

OPINION 8
SUPRANATIONALISM
WILL HOLD US BACK**WORLD 12**
CHINA ASKS US TO STOP
MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN SCS**SPORT 14**
MAN CITY, PSG, REAL,
INTER QUALIFY FOR R16

LUCKNOW, FRIDAY NOVEMBER 26, 2021; PAGES 14 ₹3



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WE SHOULD
NOT JUDGE:
RANI MUKERJI
13 VIVACITY

Noida airport will become logistical gateway of north India, says PM

Earlier Govts ignored development of western UP: Modi

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday laid the foundation stone for Noida International Airport (NIA), paving the way for Delhi-NCR to become the first megapolis in India to have two civilian airports for commercial flights by October 2024. The airport at Jewar — which will ensure “uttam suvidha” in Uttar Pradesh — will begin its journey with one runway and a terminal to handle 1.2 crore passengers annually at an investment of ₹5,730 crore. The ruling BJP will showcase the NIA as its one of the major achievement of the Yogi Adityanath Government in the State. Uttar Pradesh will go to polls next year.

Speaking at the occasion, Modi hit out at the Opposition, saying the airport is an example of how the earlier Governments in Uttar Pradesh and at the Centre ignored development of the western part of the State.

“But it is now getting what it always deserved and is making its mark internationally under a double-engine BJP rule,” Modi said, adding that the Noida International Airport



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the foundation stone laying ceremony for the Noida International Airport at Jewar in Gautam Buddha Nagar district on Thursday. UP CM Yogi Adityanath is also seen

PTI

will become the logistical gateway of north India, and will have direct connectivity to a dedicated freight corridor.

The construction of this airport comes just weeks after the Prime Minister inaugurated the Kushinagar international airport in Uttar Pradesh to boost the country's aviation sector.

Another international airport is presently under-construction in Ayodhya.

Addressing a gathering in the poll-bound State, Modi asserted that infrastructure is “not politics for us but part of

national policy.” “We are making sure that the projects do not get stuck, do not keep hanging.. we try to ensure that the infrastructure work is completed within the stipulated time,” Modi said. In an apparent dig at the Opposition, Modi said some political parties in the country have always kept their self-interest paramount.

“The thinking of these people is self-interest, their own development and that of their family,” Modi said.

“Whereas, we follow the spirit of Nation First... *Sabka Saath - Sabka Vikas, Sabka*

Vishwas - Sabka Prayas is our mantra,” Modi said while targeting the Opposition.

He said for the first time in seven decades, Uttar Pradesh has started getting what it has always deserved. “With the efforts of the double engine Government, today Uttar Pradesh is turning into the most connected region of the country,” Modi said.

Further stating that UP has become a focal point for investments by multinational companies, the PM said the State will have five international

Continued on Page 12

Country has to decide if Jinnah's followers will cause mischief: CM Yogi

PTI ■ NOIDA

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Thursday said the country has to decide if the sweetness of sugarcane will grow or the followers of Pakistan founder Muhammad Ali Jinnah will cause mischief in the state, in a veiled attack on the Samajwadi Party (SP).

Adityanath trained his guns at the opposition as he joined the foundation-laying ceremony for the Noida International Airport in the Jewar area of Gautam Buddha Nagar in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He said Uttar Pradesh is moving on the path of development and highlighted various efforts of the government.

The BJP leader also thanked the over 7,000 farmers who gave consent for the acquisition of their land for the airport without any controversy.

He said the ceremony was a “much awaited” moment for western Uttar Pradesh and

important because this is where farmers had taken forward the initiative to add sweetness in the region with sugarcane cultivation.

“Some people had tried to add bitterness in the sugarcane region of Uttar Pradesh with a series of riots. Now the country has to decide if the sweetness of sugarcane will grow or Jinnah's followers will cause mischief,” Adityanath said as he addressed the gathering of thousands.

SP leader and former Uttar Pradesh chief minister Akhilesh Yadav had last month equated Jinnah with Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Jawaharlal Nehru, saying all of them helped the country achieve independence.

His remark had invited severe criticism from the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), among others.

Uttar Pradesh is scaling new heights under Modi's leadership, whether it is the public welfare schemes reaching

Continued on Page 12

Centre to revisit ₹8L cap on EWS quota in NEET

Panel will review in 4 weeks, Govt informs apex court

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre is all set to revisit the upper limit of income fixed for determining the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) category for reservation in NEET admissions for post-graduate medical courses.

The Centre on Thursday told the Supreme Court that it has taken a considered decision to revisit the limit of ₹8 lakh annual income criteria in four weeks. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told a bench of justices DY Chandrachud, Surya Kant, and Vikram Nath that the Government will set up a com-

mission in a scientific manner and it appreciates that the Centre has taken a decision to revisit the criteria earlier fixed.

Senior advocate Arvind Datar, appearing for petitioners (students), said since a lot of time has passed and the Centre should push back implementation of the EWS quota for the next academic year and the current year counselling should be allowed to go on.

The bench agreed with the submission of Datar and asked Mehta whether it could push the implementation of the Constitutional amendment for the next academic year and allow the counselling to go on for the current academic year.

Mehta said that the Government has taken a decision to implement the 103rd Constitutional amendment



Alarm over deadly Covid variant in SA

Variant most mutated version of coronavirus

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Even as many countries in Europe and elsewhere reel under the multiple surges of the Covid-19 waves, British experts have sounded alarm over a new deadly Covid variant believed to have emerged in “Botswana” in South Africa. The variant is the most mutated version of the virus till now, according to a news report.

South Africa last year detected the Beta variant of the virus although until now infection numbers have been



In this file photo from June, healthcare workers prepare to test patients for Covid-19 at the Lancel Laboratories in Johannesburg

AP

driven by the Delta variant, which was originally detected in India.

The new variant found in Botswana carries 32 mutations, many of which are highly transmissible and vaccine-resistant, and has more alterations to its spike protein than any other

variant, the report said.

Only 10 cases of the strain, which could eventually be named “Nu”, have been detected so far. But it has already been spotted in three countries, suggesting the variant is more widespread.

Continued on Page 12

Opposition to boycott Constitution Day function

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Opposition parties from the Congress to the Trinamool Congress to the Left will boycott Friday's Constitution Day function at Parliament's Central Hall where President Ram Nath Kovind will address, in protest against Narendra Modi Government's “trampling upon” the Constitution.

Besides the Congress, other parties that will not send MPs for the programme are RJD, DMK, CPI(M), CPI, RSP, Kerala Congress and Muslim League among others.

The Congress took the decision to skip the function at a meeting chaired by Sonia and attended by Mallikarjun

Kharge. This is the second time that the Opposition is boycotting the November 26 function.

In 2019, the Opposition boycotted the Central Hall function and assembled near Ambedkar Statue in Parliament House complex where leaders, including Congress president Sonia Gandhi, read the Preamble of the Constitution in protest against the swearing in of Devendra Fadnis as Maharashtra Chief Minister in an early morning coup.

Constitution on a “single day” while it was disrespecting it every other day. Leaders from two other Opposition parties said the MPs were informed about the function

very late and just through bulletins and several were not aware of it.

“Actually, the government should have organised Constitution Protection Day instead of Constitution Day celebrations,” said Rajya Sabha member from RJD Manoj Jha.

According to a government statement, the President would lead the celebrations of Constitution Day as part of the ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ programme. Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla would speak at the function.

CAPSULE

BLAST ROCKS SOMALI CAPITAL, 8 KILLED

Mogadishu: A large explosion outside a school in Somalia's capital on Thursday killed at least eight people, including students, witnesses said. The extremist group al-Shabab claimed responsibility for the attack. The al-Qaida-linked group controls large parts of rural Somalia and continues to frustrate efforts at rebuilding the Horn of Africa nation.

IIT BHU DEVELOPS DEVICE FOR PURE HYDROGEN

New Delhi: Scientists at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), BHU claim to have developed a first-of-its-kind device in India for the on-site production of ultra-pure Hydrogen.

GIRL RAPED IN MOVING CAR, MAN ARRESTED

Mathura: A 21-year-old girl was allegedly raped by a man in a moving car while coming back from Agra, police said on Thursday. The incident took place on Tuesday, when the accused accompanied the girl to Agra for a sub-inspector exam. He allegedly raped her during their return journey inside the car, a senior police officer said. After the act, he dropped the girl in the outskirts of Kosi Kalan area of Mathura.

Delhi House panel summons Kangana for Khalistani post

Committee on Peace and Harmony to look into anti-Sikh claims

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Legislative Assembly's Committee on Peace and Harmony on Thursday summoned film actress Kangana Ranaut.

A statement by the panel headed by MLA Raghav Chadha reads as “The Committee has received multiple complaints eliciting outrageously offensive and derogatory Instagram stories/posts allegedly published by Kangana Ranaut, the film actress, on her official Instagram Account namely @kanganaranaut. According to the complainants, the stories published by Kangana Ranaut on her Instagram account which has a massive reach and is being followed by around 80 lakh of people worldwide, specifically illustrates the instances which hurt the religious sentiments of the Sikh community and has a tendency to disturb the peace and harmony of the society.”

Significantly, the com-



plaints stated that Kangana Ranaut has allegedly labelled the Sikh Community as “Khalistani terrorists” which has led to unbearable humiliation for people from Sikh Community but has also led to apprehensions regarding their safety, life and liberty in their minds. The complaint men-

tions that on November 20, 2021, Ranaut had posted a story which read as “Khalistani terrorists may be arm-twisting the Government today.... But let's not forget one woman... The only woman prime minister ne innko apni jooti ke neeche crush kiya tha.... No matter how much suffering she caused to this nation... she crushed them like mosquitos at the cost of her own life.... *Lekin desh ke tukde nahi hone diye* even after decades of her death... *aaj bhi uske naam se kampte hain yeh.... Inko vaisa he guru chahiye...*”

According to the complainants, these statements purportedly posted by Ranaut has caused immense agony, distress and gravely hurt the religious sentiments of the people from Sikh community, thus potentially leading to a situation of disruption of peace and harmony in the NCT of Delhi by allegedly disrespecting the entire community and purportedly instigating threats to the life and liberty of the people from the aforesaid community.

HC commutes Shakti Mill gangrapists' death to life

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

More than seven years after a trial court treated them as “repeat offenders” and handed out the first-ever capital punishment to them under new provision 376 (E) of the IPC, the Bombay High Court on Thursday commuted the death sentence of three “common” convicts in the twin 2013 Shakti Mill gangrape cases to life imprisonment.

“Death puts an end to the whole concept of repentance, any sufferings and mental agony,” said the HC.

The three convicts Vijay Jadhav (19), Mohammad Qasim Shaikh alias Qasim Bengali (21) and Mohammad Ansari (28)—whose death sentences have been commuted to life—are common convicts in both the July 31, 2013 telephone operator and August 22, 2013 photojournalist gangrape cases.

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LIC

हर दिल आंखों साथ

‘India will not hesitate to storm enemy’s house if need arises’

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Without naming Pakistan, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh warned that India would not tolerate any nuisance and if the need arose it would give a befitting reply to the enemy and for that it would not hesitate to storm the enemy’s house.

Reminding of the retaliatory surgical strikes in the aftermath of the Pulwama incident, Singh said that not only did we teach lessons to the enemies on the border, but if needed, India gave a befitting reply by striking inside enemy territory.

“India’s recognition has increased internationally. Now India has become a strong country,” the defence minister said while speaking at a conference of Bharatiya Janata Party booth chiefs of 15 districts of Awadh region in Sitapur on Thursday.



Singh said that witnessing the enthusiasm among party workers present at Sitapur, it seemed that now no one could stop BJP’s victory march in the next assembly elections.

Slamming the Samajwadi Party, Singh said that this was the same party whose government opened fire on the devotees of Ram during ‘kar sewa’.

“We cannot fire bullets at farmers and Ram bhakts. This can only be done by the

Samajwadi Party,” he said. Switching to Jammu and Kashmir, Singh said that in 1951 when Jana Sangh was formed, it was decided that if its government was formed some day, it would end Article 370 which the present government had done.

“The perception of India in the last six-seven years has changed. There has been a change in the country. The world listens to Prime Minister

Narendra Modi at the international forum,” he said.

The defence minister further said that change was visible in UP. “Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has done wonders. Big investments are happening and people coming from outside are investing in the state. With the help of Russia, modern assault rifles will be manufactured in UP itself. Brahmos missiles will also now be made on the soil of UP,” he said.

During the speech, the former chief minister of UP said that a lot of effort was made to convince the farmers about the three new farm laws but when they could not be pacified, it was decided to withdraw the agriculture laws.

“The prime minister said that we could not leave the farmers in such a condition and will not do any such work, which will upset the farmers,” he said.

With Jewar, UP to have 5 int’l airports

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

With the groundbreaking and foundation-laying ceremony for Noida International Airport on Friday, Uttar Pradesh is now on its way to having five international airports – the highest for any Indian state.

Earlier till 2017, UP had only two international airports –at Varanasi and Lucknow. While the third international airport at Kushinagar became operational on October 20, work on Ayodhya international airport is in full swing and air services are expected to start from there early next year. The fifth international airport is to come up at Jewar near Noida in the National Capital Region (NCR.)

At present, Uttar Pradesh has eight operational airports, while 13 airports and seven airstrips are being developed. The operational airports handling commercial flights in the state are Lucknow, Varanasi, Kushinagar, Gorakhpur, Agra, Kanpur Nagar, Prayagraj and

Hindon (Ghaziabad). “The unique distinction of Uttar Pradesh in providing unmatched air connectivity in the country is in keeping with the government’s commitment

Noida International Airport (NIA) will be India’s largest airport after its completion. Its location is about 72 km from the existing Indira Gandhi International Airport in New

Earlier till 2017, UP had only two international airports –at Varanasi and Lucknow. While the third international airport at Kushinagar became operational on October 20, work on Ayodhya international airport is in full swing and air services are expected to start from there early next year.

to ensure uninterrupted multimodal connectivity on land, railways, water and air. The ambitious Prime Minister Gati Shakti National Master Plan has infused a sense of urgency into the plans for infrastructure development in the state,” a UP government spokesman said in Lucknow on Friday.

Being constructed near Jewar township in Gautam Buddha Nagar (Noida) in the NCR in Uttar Pradesh, the

Delhi, 40 km from Noida and about 40 km from the multimodal logistics hub at Dadri (Ghaziabad). It will have excellent multimodal connectivity as it is close to the Yamuna Expressway (Greater Noida to Agra), close to Eastern Peripheral Expressway and it will have a link with Delhi-Mumbai Expressway at Ballabgarh, Khurja-Jewar NH 91, link to dedicated freight corridor, Metro Extension from

Noida to NIA and link with the proposed High-Speed Rail (Delhi-Varanasi) at the airport terminal. “The operationalisation of the airports is already bringing in investment, establishing industries, and creating employment opportunities in the eastern part of the state, ensuring its social and economic development,” the government spokesman said.

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Sitharaman to give away Prez awards to tax officials

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary will present President’s awards to the winners on the occasion of the decoration ceremony of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, 2021 in Lucknow on Friday.

The finance minister will also inaugurate the newly constructed Pratyaksha Kar Bhawan in Lucknow.

In 2017, a memorandum of understanding was signed with M/s NBCC for the construction of the new income tax building and it was handed over in 2020. Built on an area of 86,483 square feet, this new IT office building has seven storeys. The built-up area of one floor is 21,527 square feet and the built-up area for all seven floors is estimated to be 130,000 square feet, of which two basements (car parking and record room) have been built.

This building is estimated to seat 150 officers and 350 employees. Besides, the building also houses a state-of-the-art auditorium with a capacity of 180 persons and three conference rooms. The new building has a guest house comprising two suites for senior officers and nine rooms for other officers as well as a gymnasium, reading lounge and state-of-the-art kitchen on the seventh floor. A large library and creche for the children of women employees has also been made available in the building.

Raja Bhaiya meets MSY

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Leader of Jansatta Party and MLA Raghuraj Pratap Singh alias Raja Bhaiya met former chief minister and Samajwadi Party patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav, sparking fresh speculations of both the parties forging an alliance before the crucial assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh.

The development took place days after SP leaders had meetings with Rashtriya Lok Dal and Aam Aadmi Party leaders.

After the meeting, Raja Bhaiya told reporters that he had come to wish Netaji (as Mulayam Singh Yadav is called) on his birthday.

“Every year I personally come to wish him a healthy life on his birthday. This time I was out of the station, so I came today,” he said.

He further said: “Please do not add political connotation to this visit. If something materialises, I will let you know.” Mulayam Singh Yadav’s birthday was on November 20.



NOTICE

Registry papers(Layout and map) of mother deed house no. SS-2 Sector D-1994 L.D.A. Colony, Kanpur Road Lucknow are actually lost. FIR has been registered. Rashida begum W/o Akeel Khan Lucknow Ph 7607369394

NOTICE

I hereby declare that in my EME Record my brother’s date of birth is registered 06.08.2003 which is wrong while in High School certificate his date of birth is registered 01.04.2004 which is correct and also his name is registered as HIMANSHU RATHOUR is wrong, his correct name is HIMANSHU RATHOUR. In future my brother’s date of birth will be known 01.04.2004 and his name will be known by HIMANSHU RATHOUR for all purposes. Army No. 17025420K Rank NK Ramakant S/o Chhatrapal R/o Vill-Gora, Post-Sahapur Police Station- Ramkat, Tehsil and District-Sitapur.



सबके साथ खड़ी है सरकार

उत्तर प्रदेश भवन एवं अन्य सन्निर्माण कर्मकार कल्याण बोर्ड द्वारा आयोजित अयोध्या, अमेठी, सुलतानपुर, बाराबंकी एवं अम्बेडकरनगर जनपद के सामूहिक विवाह समारोह में

3915 जोड़ों का विवाह कार्यक्रम

मुख्य अतिथि

योगी आदित्यनाथ

मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

जस्मिमयी उपस्थिति

<p>स्वामी प्रसाद मोर्य मंत्री, श्रम एवं सेवायोजन तथा समन्वय, उत्तर प्रदेश</p>	<p>डॉ. नीलकंठ तिवारी मंत्री, पर्यटन, संस्कृति एवं धार्मिक कार्य (स्वतंत्र प्रभार), प्रोटोकॉल (एमओएस), उत्तर प्रदेश</p>	<p>मनोहर लाल मन्नु कोरी राज्य मंत्री, श्रम एवं सेवायोजन उत्तर प्रदेश</p>	<p>लल्लू सिंह सांसद अयोध्या</p>
<p>रोली सिंह अध्यक्ष, जिला पंचायत अयोध्या</p>	<p>ऋषिकेश उपाध्याय महापौर अयोध्या</p>	<p>वेद प्रकाश गुप्ता विधायक अयोध्या</p>	<p>रामचन्द्र यादव विधायक रुदौली</p>
		<p>शोभा सिंह चौहान विधायक बीकापुर</p>	<p>बाबा गोरखनाथ विधायक मिल्कीपुर</p>
			<p>बलराम मोर्य सदस्य, उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग</p>

एवं अन्य गणमान्य महानुभाव

दिनांक : 26 नवम्बर, 2021 | समय : पूर्वाह्न 11:00 बजे

स्थान : राजकीय इण्टर कॉलेज मैदान, अयोध्या



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सोच ईमानदार, काम द्दमदार

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

Covid vax: Lucknow first dist in UP to breach 50 lakh-mark

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Lucknow became the first district in the state to breach the 50 lakh-mark in Covid vaccination on Thursday. The first dose has been given to over 32 lakh while the second to over 17 lakh people.

District Immunisation Officer MK Singh said it was yet another milestone for the district. He said rural areas are slowly improving but people due for the first dose are less. Regarding the gap between the male and female beneficiaries (54% males & 45% women jabbed), he said there was no specific except but it could well be due to low turnout of women in rural areas.

“Pregnant women and lactating mothers may have been a little hesitant in getting vaccinated. However, after we held a press conference recently and gave the message that they should come forward and get jabbed, it will make a difference in the next two to three weeks and the gap will be bridged,” he said. He added that the maximum vaccination has been carried out at Civil hospital amongst all the vaccination

More women than men jabbed in 13 dists

SHARMILA KRISHNA ■ LUCKNOW

In 13 districts of Uttar Pradesh, more women than men have been vaccinated against Covid-19, which is an achievement considering that women recipients were earlier lagging behind. These thirteen districts are Ambedkar Nagar, Amethi, Ayodhya, Azamgarh, Basti, Deoria, Gorakhpur, Kushinagar, Maharajganj, Pratapgarh, Rae Bareilly, Sant Kabir Nagar, and Sultanpur.

State Immunisation Officer Ajay Ghai said it became possible because of the vaccinations of pregnant women and lactating mothers whose vaccination was allowed by the Central government, and also because the vaccination drive was taken closer to homes.

As per the Health depart-

ment figures, till November 23, 50.54% women have been vaccinated as compared to 49.47% men in Ambedkarnagar, 51.16% women & 48.82% men in Amethi, 50.09% women & 49.82% men in Ayodhya, 50.19% women & 49.75% men in Azamgarh, 50.44% women & 49.54% men in Basti, 50.73% women & 49.17% men in Deoria, 50% women & 49.94% men in Gorakhpur, 50.15% women & 49.77% men in Kushinagar, 50.53% women & 49.42% men in Maharajganj, 50.33% women & 49.63% in Pratapgarh, 50.46% women & 49.52% men in Rae Bareilly, 50.35% women & 49.55% men in Sant Kabir Nagar, and 51.47% women & 48.88% men in Sultanpur.

What comes as a surprise is that in Gautam Buddh Nagar, where the vaccinations have been the highest, the

number of women covered is only half of the men. Only 39.05% women have been vaccinated there as against 60.91% men. A senior official from the Health department said that the smaller districts performed well in terms of coverage of women. He said there is a large population of single men living in Gautam Buddh Nagar. “These men have left their respective families back home and are working alone, and hence the number of men vaccinated has increased in this district. Also, several men from neighbouring areas got vaccinated in this district,” he added.

In Lucknow though, 54.32% men and 45.63% women have been vaccinated. The total number of men vaccinated in UP is 79,387,091 (52.26%) while that of women is 72,465,780 (47.70%).

mark. Lucknow has an eligible population of 37.4 lakh and the first dose has been administered to over 86% of them while the second to over 46%.

Woman trapped in fire rescued

Lucknow (PNS): A woman, who was trapped in a fire which broke out at her house in Thakurganj on the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday, was rescued by locals. As per reports, the fire broke out at the two-storey house in DP Bora Colony. The 22-year-old woman, Zareen, was trapped on the second floor. Neighbours reached the scene and called police. The cops reached there and also passed the information to fire officials. Three fire tenders were pressed into service but the woman had been rescued by the neighbours by then. House owner Noor and other family members were out of the city and Zareen was home alone.

Meanwhile, a brawl erupted at a private hospital in Vibhuti Khand on Wednesday after a doctor demanded his dues from his employer. Reports said Dr Anil Yadav asked for his arrears and it resulted into a verbal spat with his employer Akhilesh Pandey. Yadav alleged that he quit some time ago but his dues were not cleared. “I asked Pandey to clear my dues but he denied,” Yadav alleged. He further said that Pandey and his men attacked him and his supporters. However, hospital authorities said Yadav, along with scores of advocates, manhandled them.

Youth killed over love affair

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A youth was killed over his love affair with a girl in Para and the body was dumped into a septic tank pit inside a newly-constructed house of the accused in Para police station area on Thursday. The victim was identified as Rajnish Yadav (25) of Salempur Pataura village in the area. He was reported missing on Wednesday morning. He was said to be in love with the daughter of the prime accused, identified by police as Pravesh Yadav of the same locality. As per reports, Rajnish left the house on Wednesday morning but did not come back. His brother Manish said Rajnish left the house around 11 am on Wednesday.

“His mobile phone was switched off. We tried searching for him, but in vain. We approached police but were asked to wait for him to return. However, we lodged a missing report with the Para police on Thursday morning,” he said.

After a case was registered and the victim's family mentioned enmity with Pravesh over his love affair, the police conducted raids at the house of Pravesh. A team also reached the newly-constructed house of Pravesh in the same locality and recovered Rajnish's body from the septic tank pit. Mayank alleged that Rajnish was killed

Army soldier's wife found hanging

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Wife of an army soldier was found hanging at her house in PGI police station area on Thursday. She reportedly had a talk with her husband before taking the extreme step.

Police and forensic science experts later reached the scene to for investigation. The police termed the incident a case of suicide and sent the body for autopsy. Mandvi Singh (25) of Kalli Paschim locality in the area was found hanging from the ceiling with a dupatta tied around her neck. Her mother Raman Singh, who was staying with her, said she found the doors

of the drawing room bolted from inside and she peeped inside through the keyhole, only to find Mandvi hanging.

She said she called neighbours who informed the police. The police did not recover any suicide note from the scene.

Preliminary probe revealed that Mandvi was the wife of Havildar Yogesh Singh. It further surfaced that Mandvi had a conversation with her husband before she was found hanging. However, the police said they were yet to check the deceased's mobile phone for confirmation. Mandvi was a native of Fatehpur district and married Yogesh a year and a half ago.

by Pravesh over his love affair. Manish said Pravesh and his family members were miffed over Rajnish's love affair with the girl and they murdered him. “The affair between Rajnish and the girl caused a fierce enmity between both the families. They had told some villagers that they would not mind killing Rajnish to save their family's honour,” the com-

plainant alleged.

Meanwhile, Rs 1.5 lakh kept in the box of a motorcycle were stolen from Ashiyana on Thursday. Chandrika Prasad of Narpat Khara locality withdrew the cash and left for Aurangabad in Ashiyana. He parked his bike on the roadside and left for some work. When he returned, he found the cash missing.

UPHDB employee forced to strip, blackmailed

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A woman and two his accomplices forced an employee of UP Housing and Development Board (UPHDB) to strip and lie down beside a woman at a house in PGI police station area. They made a video clip of him with the woman and later demanded Rs 4 lakh by threatening to upload the video on social media.

