

OPINION 6
LAKHIMPUR KHERI—
WAS IT AVOIDABLE?**WORLD 8**
NEW CHAPTER OPENED IN AF,
WORLD RELATIONS: TALIBAN FM**SPORT 12**
DC SET 136
TARGET FOR KKR

BHOPAL, THURSDAY OCTOBER 14, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹1.50

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I'M VERY
HEADSTRONG:
MALAIKA
10 VIVACITY

India headed for jab milestone

**73% population
given at least 1
dose, 30% both;
100 cr Covid jab
record likely soon**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India is likely to achieve the ambitious target of administering 100 crore doses of the Covid-19 vaccine within the next few days even as it has allowed export of stocks to other countries, sources in the Union Health Ministry said.

"As on date, 73 per cent of the total population have been given at least a single dose of the vaccine, close to 30 per cent have received both doses, and we are following up with States to increase the vaccine administration. There are 8 crore doses kept ready for use by the States," said the Ministry sources.

On Tuesday, the emergency use of Bharat Biotech's Covid-19 vaccine for the 2 to 18 age-group was also approved.

As per the Union Government data, India has administered over 95.89 crore doses of the Covid-19 vaccine.

"There is no shortage of vaccines, it has, however, been noticed worldwide that there tends to be a saturation once 70 per cent of the population are covered. So, efforts are on to cover the remaining population and counter any vaccine hesi-

tancy. As for the availability of vaccines, the production for October alone is about 28 crore doses. Of these 22 crore doses are of Covishield, 6 crore of Covaxin and 60 lakh of the DNA vaccine," the sources said.

In the meantime, India reported 15,823 new Covid-19 cases in the last 24 hours, 10.5 per cent higher than Tuesday when the country saw the lowest daily rise in Covid cases since early March with 14,313 infections. India also reported 226 deaths due to coronavirus.

India's total Covid infection tally has reached 3,40,01,743 while the death count has increased to 4,51,189. A total of 13,25,399 tests were conducted, taking the number of cumulative tests conducted so far to 58,63,63,442.

Meanwhile, news agency

IANS quoted eminent scientist and biochemist Prof G Padmanaban as saying that India may require the third dose of Covid vaccine by the middle of next year as breakthrough cases even after full vaccination have been prevalent, even though mostly mild.

Prof Padmanaban, who is chancellor of Central University of Tamil Nadu and a Padma Bhushan recipient, said that his opinion of a third dose is based on "scientific understanding".

"In an infection by the Delta variant, which is widespread, there is a six-eight fold drop in the potential of antisera from vaccines to neutralise the variant compared to the wild type (used for vaccination-spike or whole virus).

"Nobody still has a clear



answer to how long the protective antibodies will last, it has been variably estimated to be between six months and one

year. If the virus has not weakened by itself, by that time, there is the possibility for a re-infection," he said.

Doctors fear Covid surge in Bengal over protocol violation

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■
KOLKATA

Kolkata seems to be failing in the rigorous implementation of the corona protocol during Ganesh festival. With lakhs of frenzied pandal hoppers hitting the Kolkata streets amid pandemic times, the doctors of the eastern metro fear a revival of the disease in Bengal soon after the Durga Puja.

The administration's lenient execution of the corona protocol framed by the Calcutta High Court tends to



push up the fear. Dr RK Patra, a senior physician, warned, "If the positivity percentage goes beyond 5 per cent, then the

administration will certainly have to think about re-imposing lockdown in some way or the other."

This even as a senior doctor of the Calcutta Medical College, the oldest such hospital in Asia, said how before Maha Panchami day the infectivity rate in Bengal was in the vicinity of 1.75 per cent which had crossed 2.53 by the end of Maha Saptami day.

While the infectibility rate remain more or less static, it is showing upward swing in Kolkata and adjacent North 24 Parganas which forms the part of greater Kolkata, thanks to the increasing crowd of pandal hoppers who have been cramming the sidewalks.

India slams China protest of V-P visit to Arunachal

**AP inalienable
part of India,
says New Delhi**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India on Wednesday slammed China for its objection to a recent visit to Arunachal Pradesh by Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, asserting that the State is an "integral and inalienable" part of India.

External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said Chinese objections to the visit of Indian leaders to a State of India "does not stand to reason and understanding" of Indian people.

"We have noted the comments made today by the Chinese official spokesperson. We reject such comments. Arunachal Pradesh is an integral and inalienable part of India," the MEA Spokesperson said.

Bagchi was responding to a question on comments in Beijing by a spokesperson of the Chinese Foreign Ministry objecting to Naidu's visit to Arunachal Pradesh over the weekend.

"Indian leaders routinely travel to the State of Arunachal Pradesh as they do to any other State of India. Objecting to the visit of Indian leaders to a State of India does not stand to reason and understanding of



Indian people," he said.

China has been objecting to visits of Indian leaders to Arunachal Pradesh in its bid to use the issue as a bargaining leverage with New Delhi for boundary negotiations. Beijing claims Arunachal Pradesh as a part of South Tibet which is contrary to the ground position.

The fresh war of words between the two sides came three days after the 13th round

of military talks on the 17-month eastern Ladakh stand-off ended in a stalemate.

The 13th round military talks were held amid pinpricks in Arunachal Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh as also propaganda warfare online by People's Liberation Army (PLA) to demoralise the Indian delegations for the confabulations on Sunday.

"Further, as we have mentioned earlier, the current situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Western Sector of the India-China border areas has been caused by unilateral attempts of the Chinese side to alter the status quo in violation of the bilateral agreements," Bagchi said.

"Therefore, we expect the Chinese side to work towards early resolution of the remaining issues along the LAC in Eastern Ladakh while fully abiding by bilateral agreements and protocols rather than trying to link unrelated issues," Bagchi said.

On Monday, a day after the 13th round of military talks, Indian Army said the "constructive suggestions" made by it were neither agreeable to the Chinese side nor it could provide any "forward-looking" proposals.

The Chinese PLA's Western Theatre Command, however, said India insisted on "unreasonable and unrealistic demands, adding difficulties to the negotiations."

Lakhimpur Kheri violence 'condemnable' but lopsided attention dangerous: FM

PTI ■ BOSTON

The Lakhimpur Kheri violence, in which four farmers were killed, is "absolutely condemnable," Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said, emphasising that there are issues of such nature happening in other parts of India equally which should be raised "when they happen and not when it suits others" because there is a BJP Government in Uttar Pradesh.

Sitharaman, who is on an official visit to the US, was responding to a question during a conversation at Harvard Kennedy School on Tuesday about the killing of four farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri and the arrest of Ashish Mishra, son of Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Mishra.

She was asked why there is no word on this from the Prime Minister, senior Ministers and why there is a "defensive reaction" when somebody asks questions about such things.

"No, absolutely not... It's nice of you to have picked up



that one incident which is absolutely condemnable, every one of us say that. Equally there are instances happening elsewhere, is my concern.

"India has issues of such nature happening in very many different parts of the country equally. I would like you, and many others, including Dr Amartya Sen, who all know India, to raise it at every time when it happens, not just raise it when it suits us because it's a State where BJP is in power, one of my cabinet colleague's son is in probably trouble, and also assume that it's actually them who did it and not anybody else.

Ashish Mishra denied bail, 2 more arrested

PTI ■ LAKHIMPUR KHERI

Two more persons were on Wednesday arrested in connection with the Lakhimpur violence, while a court here denied bail to Ashish Mishra, son of Union Minister Ajay Mishra.

Ankit Das and Latif, alias Kale, who appeared before the Special Investigation Team (SIT), were taken in custody after questioning and produced in court which sent them in judicial remand for 14 days, official sources said.

With this, the total number of people arrested in connection with the mowing down of four farmers here on October 3 has gone to six.

While the police sought their custody for interrogation, their lawyer opposed it saying no recovery is to be done from them. The court reserved its order on the application for police remand of the two, they said.

Senior prosecution officer SP Yadav told PTI that Ashish Mishra and his alleged accomplice Ashish Pandey moved bail applications on Wednesday but they were rejected by Chief Judicial Magistrate Chinta



Ram.

Ashish Mishra, who was arrested on October 9 by the special investigation team after 12 hours of questioning, had been sent to three days in police custody from Tuesday.

The court also remanded Shekhar Bharti, arrested on Tuesday, in police custody for three days.

Police have now arrested six people — Ashish Mishra, Luvkush, Ashish Pandey, Bharti, Ankit and Kale — in connection with the case.

The investigators had summoned Das and Kale for questioning in connection with the October 3 violence that had left eight people, including four lynched by the protesting farmers.

NIA arrests 9 in J&K for terror conspiracy

**Of those, 5 held
during searches
in Srinagar**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday said it has arrested nine persons, including five during the searches conducted in Srinagar, in the Jammu & Kashmir terrorism conspiracy case.

The five arrested accused persons are Md Haneef Chiralu (Srinagar) Hafeez (Budgam), Owais Dar (Pulwama), Mateen Bhat (Shopian), and Arif Farooq Bhat (Srinagar).

The arrests came close on the heels of searches at 16 locations in Kashmir on Tuesday. The NIA had registered the case on Sunday. During the searches, the agency seized several electronic devices, incriminating jihadi documents, and records of suspicious financial transactions.

The case relates to the conspiracy for conducting violent



terrorist acts in Jammu & Kashmir and other major cities by the cadre of proscribed terrorist organisation Lashkar-e-Tayyeba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM), and their affiliates Al Badr, The Resistance Front (TRF), People Against Fascist Forces (PAFF) and Mujahideen Ghazwat-ul Hind (MGH) among others.

The agency had on Tuesday conducted searches at 16 locations in Srinagar, Pulwama, and Shopian districts and arrested four accused persons. The arrested accused are Waseem Ahmed Sofi of Chattabal, Srinagar, Tariq

Ahmed Dar of Shergarhi, Srinagar, Bilal Ahmed Mir alias Bilal Fufu of Parimpora, Srinagar, and Tariq Ahmed Bafanda of Rajauri Kadal in Srinagar.

The agency was pursuing a case on the intelligence input regarding hatching of conspiracy both physically and in cyberspace for undertaking violent terrorist acts in Jammu & Kashmir and other major cities of India, including New Delhi, by the cadres of proscribed terrorist organisations LeT, JeM, HM, Al Badr and similar other outfits and their affiliates such as the TRF and PAFF among others, the NIA said in a statement.

JeM commander gunned down in encounter with forces in Pulwama

PNS ■ JAMMU

One of the top commanders of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terrorist outfit was eliminated by the joint team of the security forces in Tilwani Mohalla Waggad area of Tral in South Kashmir's Pulwama district on Wednesday.

The slain terrorist has been identified as Shamus-ud-Din Sofi, alias ShamSofi. According to police records he was first arrested in 2004 and detained under PSA. He rejoined the ranks of JeM in 2019 and since then was active in the area.

He provided shelter and logistics support to the foreign terrorists of JeM in the area.

According to a police spokesman, "The joint operation was launched in the area after confirming his whereabouts by the Awantipora police".

During the search operation, the terrorist was given repeated opportunities to surrender. Instead of responding, he opened indiscriminate fire on the security forces. In the ensuing encounter he was neutralised by the security forces.

Govt withdraws 'sterilisation of stray bulls' order

**Pragya Thakur had
feared govansh
termination, lodged
objection to Govt**
STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The State government took a U-turn on its order of sterilisation of stray bulls as a part of bovine breed improvement programme in Madhya Pradesh, within few hours.

The order was withdrawn after Bhopal MP Pragya Singh Thakur said she feared that it was an attempt to 'terminate govansh' (cows).

Earlier, Pragya Thakur had

said she had spoken to Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan to immediately stop the programme, and also related her views on the matter to animal husbandry Minister Prem Singh Patel. The two had assured her that they will look into the issue.

The MP said, "We address cows as Nandini and mother, while there is a conspiracy to terminate govansh (cows) in Madhya Pradesh. I was deeply saddened after seeing the order, which aims at destroying govansh completely. We call cows mother and Nandini, and the order aims at terminating desi cows by sterilising bulls."

Continued on Page 3



Effigies of demon king Ravana kept for sale on a roadside ahead of the Dussehra festival in Bhopal on Wednesday

Pioneer photo

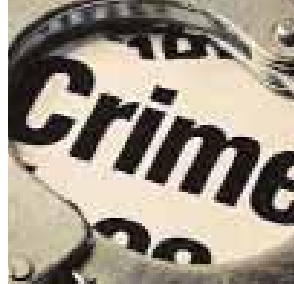
Woman set ablaze over property dispute in MP village, case filed

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A 30-year-old woman was set afire in Arjun Khedi village under Berasia police station area on Monday over property dispute. The condition of the victim is critical. Police have registered a murderous assault case against three persons.

The victim Asha Singh Rajput sustained severe injuries after her brother-in-laws Virendra and Shyam and Shyam's brother-in-law Sishupal after having verbal spat set her ablaze. Asha's husband Sanju Singh Rajput and brother-in-law Uday Singh Rajput tried to save her in which Sanju sustained burn injuries in her hands.

She was rushed to a private



hospital where her condition is reportedly critical.

In complaint made by victims it was stated that Virendra and Shyam have old dispute over property and in the afternoon the two came along with Sishupal and during verbal spat they set her ablaze by pouring oil over her.

Police said that the victim has sustained burns over vital

organs and doctors have told that she had sustained over 50 per cent burns and her condition is reportedly critical.

Based on the statement of the victim police have registered a case under section 307 of the IPC against the two accused.

During the investigation it was found that two accused are real brothers of Sanju and had dispute over paternal property and in the afternoon they came to talk over the matter but entered a brawl and when Asha intervened they went infuriated and set her ablaze. Her body from ribs to lower half sustained severe burn injuries.

Police have raided several places in search of the accused while they managed to remain absconding.

Cover, muhar on State’s unsung heroes unveiled

Guv lauds efforts of postal department to issue special cover

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Governor Mangubhai Patel unveiled a special cover and Virupan Muhar issued by the Department of Posts on 6 unsung heroes of Madhya Pradesh on Philately Day at Raj Bhavan today.

Patel said that the history of our country is full of tales of the sacrifices of such patriots, who have given a new direction to the country. The society gets inspiration and encouragement by honoring such heroes and heroines. The future generation

gets the determination and inspiration to serve the society, state and country. He appreciated the efforts of the Department of Posts to issue a special cover on the unheard heroes and heroines of the state.

The Governor inaugurated the program by lighting the lamp. He unveiled a special cover of the Department of Posts on national heroes of the state including Tanya Bhil, Ganesh Prasad Varni, Hari Vishnu Kamath, Ratan Kumar Gupta, Sahodara Bai Rai and Radha Devi Azad.

Regarding the Amrit Mahotsav and special cover, Chief Post Master General Jitendra Gupta informed that postal stamps are issued by the Department of Posts to make a special occasion, person and

event unforgettable. In case of non-issuance of tickets in special circumstances, special cover is issued. He said that a special cover has been issued to commemorate the contribution of the nation's heroes who contributed to the independence of the state.

Director Headquarters S. Shivram told that the National Postal Week is organized in October. The products of the department are promoted during the week. This year from 11 to 17 October the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is being celebrated by the department.

Under this, a special cover has been issued in the memory of unheard heroes and heroines of the state. Assistant Director Business Shri Chandresh Jain proposed vote of thanks.



Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha activists burn an effigy of Congress State President Kamal Nath against his controversial remarks on BJP State President VD Sharma, in Bhopal on Wednesday

Cultural event ‘Sur Dhara’ held under ‘Art World’

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Regional Office, organised a programme of ‘Sur Dhara’ was organized under the Art World - Special campaign under the online Horizon series.

An artist Surendra Swarnakar from Ujjain gave his scintillating and graceful online performance in the musical evening of flute playing at ICCR, Bhopal.

He performed Alap, Jod, Jhala in Raga Yaman. Drutgat in middle Teentaal, Gat in Teentaal. Melodic playing in the chakkar dar third. In Raga Pahadi, Madhyalay Kaharwa and Drutalaya Kaharwa.

At the end of the programme he played a melodious

tone on flute. In today's online presentation programme, he was accompanied by Arun Kushwaha on tabla.

Surendra Swarnakar got the inspiration for playing flute from his parents. Received the initial education of flute playing from Smita Reddy, Ujjain. At present, he is taking formal education of flute playing in Mumbai from Padmavibhushan Pt. Hariprasad Chaurasia, a well-known flute player of Mehr Gharana.

He passed the Sangeet Prabhakar examination in flute playing from Prayag Sangeet Samiti Allahabad. He received Mrs. Pannadevi Sangeet Scholarship from Vrindavan Charitable Trust Mumbai of Pt. Hariprasad Chaurasiagi for two years.

Akriti Verma symbol of woman empowerment

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Akriti Verma, the founder, and director of Renaissance Industries Pvt Ltd, holds an MBA from Singapore and is a graduate from Delhi University. Akriti hails from Patna, Bihar. The concept for AKV Wall Putty was conceived in 2018. There was a time when the Indian real estate sector, and thus auxiliary industries, was booming. After finishing her MBA, she created AKV Wall Putty.

She describes her entire success, "Competing against industry heavyweights like Birlas and Asian Paints was scary, but it only added to the



victory's significance." She hoped that her story inspires other women to start their own manufacturing companies. It's only getting started right now,

and everyone has the ability to make huge changes. Swami Vivekanand once remarked, "Arise, awaken, and do not stop until the goal is achieved."

Given the lack of female entrepreneurs in manufacturing, Akriti needed to provide a venue that encouraged more women to invest in a sector that contributes to India's development. She has set a precedent as a female entrepreneur in an underserved market, particularly in Bihar, which, despite its enormous potential, is thought to have a limited startup culture.

It is a fact that in this market it is very hard to survive as a female entrepreneur, the number and dominance of the male in the field made her path not a bed of roses. There were a slew of stumbling blocks to overcome before the world began to refer to them as milestones.

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Story session held to share experiences

Podcast channel launched to share audio of resilience stories

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

To mark International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction, a session titled stories of resilience held on Wednesday. This was held in partnership with Inter Agency Group, School of Journalism and Mass Communication and

Youth4children volunteer group.

