

**OPINION 6**  
LAKHIMPUR KHERI—  
WAS IT AVOIDABLE?

**WORLD 8**  
NEW CHAPTER OPENED IN AF,  
WORLD RELATIONS: TALIBAN FM

**SPORT 12**  
DC SET 136  
TARGET FOR KKR

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# the pioneer

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I'M VERY  
HEADSTRONG:  
MALAIKA  
10 VIVACITY

## India headed for jab milestone

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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Meanwhile, news agency

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

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

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

"Nobody still has a clear



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

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

## Doctors fear Covid surge in Bengal over protocol violation

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

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

The administration's lenient execution of the corona protocol framed by the Calcutta High Court tends to push up the fear. Dr RK Patra, a senior



physician, warned, "If the positivity percentage goes beyond 5 per cent, then the adminis-

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

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

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

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

PTI ■ BOSTON

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

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

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

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



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

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

## Covid-19 active caseload reaches 126 in State

PNS ■ RANCHI

The active caseload of the Covid 19 disease reached 126 on Wednesday as fresh cases of coronavirus infection outnumbered Covid recoveries, figures compiled by the health department highlighted.

A bulletin released by the National Health Mission (NHM), the State on Wednesday reported at least 14 fresh Covid cases against only eight recoveries, and the active caseload reached 126. Jharkhand, however, did not report any casualties caused by the viral infection on the day.

Notably, seven fresh Covid cases against five recoveries took the active caseload in Ranchi to 57. Bokaro reported four cases, East Singhbhum two and Ramgarh district reported one case on the day. The NHM data highlighted. Also, 20 out of 24 districts in Jharkhand did not have active cases of Covid-19 by the end of Wednesday.

As per government records, more than 1.51 crore residents in Jharkhand have



A medic administers Covid-19 vaccine dose to a woman by the mobile vaccination team, in Ranchi on Wednesday Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

received at least one dose of vaccine against Covid-19 and at least 45 lakh of them have also received the booster dose.

The State on Wednesday tested swab samples of as many as 35,619 residents and 0.06 per cent of them were found infected by SARS-CoV-2 virus. So far, over 3.48 lakh people have tested positive for Covid-19 in the state and 98.49 per cent of them have recovered, while 1.47 per cent of patients could not survive.

## Baghel invites CM to attend National Tribal Dance Fest

PNS ■ RANCHI

Chief Minister Hemant Soren has been invited by Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel to participate in the 'National Tribal Dance Festival 2021' organized by the Government of Chhattisgarh from 28 October to 1 November 2021. MLA and Parliamentary Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh, Vinod Chandrakar met CM Hemant Soren on Wednesday at the Chief Minister's residential office and gave an invitation letter to attend the programme.

Chandrakar apprised the Chief Minister that the oldest primitive civilizations of the country and the world are still alive in Chhattisgarh. In the direction of preserving these civilizations and keeping their original form intact, work is being done by the Government of Chhattisgarh. Tribal culture, folk dance, and folk music and folk arts are also being promoted.

In this episode, 'National Tribal Dance Festival 2021' is being organised by the



Chief Minister Hemant Soren receives an invitation letter from MLA and Parliamentary Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh, Vinod Chandrakar at the Chief Minister's residential office, Kanke Road in Ranchi on Wednesday Pioneer photo

who have arrived from different states of the country including Jharkhand.

Vinod Chandrakar told the Chief Minister that with your dignified arrival, this festival organized in Dhara of Chhattisgarh will be enhanced. On this occasion, he presented a memento made of famous tribal folk craft Bastar Art to the CM.

The Chief Minister thanked Chandrakar and extended his best wishes to the Government of Chhattisgarh for the successful organization of the festival. Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Rajiv Arun Ekka, Officer of State Administrative Service Chhattisgarh Rakesh Kumar Golchha and others were present on the occasion.

## CAPSULE

### MANMOHAN SINGH ADMITTED TO AIIMS

New Delhi: Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh was admitted to the AIIMS here Wednesday evening after he complained of weakness following a fever, sources said.



Wishes its readers a Happy Durga Puja

The offices of *The Pioneer* will remain closed on October 14 and 15. The next Edition will be available to its readers on October 17.

## PM unveils ₹100L cr master plan to give Gati to economy

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday launched a ₹100 lakh crore national master plan — PM Gati Shakti — for multi-modal connectivity that aims to develop infrastructure to reduce logistic costs and boost the economy.

The plan targets to cut logistic costs, increase cargo handling capacity and reduce the turnaround time, Modi said, adding it would lend more power and speed to projects by connecting all concerned departments on one platform. The infrastructure schemes of various Ministries and States will be designed and executed with a common vision.

Modi said taxpayers' money in the past was "insulted" through a lethargic approach to development work, with departments working in silos and



Prime Minister Narendra Modi launches PM Gati Shakti, at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi on Wednesday PIB

there was no coordination on projects. Development, he said, is not possible without quality infrastructure and the Government has now resolved to develop it in a holistic manner. Gati

Shakti joins different departments for the coordinated development of projects from road to railways, aviation to agriculture, the Prime Minister said.



Chief Minister Hemant Soren worships Goddess Durga at Panch Mandir Durga puja pandal on the occasion of 'Maha Ashtami' puja during Navratri festival in Ranchi on Wednesday Pioneer photo



# Durga Puja: All about celebration of life in Steel City

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

In Jamshedpur, Durga Puja is more than just a festival. Durga Puja, the biggest festival of the eastern India and one of the most important Hindu festivals, is not just a time for worship and ritualism.

Of course, those are inseparable from any festival, but Durga Puja means much more than these. The city is known for its festivities related to the Puja. Climatically, the month of Ashvin (the time of Durga Puja) is a relatively 'good' one for India. The height of summer

the floods of the monsoon are both past, giving way to clear skies and a crisp air.

For many pujas, it is also an occasion for 'homecoming'. A large number of students pursuing higher educa-



tion in metro cities look forward every year to come back home and spend time at home during the puja.

This year too a bunch of youths are in the city visiting the city and enjoying every moment of it.

Shudhanshu Kumar, a BCom student studying in Mumbai, says "For me pujas are more than just a festival. It is that time of year which gives me a moment to meet my old friends. Spending days during pujas remain etched in the heart forever. "It is simply impossible to describe the atmosphere of Durga Puja in Jamshedpur to someone who has not seen it for himself or herself," he noted.

The ambience, the fervour, the sounds of dhak – all these create such a celebratory mood that one cannot but be swept away by it." Neeta,

who now works in New Delhi and enjoys Durga Puja at Circuit House Area, feels that the Puja of Jamshedpur cannot be recreated elsewhere.

She added that it is that time of year again – the fragrance of shiuli in the air, the swish of tangails on the streets, the colour of joy on the faces. The entire city of Jamshedpur turns into a fairground during the four days of Puja with almost everyone coming out of their houses to attend community functions," she says.

With about 320 puja pandals adoring, the city has turned into an exotic location where radiant faces of the people speak volumes of the importance of the festival. The artistically carved idols of Goddess Durga are also set to attract the devotees a lot. Meanwhile, respecting

the sentiments of devotees, the district administration has allowed the Jamshedpur Durga Puja Committees to distribute Bhog through home delivery.

