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PRATIK'S LIFE-  
CHANGING  
PHONE CALLS  
10 VIVACITY

# PM invites American CEOs to India

IANS ■ WASHINGTON

In the first leg of his US visit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday met leading American CEOs in Washington.

He held one-on-one meetings with the CEOs of semiconductor and wireless technology manufacturer Qualcomm, software major Adobe, renewable energy firm First Solar, arms manufacturer General Atomics and investment management company Blackstone. The first meeting was held with Cristiano Amon, President and CEO, Qualcomm.

"President and CEO of @Qualcomm, @cristianoamon and PM @narendramodi had a productive interaction. PM Modi highlighted the vast opportunities India offers. Mr. Amon expressed keenness to work with India in areas such as 5G and other @DigitalIndia efforts," the PMO tweeted.

"We talked about 5G and acceleration of 5G. We talked about the incredible opportunity to advance the industry, as we think about the digital transformation enabled by 5G combined with the design in India," Amon said.

He said Qualcomm may look at India as it builds a resilient supply chain for semiconductors if necessary infrastructure are provided in the country. Modi's meeting with Amon is significant as India is



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being received by the dignitaries, on his arrival in Washington DC on Thursday

PTI

looking at fast adoption of 5G technology in the country for which it is eyeing investment in this high technology area from credible partners who can provide safe and secure networks.

The San Diego-based company creates semiconductors, software and services related to wireless technology and is getting big into 5G technology with its range of pioneering products. It is expected that high-level meetings would pave the way for big investment in the new tech area that is required to help the country

leapfrog to providing its citizens with the next generation of networking services. The

PM also met Shantanu Narayen, Chairman, President and CEO, Adobe.

## Indian diaspora has distinguished itself across the world, says Modi

**Washington:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has commended the Indian Diaspora for distinguishing itself across the world, as he received an enthusiastic welcome from the community on his arrival here on a major visit to further

enhance Indo-US relations. Modi was warmly greeted by groups of Indian-Americans at the airport soon after his plane landed here on Wednesday and later at the hotel where he had an interaction with the members of the community.

## ED probes ₹21K cr Afghan heroin haul from Mundra port

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has launched a money-laundering probe into the recent seizure of nearly 3,000 kgs of heroin from two containers at Mundra port in Gujarat by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI).

The Opposition Congress has raised the issue and demanded a court-monitored probe into the biggest drug haul in the country and also estimated to be one of the largest globally.

The ED is studying the details of the case gathered



from the open source and has sought the copy of the complaint filed by the DRI that unraveled the narcotic smuggling bid of the syndicate.

The drugs haul relates to the DRI seizing a staggering 2,988.21 kg Afghan heroin, worth ₹21,000 crore, from the Mundra port in the Kutch district of Gujarat on September 15.



Restoration work in progress at the Yaas cyclone effected Udaypur beach near Digha in Midnapore district on Thursday

PTI

## Vaccine at home for divyangs, says Centre

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Days after the Supreme Court asked the Centre to provide details of its policy framework and steps taken to prioritise Covid vaccination of persons with disability, the Modi Government on Friday announced "vaccination at home" for the disabled, "in line with Covid-19 SOPs".

"I am pleased to inform that an advisory has been issued to make arrangements for 'vaccination at home' for those who have disabilities or are differently challenged, in line with Covid SOPs," NITI Aayog member (Health) Dr VK Paul said, as the panel warned that the second wave is not over yet. Thirty-three districts in the country are now reporting over 10 per cent weekly positivity rate, while 23 are recording 5-10 per cent.

Under Covid guidelines for the upcoming festival season, mass gatherings has to be avoided in containment zones and in districts with over 5 per cent positivity rate, they said. **Detailed report on P4**

## State reports 644 new Covid cases, 7 deaths

**72 CHILDREN AMONG FRESH CASELOAD****218 MORE INFECTED IN BBSR**

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The State on Thursday registered 644 new Covid-19 cases in 25 districts and the State pool, with which the total tally increased to 10,22,594.

Among the new infected were 72 children in the age group of 0 to 18 years. Notably, the State had reported 734 positive cases on Wednesday.

Out of the 644 new cases, 375 were from quarantine and 269 local contacts. Khordha district reported the day's highest 283 cases followed by Cuttack with 77, Baleswar 34, Jagatsinghpur 28, Puri 22, Jajpur 20, Mayurbhanj 15, Angul 14, Sundargarh 13, Kendrapada 11 and Sambalpur 10. The districts which recorded below-10 cases were Bhadrak seven, Dhenkanal, Ganjam and Nayagarh six each, Balangir, Jharsuguda and Malkangiri five each, Deogarh

four, Rayagada two and Gajapati, Kandhamal, Keonjhar and Subarnapur one each.

Besides, 67 cases were reported from the State pool. The active cases stood at 5,713. Meanwhile, seven more patients succumbed in the State in the last 24 hours, with which the total death toll mounted to 8,157.

Angul, Cuttack, Jajpur, Khordha, Nabarangpur, Puri and Sundargarh districts reported one death each. So far, 10,08,671 persons have recovered from the pandemic in the State.

State capital Bhubaneswar on Thursday registered 218 new Covid-19 cases, with which caseload increased to 1,11,578 in city. There were now 3,670 active cases. Out of fresh cases, 168 were local contacts and 50 quarantine cases. Notably, the city detected 186 infections on Wednesday.

So far, 1,114 persons have succumbed to disease in city. However, 186 patients recovered in last 24 hours, increasing total recoveries to 1,06,873.

## Order for ₹7,523 crore desi Arjun tanks placed

**Main battle tanks to be made in TN**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a major boost to maintain combat readiness and self-reliance, the Government on Thursday placed an order for 118 Arjun Mk-1A main battle tanks (MBT) for the Indian Army. The deal is worth over ₹7,523 crore and the Heavy Vehicles Factory (HVF), Avadi, Tamil Nadu will manufacture the tanks.

The tanks are indigenous-designed and manufactured by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). Prime Minister Narendra Modi had handed over the upgraded Arjun tank in February this year to Army Chief General MM Naravane.

Giving details of the order, Defence Ministry officials said here on Thursday, it will provide further boost to the "Make in India" initiative in defence sector and is a big step towards achieving "Aatmanirbhar Bharat", envisioned by the Prime Minister.

The state-of-the-art MBT Mk-1A is a new variant of



Arjun Tank designed to enhance fire power, mobility and survivability. Infused with 72 new features and more indigenous content from the Mk-1 variant, the tank would ensure effortless mobility in all terrains, besides precise target engagement during day and night. The DRDO has incorporated numerous upgrades on Arjun MBT, the in-service main battle tank with the Indian Army, they said.

The Mk-1A is equipped with accurate and superior firepower, all-terrain mobility and an invincible multi-layered protection provided by an array of advanced technology systems.

It can take on the enemy during day and night conditions and in both static and dynamic modes. By virtue of these capabilities, this indigenous MBT proves to be on a par with any contemporary in its class across the globe.

## Unique digital health ID soon to record your health info

**Modi to launch PM Digital Health Mission on Sept 27**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will announce the nationwide rollout of Pradhan Mantri Digital Health Mission on September 27. Under this, a unique digital health ID will be provided to the people, which will store the details of a person's medical history like the hospitals where s/he has been treated.

All information related to the person's health will be recorded on this unique health card. This way, the patient will not have to carry the files everywhere. Seeing the unique health ID of the patient, the doctor will be able to know the health situation and continue further treatment, said an official from the Union Health Ministry here on Thursday.

"This card will also tell whether the holder receives benefits from Government



schemes like Ayushman Bharat Yojana," he said. The person's ID will be made using his mobile number and Aadhaar number. These two records will be used to create unique health cards. For this, the Government will create a health authority that will gather all the data of a person, he added. The health authority will be allowed to raise the health records of the person whose health ID is to be made. Public hospitals, community health centre, health and wellness centre or healthcare provider, which can be con-

nected to the National Health Infrastructure registry, can make health ID.

The National Digital Health Mission is currently in its pilot phase across the Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Daman and Diu, Ladakh, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry.

According to the official, the mission is on track and the three basic platforms, health ID, doctor's registry, and the health facility registry have been made operational.

## State to host Men's Jr Hockey World Cup

**CM unveils logo, jersey**

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Thursday said the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar would host the FIH Men's Junior Hockey World Cup-2021.

Making the official announcement at the Loksewa Bhawan here, Patnaik said, "Since the country's prestige is at stake, we readily agree to host the Men's Junior Hockey World Cup-2021 within a short notice and that too in pandemic." The Hockey India had requested the Odisha



Government to host the Men's Junior Hockey World Cup. The FIH Men's Junior Hockey World Cup-2021 would be held from November 24 to December 5, 2021, the CM said. He also unveiled the logo

and jersey of the Men's Junior Hockey World Cup. International Hockey Federation (FIH) president Narinder Batra and senior officials of the State Government officials were present.



# State for self-sufficiency in veggie, fruit output

Committee formed to prepare a work plan

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

After becoming a surplus State in rice, milk, poultry and fish fingerling production, Odisha is on its path towards self-sufficiency in vegetable and fruit production.

This was discussed in a high-level meeting held under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mahapatra on digital mode from the Lokseba Bhawan where in Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment Secretary Suresh Kumar Basistha outlined the present scenario and available potentials of vegetable and fruit production in the State for discussion.

The Chief Secretary directed to prepare a target-specific time-bound work plan for up-scaling the fruit and vegetable production in the context of different agro-climatic zones of Odisha. He also directed to list out those species and varieties for which Odisha has higher potential. The department was asked to prepare a well-knitted workable plan with inputs from

experts, farmers and agri-entrepreneurs. Development Commissioner Pardeep Kumar Jena advised to focus on the vegetables like cauliflower, cabbage, tomato, potato and onion and the fruit species like papaya, banana, guava and lemon.

A committee was constituted under the chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary and Agriculture Production Commissioner Raj Kumar Sharma to prepare the work plan.

The Chief Secretary directed to prepare the work plan in a couple of weeks reflecting the interventions required in terms of the agri-inputs, post harvest management, cold storage, market linkage, etc.

Horticulture Director Rohit Kumar Lenka appraised that because of the continuous promotional interventions, Odisha ranked first in the production of sweet potato, second in brinjal, fifth in watermelon, cauliflower, okra, tomato, and, sixth in bottle gourd at national level as per 'horticulture area production information system' (HAPIS) reports 2019-20. Similarly in fruits production category, Odisha ranked second in jackfruit, fifth in lemon, seventh in sapota, ninth

in mango and ninth in jack-fruit. In the production of spices, Odisha ranked sixth in coriander, seventh in chili, seventh in turmeric and eighth in garlic as per the reports of 2019-20.

Available data showed that Odisha ranked seventh in production of all kinds of vegetables and eleventh in production of all kinds of fruits as per agri-crop report of 2019-20. The total fruit production in the State touched 2,482 thousand MT, vegetable production reached 9,798 thousand MT, and spice production crossed 202 thousand MT.

Secretary Basistha said fruits like banana, mango, guava, papaya, lemon, sapota, pineapple, watermelon and jackfruit; and vegetables like brinjal, tomato, sweet potato, onion, pumpkin, root crops, cabbage beans, peas are commonly produced in State.

The Chief Secretary directed to choose small numbers of these items in the first phase for a more focused intervention. The department was also asked to conduct farmers' training and orientation programmes about modern techniques of cultivation and yearly return from these non-paddy cash crops.

## Unaccounted cash: Motu IIC arrested by Vigilance police

**PNS ■ CUTTACK**

The Vigilance police on Thursday arrested Susanta Kumar Sahoo, Inspector-in-Charge (IIC), Motu police station in Malkangiri district, on the charge of possession of cash of Rs 2.8 lakh, which he could not account for satisfactorily.

Following the seizure, during searches of Sahoo and his relative's house, a registered sale deed of Rs 24,90,000 of plot at Phulnakhara purchased recently in the name of his wife and other incriminating material were recovered.

Following his arrest, the accused IIC was forwarded to the court of Special Judge, Vigilance in Bhubaneswar.

Notably, the police official was on Wednesday intercepted by a team of the anti-graft agency at Khordha while he was on his way to his native village from Motu.

The Vigilance officials seized the cash and the Maruti Ertiga car which he owned.

## In Malkangiri Maoist camp busted; arms, ammo seized



**PNS ■ MALKANGIRI**

In a success in the anti-Left wing extremist operation, the Malkangiri police with the help of the Border Security Force personnel have busted a Maoist camp and seized a huge cache of arms and ammunition in the district on September 21.

On receiving intelligence inputs about Maoist movement near Kirmitri village, a team of the Special Operation Group (SOG) and District Voluntary Force (DVF) and BSF personnel launched a combing operation in the area.

On September 21, they were fired upon by the ultras following which a gun battle ensued. But the Red rebels fled into deep forest. Later, dur-

ing search four guns, one SLR empty case, Maoist literature, medicines, umbrellas, uniforms and posters were seized during the operation. Searching and combing operations have been intensified in that area, police said.

Notably, with the State Government expediting development works and setting up of BSF and police camps in the Maoist bastions, the LWE activities have decreased significantly in the districts. The recruitment drives by them are not finding any takers. So, they are trying to regroup and poison the mind of local tribals against the security forces by holding 'Praja Melis' in remote and inhospitable areas, a senior police official said.

## ₹40L brown sugar seized; 3 held in Puri

Car with 'Govt of India' number plate confiscated

**PNS ■ PURI**

With the enforcement agencies intensifying the drive against illegal narcotics trade, the drug smugglers are resorting to new methods to evade the police dragnet.

In such an attempt, drug peddlers tried to smuggle drugs with a car having a 'Government of India' registration number plate in Puri town. But alert policemen foiled their bid and arrested

them on Thursday. Three persons identified as Deba Prasad Mishra, Sheikh Karimullah and Sheikh Anu of Bhubaneswar were arrested in this connection. According to reports, the accused trio was heading towards Bhubaneswar from Puri carrying the contraband in the vehicle. Acting on inputs, the Puri Sadar police intercepted the car near the Malatipatpur bus stand.

During search, police recovered 40 grams of brown sugar from the car. Police sources said the smugglers used to procure the drug from Baleswar and peddle those in Puri. The estimated market price of the seized contraband was about Rs 40 lakh.



## No decision yet on primary school opening

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

Amidst speculations on reopening of primary schools in the State next month, School and Mass Education Minister Samir Ranjan Dash on Thursday clarified that no such decision has been taken so far. Speaking to mediapersons, the Minister said, "We have received proposals from different departments regarding reopening of primary schools. However, the Government has not taken any decision till yet." He further said that even though students are now desperate to attend physical classes, several aspects are now being considered for

reopening of primary schools. Earlier this month, reports had suggested that School and Mass Education Department was preparing a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) predicting that Government may take a decision to commence physical classes for Classes-I to VIII students from October first week or after Dussehra. Notably, experts have also suggested to Central and State Governments for reopening of primary schools citing that children have adequate immunity power amid pandemic. Meanwhile, physical classes for Classes-XI and X students have already resumed in the State.

## JK Tripathy appointed new CIC of Odisha

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

The Odisha Government on Thursday appointed retired IPS officer Jalad Kumar Tripathy as the State Chief Information Commissioner (CIC).

A committee headed by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had earlier approved Tripathy's name for the post. As per norms, he will hold office for a term of five years from the date of joining and maximum up to attaining the age of 65 years. Tripathy is a 1985-batch Odia police officer of Tamil Nadu cadre. He received the



prestigious 'International Community Policing Award' instituted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police

(IACP), Washington, and the gold medal for 'Innovation in Governance', conferred by the Commonwealth Association for Public Administration and Management (CAPAM), Glasgow.

During his tenure as Police Commissioner, Chennai, Tripathy and his team detected two sensational bank robberies at gunpoint that rocked the city. Five gangsters involved in the robberies were shot dead in an encounter at Velachery in the city in February 2012. Tripathy retired from the police service on June 30 this year.

