

**OPINION 6**  
THE FÜHRER PRINCIP  
IS CONGRESS' BANE**WORLD 8**  
N KOREA SAYS IT FIRED  
ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILE**SPORT 12**  
MANDHANA FALLS AFTER  
MAIDEN TEST TON

NEW DELHI, SATURDAY OCTOBER 2, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹3



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DECADE: SAIF  
ALI KHAN  
10 VIVACITY**CAPSULE****KANHAIYA, LIKE SIDHU, WILL DESTROY CONG: RJD**  
**Muzaffarpur:** Bihar's main Opposition party RJD on Friday mocked Kanhaiya Kumar's induction into the Congress, saying that the former JNU student is like "another Navjot Singh Sidhu" who would "destroy" the grand old party. Ridiculing the Congress by calling it a sinking ship, senior RJD leader Shivanand Tiwari said that Kanhaiya Kumar's joining won't make any difference to the party.**RELIGIOUS PLACES IN DELHI OPENED**  
**New Delhi:** The Delhi Government has allowed the reopening of religious places in the city for devotees from Friday with strict adherence to Covid guidelines and standard operating procedure (SOP). The Delhi Disaster Management Authority issued fresh Covid-19 guidelines on Thursday.**UP TO GET ITS FIRST AIR PURIFIER TOWER AT DND**  
**Noida:** Uttar Pradesh's first air pollution control tower is set to come up along the DND Expressway in Noida, officials said on Friday. The tower will be a pilot project which would be installed by the Noida Authority in collaboration with the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), they said.**ISIS-K CLAIMS KILLING OF SIKH HAKEEM IN PAK**  
**Peshawar:** The Islamic State's Afghanistan affiliate, dubbed Islamic State Khorasan or ISIS-K, has claimed responsibility for the killing of a well-known Sikh 'hakeem' in Pakistan's restive northwestern city of Peshawar.

# UK visitors face 10-day quarantine in tit for tat

**New rule for all UK travellers to India from Oct 4**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In an obvious tit-for-tat measure, India has decided to place all visiting travellers from the United Kingdom in mandatory ten-day quarantine even if they are vaccinated against Covid-19. The rule will come into force from October 4.

This is seen as retaliatory measure after the UK did not change its rule requiring all Indians entering Britain to be quarantined for ten days even if they had taken the two doses of vaccine. The UK will also enforce the rule from Monday.

"Our new regulations will come into effect from October 4, and will be applicable to all UK nationals arriving from the UK," sources said here.

The directive also said from October 4, all UK nationals arriving in India from the UK, irrespective of their vaccination status, will have to undertake the following measures: pre-departure Covid-19 RT-PCR test within 72 hours before travel; Covid-19 RT-



PCR test on arrival at airport; Covid-19 RT-PCR test on Day eight after arrival, and mandatory quarantine at home or in the destination address for 10 days after arrival in India.

The order also said authorities in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Civil Aviation will be taking steps to implement new measures.

When Britain announced the new rules about ten days back, Foreign Secretary Harsh Shringla had termed them as "discriminatory" and cautioned that India had the right to take "reciprocal" action.

External Affairs Minister S

Jaishankar had taken up this issue with his British counterpart Elizabeth Truss in New York on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly session last week.

Under travel rules unveiled last month, fully dosed arrivals

from nations such as the US, Israel and Australia will be allowed to enter England without quarantine. However, vaccinated people from many other countries, including India, still face tougher restrictions, including a 10-day home isolation period.

Following an uproar here, the UK changed its rule and included Covishield but did not remove India from the list of countries facing new restrictions.

Amid controversy over Britain's new rules to quarantine travelers from India who are vaccinated with two doses of Covishield because of vaccination "certification issues", United Kingdom High Commissioner to India Alex Ellis and National Health Authority chairman RS Sharma on last week discussed vaccine certification for Indian travellers.

## Australian medicine regulator OK's Covishield for incoming travellers

**New Delhi:** Australia's top medical regulator on Friday approved the Covishield vaccine manufactured by the Serum Institute of India for

incoming international travellers, a step that is expected to facilitate the return of thousands of Indian students to that country.

## You've strangled Capital, SC tells protesting farmers

**Court fumes at their plea for 'Satyagrah' at Jantar Mantar**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday expressed strong displeasure over the way the farmers' blockade has "strangled the entire city" and asked farmers' unions to consider the rights of others while continuing with protests and blocking roads.

The top court reminded the unions that they should adopt a balanced approach and asked why they are continuing protests after filing cases against farm laws in courts. The apex court was responding to a petition by Kisan Mahapanchayat for allowing them to conduct a protest at Jantar Mantar.

"You have strangled the entire city and now you want to come within the city and start protest again here," the bench of justices AM Khanwilkar and CT Ravikumar said, adding, "There has to be some balanced approach".

"What was the point in continuing with the protest



once it has moved the court challenging the farm laws," the apex court asked the farmers' body, and said the citizens have equal rights to move freely and without fear and there has to be some "balanced approach". The bench asked the petitioners whether they have sought the view of the residents of the area if they are "happy" with their protest.

Kisan Mahapanchayat in its petition sought directions to the concerned authorities to provide space to at least 200 farmers or protesters of the body at the Jantar Mantar for organising peaceful and non-violent "Satyagrah".

At the outset, the counsel appearing for the petitioners told the bench that the plea is seeking direction to the concerned authorities to permit them to stage "Satyagrah" at Jantar Mantar here. "Tell us one thing, you want 'Satyagrah' here, no difficulty. But you have approached the court. Once you have approached the court, have trust in the court and the judicial system that it will decide your case appropriately," the bench said.

## 6 go missing as avalanche hits Navy's Mt Trishul expedition team

PNS ■ JOSHIMATH

Five mountaineers and one sherpa are reported to be missing after an Indian Navy expedition to Mount Trishul in Uttarakhand was hit by an avalanche early on Friday morning.

Search and rescue efforts are underway, though bad weather is said to have affected the efforts from Joshimath.

A 20-member team was on an expedition to the 7,120 metres high Mount Trishul. On Friday, a 10-member group began the ascent but was caught in an avalanche at a height of 6,700 metres. Five climbers and one Sherpa went missing after the avalanche which took place early morning around 5.

According to officials, a search and rescue team was also sent from Nehru Institute of Mountaineering (NIM) after news of six members of the expedition team missing was received. The team is headed by NIM principal colonel Amit Bisht.

After arriving at the Army helipad in Joshimath, Bisht said inclement weather was preventing his team from departing from Joshimath. They were waiting for the weather to clear. Meanwhile, Army and Air Force were conducting search and rescue operations.

# Tata Sons top bidder for AI

**Announcement after approval by Shah-headed Group of Mins**

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Tata Sons has reportedly emerged the highest bidder for the debt-laden Air India but the formal announcement would be made after the approval of the Group of Ministers headed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

Hours after reports suggesting that Tata Sons has won the bid for Air India started doing the rounds, the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) said the bids are being evaluated and the decision is yet to be taken.

Earlier, Tuhin Kanta Pandey, Secretary of the DIPAM, clarified that media

reports indicating approval of financial bids by the Government of India in the Air India disinvestment case are incorrect. "Media will be informed of the Government decision as and when it is taken," tweeted the Secretary.

Air India and Tata Sons declined to comment. Tata group had bid against debt-strapped SpiceJet's promoter Ajay Singh. Singh had bid in his individual capacity.

Sources in the Government said, "Tata Sons has placed the highest bid for Air India but an official announcement on the winning bid will be taken in the next few days only after the approval of a group of ministers headed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The other members of the panel called Air India Specific Alternative Mechanism (AISAM) are Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia."

## 100% cut-off at 6 DU colleges for UG progs

**Admission to start on Mon**

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The first cut-off list for undergraduate admissions was announced by the Delhi University with at least six colleges, including SRCC and Hindu, declaring the cut-offs at 100 per cent.

Sri Ram College for Commerce for Economics Honours and B.Com Honours, Hindu College and Ramjas College for Political Science Honours, Hindu College and SGTB Khalsa College for B.Com, Hansraj College and Deen Dayal Upadhyay College for Computer Science Honours and Jesus and Mary College for Psychology Honours are among the colleges that have declared 100 per cent cut-offs.

The process of admission for these courses will start on October 4 and colleges are told to complete approvals for



Students outside a college after Delhi University released its first cut-off list for undergraduate courses, at North Campus in New Delhi on Friday. PTI

admission against first cut off by October 7.

Also, the second cut-off list will be released on October 9 while the third cut-off list on October 16, 2021.

Lady Shri Ram (LSR) College released a cut-off requirement of 100 per cent for three courses — BA (Hons) Economics, Political Science and Psychology in 2020.

## Punjab CM urges PM to withdraw farm laws

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi on Friday met Prime Minister Narendra Modi at his residence here and sought withdrawal of the three controversial farm laws against which thousands of Punjab farmers are protesting.

"Agriculture is our main source of income. I have asked the Prime Minister to help find a solution to the deadlock with farmers, who are protesting against the three controversial farm laws," Channi told reporters after the meeting.

Channi is also reported to have urged the Prime Minister to scrap the Centre's decision to postpone paddy procurement in the State beginning Friday.

The Centre has issued a letter changing the date to start paddy procurement from October 1 to 11 in Punjab and



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Punjab CM Charanjit Singh Channi during a meeting in New Delhi. PTI

Haryana. This decision has been obviously prompted by a delay in crop maturity due to recent heavy rain. Crop procurement is undertaken by the Central Government's agency, Food Corporation of India, along with State agencies.

## Amarinder failed to deliver: Rawat; Captain hits back

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

A day after Punjab's former Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh made it clear that he would soon be parting ways with the Congress after being "humiliated", another round of public mudslinging started on Friday — this time between the party's Punjab general secretary in-charge Harish Rawat and the Captain.

Rawat issued a detailed statement of how Amarinder was "never humiliated" and was always "kept in high esteem", how he was given free hand but failed to deliver, how he lost the support of legislators because of his stubbornness.

Quick to respond, Amarinder said that Rawat's statement proves that the party finds itself in a "pathetic situation" in Punjab.

Claiming that Amarinder's announcement to quit the Congress seemed to be taken "under pressure", Rawat asked the senior Congress leader to "rethink" and urged him not to help the BJP in any way.

Reacting, Amarinder said that the only pressure that he has been under is the pressure of his loyalty to the party for which he has put up with the "humiliation" all these days.

Rawat said: "Congress has always kept Amarinder and his family in high esteem. Even after suffering a crushing defeat from Patiala constituency in 1998, he was inducted into the Congress party and immediately appointed by Sonia Gandhi as the president of Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee on three occasions from 1999 to 2002, 2010 to 2013, and 2015 to 2017.

2 October

Nation pays tributes to

**Gandhi ji and Shastri ji**

on their birth anniversary

There is much to learn from Babu's life and noble thoughts. His Ideals keep guiding us in creating a prosperous and compassionate India. Similarly, Shastri Ji epitomised simplicity and lived for the welfare of our nation. -Narendra Modi

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**DOOR-TO-DOOR SURVEY TO TRACK  
RATION CARD STATUS FROM NOV**

# Cards dormant for 3 mths may be nixed

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government will start a door-to-door survey to track ration cards that have been inactive for the last two-three months. Food and Supply Minister Imran Hussain on Friday said the survey will start from next month.

According to food department officials, ration cards, which remain inactive for consecutive three months, are liable to be cancelled.

Inactive ration cards are those where beneficiaries do not collect subsidised ration from the fair price shops for consecutive three months.

"We will conduct a door-to-door survey from next month (November) to check beneficiaries who are not col-



lecting ration for two-three months in a row." We will check if the person has gone back to his hometown or is sick. In such genuine cases, ration cards will not be disconnected. "If the card is inactive and the person is not existing or has left Delhi for good then we will cancel such (inactive) cards and include new ones," Hussain said. He added that any beneficiary's ration card will not be cancelled without any valid reason. All factors behind not collecting ration will be thoroughly checked.

# AAP alleges pension scam in SDMC

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Am Aadmi Party (AAP) on Friday accused the Bharatiya Janata Party-ruled South Corporation of pension scam, saying that more than half beneficiaries in the list of destitute pensions prepared by the Mayor and councilors are bogus.

AAP chief spokesperson Saurabh Bhardwaj said that the BJP councillors have generated fake pensions for their own people. "MCD has been running pension schemes for widows, the disabled, and the destitute for 2017. In these schemes, every councilor was told to generate 400 pensions for the categories. The Mayor was given a quota of 750 pensions and other members of the standing committee were given the work of providing 500 pensions," he said.

Bhardwaj informed that a large-scale scam in the destitute



pension in South MCD has been disclosed by a high ranking officer of the corporation in the Standing Committee meeting. The AAP leader said that in a meeting of the South Delhi Municipal Corporation's standing committee held on 28th September 2021, it was revealed that the pensions set aside for the destitute, have been illicitly distributed to the people under fake pension documents. "The pensions were given to the people who are closely related to the officials who were given the responsibility to provide pensions to the needy. These people even have their own homes and are fit to survive on their own," he said.

# 4 held for operating illegal international telephone exchange in Capital

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

With the arrest of four men, the sleuths of Delhi Police have busted an illegal international telephone exchange in central Delhi's Hauz Qazi area. Police said that the exchange used to convert internet-based international calls into voice calls resulting in revenue loss of ₹103 crores to the Government, the police said.

