

OPINION 6
HOW AIR INDIA FELL
SHORT OF THE RUNWAY**WORLD 8**
SAUDI TO PROVIDE \$4.2 BN TO
PAKISTAN; IMRAN THANKS MBS**SPORT 12**
ENGLAND CRUSH BANGLADESH
BY EIGHT WICKETS

CHANDIGARH, THURSDAY OCTOBER 28, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹2



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BACK: SAIF
ALI KHAN
10 VIVACITY

SC sets up Pegasus probe panel

Ex-SC judge to supervise work of 3-member committee of cyber experts

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday appointed a three-member panel of cyber experts to probe the alleged use of Israeli spyware Pegasus for surveillance of politicians, journalists, corporates and judges, saying every citizen needs protection against privacy violation and mere invocation of "national security by state" does not render the court a "mute spectator".

The committee comprising three technical members will be supervised by its retired judge Justice RV Raveendran to be assisted by Alok Joshi, former IPS officer (1976 batch) and Sundeep Oberoi, Chairman, Sub Committee in (International Organisation of Standardisation/International Electro-Technical Commission /Joint Technical Committee).

The three technical members of the committee are: Naveen Kumar Chaudhary Prabhakaran P and Ashwin Anil Gumaste. Chaudhary, the first member of the technical panel, is a Professor (Cyber Security and Digital Forensics) and



Dean, National Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Prabhakaran P is a Professor (School of Engineering), Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Amritapuri, Kerala, and has "two decades of experience in computer science and security areas".

Third member of the technical committee Gumaste is Institute Chair Associate Professor (Computer Science and Engineering), Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, Maharashtra.

The apex court rejected the Centre's plea to allow it to appoint an expert committee to investigate the allegations on the grounds that such a course of action would violate the settled judicial principle against bias. The top court urged its former judge Justice Raveendran to oversee the functioning of the three member panel and sought a report expeditiously from the committee.



Stating that "justice must not only be done, but also be seen to be done," the bench headed by Chief Justice of India NV Ramana and comprising Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli rejected the Centre's vehement submissions on national security saying, "...This does not mean that the State gets a free pass every time the spectre of 'national security' is raised. National security cannot be the bugbear that the judiciary shies away from, by virtue of its mere mentioning. Although this court should be circumspect in encroaching

the domain of national security, no omnibus prohibition can be called for against judicial review."

The top court said in this world of conflicts it is an extremely uphill task to find and select experts who are free from prejudices, are independent and competent, rather than relying upon any Government agencies or any private entity.

In the 46 page Judgment, the Bench reiterated the need of freedom of press in a democratic society. "Such a scenario might result in self-censorship. This is of particular concern when it relates to the freedom of the press, which is an important pillar of democracy. Such chilling effect on the freedom of speech is an assault on the vital public-watchdog role of the press, which may undermine the ability of the press to provide accurate and reliable information," said the apex court highlighting freedom of press.

"We make it clear that our effort is to uphold Constitutional aspirations and rule of law, without allowing ourselves to be consumed in political rhetoric," the bench said, adding that this court has always been conscious of not entering political thicket. "Members of civilised democratic society have reasonable expectation of privacy. Privacy is not singular concern of journalists or social activists," the bench said.

In a democratic country

governed by rule of law, indiscriminate spying on individuals cannot be allowed except with sufficient statutory safeguards, by following procedure established by law under Constitution, it said. The bench had reserved order on September 13, saying it only wanted to know whether or not the Centre used the Pegasus spyware through illegal methods to allegedly snoop on citizens.

Terms of Reference

■ The committee is requested to prepare the report after a thorough enquiry and place it expeditiously before the court, it said.

■ The panel would probe what steps/actions have been taken by the Centre after reports were published in 2019 about hacking of WhatsApp accounts of Indian citizens, using the Pegasus suite of spyware

■ Whether any Pegasus suite was acquired by the Union of India, or any state government, or any central or state agency for use against the citizens

■ Under what law, rule, guideline, protocol or lawful procedure was such deployment made?

MEA flays China for new land border law

India asks China to avoid actions that can impact bilateral pacts

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India has taken strong exception to China's decision to have a new land border law and said such "unilateral" legislation will have implications on the existing bilateral pacts regarding the border.

This response from the Ministry of External Affairs here came on Wednesday after reports said the new boundary law will become operational from January 1 next year. The legislation stipulates that "the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China are sacred and inviolable".

Enunciating India's position, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said, "We also expect that China will avoid undertaking action under the pretext of this law which could unilaterally alter the situation in the India-China border areas."

"We have noted that China has passed a new land boundary law on October 23, 2021. The law states among other



In this file photo, an Indian Army convoy moves on the Srinagar-Ladakh highway at Gagangar, northeast of Srinagar

AP

things that China abides by treaties concluded with or jointly acceded to by foreign countries on land boundary affairs. It also has provisions to carry out reorganisation of districts in the border areas," Bagchi said.

India and China have still not resolved the boundary question. Both sides have agreed to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable resolution to the boundary question through consultations on an equal footing.

"We have also concluded several bilateral agreements, protocols and arrangements to maintain peace and tranquility along the LAC in India-China border areas in the interim," Bagchi said.

"In this regard, China's unilateral decision to bring about a legislation which can have implication on our existing bilateral arrangements on border management as well as on the boundary question is of concern to us," he said.

"Such unilateral move will have no bearing on the arrangements that both sides have already reached earlier, whether it is on the boundary question or for maintaining peace and tranquility along the LAC in India-China border areas. We also expect that China will avoid undertaking action under the pretext of this law which could unilaterally alter the situation in the India-China border areas," Bagchi said.

CAPSULE

10 CONVICTED IN 2013 PATNA BLAST CASE

Patna: A special NIA court on Wednesday convicted 10 people in connection with the 2013 serial blasts that left six dead and scores injured at the venue here of a political rally of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was then the chief minister of Gujarat. Special NIA judge Gurvinder Mehrotra, who passed the order, also acquitted one of the accused for want of evidence.

WAQAR APOLOGISES FOR 'NAMAZ' COMMENT

Karachi: Waqar Younis on Wednesday apologised for his communal remarks during a television show following Pakistan's 10-wicket victory over India in the ongoing T20 World Cup as the former Pakistan pacer was castigated on social media for his "jehadi mindset".

INDIA TESTS AGNI-V WITH 5,000 KM RANGE

New Delhi: In a major boost to its military might, India on Wednesday successfully test-fired surface-to-surface ballistic missile Agni-5 that can strike targets at ranges up to 5,000 km with a very high degree of accuracy, officials said. The test-firing was carried around 7:50 pm from APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha, they said.

Sonia calls up Lalu amid rupture in Bihar alliance

Lalu had rebuked Cong for fielding bypoll candidates

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/PATNA

Amid reports of a rift within the Mahagathbandhan in Bihar, particularly between the Congress and the RJD, Congress president Sonia Gandhi reached out to RJD chief Lalu Prasad, who had rebuked the grand old party over fielding candidates in Bihar bypolls.

Lalu reached Patna after a gap of three years after serving a jail term in a fodder scam case. Talking to the media in Patna ahead of his bypoll campaign, Lalu said the Congress president enquired about his health and whereabouts.

Sonia called Lalu soon after a meeting of the Congress State chiefs in which the party's problems in various States were discussed.

"I spoke to Sonia. She asked me about my well-being



Rashtriya Janata Dal chief Lalu Prasad, along with son and party leader Tejashwi Yadav, addresses a by-election campaign rally at Kusheshwar Asthan constituency in Darbhanga on Wednesday

and whereabouts. I told her that the Congress is an all India party and she should get all like-minded people and parties together to form a strong alternative (to the ruling party) and should call a meeting of all people," said Lalu.

The RJD is one of the oldest allies of the Congress. Both the parties had an alliance in Bihar as well for the Assembly elections. However, in the

bypolls for two seats, the RJD decided to go solo which left the Congress fuming and the grand old party fielded its candidate from both the seats.

When questioned about differences with the Congress over bypolls seat sharing, Lalu made stinging remarks. "What is the alliance with Congress? Should we have left everything to the Congress for a defeat? For forfeiting deposits?" Lalu had said a few days ago.

Small LPG cylinders can soon be bought from ration shops

To be sold at commercial rate

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

You may soon be able to purchase small LPG cylinders at fair price shops at commercial rates. The Centre on Wednesday said it plans to allow the retail sale of small LPG cylinders as well as offer financial services through fair price shops as part of its measures to enhance the financial viability of these outlets.

These issues were discussed in a virtual meeting with State Governments, chaired by Food Secretary Sudhanshu Pandey.

Representatives from the Ministries of Electronics and IT, Finance, and Petroleum and Natural Gas attended the meeting. Officials from Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) as well as CSC e-Governance Services India Limited (CSC)



too were present.

After the meeting, the Food and Consumer Affairs Ministry in a statement said, "Proactive measures to be taken to enhance the financial viability of FPS. ...Plan of retail selling of small LPG cylinders through FPS in the anvil." There are 5.26 Lakh ration shops in the country. Sources said that the small cylinders can be bought off the counter by simply producing an ID proof.

Representatives from oil marketing companies (OMCs) appreciated the proposal for

retail selling of small LPG cylinders through fair price shops (FPS), also called ration shops. OMCs said the necessary support would be provided for the same in coordination with interested state/UT Governments, it added.

In the meeting, the food secretary stressed the need for taking proactive measures for enhancing the financial viability of FPSs.

The State Governments said the collaboration with common service centres (CSC) will increase the viability of FPS.

5 tourists from Bengal killed as vehicle plunges down after crash

PNS ■ BAGESHWAR

Five tourists from West Bengal died while ten persons were injured when the Tempo Traveler they were travelling in crashed into another vehicle and fell off the road down the mountain in Bageshwar district on Wednesday. The police reached the site of the mishap and began the rescue operation with the help of locals.

According to officials, the tourists were going towards Munshiyari after visiting Bageshwar when the accident took place near Farsali some distance from Kapkot. There were 12 people in the vehicle, out of which five people died on the spot, while seven were injured. Three persons in the other vehicle were also reportedly injured in the mishap. The injured persons were rescued and sent to hospital by ambulance.

The tourists who died in the accident include two men and three women. All the tourists in the group are said to be from Kolkata.

Party ready, several Cong leaders will join: Capt Amarinder

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Days after Capt Amarinder Singh alleged "humiliation" at the hands of the Congress party's central leadership leading to his unceremonious ouster from Punjab's Chief Minister's post, the scion of the Patiala royal family on Wednesday announced the launch of his "new party", not disclosing the name, while claiming the "support of several Congressmen".

Declaring that his political party was ready, Capt Amarinder maintained that the party's name and symbol are pending approval with the Election Commission of India.

His decision, adding a new dimension to Punjab politics just about three months before the 2022 State Assembly elections, has resulted in a fresh bout of words between Capt Amarinder and his bete noire



Navjot Singh Sidhu, with the former calling him "dumb", and Punjab Congress chief describing the former Chief Minister as "loyal CM of BJP".

Not divulging any further details about his much talked about party, Capt Amarinder

said, "Yes, I am forming a party. My lawyers are working on it. But I can't tell you the name, I will tell you when the Election Commission approves it. We have made a request for a symbol also."

Punjab political circles were abuzz with speculations over the name and character of Capt Amarinder's new party besides the leaders expected to join him ever since his media adviser Raveen Thukral had sent out invites for the Press conference on Tuesday. However, it failed to meet the high expectations. In fact, Capt

Amarinder did not even bid a formal goodbye to the Congress party.

"I have been in the Congress for 52 years. If I stay in it for 10 more days, what will happen?" he responded to a media query regarding his resignation from the grand old party.

Capt Amarinder had, on October 19, announced that he would soon be leaving the Congress and launching his own party, while expressing hope regarding a seat sharing arrangement with the BJP provided the ongoing agitation against the Centre's three farm laws was resolved "in farmers' interest".

Just at the time Capt Amarinder was addressing the Press, Sidhu attacked the two-time Chief Minister via Twitter. "We the 78 MLAs of Congress, could never imagine, what we received an arm-twisted, ED

controlled BJP loyal Chief Minister of Punjab @capt_amarinder who sold the interests of Punjab to save his skin! You were the negative force stalling Justice & development of Punjab," Sidhu tweeted.

He further hit out at Capt Amarinder by reminding him, "Last time you formed your own party, you lost your ballot, garnering only 856 votes...People of Punjab are again waiting to punish you for compromising on the interests of Punjab."

Responding to Sidhu, Capt Amarinder later tweeted, "You do have the knack of putting your foot in your mouth @sherryontopp! The 856 votes you are mocking came even after I withdrew my nomination from Kharar since I'd won unopposed from Samana. So what does that show? Or are you too dumb to understand."

He added, "So why don't you focus on your work instead of wasting your time attacking me all day long @sherryontopp? Unless you've made up your mind to not rest till you've destroyed @INC Punjab. And if that's the case then you're only making my task easier!"

In another tweet, Sidhu added, "Was it Pity that a 3 Member Congress Committee was formed to make you accountable (when Amarinder was CM)? Why were MLAs against you? Because everyone knows you have collided with Badals! All you want is to defeat me, have you ever wanted Punjab to win? Your 75/25 dealings with Badals and BJP are crystal clear."

Dismissing as trash Sidhu's tweet accusing him of being loyal to the BJP, Capt Amarinder said that the thought of seat-sharing with the BJP came to his mind only

after he was forced out of office. "States have to work with the Union government to function effectively," he pointed out.

Capt Amarinder claimed that he had not spoken of aligning with the BJP but wanted to discuss seat sharing with the party. "In military parlance, it means concentration of forces," he said, adding that he had, however, not yet talked to the saffron party about this.

The former Chief Minister also made it clear that he had no intention of aligning with the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), but only with break-away Akali groups.

Asked about the reported refusal of Rajya Sabha MP and SAD (Democratic) president Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa to tie up with him, Capt Amarinder said, "If Dhindsa wants to put up a real fight, he will have to concentrate his forces too."

He insisted that to defeat the Congress, SAD and Aam Aadmi Party, other parties will all have to "work as a joint force".

Also rejecting Sidhu's claims of a majority of Congress legislators opposing his continuation in office, Capt Amarinder said: "Once they (the party leadership) had made up their mind to replace me, all these excuses were made."

Also taking on Sidhu as well as Deputy Chief Minister Sukhinder Singh Randhawa, Capt Amarinder slammed them for indulging in petty issues. "We will fight and defeat Sidhu from wherever he contests the upcoming assembly polls," he vowed, adding that since the former cricketer had taken over the Punjab Congress reins, there had been a 25 per cent drop in the party's popularity, as per his surveys.

Lost and Found

I, Naveen Bala D/o Ved Parkash r/o Hari Darbar Colony, Gurdaspur declare that I have lost my Diploma of ETT issued in 2011 Roll No. 302296 Registration Number: 07ETTK31438 Serial No.7000926. If found please return on above said address.

I, Monu Kumar S/o Sh. Balbir Singh R/o Vill. Khandakheri, Teh. Narnaud, Distt. Hissar declare that with my 10th Class Mark Sheet of CBSE Exam, Roll No. 2186537 has lost anywhere near Hansi Bus Stand on 15.10.2021 and not found after searching.

I, Ashok Kumar S/o Bawa Ram R/o Patel Nagar Gurdaspur Road Pathankot Declare that I am an Employed as AM(D) in the Oriental Insurance Co. Divisional Office Pathankot that the Cover Note Fire No.CHD-C 572835 to CHD-C 572850 Got Misplaced by Me.If Used by Someone's Company is not Responsible for the Same.

Public Notice

I, Pallavi Benya D/o Sh. Prabhat Bhusan Benya R/o H. No. 54, Mishan Kampound, Nabarangpur, Mission, Compound, Nabarangpur, Odisha convert my religion from Christen to Hindu.

We, Kanchan Bala W/o Sh. Narendar Kumar Gosain and Narendar Kumar Gosain S/o Sh. Ram Saran Dass R/o H. No. 76/8 Shivaji Colony, Rohtak declare that we son Vanik and his wife Preeti are out of our Control. We disown them from all of our movable & immovable properties. Anybody dealing in any cases with will do so at his/her own risk and responsibilities.

I, Murti Devi W/O Satnarjan Garg R/O H.No. 3074/1 Sector 47-D Chandigarh, Declare That My Son Harish Garg & His Wife Pooja Rani Are Out Of My Control. I Disown Them From My Moveable And Immovable Property. Anybody Deals With Them Will Do So At His Own Risk.

I, Satnarjan Garg S/O Lachman Dass R/O H.No. 3074 Sector 47-D Chandigarh, Declare That My Son Harish Garg & His Wife Pooja Rani Are Out Of My Control. I Disown Them From My Moveable And Immovable Property. Anybody Deals With Them Will Do So At His Own Risk.

We, Dharmender S/o Om Parkash and Sushila Devi W/O Dharmender R/O House No. 1690, Sector 52, Chandigarh now residing House No. 1217, Sector 39-B, Chandigarh declare that our son Kunal and his wife Sushma are out of our control. We disown them from all our moveable / immovable properties. Anybody dealing with them will do so at his /her own risk & responsibility.

I, Mangat Ram Sharma S/o late Mohan Lal, R/O #50-A, Radha Enclave, Peer Muchalla, Mohali Declare that my son Pardeep Sharma is out of my control So I disowned Him from my moveable immovable properties, anybody deals with him at their own risk.

I, Maya Devi W/o Babu Ram R/O Village Sirsama, PO Bir Mathana, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra, have disown my son Vikas, from all my moveable immovable properties, as he is out of my control.

I, Akatai Mother of No 15618001/P NK Patil Sarjaroa Vishnu Resident of VPO Shrigaon, Tehsil Shahuwadi, District Kolhapur (Maharashtra) in my Son Service record my Name Wrongly recorded as Akatai instead of Akatai Vishnu Patil Vide affidavit No AT 847166 Dated 27 Oct 2021 before notary public Pathankot.

I, Raikwar Jitendra Gajanan Resident of VPO Bampewada, Tehsil Sakoli, District Bhandara (Maharashtra) in my Service Record my Mother name wrongly recorded as Sarswati Raikwar instead of Sarswati Gajanan Raikwar Vide affidavit No AT 847161 Dated 26 Oct 2021 before notary public pathankot.

I, Shalini Spouse of Mr Raikwar Jitendra Gajanan Resident of VPO Bampewada, Tehsil Sakoli, District Bhandara (Maharashtra) in my Service Record my Name wrongly recorded as Shalini instead of Shalini Jitendra Raikwar Vide affidavit No AT 847159 Dated 26 Oct 2021 before notary public pathankot.

I, Raikwar Jitendra Gajanan Resident of VPO Bampewada, Tehsil Sakoli, District Bhandara (Maharashtra) in my Service Record my Son name wrongly recorded as Akshat Raikwar instead of Akshat Jitendra Raikwar Vide affidavit No AT 847157 Dated 26 Oct 2021 before notary public pathankot.

I, Raikwar Jitendra Gajanan Resident of VPO Bampewada, Tehsil Sakoli, District Bhandara (Maharashtra) in my Service Record my Name wrongly recorded as Akshat Raikwar instead of Akshat Jitendra Raikwar Vide affidavit No AT 847157 Dated 26 Oct 2021 before notary public pathankot.

I, Raikwar Jitendra Gajanan Resident of VPO Bampewada, Tehsil Sakoli, District Bhandara (Maharashtra) in my Service Record my Name wrongly recorded as Akshat Raikwar instead of Akshat Jitendra Raikwar Vide affidavit No AT 847157 Dated 26 Oct 2021 before notary public pathankot.

I, Subhash Chander S/o Sawan Ram r/o H.No. 764/27, Azad Nagar, Thanesar, Kurukshetra, have disown my son Parveen Kumar, his wife Shivani, from all my moveable immovable properties, as they are out of my control. Anybody dealing with them at their own risk.

I, Mohan Lal S/o Maiku #1175, Vikas Nagar Mauliagarh Chandigarh. Declare that my son Inder pal his wife Rinki and their son Vans out of my control. So I disown them from my all moveable/immovable property anybody deal with them at their own risk.

I, Rakesh Pathania S/O Kuldeep Singh VPO. Lehroon Tehsil Dharakalan District Pathankot (PB) Declare that I am Serving in Army in 6 JAK Rif. Declare that in My Service Book (Army Record) My Brother's Name Mentioned as Mukesh Singh Which is Wrong. His Correct Name is Mukesh Pathania and same is Mentioned in his Aadhaar card Bearing No. 4446 1434 1952 and his Education Certificate. Mukesh Pathania & Mukesh Singh is Only one and same Person i.e. My Brother.