## Pharmacists can dispense medicines

### In absence of doc at single-doctor hospitals

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

In a significant decision, the State Government has allowed pharmacists at single-doctor hospitals to dispense medicines in the absence of the doctor.

The Health Department has issued an official order in this regard. "Many of the single-doctor hospitals in the State are managed by the pharmacists in the absence of doctors due to some reasons or other. It is difficult to manage the said hospitals without any specific

government orders entrusting the pharmacists for treatment of patients and list of ailments to be treated by them.

In order to overcome the difficulties, government after careful consideration has been pleased to decide that in partial modification to this department order bearing no. 29534, dtd. 23.09.2003, Govt.

in H & FW Department, the pharmacists are entrusted to dispense the following drugs for ailments as per the list enclosed for treatment in absence of doctors," the

department said in the order. Pharmacists have been allowed to dispense medicines for treatment of minor ailments such as malaria, fever, upper respiratory infection, skin diseases (scabies and ring worm), helminthiasis, diarrhoea, APD, minor injuries without medicolegal cases (MLC), superficial burns without MLC and drainage of abscess.

In DCs and non-communicable diseases, the pharmacists have been authorised to dispense previously-prescribed drugs or any medicine prescribed by e-Sanjibani or telemedicine.

The pharmacists have been allowed to dispense only Government-supplied medicines from Niramaya.

## Dikshita nominated world Sanskrit body chief

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

Eminent Sanskrit scholar from Odisha and founder of the Lokabhasha Prachara Samithi Dr Sadananda Dikshita has been nominated as chairman of the World Sanskrit Organisation recently by its international executive committee members representing 16 countries. Dikshita conveyed thanks to the associates who selected him and announced a 10-point programme for spread of Sanskrit, which has enormous potentiality for maintenance, sustenance and growth of the world; and hence, the



language, literature, science and philosophy of Sanskrit need proper attention. He said immediate steps are to be taken to create a band of 200 Sanskrit instructors of international standard and set up of a Sanskrit study centre in Poland and to initiate a research project on Sanskrit and science. The executive meeting was attended by Dr Bipinlal Nyoupane from Nepal; Dr Sunanda Mishra, Canada; Dr Suryanarayana Nanda, USA; Thu Ha Do, Vietnam; Dr Sadananda Das, Germany; and scores of others from different countries.

## CIFA, S'Pur Varsity to partner in research MoU signed

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was on Thursday signed between the Bhubaneswar-based ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture and the Sambalpur University for research collaboration between both organisations besides student exchanges and training. The MOU was signed by Sambalpur University Vice-Chancellor Prof Sanjiv Mittal and CIFA Director Dr Saroj

Kumar Swain. Dr Swain applauded the works being undertaken by the Sambalpur University and its vision for raising the living standards of weaker sections of society in western Odisha. Prof Mittal stressed the need for greater collaboration and using science and technology for the betterment of society.

Prof Mittal further emphasised the need for infusing modern aquaculture such as biofloc technology (BFT), development of public aquarium, nutrition research and intensive aquaculture as a means of livelihood support. In

future, the collaboration will extend to joint research and

education in the field of freshwater aquaculture.



## SOCIAL CANVAS

# Separate electorate issue for Dalits still relevant



**MANAS JENA**

After 90 years of the Poona Pact on September 24, 1932, while looking at electoral systems of the country, a debate over separate electorate or reserve seats in joint electorate still holds worth. The Poona Pact was an agreement between caste Hindus, represented by Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya of Hindu Mahasabha and

— 90 years after Poona Pact —

depressed classes (DCs) represented by Dr Ambedkar. The pact was about representation of DCs in legislatures of British India. Not just social reform but Dr Ambedkar was convincingly advocating for political power and a political solution to issues of the untouchable, then named as DCs, later officially called Scheduled Caste in 1936, and now Dalit as popular socio-political identity.

DCs need political power for removal of untouchability was the opinion of two members, such as Dr Ambedkar and R Srinivasan of Madras Depressed Class Federation, while representing DCs in round table conference of London in 1930.

In a memorandum, they both demanded for guaranty of equal civil rights, safeguard against social prosecution, free and compulsory primary education, adequate representa-

tion in legislature, council of ministers, public services, and special department for DCs. Along with this there was demand for universal adult suffrage and most important, the separate electorate. Now, what is this separate electorate? It is an arrangement to elect the DCs leaders to legislatures by the DCs voters only without depending on caste Hindu voters.

The then British Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald proposed communal award on August 17, 1932 to Muslims, Europeans, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians, Sikhs and DCs of India for their representation. Along with separate electorate, the DCs were also awarded with right to vote and contest in the general unserved constituencies.

It was proposed that special DC constituencies for twenty years to be framed in selected areas having concentration of

DC population. Out of total 1,508 provincial legislatures, 71 seats were allotted to them. The move of the British Government especially for DCs was vehemently opposed by Gandhi with apprehension of further social and political segregation of Hindu society and the possibility of increasing bitterness among caste Hindus and DCs. He was not in favour of recognizing DCs as a separate community for political purpose.

He visualized the possibilities of bloodshed as he said "the untouchable hooligans will make common cause with Muslim hooligans and kill caste Hindus." Gandhi's understanding was that the problem of the untouchable are socio-religious and there must not be any separation of untouchable from Hindu society as his main apprehension was the

separation may weaken the domination of Hindu political power. He expressed his dissatisfaction to the British Prime

Minister and went on a fast to death in protest against the communal award for DCs. In order to save the life of Gandhi, the Hindu leaders such as C Rajagopalchari and Dr Rajendra Prasad, BS Moonje, and Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and on the other side, DC leaders such as Ambedkar and PG Solanki supporting separate electorate and MC Rajah, P Baloo and BJ Deorukhar supporting joint electorate met in a conference at Indian Merchants chamber Hall, Bombay on September 19, 1932.

Finally, as a solution to Gandhi's apprehension and Ambedkar's demand, the leaders came to a pact. The pact recommended that all the members of the DCs registered in the general electoral roll in a constituency will elect

a panel of four candidates belonging to DCs for reserve seats by method of single vote. The four persons getting highest of votes in primary election shall be candidates for the

election by the general electorate and this has to be followed for both provincial and central legislatures for ten years.

Based on this, the Government of India Act 1935 made provision of 151 seats reserved for SCs in provincial legislative Assemblies, 19 seats in federal Assemblies, 6 seats in Council of States.

The election held in 1937 had created an opportunity for the SCs to elect their community leaders. There were double member or multi member constituencies along with general unserved seats.

In the election of 1937, out of 151 SCs seats, Congress contested in 139 seats and won 78 seats and other parties and individuals contested in 137 seats and won 73 seats. There was no candidate to contest in 26 seats out of which Congress could win 14 while the non-Congress won 12.

There was lower level of literacy and lack of political awareness among both caste

Hindus and SCs, even in some constituencies caste Hindus did not cast their vote to SCs candidates. The SCs had no political parties of their own except

Ambedkar's Independent Labour Party that captured 10 seats out of 15 seats in Bombay Legislature.

There was alliance of Congress and Depresses Classes League in Bihar. Ambedkar commented that the huge victory of Congress in SC seats was result of manipulation with caste Hindu votes, splitting of SCs votes and lack of interest of SC voters in electing their own leader.

The main two objectives of Poona Pact were defeated in 1937 election as in many seats there was no primary election to elect a panel of four candidates. The non-involvement of caste Hindus in electing SC leaders was also quite visible. But the pact moved the issue of representation to a different height and SCs were emerged as a formidable politi-

cal force. Gandhi with all seriousness had formed the Harijan Sevak Sangha with GD Birla as president and Amritlal V Thakkar as general secretary. It started its mouthpiece "Harijan" and organised Harijan Padajatra. The pact nonetheless paved the way for joint electorate with reserve seats which has been in practice now and accordingly 131 seats in Parliament and 1,169 seats in Assemblies are reserved. But still the dispute is going on.

Who decides the candidates for elections in reserved seats? Are the SCs electing the leaders of their own choice to make them accountable towards their community or are they forced to vote candidates decided by caste Hindu political parties. During last 90 years, the political literacy has increased as well as socioeconomic development but still caste issues remain unresolved.

(manasbbsr15@gmail.com)



# Anti-people policies of Centre, State decried

7 OPP PARTIES STAGE DHARNA IN BBSR

ANNOUNCE SUPPORT TO SEPT 27 BHARAT BANDH

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Protesting the “anti-people policies” of the Central Government like three farm Acts, Labour Codes and the divisive politics and also against some State Government’s policies, seven political parties in the State led by the Congress staged a dharna at Master Canteen Square here on Thursday.

The parties raised a 17-point charter of demands before both Governments and announced their support to the September 27 Bharat Bandh called by the United Kissan Morcha and appealed to the people of State to make the bandh successful.Addressing the gathering, PCC president



Niranjan Patnaik, AICC secretary D Rudra Raju, CPI(M) State secretary Alikishor Patnaik, CPI State secretary Ashish Kanungo, Congress leaders Jangyeswar Bbau, Gnaeswar Behera, Manoranjan Das, Yaseer Nawaj and Sivanada Ray and Left leaders like Santosh Das and Abhay Sahu lambasted the Modi Government for making false

promises to the people and the Naveen Patnaik Government also for deceiving people. They also alleged that while the Modi Government has been introducing anti-people policies, the BJD Government in the State blindly support the NDA Government at the Centre on many crucial issues without examining their pros and cons.

Dilip lauds Naveen for promoting hockey

PNS ■ ROURKELA

Former Union Minister Dilip Ray profoundly praised Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik for his contribution for the development of Indian Hockey while inaugurating a rural hockey tournament at the Sector-19 Bethany ground here organised by the Sagarika Welfare Trust.

Ray said the hockey players are bringing glory for the country. Sundargarh is the cradle of hockey. With support and inspiration of Naveen Patnaik, many players from this district would get berth in Indian Hockey team. He lauded the organisers of the tournament and said for the growth of local talents such tournaments are essential. On the occasion, eight players and their coach were felicitated for bringing glory in national and international levels. Sagarika Welfare Trust Chairman Harihar Routray lauded Naveen Patnaik for construction of a world-class hockey stadium and hosting the World Cup Hockey at Rourkela.

# CM fetes U-18 Girls’ Rugby Team

Presents award of ₹5 lakh each

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Thursday interacted with the Indian Under-18 Girls’ Rugby Team and presented them with a cash award of Rs 5 lakh each for winning Silver at Asia Rugby Under-18 Girls’ Rugby Sevens Championship 2021 held at Tashkent in Uzbekistan. A total of five countries from across

Asia including Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, United Arab Emirates, India and host Uzbekistan participated.Patnaik said the team played brilliantly and narrowly missed the Gold. "You have shown grit, speed, skill and fierce determination. I am sure this is the start of a new journey in the coming years; you all will make history," he told the team.The team thanked the CM for his constant support to sports and Rugby particularly. Sports Minister Tusharkanti Behera was present.



Jharsuguda triple murder

# Accused found dead; brother detained

PNS ■ JHARSUGUDA

The triple murder case at Brajarajnagar in Jharsuguda district on Thursday took a new turn with the suspected accused, who had gone missing, being spotted dead in a well.

Earlier on Wednesday, a woman Sony Poddar and her two minor daughters were found dead in their house at Fatakapada in Brajarajnagar. As the deceased woman’s husband Narayan Poddar was



missing after the incident, police and the deceased woman’s family were suspecting his involvement in killing his wife and two daughters.

However, Narayan’s body was recovered from a well near the house. Police have recovered the body and started investigation to ascertain the circumstances under which the four members of the family died.

Jharsuguda SP Bikash Das said after getting the post-mortem and other medical test reports, it can be ascertained what actually happened. Sources said Narayan’s younger brother has been detained for questioning.

Price cut

# Champua transporters hold sit-in

Allege nexus between local MLA, mining firms

RAJENDRA K SAHU ■ CHAMPUA

Transporters have alleged a nexus of local MLA Meenakshi Mahanta with iron ore companies as latter bolstered by support have been exploiting truck and dumper owners. Some years ago, when Sanatan Mahakud was MLA of Champua, the Mining Area Truck Owners’ Association (MATOA) was established to look after interest of local lorry owners.Accordingly, companies like Rungta and others were making payments to lorry owners as per diesel price and

everything was going on smoothly. But situation changed after the ownership of those iron companies was acquired by new owners like JSW, Mittal, Kashvi International and others by highest bids in auction. It is alleged that new owners didn’t honour agreement signed during Mahakud time and went on paying lower transporting rate although diesel price was going up. Previously, Mahakud was trying to amicably settle amount when there was a dispute. This time, the lorry owners had also gone to MLA Mahanta whose name was recommended by Mahakud to contest the election in BJD ticket last time. But request of the

MATOA was turned down. The MATOA is sitting on a dharna since September 14 protesting injustice to them. However, a law and order situation occurred when some people led by Mahendra Mohanty , close aid of Bhakta Mahanta who is husband of the Champua MLA, tried to create disturbance in the strike by assaulting the members of the MATOA. An FIR has been lodged in the name of Bhakta Mahanta , Mahendra

Mohanty, Babina Satpathy, Lambu Giri, all said to be close supporters of MLA Meenakshi. The members of MATOA alleged that the MLA had a hidden agreement with the iron companies.

# Three illegal bakeries sealed in Cuttack

CUTTACK: Food safety officials of the Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC) on Thursday raided at least three unlicensed bakery units at Shikharpur in the heart of the city and sealed them after noticing stale and old food items unfit for human consumption. “A compound fine of Rs 15,000 on each of the unit owners was imposed,” informed CMC Health Officer Satyabrata Mohapatra. He said finished bakery items and raw stuff worth over Rs two lakh were seized from the three units. Sources said the bakery units were running in the area for over three years now but had downed the shutters since the lockdown last year.

“After the lockdown was relaxed in August this year, the units began to operate,” Mohapatra said, adding that the CMC received several complaints from people about the quality of products prepared in the units. The unregistered units do not have any brand name for their products and the stuffs were sold in the open markets, particularly in rural areas in unhygienic plain polythene packets, the health officer informed, adding that samples from the units have been sent for quality testing.

# BJP demands repair of BeMC road, drains

Submits memo to CM

PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

The BJP Ganjam district unit on Thursday submitted a memorandum to the Chief Minister through the Brahmapur Sub-Collector demanding repair, renovation of roads and drains and covering of open drains in the Berhampur Municipal Corporation (BeMC) areas.

Party leaders reminded the authorities not to invite a drain mishap that recently occurred in a Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation area.

As most of the drains in the BeMC area are left unattended and roads are damaged by incessant rains, it is quite difficult to ride motorbikes and four-wheelers or even to go by walk. Because of poor maintenance, drains overflow and roads are filled with drain and rainwater.

The BJP delegation which met the Sub-Collector included district president Bibhuti Jena, members Kanhu Charan Pati, Manoj Patanaik, Pravrat Kiran Sadangi and Ram Prasad Patro.

# 2 decades on, man sentenced to life term

# Had killed father of girl for opposing his love

JAGATSINGHPUR: Additional District and Sessions Judge, Kujang, Pranab Kumar Routray delivered the judgment of a two-decade-old murder case on Tuesday sentencing the accused man to

undergo life imprisonment and pay a pecuniary fine to the victim’s family. Accused Tharppa Majhi from Ramtara village under the Erasama police limits had fallen in love with a girl from the same village.

When the girl’s parents could know it, they called on Majhi to their house and during the course of discussion insulted him. Majhi became revengeful and hatched a plan to eliminate the girl’s father Bharat Mandal who had been vehemently opposing the relationship. On March 20, 1999,

Bharat was returning home from his betel farm. Seeing him alone, Majhi attacked him at a deserted location with a bamboo stick, causing severe head injuries to Bharat, who died on the spot.