The accused have been identified as Mohammad Irfan alias Rajji (37), a resident of Seelampur, Irfan Ali (48), Zulfiqar Ali (48) and his son Areeb Ali (22), all residents of residents of Sita Ram Bazar in Delhi.

According to Shweta Chauhan, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Central district, a complaint was received from the

officials of the Department of Telecom alleging that they had received inputs about an illegal international telecom setup being operated by a man named Zulfiqar at Choori Walan in Chawri Bazar here.

"Thereafter, the police found out that the illegal telephone exchange was receiving calls from the Gulf nations, the US, UAE, Canada, Nepal, Australia, Pakistan and many other countries, and those calls were being transmitted illegally to Indian numbers. The police also found out that Zulfiqar had taken the telecom resources from a service provider in the name of Adeeba Enterprises. The accused had taken the connection on November 26 last year. A raid was then conducted in coordination of DoT but the accused was not found there," said the DCP.

# HC terminates cases with inquiries against juveniles pending for over 1 year

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

In a significant order, the Delhi High Court has "terminated with immediate effect" all cases, where inquiries against minors in alleged petty offences before the Juvenile Justice Boards (JJB), are pending and have remained inconclusive for over one year in the national Capital. The court passed the order keeping in view the mandate of Section 14 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act (JJ Act) which says that the inquiry against a child who has allegedly committed a petty offence shall conclude in four months from the date of the first production before the board unless the period is extended for a maximum of two months.

The provision says that if the inquiry remains inconclusive, such proceedings shall stand terminated. Justices Siddharth

Mridul and Anup Jairam Bhambhani said, "We are passing these directions ex debito justitiae, to correct an error in the judicial dispensation, since we believe there is no justification in keeping such matters pending any longer."

"In all cases alleging petty offences against children/juveniles, where the inquiry has been pending and remains inconclusive for longer than one year, regardless of whether the subject child/juvenile has been produced before the JJB, all such inquiries shall stand terminated with immediate effect; a formal order closing all such matters shall be passed by the JJBs in each file within two weeks from the date of this order, and any children/juveniles detained in relation to such inquiries, shall be released immediately without waiting for recording the formal orders.

# Mosquito terminator train flagged off from New Delhi

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A 'mosquito terminator' train to spray insecticide on both sides of rail tracks to prevent growth of mosquito larvae was flagged off by the Member of Parliament from East Delhi Manoj Tiwari on Friday in collaboration with Northern Railway.

Speaking on the occasion, Tiwari said that the terminator train will spread insecticide around the railway tracks to reduce the menace of dengue, malaria and chikungunya.

EDMC Deputy Mayor Kiran Vaidya said that various awareness programmes and measures have been taken by the civic body to protect the people from vector borne diseases. "The areas around the railway line were left unattended. During rainy days, water logging is very common around the railway tracks which increases the possibility of mosquito breeding," she added.

The Deputy Mayor said that the "Mosquito Terminator Action" in collaboration with the Railways is a positive effort to protect the people around the railway line from the serious threat of dengue and chikungunya.

# Woman's body found with burn injuries in Lajpat Nagar

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A body of a 19-year-old woman with burn injuries was found at a house in south-east Delhi's Lajpat Nagar area on Friday morning. Meanwhile, the Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) has also issued notice to the police seeking FIR, arrests and copy of post mortem report of the victim.

Police said that the woman is a resident of Madras Camp here and she, along with her mother, used to work as domestic help at a house in Lajpat Nagar-II here.

According to a senior police official, the Lajpat Nagar police station received a Police Control Room (PCR) call on Friday morning informing them that a woman has got electrocuted.

Police, however, said that the exact cause of her death will be ascertained only through an autopsy report. "Preliminary enquiry has revealed that the victim had burn injuries on her body. She had come to work at the house around 7 AM on Friday," said the senior police official.

# Delhi roads will be redesigned soon on lines of New York, London

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In an effort to make the Capital of India a world-class city, the Delhi Government is organising a high-level workshop on street design on October 5 with the World Resource Institute (WRI - India).

According to Delhi Dialogue Commission (DDC), the workshop will be held with the aim to transform over 500 km of roads in Delhi on the lines of European cities. "It will be an opportunity to learn from the top cities globally and apply those lessons to Delhi's streets," Jasmine Shah Vice-Chairperson, DDC said on Friday.

As per sources, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, Public Works Department (PWD) Minister Satyender Jain and Shah will join the workshop apart from senior officials and engineers' team. Speaking on this occasion, Amit Bhatt, Director of Integrated Urban Transport, WRI India said, "A well-designed street has a positive impact not only on their immediate environment but also improves air quality, reduces congestion and mitigates inequity. Delhi Government's move towards transforming the streets of the national capital is an example of unprecedented scale and ambition". The beautification and redesigning of roads, a project of Delhi Government will involve bicycle lanes, large no. of plantations to curb pollution, selfie points, parklets and incorporation of artwork.



“स्वयं को जानने का सर्वश्रेष्ठ तरीका है  
स्वयं को औरों की सेवा में डुबो देना।”  
- महात्मा गांधी

बापू का स्वदेशी, स्वच्छता एवं सर्वोदय का सिद्धान्त आज भी हमारा मार्ग प्रशस्त कर रहा है। स्वदेशी से आत्मनिर्भरता, स्वच्छता से स्वास्थ्य एवं पर्यावरण तथा सर्वोदय से सार्वभौमिक उत्थान एवं शोषण मुक्त समाज की प्रेरणा मिलती है। आइए, एक ऐसे समाज की रचना में भागीदार बनें, जिसमें प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को सर्वांगीण विकास के साधन और अवसर मिलें।

# गांधी जयंती

2 अक्टूबर, 2021

के अवसर पर

# कोटि-कोटि नमन

-योगी आदित्यनाथ, मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

सबका साथ-सबका विकास-सबका विश्वास-सबका प्रयास

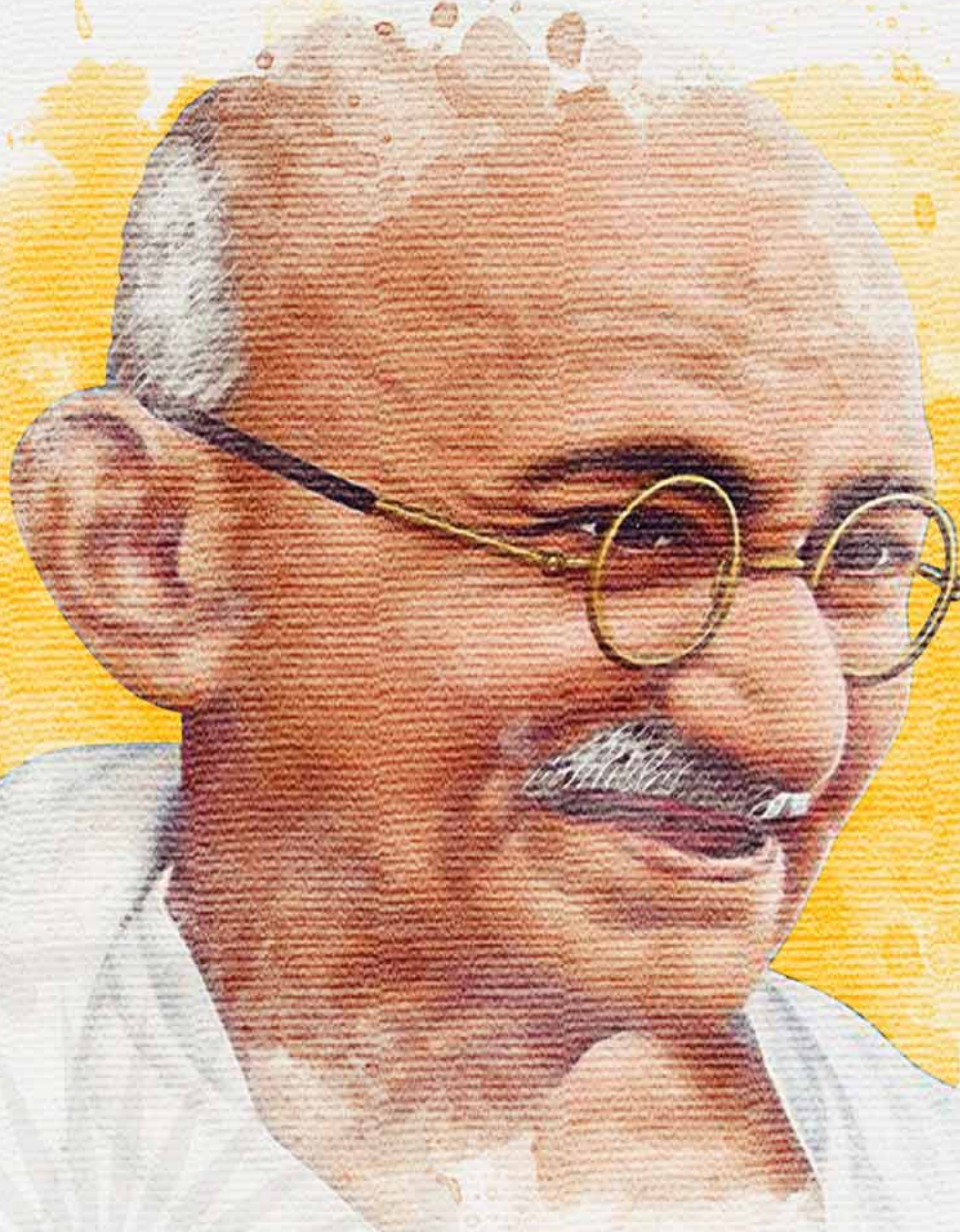
सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

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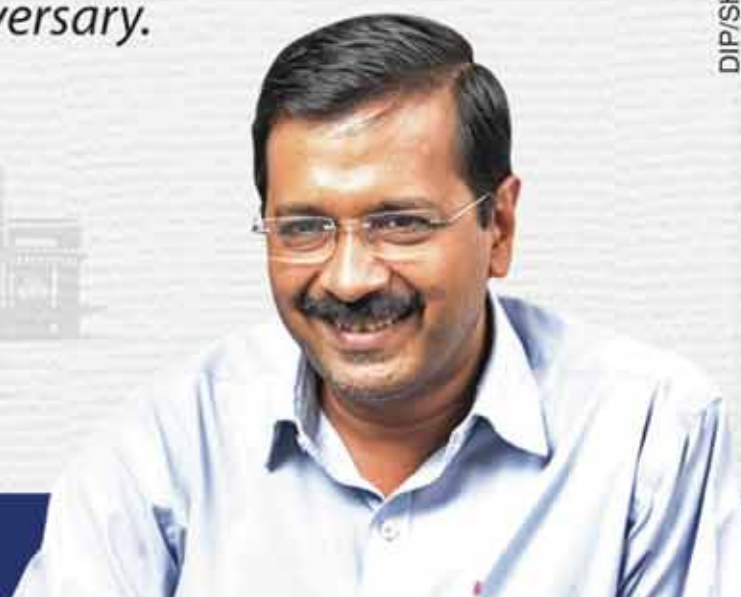
# "BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE IN THE WORLD"

-Mahatma Gandhi



## Gandhi Jayanti, 2nd October

*Today, on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, let us take a  
pledge to follow the principles laid down by Gandhi Ji.  
Tributes to the Father of our Nation on his birth anniversary.*



# India in no hurry to recognise Taliban: EAM



**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

Expressing concern over the E situation in Afghanistan, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Friday said India was not taken into confidence regarding the Doha deal between the Taliban and the US last year and New Delhi is in no hurry to recognise the new regime.

Making these observations in the virtual annual leadership summit of the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF), Jaishankar also cautioned that the latest developments in Afghanistan will have “very, very significant consequences” for the region and beyond.

Jaishankar said the key concerns for India at this juncture included whether Afghanistan will have an inclusive government and that Afghan soil is not used for terrorism against other States and the rest of the world. Jaishankar also suggested that India was in no hurry to deliberate on giving any recognition to the new dispensation in Kabul.

He said India and the US are on the same page on many issues relating to the recent developments in Afghanistan including apprehensions about the possible use of Afghan soil for terrorism. The issue figured

## Army Chief visits Ladakh to review situation at LAC

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

Army Chief General M M Naravane on Friday embarked on his visit to Ladakh to review the situation at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) there. He is likely to visit some forward posts and interact with the troops.

His tour comes in the backdrop of the ongoing stand-off at three sites at the LAC in Eastern Ladakh for the last one and half years.

On Thursday, he had said here that incidents at the border will continue till India and China come to agreement on the boundary issue. Moreover, India lashed out at China the same day and said large scale deployment of troops by it led to tension at the LAC. India also said it expected China to move towards of early resolution of the issues there.

The Indian side has only made counter deployments in response to China’s “provocative behaviour and unilateral attempts to alter status quo” on the LAC and to fully protect the



country’s security interests, external affairs ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said.

He was responding to allegations by Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying on Wednesday that the Indian side was pursuing a “forward policy” and had “illegally crossed the LAC to encroach on China’s territory”.

“It was the amassing of large number of troops by the Chinese side, their provocative behaviour and unilateral attempts to alter status quo in contravention of all our bilateral agreements that resulted in serious disturbance of peace and tranquility along the LAC in eastern Ladakh,” he said.