The victim gave Rs 93,000 to the accused but later lodged an FIR in this connection. In his complaint, the victim said he got a call from a woman on November 13 and she introduced herself as Komal. She asked the complainant if he was an employee of UPHDB and also told him that she wanted to sell her house located near a private school. However, the complainant refused to purchase her house.

On the next day, he got another call from the same woman who asked him to purchase the house as she was in dire need of money. The complainant said he declined the offer again.

“On November 15, I got another call from the woman who requested me to at least see her house. I went to see the house and she took me inside and bolted the doors. All of a sudden, two men entered the room and introduced themselves as reporters of some newspaper. They thrashed me and forced me to strip and lie down on the bed besides the woman. They later made a video clip and started blackmailing me,” the victim stated in his complaint.

He said the aides of the woman made him sit in their car and drove it to some secluded place. “They demanded Rs 10 lakh and threatened to make the video viral on social media. They also took my son's mobile number and said they would send the video to him as well,” the victim said.

“They agreed to settle the issue for Rs 4 lakh and asked me to arrange the money before setting me free,” he said. On November 17, the victim got a call from a man who introduced himself as Sunil Kumar and disclosed the name of his aide as Kaushal.

“You forgot the video so early. We will make you remember it for lifetime,” the accused told the victim, who had to cough up Rs 93,000. The victim said that the accused had been harassing him since then demanding the remaining amount. The police arrested two of the accused, identified as Sunil Kumar of Para and Kaushal of Sarojininar. They confessed to their crime and said they impersonated journalists to blackmail the victim.

LU celebrates 101st Foundation Day

Lucknow (PNS): Lucknow University celebrated its 101st Foundation Day at Malviya Hall on Thursday. LU alumnus Prof Dinkar P Srivastava, a former Indian Foreign Services officer, was felicitated on the occasion.

Srivastava spoke about his latest book titled ‘The Forgotten Kashmir- The Other side of the Line of Control’ at the function. He pointed out how the issue of plebiscite was raised thrice and on all the three occasions, it was Pakistan that withdrew. “Pakistan did not have an equivalent of Article 373 and in terms of POK (Pakistan Occupied Kashmir) and people had no autonomy. For years together, they did not have any elections,” he said.

Srivastava also spoke about how Pakistan used terrorism as a part of its state policy and in terms of being cheated and forgotten, it was Pakistan, and not India, that forgot Kashmir. He also spoke about the Karachi agreement and said it was signed by people who subsequently denied it, and the whole ‘think about its legitimacy’ was questionable.

He also pointed out that through the multiple positions taken up by Pakistan and the UK, that have been pushing the issue of plebiscite, they themselves have been taking a hypocritical position because in case of other countries, they did not take this stand, but they wanted it in India.

He was particularly happy that his book was being released at LU with which he has had a historical connection, since his grandfather had been the dean of Law and he himself studied Political Science here in 1976. He has also served as the ambassador to Czech Republic, Iran, Libya and Pakistan. Sanskriti director Rakesh Chandra said the university has always been felicitating distinguished alumni and Srivastava was felicitated for his academic excellence.



संविधान दिवस

एवं (26 नवम्बर, 2021)

अधिवक्ता कल्याणार्थ आयोजित कार्यक्रम

माननीय राष्ट्रपति श्री राम नाथ कोविन्द जी के नेतृत्व में मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ के साथ

संविधान की उद्देशिका का पाठन



योगी आदित्यनाथ

मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश



मुख्य अतिथि

गरिमामयी उपस्थिति

केशव प्रसाद मौर्य

उप मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

सुरेश कुमार खन्ना

मंत्री, वित्त, संसदीय कार्य एवं चिकित्सा शिक्षा, उत्तर प्रदेश

डॉ. दिनेश शर्मा

उप मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

ब्रजेश पाठक

मंत्री, विधायी एवं न्याय तथा ग्रामीण अभियन्त्रण सेवा, उत्तर प्रदेश

कार्यक्रम का लाइव प्रसारण DD UP च

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दिनांक : 26 नवम्बर, 2021 | समय : पूर्वाह्न 10:30 बजे | स्थान : लोकभवन सभागार, लखनऊ

संसदीय कार्य विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

BJP to witness historic defeat in UP: Akhilesh

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party national SPresident and former chief minister of UP, Akhilesh Yadav, claimed that the 2022 assembly polls in Uttar Pradesh would witness a historic defeat of the Bharatiya Janata Party as people were supporting the 'Remove BJP, Save UP' slogan.

"The BJP fosters and practices politics of hatred. They want to end brotherhood and Ganga Jamuni culture in the state. The ruling party has

snatched the rights and honour of the people and is humiliating them," Akhilesh said while addressing a Janwadi Jankranti Maharally organised by Janwadi Party (Socialist) at Ramabai Ambekar Maidan in Lucknow on Thursday.

"The slogan of 'Remove BJP, Save UP' has become a hit with the people of the state because they identify themselves with it. People of every section of society are unhappy with this BJP government. No government has given so much sorrow and pain to the people of the state. The dream that Babasaheb had envisioned has not been fulfilled. The BJP government does not want to conduct caste census and does not want to give several castes and sub-castes their right and the respect. As and when the Samajwadi Party forms the government in UP, a caste census will be conducted and the Chauhan community will also get its rights," he said.

Akhilesh further said that the Samajwadi Party was connecting with everyone.

"We have worked to connect several parties. We have made a colourful bouquet by mixing many colours. We will develop the state by connecting everyone. The BJP is colourless, they can never bring happiness. They are a government changing colours and names. People have also made up their minds to change this

Jayant, Akhilesh to address joint rally in Meerut on December 7

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

After a warm meeting with Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav at the former's residence in Lucknow to discuss tie-up for the UP polls, Rashtriya Lok Dal president Jayant Chaudhary is likely to hold a joint press conference with him in the state capital to announce the seat sharing.

There are reports that Jayant and Akhilesh will address a joint rally in Meerut on December 7 and will also announce seat sharing between the SP and the RLD. However, the party insiders said the meeting scheduled in Meerut had probably been called off and would be rescheduled again.

"The RLD is being given 36 seats in the UP assembly election under the seat sharing formula but the party is demanding six more seats totaling 42 as its share. The SP president has agreed to give 36 seats to RLD but the pact is stuck on six seats. This has delayed the forging of alliance as of now and the status of it is currently in a fluid state," a party leader said.

He said the RLD had also cancelled the November 30 rally in Fatehpur as its



leaders needed more time to thrash out an agreement on seat sharing.

The RLD leader said the joint press conference of SP chief Akhilesh Yadav and RLD president Jayant Chaudhary would be held very soon in Lucknow in the days to come.

A spokesman of RLD said the meeting to be held in Meerut on December 7 was earlier scheduled on December 2 and it was extended. He said RLD had no plans

of a joint meeting with SP in Meerut on December 7 as of now.

The sources said the SP and the RLD would seal the pact very soon.

"The campaign for the UP assembly elections is gearing up and major opponent Bharatiya Janata Party already had put the campaign in high gear. So the RLD and the SP will not have enough time to remain busy in finalising the seats," they said. They added that RLD was also in a bargaining position with the Congress.

"The RLD chief had caught up with Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi at Amausi airport in Lucknow recently, giving rumour mills enough fodder to churn that the RLD and the Congress were in talks for seat sharing," the sources said.

They said the RLD chief was judging the options and feasibility of the alliance.

"An alliance with SP is really going to be fruitful for RLD in view of the SP support base in west UP. But SP's alliance with other political parties, like the Aam Aadmi Party (Sanjay Singh met Akhilesh on Wednesday) may lessen the space for the RLD to get a complete toe hold to claim more seats in the UP assembly elections," they said.

system of governance," he said.

Appealing to his supporters, Janwadi Party (Socialist) president Dr Sanjay Chauhan

said that Akhilesh Yadav had to be made the chief minister of UP to teach a lesson to the ruling BJP and said that the BJP

took votes but did not respect the voters.

"The BJP does not want social justice. Akhileshji has

given respect to our society. The BJP does not want any Chauhan to be leader of society," Chauhan said.

CLP leader targets UP govt on law and order

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Congress Legislature Party leader Aradhana Mishra 'Mona' targeted Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on the law and order front, claiming that the Bharatiya Janata Party government had failed to check crime, especially those against women and children.

Aradhana Mishra alleged that the gang-rape of a girl in a moving car in Mathura indicated that the members of fairer sex were victims of lawlessness in Uttar Pradesh and law enforcing agencies had failed to check such heinous crimes.

become number one in crime against women. Not a day goes by when women are sexually assaulted or similar incidents did not happen," she alleged.

Mishra further said, "The government's intention is anti-women. In the aftermath of any heinous crime against women, the entire machinery is seen protecting the rapists and criminals. The result of protection of criminals in Uttar Pradesh is clear in the NCRB data. The state has leapedfrogged to number one in the crime against women in India. As compared to 2020, crime records in Uttar Pradesh showed a 46 percent jump in 2021. But all these figures are not visible to the chief minister and Union home minister."

"The 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' campaign of the ruling party has turned out to be another propaganda of the BJP government and no concrete steps have been taken to fulfill it. Heinous crimes are increasing by the day across the state and not a single day goes by when a girl or woman is not subjected to rape, torture or crimes of any form. The incident of rape of a young girl coming back after taking the examination of UP Police sub-inspector in Kosinkalan area of Mathura is a black spot on the face of the BJP government. This horrendous incident is a clear pointer that it is not safe to walk on the streets during the day across the state," the Congress leader charged.

"Be it the Kuldeep Sengar case of Unnao, or the Chinmayanand case of Shahjahanpur and the burning of a gang-rape victim in Hathras by pouring petrol, in all the government stood with the rapists. On one hand the BJP talks of beti bachao but on the other hand women's sari is pulled during the panchayat elections and no action is taken against criminals," the Congress leader added.

"On one hand, Yogi Adityanath has been promising security at 12 O'clock in the night, spreading false propaganda by calling the state number one, while Union Home Minister Amit Shah is searching for crime with binoculars but the truth is before everyone. Look at the figures of the police department. Due to the inaction of the BJP government, Uttar Pradesh has

Mishra further claimed, "Uttar Pradesh under Yogi rule tops in the number of incidents related to sexual offences against children. As per latest report by National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), Uttar Pradesh tops in sexual offences falling under Prevention of Child from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. The NCRB data clearly points the truth to Shah's claim that a girl can move around in the middle of the night wearing jewellery or Yogi's high-decibel claim of 'bhay mukh samaj' (fear-free society)."

यू.पी. प्रोजेक्ट्स कारपोरेशन लि.
(अनुसूचित जाति आ आरक्षण)
आरक्षण परियोजना प्रबंधक (ग्रामीण इलाके - 14), 3/79, विमान कालन, मोरारी जमर, लखनऊ
ई-मेल: upcl.pn14@gmail.com, वेबसाइट: www.upprojects.org
फ़ोन: 1535/पीओसीओ/परिओ-14 दिनांक: 25.11.2021

अति अल्प-कालीन ई-निविदा सूचना

एतद्वारा इस इकाई के अन्तर्गत जनपद लखीमपुर खीरी में ग्राम बेलापुरवा के मजरा पिछला पुरवा से झगड़ पुरवा तक सम्यक मार्ग पर सी0सी0 रोड के निर्माण हेतु सामग्री आपूर्ति से सम्बन्धित निविदा सूचना संख्या- 51/यू.पी.सी.एल/परि.प्रव.-14/2021-22 दिनांक 23.11.2021 द्वारा ई-टेंडरिंग के माध्यम से प्रतिस्पर्धित करने के आधार पर ऑनलाइन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। उक्त कार्य की विड दिनांक 27.11.2021 से दिनांक 04.12.2021 अपरान्ह 3:00 बजे तक ऑनलाइन सर्वमिट की जा सकती है तथा तकनीकी विड उसी दिन अपरान्ह 4:00 बजे अघोस्टलाहरी के कार्यालय में खोली जायेगी। निविदा से सम्बन्धित आवश्यक सूचना, निविदा प्रपत्र, निविदा शर्त एवं ऑनलाइन निविदा अपलोड किये जाने व डाउनलोड किये जाने की तिथि आदि का समस्त विवरण www.upprojects.org एवं <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है।

परियोजना प्रबंधक

उत्तर प्रदेश पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड निविदा सूचना

इस कार्यालय के द्वारा निम्नलिखित कार्य सम्पादन हेतु अनुभवी, दक्ष एवं जी0एस0टी0 में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से ई- निविदाये आमंत्रित की जाती है जिसका विस्तृत विवरण टेन्डर वेबसाईट www.etender.up.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।

निविदा संख्या - 56 / 2021-22 विद्युत 400 क०वी० उपसंस्थान खण्ड पनकी पर नये चे पर लाईटिंग सम्बन्धी कार्य।

निविदा संख्या - 57 / 2021-22 विद्युत 400 क०वी० उपसंस्थान खण्ड पनकी पर मल्टीफायर सिस्टम में ए०सी० पावर केबिल लगाने एवं रिपेयरिंग सम्बन्धी समस्त कार्य।

निविदा संख्या - 58 / 2021-22 विद्युत प्रेषण खण्ड प्रथम के अन्तर्गत उपखण्ड अधिकारी सिकन्दरा हेतु एक अदद जीजल चलिंत वाहन 09 महीने पर सविदा पर रखने का कार्य।

निविदा संख्या - 59 / 2021-22 विद्युत 220 क०वी० उपसंस्थान खण्ड पनकी में 40 एम०वी००० ट्रांसफार्मर कन्ट्रोल एवं रिले पैनल को डिस्मन्टल कर नये पैनल के लगाने का कार्य।

निविदा संख्या - 60 / 2021-22 विद्युत प्रेषण खण्ड प्रथम के अन्तर्गत 220 क०वी० आर०पी०एच० पर 33/0.4 क०वी० 250 क०वी००० स्टेशन ट्रांसफार्मर की रिपेयरिंग एवं ओवर हालिंग का समस्त कार्य।

निविदा संख्या - 61 / 2021-22 विद्युत प्रेषण खण्ड प्रथम कानपुर के अन्तर्गत 220 क०वी० आर०पी०एच० पर घास कटाई सम्बन्धित समस्त कार्य।

निविदा संख्या - 62 / 2021-22 विद्युत प्रेषण खण्ड प्रथम कानपुर के अन्तर्गत 132 क०वी० पनकी-आजाद नगर लाइन की पेट्रोलिंग एवं अनुखण का कार्य।

निविदा संख्या - 63 / 2021-22 विद्युत प्रेषण खण्ड प्रथम के अन्तर्गत 132 क०वी० बिल्हौर एवं दादानगर पर 33 क०वी० रिले के स्थान पर न्यूमेरिकल रिले की रिवट्रोफिटिंग सम्बन्धी समस्त कार्य।

निविदा संख्या - 64 / 2021-22 विद्युत प्रेषण खण्ड प्रथम कानपुर के अन्तर्गत 220 क०वी० रनियां पर अनुखण एवं परिचालन का वार्षिक कार्य।

निविदा संख्या - 65 / 2021-22 विद्युत प्रेषण खण्ड प्रथम कानपुर के अन्तर्गत 220 क०वी० सिकन्दरा पर अनुखण एवं परिचालन का वार्षिक कार्य।

निविदा संख्या - 56 से 60 तक दिनांक 14.12.2021 एवं निविदा सं० 61 से 65 तक दिनांक 15.12.2021 को खोली जायेगी।

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत पारिण मण्डल, प्रथम पनकी, कानपुर

पत्रांक- 1415 / वि०प्र०म०प०(का०) / टी०-1 दिनांक 25.11.2021

"यद्युहित मे बिजली बचाये"

उपभोक्ता सेवा हेतु समर्पक करें - www.uppcl.org

After the act, he dropped the girl on the outskirts of Kosi Kalan area of Mathura, the victim revealed before the police.

The main accused, identified as Tejveer, was arrested by the police on Thursday, while his accomplice in the act, Digambar, was still on the run, Superintendent of Police (Rural) Shrish Chandra said.

Both accused belong to Manpur village of Palwal, Haryana, and two teams had been formed to nab the absconding second criminal, the SP (Rural) said.

According to police, Tejveer had met the victim through social media and won her confidence. On the basis of an FIR filed by the brother of the girl, a medical examination was conducted on the girl and her statement was recorded under Section 161 of the Indian Penal Code, police said.

The car used in the incident has also been recovered. Both the accused are 22-25 years old, police disclosed.

AKTU convocation on December 16

The 19th convocation of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Technical University will be held on December 16 under the chairmanship of Governor Anandiben Patel, Chancellor of the technical university.

AKTU spokesperson Asheesh Mishra said former director of IIT-Kanpur Prof SG Dhande would be the chief guest on the occasion. Medals will also be awarded in PG courses.

A medal will be awarded to the topper. A gold, silver and bronze each will be awarded in MTech and MPharm in affiliated government and private sector institutions. In addition, eight gold, four silver and four bronze medals will be awarded in constituent and educational autonomous institutions.

Shah Alam quits BSP

Lucknow (PNS): After party MLA from Sagri assembly constituency in Azamgarh, Bandana Singh quit the party to join the Bharatiya Janata Party on Wednesday, in yet another major setback to the Bahujan Samaj Party, its legislature party leader Shah Alam alias Guddu Jamali also left the party on Thursday.

Shah Alam is the sitting MLA from Mubarakpur assembly seat in Azamgarh.

Shah Alam sent a letter to BSP supremo and former chief minister of Uttar Pradesh, Mayawati, on Thursday morning, informing her about his decision to leave the party. He also resigned from all posts.

Alam's quitting the party is seen as a big blow to the BSP. He wrote a letter to the BSP supremo telling her that he was resigning with a heavy heart. He said in the letter that the talks that took place between him and Mayawati last Sunday suggested that the

CITYBRIEFS

11 FRESH DENGUE CASES DETECTED

Eleven fresh cases of dengue were detected in Lucknow on Thursday. The cases were found in Indiranagar, Aliganj, Silver Jubilee, Tudiaganj, NK Road, Red Cross, Malihabad, Chandannagar, Sarojininaragar and Aishbagh areas. CMO teams inspected 3,828 houses and issued three notices. Meanwhile, an official from the CMO office said the samples collected from Azadnagar and LDA Colony tested negative for Zika virus infection. District malaria teams visited Triveninagar, Kalbe Abid, Jankipuram, Ismailganj, Rajendranagar, Babu Banarasi Das and Malviya Nagar wards, spreading awareness about preventive measures.

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice
On behalf of the President of India, acting through Chief Administrative Officer/Con., N.E. Railway, Gorakhpur invites the following E-works/Tenders:-
S.No.-1, E-Tender No.: Dy. CE-Con-Br.-GKP-19-2021 Dated: 15-12-2021, Name of work: Construction of Major bridge no. 176 for double line, Store building and AXEN office cum supervisor's room in Track machine Shed, Service buildings, RCC over head tank and other miscellaneous work at Gorakhpur Cantt. for yard remodeling in connection with proposed doubling between Gorakhpur Cantt.-Valmikinagar. Approximate Value (Rs.): ₹ 14,05,62,244.36, Earnest Money (Rs.): Cost of Tender Form (Rs.): Completion Period: 09 (Nine) Months.
• Bid starting date on 01-12-2021.
• Last date of submission of above E-Tender upto to 15:00 hrs. on 15-12-2021.
• Date of opening of above E-Tender 15:30 hrs. on 15-12-2021 • Detailed tender notice, eligibility, criteria, terms & conditions are available on website <https://trends.govin>. • In case any disparity arises between Hindi and English version of tender notice, English version will hold good and will be followed.

XEN/Con/Survey
Gorakhpur
CPRO/W-278
About any passenger amenity complaint
SMS on Mob. No.: 09794845955
Never travel on roof and foot boards.

WEBINAR

In order to take forward the mandate of 'National Organ Transplant Programme' and to create awareness about organ donation, State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation, UP, and the department of Hospital Administration, Sanjay Gandhi Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, will hold a webinar on stakeholders obligation and a prize distribution on the occasion of 12th Indian Organ Donation Day on November 27. Principal Secretary, Medical Education, Alok Kumar will deliver a talk on 'Organ and Tissue Donation: Need of the Hour', which will be followed by a deliberation by president of SGPGIMS and Chief Secretary RK Tiwari on the 'Importance of Organ and Tissue Donation: Government Perspective'.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This is notified for the information of all concerned that Railways have decided to revise the timings of the following trains on below mentioned stations as under :-

Revised Timings of Train No. 19038 Barauni Jn. - Bandra Terminus Awadh Express (Daily)

Station	EXISTING TIMINGS		REVISED TIMINGS		W.E.F.
	Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.	
ETAWAH	03:38	03:40	03:53	03:55	01.12.2021
SHIKOHABAD JN	04:20	04:22	04:28	04:30	
FIROZABAD	04:43	04:45	04:58	05:00	
TUNDLA JN	05:40	05:45	05:35	05:40	

Revised Timings of Train No. 14853/14863/14865 Varanasi Jn. - Jodhpur Jn. Marudhar Express (Daily)

Station	EXISTING TIMINGS		REVISED TIMINGS		W.E.F.
	Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.	
ETAWAH	04:05	04:07	NO CHANGE		01.12.2021
SHIKOHABAD JN	05:00	05:02	NO CHANGE		
TUNDLA JN	05:55	06:00	05:50	05:55	

For any kind of information such as detailed Time-Table of stations enroute and composition etc., passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTES App.

All norms of the State and Central Government regarding COVID-19, may please be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.

Please join us on
RailMadad Helpline No. 139
Visit RailMadad Website :- www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in
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DELHI JAL BOARD GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (M-57/AEE-T)
M-16 MAYUR VIHAR PKT E-PHASE II NEW DELHI-110091

"STOP CORONA"; 1. Wash Your Hands, 2. Wear Mask, 3. Maintain Social Distance

SHORT NOTICE TENDER PRESS NIT_41/ East-I (2021-22)

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Contract Value (ECV) Amount put to tender	Earnest Money (EMD)	Tender Fees	Date of Release of tender in E-Procurement Solution & Tender ID No.	Last Date/ Time of receipt of tender E-Procurement Solution
1.	Removal of contamination by replacement of 100 mm dia old and damaged water supply network along Sharma Bakery, Shaheed Ravi Kant Marg, Bhagat Singh Marg of West Gurgaon Angad Nagar and Link streets of Gurgaon Angad Nagar Extension Laxmi Nagar constituency AC-58 in East-I	28,30, 628.00	Exempted Vide Office memorandum No.F/34/2020-PPD and DJB endorsement No: DJB/20-21/Misc-II (PT)/971 Dated: 23.12.2020	500.00	24.11.2021/ 2021_DJB_211490_8	02.12.2021 At 03:15 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at (<https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>)
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 658 (2021-22) (Pratap Singh) EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (M)-57

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (M)-10
H-BLOCK UDYOG NAGAR INDL. AREA PEERA GARHI CHOWK NEW DELHI-41

"STOP CORONA"; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

NIT No.42/EE(M)-10/ACE(M)/7(2021-22) Press Notice Tender

S. No.	Name of Work	Amount Put to Tender (Rs.)	(EMD)	Tender Fees	Date of release of tender procurement solution/D. & No.	Last date/time of receipt of tender E-procurement solution
1.	Desilting of 900 / 1000 / 1100 mm dia Trunk Sewer from SPS camp no. 3 to Arvind Enclave Xing at Rohitak road in Mundka AC-08 under ACE(M)7	Rs. 33,64,097/-	Office memorandum No.F/34/2020-PPD 12.11.2020 and DJB endorsement No: DJB/20-21/Misc-I (PT)/971 Dated: 23.12.2020	500/-	24/11/2021/- 2021_DJB_211527_1	18-12-2021 at 3.00 P.M.
2.	Boring and installation of 02 Nos. tubewells and Providing laying and interconnecting the water lines to Kargula water supply by extraction of ground water at Kamla UGR in Mundka Constituency AC-08 under EE(West)-a.	Rs. 36,30,300/-		500/-	24/11/2021/- 2021_DJB_211529_1	18-12-2021 at 3.00 P.M.

Further details in this regard can be seen at (<https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>)
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 656 (2021-22) (Himanshu Agarwal) EX. ENGINEER (M)-10

BARODA U.P. BANK
(Branch – Yashoda Nagar Address: 128 Y/N 2/51 A Yashoda Nagar, Kanpur Nagar- UP)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Here by this is to inform that under named borrower has not repaid principal and interest thereon of the loan. Therefore the loan became NPA on below dated. A notice under section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and was issued at last known address, which was returned undelivered. Therefore we again inform to under named borrower/ guarantor by this public notice to repay the loan amount due including interest and other expenses as mentioned in this notice within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice otherwise bank will take action u/section (8) of 13 of the act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets, that after publication of public auction/inviting quotation/tender/private treaty your right to redeem the secured assets will not be available.

Name and Address of Borrower/Guarantor and Security agreement with brief Description of Securities/NPA date & outstanding amount as per Demand Notice

Borrower: M/s New Siddhi Vinayak Collection, Address: LIG-3/554 Gangapur Colony, District-Kanpur Nagar. Proprietor: Mr. Ankur Dwivedi s/o Keshav Saran Dwivedi R/o: LIG-3/554 Gangapur Colony, District-Kanpur Nagar. Guarantor: Mrs. Beena Dwivedi w/o Mr. Keshav Saran Dwivedi, Address: House No. 554 LIG-3 Gangapur Colony, Kanpur Nagar & Mr. Utkarsh Tiwari s/o Laxmi Kant Tiwari, Address: 19/14 Gangapur Colony, Kanpur Nagar. NPA date: 28.06.2021. Demand Notice Date: 08.09.2021.