I, Prem Lal S/O Bisna Ram R/O #223, Sharma Colony, Basant Vihar, Kalka, Distt.Panchkula (Haryana) declare that my son Avnish Kumar is out of my control. So, I disown him from my all moveable/immovable properties. If anybody deals with him shall do their own risk in future.

I, Rajwinder Kaur W/O Late Malook Singh R/o Vill. Kala Bakra, Teh. And distt. Jalandhar declare that my son Varinderdeep Singh and his wife Sandeep Kaur both are out of my control. So I disown them from my moveable and immovable properties. Anybody deal with them at their own risk and responsibility.

I, Ritika Devi D/O Raj Kumar R/O Vpo. Aduana Tehsil Balachaur District S.B.S. Nagar Punjab Declare That I Passed Secondary Exam From CBSE Exam During 2019 Vide Roll No.2299406. The Name Of My Father And Mother Has Been Wrongly Written As Raj Kumar And Baneeeta Devi In My Educational Documents. The Actual Name Of My Father And Mother Is Raj Kumar Bhatia And Baneeet Kataria, Respectively Which May Be Amended Accordingly.

I, Sukhdev Singh S/O Mehnga Singh R/O Village Nasran P.O. Bachhohi District Hoshiarpur Declare That My Son Lakhwinder Singh And His Wife Harpreet Kaur Are Out Of My Control. So I Disown Them From My All Moveable & Immovable Property. If Anybody Deals With Them At Their Own Risk & Responsibility. All Concerned Please Note.

I, Rashpal W/O No. 3392319Y Rank Hav (Redt.) (Late) Manjinder Singh S/O Hakam Singh resident of Vill. & Po. Barmii Tehsil Raikot & Distt. Ludhiana (Punjab)-141107 hereby declare that my actual date of birth is 04-07-1975 but my DOB in the army records of my said husband is 20-10-1977 which is incorrect. The do Part 2 for actual DOB please be published. Affidavit dated 25-10-2021.

I, Shawinder Kaur alias Sukhwinder Kaur Brar D/O Gian Singh W/O Jagroop Singh R/O Village Mahian Wala Kalan, Tehsil Zira, Distt. Ferozepur (Pb.) India (142047) have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Sukhwinder Kaur.

I, Bir, Bir Singh S/o Kirpal Singh R/o # 1121-A, Small Flats Dhanas, Chandigarh. My son Dinesh and his wife Raj Nandini are out of my control. I disown them from my move-able/ immovable properties. Any person who deals with her will do it at his/her own risk and responsibility.

I, Anita W/O Late Rajinder Singh R/O House No. 80, Street No. 3, Deep Nagar, Patiala declare that my daughter Simran Kaur @ Shikha is out of my control. I disown her from my all moveable and immovable properties. Any person who deals with her will do it at his/her own risk and responsibility.

I, Parkash Kaur W/O Balwinder Singh Vill Siana Saidan Tehsil Pehowa, Kurukshetra, have disown my son Vikas, from all my moveable immovable properties, as he is out of my control.

I, Parkash Kaur W/O Balwinder Singh Vill Siana Saidan Tehsil Pehowa, Kurukshetra, have disown my son Vikas, from all my moveable immovable properties, as he is out of my control.

We Nawab Ali S/O Rafeeq and Anguri W/O Nawab Ali both R/O Village Devnagar Hira Singh Wala, Tehsil Dhudhan Sadhan, District Patiala declare that our son Aladdin is out of our control so, we disown him from our all moveable and immovable properties. Any person who deals with our son Aladdin, will do it at his/her own risk and responsibility.

I, Ramandeep D/o Baljeet Singh r/o 442, Garhi Mundo Colony, Jagadhri, Distt. Yamunanagar have changed my name to Ramandeep Kaur.

I, Sunil Kumar S/o Lachhman Dass R/O 116, Madhu Colony, Yamunanagar have changed my name to Sunil Mehndiratta.

I, Trilochan Singh S/O Sohan Singh R/O 1304, Mangatpura, Jagadhri, Distt. Yamunanagar have changed my name to Tarlochan Singh.

I, No 14489660N Ex Nk Avtar Singh R/o Vill. Kairon PO Safdarpur Tehsil Dasuya Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have change of my wife name Kuldeep Kaur to Kuldeep Singh Date of birth 18 Nov1968 to 10 May1968.

I, Sub Surjit Singh S/o Garib Dass. Village Chak Noor Ali Po Garhiwala Teh Dasuya Distt Hoshiarpur (Pb) declare my wife Seema Rani's birth date written wrongly 01-08-1974 in my Army record. Accordingly Aadhar Card Matric Certificate her correct birth date is 20-04-1973 be amended in my Army record.

I, Sharvan Goyal S/o Sh. Jogi Ram R/o H.No.1909 Sector 14 Hissar hereby declare that I have changed my name from Sharvan Goyal to Sharvan Kumar for all future purposes.

I, Naman S/o Sh. Sharvan Kumar R/O H No 1909 Sector 14 Hissar hereby declare that I have changed my name from Naman to Naman Goyal for all future purposes.

I, Parmjit Singh S/O Harbans Singh R/O H.No. 47739-740 Baldev Nagar Ambala City have changed my name from Pramjit Singh to Parmjit Singh.

I, Mehar Singh S/O Hukam Singh R/O VPO Tandwal Teh. Barara Distt Ambala, Haryana (India) have changed the name of my son Bhushan Raj to Bhusan Raj. Both the names of Bhusan Raj and Raj Bhusan Belong to my son. Concern note

I, Payal W/o Manpreet Singh Sandhu R/O H.No 117, Word No 03, Shahidan Road Mahilpur P.O Mahilpur Tehsil Garhshankar Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab have changed my name to Payal Sandhu.

I, Richh Pal Singh Alias Harpal Singh S/o Sh.Jora Singh R/O VPO Taruana Tehsil Kalanwali, Distt.Sirsa declare that Both Richh Pal Singh Alias Harpal Singh are my names and belong to same person.

I, Ram Pal S/O Mam Raj R/O Village Gogpur, PO Jhansa, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra, declare that I am known by two names: Ram Pal & Pal Chand.

I, Preeti Gupta W/O Balraj Singh R/O Rafad Patti, Ujhana Distt. Jind I Have Changed My Name Preeti Sinhrar.

I, Mina Kumari, (Existing Name as per the service documents of my father No. 107521T Ex Hon Sub LTMCPTOP1 (Satyawar) resident of Village Matindua, Tehsil Kharkhoda, Distt. Sonapat (Haryana) have changed my name from Minu Kumari to Meenu Kumari (Proposed new name) vide affidavit dated 25.10.2021 at District Court Sonapat (Haryana).

I, Sandeep S/O Dharampal R/O Chuliyana, Tehsil Sampla, Distt. Rohtak declares that in my documents my name entered as Sandeep Kumar whereas in my school record my name entered as Sandeep. I have changed my name from Sandeep to Sandeep Kumar. In future know me as Sandeep Kumar.

I, Service No. JC-432234L Rank Sub Jasbir Singh S/O Balia Ram R/o Near Goga Mari, VPO Boh, Ambala Cantt & Present Address 15 Punjab 1st Patiala. Have Changed my Daughtor DOB from 01.04.2004 To 01.05.2004.

I, Vibha Balodhi Goniyal Spouse of Arun Kumar R/O SMQ No. 206/2, Toofani Enclave, Air Force Station, Ambala Cantt. Have Changed my Name from Vibha Balodhi Goniyal To Vibha Balodhi Vide affidavit dated 27.10.2021 Before Ambala Cantt.

I, Balvinder Singh son of Joginder Singh R/O VPO Bighar, Teh and Distt Fatehabad, Haryana declare that in the passport no. P5977909 of my son Ammittoe Singh, father's name is wrongly mentioned as Balvinder Singh, Bhayana but my correct name is Balvinder Singh in all documents and records. So my name should be changed to Balvinder Singh in his passport.

I, Amarpal wife of Balvinder Singh son of Joginder Singh r/o VPO Bighar, Teh and Distt Fatehabad, Haryana declare that in the passport no. P5977909 of my son Ammittoe Singh, mother's name is wrongly mentioned as Amarpal Bhayana but my correct name is Amarpal in all documents and records. So my name should be changed to Amarpal in his passport.

I, Parmjeet Kaur W/O Harinder Singh R/O Vpo Marrar Teh Batala Gurdaspur Have Changed My Name From Parmjeet Kaur To Parmjeet Kaur.

I, Gulshan Bajaj W/O Devinder Pal Bajaj R/O Hno.8 Milap Avenue Amritsar Have Declare That Bajaj Is My Surname And Gulshan Is My Given Name.

I, Kawaljit Kaur W/o Ranjit Singh Cheema R/O VPO. Khichian, Teh -Baba Bakala, Amritsar have change my name Kanwaljit Kaur Cheema.

I, Jasmeet Singh S/O Joginder Singh R/O 1048/9, (New No.340), Gali Gujran Wali, Chowk Baba Sahib, Amritsar have changed name of my minor son from Sachkeerat Singh to Singh Sachkeerat Singh.

I, Sarbjett Kaur W/o Kuljit Singh R/O H.No.34, Ram Tirath Road R/O Anmol Enclave VPO Mahal, Amritsar have changed my name to Sarbjit Kaur.

I, Karamjeet Kaur W/O Hardeep Singh R/O H.No.84, C-Block, Gali No.5, Guru Amar Dass Avenue, Airport Road, Amritsar have changed my name from Karamjeet Kaur to Karamjit Kaur.

I, Kawaljit Singh S/O Gurdial Singh R/O H.No. 12/1595 Street No. 7 Guru Nanak Pura Barsati Nala Sultanward Road Amritsar. Have Changed My Name Kawaljit Singh To Kawalji Singh Sehza.

I, Harmeet Singh Pahwa S/O Mannnagar Singh R/O H.No.377-A, New Partap Nagar, Amritsar. Have changed my name from Harmeet Singh Pahwa to Harmeet Singh.

I, Rachna W/O Dalbir Singh R/O Vpo Dah Tehsil Indora Distt Kangra 176402 In School Certificate of My Son Kshiti Guleria Studying In 9th Class (C.B.S.E Board) My Name is Wrongly Instead As Rachna Instead of Rachna Devi In my Daughter Kalpana Guleria School Certificate Studying in 11th (C.B.S.E Board) My Name in wrongly Written as Rachna instead of Rachna Devi. So Kindly Correct it.

I, Rajesh Jain S/O Sri Pal Jain R/O Tower 24, Flat No.043, Suncity Parkrama, Sector-20, Panchkula have changed my name from Rajesh Jain to Rajesh Kumar Jain.

I, Pooja Chauhan W/o Gagan Chauhan R/O 918/4, Friends Colony, Jalbera Road, Ambala city my name was Pooja Verma before marriage which in all documents my name is Pooja Chauhan in future I will be known as Pooja Chauhan.

I, Isha Gupta W/o Amit Gupta R/O H.No-193 Model Town Pathankot, Declare That After Marriage I Have Change My Name From Isha to Isha Gupta, I Also Declare That Isha & Isha Gupta is the Names of the Same Person.

I, Savita Rani w/o Krishan Lal Thukral r/o H.No. 376, Ward 6, Near OPG School, Ladwa, District Kurukshetra, have changed my name to Shivani.

I, Shweta Rani W/o Raman Kumar R/O Bholaht, Teh Bholaht Distt Kapurthala Declared that I have changed my name from Shweta rani to Shweta. Please note.

I, Nirmaljeet S/O Sarwan R/O Village Ratgal, Thanesar (Kurukshetra), have changed my name to Nirmal Singh.

I, Jeeto Devi W/O Nirmal Singh r/o Village Ratgal, Thanesar (Kurukshetra), have changed my name to Surjit Kaur.

I, Anil Pahwa, S/O Kashmiri Lal Pahwa, R/O H No. 371/2, Devigarh Road, Ward No. 21, Amargarh Gamri, Kaithal, Informs That, Anil Pahwa And Anil Kumar Both Names Are Of Same One Person That Is Mine. Call Me Anil Pahwa In Future.

I, Rashmika Gandhi, W/O Raj Kumar Gandhi, R/O H. No. 417/2, Pashim Vihar, Near Anand Pur Ashram, Siwan Gate Kathal, District Kaithal, Informs That, Before Marriage My Name Was Rashmika Luthra. After Marriage, I Have Changed My Name As Rashmika Gandhi.

I, Gopal Krishan Chana S/O Banarsi Dass, Muhalla Chini Garan, Malekottla Distt Malekottla, have changed my name to Gopal Krishan.

I, Sureshta W/o Pralap Chand # 60 Type-I, PGI Campus Sector 12, Chandigarh, have changed my name to Shreshtha Devi.

I, Goldy Singh S/O Karamjit Singh #6438/B, Sector 56, Chandigarh have changed the name of my minor son from Himanshu to Himanshu Singh.

I, Amarjit S/O Madan Mohan # 150/1, Village Burali, Chandigarh, have changed the name of my minor son from Sehaj to Sehajpreet Singh.

I, Afsana W/o Rashid Ali # 454, Kishangarh Chandigarh have changed my name to Afsana Rashid.

I, Kumkum Garg W/o Satish Kumar # 3206, Sector 45-D, Chandigarh have changed my name to Kumkum Rani.

I, Ravinder Kumar S/o Sh. Ram Kishan R/O Vill. Majra Teh. Narnaud Distt Hissar do hereby declare that my name is Ravinder Kumar in my Adhar Card No. 287403636642 but my DMC is enter my name is Ravinder. That Ravinder Kumar and Ravinder are the same person and I am fully responsible for the same.

I, JC-480163M Rank Sub Harkesh S/o Sh. Tara Chand R/O VIII, Asalwas Dubia PO-Asalwas Maretha, Teh. & Distt. Bhiwani-State Haryana declare that my wife name are Saroj Bal and Saroj, Saroj Bal Alias Saroj both names are of same lady.

I, JC-480163M Rank Sub Harkesh S/o Sh. Tara Chand R/O VIII, Asalwas Dubia PO-Asalwas Maretha, Teh. & Distt. Bhiwani-State Haryana declare that my daughter name was Kumari Madhuri. I have changed the name of my daughter from Kumari Madhuri to Shailu Rawat for all future purposes.

I, Naveen Puri S/O Satish Puri R/O Hno-04 Akash Avenue Fatehgarh Churlan Road Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Naveen Puri To Navin Puri All Concerned May Please Note.

I, Simmi W/O Harmanpreet Singh R/O 59-A Rani Ka Bagh Near Mata Mandir Amritsar Have Changed My Name Simmi To Simmi Bedi

I, Jagdish Kaur alias Disha Bedi W/O Rupinder Singh Bedi R/O.22-A, Rani Ka Bagh Amritsar 143001, Punjab have changed my name to Jagdish Kaur Bedi

I, Renuka W/o Kewal Mohan R/o.51 Medical Enclave Circular Road Amritsar declare that Marnita Khullar and Renuka both names are mine and are of one and same person. Both names carry equal value and authenticity

I, Naina Sharma alias Santosh Kumari W/O Arvinder Kumar VPO Mehta Chowk Jalandhar Road Tehsil Baba Bakala Distt Amritsar -143114 have Change my name to Naina Sharma

I, Mandip Kaur W/o Lakhwinder Singh R/O H.No.475, Green Avenue Amritsar have Changed my name to Mandeep Kaur.

I, Nina Devi w/o Vijender Singh r/o village Vaisar tehsil Matlauda district Panipat, my daughter is Ritika Devi, in all the papers, my daughter name is Ritika Devi and Ritika are names of the same girl.

I, Nina Devi w/o Vijender Singh r/o village Vaisar Tehsil Matlauda district Panipat, my son is Prince Kumar, in all the papers, my son name is Prince Kumar and Prince is registered in the passport. Prince Kumar and Prince is the same boy name.

I, Nina Devi w/o Vijender Singh r/o village Vaisar Tehsil Matlauda district Panipat, my son is Prince Kumar, in all the papers, my son name is Prince Kumar and Prince is registered in the passport. Prince Kumar and Prince is the same boy name.

I, Harpreet Kaur W/o Late Manjit Singh R/O 362 G T Road Goraya Teh-Phillaur, District Jalandhar have changed my name to Yashpreet Kaur.

I, Pooja D/o Rajinder Kumar Dhindsa R/O Vpo. Dhindsa Teh-Samrala (Ludhiana) I have known by both names Pooja & Pooja Rani one and the same person.

I, Pooja Rani D/o Rajinder Kumar Dhindsa R/O Vpo. Dhindsa Teh-Samrala (Ludhiana) declare that my minor daughter have known by both names Neena and Dolly one and the same person.

I, Seema Gupta w/o Suresh Gupta R/O German Colony St. No.3, Old Cantt Road Faridkot have changed my name to Seema Singh.

I, Gagandeep Kaur D/o Nachhatar Singh R/O St.No. 3-B, Bhan Singh Colony Faridkot changed my name to Gagandeep Kaur Chouhan.

I, Jasdeep Kaur Gill w/o Jagminder Singh Kaler R/O Village Lalle (Ferozepur) have changed my name to Jasdeep Kaur Kaler.

I, Pawan Kumar Bansal S/O Raghunath Dass R/O Shri Radhey Kutir, Sangha Street, Mathura Road, Kotkapura Distt, Faridkot changed my name to Pawan Bansal.

I, Karanvir Singh S/O Surinderpal Singh Dhady Vpo Malmazra, Tehsil Samrala (Ludhiana) Changed My Name To Karanvir Singh Dhady.

I, Salony Rajput W/o Sandeep Rajput H.No. 65 W/No. 13 Mission Road Dasuya Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab (India) have changed my name Salony Rajput to Salony.

I, Amandeep Singh S/O Karanjit Singh R/O Vill. Narangwal (Ludhiana) changed my name to Amandeep Singh Grewal.

I, Rahul S/O Adison R/O Vill. Chittewani, Po.Jamshar Khos, Distt.Jalandhar, Punjab Have Changed My Name From Rahul To Rahul Gill.

I, Daljeet Kaur W/o Kuldeep Singh R/O Ward No. 12, Opp. Swarn Petrol Pump, Nawanshahr Road, Banga, SBS Nagar declare that Given name as Daljeet & Surname as Kaur.

I, Kuldeep Singh S/O Gurbachan Singh R/O Ward No. 12, Opp. Swarn Petrol Pump, Nawanshahr Road, Banga, SBS Nagar declare that Given name as Kuldeep & Surname as Singh.

I, Gurdip Purewal S/O Nirmal Purewal R/O Vpo. Bajuha Khurd, Tehsil Nakodar, Distt. Jalandhar, 144033, Punjab have changed my name from Gurdip Purewal to Gurdeep Singh Purewal.

I, Ram Piari Badyal W/o Daulat Ram Badyal R/O 59, Swami Dayanand Nagar, Kacha Kot, Near Laxmi Palace, Outside Bhandari Gate, Batala, Gurdaspur, Punjab-143505 have changed my name from Ram Piari Badyal to Ram Piari.

I, No.15424567P LNK Shivaji Appasab Phadataru S/O Appasab Krishna Phadataru Unit 415, Fd Hospital C/O 56 APO Amritsar Declare That In My Army Records My Son's Name Is Wrongly Mentioned As Aditya. But My Son's Correct Name Is Aditya Shivaji Phadataru.

I, No.15424567P LNK Shivaji Appasab Phadataru S/O Appasab Krishna Phadataru Unit 415, Fd Hospital C/O 56 APO Amritsar Declare That In My Army Records My Daughter's Name Is Wrongly Mentioned As Akshata. But My Daughter's Correct Name Is Akshata Shivaji Phadataru.

I, Gurmeet Singh S/O Madan Singh R/O Village Bhioliwal Tehsil Majitha District Amritsar, Amritsar, Punjab, India Declare That Gurmit Singh And Gurmeet Singh Both Are Same And One Person.

I, Gurjit Singh S/O Kulwant Singh R/O H.No.20, Village Mattia Tehsil Ajnala District Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Gurjit Singh To Gurjeet Singh.

I, Arti Alias Anuradha Khosla W/O Surinder Khosla R/O H.No.53-54, Shere Punjab Avenue New Green Field Majitha Road Amritsar Punjab India Have Changed My Name To Arti Khosla.

I, Mannat Kaur W/O Jaideep Singh R/O 80 Green Avenue Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Mannat Arora To Mannat Kaur.

I, Ritika Devi D/O Raj Kumar R/O Vpo. Aduana Tehsil Balachaur District S.B.S. Nagar Punjab Have Changed My Name From Ritika Devi To Ritika Chaudhary.

