**OPINION 6** 

IS CONVERSION RACKET

THE TIP OF AN ICEBERG?

WORLD 8

INDIA, US TO STRENGTHEN

WAYS TO FIGHT TERRORISM

RNI No. 53466/91, REGD. No. DL (C)-05/1219/2021-23 Posted at DRMS Delhi 6

Late City Vol.31 Issue 278 \*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

**Ensure justice for** 

farmers' families.

**Kejriwal urges PM** 

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Condemning death of farm-ers in Lakhimpur Kheri, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind

Kejriwal on Wednesday urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi

to ensure justice for the fami-

lies of the victims.

The AAP supremo demanded that the accused be

arrested and that Union

Minister of State for Home,

Ajay Kumar Mishra, whose

son has been named as accused

in the incident, be sacked. The entire system is trying to

protect the killers of farmers,"

Keiriwal said.

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WE MUST HELP PANKAJ TRIPATHI

# the pioneer

NEW DELHI, THURSDAY OCTOBER 7, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹3

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# Rahul, Priyanka visit Lakhimpur after high drama

Admin lets Cong cavalcade move after stopping it

PREETAM SRIVASTAVA

After high drama at the Lucknow airport on Wednesday morning when a Congress delegation led by Rahul Gandhi was stopped from proceeding to Lakhimpur Kheri in their private vehicles, the State Government finally bowed down to political pres-sure and allowed them to visit the homes of the victims of the Sunday violence in which four farmers were mowed down and five others lost their lives in lynching.
Rahul and others later

joined Priyanka Gandhi Vadra who was detained at Sitapur and together proceeded to Lakhimpur Kheri in a massive

Rahul and Priyanka arrived at Lakhimpur Kheri late in the evening in a procession of vehicles and called on the family of 19-year-old Lovepreet Singh who died on Sunday, allegedly run over by a car dri-



Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra meet the family members of deceased farmer Lavpreet Singh in Lakhimpur Kheri on Wednesday

ven by Union Minister Ajay Mishra's son. Talking to media, Priyanka said that they will fight for the family till the Minister was sacked and his son was arrested.

Besides Rahul and Priyanka, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, Punjab CM Charanjit Channi, senior Congress leaders KC Venugopal, Řandeep Surjewala and Deepender Hooda were part of the team.

Earlier at the Lucknow airport, Rahul alleged that the Uttar Pradesh Police asked him and others to proceed to

Lakhimpur Kheri in police vehicles. Threatening to sit on indefinite dharna at the airport, Rahul tweeted a photograph of heavy police presence as he and other Congress leaders waited at the Lucknow airport.

"I'm not going to move

from here. I'll sit here for any

After a brief stand-off, the three leaders were allowed to proceed towards Lakhimpur Kheri from the airport.
The decision to allow them

to proceed to Lakhimpur Kheri was taken after Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath held a meeting with the officials and assessed the situation on Wednesday morning. Soon after the decision, Priyanka was released from custody in Sitapur and was asked to end her "satyagraha".

The State Government obviously also realised that the

restraining the movement of Congress leaders was

keeping them in the media limelight and giving them political mileage.

Soon after her detention on early Monday morning, Priyanka started a "satyagraha" and even kept fast telling the authorities that she will end it only after she was given permission to meet the family members of the victims in Kheri. When she questioned her detention, the authorities on Tuesday registered a case against her and officially informed her that she was arrested.

Continued on Page 2



## MoS Mishra meets Shah, briefs him on Lakhimpur incident

### **No question of Min's** resignation: Sources

PNS NEW DELHI

Minister of State for Home Ajay Kumar Mishra, whose son is facing the charge of mowing down four farmers at Lakhimpur Kheri, called on his boss Amit Shah on Wednesday. During the 30-minute interaction, Mishra is understood to have briefed Shah about the Lakhimpur Kheri incident.

Sources said there was no question of Mishra's resignation despite growing demand from the Opposition for his dis-Mishra has denied allegations of his son's involve-

a murder case against Ashish Mishra, the son of Ajay Kumar Mishra, and several others over the death of the farmers. Meanwhile, a media invite

for an event scheduled for Thursday in which Mishra was the chief guest and was supposed to deliver a speech has been "cancelled". A media officer for the Bureau of Police Research and

Development (BPRD) said the programme was being put on hold and the invitation may be treated as cancelled".

Meanwhile, AAP leaders Sanjay Singh and Raghav Chadha met the family of The event is related to the two-day 7th national conferdeceased farmer Lovepreet in Lakhimpur Kheri on Wednesday. They will meet ence of heads of prisons of all States and Union Territories. another deceased farmer Nitvanand Rai, who is also Minister of State for Home, is Raman Kashyap's family. the chief guest for the valedic-"Do you know where we tory session of this conference

see criminals mercilessly running their cars over innocent people only to have the entire system bow down before them and shield them from the law? We only see it happen in Bollywood movies and the people of this country do not deserve to see it become a reality," the AAP leader said, adding, "Mr Prime Minister, each and every person of this reality on TVs and social media today. A car came, murdered

### C'garh, Punjab to give Gandhi family using tragedy as ₹50L each to kin of 4 slain kisan, journalist

Chhattisgarh and Punjab Governments on Wednesday announced an exgratia of ₹50 lakh each to families of four farmers and a journalist killed in the violence that broke out in Uttar Pradesh's Lakhimpur Kheri on Sunday.

"Our Government will provide ₹50 lakh each to families of farmers and the journalist killed in the Lakhimpur violence," Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Lucknow, adding Lakhimpur violence reminded him of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre in 1919.



Chhattisgarh Minister Bhupesh Baghel also said his Government will give ₹50 lakh to the families of the farmers and the journalist.

were part of the Rahul Gandhiled Congress delegation which visited Lakhimpur Kheri on

### opportunity, inciting people: BJP Family out on bail on various charges of corruption, says

**Sambit Patra** PNS NEW DELHI

The BJP on Wednesday launched a blistering attack on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and her sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, alleging that the Gandhi family is using the Lakhimpur Kheri tragedy as an opportunity to extract political

inciting people.

The BJP also said "the family" has been rushing to the tragedy site to divert attention

from the feud within the party.

Addressing a Press conference here, BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra responded to Rahul's charges that the Modi Government is "stealing" from everyone's pocket by hitting back saying a "family" who is out "on bail' on various charges of corruption has the cheek to say so.

SC to hear Kheri matter today

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has decided to hear on Thursday the Lakhimpur Kheri case of Uttar Pradesh in which eight people, including four farmers, were killed as violence erupted during a farmers'

cheek to say so. He said son-in-law Robert Vadra who is facing land-grabbing charges is "lecturing" on justice to the farmers. Lashing back at Rahul, Patra said "irresponsibility" has become his second name.

'He raiseo expert?" asked BJP national spokesperson.

erupted during a farmers' protest. As per the cause list uploaded on the apex court website, a three-judge bench comprising Chief Justice NV Ramana and Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli would hear the matter.

post mortem. Is he a medical senior Congress leader Kapil Sibal had urged the Supreme Court to suo motu act on the Detailed report on P4 Lakhimpur Kheri violence.



## people and no action was

## **CAPSULE**

VETERAN ACTOR ARVIND TRIVEDI PASSES AWAY Veteran actor

Arvind

Trivedi, best

known for playing Raavan in the popular 1986 show "Ramayan", died on late Tuesday evening following a heart attack. He was in his early 80s.

### IMD: SW MONSOON WITHDRAWAL BEGINS New Delhi: The withdrawal of

the Southwest Monsoon commenced on Wednesday and it receded from some parts of West Rajasthan and adjoining Gujarat, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said. This is the second-most delayed withdrawal of the Southwest Monsoon since 1960, Monsoon withdrawal from northwest India in 2019 started on October 9.

### FRANCE MOVES BAN ON SEX CHANGE THERAPY

Paris: French lawmakers have unanimously backed proposed legislation that would ban socalled conversion therapy and authorise jail time and fines for practitioners who use the scientifically discredited practice to attempt to change the sexual orientation or gender identity of LGBTQ people

## **NCP terms SRK** son's drug bust 'stage-managed'

NCB rejects charge as 'baseless, borne out of malice and probable prejudice' TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

A political controversy broke out in Maharashtra over the sensational mid-sea drug bust case on Tuesday, as the ruling NCP alleged that the "not a single gram of drug was seized from the arrested persons" and two private persons, including a BJP worker, had been hauling up suspects, including Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan and Arbaaz

Merchantt. However, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) swiftly contested the NCP's allegation by saying two persons — Manish Bhanushali and Kiran



Gosavi - identified by the political party were among nine "independent witnesses" and dubbed the charge as 'baseless" to have been made with malice and probable prejudice that may have been har boured in retaliation against earlier legal actions carried out by the NCB".

At a news conference addressed earlier in the afternoon, Maharashtra Minister and NCP's chief spokesperson Nawab Malik dubbed the drug bust as "stage-managed"

Continued on Page 2

### NEET-Speciality exams pattern restored for this year In the interest of students, changes will take place next year only,

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Wednesday told the Supreme Court that in the interest of students, it has decided to implement changes in the pattern of the NEET-Super Speciality examination from academic year

**Govt informs SC** 

2022-23 only.

A bench of justices DY Chandrachud, Vikram Nath and BV Nagarathna recorded the submission of Additional

announced that the powerful

spy agency ISI chief Lt Gen Faiz

Hameed has been appointed as

Peshawar Corps Commander

the Taliban's takeover of neigh-

bouring Afghanistan. Lt Gen Nadeem Anjum

was appointed as the new

Director-General of Inter-

Services Intelligence (ISI) in

place of Lt Gen Hameed, who

was transferred as Peshawar

Corps Commander, said the

Inter-Services Public Relations

(ISPR) — the media wing of

the Pakistan Army.

a crucial position in view of

Bhati and disposed of pleas of students who challenged the Centre's earlier decision to implement changes in the examination pattern of NEET-Super Speciality from this year. The bench, however, said it is leaving the question open on the validity of the changes made in the pattern of the examination.

"In the interest of the students, who have prepared in line with the old scheme, the Government, in consultation with the two expert bodies (National Medical Commission (NMC) and National Board of Examination (NBE)), has decided that this revised scheme of NEET-SS will be implemented from 2022," Bhati said.

She said this will mean that



the current NEET-SS-2021 will be held in accordance with the norms that were there in the NEET-SS-2020

The bench recording the submissions said, "The Union of India states that a decision

has been taken by it in consultation with the NMC and the NBE to the effect that having regard to the interest of the body of students, who would have commenced preparations for the ensuing NEET-SS-2021

in the pattern was notified, the modified pattern shall be given effect to only from the academic year 2022-23."

On Tuesday, the apex court had given one last chance to the Centre to put its "house in order" and take a call on reversing the changes made to the NEET-Super Speciality examination 2021. An anguished top court had said that the medical profession and education have become a business, and now, the regulation of medical education has also gone that way which is the nation's tragedy.

The SC was not satisfied with the justification given by the Centre, NBE and NMC for making the last-minute changes after the notification for the exam was issued in July. Continued on Page 2

the Chandra brothers were

conducting business from

### SC: Suspend Tihar officials who colluded with ex-Unitech bosses in jail, probe matter

diate suspension of errant Tihar jail officials and directed a full-fledged probe into collusion of jail officials with Unitech's imprisoned ex-promoters Sanjay and Ajay Chandra. The apex court's order was based on Delhi Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana's report filed in a sealed cover.

A bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and MR Shah directed registration of criminal cases against Tihar jail

### prison. The top court further directed the Home Ministry to comply with Asthana's suggestions in the report on enhance ing prison management and allowed a copy to be shared officials and other unknown

### NIA takes over ₹21K cr Mundra Port drug haul case PNS ■ NEW DELHI substance (heroin) disguised as consignment of "Semitrade which could have a bear-

The National Investigation

Tagency (NIA) Wednesday took over the case of seizure of 2,988.21 kg of narcotics at Mundra Port, Gujarat. The case relates to seizure of 2,c988.21 kg of narcotics

consignment of processed Talc stones" originating from Afghanistan. The consignment had arrived from Bandar Abbas Port, Iran.

The move comes as DRI probe so far has pointed to ter-

ing on national security, sources said. The nearly 3,000 kg of

high grade narcotics seized from the Mundra port is estimated to be valued at over ₹21,000 crore in the internaror funding through narco tional market, they added.

### **Pakistan picks** Taliban leadership unhappy with Pakistan's new ISI chief advocacy for its legitimacy **Islamabad:** In a surprise military shake-up, the Pakistan Army on Wednesday

Kabul: However, Islamabad's advocacy for Afghanistan is not widely appreciated within the Taliban ranks in Kabul. Many Taliban commanders and lead ers believe that the world should be talking directly to them instead of countries like Pakistan, who they say, have not been requested by the Taliban to present their position and case to the global community.

Taliban leadership has maintained that they do not want any country to be their voice, as they do not allow any external intervention in domestic affairs of Afghanistan. P8

# The Supreme Court on Wednesday ordered imme-

persons under the relevant provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act and the Indian Penal Code against those involved in the collusion on the basis of the report.

The apex court asked the Delhi Police Commissioner to probe on ED's disclosure that with the Ministry for necessary compliance of directions. Besides, the court also took on record reports filed in a sealed cover by the Enforcement Directorate (ED), the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) and the Delhi Police, and listed the matter for further hearing on October 21.

Continued on Page 2

## **Didi writes to PM** on Bengal floods

Kolkata: Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has shot off yet another letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking permanent solution to the recurring floods in the south-western districts of Bengal due to the water

tricts of Bengal due to the water released every year by dams maintained by centrally run Damodar Valley Corporation.

Alleging "uncontrolled and unplanned" discharge of water by the DVC Banerjee on Tuesday wrote, "I had highlighted the structural faclighted the structural fac-torsthat give birth to grave man-made flood situation in southern Bengal, repeatedly, pitifully and tragically. Unless the Government of India addresses the basic underlying structural and managerial issues, both on a short term and on a long-term basis, the disasters will continue unmitigat-

In her 4-page letter in which she referred to the grim flood situation in Bankura, Hooghly, Burdwan, Asansol, Birbhum and two Midnapores as "manmade flood," Banerjee alleged that initially DVC disregard IMD's warnings of heavy rainfall and "kept the water discharge from the dams at a low level and when there was heavy rainfall, it discharged about 10 lakh acre-feet of water between September 30 and October 2, which caused serious devastation in lower Damodar region before the festive season."

She wrote that "this annual problem requires immediate short-term andlong-term measures so that the sufferings of the people are mitigated and the national loss in terms of loss of life and property is avoided." PNS | ideal if the Supreme Court dislibetand property is avoided." PNS | closes the recommendations

### Upset farming community to file PIL seeking publication of SC-appointed committee's recommendation

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Upset over the Supreme Court's delay in pro-nouncing the verdict of their petition against the farm laws enacted in a hurry in Parliament by the Union Government, farmers in the country would soon approach the apex court with a public interest litigation, a senior farm leader told *The Pioneer*.

The committee of experts appointed by the Supreme Court had submitted a detailed report to the apex court on March 19 itself about the farm Bills. But nothing has moved since then," P Chengal Reddy, veteran farm leader and adviser to Confederation of Indian Farmers' Association (CIFA) told this newspaper. He said it would be

made by the expert committee consisting of Anil Ghanwat, president, Shetkari Sanghatana Ashok Gulati, agriculture economist and Pramod Kumar Joshi International Food Policy Research Institute. Though Bhupinder Singh Mann, president, Bhartiya Kisan Union was also a member, he quit later.

Reddy, a highly respected farm leader from Andhra Pradesh, said it has been more than six months since the committee submitted its report and it was shocking to see nothing has been done since then. "We could have avoided the kind of riots which we saw in Uttar Pradesh the other day that claimed nine lives had there been a verdict by the apex court. It seems filing of a Public Interest Litigation demanding the publication of the expert committee report is the only option," said Reddy.

## They can't kill spirit: Daughter of terror victim

**MOHIT KANDHARI** ■ JAMMU

Daughter of a medical store owner Makhal Lal Bindroo, killed by an 'unidentified' terrorist late Tuesday evening in Iqbal Park area of Srinagar Wednesday, sent out a stern message to the perpe-trators of terrorist violence saying, " you may kill the body, the spirit lives on. Bindroo will

remain alive in spirit."

Paying glowing tributes in the memory of her father, an emotionally charged Dr Shraddha Bindroo also said, "I am an associate professor. I started from zero; my father started from a bicycle, my brother is a famous diabetologist, my mother sits in the shop that is what Makhan Lal Bindroo made us. A Kashmiri Pandit, he will never die. Despite being a Hindu, I have read the Quran. The Quran says you may kill the body, the spirit lives on. Bindroo will remain alive in spirit."

terrorist, "Mister, who shot my father dead while he was working, if you have the guts and courage, come and have a faceto-face debate with us. Then we will see what you are. You won't be able to utter a word. All you can do is throw stones and shoot bullets from behind."

The message sent out by Dr Shraddha Bindroo, shortly before performing the last rites of her father, was amplified across various social media platforms. The community elders, across different destinations reacted angrily to the merciless killing of ML Bindroo. They also cornered the ruling dispensation for ignoring the security concerns of the members belonging to the minority community in Kashmir valley

This is not an isolated incident. Since January 2021, at least five Kashmiri pandits and non locals including political workers, policemen and businessmen have been targeted by terrorists in different parts of Kashmir valley", a community elder said in Jammu while they assembled here to stage a peaceful protest demonstration.

Dr Agnishekhar of Panun Kashmir, told The Pioneer, "merciless killing of Makhan Lal Bindroo is a clear cut warning. The situation is not normal in Kashmir valley. It's a warning for those people who have been misled to believe that a conducive atmosphere is being prepared to ensure early return of Kashmiri pandits to the Kashmir valley".

Dr Agnishekhar said, "Its the true face of the 'Jehadi terrorism' in Kashmir valley. They

rorism' in Kashmir valley. They don't want to see return of Kashmiri pandits to the Kashmir valley. Every time overnment takes certain steps in the direction they resort to killing of Kashmiri pandits to send across a tough message".

"There is no space for secularism and Nationalism in are claiming the situation is normal but in reality it is not normal. He said the government must concede our demand for creating Panun Kashmir and recognize the genocide of the Kashmiri pandits. It is the only solution to address this issue and ensure return of Kashmiri pandits to

their homes", he added. An emergent meeting of the Executive body of KP Sabha was also held under the chair-manship of K. K. Khosa to condemn the gruesome killing of M. L. Bindroo at Iqbal Park,

Srinagar on Tuesday. All the members of the Sabha expressed their deep shock on the selective killing of the members of KP Community living in the vallowing harmony with the major. ley in harmony with the majority community for the past 32 years thereby aiming at creating a scare within the minorities and also vitiating the envi-

## NIA arrests key conspirator in Vizhinjam Arms case of Kerala

PNS NEW DELHI

The NIA on Wednesday arrested a key conspirator in the Vizhiniam Arms case of Kerala. The arrested accused Satkunam alias Sabesan, 47, a Sri Lankan national and a former member of intelligence wing of LTTE presently residing at Valasaravakkam, Chennai, for his involvement in arms and drug trafficking from Pakistan to SriLanka, and utilizing the proceeds for furthering and supporting the revival of LTTE. The Vizhinjam arms case

was registered by NIA on May 1 this under relevant sections of the Arms Act, against six Sri Lankan nationals based on the complaint of NCB that five AK 47 rifles and thousand rounds of 9 mm ammunition were seized along with 300 kg of heroin off Minicoy coast upon interception of the fishing vessel Ravihansi by the Coast Guard on March 18, 2021.

नियम एवं शर्ते यथावत रहेंगी।

### **12,616 Covid** cases in Kerala, 134 deaths

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

A fter a brief lull, number of persons diagnosed with Covid-19 on a single day in Kerala shot up to 12,616 on fter a brief lull, number of Wednesday. This was stated by Minister of Health Veena George in her release to the media. Equally disturbing was the surging number of fatalities. The State logged 134 deaths on Wednesday taking the death toll till date to 25,811.

The department of health tested 98,782 during the last 24 hours, said the release by George. She said that out of the 1,22, 407 Covid-19 cases, only 11 per cent of the patients have been admitted to hospitals.

The minister said that by November all schools and colleges in the State would become fully functional. "We cannot be in a permanent lockdown mode all the time. The situation is conducive to reopen schools and colleges so that students could come to the campus," said George.

"We will boycott all review meetings, VIP duty, LSGD meetings, e-Sanjeevani and all training programmes," said Dr T N Suresh, general secretary KGMOA in a release tary, KGMOA, in a release.

### UP hospital sealed for treating patients on pavement

IANS ■ FIROZABAD (UP)

Aprivate hospital in Uttar Pradesh's Firozabad has been sealed after visuals of over 30 fever patients, lying on pavement with intravenous drip bottles tacked to the sidewall of a flyover of a busy national highway, went viral on social media.

The hospital was sealed on Tuesday after health officials faced the ire of families of patients being treated in the

Later, the patients were taken to government health

According to sources, when the rooms of the private hospital were fully occupied, arrangements were made for treatment at the footpath on service lane of National Highway-2, which passes in front of the nursing home.

Contacted for comment, Chief Medical Officer of Firozabad district, Dr Dinesh Kumar Premi, said: "The nursing home has been sealed and a committee headed by an Additional Chief Medical Officer is investigating the entire matter. All the patients have been transferred to government centres. On the basis of the probe report, suitable concerned doctors.'



I, MOHAMMAD JAVED Khan S/o. Gaffar Khan, R/o. A-16A,

CHANGE OF NAME

Third Floor, Johri Farm, Noor Nagar, Extn., Okhla, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-110025 have Changed my name to Javed Khan for all future purposes.

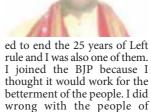
PD(9087)A

### Tripura BJP MLA shaves his Rahul, Priyanka head in 'atonement', leaves party the PM, it will be justice for the PM, it will be justice for

In an interesting development, BJP MLA from Tripura Ashis Das after offering puja at Kalighat temple and shaving head as an "act of atonement" for being associated with "a communal party", announced that he is leaving

Though there are strong rumours of Das' joining Trinamool Congress but the BJP MLA from Surma constituency didn't divulge the details regarding joining the new party. Terming BJP as a 'commu-

political party', Das said, "BJP promised a lot of things but not a single commitment has been fulfilled. People want-



wrong with the people of Tripura and so I decided to go Speaking highly of Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, the BJP MLA who came from a farmer's family

said, "If Mamata didi becomes

Bengalis and undo the wrong of decades. It will be a matter of pride for all Bengalis. Also, after Indira Gandhi, a woman will wield the power in the country."