Description of Mortgaged Property: Land & Building, House No. 556 LIG Phase 3, Gangapur Colony, Machariya, Kanpur Nagar, in the name of Mrs. Beena Dwivedi W/o Keshav Saran Dwivedi, Area: 60.00 Sq. mt., Bounded-East: House No. L-557, West: House No. L-555, North: 6 meter road, South: House no. L-569.

O/s Amount as per Demand Notice: Rs. 10,31,054/- (as on 08.09.2021)+ Intt + other charges

Date : 24.11.2021 Place: Kanpur Authorised Officer

61 hotspots identified for drive against dengue

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

As many as 61 hotspot areas have been identified in eight blocks of rural area for surveillance in the district during the ongoing continuous drive since July last, informed the Nodal Officer and Additional Chief Medical Officer (ACMO) Dr SS Kanojia. ‘As many as 40 rapid response teams (RRTs) have been constituted, in which 16 teams are in rural areas and 24 teams in urban areas apart from constituting 868 monitoring committees including 694 teams in rural areas and 174 teams in urban areas. During this, 1,47,689 medical kits were also distributed,’ he said.

According to Dr Kanojia, the work of breeding checker is being done by 2072 ASHAs in

rural areas and in rural areas, the work of anti-larval spraying is being done by the Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committee in 694 gram panchayats in collaboration with the Panchayati Raj department. ‘Apart from this, 60 breeding checker teams have been deployed for urban areas,’ he added.

Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr Rahul Singh said that every dengue patient does not need platelets. ‘Who is to have platelet transfusion and who is not to be transfused, it depends on the individual case,’ he said. ‘There is a need to be vigilant against dengue and malaria. If the services of the hospital are taken as soon as the symptoms are seen, then the disease will not be able to become serious,’ he added.

‘Patients with diabetes, high blood pressure, heart diseases, weak immune system and pregnant women should immediately consult a doctor in the nearest government hospital as soon as symptoms of dengue and malaria appear,’ he said, appealing to the people to keep cleanliness around their houses and do not allow water to collect apart from using mosquito nets while sleeping. If the patient comes to the government health centre, the same is referred to Sir Sunderlal Hospital in Banaras Hindu University (SSH BHU) or Pt Deendayal Upadhyay Hospital (DDU) Hospital, Pandeypur for confirmation of dengue.

District Malaria Officer Sharat Chand Pandey said that during the campaign, anti-larval spraying is being done in

3,756 areas apart from investigation in 95,403 houses and since July, larvae were found in total 307 houses.

The fogging work was done by the Municipal Corporation in 90 wards of the new urban area. Besides, 16 teams were deployed in the district to investigate nursing homes and private pathologies. Since July, 214 confirmed dengue patients have been found in the district and out of them, 52 patients are admitted.

‘In 2017, as many as 605 dengue and 406 malaria patients were found in the district while the same number was 327 and 340 in 2018; 550 and 271 in 2019; 13 and 46 in 2020 and 214 and 130 patients this year so far,’ he informed.

4 of a family found murdered

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

Four members of a Scheduled Cast family were done to death allegedly by the influential “Thakurs” of the village in the trans-Ganga area of Phaphamau on Wednesday night. Relatives and villagers are levelling allegations on the police of providing patronage to the culprits.

SSP/ DIG Sarvashreshtha Tripathi said he came to know about the dubious role of the local police. Strict action will be taken against those found guilty. Some suspects have been detailed and the police will work out this case soon, said Tripathi.

The villagers said that the torn clothes of a woman and her 17-year-old daughter suggested that they were raped

before being murdered. The bodies were found lying in a pool of blood on Thursday morning. They were killed with an axe which was recovered from the spot.

The family of Phul Chand lived in Mohanganj village near Gohari crossing under Phaphamau police station and according to reports, some influential “Thakurs” of the village were trying to grab the agricultural land of that family. The family had lodged FIRs in this regard in 2019 and again in 2021, but the police continued to put pressure on the family to withdraw the FIR and persuaded for a compromise. The relatives said that the “Thakurs” had beaten up the family a few days ago and threatened to kill them, but the police did not initiate action

against them.

The villagers protested when the police tried to send the bodies for autopsy. The SSP/DIG assured that the killers would be arrested and action against police personnel who ignored the complaints of the family under the influence of some musclemen of the area would also be taken.

YOUTH DRUGGED, KILLED: A 21-year-old passenger returning from Mumbai was killed by drug peddlers. The incident came to light only when the body of the youth was identified. The Khuldadab police registered a case against Shakeel and Saddam after a complaint was lodged by victim's brother Lovlesh.

Shailendra, a resident of Poorab Saranwa, West Shara in

Kaushambi district, lived and worked in Mumbai. He was returning home on Diwali. His brother Lovlesh told the police that on October 22, Shailendra reached Chheeki station by a train. After that he went missing and did not reach home.

His family members lodged a missing report at the Khuldadab police station. Meanwhile, a body was found in the Puramufti police station area. Shailendra's family recognised him. The next day, a relative of a Jhalwa resident said that Shailendra was going home on a motorcycle along with Shakeel and Saddam of the adjacent village.

It was alleged that Shakeel and Saddam drugged and killed Shailendra and dumped the body in the Puramufti area.

Swarnim Vijay Mashal reaches NCR HQ

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

The ‘Swarnim Vijay Mashal’ reached North Central Railway Headquarters on Thursday. As part of commemorative events of 50 years of Indian victory in 1971 Indo-Pak war, the ‘Swarnim Vijay Mashal’ was lit up by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Vijay Diwas(December 16) 2020 at National War Memorial in New Delhi. It was brought to the NCR Headquarters by a contingent of Armed Forces in a decorated gypsy. Sportspersons of NCR and Bharat Scouts and Guides welcomed the Mashal with waving of tricolors in their hands as it traveled to reach the sprawling lawns of NCR Headquarter where the main function was organised in the lap of the National Flag flying 100 feet high in the sky. As the Mashaal alighted the vehicle, it was escorted by the army Bagpiper towards the saluting base. RPF parade led by Parade Commander Yogesh Rana gave the Guard of Honour to the ‘Swarnim Vijay Mashal’. It was handed over to General Manager, NCR, Pramod Kumar by Brig Ajay Pasbola, Station Commander and DyGOC, Purva UP and MP Sub area. A symbol of courage and prowess, the Mashaal was installed at the saluting base by the General Manager, assisted



by Ravinder Verma, IG/RPF/NCR, as the guard gave general salute to the Mashal. The salute was followed by the National Anthem.

The General Manager paid tribute to the gallant action of brave soldiers in the Indo-Pak war of 1971 and recalled the contribution of Indian Railways in troop mobilisation. Kumar took pride in informing that Indian Railways ran well over 2,000 special trains for movement of defense forces and equipment during the war and 800 special trains were run after the end of conflict to move prisoners of war and refugees.

Kumar specifically mentioned the contribution of 1033 Railways Engineers Territorial Army commanded by Lt Col ML Khanna, whose 1000 railwaymen turned armymen TA

battalion, was called upon to activate and then operate the work of 40 km rail line of the Pakistan Railways in the middle of Thar Desert that straddles the two countries at that point. The task acquired great urgency as our advancing troops were left with meagre rations of food, water and ammunition. The task was completed in a day and in the bombings that were encountered during the operation as the unit advanced, locomotive driver Durga Shankar sustained burn injuries and offered to drive with his elbows. The loco pilot was decorated with the Veer Chakra while the unit was awarded with two Vishisht Sewa Medals.

The General Manager also recalled the speedy work done by Indian Railways in restora-

tion of communications and Railways at the end of war in the newly developed nation, Bangladesh.

He spoke about the various activities being undertaken by NCR in coordination with Indian Defence Forces and assured the officers of defense forces that NCR is ready to respond to the call of the nation whenever need arises. Following the speech by the General Manager, the RPF Band displayed its skills by playing the tunes of patriotic songs which received wide accolades.

The Mashal was then handed over to the sportspersons of NCR by the General Manager who later handed it over to the RPF for final handing back to the Army.

Live Commentary of the event was done by Krishna Tiwari, Secretary, Scouts and Guides NCR while the proceedings were conducted by CPRO Shivam Sharma. The function was broadcast live on YouTube with live streaming at various stations of NCR.

SRDSC/RPF/PRYJ Manoj Singh coordinated the entire event with the defense forces.

The function was attended by the officers from Defense Forces, senior officers of North Central Railway, DRM/Prayagraj and the officers from 970 Railway Territorial Army, Jhansi.

Beautification work of Khirkhiya Ghat to be completed by Nov 30: DC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Divisional Commissioner (DC) Deepak Agrawal conducted on-site inspection of beautification and redevelopment of Khirkhiya Ghat and Dashashwamedh as well as Benia Bagh parking construction work here on Wednesday. Expressing displeasure over not making the ramp so far in accordance with the instructions given earlier during the inspection, the DC directed the concerned engineers to get the ramp constructed immediately.

According to Agrawal, more than 95 per cent work of ghat beautification has been completed and the entire work will be completed by November 30, maintaining the mythological importance of the ghat. ‘Toilets for tourists and visitors, seating benches, shade and eco-friendly plants, jetties and ramps for boats and cruises, parking for vehicles, wide long beautiful ghat stairs, four food courts, some small shops etc made with elegance and beauty have been made apart from establishment of a CNG station from where vehicles and boats can take CNG,’ he said, adding that so far, more than 200 boats have been converted to CNG.

The DC said that there would be connectivity of Khirkhiya Ghat with Rajghat and there would be no erosion



DC Deepak Agrawal inspecting progress of beautification work at Khirkhiya Ghat in Varanasi on Wednesday.

Pioneer

due to this beautification work. He visited each and every point on foot from the Khirkhiya Ghat to Rajghat and gave necessary directions to the working organisation for better construction from the point of view of public utility and tourism.

‘As the devotees and tourists from all over the world come to Kashi throughout the year and lakhs of people come on some festivals and occasions, this Khirkhiya Ghat will prove to be a tourist centre of good quality,’ he added.

Later, Agrawal did the on-site inspection of Dashashwamedh Plaza. ‘The plaza will have three storeyed grand shops and catering space with a basement.

It has 181 shops, restaurants and 12 food courts apart from a grand place for tourists to buy Banarasi food and goods near the banks of the river Ganga,’ he said, adding that it will be a good centre for devotees and tourists to go on foot from Godowlia to Dashashwamedh, visit the Ganga ghats, sit in an open and

clean environment for food and drink and shopping for Banarasi goods.

He directed the officers concerned to complete the work before December 10 by launching a drive on war footing. He also directed to repair the road leading to Dashashwamedh Ghat immediately.

Then he also inspected the vehicle parking space being built in the Benia Bagh Maidan and gave strict instructions to the officers to complete the work immediately.

Swami Omkaranandaji offers Dugdhabhishek at KV temple

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Maintaining his tradition for the last 10 years, the Mahadhipati of Omkara Ashram (Puducherry) Swami Omkaranandaji Maharaj offered Dugdhabhishek at one of the Dwadasa Jyotirlingas Kashi Vishwanath temple with 1008 litres of milk during the wee hours here on Thursday in the memory of Sidh Mata and for the welfare of the world. Then he visited Swami Vitraganand Saraswati Nanga Baba Ashram in Ramana village and worshipped 1,008 cows, performing Sahas Puja, along with his devotees.

Later, Swami Omkarananda visited Assi



Omkara Ashram devotees going to Kashi Vishwanath temple for offering Dugdhabhishek in Varanasi on Thursday.

Pioneer

Ghat and Nagwa and donated annadaan (food) to the 1,008 poor and helpless people and Vastradaan (garments) to 600 women. In the evening, he offered Rudra Bhoomi Pujan at Shivala Ghat. According to him, he did all the religious rit-

uals in this holy city for world peace. He said that the country always led in this direction to work for universal peace and welfare.

When asked about the ongoing Kashi Vishwanath Corridor work, Swami

Omkarananda said that it is a beautiful work that will give more convenience and pleasure to the devotees coming from the different parts of the country and abroad.

Earlier, on his arrival in the city, Swami Omkarananda said, ‘Kashi is the seed of India and India is the seed of the world. It is imperative that we serve the world, live in harmony, thank the divine consciousness for creating it and strive to seek the divine in their lifetime.’ The progress at the Kashi Vishwanath temple is commendable.’ Among those who were also present were Swami Koteswaranand, Satya Sivakumaran and J Ramakrishna.



Officiating V-C Prof VC Shukla flagging off BHU's mountaineering team for Garhwal Himalayan Range in Varanasi on Wednesday.

BHU mountaineers leave for Garhwal Range

VARANASI (PNS): A 12-member team of students of the University Mountaineering Centre was flagged off by the Officiating Vice-Chancellor of the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) Prof VK Shukla from Malviya Bhawan on Wednesday evening. Centre in-charge Prof Anil Kumar Singh said that this team under the leadership of the centre's instructor Balram and team in-charge Shiv Narayan Yadav will conduct snow craft, ice craft, cervical techniques and other winter exercises on the snowy mountain named Kedarkhand (Kedarkantha) of

Garhwal Himalaya Range, Uttarakhand. This place is associated with the mythological stories of Mahabharata.

He said that it is a famous winter track destination in

India where the temperature is minus 10 degree Celsius and the altitude of this region is about 12,500 feet above sea level. There are a total of 12 members in this campaign

team, including students including leader Pratima Yadav, deputy leader Shubham Jaiswal, quarter master Chandan Kumar Mishra, medical officer Sakshi Sonkar, information officer Vandana Gupta, luggage officers Vishwajit Yadav and Manish Kumar, transport officer Rajnish Kumar and recreation officers Vishishta Upadhyay and Diwakar Raju.

The team will return on December 5. During the flag off ceremony, Prof Anil Kumar Singh, Jai Prakash Yadav and many others were also present.

ALLAHABAD (PNS): Once again after two years, the famous 12-day Rashtriya Shilp Mela will be organised here in the premises of North Central Zone Cultural Center (NCZCC) from December 1. The Shilp Mela could not be held in the past two years due to Covid-19. Craftsmen will gather from many states of the country. On Wednesday, in the presence of Director Professor Suresh Sharma in NCZCC, a lottery process was held for the allotment of shops. Along with this, the picture of the craft fair has also started taking shape. After two years, now the people of the city are going to get a chance to spend the evening at the fair and enjoy the variety of food along with shopping. The fair is famous all over the country because it gives a sample of handicraft workmanship, glimpses of folk culture and cultural events. Apart from locals, people living in remote areas also visit the fair.

Professor Suresh Sharma said the lottery process has been adopted for allotment of shops in the fair because the number of applicants was huge and the space is limited.

LECTURE ON UTILITY OF PROPER, PRACTICAL TRAINING: A lecture on the utility of proper and practical training for the officers of the Central Organisation for Railway Electrification (CORE) was organised by SPS Chauhan, Director General, Indian Railways National Academy, Vadodara at its office headquarters here on Thursday.

General Manager of CORE Yashpal Singh felicitated SPS Chauhan with a bouquet of flowers in the Panchsheel auditorium. Indian Railways National Academy produces excellent officers of the Indian Railways, which are an important component of the railway transport infrastructure in India. The academy was established about 160 years ago.

Chauhan underlined the

utility of adequate training on subjects like Project Management, Inventory Management, Budgeting and Arbitration for the officers of the CORE. He said that due to Covid protocols, all the courses are still being conducted through online mediums. But in the near future, it is possible to conduct the course inside the Vadodara campus as well, he added. He said that human resource is a very important resource of any organisation whose efficiency determines its success. Therefore, development of this resource is an important issue for Indian Railways. Yashpal Singh exhorted the officers to take field training seriously. He said that the officers should also do the field assignments related to the subjects on which classroom training is given in a time bound and quality manner.

VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP CONCLUDES: The District Volleyball Championship 2021 conclud-

ed at Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology And Sciences (SHUATS) on Thursday. Dr C J Wesley, Joint Registrar, and Chairman of Athletic committee and Patron DVA, SHU-ATS, was the chief guest of the closing ceremony. Dr Sunita B John, Secretary, Athletic Committee, SHUATS, appreciated Ashish for his contribution in making the competition a success. DVA President Prabhath Kumar Rai thanked SHUATS Athletic Committee and District Volleyball Association for organising the championship. On Thursday, in the men's category, the Postal Team beat CD A Pension 25-20, 25-16, 26-24. In the women's category, Mayo Hall defeated Phaphamau 25-23, 23-25, 25-15. All the officers of DVA and SHUATS Core Committee members were honoured with badges. Mahoba CO RP Rai was honoured by DVA & Athletic Committee of SHUATS.



President Ram Nath Kovind and Governor Anandi Ben presiding over the function on Thursday.

Pioneer

Prez asks educational institutions to make India a knowledge superpower

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

President of India Ram Nath Kovind, while chairing the centennial celebrations of Harcourt Butler Technological University on the newly-constructed premises on Thursday, said educational institutions would have to contribute majorly towards achieving the goal of making India a knowledge superpower.

He said it was worth appreciation that HBTU was striving towards giving a concrete shape to the National Education Policy 2020 and added that it was a matter of pride that the university today was ranked 25th on the merit list which was in fact a milestone.

He said under the NEP, such strategies needed to be adopted which took nutrition from the rich cultural traditions of the country and adopted such practices which were an amalgam of modernity and future oriented. He said it was a universal truth that only those countries progressed and remained in the forefront that gave priority to innovations and new technologies and also armed its countrymen so as to remain always prepared to pick up the gauntlet in the coming

times.

He said the NEP would give a boost to the Gandhian philosophy and also give momentum to scientific and technical research especially linked to Indian languages. Kovind said he was confident that HBTU would expand the philosophies of NEP in all its prominent institutions and make India a superpower in the coming times.

President Kovind reminisced his school and college days and said the visits to the institutions of Kanpur pushed him down memory lane and said his major part of his educational life was spent in Kanpur which was known as Manchester of the East, Leather City of the World, Industrial Hub and this all gave a sense of pride to the people of not only Kanpur but the entire state and country as well.

He said India had increased its dominance in the technical arena but still India had to go much ahead and thus it was important to have institutions like HBTU. He said all the technical institutions should strive to expose their students to investigations, innovations and entrepreneurship and develop a desire to

achieve their goals. He said today one had to become a job giver rather than remain a job seeker.

Speaking on the digital economy, President Kovind said today Indian youth were carving a niche for themselves in the field of entrepreneurial success which was unparalleled. He said a few years ago this was never even dreamt by anyone. He said the 13 entrepreneurs who took birth in India after 1990 had become owners of assets worth Rs 1,000 crore and their ratio was around 65 per cent and they had succeeded on the strength of self-reliance and become successful. He said any technology developed in India could be considered successful only when it benefited the people at the grassroots level.

He said the HBTU along with the IITs would help develop prototypes in the areas of education, health, employment and environment which would help the country to make rapid advancements. He said the progress of the country's daughters was always impressive but in technical education the participation of girls was not satisfactory. He said the ratio of boys and girls in PhD

was nearly equal but in BTech and MTech the ratio was unsatisfactory. He said today there was a need to push the girls further in the technical field.

President Kovind said recently he had felicitated those involved in urban cleanliness and a total of 300 prizes were given and said that Kanpur, which was on the 173rd rank in 2016, had leapfrogged to 21st position in 2021 and said it was encouraging but still not satisfactory. He said Kanpur was a densely populated city in the entire state. He said if the people of Kanpur firmly resolved to solve this malady and made it a jan andolan then it would be successfully able to achieve its goal. He said one needs to visit Indore and learn how it had become the cleanest city in India.

He earlier dedicated 10 buildings and released a stamp, coin and coffee table book.

Governor Anandiben Patel, Satish Mahana, Jitin Prasada HBTU Vice Chancellor Dr Shamsheer Singh were also present on the occasion. On this occasion, President Kovind felicitated former directors, former vice chancellors , former teachers and students.

Panki Power House officials agree to construct road

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

On the initiation of the Vice Chairman, Kanpur Development Authority, Arvind Singh, the officials of Panki Power House have agreed to start construction of damaged road from Panki to Shatabdi Nagar on Thursday. It may be recalled that during his inspection of the main road from Panki to Shatabdi Nagar on November 20, KDA Vice Chairman Arvind Singh had expressed displeasure over the dilapidated condition of the road. He was informed that the said road, constructed by KDA, was damaged during construction of Thermal Power Plant by the Panki Power House. The construction of boundary wall had also taken place there by dismantling the drainage system situated on the roadside. Several complaints lodged by the local residents and correspondence made by the KDA also failed to attract attention of Power House officials. The issue could only be resolved after physical inspection carried out by the KDA VC on November 20 when he directed the officials to get the damaged road constructed and the drainage system repaired within two days. They were also directed to apprise him about their action taken against the Panki Power House. In the light of his directives, senior engineers of the Panki Power House had orally assured to repair the drainage system by themselves and reimburse the 50 per cent cost incurred on the road construction on November 22. On Thursday, the chief engineer, Panki Power House submitted his written consent to KDA to execute both the jobs in the interest thousands of people residing there.

LIC honours winners of Olympic and Paralympics

KANPUR (PNS): The Life Insurance Corporation of India felicitated winners of Olympic and Paralympics in a grand function organised in their honour at Mumbai on Thursday.

In the recently concluded Tokyo Olympics 2020, the performance of Indian athletes was indeed commendable. The nation registered its best ever performance with the haul of seven medals, including a gold. To recognise their achievements, the LIC felicitated the gold, silver and bronze medal winners in different streams. The move of LIC was to encourage the players and those who reached up to the 4th position but missed the bronze medal were also felicitated. Events were organised in the hometowns of the players and the cash award was handed over to the players by senior dignitaries of the LIC.

Nothing succeeds like success! After the Tokyo Olympics 2020, performance in recently concluded Tokyo Paralympics 2020 was indeed stunning. This was a historic event with India registering its best ever performance which will be an inspiration for the future generations. The grit and excellence displayed by Indian athletes was admirable. The nation registered its best ever performance with a haul of 19 medals, including five gold, eight silvers and six bronzes.

Honouring the Paralympic winners in a manner similar to honouring the winners of Tokyo Olympics encouraged all such athletes to excel in their field. LIC honoured not only 19 medalists with cash prizes but also felicitated seven players who occupied 4th position in their respective events. All the events were organised in the hometowns of the players.

GUEST HOUSE OWNER ATTEMPTS SUICIDE: A guest house and sweet shop owner attempted to commit suicide by shooting himself from his licensed revolver in Rawatpur under Kalyanpur police station on Thursday afternoon.

Hearing the gunshot, the family members rushed to the spot and took him to a near by hospital where his condition was stated to be under control.

Gorakhpur-Madgaon spl to run tomorrow

CORRESPONDENT ■ GORAKHPUR

The railway administration will for the convenience of the passengers run the 05029 Gorakhpur-Madgaon special train for the convenience of passengers from Gorakhpur for a single journey on November 27 (Saturday). All the coaches in this train will be of reserved class and passengers traveling in it will have to follow the Covid-19 prevention guidelines, Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO) Pankaj Kumar Singh said.

The 05029 Gorakhpur – Madgaon special train will on November 27 (Saturday) depart from Gorakhpur at 08.45 hrs, from Khalilabad at 09.22 hrs, from Basti at 09.53 hrs, from Gonda at 11.15 hrs, from Aishbagh at 14.10 hrs, from Kanpur Central at 15.40 hrs, from Jhansi at 19.05 hrs, from Bhopal at 23.40 hrs, second day from Itarsi at 02.00 hrs, from Khandwa at 04.50 hrs, from Bhusawal at 07.10 hrs, from Manmad at 09.20 hrs, from Kalyan at 13.27 hrs, from

Panvel at 14.35 hrs, from Roha at 16.07 hrs, from Chiplun at 18.22 hrs, from Ratnagiri at 19.20 hrs, from Kankaveli at 21.02 hrs, from Sawantwadi Road at 21.36 hrs, from Thivim at 22.08 hrs, from Karmali at 22.27 hrs and reach Madgaon at 23.55 hrs. A total of 17 coaches, including 15 of sleeper class and two of SLRD coaches will be attached in this special train.

EXPERIMENTAL STOPPAGE

For the convenience of the passengers the railway administration has provided experimental stoppage to the 12353/12354 Howrah-Lal Kuan-Howrah weekly express at Sasaram railway station of East Central Railway (ECR) for six months, CPRO said. The 12353 Howrah – Lal Kuan weekly express from November 26 will arrive at Sasaram railway station at 16.00 hrs and depart at 16.02 hrs. In the return journey, the 12354 Lalkuan-Howrah weekly express from November 27 will arrive at Sasaram railway station at 09.35 hrs and depart at 09.37 hrs.

New Jalpaiguri–NDLS biweekly from Nov 27

CORRESPONDENT ■ GORAKHPUR

The railway administration will for the convenience of passengers run the 12523/12524 New Jalpaiguri-New Delhi-New Jalpaiguri biweekly superfast express train regularly from New Jalpaiguri from November 27 twice a week on every Tuesday and Saturday and from New Delhi from November 28 two days a week i.e. on Wednesday and Sunday. All coaches in them will be of reserved class and passengers will have to follow Covid-19 prevention guidelines, CPRO Pankaj Kumar Singh said. The 12523 New Jalpaiguri – New Delhi biweekly superfast express will from November 27 twice a week i.e. every Tuesday and Saturday depart from New Jalpaiguri at 08.15 hrs, from Kishanganj at 09.26 hrs, from Katihar at 11.55 hrs, from Khagaria at 13.50 hrs, from Rusera Ghat at 14.30 hrs, from Samastipur at 15.25 hrs, from Muzaffarpur at 16.15 hrs, from Hajipur at 17.15 hrs, from Sonpur at 17.27 hrs, from Chhapra at 18.55 hrs, from Siwan at 19.45 hrs, from Deoria Sadar at 20.46 hrs, from Gorakhpur at 22.10 hrs, from Gonda the second day at 00.40 hrs, from Lucknow at 03.20 hrs, from Moradabad at 08.48 hrs, from Ghaziabad at 11.11 hrs and will reach New Delhi at 12.00 hrs. In the return journey the 12524 New Delhi - New Jalpaiguri biweekly superfast express will from November 28 twice a week i.e. Wednesday and Sunday depart from New Delhi at 15.05 hrs, from Ghaziabad at 15.53 hrs, from Moradabad at 18.33 hrs, from Lucknow at 23.45 hrs, the second day from Gonda at 02.05 hrs, from Gorakhpur at 05.00 hrs, from Deoria Sadar at 05.55 hrs, from Siwan at 06.55 hrs, from Chhapra at 07.55 hrs, from Sonpur at 09.00 hrs, from Hajipur at 09.15 hrs, from Muzaffarpur at 10.10 hrs, from Samastipur at 11.25 hrs, from Rusera Ghat at 11.54 hrs, from Khagaria at 13.00 hrs, from Katihar at 15.25 hrs, from Kishanganj at 17.00 hrs and reach New Jalpaiguri at 18.35 hrs. In this train a total of 22 coaches, including one of generator-cum-luggage van, four of AC III class, one of AC II class, 13 of sleeper class, two of general second class and one of SLRD will be attached in this train.