I, Narpal S/O Ainchal Singh R/O Village Dallowal P.O. Jahan Khelan Tehsil And District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name Narpal To Narpal Singh.

I, Sonia W/O Ravinder Kumar R/O Vpo. Jahan Khelan District Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My Name To Sounaina Devi.

I, Lakhbir Singh Jhaaji S/O Ranjit Singh R/O Village Umedpur Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Lakhvir Singh Jhaaji.

I, Paramjit Kaur Jhaaji W/O Lakhvir Singh Jhaaji R/O Village Umedpur P.O. Sahnewal Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Parmjeet Kaur Jhaaji.

I, Jaswinder Kaur W/O Surjit Singh R/O Vpo. Deharka Tehsil Jagraon Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Jaswinder Kaur Dhalwal.

I, Sukhjitt Kaur Kang W/O Sukhmandar Singh Sanghera R/O Melak Akalan Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Sukhjitt Kaur.

I, Manjit Kaur W/O Gurdeep Singh R/O Vpo. Kaunka Kalan Tehsil Jagraon, Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My Name To Manjeet Kaur.

I, Avtar Singh son of Rolda Singh resident of Village Ramnagar Bhatia, Tehsil Ghuhra, District Kaithal, Haryana, India Declare that I have change my Father's name as Rolda Singh to Rolda Singh. That my father's correct name is Rolda Singh.

I, Harpreet Kaur W/o Late Manjit Singh R/O 362 G T Road Goraya Teh-Phillaur, District Jalandhar have changed my name to Yashpreet Kaur.

I, Pooja D/o Rajinder Kumar Dhindsa R/O Vpo. Dhindsa Teh-Samrala (Ludhiana) I have known by both names Pooja & Pooja Rani one and the same person.

Punjab calls special Assembly Session on Nov 8

To oppose extension to BSF jurisdiction, and repeal Centre's three farm laws

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH/LUDHIANA

Days after Punjab's all political parties, barring the BJP, unanimously decided to press upon the Centre to withdraw its decision to extend BSF's jurisdiction in Punjab besides repealing the controversial farm laws, the State Cabinet on Wednesday decided to convene the Vidhan Sabha's special session on November 8.

As per the Cabinet decision, the 16th special session of 15th Punjab Vidhan Sabha has been convened on November 8, 2021, "to oppose Centre's notification extending the jurisdiction of BSF from 15 kms to 50 kms along the international border besides repealing the three 'black' farm laws".

Notably, all major political parties, except the BJP, attended the meeting convened by the Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi to discuss the two significant issues, where it was unanimously decided to convene a special session of Vidhan Sabha.

The decision was taken during the Cabinet meeting held at Ludhiana Circuit House — for the first time ever outside the state capital.

ANTI-RED TAPE RULES APPROVED

In another significant decision, the Cabinet also gave approval to the Punjab Anti Red Tape Rules, 2021, framed by the Governance Reforms and Public Grievances Department to carry out the

PRO-INVESTOR INITIATIVES, CONCESSIONS TO BOOST TRADE AND INDUSTRY

- Allows faceless assessment of GST and VAT, saving traders and industrialists from visiting Taxation offices for the purpose
- Reduces mobile squad, earlier comprising of 14 persons, to only four in Taxation Dept
- Abolishes Institutional Tax
- VAT's pending cases, for financial years 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17, to be considered only 30% of the total demand. In such cases, 20% would be recovered in first year, and balance 80% in the next
- To introduce One Time Settlement (OTS) Scheme for defaulters in Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation (PSIDC), Punjab Financial Corporation (PFC), and Punjab Agro Industries Corporation (PAIC)
- To bring an Amnesty Scheme for plot holders of Punjab State Industries Export Corporation (PSIEC)
- Slashes fixed charges on electricity connections for medium scale industries to 50%
- To spent Rs 150 crore on the up-gradation of infrastructure in Industrial Focal Points* To relax condition of reducing passages to industry from current 6 to 4 karam
- To acquire requisite land for Patti-Makhu rail link, and handed over to the Union Ministry of Railways before next rail budget
- Exhibition Centre to come up at Amritsar
- Film City to be set up near Chandigarh

purposes of Punjab Anti Red Tape Act, 2021, which was notified and came into effect on April 6, 2021.

The Act shall be applicable to all departments and their attached or subordinate offices including all units of local self-government, boards, corpora-

tions, public sector enterprises, societies, trusts, commissions or autonomous bodies established or constituted by an Act of the State Legislature or whose expenditure is met from the Consolidated Fund of the State.

It shall also ensure that all

aforsaid entities would mandatorily simplify their process to reduce the burden of compliances by at least 50 per cent within a period of six months of the commencement of this Act. Likewise, the Act would also provide for disciplinary as well as financial

penalties against erring official for violations committed under this Act.

FAST TRACK COMPLETION OF MSME'S EXPANSION

To promote ease of doing business in the State, the Cabinet also gave a go ahead to the amendments in Punjab Right to Business Act, 2020, for inclusion of expansion by existing Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) under the purview of the Act. The amendment in the Act provides an enabling eco-system for self-declaration, exemptions, speedier approvals, and inspections for existing MSMEs to expand and operate in the State.

All the existing enterprises undertaking expansion shall be eligible to get Certificate of in-principle approval for seven services covered under the Act, to be issued within five working days to existing units in Focal Points and within 20 working days to existing units outside Focal Points.

Capt backs extension of BSF jurisdiction

Warns 'something is going to happen'

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Strongly backing the BJP-led Central Government's move of extending the BSF's jurisdiction in Punjab from 15 to 50 kms, the former Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Wednesday send alarm bells ringing by saying that "something is going to happen".

"I am not an alarmist but my 10 years of experience in the Army and 9.5 years as home minister of the state told me that something is going to happen," said Capt Amarinder while slamming the State Government over its repeated denial of any serious security concerns.

Asserting that the border force is not going to take over Punjab or its administration, Capt Amarinder said that such misconceptions were being spread by certain people to score brownie points in the run-up to the Assembly elections. "The BSF is here for helping maintain national security as we are a border state," he said, calling for full support by the State to the Centre in the interest of national security.

Capt Amarinder asserted, "There is something very wrong and dangerous happening at the borders, which the State could ill-afford to ignore."

"Sleepers cells of Pak ISI and Khalistani forces are creating trouble, technology is becoming more advance. The capacity and range of drones is increasing, first they came in just five to six kms from the border, now they reach 31 kms," he pointed out, adding, "We have to be very careful of the clandestine war from across the borders".

It was the duty of every responsible government to tackle such threats, Capt Amarinder stressed, countering those who mock his concerns of national security.

"The State Government should put the facts before the

people and take their help in getting information instead of denying the danger. It should own up and take necessary action to combat the threat," he said, adding that even at the all-party meet held on the issue, it seems the political parties were not properly briefed.

AMARINDER TO MEET SHAH TODAY TO DISCUSS FARMERS' ISSUE

Considering that Capt Amarinder Singh's political renaissance depends on an "acceptable" resolution to the farmers' ongoing agitation against the Centre's three farm laws, the former Chief Minister is set to meet the Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday one more time to discuss the issue.

Capt Amarinder had earlier also met Shah, and the National Security Adviser Ajit Doval on September 30.

He would be leading a non-political delegation of agricultural experts to meet Shah to discuss "possible solutions" to the ongoing farmers' agitation.

"I have been discussing various options with the Union Home Minister and others...I think I can help in finding a solution as I have been the Chief Minister of Punjab and am also an agriculturist," he said.

While there could be no pre-decided formula for the resolution of the farmers' stir, something would emerge during the talks as both sides — the Central Government and farmers — want a resolution to the crisis triggered by the farm laws, he said.

Also clarifying that he had not met any farmer leaders, Capt Amarinder said that he had deliberately not interfered in the matter as the farmers did not want politicians involved.

The farmer leaders had four inconclusive meetings with the Union Government before February this year, but backchannel talks have been going on, he added.

Punjab CM announces to scrap 40,000 cases of VAT against traders

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH/LUDHIANA

In a much-needed reprieve to trade and industry of the state, Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi on Wednesday announced to scrap 40,000 pending cases of VAT, out of total 48,000 cases related to Financial Year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, against traders and industrialists across the State.

Channi, addressing a galaxy of industrialists, traders and prospective entrepreneurs on the second day of fourth Progressive Punjab Investors' Summit, said that only 8,000 remaining cases will be settled amicably by asking the concerned traders or industrialists to deposit just 30 percent of the total outstanding tax liability thus saving them from lot of inconvenience on this count.

By giving a further relief to them, Channi announced that they will only have to deposit 20 percent of the aforesaid tax liability during current fiscal and the balance 80 percent by the next.

He categorically said that this industrial-friendly initiative will go a long way in boosting their morale to invest

in a big way, and added that the State Government will act as a facilitator to promote industry at new heights of glory.

Assuring the best air connectivity to boost economic activity in the region, Channi also announced to lay the foundation stone of upcoming Green Field airport at Halwara (Ludhiana) on November 15 saying that prestigious airport will be completed within a period of eight months.

Reiterating his Government's firm commitment to create a conducive ecosystem for ease of doing business in the State, Channi assured the trade and industry of fulsome support to emerge Punjab as the front runner state not within the country but across the globe.

Listing the major initiatives to repose confidence amongst the industrialists and traders to give further impetus to industrial growth, he said that the Punjab Government has already okayed several pro-investor initiatives and concessions to boost trade and industry in the state in a specially convened Cabinet held at the state's industrial capital.

Capt Amarinder is proof of Congress' and BJP's double-standard: AAP's Jarnail Singh

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Hitting out at former Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh following his announcement of forming a new party and backing the BSF's jurisdiction extension in Punjab, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Punjab affairs in-charge and MLA from Delhi, Jarnail Singh on Wednesday raised question on the Congress stating why the Congress High Command was silent and not expelling Captain, who was speaking the language of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

In a statement, Jarnail Singh said Capt Amarinder, who is speaking in favor of the BJP today; is doing it with the consent of the Congress. "Capt Amarinder Singh is the

proof of the Congress and the BJP's double-standard. The Congress and the BJP are working in collusion and the Akali Dal Badal is also part of the same group," he said.

Taking a dig at Captain, Jarnail Singh said, "Whatever party Captain will form, it will be a destruction, not development of Punjab." The AAP leader further said that the people of Punjab had witnessed the false promises and works of Capt Amarinder Singh for four-and-a-half-years; only then today Captain is out of power. He said that the Congress cannot put everything on Captain as the Congress itself was equally responsible.

Jarnail Singh said that Captain was trying to establish a political footing in the name

of farmers, but in reality has nothing to do with them. He has not even met the farmers till date and his relationship was only with Modi and Amit Shah; on whose orders he was doing everything during his tenure as the CM, he asserted. "All that the Aam Aadmi Party has been saying for a long time that Captain is working in collusion with Modi and the central government and was obeying their orders; has been exposed today," he added.

Further lashing out at Captain, Jarnail Singh said that the former Congress Chief Minister, who became the spokesperson of the BJP on the extension of BSF jurisdiction; was the one behind bringing the same through the central government.

AAP CHIEF KEJRIWAL ON 2-DAY PUNJAB VISIT FROM OCT 28

AAP National Convenor and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal will be on a two-day visit to Punjab from Thursday. Jarnail Singh said that Kejriwal will reach Sangrur in a train and on the first day of his two-day visit; will hold a meeting with the farmers under a 'Samwaad Programme' in Mansa and on October 29, will hold a meeting with the traders and businessmen in Bathinda; to discuss their problems, suggestions and grievances. He said that the AAP is preparing a comprehensive roadmap with these meetings, which will later be added to the party's election manifesto.

Channi lays foundation stone of sports stadium

PNS ■ RUPNAGAR

Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi on Wednesday laid foundation stone of Sports Stadium at Village Roadmajra in Chamkaur Sahib Constituency

in the presence of renowned environmentalist Baba Balbir Singh Seechewal.

The Sports stadium will be built in the memory of farmers who lost their lives during Farmers agitation for scrapping three laws made by the central

government. The Chief Minister also gave a grant of Rs one crore for building the stadium in the memory of farmers.

Speaking on the occasion the Chief Minister said that this sports stadium which is being

built by the state government will be a real tribute to the farmers who had lost their lives in the agitation against black laws. He said that as per the unanimous decision taken during the all party meeting, the Punjab Government would

convene a special session of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha on November 8 to unanimously reject the three black farmer laws imposed by the Union Government.

Chief Minister also said that 16 new sports stadiums are

coming up in the Chamkaur Sahib Constituency for which 2.50 Cr. a grant has already been released to start the work for the first phase besides rupees one crore grant to the sports stadium at village Roadmajra.

Modern revenue record rooms to be ready by Nov 15 in Haryana

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The modern revenue record rooms would be ready by November 15 at all district headquarters of Haryana, Sanjeev Kaushal, Additional Chief Secretary and Financial Commissioner, Haryana Revenue and Disaster Management Department, said on Wednesday.

Presiding over the review meeting regarding the Swamitva Yojana through video conferencing with the Deputy Commissioners of all the districts of the state, he said that the work of digitizing the age-old revenue records has picked up pace in the state and soon these records will be easily available at a click of the mouse, whereas earlier it used to take a lot of time to view and trace records.

The ACS said that the Revenue Department is filled with lakhs of files and papers, some even as old as 1870. Under this new initiative, important revenue records and documents are being scanned, cataloged and kept in digital boxes in modern record rooms.

Giving details in this regard, he said that till date 17,44,89,332 have been uploaded by the department out of total 18,70,38,840 documents which is 97.94 percent.

He said that Panchkula and Charkhi Dadri have uploaded 100 percent images which are 29,88,840 and 21,31,158 respectively. Similarly, 1,11,98,823 images have been uploaded in Karnal, which is 98.86 percent.

Kaushal said these images are being verified by revenue verifier.

Haryana Agri Min: There will be no crisis of fertilizer in State

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Against the State Government over the shortage of DAP fertilizer, Haryana Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister, JP Dalal on Wednesday said that there will be no shortage of fertilizers in the state.

"The state will soon get six more rakes of DAP fertilizer from the Central Government. The farmers should be prepared for sowing the next crop," Dalal said while talking to the mediapersons here.

The Minister also hit out at the opposition parties and alleged that they created panic among the farmers and spread wrong information

about the shortage of DAP fertilizers. He said that is opposition parties who held protests at few places in the state over the issue. It is true that at some places, long queues of farmers were witnessed to purchase the fertiliser but they will not face any problem now, he added.

A day before, long queues were witnessed as farmers waited for hours to purchase the fertiliser in Charkhi Dadri and Shahabad in Kurukshetra. Opposition parties have alleged that farmers are running from pillar to post as there is a shortage of DAP.

Earlier on Sunday, Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar had held a meeting to review the avail-

ability and demand of DAP. Khattar had urged the Centre for six additional (train) rakes of the fertilisers and the Centre had agreed to it.

The Agriculture Minister urged the farmers to use organic DAP fertilizer and said that the farmers will get fair prices of crops and vegetables sown using organic DAP fertilizer.

Giving details of DAP fertilizer availability and demand, Dalal said that about 3 lakh MT of DAP fertilizer is required during the next Rabi crop 2021-22 in the state. Till date, about 1.38 lakh MT of DAP manure is available with the State Government, out of which 1.10 lakh MT of DAP fertilizer has been given to the farmers.

Int'l Sarasvati Mahotsav-2022 to be held in Feb

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

International Sarasvati Mahotsav-2022 will be organized at Pehowa Sarasvati Teerth from February 3 to 5 in Haryana's Kurukshetra.

Giving details, an official spokesperson said that a committee has been constituted for the preparations for the International Sarasvati Mahotsav-2022. In the committee, the sub-divisional officer of Pehowa has been appointed as the nodal officer.

Executive Engineer of Haryana Sarasvati Heritage Development Board (HSHBD) division No.-7, Kurukshetra, Executive Engineer of Irrigation Department Kurukshetra, Tehsildar Pehowa, DIPRO Kurukshetra, District Education Officer Kurukshetra have been made members and Market Committee Secretary Pehowa has been made member secretary, he added.

The spokesman said that the committee would ensure timely completion of preparations for cultural programmes, publicity and all other works to be done regarding this festival.

Capt has stabbed party in back: Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Capt Amarinder Singh has formally joined the BJP and had informally and internally joined the BJP long ago but today the former Chief Minister has let the cat out of the bag by announcing formation of a new party and negotiating seats with the BJP, Deputy Chief Minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa said in a statement.

Randhawa said that Capt Amarinder had stabbed back not only the Congress party but also the farmers and all Punjabis who had been struggling for the last 11 months. He said that Amarinder Singh had forgotten the sacrifices of the farmers who had lost their lives during the farmers' struggle even before

he joined the BJP. The senior Congress leader said the former CM has donned the colors of BJP as he is supporting BJP government's decision regarding BSF.

"He is openly supporting the decision to occupy half of Punjab, from which it is clear that he now has a vested interest", said Randhawa adding with the politically suicidal step.

Capt Amarinder is throwing his entire life's earnings into the well, Randhawa said, adding that even the arguments put forward by Amarinder could not justify his decision. The argument put forward by the former CM that drones can come up to 30 km, then fighter jets and helicopters can come up to 200 km, does not hold ground.

Ellenabad bypoll: Campaigning ends on a high note

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The campaigning for high-stakes bypoll to Ellenabad assembly seat ended on a high note on Wednesday with the political heavyweights from ruling Bharatiya Janata Party-Jannayak Janata Party, Congress and Indian National Lok Dal addressing a series of public meetings to give one final push to woo the voters.

The Ellenabad bypoll, which is scheduled to be held on October 30, is witnessing a triangular fight with BJP-JJP joint candidate Govind Kanda, Congress candidate Pawan Beniwal and INLD nominee Abhay Singh Chautala in the fray. A total of 19 candidates are contesting the bypoll on the assembly seat.

The seat became vacant in January after INLD's lone MLA Abhay Chautala had resigned in protest against the three farm

laws. INLD's Abhay Chautala who is eyeing his fourth straight win on the Ellenabad seat on Wednesday, got support of farmers' leader Rakesh Tikait and former state Congress chief Ashok Tanwar.

As a fitting end to BJP-JJP's campaign, the Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala addressed a series of public gatherings urging voters to support Govind Kanda in the polls.

Haryana Congress chief Kumari Selja also addressed a series of public meetings in various villages of Ellenabad, seeking votes for Beniwal.

According to the political analysts, the outcome of the bypoll on November 2 will decide the fate of INLD in state politics while it is considered a referendum on the BJP-JJP Government after the comple-

tion of its two years tenure in the midst of ongoing farmers' agitation against three central farm laws.

For the Congress, the victory will further consolidate its position as a key opposition party in Haryana, the political observers say.

The ongoing farmers' protest was a key election issue in the bypoll.

CM, DY CM HELD CAMPAIGN IN LAST TWO DAYS

Both Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala held extensive campaigning for Govind Kanda during October 26 and 27. The Chief Minister addressed over a dozen public meetings in the last two days in various villages in the constituency.

Highlighting the achievement of his government,

Khattar sought votes for ensuring a corrupt free and transparent government for the people of the state.

He also highlighted the welfare schemes launched for welfare of farmers in the state.

With Ellenabad known as a stronghold of Chautala clan, Khattar while addressing a public meeting said now, Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala, JJP chief Ajay Singh Chautala and Power Minister and independent MLA Ranjit Singh Chautala are part of the BJP-led coalition government.

A big part of that (Chautala) family is with us, he added.

He also appealed to the voters to exercise their franchise without any fear.

Apart from Dushyant Chautala who addressed a series of election meetings in favour of Kanda, his father and

JJP chief Ajay Singh Chautala and Power Minister and Ajay's uncle Ranjit Singh Chautala also addressed the election meetings to seek votes for BJP-JJP joint candidate. Haryana BJP chief OP Dhankar, several Cabinet Ministers and MLAs also campaigned for the party candidate on Wednesday.

Sirsa MLA and founder of Haryana Lokhit Party (HLP), Gopal Kanda, who is brother of Govind Kanda have also addressed a large number of meetings in the past one week seeking votes for the BJP-JJP joint nominee.

A BJP's spokesman said that despite all the propaganda of the opposition, the BJP has been successful in holding public meetings in all the 78 villages of the Ellenabad assembly constituency. Except in one or two villages, there was no opposition to the BJP in any other place. However, there

were many villages where people themselves organized programs of BJP-JJP alliance candidate, the spokesman said.

ABHAY GETS SUPPORT OF RAKESH TIKAIT AND TANWAR

Senior Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) leader Rakesh Tikait on Wednesday hinted the farmers to support INLD's Abhay Chautala saying that "Somebody has relied on the Samyukt Morcha...return the favour with something extra, only then will the relevance of the khap panchayats, Gurudwaras and Samyukt Morcha be intact."