When asked about joining Trinamool Congress, Das said, "I am here in Kolkata because the entire country is looking at Mamata di (Mamata Banerjee) to save India from a communal party like BJP. After the 2021 assembly poll results in West Bengal, Mamata Banerjee has emerged as a strong contender to take on Narendra Modi. I personally believe that it's only Mamata Banerjee who can free India from the BJP. I came here to seek her blessings and soon things will be clear (on his stand)."

### NEET-Speciality exams pattern restored for this year

ronment all over again.

From page 1
The top court was hearing a batch of pleas of 41 post-graduate doctors and others who had challenged the last-minute changes made to the cyllchus changes made to the syllabus after the notification was issued on July 23 for the test to be held on November 13 and 14.

The top court was hearing a batch of pleas of 41 post-graduate doctors and others who had challenged the last-minute changes made to the syllabus after the notification was issued on July 23 for the test to be held on November 13 and 14.

## SC: Suspend Tihar officials who colluded with ex-Unitech...

From page 1
On August 26, the apex court had directed that the Chandra brothers be shifted from Tihar jail in the national Capital to Mumbai's Arthur Road jail and Taloja prison in Maharashtra after the ED had said that they were conducting business from the premises in connivance with the staff. The top court, which then perused ED reports have raised some

had said Tihar jail Superintendent and other staff are "absolutely shameless" for conniving with the Chandra brothers to flout the court orders and undermine its jurisdiction. Pursuant to the direction of the top court, the Chandra brothers were shifted to the jails in Mumbai. The two

"serious and disturbing" issues for consideration and will be dealt with accordingly, the top court had said. Besides ED and SFIO, the

Economic Offence Wing of Delhi Police is also conducting an investigation into the affairs of the Unitech Group and business transactions of the erstwhile promoters of the real estate company. Both Sanjay

and Ajay, who are in jail since August 2017, are accused of allegedly siphoning home buyers' money of more than Rs.8,000 crore. In one case they got bail after depositing Rs.750 crore. On Monday, their father and Unitech Group founder Ramesh Chandra and Sanjay's wife Preeti Chandra were also arrested by ED.

# NCP terms SRK son's drug bust.

From page 1

"Not a single gram of drug was seized from the arrested persons during the raid. No panchanama was done... Television coverage and photographs showed a bearded and bespectacled Bhanushali, a BJP worker, was seen dragging out Merchant and the bald Gosavi was shown pulling Khan out of the International Cruise Terminal.

Charging that the photos and videos of the seized drugs released by the NCB were not taken from the cruise, but forged in the anti-drug agency's zonal office, Malik alleged, "Bhanushali was in New Delhi and Gandhinagar (Gujarat) in the last week of September, especially on September 21 and 22 when a huge drug haul was made from the Mundhra Port.

Malik said Bhanushali had posted his photos with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP president JP Nadda, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, State Leader of Opposition (Assembly) Devendra Fadnavis, plus current and former Central and State Ministers, and other senior BJP leaders.

"The BJP should come clean and tell the people: Who is this person? How does he have access to such top people? The NCB must clarify in what capacity these two persons (Gosavi and Bhanushali) were seen during the so-called raid and arrests. Gosavi also has a criminal record in Pune... Is the NCB taking help of people with a criminal background to nab other accused?," Malik asked.

Coming down heavily on the NCB, Malik contended that the entire (raid) operation was fraudulent and done with the sole purpose of hogging publicity. "The BJP and NCB must

come clean. Who are these two persons? Why were they seen in the so-called ship raid? What are the BJP's connections with both of them?," he asked. "During the past few days,

rumours are being circulated that Shah Rukh Khan will be the next target... You know the relations between him and the BJP," Malik said. In a related development,

the NCB named nine "independent" witnesses (Panchas) associated with Saturday's raid on Goa-bound Cordelia Cruises' Empress ship, off the Mumbai coast here. They are: Prabhakar Sail, Kiran Gosavi, Manish Bhanushali, Aubrey Gomez, Adil Usmani, V Waigankar, Aparna Rane, Prakash Bahadur, Shoaib Faiz and Muzammil Ibrahim. Incidentally, two of the nine named by the NCB -Bhanushali and Gosavi - are the

ones identified by Malik. Meanwhile, Bhanushali told a Martathi channel that he had tipped the NCB off about the rave and had accompanied them as a "witness" to affix his signature on the relevant case papers. He also threatened to launch defamation proceedings against Malik.

On its part, the NCB said in all four follow-up seizures have been affected after the seizure from the Cruise following due procedure as per rules.

"Investigation of the case is

in progress. Some allegations levelled against the organisation are baseless and seem to be with malice and probable prejudice that may have been harboured in retaliation against earlier legal actions carried out by NCB. NCB reiterates that it's procedure has been and will continue to be professionally and legally transparent

and unbiased," the NCB said. Elaborating on its Saturday's operations, NCB's Deputy Director General Gyaneshwar Singh, said, "On the specific information, the team of NCB Mumbai raided at International Cruise Terminal, Green Gate Mumbai & Cordillia Cruise ship on 02.10.2021 and intercepted 8 persons namely Vikrant Chhokar, Ishmeet Singh Chadha, Arbaaz A Merchant, Aryan Khan, Mohak Jaswal, Munmun Dhamecha and

Nupur Satija on the spot." Singh said based on the information received from the accused Mohak Jaiswal, a team of NCB Mumbai had conducted a raid at Jogeshwari in north Mumbai and intercepted one person namely Abdul Kadir Shaikh with Ecstasy & commercial quantity of Mephedrone in his possession on October 3.

"Based on the preliminary interrogation of the accused Ishmeet Singh Chadha, a follow up operation was launched at Goregaon, Mumbai by the team of NCB Mumbai and intercepted one namely Shrevas Surendra Nair along with charas on October 4, Singh said.

According to Singh, the NCB subsequently intercepted Manish Rajgaria who was invited as guest in the ship and recovered Hydroponic Weed @Multi strain Cannabis. NCB Mumbai also arrested one AvinSahu who sailed in the Ship/Cruise Cordelia on consumption charges on October

It may be recalled that twenty-three-year-old Aryan and seven others were initially detained on Saturday night and later arrested on Sunday, after the NCB officials busted a rave party and seized 13 grams of cocaine, 5 grams of MD (mephedrone), 21 grams of charas, 22 pills of MDMA (ecstasy) and Rs 1.33 lakh in cash from Goa-bound Cordelia Cruises' Empress ship, off the Mumbai coast here.

Meanwhile, the total number of persons arrested in connection with the mid-sea drug bust case went to 16, as the NCB sought and got the custody of four accused, Gopal Anand, Samir Saigal, Manav Singhal and Bhaskar Arora who are said to be the organisers of the rave party on the cruise.

. À magistrate court in south Mumbai remanded the four accused to Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) custody till October 14 in the mid-sea drug bust case.

Seeking the custody of four persons, Special Public Prosecutor Advait Sethna argued that they were part of the team that had organised the rave party on board Goabound Cordelia Cruises' Empress ship. He said the two arrested accused were directors of Kin Plus Pvt Ltd while the other two are associated with

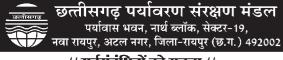
### निविदा संशोधन सूचना पत्र क्रं. 1747 / रा.जि.अ.प.स.सो. / न.पा.नि. / 2021 रायगढ़, दिनांक 04 / 10 / 21 || निविदा संशोधन सूचना ||

रायगढ़ जिला अर्बन पब्लिक सर्विस सोसायटी

गयी थी, जिसका सिस्टम टेंडर क्रं. 83501 है। उपरोक्त निविदा में सस्ती दवा दुकान योजना हेतु पुलिस अधीक्षक कार्यालय के बगल स्थित दुकान के द्वित्तीय तल का चयन किया गया था। उपरोक्त स्थल में परिर्वतन करते हुये "अशर्फी देवी महिला चिकित्सालय" में परिर्वतन किया जाता है। निविदा संबंधी शेष

भविष्य में स्थल परिर्वतन करने का अधिकार रायगढ़ जिला अरबन पब्लिक सर्विस सोसायटी के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा। sd/

> **Nodal officer** (MMSSDDY) Raigarh Urban public Service Society Raigarh (C.G.)



### // सर्वसंबंधितों को सूचना //

भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली की अधिसूचना देनांक 14.09.2006 ( यथा-संशोधित ) के तहत् सर्व संबंधितों को सुचित किया जाता कि मेसर्स राधे गोविन्द स्टील एंड एलॉयज प्राईवेट लिमिटेड, ओ.पी. जिंदल इण्डस्ट्रीयल पार्क, ग्राम- पूंजीपथरा, तहसील- तमनार, जिला- रायगढ़ (छ.ग.) स्थित प्लॉट क्रमांक 102, कुल क्षेत्रफल- 2.39 हेक्टेयर में स्थापित उद्योग के एम.एस. इंगाट्स / बिलेट्स ( थ्रू इण्डक्शन फर्नेस) क्षमता- 59,400 टन प्रतिवर्ष (२ गुणा १० टन सीसीएम) से बढ़ाक् 1,48,000 टन प्रतिवर्ष (4 गुणा 12 टन सीसीएम) की स्थापना के लिए पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई बाब्त् छ.ग. पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल में आवेदन किया गया है उक्त क्षमता विस्तार परियोजना के संबंध में आपत्ति / सुझाव / विचार/ टीका-टिप्पणी, इस सूचना के जारी होने के दिनांक से 30 दिवस के अंदर क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, रायगढ़ के कार्यालय में मौखिक अथवा लिखित रूप से कार्यालयीन समय मे प्रस्तुत की जा सकती है। इस परियोजना के लिए लोक सुनवाई दिनांक 11.11.2021 दिन-बधवार, समय प्रातः 11:00 बजे, स्थान- बंजारी मंदीर के समीप का मैदान ग्राम- तराईमाल, तहसील- घरघोड़ा, जिला- रायगढ़ (छ.ग.) नियत की गई है। यह भी सूचित हो कि लोक सुनवाई के दौरान भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली के ऑफिस मेमोरेण्डम F.No. 22-25/2020-IA.III दिनांक 14.09.2020 तथा कोरोना वाईरस के नियंत्रण एवं रोकथाम हेतु शासन द्वारा जारी समस्त दिशा-निर्देशों का अक्षरशः पालन कराया जाना अनिवार्य होगा।

ई.आई.ए. अधिसूचना दिनांक 14 सितंबर 2006 (यथा-संशोधित) के अनुसार संबंधित व्यक्तियों के अवलोकन / पठन हेतु ड्राफ्ट ई.आई.ए. रिपोर्ट अंग्रजी भाषा में एवं इसकी संक्षिप्त सार रिपोर्ट हिन्दी एवं अंग्रेजी तथा सी.डी. ( सॉफ्ट कॉपी ) कार्यालय कलेक्ट रायगढ, कार्यालय मख्य कार्यपालन अधिकारी, जिला पंचायत रायगढ, कार्यालय महाप्रबंधक, ज़िला व्यापार एवं उद्योग केन्द्र रायगढ़, कार्यालय अनुविभागीय अधिकारी (राजस्व), घरघोड़ा, जिला- रायगढ़, क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्योवरण संरक्षण मंडल टी.व्ही. टॉवर रोड रायगढ, कार्यालय मख्य कार्यपालन अधिकारी जनपद पंचायत घरघोडा तमनार, जिला- रायगढ़, सरपंच / सचिव कार्यालय ग्राम पंचायत- देलारी, गेरवानी सामारूमा, तुमीडीह, अमलीडीह, तराईमाल, छर्राटांगर, तराईमाल, तहसील- रायगढ़ घरघोड़ा / तमनार, जिला-रायगढ़ डायरेक्टर पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय इंदिरा पर्यावरण भवन, जोर बाग रोड, नई दिल्ली, एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्योलय, पर्यावरण वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय अरण्य भवन, नार्थ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर एवं मुख्यालय, छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल, पर्यावास भवन, नार्थ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर-19 नवारायपुर (छ.ग.) में रखी हुई है।

Faizabad Road, Lucknow-226 016, Telephones; 0522-2346443, 2346444, 2346445.

सदस्य सचिव छत्तीसगढ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर

## visit Lakhimpur after high drama

From page 1

However, she was not produced in the court and kept in a PAC guest house which was turned into a temporary jail. A large number of Congress workers have been camping day and night outside the mákeshift jail.

Later in the evening, she joined her brother Rahul, Baghel and Channi and proceeded to Lakhimpur. The Congress leaders are scheduled to visit farmer Lovepreet's house in Chaukhara and journalist Raman Kashyap's house in Nighasan to meet their families. Both died at the Lakhimpur Kheri site on

Delegations of Samajwadi Party, AAP, and Bahujan Śamaj Party also visited Lakhimpur Interestingly, Congress leader Sachin Pilot, who too was heading for Kheri, was detained by the police in Moradabad.

Speaking to the media persons, ADG Law and Order Prashant Kumar said the Government had no intention of restricting anyone's move-ment but the curbs had to be imposed to ensure peace in the

region.

"Movement of people was restricted but now permission has been given to visit in groups of five. The local restrictions to maintain peace. All those who want to visit can visit. The motive of the State Government was only to maintain peace at all cost" Prashant Kumar, IG law and order, said.

Meanwhile, targeting the Yogi Government over the Lakhimpur Kheri incident, Vadra on Wednesday said that voices of justice for the farmers are being muffled by the BJP Government." Those who oppress the farmers are roaming freely. The voices of justice for the farmers are being muffled by the BJP Government. But we will not let the voice of justice be suppressed," the Congress leader said in a tweet in Hindi.

### रायगढ़, जिला अर्बन पब्लिक सर्विस सोसायटी निविदा संशोधन सूचना पत्र

रायगढ़ जिला अर्बन पब्लिक सर्विस सोसायटी के द्वारा नीचे दिये निकायो हेतु आनलाईन निविदा जारी की गयी थी। उक्त निविदाओं के आनलाइन सबिमशन के दौरान आने वाली तकनिकी समस्याओं के कारण ऑनलाईन आवेदन अभी तक नहीं किया जा सका है। अतः निम्न निकायों में निविदा ऑन लाईन भरने की तिथि दिनांक 07.10.2021 तक बढ़ाया जाता है।

System Tender Na.	Description Project	date for online submission	New last date for online submission
82668	Selection of Private Partner for establishment of Establishment of Fair Price Outlets for Medicines Consumables etc at Pussore city under state sponsored Mukhya Mantri Sasti Dawa Dukan Yojna (MMSDDY) (1st Call)	05/10/2021	07/10/2021
82675	Selection of Private Partner for establishment of Establishment of Far Price Outlets for Medicines Consumables etc at Kirodimal nagar city under state sponsored Mukhya Mantri Sasti Dawa Dukan Yojna (MMSDDY) (1st Call)	05/10/2021	07/10/2021
826/7	Selection of Private Partner for establishment of Establishment of Fair Price Outlets for Medicines Consumables etc at Gharghoda city under state sponsored Mukhya Mantri Sasti Dawa Dukan Yojna (MMSDDY) (1st Call)	05/10/2021	07/10/2021
82702	Selection of Private Partner for establishment of Establishment of Fair Price Outlets for Medicines Consumables etc at Sariya city under state sponsored Mukhya Mantri Sasti Oawa Dukan Yojna (MMSDOY) (1st Call)	05/10/2021	07/10/2021

िनिविदा दस्तावेज जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 08.10.2021 तक स्पीड पोस्ट/रजिस्टर्ड पोस्ट

के माध्यम से सायं 03:00 बजे तक नगर पालिक निगम रायगढ़ कार्यालय में पहुंचना अनिवार्य

है एवं उक्त दिनांक को सायं 4:00 बजे निविदा खोली जावेगी।

हस्ता /-नोडल अधिकारी (मु.स.द.दु.यो.) रायगढ़ जिला अबर्न पब्लिक सर्विस सोसायटी रायगढ (छ.ग)

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### LAKHIMPUR KHERI DEATHS

## Why no action against accused, asks Kejriwal

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

ondemning the deaths of four farmers and a jour-nalist in Lakhimpur Kheri, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to ensure justice for the families of the victims.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) supremo Kejriwal also demanded that the accused in the case be arrested and that Union Minister of State for Home, Ajay Kumar Mishra, whose son has been named as accused in the incident, be

"The entire system is trying to protect the farmers' killers," Kejriwal alleged while targeting the Centre.

Kejriwal questioned Prime Minister Modi and said, "Can the rich and powerful get away with murders under your

watch now? Do you know where we see criminals mercilessly running their cars over innocent people only to have the entire system bow down before them and shield them from the law? We only see it happen in Bollywood movies and the people of this country do not deserve to see it become a reality."

He added, "Mr Prime Minister, each and every person of this country is seeing it pan out into reality on the TV and social media today. A car came, murdered people and no action was taken against them. What message do you want to give out to this country by protecting murderers? Is there no value of life left for

He targeted Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adiyanath and said, "It feels like that car ran over the

Government and the system itself. Is the Government celebrating Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav by arresting leaders who are going to console the mourning families?

This is what the tyrannical British used to do. Our forefathers did not get martyred in the struggle for freedom for this country to see this day! What are you trying to hide from the

Why are you not letting the media or the politicians and farmers of this country go to that place?

The nation wants to know what happened in Lakhimpur and why the perpetrators are being protected? The people of this country deserve to know the truth, they deserve to know who murdered those innocent farmers," he added, further mentioning that over 600 farmers have died till date.

### Killers roam free while Priyanka detained: Cong

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

elhi Congress president Anil Kumar along with Congress workers, left for Lucknow to reach Lakhimpur Kheri on Wednesday to express solidari-

ty with the farmers,
Kumar said that UP Chief
Minister Yogi Adityanath had

unleashed a reign of terror by keeping Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi in detention for the past three days and had conspired to kill the farmers, who have been peacefully protesting against the antifarmer laws and demanding their repeal for the last ten months. Kumar said that UP had become a hotbed of corruption and lawlessness.

He said that the son of the Union Minister who mowed down four farmers with his vehicle, was roaming free while Priyanka, who wanted to meet the kin of the farmers had been illegally detained for the three

## Anti-dust campaign | 27 PSA plants of begins today: Rai

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

Aiming to mitigate dust pol-lution in the national Capital, the Delhi Government will run an anti-dust cam-

paign from Thursday.
Environment Minister
Gopal Rai said that it was mandatory for all to implement 14 norms laid out for construction on all sites in Delhi from October 7. "A public notice has also been issued in this regard. 31 teams have been formed under the 'Anti-Dust' campaign; 17 teams of the DPCC and 14 teams of Green War Room's Green Marshals have been included in this.

He said that as per the NGT guidelines, a fine ranging from Rs 10,000 to Rs 5 lakh would be imposed for violation of rules at construction sites. An online portal will be launched for self auditing and management of C&D waste."

The Delhi Government had run an anti-dust campaign in Delhi last year as well. "On the basis of our experience last



year, we have prepared a robust plan for running this campaign in an organised manner throughout Delhi," Rai added.

The DPCC will have one team in each district of East Delhi, North East Delhi, Shahdara, South East Delhi and South West Delhi. Two teams each will be deployed in New Delhi, North West Delhi, North Delhi, South Delhi, West Delhi and Central Delhi. Each district will have a 1 team of Green Marshals as well.

# 31 MT capacity installed in Delhi

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

New 27 PSA plants of 31 metric ton capacity and two cryogenic oxygen refilling plants of 12 metric ton capacity have been inducted in Delhi Government's hospitals on Wednesday.

This move came in view of the possible threat of Covid -19 cases rising in the Capital city ahead festivals.

Inaugurating oxygen plants, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said that Covid-19 infection in Delhi has reduced, but the Delhi Government is prepared to fight any such future crisis. The Delhi Government is setting up PSA oxygen plants in Delhi hospitals to reduce their oxygen dependence on external agencies and other hospitals can also refill oxygen cylinders from these oxygen plants during emergencies."

Health Minister Satyendar

Jain said, "A large part of the oxygen production can be done in the Delhi Government's in the Delhi Government's hospitals with PSA. Out of these 27 PSA plants, 3 plants were started in LNJP Hospital and 1 plant at Bhagwan Mahavir Hospital. Their capacity is 5.31 MT and 1.80 MT, respectively." To reduce dependent respectively." To reduce dependency in emergency situation, the Delhi Government had approved the Medical Oxygen Production Promotion Policy -2021 . One PSA plant of 0.9 metric tons at the Chacha Nehru Bal Chikitsalaya, one PSA Plant of 1.80 MT at Dr Hedgewar Hospital, three PSA plants with a total capacity of 5.31 MT at LNJP,one PSA plant at Bhagwan Mahavir Hospital with a total capacity of 1.80 MT, two PSA plants with a total capacity of 3.60 MT at Rajiv Gandhi Super Specialty Hospital, one PSA Plant of 1.80 MT at Guru Tegh

## ISIC inducts advanced integrated robotics, imaging platform for spine surgeries

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

 $D^{octors\,at\,the\,Indian\,Spinal}_{Injuries\,Centre\,(ISIC)\,have}$ successfully operated on two young girls, suffering from spinal deformity using O-Arm, a 3D imaging system, with MAZOR X™ stealth edition.

Swati, 13-year-old was diagnosed with early onset acquired thoracic scoliosis that bent her at 85 degrees. On the other hand, 16-year-old Mannatpreet was suffering from spinal TB since 2018 and had difficulty in walking following tuberculosis treatment due to weakness in lower limbs.

"The surgery combining robotics and O-Arm did not only help in improving the accuracy of inserting screws during the surgeries, it also lowered their risk of paralysis as well as exposure to radiation, blood loss and postoperative pain," the hospital said in a statement. The newly-inducted system is the most advanced minimally-invasive robotics procedure, for spinal orthopaedic and neurological

## 2 juveniles among 4 nabbed for stabbing 19-yr-old to death

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Police has arrested two men while two juveniles have been apprehended for allegedly stabbing to death a 19-year-old man following an argument over ₹300 in the national Capital

The incident occurred in central Delhi's Anand Parbat area on October 2 when Shailendra Kumar was returning home along with his friend. On the way, he spotted five people, and a juvenile among them called them.

According to police, an altercation ensued between

Kumar and the five people, during which a juvenile stabbed the victim twice and all of them escaped. Kumar was taken to a hospital where doctors declared him dead, said "One of the accused was

arrested on Sunday. Later, three more accused were nabbed, including two juveniles. During interrogation, the accused revealed that there was a dispute over ₹300 between one of them and the victim which had led to arguments over phone earlier," said Shweta Chauhan, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DĆP), Central district.