MUMBAI CENTRAL-BHAGALPUR WEEKLY

For the convenience of the passengers the railway administration will run the 09185/09186 Mumbai Central- Bhagalpur (BGP)-Mumbai Central weekly reserved special train from Mumbai Central on November 27, December 4, 11 and 18 and from Bhagalpur on November

30, December 7, 14 and 21 for four trips. All coaches in these trains will be of reserved class and passengers travelling in them will have to follow the Covid-19 prevention guidelines, CPRO Pankaj Kumar Singh said. The 09185 Mumbai Central-Bhagalpur weekly reserved special train will on November 27, December 4, 11 and 18 (Saturday) depart from Mumbai Central at 11.05 hrs, from Borivali at 11.46 hrs, from Vapi at 13.24 hrs, from Surat at 14.43 hrs, from Vadodara at 16.38 hrs, from Ratlam at 20.25 hrs, on second day from Kota at 01.10 hrs, from Sawai Madhopur at 02.22 hrs, from Gangapur City at 03.25 hrs, from Bharatpur at 05.00 hrs, from Achhnera at 05.50 hrs, from Mathura at 06.45 hrs, from Kasganj at 08.15 hrs, from Farrukhabad at 09.45 hrs, from Kanpur Central at 13.10 hrs, from Aishbagh at 14.45 hrs, from Barabanki at 15.47 hrs, from Gonda at 16.40 hrs, from Basti at 18.05 hrs, from Gorakhpur at 20.25 hrs, from Kaptanganj at 22.15 hrs, the third day from Narkatiaganj at 00.25 hrs, from Bettiah at 01.02 hrs, from Bapudham Motihari at 02.00 hrs, from Muzaffarpur at 03.40 hrs, from Samastipur at 04.30 hrs, from Barauni at 05.50 hrs, from Begusarai at 06.08 hrs, from Munger at 07.15 hrs, from Sultanganj at 08.15 hrs and will reach Bhagalpur at 10.00 hrs. In the return journey the 09186 Bhagalpur-Mumbai Central weekly reserved special train will on November 30, December 7, 14 and 21 (Tuesday) depart from Bhagalpur at 05.00 hrs, from Sultanganj at 05.24 hrs, from Munger at 06.30 hrs, from Begusarai at 07.27 hrs, from Barauni at 08.10 hrs, from Samastipur at 09.20 hrs, from Muzaffarpur at 10.40 hrs, from Bapudham Motihari at 11.55 hrs, from Bettiah at 12.37 hrs, from Narkatiaganj at 13.45 hrs, from Kaptanganj at 17.00 hrs, from Gorakhpur at 19.15 hrs, from Basti at 20.26 hrs, from Gonda at 22.05 hrs, the second day from Barabanki at 00.07 hrs, from Aishbagh at 01.55 hrs, from Kanpur Central at 03.40 hrs, from Farrukhabad at 06.00 hrs, from Kasganj at 07.45 hrs, from Mathura at 10.10 hrs, from Achhnera at 11.30 hrs, from Bharatpur at 12.32 hrs, from Gangapur City at 14.45 hrs, from Sawai Madhopur at 15.22 hrs, from Kota at 16.45 hrs, from Ratlam at 20.20 hrs, from Vadodara at 00.45 hrs, from Surat at 02.47 hrs, from Vapi at 04.07 hrs, from Borivali at 06.48 hrs and reach Mumbai Central at 07.20 hrs. A total of 20 coaches, including one of AC second class, three of AC third class, 12 of sleeper class, two of general second class and two of SLRD will be attached in this special train.

Three arrested for murder

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

Katra Kotwali police arrested three accused in connection with a murder case on Wednesday. ASP (City) Sanjay Kumar Verma told mediameen at Katra Kotwali on Wednesday that Ashish Kumar Gupta was shot dead in a marriage party around 1.00 am on Monday. After registering a case of murder under Section 302 of IPC the police started investigating the matter, he aid. As per the police, the main accused Farooq confessed that following a dispute over money he had hatched a conspiracy to kill Ashish. The ASP said that act-

ing on the findings of investigation the police arrested Farooq, Aman Shah and Satyam Singh.

CLAIM: Chairman Uttar Pradesh Vyapar Kalyan Board Ravi Kant Garg while interacting with the media at BJP office on Wednesday claimed that it was Yogi government which was providing a congenial atmosphere to the traders. He said the government was with the metal traders. During the press conference several BJP leaders, including Gyan Prakash Dubey, Lalloo Ram Modanwal and Vishwa Nath Agrawal were present.

MEETING: A meeting to

approve proposals for silt cleaning and bed scraping of canals of Irrigation department was held at Collectorate on Tuesday. Presiding over it ADM (Namami Gange) Amarendra Verma directed the officials concerned to carry out the works with quality and transparency. The meeting was also attended by CO (Sadar) Shailendra Tripathi along with officials concerned.

ONE DIES: Mira Kumari (20) fell into a well and died in Purnain Aichtpur village under Adalhaat police station on Wednesday. Police reached on the spot and completed the legal formalities.

AGM conducts footplate inspection

PNS ■ VARANASI



Additional General Manager (AGM) of North Eastern Railway (NER), Amit Kumar Agrawal, on Wednesday in his one-day inspection programme under Varanasi Division on Gorakhpur-Chhapra rail section-situated Deoria Sadar and Chhapra stations and from Deoria Sadar to Chhapra by train No 12530 Lucknow-Patliputra Superfast Express conducted footplate inspection to ensure safe operation of trains in bad weather. During the inspection along with AGM, Additional Divisional Railway Manager (Operations) Shiv Pratap Singh Yadav, Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer (C&W) Satyaprakash Srivastava, Senior Divisional Engineer (SDE)-I JK Singh, Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (Operation) Anil Kumar

Srivastava, Senior Divisional Engineer (Traction) Pankaj Kesharwani along with senior railway officers, supervisors and other railway personnel were present. AGM Amit Kumar Agrawal while doing footplate inspection by train No 12530 Lucknow-Patliputra Superfast Express reached Chhapra railway station, inspected passenger amenities and thereafter did extensive inspection of crew lobby,

guard/loco pilot running room and Chhapra coaching depot. Besides, under passenger facilities at Chhapra Jn the AGM also inspected the platforms, general passenger hall, rest rooms, circulating areas etc and gave instructions to the officials regarding the cleanliness at the station premises, following of Covid-19 prevention rules and maintenance in the offices of the station, Public Relations Officer (PRO) Ashok Kumar said.

Jewar to bring Noida, Greater Noida at par with Gurugram: Realtors

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The proposed international airport at Jewar in Uttar Pradesh is likely to boost property market of Noida and Greater Noida and will bring the two cities at par with Gurugram, according to real estate developers and consultants. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday laid the foundation stone for the Noida International Airport at Jewar in Uttar Pradesh, which would be one of the largest in Asia. Commenting on the development, industry body CREDAI-NCR President Pankaj Bajaj said: "Noida has been waiting for this day for 20 years. Noida has competed with Gurugram as the premier suburb of Delhi with one hand tied behind its back." Corporates and MNCs have always preferred

Gurugram over Noida due to the proximity of Indira Gandhi International Airport, despite Noida having better infrastructure and access from Delhi, he said. "Over the next few years, this differential will disappear," Bajaj said, adding that the sentiment in Noida market is reflecting the expectation of a property boom. Amit Goyal, CEO, India Sotheby's International Realty, said: "This is a big plus for the commercial and residential real estate in Noida, Greater Noida and Taj Expressway. The new upcoming airport changes the dynamics of NCR real estate, bringing the Noida Region, at par with Gurugram." The current land prices, apartments and office rentals in the region are far lower than Gurugram, he said. "If the timelines of deliver-



ing the airport comes through as per schedule, we believe the gap will narrow substantially. In anticipation, the rates will start moving as well," Goyal said. Manoj Gaur, CMD Gaurs Group, said the proposed airport is a phenomenal news for the upliftment of the region.

"The increasing business activity will also ensure employment opportunities that should result in increased demand for residential as well as commercial properties," Gaur said. Rishi Raj, COO, Max Estates Ltd, said Noida is see-

ing an increase in government investment, as well as growth of social infrastructure and employment opportunities. "Noida is steadfastly emerging as an equal counter-part to Gurugram as the preferred location for commercial and residential real estate alike.

Noida accounted for 55 per cent of office space leasing in the first quarter of FY 2021, witnessing an increase in net absorption from the previous quarter," Raj said. Deepak Kapoor, Director, Gulshan Group, said this is a great news and is definitely going to position Noida on a global map. Amit Modi, Director, ABA Corp and President elect CREDAI Western UP, said this is going to be a gamechanger for the region of Noida, while Migsun group MD Yash Miglani said the demand for residential and commercial real estate will be undergoing a sea of change as a new class of corporate buyers and investors will be entering the market. "With an estimated cost of Rs 34,000 crore, the airport, once completed, will ease traf-

fic at the IGI Airport, create a massive number of jobs for the local population, and give a major impetus to the property market in Noida, Greater Noida, and Yamuna Expressway," Anarock Vice Chairman Santosh Kumar said. Subhankar Mitra, Managing Director, Advisory Services, Colliers India, said: "Jewar airport is going to be beneficial for the tourist circuit of Agra and Mathura. Tourists don't have to travel and stay in Delhi for the same. There is a big potential for a multimodal logistics hub between Greater Noida and Jewar, the airport is going to augment that. Going forward it will create jobs and demand for affordable housing will get a boost." Housing.com Research Head Ankit Sood said the Jewar airport will act as a pivotal factor in the overall growth

of Noida and Greater Noida in the coming times. "We already see that residential demand in the micro-markets around the upcoming airport have gained momentum with September 2021, surpassing the 2020 levels, despite the setback of the COVID-19 second wave," she said. The Noida International Airport will help spur residential, commercial and hospitality activities in the region but the biggest beneficiary will be Faridabad a city equidistant from Delhi, Gurugram and Noida/Greater Noida, Omare MD Mohit Goel said. "Faridabad is an already inhabited micro-market as compared to Yamuna Expressway, where the airport is coming up. Therefore, the chances of the former appreciating more than the latter is higher," he said.

BJP building airports only to sell them off, later, says Akhilesh

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party (SP) President Akhilesh Yadav on Thursday said the BJP is laying the foundation stone of Noida International airport while selling other existing airports in the country. Addressing a rally organised by Janwadi Party (Socialist), an SP ally, near Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport in Lucknow, Akhilesh said, "How can the BJP be believed when on one hand it is making new airports, and on the other hand selling the existing ones?" The Lucknow airport was given on lease to a private company earlier. The SP chief's comments came on the day when Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the Jewar International Airport in Greater Noida. "One government airport was sold and the other is

being made. I fail to understand the reason. BJP said the poor with slippers will travel in aircraft, the poor should let the BJP know how many of them have travelled in planes," he said. He said the BJP government is engaged in disposing of airports and asked who is profiting from these airports, when even the Delhi Airport is suffering losses. He asked what will happen to the rights and honour of the people in a country where public property is sold off. "In a country where things are sold off, government institutions are sold off, what will happen to the rights and honour for which Ambedkar gave us the Constitution, what will happen to the future generations? Who will give them jobs, livelihood and reservation?" said the former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister at the Janwadi Jankranti Maharrally.

Such steps during poll time raise doubts over govt's intention, says Mayawati

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

On a day Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for Noida International Airport, BSP supremo Mayawati on Thursday said such a step at the time of elections has created doubt about the "intention and policy" of the government. She also said the previous Uttar Pradesh government under her regime had given new dimension to development with Taj International Airport and Ganga Expressway, but the then Congress government at the Centre created obstacles. "The BSP government had

given new dimension to employment and development in Uttar Pradesh through projects like Taj International Airport and aviation hub in Jewar area of Gautam Budh Nagar and 8-lane Ganga Expressway from Noida to Ballia. But despite all the preparations, the Congress government did not cooperate," Mayawati said in a tweet in Hindi. "The foundation stone of these ambitious schemes (Noida airport at Jewar) has been laid almost a decade after the tenure of the SP and the BJP government, whereas such development work should have been completed on time. But

now it is natural to doubt the intention and policy of the government when its foundation is laid at the time of elections, she said in another tweet. The BSP leader said the judiciary has also expressed displeasure towards the acquisition of land without proper compensation and rehabilitation for the airport project. BSP has always been in favour of freedom from poverty, unemployment, backwardness and migration, and is a supporter of overall development of the state, irrespective who is ruling (the state), she added. Taking a swipe at previous governments, Prime Minister

Narendra Modi on Thursday said Uttar Pradesh was kept in deprivation and darkness earlier but it is now getting what it always deserved and is making its mark internationally under a "double-engine" BJP rule. After laying the foundation stone for the Noida International Airport at Jewar in Uttar Pradesh, which would be one of the largest aerodromes in Asia, Modi highlighted the development activities in the poll-bound state and said the new airport will help the state become an export-centre whereby even MSMEs will have easier access to overseas markets.

Over one lakh jobs to be created: UP govt

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday laid the foundation stone for the Noida International Airport at Jewar in Uttar Pradesh. It will be one of the largest airports in Asia. The airport, the second international aerodrome in Delhi-National Capital Region, is expected to be operational by September 2024 with an initial capacity to handle 1.2 crore passengers per annum. The airport, spread over 1,330 acres of land, will be developed by Zurich Airport International AG. On Wednesday, Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said the Noida International Airport will become one of the largest airports in Asia. It will be the fourth largest international airport in the world and the project would create more than one lakh job opportunities, according to the Uttar Pradesh government. The first phase of the aerodrome is being done at a cost of more than Rs 10,050 crore, and the ground work regarding land acquisition and rehabilitation of the affected families has been

completed, an official release said on Tuesday. The airport at Jewar will help decongest the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport in the national capital. It is strategically located and will serve the people of cities including Delhi, Noida, Ghaziabad, Aligarh, Agra, Faridabad and neighbouring areas, the release said. It will also be the country's "first net zero emissions airport". According to the Union government, the airport will be the logistics gateway of northern India, and with its scale and capacity, the aerodrome will be a "game changer" for Uttar Pradesh. For the first time, an airport has been conceptualised with an integrated multi-modal cargo hub, with a focus on reducing the total cost and time for logistics. The dedicated cargo terminal will have a capacity of 20 lakh metric tonnes, which will be expanded to 80 lakh metric tonnes. The airport will also develop a Ground Transportation Centre that will feature a multi-modal transit hub, housing metro and high-speed rail stations, taxi, bus services and private parking. Among other aspects, the

airport will be linked to the planned Delhi-Varanasi high speed rail, enabling the journey between Delhi and the airport in only 21 minutes, the release said. There will also be a state-of-art MRO (maintenance, repair and overhauling) service. The airport will introduce a swing aircraft stand concept, providing flexibility for airlines to operate an aircraft for both domestic and international flights from the same contact stand, without having to re-position the aircraft. In a release on Thursday, Zurich Airport International said the Noida International Airport will combine Indian culture, hospitality and design with Swiss technology and efficiency. The airport, to be built through Public Private Partnership (PPP) with an overall investment of Rs 5,730 crore, will be a digital airport, offering passengers a safe and contactless travel experience as well as customised commercial offerings, the release said. In December 2020, Zurich Airport International had selected a consortium consisting of Nordic, Grimshaw, Haptic and STUP as the architects to design the passenger terminal of the airport at Jewar.

According to the release, the airport's terminal forecourt will feature flights of steps like the famous ghats of Varanasi and Haridwar. "Delivering the look and feel of a haveli, a courtyard will allow fresh air and sunlight into the terminal building. Inspired by the important rivers of the region, a white, translucent, wavy roof will give the effect of a flowing river. "The passenger terminal will feature intricate ornamental lattice screens, inspired by Indian architecture. Noida International Airport will showcase a grand entry to the state of Uttar Pradesh," it added. Christoph Schnellmann, Chief Executive Officer of Yamuna International Airport Private Ltd (YIAPL), said the Noida international airport will connect western Uttar Pradesh to other Indian cities and the world. "This world class airport will set a benchmark in aviation infrastructure and development of multiple-airport systems in India. Yamuna International Airport Private Ltd (YIAPL), in which Zurich Airport International has 100 per cent stake, will be developing the airport.

'Airport will change fortunes of west UP'

PTI ■ NOIDA

Uttar Pradesh will have over 20 airports, including five international ones, in the coming years, state Civil Aviation Minister Nand Gopal Gupta said on Thursday during the foundation-laying ceremony of the Noida International Airport. Gupta thanked the prime minister for the project on behalf of the 24 crore people of Uttar Pradesh. Regarding aviation infrastructure in the state, he said, "Uttar Pradesh will have 21 airports, including five international airports, in the coming years." Heaping praise on the Centre for expediting the project, Gupta said, "It has happened often that files related to the Jewar airport got cleared within a day. This airport was just an advertising object during the days of the previous governments, which like a genie came out of a bottle only during elections." Ahead of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls due early next year, the BJP leader also took on opposition SP and BSP, accusing these parties of nepotism, dynastic politics, corrup-

tion and mafia raj during their governments in the state. "But now, Yogi's bulldozer is crushing the black empires of corrupt people of the previous governments.... *Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas* is not merely a slogan but the objective of the BJP," he said. Jewar MLA Dharendra Singh said this is the first time that a prime minister came to Jewar, which was counted among the backward constituencies until recently. Singh, who played a key role in the land acquisition negotiations for the greenfield project, also thanked the people of Jewar for their support in the construction of what will become 'Asia's biggest airport'. Gautam Buddh Nagar MP Mahesh Sharma said the airport will change the fortunes of western Uttar Pradesh. "I was fortunate that under Prime Minister Modi, I was the minister of state for Union civil aviation when this airport project was almost gone. It was Prime Minister Modi's vision that the Delhi airport will not be able to bear the passenger burden after 2023 and a new airport was needed in the NCR," he said.

"It was to be decided where the new airport should be built — Bhiwadi in Rajasthan or somewhere in Haryana or here in Jewar. The fight continued for long and eventually, you (Jewar) won this fight for the international airport," the former Union minister said. Sharma said Jewar has been lagging behind in terms of development but will transform in the coming days and thanked the people of the region, including the farmers. He said the airport will give a boost to local trade and business. Citing his interactions with the locals, Sharma said the

rates of land in the areas near the airport have already gone up by "two to three times". "Had the farmers of this region not supported this project, the dream for this airport could not have been realised," Rajya Sabha MP and BJP leader Surendra Singh Nagar said, expressing gratitude to the farming community.

FORM NO.5
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL
600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow-226007
(Area of Jurisdiction-Part of Uttar Pradesh)
Summons for filing & Appearance by Publication
O.A.No. 261/2021
Date. 10.11.2021
(Summons to defendant under section 19(3) of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)
Original Application
No. 261 of 2021
ICICI BANK LTD. ...Applicant
Versus
T.R. DIAMONDS PVT. LTD. & OTHERS ...Defendant
To.
1. T.R. DIAMONDS PVT. LTD. (BORROWER)
(Through its Director Mrs. Minu Mehrotra & Mr. Aweg Mehrotra Rohit House 1 Sahanzaf, Road, opposite Saharanjan, Lucknow-226001, U.P.)
Also at:
1 Vidhan Sabha Marg, Lucknow-226001 U.P.
2. MINU MEHROTRA (GUARANTOR OR CUM SECURITY PROVIDER)
1st Floor Govinda, 25 Newal Kishore Road Lucknow- 226001
3. Mr. AWEG MEHROTRA (GUARANTOR/ MORTGAGOR)
1st Floor Govinda, 25 Newal Kishore Road Lucknow- 226001
In the above noted application, you are required to file in Paper Book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on 04/02/2022 at 10.30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decide in your absence
Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal Lucknow

BARODA U.P. BANK AUCTION NOTICE
SALE NOTICE BY TENDER OF MOVEABLE PROPERTIES
The vehicle mentioned below financed by Baroda U.P. Bank will be Auctioned as per Terms & Conditions as stated below:

Sl. No.	Description of Vehicle	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Account Number & Branch	Date of Auction Time	Venue of Auction
1	Registration No. UP78 GA 9216 (Maruti Wagon R LXI) Chasis No. : 249957 Engine No. : 320586	Reserve Price Rs. 3,60,000/- EMD - 18,000/-	5688060000417 Saket Nagar Branch	28.12.2021 3:00 PM	Baroda UP Bank Regional Office 117/N/26 Kakdeo Kanpur

TERMS & CONDITIONS : 1. The auction of the above vehicle will be on "As is, where is" & "As is, what is" basis. 2. Interested bidders can contact the branch manager Saket Nagar Branch, Mob. 7310108574 before the date of auction, for inspection of the vehicle. To participate in the auction the bidder should deposit the earnest money (EMD) by 27.12.2021 through NEFT or CASH (with KYC) in our RO Sundry SARFAESI Auction A/c No. 56710200000290, IFSC: BARB0UPGBX 3. Interested Bidder has to submit application to participate in the auction with Bidding amount, EMD deposit receipt/UTR No. along with self attested KYC (Aadhar, Pan Card, Driving License etc.) in sealed envelope on auction date at our Regional Office, Kanpur. Vehicle will be sold to highest bidder. 4. After auction successful bidder has to deposit the auction amount before 3:00 PM on 04.01.2022 or else the EMD of successful bidder will be forfeited. 5. The successful bidder shall bear all the necessary expenses needed for transfer of the vehicle in his/her name. 6. Decisions of authorised officer regarding deceleration of successful bidder, in case of any dispute arises as to the validity of the Bid (s), amount of bid EMD or as to the eligibility of the bidder, authority of the auction representative from the bidder interpretation & decisions of authorised officer should be final and shall be final & binding on all the bidder. 7. Sale Certificate shall be issued only after depositing of complete auction amount, the vehicle registration will be transfer to successful bidder only.
Date: 23.11.2021 Place : Kanpur Nagar Authorised Officer, Baroda U.P. Bank

Office of the Project Manager, Construction Unit, Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam, Pithoragarh
फोन / फॅक्स: 05964-224084 ई-मेल: pmpithoragarh@gmail.com
Letter No. 1317/NIVIDA/170 E-Tender Notice
Dated : 24.11.2021
Project Manager, Construction Unit, Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam, Near Hanuman Mandir, Pithoragarh (Pithoragarh) 262501, on behalf of Chairman Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam invites item rate tender on E-Government Procurement System (e-GPS) portal i.e. - <http://www.uktenders.gov.in> for following works :-

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Estimated cost of work	Letter No.	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Documents (in Rs.)	Validity Period	Work Completion period	Contractor Registration
1	Construction of Mini Stadium at Sosa (Tisiyankang), Block-Dharchula, Distt.-Pithoragarh	Rs. 72.76 Lacs	Letter No. 1309/ Nivida/167 Dt. 24.11.2021	As per Bid Securing Declaration	Rs. 2000/-+ GST @18% (Rs.360) Total = Rs. 2360/-	02 Month	12 Month	Category "B" (Building - Work) in Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam
2	Construction of Mini Stadium at Manmanle (Jholkhet), Block-Dharchula, Distt.-Pithoragarh	Rs. 74.01 Lacs	Letter No. 1310/ Nivida/168 Dt. 24.11.2021					

The Tender Form and other details can be downloaded from above portal from **25.11.2021 at 17:00 hrs. to 09.12.2021 at 17:00 hrs.** Other details/information related to Addendum / Corrigendum letter / Cancellation etc. related to the E-Tender can be seen on the portal www.uktenders.gov.in
(Sanjeev Verma)
Project Manager

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Honours your trust

UCO BANK
Zonal Office : 75/4, Siddhi Sadan, Halsey Road Near Badshahi Naka Police Station, Kanpur - 208001
E-mail : zokanpur.rec@ucobank.co.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES [See proviso to Rule - 8(6)]
Borrower(s) M/s. Shri Kuberji Supplier & Distributor (Prop. Smt. Sushma W/o. Shri Rishi Pandey), Address:- Mohalla Badanpur, Auraiya, Pargana & District Auraiya. Guarantor(s) Shri Rishi Pandey S/o. Shri Santosh Kumar, address:- Mohalla Badanpur, Auraiya, Pargana & District Auraiya. Branch Name: Auraiya (2954)
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) that the below described immovable property(ies) mortgaged/charged to "UCO Bank Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of UCO Bank Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis on 28-12-2021, for recovery of Bank's Dues from Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) to UCO Bank Secured Creditor. The details are described as below:

Name & Address of Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date Possession Notice Date	Description of Immovable Property(ies) with known encumbrances, if any	Bank's Dues	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit
Branch:- Auraiya, Distt. Auraiya Contact Number(s):- +91-9935119438, +91-9639662842; Email Id:- auraiya@ucobank.co.in, zokanpur.rec@ucobank.co.in	14-07-2021	All that part and parcel of the property consists of Land & Building measuring 85.50 Sq. Mtr. as per Bahi No. 1, Zild No. 7376, Page No. 131 to 190, Sl. No. 2406 registered on 05.03.2019 at Sub-Registrar Sadar Auraiya situated at Kasba Khanpur (Tilak Nagar), Pargana and District Auraiya standing in the name of Shri Rishi Pandey S/o. Shri Santosh Kumar resident of Mohalla Badanpur, Auraiya, Pargana & District Auraiya.	Rs. 10,25,507.52 (Rupees Ten Lakh Twenty Five Thousand Five Hundred Seven and Paise Fifty-Two Only) as on 13.07.2021 (inclusive of interest upto 31.12.2020 & 31.08.2020 in cash credit & FITL accounts respectively) with Further Interest and Incidental Expenses, costs etc. till date of Payment.	Rs. 19,36,000/- Rs. 1,93,600/-

Last Date for submission of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) for Bid : 27.12.2021 upto 4:00 PM as per (IST)
Date & Time of E-auction : 28.12.2021 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM as per (IST) with unlimited extension of 10 minutes each with Bid Incremental Amount of Rs. 10,000/-
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit the websites <https://www.msccommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp> & <https://www.ibapi.in>
The Borrower's and/or Guarantor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section 8 of section 13 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.
Note:- Hindi & English versions of this Notice are being published in Hindi & English Newspapers respectively. It is clarified that in case of any contradiction in Hindi and English version of the Notice, the English version of the Notice will prevail.
Date: 26.11.2021 Place: Auraiya Authorized Officer (UCO Bank)

Clean up!