A new podcast channel was started to share audio stories of resilience from the field. Initially four stories from Shivpuri and Sheopur of youth volunteer, school child, ASHA worker and SHG member, which were documented in form of audio stories and will be shared widely. This session used the examples of stories and broadcast mediums to share and disseminate efforts to strengthen work on disaster risk reduction. The stories were developed by Shefali Chaturvedi, broadcast professional, who shared that broad-

cast has a power to bring in change and support in building capacity in disaster risk reduction.

In addition Abhay Jain from Shivpuri, Ram Nareish from Sheopur, shared experience of coping up during the floods and the challenge. Umesh Medha from Jhabua and Divisha Parwar from Dhar shared their experiences during disaster COVID19, issue of migration and how they supported during COVID1 vaccination.

Anil Gulati, Communication Specialist coordinated the session and

said that this is an opportunity to acknowledge the progress being made toward reducing disaster risk, efforts of communities and youth groups to support the State.

Kamna Lad of School of Journalism and Mass Communication, DAVV Indore also expressed his views.

George Thomas of Disaster Management Institute was also present at the meeting. Around 90 NGOs who are part of Child Rights Observatory, Youth4Children group volunteers, and members of Inter Agency Group were present at the meet.



Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan felicitates students selected in UPSC at a programme organised at Minto Hall in Bhopal on Wednesday

Painting competition held at SSE hosp, prize distributed

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

With the blessings and guidance of Paramhans Sant Hirdaram Sahibji and Honorable Sant Siddh Bhauji, Sewa Sadan Eye Hospital has organised painting competition under the Theme "Love Your Eyes" at Sadhu Vaswani School. 200 students from grade 5 to 12 have participated in the competition.

This programme was observed with the mission to promote eye awareness in public welfare. Students have participated in the programme with great excitement and they have expressed their emotions with colours and their creative thoughts. First prize of ₹2000 was awarded to Miss Riya

Raikwar of Grade XI, Second prize of ₹1000 to Miss Nikita Malviya of Grade IX and Third Prize of ₹1000 to Miss Nikita Sakhla of Grade XI.

Consolation prizes were given to 25 other students for their creative art. All the participants were awarded by participation prizes. Unique message was delivered by these students by their beautiful paintings for promoting eye donation and eye care.

Dr. Kavita Gupta, Ophthalmologist has appreciated the visualization and painting skills of the young students. The programme was sponsored by the International NGO, CBM. The programme was conducted by Mrs. Bhawna Kalwani, Senior Teacher ,



Sadhu Vaswani School. Kushal Dharmani, Hospital Administrator has presented the idea and motive behind the programme to the students.

Educationist, Sadhu Vaswani School.

Tulsi Advani., Arun Sharma, Sonam Vidhani and Ekta Gyanchandani were actively present in the programme. In the end, the Vote of Thanks was delivered by Assistant Administrative Officer, Anusha Pathak.

Man involved in illegal firearms biz nabbed; 14 firearms, bike recovered

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The Khargone police have arrested a person involved in selling firearms illegally across the State and recovered 14 firearms and bike used to transport illegally; two were arrested from Signur-Retwa road.

The arrested accused was identified as Lathi alias Satwanti Singh (20) of Undi Khodri Badwani while Vijay and Tufan Singh Siklikar of Signur escaped from the spot.

On 12 October, the police received information that two persons were transporting

weapons illegally from village Signur on a motorbike to Retwan. Acting on the information, the police team trapped the accused near a nursery between village Retwa and Signur.

After some time, according, two persons on a motor cycle were spotted who tried to escape. The person sitting pillion on the motorcycle escaped from the moving bike while the rider was nabbed by the police.

On checking the bags hanging on the handle of the motorcycle, 12 country made pistols wrapped in cloth and 2 country made pistols were found in it.

Also, two half-made indigenous pistols and weapons-making materials were recovered. The police seized a total of 14 weapons and a motor cycle used in the incident.

After the preliminary investigation the police have registered a case under sections 25 and 27 of the Arms Act. The details of bike would be investigated.

Details of the firearms would be investigated and the source and customers which the two used to sell the weapons would be searched in the further questioning of the nabbed miscreants.

Event held to mark Global Handwashing Day



STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

An event held on Wednesday at Subash Government higher Secondary School to mark Global Handwashing Day, which falls on October 15. Speaking at the event Ajit Tiwari, Deputy Commissioner, Swachh Bharat Mission said that children

have played an important role in spreading awareness on sanitation and handwashing with soap. Do keep spreading the word and the momentum on washing hands with soap in critical times. He interacted with children on theme of handwashing and sanitation.

F A Jami, Education Specialist UNICEF, Madhya Pradesh said that school children have and can help spread information on correct practices of handwashing with soap and its needed that we take this forward.

Nagesh Patidar, WASH officer, UNICEF, Madhya Pradesh, Handwashing with soap can reduce diarrhoea incidence and respiratory infections, specifically among children below the age of 5, Practicing correct handwashing and building adequate hygiene infrastructure in schools could save one third of children in India from dying of diarrheal disease, respiratory infections and other transmissible diseases.

Anil Gulati, Communication Specialist, UNICEF, Madhya Pradesh

spoke of covid19 appropriate protocols which includes handwashing with soap, and urged them to take this proactive and steps of handwashing to their peers and at home.

Gayatri Parihar, Vasudha Sansthan coordinated the event and shared work being done by youth4children volunteers in Madhya Pradesh. Sudhakar Parashar, Principal of School spoke on importance of sanitation and education. Global Handwashing Day (GHD) is a global advocacy day, celebrated on the 15th of October every year, dedicated to increasing awareness about the importance of hand hygiene, and bringing about sustainable and long-term uptake of Handwashing with Soap (HWS).

Literary, cultural programme held at RTU

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

An event was organized in Katha Auditorium of Rabindranath Tagore University on Wednesday.

On this occasion, Siddharth Chaturvedi said that through Vishwa Rang, we have done a great job of connecting the youth on a large scale with literature, art, culture and social concerns at the global level. Youth are also coming forward in the field of literary journalism.

Abhigyan Prakash Sr. Executive Editor, ABP News

interacted Siddharth Chaturvedi, Director, AISECT Group in the 'Samvad' programme.

Abhigyan Prakash further said that if the fourth pillar of democracy is to bring about a constructive change in journalism, then the youth will have to come forward with the right thinking and understanding. The youth will have to hold the helm of creative change.

Students and Faculty on this occasion. Asked very constructive questions to which very soulful answers were given

by Abhigyan Prakash.

The dialogue programme was successfully conducted by Sangeeta Johri, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Rabindranath Tagore University.

On this occasion, Abhigyan Prakash was presented with the important material of the world colours, a logo of color dialogue magazine Dr. Usha Vaidya, Head of Department, Faculty of Humanities and Liberal Arts, Vinay Upadhyay, Director, Tagore World Center for Arts and Culture, Sanjay Singh Rathore, Coordinator, Overseas

Indian Literature and Culture Research Center.

The gratitude was expressed by Srishti, a student of journalism and mass communication.

On this occasion a large number of students including Dean, HOD, Faculty of the University family made constructive participation.

The roots of literature are very deep in our society. In many genres of literature, writing is being done very seriously even today. It takes a lot of guts to talk about literature and book fairs on TV.

35-yr-old man who was taking bath in waterful quarry drowns

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A 35-year-old man drowned at waterful quarry at Kajlikhedha village under Kolar police station area on Tuesday.

Police said that a man drowned at a quarry and police were informed after body was fished out by his nephew. The deceased was identified as Lal Singh who drowned when he had gone to take bath at quarry.

After the preliminary investigation the body was sent for the post mortem and a case

under section 174 of the CrPC was registered. The police have started further investigation.

The post mortem report it awaited which could help in revealing details behind the death. Police said other possibility than accident of the deceased could not be ruled out and all possibilities would be investigated in the further investigation.

Meanwhile, a 36-year-old man committed suicide by hanging with the tree at Fatak road Bairagarh on Tuesday;

police have started investigation.

According to the police the deceased Rajesh Meena was found hanging and was rushed to a nearby hospital where he was declared dead.

The body was sent for the post mortem after the preliminary investigation. The police have registered a case under section 174 of the CrPC and have started further investigation. Police said that the reason which forced the deceased to commit suicide would be investigated.

PM Master Plan will strengthen country: CM

Chouhan virtually attends PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan prog

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has said that we are laying the foundation of India for the next 25 years with the resolve to build a Atmanibhar Bharat at the Azadi ka Amrit Utsav. 'PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan' is going to take India's strength and self-confidence to the vision of self-reliance.

The plan will give momentum and strength to the India of the 21st century. 'Next Generation Infrastructure and Multi-Model Connectivity' will give pace to the country. The plan will accelerate the implementation of government policies related to infrastructure from planning to implementation. The plan will provide accurate information and accurate guidance so that the government projects are completed within a time-frame.



Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan addresses at the launch of PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan in Bhopal on Wednesday

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, on Wednesday virtually attended the 'Prime Minister's Gati Shakti National Master Plan' programme at Pragati Maidan, Delhi, from Minto Hall, Bhopal. Chief Minister Chouhan also launched the State Level 'Conference on Multi Infrastructure Connectivity' at

Minto Hall. The event at Minto Hall was attended by Minister of Industrial Policy and Investment Promotion, Rajvardhan Singh Dattigaon, Principal Secretary Industries Sanjay Shukla and other officials, industrialists and business representatives.

The Prime Minister said that at the heart of this mega

mission of Gati Shakti are the people of India, the industry of India, the manufacturers, the farmers and the villages of India. It will give new energy to the creation of 21st century India for the present and future generations of India and remove obstacles. Today, 21st century India is moving ahead, leaving behind the old thinking

of government system.

Today's mantra is 'Will for Progress, Work for Progress, Plan for Progress, Preference for Progress'. That is, the will power for development, work for development, plan for development and priority for development. The Prime Minister said that we have developed a work culture to complete the projects within the stipulated time frame. Activities will be conducted based on this Master Plan. This will pave the way for building quality infrastructure and new economic activities.

The Chief Minister said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision, creative mind, yearning for development, preparing roadmap and running the entire country with full force is truly amazing. They are creating a New India. Madhya Pradesh will be actively involved in this mega campaign of development. Madhya Pradesh decides to join P.M. Gati Shakti National Master Plan promptly. It is the responsibility of the governments and the authorities to make proper use of every penny of the taxpayer.

Beware of non-financial institutions offering unusual returns, loans !

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Citizens have been urged to be careful and aware of non-financial institutions offering unusual returns or cheap loans. An appeal has been made to the common citizens to be aware of the registration of such institutions and to check their authenticity first. An awareness campaign will also be conducted for the depositors of such institutions.

This information was given in the meeting of the State Level Coordination Committee regarding non-financial institutions under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Iqbal Singh Bains here on Wednesday. It was informed in the meeting that an awareness campaign would be started to protect the depositors of non-financial institutions and companies from possible financial frauds.

District collectors and senior police officers have been instructed to ensure strict compliance of the provisions of the

Madhya Pradesh Protection of Interests of Depositors Act and Banning of Unregulated Deposit Act in such institutions from time to time. In order to maintain mutual trust between the depositors and the general public and the government, instructions have been given to continue the action by taking strict action against the guilty institutions. Apart from this, it was also discussed in the meeting to organise a training session or seminar on the Banning of Unregulated Deposit Act 2019 at the division level so that more and more people can become aware.

In the meeting, Additional Chief Secretary Home, Principal Secretary Finance, Principal Secretary Law, Commissioner for Institutional Finance, Regional Director Reserve Bank of India, Special Director General of Police, CID, DG EOW, other senior officers of State Government and police, representatives of various regulators were present.

MP Hockey Academy wins Sub-Junior Boys Hockey-2021 final

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

In the first Sub Junior Boys Academy National Hockey Championship-2021 played in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh Hockey Academy, continuing its winning campaign, won the title by defeating Odisha Naval Tata Hockey High Performance Center 6-4 in a shootout in the final.

The finalmatch was played on Wednesday. On the other hand, Roundglass Punjab Hockey Academy defeated SGPC Hockey Academy 5-1 in the third place match.

The championship was organized under the joint aegis of Hockey India and MP Sports and Youth Welfare Department. Sports Minister Hon. Yashodhara Raje Scindia has congratulated the team on the victory of MP Hockey Academy. He termed this victory of the team as a milestone. Both the teams performed brilliantly in the final match played on the turf ground of Sai Center Village Gora.

From the very first quarter, the players of MP Hockey Academy tried to create pressure. Madhya Pradesh Hockey Academy got a penalty stroke in the 10th minute of the match. Saddam Ahmed of MP Hockey Academy converted it into a goal to give the team a 1-0 lead. Under pressure, Odisha Naval Tata's team launched a swift attack.

In the second quarter too, Odisha Naval Tata made several attacks but were thwarted by goalkeeper Aman Khan of MP Hockey Academy.

In the shootout, goalkeeper Aman Khan of the team of MP Hockey Academy gave a brilliant performance and made three out of four defenses. At the same time, Goli Nelson Barla of Odisha Naval Tata's team could save only two goals out of five.

Kejriwal's 10 poll promises to Punjab traders, bizmen

24-hr power supply, eradicating corrupt 'inspector raj', red-tapism, unnecessary laws

PNS ■ JALANDHAR

Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) National convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday made 10 promises to the traders and businessmen for the development and upliftment of industry, trade, and commerce while appealing to them to be part of AAP Government to be formed in 2022.

Seeking the support of traders, businessmen and industrialists in 'Kejriwal's talk with traders and businessmen' in Jalandhar, AAP supremo said: "You have tried the Congress-Captain and the Badals, now give us a chance. We don't need funds from businessmen, we just need support."

Kejriwal interacted with traders and businessmen for the purpose of soliciting suggestions to the problems and difficulties faced by them.

After listening to the problems and solutions of the traders and businessmen, Kejriwal first announced 24-hour uninterrupted power supply for the industry. "At present, there are long power-cuts in Punjab. Without electricity, neither industry nor trade could run smoothly. On formation of AAP government, 24-hour power supply would be provided as done by the AAP in Delhi," he said.

Kejriwal also announced to end red-tapism and 'inspector raj'. "Corruption runs in the system because the intentions of the governments were bad. If there is an honest CM and Cabinet at the top, I can challenge that the entire structure below will be alright. We did this in Delhi," he said.

AAP leader said that old laws will be rectified, unnecessary laws will be scrapped, and a system will be built wherein existing industries

"80 percent of industries were located outside the focal point and there were many problems including roads, water and sewerage; which the AAP government will solve by bringing a budgetary provision"

need not waste time over government and will be able to invest their time in business.

On the problem of VAT refund, Kejriwal promised to ensure VAT refund between 3 to 6 months and an instalment system will be made for big refunds.

Announcing strengthening of infrastructure, Kejriwal said that 80 percent of industries were located outside the focal point and there were many problems including roads, water and sewerage; which the AAP government will solve by bringing a budgetary provision.

Kejriwal also announced to end enhancement process on the formation of AAP government in Punjab, besides bringing to an end the CLU (Change of land use) and other types of hassles at the areas which have been declared as industrial zones with an automatic intimidation only.

AAP chief said that extor-

tion in the form of 'monthly' and 'weekly' will also be eradicated along with 'goonda tax' which continues unabated. "Goonda tax was collected from every truck as the system had been occupied by the ministers. It is my guarantee to end this system and it will be our responsibility to let the traders work smoothly," he added.

Inviting the traders and businessmen to become partners in the future AAP government, he said a joint body of businessmen-traders will be formed, which will be headed by a Minister with representatives from each business sector so that it could get geographically and sector-wise representation; and will meet every month. "Decisions will be taken during the same meeting and the government will implement them immediately," he said.

Kejriwal said that more emphasis will be given to small traders and MSMEs so that unemployment will be generated. Taking a promise from the industrialists, businessmen, and traders, Kejriwal assured that he will ensure employment to the unemployed and the AAP government will resolve all their problems.

He claimed that such development will be done so that no one will remain unemployed in Punjab. Kejriwal urged the industrialists, businessmen and traders to make the AAP win all nine seats of Jalandhar.

Two days of coal stocks left; Punjab power situation remains critical

PSPCL imposing powercuts while buying electricity from power exchange

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH/PATIALA

Power situation in Punjab remains critical with the state's all the private and state-owned coal-based plants left with about two-day coal stock.

To tackle the prevailing coal shortage, the state power utility — Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) — is imposing power cuts, while buying electricity from power exchange at exorbitant prices.

"Despite coal shortage, PSPCL has supplied 9,352 megawatt (MW) in Punjab on Tuesday...PSPCL shall purchase about 1,800 MW of power

from power exchange at a rate of Rs 10.55 per unit on Wednesday," said PSPCL chairman-cum-managing director A Venu Prasad in the official statement.

Giving details about coal stock position, Prasad said that critical coal stock position is still prevailing in all the thermal power plants situated in Punjab. He said that currently, all the private and state-owned coal-based plants in the Punjab have about two days of coal stock.

He said that 13 coal rakes were received against a total requirement of 22 rakes on October 12 (Tuesday). "Although the coal rake supply is lesser, yet consistency of supply is being maintained. Besides, sufficient number of rakes are in pipeline and as such, the coal position shall improve in the coming few

days," he said.

Prasad claimed that the power cut duration was lesser on Tuesday due to improved power availability as an additional unit of GGSSTP, Ropar, Anandpur Sahib Hydel Project started 84 MW power generation after repair of channel in record time and one unit of GVK was made operational.