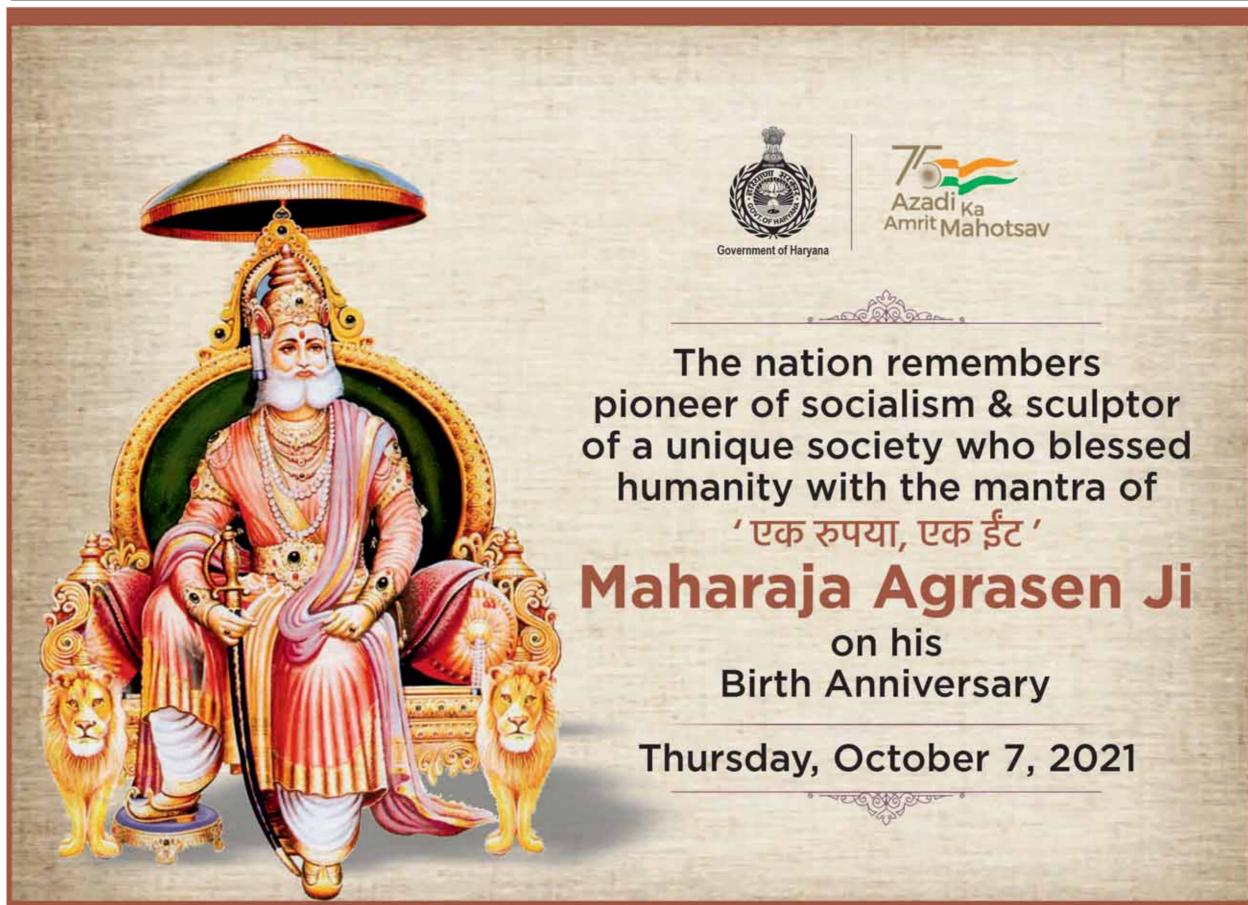
### 3 killed in fire due to leakage in cooking gas

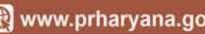
NEW DELHI: In a tragic incident, a 36-year-old woman and her two children died after a fire broke out due to leakage in cooking gas at their Anand Parbat residence. According to Shweta Chauhan, DCP, Central district, on Tuesday morning, a call about four people sustaining injuries in a fire was received following which Emergency Response Vehicle was dispatched.

"Police rushed the injured to the RML Hospital. Sushila and her two kids, Mansi and Mohan, both aged seven, succumbed to injuries. Mehak sustained 40 per cent burns and is under treatment," said police.



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel, party general secretary Randeep Surjewala and KC Venugopal during a special press conference at the AICC HQ in New Delhi on Wednesday





# 1 in 7 cancer patients missed surgery during Covid lockdown



One in seven cancer patients around the world have missed out on potentially life-saving operations during Covid-19 lockdowns, leaving them at higher risk of recurrence, a new study published in The Lancet Oncology has said.

Led by experts at the UK's University of Birmingham, almost 5,000 surgeons and anaesthetists from around the world worked together to analyse data from the 15 most common solid cancer types in 20,000 patients across 466 hospitals in 61 countries.

Researchers analysed data from adult patients suffering from cancer types including colorectal, oesophageal, gastric, head and neck, thoracic,

bony sarcoma, and intracranial malignancies.

They found planned cancer surgery was affected by lockdowns regardless of the local Covid-19 rates at that time, with patients in lower income countries at highest risk of missing their surgery.

During full lockdowns,

one in seven patients (15 per cent) did not receive their planned operation after a median of 5.3 months from diagnosis — all with a Covid-19 related reason for nonoperation. However, during light restriction periods, the non-operation rate was very low (0.6 per cent).

"Our research reveals the collateral impact of lockdowns on patients awaiting cancer surgery during the pandemic. Whilst lockdowns are critical to saving lives and reducing the spread of the virus, ensuring capacity for safe elective cancer surgery should be part of every country's plan to ensure continued health across the whole population," said James Glasbey, from the

WHO to take final call on Covaxin by next week

The World Health Organisation (WHO) will take a final call on the emergency use listing (EUL) for Bharat Biotech's Covaxin by next week.

Representatives of Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech made a presentation before the WHO's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunisation (SAGE) in Geneva in this regard on Tuesday. The jab has been approved in 14 countries and 70 million doses have been distributed overseas, the vaccine maker told WHO. India's first indigenous Covid-19 vaccine,

ther harm during future lock-



Covaxin, demonstrated 77.8 per cent efficacy in its Phase 3 clinical trial.

Grading of evidence assessment is on and the WHO could recommend Covaxin for those aged 18 and above,

according to media reports. Quoting sources, they said

that SAGE took into consideration the evidence for vaccine efficacy and safety in adults as well as older age

demand on the hospital, tecting elective surgery beds whether that is Covid, the flu gencies," he added.

## Active Covid cases drop by 90% in paramilitary forces, 331 positive

Out of about 87,500 paramilitary personnel infected with Covid-19, only 331 patients continue to be active even as 341 infected personnel have succumbed to the disease. The tally of active patients has reduced by 90 per cent during the last four

As many as 107 personnel of the Border Security Force (BSF), 104 personnel of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), 73 from the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), 36 men of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), eight personnel of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), one from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and two from the National



presently infected with Covid-19.

Of the 341 deaths across the paramilitary forces, the CRPF has lost the maximum 131 personnel due to coronavirus infection followed by 90 personnel in BSF, 79 in CISF, 21 in SSB, 17 in ITBP, two in NDRF and one

During the last 24 hours, 25 personnel of the Forces have contracted the coronavirus infection including

nine in the ranks of the CRPF, 11 in BSF and five in the CISF.

Out of the 87,415 cases of Covid-19 in these seven paramilitary forces, 86,743 patients have recovered from the deadly viral disease.

As on June 4, 81,216 paramilitary personnel were infected with the coronavirus disease of which 77,486 patients had recovered and 320 patients



# 'Nation First' mantra giving boost to the development

### **CHIEF MINISTER NARENDRA MODI SCULPTS** THE 'GUJARAT MODEL'

- From devastation by massive earthquake in 2001 to national growth engine
- Decade long double-digit annual growth rate in economy and agriculture
- Process driven reforms made Gujarat a Global Investment Hotspot
- A primarily trading state became an agricultural and manufacturing miracle

### Serving every section of society

- National model for women empowerment,
- tribal welfare and grassroots democracy
- Power reforms enabled 24/7 electricity to all households
- Narmada water reached fields of farmers even in arid areas like Kutch
- Cities of Gujarat became a national benchmark in ease

### PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI STARTED A NEW ERA

of Good Governance

- Bank accounts, life & health insurance and collateral-free
- Every village and every household connected by electricity
- From toilets to LPG connections to tap-water in every
- Affordable Medicines, DBT and Homes for all
- Pro-farmer Crop Insurance

### Leading India to the 21st Century

- India now world's top Digital Payments ecosystem
- Tech-platforms such as JAM Trinity, UPI and COWIN globally acclaimed
- Broadband connectivity reaching all villages
- PLI schemes making India a manufacturing powerhouse Fastest Growing start-up hub in the world

### Big and bold decisions in National Interest

- PM-KISAN, one of India's biggest ever pro-farmer schemes
- Big-bang reforms like GST, IBC (Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code), Labour Laws setting strong base for growth
- Terrorism and expansionism given befitting answers
- True integration of Jammu and Kashmir ensured Triple Talaq outlawed, empowering millions of minority
- Cultural resurgence with Ram Mandir, Kashi Corridor, Yoga Day

## ₹112 cr assets seized in BIKEBOT scam

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached assets worth ₹112.36 crore, belonging to Garvit Innovative Promoters Ltd., its promoter Sanjay Bhati and other associate entities in the

BIKEBOT scam. Attached assets, comprising immovable properties worth ₹107.01 crore are in the form of flats in "Saga Habitat" project of Zenith Township Pvt Ltd, University, land and buildings of Arni

## At 29, RAF poised to take larger role of 'neutral' force

On October 7, as it celebrates its foundation day, it faces more challenging complexities of public order

BY VIVEK VAID

The last three-four years have witnessed staggered disruptions in various parts of the country. Enactment and amendments of certain laws led to massive protests and prolonged agitations creatcommon people. The situations could have flared up on slight provocation and police had to restrain the crowds to control them.

At those moments again, the Rapid Action Force (RAF) played a vital role. The professional ethics it displays had been reckoned yet again. It was the need of the hour.

On October 7, RAF is celebrating 29 years of its existence. The emerging contours of internal security clearly indicate that tackling these conflicts will be a greater challenge in the coming years. The governments will need to ensure peace instantly so that economic activities are not

hampered due to disruptions. Some of these challenges are fueled by inimical forces outside the country as well as within too. Often protests are funded by anti-social elements as well. To tackle such trust deficit and disgruntlement, RAF was created by the Centre. It was carved out within the overall command of the CRPF to be a specialized force to deal with such critical issues of public order.

"Every success story starts with a dream," in the case of RAF it was the dream of making the world a safe place to live for everyone. RAF has been brought into existence with its unique methodology of "minimum use of force" which is the baseline for public order management in the present era. Distinct in their blue

dungarees, the men and women of RAF are trained professionals who understand mob psychology and are aware of the ethos and culture of the area. 15 RAF Battalions spread all across the country are fully equipped with training, latest equipment / gadgets and less lethal weapons / munitions to handle public order situations and are always ready to handle such situations with zero response time.

The men and women of RAF are being trained on the latest trend of public order management, sensitization, mob psychology, latest less lethal weapons and munitions to handle the emerging public order situa-

have always been a big challenge for social democracy. The ever-increasing divisive forces and exposition has created a culture of protests and agitations. The impatience of people in general has necessitated that the agencies cater to the instant demands immediately or face the consequences.

The need to understand the challenges of social democracy, why riots happen, problems of public order management, identifying the cause-effect relationship and bringing in evidence-based approach and action plans has never been felt as much.

A neutral and professional force with the motto 'to serve humanity with sensitive policing, the RAF responds to the vulnerable sections of the society promptly and provides succour to the victims.

The RAF has evolved with unique methodology to handle public order management. The necessity of such a specialized force to deal with such situations was a sine quannon as the CRPF was already bur-

dened with committed towards multifarious duties pertaining to Internal Security and Counter-Insurgency opera-The Government needed

a force that could intervene in such law and order situations with special expertise, appropriate behavioral traits, attitudinal orientation and above all as a responder with 'zero response time' to control the situation before it goes out of hand. For this reason, the RAF keeps its units in constant readiness, 24X7.

With growing complexities of public order in future, RAF is expected to play an even larger role of a stabilising neutral police force in various kinds of law and order

(The writer is Inspector General, Rapid Action Force)

## Shivpal tells 'Bhatija' he cannot wait indefinitely

 $P^{\text{ragatisheel Samajwadi Party}}_{\text{(Lohia) chief Shivpal Singh}}$ Yadav has said that his party is not willing to wait indefinitely for an alliance with the Samajwadi Party led by his nephew Akhilesh Yadav. Shivpal Yadav said he had

not received any indication from the Samajwadi Party president on an alliance even though they had talked about mending ties several times.

Losing hope of an alliance with SP for 2022 UP polls, Shivpal Yadav is now working on a separate 'Samajik Parivartan Yatra' beginning October 15 from Vrindavan area of Mathura.

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Ýadav is also émbarking on a 'Samajwadi Vijay Yatra' from October 12.

"There has been no reply from Akhilesh Yadav on alliance; hence there will be a confrontation in elections. We have already announced our yatra," Shivpal Yadav said.

The PSPL chief did not

stop here and went on to give an example of the Kauravas of Mahabharata. Without naming the SP, he called the party as an army of Kauravas.



"No one could kill Dronacharya, Bhishma and Duryodhana, the characters of Mahabharata, but Shri Krishna was with the Pandavas due to which everything was destroyed," he said.

Referring to the Kaurava-Pandava saga of the Mahabharata, Shivpal Yadav said, "Like the Pandavas, we have only sought respect for ourselves and our companions. We have no ambition."

"I have also been a minister and have also become the party president and now I am the national president. That's why I don't want anything, but in politics, along with struggle, sacrifice is very important. Kauravas were given the entire kingdom while the Pandavas sought only five villages, we have also asked for only respect for our companions like Pandavas, but that too is not



being given. Give us respect or not, but give respect to our peo-

that his intention was to keep the Bharatiya Janata Party out of power in 2022 and that was why he was keen for an alliance with the SP.

The estranged uncle of the SP chief and younger brother of Mulayam Singh Yadav, Shivpal Yadav indicated that he would continue with his own yatra as Akhilesh Yadav was not responding to his calls.

Even today I had called Akhilesh Yadav and had also sent him a message. But there was no response from Akhilesh. The SP chief is constantly ignoring the initiative of PSPL for an alliance with SP. Netaji did not want us to be separated from SP, but still we were separated from SP," said

### **LAKHIMPUR KHERI VIOLENCE**

## Tikait demands arrest of accused, threatens countrywide agitation

With the Lakhimpur police yet to initiate any action against prime accused Ashish Mishra, son of Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Mishra Teni', Bharatiya Kisan Union leader Rakesh Tikait on Wednesday threatened to launch a big agitation in the country if the people guilty in the October 3 violence were not arrested in next six days.

Talking to reporters on Wednesday, the BKU leader said, "We will not stay calm till the culprits who are responsible for the killing of the farmers are punished."

He said the UP Government would

have to arrest the people involved in crushing the farmers under their vehicles even if one was the son of a Union Minister.

The Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) has demanded dismissal of Union minister Ajay Kumar Mishra and registration of murder case against his son and supporters. Besides, the SKM has demanded a Supreme Court judge-monitored probe into the incident as UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath assured that his government would investigate it.

Rakesh Tikait has reached Lakhimpur to decide the future course of action for the farmers' protest. Even so, Union minister Ajay Mishra has denied the allegations and has said that his son was not present at the site during the clashes. Earlier, Tikait had visited the house of

deceased farmer Lovepreet Singh of Moharnia in Bahraich late on Tuesday evening. The cremation of the mortal remains of Singh was done on Wednesday Mishra to surrender in a court and seek bail or proceed with his arrest to save the government from any embarrassment.

Meanwhile, ADG (Law and Order) Prashant Kumar said on Wednesday that the police had set up a helpline number on which people could share evidence regarding the Lakhimpur Kheri incident. Kumar also said that the identities of people providing evidence would be kept confidential in order to ensure a fair investigation. The last rites of some of those who

died were performed on October 5. However, one of the farmers' families was

the police were analysing them. He also said that the police would take action against anyone misusing or peddling false narratives through the videos. The police have assured that a detailed investigation will be conducted and no accused will be spared.

Kumar said that the Uttar Pradesh government had imposed restrictions to maintain law and order and not to restrict any movement. He said the state government had now permitted people in groups of five to visit Lakhimpur Kheri. "Anyone who wants to go there can go

now. The state government's decision was taken to maintain law and order," Prashant Kumar said.

### Brij Lal questions Maya's silence on Dalit's death in Kheri incident

PNS LUCKNOW

In a sharp attack on Bahujan Samaj Party supremo Mayawati, Rajya Sabha member Brij Lal questioned her silence on the Lakhimpur inci-dent where a Dalit man lost his

In a statement issued in this regard, the former DGP of Uttar Pradesh said, "Why did the tears of 'Behanji' dried up in expressing condolences to the deceased Dalit in the Lakhimpur incident? This is proof that her Dalit love is just a pretence. In the true sense, she is the daughter of wealth."

Stating that Dalits were ust a vote bank for Mayawati, Brij Lal said, "She has nothing to do with their pain. Had there been a concern, Mayawati would have definitely spoken something about the Dalit who died in the incident." "In fact, the Uttar Pradesh

government does not need advice from her regarding this incident. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath did as much for the families of the dead farmers as you (Mayawati) can't even imag-ine. The CM did not sleep the entire night to sort out the matter. Senior officers were sent to the spot immediately. Along with financial assistance of Rs 45 lakh to the dependents of deceased, a government job has also been promised to one of the family members," he stated, adding that the government had also ordered a speedy and fair judicial inquiry into the inci-

Targeting the BSP supremo, the Rajya Sabha member said, "People are well aware of your misery. The real reason for your sorrow is that you have not been able to take political advantage of this incident. Surely, you will never get this opportunity in Yogi ji's government."



ple," he said. Shivpal Yadav made it clear



### Our MPs entered Lakhimpur in disguise: Didi much in advantage of the that she entered that village in BJP to finish off the Congress

### TMC attacks 'part-timer' Rahul on Kheri comments

**SAUGAR SENGUPTA** KOLKATA

 $T^{\text{he Trinamool Congress}}_{\text{ has taken "strong exception to part-time politician}}$ 

like Rahul Gandhi" making "suggestive and demeaning representation" of TMC leaders' visit to Lakhimpur Kheri where agitating farmers were allegedly mowed down by speeding vehicles allegedly driven by BJP leaders.
While Bengal Chief

Minister Mamata Banerjee said that her "team of party MPs were not automatically allowed into Lakhimpur but

they on Tuesday had to sneak into that village stealthily and in disguise", TMC spokesperson Kunal Ghosh slammed Gandhi calling him a parttime politician who was making "loaded statements (indicating tacit support of the BJP in letting the TMC MPs into Lakhimpur) against the

He said "if he continues to do so then he will have to

digest stronger replies from us." Ghosh said "We respect Congress' stands ... we have also been saying that Congress will be a part of a broad-based alliance against the BJP but we will definitely not tolerate such offensive statements from part-time politicians like Rahul Gandhi who has messed up with his own party's affairs in Punjab, Rajasthan and elsewhere ...

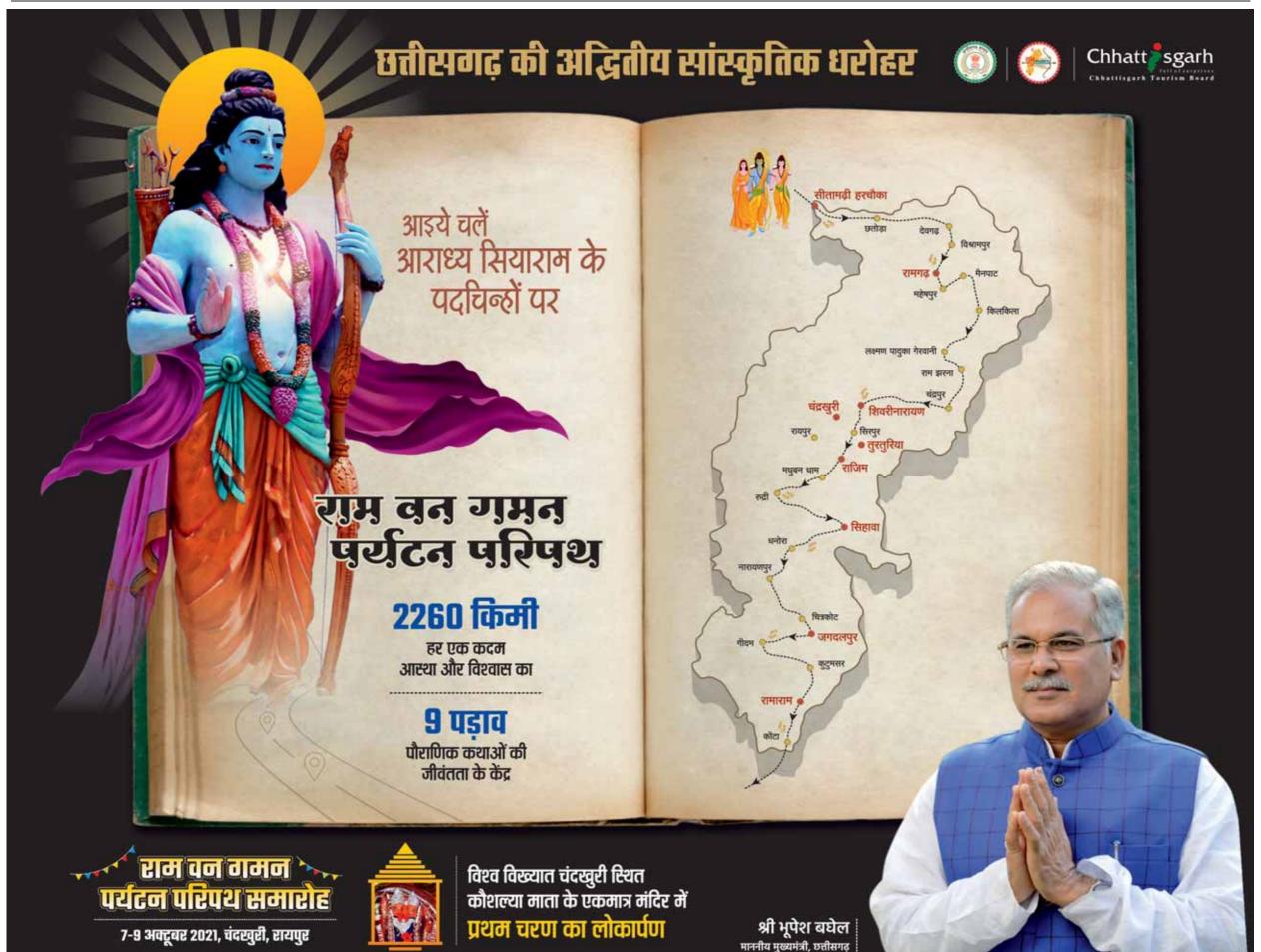
BJP... His comments (on TMC leaders' visit to UP) are

The Chief Minister speaking in a party programme said "it was not easy for our party MPs, Dola Sen, Kakoli Ghoshdastidar and Pratima Mandalto enter Lakhimpur ... it took 12 hours for them to enter the village stealthily ... in fact Dola Sen told me

the guise of a Punjabi woman..." Banerjee had earlier called the UP "massacre of farmers" as "barbaric, inhuman undemocratic."