India has already made its position clear and rejected statements from the Chinese

side which “have no basis in facts”, Bagchi said. “It was in response to Chinese actions that our armed forces had to make appropriate counter deployments in these areas to ensure that India’s security interests are fully protected,” he said.

On the Army chief’s visit, sources said he will also take stock of the preparedness of the forward deployments to withstand the coming winter months. Last year, India and China maintained their troops on forward locations at the LAC unlike in the past when both the sides retreated to their bases.

At present, more than 50,000 troops from both the sides are deployed at the LAC since it erupted in May last year. The transgressions from China snowballed into a major brawl in June last year in which 20 Indian army personnel including the commanding officer were killed. More than 30 Chinese soldiers were also killed in the clash but Beijing is yet to confirm the casualties.

## Quad not ganging up against China, says Jaishankar

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

On relations with China, Jaishankar said the Quad grouping including the US, India, Japan and Australia was not “ganging” up against China. As regards the rise of China and ways to deal with it, he said every country will have to make bilateral choices and remarked “we each have a very substantial relationship with China.” “I think it’s very important not to be sort of railroaded into some kind of negative discourse, which actually is not from our script, it is somebody else’s script. And I don’t think we should fall for that. I think we need to be positive,” he pointed out.

mean, one has a broad sense. But beyond that, you know, are we going to see an inclusive government? Are we going to see respect for the rights of women, children, minorities,” he asked.

He said what had happened in Afghanistan, is going to “have very, very significant consequences for all of us, and we are so close to the region”.

These concerns were reflected in the UN Security Council resolution in August and that how those questions are addressed today is still an open question, which is why “I said the jury is still out”.

## Focus to become self-reliant: Air Chief



**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

Assuring the country that the IAF is ready to meet any and every challenge, new Air Chief Marshal V R Chaudhari said here on Friday his priority is to be self-reliant (atmanirbhar) and proper use of air power. It was his first day as the chief.

He also said the focus will be on training and motivating and equipping the IAF personnel to face challenges of future warfare.

Reiterating that the IAF is ready for any eventuality, Chaudhari said he will try to see quick induction of new equipment and logistics.

Stressing on the fast pace of inductions, he said the IAF quickly introduced Rafale fighter jets into the fleet

besides surface to air weapons. The IAF saw induction of new platforms in the last two to three years, he pointed out.

Highlighting the roadmap of modernisation, Chaudhari said the IAF has inked the contract for 83 indigenously designed and manufactured Tejas light combat aircraft(LCA) and other equipment like surface to air guided weapons and other related equipment are in the pipeline.

Chaudhuri took over from R K S Bhadauria who retired on Thursday.

Outlining the focus areas for Commanders and personnel, Chaudhuri said

“Protection of our Nation’s sovereignty and integrity is to be ensured at any cost”. He added that enhancement of operational capability through integration of newly inducted platforms, weapons and equipment with existing assets and dovetailing the same in concepts of operations would remain a priority area.

He spoke on aspects of acquisition of new technology, promotion of indigenisation and innovation, strengthening of cyber security, rapid adaptation of training methods to meet future demands and sustained work to nurture human resources.

# Goal to make cities free of garbage, water secure: PM

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

As he launched the second phase of Swachh Bharat Mission and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said the goal this time round is to make cities completely free of garbage and water secure.

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said in 2014, the countrymen took a pledge to make India open defecation free (ODF) and they fulfilled this pledge with the

construction of more than 10 crore toilets. Now the goal of ‘Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0’ is to make the cities garbage free, completely free of garbage, he said.

The Prime Minister underlined the scope of the country’s target in the next phase of Mission AMRUT as “improving sewage and septic management, making our cities water safe cities and ensuring that no sewage drains anywhere in our rivers.”

“The garbage mountains in cities will be processed and removed completely as part of Swachta second phase. One such garbage mountain has been in Delhi (in Ghazipur) for

long, it’s also waiting to be removed,” he said.

“Today India is processing about 1 lakh tonnes of waste every day. When we started the campaign in 2014, less than 20% of the waste was being processed. Today we are processing about 70% of daily waste. Now we have to take it to 100%,” he said.

Lauding the younger generation, he pointed out toffee wrappers are no more thrown on floors but kept in pockets. “Kids alert elders not to litter around.

The youth are taking initiative. Some are earning wealth from waste, while some are creating awareness.

## Case against DRI officer for ₹72L illegal assets

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

The CBI has registered a case against a Senior Intelligence Officer (SIO) of Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Aizawl Regional Unit for possession of alleged disproportionate assets to the tune of ₹72.27 lakh.

The accused Kaikhohao Doungel, Senior Intelligence Officer (SIO), Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Aizawl Regional Unit was originally a Superintendent of Customs and is now posted on loan to DRI. The disproportionate assets account for 80 per cent of the gross income during the check period from January 2014 to May 2021. It was alleged that the accused during the period January, 2014 to May, 2021, had acquired huge assets, both movable and immovable to the tune of ₹1,42,71,447 including three homestead land at Kangpokpi (Manipur); two RCC buildings at Imphal East and at Aizawl besides bank balances which were disproportionate to his known sources of income to the tune of ₹72,27,768, the CBI said in a statement.

The agency on Friday conducted searches at the office as well as at the residential premises of the accused at Aizawl and Imphal which led to recovery of documents related to purchase of the land, bank accounts in the name of the accused and his wife maintained at various banks, insurance policies, luxurious household articles and other incriminating documents, it added.

## India logs 26,727 new Covid-19 cases in 24 hours

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

India has reported 26,727 new Covid-19 cases in the last 24 hours, an increase of 13 per cent from the previous day. The total number of coronavirus cases breached the 3,37 crore mark with the new infections. At least 277 related deaths were also reported in the last 24 hours, taking the total fatalities to 4,48,339.

The active cases comprise 0.82 per cent of the total infections — the lowest since March 2020 — while the active caseload at present stands at 2,75,224, the lowest in 196 days.

The national COVID-19 recovery rate was recorded at 97.86 per cent, highest since March 2020. At least 28,246 recoveries in the last 24 hours took the total number of recoveries to 3,30,43,144 in India.

The cumulative COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in the country crossed 89 crore - 69 per cent of the country’s adult population has now received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine and 25 per cent has taken both doses, the government said.

**NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY**

OPEN TENDER NOTICE NO. NER-BSB0SnT-OT-16-2021

"Open Tenders" through Online (E-Tendering) are invited by Divisional Railway Manager (Signal & Telecom.)/ Varanasi/North Eastern Railway for and behalf of the President of India for the following works:-

SI No.-1, Tender Notice No. and Description of Work: NER-BSB0 SnT-OT-16-2021: Name of Work: Provision of Safety & Reliability aids in relay room of Varanasi division along with Replacement of overdue LEDs aspect & track batteries at 03 station (SRNT KDQ & RJJ). Details: Approx. Value (Rs.): ₹ 50,26,837.78, Earnest Money (Rs.): ₹ 00.00, Cost of Tender Form (Rs.): ₹ 00.00, Completion Period: 06 Months. Tender Closing Date & Time: 25-10-2021 upto 15:00 Hrs.

(1) Tender Online will be submitted upto 15:00 Hrs. on date 25-10-2021.

(2) For full details and submission of bid kindly visit the Official website of Indian Railways i.e. [www.treps.gov.in](http://www.treps.gov.in)

Divl. Rly. Manager (S&T) Varanasi

CPRO/Signal-39

About any passenger amenity complaint SMS on Mob. No.: 08794845955

**Never travel on roof and foot boards.**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given to the public at large that we are investigating and verifying the title, in respect of the premises more particularly described in the schedule hereunder written which is seized, possessed, owned and/or entitled by **Mr. Sunil Bhatia**.

All those persons/entities having any rights, title, interest, share, claim, demand whatsoever in respect of the said premises or any parts thereof by way of sale, mortgage (save and except the Mortgage application in respect of the said premises in favour of Arand Rathi Global Finance Limited "ARGFL"), transfer, exchange, gift, bequest, trust, inheritance, tenancy, sub-tenancy, leave and license, care taker basis, possession, family arrangement/settlement, decree or order of any Court of Law, Contracts/ agreements, encumbrance, lenders, and/or any commitment or otherwise whatsoever into , over or upon the said premises re hereby required to give notice thereof in writing together with the supporting documents and particulars of any such right or claim to the undersigned, within 14 (Fourteen) days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the claim, if any, shall be deemed to have been released or waived.

**THE SCHEDULE HEREINABOVE REFERRED TO** (Description of the property)  
Property Bearing No. 1835-36, Gali No. 10, Measuring 168 Square Yards, in Khara No. 40, Govindpur Extension, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019 Sd/-  
Ashwani Kumar (Advocate)  
Chamber No. 122, Teshl Compound, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.  
Place: New Delhi Date : 02 October 2021 Contact No. 9818061212

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given to the public at large that we are investigating and verifying the title, in respect of the premises more particularly described in the schedule hereunder written which is seized, possessed, owned and/or entitled by **Mrs. Saroj Barwal**.

All those persons/entities having any rights, title, interest, share, claim, demand whatsoever in respect of the said premises or any parts thereof by way of sale, mortgage (save and except the Mortgage application in respect of the said premises in favour of Arand Rathi Global Finance Limited "ARGFL"), transfer, exchange, gift, bequest, trust, inheritance, tenancy, sub-tenancy, leave and license, care taker basis, possession, family arrangement/settlement, decree or order of any Court of Law, Contracts/ agreements, encumbrance, lenders, and/or any commitment or otherwise whatsoever into , over or upon the said premises are hereby required to give notice thereof in writing together with the supporting documents and particulars of any such right or claim to the undersigned, within 14 (Fourteen) days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the claim, if any, shall be deemed to have been released or waived.

**THE SCHEDULE HEREINABOVE REFERRED TO** (Description of the property)  
Property Bearing No.93-C area measuring 50 Sq. Yds., out of Khara No.31/3, situated at Village Hastal Delhi station, Lions Enclave, Vikas Nagar, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059. Sd/-  
Ashwani Kumar (Advocate)  
Chamber No.122, Teshl Compound, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.  
Place: New Delhi Date : 02 October 2021 Contact No. 9818061212

**In the Court of Sh. Shirish Aggarwal**  
Administrative Civil Judge-cum-Additional Rent Controller (Central), Room No. 323, 3rd Floor, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054.  
Petition No. SC-128/2021 N.D.O.H 15.11.2021

Sh. Sanjeev Kumar Jain Vs. The State & Ors.

To 1. Sh. Sanjeev Kumar Jain S/o Late Shri Vijendra Kumar Jain R/o H.No.81, Jasola, Pocket-2, New Friends Colony, New Delhi-110025 2. Sh. Dinesh Kumar Jain S/o Late Shri Vijendra Kumar Jain R/o H.No.61, Jasola, Pocket-1, New Friends Colony, New Delhi-110025 3. Shri Nalind Kumar Jain S/o Late Shri Vijendra Kumar Jain R/o H.No.69, Jasola, Pocket-2, New Friends Colony, New Delhi-110025 4. Shri Anurodh Jain S/o Late Shri Vijendra Kumar Jain R/o H.No.97, Jasola, Pocket-2, New Friends Colony, New Delhi-110025.....**Petitioner**

**FOR SUCCESSION CERTIFICATE UNDER INDIAN SUCCESSION ACT. 1925**

To All Concerned Whereas in the above noted petition the application/petitioner has applied for succession Certificate for the Hon'ble Court Under Section-372 of the Indian succession Act, 1925 in respect of the debt and securities amount of **Rs. xxx** As per record to be standing in the name of Late Smt. Savitri Jain W/o Late Shri Vijendra Kumar Jain deceased.