"Record repair of the channel of Anandpur Sahib Hydel Project has given a big relief to PSPCL in this power deficit scenario where power has to be

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING OF TRAINERS
ITI Campus, Govindpura, Raisen Road, Bhopal.
Tel: 0755-2571303, E-mail: itol.bhopal@gmail.com

// निविदा //

भोपाल दिनांक 08.10.2021

क्रमांक/IToT/प्रशि/मेस/2021/360/ म.प्र. शासन की शासकीय इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ ट्रेनिंग ऑफ ट्रेनर्स (आईटीओटी) भोपाल के छात्रावास में 120 प्रशिक्षणार्थियों के लिए मेस संचालित करने हेतु सीलबंद लिफाफे में निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा का प्रारूप एवं शर्तें वेबसाइट www.mpskills.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है। पूर्ण रूप से भरी हुई निविदा दिनांक 01.11.2021 को अपराह्न 3.00 बजे तक जमा की जा सकेगी। समय पर प्राप्त निविदाओं का लिफाफा (अ) तकनीकी बिड दिनांक 01.11.2021 को अपराह्न 3.30 बजे खोला जावेगा तथा तकनीकी बिड में पात्र पाये जाने पर लिफाफा (ब) फाइनल बिड दिनांक 09.11.2021 को अपराह्न 3.00 बजे निविदाकर्ताओं अथवा उनके प्रतिनिधियों को उपस्थिति में खोला जावेगा।

(डी. एस. ठाकुर)
निदेशक
शा.आई.टी.ओ.टी. भोपाल

G-18162/21

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
भारत सरकार का अग्रिम
सिंडिकेट बैंक Syndicate Bank
A Government of India Undertaking

Regional office -1st floor, Sai Baba complex, Near GDA building, Phool Bagh, Gwalior. 07512423126

Possession Notice (Rule 8(1)) For Immovable Property

The Undersigned being the Authorised officer of the **Canara Bank** Under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, in exercise of the power conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a demand notice on below mentioned date to the following Borrowers/Guarantors, calling upon them to repay the amount mentioned in the respective Notice with in 60 days from the date of receipt of said notices. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, Notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on dates mentioned below. The borrowers/Guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the properties will be subject to the charge of **Canara Bank**, for an amount herein below mentioned & Interest thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to provision of Section 13(8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name and Address of Borrower / Property owner	Outstanding Amount (Rs.) Demand Notice /Possession Date	Description of the Property
Branch: Madhoganj, Gwalior Ph. 0751-2435682, cb5202@canarabank.com		
Borrower – AMRIT LAL YADAV S/O SUKH DEV Co Applicant : Smt. Meera Yadav W/o Amrit Lal add: Gupteshwar Tiraha Road, Gol Pahadiya Lashkar, Gwalior-474010	Rs. 10,04,551.37 + Interest and other expenses Demand Notice: 13/04/2021 Possession Date : 12/10/2021	Land And Building Situated At Patwari Halka No. 37 & New 65 Ward No. 38 Municipal House No. 1 /1821, Gupteshwar Colony Gram Bara Near of Gubryali Mata Mandir Gwalior Bounded: North : Common Road, East : Plot of Ashok Kulshrestha, South : Plot of Bakil Sahab, West : Plot of Gurjar
Borrower – Shri Nagendra Singh Chauhan S/o Ram Kripal Singh Chauhan, Add: Plot No. 31 Survey No. 171/1/ka, Gram Kishan bag Bahodapur Basti, Ullas Nagar, Ward No. 5, Gwalior	Rs. 8,36,883.39 + Interest and other expenses Demand Notice: 13/04/2021 Possession Date : 12/10/2021	Land And Building Situated At Plot No. 31 Survey No. 171/1/ka Gram Kishanbag, Bahodapur Basti, Ullas Nagar, Ward No. 5, Gwalior Bounded: North: Plot No 30, East : Property of Other, South : House of Sisupal, West : Road
Branch: City Center, Gwalior Ph. 0751-2233306, cb17781@canarabank.com		
Borrower– Kusum Sharma W/o Shubhash Sharma, Co-borrower- Deepak Sharma S/o Shubhash Sharma Add: G- 199, Patel Nagar, Infront of Anmol Niwas, City Center, Gwalior (M.P.)	Rs. 27,49,867.98 + Interest and other expenses Demand Notice: 19/04/2021 Possession Date : 13/10/2021	House Property Situated At Municipal Ho. No.4830, Ward No. 30, as Per Title Deed, Flat No. 304, Third Floor, Swashik Apartment, Kailash Vihar, City Center, Gwalior (M.P.), Land Area – 88.27 Sq.Mtr Bounded: East - Plot No.303, West - road Colony, North - Common Staircase & Passage, South – Road Colony
Branch: Morar, Gwalior Ph. 0751-2455862, cb17782@canarabank.com		
Borrower – Nitin Soni S/o Late Ramesh Kumar Soni, Add : Tated Bandhu Market, Sarafa Bazar, Baada, Lashkar, Gwalior-474001 Co Applicant: Sandhya Soni W/o Nitin Soni, Manik Ka Bada, Nimbalkar Ki Gothi, Lashkar Gwalior. Guarantor – Devendra Singh Tomar S/o Mahendra Singh Tomar, hanuman Ghati, shinde Ki Chhawani, Lashkar, Gwalior- 474001	Rs. 8,79,636.05 + Interest and other expenses Demand Notice: 15/04/2021 Possession Date : 13/10/2021	House Property Ward No. 50, House No. 50/1356, Situated At Bhonsale Sahab Ka Bada, jagtap Ki Gothi, madhoganj, Lashkar, Gwalior, Land Area – 40.32 SqMtr. Bounded: North : Property of Kusum Bhadoria, East : Passage Street , South : Street There After House of Gurmukh Das Bhatia West : Property of other
Place: Gwalior, Date: 13/10/2021		

Authorised officer, Canara Bank

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EX. ENGINEER (SOUTH)-III
A BLOCK GREATER KAILASH I NEW DELHI-48

"STOP CORONA; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"
N.I.T. No. 20/S-III(2021-22)

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Date of release of tender in E-procurement solution)	Last date/time of receipt of tender through E-procurement solution
1.	Engagement of labour for sluice valve operation and maintenance of water supply network in Sangam vihar Constituency under EE(South)III (AC-49).	Item Rate	2021_DJB_209469_2 13.10.2021	27.10.2021 upto 3.00 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. 483 (2021-22)

SD/ (L L MEENA)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (S)-III/M-49

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, भोपाल
यात्रिक विभाग (मुख्यालय) भोवंपदुरा (बी.एच.ई.एल.)
निविदा आमंत्रण घोषणा-पत्र

क्र. 168/यां.वि./2021

भोपाल, दिनांक 12.10.2021

निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य हेतु दो लिफाफा पद्धति के अनुसार म.प्र. लोक निर्माण विभाग में केन्द्रीकृत व्यवस्था के अंतर्गत पंजीकृत ठेकेदार परसेन्जे मोहर बंद निविदाये निर्धारित प्रपत्र पर ऑनलाईन आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र.	ऑनलाईन निविदा क्र.	कार्य का नाम	अनुमानित राशि	बरोहर राशि	प्रपत्र राशि	कार्य हेतु निर्धारित एस. ओ. आर.	कार्य की अवधि
1.	2021_UAD_163879_1	CONSTRUCTION OF COMMERCIAL COMPLEX (G 2) INFRONT OF T.T. NAGAR POLICE STATION (NEAR MASJID) NEW MARKET WARD NO 32 ZONE NO 07	166.68 lakh	166688/-	12500	MP UAD ISSR 2021 Non Sor Item	09 (NINE) Months Including rainy season

- Interested bidders can view the NIT on website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in>
- The Bid Document can be purchased only online from 10:30 A.M. (time) 13.10.2021 (date) to 17:30 P.M. (time) 11.11.2021 (date).
- Structural design and drawing provided by contractor to the engineer-in-charge should be approved by govt. engineering college.
- For electrification related works : it is mandatory for bidder should have own "A" Class electrical registration or agreement with "A" Class electrical registration Holder (Attech as per)
- Amendments to NIT, if any, would be published on website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in> only, and not in newspaper.
- The initial period of 3 (Three) year or 3 rainy season after completion shall be treated as Defect Liability Period (DLP)
- Design and Drawing (structural design and drawing should be provided by contractor)

One copy of the Drawings to be kept on Site. (drawing should be proof checked by govt. institute)

In Chief Engineer
Municipal Corporation Bhopal
District Bhopal

T.N.717/021/022

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.
Corporate Office: Unit No. 802, Natraj Rustomjee, Western Express Highway and M.V.Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai – 400069
Vidisha Branch : Shop No. A, 2nd Floor, Gaurav Complex, Ward No. 11, Sanchi Road, Opp. Satya Sai Soya Plant, Vidisha - 464001, (MP).

APPENDIX IV POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL)** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of AHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

S. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Co Borrower(s) (Name of the Branch)	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Date of Possession
1	(App No. 00196851/ Vidisha Branch) Narayan Singh Yadav (Borrower) Rekha Yadav (Co-Borrower) Umrav Singh (Guarantor)	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Plot No. 94, Durga Nagar Colony, Hardukhedhi Road Village Behlot Near Railway Station, Ganj Basoda, Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh-464221 Boundaries: East: Land of Namdev, West: Seller's Land, North: Seller's Land, South: 18' Gali	15-04-2021 ₹ 6,94,080/-	08-10-2021
2	(App No. 00227644/ Vidisha Branch) Jeevan Sen (Borrower) Ritu Sen (Co-Borrower) Narayan Singh Yadav (Guarantor)	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Plot No.15 Mayur Vihar Colony, Hardukhedhi Road Village Behlot Opposite Of Railway Station , Basoda, Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh-464221 Boundaries: East: Seller's Land, West: Seller's Land, North: Seller's Land, South: 17' Gali	15-04-2021 ₹ 6,05,081/-	08-10-2021

Place : Vidisha
Date : 14.10.2021

Authorised Officer
Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

Govt...

Thakur had also spoken to the Bhopal collector, who told her that they were sterilising nikrasht (inferior variety) bulls. She had then said, "What is nikrasht? If they are not able to reproduce, what is the need for the sterilisation?"

Pragya Thakur claimed that she was apprehensive that those in responsible positions might be unaware of this, but there was "some conspiracy" internally to "terminate bovines".

Thakur had also claimed that Chouhan, who formed the government to safeguard cows and even had a ministry for the same, might be unaware of such an order as this could not be possible in his government.

The animal husbandry department had planned to sterilise inferior bulls. A fortnightly survey identified 12 lakh such bulls, and the department was all set to spend Rs 12 crore on their sterilisation.

MID-SEA DRUG BUST CASE

Aryan Khan played role in procurement: NCB

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) on Wednesday alleged that Aryan Khan, the accused in the mid-sea drug bust case, had a role to play in the illicit procurement and distribution of drugs and that he was in touch with some persons linked to an international drug network, even as a Special Court adjourned the hearing on bail pleas of Aryan and others for Thursday after partly hearing the arguments.

On a day when the arguments on the bail pleas of Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's eldest son Aryan and other accused in the case remained inconclusive, the NCB upped the ante by making a sensational allegation: "There is material on record to show that Khan was in touch with some persons abroad who appear to be a part of an international drug network for illicit procurement of drugs. The investigation is still in progress".

During the inclusive arguments, Aryan's senior lawyer Amit Desai, Advocate Taraq Sayed, who appeared for Arbaaz Merchantt, lawyer Ali Kashif Khan Deshmukh, who represented Munmun Dhamecha and Advocate Raman, who appeared for

Mohak Jaswal put up their side of arguments, pressing for bail for their clients. Additional Solicitor General (ASG) Anil Singh, appearing for NCB, opposed the bail pleas.

The Special court is hearing the bail pleas of Aryan and four others -- -Arbaaz Merchant, Mohak Jaswal, Nupur Satija, and Munmun Dhamecha. Special judge under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS Act) VV Patil adjourned the hearing on the bail applications for 11 am on Thursday.

Twenty-three-year-old Aryan and four others --- Arbaaz, Mohak, Nupur and Dhamecha – were among the eight persons arrested by the NCB on October 3, a night after the NCB officials busted a rave party and seized 13 grams of cocaine, 5 grams of MD (Mephedrone), 21 grams of Charas, 22 pills of MDMA (Ecstasy) and Rs 1.33 lakh in cash from Goa-bound cruise ship off the Mumbai coast here.

The total number of arrests in the sensational drug bust case has gone up to 20, with the arrest of a foreign national Okara Quazma and a local person Shivraj Harihan.

Earlier, in its affidavit filed before the court, the bail applications made before Special Judge, the NCB stated:



that the material collected during investigation had primarily revealed that "Khan has played a role in so far as illicit procurement and distribution of contraband is concerned".

Rebutting the contention of Aryan's lawyers that since the offences arraigned against Khan are Sections 8(c), 20(b), 27, 28, 29, 35 of the NDPS Act and that since no Narcotic drugs or psychotropic substance has been recovered from him, the bar against grant of bail under Section 37 of the NDPS Act would not apply, the NCB told the court: "The role of one of the accused cannot be dissected from another. Even if there is no recovery of small substances, the accused are involved in conspiracy".

The NCB also told the court : "Aryan (Khan) and Arbaaz (Merchantt) have been associated in close collaboration with each other which is sufficient to attract offences under Section 29 NDPS act. It is so far apparent that Aachit and Harijan (two

other arrested accused) supplied charas to Khan and Merchantt".

"All ingredients of crime that are preparation, intention, attempt and commission are present for this applicant. The allegation of false implication is untrue and misleading as there is sufficient material in the form of WhatsApp chats, pictures, etc," the NCB affidavit stated.

"A bare perusal of the panchnama clearly reveals that Khan and Merchant were apprehended at the international cruise green gate Mumbai. So the investigation becomes imperative as to how the accused were to enter the cruise without a Classic MV Empress card," the NCB told the court.

Making a strong case for his client, Aryan's lawyer Amit Desai read out from the panchnama and said: (Arbaaz) Merchant admitted that he is consuming charas with (Aryan) Khan. On asking (Aryan) Khan, he also said he consumes charas. The substance was sealed. Then, a combined search was carried out. They found 6 gms of charas from Merchant. The first fact which is relevant is on their own panchnama, there is no recovery of possession. There is no debate on this, it is admitted and undisputed".

Desai went onto tell the court that

the NCB had seized a small quantity from Merchant. "The starting point of information is use, sale and consumption, but there is recovery from three persons so far but no recovery from me (Aryan)".

At one stage of arguments, Desai said: ".... there is an active drug chain, the prosecution says. We see illicit trafficking in this reply throughout. They dump it all on (Aryan) Khan. And I am sure they know that it is a serious offence. In the NDPS Act, illicit trafficking is a term of law. It is not a casual term.

"The NCB, which knows the NDPS Act inside out, should know what is illicit trafficking. This boy has been charged with illicit trafficking. In SC terms, it is'inherently absurd,'" Desai argued.

"There is no recovery against him, and they are saying there is recovery from Dhamecha and Gomit etc. Nothing from this boy, he was not even on the cruise and they say illicit trafficking!.... They are talking about cultivation, sale, purchase, there is nothing against him! And this is a responsible agency... They are saying illicit trafficking and the only provision which deals with that is Section 27A," Desai told the court.

Maha Cabinet supports reservation in promotions in Govt jobs

Mumbai: The Maharashtra Cabinet on Wednesday decided to support reservation in promotions in government jobs after taking into account a report that has established under representation of SCs, STs and other reserved categories in higher posts.

An official statement said the cabinet, at its meeting here, decided to support the policy of reservation in promotions for state employees from reserved categories and will put forth the government's stand accordingly before the Supreme Court, where the matter is pending.

An additional affidavit will be submitted by the state government in the Supreme Court which will underscore the state's stand on the reservation in promotions issue, said an official.

The Cabinet discussed a report prepared by chief secretary Sitaram Kunte on the current representation of SCs,

STs and backward communities in higher posts in public jobs.

The report has stated that there is not enough representation of these communities in senior positions in the State cadre and thus the Maharashtra government has decided to support the demand of reservation in promotions, the official said.

The report and its findings will be mentioned in the affidavit that is proposed to be submitted in the apex court, he said. In early May, the General Administration Department issued an interim order removing reservation in promotions for public servants belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Vimukta Jati and Nomadic Tribes and Special Backward Classes categories.

However, following strong protests, the state government later issued a circular staying the interim order. **PTI**

Karunakaran’s daughter Padmaja alleges betrayal by Cong leader

KOCHI: Padmaja Venugopal, daughter of former Chief Minister late K Karunakaran has lambasted T N Prathapan MP for 'backstabbing' her during the 2021 Assembly election from Thrissur.

In a complaint to the Congress High Command, Padmaja, who lost narrowly to P Balachandran of the CPI by a thin margin of 946 votes, has alleged that a group led by Prathapan worked to ensure her defeat in the election as part

of rampant groupism in the party.

"Though I had lost the 2016 Assembly election from Thrissur, I stayed put in the constituency and worked for the Congress. It was because of the track record the party decided to field me from Thrissur. Many Left supporters had voted for me despite the efforts by a group led by Prathapan who represents Thrissur in the Lok Sabha," Padmaja had said in the complaint.

Interestingly, the Congress, which has strong presence in Thrissur district lost in 12 out of the 13 Assembly constituencies in the district. Padmaja has named six persons, all local leaders, who plotted against her. "I was denied permission to board the vehicle in which Priyanka Gandhi was holding a road show in my constituency," said Padmaja. All those named by her in the complaint were one-time acolytes of her late father Karunakaran. **PNS**

Double life term for Sooraj in Uthara case

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Sooraj, who got his wife Uthara killed by inducing a homicidal snakebite was sentenced by a Kollam Court to double imprisonment and fine of ₹five lakh . He was also slapped with two more imprisonment terms, 10 years and seven years respectively in two other cases of causing hurt by means of poison and destroying evidence. The sentences will run consecutively which means that Sooraj would have to remain in prison for the rest of his life.

Additional Sessions Court Judge M Manoj pronounced on Wednesday that he agreed with the contention of the prosecution that it was a rarest of the rare case and the maximum punishment is being awarded to the accused. Public prosecutor G Mohanraj told the media after the sentencing that it was Sooraj's age that saved the accused from the gallows.

The judge concurred with the prosecution's argument that it was the first time in the State wherein a living animal was used to murder a person.

Sooraj had married Uthara, a physically challenged girl after taking hefty dowry and decid-

ed to bump her off so that he could walk way with the properties worth crores, gold and brand new car.

The Court had on Monday found the accused guilty of offences under Section 302, 307,328 and 201 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). This is the very first case in the entire country where a man has been found guilty of murder using a snake.