Bengal Pradesh Congress resident and party's Lok abha leader Adhir Chowdhury hit back saying TMC and Aam Aadmi Party had been deployed by the

Lakhimpur is one example of that or why the BJP Government would have held Priyanka Gandhi captive for more than 50 hours on the one hand and welcomed TMC MPs to Lakhimpur village ... We have always said that the Trinamool Congress has been created by the BJP to divide the opposition and rule the-



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PAPER WITH PASSION-

## Big challenge

Lakhimpur Kheri presents Yogi Adityanath his toughest hurdle ahead of the elections

he rule of electoral politics, more than the rule of law, is prominently visible across Uttar Pradesh over the Lakhimpur Kheri incident. The only clueless people are the family members of the eight people who died there on Sunday. There is selective sympathy for the dead, the four farmers receiving much of it from politicians of the Congress-led Opposition camp. Only the BJP appears to be lending a shoulder to the kin of the other four victims. That sums up the inhumane manner in which politicians cause divisions even among the dead. What will this selective sympathy extend to? Would the families of all the dead receive the same monetary compensation? Incidentally, Bharatiya Kisan Union leader Rakesh Tikait initiated the bargaining, grudgingly climbing down from the initial demand of ₹1 crore per victim to ₹45 lakh each. There is the additional issue of a job for a family member awaiting a decision. Who is looking after the interests of



the non-farmer victims? The Yogi Adityanath Government may have managed to control the situation after the violence. The decision to not allow political leaders to visit the spot made sense as it would have only roused sentiments. Chief Minister Adityanath, otherwise intent on crossing the 300-seat mark in the upcoming elections, was caught in a cleft stick on Sunday. He had to get the situation under control at once. He had to gently handle the situation internally because the allegations centred around Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Mishra and his son. The Opposition would, and did, grab headlines

whether or not he permitted their entry into the village. A string of incidents of violence and rape, with the alleged involvement of the BJP's leaders, had already sullied the ruling party's image in the State. The Supreme Court had only recently rapped the police over a businessman's death in Gorakhpur. And now, Lakhimpur Kheri happened, involving Sikh farmers who have been protesting nationwide for over a year for the repeal of three farm laws. Pundits are already calculating the impact of Sunday's incident on the BJP's electoral prospects in the States going to polls. By giving the UP Government a week to take action against the accused, Rakesh Tikait has kept the embers simmering; the farmers could be persuaded to turn Lakhimpur into a permanent protest camp, like Ghaziabad on the Delhi border. The Samajwadi Party, Congress and Aam Aadmi Party are already Lakhimpur-bound. Akhilesh Yadav is spearheading his party's protests, and the Gandhi siblings are present in strength, with two Congress Chief Ministers in tow. The prospect of Sunday's violence uniting the Opposition parties, at present finalising local pre-poll alliances, appears bleak. The repeated dents in the State's image caused by the incidents of violence and assault and the accompanying taint on the police force may have already sparked an undercurrent of frustration. Lakhimpur Kheri thus becomes Adityanath's biggest challenge yet before the elections.



Devotees on the last day of Pitra Paksha, in Haridwa

## The fight's on

The Oppn must not let the farmers' death issue slip away & use it to nail the BJP Govts

t's time the Opposition wakes up and smells the Lakhimpur Kheri coffee. The BJP Government has handed over a gilded club to the Opposition to beat itself with. The Centre hasn't really moved on the 10-month-old farmers' agitation against the three contentious farm laws. The UP Government has sat inertly and mutely watched as the wheels — not of progress, but of a bloodthirsty SUV — rolled and snuffed



the life out of at least four farmers. In incidents spawning from this gore, five others lost their lives. The Yogi Government may arguably have weeded out criminals from the State but its approach hasn't exactly been above board. After all, nobody can contest that a gangster like Vikas Dubey needed to be penalised but the way he was surreptitiously eliminated, raises questions on the UP Government. The Lakhimpur Kheri incident is eerily similar. It's one thing for the BJP — or anybody else, for that matter – to presume that the other side is at fault, and another to take the law into one's own hands to dispense

'justice'. By this logic, people of the country will be at one another's throat simply

because of societal prejudices and differences in opinion. The Constitution unequivocally allows the citizens to express dissent, even against the Government, and it simply can't be wished or forced away. Democratic issues must be dealt with democratically. Now is the time for the Opposition to stand up and put the BJP's Government machinery in the crosshairs. Mamata Banerjee, fresh off her thumping win in Bhowanipur, is cocking a snook at Narendra Modi and has already initiated a programme to breach the BJP citadel in the States that are pollbound next year. The Arvind Kejriwal-led AAP also seeks to make inroads in UP, besides the BJP-ruled Uttarakhand and Gujarat. It's the right set of circumstances for regional players such as the Samajwadi Party, the Bahujan Samaj Party and Asaduddin Owaisi's AIMIM to take up the cudgels on behalf of the farmers. The BJP Governments at the Centre and in UP would do well to curb their morbid instincts and refrain from shedding blood in the name of "controlling" public unrest. And the Opposition must stir from its slumber and utilise this opportunity to nurture public sentiment just ahead of next year's crucial Assembly elections.

# Is conversion racket the tip of an iceberg? PRIYADARSHI DUTTA



Da'wah, or inviting people in the way of Allah, is an established discipline in Islamic curriculum. It is not bound by fixed rules and regulations

ew developments are happening every week in the Islamic 'forced conversion' case. The racket was busted in June by the Anti-Terrorism Squad of Uttar Pradesh Police. Some of those arrested — like Maulana Umar Gautam, Kunal Ashok Chaudhuary alias Atif and Dheeraj Jagtap Deshmukh — are recognisably ex-Hindus who became zealous Muslims. Maulana Gautam, who heads the Islamic Dawah Centre (IDC) in Jamia Nagar (New Delhi), was born Shyam Pratap Singh Gautam in 1964. He embraced Islam in 1984 before quitting post-graduation in Pantnagar's . Agricultural University (Uttarakhand).

The IDC, on its website, designates its converts to Islam as "reverts". While this might appear tactical camouflage, it could actually be influenced by an Islamic myth: The "sovereign-ty of the world belongs to Allah" (the expression actually used in Pakistan's Constitution) and everybody is a born Muslim, but should formally adopt Islam by reciting the Kalima. Asaduddin Owaisi on January 5, 2015, emphatically stated at a public meeting in Hyderabad (available on YouTube) that everyone in this world is actually born a Muslim and converted to other religions by their parents. The real "Ghar wapsi" (homecoming), he said, would be when everyone embraces Islam. According to some believers, the Sun, Moon and other planets are also Muslim because they follow the course laid down by

Islamic conversion, unlike Christian evangelism, falls below the radar. However, Da'wah (or invitation to the way of Allah) is an established and accredited discipline in Islamic studies. In 1980, Darul Uloom, Nadwatul Ulama, Lucknow, introduced a four-year course in Dawah. It would be relevant to quote what its then Chancellor Maulana Syed Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi alias Ali Mian (1913-1999) stated in the first of his eight-lecture series he delivered (originally in Arabic) on Da'wah.

"There is no denying the

importance of the Shar'ah and the obligations — their greatness is an admitted fact — but it is a question of priority (awwaliyah). Which aspect has priority over others? If viewed from this angle, then, according to me, the aspect of invitation to Allah and guidance is dominant (ghalib) over the commands and shari'ah in the Glorious Qur'an. It is because the foundation of faith (iman) is guidance (hidayah) and 'to believe' depends on an invitation to Allah and instruction in

"Conditions change with time..and the art of inviting people to Allah also needs ready wit and presence of mind. Besides, the one inviting to Allah must have a deep understanding of human psychology and weak points of society. It cannot be said with finality that he should do one thing and desist from another, and that he should adopt and present his invitation (Da'wah) in a particular manner. He has to face some situations in a particular society and very different in other societies. He cannot, therefore, be bound by fixed rules and regulations." (Inviting to the Way of Allah, 1981, P.8-9).

This implies that fairness or foulness of methods to



ON JANUARY 5, 2015, **EMPHATICALLY** STATED AT A PUBLIC MEETING IN HYDERABAD THAT **EVERYONE IN** THIS WORLD IS **ACTUALLY BORN** A MUSLIM AND **CONVERTED TO** OTHER RELIGIONS BY THEIR PARENTS

**ASADUDDIN OWAISI** 

bring people to Islam is immaterial. It is fair to target the "weak points" of the society like poverty, caste fault lines,

Late Ali Mian was one of the leading and internationally acclaimed scholars of orthodox Islam in the 20th century. Amongst a number of books that he wrote, and speeches he delivered, the biography Hakim-ul-Islam Shah Waliullah in the series on Saviours of Islamic Spirit stands out. Ali Mian found his icon in Shah Waliullah (1703-1763), the 18th century theologian who tried to reestablish the rule of Islam in the subcontinent in the face of a disintegrating Mughal Empire, to the extent of inviting Ahmad Shah Abdali to invade

Da'wah could be a way to reestablish the Muslim supremacy. However, it has a far deeper objective in India. It is about non-violently extirpating "idolatry" and "polytheism" of Hinduism, which denotes Jahilya (darkness) from the Islamic standpoint. The RSS often reminds Muslims of their shared ancestry with Hindus, and the commonness of their DNA. From Islam's point of view, however, shared ancestry was a period of darkness and nescience

towards which there could be nothing more than acrimony

and loathing. Speaking on the eve of the centenary of famous Darul-Uloom, Deoband, in March 1980, Ali Mian said: "I have told Arabs on different occasions that Allah raised them from a state of insignificance to a state of eminence through Islam. I say the same to you now and wish to say as strongly as possible that you too were worth nothing in the past and that you too owe virtually everything to Islam... You can now take pride in the religion of Islam. Think of your past. What did you use to worship in India? You used to worship even things as humble as trees and stones. Who took you out from the deep darkness of such gross ignorance and indignity?" (Live to Lead: A Call to Indian

Muslims, P.4-5). The obvious answer is Da'wah or invitation to the way of Allah. Da'wah is meant to supersede all indigenous faiths. The IDC is only following the script. They could still argue in the court that they have done nothing wrong in the eyes of Islam.

(The writer is an author and independent researcher based in New Delhi. The views expressed are personal.)

### **TERS TO THE EDITOR**

### A POSITIVE SHIFT IN THE AUTO SECTOR

Sir — This should be the trend catching up in the next few years — no fossil fuels burning. There are already trends surfacing where there are no orders placed for diesel buses. Now, orders only of electric buses are placed and that is a very positive sign. Though a shift to electric vehicles (EVs) in the near future has been planned, questions on the transition from fuel to electric power as well as impact on the automobile sector and the consumers are yet to be answered in the affirmative. Ola has announced a great electric scooter but apparently lacks an essential feature, which is the replaceable

Till the time India's electric vehicle charging infrastructure comes alive, we have to look for EVs that offer replaceable batteries that can be carried home for charging. However, it also has a drawback that it consumes more space and the contacts need to be kept absolutely clean as it carries heavy DC current. If not, it will end up heating with a risk of fire and power loss, too. All necessary steps should be adhered to before going for electric vehicles.

MR Jayanthi | Mumbai

**NEED TO REGULATE THE MESSENGER** Sir — The Union Government should frame guidelines for couriers. Since important documents like cheques and drafts are carried by this service, registration of courier services with the Union Ministry of Communications should be compulsory with a list of their offices recorded with the Ministry and displayed on its website. Courier boys deliver documents any time of the day. Such a system is totally unsafe in residential areas, especially for women and senior citizens. Mischievous persons can enter the residence with the intention of loot, rape or murder in the garb of courier boys. There should be fixed timings to deliver couriers, especially in residential areas. It may be mentioned that mails by the Indian Posts Department are always delivered on specified timings only.

### The iconic Ravana takes final bow



eteran actor Arvind Trivedi, who essayed the iconic role of demon-king Ravana in Ramanand Sagar's TV show Ramavan (first aired on Doordarshan in 1987), passed away in Mumbai at 82. Interestingly, as an ardent devotee of Lord Ram, he sought forgiveness from the Lord every day before playing the role of Ravana. During the nationwide lockdown last year, Doordarshan brought back Ramayan on television, airing twice a day. And how can one forget watching the Sita haran,

At times, couriers are delivered very late, even after weeks. The addressee should be aware about the despatch date by making it compulsory for courier agencies to print the date of receipt by courier agency together with the courier's number. The courier service providers should leave a message slip about the undelivered courier to enable the addressee to take delivery of documents in case of his/her unavailability at the address. Best is to encourage reliable and economical Speed Post service by the Department of Posts by having 'one nation, one tariff' policy with its tariff being uniformly fixed.

Madhu Agrawal | Delhi

**LET'S TALK REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS** Sir — While the Medical Termination Pregnancy (Amendment) Act of 2021 is indeed a step in the right direction to ensure that women have access to safe abortions, certain deficiencies in it need to be corrected. The amendment has raised the upper limit of abortions to 24 weeks from 20 for some categories of

where he got emotional and folded his hands seeking "forgiveness", the scene had gone viral then. Not only Ramayan, Arvind Trivedi featured in almost 300 movies across Bollywood and Gujarati cinema. Besides, he also featured on the show Vikram Aur Betaal and Vishwamitra. His role of Dada ji in Gujarati

film Desh Re Jova Dada Pardesh Jova is

unforgettable even today. A former BJP MP from Sabarkatha constituency in Gujarat, Arvind Trivedi also served as the acting chairman of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) from 2002 to 2003. He shot down a proposal to show soft porn in cinema theatres, which was mooted by his predecessor late Vijay Anand. No doubt that he will be remembered by generations for his iconic role of Ravana. He has left us, but will always be in our hearts. We will miss you. Rest in peace

**Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee** | Faridabad

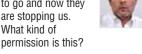
women, including survivors of rape. In addition to that, there is no upper limit to terminate a pregnancy if there are any foetal anomalies. However, a medical board set up by the States and UTs needs to clear it.

There is no denying the fact that the amendment will give more women the access to safe abortions. However, it must be acknowledged that it does not cover all aspects of women's reproductive rights. It is not comprehensive as it does not include certain categories of women such as non-binary and transgenders. If the gestation period is between 20 and 24 weeks, two doctors need to decide whether to terminate pregnancy or not. Given that most of the abortions are done in private hospitals where very high costs are imposed for the procedure, this law will cause financial difficulties to women. Further, doctors may refuse to perform abortion on moral grounds.

Venu GS | Kollam

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneér@gmail.com

The UP Government said that we are free to go and now they are stopping us. What kind of



Congress leader - Rahul Gandhi



I've spoken with Xi Jinping about Taiwan. We agree...we'll abide by the Taiwan

> **US President** — Joe Biden

The journey has been gratifying. It wouldn't have been possible without all those who have

touched my life personally and professionally

— Divya Dutta



come to Chennai and play my last game over there and we can meet

**CSK** captain

- MS Dhoni

the fans there.

The Dalit Bandhu scheme will definitely be launched for Muslims, and not iust Muslims, but for the poor of all communities.

> **Telangana Chief Minister** - K Chandrasekhar Rao

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limate change induced by greenhouse gas emissions poses a major threat to the global economy and will affect a wide range of economic sectors. Increasing levels of pollution and irreversible damages to mother earth due to the use of fossil fuels and cutting down of forests need to stop immediately. In addition, diminishing sources of fossil fuel and increasing demand for power are not sustainable in the longer run. Renewable energy is the solution and need of the hour. Sun, an inexhaustible source of power, has blessed us with its energy throughout the year. Solar energy has emerged as a promising green solution for combating climate change by lowering reliance on traditional fossil fuel-based energy. It has the potential to feed the economy while leaving a better future for our next generation. India has taken up an ambitious target of 175 GW by the year 2022, of which solar has been given 100 GW since it is the easiest to install and requires the least amount of maintenance.



And recently India surpassed the 100 GW milestone. In addition, the Government of India has announced a revised target of 450 GW by 2030. Renewable energy will be a game-changer to fuel the economy in the coming future. Solar energy technology and the ecosystem are evolving fast. The efficiency, operating life, and affordability are far better today as compared to a few years back. The price of solar panels has fallen by 90% over the last decade and adoption by residential, commercial, and industrial end consumers is gaining momentum. Pro-solar policies by the government and net-metering arrangements are enhancing the solar adoptions experience. Netmetering enables consumers to produce power through the day and use it whenever required with minimal overhead charges. In addition, the Indian government has established a number of initiatives to promote electricity generation in the utility, industrial, commercial, and residential sectors via solar. Open access policies for captive and utility-scale solar parks, SRISTI (Sustainable Rooftop Implementation for Solar Transfiguration of India), VGF (Viability Gap Funding), and others are a few examples. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has launched the One Sun One World One Grid programme (OSOWOG), which would secure the supply of power across countries. The idea behind this design is that 'The Sun Never Sets,' and that it is always constant in any given geographical place at any given time. With such measures, India, as well as other countries, will be able to become green, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and maintain environmental sustainability.

There are a few frictions, though. Lack of awareness, reliability and affordable financing are a few of these challenges. Implementation of solar energy systems is capital intensive and access to affordable financing enhances adoption. Platforms like Oorjan build awareness, offer reliable technology and affordable financing options to the end consumers by offering easy EMI and pay as you go (PAYG) options. Investment in solar by the end consumers breaks-even in hardly 3-5 years as against a life expectancy of 25 years. The savings are more than sufficient to serve the EMIs for a 5 years' loan tenure. One kilowatt of solar panels has the potential to produce 1500 units per year and it's equivalent to a plantation of 49 teak-wood trees. Every kWp would mitigate carbon emissions by 31 tons of CO2 equivalent over the project life when compared to coal-based sources of energy. As aware citizens, we need to act before climate change escalates and impacts our future further. We must adopt solar energy as it has the potential to propel the economy to new heights while also safeguarding the environment.

(The writer is a founding team member of Oorjan Cleantech. The views expressed are personal.)

# Forest onslaught since Independence in India



Forests prevent soil erosion and reduce the effects of climate change. However, in spite of our reliance on forests, we are still destroying them

ahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru had very different visions for India's future. Gandhi's concept of "Gram Swaraj" states that self-sufficient villages are the cornerstones of sustainable economic growth. To make India self-sufficient, Gandhian economics advocated village woodlots, agroforestry, and organ-

ic farming.

Jawaharlal Nehru was a disciple of Gandhi but he believed that industrialisation was the key to progress. Hence, after independence, India followed the mainstream western model of development based on heavy industrialisation such as steel mills, atomic power plants, river valley projects and urea plants, etc. Therefore, in its anxiety to mobilize the resources, the Government issued a tacit direction to replace all miscellaneous forests with fastgrowing species, such as eucalyptus and poplar (short rotation: 8-10years), despite the fact that these forests were a source of livelihood for the landless and poor peasants for their fuel, fodder and other household needs like poles, postand scaffolding. As a result, all the miscellaneous forests in the Himalayas' foothills were replaced by fast-growing species with little or no undergrowth. Due to depletion of forests, fertility declined either by means of soil erosion or by failure to retain river sediment.

After independence, agricultural expansion became the major cause of depletion of the forest resources. A rise in intensive farming and commercial plantation (tea, coffee, sugarcane, etc.) led to the conversion of forest land into agriculture. Different development projects like river valley projects, urbanisation, mining activities were major contributors to deforestation and degradation of forest land. This is true even today.

Indian Forest Policy 1952 recognized the need to increase forest cover to one-third of the total land area. Professional lobbyists at the top shaped these policies without considering informed citizens' inputs into account.

During the Green Revolution, millions of hectares of forests were ploughed or destroyed to make way for river valley irrigation/power projects. In addition to the devastating ecological impacts, deforestation has resulted in flooding and the loss of the fertile soil's nutrient layer.

When the Government of India realized the deteriorating torestry situation, it constituted the National Commission on Agriculture (NCA) in 1976. In the interim report of the NCA, 'Social Forestry' was recognized as an important aspect of forestry for meeting rural needs.

There is often a lack of clarity as to what social forestry is. It was believed that any forestry intended to meet societal needs outside of a monetized economy was Social Forestry. What does social mean then? What is the purpose of planting? Is it to provide food for the community's subsistence needs, to expand the planted area



SADLY, THIS IS

(The writer is a former

Principal Chief

Conservator of Forests,

TRUE EVEN

**TODAY** 

INDEPENDENCE, **AGRICULTURAL EXPANSION** BECAME THE MAJOR CAUSE OF DEPLETION OF FOREST RESOURCES. A RISE IN INTENSIVE FARMING AND **COMMERCIAL PLANTATION** degradation. LED TO THE CONVERSION OF FORESTS INTO AGRICULTURAL LAND. AND

for market consumption, or to conserve the natural ecology of the for-

Programs of social forestry were a mixture of successful and miserable failures. It has completely failed to meet the primary objective of providing fuelwood and fodder to rural households. Generally, only large farmers benefited from this program. Also, tribal members who are keen to protect and promote forests were left out of the process. There was no control over cattle browsing or grazing. Landless people have not been included in the afforestation process, which has worsened rural poverty and unemployment. Landless and small farmers thus began to enter the miscellaneous forest, resulting in another wave of deforestation and

Following the earth summit and the climate change negotiations, a series of new measures to afforest and reforest lands were conceived and implemented or are under implementation. As a result of the 42nd Constitutional and Amendment Conservation Act 1980, a number of new measures such as urban forestry and strip plantations were introduced. This Act aims at reducing deforestation, conserving biodiversity, and protecting wildlife. inus, india nas seen a graduai increase in tree cover, but natural

forests have continued to degrade. In 1988, the National Forest Policy shifted from concentrating on commercial interests to encouraging the ecological role of forests and participatory management.