Whereas the 15.11.2021 at 10'00 clock in the forenoon has been fixed for hearing or the application notice is hereby given to this concerned. Given under my hand and the seal of the court on this 20.09.2021

Admn. civil Judge-cum-Addl. Rent Controller (seal) (Central) Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

**कार्यालय नगर पालिका परिषद, दतिया जिला दतिया ( म.प्र. )**

क्रमांक/निर्माण/तकनीकी/2021/2945 दिनांक: 28.09.2021

**॥ निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना ॥**

एतद् द्वारा लो.नि.वि. में केन्द्रीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली के अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत टेकेदारों से अधोलिखित विवरण अनुसार नगरीय प्रशासन एवं विकास विभाग के दिनांक 02.08.2021 से प्रभावशाली ISSR से कम अथवा अधिक प्रतिशत दर पर ऑनलाईन पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती हैं ।

टेण्डर क्र.	कार्य का नाम एवं विवरण	अनु. प्रा. राशि (लाख)	अमानत राशि (रुपये)	निविदा प्रपत्र की राशि (रुपये)	समयावधि
2021_UAD_161991	चौताम्बरा मंदिर के सामने मल्टीलेवल पार्किंग निर्माण कार्य	1184.50	592250/-	30000/-	24 माह

**नोट:-**

1. इच्छुक एवं पात्र निविदादाता विस्तृत निविदा एवं अन्य समस्त जानकारी <https://www.mptenders.gov.in> में विभाग का नाम:- नगरीय प्रशासन एवं विकास विभाग पर देखी जा सकती हैं ।

2. ऑनलाईन निविदा दिनांक 29.09.2021 समय 10:30 बजे से दिनांक 29.10.2021 समय 17:30 बजे तक ऑनलाईन भुगतान प्राप्त एवं जमा किये जा सकते हैं ।

3. ऑनलाईन बिड दिनांक 29.09.2021 समय 10:30 बजे से दिनांक 29.10.2021 समय 17:30 बजे तक जमा की जा सकती हैं ।

4. ऑनलाईन प्राप्त निविदाओं को दिनांक 02.11.2021 समय 11:00 बजे खोली जावेगी ।

5. PWD Registration, PAN Number, GST Number, Payment Slip, Rs 100 Affidavit आदि ऑनलाईन अपलोड करना अनिवार्य है । अन्यथा टेण्डर निरस्त माना जावेगा ।

6. निविदाकार को निविदा प्रपत्र में उल्लेखित समस्त शर्तें स्वीकार होगी ।

7. अतिरिक्त परफोमेंस सिक्योरिटी 10 प्रतिशत एवं निविदा दर के अंतर की राशि के बराबर जमा करनी होगी जो कि अंतिम देयक बिल अनुमोदन उपरांत वापिस की जावेगी ।

8. निविदाकार को को लिफ्ट, फायर फाईटिंग सिस्टम का 2 वर्ष तक संचालन सधारण करना होगा । प्रत्येक रनिंग बिल से 5 प्रतिशत राशि उपरोक्त कार्य संबंध में रोकी जावेगी जिसका भुगतान कार्य पूर्ण दिनांक से 2 वर्ष पश्चात निविदा प्रपत्र के सेक्शन 3 पार्ट 2 में उल्लेखित विवरण अनुसार देय होगा ।

9. निविदा को स्वीकर/आस्वीकार का अधिकार मुख्य नगर पालिका अधिकारी अधिकरी के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा ।

10. निविदा में किये जाने वाले संभावित संशोधन की सूचना समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित नही किये जायेंगे संशोधन ऑनलाईन वेबसाईट पर देखे जायेंगे.

**मुख्य नगर पालिका अधिकारी**  
**नगर पालिका परिषद दतिया**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

This is notified for the information of Rail Passengers that Railways have decided to run the following Express Special Trains with revised compositions as under:-

REVISED COMPOSITION OF SPECIAL TRAINS			
Train No. & Name	Existing Composition	Revised Composition	Date w.e.f. (Originating Station)
05325/05326 Tanakpur-Delhi-Tanakpur Express Special	Power Car-02, Chaircar-08 AC Chaircar-02 <b>Total=12 Coaches</b>	Power Car-01, Chaircar-08 AC Chaircar-02, 2nd Class Divyang Friendly-01 <b>Total=12 Coaches</b>	<b>Ex. Tanakpur:</b> 10.10.2021 <b>Ex. Delhi:</b> 11.10.2021
02511/02512 Gorakhpur-Kochuveli- Gorakhpur Express	2nd Class Divyang Friendly-2, General-4, 3 Tier AC-12, 2 Tier AC-1 3 Tier AC-4, Pantry Car-01 <b>Total=23 Coaches</b>	Power Car-1, General-2, Sleeper-4, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, 3rd AC Economy-1 Pantry Car-1, 2nd Class Divyang Friendly-1 <b>Total=18 Coaches</b>	<b>Ex. Gorakhpur :</b> 31.10.2021 <b>Ex. Kochuveli :</b> 03.11.2021
02589/02590 Gorakhpur-Secunderabad-Gorakhpur Exp.			<b>Ex. Gorakhpur :</b> 03.11.2021 <b>Ex. Secunderabad:</b> 04.11.2021
02591/02592 Gorakhpur-Yesvantpur-Gorakhpur Exp.			<b>Ex. Gorakhpur:</b> 30.10.2021 <b>Ex. Yesvantpur:</b> 01.11.2021
02121/02122 (22121/22122) Lokmanya Tilak(T)-Lucknow-Lokmanya Tilak(T) Express	1st AC-1, 2 Tier AC-4, 3 Tier AC-12, Pantry Car-1, Power Car-2, <b>Total=20 Coaches</b>	1st AC-1, 2 Tier AC-3, 3 Tier AC-15, Pantry Car-1, Power Car-2, <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	<b>Ex. Lokmanya Tilak(T):</b> 18.12.2021 <b>Ex. Lucknow:</b> 19.12.2021
02171/02172 (12171/12172) Lokmanya Tilak(T)-Haridwar-Lokmanya Tilak(T) Express	1st AC-1, 2 Tier AC-2, 3 Tier AC-15, Power Car-2 <b>Total=20 Coaches</b>	1st AC-1, 2 Tier AC-3, 3 Tier AC-15, Pantry Car-1, Power Car-2 <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	<b>Ex. Lokmanya Tilak(T):</b> 04.10.2021 <b>Ex. Haridwar:</b> 05.10.2021
11079/11080 (01079/01080) Lokmanya Tilak(T)-Gorakhpur-Lokmanya Tilak(T) Express Spl.	2 Tier AC-12, 3 Tier AC-4, Sleeper-12, General-3 Power Car-2, <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	2 Tier AC-1, 3rd AC Economy-1, 3 Tier AC-5, 10, General-3, Power Car-2 <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	<b>Ex. Lokmanya Tilak(T):</b> 03.02.2022 <b>Ex. Gorakhpur:</b> 05.02.2022
11071/11072 (01071/01072) Lokmanya Tilak(T)-Varanasi-Lokmanya Tilak(T) Express Spl.	2 Tier AC-1, 3 Tier AC-4, Sleeper-12, General-3 Power Car-2, <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	2 Tier AC-1, 3rd AC Economy-1, 3 Tier AC-5, 10, General-3, Power Car-2 <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	<b>Ex. Lokmanya Tilak(T):</b> 01.02.2022 <b>Ex. Varanasi:</b> 03.02.2022
12143/12144 (02143/02144) Lokmanya Tilak(T)-Sultanpur-Lokmanya Tilak(T) Exp. Spl.	2 Tier AC-1, 3 Tier AC-4, Sleeper-12, General-3 Power Car-2, <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	2 Tier AC-1, 3rd AC Economy-1, 3 Tier AC-5, 10, General-3, Power Car-2 <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	<b>Ex. Lokmanya Tilak(T):</b> 06.02.2022 <b>Ex. Sultanpur:</b> 07.02.2022
11055/11056 (01055/01056) Lokmanya Tilak(T)-Haridwar-Lokmanya Tilak(T) Exp. Spl.	2 Tier AC-1, 3 Tier AC-4, Sleeper-12, General-3 Power Car-2, <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	2 Tier AC-1, 3rd AC Economy-1, 3 Tier AC-5, 10, General-3, Power Car-2 <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	<b>Ex. Lokmanya Tilak(T):</b> 02.02.2022 <b>Ex. Gorakhpur:</b> 04.02.2022
11059/11060 (01059/01060) Lokmanya Tilak(T)-Chhapra-Lokmanya Tilak(T) Exp. Spl.	2 Tier AC-1, 3 Tier AC-4, Sleeper-12, General-3 Power Car-2, <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	2 Tier AC-1, 3rd AC Economy-1, 3 Tier AC-5, 10, General-3, Power Car-2 <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	<b>Ex. Lokmanya Tilak(T):</b> 03.02.2022 <b>Ex. Chhapra:</b> 05.02.2022
22103/22104 (02049/02050) Lokmanya Tilak(T)-Faizabad-Lokmanya Tilak(T) Exp. Spl.	2 Tier AC-1, 3 Tier AC-4, Sleeper-12, General-3 Power Car-2, <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	2 Tier AC-1, 3rd AC Economy-1, 3 Tier AC-5, 10, General-3, Power Car-2 <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	<b>Ex. Lokmanya Tilak(T):</b> 07.02.2022 <b>Ex. Faizabad:</b> 08.02.2022
11081/11082 (01081/01082) Lokmanya Tilak(T)-Gorakhpur-Lokmanya Tilak(T) Exp. Spl.	2 Tier AC-1, 3 Tier AC-4, Sleeper-12, General-3 Power Car-2, <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	2 Tier AC-1, 3rd AC Economy-1, 3 Tier AC-5, 10, General-3, Power Car-2 <b>Total=22 Coaches</b>	<b>Ex. Lokmanya Tilak(T):</b> 02.02.2022 <b>Ex. Gorakhpur:</b> 04.02.2022

**For any kind of information such as detailed Time-Table and stations enroute 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 including Social distancing, sanitization etc., may be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.**

**Visit RailMadad website**  
[www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in)

**RailMadad Helpline No. 139**

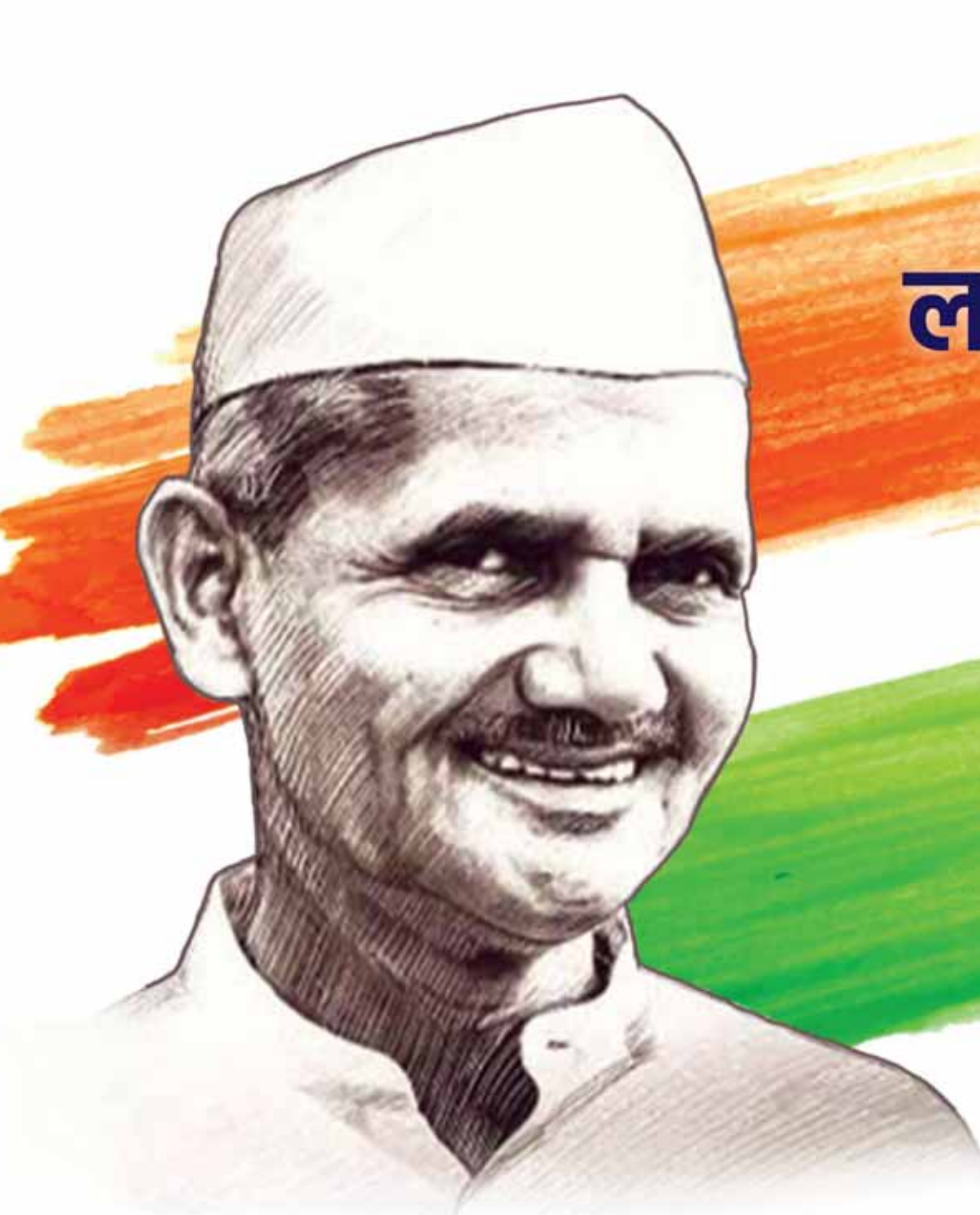
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2243/21

DIP/Shabdarth/D/0088/21-22



# लाल बहादुर शास्त्री जी के जन्म दिवस पर शत् शत् नमन

-अरविंद केजरीवाल  
मुख्यमंत्री, दिल्ली

दिल्ली सरकार  
आप की सरकार

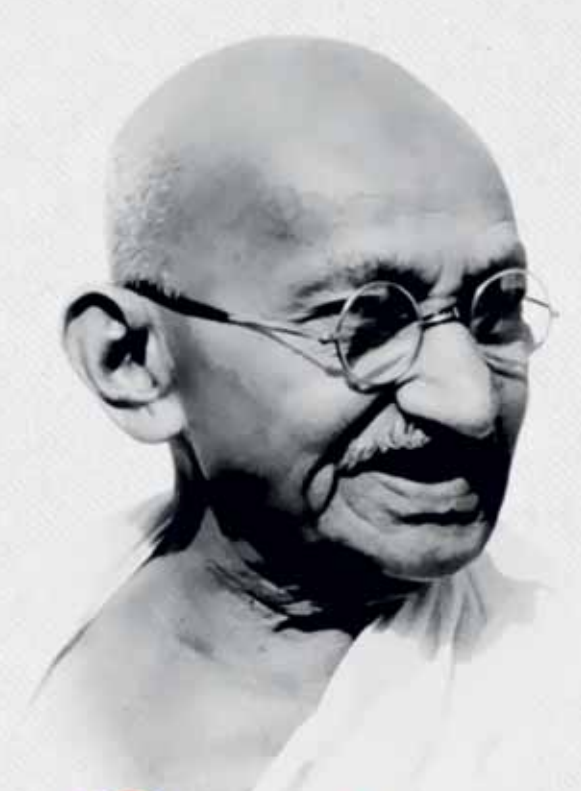
कार्यक्रम:  
शनिवार, 2 अक्टूबर, 2021, सुबह 7:45 से 8: 45 तक  
स्थान: विजय घाट, दिल्ली



सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग, राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली सरकार

“For Gram Swaraj, every village should be self-supporting to fulfil its needs. If we have to build Swarajya on the basis of non-violence, then villages have to be given their proper place”

- Mahatma Gandhi



Remembering  
Father of the Nation  
**Mahatma Gandhi**  
(2 October 1869 – 30 January 1948)  
on his 152<sup>nd</sup> Birth Anniversary

## CHHATTISGARH GOVT


Paving the Path to Realise Gandhiji's Dream of Sustainable Future

A New Dimension of Suraji Gaon Yojana

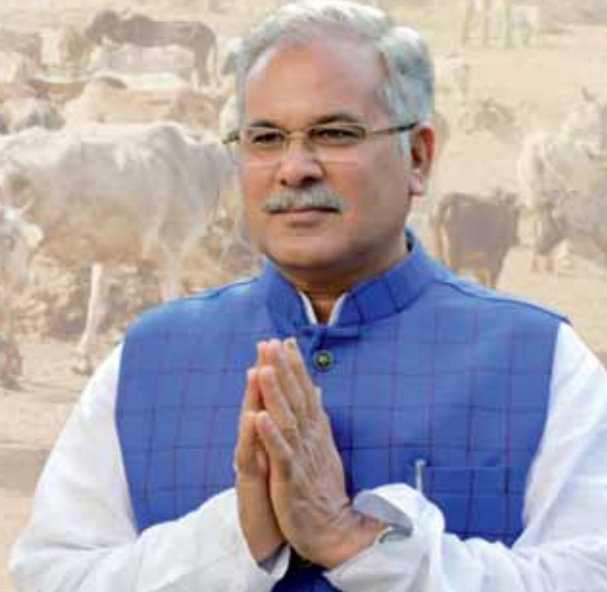
### Inauguration of Electricity Generation from Cow Dung

Bemetera, Durg and Raipur Districts


2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2021



गोधन न्याय योजना



Shri Bhupesh Baghel  
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh



Gadhbo Nava Chhattisgarh



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PAPER WITH PASSION

## No child's play

A ban on online gaming will help neither the child nor the parents

The Union Government wants parents and teachers to look for “gaming disorders” among children. The prompt for such an advisory comes as schools reopen in the country after close to 18 months on account of COVID-19. The Government is worried that children have become addicted to mobile phones and online gaming during this period. The advisory says gaming without restriction and self-limits leads to addiction and disorders. Symptoms of addiction, the advisory tells us, are “unusually secretive behaviour” like changing screens when parents approach children, falling grades and changing social behaviour. It wants parents and teachers to tell children to also maintain safety precautions like not revealing their names, using screen names, not clicking on links and images from unknown sites and not communicating with strangers. Excessive liberalism and political correctness may find fault with the advisory as being intrusive and imposing the Government’s sense of morality on children. The conservatives, on the other hand, will welcome the move and probably ask for a ban on online gaming. The truth lies somewhere in between. If parents gift an expensive mobile phone to their child, the latter will play games on it and the parents surely know that. The parents have two choices: One, to let the child play without any limits, and two, to teach the child to play responsibly.



The media has reported the fallout in both cases — some children stealing money to play online games while some inflicted self-harm or attempted suicide when kept away from playing. A ban, just like unchecked freedom to play, will help neither the child nor the parents and instead impact their relationship. However, the Government advisory takes the issue out of the personal world of parents and their children and into the public domain. To what extent is the exercise prudent and whether the advisory could have been conveyed to the parents in a more personal setting is something for the society to debate. One thing is clear, that any action of the State, once initiated, will reach its logical end. Where the gaming advisory will eventually lead to is anybody’s guess. For now, there is the recent example of China which decided in July that it will not allow children to become addicted to online games. Instead of an advisory, the Chinese Government brought out an executive order, telling children under 18 that they are now allowed to play for just three hours a week. They can access games for an hour each on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Interestingly, while the Indian advisory recommends children using screen names, the Chinese rules ask the gaming companies to make sure that players use their real names to sign on and prevent those who use fictitious names. There is also a limit to what the children can spend on micro-transactions. And the Government has begun to go slow on approving new online games. The right to privacy or prudence is the question.

## PICTALK



The Indian Navy Sailing Championship 2021, in Mumbai

PTI

## Fool's paradise

Wearing many hats, a Kerala conman's brazen antique scam is keeping the State hooked

Is 'God's Own Country' becoming 'Devil's Own Paradise'? A school dropout posing as an artifacts collector has taken the State for a ride with his glib tongue. Claiming to be a cosmetologist and proud owner of “the Staff of Moses”, the “oil lantern carved out by Prophet Mohammed” and the silver coins collected by Judas for betraying Jesus Christ, this fraudster par excellence bowled over Kerala politicians, Ministers, bureaucrats and even top IPS officers.



He tricked a business group of ₹10 crore by convincing them that the Sultan of Brunei has sent him ₹2,60,000 crore which has been put on hold by the Union Finance Ministry with the demand that he pay a fine of ₹20 crore on the remittances. Monson Mavunkal, the trickster, had a fleet of imported high-end cars parked in the courtyard of his rented bungalow. The billboard on the giant gates told the world that he was the president of Global Malayali Federation, vice-president of International Human Rights Federation, patron of Kerala Expatriates Association and office bearer of hitherto unheard organisations with global taglines. He was also a special guest to the Cyber Hacking Conference held under the auspices of Kerala Police!

Though he claims to have travelled to more than 100 countries, Monson does not have a passport. Photographs of Loknath Behera, a former Kerala Police chief, and Manoj Abraham, a decorated additional DGP, sharing Tipu Sultan's royal chair which is owned by Monson have gone viral. The sculptor who perfected the chair confessed to the Crime Branch that he had made it at Monson's instance. The conman even had a wooden pot from which “Lord Krishna in his manifestation as a child used to steal butter”! The interesting thing is that all Malayalis were carried away by his claims. A former woman associate of his spilled the beans on Monson when he cheated her. Kerala, which was discussing “gold smuggling queen” Swapna Suresh around this time last year, is now agog with Monson's audacious escapades. And all this is happening when trade union workers in the State hold organisations like Isro to ransom for unloading charges. The day is not far when Malayalis would replace in anecdotes featuring members of one particular community who evoked laughter through their imprudent acts.

# The Führer Principle is Congress' bane



PRAFULL GORADIA

The Opposition is bereft of a political strategist. At the strategic level, the ethos of India has transformed from the Nehruvian to Hindu

The Congress leadership should realise that, being the senior political party, it has a duty towards the country. It is one of the important guardians of democracy, wherever it be. Acquiring power and governing properly comes next in its order of obligations. As it appears, the Congress is devoted to none of these. It merely displays a hatred of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which has no place in democracy. An opponent is an adversary, nothing more. Abuses like “Chowkidar chor hai” betray the speaker's character and pollute the political atmosphere to no one's gain.

The Congress has mostly functioned on the Führer Principle or the leadership principle. From 1921, Mohandas K Gandhi continued to dominate the party until 1946. Then it was the turn of Jawaharlal Nehru, especially after Sardar Patel's passing away. He was followed by his illustrious daughter Indira Gandhi and then by her son Rajiv who knew or understood little of politics but managed somehow for five years. But he left a dent in the party. The poor men and women ceased to think it was their party. It was now the organisation of the rich who wore Gucci shoes, Ray-Ban glasses and so on.

However, no one looked upon the Congress as an anti-Hindu set-up. After PV Narasimha Rao completed his term as the PM, the party began to wobble. It seemed as if it was not being held together. The consensus emerged that only a Nehru-Gandhi can do so. Thus Sonia Gandhi was virtually fished out from the Mediterranean Sea for the party presidency. To many an objective observer, it seemed that she would not be able to cope with the job. But she did for 10 years, not by hit-or-miss but by mediocre partiality. The secret was Ahmed Patel, a young MP from Bharuch in Gujarat who was loyal to Indira Gandhi right through the Emergency. He sat at the 12, Willingdon Crescent, bungalow outside Indira's workroom on a stool the whole day, except for the lunch hour when he went home. Presuming me to be a fellow sympathiser, he explained the reason to me at the Circuit House,



Ahmedabad. While he was not, by any means, a rabid Muslim, he felt that the future of Muslims in India lay in moderation and the Congress. No other party was dependable and capable of keeping his community across India, more or less, united. And the Nehru-Gandhis were the only family under whose umbrella Congressmen could remain together. Hindu domination would ruin this Dar-ul-Aman.

While Patel was Sonia's guide, friend and philosopher, she could play the role of the supreme leader of the Congress and later that of an elder statesman in India. Trouble began for this cozy arrangement when Patel contracted COVID and subsequently became a pyara of Allah.

Ahmedbhai was an epitome of political selflessness and above the usual political desires. He was utterly loyal to the Nehru-Gandhis, and did not place any importance on becoming a Minister nor was he particularly fond of money. Above all, he never threw his weight around. Evidently, these are rare qualities in the world of politics. Then, he was a non-Hindu and, therefore, could easily fit into the mould of Sonia's preferences. She



FOR A FOREIGN LADY TO UNDERSTAND THE CURRENTS OF INDIA'S POLITICS IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE, ESPECIALLY IF WE REMEMBER THAT SONIA HAS NO POLITICAL BACKGROUND. AS AN AMATEUR OF FOREIGN BIRTH, HER DEMANDS FOR A POLITICAL ADVISOR ARE VERY TALL

would, therefore, blindly trust him. For a foreign lady to understand the currents and cross-currents of India's diverse politics is almost impossible, especially if we remember that she has no political background. Oscar Fernandes could have been a useful replacement in Patel's absence, but even he decided to travel to paradise. As we have seen, as an amateur of foreign birth, her demands for a political advisor are very tall. Herein lies the tactical problem of the present confusion and troubles the party finds itself in. The Opposition is bereft of a political strategist. All in all, for the present, it is a one-sided game. At the ground strategic level, the ethos of India has transformed from the Nehruvian to Hindu. What to do in this situation? The entire Opposition is roundly confused.

Socialism on the one hand and Hindu priorities on the other, do not gel. The former, in Marxist terms, can be described “from each according to his ability, to each according to his opportunity”, whereas the Hindu ethos revolves around karma. The sum of a person's karma, including in past lives, would

determine his opportunity and not the state of the Government. Non-alignment should not necessarily mean Nehruvian propensity to run and retreat, as he did particularly against China in the 1950s. In Kashmir, too, he was ready to spit but reluctant to fire. The results are for everyone to see.

The incumbent Government's burden is to clean and clear the mess Nehruvianism has left behind. The latter's incompetence in ruling has been evident in every member of its family. We have seen Nehru's performance as well Rajiv's. Indira's performance is also well known with regard to the 93,000 Pakistani prisoners of war let off in 1972. Doubts remain regarding the wisdom of relieving Pakistan of its unwanted backyard, which commanded the majority of its then undivided population. This is a story that is yet to be adequately told.

(This is part of an ongoing series on India making multi-dimensional advancement across States and nations).

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

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### FELINE VISITORS TO HUMAN HABITAT

Sir — The residential Aarey Milk Colony is being frequented by wild animals and the Sanjay Gandhi National Park (SGNP) authorities are brushing it aside, saying the leopard had strayed into the complex for food. Oftentimes, human life is lost in man-animal conflicts. This is giving residents sleepless nights. We have to preserve wildlife, but not at the expense of human lives. The leopard scare has given a frightening time to people in and around Aarey Colony and other places that face similar encounters with wild animals. It was a disheartening sight to see a leopard attack a 10-year-old boy in Amritpur and a 60-year-old woman in Aarey Milk Colony.

This is a sad state of affairs as the authorities in charge at the Sanjay Gandhi National Park have failed to rescue the animal so far. This is not the first time such a thing has happened. The authorities in charge must take steps to avoid animal-human conflict in residential areas. It is high time the authorities heed this fact and find a permanent solution before the situation gets out of hand.

CK Subramaniam | Mumbai

### DESPERATE MEASURES

Sir — There are lakhs of people who think the same way as Kanhaiya Kumar who, while joining the Congress, said that he did so because the party is not simply a political institution but rather an idea and a philosophy. In tune with the popular Telugu saying ‘When God is ready to shower grace, it is the priest who matters’ because one can reach Him/Her through a proper channel only. The priests in question are the members of the Gandhi (read Indira, not Mahatma) family.