Basing on a complaint lodged by Bharat’s wife Pramila, police arrested Majhi and later filed a charge-sheet in the District and Sessions court. Basing on witnesses and cogent pieces of evidence supplied by the prosecution, the court found accused Majhi guilty and awarded him punishment.

# Ganjam filmmaker gets recognition

PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

A young filmmaker from Ganjam, Sanyasi Maharana, has been lauded for his achievement in getting recognition for his filmmaking skills as his documentary film ‘Kandhei Yatra’ was awarded in four categories in the Tourism Film Festival 2021 sponsored by an Odisha-based farm orifarming. While Maharana was nominated for best director in the tourism film category, Tutu Pradhan for best cinematography and Tikiri Behera in the best poster design category.

Maharana said that more than 1,500 films from 25 countries took part in the festival. The documentary was about the unique tradition of the city of Brahmapur, the Kandhei Yatra, which is celebrated every year on the full-moon day of the month of Asadha, which marks the 300-year-old cultural history of Khaspa Sahi here.

While four films from Odisha won awards, the only film from Ganjam in the tourism category has been awarded in four categories.



# 2 held in shrimp fraud case in Baleswar

PNS ■ BALESWAR

The Sadar police here on Thursday arrested two persons in connection with a fraud and forgery case. The accused were identified as Gayendra Das, 28, of Gondia in Dhenkanal district and Suraj Mallick, 36, of Tihidi in Bhadrak.

Both were associated with a prawn processing and exporting unit, Highland Marine Group, having its head office at Alupur, Baleswar and allegedly committed a fraud of Rs 80 lakh. Police said that based on an FIR lodged by the company on August 24, the duo were apprehended and forwarded to judicial custody.

Gyanendra, an employee of Highland Marine Group, deployed in another shrimp processing unit at Mukundapur in Kolkata, was looking after storing and dispatching of shrimps. He in connivance with Suraj by manipulating and forging documents sold shrimps worth about Rs 80 lakh in an unauthorised manner for wrongful gains.

Further probe is underway in order to ascertain whether more people of the company were involved in the crime, said Sadar PS IIC Ashok Nayak.

# INBRIEF

IPL BETTING RACKET BUSTED; 2 HELD IN J’SUGUDA



Jharsuguda: The Town police busted an Indian Premier League (IPL) betting racket and arrested two persons in this connection in Jharsuguda town on Thursday. A police team led by SDPO Nirmal Mohapatra raided the premises of one Harish Sahoo near Gosala Road rail crossing and found that the racket was being operated from Dubai via Mumbai. The arrested bookies were identified as Md Akl Khan of Tata Lane and Harish Sahoo of Malipara. They were later forwarded to court. Police also seized cash of Rs 6.80 lakh, seven mobile phones and some incriminating documents from the accused possession and launched a hunt to nab four other persons involved in racket, said Jharsuguda SP Bikash Dash.

GANJAM ARTIST MAKES 1-MM WOODEN STATUE OF JAGANNATHH

Brahmapur: Sand Artist Satya Narayan Moharana achieved a rare record in making an unbelievable one-mm-size wooden statue of Lord Jagannath. Maharana himself broke his own previous record. Earlier, he had made a statue of Lord Jagannath of size 1 cm to 2 mm and created records. He dreamt of making a statue of Jagannath of 1 mm size. He had made miniature images of Lord Shiva, Ganesh, Durga, Kali, Krishna, Ram, Laxman, Saraswati, Budha, Hanuman, Budhi Thakurani, Kandhuni Devi and set records.



SEMLIGUDA SCHOOL SHINES IN STATE KARATE



Semiliguda: Members of the Uttkal Karate School, Semiliguda, performed well in the 33rd under 21 Senior State Championship conducted at the Uttkal Karate School Bhubaneswar on September 18 and 19. While Himanshu Sekhar Panda won gold medal in under-21 male 67kg category, Sachin Biswakarma got bronze medal in under-21 male 55kg category. The Koraput district team also secured 3rd position in the State medal tally.

# 20 years of Af rule by US not gone in vain: FPI

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

It is now quite heartening that people of Afghanistan that were under the oppressive regime of the Taliban from 1996 to 2001 have enjoyed a great deal of human rights when they were ruled for about 20 years by the US that ended on August 15.

The women of Afghanistan are not afraid of the Taliban rule, set in motion from August 15. They are now demonstrating and are increasingly raising their voice and concern that their hard-own rights could never be bargained away. Mary Akrami Sahak, Director of Afghanistan Women’s Network, (AWN) has said, “The women of Afghanistan came out of the dark and they will never go back.”

From August 15 till date many women have demonstrated and said, “Death to Pakistan and we need our freedoms.” The Afghan Government meanwhile has opened schools for the boys and has not done so for the girls’ students. On the other

hand, the Kabul city Government has opened Government offices, asking male employees to join their work. But at the same time, it has asked the women employees to stay home. This has been very much resented.

Rahullah, a 18-year-old Class XII student in his statement to the Wall Street Journal has freely stated: “Women make up half of the society.. I will not show up at the school until girls’ school opens.”

The Freethought Party of India (FPI) welcomes the attitude of the Afghan boys and girls. It makes the whole thing clear that they are determined not to lie down before the Taliban authorities.

“The UN General Assembly, though not that powerful, is quite strong enough to mobilise global public opinion against the brutal Talibanregime. Outside pressure and inside agitation will surely bend the Taliban to conduct itself in a democratic and humanistic manner,” opined FPI general secretary B Ramchandra CST Voltaire.

# Pollution, blasting: Nuapada locals want stone quarry shut

AJIT PANDA ■ NUAPADA

A stone quarry located in Rishigaon Mauza of Khariar Tehsil in Nuapada district, Rishigaon Stone Quarry IV, has become a cause of concern for local residents.

They are demanding immediate closure of the quarry as the validity period of the consent to operate (CTO) obtained from the Odisha State Pollution Control Board (OSPCB) by the lessee has already expired.

“There are many problems which are totally overlooked by the authorities,” rued villagers.

“The greenery around the village is totally lost; you will find layers of dust everywhere. Furthermore, the village commons which once indirectly supported our livelihood are no more in our control. The most dan-



gerous impact of the stone quarrying, however, is the vibration of blasting that is affecting our houses. Most houses in our village have developed cracks due to the tremor,” said villagers.

Most people in the village said they had raised objections when the tender for quarry lease was floated.

“There are many reasons why we objected,” said Sarpanch of Rishigaon GP Malyabanta Sana. “The quarry area starts hardly 20 meters away from the village; the Highway is very close, less than 200 meters. Besides, Rishipith and Jogimath, which are important archaeological sites of the district are within a vicinity of

two km. Blasting and quarrying is bound to affect the surrounding,” he added. He also informed that the plan for construction of an overhead tank for drinking water supply to the village was aborted due to the quarry operation.

“We drew attention of the administration, but they didn’t pay any heed to the questions we raised; the drinking water supply project remains incomplete,” said the villagers.

Malyabanta further informed how a PIL filed in the Orissa High Court with a prayer to stop the tender process became ineffective, when the court directed the Tehsildar to hear the case.

“The lessee asked the labourers, who used to work in the quarry previously to put their signatures giving their consent in favour of the quarry lease. Basing on that, the decision was taken by the

tehsil in favour of the lease holder,” added Malyabanta.

“Priority of the daily wage earners who get regular employment in the quarry would certainly be in favour of quarry operation; environmental and future concerns would take backseat in such a situation,” said State secretary of SC Communities, Fakira Jagat. “Rishigaon and Sargadi villages have become the den of stone and crusher mafia, who monopolize over the stone mining.

They better know how to manipulate the situation to gain the maximum. Connivance of corrupt officials in this whole process cannot be denied,” he told. Most villagers are aggrieved that their concerns have not been addressed.

“The lease holder does not care about people and the locality, he is extracting stone from,” they complained.

Records availed from the tehsil by Kshirasindhu Sagarika, an RTI activist, also proves that the allegations raised by people are true.

The lease holder has started excavating stone in December 2017 immediately after signing the lease agreement, without obtaining certificates from the OSPCB to establish and operate the quarry.

“This is complete violation of OMMC rules and conditions of lease agreement,” said an official of Khariar Tehsil requesting anonymity. Records shows that the lessee has applied to OSPCB for consent to establish (CTE) in January 2019 and the certificate was issued to him on February 16, 2019.

In between, the lessee has extracted stones of about 2040 cum in 15 months. The quarry obtained the certificate for CTO on December 30, 2019

and in the meantime, the total production of materials crossed over 4,000 cum. The total production allowed to the lessee within the lease period is 8,198 cum, and half of that target has been reached without obeying the rules.

“The RTI documents reveal that the lessee had been submitting details of quantity produced and dispatched every month to the Tehsildar in Form ‘J’ since December, 2017.

The Tehsildar, Khariar has issued notices two times to the lease holder to stop quarry operation until the consent to operate is obtained but has never taken any legal action against the lessee violating rules.

On the contrary, the lease holder has been repeatedly issued notices by the Tehsildar to deposit Government dues i.e. the royalty towards extrac-

tion. This reveals the lackadaisical attitude of the concerned officials towards the rules and guidelines,” said Kshirasindhu.

The locals are very much aggrieved due to the large-scale damage to the hills and increased level of air pollution owing to blasting, stone cutting and the movement of trucks.

They also question why the concerned authorities are allowing the operation of the quarry, when the validity of the Consent to Operate has already expired on March 30, 2020.

“It might be a stone quarry for a lease holder and a sairait source for the Revenue Department, but for us it is still a virgin land fit for natural forest growth. Had the Revenue Department left it to us, we would have protected it for regeneration of forest,” said Malyabanta.



# Govt brings guidelines to help Covid survivors

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With most of the Covid survivors facing long-term health issues, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Thursday released guidelines on the treatment of sequelae of Covid-19 which will help in building the capacity of doctors, nurses, paramedics and community health workers across India to deal with long-term effects of the coronavirus infection.

The modules have been prepared to provide guidance to doctors and healthcare workers to deal with the issue of long-term effects of Covid-19, the Health Ministry said in a statement.

Mandaviya said that proactive and comprehensive treatment of Covid-19 is required to ensure minimum side effects and no negative effect of the treatment.

"We have witnessed the consequences of post-Covid effect in patients due to taking of higher doses of steroids like cases of Mucormycosis. It is important to take medicines, with less or negligible side



effects. If we are alert beforehand, it will be fruitful in tackling the future consequences of Covid," he said.

"The perceptions related to post-Covid that are perpetuating in our society like fears, mental health issues resulting due to Covid are important to be tackled. So, it's important to understand these post-Covid issues and resolve them," Mandaviya stated. Efforts have been made by the resource persons across the country for the management of these post-Covid-19 complications to prepare the sequelae modules. These are very specialised modules prepared keeping in mind various fields of healthcare professionals, he said.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister of State for

Health Bharati Pravin Pawar emphasised on the need to tackle mental health issues and to reach the last mile. This pandemic has put an unprecedented challenge on our health and healthcare system. Mental health care is a big challenge for a country with such a large population. We need to build our capacity to tackle this challenge of mental health," Pawar said.

If the frontline workers are equipped with proper knowledge and training, they can become a valuable resource in the fight against these post-Covid-19 challenges. "When we are trying to equip ourselves to fight against post-Covid consequences, it's also important to take these to the last mile. The training modules for mental

# India logs 31,293 fresh Covid cases in 24 hours

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With 31,923 new Covid cases in the last 24 hours — which is an increase of 18.4 per cent from a day ago — the country's total case-load now stands at 3,35,63,421. The top five states which have registered maximum cases are Kerala with 19,675 cases, followed by Maharashtra with 3,608 cases, Tamil Nadu with 1,682 cases, Andhra Pradesh with 1,365 cases and Mizoram with 1,294 cases. India reported 282 in the last 24 hours, taking the total death toll to 4,46,050.

Cautioning that the second Covid-19 wave is yet not over, the Government warned the people to avoid mass gatherings during festivities. Dr Balram Bhargava, Director

General of the Indian Council of Medical Research said, mass gatherings should be avoided in areas identified as containment zones and in districts reporting more than 5% case positivity.

Though India is showing a decline in new Covid-19 numbers, the surge isn't over, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan too reiterated at the Health Ministry press conference. "We have to continue adhering to norms. We have to ensure that people should take their vaccination."

The ministry recommended that relaxations and restrictions can be imposed based on weekly case positivity. The states have been asked to allow gatherings with advance permissions and lim-

ited people (as per the state's cap) to be allowed in districts with a positivity rate of 5% and below. "Kerala and Mizoram remain states of concern."

Dr Bhargava said that a detailed SOP has been issued by the centre to states and UTs regarding precautions to be taken during festive season. 33 districts in the country have over 10% test positivity rate, according to data presented by the ministry.

Weekly positivity rate is less than 3% for the 12th consecutive week, he said.

Six states and UTs - Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh, Goa, Sikkim, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Lakshadweep have vaccinated 100% of their population with one dose.

# UK-based company booked for cheating BOI of ₹192.48 cr



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has booked UK-based firm Molinare Limited and its Indian directors for cheating the Bank of India's London branch to the tune of ₹192.48 crore.

The agency also conducted searches at two locations in the national capital at the premises of the accused after registering a case on a complaint from Bank of India against the borrower company and others including Managing Director Prabodh Kumar Tewari, Directors/Guarantors Abhishek Tewari and Anand

Tewari and unknown public servants for causing an alleged loss of ₹192.48 crore to the public sector lender.

"The accused private company was said to have been engaged in activities relating to post production services in entertainment and media industry. It was alleged in the complaint that the said accused had cheated the Bank of India by submitting fabricated / inflated / bogus invoices without having any genuine business transactions for availing the loan funds and thereafter diverting the same, the CBI said in a statement.

# PM CARES Fund not a Govt of India fund, Delhi HC informed

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The PM CARES Fund is not a Government of India fund and the amount collected by it does not go to the Consolidated Fund of India, the Delhi High Court has been informed. An affidavit filed by an Under Secretary at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) who is discharging his functions in the PM Cares Trust on honorary basis, has said the trust functions with transparency and its funds are audited by an auditor -- a chartered accountant drawn from the panel prepared by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

The affidavit was filed in response to a petition seeking a direction to declare the PM CARES Fund a 'State' under the Constitution to ensure transparency in its functioning. A bench of Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice Amit Bansal has fixed the matter for further hearing on September 27.

"To ensure transparency, the audited report is put on the official website of the trust along with the details of utili-



sation of funds received by the trust," says the affidavit filed by Pradeep Kumar Srivastava, Under Secretary at the PMO. "I state that when the petitioner is claiming to be a public-spirited person and seeking to pray for various reliefs only for transparency, it does not matter whether PM Cares is a 'State' within the meaning of Article 12 of the Constitution of India," the officer said in the affidavit.

Irrespective of whether the trust is a 'State' or other authority within the meaning of Article 12 of the Constitution or whether it is a 'public authority' within the meaning of provisions of the Right to Information Act (RTI), it is not

permissible to disclose third party information, it added. It said that all donations received by the trust are received via online payments, cheques or Demand Drafts and the amount received is audited with the audited report and the expenditure of trust fund displayed on the website.

"The trust functions on the principles of transparency and public good in larger public interest like any other charitable trust and, therefore, cannot have any objection in uploading all its resolutions on its website to ensure transparency," it said, while reiterating that "the trust's fund is not a fund of Government of India and the amount does not go in the

Consolidated Fund of India." The officer said he is discharging his functions in the PM Cares Trust on honorary basis which is a charitable trust not created by or under the Constitution or by any law made by the Parliament or by any State legislature. "Despite being an officer of the Central government, I am permitted to discharge my functions in PM Care Trust on an honorary basis," he said.