The administration has said that the committees can home deliver Bhog but only under strict Covid-19 protocols. The move comes following rising demand from several social and religious seeking approvals for distribution of bhog.

DC Suraj Kumar said that the focus of this year's Durga Puja continues to be on precautionary norms.

He said that the State government has said that no community event or gathering of crowd in or around the pandal should be done for distribution of bhog. The same can be done through home delivery.

## SER achieves 100 mn tonnes freight loading in FY 2021-22

PNS ■ RANCHI

South Eastern Railway has attained loading of 100 million tonnes of freight on October 11, 2021. It took 35 days less than previous year to achieve the milestone of 100 million tonnes. In last fiscal i.e. 2020-21, the same feat was achieved on November 15, 2020.

During this period, SER has overcome natural calamity like Cyclone Yaas and extended rainfall in Eastern Region, yet all out efforts were made so that essential commodities reach the destination on time to keep the supply chain uninterrupted.

To serve the industrial sectors, SER has given thrust in carrying commodities like coal for power houses, ores and minerals for different industries etc. During the period from 1st April to 11th October, 2021, coal loading has been 21.13 million tonnes, which is best ever loading by this railway. This apart, loading of iron ore has been 55.95 million tonnes, steel loading 10.14 million tonnes, cement loading 6.55 million tonnes etc.

Formation of BDU (Business Development Unit) at Zonal and Divisional levels has played a significant role to achieve this remarkable loading performance. Senior officers of SER have been regularly holding meetings with representatives of different industries and freight customers to attract new transportation business with railways.

Moreover, thrust was given on running of long haul trains to accommodate more trains in the existing path. In the current fiscal, till 11th October, 2021, altogether 284 long haul trains have been run as compared to 95 long haul trains in the corresponding period of the last fiscal.

## Sail-Bokaro Day Boarding Volleyball Center opened in Shibutand



RAHUL SHARMA ■ BOKARO

The Inauguration of Day Boarding Volleyball Center of SAIL-Bokaro Steel Plant in Shibutand village in the backdrop of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav being celebrated in

BSL and with the aim of promoting sports in rural areas and nurturing local talent concluded by Executives Director of BSL (Personnel & Administration) Sameer Swarup. On this occasion, BSL's CGM (Personnel) Pawan Kumar, CGM (CED) Shaligram Singh, Head Communications M. Paddy, GM NA Saifi, GM (Water Supply) AK Avinash, DGM (CSR) CRK Sudhanshu, DGM (Finance & Accounts) Anupam

, Senior Manager (Sports) Subhash Rajak, Manager

(Personnel) Abhishek Aditya and Volleyball Coach Jaideep Sarkar were present. Also during this occasion of the inauguration, a large number of dignitaries and villagers of Shibutand region were also present.

Sharing information COC BSL MK Dhan said that all facilities have been made available for the players in the Day Boarding Volleyball Center opened by BSL in Shibutand. Presently 19 local children have been selected for Day Boarding Volleyball Center which will be trained by Jaideep Sarkar, International Volleyball Coach of BSL.

Free playing kit and volleyball have been provided to all the players by BSL, as well as arrangements have been made for their nutritious diet.

Other necessary facilities at Day Boarding Volleyball Center have also been developed by BSL. Addressing the group present at the inauguration, Sameer Swarup, ED (P & A) exuded confidence that this initiative of BSL would help the sports talents of Shibutand and adjoining rural areas to grow and make their mark at the national and international level. The dignitaries present of Shibutand area also appreciated this initiative of BSL.

It is noteworthy that soon BSL is going to start Day Boarding Basketball Center and Grassroots Development Center for Hockey, which will benefit the local players. Apart from this, there are also plans to set up open gyms in two regional villages and two different parts of the township.

## Shehri Samrdhi Utsav to be held from Oct 22-31

PNS ■ RANCHI

In a move to produce food processing entrepreneur in the State, under the DAY-NULM scheme, an exhibition of products made by women of Self Help Groups (SHG)s and street food festival is being organized under Shehri Samridhi Utsav, 2021 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from October 22 to 31.

In this event, it is mandatory for the women of SHGs belonging to all the municipal areas of Jharkhand to take their products to this Shehri Samridhi Utsav Mela to be held in New Delhi.

It is mandatory to have at least 25-50 pieces of all the materials for sale. Goods will be selected based on the quality of the goods. In this

regard, it has been directed by the Directorate of Urban Administration (DMA) that all the interested SHGs women of the urban area of the State will submit their product on October, 16 at the office of Directorate of Urban Administration (DMA) located at Dhurwa, Ranchi.

It may be mentioned here that the State Government has taken steps to brand the skills of women belonging to women SHGs of urban areas to make them self-reliant. Very soon, Gujiya and Pedukia under the brand 'Son Chiraya' will be available in various markets of the State Capital some days earlier.

In the presence of Director DMA, Vijaya Jadhav, a large number of members of women self-help groups start-

ed production of Pedukia from pure ghee and khoya, keeping the purity intact with worship. Jadhav herself was also seen making Gujiyas to boost the morale of women.

On the occasion, the DMA Director said that under DAULM, "Now the products manufactured by them will reach the market and in the first phase, stalls will be set up at important places of the State Capital, Project Bhawan, Nepal House, Atal Vendor Market, Big Bazaar, Nucleus Mall, Kutchery Chowk and others. The brand name of this product will be Son Chiraya which is issued by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. For home delivery or bulk supply one can order by calling or mes-

saging 24 hours on whatsapp number 7766817777," she added.

During this program, along with Jadhav, Assistant Directors Yogendra Prasad and Shailesh Priyadarshi, Smart City GM Rakesh Kumar Nandkolyar, Chief Finance Officer, Jyoti Pushp, Public Relations Officer, Amit Kumar, Saloni Singh Pahwa and others were present.

Meanwhile, a delegation of councillors of Ranchi Municipal Corporation (RMC) visited the Smart City Complex to know closely about the development works being done in Ranchi Smart City under construction and expressed satisfaction over the development works of this Smart City being developed with new technology.

## TERM Cell holds webinar on EMF Radiation of Mobile towers

PNS ■ RANCHI

TERM Cell, Ranchi Unit of Bihar LSA, Jharkhand, Department of Telecommunications conducted a webinar on the EMF radiation of mobile towers to make aware the common people on Tuesday. This webinar was conducted under the chairmanship of Girijesh Kumar Mishra, Sr. Deputy Director General, Bihar LSA, Patna and expressed their views by Ramesh Chandra, Deputy Director General, Ranchi, Supriya Jaiswal, Director, Ranchi, Dr. Rekha Choudhary, Principal, Maryland Institute of

Management and Technology, Jamshedpur. The programme was coordinated by Vishal Vikram, Director, Ranchi.

