these teaching methods will require developing and adopting new instructional and assessment strategies. Also, it cannot be done properly without investing in infrastructure and technology upgradation. Last, it requires a mindset change among the education leadership including the promoters, policy makers, regulators and accreditation agencies.

The writer is Professor Sanjay Goel, Director (Institute of Engineering & Technology) JKLU, Jaipur



The University of Groningen invites applications for Holland Scholarships for students from outside the European Economic Area who want to start their master's study for the academic year 2022-23.

Eligibility: Master's degree offered by the university. Applicants must have international students. Have excellent grades during your bachelor/undergraduate studies.

Supporting documents: Submit: Letter from the University of Groningen; motivation letter; Transcripts; Current CV.

Admission requirements: Read all the entry requirements before applying to the university.

Language requirement: Follow all the English language requirements: IELTS (Academic) 6.5; TOEFL IBT 24; Cambridge English 180.

How to apply: Applicants must take admission at the university. After that, they can apply for International scholarships.

Application deadline: February 1, 2022.

The University of Miami invites international students to apply for merit scholarships in the US. The university is a private research university with approximately 10,000 UG students from

around the world.

Eligibility: High school grades, the difficulty of course curriculum, extracurricular activities, essay, and guidance counsellor recommendation(s), overall quality of the pool of applicants applying to the university. The SAT/ACT is not required for applicants.

The committee will make the final determination on all scholarship awards. International candidates must submit a complete application for admission with all academic credentials.

Entrance requirement: Applicants must have a high school degree.

English language requirement: Applicants whose first language is not English are usually required to provide evidence of proficiency in English at the higher level required by the university.

How to apply: Students are automatically considered for the President's Scholarships when they apply for admission. Complete the application and submit online.

Send official transcripts. Send official test scores: Applicants studying within the US. Completeschool report. Letter of Recommendation/Teacher Evaluation.

Application deadline: The last date to apply for this merit scholarship is: November 1 (Early Decision/Early Action) January 1 (Regular Decision)

CONTENT WRITING AT PROTOEZY DESIGNS
Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹10,000/Month
Link: internshala.com/i/ab2a01
Deadline: 16th November 2021

VIDEO EDITING AT UGLY
Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹10,000/Month
Link: internshala.com/i/ac81d9
Deadline: 16th November 2021

EVENTS MARKETING AT INNOVACER ANALYTICS
Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹25,000/Month
Link: internshala.com/i/45b052
Deadline: 16th November 2021

CLIENT SERVICING AT CREATIWISE
Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹12,000-₹18,000/Month
Link: internshala.com/i/f3db81
Deadline: 16th November 2021

DIGITAL MARKETING AT JAWED HABIB ACADEMY
Location: Lucknow
Stipend: ₹5,000-₹7,0000/Month
Link: internshala.com/i/10bfc0
Deadline: 15th November 2021

GOOGLE ADS MANAGEMENT AT ALPHANUMERIC IDEAS
Location: Chandigarh, Mohali
Stipend: ₹6,000/Month
Link: internshala.com/i/9fb518
Deadline: 16th November 2021

BUSINESS ANALYTICS AT HAPPY ORDER
Location - Ranchi
Stipend: ₹5,000-₹10,000/Month
Link: internshala.com/i/b22fac
Deadline: 13th November 2021

INBRIEF

LARGEST GUT METAGENOME STUDY

The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Bhopal Researchers have shown the differences in the type of gut bacteria between Indian and Western populations. These variations arise from the differences in the diet patterns in these two regions – the Indian diet being richer in carbohydrates and fibre than the Western.

Dr Vineet K Sharma, Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, IISER Bhopal, along with his collaborators from the South Dakota State University,

USA has also elucidated the relationship between gut bacteria and inflammatory diseases such as Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS).

This pioneering work on the gut bacterial enterotype in Indian population by the IISER Bhopal scientists has been published in *Biofilms and Microbiomes*.

The human gut contains 300-500 types of bacteria that are necessary for our survival. These bacteria help in digestion, protect us from infections and even produce essential vitamins and neurochemicals. In 2011, German scientists classified human beings into three enterotypes, depending on the kind of bacteria that dominates the gut – Prevotella, Bacteroides or Ruminococcus.

PEARSON UG ENTRANCE EXAM

The Pearson VUE announced the launch of a new engineering exam. The Pearson Undergraduate Entrance Exam for

Engineering is a first-of-its-kind product, aimed specifically during the important admissions. The first exam

was launched in December 2020. Building off the successful market entry of this exam is offering tailored exam content.