Without naming Chautala, Tikait while addressing a gathering in Ellenabad constituency said, "Someone kept his bag with us. Today, he is seeking return of it. Return it to him now with additions." The BKU leader then asked, "Did you understand what I said? Will

you do it for sure?" To which the crowd replied in affirmative.

Tikait also announced that the farmers will teach a lesson to the ruling BJP in the bypoll. He has held roadshows and public meetings in the constituency asking people to not vote for the BJP-BJP candidate.

Meanwhile, former Haryana Congress president Ashok Tanwar extended support to Abhay and appealed to voters in his favor. Tanwar, who is head of Apna Bharat Morcha addressed a joint press conference with Abhay to announce his support.

Abhay exuded confidence of his victory and said people of Ellenabad know that he has stood by them all these years.

Former CM and INLD chief OP Chautala has held an extensive campaign for his son Abhay in the last fortnight to ensure the party's victory.

Modi India's best admin, says Shah



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday described Prime Minister Narendra Modi as the most successful administrator of the country after independence, saying he has taken India into a different trajectory in the spheres of eradication of poverty, economic development, national security and foreign policy.

Shah was addressing a conference on "Delivering Democracy: Reviewing two decades of Narendra Modi as head of Government", organised by BJP's training and research centre Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini.

Shah said Modi became Chief Minister of Gujarat two decades ago without having any administrative experience and proved himself as a successful administrator despite

facing a difficult situation at that time. The Home Minister said in 2014 when the Manmohan Singh Government was in power, there was a "policy paralysis everywhere" and every member of the Cabinet thought of himself or herself as the Prime Minister while the "Prime Minister was not considered as Prime Minister".

"There was no national security policy. India's honour had been lost. There were scams of ₹12 lakh crore and an impression had been created that Indian democracy will collapse," he said. But when the Modi Government came to power in 2014, Shah said, people started thinking that "now things would improve, the system would improve". He said India's problems are not just of the administration or economic development but its honour has to be protected, the country's cul-

ture should be preserved and its security should be ensured.

"Even though Narendra Modi considers himself as the 'pradhan sewak', I can say with conviction that he is the most successful administrator the country ever had after independence. Because he covered all these points and took India to a different level," said Shah. Referring to a series of decisions taken by the Modi Government in the last seven years, Shah said when demonetisation was announced in 2016, they knew that there was a risk as the Uttar Pradesh Assembly election was due but people stood behind Modi and supported the decision. The people realised that it was announced to check black money and Modi had no other intentions, he said.

The Home Minister said the law against Triple Talaq, one rank and one pension and creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff were all difficult decisions. With the abrogation of Article 370 and 35A, the Home Minister said, Jammu and Kashmir has been completely integrated with the union of India, not a single riot has taken place anywhere in the country and there has been no murmur after the Supreme Court decision on Ram Janmabhoomi.

Health Ministers' meeting held over ramping up jab drive

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Wednesday met the State Health Ministers to discuss ramping up the Covid-19 vaccination drive in the country among other measures such as ensuring stepping up health services in case infections start rising at a fast pace.

Mandaviya's meeting with the State Health Ministers assumes significance as the Central Government on October 23 reviewed the status and progress of Covid vaccination with States/UTs. Health Ministers from around 18 States and health secretaries from remaining States had participated in the meeting. Sources said that Health Ministers pointed out people's complacency towards Covid-19 for poor show on second doses status. So far just 30 per cent have been inoculated a second dose i.e. are fully vaccinated.

In the meantime, Rajesh Bhushan, Union Health Secretary, reviewed the progress of Covid vaccination with health secretaries and mission directors of National Health Mission (NHM) of states and UTs, through video conference and urged them to increase the pace and coverage



India's Covid-19 vaccination coverage has crossed 103 crore

of the second dose of Covid vaccines.

This came in the backdrop of the country achieving the milestone of administering 100 crore doses on October 21, 2021.

As per the latest data released by the Union Health Ministry, India's Covid-19 vaccination coverage has crossed 103 crore. "India's Covid-19 vaccination coverage has crossed 103 crore landmark milestones (1,03,48,36,594). More than 51 lakh (51,56,054) vaccine doses have been administered till 7 pm on October 26," the Ministry stated in its release. So far, 41,10,37,440 first doses of Covid-19 vaccines and 13,11,13,078 second doses have been administered in the age group of 18-44 years.

India determined to protect its maritime interests, says Rajnath



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With China increasingly asserting itself in the Indo-Pacific and Indian Ocean region, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday said India is determined to protect its maritime interests. At the same time, it supports the maintenance of rule-based maritime systems, he said.

Making these observations, Rajnath said New Delhi backs systems as mandated under UN Convention on the Law of Seas (UNCLOS), 1982. He also noted while the seas offer abundant opportunities for sustenance and growth of the mankind, they pose challenges such as terrorism, piracy, drug trafficking and climate change.

Delivering the key note address at the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD) 2021, being held virtually from October 27-29, 2021, he also referred to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's description of the Indo-Pacific as a natural region, where destinies of entities are interlinked.

Rajnath said the seas are a vital communication link to facilitate transport of goods, exchange of ideas, catalysing



innovations and contributing to bringing the world closer. "Although the Indo-Pacific is characterised by diversity, marked by a multiplicity of cultures, ethnicities, economic models, governance systems and varied aspirations, the oceans remain a common binding link," he said.

On the issue of terrorism, the minister called for a cooperative response to these challenges which, he said, has considerable trans-national implications. Sharing his views on the broad theme of IPRD 2021, "Evolution in Maritime Strategy during the 21st Century: Imperatives, Challenges and Way Ahead," Rajnath said, it dwells upon the region's past, gauges the present and then arrives at tenets that will form the foundation of maritime strategies for the future.

First conducted in 2018, the IPRD is the apex international annual conference of the Indian Navy and is the

principal manifestation of the Navy's engagement at the strategic-level.

Addressing the seminar, Navy chief Admiral Karambir Singh said the Indian Navy is working on "tailor-made" solutions to help friendly countries confront pressing challenges in the maritime domain with a broader aim to emerge as a preferred security partner and make a real contribution for an open and inclusive Indo-Pacific.

Without naming China, he also talked about some states applying "land-centric" territorial mindsets in the basic idea of global commerce in the Indo-Pacific with an attempt to seek greater domination and control that has created challenges to global rules.

He also said there has been a "day-to-day" competition for influence in the Indo-Pacific that brings with it attendant and evolving challenges, noting that the rules of game are "constantly changing".

Cong, Left welcome SC move on Pegasus panel

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress and the Left parties on Wednesday welcomed the Supreme Court order of setting up an expert committee on the Pegasus spyware issue and said it has negated alleged attempts of the Government to evade and divert attention in the name of national security.

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi said he was happy with the Supreme Court's decision to order an independent probe into the Pegasus issue and it was a "big step" towards getting to "the truth". "I hope they (Supreme Court) will do their job and provide justice."

"But this is a deeper problem. If the Prime Minister is using this as a personal tool...if the data is arriving on the Prime Minister's desk, then it is totally criminal..."

"We will follow it up," Rahul said, while claiming that the government of Karnataka "was toppled using Pegasus spyware".

Attacking the Government, the CPM said the "Government had refused to give a categorical answer to the Supreme Court whether any State agency used Pegasus spyware or not."

Rahul said the Congress

would continue to raise the issue in Parliament seeking answers from the government as tapping of constitutional functionaries and opposition leaders was a "criminal act" and "an illegal action".

He added that only the Prime Minister or the Home Minister could have authorised tapping of phones using the Pegasus software.

Attacking further on the issue y Rahul said the Congress had been asking the Government three questions—who had authorised the use of Pegasus spyware, who all were targeted, and whether any other country was also in possession of the Pegasus data. But the government has not given a reply.

"Pegasus is an attempt to crush Indian democracy. It is an attempt to make sure that the vibrancy of the democracy, the conversations that take place in a democracy are crushed and people are controlled," he said.

"There is the institution of Parliament where we will raise this again and we will try to have a debate in Parliament."

"I am pretty sure that the BJP will not like that debate. So, they will make sure that that debate is stalled. But we will try to hold that debate," he said.

BJP flays Rahul over Pegasus

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Hitting-out at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, the BJP on Wednesday said that the Supreme Court's decision to constitute an expert committee to look into the alleged use of the Pegasus software for surveillance is in line with the Government's affidavit on the matter.

The party lashed-out at Rahul for his attack on the Government following the court's judgment, saying is using the same vocabulary and repeats himself whatever be the issue to target the BJP Government.

"The Government had categorically said (in court) that we are of the opinion that in order to counter the false narrative of certain vested interest groups it would be fair if we establish a committee of experts to look into the issue. This is what has happened," BJP spokesperson

Sambit Patra said, welcoming the order.

To a question that the court declined the Government's submission to allow it to appoint an expert panel, Patra said this is not an issue as "experts are experts".

The Supreme Court has appointed a three-member panel of cyber experts to probe

the alleged use of the Israeli spyware for surveillance of certain people in India, saying that the state cannot get a "free pass" every time the spectre of national security is raised and it cannot be the "bugbear" that the judiciary shies away from.

Declining the vehement submission of the Central Government to permit it to appoint an expert panel on its own, the court said such a course would violate settled judicial principle against bias as "justice must not only be done, but also be seen to be done".

Rahul alleged that the suspected use of Pegasus for snooping is an "attempt to crush Indian democracy", and said it is a "big step that the Supreme Court has said that they are going to look into this matter. I am confident that we will get the truth out of this".

Hitting back, Patra said, "Rahul Gandhi has a habit of speaking lies and spreading confusion. He has nothing new to offer, uses the same vocabulary and repeats the same thing like 'democracy is in danger' or 'BJP is attacking 'Constitution' on everything. Such is his repetition you won't be able to say which press conference of him was done on which issue."

Elderly people require spl kind of care: Experts

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Elderly people in the country require a specific kind of care and treatment and they should get that," he added. Health experts at the conference agreed.

Dr. Rahul Bhargava, hematologist from Fortis Hospital in Gurugram said that in India, the elderly people suffer from dual medical problems, i.e. both communicable as well as non-communicable diseases. "Cancer is becoming treatable now and at the same time it is one of the major issues among the elderly specifically. In elderly males, most common cancers are lung, prostate, lymph, oral cavity, and oesophagus. In females, most common cancers are breast, followed by

process, the government is keeping in mind the issue and moving towards fixing it, he said.

The aim for this National Conference was to raise awareness about the need for a geriatric health care system in a country where a huge population, around 18 crore, comprises the elderly.

The experts felt that with demographic transition underway in India, the elderly population is projected to rise to 12 per cent of the total population by 2025. "The ever-increasing elderly population poses social and financial challenges and puts immense strain on the health system due to a marked shift toward chronic non-communicable diseases," they said.

"The elderly should be considered and a policy for efficient healthcare for them should be created" Muni Shankar Pandey, Director of Dadidada foundation said. "People of various age groups were being treated the same way, which was not advisable. The elderly require a specific



cervix and ovary," Dr Bhargava said.

On the other hand, Dr LK Tripathi, nephrologist from Artemis Hospital talked about various metabolic disorders faced during old age and how to strengthen a person's metabolism while Dr Rabin Chakrabarti, cardiologist, Medical Hospital in Kolkata dwelled in detail about the different forms of cardiovascular diseases and how they can affect the elderly.

Similarly, themes related to depression and anxiety were taken up by Dr Ashwani Kumar, psychiatrist from Max Hospital in Gurugram.

Covid might act differently depending on time of day, claim scientists

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In what could give new insight into how the coronavirus is being tested and treated, a team of scientists have claimed that the virus might act differently depending on the time of day and the body's circadian rhythms.

In other words, Covid-19 virus shedding—when infected cells release infectious virus particles into the blood and mucus—appears to be more active in the middle of the day due to modulation of the immune system by our biological clock.

Their results also indicate that viral load is lower after 8 p.m. "If people choose to get tested at that time, there could be a higher chance of a false-negative result. False negatives can be harmful to the community and for the patient, who might not seek additional care due to their negative test result," suggested Carl Johnson, Cornelius Vanderbilt Professor of Biological Sciences who collaborated with Candace McNaughton, former adjunct assistant professor of emer-

gency medicine, and Thomas Lasko, associate professor of biomedical informatics at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, to determine if the percentage of people testing positive for Covid-19 varies based on time of day.

They found that the data support the hypothesis that Covid-19 acts differently in the body based on our natural circadian rhythm, which has also been implied by studies of other viral and bacterial infections.

"Taking a Covid-19 test at the optimal time of day improves test sensitivity and will help us to be accurate in diagnosing people who may be infected but asymptomatic," Johnson said.

A difference in Covid-19 viral shedding throughout the day is important information that may inform how we test for and treat the virus. As Johnson and his co-authors report, the peak shedding in the afternoon, when patients are more likely to interact with others or seek medical care, could play a role in increasing the spread of the virus in hospitals and the wider community.

Air travel set to become easier for divyang

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Air travel is set to become a bit easier for disabled people, if one goes by the draft "Accessibility Standards and Guidelines for Civil Aviation", issued by the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The ministry has given three weeks for people to send their comments and suggestions on the draft after which final guidelines will be issued. As per the draft, during the screening of prosthetics, the airport security — which is handled by the CISF at most of the airports — might use X-ray, explosive trace detection devices or visual checks according to their requirement. The move comes after dancer-actor Sudha Chandran posted a video, recounting her ordeal of removing her prosthetic limb every time during a security check at any airport.

In a video that went viral recently, Chandran narrated her ordeal of how she was made to remove her prosthetic limb every time during a security check at any airport and appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for better treatment of differently-abled people at airports. After the incident, the CISF issued an apology on social media.

Increased communication with people marks 4 yrs of Venkaiah in office

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A manifold increase in public communication through media to keep the people aware of the functioning of the Rajya Sabha has marked the four years in office of M.Venkaiah Naidu as the Chairman of the House.

Since the assumption of Office as Chairman of Rajya Sabha in August, 2017 by M.Venkaiah Naidu, 491 Press Releases/Communication Products have been issued on various aspects of the functioning of the House and the Secretariat.

This comes to an unprecedented more than two such releases (2.36) per week. While the Media Unit of the Secretariat put out 263 releases, the Chairman's Office circulated 228 during the last four years.

This order of communication output per week is four and a half times that of the preceding five years. During 2012-17, a total of 135 media communication products were issued which comes to two releases per week (0.519 per week).

A report in this regard was

submitted to Naidu by the Secretary General Dr.P.P.K. Ramacharyulu further to a review of the communication outreach during the last four years.

The Rajya Sabha secretariat noted during the review that the outreach effort has been intensified in pursuance of the direction of the Chairman to bring the House closer to the people by keeping them informed of various aspects of its functioning.

He thanked the media for keen interest shown in amplifying the messages about various aspects of the functioning of the House during the last four years.

A large number of the communication products issued were based on extensive research undertaken in respect of variation in the productivity of the House over time through time series analysis, total volume of legislation since 1952 including the landmark ones, time share of legislation and other items of the business of the House, changed dynamics of the House in terms of the strength of the ruling and opposition parties in the House.

EC warns Assam CM over breach of model code

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Wednesday warned Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma over the violation of the model code of conduct during campaigning for the assembly by-elections on October 30. The opposition Congress earlier lodged two complaints against Sarma, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s top campaigner for the polls. It sought a ban on him from campaigning.

The EC, in an order, said it is of the "considered view" that Sarma, star campaigner for the BJP, has "acted in contravention to the spirit of the advisory/instruction issued by the commission" regarding the model code of conduct.

"Now, therefore, the commission issues warning to him and cautions him to be more careful and exercise restraint in future and strictly follow the provisions of model code of conduct, while making public utterances," the order read. The commission on Monday had issued a show-cause notice to Sarma for violating the model code by promising roads and other development projects while campaigning for assembly bypolls in the state.

Centre notifies 4-year integrated teacher education programme



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In line with the New Education Policy (NEP), the Centre on Wednesday notified a four-year integrated teacher education programme. Now, the BEd course will be integrated and will be of four-year duration.

As per the Ministry of Education notification, students who pursue a four-year BEd degree will get BA and BEd or BSc and BEd or BCom and BEd degrees together. Usually, it would take students five years to complete these two degrees. The integrated degree would offer both degrees and save a year for students.

Earlier the Education Ministry had announced that the new integrated course will help create teachers who are in sync with the new education policy. As the education policy introduces several changes in the curriculum including teaching in regional language, teaching coding to school kids

among others, the new degrees will prepare teachers accordingly and will have a new curriculum.

The Government aims at making the four-year integrated BEd the minimum degree required for teaching by 2030. National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) under the Ministry of Education has devised the curriculum of this course in such a way that it enables a student-teacher to get a degree in education as well as a specialised discipline such as history, mathematics, science, arts, economics, or commerce.

The commencement of Four Year ITEP will be from the academic session 2022-23. Admission for the same will be carried out by the National Testing Agency (NTA) through the National Common Entrance Test (NCET). This course will be offered by multidisciplinary institutions and will become the minimal degree qualification for school-teachers.

LAKHIMPURI KHERI KILLINGS

SIT invites witnesses to depose without fear



PNS ■ LUCKNOW

To facilitate the eyewitnesses to come forward and record their statements, the Special Investigative Team (SIT) formed to probe the Lakhimpur Kheri violence, on Wednesday, released the contact numbers of its members.

The SIT in a statement also assured protection to the witnesses, saying that details of such people would be kept confidential if they wanted and they would be given adequate security.

"This is to inform that a special investigation team has been constituted by the Uttar Pradesh government in the Lakhimpur Kheri district incident of October 3, 2021, headed by Deputy Inspector General of Police Upendra Kumar Agrawal. Therefore, it is requested to the people that if any eyewitness wants to provide his evidence in relation to this incident, then he can approach the SIT. The SIT will keep the name and address of the witness and eyewitness confidential and will also provide security," the statement reads.

The SIT has released the mobile numbers of members in the advertisements.

Sources said that the above move was made by the SIT after the Supreme Court on Tuesday directed the Uttar Pradesh government to provide protection to the witnesses in the October 3 violence in Lakhimpur Kheri where eight persons, including four farmers, were killed during a farmers' protest.

NCB, Mumbai cops launch separate probes into ₹8 cr bribe charge against Wankhede

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI:

A vigilance team of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) and a Mumbai police team headed by an Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACB) on Wednesday launched independent investigations into the allegation of ₹ 8 crore 'extortion' attempt and other excesses made by "panch witness" in the mid-sea drug bust case Prabhakar R Sail against the NCB Zonal Director Sameer Wankhede.

While the NCB has launched the vigilance inquiry into Sail's charges on the basis of a report submitted by its Deputy Director-General, South West Region Mutha Ashok Jain to the bureau's Director General on October 24, the Mumbai police have begun the probe on the basis of complaints registered with at least four police stations in the metropolis.

Taking cognisance of "several vigilance-related allegations" made by Sail in his notarised affidavit released the media, Jain had said on Sunday: "...As some of the contents of the affidavit relate to the vigilance matters, I am hereby forwarding the affidavit to the Director General of Narcotic Control Bureau and

requesting for further action".

Alluding to the affidavit released to the media by Sail, "a witness who has given details of movements and activities on October 2" -- the day the mid-sea bust was registered, Mutha Jain had also said: "As he is a witness in the case and as the case is before the honourable court and sub-judice, he needs to submit his prayer to the honourable court rather than (release it) through social media if he has anything to say. In addition, there are several vigilance related allegations against certain persons in the affidavit which are based on overhearing by Prabhakar".

On his part, Wankhede has categorically denied the allegations against him.

Talking to media persons, Deputy Director General (DDG) of northern region Gyaneshwar Singh -- who is heading the probe -- said: "We have started the inquiry... This is a very sensitive investigation, too early to share anything... We shall enquire all aspects and later inform the media of the developments."

In his sensational affidavit, Sail has among other things said that Wankhede's colleague had taken his signatures on 10 blank papers.

Among other things, Sail

has made a serious allegation that he "overheard" Kiran Gosavi, for whom he works as a personal bodyguard" and who is also an "independent" witness in the case, while talking one Sam D'Souza, as saying: "you put a bomb of Rs 25 crore, let's settle for Rs 18 crore and give 8 crore to Sameer Wankhede".

Gosavi is one of the nine independent witnesses in the mid-sea drug bust case in which SRK's eldest son Aryan Khan and seven others were detained on October 2 and formally arrested on October 3.