G.K. Mishra, Sr. DDG expressed his views that there are more than 45,000 BTSs working in Jharkhand State and out of that more than 16,000 BTSs have been audited during last 7 years and found within prescribed limit fixed by Government of India. During the 7 years of period, it was found that a myth is being spread about the health hazardous due to mobile tower radiation which is beyond truth. He continued to say that India being a popular

Country, have been adopting 10 times stringent condition as per ICNIRP guideline. BTS tower and mobile handset both falls under the category of radiation of mobile BTS is regularly being regulated by TERM unit, whereas radiation of mobile handset may be measured by typing \*#07#.

Common public should maintain the distance from tower antenna and not towers. Telecom Service Providers are penalized for the radiation if it is found beyond the prescribed limit.

The Sr. DDG also continued to say that the Government of India has been having various

important projects on radio frequencies as example, Digital India, Smart City, Broadband Mission. Success of such projects depends upon the strengthening of mobile towers

Ramesh Chandra, DDG, Ranchi expressed that it was seen during the COVID-19 for spreading fake messages on Whatsapp conveying the spread of COVID-19 because of radiation from 5G towers which was a myth. It was also seen in Jharkhand state that at some of the locations, common public resisted to install mobile tower for the fear of health hazards.

Guest speaker Dr. Rekha

Choudhary and Supriya Jaiswal, Director, Ranchi expressed the views that mobile tower radiation is no way hazardous to health. Dr. Rekha Choudhary quoted the study carried out by USA, UK, Denmark etc.

At the end the programme concluded with the remarks that there is no evidence found during the last many years regarding tower radiation is hazardous to health. Therefore, it is a myth that tower radiation is harmful and the common public should be make aware about it. Vishal Vikram, Director, DoT, Ranchi thanked all the participants.

## Pending warrants, probes irk SP, Palamu

PNS ■ DALTONGANJ

Long drawn pendency in the execution of warrants and completion of investigation has irked SP Palamu Chandan Kumar Sinha. The SP had had a crime review meeting here quite recently where insiders said he looked angry and disappointed at the way warrants and investigations are dealt with by the police officers here.

About 2,000 warrants are pending over a long period of time whose execution is delayed on one count or the other. Pendency of execution of warrants leads to malpractice, said sources.

Sinha speaking to this correspondent said, "We have really 2,000 warrants pending just because it has not been served or executed." He said policemen who are to serve it just move around keeping warrants in their pockets. "Need I tell you why these are kept in pockets and for what. Should you not understand the dynamics of keeping warrants pending for months together," Sinha quipped.

The SP did not say himself but what he meant is that a pending warrant is like a term deposit from which one can draw money as one likes.

Sources said a mere flaunting of warrant can make a person against whom it is to come on his knees like anything which a policeman will never miss to exploit. Sources said around the

same figure 2,000 investigations are pending and in some cases it is pending for two years or so.

The SP conceded it saying this figure of 2,000 pending investigations is alarming and puts Palamu police in poor light.

Palamu lags behind other districts where the pendency rate is less than what it is here, said the SP.

Sinha compared the pendency of investigation with ATM cards which enable its users to draw money day and night. A pending investigation offers a profitable leverage to the investigation police officer to make the person or persons against whom the investigation is on to bend too forward before him. And the bending is tied to cash, said sources.

SP said 40 percent of the investigating officers are delinquents who are found to be hanging investigation over a long period. Fifteen percent of these 40 percent erring investigating officers will face music definitely, said Sinha.

Asked if officers in charge of the police stations are not to be held responsible for procrastination of the investigation SP said the officers in charge are absolutely responsible as it is they who allot investigation to assistant sub inspector of police or sub inspector of police and so the officers in charge can't disown their own responsibility if investigations are not completed within reasonable time.

## NIA arrests 9 in J&K for terror conspiracy

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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday said it has arrested nine persons, including five during the searches conducted in Srinagar, in the Jammu & Kashmir terrorism conspiracy case. The five arrested accused persons are Md Haneef Chiralu (Srinagar) Hafeez (Budgam), Owais Dar (Pulwama), Mateen Bhat (Shopian), and Arif Farooq Bhat (Srinagar).

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

The case relates to the conspiracy for conducting violent terrorist acts in Jammu & Kashmir and other major cities by the cadre of proscribed terrorist organisation Lashkar-e-Taayyeba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM), and their affiliates Al Badr, The



Resistance Front (TRF), People Against Fascist Forces (PAFF) and Mujahideen Ghazwat-ul-Hind (MGH) among others.

The agency had on Tuesday conducted searches at 16 locations in Srinagar, Pulwama, and Shopian districts and arrested four accused persons. The arrested accused are Waseem Ahmed Sofi of Chattabal, Srinagar, Tariq Ahmed Dar of Shergarhi, Srinagar, Bilal Ahmed Mir alias Bilal Fufu of Parimpora, Srinagar, and Tariq Ahmed Bafanda of Rajauri Kadal in Srinagar.

The agency was pursuing a case on the intelligence input regarding hatching of conspiracy both physically and in cyberspace for undertaking violent terrorist acts in Jammu & Kashmir and other major cities of India, including New Delhi, by the cadres of pro-

scribed terrorist organisations LeT, JeM, HM, Al Badr and similar other outfits and their affiliates such as the TRF and PAFF among others, the NIA said in a statement.

"The terror associates/OGWs (overground workers) of these organisations are conspiring with their handlers and commanders based in a neighbouring country and also indulging in radicalization of local youth for the purpose of recruiting and training them in the handling of arms, ammunition and explosives," it said.

These terrorists and cadres have conducted several terrorist acts, including killings of numerous innocent civilians and security personnel, unleashing a reign of terror in the valley of Kashmir, thereby challenging the writ of the State, it said.

## Humanitarian aid doesn't mean Taliban Govt's recognition: G20



FIANS ■ NEW DELHI

Members of the G-20 meeting in a virtual summit pledged to provide aid to the people of Afghanistan in a bid to prevent a humanitarian catastrophe in the war-torn country, *Tolo News* reported. The summit was hosted by Italy on Tuesday. Some members of the summit cited that provision of aids didn't indicate recognition of the "Taliban" Government.

Angela Merkel, the Chancellor of Germany, said

that her country is not ready to recognise the "Taliban". According to her, the Taliban have not met the international measures and expectations of the world, the report said.

The US said it would provide donation through aid organisations to the people of Afghanistan.

Addressing the summit, US President Joe Biden also expressed concerns over the presence of armed groups such as ISIS-K or so-called Daesh group in Afghanistan.

The European Union

pledged to provide one million Euro in support of humanitarian donation to the country.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said that the international community emphasised on preservation of the human rights, particularly the rights of girls and women. The summit was not attended by the Presidents of China and Russia. This comes as earlier, the UN and humanitarian organisations had warned of triggering a severe humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan.