Anyhow on the verge of a total collapse, Congress is in a better position to take maximum risk in announcing its prime ministerial candidate so that he or she gets ‘marinated’ in the minds of the people to make appropriate comparison vis-a-vis Modi who is currently cherish-

## Fresh food is not good enough



It refers to the launch of the Prime Minister Poshan scheme for an initial period of five years whereby the Centre will bear ₹54,061 crore of the total estimated cost of ₹1.3 lakh crore with the States paying ₹31,733 crore and the remaining to be further released by the Centre as subsidies for food grains. News reports about insects, frogs, lizards, rats etc in the meals served under the Midday Meal Scheme surface often. There have been many incidents of kids falling ill after eating freshly cooked meals in schools. There are frequent reports of substandard raw materials like rice and pulses being used to cook the meals in schools.

Only packaged food, preferably baked food, within expiry date as mentioned on packs, should be served in schools to ensure hygiene. It will also take care of peculiar food habits of some children like avoiding onion and garlic. It may be recalled that 30 parliamentarians had recommended packaged biscuits procured from reputed companies recommended by Mumbai-based Biscuits Manufacturers Welfare Association (BMWVA) to replace cooked food in the Midday Meal Scheme. The Government can further save money by inspiring big manufacturers of packaged food to partially or fully sponsor the programme by getting publicity of their trade-name in return. Even corporations, including public sector ones, can be asked to fund the PM Poshan scheme with packaged food. Another idea can be to set up units of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) throughout the country for manufacture of packaged baked food products also for the PM Poshan programme.

Subhash Chandra Agrawal | Delhi

ing the ‘there is no alternative’ (TINA) factor. Two years would be an ideal time for the candidate to sink into the minds of the voters to make a calculated decision. Without subjecting the people to Hobson's choice, the Congress can spring a surprise candidate against expected lines because like Kanhaiya, many are waiting with bated breath as a last chance to pump life into an otherwise critically ill party.

D Nagarjuna | Hyderabad

### BEIJING'S DEBT DIPLOMACY

Sir — China's investment of an estimated \$1.4 billion in Sri Lanka's Colombo Port City project is an example of how it uses its economic power to trap unsuspecting Governments in debts. Beijing's debt diplomacy is a growing concern in Africa. One in five infrastructure projects in Africa are funded by China and one in three projects are built by Chinese companies. These projects are often

taken up without conducting proper studies. Angola owes a substantial debt to China and is now repaying the debt with crude oil; causing economic problems in the country. Kenya also got into the Chinese debt trap and has now been negotiating the terms of loan payments. China's overwhelming control of debt-trapped countries transcends Asia. Many countries in Europe are struggling to repay loans to China. These countries are likely to be victims of debt diplomacy. Chinese strategy is always to hide the truth and show an unrealistic picture of hope. China has vested interests in offering loans to countries. It targets naive countries and, in the end, such countries find themselves trapped in debts. By offering financial assistance and service, China is actually betraying countries.

Venu GS | Kollam

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## SOUND BITE

Goans love football. I will get all three teams from West Bengal to Goa to meet Goans.

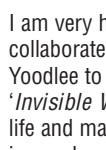


—TMC leader Luizinho Faleiro



About North Korea, we're evaluating and assessing their missile launches to understand exactly what they did, what technology they used.

—US Secretary of State Antony Blinken



I am very happy to collaborate with Yoodlee to bring 'Invisible Woman' to life and make a debut in a web series.

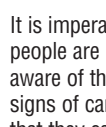


—Actor Suniel Shetty



Not thinking about triple figures at the moment, the team needs me to just bat well.

—Indian batter Smriti Mandhana




It is imperative that people are made aware of the early signs of cancer so that they can get immediate treatment.

—Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu

FIRST COLUMN

THE QUOTIENT OF CREDIBILITY

When practised systematically and regularly, audit becomes a tool of exuding confidence



VINAYSHIL GAUTAM

Nobody quite knows when and where audit became an important legal obligation for a certain level of enterprise in general, and business enterprise in particular. Before one knew, it had almost spontaneously got into this role. This was understandable because everyone wants to know where one's money is going. The issue of standards became all pervasive in the audit process. A predictable institutionalisation was one of the outcomes. In India, a fall out was the coming into existence of an 'institute'. As money began to travel with greater speed and wider range, contours of international financial reporting standards became more pressing. Slowly, what happened to cricket, hockey or the invention of United Nations happened to audit. The powerful flexed their muscles, got together and wrote the rules. While all this was happening, technology from being a faceless entity acquired a character. From a supporting function, it became an integral function of the financial reporting system. Machine learning became not just a fad but a necessity. Technology brought with it a need to be familiar with devices. Reporting transactions in domains such as income, expense, assets and liabilities raised issues of policy frames and rules. The last two decades and more have always had a talk of some financial crisis in some part of the world, in some sector. The celebrated 'global village' was faced with far too many reverberations. The amazing thing is that the globalisation of this process has not blurred the defining characteristics of regional economies. India is a savings-driven economy. Gold bullion and landholdings are indicators of prosperity. Such a set-up requires an ethical platform, workable governance practices and quality of reporting. The audit process today has pressures of responding to increasingly complex demands of credibility quotient. But practised systematically and regularly, audit becomes an invaluable tool of exuding confidence. The investment climate and the investor's confidence are deeply affected by this. If market efficiencies are to increase, the quality of both the quantifiable aspects and the non-quantifiable aspects of transactions must keep improving incrementally. This requires rules. Mature communities appreciate the worth of stable practices. Reliable processes of corporate governance yield results. This by itself does not always prevent abuse of power or arrest high risk. By itself it would not even eliminate all imprudent behaviour. However, systems of work well thought through, do encourage shareholders and depositor's confidence. Unfortunately, technology has its own banes. Sudden, sharp and often misplaced policy initiatives cause more exasperation than delight. A bigoted approach to technology allows little change of track, mid-way. This causes its own grief. Data protection often at tandem with unpredictable data predatory practices generates its own business. This very often becomes a business in its own right, diverting attention from the focus of investment. Indeed, the process detection of processes is on the verge of becoming a discipline. The way forward is to reduce the pressures on the depositor. He is at the heart of the whole activity yet largely neglected, often because, he has no forum. All this perhaps requires a package of solutions. Teaching of banking in an economics curriculum may mark a beginning. Simulation-based training could help contain stealthy demeanour. Maybe the individual investor and his plight when recognised will help all other stake holders in financial operations to be more effective. All this may take time, but the wise man does not always expect to see the distant scene. One step at a time, could help.

*(The writer is a well-known management consultant. The views expressed are personal.)*

# The World Bank is under suspicion



GOVIND BHATTACHARJEE

An investigation conducted by the World Bank revealed data irregularities and cited the role of several IMF chiefs in tweaking data in China's favour

India was on the cusp of improving its ranking further on the World Bank's "Ease of Doing Business" index. It had instituted a single window system for all investors and businesses to eliminate the filing of multiple applications across ministries and departments. It would allow automatic renewal of licenses without the requirement of visiting any Government office. Sadly, the World Bank suspended the ranking itself due to past data irregularity. It has come as a big disappointment for India and PM Narendra Modi rightly flagged it in his recent address to the UN General Assembly saying the world institutions had "damaged their credibility". Credibility was the casualty when the World Bank had to disclose that a number of irregularities were reported regarding changes to the data in its 'Doing Business' reports, changes that were "inconsistent with the Doing Business methodology."

To maintain the integrity and impartiality of data and analysis, the World Bank promised to conduct systematic review and internal audit of the process of data collection and assessment of the controls and to "retrospectively correct the data of countries that were most affected by the irregularities", if necessary. The countries involved were mainly China, UAE and Saudi Arabia. The sordid affair once again brought to the fore the heft that China has in the international multilateral institutions, of which it is a major contributor.

Ever since they were launched in 2003, the ease of business rankings have been a valuable tool for countries to improve their rankings in order to attract industries and investment. The reports have so far engendered nearly 5,000 regulatory reforms in 190 countries including India, whose ranking went up by 17 notches last year improving its ranking to 63rd position among these countries. India indeed took a giant leap in its ranking which improved from 130 in 2016 to 63 in 2020, for which credit must be given to the transformational reforms undertaken by the present government. The PM's ambition is to improve its ranking to within the top 50, and the report would have acted as a catalyst in this effort.

An investigation conducted by the World Bank reported data irregularities in the 'Doing Business' reports and cited the roles of present IMF Chief Kristalina Georgieva and the Bank's then president Jim Yong Kim, who was then her boss, in tweaking the data in favour of China. China launched a slew of reforms after it was ranked 84 in 2016 to free entrepreneurs from red tape, cutting fees and effected other reforms that improved its ranking to 78 in 2017, where it remained in 2018. But then its ranking improved dramatically, from 78 to 46 in 2019 and then to 31 in 2020.

The Bank's investigation found that the staff involved in the process improperly altered the scores of at the behest of its chief, Jim Yong Kim, a South Korea-born American. Georgieva of course denied the



THE EASE OF DOING BUSINESS INDEX HAS BEEN A VALUABLE TOOL FOR COUNTRIES TO IMPROVE THEIR RANKINGS IN ORDER TO ATTRACT INDUSTRIES AND INVESTMENT. THE REPORTS HAVE SO FAR ENGENDERED NEARLY 5,000 REGULATORY REFORMS IN 190 COUNTRIES INCLUDING INDIA, WHOSE RANKING WENT UP BY 17 NOTCHES LAST YEAR, IMPROVING ITS RANKING TO 63RD POSITION AMONG THESE COUNTRIES

*(The writer is former Director-General, Office of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India and currently, Professor, Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management. The views expressed are personal.)*



allegations, saying that she only asked bank researchers to triple-check the data. But the investigators found that she and her staff had explored a change in the bank's method (by including only one city per country) to orchestrate a better result for China and that the changes that were finally implemented introduced errors into the report. The bank cited "pressure applied by CEO Georgieva and her advisor, Djankov, to make specific changes to China's data points in an effort to increase its ranking at precisely the same time the country was expected to play a key role in the bank's capital increase campaign".

In fact, Simeon Djankov was the economist whose landmark paper, written with three other academics, was the trigger for launching the 'Doing Business' report in 2003. On the basis of quantitative evidence gathered from 85 countries, the paper had found that countries with stricter entry regulation for business had higher corruption and larger unofficial economies, with poor quality of public or private goods. It also found that countries with more democratic and limited governments had lighter entry regulations, and that heavier entry regulation benefited only politicians and bureaucrats without adding any value to the businesses.

The 'Doing Business' ranking is done by a survey conducted through questionnaire to measure the regulations directly affecting businesses. A nation's ranking depends on 41 sample indicators grouped under 10 sub-indices which include the ease of starting a business, dealing with construction permits, getting permanent electricity connection, registering proper-

ty, getting credit, protecting minority investors, paying taxes, cross-border trading, etc.

Data are gathered from about 15000 experts like lawyers, accountants, judges, engineers, architects, business people and public officials in the 190 subject countries who have to deal with business regulations in their normal course of work. For 11 economies including India, China, Bangladesh, Brazil, Indonesia, Japan, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russia and the USA, the two largest cities are selected from each, and the score is calculated as the population-weighted average of the scores for these two cities. For India the cities selected are Mumbai and Delhi.

The 2020 report, benchmarked on May 1, 2019, acknowledged 10 economies including China, India and also Pakistan that implemented a total of 59 regulatory reforms in 2018/19 — accounting for one-fifth of all the reforms implemented worldwide. It mentioned the PM's "Make in India" campaign focused on attracting foreign investment, boosting the private sector, especially manufacturing and improving the country's overall competitiveness. It acknowledged that both India and China had adopted the 'Doing Business' indicators as a "core component of their reform strategies" and demonstrated tangible progress in the reforms.

One reason why India's ranking improved was because of creating better awareness among respondents and involving top officials like partners in accounting firms in the process of responding to survey questionnaires — something that was routinely delegated to officials much lower in the hierarchy who were not properly equipped to

appreciate their significance and responded to the questions rather mechanically. But this alone would not have worked without accompanying reforms in the concerned topics. For highlighting the countries that implemented substantial reforms, the report first selects those countries that implemented substantial reforms in respect of at least three of the 10 topics. For the 2020 report, 42 economies qualified in this, including India, China and Pakistan. The areas in which India showed improvement included the ease in starting business, dealing with construction permits, trading across borders and in resolving insolvency. Since then, the government has been focussing in the areas that remained unaddressed till then to remove the regulatory bottlenecks to make the rules simpler and investor-friendly. Corporate taxes were reduced substantially in September 2019 and procedures made simpler, and improvements were made in many other areas including the single window clearance system which is now operational.

As a result of all this, India expected another upgrade in the current year. Unfortunately, that was when the crisis erupted leading to discontinuance of the report. Given its potential to effect reforms, an objective and unbiased Doing Business ranking will help many leaders to motivate their bureaucracy and legal institutions to implement reforms. It is hoped that the rankings will reappear in the near future after necessary revisions in methodology and with suitable oversight mechanisms involving NGOs, think tanks and academia to check errors.