Gosavi is an "absconding accused" booked for allegedly duping a Pune-based man on the pretext of offering a job in Malaysia.

Sail also stated in his affidavit that he had seen Pooja Dadlani (Shah Rukh Khan's manager) talking to Gosavi. He also claimed that on being told so by Gosavi, he went to a location some time later to collect Rs 50 lakh cash and that he collected "two bags filled with cash".

Sail claimed that he carried the two bags of cash and delivered them to Sam D'Souza near Trident Hotel in south Mumbai. "However, when he (Sam D'Souza) counted the case, it was only Rs 38 lacs," he stated in the affidavit.

Mamata does 'chai pe charcha' in Darjeeling, walks to meet people

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

For a change after the grand success in April-May Assembly elections it is the turn of Bengal Chief Minister to embark on Chai pe Charcha (dialogue over the tea cup).

The Chief Minister, who is on a four-day administrative trip of North Bengal, on Wednesday walked 16 km in Himalayan town of Kurseong in Darjeeling district interacting in the process with scores of hill people while during the walk and while sitting at a tea stall for a gossip over tea cup. "She was quite fit and negotiated the hilly inclines very smoothly," said one of the officials adding she asked passers by about their well-being, problems and advised them about corona protocols.

The Chief Minister who walked 8 km from the circuit house to Mahanadi and back will spend two nights in the hill town before coming down to Siliguri on Thursday. From Siliguri she will visit Goa for a 3-day political programme. Banerjee is being accompanied by her two ministers Indranil Sen and Arup Biswas. "She connected very well with the people of the Hills and



File picture

they looked quite happy getting the Chief Minister in the midst of them...no other Chief Minister had done this before to them, they said," Biswas was quoted as saying.

Meanwhile, the Trinamool Congress on Thursday demanded that arrest and questioning of Bengal Opposition Leader Suwendu Adhikari following Supreme Court order on Pegasus issue.

Party spokesperson Kunal Ghosh said that "the court order only vindicates our Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's earlier views on the issue," adding "the way Suwendu Adhikari had said that he had the recordings of all the leaders he should be arrested and questioned regarding the claim he made."

Trekkers' bodies arrive in Bengal amid pall of gloom

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

A blanket of gloom tended to have descended on parts of Bengal including Kolkata following the death of 11 trekkers who perished in the last week's inclement weather in Uttarakhand.

While five bodies were flown in on Monday the mortal remains of the remaining victims would soon be brought back to the State, State Government which was in constant touch with the Uttarakhand authorities said.

According to sources some more trekkers were still missing and "we are in touch with the Uttarakhand Government to trace the victims," said an official adding Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had asked the administration to bring back the victims as early as possible. The 150 tourists who were stuck up in the mountain state would also be brought back at the earliest, they said.

According to sources those who perished while in their expedition to Harsil-Chitkul route were Sadhan Basak (63), Shibayan Das (28), Pritam Roy (22), Sagar De (27), Chandra Sekhar Das (34) and Sarit Sekhar Das (35). They were



from Thakurpukur, Kalighat and other areas around Kolkata.

Shibayan Das from Kalighat had left for Chitkul-Harsil route on October 11. He had called his brother, Subhojit, on October 14 to say he would climb to a higher altitude the next day. "He was to climb with other unknown trekkers and was supposed to return to lower areas by October 22 ... but who knew an avalanche would come and take them away," he said.

Meanwhile bodies of another five trekkers have been recovered from the higher altitudes of Bageshwar, local district administration said on Tuesday adding the bodies would be sent back to Kolkata after postmortem. Tuesday's retrieval of bodies take the total number of dead to 16, sources said.

MP bypolls golden opportunity for people to ask BJP about status of tall promises: Sachin Pilot

Khandwa (MP): Though the October 30 bypolls in Madhya Pradesh will not have any bearing on the stability of the State Government but they have presented a golden opportunity to the people to ask BJP about the status of various "tall promises" made by it, especially doubling of the income of farmers, senior Congress leader Sachin Pilot said on Wednesday.

Pilot was addressing a meeting in Barwah town for the Khandwa Lok Sabha byelection where Congress has fielded former MLA Rajnarayan Singh Purni against BJP's Gyaneshwar Patil. The high-decibel campaign for the bypolls to four constituencies, including one Lok Sabha seat and three Assembly segments, where 55 candidates are in the fray in the straight contest between ruling BJP and opposition Congress, ended on Wednesday evening.

The counting of votes will be taken up on November 2. "Though these bypolls will neither make nor destabilise the present government, it gives us a golden opportunity to give a message to the nation by asking BJP what has happened to the tall promises made by it? Whether farmers' income doubled?" Pilot asked the audience.

Farmers have been agitating for the repeal of three farm laws for the last one year (at the borders of Delhi) but the government's eyes and ears are closed. There is a crisis of power and fertilizers in MP, he alleged.

"The BJP government has a plan to



put a lock on mandis through these black laws," Pilot, who holds considerable clout in the Gurjar community of Rajasthan, said.

Farmers are the backbone of the economy but the BJP government has no concern for the people.

"People have seen the truth of the Lakhimpur Kheri incident. They (BJP) are hellbent on provoking people in the name of religion and language whereas Congress always believes in uniting people in the name of brotherhood," the former deputy CM of Rajasthan said.

Pilot also slammed the government over the rising prices of fuel, LPG, vegetables and other essential commodities.

"Inflation is rising but the government is busy doing politics of publishing photos and advertisements," he alleged.

Pilot said they (BJP) talked about wiping out corruption, "but everybody knows the situation in the country and only a few capitalists are getting benefited whereas farmers are suffering".

PTI

Rajbhar announces tie-up with SP, says Akhilesh Yadav will be next CM

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party (SBSP) president Om Prakash Rajbhar announced his party's alliance with Samajwadi Party and claimed that Akhilesh Yadav would be the next Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh.

Rajbhar said in a public meeting in Mau district on Wednesday that Akhilesh Yadav would become the Chief Minister of UP in 2022.

In the presence of SP president, Rajbhar said if SP-SBSP alliance came to power it would waive domestic electricity bills for five years. He said after "khela hobe" in Bengal, "khadedda hobe" (wipe out) in UP as people of the State were waiting for BJP's farewell.

"If BJP leaders come to ask for votes, then question them about inflation. If the Akhilesh government is formed, the poor will get free treatment up to Rs 10 lakh, police personnel will do duty for eight hours, policemen will be deployed near home districts, old government pension schemes will be restored and government schools will provide facilities like private schools," he said.

Addressing the public meeting in Haldarpur in Mau district, Rajbhar said, "I have brought the next chief minister Akhilesh Yadav here."

"The electricity bills of the poor will be waived as soon as our government is formed. The biggest liars

in the world are Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Yogi Adityanath in Uttar Pradesh. Now, Yogi's departure from Uttar Pradesh is a foregone conclusion."

Raising the problem of the government employees, Rajbhar said that the anomalies in the pay scales of government employees in the state had to be removed and the duty of police personnel would be for eight hours and one day's holiday every week.

Attacking the BJP, Rajbhar said, "After tomorrow, the BJP will start spreading rumours that Om Prakash Rajbhar said that now our party SBSP has decided that the next chief minister of Uttar Pradesh will be Akhilesh Yadav. He said that at this time not Hindus but the country, the Constitution, the government property is in danger. We will save it by forming a government with Akhilesh Yadav. PM Narendra Modi used to say that the country will not let it be sold and is slowly selling it," he said.

SP chief Akhilesh Yadav said, "The rights of the poor, oppressed, exploited, deprived, Dalits, backward, minorities, workers, farmers, women, youth, teachers, businessmen, employed and professionals would be protected. Against the false and BJP power for defence, Mau's Haldarpur Maidan will prove to be the Kurukshetra of a political great war".

Re-enactment of the Indian Army's landing in Srinagar in 1947 carried out

PNS ■ JAMMU

A re-enactment of the Indian Army's landing in Srinagar in 1947 following Pakistani tribal raids was carried out at Air Force Station in Srinagar on Wednesday.

The re-enactment of the historic event was organised at Old Air Field, Srinagar to pay obeisance to the brave soldiers and people of Jammu & Kashmir who laid down their lives, and also to honour the next of kin of war heroes who participated in the 1947-48 War.

27 October is celebrated as 'Infantry Day' by the Indian Army to commemorate the arrival of the Indian Army at Budgam Airfield to protect Jammu & Kashmir after the 'Instrument of Accession' was signed on 26 October 1947 between Maharaja Hari Singh and the Republic of India.

The historic event marking the Infantry day was organised as part of celebration for Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and 75th year of Air landed operations of the Indian Army at Budgam Airport.

1st SIKH, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Dewan Ranjit Rai, who later laid down his life at Baramulla, changed the course of the war, wherein people and soldiers of state forces of Jammu & Kashmir and the Indian Army fought alongside valiantly, to evict Pakistani forces, driving them out of most of Jammu & Kashmir till ceasefire on 05 January 1949.

The event was witnessed by the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, Air Marshal Amit Dev, Air



Officer Commanding-In-Chief, Western Air Command, Lieutenant General Devendra Pratap Pandey, General Officer Commanding 15 Corps along with several other civil and military dignitaries. In addition, the next of kin of war veterans who travelled from across the country to be a part of this mega event were felicitated.

On the occasion, 'Saviours of Kashmir' war memorial at 'Ground Zero' of 27 October 1947 was also dedicated by Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha at Srinagar International Airport.

The memorial commemorates the arrival of Indian Army in Indian Air Force aircrafts at Srinagar Airport in 1947 and

the stellar role played by Major Somnath Sharma, Param Vir Chakra, Brigadier Rajinder Singh, Maha Vir Chakra Maqbool Sherwani, the gallant son of Kashmir, in India's historic victory in its 1st war after independence.

The memorial has been recently renovated to include the busts of Brigadier Rajinder Singh, Mahavir Chakra and Maqbool Sherwani, alongside the existing bust of Major Somnath Sharma, Param Vir Chakra, as a tribute to the invaluable contribution of the people of Jammu & Kashmir and erstwhile State Forces of Jammu & Kashmir in evicting Pakistani Army and Qabaili invaders.

NIA raids 17 locations in J&K in Jamaat-e-Islami terror funding case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday conducted searches at 17 locations in seven districts of Jammu and Kashmir in Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI) Terror Funding Case.

The searches were conducted at 17 locations in Anantnag, Kulgam, Ganderbal, Bandipora, Budgam, Kishtwar and Jammu districts of Jammu and Kashmir, the agency said.

The case was registered by the NIA on February 5, 2021 in connection with the separatist and secessionist activities of JeI, an unlawful association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act even after its proscription on February 28, 2019.

"The members of the organisation have been collecting funds domestically and abroad which are being used for violent and secessionist activities. JeI has also been motivating impressionable youth of Kashmir and recruiting new members (Rukuns) in J&K to participate in disruptive secessionist activities, the NIA said in a statement.

Searches conducted on Wednesday included the premises of office bearers and members of JeI. During the searches, various incriminating documents and electronic devices were seized from the premises of the suspects, it further said, adding investigation in the case continues.

In August, the agency had conducted similar searches at multiple locations in fourteen districts of Jammu and Kashmir in connection with JeI terror funding case.

The searches were conducted in conjunction with the Jammu and Kashmir police and CRPF at 56 locations in Srinagar, Budgam, Ganderbal, Baramulla, Kupwara, Bandipora, Anantnag, Shopian, Pulwama, Kulgam, Ramban, Doda, Kishtwar and Rajouri districts the Valley.

The agency conducted the searches at the premises of office bearers of the proscribed association, its members and also offices of trusts purportedly run by JeI. During the searches, various incriminating documents and electronic devices were seized from the premises of the suspects.

T20 WC: Rajasthan teacher, who celebrated Pak victory against India, arrested

Jaipur: A private school teacher in Rajasthan's Udaipur was on Wednesday arrested, a day after she was sacked by the school management for allegedly posting a WhatsApp status celebrating Pakistan's victory over India in a T20 Cricket World Cup match.

Police had registered a case against her on Tuesday.

Nafeesa Attari, a teacher at Neerja Modi School Udaipur, had posted a picture of Pakistani players with the caption, "Jeeet gayeeee, We wonnn," after India's loss to Pakistan.

After screenshots of her WhatsApp status went viral on social media, the school management had on Tuesday terminated her from the job.

"The teacher was arrested today morning," Amba Mata Station House Officer Narpal Singh said.

He said Attari has been arrested under IPC Section 153 (B) (imputations, assertions prejudicial to national-integration).

Earlier, apologising for her WhatsApp post, Attari had released a video statement saying she did not intend to hurt anyone's sentiments.

"Someone messaged me asking whether I supported Pakistan. As the message contained emojis and it was a fun environment, I replied, 'Yes'. However, that doesn't mean that I support Pakistan. I am an Indian and I love my country. I love India as much as everyone else does," Attari said in her video message.

"As soon as I realised that I have made a mistake, I deleted the post. I am sorry if I have hurt anybody's sentiments," she said.

India lost its first match of the T20 World Cup, against Pakistan, by 10 wickets on Sunday.

PTI





FIRST COLUMN COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND SKILL FRAMEWORK

Vocational courses and community colleges are a viable alternative to tertiary education



BRIJENDER SINGH PANWAR

India does not have enough higher educational institutions to accommodate even half of its young population. When it comes to vocational training, only 10 per cent of the workforce in India is formally trained, compared to 96 per cent in Korea, 80 per cent in Japan and 68 per cent in the United Kingdom. There are two important issues which need to be addressed. First, there are not enough vocational education providers. Secondly, the current public perception of vocational courses is problematic; such courses are often seen as a refuge for those who have failed to make a mark in mainstream education. We have to change this perception by creating awareness about vocational education and providing career counseling at an early age in schools. India has an ambitious goal to train 500 million of its citizens by 2022 with skills and competencies for participation in the present and future labour market. Therefore, the viable alternative to formal tertiary education is Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Community Colleges which will directly contribute to skilled workforce and the nation's economy. We have to give due emphasis to the role of Community Colleges in implementing the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, through National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF). Although the concept of Community college has not been accepted by the educational system of India as such, it has created its own his-



tory in the last two decades. At present, there are more than 500 community colleges in the country. How are Indian Community colleges different from the two existing vocational systems — the two-year Industrial Technical Institutes and the three year Polytechnics? Both these programmes are skill and job-oriented and supply trained personnel to industries. Community colleges should have a clear mandate and agenda of its own which is to prepare the youth for the workforce in a year or two by giving them skill-oriented education along with some life skills.

There has to be some other motivating factor to attract students to Community Colleges. It is the responsibility of Community Colleges to identify such factors and project them as their Unique Selling Points. The difference lies in the fact that the collegiate level vocational education offers only apprenticeship training and vocationalization of first-degree level whereas Community colleges offer a range of multi-focused programmes in occupational and technical and in continuing education. The courses offered by the colleges are designed to meet the workforce needs of the regions in which the colleges are located. Another purpose of Community colleges is to offer "bridge" courses to complete higher certifications, ensure employability and competency of the individual trained, teach life skills and communication in English and provide training in personal, social, language, communication and creative skills. The role of Community Colleges in implementing NVEQF is crucial for the development of vocational education and skill development. NVEQF is a descriptive framework that organizes qualifications according to a series of levels of knowledge along with the skills. These levels are defined in terms of learning outcomes or competencies the learner must possess regardless of whether they were acquired through formal, non-formal or informal education and training. Given the framework of the NEP, having a strong emphasis on skill-based vocational education, the role of Community Colleges in implementing NSQF would be significant as it will follow a modular, credit-based system that keeps abreast of technological and other workforce changes.

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

Taliban: Sanctions and recognition

Given the reach and lethality of ISIS, the Taliban may not withstand pressure from the international terror group in the long run unless Al-Qaeda is roped in for countermeasure



RAKESH K SINGH

The Taliban's outreach to the international community is driven mainly by the existential crisis the outfit is facing back home due to both the presence and lethality of the Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISKP) that holds the potential to challenge and overthrow the current regime in Kabul essentially supplanted by Pakistan's covert agency Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI).

The Taliban is seeking to first get the Interim Cabinet members' designated terrorist tag removed. At least 14 members of the Interim Cabinet are designated terrorists of the UN as well as the US sanctions lists. With such a designation, Taliban cabinet representatives cannot move around freely amid apprehension of fatal drone strikes against them. The Taliban is also vying for international recognition from the global community or at least as many countries as possible in the region and beyond.

Once recognized by the international community, the Taliban will be able to put across its viewpoints at various forums of the UN as also seeking funding assistance for its messed-up economy from the IMF and WB.

The Taliban will then also be able to negotiate military assistance from the UN member-states in the name of counter-terrorism on Afghan soil by anti-Taliban groups like ISKP.

The Taliban is habituated to survive on illicit financing through extortion and garnering proceeds from sale of narcotics. The recognition of its regime will help Taliban in transforming the black economy into white money channels.

These factors have compelled the Taliban to pitch in for international recognition and portray itself as Taliban 2.0, radically dissimilar from the outfit's regime that ruled the roost in Afghanistan till 2001.

Notwithstanding the Taliban propaganda ruling out any threat from ISIS, the fact is that ISKP is a profound and dangerous competitor to Al Qaeda to whom the Taliban owes allegiance.

The Taliban is essentially a local terror group with influence being limited to Afghanistan and completely unlike the ISIS that has a cadre and funding base from multiple ethnicities and geographies.

In a worrying fact, the ISIS has some significant presence on the ground and has been able to inflict four major terror attacks on the Afghan soil post-takeover of Kabul by Taliban on August 15, including the deadly Kabul airport hit amid the then ongoing US troops' withdrawal and fatal attacks on Shia mosques in Kunduz and Kandahar.

With active connivance and assistance from the ISI, the Taliban has been able to deceive the international community in seizing power in Afghanistan in a swift advance and without any resistance either from the erstwhile Afghan National Defence Force or any militia.

But the Taliban cannot deal with the



THE TALIBAN HAVE BEEN MAINLY TRAINED IN PERPETRATING INSURGENCY BUT TACKLING INSURGENCY IS AN ALTOGETHER DIFFERENT BALLGAME. THE ISI MASTERMINDS DELIBERATELY KEPT THE OUTFIT AWAY FROM GAINING SUCH CRAFT

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



situation at the international level on its own after it has grabbed power in Kabul.

By engaging in multilateral meets like the Moscow format, the Taliban is buying time to gain international recognition and keep the anti-Taliban forces at a relative bay by participating in such overtures.

Taliban has been mainly trained in perpetrating insurgency but tackling insurgency is an altogether different ball game. The ISI masterminds have deliberately kept the outfit away from gaining such craft.

The Taliban apprehends that if ISIS continues with its bombing spree and spreads traction among the Afghan society and enlarges the area of influence, all the other anti-Taliban forces will rally under it to overthrow the current regime in Kabul.

Given the reach and lethality of ISIS, the Taliban may not withstand the pressure from the international terror group in the long run unless Al Qaeda is roped in for the countermeasure.

In this backdrop, the Taliban is left with two broad choices for survival—one to get recognition for its regime in Kabul and subsequently get military assistance to counter ISIS or ally with Al Qaeda which can pool in its fighters from various countries to check ISIS or its Afghan affiliate ISKP.

In its bid to seek international recognition, the Taliban is also portraying that it does not want Al Qaeda fighters and this is the reason why it is seeking sanctity from the global comity of nations for its regime in Kabul.

For its international recogni-

tion project, the Taliban has fielded Anas Haqqani, the Home Minister of the interim government and Amir Khan Muttaqi, the Foreign Minister, for addressing the internal and external dimensions of the Afghan challenge.

While Haqqani is seeking to update the international community on the need to check dissidence in the Afghan society as well in the pockets on the Afghanistan-Pakistan region dominated by a large population of the Pakhtun ethnicity who could come in handy for taking refuge in the event of the international community or a group of countries deciding to decimate the Taliban to protect their own sovereign interests.

Haqqani is also tasked with the onus to keep Baloch insurgents in check so as to deny foreign agencies like the Mossad and Research and Analysis Wing the opportunity to carry out anti-terror action in Pakistan from Afghan soil.

Muttaqi is tasked to ensure external security by checking Iran from attacking Afghanistan through the ISIS or bombings by the Russians who see the turmoil in the war-ravaged country as a threat to their respective sovereign interests.

The Taliban leadership is also clear that it has reached the stage of forming an interim government with ISI help but is also aware of the need to balance between the ISI and the international community.

Taliban is further aware that despite being helped by the ISI to control Kabul, it cannot be seen as a puppet of Pakistan beyond a point as international recognition eludes the regime.