<h2 style="text-align: center;">E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE</h2>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002</b></p>	
<p>Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the <b>constructive possession</b> of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of <b>Union Bank of India</b> (secured creditor), will be sold on "<b>As is where is</b>", "<b>As is what is</b>" and "<b>Whatever there is</b>" on the date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as priced hereunder to <b>Union Bank of India</b> from the below mentioned Borrower(s) &amp; Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder:</p>	
<p><b>Name of the Borrower : Ramesh Mahato, S/o Tetru Mahato, Vill – Sehar, Semar Toli, Piska Nagri, Ranchi – 835303</b></p>	
<p><b>Amount Due : Rs. 21,40,913.54 as on 06.05.2021+ Legal Cost, interest and Other expenses</b></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY</b></p>	
<p>Land bearing Khata no. 452, Plot no. 2000, Sub Plot no. 2000/part, measuring an area 1.5 Katha vide Deed no. 12750 dated 04.06.2011 and Katha no. 452, Plot no. 2000, Sub Plot no. 2000/A-1 measuring an area 01 Katha 08 Chhattak 16 sqft. Vide Deed no. 10052 dated 23.06.2009 situated at Village Missirgonda @ Pahargonda, Thana no. 191, P.S. Ranchi now Gonda, Dist – Ranchi. <b>Boundary</b> – North : Pitambar Das, South : Bablu Sahu &amp; Kundan, East : Road no. 15 after that Anil Kumar Singh, West : Paras Mahato</p>	
<p><b>Date &amp; Time of E-Auction: 11.11.2021 at 01:00 PM to 05:00 PM</b></p>	
<p><b>Reserve Price Rs. 27,00,000.00 (Rupees Twenty Seven Lakh Only)   Earnest money to be deposited Rs. 2,70,000.00 (Rupees Two Lakh Seven Thousand Only).</b></p>	
<p>For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in <a href="https://www.msstcecommerce.com &amp; www.unionbankofindia.co.in">https://www.msstcecommerce.com &amp; www.unionbankofindia.co.in</a></p>	
<p>For Registration and Login and Bidding Rules visit <a href="https://www.msstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/lbapi/index.jsp">https://www.msstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/lbapi/index.jsp</a></p>	
<p><b>Date: 11.10.2021   Place : Ranchi</b></p>	
<p style="text-align: right;">Authorised Officer <b>Union Bank Of India</b></p>	







MID-SEA DRUG BUST CASE

Aryan Khan played role in procurement: NCB

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Desai went onto tell the court that

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

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

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

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

Maha Cabinet supports reservation in promotions in Govt jobs

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

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

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

The Cabinet discussed a report prepared by chief secretary Sitaram Kunte on the current representation of SCs, STs and backward communities in higher posts in public jobs.

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

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

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

Karunakaran's daughter Padmaja alleges betrayal by Cong leader

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

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

of rampant groupism in the party.

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

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

President Kovind to celebrate Dussehra with jawans in Drass

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

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

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

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

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

SC raps UP Bar Council for no action against lawyers submitting fake insurance claims

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

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

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

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

"As observed herein above, it appears that Bar Council of State is not interested in taking action and, therefore, now the Bar Council of India has to step in and take appropriate action against the erring advocates, who are found to have indulged into filing of such fake claims," the bench said.

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

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

Double life term for Sooraj in Uthara case

**KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Kerala: Covid cases keep on increasing

**KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI**

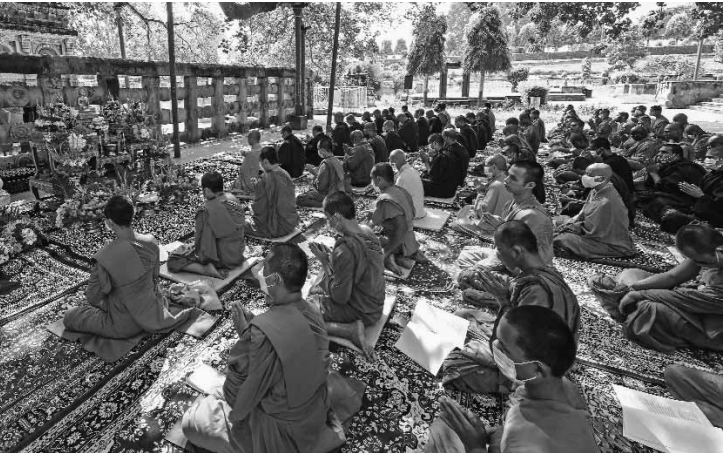
Kerala Government's claims that the Covid-19 cases in Kerala are coming down suffered a setback on Wednesday as 11, 079 new cases were diagnosed out of 89,995 samples tested during the last 24 hours.

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

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

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

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



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

Yogi: UP an emerging economy, has best investment opportunities

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Over the last four years, 30,000 female police personnel are guaranteeing the safety of women and girls in the state," he said.

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

"Earlier during festivals, the coronavirus spread was at its peak but we successfully prevented its spread," he said.

Attacking the opposition Chief Minister said, "During the previous Governments, roads were not wide, power supply was erratic, poor were not getting rations and the guarantee of security to women was not there."

"When work is done with good intention, the result is also good. Earlier, farmers' produce was not purchased but now, farmers are getting the price of their produce at several purchase centres, and the government is sending the payment directly into their accounts," he added.

Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Gorakhpur is becoming a hub of education and health services, Adityanath said.

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

DMK MP held in connection with unnatural death of employee

**KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI**

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

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

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



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

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

11 more die of Covid in WB

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

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

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

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

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



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





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PAPER WITH PASSION

## Bailed out

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

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

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

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

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

### PICTALK



Devotees at the Sri Govindaraja Swamy temple, in Tirupati

PTI

## Blood and gore

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

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

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

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

# Lakhimpur Kheri— Was it avoidable?

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



VIVEK GUMASTE

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

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

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

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

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

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

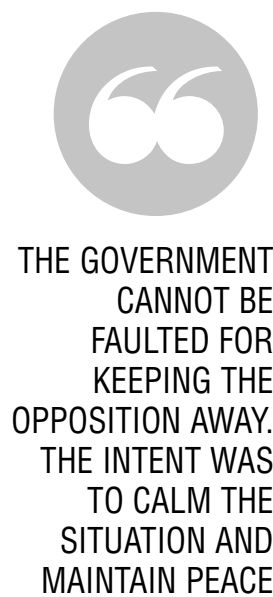


as per the law. Accordingly, CM Yogi Adityanath has announced a judicial inquiry headed by a retired judge to look into the incident.

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

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

First to invoke presumptuous theories to pre-deter-



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

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

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

likely to take advantage of the situation.