Although two similar cases have been reported in the past, both the cases resulted in the acquittal of the accused as their guilt could not be established. However, in the instant case, the Police had successfully cracked the case using a dummy reptile and recreating the entire crime scene.

Manimeghala, mother of Uthara, told reporters that she was unhappy with the verdict as the accused deserved nothing less than capital punishment. "Let us wait for the full copy of the verdict. We will definitely press for death penalty because we have to make the lives of our daughters safe and secured," she said.

Kerala has been witnessing an unprecedented increase in the number of dowry related deaths over the last few years.

Kerala: Covid cases keep on increasing

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Kerala Government's claims that the Covid-19 cases in Kerala are coming down suffered a setback on Wednesday as 11, 079 new cases were diagnosed out of 89,995 samples tested during the last 24 hours.

The day also saw 123 patients succumbing to the pandemic which took the death toll to 26, 571 till date.

Government doctors in Ernakulam said the hike in the number of patients is a matter of concern as the State is in a celebration mood with Navrathri and Vijaya Dashami festivities adding to the fervour. Temples are reporting reasonably good crowds and this has upset the rhythm of peoples movement.

Traffic snarls have returned to all thoroughfares across the State as shopping has picked up everywhere.

Test Positivity Rate also shot up to 12.31 per cent. Needless to say, parents and teachers are worried about the increase in the number of persons tested positive with Covid-19.

President Kovind to celebrate Dussehra with jawans in Drass

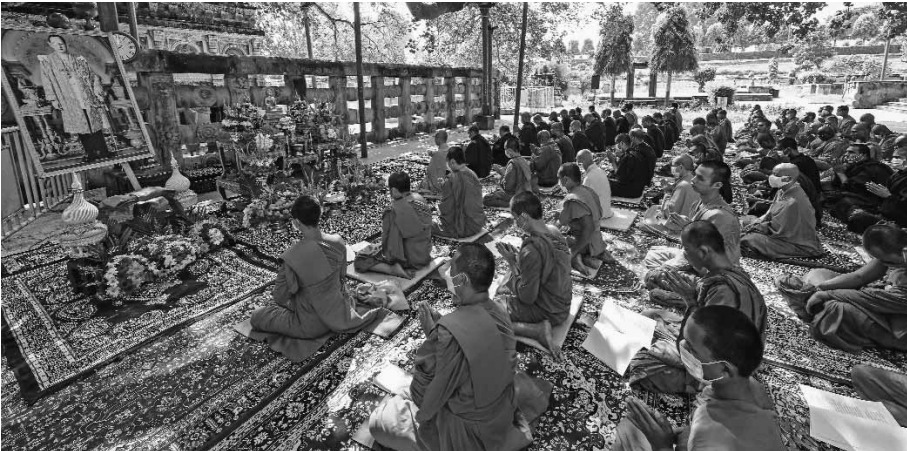
New Delhi: Breaking away from the tradition, President Ram Nath Kovind will celebrate Dussehra this year with jawans in Ladakh's Drass area.

Traditionally, the president has been participating in Dussehra celebrations in the national capital.

According to a Rashtrapati Bhavan communiqué issued on Wednesday, the president will visit Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir on October 14 and 15. On Thursday, the president will perform Sindhu Darshan puja at Sindhu Ghat, Leh, the communiqué said.

He will also interact with troops at Udhampur (J-K) in the evening.

On October 15, Kovind will pay tributes at the Kargil War Memorial in Drass and interact with officers and jawans.Dussehra will be celebrated on Friday. **PTI**



Buddhist monks from Thailand offer prayers on the memorial day of Thailand's late king Bhumibol Adulyadej at Mahabodhi temple, in Bodh Gaya on Wednesday

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has rapped the Bar Council of Uttar Pradesh for not taking action against advocates who allegedly submitted fake claims under Motor Accident Claims Tribunal and Workmen Compensation Act causing loss in crores of rupees to the insurance companies. It is very unfortunate that in such a serious matter, where the allegations are of filing of fake claim petitions involving advocates, the Bar Council of UP is not giving instructions to them for making submissions, the apex court said.

A bench of Justices M R Shah and A S Bopanna said it shows the

callousness and insensitiveness on the part of the UP Bar Council and asked Chairman of Bar Council and senior advocate Manan Kumar Mishra to look into the same. "As such it is the duty of the Bar Council of the State to take action against the advocates who are found to have been indulged in such unethical manner by filing the fake claims under the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal and Workmen Compensation Act.

"As observed herein above, it appears that Bar Council of State is not interested in taking action and, therefore, now the Bar Council of India has to step in and take appropriate action against the erring advo-

cates, who are found to have indulged into filing of such fake claims," the bench said.

The top court also directed a Special Investigation Team (SIT), constituted in compliance of the order dated October 7, 2015 passed by the Allahabad High Court, to submit report with regard to the probe in a sealed cover before it on or before November 15.

The apex court took note of a supplementary affidavit filed on behalf of UP Government stating that a Special Investigation Team (SIT) was constituted in compliance of the order dated October 7, 2015 passed by the Allahabad High Court.

Yogi: UP an emerging economy, has best investment opportunities

Gorakhpur (UP): Uttar Pradesh is changing and it is an emerging economy in the country, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said on Wednesday.

"In about 44 schemes in the country, UP is number one," he said, and added that the state has the best investment opportunities.

"We all have to work jointly to establish it among the leading economies in the country," Adityanath said after inaugurating the Mahant Avaidyanath Mahavidyalaya in Jungle Kaudia block here.

"Uttar Pradesh is changing and it is an emerging economy in the country," the chief minister added.

Deputy Chief Minister Dinesh Sharma and Minister of State Neelima Katiyar, along with MPs and MLAs of the area, were present on the occasion.

The Chief Minister unveiled a 12-foot bronze statue of Mahant Avaidyanath and also inaugurated the monogram of the college.

The environment of security in the state "is the best in the country", Adityanath said.

"Over the last four years, 30,000 female police personnel are guaranteeing the safety of

women and girls in the state," he said.

The Chief Minister claimed that the state has successfully prevented the spread of the coronavirus.

"Earlier during festivals, the coronavirus spread was at its peak but we successfully prevented its spread," he said. Attacking the opposition Chief Minister said, "During the previous Governments, roads were not wide, power supply was erratic, poor were not getting rations and the guarantee of security to women was not there."

"When work is done with good intention, the result is also good. Earlier, farmers' produce was not purchased but now, farmers are getting the price of their produce at several purchase centres, and the government is sending the payment directly into their accounts," he added. Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Gorakhpur is becoming a hub of education and health services, Adityanath said.

"Within a month, the AIIMS will be inaugurated by PM Modi, and in Gorakhpur, Ayush University is being established," he added. **PTI**

DMK MP held in connection with unnatural death of employee

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

The ruling DMK in Tamil Nadu despite scoring an impressive win in the local body election held last week is facing an embarrassing situation because of police cases against two Lok Sabha members of the party.

TRVS Ramesh, representing Cuddalore constituency in the Lok Sabha who is also a leading industrialist, surrendered before the Judicial Magistrate Court in Panruti on Monday in connection with a suspected murder case. Ramesh was on the run from the Police but surrendered as per the dictate of the DMK supremo, Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin, the chief minister.

The MP was sent to judicial custody for two days and he is likely to be questioned by the CB-CID of Tamil Nadu Police.



Ramesh has been listed as the prime accused in the unnatural death of K Govindarasu (60), a supervisor working in the cashew nut factory owned by the former.

The Police have already arrested five persons in connection with the case. Ramesh alleged that certain political parties were indulging in politics of vendetta and that was why he decided to give in to the Court. "As a sincere functionary

of the DMK and having great regard for my leader, I am surrendering before the court. I will legally prove with evidence that the complaint against me is baseless," Ramesh said in the statement.

But A Ashvatham, a Chennai based lawyer, who is one of the spokespersons of the BJP, who has been pursuing the case told *The Pioneer* that the death of Govindarasu was a clear case of murder.

11 more die of Covid in WB

Kolkata: The Covid-19 toll on Wednesday rose to 18,935 after 11 more people succumbed to the disease, while 771 fresh cases pushed the tally to 15,78,482, a bulletin released by the state health department said.

North 24 Parganas accounted for four deaths, followed by three in Kolkata.

Of the 771 new cases, 203 were recorded in Kolkata and 128 in North 24 Parganas.

At least 775 more patients recuperated from the infection, thus taking the total number of people who have recovered from the disease to 15,51,890.

West Bengal currently has 7,657 active cases. The positivity rate stands at 2.74 per cent. **PTI**



People get themselves registered in order to get a dose of the Covid-19 vaccine at a free vaccination camp at Kajupada, in Mumbai on Wednesday

PTI



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Bailed out

After its decision to ban Chhath puja, the Delhi Govt writes to the Centre seeking guidelines

Politics, as expected, mars the festival season, more so in Delhi. The ruling Aam Aadmi Party and the Bharatiya Janata Party are locked in a fistfight over people's participation in the Chhath Puja, scheduled for November 10. Both have deliberately dragged the "uttaranchalis" -- people of Bihar and eastern Uttar Pradesh -- into the imbroglia. In 2020, when the country was under the deathly spell of the COVID-19 pandemic, politics took a back seat as the Union and State Governments banned the public celebration of all festivals. Neither the AAP nor the BJP or any of the fringe religious outfits thought of politicising the festivals. This time around, the pandemic situation has improved, and politics has reared its head once again. It began with the Delhi Pollution Control Committee on September 29 ordering a complete ban on the sale and bursting of firecrackers till January 1, 2022.

Rajasthan and Haryana followed suit though Uttar Pradesh is still silent on the issue this year. As the fireworks issue is directly linked to pollution, parties saw little scope for deriving political mileage. The Supreme Court, too, said it could not endanger people's right to life by allowing the use of crackers containing chemicals.

The Delhi Government followed up the cracker ban with an order that the Chhath Puja will not be allowed in public places, public grounds, riverbanks, and temples. The Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) cited the pandemic and advised



the people to celebrate it at home. Delhi's Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal chaired the DDMA meeting in which, apart from Delhi ministers, AIIMS Delhi, senior officers of NITI Aayog, ICMR, and the NDMA were present. Strangely, the same DDMA lifted restrictions on large gatherings for Ramleela and Durga Puja, though with safety protocols in place. Crowds were allowed at these events if they adhered to social distancing and other COVID appropriate norms. The BJP, which was agreeable to the Delhi Government permitting crowds at Ramleela; however, protested the ban on Chhath Puja. It raised the bogey of "uttaranchali" people of Delhi and lodged several protests. As politics heated up in the national Capital, Delhi's Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, wrote to the Centre asking it to issue Chhath guidelines. Perhaps aware of the political implications of angering the sizeable population of "uttaranchalis" in Delhi, Sisodia recalled that Chhath is a historic festival and sought Central guidelines in order to facilitate these people to celebrate it. Did he forget, conveniently, that his Government had banned the celebrations and that the meeting was attended by the Lt Governor and Central COVID task force members? Or was he obliquely shifting the responsibility to the Centre? In any case, the safety guidelines during festivals have long proved ineffective because they are illogical. There is no way of a crowd maintaining social distancing, for instance.

PICTALK



Devotees at the Sri Govindaraja Swamy temple, in Tirupati

PTI

Blood and gore

Kashmiris wake up to ferocity again after two years of silence in the Kashmir Valley

Autumn, the golden season of Kashmir that paints the Valley in the shades of chinar's fallen leaves, is turning 'red' this season. The rustling of fallen chinar leaves has been overshadowed by the 'bloodletting' in different parts of Srinagar. Palpable tension is in the air. The targeted killings of members belonging to minority communities a few days ago, has once again triggered a fresh wave of insecurity among the larger population of Kashmiri migrants and non-locals staying in different parts of the Valley to earn their livelihood. A large number of them have immediately shifted their families to safer locations in Jammu and are waiting for the situation to return to normalcy before rejoining their duties. After the abrogation of Article 370, the overall security scenario in Kashmir Valley seemed to be improving. The Union Territory administration was focusing on hard selling 'Kashmir' as the favorite tourist destination. However, the recent targeted killings in the Valley have raised questions over the safety and security of locals as well as tourists.



It has also triggered outrage from the Opposition leaders who blamed the Centre administration for not being able to curb such attacks.

The year started with the killing of a famous Punjabi jeweller in the heart of Srinagar. It was followed up with the killing of the son of a Dhaba owner in a high security zone. The trend continued and in response, top commanders of different terrorist outfits were neutralised. Adopting a shift in their strategy, the Pakistan-based terrorist groups are employing 'hybrid terrorists' to disrupt the stability and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir ahead of the forthcoming Assembly polls. Majority of these hybrid terrorists are not on the radar of the security forces, making their job more difficult to track down their footprints. With the recent killings of Makhan Lal Bindroo, a street vendor from Bihar's Bhagalpur, school teacher Deepak Chand and principal Supinder Kaur in the Valley, the terrorist handlers have attempted to create a communal divide aimed at triggering a fresh round of exodus. We have to fight these beasts. Whether this violence is a statement by the much dreaded Taliban remains to be seen. Meanwhile, the National Investigation Agency has detained over 500 people after civilian deaths in the area. The culprits will eventually be held; however, in the meantime, the Kashmiriyat must speak up for the victims.

Lakhimpur Kheri— Was it avoidable?

A protest must have a specific purpose and an endpoint resolution of conflict. It cannot be an open-ended exercise free of any stipulations



VIVEK GUMASTE

The Lakhimpur Kheri incident in which 8 people lost their lives during the farmer's protest was a colossal tragedy that was avoidable. Paradoxically, it was also a calamity waiting to happen. A political cauldron of noxious ingredients had been brewing for some time. Dogged stubbornness and thoughtless provocative utterances had heightened the tension; the bottled-up frustration of a jaded and over-stretched protest was waiting to explode. A frontal collision was inevitable.

The spark came on October 3 when a cavalcade of Union Home Minister of State Ajay Mishra allegedly ploughed through a group of protesting farmers killing four of them. Angered by the killing it is alleged that the protestors went on a rampage. dragged the BJP members out of cars and mercilessly beat 4 of them to death.

Details of this gruesome incident are murky. As per an FIR lodged by Jagjit Singh, a farm protestor, "We were holding a peaceful protest at Maharaja Agrasen Inter College ground...when the Union MoS for Home Ajay Mishra's son Ashish came in an SUV along with two other four-wheel vehicles, with arms and weapons, at a high speed. Ashish Mishra, while sitting on the left side of the Mahindra Thar car, fired shots and crushed people while moving forward."

This version is contested by Ajay Mishra who claims, "Stones came flying at the vehicle when it was on the way to receive the chief guest, the driver lost balance...and some could have died in that accident. My driver and three BJP workers who were in the vehicle were chased and attacked with rocks, sticks and swords...they were lynched."

He had earlier denied that his son was at the scene of the incident. Which of these two conflicting versions is true is difficult to ascertain at this stage. However, a series of sequential videos that surfaced online suggest that pelting of stones was the initial trigger for this mayhem.

Nevertheless, a proper enquiry is warranted so that the guilty may be tried and punished

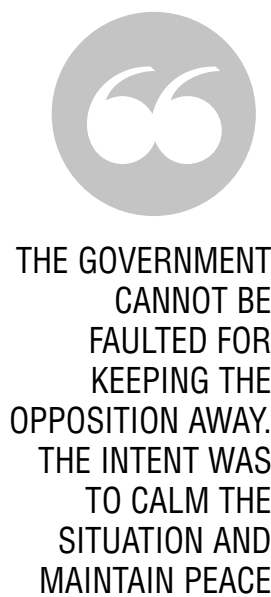


as per the law. Accordingly, CM Yogi Adityanath has announced a judicial inquiry headed by a retired judge to look into the incident.

In parallel with a call for an enquiry, however, a dangerous and mischievous narrative is being played out in certain sections of the media that is disturbing and concerning; a partisan description that tends to favor one side over the other and places a premium on one set of lives in comparison to the other - all with an intent to put the Government in the dock for an offence, the culpability of which is yet to be determined.

A well known newspaper avers: The BJP Government has a playbook...vis a vis popular protest...Let the issue fester, and try to tire out the protesters, while actively seeking to delegitimise them, by labelling them "anti-national" and calling them other names. Then, if matters escalate, bring out the barricades and the force. Treat it like a law-and-order issue in a police state, and don't let leaders of the Opposition come to the site of the protest or the violence, to do what is surely their job as politicians and people's representatives.

First to invoke presumptuous theories to pre-deter-



THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT BE FAULTED FOR KEEPING THE OPPOSITION AWAY. THE INTENT WAS TO CALM THE SITUATION AND MAINTAIN PEACE

mine guilt in a sensitive case like this devious. Second, by using the phrase, 'bring out the barricades and the force' to describe the BJP's modus operandi, the editorial has sealed the BJP's guilt without a trial. Such statements uttered without evidence are reckless and misleading.

Additionally, the Government cannot be faulted for keeping opposition leaders away. The intent was to calm the situation and maintain peace. In fact, it was done at the behest of farm leader Rakesh Tikait who feared that the politicians were there to exploit the situation as indicated by some news reports.

Coming to the million-dollar question: Was this incident avoidable? Dissent and protest are an integral part of democracy. However, one must also realise that protest is only a means to an end and not an end in itself. A protest to be valid must have a specific purpose and an endpoint resolution of conflict. It cannot be an open-ended exercise free of any stipulations. A prolonged directionless protest becomes a fertile ground for frustration, violence and even killings as illustrated by this incident; anti-social elements are also

likely to take advantage of the situation.

Justice Khanwilkar of the Supreme Court on October 1, when responding to a farmer's outfit seeking permission to hold a protest in Jantar Mantar rightly posed this question to the farmers "You are saying you want to protest, protest what? The Act has been stayed by the Court. The Centre has said it will not be implemented." Referring to the deaths in Lakhimpur, the honorable judge had also stressed the lack of accountability: "When such events happen, no one takes responsibility."