Despite its overtures and

pledge to form an inclusive government in line with the desire of the international community, Taliban has so far been getting help exclusively from China because of its strategic location and Pakistan's back-channel support in roping in Beijing to rescue the Taliban from the plethora of mess it is facing.

Now, the Taliban is aiming to have a direct communication with China to maximize the cooperation it is getting from Beijing and simultaneously sideline Pakistan to shed its image as an ISI puppet.

Fully aware of the Pakistani machinations in both Kabul and within Taliban, Russia did not invite the Pakistani pointsman Gulbuddin Hekmatyar heading the Hizb-e-Islami faction of Taliban for the Moscow format dialogue underway in the Russian capital. Hekmatyar has issued a statement that Moscow talks would fail as all sections of Afghan society have not been represented in the talks.

While 10 countries including India and China participated in the Moscow talks, none of the countries, not even China, is willing to grant recognition to the Taliban.

The Taliban was initially buoyant over the vast number of American equipment left behind by the allied forces but now it is realizing that these machines could threaten its existence if ISIS gets hold of them. The Taliban cannot use American weapons due to lack of training.

The complexity of the Afghan problem makes the situation in Afghanistan pregnant with all possibilities including bombing by the Russians or an onset of a Shia insurgency.

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

I WILL BE FORMING A NEW PARTY. THE NAME AND THE SYMBOL WILL BE ANNOUNCED ONCE THE ELECTION COMMISSION CLEARS IT.
—FORMER PUNJAB CHIEF MINISTER
CAPT AMARINDER SINGH



THE LAST TIME YOU FORMED YOUR OWN PARTY, YOU GARNERED ONLY 856 VOTES. THE PEOPLE OF PUNJAB ARE WAITING TO PUNISH YOU AGAIN.
—PUNJAB CONGRESS CHIEF
NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU

The need today: Localising solutions

An inclusive process of planning and programme deployment is the only way to ensure that the most vulnerable have access to benefits

When we met Rama Krishna, our heart was broken. His wife was in the hospital and he needed money for her treatment. Krishna and his family were enrolled for health benefits under the Building and Other Construction Workers (regulation of employment and conditions of service) Act, 1996. However, the paperwork he needed to avail the benefits was too cumbersome. He needed his Aadhaar card, hospital bills, proof of work, marriage certificate, details of any dependents and so much more. Finally, he could not convince his union leader to give him proof of his last salary slip. And thus, he could not avail the benefits. He needed the money immedi-



RIWITIKA BHATTACHARYA



KRISHNA LAVU

(Bhattacharya is the CEO of Swantiti Initiative. Lavu is a Member of the Lok Sabha. The views expressed are personal.)

ately for treatment. While we were able to help him out then, we wondered how many more Krishnas were out there. Krishna's situation pointed to a systemic issue where the willingness to want to deliver basic services remains but a top-down program design is becoming a hindrance in accessing these programs.

From loan waivers to scholarships for marginalized communities, there is no dearth of programs that serve vulnerable populations. However, with the programs being designed by those sitting in the State and national Capitals often means a disconnect to reality. The result is that these programs become hard to operationalize and ultimately do not yield intended benefits. Therefore, it is



critical to work with communities to develop solutions, provide local talent who can help design and deliver on problems and create a culture of bottom-up planning.

An inclusive process of planning and program deployment is the only way to ensure that the most vulnerable have access to benefits.

Consider for example the District Minerals Trust Fund that uses the cess of mining companies in to address com-

munity needs. Districts who have been adversely affected by mining have complete discretion on how they want to use resources for hyperlocal needs. In Ramgarh and Chattrra, the administration conducted Gram Sabhas and local stakeholder meetings and recognized the need for more sustainable and high paying jobs than those offered by the mining industry.

Thus, rather than look for jobs with skills that might not be easily available, these districts brought in green and renewable opportunities like solarization of agriculture sector and created related jobs. The result is higher paying local jobs with sustainability. A culture of identifying local needs with the flexibility of using funds has allowed these

districts to create hyperlocal solutions. Rather than routing funding through schemes, there is significant merit in providing discretionary funds for districts as well.

Resources are often not enough. It is important to match them with personnel on the ground who can provide feedback about community condition. Andhra has designed the village volunteer program with similar intentions in mind. Every 100-200 households have a young person helping them with access to programs and benefits. When lockdown was affecting most of the country with no one being able to access banks, government offices, etc. village volunteers accessed this pressing gap and were mobilized to withdraw the cash and deliv-

er the amount to each household. The money became the lifeline for most families who continue to remain dependent on pensions and social welfare to ensure a functioning household. It is critical to have people within communities who can identify errors and work with the government to help overcome them. While in some situations local NGOs are stepping in to provide needed support, there needs to be systems and human capital to do so.

Finally, in order to ensure such a model comes into play, it is important to have a culture of appreciating the local opinion. The second wave of the covid pandemic highlighted the importance of letting communities decide the most appropriate response. In

the process, models emerged of how districts were able to mobilize resources and talent to bridge this gap. We saw districts with a strong agricultural belt being willing to keep mandis open over the weekend. Whereas others choosing to go in to complete lockdown. The diversity within India demands for each community to adopt to local needs. There needs to be a strategic shift toward providing much assistance and insights to districts.

Only when we empower our local administrations with the resources to take independent decisions can we design and implement effective solutions. Otherwise, the stories of more Rama Krishnas will continue to emerge, plagued by systemic issues.

GLOBE TROTTER

SUDAN ARRESTS 3 CRITICS AS PRESSURE MOUNTS

Cairo: Sudanese security forces detained three prominent pro-democracy figures overnight, their relatives and other activists said on Wednesday, as pressure mounted on the country's military following its coup.

EGYPTAIR FLIGHT RETURNS AFTER THREAT MESSAGE

Cairo: A Moscow-bound EgyptAir flight returned to the Egyptian capital shortly after takeoff Wednesday after a threatening message was found onboard, authorities said.

US ISSUES ITS PASSPORT WITH 'X' GENDER MARKER

Denver: The United States has issued its first passport with an "X" gender designation — a milestone in the recognition of the rights of people who don't identify as male or female — and expects to be able to offer the option more broadly.

NATO's Afghan mission hit by 'mission creep,' official says

AP ■ BRUSSELS

NATO's security operation in Afghanistan became a victim of "mission creep" as the military organisation allowed itself to be dragged into helping rebuild the impoverished, conflict-torn country, the official leading a process of drawing lessons from the mission said on Wednesday.

Assistant Secretary-General for Operations John Manza and NATO's 30 deputy national envoys are compiling a report on almost two decades of work in Afghanistan. They were tasked with the job after the Afghan president fled and the NATO-trained Afghan army collapsed when President Joe Biden announced that he

was pulling U.S. troops out, paving the way for the Taliban to seize power.

Manza told European Union lawmakers that of the big lessons being discussed by his team — which also includes input from military and political experts, including from Afghanistan — "the most obvious one is mission creep."

NATO took over the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan in 2003, almost two years after a U.S.-led coalition invaded the country to oust the Taliban for harboring Osama bin Laden, the deceased al-Qaeda leader.

Manza explained that it initially had around 5,000 troops based mostly in and around the

capital Kabul, but that within 3 years its focus shifted to "tackling the root causes of terrorism" by helping to rebuild a landlocked country riven by ethnic and tribal divisions and with a poorly educated population.

NATO troop numbers increased to around 60,000 by 2006, with military-civilian teams spread around the largely lawless country trying to foster economic growth and better governance in almost every province.

"This really substantial increase did not have the desired effects," Manza said. "The insurgency was still gaining strength. The nation was still suffering greatly from corruption and governmental performance was not improving."

Saudi to provide \$4.2 bn to Pak; Imran thanks MBS

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Saudi Arabia has agreed to provide \$4.2 billion worth of assistance to cash-strapped Pakistan to support its economy, it emerged on Wednesday after Prime Minister Imran Khan held talks with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman in Riyadh this week.

Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry took to Twitter to announce the assistance which came just two days after Khan paid a three-day visit to the Gulf kingdom.

"Saudi Arabia's announcement supports Pakistan with 3 billion US dollars as deposit in Pakistan central bank and also financing refined petroleum



products with 1.2 billion US dollars during the year," he said in a tweet.

Prime Minister Khan thanked Crown Prince Salman for the generous aid when Pakistan's economy was facing difficulties.

Nepal's Chief Justice refuses to step down

Kathmandu: Nepal Supreme Court Chief Justice Chandra Shumsher Rana has refused to resign from his post amidst allegations that he helped his brother-in-law secure a berth in the Sher Bahadur Deuba-led Cabinet, triggering an unusual judicial crisis.

A section of the Supreme Court justices has demanded Chief Justice Rana's resignation while some lawyers have decided to boycott the apex court.

During a meeting with 15 apex court justices, Rana said that he is not going to step down just because voices were raised in the streets and in the media for him to quit the top post. **PTI**

Blast in Myanmar city highlights escalating violence

Bangkok: Midday bombings near a busy government office injured at least nine people in Myanmar's second biggest city on Wednesday, in what appeared to be the latest high-profile attack by militants opposed to the country's military rulers.

Other attacks by foes of the government were also reported on social media sympathetic to the opposition.

Shootings and bombings in Myanmar's cities and armed clashes in the countryside are daily occurrences, and UN officials and other observers have warned that unrest triggered by the military's seizure of power in February is spinning toward civil war. **AP**

US asks UK court to permit extradition of WikiLeaks' Assange

AP ■ LONDON

The United States asked Britain's High Court on Wednesday to overturn a judge's decision that Julian Assange should not be sent to the United States to face espionage charges, promising that

the WikiLeaks founder could serve any prison sentence he receives in his native Australia.

In January, a lower court judge refused an American request to extradite Assange on spying charges over WikiLeaks' publication of secret military documents a decade ago.

District Judge Vanessa Baraitser denied extradition on health grounds, saying Assange was likely to kill himself if held under harsh US prison conditions.

An attorney for the US government, James Lewis, argued Wednesday that the judge was wrong to conclude

that Assange's mental health was too fragile to withstand the US judicial system.

Assange "has no history of serious and enduring mental illness" and does not meet the threshold of being so ill that he cannot resist harming himself, the lawyer said.

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पत्रांक-3089 / निम्नांशित / स्टोर कम्प्यू / 2021-22 दिनांक-27, अक्टूबर, 2021

ई० निविदा सूचना

निदेशालय, प्राविधिक शिक्षा, उत्तराखण्ड के अधीन विभिन्न राजकीय पॉलीटेक्निक संस्थानों में कम्प्यूटर के क्रय हेतु ई० निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। ई० निविदा दिनांक 28/10/2021 से उत्तराखण्ड शासन के ई० निविदा पोर्टल www.uktenders.gov.in से डाउनलोड की जा सकती है। ई० निविदा जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 11/11/2021 है। विस्तृत जानकारी उत्तराखण्ड शासन की ई० निविदा पोर्टल www.uktenders.gov.in से प्राप्त की जा सकती है। निदेशक प्राविधिक शिक्षा, उत्तराखण्ड



Lava flows from a volcano as it continues to erupt on the Canary island of La Palma, Spain on Wednesday **AP**

जनसंपर्क संचालनालय छत्तीसगढ़ शासन

इन्द्रावती भवन, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, जिला-रायपुर, छत्तीसगढ़

फोन नं० 4082 / फॅक्स / वि० सं० / 2021 फोन नं० 0771 2221616 नवा रायपुर, दिनांक : 26/10/2021

गणतंत्र दिवस परेड 2020 के अवसर पर नई दिल्ली में चयनित होने पर प्रदर्शित की जाने वाली छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य की झांकी निर्माण के लिए अल्पकालिक द्वितीय निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

जनसंपर्क संचालनालय, छत्तीसगढ़ शासन, नवा रायपुर की ओर से नई दिल्ली में आयोजित होने वाली गणतंत्र दिवस 2022 की राष्ट्रीय परेड में चयन होने पर प्रदर्शित होने वाली झांकी की डिजाइन/मॉडल प्रस्तुत करने तथा अनुमोदन परवात तथा रक्षा मंत्रालय के निर्देशानुसार फेब्रिकेशन आदि कार्य कर झांकी तैयार करने हेतु टर्न-की आधार पर अनुभवी झांकी/टेल्सू निर्माताओं/ फर्मों से मुखसंद अल्पकालिक द्वितीय निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

इच्छुक (झांकी) टेल्सू निर्माता/फर्म जनसंपर्क विभाग की वेबसाइट www.dprcg.gov.in & www.cg.nic.in/dpr से निविदा

प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क राशि रु. 2,000/- (दो हजार रुपये मात्र) (वापसी योग्य नहीं) का "संचालक, जनसंपर्क संचालनालय/रायपुर" के नाम से रायपुर में देय डिमाण्ड ड्रॉफ्ट टेंडनकल बिड लिफाफा के साथ जमा करना अनिवार्य है। उक्त निविदा में किसी प्रकार परिवर्तन अथवा संशोधन होने पर जानकारी

उक्त वेबसाइट में प्रदर्शित की जायेगी। संशोधन सूचना समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदाकर्ता जिन्होंने

पूर्व में प्रथम निविदा गरा है, उनके निविदा प्रपत्र मान्य होंगे।

(1) पूर्णतः ग़रे प्रपत्र जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 08/11/2021 दोपहर 2 बजे तक।

(2) तकनीकी प्रस्ताव प्रपत्र खोलने की तिथि दिनांक 08/11/2021 साय 3 बजे से।

आयुक्त

R.o.No. 64748/3

R.o.Date. 26/10/2021

जनसंपर्क संचालनालय
छत्तीसगढ़ शासन

Office of the Superintending Engineer

1st Circle, Public Works Department, Almora

Phone/Fax: 05962-230295 Email: sepwdalm@rediffmail.com

Letter No. : 7829/ Nivida-01/2021 Dated : 27/10/2021

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (E-Tendering)

E-TENDER NOTICE

The superintending Engineer, 1st Circle, Public Works Department, Almora invites tender through E-Tendering (Single Bid System) on behalf of Honourable Governor of Uttarakhand for following works. All other information will be available from dated 01/11/2021 & onwards on website <http://www.uktenders.gov.in>

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Cost of Tender Form	Earnest Money (Rupee in lakh)	Validity of Tender	Time of Completion	Contractor's Category of Registration for tendering
1	Construction of Road from Kanda- Saniudiyar Motor Road to Bhadora- Baijroad under State Sector in District Bageshwar (Phase- 2 Stage- I) Length - 5.00 Km.	Rs. 4000.00 + 18% GST	1.42 Lakh	120 Days	12 Months	Category "D" & above (Road Works)
2	Construction of Khadlek- Bhanar- Dana- Tikta Motor Road in Kapkot Constituency Distt- Bageshwar Under State Sector Length - 4.00 Km. (Phase- 2 Stage- I)	Rs. 3000.00 + 18% GST	0.81 Lakh	120 Days	9 Months	Category "D" & above (Road Works)

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	M/s Shivam Jewellers/ Narmada Devi/ Krishan Kumar Vermal/ A/c No. 629205027350/ 629260003833	Residential Property Of Krishan Kumar Vermal and Narmada Devi Situated at House No. 65, SF, Block AH, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi- 110088/ October 26, 2021	June 19, 2021 Rs. 36,52,642/-	Delhi

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

Date : October 28, 2021
Place: Delhi/ Ncr

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

DIVERSION OF SPECIAL TRAINS

In order to upgrade the Rail infrastructure, Railways have decided to undertake the Pre-Non-Interlocking and Non-Interlocking work at Hindupur and Devarapalle stations for doubling of Yelahanka and Penukonda section from 15.11.2021 to 20.11.2021. To execute this work following trains will be diverted as per the details given below:

Train No. & Name	Diverted Via	Skipping Stoppage	Date (from the Originating Station)
06078 Hazrat Nizamuddin - Coimbatore Jn. SF Festival Special	Via - Gooty, Kadapa, Renigunta Jn., Jolarpettai Jn. & Salem Jn.	Anantapur, Dharmavaram Jn, Hindupur, Yelahanka Jn., Krishnarajapuram	17.11.2021
02684 Lucknow - Yeshvantpur Jn. Festival Express Special	Via - Dhone Jn., Pendekallu Jn., Guntakal Jn., Bellari Jn., Chikajalur Jn., Tumakur & Yeshvantpur Jn.	Gooty, Anantapur, Dharmavaram Jn, Hindupur & Yelahanka Jn.	18.11.2021

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

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

Visit RailMadad Website :-

www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in

Download RailMadad app.

244/2021

RailMadad Helpline No. 139

Please join us on

75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Your Convenience - Our Concern

Visit us at : www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in

QUOTATION NOTICE

Quotations are invited affixing court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 from the manufacturer/dealer for supply of the following verification equipments indicating rates as per specification below for the year 2022. The quotation will be received by the Controller of Legal Metrology, Assam, Guwahati-7 up to 2 PM of the 16th Nov/2021 and will be opened on the same day at 4 PM in presence of the Quotationer or their representatives.

Item	Particulars	Font Size
A. (i) Year Punch, 2022	(I)Size	1. length = 9.5 cm.
4 nos in a set.		2. length = 9.0 cm.
(Size 1,2,3 & 4)		3. length = 10.5 cm.
		4. length = 12.0 cm.

(ii) Year Plier dies, 2022 (II) Size- 12 mm diameter.
4 nos in a set.
(Size A,B,C & D)

General Condition.

- The verification equipments should be made of best Steel and well tempered. If any defect is found in the aforesaid item within six month from the date of use then the replacement will have to be made free of cost.
- The Quotationer should deliver the articles in good conditions at the office of the Controller of Legal Metrology, Assam, Guwahati within 30 days on receipt of the formal supply order at their own cost.
- The rates should be valid up to 12 months from the date of acceptance of the quotation.
- The rates and taxes payable should be indicated against each item separately and should be F.O.R. destination.
- The Quotationer must furnish attested copy of the income tax clearance certificate (Pan Card) and GST Certificate along with their quotation.
- The Controller of Legal Metrology, Assam is not bound to accept the lowest or any other quotation.
- The decision of the Controller of Legal Metrology, Assam will be final in all respect.

Sd/- (S. N. Baishya)

Controller of Legal Metrology (I/C),

Assam : Guwahati.

Jansanyog/C/7158/21

US, China sparring over Taiwan heats up anew

AP ■ WASHINGTON

The United States and China are stepping up their war of words over Taiwan in a long-simmering dispute that has significant implications for the power dynamic in the Indo-Pacific and beyond.

Amid a surge in Chinese military activity near the island that China regards as a renegade province and has vowed to reclaim by force if necessary, Washington and Beijing have launched new campaigns for global support for their respective positions, each using the stern and lofty language of sovereignty and international precedent. And neither is backing down.

While the disagreement over Taiwan isn't new and has long vexed relations between the countries, recent developments suggest the two are coming closer to confrontation. Last week, President Joe Biden

set off alarm bells in Beijing by saying the U.S. has a firm commitment to help Taiwan defend itself in the event of a Chinese attack.

China protested and the Biden administration sought to play down the comments. White House, State Department and Pentagon officials all said the president did not mean to imply any changes in the U.S. "one-China policy," which recognizes Beijing but allows informal relations and defense ties with Taipei.

The officials took pains to say that America's commitment to Taiwan remains steadfast but continues to be guided by a policy of "strategic ambiguity" over military-related specifics that falls short of a treaty-enshrined mutual defense pact. Since then, however, the administration has upped the ante on the diplomatic front.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This is notified for the information of Rail Pasengers that Railways have decided to restore the stoppage to the following trains at Gator Jagatpura Railway station from the dates shown as under:

Train No. & Name	Additional Stoppage	Arr.	Dep.	Effective from
04311 Bareilly- Bhuj Express Special	At Gator Jagatpura station	17:18	17:20	From 28.10.2021
04321 Bareilly- Bhuj Special		17:18	17:20	From 29.10.2021

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

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

RailMadad Helpline No. 139

Visit RailMadad website: www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in

Download Railmadad app

75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Your Convenience - Our Concern

Visit us at : www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General public that Mrs. Smita Devi is owner of Property bearing No. N-139, New No. N-130/A, area measuring 40 sq. Yds., out of Rect. No. 21, Kila No. 23, Situated in the area of Village Khayla, Delhi State Delhi colony known as Vihra Khayla, North Block Cell No. 7, New Delhi- 110016, vide a registered Gift Deed dated 18.01.2021, registration No. 640, executed by Mr. Parnod Kumar. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner want to sell the said property to Mr. Asie Baza Khan who is taking a loan from Fuletem India Home Finance Company Ltd. for purchase of the said property, if anybody has any objection upon the owner ship of Mrs. Smita Devi in respect of the said property its sale, Mortgage, litigation, and any kind of dispute, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on or before mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants)

260, the Fort, 23, Sheela Park, New Delhi- N, Delhi- 110016, Ph: 41111272-28, kumarassociatesadvocates@gmail.com

ADMISSION NOTICE

Applications are invited for
DPSE (2021-23) under
Management Quota for Affiliated
Institutes of SCERT (Govt. of Delhi)

For further details, please contact:
Satyam International Polytechnic
GD Block, Near Pitampura Metro Station,
Pitampura, Delhi-110088 Ph: 27317069

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Bin Bahadur Thapa S/o. Gang Bahadur Thapa R/o. B-104, Gulmohar Park, New Delhi-110049 since 1992 do hereby declares that I have applied for Indian Citizenship & before that reside at Pandara Road, New Delhi, India since 1984 to 1992. Kindly Provide the Citizenship of India.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE (Through e-tendering)

Name of work with its location	Improvement work of MOZ, THJ, NGL and TPZ stations of Delhi Division.
App. Cost of the work (₹)	₹ 42,04,534/- only
Address of the office	Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-C, Northern Railway, 3 rd Floor, Annexe-1, DRM Office, New Delhi-110055.
Date & Time for upload the tender / closing of tender	Tender uploading / closing date & time - 17.11.2021 up to 15.00 hrs.
Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc.	See the Northern Railway website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice board at S&T branch, 3 rd Floor, DRM Office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055.