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT WK LIFE

The London-based Gen Z lifestyle brand WK Life is planning extensive expansion in India and will be launching its first ever manufacturing unit in India. With the manufacturing unit in India, WK Life lessens the dependency in importing the goods and will provide

employment opportunities to the locals. Rohit Sahni, Co-founder, WK Life said, "We are looking at hiring attractive younger, properly skilled workers as we understand the new job landscape and work to create a smooth transition for the incoming younger workforce."

IIT ROORKEE WINS SMIUMC

Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee is a winner in the Smart Move Innovative Urban Mobility Challenge organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) supported by the Smart Cities Mission, the National Institute of Urban Affairs, and GIZ India. The research team from IIT Roorkee comprises Prof. Amit Agarwal, Dept. of Civil Engineering, IIT Roorkee,

along with his students Mr. Arpit Shrivastava and Mr. Devesh Pratap Singh, and Ms. Itisha Jain. The team developed an 'Interactive passenger information system to predict the crowding levels in the public transit system.' Prof. Ajit. K. Chaturvedi, Director, IIT Roorkee, said, "The work of the winning team amplifies the attractiveness of public transport. This will reduce

our dependence on private motorized transport which is an important goal to address the adverse environmental impact of private transport" The final product consists of an Android application for the end-users and a web page to replicate the digital passenger information board installed at bus stops. For real-time occupancy of the public transport vehicles, product is complemented by computer vision models.

KL UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES SUCCESSFUL PLACEMENTS

The - KL Deemed to be University, one of the leading universities in the country for graduation and higher education has announced the successful placements of university students by leading employers in key fields.

The 2022 batch pupils have already received over 3200 offers from Dream and

Super Dream Companies. A silver lining in the era of pandemic blues, 3 students from the University's ECE (Electronics and Communications Engineering) Department have secured handsome offers from Analog Devices, a globally recognised semiconductor company.

UPGRAD TO ADD MORE THAN 100 ONLINE PROGRAMMES

Aligned with its vision of becoming the trusted LifeLongLearning partner for millions, upGrad, Asia's higher EdTech major, today unveiled its plans of adding 100+ online programmes in the next 24 months. The announcement comes at a time when the pandemic-driven tech evolution has created a huge demand-supply gap for a skilled workforce within the country.

upGrad has a diversified portfolio with cutting-edge online programmes with top-notch university partners ranging from Bachelors to Masters and a Doctorate, all under one roof with a host of career services. With the latest technology, pedagogy, industry partners, and world-class faculty, the company creates immersive online learning experiences for its learners globally and

currently offers programs in the areas of Data, Management, Software & Technology, Business Analytics, Law, Digital Marketing, Criminology, Health, amongst others. Speaking on the expansion plans, Arjun Mohan, CEO-India, upGrad commented, "upGrad started with just 1 programme and here we are today, with a vast set of online courses across diverse domains."



FIRST SEMIFINAL

X-factor loaded Eng face ever consistent NZ

PTI ■ ABU DHABI

Title favourites but injury hit England will bank on their X-Factor players to upstage a remarkably consistent New Zealand in the first semifinal of the T20 World Cup here on Wednesday.

England were the pre-tournament favourites and played like one for the majority of the Super 12 stage. However, their loss in the final group game to South Africa showed that they were not an invincible outfit.

The absence of Jason Roy, who suffered a calf injury against the Proteas, is a big blow to the team heading into the semifinals.

Roy and Jos Buttler made arguably the most destructive opening pairing of the tournament. With Roy ruled out of World Cup, there is a strong possibility that Jonny Bairstow will be promoted to bat alongside Buttler, who will be expected to play another match-win-

ning knock on Wednesday. Sam Billings is likely to come into the team and bat in the middle order. A big positive is that most of the batters have spent valuable time in the middle going into the knockout game.

However, concerns have emerged in the bowling department after Tymal Mills was ruled out of the tournament with a thigh injury. Mills was doing a brilliant job in the death overs but now, it will be one area that the opponents would look to exploit.

Mark Wood, who has the pace but not the variations of Mills, was the most expensive bowler against South Africa.

England would be hoping it was just one bad day in the office for their pacers as all of them leaked runs. The role of spinners Moeen Ali and Adil Rashid will be massive as they will aim to provide the wickets in the powerplay and middle overs. Players will also have the



2019 ODI World Cup final at the back of their minds where both teams could only be separated by a boundary count-back rule.