The court was hearing a petition filed by Samyak Gangwal who has said that the PM CARES Fund is a 'State' as it was formed by the Prime Minister on March 27, 2020 to extend assistance to the citizens of India in the wake of the public health emergency -- the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic. His counsel had told the court that if it is found that the PM CARES Fund is not 'State' under the Constitution, usage of the domain name 'gov', the Prime Minister's photograph, state emblem etc has to be stopped.

The petition said that the Trustees of the fund are the Prime Minister, Defence Minister, Home Minister and the Finance Minister and immediately after the formation of the fund, the Centre through its high government functionaries represented that the fund was set up and operated by the Government of India.

# Govt committed to providing affordable healthcare facilities to citizens: Modi

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said it is the Government's commitment to ensure affordable healthcare for citizens.

"The importance of healthcare has been even more clearly understood in the year gone by. It is our commitment to ensure top quality and affordable healthcare for our citizens. Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY is key to realising this vision," he said.

The Prime Minister commented as the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, also known as Ayushman Bharat scheme, completed three years which is also being described as the world's largest health scheme. The scheme provides health insurance of up to ₹5 lakh to the poor households.

Modi will also be launching nationwide rollout of Pradhan Mantri Digital Health Mission on Monday. Under this, a unique digital health ID will be provided to people which will contain all their health records, Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said.

# Govt should mark Moplah rebellion as Malabar Hindu Genocide Day: RSS-affiliated think tank

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Moplah rebellion of 1921 against British and local landlords in Kerala's Malappuram has come under controversy with the RSS seeking to see it as against Hindus in the region. An RSS-affiliated think tank demanded on Wednesday that the Moplah Rebellion of 1921 be termed as a 'genocide and a memorial be set up'.

The Government should build a 'genocide memorial' to mark the 1921 Malabar killings that took place 100 years ago in Kerala's Malappuram and mark September 25 as the "Malabar Hindu Genocide Day", the all-India convenor of Prajna Pravah, J Nandakumar, was quoted as saying by News agency Press Trust of India (PTI).

He maintained that the Sangh had been opposing the recognition of the Malabar killings as part of an uprising against the British or landlords, he said it was "targeted killings of Hindus".

"Annie Besant and C Sankaran Nair, who was the president of the Indian



**The Moplah rebellion of 1921 was an uprising by poor peasants**

National Congress, called it a genocide. But after 1975, it was illegally deemed as part of the freedom struggle," Nandakumar was quoted as saying by agency.

He said the Kerala government has not considered their demand, but they are hopeful that the Centre will look into it.

The Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) formed a three-member committee recently to study the Moplah Rebellion.

The panel reportedly recommended removal of sever-

al hundred names from the list of the victims.

The RSS-backed organisation will be organising an exhibition and a memorial programme for the victims in Delhi as well as in every block in Kerala on September 26.

A set of historians, most of them from the left, have studied The Moplah rebellion of 1921 was an uprising by poor peasants against 'crushing revenue burden' imposed against them by British and landlords, majority of them being Hindus.

The RSS is now wanting to study the 'rebellion' from not strictly as anti-colonial or anti-tax revolt by the peasants and favours a fresh assessment of the famous incident in the British era.

# Centre, States step up efforts to prevent stubble fire for clean air

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As the season of stubble burning sets in along with winters in the North, the Centre along with its several agencies and the five key agriculture States stepped up efforts to prevent any large-scale burning and avoid dangerous air quality. The central government on Thursday held a key meeting with Delhi and its neighbouring states of Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan on the action plan to mitigate air pollution caused by stubble burning.

Discussions were held over implementation of action plans by states to mitigate pollution due to agriculture stubble burning, dust, construc-



tion and demolition waste, biomass burning and vehicular pollution, Union Environment Minister Bhopender Yadav said, briefing the media about the meeting.

The minister said coordination and synergy reflected in the action plan by each

state under the overall framework prepared by the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM).

"Outcome of the action plan will significantly depend on the efficacy of the enforcement and implementation by the states," Yadav said. Tweeting about the meeting later, the minister said, "Chaired a meeting with Haryana CM Shri @mlkhat-tar ji and Environment Ministers and senior officials from neighbouring states on the preparedness and taking ahead the multi-pronged action plan on air quality. Addressed issues requiring inter-state & inter-ministerial coordination."

"It was heartening to note that the spirit with which the Commission for Air Quality Management was conceived is reflected in the action plan of states. The outcome of the action plan will significantly depend on the efficacy of the enforcement and implementation by states," he said.

# Vaccination at home for Divyangs announced

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Days after the Supreme Court asked the Centre to provide details of its policy framework and steps taken to prioritise Covid vaccination of persons with disability, the Modi Government on Friday announced 'vaccination at home' for the disabled, 'in line with Covid-19 SOPs'.

"I am pleased to inform that an advisory has been issued to make arrangements for 'vaccination at home' for those who have disabilities or are differently challenged, in line with Covid SOPs," NITI Aayog member (Health) Dr VK Paul said, as the panel warned that the second wave is not over yet.

In May this year, the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for Covid-19 (NEGVAC) had recommended the proposal by a Technical Expert Committee of the Union Ministry on the guidelines for Near to Home COVID Vaccination Centres (NHCVC) for elderly and differently-abled citizens.

The NHCVC for elderly and differently-abled citizens followed a community-based, flexible and people-centric approach, bringing the vaccination centres nearer to homes.

The Technical Expert Committee's recommendations were aimed to ensure vaccination of senior citizens and differently-abled populations having limited mobility due to their physical condition. The recom-



mendations were in response to the need to increase access by bringing vaccination services closer to the community while maintaining all necessary precautions and safety measures.

In the Supreme Court on September 21, petitioner Evara Foundation, an NGO, argued before a bench of justices DY Chandrachud and BV Nagarathna that the IMA has recommended door-to-door vaccination of persons with disability but only Jharkhand and Kerala have implemented this. The bench issued notice to the Centre and sought its reply affidavit in two weeks.

The Government also warned the people to avoid mass gatherings during festivities. Dr Balram Bhargava, Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research said, mass gatherings should be avoided in areas identified as containment zones and in districts reporting more than 5% case positivity.

The ministry recommended that relaxations and restrictions can be imposed based on weekly case positivity. The states have been asked to allow gatherings with advance permissions and limited people (as per the state's cap) to be allowed in districts with a positivity rate of 5% and below.

# SC lauds Centre's stand of providing financial help to kin of Covid victims

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday appreciated the Centre's step to grant ex-gratia assistance to the kin of those who died due to Covid-19 saying it has to take judicial notice of the fact that what India has done, no other country has been able to do. "We are happy that something has been done to wipe the tears of many families," apex court bench of Justices M R Shah and A S Bopanna.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for Centre said, "We cannot repair the loss of life but whatever the country could do for the families who have suffered, is being done."

The which took on record two affidavits filed by the Centre, said it will pass orders on October 4 with some directions, authorising the grievance redressal committees at district level to call for hospital records of the deceased, in case of any dispute over issuance of death certificate.

"We are happy that there will be some solace to the persons who have suffered. It will wipe the tears of many families. We must take judicial notice of the fact despite so many problems of population and overpopulation, something has been done. What India has done, no other country has been able to do," the bench said. The top court was hearing a batch of pleas filed by advocate Gaurav Kumar Bansal and some intervenors who lost their family members to COVID-19.

# Cong's posting of Manmohan's pic to counter Modi's narrative sparks row on Twitter



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Hours after Prime Minister Narendra Modi shared a photo from Air India One on his way to the US, talking about working on a long flight, the Congress posted a counter, featuring former PM Manmohan Singh.

Sharing images of the former PM addressing the media in-flight, the Congress quipped: "Some photographs are harder to copy. Former PM, Dr. Manmohan Singh addressing Press Conferences on board Air India One."

On Thursday morning, Modi's post showed him going through files on his flight to Washington, where he has a packed three-day schedule, including a Quad meeting and an address to the UN General Assembly.

"A long flight also means opportunities to go through



papers and some file work," the PM captioned it. Several BJP leaders shared the Prime Minister's tweet.

"Always in the service of the country without stopping, tirelessly," Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav, replied to the tweet, using #SevaSamarpan.

During the visit, Modi will participate in the first in-person Quad meeting, address the UN General Assembly and meet a number of top executives of major American companies.

The Congress's photo retort triggered a row on Twitter with the rival parties posting images and memes.

# Army kills 3 ultras along LoC in Uri

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Coinciding with the three day long visit of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the United States of America, the Indian Army early Thursday morning eliminated three heavily armed infiltrators along the Line of Control (LoC) in Uri sector of North Kashmir's Baramulla district.

According to the Indian army, at least one of them was a Pakistani national while the identity of the two other infiltrators could not be established till the time of filing the report.

The Indian army also claimed the infiltration bid could not have taken place without the active connivance of the local Pakistan army commanders.

The Indian army has also recovered a huge cache of arms and ammunition which included five AK rifles, seven pistols, one Revolver, 24 UBGL grenades, 38 Chinese grenades, 7 Pakistani grenades, 5 AK magazines, eatables, Indian and Pak currency etc.

Briefing media in Srinagar, Lt Gen DP Pandey, General Officer Commanding (GOC), Srinagar's Chinara Corps (15



Corps) said, "a movement was observed in Hathlanga forest area for an infiltration bid. In a very short brief operation this attempt was eliminated by alert troops along the LoC. A similar attempt was made on (September) 18, which was foiled".

The Commanding Officer of the Battalion which conducted the operation on ground zero told reporters via video conferencing, "We have been receiving various inputs about Pakistan's attempt to carry out infiltration on LoC.

Necessary counter measures on the loc had been taken which included enhancing surveillance and carryout some precautionary deployment". The Commanding said, "On September 23, during early hours at around 6.00 a.m our troops deployed on LoC spotted three individuals crossing over to our own side of the line of control followed by two more which were slightly behind. On being challenged there was a fire fight in which three terrorists were neutralised".

Commenting on the prevailing security situation along the LoC, Lt-Gen DP Pandey said, "We have been appreciating this in the last few months that while the infiltration is not ongoing the launch pads were filled up and before the winter months there will be concentrated efforts to push in the terrorists before the snowfall stops the possible routes".

"In the last few weeks we have been getting credible inputs of a lot of activities in the launch pad areas and plans to carry out infiltration, the man-

ifestation of which we saw first in Uri and second today morning", Lt-Gen Pandey added.

Commenting on the role of Pakistan behind supporting the infiltration bid, Lt-Gen DP Pandey claimed, "It is just not possible that such a number of activities can take place without complicity or connivance of local Pak military commanders.

Either they have adopted the approach of 'live and let live' or definitely they are complicit in allowing such activities to enable infiltration of terrorist groups. So this is definitely a change in behaviour in about a month's time".

He said, the current level of peace and stability, the increase in tourist footfall, visits of large number of members of Parliament to nook and corner of the Kashmir valley where they have interacted with every possible level of people of Kashmiri is wrangling the elements across and the intent of sending small weapons in terms of pistols and grenades is to ensure you are arming so called 'hybrid' terrorists. He said, the youth who work or study during the day in the evening are given a task to carry out a hit.

# My defeat means you lose me as CM: Didi to voters

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee once again staked her own image asking for people's support in the Bhawanipore Assembly by-election even as she told an audience from an election rally that if they wanted her to continue as their Chief Minister then they should come out in hordes to vote for her.

"Do not think that Didi will win on her own ... even one vote matters ... even one vote is important for me to win this election ... if you do not vote I will not be able to continue as the Chief Minister ... someone else will then be sworn in ... so if you want me to continue you will have to come out of your houses and vote for me", Banerjee who lost to Opposition Leader Suwendu Adhikari in the April-May Assembly elections requiring her to contest the by-elections said.

"A person cannot remain a Chief Minister if one is not elected within six months ... And it is not ethical to contin-



ue on the post if one cannot get elected ... so I will request you all to come out and vote", she said attacking the BJP for "trying to put spanners in the path of development of Bengal." Attacking the BJP Governments all over the country she said "look how they are performing in UP ... the Government there suppressed coronadeaths and threw the bodies in the river and I had to fish the bodies out in Malda and cremate them ... this is how the BJP works".

Attacking the BJP-led Government in Tripura she said "they are attacking the TMC for imposing curbs but what is happening in Tripura ... there they are not even allow-

ing Abhishek (Banerjee) to hold a rally ... and in order to do so they have imposed Section 144 in that State

till Dipawali which means that they will not allow the Durga Puja and

Kali Puja to be celebrated in that State ... so much to remain in power".

On the farm movement she said that the central government was so "ruthless" that they were ignoring the farmers who were agitating near Delhi for their rights. "The farmers are staging protests for the past 8 months but this ruthless Government is not talking to them because they want to please their corporate bosses," Banerjee said.

# Political row as BJP worker booked for molestation

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Amid the ongoing war of words between the Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Shiv Sena-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) Government over the Sakinaka rape and murder incident, the BJP on Thursday found itself in an embarrassing situation on Thursday, as the Mumbai police booked one of its party workers who had allegedly molesting a woman in a municipal corporator's office on Independence Day last year.

In a development that has given fresh ammunition to the ruling MVA to take on the principal Opposition party which is demanding convening of a special session of the State Legislature to discuss Sakinaka rape and murder incident, the Borivili police on Wednesday registered a First Information Report (FIR) in connection with an incident that allegedly took in the Vazira Naka office of the BJP Municipal Corporator Anjali Khedekar.

According to the complaint lodged by the victim woman with the Borivili police station, the accused - a local BJP civic ward leader - had promised to help her join the party, called her to corporator Khedekar's office and then allegedly molested her inside

the premises late on the evening of August 15, 2020.

The victim woman told the police that after she went to the office, the accused 2d BJP workers downed the shutters, switched off the lights, molested her, by saying that she would have to compromise if she wanted to work in the party.

The victim woman said that she somehow managed to walk out of the corporator's office. Five days later, she complained verbally to the local BJP MLA Sunil Rane.

When there was no response, the victim woman gave a written complaint to the Mumbai North BJP MP Gopal Shetty. Both Rane and Shetty ignored her complaint.

Finally, the victim woman approached the Borivili Police Station on Wednesday lodged a complaint with the Borivili police under section 354 (Assault or criminal force to woman with an intent to outrage her modesty - in other words modesty) Indian Penal Code (IPC). "We have not made any arrest so far," Senior Police Inspector Sudhir Kalekar said on Thursday.

Meanwhile, Not surprisingly, the ruling Shiv Sena and Congress swiftly made an issue of the alleged incident and sought to "expose" the "double

speak" of the BJP and demanded action against the BJP worker who has been accused of outraging the modesty of a woman on the pretext of helping her join the party.

Reacting to the registration of an FIR against a BJP worker, Mumbai Mayor Kishori Pednekar of the Shiv Sena said that she would meet the victim

woman and police officers dealing with the alleged molestation incident.

"Where are all those BJP leaders now? Why are they speaking up? We are now learning that after the incident, the victim woman had approached BJP MLAs and MPs of the BJP for help But, no one helped her," Pednekar said.

# DOMBIVLI RAPE CASE 23 held for gangrape of 15-year-old girl

PNS ■ MUMBAI

The Dombivli police have arrested 23 youngsters and detained two minor boys for allegedly repeatedly gangraping a 15-year-old girl at various places for eight months. Those arrested and detained are among the 29 people booked in connection with the alleged gangrape of the girl at Thane.

The arrested people were on Thursday produced before a magistrate's court in Thane which remanded them in police custody till September 29. Quoting the complaint by the victim, the police said that in January, the victim's boyfriend

had indulged in forcible sex with her and video-graphed the act.

Later on, the accused boyfriend showed and shared the video with his friends who allegedly used the clip to blackmail and sexually assault the girl for over eight months.