And this is not the first time that violence has overtaken the farmer's protest - January 26 is still fresh in our minds. The farmers' protest has outlived its utility. Prolongation inadvertently provided a fertile milieu for this ugly altercation. With a little good sense, it could have been avoided. It is time to call off the protest to prevent more Lakhimpurs. Concomitantly, all those guilty for each of the 8 deaths, whoever they may be, must be arrested and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

(The writer is an academic and political commentator. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

IT'S ALL FAIR IN POLITICS

Sir — The old adage 'all is fair in love and war' perhaps should go now with an addition — 'all is fair in love, war and politics' — given that politics after the independence has undergone a sea-change vis-a-vis its broad objective of leading the country in the right direction, safeguarding its boundaries and serving all its people and their political leanings. Ironically, this comprehensive goal has narrowed down to a mere *raison d'être* of attainment of power — be it either by hook or crook — harboured by the political parties who shrink from doing what is right for various political reasons.

With the Assembly polls in six States drawing closer, the tempers are higher and the political activities getting more hectic in the most politically significant Uttar Pradesh, in particular, where the ruling regime is busy with the damage limitation exercise following the recent Lakhimpur Kheri violence. The incident could not have come for all the Opposition parties at a more opportune time as they have found a common plea to castigate in union the Government in a bid to brighten their respective electoral prospects in the upcoming elections. In politics, with scenes changing kaleidoscopically has become a new norm and any prediction may fall on stony ground.

Azhara Khan | Rampur

SOFT DRINKS ARE HARD ON HEALTH

Sir — Amitabh Bachchan once disclosed at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad about him not advertising for cola drinks after a student drew his attention towards the harmful ingredients in such drinks. Even the cola companies voluntarily stopped selling colas in schools worldwide in view of increasing obesity in school-going children. The Indian Government should not only ban advertisements but also ban the sale of colas. Earlier, too, soft-drink manufacturers were asked to remove an oil from their products which was found to be harmful for health. It is noteworthy that such drinks are prohibited in Parliament canteens.

Vaccine on the way



If the Drugs Controller General of India accepts the recommendation of the Subject Experts Committee (SEC) of the Central Drugs Standards Control Organisation (CDSCO) to grant the emergency use authorisation for Covaxin among children in the 2-18 age group, it will mark a new phase in the process of vaccinating the population against COVID-19. Vaccinating the paediatric population will take the ongoing nationwide immunisation drive one stage further. The green signal which the Drug Controller is currently considering, if (and when) given, will

make Covaxin the first COVID-19 vaccine anywhere in the world for administering to children as young as 2 years. Scientific rigour should determine if India's first indigenous Covid-19 vaccine proves to be safe and effective in children as in adults. The clinical trials data must be placed in public domain so as to instil confidence in the general public, especially parents, that children can be inoculated with Covaxin against COVID-19. It is understood that Covaxin now recommended for children and adolescents is the same as the one currently being used among adults. It must be confirmed that Covaxin is equally good for children despite their distinctness in terms of anatomy and physiology by virtue of them being children. Clinical trials data that the vaccine has produced similar results in children and teenagers in the process of growing up and grown-ups must be sound enough to ensure that no risk is taken.

G David Milton | Maruthancode

It is time that the Union Government, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) and soft-drink manufacturers introduce healthier options which not only replace cola-drinks in India, but also dominate global-market by breaking the monopoly of harmful cola drinks in tune with ambitious 'Make in India' vision. Children should also be made aware of healthier drinks like *lassi*, *chhachh*, coconut water etc. It may be recalled that almost half a century back, a famous rose-drink manufactured by a private confectionary company registered at Gwalior was a popular drink for persons of all ages.

Madhu Agrawal | Delhi

RESPECT IS GREATER THAN WORSHIP

Sir — A murderer takes a life, but a rapist destroys a life. "Sexual intercourse done by a man with a woman without her valid consent is rape" as defined under the Section 375 of the Indian Penal Code. Sexual assault is the most heinous crime against women. The aftermath of rape

drags a woman towards a life of fear, depression, suicidal complex and social stigma. Rapes have increased manifold as per the statistics given by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). According to it, one rape is reported every 15 minutes. Even children are not spared which is such a shame on humanity.

There are various reasons behind the increase in such cases. Women are not safe outside and not even inside their own home. The sluggish judiciary is an important reason where many victims and survivors must wait for years for a glimpse of justice. Through education, gender sensitisation and legal awareness is possible, which are indispensable to control crime against women. In a country where we worship goddesses in different avatars, women, too, should be loved, cared, respected and protected.

Swagatika Sahoo | Raghunathpur

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUNDBITE

Nevertheless, I congratulate Fadnavis. Because of him I remembered that I was the CM for four times.



NCP president —Sharad Pawar



VT-4 Tank is another symbol of Pakistan-China strategic cooperation and defence collaboration. Its introduction will boost our capabilities.

Pakistan Chief of Army Staff —Qamar Javed Bajwa

I did a lot of research at my level for *Rashmi Rocket*, apart from what was going on at the scripting level.



Actor —Taapsee Pannu



My advice to Rishabh Pant is to play with freedom and have that air of arrogance and confidence.

Former Australia cricketer —Shane Watson

Only two or three per cent of farmers in Punjab are part of the agitation. Most people in Punjab are peace loving.



BJP national general secretary —Dushyant Gautam



FIRST COLUMN CHANGING INNOVATION LANDSCAPE IN INDIA

India needs a futuristic approach to trigger innovation at the base of the pyramid



MOHIT **GAMBHIR**

Innovation in India has always been human centric. We innovate to resolve the problems of mankind, and to create a better life for the common people. Today, the scope of innovation and entrepreneurship spreads across all facets of life. Students, researchers and intellectuals are actively pursuing innovation and entrepreneurship as career options. India should move from coveted innovation to the open innovation model. Open Innovation model is a futuristic approach to instigate the innovation and entrepreneurship at the base of pyramid — at the level of society and educational institutions. The growth of new India can only be achieved by making open innovation pervasive and fuelled by the right kind of training, skill upgradation, reskilling, and apt infrastructural support at school and institutional level. As an interventional initiative, Ministry of Education has established an innovationcell at the All-India Council for Technical Education in 2018. Since then, the Ministry



of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC) has taken multiple policy and program initiative to establish the world's biggest open innovation model at global stage. The Cell works on four pillars of excellence: Policy intervention; handholding of HEIs and schools, faculty and students; impact assessment and facilitating national and international platforms for Indian and global students. Initiatives like the Innovation Council in higher educational institutes has been purposed to streamline the ground level ecosystem and handholding of ideas from students.

The beginning of Smart India Hackathon, Toycathon, Singapore-India Hackathon, ASEAN India Hackathon between 11 countries, SAMADHAN Challenge, Ideathon for pandemic, Drug Discovery Hackathon, and Innovation Contest has set the foundation for world's biggest open innovation model and it is scaling at a rate where India could assimilate its new age innovative and aspirational human resource. As India is working relentlessly towards a \$5 trillion economy by 2025, it must look for alternative career opportunities in term of innovation and entrepreneurship. Incubating the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship in our youth is a challenging job and it cannot be simply achieved by flooding the market with investment opportunities, subsidies and grants. It requires a keenly calibrated system of innovation management, especially championing open innovation management at school and higher education level. For impact assessment, MIC has started Atal Ranking for Institution's on Innovation Achievements to measure the major indicators at the higher educational institute level. At industry and ecosystem level, NITI Aayog has started India Innovation Index on the line of Global Innovation Index by adapting non-traditional approaches for measuring innovation such as patents per million of population, publication in scientific journals, percentage of GDP spending on research. Empirical evidence suggests that innovation enables social welfare. Health innovations like penicillin use, transplants, and artificial limbs have saved and improved the quality of life of millions. Satellites, television and radio technologies are being used for the welfare of farmers and in disaster management. Modern farming equipment, fertilizers, Grameen Bank, microfinance and crop insurance schemes have raised agricultural productivity, improving food security and freeing up labour which can participate in other industries.

Nothing can progress without innovation and everything of today exists because of yesterday's innovation and invention. We need to innovate to accommodate evolving situations and needs and prepare a wonderful place to live in, not only for us but for our future generations as well.

(The writer is Director in the Innovation Cell of the Ministry of Education. The views expressed are personal.)

Extending sympathies to the new laureate

Abdulrazak Gurnah has been grappling with his African identity and how it relates to the history of migrations and colonialism in East Africa



BALAKRISHNAN **SATYAM**

The French poet, Rene Proudhomme, who was the first Nobel Literature laureate in 1901, wrote in his famous 'The Broken Vase': Thus often does the hand we love, barely touching the heart, wound it. Then the heart cracks by itself and the flower of its love dies.

He's speaking of a delicate and vulnerable aspect of us, and how easily it can dry up. Literature has always been about sensitivity and sensitization. It nourishes and rekindles the soul to fellow feeling. In the hurly-burly of our daily lives, and competitiveness and ambition, and the pursuit of profit, we are indifferent to the outcome for others, to their sentiments, or even their deprivation. There is an inherent conflict among us as we focus on our goals, and marginalise others whose interests don't hold concern for us.

But there are witnesses compiling every injustice, recording every protest, and kindling people's memories about glory and decline. A few of these observers serve not only to voice the experience of the victims, but give us insights on how humanity at large can live more sensitively. Their words stir us, find their way inside to lash at our conscience, and refocus our thinking on what it is to be essentially human.

Another Frenchman, especially famous for declining the Nobel prize for Literature, Jean Paul Sartre, declared: 'Hell is other people'. There is a constant challenge to try to understand and empathise with others, further aggravated by differences in language, custom, and traditional beliefs. It is here that writers often build bridges by establishing commonalities and explaining away differences.

As the celebrated 1950 Literature laureate, Bertrand Russell, said at the Stockholm Concert Hall, "...sympathy is a genuine motive, some people at some times are made somewhat uncomfortable by the sufferings of some other people. It is sympathy that has produced the many humanitarian advances of the last hundred years."

There are many literary prizes, so how is the Nobel Prize for Literature different, apart from perhaps, having the largest bounty? Because it is given out at the same time as awards in sciences — it accords the same prestige and acclaim to novelists, poets, and futurists as is enjoyed by biochemists, astrophysicists and developmental economists.

It also reflects the Nobel Foundation's outlook of recognizing a broader contribution to modern human heritage. Rudyard Kipling was the youngest to win it at 42, but generally the prize recognises much older writers with eight or more books behind them. In terms of sheer number of copies sold, and cultural impact, Harper Lee could have been considered for her 'To Kill A Mockingbird', but that's not how this prize is awarded - for one, that was her only novel, till she



THERE ARE MANY LITERARY PRIZES, SO HOW IS THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR LITERATURE DIFFERENT APART FROM, PERHAPS, HAVING THE LARGEST BOUNTY? BECAUSE IT IS GIVEN OUT AT THE SAME TIME AS AWARDS IN SCIENCES — IT ACCORDS THE SAME PRESTIGE AND ACCLAIM AS IS ENJOYED BY BIOCHEMISTS, ASTROPHYSICISTS AND DEVELOPMENTAL ECONOMISTS

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



published a sequel several decades later with nothing in between.

The committee has also not looked towards any trailblazing authors in the sci-fi category despite it being the fastest evolving genre as technology itself has been racing at the speed of Moore's Law. What the jury does seem to endeavour to do is to cast its net far and wide to ensure authors from many corners of the world are considered.

Possibly the most interesting reference to Zanzibar in the world of literature was in 1968, when Brunner wrote an imaginative sci-fi novel titled, "Stand on Zanzibar". The book's title refers to how large an island could hold the planet's population if everyone had to get just enough standing space. Brunner's speculation was that the Isle of Man (about 600 sq. km) wouldn't suffice in the future and that by 2010, it would take a Zanzibar (about 1600 sq.km) to hold everyone. The theme of his Hugo award-winning novel was overcrowding, which is a common urban fear when there is an influx from faraway lands.

Which brings us to this year's Literature laureate, Abdulrazzak Gurnah, born in Zanzibar in 1948. Being on an important trade shipping route in the Indian Ocean, besides Bantus, there are people of Omani, Yemeni, southern Iranian, and even Indian descent. At the same time, it has been known as a hub of the slave trade where Arabs sold natives from Malawi and Mozambique to visiting ships.

When the Zanzibar Revolution of 1964 overthrew the traditional oppressors, Gurnah fled as a teenager and started his life anew in the British Isles. So, he has experienced how complex and burdensome our identities can be.

In the early pages of his novel 'Desertion', he says about a character, Hassanali: "He could not disguise his anxiety and people who had known him all his life knew this about him, and made a joke out of it. They said it was something to do with his jinsi, his ancestry. Indian people are cowardly, they said, hopping about like nervous butterflies. His father was not timid. He had been a hothead in his youth, who sang and danced and raced the streets with anyone, and he was the Indian in his jinsi. It was God who made him like this, nothing to do with jinsi, and who was he to argue."

Gurnah has been grappling with his African identity - as a Tanzanian (Zanzibar opted to merge with Tanzania after the Revolution) -- and how it relates to the history of migrations and colonialism in East Africa. He has taught in Nigeria, which also has ethnic as well as acute communal strife. And he's known since his mid-teens what it is to adapt to life in a European culture.

As the last few years have caused waves of migrants out of West Asia and North Africa, and very recently, Afghanistan - the travails of the uprooted and the kinds of baggage they bring into their new places of residence will

be in the spotlight.

Exiles who had to flee from their native lands are already distrustful of fate, and suffer to some extent from PTSD. Their attention is split between what's still going on in the places they have departed from, and the challenges in their new environment. They haven't the preparation that a graduate student has had before he or she lands up overseas on a good campus. Such exiles find themselves usually in less friendly locations than a university. Gurnah has been lucky in that regard.

The expatriate experience is very different depending on one's age at arrival, line of work — whether a specialist in demand or unskilled, level of affluence, and aptitude for networking. Openness towards the way of life in the adopted country does help in integrating better, and gaining acceptance. An exile could have a sense of betrayal of their native culture when they move closer to a sense of belonging in their land of arrival.

In the future, we might think differently about the elements of identity, given the limitations that our instinctive ones about language, ethnicity, creed, and district have. We'll then identify Literature laureates less by language of writing or nationality and instead emphasise their literary genre and individuality more. We'd then also be narrowing the 'gulf between cultures and continents' that the Nobel citation refers to in 2021.

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

LIES WERE SPREAD ABOUT SAVARKAR. IT WAS MAHATMA GANDHI WHO ASKED HIM TO FILE MERCY PETITIONS. —UNION DEFENCE MINISTER RAJNATH SINGH



THE BJP IS PRESENTING DISTORTED HISTORY. IF THIS CONTINUES, THEY WILL MAKE SAVARKAR THE FATHER OF THE NATION. —AIMIM CHIEF ASADUDDIN OWAISSI

Healthcare infrastructure needs a check-up

Data passing through the hospital systems and databases must be digitised and harmonised to truly transform the healthcare infrastructure



HARSH **VARDHAN**

Reports of shortages of hospital beds, ventilators, medical equipment and doctors and nurses to cope with growing cases of COVID-19 infections have thrown into sharp focus the need to accelerate digital transformation of healthcare infrastructure worldwide.

Modern medicine has been enriched by genomics, telemedicine, virtual reality for surgery and many biopharmaceutical advances. But behind the many medical advancements, true digital transformation of health infrastructure — hospitals, blood and vaccine banks, centres for dialysis, ambulatory surgery, imaging and radiology — is slow. Unlike for other sectors, digital transformation to

enable Internet of Things (IoT), 5G connectivity, and artificial intelligence and machine learning (AI/ML) is much more complex for healthcare.

Healthcare infrastructure innovation has been and remains curtailed by three main issues: firstly, compliance with regulatory standards at national and international levels; secondly, multiple forms of medical data, from patient records to X-rays, CT scans and other analogue or digital data; and thirdly, reluctance to change which prevents a clear digital dashboard to allow administrators to respond, plan and predict in real time.

Many hospitals have sophisticated equipment have yet to fully capture and update medical records to enable clinical



ical decision support and real-time hospital workflow, let alone combine them seamlessly with long-term care and disease management.

How can planners and administrators improve information technology (IT) infrastructure to prepare for a true digital transformation for the healthcare sector? Several key steps can kick-start or accelerate the process. The first is to build or enable real-time data

capture at every touchpoint of healthcare hardware. This means installing sensors, and embedding IoT and high-speed communication throughout each facility down to the last piece of equipment.

The second is to break down information silos once and for all. Data passing through the hospital systems and databases must be digitised, harmonised and shared, from patient records, X-rays and CT scans to data on the functioning of each piece of equipment and machinery within the infrastructure.

This roadblock has eluded decades of effort by IT consultants and systems integrators. A protocol of "golden data" in a common format will enable visibility of the entire healthcare enterprise.

Third, the same visibility can facilitate interoperability of different healthcare systems — electronic patient health records can be analysed alongside COVID-19 infection trends and the demand for vaccines and the cold-chain infrastructure needed to store or deliver them.

Fourth, healthcare assets, be it CT scanners, operating rooms or ventilators, have to be tracked on usage and location levels. This can help predict breakdowns, plan for maintenance and help the next shift of medical staff to locate them.

Fifth, such tracking will support more vital C-suite decisions such as scenario planning which can calibrate potential equipment shortage, availability of spares, and service-level agreements with

suppliers with hospital manpower planning. By standardising protocols for maintenance — helped by cloud-enabled real-time data — productivity will improve.

Sixth, there are lessons to be drawn from a concept known as inventory technical management practised by MRO service providers. Those who are more digitally enabled have upscaled to the next level — flexible pooling of inventory to prevent duplication and to share hardware more intelligently.

Finally, the guardians of healthcare hardware can take tentative steps in AI/ML without sacrificing medical outcomes. These include sensors that can monitor health data of each patient more frequently than checks by nurses, and the

use of chatbots to allow nurses or junior doctors to ask questions when certain patient symptoms occur or to check when a piece of equipment needs to be sent for servicing.

Through AI/ML, healthcare hardware can be "trained" to self-correct. It can learn prescriptive maintenance through protocols that can predict failures and recommend actions to take. Over time, each major piece of equipment can instruct itself on when to prepare for maintenance, the possible risks, and the pre-emptive measures it should take.

Covid-19 has triggered a once-in-decades shift in the thinking behind healthcare administration. It is time for the hospital to get out of the sick bed and embrace digital transformation.