Since then, New Zealand have displayed that they are not just a very consistent team in ICC events, they can also go all

the way with their triumph in the World Test Championship final. The “nice guys” of world cricket look good to finish first in this competition too.

New Zealand have been arguably the best bowling unit in the tournament, restricting the likes of India to 110. Even

a dangerous side like Afghanistan could only muster 125 against them.

The seasoned new ball duo of Trent Boult and Tim Southee has been very hard to put away as they both have been immaculate with their line and lengths.

Lockie Ferguson's unavailability could have easily disturbed their plans but Adam Milne has proved to be an able replacement. Both the spinners, Ish Sodhi and Mitchell Santner, too have been impressive.

Sodhi has provided wickets in the middle overs which has not allowed the opposition to break free. New Zealand's batters have also made impact during the course of the tournament. Opener Martin Gupthill has been their leading run-getter with his partner Daryl Mitchell also in decent form.

Skipper Kane Williamson got runs in the last game and will be itching to make another memorable contribution in the all important semifinal. Abu Dhabi has had the best batting surface across the three venues of the showpiece so one can expect a high scoring affair.

Squads:
Eoin Morgan (c), Moeen Ali, Jonny Bairstow, Sam

ICC T20 WORLD CUP 2021

FIRST SEMIFINAL



ENGLAND vs NEW ZEALAND



November 10, 7:30pm (IST)

Venue: Sheikh Zayed Stadium, Abu Dhabi

ENGLAND

NEW ZEALAND

T20 Rank: 1

T20 Rank: 4

Captain: Eoin Morgan

Captain: Kane Williamson

Coach: Chris Silverwood

Coach: Gary Stead



OVERALL HEAD-TO-HEAD IN T20s

■ Played: 21 ■ England won: 13 ■ New Zealand won: 7 ■ No result: 1

Highest total **■ England: 241/3** **■ New Zealand: 201/4**

LAST 10 T20s AGAINST EACH OTHER

2014 →          2019

Winner NZ Eng Eng NZ Eng NZ NZ Eng NZ

ENGLAND

ROUTE TO T20 WORLD CUP 2021

NEW ZEALAND

Group A standing: 1

SEMIFINAL

Group B standing: 2

Matches	Won	Lost	Net run rate	Points
5	4	1	+2.464	8

Matches	Won	Lost	Net run rate	Points
5	4	1	+1.162	8

Date	Versus	Result
Oct 23	West Indies	Won by 6 wickets
Oct 27	Bangladesh	Won by 8 wickets
Oct 30	Australia	Won by 8 wickets
Nov 1	Sri Lanka	Won by 26 runs
Nov 6	South Africa	Lost by 10 runs

Date	Versus	Result
Oct 26	Pakistan	Lost by 5 wickets
Oct 31	India	Won by 8 wickets
Nov 3	Scotland	Won by 16 runs
Nov 5	Namibia	Won by 52 runs
Nov 7	Afghanistan	Won by 8 wickets

KIK Sports Graphics

Billings, Jos Buttler, Chris Jordan, Liam Livingstone, Dawid Malan, Adil Rashid, James Vince, David Willey, Chris Woakes, Mark Wood, Tom Curran, Reece Topley, Kane Williamson (c), Todd

Astle, Trent Boult, Mark Chapman, Devon Conway, Martin Gupthill, Kyle Jamieson, Daryl Mitchell, James Neesham, Glenn Phillips, Mitchell Santner, Tim Seifert, Ish Sodhi, Tim Southee, Adam Milne.

Rohit to lead against NZ in T20Is

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Rohit Sharma was on Tuesday officially anointed India's new T20 captain replacing Virat Kohli, who, along with some other seniors like Jasprit Bumrah, has been rested from the three-match series against New Zealand starting November 17 in Jaipur.

The new-look team also has IPL's highest run-getter Rituraj Gaikwad and top wicket-taker Harshal Patel in the squad of 16 along with Venkatesh Iyer, who is seen as a potential all-round replacement for the injury-ravaged Hardik Pandya.

Pandya has been dropped from the squad after failing to make an impact during the T20 World Cup. Rituraj has already played for India in the Sri Lanka series.

Senior leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal rightfully got his place in the squad back while Mohammed Siraj, who has played a few T20Is in the past, is also in the mix.



Shreyas Iyer, Axar Patel and Deepak Chahar, who were in the T20 World Cup reserves are now in the main squad.

Rohit's appointment was a formality and KL Rahul will be his new deputy in shortest format.