Tender No. 558-Sig-16-M-Tender-1367 Dated: 26.10.2021. 2438/21

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004

Bid No. E-33/2021-22 E-TENDERS Dated: 23.10.2021

E-Tenders are invited for & on behalf of the president of India for the supply of following items. Only e-offer will be accepted for which vendors must have class III Digital Signature and registrations on IREPS The details of tenders are in the following sequence S.No., Tender No.(Due Date), Description and Quantity: (1) 10211290, (18.11.2021) Bearing Asm. Part No. 16080609, 339 Nos. (2) 10211282, (24.11.2021) Seal Ring Assembly Part No. 16080567, 922 Nos. (3) 10211293, (24.11.2021) Bearing Spherical Seal Thrust Part No. 16150442, 437 Nos. (4) 10211292, (24.11.2021) Bearing Part No. 16150430, 1784 Nos. (5) 10211210B, (16.11.2021) Roller Part No. 16210074, 11450 Nos. (6) 10211299, (17.11.2021) Set Gear Planet Part No. 16210207, 343 Nos. (7) 10211296, (19.11.2021) Shaft Carrier Part No. 16210190, 260 Nos. (8) 09211035A, (18.11.2021) Fuse and Indicator Assembly, to PL No. 16310808, 440 Nos. (9) 09211063B, (18.11.2021) Circular Module-Coupler, to PL No. 18120817, 10 Nos. (10) 08211033 Advertise Tender, (19.11.2021) Oil Cooler Radiator for Converter CAT No. N/0/0065, C&D No. T020/010, DRG No. 3EHP590472R0001 as per Specn. CLW/ES/3/0102/E, Qty-549 Nos.(P.L. No. 29470031). (11) 08211196 Advertise Tender, (19.11.2021) CLUTCH DOVELLING ASM to PL No. 17240074 & Drg No. 40001043 and Purchase specification no. BLW/DES/MSBC-274, as per Drp. No.40001043 AH-B as per Spec: as per Drp. Qty-628 Nos.(P.L. No. 17240074), (12) 08211006 Advertise Tender, (22.11.2021) (1) KEY MULTIPLIER- 2 FOR M/C COMPARTMENT CAT No. P/2/0158, C&D No. T020/83,CLW Spec No.- CLW/ES/3/0049/F, as per Specn. CLW/ES/3/0049/F, 66 Sets (P.L. No. 29387991) (2) KEY MULTIPLIER-1 For M/C COMPARTMENT, CAT No. P/1/0158, C&D No. T020/82,Spec No.-CLW/ES/3/0049/F, as per Specn. CLW/ES/3/0049/F, QTY-66 Sets. (P.L. No. 29388004). (13) 08211004 Advertise Tender, (15.12.2021) SPHERIBLOC CAT No. R/9/0008 C&D No. T205/004 C&D No. T222/003 Spec: RDSO SPECN. No. RDSO/2007/EL/SPEC/0051 Rev.3, QTY-5679 Nos. (PL No. 29102003). (14) 07210185, (08.11.2021) PL No. 29170631 Fire Extinguisher & Bracket, 555 Nos.(15) 06211186, (16.11.2021)

10% power outage likely due to coal shortage: Crisil

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Crisil Rating on Wednesday warned that despite the respite from a temporary fall in power demand, a tenth of the thermal capacity is still vulnerable to the outage as it sees coal-stock remaining in single-digit days through the rest of the year.

Recently, the agency had said that the ongoing coal shortage could debilitate corporate India if it lingers on for long.

About 10 per cent of the 209 gw, to be precise 20 gw capacity of coal-based private power stations remain vulnerable to outage amid surging coal demand. Despite the recent dip in demand (10 per cent over October 16 and 17) due to heavy rains, coal shortage persists as their inventory is only for 5 days, the report said.

Over half of these capacities do not have fuel supply

agreements, which increases their reliance on coal, either through imports or through e-auction where prices remain elevated, both these may force these plants to shutter operations for a few days as their operating cost may outweigh revenue.

Coal shortage is acute despite domestic supply rising 16 per cent in Q2FY22 over the same period in the pre-pandemic FY20, partly due to substitute non-cooking coal imports falling over 20 per cent and depleted coal stock at the plants.

Another problem is the erratic domestic supplies due to seasonal rains impacting mining. Overall coal supply grew around 8 per cent.

Meanwhile, domestic e-auction premia have jumped over 130 per cent over the Coal India notified rate in September, from 80 per cent in September 2019 due to the supply shortage.

'MoRTH giving enormous thrust on improving nation's logistics'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) is giving enormous thrust on improving Logistics in the country and taking steps to bring efficiency into logistics management.

Delivering a talk on "Improving Operational Efficiency in Logistics Infrastructure; Multimodal Integrated Logistics Parks; Technologies..." at 'Smart Mobility Conference 2021' at Pragati Maidan in the Capital, Joint Secretary (Logistics), Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Suman Prasad Singh, said: "Our present focus to have integrated planning of transport network development. We should not develop it in silos. That's why the "GatiShakti" portal has already come." "So far as infrastructure of MoRTH is concerned, our basic purpose is to reduce the travel time.

There are instances near ports, when a distance of 10 km, sometimes takes more than 24 hours to cover. The reason is not the distance but many other factors like traffic restrictions," he said.

Skilling varsity venture to create 3,000 jobs

New Delhi: With an aim to create 3,000 jobs within next 36 months by creating a pool of qualified job-ready skilled resources in the diagnostic sector, Healthians in collaboration with Shri Vishwakarma Skill University (SVSU) has announced the launch of the on-the-job training programme of selected youth candidates. "With an initiative like this, we intend to create a robust training platform for aspiring healthcare professionals," said Deepak Sahni, founder and CEO, Healthians. The SVSU CV said the collaboration will provide opportunities for sharing and emulating best practices and learning from each other, to address public health challenges.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Abir Thapa S/o. Bin Bahadur Thapa R/o. B-104, Gulmohar Park, New Delhi-110049 do hereby declares that I have applied for Indian Citizenship & residing at the above mentioned address as born and brought up here in, since 2001. Kindly Provide the Citizenship of India.

FORM NO. 5 DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL
600/1, University Road,
Near Hanuman Setu Mandir,
Lucknow- 226007
(Area of Jurisdiction- Part of Uttar Pradesh)

Summons For Filing Reply & Appearance By Publication
O. A. No. 455/2021
Date: 14/10/2021
Summons to defendant under Section 19(3) of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)

Original Application No. 455/2021
ICICI Bank Ltd. ...Applicant
Versus
MR. SACHIN KUMAR KAUSHAL & OTHERS ...Defendants

To,
1. MR. SACHIN KUMAR KAUSHAL
C-517, NRI CITY, Greater Noida-201308, U.P.
Also At: Flat No-004, Floor No. 0, Avion Rose wood, Tower B4, Village Khanpur Tehsil Tizara City, Bhiwadi 301019.
2. MRS. SWATI GUPTA
C-517, NRI CITY, Greater Noida-201308, U.P.
Also At: Flat No-004, Floor No. 0, Avion Rose wood, Tower B4, Village Khanpur Tehsil Tizara City, Bhiwadi 301019.
3. BHALVON PROJECTS PVT. LTD.
Registered Office: 64, Scindia House, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001
Corporate Office: 9th Floor, SAS Tower, Near Medicity, Sector- 38, Gurgaon-122001

In the above noted application, you are required to file reply in paper book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any) personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/ duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on 24.11.2021 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decide in your absence.

Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal,
Lucknow

LPG price may be hiked next week

PETROL, DIESEL RATES UP AGAIN

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Cooking gas LPG prices may be hiked next week after under-recovery on the fuel widened to over ₹100 per cylinder, sources said insisting that the rate hike, including the quantum of increase, is dependent on Government permission.

If allowed, this will be the fifth increase in cooking gas rates across all categories — households using subsidised gas for cooking and heating purposes, non-subsidised fuel and industrial-sized gas.

LPG rates were last hiked by ₹15 per cylinder on October 6, taking the total increase in rates since July to ₹90 per 14.2-kg cylinder.

Sources with direct knowledge of the matter said state-owned oil marketing companies have not been allowed to align retail selling price with the cost, and no government subsidy has so far been approved to bridge the gap.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This if for notice of the general public that a political party is proposed to be registered by the name of AAM AADMI PARIVARTAN PARTY The office of the party is located at SATYA SAI COLONY, PREET VIHAR, NEAR SUMERVILLE SCHOOL, CHAPRAULLA GAUTAM BUDDH NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH- 201009. This party has submitted application to the Election Commission of India, New Delhi for its registration as Political Party under section 29A of the Representation of People Act, 1951-Names/address of the office-bearers of the party are as follows:

President/ MANOJ KUMAR DAHIYA
Chairman: S/O SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH DAHIA, VILL-LAKHAN MAJARA, DIST-ROHTAK, HARYANA-124512
General Secretary/ SAGAR SHUKLA S/O SHRI AJAY SHUKLA, H.NO.29/63, CHHIPI TOLA, THANA- RAKABGANJ, TEHSIL- AGRA, DIST-AGRA, UTTAR PRADESH- 282003
Treasurer: REKHA W/O MANOJ KUMAR DAHIYA VILL-LAKHAN MAJARA, DIST-ROHTAK, HARYANA-124512

If any one has any objection to the registration of AAM AADMI PARIVARTAN PARTY they may send their objection with reasons thereof, to the secretary (Political Party) Election Commission of India, Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi -110001 within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

FORM NO. 5 DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL
600/1, University Road,
Near Hanuman Setu Mandir,
Lucknow- 226007
(Area of Jurisdiction- Part of Uttar Pradesh)

Summons For Filing Reply & Appearance By Publication
O. A. No. 450/2021
Date: 13/10/2021
Summons to defendant under Section 19(3) of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)

Original Application No. 450/2021
ICICI BANK LTD. ...Applicant
Versus
MR. VAIBHAV RAMASHANKAR SHARMA & OTHERS ...Defendants

To,
1. MR. VAIBHAV RAMASHANKAR SHARMA (Borrower),
Flat No. 906, 9th floor Meghdutam Enclave-Tower A Sport, Sector-Adjoining Techzone- IV, Plot no. GH-05, Greater Noida- 201307
Also At: E-4 1405, Rutu Towers, Patli Pada, Ghod bundar Road, Thane- 400607
2. MRS. PUJA SHARMA (Co-Borrower),
Flat No. 906, 9th floor Meghdutam Enclave- Tower A Sport, Sector-Adjoining Techzone- IV, Plot no. GH-05, Greater Noida- 201307.
Also At: Flat No. 10A, Tower B Viceroy Park, Thakur Village, Kandiwali, Mumbai Kannad-431103
3. PALM DEVELOPERS PVT LTD.
Registered Office at : 304 Sitaram Mansion, 718/21 Joshi road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005. Corporate Office at : 6th Floor, Matrix Tower, B-4, Sec-132, Expressway, Noida- 201301, U.P.
In the above noted application, you are required to file reply in paper book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any) personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/ duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on 22.11.2021 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decide in your absence.

Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal,
Lucknow

1.5 bn Indians to be connected to internet in 2 yrs; country's AI tech to lead globally: MoS IT

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India is expected to almost double its internet user base in the next two years with the BharatNet project connecting more homes across rural India, Minister of State for Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar said on Wednesday.

He said India, not China, is the world's largest connected nation on the internet in the world as China has more intranet connectivity and they have walled off their internet.

"India is going to be one of the largest connected nations in the world. I already think India is the largest connected country in the world because China is not connected because it has an intranet, walled off island that pretends to be the internet. "Even if you believe for a

minute that they are on the internet, we are going to be one of the largest nations in the world," Chandrasekhar said at an Assocham conference.

He added that the country has around 800 million people on the internet at present.

"As the rural broadband internet connectivity programme of the BharatNet starts kicking in and lighting up homes in the villages, we will have 1.5 billion Indians being connected to the internet over the next two years," Chandrasekhar said.

He said internet connectivity is going to drive the artificial intelligence (AI) ecosystem in the country and will get preference globally as it will be developed with ethics under the guidance of data privacy rules.

RAJASTHAN MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.
(A Govt. of Rajasthan Undertaking)
Gandhi Block, Swasthya Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur- 302005, India
Phone No: 0141-2229066, 2228064
CIN: U24232RJ2011SGC035067
Website: <http://rsmc.health.rajasthan.gov.in>
E-mail: edprmc@nic.in

Ref. No.: F.02 (338)/RMSCL/PROCUREMENT/DRUG/NB-27/2021/1658 Dated - 22/10/2021

Notice Inviting E-Bid

E-bids are invited upto 06.00 PM of 11.11.2021 for E-BID FOR RATE CONTRACT CUM SUPPLY AND EMPANELMENT OF DRUGS AND MEDICINES. Details of NIB may be seen in the Bidding Documents at our office or at the website of State Public procurement Portal <http://sppp.raj.nic.in> (UBN: MSC2122GLOB00099) www.dipronline.org, <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://rsmc.health.rajasthan.gov.in> and may be downloaded from there.

Executive Director (Procurement) RMSCL
Raj.Samwadi/7650/2021-22

UJVN LIMITED
(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprise)
H.O. "UJVN" MAHARAJA BAHU, ONE ROAD, DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND, INDIA. PIN-248001
Tel: 0135-2763508, 2763509, 2763508, Fax: 0135-2763507, website: www.ujvn.com

Tender Notice Date : 27.10.2021

Office of the Executive Engineer (Generation) Tiloth Power House, Uttarkashi invites sealed tender from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

Tender No. -05/EE(G-MB-I)/2021-22 & 06/EE(G-MB-I)/2021-22

Name of work: (1) Gardening Plantation & other associated miscellaneous work at Tiloth Power House, Uttarkashi for the period of one year. (2) Testing of Transformer Oil of various Transformers installed at Tiloth Power House, Uttarkashi.

Estimated cost: ₹ 665395.00 (Taxes Extra) & ₹ 99550.00 (Taxes Extra)

Date of availability of bid document on website : 28.10.2021 at 16:00 hrs. Last date of submission of tender : 18.11.2021 at 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".

Executive Engineer (Generation)

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one male Namely: **Sanjay Rai, S/o Ram Singh Rai, R/o: H.No.- 2003, Street No. 57, Block-B, Sant Nagar, Burari, New Delhi** has been missing since **18.10.2021** at 06:00 pm. from A-59, Naraina Industrial Area, Phase-I, New Delhi in the regard of P.S. Naraina, New Delhi. This in regard a DD No. 42A dated 19.10.2021 has been registered at P.S. Naraina, New Delhi. The description of the missing male is as under- Age: 50 years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'11", Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Strong, Wearing: Green colour shirt, black colour pant and brown colour shoes in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing person but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this missing person kindly inform to the following.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail id - cbi@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639
DP/600/WD/2021

SHO
P.S. Naraina, Delhi
Tel.No. 011-25891181, 8750871122

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that a girl (depicted in the photo), Namely: **Amrita Kumari D/o Shri Awadesh Pashwan R/o H.No. B-129, Jawahar Camp, Kirti Nagar, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since 16.10.2021 from the area of P.S. Kirti Nagar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide FIR No 462/21 U/s 363 IPC dated 17.10.2021 has been registered at Police Station Kirti Nagar, Delhi. Her physical description is as under-

Age: 14 Years, Height: 5'3", Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Thin, Hair: Long & Black, Wearing: White & Grey Colour Suit & Salwar and Black Colour Shoes (School dress).

Any person having any information/ Clue about this missing/kidnapped girl, may inform SHO, Kirti Nagar, Delhi at E-mail id-cbi@cbi.gov.in or website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Phone: SHO
011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639
DP/598/WD/2021

PS. Kirti Nagar, Delhi
West Distt., Delhi
Ph. No. 011-25438719, 25190462

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified person Namely : **Unknown S/o Unknown R/o Unknown Age : about 30-35 years, Height : 5'6", Complexion : Shallow Face : Oval, Identification : A Tattoo of "ॐ" on right hand Wearing : Hospital dress** has been found dead at AIIMS Trauma Center Hospital, Delhi on 21.10.2021. In this regard a case vide DD No. 18A dated 21.10.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved at Subzi Mandi, Mortuary, Delhi

Any person having any information or clue about this dead person may kindly inform to the following:-

SHO :
P.S. Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station, Delhi
Tel. No. 011-24356743, 8750871311

DP/358/RLY/2021

Air India asks Govt depts to clear dues

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As Air India stopped the credit facility for buying of air tickets after sale, the Department of Expenditure has issued an order directing all ministries and departments to clear its dues immediately. The department has also ordered that air tickets from Air India may be purchased in cash till further instructions. "Recently, the Government of India has decided to disinvest Air India, the process of disinvestment of Air India and Air India Express is ongoing. Air India has

stopped extending credit facility on account of purchase of air tickets. Therefore, all ministries and departments are directed to clear Air India's dues immediately. Air tickets from Air India may be purchased in cash till further instructions," the department said in an office memorandum on Wednesday. The department has further directed ministries and departments to brought out these instructions to the notice of their subordinate offices/institutes, under the administrative control for further compliance.

Rising tea imports cause of concern: Planters' body

Kolkata: A body of tea planters on Wednesday expressed concern over rising imports of the commodity and said a minimum price should be fixed for shipments arriving from overseas to protect the domestic units.

Indian Tea Association said imports in 2020 increased by 47 per cent as compared to 2019, and by 176 per cent in the first six months of the current calendar year as against the corresponding period.

BSES Yamuna Power Limited, New Delhi
... A joint venture with Govt. of NCT of Delhi

NOTICE INVITING TENDER Date: 28.10.2021

Sealed tenders under two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) is invited for following jobs:

NIT No.	Brief Work Description	Estimated Cost (₹)	Cost of EMD (₹)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
CMC/BY/21-22/RS/SV/29	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF 11 KV DRY TYPE PACKAGE SUB-STATION OF 1.6 AND 2 MVA DT RATING	5.50 crore	5,50,000	20.11.2021, 15:00 HRS	22.11.2021, 15:00 HRS
CMC/BY/21-22/RS/SV/32	SUPPLY OF SINGLE PHASE OIL FILLED COMPLETELY SELF PROTECTED (CSP) TRANSFORMER OF RATING 25KVA 6.35/0.240KV	2.55 crore	5,10,000	20.11.2021, 15:00 HRS	22.11.2021, 16:00 HRS

For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & conditions, purchase/submit of tender documents, corrigendum etc. please visit our website www.bsesdelhi.com --> BSES YAMUNA POWER LTD --> Tender --> Open Tenders.