The perpetrators, some of them said to be politically connected, compelled the girl to accompany them to various locations at Dombivli, other nearby towns like Rabale, Badlapur, Thane and also at a remote farmhouse, where they repeatedly raped her. The police got wind of the heinous incident through a tip-off received by them.

# ATS grilling father-son duo in Bijnor over terror link; gun found

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The sleuths of the Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) conducted raids at several houses in Bijnor and detained a father-son duo on the suspicion of their alleged links with subversive forces.

The ATS also reportedly recovered a pistol from the possession of the duo.

Sources said that acting on the inputs provided by the sleuths of the Army Intelligence, the ATS team conducted raids on Wednesday and picked up the father-son duo. Both are being interrogated by the ATS as well as members of both state and Central intelligence agencies.

To keep the operation 'secret' the local police have been kept away from the entire exercise.

The accused were identified as Parvez and his father Salmani, residents of village Noor Alipur. The initial probe has revealed that a few days back, Parvez's brother Javed, who works at a barber saloon in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, was arrested by the

police for supplying arms to terrorists. Following his interrogation by the members of Army Intelligence, the inputs were shared with ATS after which the father-son duo was picked up for interrogation.

It may be mentioned here that last week, the officials of the special crime branch of Delhi Police and the sleuths of Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) had busted an ISI module by arresting half-a-dozen people and seizing an improvised explosive device (IED) from them.

On Wednesday also, the ATS claimed to have made a major breakthrough in the country's "largest conversion racket" when they arrested Islamic scholar Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui from Meerut. According to the UP ATS, Siddiqui was arrested on charges of facilitating religious conversations. His name cropped up during the investigation into the Umar Gautam case. Umar Gautam was jailed in June after the Uttar Pradesh Police rounded him up for allegedly running a conversion racket.

# 10-day quarantine rule for those vaccinated in India is discriminatory: Govt tells UK

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

The government has maintained the UK's decision of 10-day quarantine for those vaccinated with Covishield is "discriminatory" and New Delhi do reserve the right to reciprocate in a similar manner.

Meanwhile, after the discussions here, Ellis said India and the UK held an "excellent" technical discussion on the issue of vaccine certification and neither side raised technical concerns with each other's certification process. The discussions came a day after the UK government added India's Covishield to its list of approved Covid-19 vaccines.

However, despite the inclusion of Covishield, Indian trav-

ellers are not exempt from the quarantine rules under the UK's new international travel norms.

The talks between India and UK indicates that the UK may soon announce recognition to Covishield certificates which means Indian travellers will be exempted from the quarantine after arrival.

"Excellent technical discussions with @rs Sharma 3 @AyushmanNHA. Neither side raised technical concerns with each other's certification process.

An important step forward in our joint aim to facilitate travel and fully protect public health of UK and India," Ellis tweeted on Thursday. His statement was welcomed by National Health Authority CEO Dr RS Sharma. "Echoing his excellency @AlexWellis's views, this will be instrumental in resuming socio-economic activities between India and UK. We also look forward to deepening ties between @AyushmanNHA and @NHSX, as we collaborate to build a digital continuum of healthcare services", Sharma said.

# Petition challenging Asthana's appointment as Delhi CP copy-paste of similar plea in SC: HC warns

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Thursday termed as "copy-paste" a petition filed before it challenging the appointment of IPS officer Rakesh Asthana as Delhi Police Commissioner and warned the petitioner that such activity shall not be repeated in the future. The high court also expressed anguish that the lawyer for the petitioner was unable to explain the averments made in the petition. Noted lawyer Prashant Bhushan who first filed petition in Supreme Court alleged the petitioner Sadre Alam had "copy and pasted his petition and filed in High Court.

A bench of Chief Justice DN Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh said Alam's petition is entirely copied, including full stop and comma, from Bhushan's plea filed with similar prayers before the Supreme Court and added that if the petitioner wants to file something he shall do it independently.

"All these things you have copied from the memo of the senior advocate (referring to Bhushan). If you are copying, you do it 5 per cent and write 95 per cent of your own. Here, 97 to 99 per cent is copied even with all the full stops and commas. Don't do this in the future we have tolerated it this time," the bench said. To this, advocate BS Bagga, appearing for the petitioner, said "I don't know from where these allegations have come from". Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who was representing



the Centre, was also in agreement with Bhushan and had said this practice of copy-paste must be deprecated. During the day's hearing, when Bagga started his argument on inter cadre transfer, the Chief Justice asked him what he meant by "super time scale". The court repeatedly asked the same question which he was unable to explain and sought time to check and come back.

"We are asking you for the last time, we will dismiss the petition with costs. You have copied from his memo that is the problem. Without understanding, you are reading. Now we want an additional explanation. What is the super time scale," the bench said.

While addressing Bhushan, the bench said, "you people are also distributing your copies everywhere.

Don't do this. He does not know what is super time scale is. You are doing it in good faith but it becomes a weapon. I have asked the question deliberately. What assistance we will get? This is how in the Delhi High Court we are getting the assistance". The counsel sought time and the court listed the matter for further hearing on September 27.

# Naidu pushes for attendance at Standing Committee meetings

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ahead of the reconstitution of the 24 Department-Related Standing Committees (DRSC), Rajya Sabha Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu has sent a detailed record of participation by the members in committee meetings over the past year to the political parties, calling them to nominate members only based on their participation and interest.

Only 16 members of the Rajya Sabha (out of 243 MPs) attended all the scheduled 361 meetings held in 2020.

Six of these 16 members are Chairpersons of their respective committees. Opposition parties have routinely slammed the

Government for bypassing Parliamentary scrutiny by not sending key legislations to Standing Committees.

On direction from Naidu, the Rajya Sabha Secretariat collated details on the participation by 243 members of the Rajya Sabha from 32 political parties, as well as Independents and nominated members, in 361 meetings of these Committees held in the period of September 2020-August 2021.

The report notes 115 other members clocked attendance of 50% or more. In all, 131 members, accounting for 54% of the House, reported attendance of 50% or more in the meetings of DRSCs. The attendance of about one third members of the

House has been below 30%.

The data shows that the average attendance of 92 Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) members of the Rajya Sabha in these meetings has been 56% while the same for 38 Congress members is 42%.

For the parties with 5 to 13 members, the average attendance of the YSR Congress has been 66%; the Biju Janata Dal is a close second at 62%. The attendance of Trinamool Congress MPs, who have been at the forefront of the protests by the Opposition on the Pegasus spyware and other issues, is only 24%. Janta Dal (United), though, has the lowest tally with just 16% attendance.

# A lot needs to be done to boost UP's economy

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A recent report on Uttar Pradesh's economy released by State Planning Institute (Economic and Statistics Division) does not paint a rosy picture of the state and claims that the state's economy has grown at less than 5 per cent of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) in the last four-and-a-half years of the Yogi Raj. The survey report does not augur well as Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had earlier set the target of taking Uttar Pradesh to a one-trillion-dollar economy in the next five years. At present, the nominal

GDP of the state for the year 2020-21 is Rs 17.05 lakh crore (US\$ 240 billion).

There is no denying the fact that the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted the state's economy as UP's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) has shrunk by 5.9 per cent in 2020-2021. But the worrying sign is that the state's economy grew at less than 5 per cent in the last four-and-a-half-year tenure of the Yogi Adityanath regime. The revised data released for 2018-19 (revised provisional), 2019-20 (revised quick) and 2020-21 (revised advance) also indicate that the economy of Uttar Pradesh grew at a lesser

rate than expected.

The revised estimates of the state's income that the State Planning Institute (Economics and Statistics Division) released last week show a systemic decline in the health of the economy.

The GSDP growth in 2017-18 was 4.9 per cent. However in 2018-19 and 2019-20 fiscals, it remained at about 4.3 per cent only. As per these estimates, the rate of economic growth was less than 5 per cent during 2017-20 and -5.9 per cent in the COVID-19 affected 2020-21.

The advance estimates for 2020-21 (released in March

# Singapore investors willing to invest in UP, says Wong

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Singaporean High Commissioner in India, Simon Wong, said that there was a favourable environment for investment in Uttar Pradesh and a large number of Singapore investors were willing to invest in different projects of the state, including in the defence industrial corridor and MSME sector.

Wong expressed these views during his meeting with Chief Secretary Rajendra Kumar Tiwari in Lucknow on Thursday.

After the high-profile meeting, the chief secretary

said that due to the development of infrastructure facilities in Uttar Pradesh, it was being successful in attracting investors from across the world.

"Uttar Pradesh is providing an investor-friendly and fear-free environment. Besides, 21 new investment-friendly policies have been implemented in the state.

New expressways, including Purvanchal Expressway, Bundelkhand Expressway, Gorakhpur Link Expressway, Ballia Link Expressway and Ganga Expressway, are being developed making commuting by roads easy and safe.

# Skeletons of three girls recovered in Mirzapur

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

After the skeletons of three minor girls, reported missing for the last one month, were recovered from a forest in Harra area of Mirzapur, their mother mysteriously absconded.

The girls had left their home with their mother in Belahi village of Halia area a month back and were missing ever since.

The skeletons were sent for autopsy and forensic examination.

As per reports, some local shepherds spotted the skeletons in the jungles of Harra on Wednesday afternoon and alerted the father and brother of the victims who later reached there and identified them with the help of the clothes lying there.

The police were subsequently informed and the cops reached the spot and sent the skeletons for autopsy and forensic examination.

Efforts were now being made to trace the absconding mother.

During the preliminary probe, it surfaced that Devidas Kole of Belahi village had three sons and a daughter from his first wife Falguni who died a few years ago. Later, he married Sima, who had two daughters from her first marriage. After marriage, Sima's daughters also started living with Kole's family.





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PAPER WITH PASSION

## Breathing death

WHO's revised air quality levels are in tune with the times. India must implement these quickly

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has revised air quality levels for six pollutants, including the particulate matter (PM). Coming after 2005, they cut down the existing acceptable threshold limits by half, prodding countries like India to improve their air quality without losing time. Pollution in Indian cities is far above even the existing limits at present. The new rules render the situation worse. Of particular interest are the PM guidelines. The average PM 2.5 (respirable pollution particles) concentration cannot be higher than five micrograms per cubic metre. However, the existing level is 10. For PM10, the threshold is brought down from 20 to 15. The world organisation said the revision was necessary as pollution is growing in developing countries engaged in large-scale urbanisation and economic development. The guidelines are welcome and need to be implemented. Recent studies show air pollution is reducing life expectancy in Indian cities by six to 10 years. It is time for India to implement big-ticket anti-pollution reforms. A national pollution survey is called for, to assess the meteorological and geographical changes impacting polluting levels. In cities situated in valleys, emissions tend to stay longer, adding to pollution problems. In cities like Delhi with flat terrains, the meteorology impacts in dispersing air pollution. Studies of air movement over urban areas help authorities know about pollution patterns necessary for anti-pollution planning. In the time since 2005, Delhi, for example, grew from being a city to the

National Capital Region of Delhi, covering an area of over 55,000 square km.

Townships, satellite centres and industrial zones have come up with IT and industrial clusters. The population and number of vehicles have grown several times. Adding to the city's pollution is the new element of trans-boundary pollution with emissions originating outside the city by way of traffic from Gurgaon and Noida. Industries in the north-east and northwest sectors contribute to the problem. The expansion of Delhi has increased demand for energy from domestic, industrial and transport sectors. Air pollution emissions naturally increased along with those of sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons. Over one-third of Delhi suffers from respiratory problems. The last time was 1998 when Delhi implemented low-emission reforms. The public transport vehicles switched to CNG and that alone made a difference. Hundreds of heavy industries were either shut down or relocated, their energy systems upgraded. India's national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS), revised last in 2009, are up for another revision in 2022. The study being conducted for updating the standards should take into account the latest WHO thresholds. Common sense measures are also called for. Vote bank politics cannot encourage stubble burning by farmers in Punjab and western Uttar Pradesh. Similarly, motorists should be made to realise that apart from exhaust fumes, brake dust also causes pollution.

### PICTALK



Clouds hover over the Old City area in Delhi

PTI

## Marching on

The SC insists that females be given the chance in Nov itself to take the NDA entrance exam

The National Defence Academy (NDA), the cradle for grooming boys to become officers in the three Services since 1954, will for the first time welcome women cadets. The Supreme Court has prodded the Government to allow female candidates to appear for the NDA exam in November this year. The Government had told the apex court that women can take the examination in May next year. However, the court, saying women's hopes cannot be belied, ordered that they be allowed to take the test in November. Determined to have gender parity, the only tri-Services training institute in the world, the NDA, was engaged in creating suitable infrastructure for women cadets since early this year. While there is no issue with academic curriculum, the authorities are taking meticulous care in finalising the outdoor training and physical fitness parameters for the females. Physical training includes basic combat drills besides endurance, so far customised for only male cadets. Then there is the issue of fixing standards for

physical and medical criteria for females. The male candidates who clear the written exam and interview have to pass the medical test to become eligible for joining the NDA. The test also comprises specified weight and height.

Aiming to induct women cadets in a short time, the NDA is working overtime to fix these standards regarding outdoor training and medical exam. The effort is to ensure that training standards remain top class while formulating parameters for them. The Government had submitted in the apex court that any dilution of physical training and service subjects of firing, endurance, field craft and living off the land for women cadets would impact the battle worthiness of the armed forces. The three Services chiefs had visited the NDA in August to review the infra creation progress. With changing times, female officers are serving with distinction in various wings of the IAF, Navy and Army. In fact, at least four women IAF officers are currently undergoing the final stage of their fighter jet flying training. Similarly, women officers are flying helicopters and transport planes. The Navy has also allowed women to serve on warships when they are seaward-bound. It means they will sail like their male colleagues for months together. Of course, the Navy has created suitable living bunks and other related infrastructure on the warships.

# US probing Pak's role in Afghanistan

Ever since it became a sovereign nation, Pakistan has been ostensibly 'helping' the US to actually further its own interests in the region



JL KOULL JALALI

The US is keenly looking into the role Pakistan played in Afghanistan after its war against Taliban and terrorism following the attacks on the World Trade Centre and Pentagon on September 11, 2001. This was revealed by US Secretary of State Tony Blinken to angry US lawmakers who were protesting against Pakistan's "duplicitous" role in Afghanistan. Among others, Congressman Bill Keating, Chair, House Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee, said that apart from the ISI's strong ties with the Haqqani network, Pakistan created the Taliban and helped it regroup in 2010. He bemoaned that the Pakistan PM celebrated the Taliban's takeover of Kabul.

Pakistan started following a duplicitous policy towards the US soon after it came into existence in August 1947. In 1952, when the West was engaged in its efforts to contain Communism, Pakistan opted for the American bloc (and arms) purportedly to fight the expansion of Communism but actually to strengthen its muscle against India. Some years later, then Pakistan President Gen Ayub Khan said that the arms were "not to be kept wrapped". These were actually used against India in the 1965 and 1971 wars even though given only to fight the expansion of Communism, if the need arose.

The erstwhile Soviet occupation of Afghanistan in 1979 had added to Pakistan's strategic importance. It exploited the development dexterously to continue its special relationship with the US despite clear signs of duplicity and formal breakup of the Soviet Union in 1993. The US had turned Pakistan into a ground for Mujahideen fighting against the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and a conduit for arms and funds to equip them with weaponry. Pakistan diverted a part of these arms to perpetrate terror in Kashmir and to train, equip and indoctrinate Pashtun students from Afghan refugees in Pakistan. The radicalisation programme started under then Pakistan President Gen Zia-ul-Haq and was meant to address the ethnic divide because of which Pakistan had failed to



have full sway in Afghanistan. Apart from fomenting terror in Kashmir, Pakistan's main aim was to create Taliban Islamic Movement to acquire leverage in Afghanistan and to establish a commanding position, especially vis-a-vis India. But despite clear indications, the US appeared to connive with Pakistan's ulterior motives to foster its own geopolitical and other interests.