(The writer is President and Head of ERP Solutions, Ramco Systems. The views expressed are personal.)

end in the Qatari capital. In his address, Muttqi said further said that the full implementation of the US-Taliban 2020 Doha agreement can address any problem between the two countries, adding that the Taliban wants a political system in Afghanistan that can respond to domestic needs.

"What we want in Afghanistan is a political structure as such that responds to our country's needs and at the same time is able to fulfil its responsibility at the international level," TOLO News quoted the Minister as saying.

When asked about reforms, women's education

"You should not seek your demands through putting pressure... The previous government had international support. Now you are asking for all the reforms in two months.

"Schools for boys and girls were closed before us because of Covid. When Kabul fell to our hands, all schools were closed already. Schools in provinces were closed already. We have started reopening the schools," Muttqi said.

The Minister claimed that under the Taliban Government, the Covid situation in the country has been controlled "very well", surprising doctors, TOLO News reported.

Madrid: Over 140 migrants were saved by Spanish rescuers on the perilous seaborne route from Africa to the Canary Islands, Spanish authorities said Wednesday.

Emergency services for the Canary Islands said rescuers saved 90 migrants — 47 from sub-Saharan Africa and 43 from northern Africa — from two boats intercepted near the island of Gran Canaria.

Another 55 migrants — all from sub-Saharan countries — were attended by emergency services after being pulled from a boat in waters near the island of Fuerteventura. Gran Canaria and Fuerteventura belong to Spain's Canary Islands archipelago in the eastern Atlantic Ocean, which at its nearest point is only 100 kilometers (60 miles) from Morocco.

Spain's Interior Ministry reported 13,118 arrivals of migrants to the islands this year up to Sept. 30, over double the arrivals during the same period last year.

AP

GENERAL INFORMATION
KNOW TO ALL MEN BY ALL MEANS,
I, Pulkat Karg S/o Late Sh. Naresh Kumar Garg, R/o F-35, Sector-40, Noida-201301, wish to inform you that I am the registered owner of the property bearing H.No. 80 Block-B6, Sector-26, Rohini, Delhi which I purchased it from Mr. Praveen Kumar S/o Mr. Ram Lal Saxena, R/o F-36, Block, Indrapuri, Delhi-110012. So if for any information to the general public that any other person besides me deals with you in sale/purchase/ trespassing/ illegal construction on/over the above said property will be attracting severe civil as well as criminal consequences against him.

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NOTICE
Pursuant to Regulation 29 of the Securities Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, A meeting of Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 26th October, 2021 at the registered office of the Company, inter alia to consider and approve and take on record Unaudited Financial Results of the Company for the quarter/half year ended on 30th September, 2021.
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Date : 06.10.2021	Sd/-
Place : Panipat	Raj Pal Aggarwal
	Director
	DIN :00456189

Inflation rises 5.4% from year ago

MATCHING 13-YEAR HIGH

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Consumer prices rose 0.4 per cent last month, slightly higher than August's gain and pushing annual inflation back to the highest increase in 13 years.

The consumer price index rose 5.4per cent in September from a year ago, the Labor Department said Wednesday, up slightly from August's gain of 5.3per cent and matching the increases in June and July, which were the highest since 2008.

Excluding the volatile food and energy categories, core inflation rose 0.2per cent in September and 4per cent compared with a year ago. Core prices hit a three-decade high

of 4.5per cent in June.

The unexpected burst of inflation this year reflects sharply higher prices for food and energy, but also new and used cars, hotel rooms, clothing, and furniture, among other goods and services.

Covid-19 has shut down factories in Asia and slowed U.S. Port operations, leaving container ships anchored at sea and consumers and businesses paying more for goods that don't arrive for months.

Higher prices are also outstripping the pay gains many workers are able to obtain from businesses, who are having to pay more to attract employees. Average hourly wages rose 4.6per cent in September from a year earlier, a healthy increase, but not enough to keep up with inflation.

Gas prices jumped 1.2per cent last month and have

soared more than 42per cent compared with a year ago. Electricity prices rose 0.8per cent in September from August.

Supply chain disruptions continue to drive new car prices higher, which rose 1.3per cent last month and are up 8.7per cent from a year ago, the largest 12-month increase since 1980. A shortage of semiconductors has restrained vehicle production and left fewer cars on dealer lots.

The rapid price increases have raised pressure on the Federal Reserve, which has pegged its benchmark interest rate at nearly zero to spur more borrowing and spending. Yet inflation is far above its target of 2 per cent. Chair Jerome Powell has repeatedly said that the price gains should "abate" next year, bringing inflation closer to the target.

Market on a roll: Indices capture new peaks; log 5th straight gains

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity gauges Sensex and Nifty on Wednesday climbed to new record highs, stretching their winning run to the fifth consecutive session, as investors continued to lap up auto, power and infra shares.

After scaling a lifetime intraday high of 60,836.63 during the session, the 30-share Sensex settled 452.74 points or 0.75 per cent higher at 60,737.05 - its all-time closing high.

Similarly, the Nifty rallied 169.80 points or 0.94 per cent to a new closing peak of 18,161.75. It also touched an intra-day record of 18,197.80.

M&M was the top gainer in the Sensex pack, zooming over 5 per cent, followed by PowerGrid, ITC, L&T, Tech Mahindra, Tata Steel and Titan.

On the other hand, Maruti Suzuki, HUL, Nestle India, Axis Bankand SBI were among

the laggards.

Sectorally, BSE auto, utilities, momentum, industrials and power indices rallied up to 3.46 per cent, while realty index ended in the red.

Broader midcap and smallcap indices surged up to 1.56 per cent.

"Auto stocks led by Tata Motors propelled the Nifty to new highs of 18200 with good support from infra and metal stocks on the launch of the Master Plan for Infrastructure Development and Multi-Modal Connectivity," S Ranganathan, Head of Research at LKP securities, said.

As the street awaits earnings today from big IT names, Tata Group stocks hogged the limelight despite profit-taking in late afternoon trade, he added.

Sustained rebound in financials and Reliance Industries supported broader indices.

Rupee recovers 15 paise to 75.37 on weak dollar, lower crude prices

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee on Wednesday rebounded by 15 paise to close at 75.37 against the US dollar following a rally in domestic equities and weak American currency in the overseas markets.

In addition, lower crude prices and a benign retail inflation in September also supported the rupee sentiment, forex dealers said.

At the interbank forex market, the rupee opened strong at 75.29 against the greenback.

During the session, the domestic unit swung between 75.19 and 75.51.

On Tuesday, the rupee had closed at 75.52 against the dollar.Retail inflation fell to a five-month low of 4.35 per cent in September from 7.27 per cent in the year-ago period as prices of vegetables and other items declined.

BRIEFS

PETROL, DIESEL PRICES RISE ON HOLD

New Delhi: Petrol and diesel price rise remained paused again on Wednesday much to the relief of consumers faced with an unprecedented increase in auto fuel prices for the past one month that has taken retail rates to record high levels across the country. Accordingly, in the national capital, petrol continues to be sold at ₹104.44 per litre and diesel at ₹93.17 per litre, the same levels as Tuesday.

RELIANCE BOOSTS GREEN ENERGY PUSH

New Delhi: Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries will buy a German maker of photovoltaic solar wafers and signed a deal with a Danish firm to manufacture hydrogen electrolysers as the oil-to-retail conglomerate acquired end-to-end technology for its multi-billion-dollar clean energy portfolio. Reliance New Energy Solar Ltd (RNESL), a unit of the nation's most valuable company, will acquire NexWafe GmbH for 25 millioneuros (Rs 218 crore). Reliance said in a late stock exchange filing on Tuesday. It will also license Stiesdal A/S's technology for the hydrolysers, it said in a separate statement.

TAKE FUEL WIN CAR CAMPAIGN

New Delhi: Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd has launched "HPCL Ao Car Le Jao" Campaign for customers to have the opportunity to win car, bikes, laptops, LED TVs, smart phones, fuel vouchers on fueling from over 30 petrol pumps of HPCL in East Delhi, South Delhi and New Delhi. The campaign started on Wednesday will continue till until first week of January 2022.

TIE-UP TO FACILITATE LARGER REACH FOR HOMEBUYERS

New Delhi: Online real estate company Housing.com has announced a tie-up with the country's largest community management app MyGate to enable users of MyGate Homes to simultaneously list their properties on Housing.com and at the same time, it would help Housing.com to expand its customer base.

Gati Shakti to mark paradigm shift in governance: KM Birla

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Aditya Birla Group Chairman Kumar Mangalam Birla on Wednesday said that PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan for infrastructure "embodies and combines" some unique features that mark a paradigm shift in governance.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday unveiled ₹100 lakh crore Gati Shakti National Master Plan for Multi-Modal connectivity that aims to develop infrastructure to reduce logistic costs and boost

the economy.

"To me, Gati Shakti embodies and combines some unique features that mark a paradigm shift in governance," Birla said while participating at the event.

Using the most modern technology, Gati Shakti brings all stakeholders on one platform, he added. "Such breaking of silos within the government is indeed a dream come true for all of Industry," he said, adding that the platform approach also increases transparency all around and helps resolve bottlenecks quickly.

Centre for Trauma Studies and Innovation

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

IDFC FIRST Bank on Wednesday announced the launch of India's first Centre for Trauma Studies and Innovation (CTSI), in association with Banyan Academy of Leadership in Mental Health (BALM).

The initiative, that was launched on World Mental Health Day, aims to address the need to look at mental health from a trauma lens, besides also creating awareness about mental wellbeing. Through this initiative, the Centre for Trauma will create curriculums and facilitate trauma-related courses for healthcare professionals at both urban and grassroot levels.

UN, World Bank, IMF in need of urgent reforms: FM

Boston:Institutions such as United Nations, World Bank and International Monetary Fund need to be urgently reformed as they no longer speak for countries whose issues have remained unattended for decades, Nirmala Sitharaman said.All these organistions will have to look at reforming themselves, she said here at Harvard Kennedy School on Tuesday. During the conversation with Professor at Harvard University , Sitharaman said "while reforms in countries are happening in different stages, these global institutions have remained the way they have been for the last several decades." **PTI**

Fertiliser subsidy of ₹8,655 cr in rabi season to benefit farmers, industry: ICRA

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Rating agency ICRA has termed the Government's decision to provide a special one-time package for extra subsidy on DAP fertiliser as positive for farmers as well as the industry, and said the availability of key nutrients will improve in the coming months.

On Tuesday, the government announced a net subsidy of ₹28,655 crore on Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilisers for the October-March period of this fiscal to ensure that farmers get nutrients at affordable prices during the rabi sowing season.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the Nutrient-Based Subsidy (NBS) rates for P&K fertilisers for October 2021 to March 2022.In a statement, the rating agency said the Centre has approved a special one-time package for pay-out of additional subsidy for DAP and three most consumed NPK grades.

The subsidy rates under the NBS scheme have been kept unchanged from the announcement made in May 2021. However, an additional pay out of ₹438/bag (₹ 8,760 per tonne) for DAP and ₹100 per bag (₹2,000 per tonne) for

the three most consumed NPK grades has been approved, it added.

"The step is positive for the farmers and the industry as it will ensure farmers get access to fertilisers at a reasonable retail price and the industry also does not face losses on account of the elevated international prices of fertilisers and key inputs," ICRA said.

The additional subsidy has been approved only for four grades of fertilisers out of the 24 fertilisers covered under the NBS scheme and has become effective from October 1, 2021.

Wipro's consolidated Q2FY22 YoY net profit up 18.9%

IAANS ■ MUMBAI

IT major Wipro on Wednesday reported 18.86 per cent year-on-year growth in its consolidated net profit for the second quarter of FY22.

The net profit attributable to equity holders of the company rose to ₹2,930.7 crore during the period under review from ₹2,465.6 crore during the corresponding period of the last fiscal.

Its revenue increased 30.12 per cent during Q2FY22 to ₹19,667.4 crore from ₹15,114.5 crore from the like quarter of FY21.

Managing Director and CEO Thierry Delaporte said: "The Q2 results demonstrate that our business strategy is working well."

"We grew at over 4.5 per cent organic sequential growth for a second quarter in a row, resulting in a 28 per cent YoY growth in the first half of this financial year."

Besides, the company gave a positive outlook for the quarter ending December 31, 2021.

The company expects revenue from IT Services business to be in the range of \$2,631 million to \$2,683 million, translating into a sequential growth of 2 to 4 per cent.

In addition, the company's earnings per share for the quarter rose to ₹5.36 (\$0.071), an increase of 23.8 per cent YoY.

Govt scraps basic customs duty on crude palm, soya, sunflower oil to cool down cooking oil prices

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Wednesday scrapped basic customs duty on crude varieties of palm, sunflower and soybean oils as well as cut duties on refined edible oils to ease retail prices of cooking oils and provide relief to consumers during the festive season.

Edible oil industry body SEA said the retail prices of cooking oils, which are ruling at a very high level, could now come down by up to Rs 15 per litre.

The cut in import duty and cess, effective from October 14, will remain in force till March

31, 2022, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) said in two separate notifications.

Agri infrastructure development cess (AIDC) has also been reduced on crude palm oil, crude soyabean oil and crude sunflower oil.

Crude palm oil will now attract AIDC of 7.5 per cent, while the cess will be 5 per cent each for crude soyabean oil and crude sunflower oil. Earlier, the cess was 20 per cent, while basic customs duty was 2.5 per cent.Post reduction, the effective customs duty on crude palm oil will be 8.25 per cent. The effective duty on crude

soyabean oil and crude sunflower oil will be 5.5 per cent. Earlier, the effective duty on these three crude items was 24.75 per cent each.

The basic customs duty on refined varieties of sunflower, soyabean, palmolein and palm oil too has been slashed to 17.5 per cent each from 32.5 per cent. Refined versions do not attract AIDC.Commenting on the development, Solvent Extractors' Association of India (SEA) Executive Director B V Mehta said: "The government has slashed import duties on edible oils because of high retail prices in the domestic market and the festive season."

Coal dispatches to power plants being enhanced: Joshi

PTI ■ NEW DELHI


Coal Minister Pralhad Joshi on Wednesday said cumulative coal supplies to thermal power plants crossed 2 million tonne on Tuesday and dispatch of the dry fuel is being enhanced to the plants.

Various power plants are grappling with fuel shortages and efforts are being made to increase fuel supplies.

"Happy to share that cumulative coal supplies to thermal power plants from all

sources including @CoalIndiaHQ recorded more than 2 million tonnes yesterday. We are increasing coal dispatch to power plants further to ensure sufficient coal stocks at power plants," Joshi said in a tweet.

According to a Coal India official, supplies to power stations have already touched 1.62 million tonne a day in the past two days, with total offtake rising to 1.88 million tonne per day, compared with the month's average of 1.75 million tonne.


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R.O. No. 761 **Tender Notice** **Dt. 13.10.2021**
Office of the Executive Engineer (M&G) Dhaliapur Power House, invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:
Tender No.: 21, 22, 23, 24 & 25/EE/M&G/DLR/2021-22
Name of work (i) Annual Maintenance of Hydro-Mechanical Part of Unit-A. (ii) Annual Maintenance of Hydro-Generator of Unit-A. (iii) Repairing and Over hauling of Various size Gate Valves of Unit-A (iv) Repair and overhauling of Thrust bearing oil cooler and Rebabbiting of LGB of Unit A (v) Replacement of Guide Vanes Bearing housing G.M. bushes of Unit-A
Estimated cost : Rs. 12,88,400/-; Rs. 6,45,400/-; Rs. 4,61,100/-; Rs. 13,72,960/-; Rs. 7,13,880/- (GST Extra).
Date of availability of bid document on website: 14.10.2021
Last date for submission of tender: 08.11.2021 upto 16:00 Hrs.
For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website "www.ujvn.com"
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity" **Executive Engineer (M&G)**

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

S. No	Case Details	Asset Details	Reserve Price	EMD Amount
1.	ICICI BANK Ltd VS ARCHANA RAJ, CM (M) 573/2020	Vehicle No. UP14ET7203 Make and Model: CHEVROLET ENJOY LT, Manufacturing year 2015	Rs. 50,000/-	Rs. 5,000/-
2.	ICICI BANK Ltd VS JITENDRA CHATURVEDI, CM (M) 22/2020	Vehicle No. UP14FT7814 Make and Model: CHEVROLET SAIL UVA LT, Manufacturing year 2016	Rs. 60,000/-	Rs. 6,000/-

Auction Date: 25-October-2021 From 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.
Venue: Godara Yard, Khatwat No:166/1, Near Atul/Kataria Chock, Behind Gyan Devi School, Sec-17, Sukhrali, Gurugram– 122022.
Contact Person- Rajeev Ranjan (8584874809)/Jitendra Kumar (7304914763)
Terms of Sale
The particulars of the said asset specified herein above have been stated to the best of the information and knowledge of the undersigned, who shall however not be responsible for any error, misstatement or omission in the said particulars. The interested participant/s are therefore requested, in their own interest, to satisfy himself / themselves/ itself with regard to the said asset and other relevant details pertaining to it before submitting the bids. All bidders are required to come at site with original KYC proofs to participate in the auction and also original DD of EMD.
Successfully approved bidder shall have to deposit sale amount (Excluding EMD amount) within 5 days from the auction date by the way of pay order/demand draft/RTGS/NEFT. In case if you fail to make the remaining sale amount within 5 days, your EMD amount will be forfeited.
The intending bidders may visit at **ICICI Bank Ltd, 1st Floor, SD Tower, Community Center, Plot no-7, Rohini Sector-8, New Delhi-110085**, for details and inspection of the said hypothecated vehicle.