Head (Contracts & Materials)
Regd. Off: BSES Yamuna Power Ltd, Shakti Kiran Building, Karkardooma, Delhi-110032 | CIN: U40109DL2001PLC111525
TEL: 011-41247111 | Fax: 011-4124 7787 | Website: www.bsesdelhi.com

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) R/w Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, (on underlying pool assigned to ICICI Bank by Dewan Housing Finance Ltd.) in relation to the enforcement of security in respect of a housing loan facility granted pursuant to a loan agreement entered into between DHFL and the borrower, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Number (Loan Account Number (DHFL Old LAN & ICICI New LAN))	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Sunil Gupta/ Suman Gupta/ (19600043393 & OZGRN00005014029)	Plot No-11, Second Floor, Block-A, Jhimil Colony, Shahdara, New Delhi./ October 22, 2021	June 03, 2021 Rs. 24,08,025/-	Delhi/ Ncr
2.	Zahir Mohd/ Tabassum Begam (19000001856 & OZDEL00005042813)	WZ- 166 2nd Flr Rear Portion Building Khasra No. 94, Khewat No. 54/52 Lal Dora Abadi Vill Shadipur Ranjit Nagar Delhi./ October 22, 2021	June 03, 2021 Rs. 19,78,443/-	Delhi/ Ncr
3.	Devender Singh/ Dimpal Kushwah (19600044085 & OZGRN00005009725)	House No. 1447-C/13, 1st Floor Rear LHS Khasra No. 600/93, Gali No. 13 Govindpuri Kalkaji New Delhi/ October 25, 2021	June 03, 2021 Rs. 11,14,116/-	Delhi/ Ncr
4.	Durga Prasad Tiwari/ Shobha Devi (13100001977 & OZNOD00005016405)	Property No. C-8A, 2nd Floor Rear Side Without Roof Right, Block- C, Khasra No. 333, Village Bindapur, Subhash Park, Uttam Nagar, Delhi/ October 25, 2021	June 03, 2021 Rs. 16,29,654/-	Delhi/ Ncr
5.	Sachin Kumar Sharma/ Navin Kumar Sharma (19800041483 & OZPTU00005013043)	Plot No. B-195, Upper Ground Floor Back Side, Kh No. 10/16-23 Gali No. 5 Sainik Nagar, Village Matiala Uttam Nagar, New Delhi/ October 25, 2021	June 03, 2021 Rs. 30,57,842/-	Delhi/ Ncr

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

Date : October 28, 2021
Place : Delhi/ NCR

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

Chola Enter a better life

Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited
Corporate Office: 1st Floor, 'Dare House', No.2, N.S.C. Bose Road, Chennai-600 001
Branch Office: 1st & 2nd Floor, Plot No.6, Main Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110 005.

POSSESSION NOTICE - Under Rule 8 (1)

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 hereinafter called the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rules 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices calling upon the borrowers, whose names have been indicated in Column [B] below on dates specified in Column [C] to repay the outstanding amount indicated in Column [D] below with interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers in particular and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties mortgaged with the Company described in Column [E] herein below on the respective dates mentioned in Column [F] in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rule 9 of the Rules made there under.

The borrowers in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties mentioned in Column [E] below and any such dealings will be subject to the charge of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited for an amount mentioned in Column [D] along with interest and other charges.

Under section 13 [8] of the Securitisation Act, the borrowers can redeem the secured asset by payment of the entire outstanding including all costs, charges and expenses before notification of sale.

SR. NO	NAME AND ADDRESS OF BORROWER/S & LOAN ACCOUNT NUMBER	DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE	OUTSTANDING AMOUNT	DETAILS OF PROPERTY POSSESSED	DATE OF SYMBOLIC POSSESSION
1.	Loan Account No. X0HEHDE00001131137 & X0HEHDE00002033747 1. RAJESH SHARMA 65-A F/F Kishan Kunj Extn Part-I Laxmi Nagar, New Delhi - 110092 2. RAJINI SHARMA 65-A Kishan Kunj Extn Part-I, Laxmi Nagar, New Delhi - 110092 3. M/S J M D DIESEL D-9/208A Ground Floor Laxmi Nagar Delhi, New Delhi - 110092	10.06.2021	Rs. 3845030.55/- as on 10.06.2021	All that piece and parcel of the property in First Floor Flat area 100 sq. yds, built on Property No. 65-A, out of Rect.No. 54, Killa No. 02, situated in village Khureji Khas, in Gali No. 2, Krishan Kunj Extn. Part-I, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi	22-10-2021
2.	Loan Account No. X0HEHDE0000236835 1. RAVINDER KUMAR NO 527-A/3B JAWALA NAGAR SHAHDARA NEW DELHI, NEW DELHI - 110032 2. ANITA DEVI NO 527-A/3B Jawala Nagar Shahdara New Delhi - 110032	12.06.2021	Rs. 8806803.38 as on 09-06-2021	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.544 (New) Old property No. 527-A/3B measuring 145 sq yds falling in Khasra No.3137/2568/704, Village Chandrawali alias Shahdara, Jwala Nagar, Ilacqua Shahdara, Delhi.	22-10-2021
3.	Loan Account No. X0HEHDE00000922571 1. RAM AVTER CHAUDHAREY 2. MALTI DEVI 3. RAJ CHOUDHARY All residing at: 10/377 Lalita Park Laxmi Nagar, New Delhi - 110092	12.06.2021	Rs. 2600121.47 as on 09-06-2021	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing entire First Floor without roof rights of admeasuring 37 Sq.yds built on property No. 10/377, L Type, out of Khasra No.18, situated at Lalita Park Laxmi Nagar, Village Shakarpur Khas, Shahdara, Delhi.	22-10-2021
4.	Loan Account No. X0HEHDE00001306365 1. ANUJ KUMAR VARSANEY 2. VINAY KUMAR, 3. MRS. MANJU NEW DELHI, NEW DELHI - 110092 Mayur Vihar - II, New Delhi - 110096 4. GYAN CHANDRA, 5. DAYA VATI Both residing at: 317 B Nai Basli Ward 5 Chandrasekhar, Moradabad - 244001	12.06.2021	Rs. 30,46,399.61 as on 09-06-2021	All that piece and Parcel of the property bearing No.55-B, on Ground Floor, Category -LIG, in Pocket-A-1 situated in the layout plan of Housing Estate at Kondi Gharelli Phase-II known as Mayur Vihar Phase-II, Delhi	22-10-2021
5.	Loan Account No. X0HEHDE00001350928 1. SHYAM UNDER SHARMA 2. VIMMY SHARMA Both residing at: A-53/1 CHANDER LOK SHAHDARA MANDOLI ROAD, NEW DELHI - 110093	10.06.2021	Rs. 36,84,749.67 as on 09-06-2021	Built up Second Floor without roof rights of property bearing No.15, Old No.49-B, measuring 100 Sq.yards, out of Khasra No. 533, situated at village Sikdarpur, in the abadi of Chanderkot Colony, Shahdara Delhi.	21-10-2021
6.	Loan Account No. X0HEHDE00001394681 1. SATYA VEER JAIN 2. SARITA JAIN, 3. RAHUL JAIN Both residing at: V-549 GALI NO.18 VIJAY PARK MAUJUPUR, NEW DELHI - 110053	12.06.2021	Rs. 41,69,711.05 as on 09-06-2021	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.V-214 admeasuring 50 sq yds i.e., 41.80 sq.mtrs out of Khasra No.44 situated in the area of Village Moujpur, in the abadi of Gali No.18 Vijay Park, Moujpur, Shahdara, Delhi.	21-10-2021
7.	Loan Account No. X0HEELD00001918988 & X0HEELD00001918990 1. BAL KISHAN Shop Plot-43, Pandav Nagar Shakarpur, New Delhi - 110092 2. PRAVEESH RANI Shop Plot-43, Pandav Nagar Shakarpur, New Delhi - 110092 3. PREETI NAYYAR Shop Plot-43, Pandav Nagar Shakarpur, New Delhi - 110092 4. SAI BHOJANALAYA Shop Plot-43, Pandav Nagar Shakarpur, New Delhi - 110092	10.06.2021	Rs. 35,05,492.23 and Rs. 6,506,781/- Totally Rs. 41,21,101.0		



With Covid-19 being a distant memory, and every Indian state throwing their borders wide-open for tourists, we Indians are back at it, travelling, with vengeance. Thomas Cook India, a leading integrated travel services company, conducted a study which revealed some surprising insights.

The pandemic had virtually thrown the travel and hospitality industry in a state of disarray last year, and it wasn't expected to improve anytime soon. However, on that particular count, most of us were wrong. Bookings, done with the assistance of Thomas Cook India, reflect a 60 per cent month-on-month growth, ever since the Covid situation was taken stock of, with vaccinations, shared Romil Pant, the senior vice-president of Leisure Travel at Thomas Cook India recently.

"There has been a jump of over 300 per cent, with respect to bookings, when we compare the data from September 2019, much before the pandemic, with the numbers generated for September 2021. This surge can best be attributed to lockdown fatigue and pent-up urge to travel," he postulated, before sharing other noteworthy trends.

A surge in demand for the forthcoming festive and winter season, Expo 2020 Dubai and honeymoon travel due to the marriage season in the North is powering travel growth from Delhi. "At this point in time, Thomas Cook India is back to

BACK IN BUSINESS

India's travel industry has been witnessing a strong surge in the past few months, contrary to expectations, says ROMIL PANT, senior vice-president of Leisure Travel, Thomas Cook India. By CHRISTY VARGHESE

65 per cent of pre-pandemic level bookings, with domestic travel at an impressive 290 per cent and international at 55 per cent," he revealed.

As per Pant, travelling with India is the best possible option, for those who seek leisure. "With the most prominent factor being ease of communication, it might take a while before we see international travel achieving pre-pandemic numbers. Let's consider you test positive for Covid in India, away from your hometown, the language divide does not play a huge role and all our packages are equipped with TravShield — a comprehensive safe travel programme, in association with Apollo Clinics. TravShield gets you free rescheduling and cancellation, if you are afflicted with



Covid, you are entitled to insurance; in short, we are here for you. However, while travelling overseas, it is not as simple as that. Getting the permissions in place from the embassy/consulate, that might take a while."

He went on to elaborate on some details that one might overlook while travelling, for instance, the cost of the RT-PCR test. "You might be surprised by how easier it is back home, here in India, when it comes to dealing with RT-PCR tests. Every country of the European Union has different costs for the RT-PCR tests, with the cheapest being ₹50. When travelling overseas, you need to take every factor into account. Something Thomas Cook India would be happy to help you with," he shared with a smile.

Other notable trends that he touched upon was how homestays and farm-stays have emerged as the preferred place of stay, after the Covid pandemic. It was not very surprising, though, as tourists opted to stay in places with less people, with many booking a villa for multiple families to stay in, together. He also chose the occasion to clarify that Thomas Cook has been misunderstood as an organisation which exclusively facilitates overseas travel. "To the contrary, we have our agencies spread across the country to help those who wish to see more of our beautiful country. With winter approaching, we have seen a surge in pre-bookings for places and experiences in the Andamans, Goa and Kerala. Even though the number of cases in Kerala might be high, the mortality rate is low. And throw in an administration which pulls all stops for its tourists, no wonder Kerala remains a hot destination."

Currently, as per the study, which takes into account numbers from September 2019 to September 2021, Maldives, Switzerland, France, Russia, Spain, Egypt are the top international destinations. Maldives, with no restrictions throughout, was no surprise on the list. The ongoing Expo 2020 Dubai is also seeing a brisk demand currently, Pant noted.

So, what are you waiting for? Go on and satiate that travel bug, but do your research first and travel safe, whenever you do.

DIY bridal hacks

CHANDNI GOYAL lists five effective home-remedies for brides to glow on their big day

Wedding season is upon us and the brides are excited, nervous and busy. The sheer amount of arrangements can be challenging. There may be no getting around the work, but letting it rob you of your bridal glow is something we just cannot allow. Self-care will have to take top priority in order to get your hair and skin looking their best for your big day. Luckily, this doesn't have to mean expensive spa days or elaborate treatments with an aesthetician. There are many beauty routines that are both simple and affordable that can be practised at home. They can help treat any specific skin problem or be the extra love that your skin needs to help you look fantastic.

Below are a few tips that can be easily incorporated in your routines to glow:

◆Aloe vera gel

Aloe vera gel is the component inside the aloe vera plant that is one of the most commonly used natural remedies, especially as an anti-inflammatory warrior. It helps calm irritated skin, including eczema, dry skin and even minor cuts and burns. Its gel-like texture makes it easily absorbing, making it particularly beneficial to those with oily skin, and its moisturising power makes it a go-to solution for those with dry skin alike. The plant is very easy to grow at home, but in case this is not possible you can choose from a number of pure aloe vera or aloe vera-based products available to buy. For those who have the plant, slice in half an aloe vera leaf and squeeze out the gel. Apply the fresh gel onto your face every day in the evening. Its collagen boosting and anti-scarring properties will help achieve well-hydrated and glowing glass-like skin. For silky and shiny hair, it can also be applied as an overnight hair pack.

◆Get rid of the tan

Sun exposure not only leads to tanning but also harmful UV rays, dark spots and dullness. One simple yet very effective home-remedy to reverse the harsh effects of the sun is a DIY face-pack which is a combination of cucumber, potato and lemon juice mixed together with *besan* (for binding) to be applied on the face. Cucumber calms the skin, potato helps remove a stubborn tan, dark spots and acne marks, whereas lemon juice has a bleaching effect and helps in skin-brightening.

◆Pure almond oil

Pure almond oil when massaged around the eyes for two minutes before bedtime works very well to reduce dark circles and puffiness. Almonds are rich in vitamin E which is healing and also have anti-inflammatory, antioxidant and skin-lightening qualities. Gentle massaging helps improve the blood circulation. Almond oil is particularly gentle on the delicate skin around the eyes. Remember to choose a high quality, preferably cold-pressed version. Consistency is the key here, by including this ritual in your daily night time skin care routine, you should be able to see results after a month or so.

◆Pink lip colour on cheeks

A nice bright pink lip colour is great to



have in your clutch as a last-minute touch up. Warm up the same lip colour on your fingertips and lightly apply on your cheeks for that natural, healthy flush of colour. There is an amazing range of pink lipstick shades — nudes, rosy, peachy — and you can go ahead and play around with it, from choosing something that is closer to your natural lip colour to experimenting with a more striking one.

◆Heal your smile

Our lips work super hard for us. From drinking and eating to talking and smiling they are in constant use and naturally suffer a lot of damage. Add to that the harsh effects of environmental pollution. Dry, cracked or discoloured lips are the result. Adding lip care to our beauty routine should not be overlooked, but it is very important to remember not to overdo it either and also to use a light touch. Over-exfoliation or being too aggressive while scrubbing leads to injury and bleeding. A good homemade remedy to heal your smile is to use honey mixed with granular sugar to scrub your lips. Clean with a soft fibre cloth to reveal lips that don't look chapped or rough. Apply a lip balm or a clear gloss on top so your lips look plump and naturally pink. Once in a while consider taking a complete break from all lip products — including lipsticks, glosses, scrubs and packs — and just let them breathe. During this time, you can just use a little balm to keep your skin nourished and soft.

(The author is the training manager of House of Beauty and Boddess.com.)

Pandemic festivals have grown to be more intimate and close-knit, glorifying the small spaces and their homely vibe. The introverted twist in the celebrations focus on finding joy in the simpler things in life — minimal themes and hygge lifestyles are embraced by people all around the country. Although, a certain part of this new lifestyle tends to miss the laughter-filled gatherings, the ring of the chorus of ceremonial songs, the exchange of wishes with the loved ones and other fanfare that is a part of the package of festivities. A festival dated at this time of the year will turn positive when it strikes a balance between the new and old ways of celebration, with decorated indoors, flower ornamented nooks, diya-lit doors, aesthetically composed pooja rooms and other details that stand out in person or form the backdrop during the video calls with the distant family.

◆Reorganising kitchens

Festivities come with an aesthetic tone of their own. The pooja mandates as in mandaps, *torans*, and so on, are sure to fill a major part of the décor. But the secret lies in the details. The extravagance of the pooja calls for a reorganised kitchen and a complete dining makeover. Fresh tablecloths in bright Indian hues shall lay the carpet for the ethnic tableware in pure silver or brass. More traditional statement shall be brought in with pre-loved antique wood showpieces, traditional wall art, motif-patterned throw pillows, bright-hued upholstery, intricate handwoven

Post-pandemic festivities

PUNAM KALRA curates a list of minimal themes and creative ideas to light up your home this Diwali

carpets and more. Artisanal weaves, like *ikat* and *shibori*, made in breathable cotton, luxurious silk, or warm wool, make for unique upholstery, curtains, carpets and bed linen. They have an inherent pattern play, showing off textures and colours to the fullest.

◆Revamping living rooms

The living room calls for a sophisticated, indulgent palette with a touch of mauve, beige or a darker brown. A pastel intervention in the neutrals tend to contemporise the décor, making it ideal for the new ways of celebrating — powder blue, mint green or peach hints leave a trail of playfulness and relaxation in the spaces planned for minimal poojas. Strong colours like blue and red, accented with tonal shades like lime and tangerine look feisty. Muted shades like blush, teal and lilac, create a gentle yet suave ambience. Vivid forest-inspired colours and motifs in wall finishes further add a sensorial freshness. Accompanied by conversational pieces of furniture, lively décor pieces and a lavish choice of luminaires, the space is set in the festive mood.

◆Apt sanitisation

In the wake of the pandemic, the mod-



ern-day setup is incomplete without sanitising points and socially-distanced seats. There are virtual celebrations. Online meetings shall be set in a central frame and the numbered guests can be a part of a thoughtful celebration, with the same love and affection as ever. The pandemic celebrations are only a reminder of kindness and gratitude that long for hosting a festival that is safe and undisturbed.

◆Adding statement accessories

This festive season can be a celebration of our individualistic dreams and personalities, expressed through an experiential interior aesthetic. A play of minimal maximalism adds a raw and intimate textural feel to the décor. Imaginative furniture forms with statement accessories, chic coffee tables, lively indoor planters and metallic cushions in copper and gold add a touch of glamour and snugness to the room.

Begin with a backdrop that blends with the colour theme of the home, experiment with lattice screens, a carved wooden *jali* or an embossed frame. Group the brassware into a large embellished plate, lined with fresh flowers. When the florals go overwhelming, tone down the colour game with the greens — there are vines, foliage and other contemporary elements that give a whiff of ethereal beauty in the indoors.

◆Using exotic scents

Incense sticks in sandalwood, jasmine or other fragrances, along with freshly-

plucked flowers, leave an indulgent vibe. A mix of statement lighting, floor lamps and diffused lighting add to the enchantment of the festivities. A combination of fresh flowers, aroma diffusers, *urulis* and fragrant candles enhance the décor by adding a pleasing aroma to the house. Decorative experiments with choices between handcrafted pieces and minimal origami details draw the fine line between the traditional and modern décor choices. Finely-set orchestrated elements as in the artisanal ware, with or without a rich inlay of semi-precious stones step up the opulence levels. There is a soft spot for everything aureate and glistening. An unmissable layer of diyas, bells or flowers, with a stand-out arch frame or modest wooden alcoves, wraps up the aesthetic of a contemporary festive setup.

◆Being eco-conscious

This festive season can be a celebration of our individualistic dreams and personalities, expressed through an experiential interior aesthetic. Imaginative furniture and statement accessories in eco-conscious elements like wood, stone, ceramics and metallic shades, like coffee tables, minimal indoor planters, can add an elegant festive feel to the room. A lasting statement comes from more conscious choice in the décor which goes beyond visual appeal.

(The author is an interior designer and the creative director of I'm the Centre for Applied Arts, a design studio in New Delhi.)

TREND BLAZER



SAIF-RANI DUO IS BACK WITH A BANG

Actor SAIF ALI KHAN, who will be seen shaking a leg with actress Rani Mukerji after over a decade in the forthcoming film *Bunty Aur Babli 2*, says they needed a hit track such as *Tattoo Waaliye* to dance again.

"Every on-screen *jodi* over the decades has had a unique calling card for audiences. For Rani and me, it has been romantic comedies and we have been lucky to have had chartbusting songs. *Hum Tum* had blockbuster music. Rani and I had a blast filming and dancing to them," he expresses.

fairtalk BADSHAH



"What genuinely inspired me to make the song, *Jugnu*, was just the need of giving something absolutely different from what is going on or what is being heard at this moment. I am talking internationally, because now with what you find on YouTube, the consumption of music has gone universal. It is difficult to stand out as an artiste."

dailytalk REMO D'SOUZA



"The past year has not been the easiest one for the world and for me, but my family and I have courageously battled through it and here we are. That being said, we had a fabulous season of *Dance+* this year. We always have something new to offer with every season. I hope the audiences are all set to groove with us again."

MEGAN SET TO GRADUATE SOON

The Grammy winning-rapper, MEGAN THEE STALLION, has revealed that she's set to graduate soon, after studying for her degree in health administration at Texas Southern University.

"I want to do this because I really want my mom to be proud. She saw me going to school before she passed away," she said. "My grandmother used to be a teacher, so she's been after my life about finishing school. I'm doing it for me, but I'm also doing it for the women who made me who I am today," the 26-year-old added.