The Soviet forces withdrew from Afghanistan in 1989 and the US too faded from the scene after ensuring that Pakistan had established its influence on the Mujahideen. After Soviet withdrawal, a civil war ensued in Afghanistan. Interspersed by its army, Pakistan introduced the Taliban militia in this civil war in November 1994. After wreaking havoc on hapless Afghans, the militia gained power in September 1996. With Saudi fugitive Osama bin Laden already present there and declaring jihad against the West, Afghanistan turned into a bastion of terrorism. Pakistan, with calculated use of terrorism as a tool of its State policy, had already become the epicentre of terrorism. India continued to caution the world, both in the



APART FROM FOMENTING TERROR IN KASHMIR, PAKISTAN'S MAIN AIM WAS TO CREATE THE TALIBAN ISLAMIC MOVEMENT TO ACQUIRE LEVERAGE IN AFGHANISTAN AND TO ESTABLISH A COMMANDING POSITION, ESPECIALLY VIS-A-VIS INDIA

UN and outside, about these dangers to world peace. In an article on October 2, 1999, titled "International Drive To Fight Terrorism", the writer criticised the narrow American approach towards the Pak-Taliban nexus but the US did not heed the warning. Obviously, the ground had been laid for the September 11, 2001, terror attacks.

Following the horrifying attacks, the US waged a war against the Taliban. The public opinion in Pakistan was that its Government shouldn't join this effort. When criticised for aligning with the West, then Pakistan President Gen Pervez Musharraf reportedly stated that had he not done so, America might have taken action against Pakistan, too. He was aware that their duplicity had begun to be noticed. The Taliban was soon removed from power. But, years later, Pakistan resumed helping the Taliban regroup. It turned into a haven for terror attacks on Afghanistan. Pakistan's duplicitous attitude prompted former US President Donald Trump to say in 2019: "The US has foolishly given Pakistan more than \$33 bn in aid over the last 15 years and they have given us

nothing but lies and deceit, thinking of our leaders as fools."

Obviously, now the inevitable has happened. Despite a positive sign or two, the Taliban's resurgence poses a serious threat to peace. Radicalisation has been the main factor behind the Taliban's rise. The challenge can be met by promotion of liberal Islam and Sufism. Though this section is a minuscule minority, Sufism has an eternal appeal and, with the passage of time and through encouragement, it can turn into a potential challenge to radicalism and extremism. As mentioned by this writer on October 8, 2016, in the article, "Islamic Radicalism and Sufi Islam", Russia, like India, too was hit hard by jihadi terrorism in Chechnya. But after dealing with the situation strongly, it encouraged liberal and Sufi Islam to root out the remnants of jihadi terrorism. If Russia could do it, the rest of the world can also do it. For survival and the betterment of mankind, the world powers must desist from turning terrorism into a geopolitical issue.

(The writer is a journalist, former IIS officer and producer. The views expressed are personal.)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### ARMY 'BIRD' GOES DOWN

Sir — The fatal crash of a *Cheetah* helicopter has highlighted the urgency to focus on re-examining the safety of these helicopters, which are being operated by the Indian armed forces. These choppers need to be grounded immediately till a comprehensive safety audit is completed about airworthiness. Two young pilots from Army Aviation corps, Major Rohit Kumar (35) and Major Anuj Rajput (28) who lost their lives in this crash, were on training sorties and were extremely passionate about joining the armed forces and serving the nation.

The Hindustan Aeronautical Ltd (HAL) should go into an in-depth investigation to see if there is any design flaw in the *Cheetah* helicopter and take corrective measures. If this helicopter had crashed in a civilian area, casualties could have been way more. Therefore, any fault or technical glitch must be investigated at the earliest to avoid any such future crashes. It would be unjust to neglect the safety of those who protect us at all times. Major Kumar and Major Rajput were brave officers who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. Tragically, they leave behind their grieving parents. The nation will always remain indebted to them. Our hearts go out to the family members of these young pilots.

Ramesh Jethwani | Bengaluru

### NOT JUST ANOTHER SHEET OF CLOTH

Sir — Who believes that saree is not a smart outfit? A restaurant in the Capital seems to have a perverted view and pointed out that saree does not qualify as a smart dress and it is a lopsided view. In the fashion world, saree has assumed a prominent place with the womenfolk preferring the six-yard wonder as the best dress for all seasons. It is worth mentioning here that the women in Pakistan prefer sarees, too. By draping the saree around your body with a proper matching blouse, you get the feeling of security and the posh look.

The symbolism of saree goes a long way in developing the personality of a

## 'Narcotics jihad' busted



Now that Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has exposed the falsehood of the claim of Pala Bishop Mar Joseph Kallarangatt that there is the phenomenon of 'narcotics jihad' in the State, the Bishop should show the basic decency to admit to having made a mistake and withdraw his remark. The remark made by the Bishop of Syro-Malabar Church with an intent to malign a particular community was unworthy of a spiritual leader. It led us to have a down on him. The false narrative that Christian girls

are befriended and lured by Muslim men into marriage in order to rope them into religious wars should end here and now.

Women, irrespective of their religions, cannot be denied autonomy in their lives. They are entirely free to choose their partners; they don't need a Bishop's nod. Putting religion above humanity should be anathema to educated people in its true sense. The Vatican should take a serious note of the utterances of the likes of Pala Bishop to drive a wedge between religious communities and discipline them to watch their language and behave properly and responsibly in a multi-religious society in which people of different faiths live cheek by jowl. The laity or congregation must also raise their voice against Bishops who by word or deed do harm or hurt a sense of wider secular community and neighbourliness they all cherish and share.

G David Milton | Maruthancode

woman in the office as a professional. It is a wrap worth wearing with all glamour and style. There is nothing like a saree to make you look most elegant all the time. Saree not only has cultural significance in India but, over the years, has also been seen a touch of modern fashion. In recent times, actors like Vidya Balan are diehard saree lovers and their success on the big screen is counted based on the saree culture. The present generation go for pattu and chiffon of different colours and designs. Thus, by far, the saree is the most flexible garment available in the fashion world.

MR Jayanthi | Mumbai

### KOHLI LEFT ON A HIGH NOTE

Sir — Even if the team lifts the upcoming T20 World Cup at the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the crown of success will most probably be laid at the door of MS Dhoni. Ironically, Kohli had a stupendous success rate as captain in the shortest format of the game. He has led India to victory in the last five T20 series

though not a World Cup trophy as yet. At the same time, the presence of Dhoni at the T20 world cup can be a blessing in disguise for Kohli who can solely concentrate on batting, knowing well that the calming presence of Dhoni is more than enough for the team's prospects.

Kohli's record as the ODI captain is mixed, so is Test skipper's. But there is no denying that he has provided a new dimension to India's test match-winning ability abroad. The recent win in the truncated series against England is an example. Most international players enjoy captaining their sides in white ball cricket. Kohli is one captain who seems to relish guiding his men in the traditional form of cricket — the Tests. Therefore, it looks just a matter of time before the star batsman relinquishes the captain's responsibilities in one-day internationals, too.

Ganapathi Bhat | Nagpur

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## SOUNDBITE

The need of the hour is to initiate actions that return the economy to a high-growth track and create gainful jobs by 2030.

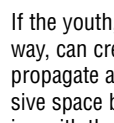


Vice-President — M Venkaiah Naidu



I express gratitude for the warm welcome Canada has shown Tibetan refugees since the time your (Justin Trudeau) late father was the Prime Minister.

Tibetan spiritual leader — Dalai Lama



If the youth, in any way, can create or propagate an inclusive space by working with the deaf community, please do.

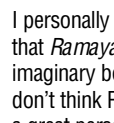


Actor — Ranveer Singh



Started off my time with a wonderful afternoon with @abhinav\_bindra Sir and his family. Was able to introduce my medal to its elder sibling from Beijing.

Olympics gold medalist — Neeraj Chopra



I personally believe that *Ramayana* is an imaginary book and I don't think Rama was a great person or that he was alive.



Former Bihar Chief Minister — Jitan Ram Manjhi





## FIRST COLUMN QUAD SUMMIT AND MODI-BIDEN TALKS

India has a range of bilateral discussions lined up on current issues of interest



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

The United States is hosting the first in-person summit of QUAD leaders in Washington and perhaps beginning of a new era of cooperation on what the White House termed as “demonstration of the priority of engaging in the Indo-Pacific, including through new multilateral configurations designed to focus on 21st century challenges”. The centrality is the realigning of the partners’ foreign policies to Indo-Pacific coordination on shared targets. This roughly translates into keeping a sharp eye on China which is trying to defy international legal orders; therefore, a global consensus on the South China Sea is emerging. India’s focus during the QUAD summit will be tackling the Covid-19 pandemic and future cooperation, climate change issues, and an open Indo-Pacific region that allows equal and fair access for nations to prosper. During the first, virtual meeting of the QUAD leaders in March, 2021, a commitment of one billion vaccines by 2022 was made. The leaders may also talk about additional relief and assistance measures for poor countries as a goodwill



gesture. On the QUAD sidelines, a working group of senior representatives from member countries will focus on cyber security, secure supply chains infrastructure, and work towards finding a common language on emerging technologies including artificial intelligence. The global pandemic has ensured all digital economies around the globe, not to mention the QUAD members, need to find a common thread on defining paradigms for next-generation technology growth and collateral threats. The world industry facing acute shortage of semiconductor chips and other critical digital hardware components understand the importance of working with reliable trusted partners. United States, Australia, Japan and India are critical levers of the huge digital engine driving this technology towards a prosperity dream. One of the best outcomes from the QUAD summit could be for the leaders to come out with a paper on destinations and targets for this digital highway. This in itself could be one the key success stories for QUAD.

The last aspect on which most of the countries from the quadrilateral can make announcements would be on securing clean targets and achieving goals on climate change. The US envoy on climate John Kerry’s visit to India a few days back was a firm commitment towards achieving time bound targets. The US offered assistance to India for quickly reaching its renewable energy targets of 450 GW by 2030. Currently India’s environment and climate change portfolio is held by ruling party heavy weight Bhupendra Yadav, who enjoys the blessings of the senior leadership. The only challenge for India on this green path could be about assuming more green responsibilities at international forums while trying to attract investments. That is where the will of the domestic government and the organizational skills of the current minister will come for test. Finally on the sidelines of QUAD, Prime Minister Modi and his external affairs minister will hold a whole range of bilateral talks on current issues of interest. The India-US discussions and the outcome notes would be the most watched as this would be first in-person meeting between the President of the US and the Indian Prime Minister. Narendra Modi shared a visible sense of bonhomie with Joe Biden’s predecessor Donald Trump. The same optics may not be repeated but Biden is unlikely to disappoint his counterpart. Afghanistan’s safety, security and upholding of human rights in central Asia would definitely feature as key topics during the bilateral. The hurried exit of the US from Afghanistan has placed many fringe players such as India in a spot in the Central Asian theatre. Every major player in the region including China, Russia and Iran is trying to recalibrate its position with regard to Afghanistan.

(The writer is a policy analyst. The views expressed are personal.)

# Role of cooperatives in Indian economy

The NCAER recently undertook a study on cooperative agro-processing and identification of institutional financial lacunae in the cooperative movement



SAURABH BANDYOPADHYAY ANUPMA MEHTA

The cooperative movement in India has regained focus after the Union Government recently created a Ministry of Cooperation to provide a separate administrative legal and policy framework for streamlining the cooperatives. The move is expected to cascade the movement down to the grassroots level for facilitating the growth of a people-based economic development model. It envisages an environment that would enable ‘sahkar se samridhi’ (prosperity through cooperation) and promote ‘ease of doing business’ for cooperatives through various proactive measures, including the development of Multi-State Cooperatives (MSCs).

The genesis of the current movement can be traced to the enactment of the Cooperative Credit Societies Act by the British in 1904. Subsequently, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru gave it a fillip by integrating cooperatives into the Five-Year Plans. His vision of “convulsing India with the cooperative movement...to make it, broadly speaking, the basic activity of India, in every village as well as elsewhere, indeed to make the cooperative approach the common thinking of India” was a precursor for the establishment of cooperative societies especially in rural India, thus laying the foundation for the largest cooperative movement in the world.

The institution of cooperative marketing societies by the National Development Council (NDC), coupled with the passage of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act by the Parliament in 1984 enhanced the importance of the movement. By definition, therefore, cooperative societies were envisioned as a combined agglomerate of persons voluntarily coming together to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise.

It was anticipated that the cooperative movement would largely be concentrated in the agricultural sector, playing a significant role across operations spanning production, distribution, and consumption. Two of the most conspicuous success stories emerging from the implementation of this model were the White Revolution and the Green Revolution. As per data from the National Dairy Development Board, in 2019-20, dairy cooperatives had procured 4.80 crore litres of milk from 1.7 crore members, while selling 3.7 crore litres of liquid milk per day. Farm sector experts point out that cooperatives have also positively impacted post-harvest processing, storage, transportation, trade, and input procurement for a range of activities in the agricultural sector.

The movement has reportedly fostered 5.03 lakh cooperatives, a membership of 210 million, and a network stretching through the entire breadth of rural India, while accounting for 46.31 per cent of the total agricultural credit and 23.5 per cent of the total fertiliser production across the country. These milestones have been achieved through the institution of 21 national-level, 361 State-level, and 2,572 district-level



THEREFORE, THE IMMEDIATE PRIORITY BEFORE THE NEW MINISTRY IS TO REVAMP THE NATIONWIDE COOPERATIVE STRATEGY TO ENSURE ACCESS TO COST-EFFECTIVE INSTITUTIONAL SOURCES OF CREDIT, CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY FOR PRODUCERS, ESPECIALLY IN AGRICULTURE

(Saurabh Bandyopadhyay is Fellow and Anupma Mehta is Editor at NCAER. The views expressed are personal.)



cooperative federations in the country. Hence, every sphere of national and local economic activity has literally been brought under the ambit of the cooperative movement.

But is the picture as rosy as these statistics apparently indicate? Rumbblings of discontent among farmers, in particular, and the farm sector, in general, suggest that the contribution of cooperatives to actual growth in the agricultural sector is significantly lower than expectations. Despite the need for substantial investments in the form of plant, machinery, tools, and equipment in farming, the outcomes reflect low capital and low productivity linkages, along with the need for augmenting an under-performing marketing infrastructure.

In order to identify the ground-level roadblocks and suggest measures to overcome them, the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) recently undertook a study on cooperative agro-processing and identification of institutional financial lacunae in the cooperative movement with special attention on the role of the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). The NCAER study, covering 304 cooperative units in Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, and West Bengal, found that marginal and small farmers sell a major part of their agricultural commodities to private traders, which prevents them from reaping the profits of their produce even during a bumper harvest. Their small quantity transactions translate into meagre cooperative shares and weak bargaining power in the market. Lack of adequate storage facilities also compromises the processing of paddy, grains, and fruits and vegetables, which, in turn, adversely impacts the shelf life

of products and compromises employment outcomes. Further, the study showed a decadal decline in the share of agro-processing in the total value of the manufacturing output from 32.31 per cent in 2000-2001 to 22.9 per cent in 2011-12.

The NCAER estimations, based on analysis of the 70th Round unit-level data from the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), also highlight the need for providing cooperative support for marketing penetration and storage to smallholders, who constituted 86 per cent of the total share of landholdings in 2015-16, according to the Tenth Agricultural Census. In this context, NCDC, which has been at the forefront of the cooperative movement in the country, can offer pivotal support to the agriculture sector through the development of sustainable supply chains linking farmers to processing centres and markets. Critical funding from NCDC towards cooperative sector schemes comprising fisheries, dairy and livestock, water conservation, micro irrigation, agricultural insurance and credit, among others, constituted over 49 per cent of the cumulative lending for the period 2008-13. Yet the corporation is not being offered concessional finance under priority sector lending. Compelled to source its funds from the market, NCDC faces constraints in offering loans to cooperatives at competitive rates, which has a deterrent impact on post-harvest agricultural activities.