"I don't know who all spread this misinformation but when Rohit Sharma is available, there are no other options for white ball captaincy at the moment. Yes, KL Rahul is around but he is only being considered as a deputy for

time being," a senior BCCI official made it clear.

"Obviously, when Rohit takes a break he will lead but he is the white ball leader going forward," he said.

While BCCI didn't say anything about ODI captaincy, it is understood that the it wants one white ball captain going into the 2023 50-over World Cup and a decision for the three-match ODI series in South Africa will be taken at an appropriate time.

"I am still not sure if the board will retain Virat as ODI captain.

There will be some discussions but chances are bleak. He will certainly remain the Test captain," the official said.

Pacers Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami and spinner Ravindra Jadeja have also been given much-needed rest for the short series.

However, Pandya, who didn't actually provide an honest picture of his fitness status, has been dropped from the squad.

India-Pak WC most viewed T20 match

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The much-anticipated India-Pakistan match at the ongoing T20 World Cup clocked a record reach of 167 million viewers, making it the most viewed T20 International till date, the official broadcaster of the event claimed.

The T20 World Cup registered a cumulative reach of 238 million till last

week which included the Qualifiers and first 12 games of Super 12 stage, Star India said in a release.

The 2016 T20 World Cup semifinal between India and West Indies was the previous highest watched T20 game, with a reach of 136 million viewers.

"With a reach of 167 million, the highly-anticipated India-Pakistan clash on

October 24th, an event that saw the arch-rivals meet at an ICC tournament after two years, is now the most viewed T20 match, exceeding the previous high — India-West Indies 2016 ICC World T20 semi-finals," the release said.

India and Pakistan opened their campaign against each other on October 24 with the Men in Green outplaying their arch-rivals to register a 10-wicket win.

Hyderabad beat UP, qualify for quarterfinals

PTI ■ SULTANPUR (HARYANA)

Chama Milind claimed five wickets for eight runs in a sensational pace bowling display as Hyderabad beat Uttar Pradesh by 29 runs to top Group E and qualify for the quarterfinals in the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 championship here on Tuesday.

Hyderabad remained undefeated in five matches to secure 20 points. Saurashtra, who finished second in Group E with 16 points after beating Delhi by 13 runs in Rohtak, will be among six teams across groups fighting for remaining three quarter-final places.

Delhi finished third in the group with 12 points and were

knocked out of the domestic T20 championships. Chasing 148 for a win, UP were all out for 118 in 19.2 overs with left-arm pacer Milind (3.2-0-8-5) wrecking havoc.

Milind removed openers Aryan Juyal (14) and Nalin Mishra (15) in the space of four balls in the fifth over and then returned to polish off the tail by

claiming the wickets of Sameer Choudhary (10), Saurabh Kumar (1) and Ankit Rajpoot (6). Akshdeep Nath was the top-scorer for UP with his 32-ball 36. Earlier, electing to bat, Hyderabad posted 147 for 7 in 20 overs, courtesy captain Tanmay Agarwal's 46-ball 62 which was studded with seven fours and a six.

Ahead of the game against Namibia, Shastri had told Star Sports that players were mentally and physically drained after living in a protected envi-

ronment. "I am mentally drained but I expect that at my age but these guys are physically and mentally drained. Six months in a bubble..."

"What we would have ideally liked was a bigger gap between the IPL and the T20 World Cup...(because) when the big games come, when pressure hits you, you are not that switched on as you should be," he added.

Shastri became the director of the Indian cricket team in 2014 for a period of eight months from the tour of England till the 2015 World Cup. He was removed in 2016 but on July 13, 2017, he was appointed the head coach of the Indian team, reuniting with Kohli to forge a cracking partnership.

The highlight of his tenure was back to back Test series wins in Australia.

Ravi Shastri, who completed his highly eventful tenure as India's head coach, feels that Rohit Sharma is "ready and capable" to take over the T20 captaincy from Virat Kohli and sharing the leadership burden isn't such a bad idea in a post COVID-19 world.

Rohit, who will be taking

over T20 captaincy from the New Zealand series, is also being tipped to lead India in the 2023 ODI World Cup and the formal announcement in that regard may happen soon after than later.

"I think in Rohit, you have got a very capable guy. He has won so many IPLs, he is the vice-captain of the team, he is ready (waiting) in the wings to take that job," Shastri said.

He, in fact, welcomed the idea of Rohit leading in shorter formats and Kohli captaining in Tests.

"I think multiple captains is not such a bad thing because of the bubble and so much cricket being played, the players need to be rotated around and given the space they need to spend some time with their families and see their parents.