The parties that select candidates with criminal records should face the possibility of deregistration

The judiciary, the executive and the legislature agree that politics has to be decriminalised. Where they disagree is on the extent of decriminalisation. The judiciary asks the latter to amend existing laws to permanently ban convicted persons from contesting elections. The executive is unwilling to take that step. The process of decriminalising politics, as a result, is held to ransom by the lack of unanimity among the pillars of democracy. The Supreme Court on Wednesday raised the issue once again, asking whether the Government was amenable to amending the law. There was no clear response from the Government. The row finds resonance at a time when assembly elections are due in several States including Uttar Pradesh that has the largest number of criminal cases pending against sitting and former legislators. Over 1,300 such cases are being heard in 63 specially constituted courts. Many of the cases have been dragging on for years. At the national level, the Association for Democratic Rights informs us, 363 MPs and MLAs have declared criminal cases against them. The cases, in which charges have been framed, have been pending anywhere between five and seven years. There are over a score MPs with 43 cases between them, and over 100 MLAs with 315 cases, pending for 10 years or more. There are over 170 cases where the punishment is a life term. It is not known how many sitting members did not disclose any cases against them.



The question is, should one go the whole hog to decriminalise politics. As of date, legislators convicted of a crime and given a minimum of two years imprisonment stand disqualified. A landmark judgment of the Supreme Court also said they cannot contest elections for six years after their release. Out of the hundreds of legislators who face thousands of cases against them, only 11 have been disqualified so far. That is a poor conviction rate by any standard. The well-known reason for this is that cases drag on, or are dragged on, for years and the accused persons contest polls during the pendency. The Supreme Court also raised the question of whether a person should be disqualified from membership in a legislative body on the mere framing of criminal charges against them, but a five-judge bench ruled it could not disqualify them at that stage. Instead, it asked the Government to bring in such a law. The Government, which is against the recommendation, evades a clear stand on the principle of decriminalisation. Politics cannot be decriminalised by mere disqualification for a certain time. The disqualification has to be permanent upon conviction in heinous criminal cases. Where charges are framed, the courts must dispose of them within a specified time so that the accused face automatic, permanent disqualification upon conviction. Political parties which select candidates with criminal antecedents should face the possibility of derecognition or deregistration. Will the cat bell itself?

PICTALK



Devotees cover the Yamuna with sarees during Chunari Manorath festival, in Mathura

PTI

Water woes

There's a pressing need to nationalise rivers in the subcontinent before we perish

Early this week, when the shutters of Aliyar Dam in Tamil Nadu were raised, there was a major protest demonstration by the people of Palakkad in Kerala. The water level in Kannadipuzha flowing from Tamil Nadu to Kerala rose to an alarming level and put the lives of thousands of people staying along the banks of the river in danger. The proactive media in both the States conveniently blacked out the report. The shutters of Aliyar Dam were opened by the Tamil Nadu Government to save the lives of its people along this river. The concern of the TN Government to save the lives of its people from the impending disaster is understandable. But the DMK Government should show the same concern for the lives of more than four million people in Kerala who stay along the banks of Mullaperiyar Dam which may burst any time once the water level in this largest and oldest gravity dam in the country crosses the 138-ft mark. As pointed out by this newspaper in a report, the Mullaperiyar Dam is a water bomb ticking by the second and the possibility of a major disaster stares the people of four Kerala districts in the face. The 140-year-old dam has outlived its utility and age has caught up with it.



It is time to decommission this dam and build a new one, as suggested by the Kerala Government. But, strangely, Tamil Nadu vehemently opposes this idea. Geologists have warned time and again that the region around Mullaperiyar Dam is "pregnant with earthquakes". While Tamil Nadu turns a blind eye towards this warning, the State's politicians are highly critical of the Centre's move to build the Indian Neutrino Observatory in the region and cite studies by geologists to oppose the proposed research laboratory. Aren't these double standards exposing Tamil Nadu's 'Heads I win, Tails You Lose' attitude? Tamil Nadu's opposition to the Karnataka Government's move to build the Mekedatu Dam across the Cauvery river is the same. Karnataka has the right to build a dam on its own land and there are no laws restraining it. The Mullaperiyar Dam agreement has inherent weaknesses in it. The Union Government and the Supreme Court should not take recourse in the apology that "though laws are there, public resentment has to be taken into consideration". It is time rivers in the subcontinent are nationalised and people — irrespective of region, religion, caste and community — get justice equally.

Supranationalism will hold us back

Marxism believes the nation-State to be an exploitative instrument of capitalists, just as Islam believes it to be the death of its faith



PRAFULL GORADIA

The recent war of words, law and politics began when Aryan Khan, the son of Bollywood actor Shahrukh Khan, was arrested and kept behind bars for some weeks. The Left-Liberals vociferously alleged that that this happened because he is Muslim, forgetting that he is half Hindu. This controversy grew louder and worse when Indian bowler Mohammed Shami gave away a few runs to Pakistani batters in the recent T20 World Cup. I feel this is a baseless allegation; and I am neither Liberal nor Left. To make matters worse, Pakistani Home Minister Sheikh Rasheed declared "Indian Muslims share our sentiment", which can mean that they are all Muslims first and Indian or Pakistani later.

At Etawah in Uttar Pradesh, the State's former CM, Akhilesh Yadav has compared Pakistan's founder MA Jinnah to Nehru, Sardar Patel and even Gandhi. "They had all combined to win independence", said Akhilesh. UP CM Yogi Adityanath has taken strong objection to such comparisons, but no Muslim appears to have contradicted Akhilesh. There are innumerable such instances around the Muslim identity. The late Syed Shahabuddin repeatedly advocated the importance of Muslim identity above most issues. His pet expression was "Muslim Indian"; he refused to ever say "Indian Muslim". Clearly, he meant that the pan-Islamic loyalty supersedes national identity.

The recent example of the Pakistani winners of the recent T20 cricket match emphasising that their triumph was that of Islam, and not merely of Pakistan, is by no means an isolated one. Some years ago, when Wasim Akram was the captain of a Pakistani team that lost a match to Bangladesh, Akram said he did not mind as Pakistan had lost to a "Muslim brother". This clearly meant that the *ummah* is far higher than the nation.

This Islamic supra-nationalism is unpopular as was the Jewish sentiment of "Jew first, and German, British or French later." The origin of supra-nationalism is probably a Judaic phenomenon. Jews were captured by the



Egyptians to work as labourers to build stone upon stone. It was clear that there was no Pharaonic intention to ever release them. The Jews felt cursed, miserable and hopeless. When their Prophet Moses, with Herculean difficulty, released them and led them to Israel, they could only think of God and overlooked any State or country. Ironically, they did not have either for centuries until the British helped them after World War II, in 1948.

Supra-nationalism has often been described as transnationalism, whereby a citizen's loyalty to his country is superseded by an allegiance beyond the borders to say, an empire, religion or something higher. In some ways, it is a suzerainty over and above sovereignty. A Jew's supreme allegiance is to Judaism and not to a country. Even after the nation called Israel was attained in 1948, for a Jew, Jehovah commands a higher loyalty. Chaim Weizmann, the leading figure in the movement for establishing a separate homeland for the Jews and Israel's first president, illustrated the point by saying, "There are no British or French Jews; there are Jews in Britain and France".

It is telling that the acclaimed poet Mohammad Iqbal who wrote 'Sare jahan se

achha, hindustan hamara' came back from Europe, turned supra-nationalist and remained so. Yet, he did not become a total separatist unlike Jinnah. In all probability, many a Muslim is similarly confused and is a prisoner of his feeling. Except the rich families, there is nowhere they can be welcome. Where then is there a place for supra-nationalist feelings? Have they, more particularly, not thought of what happened to the Jews in Germany and elsewhere?

The fourth Abrahamic sibling, Marxism too, is supra-national in nature. Marxists, in adherence to their supra-national nature and thinking, have destroyed their native countries. Does that mean that Muslims, who are also supra-national, would end up being destructive of their countries? Well, without the country of nature, their countries become poor. Their ethos does not encourage production or a productive culture. This has been explained most eloquently by Prof. Timur Kuran, who has proved how Islamic laws have held back the Muslim *ummah* in economic progress.

In sharp contrast, the Jews, who are also supra-national are believed to have the Midas touch. Their priority is the pursuit of wealth and successfully so. But Jews were unpopu-

lar in Europe, because they were suspected of caring more for themselves than for their countries.

The Marxists are another community of supra-nations without any faith in any god. In fact, they deny god and call religion "the opium of the masses". The objective of the communists is to unite the workers of the world. Their enemies were the rich or what they called the bourgeoisie, whose overthrow is necessary to what Marxists believe will be transfer of power to industrial workers or the proletariat. In a vicarious way, Marxists became enemies of even the small farmers by collectivising or taking over their farms. In the end, the Marxist ruined entire countries, as their history proves it.

In the pursuit of its supra-national ideology, Marxism also believes that the individual nation does not matter much. In fact, Marxism believes the nation-state to be an exploitative instrument of capitalists, just as Islam believes the nation-state to be the death of its faith.

(This is part of an ongoing series on Indian Partition.)

The writer is a well-known columnist, an author and a former member of the Rajya Sabha. The views expressed are personal.)

“
SUPRANATIONALISM HAS OFTEN BEEN DESCRIBED AS TRANSNATIONALISM, WHEREBY A CITIZEN'S LOYALTY TO HIS COUNTRY IS SUPERSEDED BY AN ALLEGIANCE BEYOND THE BORDERS; TO SAY AN EMPIRE, RELIGION OR SOMETHING HIGHER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NEED TO KEEP A CHECK ON POPULATION

Sir — The damage done due to excessive population growth is long-lasting. Let us not forget that the scars of the Emergency are still with us. Men used to be part of family planning initiatives but after they were forced to sterilise, they continued to remain completely out of family planning programmes even today. The Government now mostly works with woman and child health programmes. Mistakes of that era are not what new Governments with a robust electoral mandate would like to repeat.

Therefore, it is time to ask some of the prejudiced voices within the Government and the ruling parties not to venture into terrain they may not fully understand. Family planning programs benefit not only parents and children but also the society and nation by keeping the number of new births under control. A controlled population growth will allow sustainable distribution of resources among the already vast population of India. This would also help ensure that basic amenities are provided to every citizen of the country and natural resources, which are already depleting, do not get exhausted too early.

MR Jayanthi | Mumbai

A MOTHER'S BATTLE FOR HER BABY

Sir — A real-life story in God's own country Kerala has captured the imagination of the public. It was a powerful human drama involving a myriad of human instincts and emotions unfolding before our eyes. It revolved around the central theme of a mother's spirited fight to get back her child given in adoption by her parents without her consent. The pain of separation from her baby for more than a year was deeply moving and ennobling. The suspense and uncertainty ended with the DNA test results confirming that Anupama S Chandran and her partner Ajith Kumar are the baby's biological parents. The proof of parenthood provided by the paternity and maternity tests put an end to the legal wrangles and settled the matter once and for all.

Anupama's parents did wrong by forcibly taking away the baby (amount-

Jewar airport: New possibilities



The construction of the much awaited Noida International Airport, also called the Jewar International Airport, will bring new avenues for development not only in Uttar Pradesh but in Delhi and in the entire NCR region. Presently, the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI) is the only primary international airport serving Delhi and its surroundings which usually remains very busy, hence this new airport will help decongest the IGI airport. The Noida International Airport will be a state-of-the-art modern air-

port and the largest in Asia and the fourth largest in the world with six runways. Worldwide, all major metro cities have more than one airport, London has six, New York has three and Washington has three airports. Hence, the much awaited new Jewar airport is a welcome development for the entire region. The project is expected to finish up by 2024 and create employment and attract investment. The project will significantly boost commerce, connectivity and tourism which will bring new avenues of job opportunities for thousands of people during the construction and operation of the airport. The airport will also help exporters from Western Uttar Pradesh as it will directly connect major centers of export with international markets. It will have an integrated multi-modal cargo hub also. The project is indeed a step forward but we took a lot of time in taking this step. Now the Government must strive to complete the project well within the scheduled timeline.

Ramesh G Jethwani | Bangalore

ing to abduction) and handing him over to the Kerala State Council for Child Welfare just three days after birth on the utterly specious ground that the new arrival was out of wedlock. Nature or biology has not ordained wedlock for procreation. The relationship between mother and baby is special in the truest sense of the word. In this day and age we should be able to do without moral prudery and puritanism.

G David Milton | Maruthancode

GIVE EMPLOYMENT, NOT JUST FREE FOOD

Sir — The announcement of extension of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana till March next year is welcome. The announcement is apparently backed by political will ahead of the Assembly elections in various States. This decision to support poor Indians is absolutely appreciable. There are poor families in the country who still can't cope up with the economic upheaval of COVID-19. The Government data indicates that it is the

fifth phase of the PMGKAY, which aims to serve food to 80 crore families in the country by March 2022. The Government must be appreciated for their constant support to the poor.

However, it is also worth noting that the distribution of free food has its limits. One day it has to be stopped. It is, therefore, essential to ensure employment to the youth of this country rather than only ensuring their food needs. If the daughters and sons of a family get employment opportunities equivalent to their skills and potential, it will itself ensure their well being and healthy sustenance. The Government must prepare employment alternatives to make citizens meet their ends by themselves rather than providing free food. This is a crucial matter and it should not be taken up by the Central and State Governments.

Kirti Wadhawan | Kanpur

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUND BITE

I have got four months as CM, but I will do four years' work. Neither do I sleep, nor do I let officers sleep.



Punjab Chief Minister — Charanjit Singh Channi



A coalition Government should resign if a party chooses to leave the Government.

Swedish Prime Minister — Magdalena Andersson

I've always wanted a family and children. I realised that adoption was a way to marry both these things.



Actor — Swara Bhasker



This is very selfish from a bowler's point of view; I want the best gloveman behind the stumps. In my eyes, that's Tim Paine.

Australia spinner — Nathan Lyon

You can mean anything by 'Kheila Hobe', but it cannot be a provocation. It has been instrumental in our victory.



TMC leader — Saayoni Ghosh

FIRST COLUMN

INDIA SHOULD WORK ON NEW-AGE TRADE POLICY

Imposing high tariffs on imports to check trade imbalance won't yield much results



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

There are hectic times ahead for India to catch the bus on trade deals with major trading partners around the globe. India has been late on the global trading platform and has already missed several low-hanging harvest deals. A reviving inflationary economy in almost every corner of the globe, taken with severe supply chain issues due to over dependence on China, is forcing major economies to stitch trade deals with strategic partners and major trading blocs. The entire globe has huge dependence on China for automobile parts, steel, pharma products to IT hardware. Now crippled, due to delay or no supplies from China, most of them are looking at alternate destinations for securing their supply chains. India is not part of any major regional trading bloc after it walked out of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), led by ASEAN group of nations where there are several side shows at play. One of the key reasons for India walking out of RCEP is the China factor, where the latter has huge influence on shaping trade deals with ASEAN members. India has had a free trade agreement with ASEAN; however, the agreement was restricted to goods.




On review by Government of India, it was found that the free trade agreement (FTA) on goods with ASEAN created a trade imbalance skewed towards more imports from ASEAN to India. Several experts have pointed out the reason to be India not signing a simultaneous agreement on services, where India has competitive advantage. It is ASEAN member countries as a bloc that is being looked as a viable alternative by European Union and Australia due to their agile manufacturing policies. India, if it has to reach the stated target of \$2 trillion in exports from goods and services in the next couple of years, has to start working towards an integrated narrative on trade deals encompassing all government departments. The trade of 21st century is increasingly being dictated by digital trade policies and nudges on climate change, human rights issues.

India has done well to start looking at new partners for finalizing trade agreements in some form, including the European Union, Australia, United Kingdom and UAE. All of these are rich, developed economies where the considerations for finalising a deal are pretty mature. India has had a lull in its trade relationship with the US for nearly half a decade now, but there are signs of revival after the visit of US Trade representative Katherine Tai this week. The past principles of imposing high tariffs on imports as a measure to check trade imbalance and, or resist a not a so friendly country would not yield much results in the current situation. It can be counter-productive leading to India being isolated from lucrative trade agreements. Most economies today understand the power of data-driven opportunities for trade and India has to step up its game at the global stage on the digital front. Its digital policies need to be interoperable with its potential and existing trade partners. India's outlook to shape a futuristic digital economy could only be successful with the investments or riches generated through trade. Another issue that India needs to focus on is remove non-tariff trade barriers that manifest in cumbersome compliance requirements. These are seen as major hurdles to trade and have to be reviewed from economic advantage point of view. It requires the entire Government approach to gear towards reaching a \$2 trillion target.

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

Climate justice to net-zero emission: A change in narrative

India needs to emphasise to the world where its scorecard is better than many of the developed countries, who frequently lecture India on emission flows



SANJIB POHIT

Recently, yet another COPs meeting was held in Glasgow. Compared to the low-key meetings in the last couple of years, this year's meeting seems to have ended on a high note. The developed countries have been quite successful in delinking the narrative of stock of historical emission in the carbon space, contributed by the developed countries, to the issue of current emissions. The bad guys are of course the emerging countries like India and China.

The nudge towards this was slowly evident in the last few years when pressures in various forums was being built on developing countries to identify the peaking year of carbon emissions. Many countries including China followed suit and identified the peaking

year as per their development pathways. To my best knowledge, India never officially announced a peaking year even though they may have worked in the official circle before announcing 2070 as the target year for Net Zero emissions. A bold announcement by India's Prime Minister in a meeting like this gives a strong message.

As I recollect, a similar message by the Prime Minister in Paris meeting paves the way for the significant shift towards renewable in India's energy spectrum. However, the task is much more challenging this time. India has to depend mostly on own resources as developed countries are not very forthcoming in allocating funds to developing countries like India for the transition.



Moreover, as climate changes become more evident as years go by, it is expected that the pressure will be on all countries including India to advance the target year for net zero emissions.

Thus, India needs to do the homework seriously on pathways to reduce emissions. Also, India needs to emphasize to the world where its scorecard is better than many of the developed countries who frequently lecture India on emission flows. By and large, India

has taken has taken a laidback approach most of the time.

For instance, there are two board sources of emission: consumption process as well as production process. It is in our interest where we stand vis-a-vis each of the components. On the consumption side, India's households emit a minuscule compared to the rich households of the developed countries. This is true even for the ultra-rich households of India versus the same in developed countries. This happens because of contrasting life. Many of the Indian consumer electrical goods are energy efficient due to the introduction of star rating system of such goods by BEES, thereby lowering emission. Similarly, most of the Indian personal automobiles are fuel-

efficient compared to fuel guzzling automobiles of USA, leading to lower emission. However, Indians are not very forthcoming to point out these facts in the global meet with evidences. Alas, Indian researchers have not invested in this kind of fact-finding research for global consumption.

The production process needs more attention as most emission takes place here. Here also, there are sectors where Indian industries compare well with the developed ones. We need to do an objective analysis of such cases and produce evidence to the world. In the process, we will know where we need to take corrective actions. Of course, these need in-depth research where the funds need to be invested

by government and/or the private sector.

Over the years, a lot of investment came in the energy intensive sectors from the developed countries due to the laxity in Indian environmental norm. More such investments may be forthcoming as other countries strengthen their environmental norms to gear their economy towards net-zero emission target. It is high time that India also takes an objective decision regarding the environmental norm, how best these polluting industries may be modernized and whether the investment policy on establishing such industries should be revised. Our major trading partner, European Union, is discussing the imposition of a carbon border adjustment tax on imports based on the amount of carbon emissions resulting from the production of a product in question. India needs to have a well-thought-out policy on energy-intensive products.

India's agricultural practices need introspection. Free power, free water in the Northern India belt has encouraged deep-water paddy cultivation practices which inadvertently leads to higher emission. India's farm sector nearly accounts for 14 per cent of the country's total greenhouse gas emissions, preceded by electricity (44 per cent) and manufacturing industries and construction sectors combined (18 per cent). Thus, the farm sector needs special focus if we have to achieve net zero emission.

World Philosophy Day: Must be a good reason

Philosophy aims to further our knowledge, advance our reasoning abilities, explore our possible future as a species and stimulate the thinking capacity

It is nearly two decades since World Philosophy Day was established. Mostly, it is a day celebrated by philosophy departments, philosophy journals and publishers, and humanities scholars. Some of them organise outreach events on this day, the third Thursday of November (as formalised by the UNESCO) to share some of the core values in the modern academic discipline known as philosophy with the general public, especially the young who may have had very little exposure to it.

There is a central faith in philosophy which is that the life preserving apparatus within us is evolving steadily towards a better and wider understanding of the possibilities in our universe. This is not a far-fetched belief at all.

Many of today's designers and testers of intercontinental missiles may not have reflected on how ancient communities developed archery to obtain food and to discourage raiders. It is quite sophisticated to speak of vibrations and String Theory in the 21st century, but for users of mere sticks and spears to use a narrow strip of hide as a bowstring to launch a sharp shaft was a leap of imagination. Very likely, it was discovered in play by children and adapted by an astute adult observer. So do not lose sight of whatever it is your kids are engrossed in!

As with many other lofty achievements and ambitious dreams of humankind, Philosophy too has particularly simple origins. And in the way that school physics teaches us how an arrow could fly by informing us about kinematics, deformation due to strain, velocity, the parabola, and the law of gravitational attraction - it is possible to outline in a classroom setting, the methods by which human thinking can soar.

We initially develop our reasoning abilities because the right conclusions can prove extremely advantageous or even save our lives. A freshly killed prey is a sign that the predator is still in the vicinity. The size of the prey is an indicator of how dangerous its attacker. A question, whether and how soon hyenas will arrive, could arise depending on one's knowledge of the territory.

To interpret phenomena and respond accordingly is part of our nature. Realising the value of accruing information, we became voracious information-gatherers even tens of thousands of years before we started compiling encyclopedias.

Just as the application of fire, and the newly introduced flavour of salt transformed the process of food preparation and made meals safer and tastier, and even thereby improved the quality of dinner conversation (!), the continued development of language and activity specialisation (weapon maker, hunter, peeler, berry collector) within the herd led to the



TO REFLECT ON PHILOSOPHY IS TO TAKE A DIP IN A RIVER INSTEAD OF HAVING A SHOWER AT HOME; A REFRESHING EXPERIENCE WITH GREATER OPENNESS. WE CONNECT WITH THE WATER THAT DESCENDS TO THE PLAINS FROM THE MOUNTAINS INSTEAD OF AVAILING IT FROM A DOMESTIC FITTING

(The writer is a creative director, advertising faculty, and an amateur epistemologist. The views expressed are personal.)



acquisition and sharing of a lot more knowledge.

The first thing we learn to ask is really not questions, but for guidance. As parents cautioned kids not to chew some berries and leaves, or to keep their distance from particular insects, the young learnt to point or name things and ask for a Y/N or OK/Not OK response from the group elders. Thus, the first 24*7 assistance came into existence to advise instantly on basic safety.

This led to the first 'What' and 'Where' questions, what animal or tree did you see, and where was it? These queries pertained to information for immediate or future use. Memory came to develop as every member had a larger information base, and each following generation received more inputs from the start than the earlier. The origins of the 'Who' question are easier to figure out, but a lot more thinking will be needed to account for how the others viz. 'When', 'How' and 'Why' which lead us to more complex ideas and principles came into human language and regular thinking.

To reflect on philosophy is to take a dip in a river instead of having a shower at home. A refreshing experience with greater openness. We connect with the water that descends to the plains from the mountains instead of availing it from a domestic fitting. Our thinking relates directly to the elements in a situation in

place of being conditioned by household arrangements, equations, and traditions. It draws deeper and directly from the planet, and from multiple founts of yore.

Philosophy aims to further our knowledge, to advance our reasoning abilities, to explore our possible futures as a species, and to stimulate the thinking capacity in whosoever possible. It encourages the use of methods like framing a few likely hypotheses, considering the evidence or lack thereof for each of them, and the assigning of a level of confidence to a given statement that describes a state of affairs. It is impartial like math, medicinal like botany, retrieves from the ancient past like archaeology, loves breadth like cosmology and astrophysics, is revelatory like religion, and enterprising like quantum physics.

Can gaining experience in the use of philosophical methods be compared with learning to play a musical instrument? What generally happens is that we rarely pick up an instrument in a shop through our own impulse or prior decision.