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

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

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

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### IT'S ALL FAIR IN POLITICS

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

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

Azhara Khan | Rampur

### SOFT DRINKS ARE HARD ON HEALTH

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

## Vaccine on the way



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

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

G David Milton | Maruthancode

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

Madhu Agrawal | Delhi

### RESPECT IS GREATER THAN WORSHIP

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

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

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

Swagatika Sahoo | Raghunathpur

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## SOUNDBITE

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



NCP president —Sharad Pawar



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

Pakistan Chief of Army Staff —Qamar Javed Bajwa

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



Actor —Taapsee Pannu



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

Former Australia cricketer —Shane Watson

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



BJP national general secretary —Dushyant Gautam



FIRST COLUMN

CHANGING INNOVATION LANDSCAPE IN INDIA

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



MOHIT GAMBHIR

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



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

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

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

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

# Healthcare infrastructure needs a check-up

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

Reports of shortages of hospital beds, ventilators, medical equipment and doctors and nurses to cope with growing cases of COVID-19 infections have thrown into sharp focus the need to accelerate digital transformation of healthcare infrastructure worldwide. Modern medicine has been enriched by genomics, telemedicine, virtual reality for surgery and many biopharmaceutical advances. But behind the many medical advancements, true digital transformation of health infrastructure — hospitals, blood and vaccine banks, centres for dialysis, ambulatory surgery, imaging and radiology — is slow. Unlike for other sectors, digital transformation to

enable Internet of Things (IoT), 5G connectivity, and artificial intelligence and machine learning (AI/ML) is much more complex for healthcare. Healthcare infrastructure innovation has been and remains curtailed by three main issues: firstly, compliance with regulatory standards at national and international levels; secondly, multiple forms of medical data, from patient records to X-rays, CT scans and other analogue or digital data; and thirdly, reluctance to change which prevents a clear digital dashboard to allow administrators to respond, plan and predict in real time. Many hospitals have sophisticated equipment have yet to fully capture and update medical records to enable clinical

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



HARSH VARDHAN

# Extending sympathies to the new laureate

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

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

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

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

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

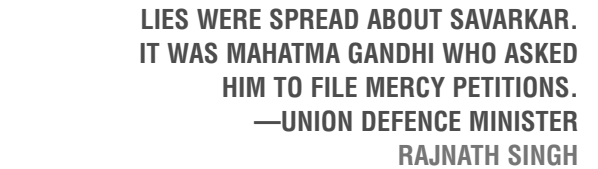
As the celebrated 1950 Literature laureate, Bertrand Russell, said at the Stockholm Concert Hall, "...sympathy is a genuine motive, some people at some times are made somewhat uncomfortable by the sufferings of some other people. It is sympathy that has produced the many humanitarian advances of the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

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

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

## POINT COUNTERPOINT

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



published a sequel several decades later with nothing in between.

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

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

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

## POINT COUNTERPOINT

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



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

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

capture at every touchpoint of healthcare hardware. This means installing sensors, and embedding IoT and high-speed communication throughout each facility down to the last piece of equipment. The second is to break down information silos once and for all. Data passing through the hospital systems and databases must be digitised, harmonised and shared, from patient records, X-rays and CT scans to data on the functioning of each piece of equipment and machinery within the infrastructure. This roadblock has eluded decades of effort by IT consultants and systems integrators. A protocol of "golden data" in a common format will enable visibility of the entire healthcare enterprise.



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

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



BALAKRISHNAN SATYAM

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

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

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

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

be in the spotlight.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Director  
DIN :00456189

अर्थात- याइप लाइन laying हेतु मुख्य महाप्रबन्धक उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान, नेहरू कालोनी, देहरादून में "ए" श्रेणी के अन्तर्गत पंजीकृत केन्दार / फर्म ही निविदा में प्रतियोग कर सकती है।

ई-निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त जानकारीयों व शर्तें उत्तराखण्ड की वेबसाइट [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in) पर ऑन लाइन देखी / प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

**जल संघय-जीवन संघय**

**अधिशासी अभियन्ता**

<b>IMPORTANT NOTICE</b>				
This is notified for the information of rail passenger that Railways have decided to revise timing of the following festival special trains with immediate effect as per the details given below:-				
<b>01667 JAYNAGAR - ANAND VIHAR TERMINAL FESTIVAL SPECIAL EXPRESS</b>				
<b>STATION</b>	<b>Existing Timing</b>		<b>Revised Timing</b>	
Patna Jn.	ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.
	20.45	20.55	20.50	21.00
Danapur	21.10	21.12	21.15	21.17
<b>01637 BARAUNI JN. - NEW DELHI SUPERFAST FESTIVAL SPECIAL EXPRESS</b>				
<b>STATION</b>	<b>Existing Timing</b>		<b>Revised Timing</b>	
Barauli Jn.	ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.
	—	19.30	—	19.40
For any kind of information such as detailed Time -Table and stations enroute etc., passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website: <a href="http://www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in">www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in</a> or NTES App.				
All norms of the State and Central Government regarding COVID-19 may please be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.				
RailMadad Helpline No. <b>139</b>	Visit RailMadad website: <a href="http://www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in">www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in</a>			
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# Inflation rises 5.4% from year ago

## MATCHING 13-YEAR HIGH

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

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

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

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

of 4.5per cent in June.

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

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

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

Gas prices jumped 1.2per cent last month and have

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

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

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

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

PTI ■ MUMBAI

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

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

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

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

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

the laggards.

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

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

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

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

Sustained rebound in financials and Reliance Industries supported broader indices.

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

PTI ■ MUMBAI

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

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

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

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

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

## BRIEFS

**PETROL, DIESEL PRICES RISE ON HOLD**

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

**RELIANCE BOOSTS GREEN ENERGY PUSH**

**New Delhi:** Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries will buy a German maker of photovoltaic solar wafers and signed a deal with a Danish firm to manufacture hydrogen electrolyzers as the oil-to-retail conglomerate acquired end-to-end technology for its multi-billion-dollar clean energy portfolio.

Reliance New Energy Solar Ltd (RNE SL), a unit of the nation's most valuable company, will acquire NexWafe GmbH for 25 millioneuros (Rs 218 crore). Reliance said in a late stock exchange filing on Tuesday. It will also license Stiesdal A/S's technology for the hydrolysers, it said in a separate statement.

**TAKE FUEL WIN CAR CAMPAIGN**

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

**TIE-UP TO FACILITATE LARGER REACH FOR HOMEBUYERS**

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

# Gati Shakti to mark paradigm shift in governance: KM Birla

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

the economy.

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

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

# Centre for Trauma Studies and Innovation

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Wipro's consolidated Q2FY22 YoY net profit up 18.9%

IAANS ■ MUMBAI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Coal dispatches to power plants being enhanced: Joshi

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

# Infosys Q2 Net up 11.9%, raises revenue outlook on strong deal pipeline


PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Infosys Ltd, India's second-largest IT services company, on Wednesday reported better-than-expected 12 per cent rise in its second-quarter net profit on more contracts from global businesses, a reason that also led to it raising its annual revenue outlook.Net profit in July-September at ₹5,421 crore, or ₹12.88 a share, was 11.9 per cent higher than ₹4,845 crore (or ₹11.42 a share) net profit in the same period a year back.

The net profit, which is 4.4 per cent higher than the pre-

ceding June quarter, came on the back of broad-based growth across verticals and geographies, strong revenue contribution from the Daimler deal, and higher adoption of digital transformation by clients.

The firm raised its forecast for annual revenue growth to 16.5 per cent to 17.5 per cent in the fiscal year to March 2022, from 14 per cent to 16 per cent growth predicted in July. This is on the back of expectations of winning more contracts from global businesses expanding their digital offerings during the Covid-19 pandemic.