AXIS BANK
Retail Asset Centre: Axis Bank Ltd. SCO 12, Sector-14, Gurgaon Haryana. Asset Centre at A-356, First Floor, Meera Bagh, New Delhi
Also at: Axis Bank Ltd., Axis House, Tower T-2, 2nd Floor, I-14, Sector-128, Noida Expressway, Jaypee Greens Wishtown, Noida (U.P.)-201301

Possession Notice Under SARFAESI Act 2002
Whereas
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Axis Bank Ltd., under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notice upon the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagor(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagor(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned details.
The Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagor(s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Axis Bank Ltd.
The Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagor(s) attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of Borrower / Co-borrower	Description of Property	1. Date of Demand Notice	2. Date of Possession	3. Amount in Demand (Rs.)
1. Mr. Hari Singh Rajora S/O Dayal Rajora B-30, CGHS, Park View Apartment Paschim Vihar, Sunder Vihar West Delhi, Delhi-110087 Also At: Mr. Hari Singh Rajora S/O Dayal Rajora Proprietor of Sivasik Plastic Plot No.-B-51, PVL Bazar Tikri Kalan West Delhi-110041	Society Built-Up Freehold MIG Flat Bearing No. B-30, On 2nd Floor, In The Lay Out Plan of Liberal Co-Operative Housing Society Ltd. Known As Liberal Apartments, Zone G-17, Situated At Rotak Road, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110087.	1. 19-April-2021 2. 08-10-2021 3. Rs.70,52,812/- (Rupees Seventy Lakh Fifty Two Thousand Eight Hundred Twelve Only)	2. 08.10.2021	Rs. 12,58,000/- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Only)
1.Mrs. Roshni W/O Sh. Beg Raj House No. 35, 3rd Floor, Sector-2, Pocket-7, Rohini Near Gopaji Chole Bhature, Delhi-110058 Also At: Mata Chanan Devi Hospital C-1, Janakpuri, Near C-1 Red Light New Delhi-110058 2. Mr. Deepak S/O Sh. Ram Darshan House No. 35, 3rd Floor, Sector-2, Pocket-7, Rohini Near Gopaji Chole Bhature, Delhi-110058 Also At: C/O Rakesh Kumar Sachdeva BC-14, Mianwali Nagar, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110087	All That Piece And Parcel of Flat No. 02 (LIG Category), On Ground Floor In Block No. B-13, In The Layout Plan of Housing Estate At Pkt-5, Sector-35, Rohini, Delhi.	1. 19-April-2021 2. 08.10.2021 3. Rs. 5,76,258/- (Rupees Five Lakh Seventy Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Eight Only)	2. 08.10.2021	Rs. 12,58,000/- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Only)
1. Mr. Sunil Kumar Baxla S/O Mr. Michael Baxla House No. 35, 3rd Floor, Sector-2, Pocket-7, Rohini Near Gopaji Chole Bhature, Delhi-110058 Also At: Panposh (Part) Panposh Rajgaurpur, Sundargarh, Orisa-770034 Also At: Steel Structure Design & Detailing Pvt. Ltd. Wz-10, 2nd Floor, Asafalpur, Janakpuri, Delhi-110058 Also At: Flat No. 8 C, 2nd Floor, Pocket No. C, Sector-35 Dwarika, Delhi-110075	Flat No. 8 C, 2nd Floor Pocket No. C, Sector-3 Dwarika, Delhi -110075.	1. 19-April-2021 2. 08.10.2021 3. Rs. 5,76,258/- (Rupees Five Lakh Seventy Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Eight Only)	2. 08.10.2021	Rs. 12,58,000/- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Only)

The above-mentioned Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagor(s) are hereby given a 30 days' Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days' from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.
Date : 14-10-2021
Place : Delhi & NCR

Sd/-
Authorized Officer,
Axis Bank Ltd.,

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that this person **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** About 20-25 Years, **Sex:** Male, **Height:** 5'6", **Built:** Medium, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **ID Mark:** Earing in Right ear and bracelet in Right hand was found dead in Yamuna River Near Old Wazirabad Bridge Barrier, Wazirabad, Delhi on 02.10.2021.
In this regard a DD No. 24-A, Dated 02.10.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Wazirabad, Delhi.
Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.
Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.
SHO
P.S. Wazirabad, Delhi
DP/1588/N/2021 (UIDB) Ph.: 011-239710076, 8750870131

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown** was found on 04.10.2021 at Mor Sarai Road, Near Kудedhan, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 86 A dated 04.10.2021 has been lodged at Police Station, Kotwali, Delhi. Identification of unidentified dead body of male is as under:
Name: Unknown, Age: About 30-35 Years, Height: 5'7", Face: Round, Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Thin, Wearing: Camel (Matmela) T-Shirt and Black Track Suit Lower.
If anyone have any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.
SHO
Police Station Kotwali, Delhi
DP/1579/N/2021 (UIDB) Ph.: 011-23977100, 8750870121

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that this person **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** About 35 Years, **Sex:** Male, **Height:** 5'6", **Built:** Normal, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Long, **Wearing:** Blue Sando & Grey Colour Jeans, was found dead in Yamuna River Near Ghat No. 12, Jamna Bazar, Kashmere Gate, Delhi on 01.10.2021.
In this regard a DD No. 35-A, U/s 174 Cr.PC Dated 01.10.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi.
Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.
Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.
SHO
P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi
DP/1583/N/2021 (UIDB) Ph.: 011-23967889, 8750870123

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that one unidentified dead body of male **Namely: Ravi, S/o:** unknown, **R/o:** unknown. **Age:** about 20-25 years, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Height:** 5'6", **Face:** Oval, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Gray Colour T-Shirt and Gray Colour Lower, who was found at Divider footh path, Old Chandrawal near Parasnath Building, Civil Lines, Delhi. In this regard a case **DD No. 45A, Dt. 08.10.2021 has been registered at P. S. Civil Lines, Delhi.**
Any person having any information or clue about the above deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.
Sd/- SHO
P. S: Civil Lines, Delhi
Tel. No. 011-23815444
DP/1592/N/2021



Officers and councillors of the Municipal Corporation of Chandigarh engaging in a competitive round of tug of war



Demonstration of the Integrated Command and Control Center (ICCC)



Safaimitra Amrit Samman Samaroh on Gandhi Jayanti



An improvised water park for children at New Indira Colony during the celebrations

AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV AT CHANDIGARH

To mark the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements, the Government of India announced the initiation of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of progressive India. It will also focus on India's vision, aspiration of India's youth and what India will be in the next 25 years.

This celebration is steadfast to the people of India who have not only been instrumental in bringing India thus far in its evolutionary journey but also hold within them the power and potential to enable Prime Minister Modi's vision of enabling new India, fuelled by the spirit of an Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav at Chandigarh

In accordance with the nation-wide celebrations for the Mahotsav, the Municipal Corporation of Chandigarh conceived a week-long urban campaign from September 28 to October 3, 2021 under the aegis of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). The Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations at Chandigarh focussed on citizen participation and engagement, for transformation into a Janandolan, a citizens' movement, where small changes, at the community level will translate into significant changes at city level and consequently enlarging gains on the national canvas.

The week-long event showcased the accomplishments and ongoing development activities under the auspices of various

urban missions including Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Smart Cities Mission (SCM), Swachh Bharat (Urban) Mission, Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) by mobilising support from various stakeholders such as civil society organisations, youth, women, social activists, urban and environment crusaders, resident and market welfare associations and other government agencies. Public sector undertakings including banks and corporations came forward with their kind and budgetary support under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to rejoice the spirit and essence of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, thereby promoting JanBhagidari and mass citizen engagement.

During the week-long celebration, the programmes and activities which were conceived by the Municipal Corporation Chandigarh under the vibrant and vivacious mentorship of Anindita Mitra, commissioner of the Municipal Corporation Chandigarh were:

Inaugural of 22 cities & 75 Hours Placemaking Implementation

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav campaign was inaugurated and opened to the public by Dharam Pal, adviser to the administrator of UT of Chandigarh on September 28, 2021 in the presence of Ravi Kant Sharma, the Mayor of Chandigarh, Nitin Kumar Yadav (IAS), home secre-

tary of Chandigarh Administration, Vijay Namdeo Zade (IAS), finance secretary of Chandigarh Administration and Anindita Mitra (IAS), the commissioner of the Municipal Corporation of Chandigarh at Community Park, New Indira Colony, Manimajra, Sector -13, Chandigarh.

The physical transformation involved construction of a public toilet, painting of the water body into an interactive play area for kids, connecting neighbouring school with the park through a tabletop crossing, repair and painting of planters among others. To ensure public participation, events like morning yoga session for locals, a game of kabaddi for men and women, a drawing competition among school-going children, plantation drive at Herbal Garden, tug of war for children, officers and councillors, a magic show and puppet show for children, various quizzes, antakshari and camel ride were organised.

The Implementation witnessed participation of more than 10,000 people from the vicinity. The key aim behind choosing New Indira Colony for the event was to promote urban vivacity to areas on the outskirts of the city which inhabited the marginalised and economically weaker section community.

Kachra Alag Karo Amrit Diwas

Kale Ram, a *safai karamchari* was appointed as the brand ambassador of Swachhata Mission

in the city and various awareness and sensitisation activities through skits and *nukkad-natak* on waste segregation at source were organised on September 29, 2021. Colour coded waste collection compostable bags were distributed to citizens at Maloya, Ram Darbar and Maulijagran.

Saavryanjik Shauchalaya Safai Jan Bhagidari Amrit Utsav

Municipal Corporation of Chandigarh, in a special maintenance drive during this period, revamped 26 public toilets throughout the city which were handed over to Resident Welfare/Market Associations and other operating agencies by the respective area councillors in their wards in the presence of municipal officials on September 30, 2021. A new toilet block in Sector-17 was inaugurated by the Mayor of Chandigarh.

Keeping in mind the input from citizens, a QR code for getting feedback from the public on amenities were also affixed to the revamped toilets.

Cycle2Work

The Cycle2Work campaign aims at getting people out of their cars and convincing them to shift their daily habits in favour of a more sustainable and healthier commute.

Leading by example, the officers and employees of Chandigarh Smart City Limited and Municipal Corporation of Chandigarh cycled to their workplaces on October 1, 2021. Badges were affixed to encourage the employees and a selfie frame

was installed in the office premises to create a buzz around the concept.

Felicitating of waste entrepreneurs and Waste-To-Art exhibition

A Waste-To-Art exhibition was also organised on October 1, 2021 at Sector 17, Plaza by inviting local civil society organisations, self help groups (SHGs), school going students, corporates. In the exhibition, Rock Garden, Kala Sagar, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, NULM women SHGs have displayed various articles and models prepared by them using waste, which has demonstrated RRR — Reuse, Recycle and Reduce strategy of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

A special event was also conceived to felicitate city based waste entrepreneurs who have demonstrated state of the art models prepared out of waste by the Mayor of Chandigarh.

Showcasing of Integrated Command and Control Center (ICCC)

To empower citizens with knowledge about the 'smart' initiatives being taken up in the city, the Chandigarh Smart City Ltd team demonstrated the ICCC platform with integrated traffic control system, e-challan system and live monitoring by surveillance cameras to the public.

A live demonstration on the functioning of ICCC was given to councillors, media representatives and students on October 1, 2021 and a video presentation on

ICCC and other initiatives of CSCL was given to citizens on October 2 and 3, 2021, at Municipal Corporation premises and Sector 17 Plaza respectively.

Safaimitra Amrit Samman Samaroh

While commemorating the 152nd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and his vision for sanitation, this event was held on October 2 and 3. During this event, 5150 *safaimitras* were felicitated. On October 2, the Mayor of Chandigarh felicitated the *safaimitras* and in the closing ceremony, felicitation was done by Banwari Lal Purohit, Punjab's Governor and Chandigarh's administrator.

Freedom to cycle — cycle rally on October 3

A 7.5 km long bicycle rally was organised to wrap up the celebrations of the 75 glorious years of India's independence. The rally was flagged off by Banwari Lal Purohit at Sukhna Lake. The rally witnessed massive participation from the cycling enthusiasts of the city. The highlight of the event was the sheer diversity of the participants in terms of gender and age-groups. The rally ended at Shanti Kunj, Sector-16 where the 'junior bicycling champions' were felicitated by Anindita Mitra, commissioner of the Municipal Corporation Chandigarh and CEO of Chandigarh Smart City Limited.

POWERGRID, a Maharatna PSU under Ministry of Power, Government of India under its CSR initiative in Northern Region-I undertook a project for the supply and installation of PSA Type 2x50 Nm3/hr oxygen generation plant with bottling facility at Tau Devi Lal Stadium, Sector-38, Gurugram, Haryana.

On October 7, 2021, Madhu Azad, the Mayor of the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram, inaugurated the facility in the presence of A K Mishra, the executive director of NR1, Bodhiraj Sikri, the deputy chairman of Haryana's CSR trust, Dr Yash Garg, the district commissioner and Vishram Kumar Meena, ADC.



RITES felicitates Mithal, who has over 31 years of experience in the Railway sector. He has worked at various key positions in Indian Railways and Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR).

Union Minister of Power and New & Renewable Energy, R K Singh congratulating PFC on being accorded the 'Maharatna' status by Government of India in the presence of Alok Kumar, the secretary of Power, R S Dhillon, CMD of PFC and senior MOP and PFC officials



Dr Sudhir Mishra, distinguished scientist and director general of BrahMos at DRDO and the CEO & MD of BrahMos Aerospace was conferred the honorary degree of 'Doctor of Science' by Shri Ramswaroop Memorial University at the varsity's first convocation ceremony on 11th October 2021, held at Lucknow-Deva Road (Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh).

He has 36 years of R&D experience in the area of missiles technology, production technology, technology management and defence diplomacy and has contributed immensely in India's quest to achieve excellence in missile technologies by developing several breakthrough-technologies. His technical expertise and contribution has resulted in the realisation of several DRDO Missile Programmes.

Gurdeep Singh, CMD, NTPC presents

1,560.93 crore, the final dividend of 3,054.45 crores for FY 2020-21 for the Government of India, to R K Singh, Minister of Power and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy in the presence of Alok Kumar, the secretary of Power, Vivek Kumar Dewanagan, additional secretary and Ashish Upadhyaya, additional secretary & FA from Ministry of Power, A K Gautam, the Finance Director, Dillip Kumar Patel, the director of Human Resources, Ramesh Babu V, the director of Operations and Chandan Kumar Mondol, the Commercial director were also present on behalf of NTPC Ltd.



POWERGRID assists RAJASTHAN Solar Energy zone

POWERGRID Khetri Transmission System Ltd. (PKTSL), a fully owned subsidiary of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), a Maharatna CPSU under Ministry of Power, has commissioned the Transmission System associated with Rajasthan Solar Energy Zone (SEZ) Part-C on 4th October 2021. This is one of the largest

Inter State Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) projects established in the state of Rajasthan.

The Transmission Project involves a new 765 kV Sub-station at Khetri (Rajasthan) and connects the capital of the country at Jhatikara (Delhi) through a 765 kV Double Circuit Transmission line and also connects Sikar (Rajasthan) through a 400 kV

Double Circuit Transmission line.

The commissioning of PKTSL system will facilitate transfer of Renewable Power from Rajasthan to various parts of the country. It will benefit industries, households and businesses, boosting the economic development of Rajasthan and the country in totality. It will augment the transmission infrastructure to evacuate renewable energy thereby

reducing dependency on fossil fuels, in line with Government of India's vision of achieving 450 GW renewable energy target by 2030.

Charging of this important transmission project will enhance ease of living as well as provide GatiShakti to infrastructure development activities, through supply of quality & reliable green power across the country.

Navratra festival at Katra



2021. The event was inaugurated by Vivekanand Rai (IRS), the Tourism director of Jammu Director Tourism, Jammu and was also witnessed by Amit Bhasin, ASP of Katra, Abhishek Sharma, SDM of Katra, Ambika Bali, assistant director of Tourism in Katra, Manik Singh Rathore, under-secretary of the Transport department, Ranjeet Kaur, the state's taxation officer and other officers of the Tourism department.

The festival will culminate on October 15, 2021 with Shobha Yatra and Mata Ki Kahaani Theatre Show.

PM MODI Launches NEW EXHIBITION COMPLEX' AT PRAGATI MAIDAN,

Launching an ambitious national master plan for multi-model connectivity, 'PM GatiShakti', the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated New Exhibition Complex (Halls 2,3,4 & 5) of International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC) at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi today i.e. October 13, 2021.

While dedicating the New Exhibition complex to the nation, he hoped that the new world class exhibition infrastructure at Pragati Maidan would be immensely significant in showcasing India's brand excellence globally and providing fresh impetus to promote exports from MSMEs.

Earlier, Hon'ble PM was welcomed by Shri Piyyush Goyal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce and Industry along with senior government officials and he was briefed about IECC project by Shri L.C. Goyal, CMD, ITPO. Hon'ble PM also visited an exhibition and reviewed the model of the New Exhibition Complex at Pragati Maidan, before launching the GatiShakti plan with the press of a remote button. The ambitious plan of PM GatiShakti envisages a centralised portal to unite the infrastructural initiatives planned and initiated by as many as 16 central ministries and departments. Speaking at the event, Shri Modi also said that PM GatiShakti targets to cut logistic costs, increase cargo handling capacity and reduce the turnaround time. The plan envisioned by the Hon'ble PM, is a campaign to lend more speed (Gati) and power (Shakti) to projects by connecting all concerned departments on one platform.

SCHOOL WARRIORS 2.0 CONTEST BY GAIL

Under its clean air initiative Hawa Badlo, GAIL (India) Limited has launched the second edition of School Warriors contest for creating awareness against air pollution amongst students and the school community, including parents and teachers.

The School Warriors 2.0 contest aims at connecting with school students who are currently at health risks due to constant rise in pollutants in the air. Through the online Hawa Badlo School Warriors 2.0 contest, the students will be given a chance to showcase their creative videos on air pollution by uploading short videos, art forms, essays with ideas and their corrective suggestions against air pollution which can be submitted digitally on the School Warriors 2.0 microsite. (<http://schoolwarrior2.changetheair.org/>).

The participants can also plant saplings and upload pictures of them taking care of the plants. The entries can be uploaded till November 20, 2021 and the best entries will win prizes in various categories.



The first edition of School Warriors contest had more than five million reach on digital platforms. The contest got around 3,000 entries from across India.

The Hawa Badlo initiative is in line with the environmental responsibility of GAIL which is an integral part of its vision statement. It aims at improving the air quality with collective societal effort to bring substantial change in the quality of air for better environment and better lives.