Typically, it is an instrument we have seen and heard a lot and there is someone nearby to help us learn it. The particular instrument could demand manual accuracy or lung power or shoulder strength or lightness of touch, and so could specially suit our physical makeup. It has its own lineage of

performers and composers. What matters is not all the gossip about musical history, the brands of manufacturers, the names of concert venues, or reports of album sale figures. At the core of it, there is a proficiency to be reached through sincere pursuit and practice, and to relate to the arranged sound in a deep way through an attentive unity of playing and listening. Musicians can relate to each other transcending their geography, culture, instrument, and musical tradition.

In so far as the developmental process goes, in philosophy too, a similar beginning is made. At one level, there is an identification with a broad approach or an ancient or modern tradition. A lot of name-dropping ensues and controversies are brought up for taking sides. What really matters though is the recreation of the spirit of a beautiful piece of intellectual heritage so it can add to the quality of life in the present. Or a compelling revision and diligent updating of a dominant paradigm so that it can benefit many more in society or pave the way for a greater addition of new knowledge.

Philosophy is often taken to be about discord because there are contentions, counter-arguments and often vehement exchanges. Above the clamour, it is possible to realise that it can and does foster concord. In a sense, its function in nature is to maximise meaning.



BALAKRISHNAN SATYAM

POINT COUNTERPOINT

THE JEWAR AIRPORT WILL BE COMPLETED AS PER THE SCHEDULED DEADLINE AND CREATE HUGE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE STATE.
—UP CHIEF MINISTER
YOGI ADITYANATH



THE BLUEPRINT OF THE JEWAR AIRPORT WAS PREPARED BY MAYAWATI. BUT THE THEN UPA GOVERNMENT DID NOT ALLOW IT TO BE BUILT.
—BSP NATIONAL SPOKESPERSON
SUHDINDRA BHADORIA

Kolkata Municipal elections on Dec 19

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

A demand made by the opposition parties that the elections to all the 115 civic boards be held on a single day notwithstanding, the West Bengal State Election Commission on Thursday announced the much-awaited elections for the Kolkata Municipal Corporation would be held on December 19.

The SEC announcement came regardless of a petition --- filed by BJP State vice president Pratap Banerjee --- pending in Calcutta High Court seeking simultaneous elections to all the 118 civic bodies.

The elections to the Howrah Municipal Corporation was however not announced in the wake of some legal tangles over bifurcation of the Bally municipality from the Howrah Board. State Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar who had earlier in a meeting with the State Election Commissioner requested him to hold simultaneous elections to all the municipalities with-held his permission for the



Howrah Board demanding more clarifications on the issue.

According to the SEC notification December 1 will be the last date for filing nomination and scrutiny would be conducted the following day. December 4 has been fixed as e last date for withdrawal of candidature. The poll process will be completed by December 22 meaning thereby that the results will be declared either on December 21 or 22.

Meanwhile, the BJP alleged that the announcement of the poll process by the SEC was in "utter disregard" of the Court's authority as a public interest litigation is already pending before the Court seeking

simultaneous elections in all the municipal boards.

The petition pending before the Division Bench of Chief Justice Prakashi Shrivastava and Justice Rajarshi Bharadwaj will be heard on November 29. The Court however would not intervene in the SEC's decision to issue a notification for KMC elections lawyers said.

The Opposition parties have been asking for simultaneous elections apparently to put the Trinamool Congress under pressure.

As an image building exercise after its thumping victory in the Assembly elections the TMC leadership has been asking the lower rung workers to avoid rigging whereas the opposition leadership has been trying to create a situation where the rulers are forced to rig polls, said BN Chakrabarty a political expert.

Critics also feel that the election results in Kolkata would impact the outcome of polls in the North Bengal districts where the BJP has a good support base.

India, Russia to hold 2+2 dialogue

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In an effort to further cement ties between the two countries, India and Russia are likely to have the first two plus two(2+2) dialogue between the defence and foreign ministers of their countries here on December five or six. The talks will be held alongside summit between President Vladimir Putin and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The two plus two dialogue may see progress on the proposed leasing of a second nuclear powered submarine from Russia, procurement of additional 450 T-90 main bat-

tle tanks, S-400 air defence systems, additional SU-30 fighter jets and inking of the AK-203 rifles deal worth over ₹6,000 crores. The Defence Acquisition Council(DAC)on Tuesday gave the nod for the seven lakh rifle contract. A factory in Amethi will manufacture the rifles under a joint venture between India and Russia.

India will host the first ever two plus two with Russia wherein External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh are likely to hold talks with their Russian counterparts Sergey Lavrov and Sergey Shoigu. So far, India has such

a format with US, Japan and Australia, sources said here on Wednesday.

It was also learnt the two plus two meeting between India and US in Washington earlier scheduled to be held in late November or early December stands postponed. Sources said the event was shifted to January due winter session of parliament commencing November 29 and ending on December 23.

Giving the background of the upcoming two plus two, sources said the format was agreed upon during a telephonic conversation between Modi and Putin in April this

year. The 2+2 talks are also likely to see the ministers review the progress made on proposed deal for Russian made short range air defence systems and the joint venture to manufacture more than 200 Kamov helicopters here.

India and Russia are also likely to ink the Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Support (RELOS) Agreement and a Navy-to-Navy cooperation MoU. There is also a proposal to establish a separate Joint Commission on Science and Technology Cooperation to look at high technology areas such as Artificial Intelligence, cyber, quantum, nano and

bio-advances which could be announced.

The ministers will also review the progress made on having joint ventures in India for long-term support and maintenance of Russian military equipment used by the Indian forces. Since both the countries are fighting the corona pandemic, the two plus two will also see focus on more cooperation. Russia had helped India during the second wave of corona earlier this year. Moreover, Russian made Sputnik vaccines are now available in the country besides Covishield and Covaxin.

Cong Parl panel chalks out strategy ahead of Winter Session

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress parliamentary panel on Thursday met to chalk out the strategy ahead of the Winter Session. Congress president Sonia Gandhi chaired the meeting held at her residence where key issues were discussed. A total of 18 issues were taken up during the meeting, including four core issues. Sources said there was also

a heated discussion during the meeting about Congress leaders joining the TMC. Some party leaders even said that the TMC is 'breaking' of the Congress, which saw 12 of its MLAs including former Meghalaya CM Mukul Sangma joining the Mamata Banerjee party. Sources from AICC said Congress will demand the Bill for the repeal of the three farm laws to be tabled on the first

day of the Winter Session. In addition, the party will ask the central government to bring a law guaranteeing MSP during the Parliament session starting November 29.

Apart from the resignation of Union minister Ajay Misha Teni, the Congress will also raise the issues of price rise and the India-China standoff in Ladakh in Parliament.

The Congress has also been raising the issue of Rs 4 lakh ex-gratia to the kin of those who died of Covid-19.

Interestingly, the meeting comes at a time when Congress leaders in parts of the country are flocking to the Trinamool Congress (TMC).

In Uttar Pradesh, Congress MLA from Rai Bareilly - Aditi Singh - joined the BJP in the presence of state

party chief Swatantra Dev Singh. Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Mallikarjun Kharge, told reporters after the meeting, "We will move alongside other parties, whether TMC or others, we will contact and request all of them." Kharge said that people from the Congress, Rahul Gandhi and others in the high command are looking into it.

NIA raids five places in Kashmir in UP Al-Qaeda case

New Delhi:The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Thursday conducted searches at multiple locations in Kashmir in connection with the Al-Qaeda case of Lucknow. The searches were conducted at five locations in Shopian and Budgam districts of Kashmir, the agency said in a statement. The case relates to Umar Halmandi, an Al-Qaeda operative, who along with other accused persons, had been radicalizing and recruiting vulnerable persons for AQIS (Al-Qaeda in Indian Subcontinent) and trying to raise Ansaar Gajwatul Hind (AGH) to carry out terrorist acts for which they had already arranged arms and explosive substances, it said. The case was initially registered as FIR No. 10/2021 dated July 11, 2021, by ATS, Uttar Pradesh and NIA had re-registered the same on July 29.During the searches, large number of incriminating documents and digital devices have been seized and further investigation in the case is continuing, it added. **PNS**

CBI books 7 for ₹73 crore fraud at PNB, Indian Bank

New Delhi: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a case on a complaint from Punjab National Bank, Bhubaneswar against a private company based at New Industrial Estate, Jagatpur, Cuttack (Odisha), its Managing Director and others bank loan fraud worth ₹73 crore.

Besides the Cuttack-based private firm SR Alcobev Pvt. Ltd., others named in the case are its Managing Director Ranjan Kumar Padhi, Director Saina Kar, corporate guarantors Naina Devi Suppliers Pvt. Ltd. (based at Kolkata, West Bengal), Chandraghanta Iron & Steel Traders Pvt. Ltd. (Shyam Bazar Street, Kolkata, West Bengal)

(Corporate Guarantor), supplier Brewforce Technologies (East Nagar, New Delhi/Dehradun, Uttarakhand, civil Cuttack-based contractor Sukanta Kumar Lenka and unknown public servant(s) of PNB besides unknown others, the agency said in a statement.

The accused persons and entities allegedly perpetrated a fraud at Punjab National Bank, Main Branch, Buxi Bazar, Cuttack and Allahabad Bank, Bhubaneswar Branch in a matter of credit facilities/Term Loans to the tune of around ₹73 crore (₹40 crore by PNB and ₹33 crore by Indian Bank (erstwhile Allahabad Bank) } during 2013.After disbursement of the loan proceeds, the

borrowers/guarantors allegedly violated the terms and conditions of the sanction and they neither procured the machineries nor deposited the installments in time and the account turned Non-Performing Assets (NPA), it further said.It was further alleged that the accused including promoters/directors/guarantors/suppliers had misappropriated and diverted the loan proceeds with an ulterior motive to defraud the banks to the tune of around ₹ 140.48 crore (principal amount plus interest as on September 30, 2021).Searches were conducted at the premises of the accused situated at Cuttack (Odisha) and Dehradun (Uttarakhand), it added. **PNS**

Anna Hazare undergoes angiography, stable now

Mumbai: Veteran social worker and renowned Gandhian Anna Hazare underwent an angiography at Ruby Hall Clinic in Pune on Thursday afternoon, within hours after he was rushed there for treatment of chest pain.

Eight-four-year-old Hazare, who lives in Yadavbaba temple at Ralegan-Siddhi in Ahmednagar district of western Maharashtra, had been complaining about chest pain for the past two to three days.

"After he was admitted to our hospital, a team of doctors examined him thoroughly. We did an electrocardiogram (ECG) on him. The test revealed minor cardiac abnormalities," the hospital's Medical Superintendent Dr. Avdhut Bomadwad said.

Shortly afterwards, a team of heart specialists comprising the Chief Cardiologist Dr. P. K.

Grant and Dr. C. N. Makhale conducted an angiography on Hazare.

"The angiogram revealed a minor blockage in his coronary artery. The procedure was performed successfully. He is receiving the appropriate line of medical treatment," said Dr. Grant, who is the Managing Trustee of the hospital, said.

Dr. Grant said that Hazare's condition was "stable" now and he would be discharged from the hospital in a couple of days.

Meanwhile, Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray - who himself is recuperating at the HN Reliance Hospital in Mumbai after a cervical spine surgery that he underwent on November 12—called up the hospital and made enquiries about Hazare's health condition "I wish him a speedy recovery," the chief minister said later. **PNS**

2013 TWIN SHAKTI MILL GANG RAPE CASES

HC commutes death penalty of 3 convicts to life

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

More than seven years after a trial court treated them as "repeat offenders" and handed out the first-ever capital punishment to them under new provision 376 (E) of Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Bombay High Court on Thursday commuted the death sentence of three "common" convicts in the twin 2013 Shakti Mill gang rape cases to life imprisonment.

Quashing the death sentence awarded to the three convicts under the new section 376 E of the IPC that came to be incorporated in the law after the December 2012 gang rape in Delhi, a HC bench of Justices SS Jadhav and PK Chavan upheld the conviction of the convicts punishable under section 376D of the IPC, thus reducing the original capital punishment to rigorous imprisonment for life.

"While setting aside the sentence of death penalty, it may appear to the public at large that we play a counter

majoritarian role. However, the Constitutional Courts are bound to take into consideration the judicial mandate not by considering just individual rights or the rights of the criminal, but to follow 'the procedure established by law,'" the two judges observed in their 108-page judgement.

"At the cost of reiteration, we would observe that Section 376E of the Indian Penal Code is not a substantive offence, but is a punishment contemplated for repeat offenders under section 376D, 376DA, 376DB of Indian Penal Code. We would not take a pedantic approach to mean that it contemplates commission of an offence after the first conviction as under section 75 of the Indian Penal Code. But it would mean that the sentence of death penalty may be awarded in a case which is tried after the first conviction for a similar offence as in the case of Rajendra Wasnik," the judges noted.

The three convicts Vijay Jadhav (19) Mohammad

Qasim Shaikh alias Qasim Bengali (21) and Mohammad Ansari (28)—whose death sentences have been commuted to rigorous imprisonment for life --are common convicts in both the July 31, 2013 telephone operator and August 22, 2013 photojournalist gang rape cases.

It may be recalled that on April 4, 2014, Principal Judge Shalini Phansalkar Joshi had awarded capital punishment to Vijay Jadhav (19) Mohammad Qasim Shaikh alias Qasim Bengali (21) and Mohammad Ansari (28), after noting the three convicts deserved death penalty for repeat offences under section 376 (E) of the IPC and that there was no scope of reformation of the trio.

"The gang-rape accused were not only enjoying the act of sexual assault but also the survivor's helplessness. ..It was executed in the most gruesome manner with no mercy or show of human dignity to the survivor," the trial court judge had observed then.

J&K: 200 schools to be transformed into smart schools in tribal areas

Jammu: Taking a giant leap forward towards imparting quality education to the Tribal population, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday dedicated the UT Government's ambitious project of transforming 200 Schools into Smart Schools at a cost of ₹40 crores.

The modernization of Smart Schools will be executed in two phases. In the first phase, works related to 100 schools will be completed by March 2022 and another 100 schools by December 2022.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor announced another major decision of the government to provide scholarships to 21,000 children of Gaddi, Sippi, Dard, Sheena communities who were deprived of the same for the last 3 decades.

"In 1991, the Gaddi, Sippi community was declared tribal but their children were denied scholarship. For three decades they kept approaching governments but no decision was taken. This issue was brought to my notice just a few days back and we immediately decided that scholarships will be provided to the 21,000 children of Gaddi, Sippi, Dard, Sheena communities", he added.

In his address, the Lt Governor con-



Lt Governor Launches 200 Smart Schools in Tribal Areas

gratulated the Tribal communities and the concerned administrative departments for the historic beginning of the new era of educational empowerment of Tribals in J&K.

"Our priority is to secure the future of tribal children. Smart schools in tribal & remote areas equipped with mod-

ern facilities will develop scientific temper in children and make them future ready, besides arresting the drop-out rate", said the Lt Governor

The UT Government has formulated a visionary framework for the functioning of the Smart Schools. Members of the Tribal communities, PRI repre-

sentatives, and the people associated with voluntary organizations will be involved in the management so that these schools could perform the role of 'changemakers' in our society, observed the Lt Governor.

"Lives are changed when people connect. Life is changed when everything is connected. Tribal Education Plan, Scholarships, Smart Schools will do justice to tribal communities in J&K who were neglected for decades", the Lt Governor noted.

These groundbreaking initiatives will also ensure that the members of the tribal communities can keep pace with the revolutionary and rapid changes happening around them and connect themselves to the world, he added.

The Lt Governor expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for awakening the self-confidence of the tribal community.

The Lt Governor highlighted that the J & K Administration is collectively spending around ₹104 crore to strengthen school infrastructure in tribal areas and establish a strong educational ecosystem for the tribal community.

Mexican Ambassador lauds Khadi popularity

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Mexican Ambassador to India, H.E. Federico Salas, who visited the Khadi India Pavilion at the India International Trade Fair 2021, on Thursday, lauded the global popularity of Khadi and clicked selfies with the portraits of Mahatma Gandhi and Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi, at the selfie point in Khadi pavilion. He was received by Manoj Kumar, Member (Marketing), Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

The Ambassador saw the live demonstration of Pashmina wool spinning, clay pottery making, wood-pressed oil extraction, Incense sticks (Agarbatti) and handmade paper making while he also visited several other stalls displaying the finest handcrafted Khadi fabric, readymade garments, handmade jewellery and a wide range of village industry products.

The Ambassador took to an electric potter wheel and tried his hands on making clay pottery.Salas appreciated the sheer variety of products at the Khadi India Pavilion and the exquisite craftsmanship of Khadi artisans. "I congratulate Khadi and Village Industries Commission for setting up such a grand Khadi India pavilion at IITF that has given Khadi artisans a big platform to sell their products.

India, China, Russia to virtually brainstorm Af

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India, China and Russia will hold trilateral talks in the virtual mode on Friday on issues including Afghanistan and other regional issues. External affairs ministers of the three countries will take part in this annual event.

Giving details of the upcoming dialogue, the Ministry of external affairs (MEA) said here on Thursday Indian External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's will hold talks in the virtual format.

Incidentally, Jaishankar and Lavrov are likely to take part in the first ever two plus two talks between India and Russia in the first week of December alongside President Vladimir Putin's summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi here. The two plus two dialogue will see foreign and defence ministers of the two countries holding extensive talks on strategic and defence ties. As regards the talks on Friday, officials said the meeting, being held under the Russia-India-China (RIC) trilateral framework, will be chaired by Jaishankar.

"The 18th meeting of the



foreign ministers of the Russian Federation, Republic of India and People's Republic of China will be held in digital video-conference format on November 26," it said. The three foreign ministers are expected to deliberate on regional issues of mutual interests including the situation in Afghanistan. "The foreign ministers are expected to discuss further strengthening of RIC trilateral

cooperation including exchange of views on various regional and international issues of importance," the ministry said.

India took over the chairmanship of the RIC after the last meeting of the trilateral in Moscow in September last year. Following Friday's meeting, Jaishankar will pass on the chairmanship of the RIC to the Chinese foreign minister for the next one year.

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

As many as 116 big cats have died so far till November 20, 2021—the highest in the past three years—much to the disappointment of wildlife activists and tiger lovers. The figures include 27 tigresses and 15 cubs.

A dozen of them died every month on average for the first seven months of the year. The signs that this year was being cruel to the big cats were evident with 84 mortalities reported till July. Since then, at least 32 more royal predators succumbed to death

in the following four months.

In 2018, 101 tiger deaths were reported in the country. The number fell to 96 in 2019 but 2020 saw a 10 per cent rise in the deaths, nearly 106. There was no let up in the deaths in 2021 also. Among the States, Madhya Pradesh known as "Tiger State" reported highest casualties at 39 followed by Maharashtra (21 deaths), Karnataka (15) and Uttar Pradesh (9)

The Wildlife Protection Society of India (WPSI), an NGO engaged in tiger conservation activities puts the number on a much higher side. It



claim that till November 2021, at least 145 big cats have died of which 48 due to poaching itself. This is a startling num-

ber when compared to the government data available from the TigerNet data which puts the poaching figure at 9.

India has 52 tiger reserves spread across 18 States having 2,967 big cats.

The data compiled by the TigerNet, a data based e-platform under the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), a statutory body under the Union Environment Ministry, shows that most of the deaths ie at least 76 per cent of the total mortalities have been reported from inside the tiger reserves itself. This shows that the big cats might have

died either due to infighting or poaching as confirmed by the seizure of the skin and the body parts.

In 98 deaths, the officials are uncertain of the cause of the death. The number of deaths outside the reserves were 54, indicating the shortage of the space in the tiger reserves to accommodate all the big cat, thus calling for better management, enhancement in protection strategy, sensitisation of villagers living on the fringes of the tiger reserves who usually electrocute or poison the striped predators in conflicts.

EC to hold international webinar on inclusive participation of voters

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) will host an international webinar on Friday on inclusive participation of voters where election management bodies will showcase best practices adopted to enhance electoral participation of women, persons with disabilities and senior citizens.

Nearly 100 delegates from 24 countries across the world and four international organisations — International IDEA, International



Foundation of Electoral Systems (IFES), Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB) and European Centre for Elections -- are going to participate in the webinar. Besides, 20 diplomats are also scheduled to attend the event. The event is being held to

mark the completion of two years of chairmanship of the Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB) by the EC.

Three publications will also be released at the webinar. "This international webinar will provide a good opportunity to all the participants to exchange ideas and learn from each other's experience of the best practices and initiatives taken to enhance electoral participation of women, persons with disabilities and senior citizen voters," the statement said.

NIFTY 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	17,417.30	17,564.35	17,351.70	17,536.25	121.2
RELIANCE	2,373.00	2,502.00	2,357.15	2,501.00	149.6
DIVISLAB	4,677.00	4,815.95	4,655.60	4,795.00	112.3
ITC	227	232	225.75	231.75	4.05
INFY	1,700.00	1,726.20	1,696.95	1,722.50	26.5
TATACONSUM	799	810.5	795.6	809.65	10.7
TECHM	1,531.00	1,564.80	1,530.05	1,558.35	20.25
GRASIM	1,716.00	1,773.00	1,716.00	1,768.50	21.55
TATAMOTORS	490.8	495.15	486.5	494.2	5.55
ONGC	154	156	152.55	155.15	1.7
CIPLA	894	902.45	884	902.4	8.95
TITAN	2,360.00	2,403.20	2,355.15	2,398.00	22.15
KOTAKBANK	2,020.00	2,048.00	2,013.05	2,030.00	18.6
UPL	725.05	737.85	721.75	727.7	6
BHARTIARTL	759.05	768.5	752.8	765	6.1
POWERGRID	202.6	205	201.25	204.85	1.55
HCTECH	1,116.50	1,131.00	1,112.50	1,125.70	6.25
NESTLEIND	19,085.00	19,210.00	18,905.70	19,190.00	108.1
ULTRACEMCO	7,560.30	7,634.45	7,517.55	7,606.00	60.7
HDFCBANK	1,514.80	1,533.30	1,507.00	1,522.80	4.75
SUNPHARMA	775.6	788.25	774.35	781.25	2.3
HDFCLIFE	690	694.5	685.5	689.1	1.9
TCS	3,443.90	3,463.00	3,434.05	3,450.00	6.7
ADANIAPORTS	764.8	774.3	755.5	764	0.95
NTPC	135.5	136.7	132.3	135.5	0.15
DREDDY	4,614.00	4,696.00	4,585.00	4,599.85	1.8
WIPRO	637	641.8	633	636.45	-0.05
M&M	890.9	898.9	883.5	892	-1.2
COALINDIA	161.5	162.8	156	158.75	-0.35
SBN	490	495.45	486.3	492	-1.15
BAIJAFINSV	17,349.00	17,522.00	17,225.25	17,360.00	-4.87
SBIIFE	1,157.75	1,174.00	1,152.50	1,160.00	-3.75
TATASTEEL	3,402.00	3,413.90	3,377.05	3,393.00	-14.1
BAIJAFINSV	1,180.00	1,186.60	1,166.00	1,173.50	-5
GHCEMOT	2,545.00	2,545.00	2,497.05	2,525.00	-11.95
HDFC	2,890.45	2,890.45	2,874.00	2,870.00	-13.55
ASIANPAINT	3,156.50	3,173.35	3,131.00	3,141.85	-15.15
BAJFINANCE	7,150.00	7,205.00	7,086.80	7,142.65	-34.65
BPCL	404	404.4	398	400.9	-2.45
JSWSTEEL	683.25	687.8	674.2	679	-4.25
LT	1,855.00	1,866.85	1,838.20	1,849.95	-12.55
AXISBANK	686	687	678.55	679.5	-5.65
HEROMOTOCO	2,640.00	2,640.00	2,581.10	2,598.80	-22.25
SHREECEM	26,700.00	26,823.20	26,302.10	26,638.00	-245.75
HINDALCO	45.15	45.88	44.63	44.65	-4.45
ICICIBANK	754.9	754.95	745.3	752.6	-7.6
HINDUNILVR	2,387.00	2,403.00	2,341.00	2,348.45	-26.3
IOC	127.6	128	124.5	126.15	-1.45
INDUSINDBK	968	970	951.35	959.35	-11.05
BRITANNIA	3,610.50	3,633.80	3,566.00	3,580.00	-43.35
MARUTI	7,640.00	7,719.40	7,435.00	7,571.00	-98.45