**UJVN Limited**  
H.O. : "UJJWAL", Mahatma Bagh, BMS Road, Dehradun-248006  
Telephone: 0135-2763808, Fax No. : 0135- 2763508  
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com


**R.O. No. 761**  
**Tender Notice**  
**Dt. 13.10.2021**

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

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

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

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



**AXIS BANK**

**Retail Asset Centre:** Axis Bank Ltd SCO 12, Sector-14 Gurgaon Haryana, Asset Centre at A-356, First Floor, Meera Bagh, New Delhi  
**Also at:** Axis Bank Ltd., Axis House, Tower T-2, 2nd Floor, I-14, Sector-128, Noida Expressway, Jaypee Greens Wishtown, Noida (U.P.)-201301  
**Corporate Office:** 'Axis House', Block-B, Bombay Dyeing Mills Compound, Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Worli, Mumbai-400025, **Registered Office:** 'Trishul', 3rd floor, opposite Samartheswar Temple, Law garden, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-380006


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

Name of Borrower / Co-borrower	Description of Property	1. Date of Demand Notice 2. Date of Possession 3. Amount in Demand (Rs.)
1. Mr. Hari Singh Rajora S/O Dayal Rajora B-30, CGHS, Park View Apartment Paschim Vihar, Sunder Vihar West Delhi, Delhi-110087 <b>Also At:</b> Mr. Hari Singh Rajora S/O Dayal Rajora Proprietor of Suvastik Plastic Plot No.-B-51, PVL Bazar Tikri Kalan West Delhi-110041	Society Built-Up Freehold MIG Flat Bearing No. B-30, On 2nd Floor, In The Lay Out Plan of Liberal Co-Operative Housing Society Ltd. Known As Liberal Apartments, Zone G-17, Situated At Rotak Road, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110087.	1. 19-April-2021 2. 08-10-2021 3. Rs.70,52,812/- (Rupees Seventy Lakh Fifty Two Thousand Eight Hundred Twelve Only)
2. Mrs. Manju Rajora, W/O Mr. Hari Singh Rajora B-30, CGHS, Park View Apartment Paschim Vihar, Sunder Vihar West Delhi, Delhi-110087	All That Piece And Parcel of Flat No. 02 (LIG Category), On Ground Floor In Block No. B-13, In The Layout Plan of Housing Estate At Pkt-5, Sector-35, Rohini, Delhi.	1. 20-May-2021 2. 08.10.2021 3. Rs. 12,58,000/- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Only)
1. Mrs. Roshni W/O Sh. Beg Raj House No. 35, 3rd Floor, Sector-2, Pocket-7, Rohini Near Gopaji Chole Bhature, Delhi-110058 <b>Also At:</b> Mata Chanan Devi Hospital C-1, Janakpuri, Near C-1 Red Light New Delhi-110058	Flat No. 8 C, 2nd Floor Pocket No. C, Sector-3, Dwarka, Delhi-110075.	1. 19-April-2021 2. 08.10.2021 3. Rs. 5,76,258/- (Rupees Five Lakh Seventy Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Eight Only)
1. Mr. Sunil Kumar Baxla S/O Mr. Michael Baxla House No. A-4, C/138, Janakpuri, Delhi-110058 <b>Also At:</b> Pamposh (Part) Pamposh Rajgaur, Sundargarh, Orisa-770034 <b>Also At:</b> Steel Structure Design & Detailing Pvt. Ltd. Wz-10, 2nd Floor, Asalatpur, Janakpuri, Delhi-110058 <b>Also At:</b> Flat No. 8 C, 2nd Floor Pocket No. C, Sector-3 Dwarka, Delhi-110075	Flat No. 8 C, 2nd Floor Pocket No. C, Sector-3, Dwarka, Delhi-110075.	1. 19-April-2021 2. 08.10.2021 3. Rs. 5,76,258/- (Rupees Five Lakh Seventy Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Eight Only)

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


**Sd/-**  
**Authorized Officer,**  
**Axis Bank Ltd.,**  
**Date : 14-10-2021**  
**Place : Delhi & NCR**

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**




General public is hereby informed that this person **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** About 20-25 Years, **Sex:** Male, **Height:** 5'6", **Built:** Medium, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **ID Mark:** Earing in Right ear and bracelet in Right hand was found dead in Yamuna River Near Old Wazirabad Bridge Barrier, Wazirabad, Delhi on 02.10.2021.  
In this regard a DD No. 24-A, Dated 02.10.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Wazirabad, Delhi.  
Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.  
Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.  
**SHO**  
**P.S. Wazirabad, Delhi**  
**DP/1588/N/2021(UIDB) Ph.: 011-23810076, 8750870131**

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**



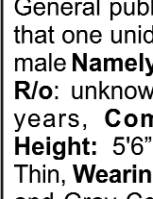
General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown** was found on 04.10.2021 at Mor Sarai Road, Near Kuddadhan, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 86 A dated 04.10.2021 has been lodged at Police Station, Kotwali, Delhi. Identification of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

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**



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

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**



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





# EXPLORING HERITAGE AND FOLK MUSIC

SPIC MACAY has been giving a glimpse into the rich cultural legacy and art forms over the years. TANMAYA DAS finds out the true essence of Indian culture by exploring what has changed in the post-pandemic world

Having your day started with mesmerising folk music and traditions may help you to appreciate the charm of Indian history and culture. To gain some insights on Indian values, I attended an online series of programs, organised by SPIC MACAY, ANUBHAV-3, where more than 14,000 students have participated in several workshops globally. The seven-day online sessions and workshops are helping people to understand the core values of rich classical music and Indian heritage. The event will continue till October 15.

## ◆First day

The first day of the event started with the line-up of yoga and meditation sessions on *nada* yoga or meditation on sound. After *shramdaan* (donation of labour) as a part of selfless service to society, the screening of Oscar-winning film *Gandhi* by Richard Attenborough was shown, followed by a discussion on the movie with Professor Gita Dharampal of Heidelberg University. In the afternoon, a holistic lunch was organised where participants were advised to eat sattvic food. Then, an orientation programme was held, in order to brief the students on the cultural extravaganza. In the evening, the early holistic dinner was prepared to help the students to wake up early the next day. The first day concluded with the two classical music concerts by Indian vocalists Sheik Mahboob Subhani, Kaleeshabi Mahaboob (*nadaswaram*) and Begum Parveen Sultana.

## ◆Second day

The second day marked the beginning of five-day classical dance, music and craft workshops by eminent Gurus, for selected students.

The day started at 4 am or brahma *muhurta* with yoga and meditation sessions on *naad* yoga by Ustad Wasifuddin Dagar, who descends from a 20 generation-long line of *dhrupad* musicians from the Dagar *gharana*. In tranquil succession, the session of hatha yoga began under the guidance of Amit Shamnani, which began with the visualisation of the ultimate source of energy to boost the concentration power, which was followed by the Surya namaskar session.