NORTHERN RAILWAYS GM HOLDS SAFETY/PERFORMANCE REVIEW MEETING

Ashutosh Gangal, General Manager Northern Railway held a review meeting with the departmental heads and DRMs of Northern Railway. Deliberations were held on keeping focus on passenger amenities at stations like extension of platforms, increase of level of platforms, washable aprons, provision of 2nd entry, foot over bridges, Escalators, lifts facilities for Divyangjans, improvement of station building including façade etc. He also reviews the progress of mobility enhancement, developmental infrastructure works, Freight loading and safety on tracks.

He also informed that 82 different stations over Northern railway have been selected for construction of toilets in circulating area through CSR funds.

He instructed to maintain good record of punctuality of trains and expedites the works related with mobility enhancement and conducting drives to check the progress. He reviewed the work done over the zone in improving the maintenance standard of track, welds and removal of scrap lying near the tracks. The GM also took stock of the tree cutting activity and removal of vegetation alongside the tracks.

Sh. Gangal emphasized upon minimizing the human failure in train operation, extensive monitoring of rail fractures and rail welds and said no error should be left. He asked the officers should enhance their inspection to assess the progress of works as well as train operations.

He also informed that, loading of food grains & other items have steadily increased with every passing month. Northern Railway is committed to provide safe, smooth and efficient services to its customers.

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Fino Payments Bank signs actor Pankaj Tripathi as brand ambassador

Fino Payments Bank Limited (FPBL), a fintech for emerging India customers will now work with actor Pankaj Tripathi as its brand ambassador.

During the two-year engagement effective 1st September 2021, Pankaj Tripathi will be the face of Fino Payments Bank's marketing campaigns across various platforms. He will work with the brand in promoting its products and services representing through Fino's ever present and friendly neighbourhood local banker - Hamesha available!

"This is Fino's first ever opportunity to have a brand ambassador, a milestone in itself", said Darpan Anand, Sr. Divisional Head Fino Payments Bank. "We are extremely pleased to have Pankaj Tripathi, a celebrated artist, as our brand ambassador. Pankaj's personality resonates our brand values and we believe the association will go a long way in not only achieving the desired top of the mind brand recall but also in bringing about a paradigm shift in consumer behaviour towards the adoption of digital banking."

Sharing his thoughts on associating with Fino Payments Bank,

Pankaj Tripathi said, "When I heard about Fino's

'Fi-kar No-t' approach I was instantly connected to it as that is how I have lived my life. I owe my success perhaps to this way of thinking and that's why I immediately agreed to associate with the brand. I want to thank Fino Payments Bank and the agency for choosing me as the face of Fino brand that I could so relate to. I wish them the best of future."

"The most important step on who would personify the brand, is the match between the brand's attributes and those of the celebrity", said Anand Bhatia, CMO, Fino Payments Bank. "Pankaj Tripathi brings to the table a pan India connect and an appeal that is in sync with Fino Payments Bank's values of being grounded, real, sincere, honest, competent and hardworking. His clear focus on creating social awareness through his endorsements connects well with Fino's socially inclusive business, making him a perfect brand fit. He is a self-made man, just like our self-made bank."

Pankaj Tripathi will be the face

of Fino's first 'Fikar Not' campaign conceptualised to allay the fears, especially confidence issues associated with the banking process. Fino believes its customers should not have any 'Fikar' or worry when doing banking. In fact 'Fi-kar NO-t' is in its name!

Bridging India and Bharat - brand connect

Pankaj Tripathi's success story of a small town guy making it big on his own blends well with the aspirations of Fino's target group.

FPBL's target segment, the emerging India customer someone who has low levels of financial literacy, technology use, lacks financial inclusion and typically does not have access to basic banking services.

Fino's merchants serve the banking and financial needs of this segment by offering assisted services through the physical delivery model. They not only address the pain points of the customers but also help them migrate from offline activity to online activity.

On this front, Pankaj's rich repertoire of rustic, familiar and relatable characters across Hindi and regional films ring a bell!

DC set 136-run target for KKR in 2nd IPL Qualifier



PTI ■ SHARJAH

Kolkata Knight Riders, led by mystery spinner Varun Chakravarthi, produced a clinical bowling display on a slow pitch to

restrict Delhi Capitals to 135 for 5 in their IPL Qualifier 2 here on Wednesday. Sent in to bat, DC batters struggled on a sluggish pitch with the KKR bowlers bowling a tight line and length.

Opener Shikhar Dhawan top-scored with a 39-ball 36 while Shreyas Iyer remained not out on 30 off 27 balls. Chakravarthi took two wickets for 26 runs while Lockie Ferguson and Shivam Mavi got one each.

After seven dot balls in the first two overs, DC took 12 runs from the third with Shaw hoisting Shakib Al Hasan for a big six.

Dhawan joined the party in the fourth over, smacking two consecutive sixes off Sunil Narine as DC amassed 14 runs from the veteran West Indian.

Chakravarthi broke the dangerous-looking partnership by having Shaw LBW with his first delivery of the day with the batter playing a wrong line to his googly.

Ferguson was impressive as he conceded just nine runs from his first two overs as DC reached 38 for 1 at the end of Power Play overs.

After a quiet period during which Mavi, Narine and Chakravarthi bowled a tight line and length, Dhawan got a boundary in the 10th over to reach 65 for 1 at the halfway mark.

With odd ball skidding low, it was getting difficult to get runs and DC were dealt a blow when Mavi, who was bowling beautifully, got rid of Marcus Stoinis who was playing only his second match in the UAE leg.

With pressure building on the DC batters, Dhawan fell in the 15th over while going for a big shot. He could only get an outside edge off a Chakravarthi delivery for Shakib Al Hasan to take a diving catch at backward point.

DC were 83 for 3 in the 15th over when captain Rishabh Pant (6) came in and he disappointed in a crucial match as he went for a big shot the next over only to balloon a Ferguson delivery for Rahul Tripathi to take a regulation catch.

There was no lack of drama as Shimron Hetmyer was caught by Shubman Gill off Chakravarthi in the 17th over but it turned out to be a no ball.

DC managed to score 36 runs in the last three overs to put up a decent total in the end.

Shardul Thakur replaces Axar Patel in India's main squad for T20 World Cup



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Fast bowling all-rounder Shardul Thakur on Wednesday replaced Axar Patel in India's squad for the T20 World Cup to be held in the UAE and Oman from October 17.

The 29-year-old Thakur has impressed with his 18 wickets in the ongoing IPL for Chennai Super Kings. With this, India completed the announcement of its final squad for the marquee tournament. Teams are allowed time till October 15 to finalise changes.

"The All-India Senior Selection Committee after a discussion with the team management has added Shardul Thakur to the main squad. All-rounder Axar Patel, who was part of the 15-member squad will now be on the list of stand-by players," BCCI secretary Jay Shah said in a statement.

With pace all-rounder Hardik Pandya not bowling during the IPL because of fitness issues, the selectors wanted a cover for him. The Mumbai Indians star's workload management is a major concern for the team management.

"The selectors felt that they were one pacer short and also with Hardik Pandya not bowling, they needed an all-rounder in the main squad," a source close to the selection committee told PTI.

"Axar remains in stand by and if Ravindra Jadeja gets injured, he will again be back in main team. Till Jaddu (Jadeja) plays, Axar won't be required."

As reported by PTI, the selectors also included Harshal Patel among the net bowlers for the Indian team.

"The following cricketers will join the team bubble in Dubai and assist Team India in

their preparations: Avesh Khan, Umran Malik, Harshal Patel, Lukman Meriwala, Venkatesh Iyer, Karn Sharma, Shahbaz Ahmed and K. Gowtham," the statement said.

Among the stand-by players, Railways leg-spinner Karn Sharma, who is part of the CSK right now, was a surprise inclusion.

Considered a close confidante of Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who has been roped in as mentor of the national side for the World Cup, Sharma is retained year after year by CSK without playing too many matches as it is believed that he has been the franchise's "Lucky Mascot"

Leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal could not find a place despite an impressive IPL with Royal Challengers Bangalore. He claimed 18 wickets in 15 matches. India will open their campaign on October 24 against Pakistan.

BCCI extends date for buying ITT for new IPL teams



IANIS ■ MUMBAI

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has further extend the date for purchasing the 'Invitation to Tender' (ITT) document for the two new Indian Premier League (IPL) teams -- which will be added from the 2022 season -- to October 20, 2021.

A BCCI statement said that interested parties can purchase the ITT document on receipt of payment of the "non-refundable tender fee of Rs 10 lakh plus any applicable Goods and Services Tax". All other terms contained in the Invitation document shall be applicable, said the BCCI. The IPL Governing Council had on August 31

this year announced the release of tender to "own and operate" two new IPL teams, which will compete in the 2022 edition of the lucrative tournament.

Subsequently, the date was extended to October 10 and now the date has been further extended by 10 days.

"Interested parties are requested to email at ittipl2021@bcci.tv to get further details for purchasing the ITT. The email requesting the ITT should have the subject line 'ITT for the Right to Own and Operate One of Two Proposed New IPL Teams,'" said a BCCI statement.

"Any interested party wishing to submit a bid is required to purchase the ITT. However, only those satisfying the eligibility criteria set out in the ITT and subject to the other terms and conditions set out therein, shall be eligible to bid. It is clarified that merely purchasing this ITT does not entitle any person to bid," the statement added.

Fan-inspired Team India jersey for T20 World Cup unveiled



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Claiming to be inspired by the fans, the Indian cricket team's jersey for the upcoming T20 World Cup was unveiled on Wednesday, days before the country opens its campaign with a much-awaited clash against arch-rivals Pakistan in Dubai.

The tournament will be held from October 17 to November 14 in the UAE and Oman. The new shirt, called the 'Billion Cheers Jersey', has been inspired by

fans and was unveiled by MPL Sports, the official kit sponsor of the Indian men's, women's, and Under-19 teams.

"This is the first time in the history of Indian cricket that fans have been memorialised on a jersey. It carries their chants and cheers from iconic past matches, transformed into unique soundwave patterns," stated a release from ML Sports

The jersey comes in shades of prussian blue and royal blue.

BCCI president Sourav Ganguly said, "The Indian cricket team enjoys support not just in India but around the world, and there's no better way to celebrate their excitement and energy than through this jersey. "This will undoubtedly provide the team with the much-needed enthusiastic support in their quest to emerge as the T20 champions of the world.

We are also pleased to see that MPL Sports continues to deliver merchandise that is widely affordable and accessible."

The board's secretary Jay Shah echoed the view.

Amandeep leads 10th leg of Hero WPGT

PTI ■ CHANDIGARH

Amandeep Drall lived up to her top billing with a flawless 4-under 68 that put her on top of the leaderboard at the end of the first round in the 10th leg of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour here on Wednesday.

After day one at the Chandigarh Golf Club, Amandeep was one shot ahead of the highly rated amateur Avani Prashanth (69), who had four birdies against one bogey.

Kapurthala golfer Amandeep leads the combined Hero Order of Merit for 2020-21 despite missing out on the last few legs of the Tour because of busy schedule in Europe.

Both Amandeep and Avani had a bogey-free 3-under 33 each on the back nine. They also had a birdie each on the front nine, but Avani also dropped a shot on the ninth, while Amandeep stayed error-free.

Avani was the winner of the third leg and runner-up in the seventh leg in 2021. Amandeep is yet to taste a win in 2021, though she had two in 2020. She was runner-up to Avani in the third leg, so she has a score to settle with the youngster.

Seher Atwal and Jahanvi Bakshi also carded under par rounds of 1-under 71 each to be Tied-third. Seher and Jahanvi had contrasting rounds producing similar scores.

Narine won't be added to West Indies World Cup squad: Pollard

PTI ■ SHARJAH

West Indies skipper Kieron Pollard says they will resist the temptation of adding Sunil Narine to their T20 World Cup squad despite the spinner's sublime form in the ongoing IPL, where he played a key role in Kolkata Knight Riders reaching the Qualifier-2. The 33-year-old Narine reminded the fans of his vintage past with his four-wicket haul and impact batting in the eliminator against Royal Challengers Bangalore on Monday. He has taken 11 wickets in eight IPL matches since the league's resumption in the UAE.



He went wicket-less against Rajasthan Royals and Sunrisers Hyderabad and in an earlier

match against RCB but took three wickets in the team's two-wicket defeat to Chennai Super Kings. However, he has not played any international cricket since August 2019, forcing defending champions West Indies to ignore him while announcing their World Cup squad on grounds of fitness.

The ICC deadline to make changes in the squad ends on Friday. "If I add my two cents or my words on how his non-inclusion came about, then it could be spun - just like how he's bowling on these Sharjah wickets - in all different directions," Pollard told ESPNcricinfo.

Golfers Aditi, Tvesa and Diksha to play in New York leg of Aramco Series

IANIS ■ NEW YORK

Indian golfers Aditi Ashok, Tvesa Malik and Diksha Dagar will compete at the third leg of the Aramco Series in New York beginning this week. Only Tvesa has played both earlier legs in London and in Spain, while Diksha was in the winning team in London and missed the event in Spain.

Aditi, fourth at the Olympics, will be playing the Aramco Series for the first time this season. Tvesa has had numerous solid finishes this season, but Aramco Series events have not given her a good finish. Diksha Dagar was part of the winning team in London and was

T-12 in the individual standings.

A stellar field includes Olympic champion Nelly Korda with her sister Jessica, Lexi Thompson, Lizette Salas, Angel Yin, Alison Lee and Lindsey Weaver. Others including Danielle Kang, Cheyenne Woods and Natalie Gulbis will be getting a taste of the Series for the first time.

The top Europeans are Catriona Matthew Emily Kristine Pedersen, Charley Hull, Anna Nordqvist, Sophia Popov. Bronte Law, Caroline Masson and Anne Van Dam. The two individual winners from London (Marianne Skarpnord) and from Sotogrande, Spain (American Alison Lee) are also in the field.

Ronaldo scores hat trick, Denmark qualifies for World Cup

AP ■ PARIS

Another hat trick for Cristiano Ronaldo, another win — and qualification for the World Cup — for Denmark.

And yet more crowd trouble in a game between England and Hungary.

There was a sense of familiarity to the World Cup qualifiers in Europe on Tuesday, not least in Faro where Ronaldo extended his men's record tally of international goals to 115 by scoring the 58th hat trick of his career for club and country in Portugal's 5-0 win over Luxembourg.

Denmark became the second European nation to qualify for next year's tournament in Qatar, after Germany on Monday, by securing an eighth straight



win in group play by beating Austria 1-0.

The decisive win — sealed by Joakim Maehly's second-half goal — came at the Parken Stadium in Copenhagen where star playmaker Christian Eriksen collapsed in June during a European Championship game. It is still unclear if Eriksen can resume his career to play at the World Cup in 13 months' time.

England is likely to be there, but was made to wait before booking its place after being held to a 1-1 draw by Hungary at Wembley Stadium.

Events on the field were overshadowed by clashes between police officers and Hungary supporters at the start of the match, sparked — according to police — by a visiting fan making "racially aggravated" comments toward a steward.

SINGLES

NEYMAR'S TEAM URGE HIM TO PLAY WCUP

Sao Paulo: Neymar's Brazil teammates are still hoping the 29-year-old striker will remain with the national team after next year's World Cup, despite saying the tournament in Qatar could be his last. Neymar said in an interview aired this week that he doesn't know whether he will be able "mentally to endure" more international soccer after the 2022 World Cup and that he's approaching the tournament as if it is his last. His teammates rallied around the Paris Saint-Germain player on Tuesday, saying they understand the pressure Neymar faces as Brazil's biggest star. "We want him to stay with us for many years," midfielder Fred said. "But it is hard to talk about someone else's head. Sometimes people face a huge pressure."

FIFA ASSESS PUNISHMENT FOR CROWD UNREST

Zurich: FIFA is analyzing the crowd unrest and assessing punishments after condemning disorder involving Hungary and Albania fans in separate World Cup qualifiers. At Wembley Stadium in London, Hungary supporters fought with police in the stands just after kickoff on Tuesday as officers sought to arrest a spectator on suspicion of racially abusing a steward. Hungary drew 1-1 with England. Another Group I game in Tirana was suspended for around 20 minutes. Karol Swiderski had just scored for Poland in the 77th minute when he was apparently struck by a bottle thrown from the Albania fans. Poland's players walked off but returned to the field and held on to win 1-0. .

HIMA DAS TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID -19

Ace Indian sprinter Hima Das, who is making a comeback from a hamstring injury, on Wednesday revealed that she has tested positive for COVID-19 but is stable in isolation. Das, 21, reported to the national camp at National Institute of Sport (NIS) in Patiala recently. "I would like to inform everyone that I have been tested positive for Covid-19. I am stable and at the moment in isolation. I look forward to utilising this time to recover and come back stronger than before," Das tweeted. "A gentle reminder for everyone to stay safe and wear mask." Das could not make the cut for the Tokyo Olympics after missing the 200m qualification mark of 22.80s as she clocked 23.21s in the Federation Cup in March this year.

INDIA REACH THOMAS CUP QUARTERS

Aarhus (Denmark): The Indian men's badminton team hammered Tahiti 5-0 to enter the quarterfinals of the Thomas Cup for the first time since 2010 but the women's team suffered a crushing 0-5 defeat against a strong Thailand in its last group match here. It was the first defeat for Indian women after beating Spain (3-2) and Scotland (4-1). The women's team has already reached the quarterfinals. The men's team, on Tuesday, recorded its second straight 5-0 win, having beaten the Netherlands with an identical margin.

AIFF NAMES 28 INDIA PROBABLES

New Delhi: The All India Football Federation (AIFF) on Wednesday announced 28 probables, including Dheeraj Singh Moirangthem and Aniket Jadhav, for the national team's qualifying campaign for next year's AFC U-23 Asian Cup. India have been drawn alongside Oman, Kyrgyz Republic, and hosts UAE in Group E of the Qualifiers, with the matches set to be played between October 25 to 31 at the Fujairah Stadium in Fujairah, UAE. The AFC U-23 Asian Cup is scheduled to be held in Uzbekistan. The Blue Colts are set to assemble in Bengaluru on October 17, before leaving for the UAE on October 20 for their matches.