NIFTY NEXT 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY NEXT 50	43,287.75	43,683.95	42,870.05	43,580.7	372.7
VEDL	345	373.2	342.35	368	22.4
APOLLOPHOSM	5,400.00	5,750.00	5,325.05	5,741.00	343.8
TORNTPHARM	2,837.90	3,015.00	2,817.55	2,990.00	172.5
ADANITRANS	1,949.00	2,033.85	1,913.50	2,033.85	96.85
PIND	2,890.95	3,031.90	2,864.80	2,992.55	93.55
PEL	2,597.00	2,672.00	2,581.05	2,655.00	59.2
INDUSTOWER	287.9	297.95	280.9	295	6.2
BANDHANBNK	309	316.7	304.4	315.55	6.45
LTI	6,760.00	6,880.00	6,712.40	6,800.00	120.95
AUROPHARMA	659.45	675	655.05	669	10.15
HAVELLS	1,376.00	1,395.85	1,361.80	1,391.00	18.45
GAIL	140.75	142.2	138.3	142.05	1.85
YESBANK	12.6	12.8	12.55	12.75	0.15
BIOCON	380.15	385	356.3	384.05	4.25
DLF	405	408.6	399	408.2	4.7
IGL	491.7	498.45	487.6	497.55	5.6
ICICIGI	1,494.00	1,509.10	1,470.85	1,494.50	16.6
GODREJPROP	916.2	923	897.5	922.75	8.9
ADANIGREEN	1,394.80	1,418.70	1,370.00	1,405.55	13.2
CADILAHG	459.35	464.8	456.75	463.5	4.15
BAJAJHLNG	4,825.40	4,974.00	4,825.40	4,950.00	39.05
ADANIEN	1,762.95	1,773.70	1,735.55	1,768.95	13.8
MCDOWELLN	944	946.95	928.7	945	6.75
GLAND	3,509.95	3,556.00	3,501.50	3,535.25	25.35
LUPIN	896.8	902	887.2	899.6	4.9
MARICO	58.7	59.50	52.65	55.9	2.95
DABUR	603.3	606.95	594.05	605.9	2.95
SBCARD	1,003.00	1,008.00	988.9	1,004.00	4.45
NAUKRI	6,016.90	6,020.90	5,910.00	6,030.00	14.1
NMDC	142.8	143.65	141.35	143.2	0.2
DMAT	4,930.00	4,930.00	4,854.65	4,884.20	1.6
HDFCAML	2,548.00	2,548.00	2,522.05	2,539.00	0.1
PGHI	15,100.00	15,349.80	14,964.45	15,100.00	-6.2
JUBLFOOD	3,765.00	3,798.95	3,736.00	3,764.00	-4.25
ICICIPRULI	604.1	607.55	596.05	603.4	-0.7
PIDILITIND	2,277.90	2,277.90	2,233.10	2,259.00	-4.1
BANKBARODA	932.5	936	920.5	931.5	-0.2
JINDALSTEEL	382.25	384.7	376	382	-1.05
SAIL	110.85	111.7	108.45	110	-0.6
BERGEPAINT	769	769.95	753.3	758.8	-5.2
MUTHOOTFIN	1,499.90	1,507.70	1,477.00	1,485.10	-10.9
COPAL	1,477.00	1,477.00	1,446.00	1,459.00	-12.3
AMBUJACEM	392.9	393.5	389	390.15	-3.35
CHOLAHN	591	595.5	578.25	585	-5.6
PNB	40.45	40.55	39.85	40.05	-0.4
BOSCHLTD	17,058.30	17,058.30	16,730.15	16,835.00	-172.3
ACC	2,404.90	2,413.55	2,380.00	2,380.00	-24.75
HINDPETRO	325.05	326.15	314.45	318.3	-5.8
INDIGO	2,134.10	2,140.00	2,060.00	2,072.40	-69.35
SIEMENS	2,230.00	2,230.25	2,100.00	2,172.30	-104.1

BSE 500

Script	Open	High	Low	LTP
SIS	535.3	548.6	504.75	523.65
IDEA	11	11.75	10.72	11.65
TATAPOWER	239.8	244.3	234	242.85
TATACOMM	1246	1299.95	1238.5	1296.6
RELIANCE	2375.5	2502.8	2358	2494.4
IRCTC	863	874	835.3	865.2
VEDL	345.6	373.2	342.25	367.55
APOLLOHOSP	5415.85	5749.65	5335.65	5714.15
ZEEL	337.25	343.65	330.8	341.1
TATAMOTORS	491.1	495	486.35	492.75
KEI	1096.8	1145.5	1074	1122.2
IBULHSGFIN	215.4	229.9	212	226.55
ICICIBANK	758	758	745.55	750.9
TATASTEEL	1185	1186.5	1166	1173.65
INFY	1700	1725.85	1698.65	1722.45
PGHH	15058.55	15315	15000	15240.3
BAJAJ-AUTO	3420	3420	3378.1	3390.4
ITC	227	232.15	225.7	231.3
GODREJPROP	2178.65	2270	2178.65	2239.85
LAURUSLABS	505.05	538.6	502.65	534.35
SBN	488.6	495.45	486.5	490.55
SAIL	110.9	111.7	108.55	109.95
DEEPAKANI	2164	2175	2110.85	2158.55
MARUTI	7670	7715	7470.5	7569.95
HINDUNILVR	2382.3	2383.95	2342	2348.85
BANKBARODA	93.05	93.6	92.05	93
BAYERCROP	4823	4823	4701.5	4723.15
MINDTREE	4690	4789.5	4683.35	4736.25
IEX	782.45	784.5	765	776.2
WIPRO	637	641.85	633	636.55
INDUSINDBK	966	970.65	951.2	959.1
LT	1859.9	1866.95	1839	1849
SRF	2137.9	2198.1	2131.8	2181.9
SUNPHARMA	778.4	786.8	775.2	782.2
ICICIGI	1505.45	1508	1471	1493.55
WELCORP	153.15	169.8	153.15	167.85
M&M	884.25	899.05	883.9	890.95
NATIONALUM	95.75	97.4	93.9	96.9
AGEISLOG	202.4	242.45	200.2	237.75
KOTAKBANK	2020.1	2047.95	2012.9	2035
TCS	3462	3462	3434	3445.5
COALINDIA	161.5	162.8	156.05	158.5
TRIDENT	54.2	54.85	53.35	54.85
ADANIEN	1763.8	1774	1736.3	1763.2
ASIANPAINT	3155.25	3172.7	3113.3	3143.7
BHEL	62.45	63.5	61.75	62.75
HDFCBANK	1507	1533	1506.6	1524.25
BAIJAFINSV	17278.1	17526.05	17231.25	17354.1
BHARTIARTL	760	768.6	753.05	764.95
ESCORTS	1805	1833.65	1802.75	1814.85
ADANIAPORTS	765	774	755.55	762.35
HAL	1372.6	1375.75	1350.5	1352.9
IBREALEST	177.3	179.5	174	177.4
TANLA	1511.2	1586.75	1471.3	1580.5
AXISBANK	686	687.45	676.65	680
PNB	405	40.55	398.85	39.95
HCLTECH	1120.8	1130.9	1111	1124.95
DELTAACORP	283.2	295.2	280.75	293.05
BSOFT	486	508	481.95	499.65
TORNTPHARM	2823.55	3019.5	2823.55	2994.4
TVSMOTOR	703	713	699.55	702.5
BAIJAFINANCE	7158	7204	7087.3	7313.65
SIEMENS	2254.4	2258.45	2099.4	2151.9
HINDALCO	453	455.55	443.8	447.8
DALBHARAT	2000.9	2028.55	1970.6	1978.6
TATACONSUM	799.9	810.5	795.75	807.5
SPIICEJEST	82.75	83.5	80.35	80.95
IOC	127.65	128	124.55	125.65
AUROPHARMA	5138	5300	5085	5220.8
UPL	725.1	737.65	722	727.15
JAICOPLAB	116	133.6	114.55	129.8
POLYCORP	2334	2362	2305	2348.45
FORTIS	287.9	293.7	279.5	288.45
JINDALSTEL	382.95	384.6	376.05	381.55
CANBK	215.3	216	212.05	215.1
INTPTC	136.2	136.75	132.35	135.2
PVPR	1565	1578.8	1526.7	1560.35
ONGC	154.8	155.85	152.55	155
TECHM	1536	1564.05	1532	1558.8
CHAMBLFERT	382.35	403.8	383.05	400
PEL	2581.8	2670	2581.8	2650.9
FEDERALBNK	93.5	94.3	92.1	92.95
DLF	405	408.55	398.9	407.05
ADANIPOWER	106.85	107	103.6	105.35
GLENMARK	516.3	533.75	514.85	529.65
CAMS	3050	3137	3010.8	3080.4
PIDILITIND	2870	2880	2233.23	2252.1
INDUSTOWER	280.25	297.8	281	296.65
KPITTECH	480.55	492.65	471.65	475.45
TATACHEM	908	911.55	891.7	900.65
SUZLON	7	7.09	6.96	7.06
TITAN	2355	2403.4	2355	2397.95
DIVISLAB	4709.75	4815	4656.35	4789.3
LIFTS	5200	5381.85	5190.05	5348.38
MPHASIS	3224.35	3295.6	3224.35	3262.8
AUROBANK	1208.8	1235.15	1182.2	1191.8
NMDC	143.1	143.65	141.4	143.15
JSWSTEEL	686.75	687.7	674.5	680.55
IDFCFIRSTB	49.1	49.1	48.05	48.6
OBEROIRTYL	870	890.55	867.1	881.2
DREDDY	4600	4695	4585	4592.55
HFCFL	75.9	79.05	75.55	76.9
ASHOKLEYE	136.35	136.35	133.05	134.05
BANDHANBNBK	306.85	313.7	304.3	314.75
TORNTPOWER	554.8	560.7	538.7	552.25
SEQUENT	170	170	161.8	162.6

Blast near school in Somalia kills 8

Al-Shabab claims responsibility

Mogadishu: A large explosion outside a school in Somalia's capital on Thursday killed at least eight people, including students, witnesses said. The extremist group al-Shabab claimed responsibility for the attack. The al-Qaida-linked group controls large parts of rural Somalia and continues to frustrate efforts at rebuilding the Horn of Africa nation after three decades of conflict.

The blast sent a plume of smoke above a busy part of Mogadishu during the morning rush hour. The blast shredded part of the school, with emergency workers looking through the collapsed roof beams and wooden benches.

"We were extremely terrified by the blast," said teacher Mohamed Osman, who said he was explaining a lesson to students when the explosion occurred. "We were disorientated and we were covered with dust and smoke."

Police spokesman Abdifatah Adam Hassan said eight people were killed and 17 others wounded. "This is a tragedy," said Abdulkadir Adan of the Amin

ambulance service, which rushed people to a hospital.

The casualties were fewer than might have occurred since Thursday is part of the weekend in Somalia, an overwhelmingly Muslim nation. Al-Shabab in a statement carried by its Andalusi radio said it targeted Western officials being escorted by the African Union peacekeeping convoy.

But a witness, Hassan Ali, told the AP that a private security company was escorting the officials and said he saw four of the security personnel wounded. The attack occurred as Somalia faces major questions about its political and security future.

The AU peacekeeping force was meant to withdraw from the country, but its mission could be extended amid concerns that Somali forces are not ready to assume responsibility for security. The US early this year said its troop withdrawal from Somalia was complete.

A long-delayed presidential vote was meant to take place in February but now looks set to be held next year.

Chinese military asks US to stop military activities in South China Sea after recent submarine incident

Beijing: The Chinese military on Thursday asked the US to stop "close-in reconnaissance, interference, provocation" in the disputed South China Sea after the recent accident involving an American nuclear-powered submarine in the region.

The USS Connecticut struck an object underwater in the South China Sea (SCS) last month. Eleven sailors on board the submarine were injured in the accident.

Commenting on the US Navy dismissing two senior officers of the nuclear-powered attack submarine, Chinese Defence Ministry Spokesman Sr. Col Wu Qian told media here that since the collision occurred, the US side's awkward and secretive attitude has inevitably raised doubts.

Raising several questions over the

activities of the submarine, Wu said, "China believes the root causes of this incident are the extensive and high-intensity close-in reconnaissance, interference, provocation and show of force made by the US military vessels in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as the United States' militarisation and navigation hegemony in the South China Sea."

"We urge the US side to stop such activities immediately, so as to avoid beating its head against the wall," Wu said.

The US in recent years has intensified aerial and naval patrols in the South China Sea to assert freedom of navigation.

China claims most of the South China Sea. Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan have counter claims over the area.

EU regulator authorises Pfizer's Covid vaccine for kids 5-11

AP ■ THE HAGUE

The European Union's drug regulator on Thursday authorised Pfizer's coronavirus vaccine for use on children from 5 to 11 years old, clearing the way for shots to be administered to millions of elementary school pupils amid a new wave of infections sweeping across the continent.

It is the first time the European Medicines Agency has cleared a Covid-19 vaccine for use in young children.

The agency said it "recommended granting an extension of indication for the Covid-19 vaccine Comirnaty to include use in children aged 5 to 11." At least one country facing spiking infections didn't wait for the EMA approval. Authorities in the Austrian capital, Vienna, already have begun vaccinating the 5 to 11 age group. Europe is currently at the epicenter of

the pandemic and the World Health Organisation has warned the continent could see deaths top 2 million by the spring unless urgent measures are taken.

The EMA green light for the vaccine developed by Pfizer and German company BioNTech has to be rubber-stamped by the EU's executive branch, the European Commission, before health authorities in member states can begin administering shots.

Earlier this week, Germany's health minister Jens Spahn said shipping of vaccines for younger children in the EU would begin on Dec. 20.

The United States signed off on Pfizer's kids-sized shots earlier this month, followed by other countries including Canada. Pfizer tested a dose that is a third of the amount given to adults for elementary school-age children.

Bangladesh sends hundreds more Rohingya refugees to island

Dhaka: Bangladesh on Thursday began relocating hundreds of Rohingya refugees to an island in the Bay of Bengal, despite ongoing concerns from rights groups over the conditions on the vulnerable low-lying island and that no refugees should be sent forcibly.

The Rohingya are a Muslim ethnic group, over 700,000 of whom fled persecution and violence in neighbouring Myanmar in August 2017. Bangladesh has been sheltering 1.1 million of the refugees in crowded camps near its coast.

A U.N.-sponsored investigation in 2018 recommended the prosecution of Myanmar's top military commanders on charges of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity for the violence against the Rohingya.

A senior Bangladeshi official overseeing the relocation, Mohammad Shamsud Douza, said that a navy ship would take 379 refugees from Chattogram city to the Bhashan Char Island which lies off the country's southeastern coast.

"They are going there voluntarily. All the 379 refugees have chosen to live there for a better and secure life," he told The Associated Press.

Germany latest country to pass 100,000 deaths from Covid-19

AP ■ BERLIN

Official figures released Thursday show Germany has become the latest country to pass the grim milestone of 100,000 deaths from Covid-19 since the pandemic began.

Germany's disease control

agency says it recorded 351 additional deaths in connection with the coronavirus over the past 24 hours, taking the total toll to 100,119.

In Europe, Germany is the fifth country to pass that mark, after Russia, the United Kingdom, Italy and France.

Interpol elects United Arab Emirates official as president

Istanbul: Interpol on Thursday elected a contentious official from the United Arab Emirates as its new president during the international law enforcement body's annual General Assembly held in Istanbul.

Maj. Gen. Ahmed Naser al-Raisi, inspector general at the United Arab Emirates' interior ministry, was elected for one four-year term. He has been accused by human rights groups of involvement in torture and arbitrary detentions in the UAE.

The vote for president was being closely watched since the first-ever Chinese president of the body, Meng Hongwei, vanished midway through his four-year term on a return trip to China in 2018. It subsequently emerged that he had been detained, accused of bribery and other alleged crimes.

The international law enforcement body also said Valdecy Urquiza of Brazil was elected to the post of vice president for the Americas, while Garba Baba Umar of Nigeria was elected vice president for Africa.

Al-Raisi is accused of torture and has criminal complaints against him in five countries, including in France, where Interpol has its headquarters, and in Turkey, where the election is taking place.

Libya: Gadhafi son disqualified from running for president

Benghazi: Libya's top electoral body on Wednesday disqualified the son and onetime heir apparent of the late dictator Moammar Gadhafi from running for president in elections to be held next month, citing his previous convictions.

The name of Seif al-Islam Gadhafi appeared on a list of ineligible candidates issued by the country's High National Elections Committee. He can appeal the decision in court in

the coming days.

Seif al-Islam had been sentenced to death by a Tripoli court in 2015 for using violence against protesters in a 2011 uprising against his father, but that ruling has since been called into question by Libya's rival authorities.

He is also wanted by the International Criminal Court on charges of crimes against humanity related to the uprising.

EU to limit political ads, ban use of certain personal info

Brussels (AP): Concerned by the misuse of political advertising to undermine elections, the European Union on Thursday unveiled plans to help people better understand when they are seeing such ads online and who is responsible for them.

The proposals, aimed at ensuring fair and transparent polls or referendums, would also ban political targeting and amplification techniques used to reach a wider audience if they use sensitive personal data like ethnic origin, religious beliefs, or sexual orientation without a citizen's permission. Digital advertising for political purposes is becoming an unchecked race of dirty and opaque methods, European Commission Vice-President Vera Jourova said.

A myriad of data analytics and communication firms work daily with our data to try to figure out the best way to convince us to buy something or vote for someone or not to vote at all.

She said people must know why they are seeing an ad, who paid for it, how much, what micro-targeting criteria were used. New technologies should be tools for emancipation, not for manipulation.

The commission, the EU's executive branch, hopes that the 27 member countries and the European Parliament will have debated and endorsed the proposals in national law by 2023, in time for Europe-wide elections the following year.

Companies like Facebook and Google, the two dominant players in the digital ad indus-

try, would face fines if they failed to comply. Facebook, which has faced heavy criticism for its lack of transparency on political ads, welcomed the move.

We have long called for EU-wide regulation on political ads and are pleased that the Commission's proposal addresses some of the more difficult questions, in particular when it comes to cross border advertising, the company, which recently renamed itself Meta, said in a press statement. Google didn't respond to a request for comment. Twitter, which banned all political ads in 2019, said it believed that political reach should be earned, not bought" and noted that it has also restricted and removed micro-targeting from other types of ads like cause-based ones.

FROM PAGE 1

NOIDA AIRPORT WILL BECOME LOGISTICAL GATEWAY OF NORTH INDIA, SAYS PM

airports.

Taking a dig at previous Governments in UP and at the Centre, he said Uttar Pradesh, which the previous Governments kept in deprivation and darkness, to which they showed false dreams, that same state is now making a mark not just nationally but also internationally.

Modi highlighted the development activities in the poll-bound State and said the new airport will help the State become an export-centre whereby even MSMEs will have easier access to overseas markets.

The first phase of the airport is scheduled to be completed by 2024 and will have the capacity to serve around 1.2 crore passengers a year. The airport will expand to serve 70 million passengers by the end of phase 4, depending on passenger growth and traffic. In stage 1, there will be a two runways airport of 1,334 hectares for which an agreement has been signed.

In the following stage, the third runway in a 1,365-hectare area will come up for which land acquisition is under process. The 4th runway is on a 1,318-hectare area while a 5th runway has been proposed in the second stage.

Also present on the occasion was Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, who said it was at the Modi's direction that Asia's biggest airport is being built in Uttar Pradesh. Scindia said the airport, located in Jewar in Gautam Buddha Nagar district in western Uttar Pradesh, will bring investments worth Rs 34,000 crore and the first phase of the Greenfield project is expected to be completed in 2024 with a capacity of 1.2 crore passengers annually.

"By the last phase of development, the Noida International Airport will even surpass Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport and become India's leading airport," Scindia told the gathering. He said earlier, there were only four airports in Uttar Pradesh but now, there are nine airports and this (Jewar) will be the 10th airport in the State.

COUNTRY HAS TO DECIDE IF JINNAH'S FOLLOWERS WILL CAUSE MISCHIEF: CM YOGI

everyone without any discrimination or creating new infrastructure for development or respecting people's faith, Adityanath said.

"The whole perception of Uttar Pradesh has changed that the state can progress and develop," he added.

Citing various infrastructure projects worth thousands of crores of rupees in Noida and Greater Noida of Gautam Buddha Nagar, the chief minister said lakhs of job opportunities would be generated in the region in the coming days.

He thanked the prime minister for the "gift" to western Uttar Pradesh in the form of the Noida International Airport.

The airport is being developed by Swiss concessionaire Zurich International Airport AG's subsidiary Yamuna International Airport Private Limited (YIAPL). The entire project is planned in a 5,000-hectare area with a cost of around Rs 30,000 crore and billed to be the biggest airport in Asia upon completion.

In the first phase of the project, over 1,300 hectares of land will be developed at a cost of over Rs 10,000 crore and the airport is scheduled to open by September 2024, according to project officials. Gautam Buddha Nagar MP Mahesh Sharma, local MLAs Dharendra Singh, Pankaj Singh and Tejpal, central as well as state ministers were among those who attended the foundation-laying ceremony.

ALARM OVER DEADLY COVID VARIANT IN SA

There are no cases in India, but a senior official from the Union Health Ministry said that they are keeping a watch on the new development.

News agency IANS quoted Professor Francois Balloux, a geneticist at University College London, saying that new variant might have emerged in a lingering infection in an immunocompromised patient, possibly someone with undiagnosed AIDS, the report added.

Changes to the spike make it difficult for current jabs to fight off, because they train the immune system to recognise an older version of the virus. Dr Tom Peacock, a virologist at Imperial College who first picked up on its spread, described the variant's combination of mutations as "horrific", the report added.

He warned that B.1.1.529, its scientific name, had the potential to be "worse than nearly anything else about", including the world-dominant Delta strain. Scientists told MailOnline, however, that its unprecedented number of mutations might work against it and make it "unstable", preventing it from becoming widespread.

They said there was "no need to be overly concerned because there were no signs yet that it was spreading rapidly."

Three infections have been detected in Botswana to date and six in South Africa — where variant surveillance is more robust.

One case has also been spotted in a 36-year-old man in Hong Kong who recently returned from the continent, the report added.

Protests to mark one year of farmers' agitation today

ANS ■ NEW DELHI

Massive protests on Friday in Delhi, and other places, will mark one year of what the farmers called as "historic struggle" to demand repeal of the three contentious farm laws.

The farmers' movement had begun with a call of 'Dilli Chalo' on November 26-27 last year not just protesting the three farm laws but also putting forth several other demands.

The Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM), a consortium of 40-odd farmers' organisations, said in a release: "The fact that such a long struggle has to be waged is a clear reflection on the insensitivity and arrogance of India's Government towards its toiling citizens."

"Over the course of twelve months of one of the largest and longest protest movements across the world and in history, crores of people took part in the movement which spread to every state, every district and every village of India," SKM said.

A meeting of Samyukta Kisan Morcha will be held on November 27 at Singhu Morcha. In the meeting, the farm unions will take a decision regarding the further course of action, the release said.

After an announcement by Prime Minister Narendra



Security personnel at the Ghazipur border ahead of the 'Kisan Mahapanchayat' on the first anniversary of the farmers' agitation, in Ghaziabad on Thursday

Modi last Friday to repeal the three farm laws, the cabinet had on Wednesday approved its repeal and also said the formality in the Parliament will be done at the earliest.

Stating that apart from the Government's decision and Cabinet ratification of repeal of the three anti-farmer laws, the movement achieved several victories for the farmers, common citizens and the nation at large, the SKM statement said: "The movement created a sense of unified identity for the farmers, cutting across regional, religious or caste divisions, farmers are discovering a new-found sense of dignity and pride in their identity as farmers, and their assertion as citizens."

It has deepened the roots of democracy and secularism in India."

DU forms committee for recommendations on next year's admission process

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi University (DU) has formed a committee, which will give recommendations for the admission process next year after analysing this year's admission data, according to a senior university official.

The formation of the committee comes in the backdrop of a large

number of students, particularly cent-per-cent scorers from Kerala, getting admission to the DU.

The committee was formed last month and it has already held a couple of meetings. It is likely to submit its report by next month. The committee is headed by Dean (Examinations) DS Rawat.

"The mandate of the committee is

to analyse the admission data and the trends and based on that, suggest recommendations for next year's admission process," Rawat told PTI.

Last month, the DU had dismissed allegations of favouritism towards state boards and said it maintains "equity to all meritorious candidates coming not only from Indian states but also from abroad",

amid a large number of students from Kerala state boards getting admission to the university in the first cut-off list.

According to data shared by the DU, there were 4,824 applicants from the Kerala Board of Higher Secondary Education in the first cut-off list and most of them had scored perfect marks.



ONE FACE, MANY VOICES

Dhindora is a baby step towards a bigger aspiration, my own universe, BHUVAN BAM tells KHUSHBU KIRTI on the recent launch of his independent web-series

Bhuvan Bam, or commonly known as BB, is an Indian comedian who changed the face of YouTube for artists in India. He blazed a path that wasn't as yet to be as well trod as it is now. The comedian, writer, singer and song-writer has donned another feather in his cap by releasing his new creation, *Dhindora*.

Flying high on the IMDB charts with a whopping 9.8, *Dhindora* was recently created by BB on his popular YouTube channel, BB Ki Vines. The star did not have to wait for an OTT to approach him, but decided to take matters into his own hand and, sure enough, became the first Indian digital content creator to launch his independent web-series.

In a candid conversation, BB opened up about his master-piece. An excerpt from the interview is as follows:

◆From making YouTube videos on your phone to featuring in *Forbes 30 under 30*, how has the journey been?

The journey's been exciting. Have had the opportunity to meet and work with so many people.

◆You are the first Indian digital content creator to launch your independent web series, *Dhindora*. Would love to know everything about the show.

Dhindora is a baby step towards a bigger aspiration, my own universe. To create good stories with my char-

acters in it. *Dhindora* being the first show of its kind, is a cluster of all my life experiences presented with humour and drama. How middle class aspirations and expectations lead to chaos. How society behaves differently in your ups and downs. *Dhindora* is a satire, a reflection of society.

◆You are the one-man army behind and in *Dhindora*. What was the thought behind it? And your vision/objective of it.

The thought behind *Dhindora* was to create a universe of my own. Where all my characters bring in different emotions, where they are combined together to portray various faces of our society.

◆What is the significance of the title?

Dhindora is a word that I've been hearing from people since childhood. 'Bagal mein chora, sheher mein dhindora' means something you are searching for is near you and you are busy chasing the world. It fits perfectly with the context of the show because of the chaos created by one of the characters.

◆Creating an episodic show out of mainstream OTT platforms, on YouTube, how was the experience?

Creating this show on YouTube was a smooth platform experience. They gave us the opportunity to act our vision out but since it was a

unique project (one man and 10 characters), shooting it was a task. Everyone on the set learnt the process through the making of the show itself. Makeup and costumes were time consuming, and since I was the only actor on set, things became tedious.

◆What has been the most enjoyable part of being in the comedy sector?

Satire through comedy is the best way to interact with the audience. I'd like the people sitting on the topmost position in the OTT hierarchy to invest in newcomers and not just stick to their old school data numbers. People are ready to watch something new, and new concepts will automatically win your attention.

◆As a fellow DUite, I want to ask you if open mics and fest season was how you got into comedy? Did it start with stand-up shows?

I did try stand up comedy once for an OTT platform and wouldn't want to try that again because it's a difficult craft. Kudos to all the stand up comedians but not my cup of tea.