After the yoga sessions, participants were asked to perform *shramdaan*. The students were urged to do household chores and cleaning before having a holistic and sattvic breakfast from 7 to 8:45 am. After the holistic breakfast, the first intensive was to give an unparalleled platform to the participants to deeply inquire into art-forms of their interest, vis-a-vis with maestros and legends of their respective fields. The yoga series was followed by 150 workshops conducted simultaneously by eminent artists, spanning art-forms of classical music, dance, painting, and crafts where more than 15,000 students across the globe attended 150 workshops. More than 750 schools and colleges from India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Japan, S Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, UAE, are participating. Students will attend Carnatic and Hindustani classical music, all eight classical dances, folk music and dance, traditional paintings, theatre led by established artists. Next followed the *nidra* session, where the students were instructed to stay in the yogic posture of rest and calm down their senses and minds, listening to the soothing voices and instructions. For 15 minutes, the participants were guided into a relaxed state of mind, post which they were



rejuvenated, full of energy and mindfulness. The afternoon session saw a wonderful performance by acclaimed folk singer Shri Prahlad Singh Tipaniya, a performer of Kabir bhajans in *malavi* folk tradition (Madhya Pradesh). Along with his entourage of proficiently adroit instrumentalists.

Next in schedule was the thought-provoking theatre performances that proffered a vivid reflection of society, which was brilliantly exemplified by Padma Shri awardee, Dr Neelam Mansingh. Commemorating the interim of events in the evening, participants were dismissed to consume their holistic dinner of sattvic food in preparation for the closing events of the evening.

Later, the Indian instrumentalist Bhajan Sopori ran his dexterous fingers all across the century of delicately suspended strings of santoor. The euphonious reverberations of *ragas marwa* and *puriya kalyan* pierced into the hearts of every listener, evoking an array of emotions by the sleight of each *swar*'s rhapsodic hand.

The second day was concluded with a sattriya dance performance of Ganakanta Bora, who gracefully took centre stage, as he mesmerised



the audience with his inescapably masterful expressional emittances, conveying a plethora of abstract emotions without a word escaping his jowl.

## ◆Third day

The third day started with a blissful *nada* yoga session by Padma Shri awardee, Ustad Wasifuddin Dagar (*dhrupad* vocalist), who taught the students to master *mandra*, *saptak*, and *kharaj* through raag bhairav. This was followed by the traditional *hatha* yoga sessions by Amit Shamnani from Bihar School of Yoga, to instil vitality. It started with mantra *ucharan* and ended with pranayama, *nadi shodhan* and *prarthan*.

At 6 am, a meditation session started to calm down the restless senses. Later, the audience was blessed with *Gurbani* Live from Sri

Harmandir Sahib (Golden Temple). The next session was *Shramdaan* and after breakfast, the students joined more than 150 intensive/workshops by various master craftspersons, masters, Gurus of classical music, dance and other forms of art from all over India.

Post lunch, a *yog nidra* session was conducted by the founder of SPIC MACAY, Dr Kiran Seth, who guided the students to lay in the yogic posture of rest (*savaasana*), to relax and meditate on their senses and calm down their minds, listening to his soothing voice and instructions.

The afternoon session opened up with legendary puppeteer, Dadi Pudumjee. He is the founder of Ishara Puppet Theatre Trust and president of UNIMA. The theme revolved around introducing and educating the students about the nuances of puppetry. An interesting part of the discussion was about how puppets are known in the world around us.

The afternoon session concluded on a calm and serene note with an enlightening talk by Sister Shivani of the Brahma Kumaris movement. Her pearl knit words revolved around the need to kill the Ravana within us, reflecting on the habits and thoughts of humans.

The evening session commenced with a Bharatanatyam recital by the most graceful Padmashri Malavika Sarukkai. The wisdom in her words about her ideology and passion for her art captured the audience. Later on, the beauty of auspicious veena played by Suma Sudindras, who is the recipient of Karnataka's highest civilian award, Rajyotsava Award, along with Charulatha Ramanujan on violin, Anoor Ananthkrishna on Mridangam and SN Narayanamurthy on Ghatam, set a mystical aura for the last concert of the day.

## ◆Fourth day

The fourth day again began with a meditation session at Brahma *muhurta* followed by *shramdaan*, holistic breakfast, workshops, lunch and yoga *nidra*. The afternoon was followed by several lectures around whirling dervishes (Turkey), gregorian chants (France) and *Gurbani*.

The evening sessions featured live concerts by Umayalpuram K Sivaraman (Mridangam) and Abhishek Raghuram (Carnatic Vocal), along with the symphonies of Abhishek Raghuram with K Sivaraman, the awardee of Madras Music Academy's Sangeetha Kalanidhi on Mridangam. The audience was enthralled by the enriching aalaaps paired with the soulful violin by HN Bhaskar and Kanjira by Sundar Kumar. It was followed by a live concert by the *Dhrupad* and torchbearer tradition of Rudra Veena instrument, Ustad Bahauddin Dagar, who is the recipient of the Sangeet Natak Akademi award.

## ◆Fifth day

After Brahma *muhurta* followed by meditation and yoga, the participants had candid discussions with gurus, and together they delved deep into the aspects of life and learning the art-forms.

In the afternoon, the music brought peace in the environment with whirling dervishes, which is a part of sema ceremony and the participants are properly known as semazens. The physiological goal of the whirling is for the dervish to 'empty' himself of all distractions. The

session was insightful with the talks of Mr Fahri Özçakıl, the dervishes' spiritual leader, who spoke about its significance. The Indian Ambassador to Turkey Mr Sanjay Panda also spoke on the occasion about similarities in Sufi traditions in India and Turkey.

Next on the list was the Gregorian chant, which is the central tradition monophonic, an unaccompanied sacred song in Latin of the Roman Catholic Church. Professor Igor Reznikoff, a well-known specialist in ancient music/early Christian chant, shared some insights. Finally, a *Gurbani* session by Bhai Gurdev Singh, a hazoori ragis from Harminder Sahab (Golden Temple), enthralled the afternoon.

The evening sessions were graced with live concerts by Padmabhushan Dr L Subramaniam, followed by a Koodiyattam presentation, a traditional performing art-form in Kerala, by the very learned Kapila Venu.

## ◆Sixth day

After the regular yoga, *gurbani*, *shramdan*, workshop sessions, the evening will be followed by mesmerising presentations of Hindustani and classical music. Musicians, such as Ashwini Bhide Deshpande (Hindustani vocal), T V Sankaranarayanan (Carnatic vocal), Sudha Ragnathan (Carnatic Vocal), Prabhakar Karekar (Hindustani vocal) and Ritwik Sanyal (*dhrupad*).

## ◆Seventh day

On the last day, after breakfast, interactions with sculptors about the art installation, and lunch, there will be a virtual heritage tour of the Taj Mahal by the historian Ram Narayanan. The next on the list will be a holistic dinner followed by some western classical music.

During the sessions, the students have been kept away from the usual distractions of the world that is bombarded with too much knowledge and information. Participants are advised to go on a social media and TV fast and slow down to savour, understand, and introspect, to derive their outlook of Indian heritage and its ethics.

## Adjusting with the new normal

KANCHAN RAI suggests ways to turn your work-related stress and anxiety into accomplishments



accommodates their additional task efficiently. Employees should keep in mind that saying a no is not the problem, but over-committing and not being able to deliver might create a bad image and affect their overall performance.