"When a guy doesn't go home for six months he might have his family with him but you have parents and other family and if you don't get a chance to see them, it's not easy at all, so I think it's not such a bad thing," he opined.

Shastri is convinced that despite their indifferent performance in this edition of the T20 World Cup, India will continue to be a very strong team in the shortest format in

OTHER SPORTS

Italy loses 2 more midfielders ahead of Swiss qualifier

AP ■ FLORENCE



Italy lost another two midfielders ahead of the key World Cup qualifier against Switzerland in Rome on Friday, as the Swiss injury list also lengthened.

Coach Roberto Mancini, already without regular starter Marco Verratti through injury, said on Monday that Nicolò Zaniolo and Lorenzo Pellegrini would return to their club Roma.

Pellegrini has a knee injury while Zaniolo has a left calf issue.

Both also missed Italy's victorious European Championship campaign through injury.

Switzerland had already been without captain Granit Xhaka and forward Haris Seferovic to long-term injuries, and lost winger Steven Zuber on Monday as the fourth play-

er to drop out injured from the squad selected last week.

Italy and Switzerland have 14 points atop Group C with the European champion having the tiebreaker advantage on goal difference of two goals better. Only the first-place finisher gets a direct spot into next year's finals in Qatar. The second-placed team goes into the playoffs in March, needing to advance past two opponents to reach the World Cup.

Mancini has called up Matteo Pessina and Danilo Cataldi to replace Zaniolo and Pellegrini.

Tendulkar among 50 most influential people on Twitter

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Indian batting great Sachin Tendulkar is among the 50 most influential people on Twitter this year, placed at number 35, according to an annual research carried out by consumer intelligence company Brandwatch.

The legendary right-hander is ranked above the likes of American actors Dwayne Johnson and Leonardo Di Caprio, and former first lady of the United States Michelle Obama among others.

American singer Taylor Swift is at number 1 spot and Prime Minister Narendra Modi is placed at number two in the list. The research cited Tendulkar's "appreciable real work for the less fortunate, lending his voice and presence for the right causes.

AIBA women's world boxing set to be postponed

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The women's world boxing championship scheduled next month in Turkey is all set to be postponed due to the high number of COVID-19 cases being registered in the country, a spokesperson of the International Boxing Association (AIBA) told PTI on Tuesday. The decision to postpone the championships could be announced anytime this week. The tournament was tentatively planned from December 4 to 18 in Istanbul.

"It is highly likely that the world championship would be postponed as many countries have expressed reservations about travelling to Turkey because of the COVID cases there," an AIBA spokesperson told PTI in a telephonic conversation. "You can say, it is more or less decided, the postponement. There has already been a round-table on this involving AIBA President Umar Kremlev during which several countries have expressed their apprehension.

A decision on this will be announced very soon this week. "We don't want a depleted field because of the pandemic," the spokesperson added.

The event could be held in the first half of next year. Kremlev has stated that if postponed, the championship could be held in March next year.

Turkey logged 27,824 COVID cases on Monday. The country also reported 187 deaths on the day because of the deadly infection that has wreaked havoc for the past two years.

Bayern on course for another Bundesliga title

AP ■ BERLIN

After just 11 games, Bayern Munich is already closing in on a record-extending 10th consecutive Bundesliga title.

There are still 23 matches to play, but a lack of realistic rivals means this season's title race is a one-team procession.

"Dortmund lost again, now we can start dusting off the championship trophy," Bayern's former chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge told the Bild tabloid after the Bavarian powerhouse moved four points clear at the top on Saturday.

Bayern defeated third-place Freiburg 2-1 before second-place Borussia Dortmund lost 2-1 at Leipzig.

Leipzig was Bayern's closest challenger last season, but it's not been the same since coach Julian Nagelsmann, captain Marcel Sabitzer and defender Dayot Upamecano



left for Bayern in the offseason. Leipzig is fifth under new coach Jesse Marsch.

Bayern has only one league defeat, a somewhat unlucky slip up at home to Eintracht Frankfurt, while the 5-0 German Cup loss to Borussia Mönchengladbach is unlikely to be repeated any time soon.

Dortmund's loss in Leipzig was its third in the league

under new coach Marco Rose. It's hard to see how his side can mount a sustained challenge, even if striker Erling Haaland were to stay fit all season.

The team has struggled without him. "It's always about the quality on the field and that's where Bayern simply has its nose in front. The coach also fits Bayern perfectly," Rummenigge said.