Recently efforts were made to regularize and empower forest dwellers by enacting the Forest Rights Act 2006. However, this Act has resulted in a spate of new encroachments into forest areas.

According to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs of the Government of India, individual forest rights of habitation and cultivation have been recognized on 4.1 million acres of forest land. Following a Supreme Court order dated 13-2-2019, the Ministry has directed states to review all rejected cases.

Forest Survey of India Report 2017 concludes: The forest survey report shows the changes in forest cover across three density classes, scrub and non-forest areas. As the density of 12,183 sq km of MDF increased to VDF, 4,148 sq km of VDF was converted to MDF/OF/Scrub/NF respectively, indicating degradation/deforestation in these areas.

Additionally, 17,520 sq km of MDF was converted to OF, Scrub, and NF, resulting in a decrease in density. There has been improvement in 24,175 sq km of NF and 6,360 sq km of Scrub, indicating improved conservation and plant-

The density of VDF has, therefore, increased in areas of dense and very dense forests totalling 4,148 sq km of MAF. Nevertheless, the fact remains that deforestation is still occurring unabated in some areas. In contrast to forest products, forest influences are not transferrable from one region to another. The need for forests is universal, regardless of topography, climate, or edaphic factors.

Forest Survey of India's Status of Forests Report 2019 does not include data on VDF, MDF, OF, Scrub, and Non-Forest due to limited satellite imagery scale; this poses a potential threat to the rewilding of forest lands. It is also going to increase the threat and effects of man-animal conflict, cause further deforestation, harm biological diversity and gene pool, and negatively affect ecosystem services alongside becoming formidable barriers to the movement of fauna, spores, pollen, insects, pollinating agents, etc.

Forests are integral to sustainable agriculture systems, especially under marginal conditions, and play many roles in protecting the land from eroding losses, providing food, fodder, and building materials, and improving genetic diversity. This is why the key person is not usually a forester, but someone who is close to the community and can act as a catalyst between the community and the professionals.

Forest Department has been entrusted with the responsibility of protecting and conserving forests, but professional foresters have struggled to persuade the political masters to support their long-term and short-term conservation plans. The Supreme Court has, from time to time, intervened and given direction to the State with regard to forest conservation and management under the Constitution of India.

Dorothy Stang asserts that "The death of the forest is the end of our life". Forests are one of the world's most important ecosystems. Along with providing habitat for animals and jobs for humans, forests prevent soil erosion and reduce the effects of climate change. In spite of our reliance on forests, we are still destroying them. There is often a disagreement between foresters and environmentalists on the importance associated with the different roles of forests. The sustainability of land can only be ensured by participatory management, which requires government commitment. Therefore, in one sense, India today stands as a crucible test case for forestry's ability to make trees serve people- people means people of all the constituencies.

# UP. The views expressed are personal.)

THE CENTRE SHOULD ADDRESS THE MAN-MADE FLOOD SITUATION IN BENGAL WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY. —BENGAL CHIEF MINISTER **MAMATA BANERJEE** 





MAMATA ONLY UNDERTAKES AERIAL SURVEYS, **BLAMES THE CENTRE AND WRITES LETTERS** TO THE PRIME MINISTER. —BJP NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT **DILIP GHOSH** 

## Inadequate social protection for children

### There is a dire need for global social protection reforms for children in order to mitigate child labour, abuse and exploitation across the world

ndia is home to over 30.3 per cent of extremely poor children. These children, especially girls, suffer systematic discrimination and exclusion in the form of higher school dropout rates, and greater vulnerability to child labour, trafficking and child marriage. Multiple development schemes for poverty alleviation and enhancing social security in rural areas exist, but there is a glaring absence of direct assistance.

The pandemic has dirupted the access to healthcare, nutrition, education, water and sanitation, social and child protection. This in turn has made children more vulnerable to deprivation, abuse and exploitation.

India took a major hit on the economy whose brunt is



(The writer is Executive Director (Programmes),

Kailash Satyarthi Children's

Foundation. The views expressed are personal.)

being borne by children. Yet, instead of prioritising child social protection reforms budget, budgetary allocation for children was reduced. The overall outlay for the Union Budget 2021-22 was Rs 3,483,235.63 crore, and the total allocation for children was Rs 85,712.56 crore. While the total Union Budget (BE 2021-22) saw an increase of 14.5 per cent, the share for children declined by 10.8 per cent compared to 2020. This year's share of budgetary allocation for children in proportion to the Union budget has been the lowest in the last 10 years. It is reduced by 2.05 percentage points: To 2.46 per cent (2021-22 BE) from 4.51 per cent (2011-12 BE). This will not only make it difficult for India to attain meet its



international commitments. constitutional mandates and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) but it will further push children to the most marginalized and dangerous corners of the society.

The total budget for the Ministry of Women and Child Development has seen a significant decline as against the previous year. The introduction of Saksham

have emerged as critical schemes to support existing schemes such as Anganwadi Services, National Nutrition Mission, National Crèche Scheme and Scheme for Adolescent Girls. It received a total allocation of Rs 19,412.6 crore. However, the combined allocation for these four schemes in 2020 was Rs 23,941.41 crore, roughly 19 per cent higher.

In fact, there was an increase in crime against children during the pandemic, but the budget allocation for child protection was cut down 40 per cent for the FY

2021-22, as against FY 20-21. The United Nations has marked 2021 as the

Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 Data from International Labour Organsation and the UNICEF show that since the start of the SDGs in 2016, an average of 10,000 children of 5-11 years were pushed into child labour every single day. The founder of Laureates

and Leaders for Children, Nobel Peace Laureate and UN SDG advocate Kailash Satyarthi, has demanded the creation of a Global Social Protection Fund with a fair share of direct benefits for children in the poorest communities. This is necessary to overcome the growing inequality and to save the future for children globally. This includes school feeding programmes, access to free and quality education and International Year for the healthcare, safe housing, clean

low-income countries should invest in national social protection floors. These form the safety net that is necessary for every child in the world to live a life of dignity, irrespective of where they live.

Recently, The Laureates and Leaders for Children launched the Fair Share to End Child Labour Campaign and hosted a UNGA side event that was co-sponsored by the Government of Sweden, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the ILO involving global leaders, former child labor-ers and present advocates as well as youth activists coming together to demand action to end child labour, a fair share for children and to pledge their commitment to end Elimination of Child Labour. water and sanitation. The child labor. The campaign

awareness programs that took place in marginalised communities. Mr. Satyarthi, in his speech at an event of the Únited Nations General Assembly stated "\$52 billion which amounts to just 2 day's worth of COVID relief in G7 countries last year and 0.4 per cent of social security expenditure in Europe, which can give social protection to every child and pregnant woman in low-income countries. This can end child labor and reduce poverty.'

also involved grassroots

When families are denied support for their basic needs like food and healthcare, and forced to live in dire conditions, their children can be forced into child labour. Social protection is necessary to stop this injustice.

# Taliban leadership unhappy with Pak's advocacy for its legitimacy

Kabul: Since the time the Taliban have taken over the control of Afghanistan and formed an interim government: Pakistan has been advocating for the Taliban leadership, calling on the global community to engage and recognise the new reality in Afghanistan and pave the way to peace in the war-torn country.

advocacy for Afghanistan is not widely appreciated within the Taliban ranks in Kabul. Many Taliban commanders and leaders believe that the world should be talking directly to them instead of countries like Pakistan, who they say, have not been requested by the Taliban to present their position and case to the global community.

Taliban leadership has However, Islamabad's maintained that they do not want any country to be their voice, as they do not allow any

## Pak PM's revelation of talks with Taliban sparks uproar

view, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan revealed that his leadership is in contact with the Pakistani Taliban and is working towards persuading them to lay down arms.

"In fact, I think some of the TTP (Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan) groups want to talk to our government for peace, for some reconciliation, and we are in talks with some of

the groups", Khan revealed.
"Afghan Taliban are also
helping our government in
this process", Khan added.

Khan also revealed that the talks between his government and the TTP are taking place in Afghanistan.

"In the sense that the talks are taking place in Afghanistan. In that sense yes", he said.

Prime Minister's remarks have sparked anger among the locals in Pakistan, who are reminding him of the deadly

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Islamabad: In a recent inter- attacks in schools, markets, mosques and other places, which have killed thousands of innocent people at the hands of the same TTP, who he is talking to and offering

them to become normal citi-

zens of the country.

'The terrorists who have killed our children in the Army Public School (APS) in Peshawar, who have killed innocent Muslims, who were praying in mosques, who have killed thousands of our soldiers, who have sent suicide bombers in markets and shrines to kill... Imran Khan says he is talking to them? How can he even think of talking to such inhumane people? How can he offer them to be normal citizens and give them immunity over their crimes?" said Numaish Khan, a local resident of Mardan Khyber Pukhtunkhwa province.

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external intervention in the domestic affairs of Afghanistan.

In conversation with a Taliban leader, he said that their regime has not asked Pakistan or Imran Khan to advocate or justify their government in front of the world, adding that

### Taliban take on ISIS-K after mosque attack

Kabul: The Taliban leadership has launched a major operation to search and eliminate the presence of ISIS- Khorasan, after a bomb attack near a mosque in Kabul last week claiming lives.

The Taliban forces claim to have destroyed an Islamic State cell in the north of Kabul and have launched a search to destroy any footprints or presence of ISIS-K in the capital and other parts of the country.

ISIS-K has emerged as a major challenge for the Taliban as the group has claimed many deadly attacks in the past, most recent being at the Kabul air-port, during the withdrawal of foreign troops, followed by last week's suicide blast outside the Eid Gah mosque, where prayers were being held for the deceased mother of Taliban spokesperson Zabiullah Mujahid. But the emergence of ISIS-K and Daesh operatives from the capital constitute the daunting challenges that the Taliban faces as a major resistance against their Islamic setup of governance. IANS

session and nominated him as it seems that Islamabad has given itself this responsibility, Afghanistan's Ambassador to without consulting with the leadership in the Islamic

Taliban's Foreign Minister Amir Khan Mutaqi wrote to the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres in this regard also. On the other hand, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has again called on the international community, the UN and other global bodies to engage with the Taliban at the earliest to counter the looming threat of a severe humanitarian crisis, which may fast transform into a major catastrophe.

## Major military reshuffle in Pakistan, Lt Gen Nadeem Anjum named new ISI chief

Islamabad: In a surprise military shake-up, the Pakistan Army on Wednesday announced that the powerful spy agency ISI chief Lt Gen Faiz Hameed has been appointed as Peshawar Corps Commander a crucial position in view of the Taliban's takeover of neighbouring Afghanistan.

Emirates of Afghanistan (IEA).

our leadership is open to talk, engage and reach out to any

country as only we can justify our existence and legitimacy to

the world", a Taliban leader

said. The sentiments can also

be established by the recent

request forwarded by the

Taliban to the United Nations,

asking to allow Suhail Shaheen,

the Taliban spokesperson in

Doha, to address the UNGA

"We have made it clear that

Lt Gen Nadeem Anjum was appointed as the new Director-General of Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) in place of Lt Gen Hameed, who was transferred as Peshawar Corps Commander, said the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) – the media wing of the Pakistan Army.

The ISI chief is appointed by the prime minister but as part of a tradition he executes this power in consultation with the Pakistan Army chief.

The post of ISÍ chief is considered one of the most important in the Pakistan Army, which has ruled the country for more than half of its 73 plus

years of existence and has hitherto wielded considerable power in the matters of security and foreign policy.
Initially, the Army said in

statement that Lt Gen Hameed was posted out but his replacement on the key post of the ISI chief was not immediately announced.

Lt Gen Anjum, who belongs to the Punjab Regiment of the Pakistan Army, has served as Karachi Corps Commander as well as the commandant of Command and Staff College Quetta.

He is considered as a battle-hardened who commanded the Frontier Corps Balochistan as its Inspector General and oversaw many operations against terrorists.

Media reports said that his subordinates call him the "man with glacier brain but sharp reflexes". He is stated to be a good listener and good observer who speaks concisely.

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Public Notice

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uneral rites, including Baithaks. My aforesaid clients shall not be responsible/liable for their acts, conducts and deeds, or any liability in future from oday for transacting with them.

> D/774/2021 Office: 111, R.G.Bazaaı Sector - 11, Extension

## India, US to strengthen ways to fight terrorism to deepening our security rela-

India and the US on Wednesday reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen ways to fight terrorism and stressed the need for rule based international border to ensure peace in the Indo-Pacific region. The two countries also

resolved to remain engaged on Afghanistan and deepen their security relationship across the entire spectrum and counterterrorism during the bilateral meeting between Foreign Secretary Harsh Shringla and his US counterpart Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman. Her two-day visit to India from October 5 came nearly two weeks after Prime Minister held summit level talks with President Joe Biden in Washington. Modi also took part in the first in person Quad grouping heads of state meet along with Biden, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison and then Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga. "US and India are looking

tionship across multiple dimensions. We remain engaged with each other on Afghanistan, and counter-terrorism as well. Our countries will soon meet for a security dialogue," Sherman said in her

opening remarks. She also said India and the US know that the best way to preserve peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region and around the world is by upholding and strengthening the rules-based international order. "Ours is an indispensable partnership," she added.

Sherman said the United States appreciates India's concerns about the spillover of terrorism from Afghanistan after the Taliban took control of the war-torn region. She also said after meeting Shringla India and the United States have "one mind and one approach" on Afghanistan. The US Deputy Secretary

said as the world's largest vaccine producer, India is a crucial leader in the fight against COVID. "We look forward to work together with India to

vaccinate the world including through the Quad vaccine partnership, she said.

In the backdrop of China flexing its muscle in the Indo-Pacific and growing ties between Quad nations, she said the US will compete with China 'where we should, cooperate with China where it's in our interests. We will challenge China where we must -- where it undermines interests of ours and our partners and allies or threatens rules-based international order.

Shringla said developments in Afghanistan will keep India and US engaged adding both the countries have a keen desire to ensure that 'we both work together to ensure peace, security, and stability in South Asia and beyond, at the USIBC India Ideas Summit. Sherman also attended the summit.

He also said India-US relationship will only attain greater heights in years to come. The Foreign Secretary said the two countries are now poised to move forward exponentially on many of the areas that 'we have identified together.'

France moves

toward ban on

conversion therapy

Paris: French lawmakers have

unanimously backed proposed

legislation that would ban so-

called conversion therapy and

authorize jail time and fines for

practitioners who use the sci-

entifically discredited practice

to attempt to change the sexu-

al orientation or gender iden-

voted 115-0 on Tuesday night

for the draft law proposed by

members of President

Emmanuel Macron's party. The

text, which has the French

Government's backing, now

goes to the upper house for

debate. "Conversion therapies

are deplorable," Health Minister

Olivier Veran said. "They cause

hashtag "RienÀGuérir," which

translates as "Nothing to Cure"

and is used online by backers

of the proposed legislation.

Application Forms are available

**D.EL.Ed & DPSE Course** 

At the institute reception for eligible

candidates as per SCERT norms from

Veran tweeted with the

terrible suffering."

Parliament's lower house

tity of LGBTQ people.

so-called gay

### Tensions flare as Chinese flights near Taiwan intensify greater pushback from coun-

Taipei: With record numbers of military flights near Taiwan over the last week, China has been showing a new intensity and military sophistication as it steps up its harassment of the island it claims as its own and asserts its territorial ambitions in the region.

China's People's Liberation Army flew 56 planes in international airspace off the southwest coast of Taiwan on Monday, setting a new record and capping four days of sustained pressure involving 149 flights. The actions came as China, with growing diplomatic and military power, faces

Place Delhi-110034 or 9066707172/9818228636 (M).

Location

2 Approx. Cost of work

3 Earnest Money Deposit

**Submission Period** 

Date & Time

Fund Allocation

5 E-Tender Bid Submission

End Date & E-Tender Open

Website particulars where

complete details of tender

क्रमांक ३७८८ / जसंसं / वि.अ.प्र. / 2021

E-Tender No.: 09-TRD-NDLS-2021-22 Dated 06.10.2021

Taiwan pleads for more global support and recognition. The US called China's latest actions "risky" and "desta-

tries in the region and as

bilizing," while China responded that the US selling weapons to Taiwan and its ships navigating the Taiwan Strait were provocative. At the same time as the flights, the US stepped up naval maneuvers in the Indo-Pacific with its allies, challenging Beijing's territorial claims in critical waterways. Taiwanese Defence

Minister Chiu Kuo-cheng told legislators Wednesday that the situation "is the most severe in the 40 years since I"ve enlisted."

Application Forms are available Management Seats in D.EL.Ed. Course for Session 2021-2023 At the Institute reception for eligible candidates as per SCERT norms from

2021 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on working days and can be deposited upto 18th October 2021 till 4:00 pm. SAINATH COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

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नवा रायपुर, दिनांकः 05/10/2021

**E-TENDER NOTICE** 

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फोन:- 0771-2221616

गणतंत्र दिवस परेड 2022 के अवसर पर नई दिल्ली में चयनित

होने पर प्रदर्शित की जाने वाली छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य की झांकी निर्माण के लिए निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

दिल्ली में आयोजित होने वाली गणतंत्र दिवस 2022 की राष्ट्रीय परेड में

चयन होने पर प्रदर्शित होने वाली झांकी की डिजाईन/मॉडल प्रस्तुत करने

तथा अनुमोदन पश्चात तथा रक्षा मंत्रालय के निर्देशानुसार फेब्रिकेशन आदि

निर्माताओं / फर्मो से मुहरबंद निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

जनसम्पर्क संचालनालय, छत्तीसगढ शासन, नवा रायपर की ओर से नई

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4th October 2021 to 18th October 2021 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on working days and can be deposited Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/Traction Distribution, DRM's Office upto 18th October 2021 till 4:00 pm. State Entry Road, New Delhi for & on behalf of President of India, invites

2275/2021

JAIN BHARTI INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION E-Block, Sector-16, Rohini, Delhi-110085

PUBLIC NOTICE

Take NOTICE that 1 Share Certificate No. 50256 for 60 Shares bearing Dist. Nos. 1513660737-1513660796 of Ambuja Cements Ltd. having its Registered Office at P.O. Ambujanagar, Gir Somnath, Taluka Kodinar, Junagadh, Gujarat-362715, registered in the name(s) of **Dropadi Devi Singhal**, has been lost. I have applied to the Company for issue of duplicate share certificate in lieu of the above. Objections if any, can be lodged with the Company at the above address or with their Registrars, Link Intime India Pvt. Ltd, C 101, 247 Park, L.B.S. Marg, Vikhroli (West), Mumbai, Maharashtra 400083, in writing, within 7 days of this Notice.

Dropdi Devi B-5/229-230, Sector-7 Rohini, Delhi-110085

Application Forms are available Management Seats in D.EL.Ed. Course

for Session 2021-2023 At the Institute reception for eligible candidates as per SCERT norms from 04th October 2021 to 18th October 2021 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on

working days and can be deposited upto 18th October 2021 till 4:00 pm. OJAS COLLEGE OF EDUCATION Plot No. 213, Outer Firni Road, Mungeshpur Delhi-39 Phone: 9811755679

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public on behalf of DCB Bank that Mr. Rakesh Goel is owner of Ground floor, without roof rights "said floor" part of property bearings No. B-100, Plot no. 100, in Block 8, area measuring 110.84 sq., Yds., Situated in the layout plan of Jhilmil Tahippur Residential Scheme, Colony known as Vivek Whar, Phase I, Illaça Shahdara, Delhi, hereinafter referred to as "the said property," by virtue of Sale Deed dated 17.09.2012, Registration No. 22017, executed by Mr. Amarjeet Singh Kohli, has lost/misplaced Original Sale Deed dated 21.03.2006, registration No. 1767, Original Sale Deed dated 21.03.2007, Registration No. 1767, Original Sale Deed dated 21.03.2007, Registration No. 1967, Original Sale Deed dated 21.03.2007, Registration No. 1967, Original Sale Deed dated 21.03.2007, Registration No. 1967, Original Call Persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of missing document. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 14 days of the present. Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants) Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants) 200 Und Floor 23 Shivaji Maro, Moti Nagar N. Delhi-15 200, IInd Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, N. Delhi-15 Ph : 011-41112527-28 kumarassociates.advocate@gmail.com

PN titre 11:2577-8 kumarassociates avocate agginal com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public on behalf of Aditya Bitla Finance Ltd. That Mrs. Seema & Mrs. Suman are joint owners of Plot No. 4, area measuring 300 sq. yds., out of Khewat / Khata No. 47/34 mini, Khatauni No. 47, Mustatil No. 15/12, Village-Samaypur, Tehsil - Ballabhgarh, District - Faridabad, Haryana, by virtue of Sale Deed dated 15.07.2015, Registration No. 4226, executed by Mahavir Prasad Jain & Sons, HUFthrough attorney Mrs. Sunil, All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner want to take Loan from Adity Bitla Finance Ltd. Against the said property, if anybody has any objection/s upon the ownership of Mrs. Seema & Mrs. Suman in respect of the Said property its Sale //Mortgage, and any kind of the Said property its Sale //Mortgage, and any kind of the Said property its Sale /Mortgage, and any kind of objections kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 14 days of the present.

## UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED (A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking)

Corporate I.D. No. UA40109UP2001SGC025867/2358 Victoria Cross Vijeyta Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun-248001 Telephone No. - 0135-2763672-76, Fax- 0135-2760289 Website: www.uktenders.gov.in

**CORRIGENDUM TO E-TENDER NOTICE** 

In reference to e-tender invited previously by this office, are hereby extended due to unavoidable

1								
SI. No.	Tender Specification No.	Name of Item	Tender Quantity	Last Date & Time of online request for Tender and submission of tender in online & offline mode	Date of opening of Part-I of tender in online & offline mode			
1	CCP-II/16/2021-22	500 kVA, 11/0.433 KV, Copper wound distribution transformer		21.10.2021 upto 17:00 Hrs.	22.10.2021 at 15:30 Hrs.			
2	CCP-II/25/2021-22	11KV Pilfer Resistant Metering Cubicle	352 Nos.	21.10.2021 upto 17:00 Hrs.	22.10.2021 at 15:45 Hrs.			
3	CCP_II/26/2021-22	33KV Pilfer Resistant	50 Nos	21.10.2021 upto	22.10.2021 at			

For further details, please visit our website www.uktenders.gov.in

Metering Cubicle

No. 401/EE(CM)/UPCL/A-2 Dt. 05.10.2021

Superintending Engineer

16:00 Hrs

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संख्या :: 69/10/E-3/H.C.S./2017-18 दिनाँक :: 06 अक्टबर, 2021

उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग

हस्ता /-

(मा० उच्च न्यायालय, नैनीताल में सहायक समीक्षा अधिकारी, अनुवादक, टाईपिस्ट एवं असिस्टेंट लाईब्रेरियन (मुख्य) परीक्षा-2018) एतदद्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि 'मा0 उच्च न्यायालय, नैनीताल में सहायक

समीक्षा अधिकारी, अनुवादक, टाईपिस्ट एवं असिस्टेंट लाईब्रेरियन परीक्षा–2018' हेतु प्रकाशित विज्ञापन संख्या- 01/विज्ञापन/ई-3/2018-19 दिनांक 10.12.2018. तथा शुद्धि पत्र संख्या 62/10/ई-3/H.C.S./2017-18 दिनांक 04.10.2019 व पत्र संख्याः 63/10/ई-3/H.C.S./2017-18 दिनांक 04.10.2019 के सापेक्ष दिनांक 24 जुलाई, 2021 व 25 जुलाई, 2021 को सम्पन्न मुख्य (लिखित) परीक्षा के परिणाम दिनांक 04 अक्टूबर, 2021 में औपबन्धिक सफल घोषित अभ्यर्थियों हेतू प्रश्नगत परीक्षा के अगले चरण में कम्प्यूटर के आधारभूत ज्ञान की परीक्षा व अंग्रेजी टंकण का आयोजन दिनांक 21 अक्टूबर, 2021 (गुरूवार) से 25 अक्टूबर, 2021 (सोमवार) तक हरिद्वार नगर स्थित उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग के ज्ञानोदय कम्प्यूटर लैब, परीक्षा भवन में किया जायेगा। इस सम्बन्ध में विस्तृत परीक्षा कार्यक्रम आयोग की वेबसाइट www.ukpsc.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है। अर्ह अभ्यर्थी आयोग की वेबसाइट www.ukpsc.gov.in से अपने प्रवेश पत्र डाउनलोड कर सकते हैं। अभ्यर्थियों को पृथक से डाक द्वारा प्रवेश पत्र प्रेषित नहीं किये जायेंगे। अभ्यर्थी आयोग की वेबसाइट पर उपलब्ध विस्तृत परीक्षा कार्यक्रम एवं कम्प्यूटर के आधारभूत ज्ञान की परीक्षा/अंग्रेजी टंकण हेतु महत्वपूर्ण निर्देशों/ अनुदेशों का आवश्यक रूप से अवलोकन करना सुनिश्चित करें।

R.O. Date:- 05/10/2021

दोपहर 2 बजे तक। (2) तकनीकी प्रस्ताव प्रपत्र खोलने की तिथि दिनांक 26/10/2021 सायं

प्रदर्शित की जायेगी। संशोधन सूचना समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित नहीं किया

R.O. No. 64259/3

आयक्त सह संचालक जनसंपर्क संचालनालय छत्तीसगढ़ शासन

कार्य कर झांकी तैयार करने हेतु टर्न-की आधार पर अनुभवी झांकी / टेब्ल्यू इच्छुक (झांकी) टेब्ल्यू निर्माता/फर्म जनसंपर्क विभाग की वेबसाईट www.dprcg.gov.in & www.cg.nic.in@dpr से निविदा प्रारूप, नियम-शर्तें डाऊनलोड कर निविदा में भाग ले सकते हैं। निविदा प्रपत्र शुल्क राशि रू. 2,000 / - (दो हजार रूपए मात्र) (वापसी योग्य नहीं) का ''संचालक, जनसंपर्क संचालनालय'' रायपुर के नाम से रायपुर में देय डिमाण्ड ड्रॉफ्ट टेक्निकल बिड लिफाफा के साथ जमा करना अनिवार्य है। उक्त निविदा में किसी प्रकार परिवर्तन अथवा संशोधन होने पर जानकारी उक्त वेबसाईट में

पूर्णतः भरे प्रपत्र जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 26/10/2021 Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants) 200, IInd Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, N. Delhi-15 Ph: 011-41112527-28 kumarassociates.advocate@gmail.com

## **Cabinet approves 7 mega** integrated textile parks

The Union Cabinet on The Ullion Caoline Wednesday approved the setting up of 7 Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel parks with a total outlay of ₹4,445 crore for five years to

global textiles map.

Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) parks were announced in the Union Budget for 2021-22.

position India strongly on the

The parks will be set up at greenfield/brownfield sites located in different willing

Proposals of state governments having ready availability of contiguous and encumbrance-free land parcels of 1,000 plus acres along with other textiles related facilities ecosystem are welcome, said an official release.

Giving details about the decision taken at the Cabinet meeting, Textiles Minister Piyush Goyal said 10 states have already shown interest in

setting up the parks.
The states are Tamil Nadu,

Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, and Telangana. Sites for the park will be selected by a "Challenge Method" based on objective criteria. Goyal said the parks will create direct employment for 7 lakh people and indirect employment for 14 lakh.

The parks will offer an

opportunity to create an integrated textiles value chain right from spinning, weaving, processing/dyeing and printing to garment manufacturing at one location. An integrated textile value chain at one location will also reduce the logistics cost of the industry.

Maximum Development Capital Support (DCS) of Rs 500 crore to all greenfield parks and a maximum of ₹200 crore to brownfield ones will be provided for the development of common infrastructure

(30 per cent of the project cost). Also, ₹300 crore of Competitiveness Incentive Support (CIS) will be provided to each park for the early establishment of textiles manufacturing units

cent area will be developed for pure manufacturing activity, 20 per cent area for utilities, and 10 per cent of the area for com-

mercial development. The release further said the parks will be developed by a special purpose vehicle (SPV), which will be owned by the state government and the central government in a public-private partnership (PPP) mode.

The Master Developer will not only develop the Industrial Park but also maintain it during the concession period. Selection of this Master Developer will happen based on objective criteria developed jointly by State and Central Governments," the release said.

The SPV, in which the state government has majority ownership, will be entitled to receive part of the lease rental from developed industrial sites and will be able to use that for further expansion of the textiles industry in the area by expanding the PM MITRA Park, providing skill development initiatives and other welfare measures for workers.

## Cabinet approves bonus for Railway employees

PTI NEW DELHI

 $T^{\text{he Union Cabinet on}}_{\text{Wednesday approved a productivity-linked bonus}}$ equivalent to 78 days' wage to eligible non-gazetted Railway employees, Union Minister Anurag Thakur said.

The bonus for the financial year 2020-21 will benefit about 11.56 lakh non-gazetted Railway employees, he said. An expenditure of nearly

₹ 1,985 crore will be incurred on this. The bonus is usually announced ahead of Dussehra and Puja festivities. The wage calculation ceil-

ing prescribed for payment of PLB to the eligible nongazetted railway employees is ₹ 7000/- p.M.

The maximum amount payable per eligible railway employee is ₹17,951 for 78 days. About 11.56 lakh nongazetted Railway employees are likely to benefit from the decision. Railway Board Chairman and COO Suneet Sharma, later at a press conference, said that the bonus will be disbursed as usual before Dussehra

He said that the payment of these bonuses, specially after a tough year that saw railwaymen battling against coronavirus and still reporting for duty, would encourage them to work



Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal and Union State Minister of Railways, Darshana Jardosh (L) during a press conference on the Cabinet decisions in New Delhi on Wednesday

## LPG price hiked by ₹15/cylinder; petrol, diesel at all-time high



Tooking gas LPG price on Wednesday was hiked by ₹15 per cylinder while petrol and diesel rates saw their steepest increase in recent weeks, pushing prices to all-time high levels across the country.

Rates of both subsidised and non-subsidised LPG were hiked, taking the total increase in rates since July to ₹90 per 14.2-kg cylinder.

Cooking gas now costs ₹899.50 per cylinder in Delhi and Mumbai, and ₹926 in Kolkata, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.The Government has through periodic increases eliminated subsidies on LPG in most cities. Domestic household kitchens, who are entitled

to 12 cylinders of 14.2-kg each at subsidised rates in a year, and Ujjwala beneficiaries, who got free connections, now pay the market price. A 5-kg LPG cylinder now costs ₹502.

This is the fourth increase in LPG prices since July. Rates were increased by ₹25.50 per cylinder in July, followed by ₹25 hike each on August 17 and September 1.

Alongside, petrol price was increased by 30 paise per litre and diesel by 35 paise a litre. This is the steepest daily

increase in recent weeks and follows international oil prices touching a seven-year high. The petrol price in Delhi

rose to its highest-ever level of ₹102.94 a litre and to ₹108.96 in Mumbai, the notification Saudi Aramco hits \$2T valuation on back of higher oil prices

**AP** ■ DUBAI

Saudi Arabia's oil company Aramco reached a \$2 trillion valuation as it hit near record levels Wednesday during trading hours.

Its market cap value puts Aramco just behind Microsoft and Apple as the world's most valuable company. It comes as crude oil prices climb to over \$82 a barrel, the highest in seven

Demand for energy is picking up, despite the ongoing coronavirus pandemic's continued toll on travel and other key gas-guzzling sectors. Aramco is mostly owned by the government of Saudi Arabia, with just under 2% of the company publicly listed on the Saudi Tadawul stock exchange.

## Sensex sinks 555 pts as surging oil triggers global selloff

Indian markets were caught in a global selloff on Wednesday as hardening crude oil prices and supply chain bottlenecks stoked fears of rising inflation crimping economic recovery around the world.

A depreciating rupee, which plunged 54 paise against the US dollar, added to the

Snapping its two-day winning run, the 30-share BSE Sensex slumped 555.15 points or 0.93 per cent to close at 59,189.73

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty tumbled 176.30 points or 0.99 per cent to 17,646.

IndusInd Bank, which had topped the Sensex gainers chart in the previous session, was the biggest laggard on Wednesday, shedding 3.38 per Tata Steel, Bajaj Auto, Sun

Pharma, HCL Tech, Reliance among the other major losers. chain crunch across basic Only three counters man- materials. aged to close in the green --

HDFC twins and Bajaj Finance, advancing up to 1.24 per cent.

"Weak global markets, which resulteď in profit booking in metals and IT stocks, led domestic indices to trade in red, trimming its early gains. Spike in crude prices is spooking the Indian market while inflation is affecting US bond "RBI commenced

its three-day MPC meeting in which the central bank is expected to keep rates unchanged, however, it is like-

ly to announce measures to gradually

pump out liquidity from the economy," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial

S Hariharan, Head- Sales Trading, Emkay Global Financial Services, said the global backdrop is worrisome with surging energy prices, slowing demand conditions

### Rupee plunges 54 paise to over 5-mth low of 74.98 against US dollar

**PTI** ■ MUMBAI

The Indian rupee on ■ Wednesday suffered its biggest single-day drop in six months, losing 54 paise against the US dollar to end at 74.98 as investors turned cautious in view of massive selloffs in domestic equities and strengthening greenback against key rivals. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local currency opened at 74.63 and witnessed an intra-day high of 74.54 and a low of 74.99 against the US dollar in day trade.

The local unit finally settled at 74.98 a dollar, down 54 paise over its previous close. This was also the lowest closthis year. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.41 per cent higher at 94.36. Meanwhile, Brent crude futures the global oil barch futures, the global oil benchmark, declined 0.55 per cent to USD 82.11 per barrel.On the the BSE Sensex ended 555.15 points or 0.93 per cent lower at

## Moody's raises rating outlook to stable for 18 corporates, banks

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Moody's Investors Service on Wednesday raised the rating outlook for 18 Indian corporates and banks, including Reliance Industries, Infosys SBI and Axis Bank, to 'stable from 'negative'. This follows the upgrade

by the US-based rating agency in India's sovereign rating outlook to 'stable' from 'negative' on Tuesday. The agency had affirmed the sovereign rating at 'Baa3'. The nine companies whose rating outlook has been revised upwards are RIL, TCS, Infosys, ONGC, Petronet LNG Ltd, UltraTech Cement, Oil India, Indian Oil Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL).

The agency also affirmed the rating on privatisation-bound Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL), but maintained the 'negative' outlook. The nine banks whose outlook has been revised to Bank of Baroda, Canara Bank, Axis Bank, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, PNB, Union Bank and



"Stabilization in asset quality and improved capital are the main drivers of this rating action," Moody's said. Also, the rating outlook has been revised to 'stable' from 'negative' on 10 Indian infrastructure issuers, including NTPC, NHAI, PGCIL, Gail, Adani Transmission and Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (APSEZ).

### Govt looks at having lender nominees on boards of stressed state discoms

IANS NEW DELHI

n order to facilitate turn-**L**around of the operations of loss-making discoms and ensure financial discipline, the government wants power sector lenders Power Finance Corporation and the Rural Electrification Corporation to place their nominees in the boards of state utilities of con-

At a review meeting to gauge performance of the PFC and the REC, Union Power and New and Renewable Energy Minister R.K. Singh said that both organisations should establish presence of their nominees in the Board of Directors of discoms of concern as a remedial measure to

protect their finances. Though under the existing

insolvency and bankruptcy provisions, lead lenders are permitted to secure their position in the boards of companies they have funded, it is seldom used prior to companies becoming bankrupt. Seeing the situation that exists in other sectors, the Power Ministry wants its lenders to secure their funds in discoms through active participation in overall management of the state utilities.

The minister also asked power sector financiers to make efforts to reduce their cost of funds. In this context, he advised them to explore better and cheaper options for raising

### Tata Steel's output grows 7 pc in July-Sept

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Tata Steel on Wednesday reported a 7 per cent rise in consolidated steel output to 7.78 million tonnes (MT) for the July-September period this

The company's consolidated steel production was 7.25 MT in the same period last year, Tata Steel said in a state-

Tata Steel's consolidated sales during the quarter under review fell around 6 per cent to 7.4 MT, from 7.87 MT in the same period of the preceding fiscal. In India, Tata Steel India produced 4.73 MT of steel in the September quarter, compared to 4.59 MT in the year-ago quarter.

### RBI's interest rate-setting panel starts deliberating next monetary policy

Mumbai:Reserve Bank's ratesetting panel started its threeday deliberations on the next bi-monthly monetary policy on Wednesday amid rising global commodity prices and the need to contain inflation at home.

The decision of the sixmember Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) would be announced on Friday by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Friday. Experts are of the view that the central bank will maintain the status quo on policy

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India in last stage of

finalising details on

global minimum tax

 $F^{\text{inance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on }}_{\text{Wednesday said India is "very close" to arriv-}}$ 

ing at the specifics of the two-pillar taxation

proposition at the G20 and is in the last stage

of finalising the details. A total of 130 countries

had in July agreed to a overhaul of global tax

norms to ensure that multinationals pay taxes

wherever they operate and at a minimum 15 per

cent rate. The Finance Ministry had then said

that some significant issues including share of

profit allocation and scope of subject to tax rules

are vet to be addressed and a 'consensus agree-

ment' is expected by October after working out

the technical details of the proposal. The pro-

posed two-pillar solution consists of two com-

ponents - Pillar One which is about reallocation

of additional share of profit to the market juris-

dictions and Pillar Two consisting of minimum

tax and subject to tax rules. Speaking at the

ICRIER's Annual International G20 Conference

Sitharaman said the two-pillar solution of

international taxation issue will reach an

advanced implementation stage which India will

rates for the eighth time in a row. The policy repo rate or the short-term lending rate is currently at 4 per cent, and the reverse repo rate is 3.35 per cent.Ranen Banerjee, leader (Public Finance Economics) at PwC India opined that the latest statements by the US Fed Chair on possible actions if inflation does not wear off by H1 of 2022 is a clear commencement of chatter around rate action after the clarity on taper timing.

### EASTERN COALFIELDS LIMITED (A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

Office of the Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Sanctoria P. O. - Dishergarh, Dist. - Burdwan, West Bengal - 713 333 P. R. Department, CIN-U10101WB1975GOI030295 Website- www.easterncoal.gov.in

All the tenders issued by CIL and its subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works & Services are available on i) Website of Coal India Limited www.coalindia.in, ii) Website of ECL www.easterncoal.nic.in, iii) CIL e-Procurement Portal: https://coalindiatenders.nic.in, iv) Central Public Procurement Portal https://eprocure.gov.in. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM Portal: https://gem.gov.in

& Chola Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited

Branch Office: H-1 & 2, 3rd Floor, Padam plaza, Plot No.5, Sec 16 B, Awas Vikas, Sikandra Yojna, Agra 282002

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13[2] OF THE SECURITISATION & RECONSTRUCTION OF

FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002

You, the under mentioned Borrower / Mortgagor is hereby informed that the company has initiated proceedings against you under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and that the Notice under 13 (2) of the Act sent to you by Registered Post Ack. Due for Borrower/s has been returned

undelivered. Hence, you are hereby called upon to take notice and pay the outstanding loan amount mentioned against the said account with interest accruing there from within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the

company will proceed against you by exercising its right under Sub-Sec (4) of Section 13 of the Act by enforcing the

Date of Demand Notice & Amount Outstanding

19-08-2021 &

1,46,84,533.49/-

as on 19-08-2021

Rs. 93,81,411.38/-

together with

interest thereafter

Rs. 24,11,063.22/-

as on 19-08-2021

s on 19-08-2021

below mentioned security to realize its dues with interests and costs. It is needles to mention that this notice is addrest to you without prejudice to any other remedy available to the company.

1.70.00.000/

90.00.000/-

Name and Address of the Borrower/s

Loan Account No. X0HEAHE00001796654

Yogendra Kumar Agrawal
 Satendra Agarwal, 3. Jado Ram Hira Lal

6. Heera Lal And Co., 7. Shankar Lal Agrawa

Loan Account No. X0HEAHE00002471704

1. Sanjeev Kumar, 2. Sushama Hindol

SHOP NO 1-2 . NAGAR PALIKA MARKET

Loan Account No. X0HEAHE00002510472

KRISHNA NAGAR ,MATHURA - 281004

3. Rohitash Singh Hindol All residence at: 139 D Adarsh Nagar Chhata Mathura, Mathura-281004

Nogendra Kumar Agrawal
 Satendra Agarwal, 3. Mls Jado Ram Hira Lal
 Hari Om Agarwal, 5. Shakuntala Devi Agrawa
 Shankar Lal Agrawal
 Shankar Lal Agrawal
 BARHA BHAI GALI BELANGANJ

8. Asha Agrawa

Agra-up - 282004

4. M/S MEMSAAB

AGRA-UP - 282004

Date: 07.10.2021

4. Hari Om Agarwal, 5. Shakuntala Devi Agrawa

ence at : 6/27, Barha Bhai Gali Belanganj,

Corporate Office: 1st Floor, 'Dare House', No.2, N.S.C. Bose Road, Che

Description of the property / Secured Asset

No. 723 & 723/1 old at Present No. 6/27 &

6/27/1 at situated at Putariya Mahal Barah Bhai Gali, Chhatta ward, Tehsil & Dist. Agra

(Measuring area 469.88 Sq. Mtrs.) Boundaries: East -Road 35" wide & Exit

West -Road 18'6" wide & Exit North -Road

Residential House No. 35, over the Plot No

situated at Mohalla Krishna Nagar, Mathur (Measuring area 2250 Sq. Ft.) Boundaries

East- Street West - Street North - House

on Plot No. 138 of Ram Swaroop South

No. 723 & 723/1 old at Present No. 6/27 &

6/27/1 at situated at Putariva Mahal Barah

Bhai Gali, Chhatta ward, Tehsil & Dist. Agra (Measuring area 469.88 Sq. Mtrs.)

Boundaries: East -Road 35" wide & Exit

AUTHORISED OFFICER

West -Road 18'6" wide & Exit North -R

25' wide South -Prop. No. 6/26

25' wide South -Prop. No. 6/26

Plot No. 140

139D. Corporation No. 216/350/242

### APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male Age: About 42 years, Height: 5'6" Complexion : Fair, Built: Thin, wearing Red Colour Shirt, was found dead on 30.09.2021 at Safdarjung

Hospital, New Delhi. In this regard DD No. 71A dated 30.09.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform the undersigned on following address or telephone nos.