## \*Talk it out

Venting out what you feel is important. There would be times when you feel a certain way, and letting it out will only help you get clarity. It eases you out and helps eliminate the feeling of isolation.

Socialising also helps reduce physical and mental exhaustion. As it is rightly said, "A problem shared is a problem half-solved".

## \*Let's bond

To know more about whom you work with and spend almost nine hours of your day with them, it is important to initiate a conversation with your colleagues during lunch or tea-breaks. The topic of conversation need not be related to work, but just a casual talk to break the ice can do the charm. This forms a

sense of comfort and ease amongst the co-workers and also helps to create a friendly working environment.

## \*Create a to-do list

Simple hacks like making to-do lists will help you understand the amount of work you have and need to accomplish. The list should be in the order of priority, so all the tasks can be completed on time with utmost efficiency. This can help to be more organised and enjoy the work instead of stressing over the deadlines.

## \*Take appropriate breaks

One should take enough breaks during their work hours. A break as simple as a brisk walk can do wonders as it releases natural mood-boosting painkillers called endorphins. It keeps the mind fresh and helps to be more focussed during work. Breaks not only assist in de-stressing and relaxing your mind but also monitors stress-levels. It increases productivity and re-charges you for the rest of the work-day.

All these mental health ailments have a deeply-rooted seating in your mind. Though these simple practices might not completely eradicate them, they can surely make you feel comfortable and improve your mood. By imbibing these effective measures, one can convert their stressors into accomplishments successfully.

(The author is the founder of Let Us Talk and a mental and emotional well-being coach.)

## THE BIG PICTURE

Actor RANVEER SINGH is excited about following the route of many actors he idolises as he makes his TV debut

Bollywood actor, Ranveer Singh, who is all set for his big television debut as the host of a unique visual quiz show, *The Big Picture*, talks about taking inspiration from Bollywood legends before his TV debut.

Ranveer expressed, "I've idolised Amitabh Bachchan, Shah Rukh Khan, Salman Khan and Akshay Kumar since childhood!" The quiz show will release soon on October 16 on Colours TV.

The versatile actor reveals that while growing up, he was mesmerised by on-screen titans, who have all successfully hosted big TV shows and entertained India. He said that he was humbled and glad by the opportunity.

"I'm thrilled to be hosting my first television show, *The Big Picture*! I'm enthused about entertaining the nation with a uniquely fresh format introduced by the ace squad at Colours TV. Iconic mainstream Hindi film heroes have all connected with and captivated the nation through their television shows. I've been inspired by them since childhood and closely followed their journey," said Ranveer.

Notably, all the popular non-fiction game shows on TV have been a bastion of superstars down the generations given their pan India mass appeal and incredible fan-following. Being a bonafide superstar of today's time, he feels his debut on television will help him connect with a larger audience. As an entertainer and a showman, he is looking forward to this opportunity.



"I always recognise the fact that they garnered an immense amount of love from people for their charismatic turns on the television screen. I have a great opportunity here with *The Big Picture* to connect with the youth of India, as well

as the entire Indian family audience. I hope I can continue the grand legacy of the mainstream men of Hindi cinema on national television! I can't wait for people to watch *The Big Picture*!" the actor added.

## TRENDBLAZER

### 'WOMEN SHOULD BE INDEPENDENT'

Actress **MALAIKA ARORA** is going to be in the judge-panel along with Terence Lewis and Geeta Kapur in the upcoming dance reality show, *India's Best Dancer*.

The fitness enthusiast expressed, "I believe independence is the core of my being. I am very happy and fortunate to meet people who give me the right backing and the right push to do something."

"I am very headstrong like that. And, I think all women should be emotionally and financially independent," she added.

### fairtalk

BANI J



'The way I'm living my life right now is my happily ever after. I have people that I care about and who reciprocate. We can express love and appreciation for each other. I train whenever I want. I travel, spend time with people I love, create projects that I care about and be a part of those that fulfill me creatively, which I think is the best thing in the world.'

### dailytalk

DHEERAJ DHOOPAR



'TV shows cater to a different segment of audience. It eventually makes you a household name, whereas OTT projects have a good scope in experimenting with great content and storylines. In OTT, as an artist, one has freedom when it comes to acting, story or direction. TV is the toughest sector. A lot of hard work is involved to be a success.'

### EX-SUPERMAN IS NOT IMPRESSED

Actor **DEAN CAIN**, who played Superman in *Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman*, from 1993 to 1997, is unimpressed by the news that the superhero Clark Kent's son, Jon Kent, will be bisexual.

He shared, "They say it's a new direction, I say they're bandwagoning. Robin came out as bi. The new Captain America is gay. My daughter in *Supergirl* was gay."

"If they had done this 20 years ago, perhaps, that would be bold or brave. Brave would be having Superman fighting for the rights of gay people in Iran where they'll throw you off a building for the offense of being gay," the ex-Superman added.







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



Demonstration of the Integrated Command and Control Center (ICCC)



Safaimitra Amrit Samman Samaroh on Gandhi Jayanti



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

# AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV AT CHANDIGARH

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

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

## □Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav at Chandigarh

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

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

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

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

## □Inaugural of 22 cities & 75 Hours Placemaking Implementation

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

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

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

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

## □Kachra Alag Karo Amrit Diwas

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

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

## □Saarvjanik Shauchalaya Safai Jan Bhagidari Amrit Utsav

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

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

## □Cycle2Work

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

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

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

## □Felicitation of waste entrepreneurs and Waste-To-Art exhibition

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

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

## □Showcasing of Integrated Command and Control Center (ICCC)

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

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

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

## □Safaimitra Amrit Samman Samaroh

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

## □Freedom to cycle — cycle rally on October 3

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

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

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



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

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



Dr Sudhir Mishra, distinguished scientist and director general of BrahMos at DRDO and the CEO & MD of BrahMos Aerospace was conferred the honorary degree of 'Doctor of Science' by Shri Ramswaroop Memorial University at the varsity's first convocation ceremony on 11th October 2021, held at Lucknow-Deva Road (Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh). He has 36 years of R&D experience in the area of missiles technology, production technology, technology management and defence diplomacy and has contributed immensely in India's quest to achieve excellence in missile technologies by developing several breakthrough-technologies. His technical expertise and contribution has resulted in the realisation of several DRDO Missile Programmes.

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



## POWERGRID assists RAJASTHAN Solar Energy zone

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

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

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

Double Circuit Transmission line.

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

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

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

## Navratra festival at Katra



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

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

## PM MODI Launches NEW EXHIBITION COMPLEX' AT PRAGATI MAIDAN,

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

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

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

## SCHOOL WARRIORS 2.0 CONTEST BY GAIL

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

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

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



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

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

## NORTHERN RAILWAYS GM HOLDS SAFETY/PERFORMANCE REVIEW MEETING

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

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

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

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

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

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## Fino Payments Bank signs actor Pankaj Tripathi as brand ambassador

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

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

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

Sharing his thoughts on associating with Fino Payments Bank,

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

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

Pankaj Tripathi will be the face

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

Bridging India and Bharat - brand connect

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

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

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

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