## POINT COUNTERPOINT

I WILL RESIGN...I WILL NOT STAY IN THE CONGRESS. I WILL NOT BE TREATED IN THIS HUMILIATING MANNER.  
— FORMER PUNJAB CHIEF MINISTER CAPTAIN AMARINDER SINGH



(THERE'S) NO FACT IN REPORTS STATING THAT AMARINDER SINGH WAS INSULTED BY THE CONGRESS. HE SHOULD RETHINK AND NOT HELP THE BJP.  
— PUNJAB CONGRESS IN-CHARGE HARISH RAWAT

# Living by chance or by choice?

The cancer survivor rate in children is over 80 per cent in developed countries; however, in lower-middle income countries, it's only about 20 per cent

This was during the peak of the second wave of COVID-19 in India. A five-year-old boy was referred to from Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh. His was a blood cancer case. He came at night with pallor, bleeding from the nostrils and had difficulty in breathing. We ruled out COVID-19, transfused blood, started antibiotics and did a bone marrow test that revealed a type of blood cancer called acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

ALL, as we call this cancer, is one of the "better" cancers a child can have if one were to have a choice in these matters. It has a cure rate of more than 80-90 per cent. We informed his father and got on with our job. The boy had a bad fungal infection in his



NITA RADHAKRISHNAN

*(The writer is Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Pediatric Hematology Oncology, Post-Graduate Institute of Child Health, Noida. The views expressed are personal.)*

nose and lungs, akin to the "black fungus" which was doing the rounds those days. We started treatment for both; cancer and fungus, and thankfully got both under control in the next few weeks.

In cancer, it always takes a village to treat one child. We need doctors and nurses to deliver treatment, social workers to make the families understand the process and get documents ready for financial aid, a dietician to suggest the required diet, psychologists, and volunteers to give moral support to parents during this ordeal, voluntary blood donors, and so on.

Cancer is one of the most feared diagnoses in the paediatric age group. At present, in developed countries, more than 80 per cent of children



diagnosed with cancer get cured of the illness and will become long-term survivors. However, as per WHO, in lower-middle-income countries, only about 20 per cent are expected to survive.

The hurdles for us are many. There are no screening tests for cancers in children. The symptoms of cancer like fever, bony pain, etc., mimic many other common illnesses in children. It takes an astute doctor to put things

together and suspect cancer, failing which they die soon because childhood cancers are aggressive and grow fast.

Even when suspected, the fear and stigma of the disease paralyse and prevent some from seeking medical care. Many lives are lost in the hands of quacks who promise a cure without the "side-effects" of chemotherapy.

And finally, even from those who reach a hospital, many discontinue treatment while running around for "second opinion" or magical remedies. We recently analysed our data of 154 new childhood cancer cases diagnosed over 18 months, where 23 discontinued treatment and subsequently died. 11 cited poverty as the reason even though the children

were getting treated for free through various schemes.

In centres such as ours, both governmental and non-governmental machinery starts rolling the minute a child steps into the hospital so that the family gets the best possible treatment without having to wait for arranging finances. Ayushman Bharat, Prime Minister's Relief Fund, Chief Minister's Relief Fund, Asadhya Rog Scheme, Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, are some of the Government schemes that cater to children with cancer. Our country has the means and methods to support high-end radiotherapy, surgery and bone marrow transplant in these children, if needed. Despite all this, the sad fact is that there are many who still are not able to avail

any of these.

September is "celebrated" as childhood cancer awareness month worldwide. WHO has set a goal of 60 per cent survival in childhood cancer by 2030 for low-and-middle income economies.

What is the way ahead for us? If a condition such as childhood cancer comes under the purview of a national policy with the involvement of government machinery right from tracking children with suggestive symptoms, getting them to a treatment centre, hand-holding them through the treatment, similar to what we did with COVID-19, then there is no looking back.

This process will have collateral benefits too. The network of care-providers

gets strengthened, quality of diagnostics, hospital infection-prevention policy, nursing practices and documentation get refined. And of course, the joy of meeting a childhood cancer survivor who has gone on to make a life ahead makes every struggle worth it. Our own tussles and egos pale in comparison with what they have gone through and achieved.

The boy and his dad went home for a short break in between treatment and never returned. Maybe there were pressing concerns for his dad-back home. The boy died after a month. The economic divide that exists in our country could not be more obvious. For some, life is something you get by chance. For them, there is no choice.



Date : October 01, 2021  
Place: Delhi/ NCR



TRAVEL BUG

ONCE UPON A TIME

SAIMI SATTAR steps back in the past to relive the blissful luxury experienced by Rajput princesses of yore... and has encounters with unforeseen adventures

A short sharp call made Sita Ramji glance up in its direction and then trace a straight line towards the opposite side with his vision. I squinted to spot what he was so intently staring at but the dense foliage coupled with the morning sun bouncing off the serrated cliffs made it next to impossible. When I turned towards him, Sita Ramji had placed a finger on what would have been his lips, under the mask, while he gestured that we should freeze in our tracks with the other. "Leopard," he said softly and added, "The langurs, on the other side, sounded that warning call. The big cat seems to be stationary now." Till that penultimate moment, I'd been daydreaming, comparing the cliffs that helmed us to Pride Rock, straight out of The Lion King, half expecting (and hoping) Rafiki to hold up Simba for the world to see.

But rather than living a film, adventure found us on the last day of our visit — yet again — when we were least expecting it. We'd reached Amanbagh in Ajabgarh, Rajasthan after a head start from Delhi. Since we halted for not more than 10 minutes to stretch our legs, we covered the 263 km in a matter of four hours flat. The road, except for a few stretches, is any driver's dream. So, we arrived well in time for lunch.

LAY OF THE LAND

But that was just one of the many things that made us feel like we were the chosen ones. No sooner had we stepped out of the car, than a Sanskrit song of welcome heralded our arrival. While all of us are used to an aarti and a showering of rose petals, this was a first. The sonorous voice, ably-aided by the acoustics powered by the high sandstone and marble ceiling, made our spirits soar far above.

The hotel site, we were told, was used as late as the 19th century by Maharaja Jai Singh of Alwar as a base for hunting in the jungles of Sariska. And the sight that greeted us made us believe that we had time-travelled to the era where we could very well have been maharanis in more leisurely times. Stretched out before us was a large pool, bordered by a columned corridor, that could be set as much in Rome as in Rajasthan. Flanked by rooms (if these could be called so... more about that later) on either side, the water sparkled invitingly but Covid protocol ensured that we stayed clear of it.

Nestled in the valley



between two symmetrical Aravalli hills, the location of the hotel — spread over a sprawling 45 acres — further adds to its charm. Built in a style, that is immediately associated with the confluence of the influence of the Rajputs and Mughals, it incorporates rose-hued turrets, domes, cupolas, vaulted entrances and extensive use of sandstone. But the past and present intersect not just in style. While the hotel is a fairly new construction from 2016, the wall is a remnant of the 19th century.

The rooms are divided into pool pavillions, terrace haveli suite, garden haveli suite and courtyard haveli suite, depending on what they overlook. We were glad to be escorted to one of the 15 pool pavillions, the top-range accommodation. And there is a reason why I earlier said that it can't be described as a room, for these are independent enclosures, each constructed separately. A short walk across the small courtyard led to a wooden door that opened into what can be described as a connecting area between the bathroom — on the left — and the bedroom, on the right. Another door in the front led us to... you guessed it, our very own private pool. The glee, especially after not having used one for two seasons dur-

ing the pandemic, was unmatched. The bathroom and the bedroom too have doors opening outdoors.

The focal point of the large-sized bathroom was a jade bathtub. The two basins in the same stone are placed on different sides of the room. Four large wooden doors conceal the shower, toilet and two walk-in closets.

Interestingly, everything in the spacious bedroom, including the sides and the base of the bed, was made of marble and sandstone. I'm glad that while there's a music player, there's no TV. If we've boarded a time machine to the days of yore, we might as well not allow the trappings of the modern world to barge in with their breathless right here, right now tone and tenor.

So, we decided to make the best use of our facilities and dived straight into the pool. Though small, measuring 28x9

feet, the very idea of having one to yourself is exhilarating, to say the least. It helped that the pavilion building shielded us from the afternoon sun. Not surprisingly, the hours slipped by and while we were reluctant to step out and almost debated tossing a coin to decide who would be the first to head out for a shower when an unforeseen event precipitated our quick exit.

WALK INTO ADVENTURES

Delhi was practically wilting under the heat and to our pleasant surprise, Ajabgarh, which is technically a desert, had a sky that was overcast with dark clouds laden with rain when we started. Sita Ramji, a naturalist attached to the property, helped us into the open Thar that was to be our vehicle for evening outings. We made our way through the circuitous route which had tow-

ering cliffs with a variety of foliage on one side and open fields on the other. Sita Ramji pointed out places of interest and the history behind them. The Ajabgarh Fort loomed up in vision as it stood proud, invincible and independent. A dargah popular among locals as well as the visitors had children bounding about. Small villages with a school, a community centre and more sped past. We were not even halfway through the tour when the rain gods doused us with their bounty. While the villagers were amused and wanted to extend their hospitality to shield us from the force of nature, we revelled in the showers. We hadn't gone too far when the rain ceased and, as if to signal the surprises that we had in store, a magnificent rainbow stretched out across the sky. We wanted to search for a pot of gold at its end but just sat to quietly take in the

views, the chirping of a variety of birds and the humdrum slow rhythm of everyday life, commonplace for the residents here while being essentially non-existent for us who come from the urbscape where speed is of the essence and keeping busy a mantra of being successful. I sent a short prayer, thanking the powers that be for the manna from heaven, which was priceless. By this time, we'd realised how valuable Sita Ramji was to our excursion. He called out a namaste to the villagers — most of whom he knew by name — pointed out birds by their mere calls or wing colours or beak shapes while enmeshing all of this with tales of glory from the past. Returning from the excursion, both of us were a little quiet trying to absorb the wealth of information that he had imparted.

But, once you are grateful, heaven ensures that the premium multiples manifold. We had timed the trip to coincide with my daughter's birthday. As we made our way to our room, we sensed that something was up... and we were right. The short path in the courtyard was lined with diyas leading to the room and two hotel staff — a man and a woman — sang good wishes for her. The room had a special chocolate and pineapple cake waiting for us. The day was turning out to be an unprecedented one for the birthday girl.

The next day, early morning, we headed to Sariska Tiger Reserve — which is a little less than 30 km from the hotel — in the hope of spotting one of the many species of wild cats found here. Spread over 881 sq km, it is home to leopards, jungle cats, caracals and

striped hyenas, besides the tiger. In January 2005, there were no tigers left in Sariska and so in 2008, two tigers from Ranthambhore National Park were relocated here. At present, there are 23 tigers that lord over the area, informed Sita Ramji, and added that each of them has a territory spread over a radius of about 40-60 km. So, we peeled our eyes to spot one, while riding the open jeep in different directions on the instructions of the several trackers that we met. However, none of the five species that are found here acquiesced, we spotted the other animals in abundance. We lost count of the number of peacocks, as not one but several, unfurling their feathers at every bend of the road. Then, there were herds of nilgais, to be seen at every water body in sight, which didn't bother to even blink while we stood not more than three feet away. There were herds of spotted deer frolicking amidst the brush, monkeys and langurs swinging on branches or chewing on leaves but the best was a wild boar trundling past with her four piglets. But, no feline of any kind. Of course, if you speak with a wildlife expert, s/he is likely to tell you that only focussing on spotting a wild cat is a flawed concept when it comes to a safari. Though it was only late morning, the heat had begun to rise and we beat a retreat to the haven of our hotel.

UNANNOUNCED VISITORS

We first spotted one, then two more followed and then, within a blink of an eye, there was an entire carload of monkeys. Initially, they swung on the trees that surrounded us and then, growing bolder, clambered down as the leader of the pack made a dash for the iPad which was lying farther away from us. By this time, we had picked our mobiles and scuttled inside and quickly called the hotel reception which responded at lightning speed. They scared away the primates and told us that one person would be stationed outside when we wanted to use the pool. But we reflected, it was not the monkeys who were invading our space rather we were the ones who had stepped into their habitat. The excitement over, we quickly dressed to head out for what has been labelled as the 'cow dust tour' or what translates as godhuli bela, a time which often makes its appearance in Hindi literature (think Munshi Premchand).

NOT SCARY ENOUGH

We ventured out in the evening to go to Bhangarh Fort, which holds the distinction of being the spookiest place in India. On the way, Sita Ramji narrated a tale where everything — from magic to

revenge and bloodshed in times past — played a part in the place becoming such a hit on the haunted tourist circuit. Despite the tales of an omnipresence, there was not even a hint of eeriness. No squeaky doors, no unaccounted for sounds or appearance and disappearance of a woman in white akin to the script of a Hindi film. Rather, it was the architecture, the intricate carvings of figurines on the shikhara of the temples as well as the well-planned layout of the markets in the 16th-century fort that had us enthralled. It, of course, helped that place was choc-a-bloc with tourists. Friends, families, young newly-married couples — where the women demurely walked two steps behind and with ghung-hats pulled across their faces — often accompanied by an entourage of elderly and children. We wanted to climb to the top of the monument to take in a view of the countryside but the minor issue of a snapped sandal strap put an end to any such excursion.

We believed that we had had enough excitement for the day but... there was a dinner planned at the Library Terrace, on the first floor, underneath the star-lit sky. The path leading to the area where we were to dine and the stairs surrounding it were lit with tiny diyas and lined with fresh flowers. The pool, from above, reflecting the lights of the structure around took on a different hue while the mood was further elevated by the singers who rendered all-time favourite ghazals accompanied by a harmonium, flute and tabla. The food, especially Dahi ke kebabs, Dal baati, Ker sangri and Gatte ki subzi (yes, there was much more), was delectable. Add to it service that was personalised yet non-intrusive and you had the makings of a perfect evening. The almost perfectly full moon had the selenophile in me in raptures. But, then, as I said at the beginning, nature had indeed conspired to create an experience that can't be bought by all the wealth in the world.