SHO: P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi Tel. No.: 011-24106345, 24106346

### कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खण्ड धमतरी (छ.ग.)

Email ID - eedha-phe-cg@nic.in

क्र. निविदा क्र./दिनांक सिस्टम

R.O.No - 64240/12

R.O. Date - 605/10/2021

//ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट निविदा सूचना//

एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से प्रपत्र—:"ए" मे प्रतिशत दर पर जल जीवन मिशन के रेट्रोफिटिंग नलजल प्रदाय योजनान्तर्गत निर्माण कार्यों हेतु निम्नलिखित आनलाईन (OnLine) निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

	टेंडर क्र.		(रू,लाख में)			
01	146 / 01.10.2021, 84632	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम खैरा Retrofitting	36.01			
02	147 / 01.10.2021, 84637	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम जीजामगांव+अंवरी Retrofitting	211.18			
03	148 / 01.10.2021, 84638	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम परसद्टी+धुमा Retrofitting	120.22			
04	149 / 01.10.2021, 84639	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम गाड़ाडीह (रै)+हंचलपुर+रामपुर Retrofitting	190.15			
05	150 / 01.10.2021, 84640	विकाराखंड कुरूद के ग्राम हसदा Retrofitting	138.47			
06	151/01.10.2021, 84641	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम गाझडीह (उ)+मंदरौद+कातलबोड़ Retrofitting	230.42			
07	152/01.102021, 84642	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम बगौदा Retrofitting	113.48			
80	153 / 01.10.2021, 84643	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम कुर्रा+सेमरा(सी) Retrofitting	101.81			
09	154 / 01.10.2021, 84644	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम कुल्हाझै+फुसेरा+विरेझर Retrofitting	172.94			
10	155 / 01.10.2021, 84645	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम सिंधौरीकला+गुदगुदा Retrofitting	118.33			
11	156 / 01.10.2021, 84646	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम मुल्ले+कल्ले+कोकड़ी (ना) Retrofitting	188.90			
12	157/01.10.2021, 84647	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम संकरी+आलेखुटा+अछोटी Retrofitting	236.56			
13	158 / 01.10.2021, 84648	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम मोहंदी+जामली Retrofitting	159.39			
14	159/01.10.2021, 84649	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम सौराबांधा+गातापार (कों) Retrofitting	104.51			
15	160/01.10.2021, 84650	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम सिर्वे+मौरीखुर्द+सिंगदेही Retrofitting	152.60			
16	161/01.10.2021, 84651	विकासखंड कुरूद के ग्राम कोलियारी+गुसरेंगा+गालूझुलन Retrofitting	186.01			
 नोट						

निविदा विज्ञापित निविदा, दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्योरमेट वेब पोर्टल (https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in) से दिनांक-07.10.2021 से देखा जा सकता है एवं दिनांक 25.10.2021 सांय 5:30 बजे तक निविदा में भाग ली जा सकती है,

> कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खण्ड धमतरी (छ.ग)

### **NORTHERN RAILWAY** Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering

(E-Procurement System)

Metallising, assembling, linking by HSFG botting Providing H-Beam sleeper and Launching of stee girder on abutment of Bridge No. 100 (1X76.20m) by using calender-hamilton span as a launching se to facilitate the end launching over Shah cana at Km 22/758.9 in between Patial-Hazipur in MEX BG Line and taking over siding Mukerian-Talwara in the jurisdiction of Dv. CE/BL/TKJ. ₹ 3,17,11,031.50

Approx Cost of work Completion period of the work 09 (Nine) Months Date & time for submission Upto 15.00 hrs on 29.10.2021. Opening of tender of tender & opening of tender after 15.00 hrs on same day Website particulars where Above tender available on IREPS site i.e complete details of Tender can be seen & downloaded

ender Notice No. 32-W-BR-100-MET-ASMBLY-HB Dated : 06.10.2021 2274/2021 Serving Customers With A Smile

## **SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSON** General public is hereby informed

that this person namely Pintu S/o Komil R/o H.No. 83, Harswroop Colony, Fatehpuri, New Delhi Age: 23 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Build: Medium, Face: Round, wearing printed white colour shirt, black colour jeans and shoes in feet, has been missing since 25.07.2021

Fatehpur Beri, New Delhi. Any person having information or clue about this missing

from his house. In this regard FIR No. 418/21 dated

28.09.2021 u/s 365 IPC has been registered at P.S.

person may kindly inform to the following:-

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Website: http://cbi.nic.in Fax: 24368639. Tel.: 24368638/24368641

SHO: P.S. Fatehpur Beri, New Delhi. Tel. No. 011-26659511, 8750870826

### APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a man namely Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown was found on 01.10.2021 at Wazirabad Road, Near Bus Stand Bhajanpura towards Gokal Puri in a road accident. In this regard FIR No. 671/21 u/s 279/304A IPC dated 01.10.2021 has been lodged at Police

Station, Khajuri Khas, Delhi. Dead Body has been preserved in GTB Hospital for identification. Identification of unidentified dead body of male is as under:

Name: Unknown, Age: About 25-30 Years, Height: 5'6", Built: Medium, Face: Long, Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: Yellow Line Dar Checkdar Shirt, Red Colour

T-Shirt and Blue Colour Jens If anyone have any information or clue about this male

Police Station Khajuri Khas, Delhi

## deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.

Ph.: 011-22962735, 8750870727

### DP/1104/NE/2021

**Bollywood** 'Deepika improves my

work by providing constructive criticism.

# A COP'S TALE

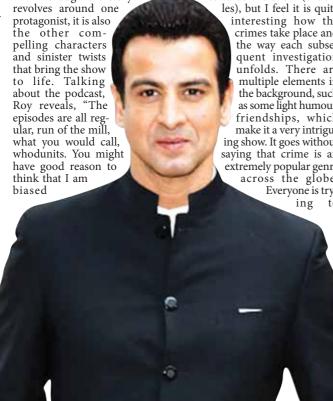
CHRISTY VARGHESE has a chat with RONIT ROY, who features in and as ACP Gautam, Spotify's latest audio-thriller

A re you a fan of all things crime drama? If so, then you are not alone. Many of us harbour a fascination with thrilling, nail-biting content, be it books, films or shows. We've grown up watching and reading crime stories, both fictional and real. And now, even on-the-go, you can take the excitement of discovering who committed the crime and why, with Spotify's new original podcast — ACP Gautam, with Ronit Roy lending his voice to the protagonist.

Yes, we know what you are thinking. This is not Roy's first stint as a policeman, and he laughs when we bring it up. "It's not that I have a penchant for playing policemen in cinema but I have to admit I have played policemen on quite a few occasions. Right off the top off my head, some prominent instances wherein I have portrayed a cop include films such as Shootout At Wadala, Boss and Ugly. And I am playing a policeman yet again, in a forthcoming film for Cine 1 Studios," shares Roy, hinting that his role at the forthcoming film

is an interesting one.

Coming back to ACP
Gautam, this 10-episode fiction crime thriller tells the story of a legendary cop, voiced by Roy, who takes the audience on a journey through his long and illustrious career. Each episode will lure listeners with instances of mysterious murders, robberies, kidnapping, extortion, terror investigations, and more. As Roy so aptly puts it, "All the tales are fictional but like I choose to believe, reel life is inspired by real life. So, the stories that we tell have, in some form or the other, happened somewhere to some-body."



Although the story

towards the show (chuck-les), but I feel it is quite interesting how the crimes take place and the way each subsequent investigation unfolds. There are multiple elements in the background, such as some light humour, friendships, which make it a very intriguing show. It goes without saying that crime is an extremely popular genre across the globe. Everyone is trying to

A SPOTIFY ORIGINAL ACP GAUTAM A HINDI AUDIO THRILLER

'ALL THE TALES IN SPOTIFY'S LATEST PODCAST, ACP GAUTAM, ARE FICTIONAL BUT LIKE I CHOOSE TO BELIEVE, REEL LIFE IS INSPIRED BY REAL LIFE'

second-guess what happens

How did the transition feel, though, going from an audio-visual medium such as cinema, to one which relied on purely audio? "Well, there are some adjustments that I had to make consciously. As someone who was accustomed to working in front of the camera, I had formed the subconscious habit of relying of, what we in the industry call, silent cues. One has the

luxury of expressing without using any words or sounds, since your face can be seen. However, this was a different ballgame altogether. Here, expression needs to be through voice. I regard this experience as a learning curve that will help me with my perfor-mances in front of the camera as well."

"I really enjoyed lending my voice to ACP Gautam. Whether it's good or not, that's something the audience will decide," con-

cludes Roy succinctly.
Well, audience. Don't go by our account of what ACP Gautam is all about. As ACP Gautam himself would say, "What you see, isn't always true." With the fourth episode releasing today, and new episodes releasing every Thursday, you have to hear at least one of ACP Gautam's tales on Spotify before you pass your verdict on the podcast.

## NEW APPROACHES TO MARRIAGES

PAWAN GUPTA finds that 83 per cent of the young urban population believes that compatibility and mutual interests matter while looking for a life partner



 $F^{\mathrm{or}}$  years, it has been believed that marriages are made in heaven, but the traditional matchmaking in India is more of a hassle to fix multiple dates, meeting with families that are often based on outdated criteria, including religion, caste, community, and not compatibility. With a shift in the mindset of the urban Indians, there has been a swift change in the approach of the life-partner searching process. It has become more realistic rather than a patriarchal fairy tale checklist nowa-

days.
Betterhalf.ai recommends profiles based on true compatibility, preferences. Recently, it conducted an online survey to understand the mindset and requirements of independent working professionals. The survey revealed a radical change in the mindset of urban professionals while find-

ing a life partner.
Out of 220 respondents, 83 per cent of urban Indians consider compatibility and mutual interests shall matter while searching for a perfect partner. On the other hand, 10 per cent of the respondents believe in looks and family background, while five per cent consider kundli, caste, religion, and three per cent believe profession and salary are significant compo-

Matchmaking in India is more about going over a series of tea or coffee meetings that involve parents. Living in a fast-paced world prompted us to conduct this survey; the findings reveal that the life-partner searching process has become more realistic than the conventional process.

Due to the repetitive practices of old-age custom, the idea of a paraya dhan and kanyadaan has become so ingrained in our minds that it doesn't even look like a violation of rights at all. As women have grown up with these values, they are mostly put down for questioning the traditions and are looked down upon if they resist the notion. That's how every traditional belief and value continues to reign over our societies.

According to the survey findings, if given a choice, 63 per cent of urban Indians would want to live separately with their partner, while 27 per cent do not wish to change the old-age stereotype of having the bride leave her house after marriage. Apart from this, close to 10 per cent think that husbands should move to wife's houses after marriage.

Creating a profile on matrimonial sites happen out of the enthusiasm of parents, completing a list of conventional questions while signing up. However, the mindset of urban Indians is changing, and the influx of new ideas related to a successful marriage is bliss in the changing world.

(The author is the CEO of Betterhalf.ai, India's first matrimonial application without parents' involvement.)

## Courtroom appearance in Rashmi Rocket

Actor ABHISHEK BANERJEE discusses his incredible experiences preparing for his role as a lawyer

The actor, Abhishek Banerjee, who essays the role of a lawyer in the upcoming path to prepare for his courtroom appearance. He says that lawyers are performers as they do shadow practice.

While describing his role in detail Abhishek shared, "I wanted to go to courtrooms to see the proceedings, but unfortunately I couldn't because of lockdown as courts were not functioning or functioning at 50 per cent capacity or no public was allowed at all. However, I asked my lawyer friends for help."

"One of my very good lawyer friends is a senior advocate and runs his own company. I spoke to him, and he told me about a lawyer's life. I kept observing him, and also how he would easily jump from a normal subject to the legality of that subject, and he told me about how some lawyers are quite a star in the courtroom, and people go especially to listen to their proceedings!"

Abhishek added that his friend also told

him that lawyers have their own performance styles, and they can alter their body language, voice, speech to entice, intrigue the judge, and that is what he also tried as well.
"I tried to create my own personality

when I was in the courtroom and had a completely different personality when I was outside the courtroom. Also, during the process, I realised that lawyers are performers, they do shadow practice, they rehearse their lines, they do their research work exactly like how actors do," he said.

Abhishek added, "So, I had to find a fine balance between being rehearsed as Ishit, but not look rehearsed as an actor. I enjoyed the process a lot, let's see how the audience







Support from society, family, and ensuring that the mother has help available to her whenever required is important to help her cope with her mental

# A better world for moms

Supporting the mental health of new mothers post-pregnancy is important, says Shradha Shejekar

Pregnancy is one of the most beautiful phases in a woman's life. At the same time, it is a phase which brings a lot of changes in the body physically, hormonally, and emotionally. This is why the mother is susceptible to a lot of mental a new mother to mental health issues, including hormonal changes, feelings of incompetence to care for or breastfeed the baby, weight gain, body image concerns, baby health concerns, job related concerns, health complications during pregnancy, lack of sleep, excessive work load and a genetic predisposition to mental health issues.

Most of the common mental health issues seen during or after pregnancy are persistently low mood or unusually happy mood, low self-esteem, sleep disturbance, and lack of motivation to carry out daily activities. Additionally, a mother may find it difficult to bathe or feed the baby, may feel unhappy about the pregnancy or birth of her child, and may take poor care of herself and of the baby. She may feel anxious about whether she will be able to give good care to the baby, or adequately breastfeed, if she will be able to get back in shape, or if her life will ever go back to her pre-pregnancy days. In certain severe cases, a mother may also report hearing unusual voices, sounds or seeing unusual things even when it is not there, or may even have hallucinations. Some rare cases may even have a tendency to increased suspicion, delusion, unusually feeling threatened, fear being harmed, get suicidal thoughts, or might want to harm the baby. Most people suppress such emotions and avoid talking about it which could lead to long-term harm.





health. Knowledge is power, and the more you understand about your partner's changing body, how it may influence their mental and physical states, and what kinds of problems they may be encountering, the more you will be able to aid and support healthy growth and how to prepare for labour and afterwards. Talking to someone you trust about the problem helps. Talking to others about how you're feeling may be a great relief and serve as a reminder that you're not alone. Some women utilise pregnancy forums on the internet. You'll probably discover that other people are going through similar things, and you could get some helpful ideas on how to cope with any issues. You may also find it beneficial to discuss your feelings with your midwife or doctor. Apart from that, society must also take some proactive measures by watching out for a new mother. If a mother around you has any of the above predisposing factors, or if you recognise any changes in behaviour during or after pregnancy as listed above, help her share her concerns with any other family member.

Additionally, ensure that she has access to a healthy diet and good sleep and help her consult a psychiatrist at the ear-liest. While diet and sleep are vital for recovery, this alone is not enough and these mothers require quick psychiatric intervention in the form of medications and therapy. Many mothers are concerned about the side effects of medication on the baby (while breastfeeding), but the good news is that science has developed quite safe medications which can be dosed and timed in ways that would not interfere with the breastfeeding, simultaneously helping mothers to quickly recover and enjoy motherhood.

(The author is a consultant-psychiatrist at Aster RV Hospital in Bengaluru.)

## TREND 3

### WE MUST SAVE NATURE: PANKAJ The Mirzapur star, PANKAJ TRIPATHI, is encouraging people to grow trees by endorsing Daan Utsav.

"Nature is not just a beautiful backdrop to click an Instagrammable picture, a resource, or a tool. Organisations like Grow-Trees.com help us understand and respect ecosystems. I hope millions more join a massive mass afforestation movement and plant trees during

sustains us. We must make it healthier," he

Daan Utsav and afterwards," Pankaj said. "Nature is a living, breathing system that added.



'I am not a person who shies away from letting people know about my life, because I chose this life. Yes, it is a different level of exposure in Bigg Boss, where people will be watching us all the time, but it has got its own perks. As long as I know I am not duping anybody, being irrational or hurting someone, I am good. I am not scared of that part.'



'Vidrohi is an untold story of our rich history so we wanted to say it right. As I belong to Kolkata, I can vouch for the similarities between the two states, Odisha and West Bengal, which helped. I have had to do a lot for the show. There was an action workshop conducted where we were taught some local martial arts of Odisha. The episodes have come out to be fantastic is what I've heard."

### KRISTEN ON PLAYING DIANA

KRISTEN STEWART, who is all set to portray the late princess of Wales, Diana, in the forthcoming drama Spencer, has opened up on the amount of research she did to get an understanding of her character.

"She is, sadly and ironically, one of the most unknowable people in history, when all she wanted was to just be closer to people and bare herself," Kristen noted.

"Absorbing her completely over the last six months was something," she









# MOSR INSPECTS RAILWAY'S PROJECT IN JAMMU & KASHMIR

The Minister of State for Railways (MoSR) also participated in Swachchta awareness programme at Srinagar Railway Station

inister of State for Railways (MoSR), Darshana Vikram Jardosh on a visit to Kashmir Valley, reviewed the progress of work on the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link National Project (USBRL). The Minister arrived at Banihal railway station by a train from Srinagar accompanied by Additional General Manager of Northern Railway Navin Gulati, Divisional Railway Manager, Firozpur, Dr Seema Sharma, Chief Engineer USBRL B.B.S. Tomar, Executive Director IRCON A K Goyal and other senior officers of Northern Railway and IRCON. Enroute, the minister also travelled in the cabin of the train engine. She was briefed about the driving process by the crew. She took keen interest in the procedure of the train running.

The Minister went around the scenic Banihal station and inspected the control room of Tunnel T-80. With a length of 11.2 km, at present it is the longest Railway tunnel in India. It runs across the mighty Pir Panjal Himalayan range connecting the towns of Banihal and Quazigund in J&K. The monitoring of the tunnel is done for efficient train-running within the structure. She then visited the IRCON Campus in Banihal where she was briefed about the progress of work on the final leg (Katra-Banihal) of the project. She also visited the site of tunnel T-144 and oversaw the cut and cover procedure ongoing there.

MoSR visited the location of the newly constructed Navyug Road Tunnel

∧ Il thanks to the pent up

Atravel demand, things are

looking up for the tourism sec-

tor as 66 per cent millennial

Thailand as soon as it opens up.

the world, bringing hope to millions that an end to the pan-

demic is on the horizon, 73 per

cent millennials would prefer to

go to international destinations

with fewer Covid cases. As per the report, 67 per cent millennials would opt for destinations

with defined Covid protocols to

avoid unnecessary hassles while

planning their international

holiday in the ensuing holiday

the pent up travel demand among the Indian millennial

travellers. We have started

season.



across Pir Panjal, close to Banihal and interacted with the officials of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) officials present there. She later left for Srinagar by the train from Banihal railway station. Enroute at Qazigund station and on arriving at Srinagar railway station, the Minister participated in the Swachchta awareness programmes. These are a part

of the fortnight long cleanliness drive being carried out by the Railways in commemoration of Gándhi Jayantí.

Addressing the press and media at the Srinagar station the Minister expressed satisfaction on the progress of the USBRL project. She said that, the aspirations of the people of Jammu & Kashmir to get a good Railway transportation system to remain



connected to the rest of the country all year round has to be fulfilled. She called upon the engineers working on the project to expedite the remaining portion on mission mode.

The USBRL is a national project undertaken by the Indian Railways for construction of a broad-gauge railway line through the Himalayas with the aim of

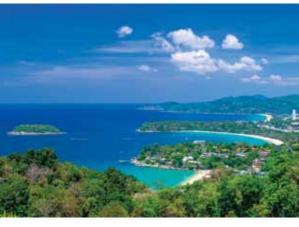
connecting the Kashmir region with the rest of the country. The all-weather, comfortable, convenient and cost-effective mass transportation system will be the catalyst for the overall development of the northernmost alpine region of the

Construction of the first three phases of the project has been completed and

the line is in operational use for running of trains between Baramulla-Banihal in Kashmir valley and Jammu-Udhampur-Katra in Jammu region. Work on the intervening 111 km section Katra-Banihal, the most arduous and treacherous portion due to its geology and extensive riverine system replete with deep gorges is ongoing. There are several iconic bridges and tunnels coming up in this section. Most of the rail track is slated to be in tunnels or bridges in this section. In the absence of an effective surface transport system in this in-hospitable region, Railways had to first lay access roads to the tune of 205 km to reach the construction sites.

Three agencies; IRCON, KRCL and Northern Railway with extensive experience in construction of rail lines are involved in this project. Many international agencies and premier Indian institutes like IIT Roorkee, IIT Delhi, DRDO and Geological Survey of India are providing expertise in planning and implementation. Several sets of tunneling machineries and cranes have also been imported.

Presently, the Arch work of the Chenab Bridge, world's tallest railway bridge is complete, while the work on the Anji bridge, an asymmetric cable-stayed bridge, is in full swing. 88.5 km of the total 97.64 km main tunneling and 60 km out of 66.5 km escape tunnel works have been completed. 13 major and 11 minor bridges have been completed.



# TRAVEL BU

travellers are willing to travel to A survey by Tourism Authority of Thailand revealed that 66 per cent millennials are willing With COVID-19 vaccination drives picking up steam across to travel to Thailand as soon as it opens up



receiving queries for international travel for the upcoming The independent survey holiday season but travellers are cautious too with respect to was done with over 7800 millennial travellers across the Covid restrictions, better connectivity and in selection of country for over a period of 4 international destinations. It is weeks in August 2021 and revealed that 61 per cent millennot at all surprising that Thailand is a preferred destinanials would look for better tion for Indians who wish to connectivity while selecting international travel destinatravel for the purpose of tourism, shopping, golf, meetings or wellness and I am contions while 27 per cent would prefer short-haul destinations. fident that it will be one of the Interestingly, 38 per cent milfirst to pick up outbound traflennial travellers would base fic from India," says Riaz their decisions on attractive Munshi, President, Outbound destination campaigns high-Tour Operators Association of lighting their unique features India (OTOAI). and offerings. A whopping 68

per cent millennial travellers are willing to travel to Thailand for their next vacations

Chattan Kunjara Na Ayudhya, the deputy governor of the Tourism Authority of Thailand says, "We are quite pleased to see tracker results that there is such a keen interest to visit Thailand among the Indian travellers. India has always been one of the key markets for Thailand. Phuket, Pattaya, Krabi, Bangkok and Koh Samui have become very popular with Indian tourists. They have attracted high-end

tourists, honeymooners, and also budget travellers from India, because the beach destinations have diverse choices of accommodation, from luxurious five-star hotels, to comfortable resorts, budget hotels and bungalows. We are glad that India has been added to the list of low and medium-risk Covid countries and travellers from India are now allowed to visit Thailand under the guidelines included in our special pioneering projects like Phuket Sandbox. We are ensuring that all the hotels, restaurants, sightseeing spots, tour companies have gone through stringent checks and been certified in order to welcome internation-

According to the survey, 83 per cent millennials would prefer beach destinations for their next holidays followed by wellness & spa destinations and Staycation at hotels and resorts at 65 and 53 per cent respectively. Interestingly, 48 per cent millennials opted for golf destinations and 43 per cent of them

went for shopping destinations. The survey also touched upon new travel trends such as rise of couple & do-it-yourself travel and innovations like popularity of touch-less technology, voice-activated services and more automation in the hospitality sector. Travellers are still looking for destinations with fewer crowds and minimum exposure.

## GIS substation and RT- DAS control system inaugurated in Dehradun

.GIS substation and RT-DAS control system inaugurated in Dehradun

A<sup>33/11kV</sup> GIS (Gas Insulated Switchgear) Sub Station, and RT- DAS (Real Time Data Acquisition system) Control System under the IPDS scheme of Government of India, was inaugurated at Dehradun in Uttrakhand. Power Finance Corporation (PFC) is the Nodal Agency for IPDS scheme.

The inauguration ceremony was part of Azadi ka



Sowjanya, Secretary (Energy & Alternative Energy), Deepak Rawat, MD of UPCL and independence. The project was inaugurated by Dr Harak Singh Rawat, Minister of Saurabh Kumar Shah, ED Energy and Alternative Energy, (IPDS) of PFC.

The GIS substation, which was sanctioned at a cost of ₹85.99 crore, will benefit more than 5000 households in areas of Dehradun and the surrounding areas. Whereas the RT-DAS, known for automated monitoring of power supply, was sanctioned for the cost of Additionally, the substa-

tion will reduce the curtailment of power supply, reducing the land requirement, lowering the operational and maintenance cost, all while providing a safe working environment for the attending personnel.

## Indian tribal art goes to Canada

On October 2, which marks across India have been creating Gandhi Jayanti, the high for centuries. commissioner of India to Canada, Ajay Bisaria inaugurattribal art and craft products from India, for discerning consumers in Canada. The corner displays a sampling of tribal handicraft and products, offers lists and literature on the products as well as information about commercial purchase and distribution of such products in Canada. The initiative will help connect tribal artisans from India with the market in Canada.