◆What are your plans for the future? Are there any upcoming gigs your fans should look out for? Or *Dhindora 2,3*?

Dhindora season 2 is definitely on the cards but apart from that, I'm working on a few more projects that are in the pipeline under BBKV Productions.

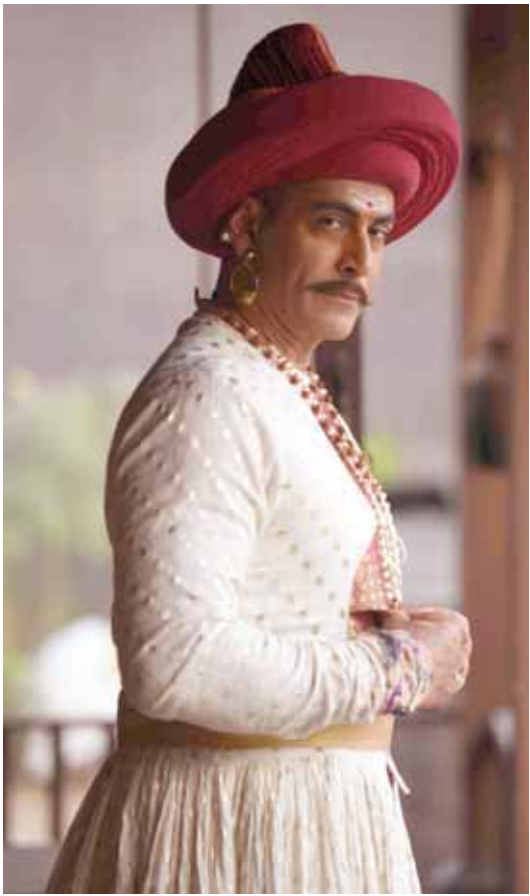
Tune into diction

“My co-actress Aishwarya Narkar is helping me with the proper Marathi dialect for my role,” shares Kashibai Bajirao Ballal star TARUN KHANNA. By TEAM VIVA

Over the years, Zee TV has introduced the audience to India's leaders and royal figures who have had a significant impact on the country's historical and cultural heritage. After *Jodha Akbar* and *Jhansi Ki Rani*, Zee TV recently introduced viewers to the untold story of one of the most iconic women of the Maratha empire — Kashibai Bajirao Ballal. The show premiered recently where Tarun Khanna portrays Balaji Vishwanath.

Tarun is playing the role of Bajirao's father — Balaji Vishwanath Ballal in the show, who was a powerful soldier in the army of Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj. He also holds a senior position in the king's court and is known for his wisdom and wordplay. To play this role of Balaji authentically on the small screen, Tarun has learnt the proper Marathi dialect.

As the actor shared, “I was honoured to be offered a challenging role like this and I am very excited to portray the part of Peshwa Balaji Vishwanath Ballal on our show. It holds such a strong historical relevance in our nation's vast history and I will give my 100 per cent to play the role as authentically as possible. I believe that everyone should prepare for their roles very rigorously, especially while portraying great historical leaders. I have been learning the proper Marathi dialect to personify my character and do justice to my role in Kashibai Bajirao Ballal. But it is a little difficult to be fluent in the enunciation at all times. Nevertheless, my



co-actress Aishwarya Narkar is helping me with the proper Marathi dialect as well as with the proper pronunciations of the 'shudh' Marathi words. I also help her with Hindi words. So it is a give and take between us. I feel it is really important for an actor to convince his audience and present an authentic character as they can on screen, and these are the baby steps we all take for our viewers. I really hope they continue liking me as Balaji Vishwanath Ballal.”

While Khanna is working hard to get into the skin of the character and bring an impactful character to the screen, the untold story of Kashibai is unfolding on our small screens. In the upcoming episodes we will also see Shivubai and Bhawanibai becoming hindrances in Kashibai's life, but will Kashi and Bajirao still end up being together?

(Watch *Kashibai Bajirao Ballal* every Monday to Friday at 8 pm, only on Zee TV.)

The earth is being plundered and its resources exploited at such a rapid rate that future generations face a frightening scenario. In fact, it wouldn't be incorrect to say that with the continued destruction of the ecosystem, the existence of life on earth itself is under threat.

Most of us are aware of this but vague about what can be done at an individual level in order to contribute to restoring and preserving the ecosystem. More often than not, we leave it to the government and environmental agencies to do the heavy lifting. But a change is imperative for every drop counts and does add up to make the proverbial ocean. 'Going organic' is a dynamic way to get started and contribute.

What does 'going organic' translate to? To put it simply, it means adopting lifestyle practices that do not harm the environment, and instead help restore, preserve and nurture it. Here's taking a deep dive into how we can go about it and help preserve the earth's ecosystem.

◆Eat organic

This translates to choosing foods grown the organic way. What is organic farming and how does it help preserve and nurture the ecosystem?

Excessive use of such chemicals in conventional farming practices contaminates the soil, water and air and allows the development of disease resistance in plant-eating insects, fungi and bacteria. Organic farming relies on ecologically based pest control mechanisms and vermicomposting to ensure maximum preservation of environmental resources.

No use of chemicals during organic farming helps in preserving and improving soil health. The practise also wards off soil erosion and decreases nitrate leaching into groundwater and surface water, and recycles animal wastes back into the farm. Such farming practices have a positive impact on the ecosystem, additionally promoting biodiversity to the fullest.

Organic Foods: Must-Know

- 1) Ensure that the product is certified organic.
- 2) Authentic organic foods



Going Organic: A leap towards ecosystem restoration

SUBRATA DUTTA believes that if humans have to survive, they need to switch towards a more sustainable lifestyle

In India carry these labels: India Organic, EU Organic or USDA Organic labels.

3) Organic foods and supplements are healthier since no chemicals are used in growing or preserving the food or supplements.

◆Wear sustainable fashion

Several fashion brands are rushing to initiate their eco-friendly fashion lines — clothes made of plant-based fibres and developed in an ethical manner. The manufacturing process in a sustainable fashion setup does not involve polluting the water, soil and the environment. On the other hand, synthetic fabrics are made using chemicals and manufacturing processes that deplete and damage the ecosystem.

'Going organic' also means we buy fewer clothes, opt for more durable iterations and avoid what is termed as 'fast



fashion'. (Remember, the more clothes we use, the more of earth's resources we use up.) 'Fast fashion' means churning out frequent lines of cheap clothing, using quick-fix chemicals, dyes and practices of manufacturing that include destruction of the environment, pollut-

ing of waters and more.

Opt for sustainable fashion or clothes manufactured using ethical practises that help nurture and protect the ecosystem. In this case, less is truly more.

◆Other ways to 'Go Organic'

Opt for local produce: This supports the community's economy, helping it thrive. One of the key pillars of 'going organic' is to support the most prized of earth's bounties: mankind. So, buy local. Another way this helps support the ecosystem is by reducing greenhouse gas emissions by cutting on the transport of food from distant places.

Use 'green' products: Read labels and be mindful of all products that you use — from house-cleaning agents and cosmetics to your garbage bags and containers. Look for cleaning products that do not include phosphates and phthalates;

avoid non-degradable plastic (the frightening videos of plastic clogging up the earth are not fictitious); opt for jute bags and glass containers and shun cosmetics that are harmful to animals or contain damaging chemicals (check the Environmental Working Group website for more).

It's time to do away with the careless, consumerist lifestyles that most of us tend to indulge in.

Use transport more efficiently: Change your car to one that guzzles less fuel — a limited natural resource. Cut down on the use of vehicles by combining errands, opting for car-pool or walking more often. You will be reducing the greenhouse gas emission that leads to global warming that and continues to be one of the biggest threats to the ecosystem.

(The author is group managing director, Organic India.)

TRENDBLAZER



I JUMPED ON THE IDEA: TRIPATHI

PANKAJ TRIPATHI is on a roll as the actor recently wrapped up Akshay Kumar-starrer *OMG* and has now started shooting for Srijit Mukherjee's film *Sherdil*, where he plays the lead.

Sharing his experience of working with Mukherjee, Tripathi says, “He is a fabulous director and needs no introduction. When *Sherdil* was offered to me, I jumped on the idea. The story has a definite character in itself. It is a beautifully written script and I trust him to bring each character to life convincingly. That's his USP.”

fairtalk



‘Falling in love is something very subjective and we can't judge a person for their choices because, at the end of the day, it's your heart. You can't direct your heart to do things that a particular person would feel is morally right or wrong. What might be right to you might be wrong for the other person. Considering all the flaws that we all are living with, we should not sit and judge others.’

dailytalk



‘Mentally, I got stuck because we had to shut down our shoot halfway through because of the lockdown and we were about 80 per cent done with *Bob Biswas*. And, we had another 10-15 days of work left. I became between 100-105 kilos during the shoot. Throughout the lockdown, I had to maintain that weight that I had to put on for my character. That was tough.’

I WANTED THAT ROLE SO BAD: LEVI

ZACHARY LEVI reveals he auditioned for the role of *Star-Lord* and ended up helping to get cast as Shazam. Levi took up the role of the superhero in the DC universe, and is one of the most fun movies of the DCEU.

“James [Gunn] and I were friends, we would have game nights at each other's homes, and had a lot of mutual friends. He had asked me to come in and read for *Star-Lord*, and I did. It led to the next step, and then all of a sudden, I was camera testing. I wanted that role so bad, like so, so, so bad,” he shared.



ON DEBUT, IYER SHOWS THE WAY AS INDIA SCORE 258/4

PTI ■ KANPUR

Debutant Shreyas Iyer was guts, aggression and flair rolled into one during an unbeaten knock of 75, which was nothing short of a baptism by fire, as India ended on 258 for four on the first day of the opening Test against New Zealand here on Thursday.

On a pitch that had variable bounce and didn't offer enough pace off it, Iyer put his best foot forward while facing 136 balls, hitting seven boundaries and two sixes on his very first day in office in the longest format.

Coming in at 106 for 3 at the fall of Cheteshwar Pujara's (26 off 88 balls) wicket, the debutant, in another half an hour, found his skipper Ajinkya Rahane's (33 off 65 balls) promising knock come to a halt as Kyle Jamieson (15.2-6-47-3) and Tim Southee (16.4-3-43-1) rocked the middle-order in inspiring post-lunch spells.

But at 144 for 4, Iyer took charge with senior all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja (50 batting, 100 balls) for company as they resurrected the innings, at the same time battling with a lot of intent to keep the scoreboard ticking.

Jadeja scored his 17th Test fifty and did

his trademark sword celebrations much to the delight of the crowd.

One doesn't know if Sunil Gavaskar, while presenting the India Cap to Iyer, mentioned about a very special player to him. Someone, who had announced his arrival at this very ground 52 years back in 1969 against Bill Lawry's Australia.

There are very few in Indian cricket who have received unadulterated love like Gavaskar's illustrious brother-in-law Gundappa Viswanath.

His hundred on debut at this very ground is a part of Indian cricket's most warmly recounted folklores.

They say every blade of grass at Green Park had felt punch in Viswanath's shots and remembers him forever.

He might not be of Viswanath's class but from Thursday onwards, Green Park will also remember Iyer for once again proving the old concrete jungle saying: "A good player, is a good player, is a good player."

Doesn't matter whether one hails from a T20 generation, what ultimately matters is sound temperament to succeed at highest level.

Iyer proved that all those hard yards put in during Ranji Trophy and the 1000 plus



runs season that he once had, haven't gone in vain.

It did help that he wasn't just looking to survive but score as there were pull shots, lap scoops, drives down the ground and

some imperious cut shots.

There was Mumbai's 'khadoos' schooling in the manner he played Jamieson and Southee with caution.

The six over long on off left-arm spin-

ner Ajaz Patel, while giving him the charge, was that of a vintage 50-over batter and the shuffle towards off-stump to play the lap scoop off left-arm spinner Rachin Ravindra was straight from the IPL play-book.

Iyer had it all and it was on display.

It did help that Patel (21-6-78-0) and off-break bowler William Somerville (24-2-60-0) didn't find any ways to assist the pressure that was time and again created by the two pacers.

Patel, who literally bowls with a half-step-full-jump run-up, either pitched too short or gave the ball enough air to give batters the option to either cut him or come down the track to drive him off length.

Shubman Gill (52 off 93 balls) did that with elan before perishing on a day when a hundred was there for the taking and he looked good to reach the landmark before Jamieson exposed the gap between his bat and pad. But there was no stopping Iyer, who save a strong leg before appeal by Somerville that turned out to be an Umpire's Call, was ready to wait for the loose deliveries. The 113-run unbroken partnership between Jadeja and Iyer might prove to be the winning one in the final analysis.

That's because if India's batters found

it hard to score freely on a two-paced track, the Black Caps' willow wielders, with very little experience of dealing with Ravichandran Ashwin, Axar Patel and Jadeja in these conditions, will find it doubly difficult.

If Iyer's debut innings was the brightest spot, comeback man Gill's taking the attack back to the opposition camp in the first session couldn't be seen in isolation either. It was a stage that was set by Gill and had Jamieson not bowled a beauty with the old ball, he should have completed what was expected to be his maiden Test hundred.

But more importantly what Gill and Iyer did on the day was to send another warning signal for Pujara and Rahane, who are now on borrowed time.

Rahane was done in by low bounce when he was expecting the ball from a near 7 feet tall Jamieson to rear up. With 12 Tests without a big score (India might not bat twice), Rahane's record is not reading too well for a stand-in skipper.

Similarly, Pujara being stopped from scoring by spinners, whom younger players like Gill and Iyer played freely, is an indicator that he either has to reinvent himself or there is trouble in waiting.

Pressure mounts on Pujara-Rahane ahead of SA tour

PTI ■ KANPUR

Time is running out for Cheteshwar Pujara and Ajinkya Rahane after another failure and this time, in reasonably conducive home conditions against an attack which wasn't half as threatening as Australia and England.

Both Pujara and Rahane squandered decent starts on a day when the willows of debutant Shreyas Iyer and Shubman Gill produced half centuries against New Zealand in the opening Test here.

And the failure was against an attack which did not have



the immensely talented and crafty Trent Boult, whose banana inswing in early morn-

ing moisture makes life difficult for batters.

Iyer's arrival with a bang in

Test match scenario and Gill being back among runs, albeit as an opener, would certainly set alarm bells ringing for the captain (Rahane) and vice-captain (Pujara) in this Test match.

The Indian squad for the South Africa series will be announced in some days and even if the seasoned duo board that flight to Johannesburg, captain Virat Kohli, head coach Rahul Dravid and white-ball captain Rohit Sharma, who is an integral part of red ball think-tank will have to take an enormous leap of faith to give them a whole series in the Rainbow Nation.

Before KL Rahul got injured, Gill was being considered as a middle-order enforcer, an option they want to check out in long-term.

He played as an opener but Gill's highest overseas first-class score on foreign soil is 204 batting at No.5 in the West Indies, when he was there with the A team. Without a doubt, Iyer has responded well and made a case for himself.

So if Gill and Iyer, both of whom have come through the ranks now push the door open, there are only two vulnerable slots at the moment — Pujara and Rahane.

Embuldeniya stars as SL go 1-0 up

AP ■ GALLE

Lasith Embuldeniya took five wickets in the final innings as hosts Sri Lanka thrashed the West Indies by 187 runs in the first Test on Thursday to surge 1-0 up in the two-match series.

Chasing a hefty target of 348, West Indies were bowled out for 160 before tea on the final day, with Nkrumah Bonner the lone warrior with an unbeaten 68 on a turning wicket at Galle International Stadium.

Bonner was one of only three West Indies batters to make it into double figures in their second innings, along with Joshua Da Silva, who made 54, and Rahkeem Cornwall who managed 13.

Reeling on 52 for six at the start of the final day, the West Indies clung on with Bonner and Da Silva putting on 100, the West Indies' highest partnership of the match.

Despite the wicket offering plenty of assistance, the two batters tackled the Sri Lankan spin threat well with clever use



of footwork. Three chances were also put down by Sri Lanka with Pathum Nissanka the guilty party each time.

It was a crucial seventh-wicket partnership for the tourists after they had been reduced to 18 for six on day four. At that point, the West Indies were in danger of being

shot out for their lowest score in Test cricket with the game ending inside four days.

Their lowest total was 47 all out against England in Jamaica in 2004. Embuldeniya finished the innings with a five-wicket haul while Ramesh Mendis complemented him well with four wickets.

Oz bowlers want Paine as wk for Ashes: Lyon

AP ■ BRISBANE

Australia's bowlers want Tim Paine behind the stumps for the first Ashes Test against England because he is "the best keeper in the world", spin king Nathan Lyon said on Thursday.

Paine quit as Test captain in disgrace last week over a historical text message scandal, but is keen to keep playing.

Selectors must decide whether to cut him loose and start afresh or show loyalty amid a groundswell of support to keep him in the team for the opening clash in Brisbane on December 8.

Opener Marcus Harris on Wednesday said Paine had the backing of the Australian squad and Lyon — who is one wicket away from claiming 400 Test scalps — reiterated this.

"The selectors always said they were going to pick the best available XI and in my eyes Tim Paine is the best keeper in the world," he said. "I know I want him. 'Every bowler's relationship



with (him) is exceptional and Tim Paine is a very loveable guy and a very well-respected guy within the changeroom."

Lyon added that he could "100 percent guarantee he (Paine) has the full support of the Australian changeroom".

"Tim made a mistake, he's owned it, for me that shows great courage, to be honest."

Mominul tells B'desh to 'close ears' ahead of Pakistan Tests

AP ■ CHITTAGONG

Bangladesh captain Mominul Haque urged his teammates to ignore criticism and concentrate on the job at hand ahead of the Test series at home against Pakistan beginning on Friday.

The hosts kick off the new Test Championship cycle with the two-match series against Pakistan starting in Chittagong, having never beaten the visitors either at home or away.

The series follows a dismal run in T20Is, with Bangladesh losing eight consecutive matches. Five losses at the World Cup were followed by a three-nil whitewash at home by semi-finalists Pakistan.

"This is not the first time Bangladesh have gone through such a phase. We have overcome such times before too," said Test captain Mominul, who was not part of T20 side.

"People got mentally weak... because they pay attention to what is being said. My



job is to bring back focus. You cannot stop anyone from talking. So it's better to keep your ears closed," he said on Thursday.

Adding to their woes, star player Shakib Al Hasan, batsman Tamim Iqbal and an informal all-rounder Taskin Ahmed, will all miss the first Test due to injury.

Pakistan captain Babar Azam insisted his team will not

take the hosts lightly in their home conditions.

"This looks a typical Bangladeshi pitch which will help spinners. So, we are aware of the conditions," he said.

Pakistan announced their 12-man squad for the opening Test, which included uncapped batsman Abdullah Shafique.

Faheem Ashraf, Fawad Alam and Imam-ul-Haq also made the 12-man squad.

FC Goa, Jamshedpur FC eye ISL season's 1st win

PTI ■ BAMBOLIM

Smarting from a 0-3 drubbing in their season opener, FC Goa will hope to get their campaign back on track when they face Jamshedpur FC in the Indian Super League here on Friday.

The loss against Mumbai City FC on Monday meant FC Goa's league-record 15-match unbeaten streak came to a crashing halt. It was a bitter pill to swallow for head coach Juan Ferrando, his wards and also the fans.

Friday, though, presents an opportunity for the Gaurs to redeem themselves as they clash against Jamshedpur FC in a match that will see both teams seeking their first win.

Speaking to the media ahead of the game, Ferrando shared his thoughts on the performance in the last match and the team's plans for

the future.

The season opener saw Ferrando name a fairly inexperienced line-up at the back. Leander D'Cunha and Sanson Pereira made their second ISL starts while Papua made his league debut.

While the trust might not be fully vindicated, Ferrando preached patience when it comes to the youngsters.

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Man City, PSG, Real, Inter qualify for R16

APF ■ MANCHESTER

Manchester City beat Paris Saint-Germain 2-1 on Wednesday but both clubs qualified for the last 16 of the Champions League, along with Real Madrid, Inter Milan and Sporting Lisbon.

Gabriel Jesus tapped in from Bernardo Silva's deft knockdown on 76 minutes to settle an absorbing match at the Etihad after Raheem Sterling had cancelled out Kylian Mbappe's goal.

Before Jesus sent the crowd wild in Manchester, Neymar shot wide to blow a golden chance to put the Parisians ahead.

Lionel Messi had a low-key game and Sergio Ramos, named among the substitutes, was not called on to make his PSG debut.

Pep Guardiola's City, the beaten finalists last season, are guaranteed of winning Group A, while PSG qualified in second place despite the defeat because RB Leipzig thrashed Club Brugge 5-0 in Belgium.

Karim Benzema scored just hours after being found guilty by a French court in a blackmail case as Real Madrid eased past Sheriff Tiraspol 3-0 to reach the knockout stage.

The French striker notched his team's third goal of a confident display in Transnistria after David Alaba's free-kick and Toni Kroos' strike as Real took revenge for their shock 2-1 loss to Sheriff in Madrid earlier this season.

The victory sent the Spanish giants back to the top of Group D, two points clear of second-placed Inter Milan, who also qualified for the last 16 after beating Shakhtar Donetsk 2-0 thanks to two Edin Dzeko goals.

Sporting Lisbon reached the knockout phase for the first time since the 2008-2009 season as they beat Borussia Dortmund 3-



1 in the Portuguese capital.

Liverpool were already qualified for the last 16 going into their tie against Porto at Anfield and Thiago Alcantara's superb low shot and Mohamed Salah's sixth goal of this season's group phase wrapped up a comfortable 2-0 win.

Atletico Madrid lost 1-0 at home to AC Milan after a dramatic late winner from Milan substitute Junior Messias, a defeat that leaves the Spanish side bottom of Liverpool's Group B.

Diego Simeone's team must beat Porto in their final game on December 7 and hope that Liverpool win away against AC Milan, who sit just a point behind the Portuguese club.

Lakshya set to become youngest Indian to qualify for World Tour Finals

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's Lakshya Sen is set to become the youngest shuttler from the country to qualify for the season-ending HSBC BWF World Tour Finals which will be held in Bali, Indonesia from December 1.

The 20-year-old from Almora has enjoyed an impressive run on the BWF world tour and is currently ranked fifth in the World Tour rankings.

He will join Kidambi Srikanth (ranked 3rd) in the men's singles competition, two-time Olympic medalist P V Sindhu (4th) in women's singles and women's doubles pair of Ashwini Ponnappa and N Sikki Reddy (6th) at the event, which was shifted from Guangzhou to Bali due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Srikanth, Sameer Verma, Sindhu and London bronze- medalist Saina Nehwal have competed in the year-ending tournament in the past.

While Sindhu is the only Indian to win the BWF World Tour Finals in 2018, Saina had reached the summit clash of the BWF Superseries Finals in 2011. Srikanth and Sameer have reached the knockout stage but couldn't enter the finals.

Lakshya, who claimed five titles in 2019 before COVID-19 suspended the international circuit, has been on a roll with a final finish at Dubai Open and semifinal results at Denmark Masters and Hylo Open.

In the Indonesia leg, Lakshya couldn't progress deep in the draw after losing twice to top seed and two-time world champion Kento Momota of Japan.

The official list of players qualifying for the World Tour Final will be announced after the conclusion of the ongoing Indonesia open Super 1000 event.

The top eight players and pairs for each category in the Road to Bali Rankings will be invited to compete, where only a maximum of two players or pairs per Member Association are eligible to participate in the World Tour Finals.

Sindhu, Praneeth enter quarters

PTI ■ BALI

Top Indian shuttlers PV Sindhu and B Sai Praneeth progressed to the quarterfinals but former champion Kidambi Srikanth made an early exit in the second round of the Indonesia Open Super 1000 tournament here on Thursday.

Two-time Olympic medalist Sindhu hardly broke a sweat to win the second round clash 21-12 21-18 against world No. 26 Germany's Yvonne Li in 37 minutes at the USD 850,000 event.

In the women's singles quarterfinals, the reigning world champion, seeded third, will face South Korea's Sim Yujin.

Praneeth staved off a spirited fight from France's world No. 70 Christo Popov, claiming a 21-17 14-21 21-19 win in a gruelling match that lasted an hour and 23 minutes.

The world No. 16 Indian will meet Olympic champion and former world no No. Viktor Axelsen of Denmark next.

The second seeded Axelsen, a world champion, ended the campaign of Srikanth, beating him 21-14 21-18 in 37 minutes.

The sixth seeded men's



pairing of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty also survived a scare against Korea's Kang Minhyuk and Seo Seungjae, prevailing 21-15 19-21 23-21 in a thrilling contest to also make it to the last eight.

The Indian pair, ranked 11, will square off against Malaysian combination of Goh Sze Fei and Nur Izzuddin.

Up against Li for the first time, world No. 7 Sindhu looked completely in control from the beginning. Such was her dominance that the two-time Olympic medalist took the first game with ease, winning seven consecutive points at one stage.

Li made a good recovery in the second game and it was more evenly contested. But Sindhu persisted and did not let the German gain an advantage over her.

Praneeth made a good start, jumping to 8-2 lead early on but Popov made it 14-12 after he reeled off seven straight points just after the break.

The Indian, however, held his nerves to pocket the opening game.

The second game was a tight affair as Popov fought hard and grabbed a slender 11-10 lead at the interval. He moved to 15-14 before sending down six points on the trot.

In the decider, Praneeth led 11-7 at one

stage but again a seven-point burst helped Popov turn the tables on his fancied rival. However, Praneeth ensured he had the last laugh in the end.

In the other second round match, Axelsen used the court well to make Srikanth move around. He waited for the Indian to make mistakes and produced some great angled returns to trouble him.

The result was that Axelsen led by six points at the first break. Srikanth fought his way back to 11-14 and 13-16, only to give it away with a loose shot. In the end, a sharp return and then Srikanth going to the net gave the opening game to Axelsen.