TREK AND REST

We were supposed to check out the next afternoon and decided to go for our last excursion. It was during this trek to Somsagar Lake, which was commissioned to welcome Emperor Akbar during his visit to Ajabgarh in 1598, that we had our (non) encounter with the leopard. But even minus the sighting, the trek was well worth it. The marble steps of the quarry have been polished by the comings and goings of villagers, cattle and goats alike over the years since the path was first built. You have to watch your step as it can be pretty slippery at times. During our ascent, we met two villagers who recounted how a week back a leopard had preyed on two of their newly-bought goats for his lunch. However, the gentle breeze at the top, the serene atmosphere, the placid lake which was thick with water chestnuts grown by the villagers and the sweet ant eater birds fluttering about almost belied the tale of gore that we had just heard. It was a place to rest, rejuvenate and heal. We did just that. For a while. Before making our way back to the city and 'real' life as we city-dwellers know it.



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# Punjab Kings win crucial game

PTI ■ DUBAI

Punjab Kings boosted their chances of making the IPL play-offs with a five-wicket win over Kolkata Knight Riders as effective death over bowling and smart batting by skipper KL Rahul and Shahrugh Khan shaped their crucial victory in the Indian Premier League here on Friday.

Rahul scored 67 runs off 55 balls and shared a 70-run stand with fellow opener Mayank Agarwal (40), knocking off a 166-run target with three balls to spare.

Shahrugh produced an impactful 9-ball 22-run knock when it mattered and finished the match with a six.

Venkatesh Iyer hit a fluent 67 while Nitish Rana produced a fiery 31 off 18 balls before Punjab Kings restricted KKR to 165 for seven.

Invited to bat, the in-form KKR batsmen controlled the proceedings for a major part of their innings and had it not been some excellent death over spells by Mohammed Shami (1/23) and



Arshdeep Singh (3/32), KKR would have got a bigger score on the board.

Iyer and Rahul Tripathi (34 off 26 balls) raised a 72-run stand, stroking the ball around with ease

while Rana's cameo was also crucial for KKR since the run-rate had taken a hit at that time after two quick wickets.

The Punjab batsmen did not set the field on fire at the start of the chase as all they could manage 46 runs in the powerplay but did not lose a wicket.

Of the two batsmen, it was Agarwal who was hitting the ball at a good a strike rate while Rahul was going a-run-a-ball.

Varun Chakravarthy separated the openers by having Agarwal caught at in extra cover by Eoin Morgan, though it was a fierce shot.

Nicholas Pooran (12) was dropped at 1 by Tripathi in the same region but Chakravarthy ensured that it wasn't a costly miss as he dismissed the West Indian soon after.

Gripping the ball had become difficult for the bowlers due to the dew but Punjab batsmen were still happy working the ball around and getting an odd big shot in between.

KKR needed 45 runs from the final five overs. Aiden Markram (18) hit a gigantic six off Sunil Narine but was caught in the same

IPL pointstable			
	M	P	NRR
CSK	11	18	+1.002
DC	11	16	+0.562
RCB	11	14	-0.200
KKR	12	10	+0.302
PBKS	12	10	-0.236
MI	11	10	-0.453
RR	11	8	-0.468
SRH	11	4	-0.490

over while Deepak Hooda (3) also perished soon.

Rahul seemed to have hit one straight to fielder but the third-umpire ruled him not out. He got out in the first ball of the final over but Shahrugh finished the job to calm a nervous dugout.

PBKS moved to fifth in the table with 10 points while KKR stayed in fourth with a similar points tally.

Earlier, left-arm pacer Arshdeep has been a top performer for Punjab this season and he delivered again

by cleaning up Shubhman Gill (7) with a peach of delivery that breached the defence of the batsman in the third over.

Iyer, who has been a revelation this season, continued his good run with some fluent drives on both sides of the wicket despite that the ball was stopping a bit before coming on to the bat.

The batsmen's positive approach and lack of control over the line by the Punjab pacers meant that run-rate kept soaring for KKR.

The partnership was finally broken by spinner Ravi Bishnoi, who had Tripathi caught in the deep. The leg-spinner was also economical ending with figures of two for 22 in four overs.

Iyer completed his fifty with a single off Allen and then lofted the West Indian bowler for a six to raise team's hundred in the 13th over.

Two quick wickets fell when Bishnoi got rid of Iyer, who went for a big shot, and Shami trapped rival skipper Eoin Morgan (2), who shuffled a bit towards the off side but missed the line of the dipping ball that caught him in front of the wicket.

Match: 46

IPL 2021

Oct 2

3:30 pm

Mumbai Indians

VS

Delhi Capitals

Sharjah Cricket Stadium, Sharjah

Mumbai Indians

Total IPL matches played: 214

Won: 125

Lost: 89

Highest total: 223/6

Delhi Capitals

Total IPL matches played: 205

Won: 94

Lost: 109

Highest total: 231/4

No results: 2

Head-to-Head in IPL

Matches played: 29

MI Won: 16

DC Won: 13

Highest total: 218/7

Highest total: 213/6

KBK SportsGraphics

Match: 47

IPL 2021

Oct 2

7:30 pm

Rajasthan Royals

VS

Chennai Super Kings

Zayed Cricket Stadium, Abu Dhabi

Rajasthan Royals

Total IPL matches played: 172

Won: 85

Lost: 85

Highest total: 226/6

No Result: 2

Chennai Super Kings

Total IPL matches played: 190

Won: 115

Lost: 74

Highest total: 246/5

No Result: 1

Head-to-Head in IPL

Matches played: 24

RR Won: 9

CSK Won: 15

Highest total: 223/5

Highest total: 246/5

KBK SportsGraphics



## Mandhana falls after maiden Test ton

PTI ■ GOLD COAST

Flamboyant opener Smriti Mandhana shattered a few records en route to slamming a magnificent maiden Test century as India progressed to 231/3 in the second day's opening session of the day/night match against Australia here on Friday.

At the dinner break, India were strongly placed, having started the proceedings at 132 for one.

The 25-year-old Mandhana became the first Indian woman to hit a century in day-night Tests and also the first from the country to reach three figures in the game's traditional format on the Australian soil.

Mandhana made 127 off 216 balls with the help of 22 boundaries and a six at the Carrara Oval, and added an Indian record of 102 runs in Australia for the second wicket with Punam Raut (36), continuing the good work after putting on 93 with Shafali Verma on a rain-marred opening day.

She brought her century with a short-arm pull shot off Ellyse Perry in the 52nd over.

Mandhana wouldn't have added to her overnight score of 80 in the second over of Day 2 but Perry overstepped. Replays showed that the catch too might have been debatable.

The India opener, however, overcame the early jitters and went about her business in a professional manner while playing some lovely shots, including a magnificent straight drive off Annabel Sutherland.

She looked set for more but was caught at short mid-off off the bowling Ash Gardner, after playing an uppish drive.

Raut walked off after a caught behind appeal despite the umpire not entertaining Alyssa Healy and Meg Lanning's loud shouts.

Skipper Mithali Raj (15 batting) though got into the job straightaway, sweeping and driving Gardner for fours.

**Brief scores:**  
India 1st innings: 231/3 in 84 overs (Smriti Mandhana 127; Sophie Molineux 2/22).

## Richa Ghosh 7th Indian to join WBBL

PTI ■ HOBART

Young wicketkeeper Richa Ghosh on Friday became the seventh Indian cricketer to sign for the upcoming Women's Big Bash League (WBBL) after she was roped in by Hobart Hurricanes.

Ghosh is set to make her WBBL debut and has joined Smriti Mandhana and Deepti Sharma (Sydney Thunder), Shafali Verma and Radha Yadav (Sydney Sixers), and Jemimah Rodrigues and Harmanpreet Kaur (Melbourne Renegades) to feature in the 2021 edition of the Australian T20 league.

Ghosh, who celebrated her 18th birthday this week, has a wealth of experience playing in Australia.


She made her international debut at last year's Tri-National Women's T20 series in the lead-up to the ICC T20 World Cup, before representing India in the format's flagship tournament, where they finished runners-up. With a T20I strike rate in excess of 100, Ghosh also made her One-Day International debut on Australian soil last month, as part of India's multi-format Australian tour. "I'm very excited to be playing in the WBBL



this year," Ghosh said in a statement posted on Hobart Hurricanes website.


"I'm very thankful to the Hurricanes for this opportunity, and I'm looking forward to coming to Tasmania and meeting up with my new teammates."

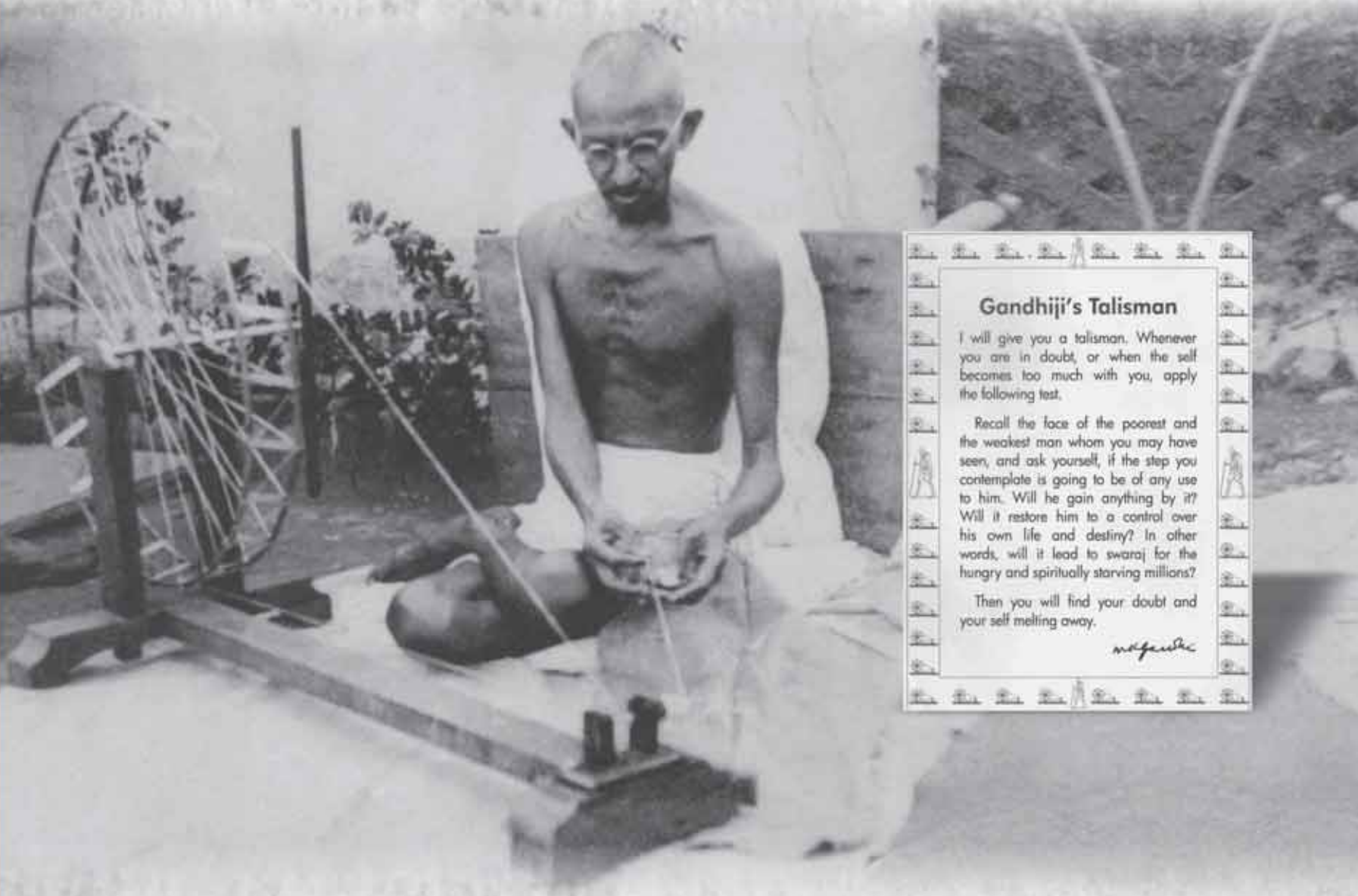
Ghosh has been roped in as a replacement for Lizelle Lee, who had recently withdrawn from the tournament, citing a need to take an indefinite break from cricket after countless overseas tournaments, bubbles and quarantine requirements.



Govt. of Haryana

अंत्योदय से सर्वोदय की ओर



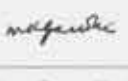


Gandhiji's Talisman

I will give you a talisman. Whenever you are in doubt, or when the self becomes too much with you, apply the following test.

Recall the face of the poorest and the weakest man whom you may have seen, and ask yourself, if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him. Will he gain anything by it? Will it restore him to a control over his own life and destiny? In other words, will it lead to swaraj for the hungry and spiritually starving millions?

Then you will find your doubt and your self melting away.



Heartfelt Tributes to

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and

Former Prime Minister of India


Sh. Lal Bahadur Shastri


on the occasion of their


Birth Anniversary



October 2, 2021

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