The Atmanirbhar Bharat corner in the High Commission has been set up as part of a global initiative, in collaboration with the Tribal Cooperative Marketing
Development Federation of India (TRIFED), to promote products that tribal groups

for centuries.
TRIFED was established in August 1987 under the Multied Atmanirbhar Bharat corner, State Cooperative Societies Act, India as a national level cooperative body. TRIFED plays the dual role as both a market developer and a service provider, empowering tribal communities in India with knowledge and tools to improve operations in a systematic, scientific manner and also to assist them in developing marketing strategies.

The corner will continue to display, for public viewing, a range of tribal handicraft of India in the historic Pillai Memorial Consular Hall of the High Commission, located at 10, Springfield Road, Ottawa.

Commercial enquiries can be directed to the Commercial Wing of the High Commission (hciottawa.gov.in).

**KRIBHCO** signs MoU with CSCs



### Indian Oil celebrates Gandhi Jayanti by gifting saplings

 $R^{
m efineries}$  Headquarters of Indian Oil Corporation Limited marked the occasion of the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation, by felicitating suraksha karmacharis with a Tulsi sapling with a message "Paryaavaran svat: svachchh hoga, jab har ghar mein ek paudha hoga".

Suraksha karmacharis took the swachhta pledge, reiterating their commitment to keep the surroundings clean and to motivate all other stakeholders to maintain cleanliness both at their office and within their



## CLW's GM inspects schools

Satish Kumar Kashyup, the general manager of Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW) visited railway and non-railway schools to review the facilities available. Kashyup visited and inspected various schools such as DV Boys, DV Girls, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Énglish medium. He was accompanied by principals, head masters, teachers, as well as staff and supervisors of each

During the inspection, he interacted with teachers and staff of each school and queried about online classes and facilities which werer provided to students. He instructed to improve the infra-



structure, teaching standards, so that a conducive learning environment be maintained.

The common services centers **▲** (CSCs), under the Ministry of Electronics & IT, signed a MoU with KRIBHCO (Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited) to provide access to fertilisers and agricultural inputs to farmers through the network of village level entrepreneurs (VLE's) at the last mile.

As per the MoU, CSCs will facilitate the sales and distribution of the KRIBHCO products which includes KRIBHCO fertilisers like, imported urea, DAP, NPK/NPS, bio-fertilisers, city compost, zinc sulphate, certified seeds, hybrid seeds and potash derived from molasses. KRIBHCO is engaged in the business of manufacturing, importing and marketing of fertilizers, agri inputs and seeds. CSC will use its e-platform technology for smooth and efficient delivery of KRIBHCO products.

CSC SPV is facilitating support and business to farmers, agricultur-ist, citizens through VLEs and Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) which are engaged in facilitating all activities related to agriculture and farming including sowing, manuring, harvesting, storage, processing, and selling of farm produce and agricultural product.

On this partnership the managing director of CSC SPV, Dr Dinesh Tyagi (IAS) said, "Our partnership with KRIBHCO is a

## step forward in furthering the agenda of the Government in serv-

ing the farmers and underserved community, especially those living in the rural areas. The last mile delivery is an important aspect of our activities at CSCs and the partnership will help us reach out to farmers and citizens in the villages with timely supply of reliable and quality Agri inputs.

Rajan Chowdhry, MD of KRIBHCO said, "KRIBHCO is committed towards fulfilling the goal of doubling the income of Farmers. He explained that the pandemic has resulted in organisations going digital to manage work and in the meantime people have also become tech savvy. He added that the FPOs as agribusiness retailers will transform the farming community to 'agriculture entrepreneur' from the 'agriculture producers."

He was highly appreciative of the ICT platform which CSC had developed for the supply of Agri inputs to the Farmers. He stressed on the fact that both the organizations have similar objectives of ensuring farmers prosperity and welfare. He also expressed his firm resolve to strengthen this tie up and



scale up the business in time to

About KRIBHCO Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) is a premier

Act, 2002 is engaged in fertilizer production and distribution. KRIB-HCO produces and distributes high-quality agricultural inputs. National level Cooperative Society The product basket of KRIBHCO of India registered under Multi comprises Urea, DAP, NPK, MOP,

State Cooperative Societies (MSCS)

SSP, Zinc Sulphate, Bio-Fertilizers, Compost, Potash derived from Molasses, Certified Seeds, Hybrid Seeds, BT Cotton etc. KRIBHCO distributes these products through its channel partners mainly in the cooperatives sector. It also supplies products through its own retail outlets, commonly known as Krishak Bharati Sewa Kendra (KBSKs).

About Common Services

Common Services Centres (CSCs) Scheme is one of key enablers of the Digital India program. CSCs are the access points for e-delivery of G2C, education, healthcare, agriculture, and financial services to villages in India, thereby contributing to a digitally and financially inclusive society. CSCs are more than just service delivery points in rural India. They are positioned as change agents, promoting rural entrepreneurship, and building rural capacities and livelihoods. It has a pan-India network catering to regional, geographic, linguistic, and cultural diversity of the country, thus enabling the Government's mandate of a socially, financially and digitally inclusive society.

## SRH dent RCB's chance to get top-two finish

**Q** oyal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) made a mess of their run chase as bottom-placed Sunrisers Hyderabad dented their hopes of a top-two finish with a narrow four-run win in a last-over IPL thriller, here on Wednesday.

After putting on board a modest 141 for 7, SRH returned to limit RCB to 137 for six for only their third win in the league. Chasing the total, Devdutt Padikkal (41) and Glenn Maxwell (40) scored bulk of the runs but RCB kept losing wickets and faltered in the end. Defending 18 off last two overs, Jason Holder bowled a superb over, giving away just five runs for one wicket.

AB de Villiers smashed a six in the fourth ball of the final over bowled by Bhuvneshwar

team home as the South African could not pull off a six the team needed in the last ball.

Earlier, opener Jason Roy (44) shared a 58-ball 70 run stand with skipper Kane Williamson (31) to set the platform but SRH lost three quick wickets for two runs in seven balls to eventually end up with a below-par total.

RCB were dealt an early blow in their chase when Bhuvneshwar trapped Virat Kohli in the first over. The decision to promote

Daniel Christian at number 3 also didn't work as he was deceived by a slower delivery by Siddarth Kaul.

At 18 for 2, Srikar Bharat joined hands with Devdutt Padikkal and produced two handsome shots for a six and a four to take RCB to 37 for 2 in



New pace sensation Umran Malik then struck in his fifth delivery, removing Bharat as RCB slipped to 38 for 2.

New-man in Maxwell made his intent clear, clobbering Rashid Khan for a maxiHowever, a poor call by

decided to target the other

bowlers.

Padikkal ended with Maxwell being runout, while the former too was caught at the boundary line as RCB further slumped to 109 for 4 in 16.5 overs. Needing 29 off 18 balls, Shahbaz Ahmed smashed two fours to bring the equation down before being dismissed by Holder in the 19th

For RCB, Harshal Patel (3/33) and Daniel Christian (2/14) did the maximum demage after skipper Virat Kohli opted to bowl.

Spin duo of Yuzvendra Chahal (1/27) and Shahbaz Ahmed (0/21) kept things in check, while George Garton conceded 29 runs in two overs his one wicket.

Abhishek Sharma, asked to open the innings, smashed a four and a six off Garton in the

### India short of one pacer for IPLpointstable T20 World Cup: MSK Prasad +0.526 +0.739**PTI** ■ MUMBAI -0.159

India is a pacer short heading into the T20 World Cup this month, feels former chairman of selectors MSK Prasad, who is also a bit concerned about all-rounder Hardik Pandya not bowling in the ongoing IPL.

The T20 World Cup gets underway from October 17 in the UAE and Oman with India among favourites to clinch the

"It is a decent squad but I feel that they are one fast bowler short actually ... Because we are playing majority of the matches in Dubai and Abu Dhabi, so may be one more fast bowler could have been handy," Prasad told PTI in an interview.

"Had we played more matches in Sharjah, this was okay, but one fast bowler could have (been there) and more important with Hardik not bowling, I think it is a little cause of concern," explained the 46-year-old. The Virat Kohli-led India

will begin their T20 World Cup campaign when they take on arch-rivals Pakistan at the Dubai International Stadium on October 24.

While the pitches in Sharjah have aided the spinners, the tracks in Dubai and Abu Dhabi have been helping



the fast bowlers as is being seen in the IPL

all-rounder Baroda Pandya, a key member of the team, has not been bowling for five-time IPL champions Mumbai Indians in the current UAE leg of the cash-rich league. The franchise has said repeatedly that it does not want to push him too hard keeping in mind his importance to the Indian team.

Asked about his take on the situation, Prasad said, "See, Hardik has been picked as an all-rounder, not as a batsman, he is seen an all-rounder, who will add that what you call balance to the side. "...(it is) a little surprising that, or I don't know whether he is being instructed, not to bowl or he is being preserved to bowl only in the World Cup," he wondered.

### England agree to tour Australia for Ashes: Report PTI LONDON ed that Jos Buttler could be the Ashes series across December

The Joe Root-led England I team has agreed to tour Australia for the Ashes, a leading daily has reported, ending weeks of speculation on their participation in the AUD 200 million series owing to a slew of COVID-19 restrictions in Australia.

The tour headed in the right direction following positive talks between players'

AUDIT SHOWS BARA WAS TECHNICALLY BANKRUPT Madrid: Barcelona was technically bankrupt

this year, the club said on Wednesday. Barcelona

CEO Ferrán Reverter presented a grim picture of

the club's financial situation while releasing the

resignation of former president Josep Bartomeu and his board of directors last year.

SAFF C'SHIP: INDIA LOOK TO REGISTER 1ST WIN

quickly get their act together as they take on Sri

Thursday's game on the back of a disappointing

dominated majority of the proceedings and even

looking forward to the Sri Lanka game to register

SL WOMEN'S CRICKET TOUR TO PAK POSTPONED

women cricket team's tour of Pakistan scheduled

later this month has been indefinitely postponed, head coach Hashan Tillakaratne said on

Need coach Hashan Illiakarathe said on Wednesday. The Sri Lankan team was to leave for Pakistan for the tour on October 15. "It is disappointing that the series didn't come through, it has been cancelled from Pakistan end because they had some logistic issues," Tillakarathe told reporters. The three-match ODI series until October 29 would have been the first ever tour of Pakistan by Sri Lanka women for a bilateral

4 PLAYERS TEST +VE, PAK T20 C'SHIP RESCHEDULED Karachi: Four players from the Balochistan squad tested positive for Covid-19 on Wednesday,

prompting the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) to reschedule matches of the National T20

Championship. The Board, however, did not name the players. It said all the other participants

and their families underwent testing on Tuesday and have returned negative results. "The four

Balochistan players have been placed in a 10-day

continue to participate in the tournament," the

**JASKARAN NOMINEE FOR ICC PLAYER OF MONTH** Dubai: Indian-born American Jaskaran Malhotra,

who became only the fourth player to hit six sixes

The other two men's nominees were Bangladesh spinner Nasum Ahmed and Nepal's leg-spinner

Sandeep Lamichhane. England captain Heather Knight, her compatriot Charlie Dean and South

Africa's Lizelle Lee were nominated for the ICC Women's Player of the Month. Agencie

in an over in an international match, was on Wednesday named among three nominees for the ICC Men's Player of the Month for September.

quarantine and all other players were asymptomatic and tested negative, and will

Pakistan by Sri Lanka women for a bilateral

Colombo: The hurriedly-arranged Sri Lankan

took the lead courtesy a Sunil Chhetri strike.

their first win in the tournament, which they

However, that was not to be and India are

have won a record seven times.

stalemate with Bangladesh, against whom they

should have won considering that they

Male: A 1-1 draw against 10-man Bangladesh

denting their confidence, India will need to

Lanka in their second SAFF Championship

match here on Thursday. The Indians go into

results from a Deloitte audit that started after

Laporta arrived in March following the

when president Joan Laporta took over earlier

representatives, the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), Cricket Australia and the Australian government on Tuesday.

During the talks, the English players' concerns over strict COVID-19 protocols were addressed.

The Daily Telegraph has reported that a group of England players, led by Root, have already committed to the series. The report further stat-



only England player not to agree to travel, having previously expressed his concerns over the tour and staying away from family for long periods.

mum. He repeated the treat-

ment again, sending the

Afghan spinner over long-on

and then sweeping him for

But with Malik clocking 150km plus consistently, RCB

Star all-rounder Ben Stokes is taking a break from the game and pacer Jofra Archer is out injured.

On Monday, the ECB had stated that their team would travel to Australia for the

and January only if its leading players are in the squad.

The ECB had said it would announce later this this week if the tour would go ahead amid concerns about restrictions in place in Australia due to the pandemic.

The five-match Test series is scheduled to begin from December 8 and continue till

equal opportunity," she said.

"Before this series we played

"Playing back-to-back cricket

Harmanpreet said it was tough

"We didn't get to play cricket

against South Africa and England

after almost a year but I can say

helps in improvement of the team in all fields."

for any player to play cricket amid

the pandemic while living in bio-

for the last one year and than we

got the opportunity. But it was

tough to live in bio-bubbles, spend-

ing long time away from friends

and family and follow all rules and

regulations. But that is how it is,"

secure bubbles.

she said.

that we are now in great shape.

as a whole.

### Won: 93 Lost: 110 Highest total: 232/2 Head-to-Head in IPL **Will go all out in T20 series: Harmanpreet** Matches played: 24 Won: 15 is a great sign for women's cricket Highest total: 240/5 "Earlier we used to play mostly ODIs and T20s but now we are IPL 2021 Oct 7 getting the opportunity to play all the three formats which is good for us. I feel everybody should get

**Kolkata Knight** Riders Rajasthan Royals Sharjah Cricket Stadium, Sharjah

Kolkata Knight Riders Total IPL matches played: 205 Won: 105 Lost 100

Rajasthan Royals Total IPL matches played: 174

Highest total: 226/6 Result: 2 Head-to-Head in IPL Matches played: 23

### IPL 2021 Oct 7 Chennai 3:30 pm **Super Kings Punjab Kings** Dubai International Stadium, Dubai

Chennai Super Kings

13

13

13

through square leg.

**CSK** 13

**RCB** 13

**KKR** 13

**PBKS** 13

**SRH** 13

20

18

16

12

12

10

10

second over before holing out to

Maxwell. Williamson started

off with a good-looking cover

drive and then pulled one from

Siraj for another boundary

was all elegance as he played two

sweetly-timed shots for two

more hits to the fence off Garton

Left-arm spinner Shahbaz

attacked the stumps but when

he erred Roy was quick to pull

him through square leg.

The New Zealand skipper

+0.294

-0.048

-0.241

-0.737

-0.422

Total IPL matches played: 192 Won: 115 Lost 76 Highest total: 246/5 Punjab Kings Total IPL matches played: 203



Highest total: 245/6

### Finch backs Warner to open in T20 WC, despite woes in IPL **PTI** ■ MELBOURNE on the eve of Australia's depar-

Ctar Australia batsman David Warner may be woefully out of form and hasn't played any international match in the shortest format for over a year but his opener's slot in the upcoming T20 World Cup is not under any doubt, limited-over captain Aaron Finch said on Wednesday.

Finch backed Warner to be his opening partner at the T20 World Cup to be played in Oman and UAE from October 17, despite Warner being dropped by Sunrisers

game for Australia," Finch said

ture to the UAE for the show-

"I've got no doubt that his preparation, while he would love to be playing for Hyderabad no doubt, I know that he's still training away. He'll be good to go," he said, accord-

ing to ESPNCricinfo. Warner hasn't played a T20I for Australia since September 2020, missing the last 14 matches across four series due to a combination of injury, rest, and schedule

He has endured a difficult "Yep, absolutely He's one of halves of the tournament, scorthe best players to ever play the ing just two half-centuries in

## Germany unveils logo for soccer's Euro 2024 tournament

all out and win the series at any

cost. These three matches are very

important for us." Harmanpreet

said getting an opportunity to

play all three formats during a tour

PTI ■ GOLD COAST

win it at all cost.

historic pink ball Test.

win under her belt.

 $B_{\text{the ODIs}}^{\text{ack into the side after missing}}$ 

match Down Under, India's T20I

captain Harmanpreet Kaur on

Wednesday vowed to go all out

against Australia in the three-

match series, saying they need to

ODI series 1-2 before drawing the

the ODIs and Test due to a thumb

injury and having recovered now,

she is desperate to draw the cur-

tains on the tour with a rare series

the ODIs and Tests but if I had

more days between ODIs and the

Test match, I could have recovered

and played. But it is past now,"

Harmanpreet said on the eve of the

first T20 International here on

Thursday. "We now just want to go

India lost the three-match

But Harmanpreet missed both

"It is unfortunate that I missed

Germany has unveiled the logo for soccer's 2024 European Championship during a ceremony with a light show in the stadium that will hold the

Some guests and media were invited to Berlin's Olympiastadion for the UEFA launch, though no fans were present on a damp evening in the German capita on Tuesdayl.

The logo features an outline of the Henri Delaunay Cup — the bulbous tournament trophy — set on a colored oval outline that resembles the Olympiastadion's roof. It features colors from the flags of UEFA's 55 member nations, set in 24 slices around the trophy to represent the 24 teams that will ultimately qualify for the tournament in

Organisers said the brand will promote a tournament where diversity is celebrated, and everyone should feel welcome. The tournament's slogan "United by Football. Vereint im Herzen Europas" — or "United at the Heart of Europe" — is meant to convey a message of togetherness and inclusion.

Logos for each of the 10 host cities — Berlin, Cologne, Dortmund, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Gelsenkirchen, Hamburg, Leipzig, Munich and Stuttgart — were also presented with each featuring a famous local landmark. Berlin's, for example, features the Brandenburg Gate.

**BECOMES FIRST INDIAN WOMAN WRESTLER** 

TO REACH WORLD CH'SHIP FINAL



"From now on, the tournament has a brand identity which reflects the ambition we have together with the host association and host cities,' UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin said.

The tournament is due to be played in June and July 2024 with the match schedule to be confirmed

Germany hosted the World Cup in 2006, with the final held in the refurbished Olympiasstadion. The stadium was originally built for the 1936 Olympic Games hosted by Nazi Germany. West Germany also hosted the World Cup in

1974 and the European Championship in 1988.

## **Hockey: India sweeps FIH annual awards**

Men's Olympic champion Belgium says this is not normal

**PTI** LAUSANNE

India swept the International Hockey Federation's annual awards on Wednesday, claiming all the top honours based on a voting system which was lambasted as a "failure" by men's Olympic champions Belgium, prompting the FIH to say that it would try to figure why some associations did not cast their

Five Indian players and the head coaches of both the men's and women's teams in Tokyo claimed the top honours across different categories after fetching the maximum votes. The men's hockey team had won a bronze, its first in 41 years, in the Tokyo Olympics, while the women's side had finished an unprecedented fourth in the showpiece.

Harmanpreet Singh won the men's 'Player of the Year' award and Gurjit Kaur was recognised as the best player in the women's section.

Veteran P R Sreejesh and Savita Punia won the best goalkeeper awards in the men's and women's section, while young striker Sharmila Devi (women) and Vivek Sagar Prasad (men) were adjudged best rising stars.
The drag-click duo of

Harmanpreet and Gurjit were the top-scorers in their respective team's stellar run at the Games.

Men's team coach Graham Reid and women's coach Sjoerd Marijne were also voted the best. While Reid is still with the



team, Marijne's tenure ended after the Tokyo Games.

Hockey Belgium reacted sharply to the announcement of the winners and questioned the process as none of their Tokyo Games champions managed to win an award

Votes from National Associations — represented by their respective national captains and coaches -- accounted for 50 per cent of the overall result, while fans and players (25 per cent) as well as media (25 per cent) made the other half of the It is to be noted that only 19

associations from the 42-strong European bloc cast their votes,

compared to 29 out of 33 in Asia. "Hockey Belgium is very disappointed with the outcome of @FIH\_Hockey Star Awards. A gold winning team with multiple nominees in all categories but doesn't win a single award

demonstrates failure of the voting system. We will work with FIH to ensure a fairer system in the future," the Belgian association tweeted.

The sentiment was shared by the team's official handle as well. "We fully agree! This is not normal! The credibility and image of our sport is once again facing hard times. It's a pitty (sic) @FIH," stated the Red Lions.

In all, 79 National Associations voted, the others being Africa (11 out of 25 Member Associations), Oceania (3 out of 8), and Pan America (17 out of 30).

"And with a record number of almost 300,000 fans casting their votes, fan participation in the FIH Hockey Stars Awards has been exceptional," the FIH said. Following Belgium's objection, FIH issued a statement to clarify its stand and promised a review if necessary.

## Anshu creates history

PTI ■ OSLO (NORWAY)

nshu Malik on Wednesday Acreated history by becoming the first Indian woman wrestler to reach the World Championship final when she outclassed junior European champion Solomiia Vynnyk but Sarita Mor lost her semifinal and will fight for a bronze here.

The 19-year-old Anshu, the reigning Asian champion, controlled the semifinal from the beginning and won by technical superiority in the 57kg category to go into histo-

Only four Indian women

the Worlds and all of them -Geeta Phogat (2012), Babita Phogat (2012), Pooja Dhanda (2018) and Vinesh Phogat (2019) — have clinched bronze.

wrestlers have won medals at

"It's extremely satisfying. I am so happy. It feels so good. What I could not do at the Tokyo Games I did that here. I fought each and every bout as my last bout," said Anshu after making the final. The month after the

Tokyo Games was very tough. I could not perform as I had wanted at the Games. I suffered

an injury (elbow) and can't explain how much pain I

World championship. "I trained hard for this, I wanted to give my 100 per cent

endured one month before the

and will fight final like my last bout," she said. Anshu had lost her first round bout and also repechage round at the Tokyo Olympics.

Anshu also became only the Worlds gold medal match after Bishambar Singh (1967), Sushil Kumar (2010), Amit Dahiya (2013), Bajrang Punia (2018) and Deepak Punia (2019).

India has only one world Champion in Sushil till date and Anshu can create another his-

also ensured India's first medal from this edition of the event. Anshu was clever with her moves. At least thrice, she effected take-down moves from the left of Vynnyk and finished the bout with an exposure move. The Nidani girl started competing in the senior circuit only from last year and has made a steady progress since then. Earlier, she was hardly

troubled by Kazakhstan's Nilufar Raimova, whom she beat by technical superiority and later outwitted Mongolia's Davaachimeg Erkhembayar 5-1 in the quarterfinals.