An assessment of the capacity utilisation of the surveyed units revealed that nearly 34 per cent of them were under-utilising their capacities in the range of 25 to 75 per cent, due to various reasons, such as inadequate supply of products for processing, shortage of skilled manpower, funds crunch, lack of demand, and non-availability of advanced machinery. In addition,

most States exhibit poor urban and rural representation of self-help groups and cooperatives in the sphere of foodgrain disbursement under the Public Distribution System (PDS) through the network of Fair Price Shops (FPS). Notwithstanding the policy for issuance of FPS licences to women’s self-help groups, village panchayats, urban local bodies, and cooperatives, the combined percentage of their FPS presence in India is merely about 26 per cent, with the rest going to private individual ownership.

It is obvious that despite its monumental potential, the cooperative model in the country is facing numerous policy hurdles. Since the administration of cooperatives has traditionally fallen under the purview of the respective State governments, the establishment of a Central Ministry to oversee their functioning may also have certain political repercussions and revive the national debate on collaborative federalism. The immediate priority before the new Ministry, therefore, is to revamp the nation-wide cooperative strategy to ensure access to cost-effective institutional sources of credit, capital equipment, and state-of-the-art technology for producers, especially in agriculture. Another vital mandate for it would be fulfilment of the fundamental objective of cooperatives of lifting the illiterate and unskilled workers out of poverty by providing them comprehensive infrastructural and marketing support for livelihood. There is no denying the fact that cooperatives have always signified viable solutions even in a failing market. It remains to be seen if the renewed political and economic focus on cooperatives can actually metamorphose into a truly people-based movement at the grassroots level, to usher in prosperity through people’s participation.

## POINT COUNTERPOINT

CAST YOUR VOTE EVEN IF IT RAINS. IF YOU WANT TO SEE ME AS THE CHIEF MINISTER, YOU MUST VOTE FOR ME.

— WEST BENGAL CM  
MAMATA BANERJEE



A DEFEATED CHIEF MINISTER IS MAKING DESPERATE EFFORTS. SHE DID NOT LEARN FROM THE NANDIGRAM LESSON.

— BJP LEADER  
SUWENDU ADHIKARI

# The misuse of law — a challenge to Indian judiciary

Public Interest Litigations have ensured against derailment of the rule of law and benefited the socially vulnerable sections

Efficient implementation of law is a pre-requisite for a stable and peaceful society and democracy is the torch bearer for a vibrant people-centric governance. The democratic fabric of a nation compliments the jurisprudence in ensuring the lawful governance. Over the years judicial activism through the Public Interest Litigation (PIL) has ensured that the derailment of the rule of law is prevented and the socially vulnerable sections of the society have immensely benefited.

The PIL concept was introduced by Justice PN Bhagwati. It refers to litigation undertaken to secure public interest and created an opportunity of justice to socially-disadvantaged



VK BAHUGUNA

(The writer is Chairman of Centre for Resource Management and Environment. The views expressed are personal.)

groups and provided relaxation on the traditional rule of locus standi. Ever since its enunciation in 1980s, the judiciary has used it for the course correction of executive’s functions and several landmark judgements have provided reliefs to affected citizens.

However, in India of late a serious problem of misuse of law is cropping up and threatening the jurisprudence. This writer has been a witness to such misuse of law both by the common citizens as well as people in power. He has recently written a book “Quest for Civility-an insight into Indian Babudom” on the misuse of power by people in authority.

The trigger for this arti-



cle came from a newspaper report about challenging the appointment of Rakesh Asthana as the Delhi Police Commissioner under a PIL filed by a few non-government organizations opposed to the present dispensation at the Centre. Asthana has challenged it as misuse of law.

Now let us discuss how his appointment was made and under what rule. The All India Service officers IAS, IPS and IFS (forests) are recruited by the Union

Government and it is up to the sweet will of the government to utilize them anywhere in the country or abroad in public interest. They can be granted extension in service or transferred from one cadre to the other if need be, depending upon their service records and the opinion of the government.

Such action of the Central is absolutely within its power and cannot be challenged. The government will have its reasons for the appointment. Some officers may have their reasons to be disappointed with the decision. If affected officers had gone to the Central Administrative Tribunal it would have been justified and the case could have been decided on merit. However, how could an unaf-

fected party challenge the power of the government? If the country allows such wastage of time on things based purely on ulterior motives or at the instigation of political leaders to regularly bring such matters in courts it would put the entire country’s administration as well as security to peril.

There are many other instances of misuse of powers, however, which need the attention of Supreme Court, High Courts and lower courts as well as legislatures. Crimes against women are attracting the attention of the judiciary with stringent provisions but surveys have shown that most of the provisions of section 354 of IPC and the Dowry Prevention Law (Section 498A/ 406 of

IPC) are the most misused provisions of law in India and yet no modifications seem to have been made in it. The provision, enacted to protect the dignity of a woman, has become a widely misused weapon by them and is used to harass and blackmail their husband and his family. Once an FIR is filed under 498A/406 (IPC) it becomes a tool in the hands of the police to harass the husband and all his relatives named in the FIR without even preliminary investigation.

According to a survey conducted by Fight against Misuse of Dowry law, 98 per cent of the cases filed under section 498A are false. One senior officer of Ladakh is facing a false dowry case and his father, a retired senior

officer of 71 years, is running from pillar to post. Similarly, section 354 is routinely used to harass men deliberately to settle property and other disputes. More than half of such cases ultimately prove false and no real punitive action is taken against the complainant.

The country needs to bring in a law to prevent misuse of law. If a case is dismissed, the complainant and others involved in the investigation and tendering of false witnesses must be punished. Only then the country’s judiciary as well as the police and other agencies would be spared such wastage of time and at the same time the law protecting citizens would be implemented well.



GLOBE

TROTTERING



7 DEAD AS BOAT CAPSIZES IN LAKE VICTORIA

Nairobi: A local official in Kenya says seven people are dead after their boat capsized in Lake Victoria.Homa Bay County Commissioner Moses Lilan says the seven bodies pulled from the lake after the accident include one of a child. Officials say four people are still missing.

ANCIENT CLAY TABLET GOING BACK TO IRAQ

Washington: A 3,500-year-old clay tablet discovered in the ruins of the library of an ancient Middle Eastern king, then looted from a museum 30 years ago, is finally headed back to Iraq.

LAVA RAISES FEARS OF DAMAGE ON ISLAND

Todouque: The advance of lava from a volcanic eruption in Spain's Canary Islands has slowed significantly, raising doubts Thursday about whether it will fan out across the land and destroy more homes instead of flowing into the sea.A giant river of lava slowed to four metres (13 feet) per hour after reaching a plain on Wednesday. On Monday, a day after the eruption on the island of La Palma, it was moving at 700 metres per hour.

Af power transition without negotiation, in non-inclusive manner: India at UN

New York: India on Thursday said that the transition of power in Afghanistan has been without negotiation and in a non-inclusive manner, raising questions on its acceptability.

India's Secretary (West) in the Ministry of External Affairs Reenat Sandhu, speaking at the Community of Democracies 10th Ministerial Conference 'Democracy and Resilience: Shared Goals,' said it is important that the new government in Afghanistan is broad-based and inclusive, representing all sections of Afghan society, including women and minorities.

The Taliban took control of Kabul on August 15 and have put in place a hardline interim 33-member Cabinet that has no woman and includes UN-designated terrorists.

Over the past month, we have witnessed dramatic changes in Afghanistan. *PTI*

# Taliban unlikely to participate in UNGA

## Diplomats of ousted Govt still in office

PTI ■ UNITED NATIONS

The Taliban, which now rule Afghanistan after overthrowing the elected Government of President Ashraf Ghani, are unlikely to represent their country at the high-level United Nations General Assembly session as representatives of the ousted dispensation still occupy the office at the UN, a Pakistani media report said on Thursday.

Afghanistan is scheduled to address the ongoing UN General Assembly session on September 27.

Afghan children collect water from a public water pump in Kabul on Thursday *AP*

On September 20, the Taliban-controlled Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent a letter to UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, requesting him to participate in the 76th UNGA session in New York.

It was signed by Taliban leader Ameer Khan Muttaqi as the new Afghan Foreign Minister. A week ago on

September 15, Guterres had received a letter from the currently accredited Afghan ambassador, Ghulam Isaczi, stating that he and other members of his team, still occupying the Afghan mission at the United Nations, will represent Afghanistan in UNGA.

On Tuesday, they attended the UNGA session addressed by US President Joe Biden.

“They will continue to occupy the mission until the credentials committee takes a decision,” a diplomatic source was quoted as saying by the *Dawn* newspaper.

## Afghan Taliban’s new UN envoy urges recognition

**Kabul:** The Taliban’s newly appointed envoy to the United Nations on Wednesday urged quick world recognition of Afghanistan’s new rulers even as the World Health Organisation raised the alarm of an impending health care disaster in the war-racked country.

The humanitarian crisis is one of the many challenges the Taliban face since their takeover of Afghanistan last month, including renewed threats from the militant Islamic State group, which recently stepped up its attacks, targeting members of the Taliban in its stronghold in the country’s east.

In an emergency measure, the UN aid coordinator Martin Griffiths released USD45 million in life-saving support Wednesday for Afghanistan from the world body’s emergency fund. *AP*

# US calls on UNSC P5 members to remain united on Afghanistan

**United Nations:** The US has called on fellow permanent members of the UN Security Council to remain “united” on Afghanistan, to hold the Taliban accountable to its commitments and to work together to ensure humanitarian access and availability of funds to meet humanitarian needs in the war-torn country.

The US, the UK, France, China and Russia, known as P5, are the five permanent and veto-wielding members of the 15-nation powerful UN organ.

UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss chaired a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the P5 and United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres on Wednesday on the margins of the high-level 76th session of the UN General Assembly.

US State Department

spokesperson Ned Price said that in the meeting, Secretary of State Antony Blinken emphasised the importance of a constructive P5 action to maintain international peace and security.

“On Afghanistan, the Secretary called for P5 coordination to mitigate the emerging humanitarian crisis and prevent an economic collapse. He noted the shared expectations for an inclusive and representative government.

“The Secretary encouraged the P5 to remain united on Afghanistan, to hold the Taliban accountable to its commitments, and to work together to ensure humanitarian access, respect for humanitarian principles, and availability of funds to meet humanitarian needs,” Price said in a statement. *PTI*

# Turabi: Strict punishment, executions will return

AP ■ KABUL

One of the founders of the Taliban and the chief enforcer of its harsh interpretation of Islamic law when they last ruled Afghanistan said the hard-line movement will once again carry out executions and amputations of hands, though perhaps not in public.

In an interview with *The Associated Press*, Mullah Nooruddin Turabi dismissed outrage over the Taliban’s executions in the past, which sometimes took place in front of crowds at a stadium, and he warned the world against interfering with Afghanistan’s new rulers.

“Everyone criticized us for the punishments in the stadium, but we have never said anything about their laws and

Taliban leader Mullah Nooruddin Turabi poses for a photo in Kabul *AP*

their punishments,” Turabi told *The Associated Press*, speaking in Kabul. “No one will tell us what our laws should be. We will follow Islam and we will make our laws on the Quran.”

Since the Taliban overran Kabul on Aug. 15 and seized control of the country, Afghans and the world have been watching to see whether they will recreate their harsh rule of the late 1990s.

# Tensions grow as US, allies deepen Indo-Pacific involvement

AP ■ BANGKOK

With increasingly strong talk in support of Taiwan, a new deal to supply Australia with nuclear submarines, and the launch of a European strategy for greater engagement in the Indo-Pacific, the US and its allies are becoming more assertive in their approach toward a rising China.

China has bristled at the moves, and the growing tensions between Beijing and Washington prompted UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on the weekend to implore US President Joe Biden and Chinese leader Xi Jinping to repair their “completely dysfunctional” relationship, warning they risk dividing the world.

As the UN General Assembly opened on Tuesday, both leaders chose calming language, with Biden insisting “we are not seeking a new Cold

War or a world divided into rigid blocs,” and Xi telling the forum that “China has never, and will never invade or bully others or seek hegemony.”

But the underlying issues have not changed, with China building up its military outposts as it presses its maritime claims over critical sea lanes, and the US and its allies growing louder in their support of Taiwan, which China claims as part of its territory, and deepening military cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.

On Friday, Biden hosts the leaders of Japan, India and Australia for an in-person Quadrilateral Security Dialogue for broad talks including the Covid-19 pandemic and climate change, but also how to keep the Indo-Pacific, a vast region spanning from India to Australia, “free and open,” according to the White House.

It comes a week after the dramatic announcement that Australia would be dropping a contract for conventional French submarines in favour of an Anglo-American offer for nuclear-powered vessels, a bombshell that overshadowed the unveiling of the European Union’s strategy to boost political and defense ties in the Indo-Pacific.

“One thing is certain, that everyone is pivoting toward the Indo-Pacific,” said Garima Mohan, an Asia program fellow with the German Marshall Fund think tank. As partners pursue moves that play to their own strengths and needs, however, the past week has underscored the lack of coordination as a networked security strategy develops, she said.

“Not everyone has the same threat assessment of China,” she said in a telephone interview from Berlin.

# US envoy to Haiti resigns over migrant expulsions

AP ■ TAIPEI

**Port-au-Prince:** The Biden administration’s special envoy to Haiti has resigned, protesting “inhumane” large-scale expulsions of Haitian migrants to their homeland wracked by civil strife and natural disaster, US officials said on Thursday.

Daniel Foote was appointed to the position only in July, following the assassination of Haiti’s president. Even before the migrant expulsions from the small Texas border town of Del Rio, the career diplomat was known to be deeply frustrated with what he considered a lack of urgency in Washington and a glacial pace on efforts to improve conditions in Haiti. *AP*

# China sends 19 fighter jets towards Taiwan in show of force

China sent 19 fighter jets toward Taiwan in a large display of force on Thursday, after the self-governing island announced its intention to join an 11-nation Pacific trade group that China has also applied to join.

Taiwan deployed air patrol forces in response to the Chinese jets and tracked them on their air defense systems, the island’s Defense Ministry said in a statement.

Among the various jets, some of which flew in a long L-shaped path, were 12 J-16 and two J-11s, as well as bombers and an anti-submarine aircraft. China

has sent fighter jets toward Taiwan on an almost daily basis this past year. It stepped up its military harassment of the self-ruled island and has sent large displays of fighter jets after political events in which it views as interfering with its sovereignty.

Taiwan and China split during a civil war in 1949, but China continues to claim Taiwan as part of its territory. Beijing opposes Taiwan’s involvement in international bodies. Taiwan announce Thursday that it applied to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, setting up another potential clash with Beijing.

# Africa CDC slams UK’s decision to subject some fully vaccinated travellers to quarantine

**Lagos (Nigeria):** The director of Africa CDC has criticised Britain’s decision to subject some travellers who had been fully vaccinated to quarantine upon their arrival in England.

Dr John Nkengasong says the Africa CDC will call for a review of the policy that “doesn’t speak to solidarity and cooperation” and are “the cornerstone” to defeat the pandemic.

Britain had pledged to share 100 million vaccines with the rest of the world by June 2022, with 30 million doses to be sent

to various countries in 2021, including in Nigeria where it donated 1.2 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine in August.

But its new policy taking effect October 4 means some people who got those vaccines are still not recognized as fully vaccinated. That is because the UK government recognises those fully vaccinated against Covid-19 based on certain terms, including that travellers must have received a UK-authorized shot from an approved health body. *AP*

# Highest stakes in repatriating displaced people from Myanmar: India

**United Nations:** As the only country sharing a long border with Bangladesh and Myanmar, India has one of the “highest stakes” in resolving the issue of repatriation of displaced persons from the Rakhine State of Myanmar, New Delhi’s envoy here said.

Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations Ambassador TS Tirumurti told the UN General Assembly High-Level Side Event ‘Rohingya Crisis: Imperatives for a Sustainable Solution’ that India commends the Government of Bangladesh for hosting a million displaced persons in its territory.

He voiced concern that the international community has been unable to help resolve the repatriation of displaced persons from the Rakhine State in an expeditious manner.

“It is important for us to recognise and understand the humanitarian burden that Bangladesh continues to bear and support the efforts it has undertaken to ensure the well-being of the displaced persons,” Tirumurti said.

“It is indeed a matter of concern that the international community has been unable to help resolve this issue in an expeditious and sustainable manner,” he said, adding that a collaborative and consensus-based approach is key to arriving at a meaningful outcome. *PTI*



Capri Global Housing Finance Limited

Registered & Corporate Office " 502, Tower-A, Peninsula Business Park, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Panel, Mumbai-400013

Circle Office :- Capri Global Capital Limited 2nd Floor, 3B Pusa Road Rajendra Place, New Delhi-110005

APPENDIX IV POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Capri Global Housing Finance Limited (CGHFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub –section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of CGHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

S. No.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Date of Possession
1.	(Loan Account No. LNHPRD000019482 of our Azadpur Branch) Deepak Khanna (Borrower) Jyoti Khanna, CPK The Mentor Food Product Supplier Hotel Management & Science (Co-Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Plot area admeasuring 125 Sq Yds out of Khasha Nos. 148/1/1, 2/1, 10, 12/1, 149/6/2, 125/11/2, 20, 21, 22/1 situated in the area of Village Parasram Colony, Tehsil & Distt Palwal, Haryana Alongwith Construction Thereon present and future Both.	21-06-2021 Rs. 18,47,703	18-09-2021
2.	(Loan Account No. LNHLPD000002726 of our Pusradod Branch) Manjeet Singh (Borrower) Mandeep Kaur (Co-Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Entire Third floor with roof Rights built up on Part of Plot No. 2 (Old), New Municipal No. 49, area admeasuring 115 Sq. Yds. Situated in the Old Lal Dora of Village Singerpur, now known as Singhal Pur, Delhi-110088. Alongwith Construction Thereon present and future Both.	21-06-2021 Rs. 31,92,016/-	18-09-2021
3.	(Loan Account No. LNCGHGRH0000000408 of our Gurgaon Branch) Riyaz Khan (Borrower) Manisha (Co-Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Property bearing No. 225, area admeasuring 75 Sq yds, Part of Khasha No. 141 situated in old Lal Dora of Village Bijwasan, Delhi. Alongwith Construction Thereon present and future Both. Boundaries as Under:- EAST :- Property of Mr. Niasubudhi Dalut Ram, West:- Property of Mr. Jeet Singh, North:- Rasta, South:- Open Space	21-06-2021 Rs. 17,94,467/-	18-09-2021
4.	(Loan Account No. LNCGHKKDH0000000172 of our Karkadooda Branch) Sunder Chhadha (Borrower) Vipin Chadha (Co-Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of House No. E-171-B, Second floor, Block-E, Govindpuram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh Alongwith Construction Thereon present and future Both.	21-06-2021 Rs. 8,54,552/-	18-09-2021
5.	(Loan Account No. LNCGHJHH00000001442 of our Pusradod Branch) Sushila Devi (Borrower) Prashant Kumar (Co-Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of LHS, Rear Side Flat No. GF-04 MIG, Ground floor, Built up on Plot No. B-76, Khasha No. 410, SLF Ved Vihar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh Alongwith Construction Thereon present and future Both.	21-06-2021 Rs. 24,30,971/-	18-09-2021
6.	(Loan Account No. LNHLAGR000020629 of our Agra Branch) Brijesh Kumar (Borrower) Manjesh (Co-Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Part of Plot No. E-3, area admeasuring 41.69 Sq Yds, Khasha No. 652 (Min), K.J.S. Dham, Jangjeet Nagar Phase-I, Tajganj Ward, Tehsil and District Agra, Uttar Pradesh Alongwith Construction Thereon present and future Both. Boundaries as Under:- EAST :- Other Property West:- Colony Road, North:- Other Property, South:- Other Property	21-06-2021 Rs. 6,67,120/-	18-09-2021
7.	(Loan Account No. LNHMER000034746, LNHLMR000033939 of our Meerut Branch) Rohit Gupta (Borrower) Pulkit P. Mohit Gupta, Jaimala Gupta (Co-Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Flat at Second floor Built up on Plot No. F-3, area admeasuring 136.34 Sq Yds, Khasha No. 310, Situated at Saraswati Lok Colony, Phase-II, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. , Alongwith Construction Thereon present and future Both.	21-06-2021 Rs. 24,02,732/-	18-09-2021
8.	(Loan Account No. LNHLPD000012608 of our Pusa Road Branch) Anand Kumar (Borrower) Maya Devi (Co-Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Entire Second floor of Property bearing No. 182 & 183, Pocket-10, Sector-21, Rohini, Delhi Alongwith Construction Thereon present and future Both.	24-06-2021 Rs. 32,60,244/-	18-09-2021
9.	(Loan Account No. LNHLMR000004237 of our Meerut Branch) Rekha Raj Kumar (Borrower) Raj Kumar (Co-Borrower)	All Piece and Parcel of Plot No. 73-A, area admeasuring 58.43 Sq yds. Khasha No. 624/2 situated at Village Baral, Pratapur, Tehsil & District Meerut, Uttar Pradesh Alongwith Construction Thereon present and future Both. Boundaries as under:- East:- Other's Property, West:- 8 Ft Gali North:- Other's Property, South:- Other's Property.	24-06-2021 Rs. 5,57,567	18-09-2021

Place : Delhi / NCR Date : 24-09-2021

Sd/- (Authorised Officer) For Capri Global Housing Finance Limited (CGHFL)



New Okhla Industrial Development Authority

Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida-201301 (U.P.)  
Website : [www.noidaauthorityonline.com](http://www.noidaauthorityonline.com)

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors/firm for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: [www.noidaauthorityonline.com](http://www.noidaauthorityonline.com) & <https://etender.up.nic.in>. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

A) Fresh-Tender Work

S. No.	Job No.	Name of Work	Tender Amount (Rs. Lacs)
1.	05 / CGM / Sr. M.(E/M)-I/ ET/2021-22	Hire Charges for Innova, Honda City/ Ciaz, Swift Dzire/Etios	69.21

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated **07.10.2021 upto 5.00 PM**. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated **08.10.2021 at 11.00 AM**.

B) Re-Tender Work

S. No.	Job No.	Name of Work	Tender Amount (Rs. Lacs)
2.	03 / CGM / Sr. M.(E/M)-II/ 2021-22/ET	Maintenance of Traffic Signal at Various Sectors in Noida. (Zone-I)	86.87

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated **30.09.2021 upto 5.00 PM**. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated **01.10.2021 at 11.00 AM**.

Chief General Manager, Noida

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA  
PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION, NASHIK  
E-Tender Notice No.35 for 2021-22 (Online)

Online E-Tenders in "B-1" Form for the following works invited by Executive Engineer, P.W.Division, Nashik Phone No. (0253/2583761-64, 2575324) for and on behalf of Governor of Maharashtra State From Capable of P.W.Deptt. Registered / Unregistered Contractor or International Contractor whose Sub company / branch in India and also complete terms and conditions mentioned in tender document.

Tender document download on our website <https://mabatenders.gov.in> Right of rejection of E-tender / cancellation of E-tender reserved by The Executive Engineer, P.W.Division, Nashik. \* Conditional Tender will not be accepted.

Note:- Above mentioned E-Tender Notice including Total I ( One ) (Costing from Rs. 500.00 Lacks ) Works And details of mentioned E-Tender Notice available on below website.

1.[www.mahapwd.com](http://www.mahapwd.com)  
2.<https://mahatenders.gov.in>

Tender Document Sale Start and End Date Time	24.09.2021 from 11:05	to	18.10.2021 upto 17:00
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\* Blank E-Tender form Fees (Non refundable) and EMD amount will be accepted Online only.  
\* Post Qualification criteria condition included in tender document  
\* All eligible/ interested Contractors are required to be enrolled on portal <https://mahatenders.gov.in> before down loading tender documents and participate in e-tendering  
\* The information of E-Payment Gateway available on E-Tendering website <https://mahatenders.gov.in>

Please Note this to all Registered / Unregistered Contractors.

sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
DGIPR-2065/21-22  
Public Works Division, Nashik



SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSON

General public is here by informed that this person **Name: Ramlal Panthi, S/o Hemlal Panthi, R/o D-2/64, First Floor Andrews Ganj, New, Delhi, Age: 51 Years, Height: 5'3", Face: Round, Complexion: Wheatish, Injury Mark: Marks on Upper side of Right Hand**, has been missing since 07.12.2009 from the area of P.S. Defence Colony, Delhi.

In this regard a DD No. 16A, dated 08.12.2009 has been lodged at P.S. Defence Colony, 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 kindly inform to the following.

E-Mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>  
Fax: 011-24368639  
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641

**SHO**  
**P.S. Defence Colony, Delhi**  
**Ph. 011-26253402, 8750870827**  
**DP/696/SD/2021**



Branch Office: ICICI Bank, Shal Tower New Rohtak Road Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005

Whereas

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	M/s Stan Cars Pvt Ltd/ Mr Anil Kumar Malhotra/ Mr Raghav Malhotra/ Mr Prashant Malhotra/ Stan Auto Pvt Ltd/ Mrs Seema Malhotra/ Om Parkash Vij/ A/c No. 631960001476/ 010251006926/ 010260000397/ 631951000018	H No 542 Sector 15- A, Urban Estate, Faridabad/ September 21, 2021	June 24, 2021/ Rs. 12,80,87,904.80/	Delhi/ Ncr Punjab

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

Date : September 24, 2021  
Place: Delhi/NCR

Authorized Officer  
ICICI Bank Limited



# Market at fresh peak: Sensex zooms to 958 pts

Nifty tops 17,800

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmark Sensex zoomed 958 points to end at a fresh lifetime high on Thursday, tracking gains in index majors Reliance Industries, HDFC twins and ICICI Bank amid a positive trend in global markets.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty soared 276.30 points or 1.57 per cent to its new closing peak of 17,822.95. It touched an intra-day record of 17,843.90.

After scaling a new peak of 59,957.25 during the day, the 30-share Sensex settled 958.03 points or 1.63 per cent up at an all-time high of 59,885.36.

Bajaj Finserv was the top gainer in the Sensex pack, rising over 4 per cent, followed by L&T, HDFC, Axis Bank, SBI, Reliance Industries and IndusInd Bank.

On the other hand, Dr Reddy's, ITC, Nestle and HUL were the laggards.

Domestic equities wit-

nessed sharp recovery with benchmarks Nifty and Sensex both recording fresh all-time highs, said Binod Modi, Head-Strategy at Reliance Securities.

Favourable FOMC meeting outcome and ease of concerns from possible default of Evergrande aided market rally. Financials and Reliance Industries have dominated market rally, followed by metals, IT and auto, he added.

US Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell said the Fed plans to announce as early as November that it will start to taper its monthly bond purchases, should the job market maintain its steady improvement.

Elsewhere in Asia, bourses in Shanghai and Hong Kong ended with gains, while Seoul was in the red. Japanese market was closed for holidays.

Stock exchanges in Europe were also trading on a positive note in mid-session deals.

Meanwhile, international oil benchmark Brent crude slipped 0.12 per cent to USD 76.10 per barrel.

# Mcap of BSE-listed firms touches all-time high of ₹ 261.73 lakh cr

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies reached an all-time high of ₹ 261.73 lakh crore on Thursday, helped by a massive rally in the equities where the benchmark Sensex zoomed 958 points to end at a fresh lifetime peak.

The 30-share BSE benchmark jumped 958.03 points or 1.63 per cent to settle at its new closing peak of ₹59,885.36. During the day, it gained 1,029.92 points to touch an intra-day record high of 59,957.25.

Driven by the rally in the equities, the market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies jumped Rs 3,16,778.1 crore to reach Rs 2,61,73,374.32 crore. "The market took the US Fed statement of starting tapering as soon as November in its stride. Encouraging news on Evergrande crisis also helped to clear some uncertainty on the global front. Indian markets have been on a roll and the rally today was symbolic of the prevailing strong sentiment locally on the back of reduction in covid cases and the strong vaccination numbers," Devang Mehta, Head of Equity Advisory at Centrum Broking, said.

On Wednesday, US Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell said the Fed plans to announce as early as November that it will start to taper its monthly bond purchases, should the job market maintain its steady improvement.

"Amidst a strong start, bulls showed no signs of weakness to soar higher boosted by strong global cues and broad-based buying led by realty, metal and banking stocks. Global markets tempered optimism despite a slightly hawkish tilt by the Fed Reserve intimating that the US Central Bank will begin reducing its asset purchases in November and conclude the tapering process around mid-2022," Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said.

Bajaj Finserv was the biggest gainer among the 30-share BSE benchmark frontline companies pack, gaining over 5 per cent, followed by L&T, HDFC, Axis Bank, SBI and Reliance Industries.

In contrast, Dr Reddy's, ITC, Nestle, HUL and Bharti Airtel were the laggards.

The BSE midcap and smallcap gained up to 1.28 per cent.

# Reliance Industries mcap goes past ₹ 16 lakh cr mark in intra-day trade

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The market valuation of Reliance Industries Limited went past the ₹16 lakh crore mark in intra-day trade on Thursday following a rally in its share price.

The index heavyweight stock jumped 2.43 per cent to settle at ₹2,489.65 on the BSE. During the day, it gained 2.72 per cent to its record high of ₹2,496.95.

On the NSE, it rose by 2.36 per cent to settle at ₹2,488.10. In intra-day, the company's market valuation rose to ₹16,88,455 crore. At closing, its market capitalisation (m-cap) was at ₹15,78,299.46 crore.

RIL was the biggest contributor to the overall market rally on Thursday, where the 30-share BSE benchmark zoomed 958.03 points or 1.63 per cent to its new closing peak of 59,885.36.

Earlier on September 3, the market valuation of Reliance Industries Limited jumped to Rs 15 lakh crore.

On June 3 this year, Reliance Industries' market valuation crossed the Rs 14 lakh crore mark.

Shares of Reliance Industries have gained over 25 per cent so far this year.

# Rupee rebounds 23 paise to close at 73.64 against US dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee rebounded by 23 paise to close at 73.64 against the US dollar on Thursday following an improved risk appetite among investors triggered by positive global cues.

Investors globally took the US Fed statement of starting tapering as soon as November in their stride and encouraging news on China's Evergrande crisis also helped to clear some uncertainty on the global front, analysts said.

At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened flat at 73.85 against the greenback. During the session, it witnessed an intra-day high of 73.61 and finally settled at 73.64.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, fell 0.29 per cent to 93.19.

"The Indian rupee erased Wednesday's loss tracking cues from regional currencies and a surge in global equities after the US Federal Reserve's meeting. Globally risk is looking fairly balanced with two large events of the week FOMC and Evergrande chaos seem to be behind," said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities.

# Digital cos' data hegemony may lead to 'attention economy', says Competition Comm chief

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Competition Commission Chief Ashok Kumar Gupta on Thursday flagged that data hegemony by some digital companies may lead to "attention economy" in which big tech players work to capture users' attention, build profiles of their choices and sell the profiles to advertisers.

The remarks from the Chairperson of the country's fair trade regulator assumes significance against the backdrop of concerns in certain quarters about the business ways of big tech entities and also some digital players coming under the lens of the watchdog.

While noting that rapid changes are happening in markets, which are increasingly shifting towards a digital platform-centric configuration, Gupta also pointed out that these platform markets are by their very nature "winner-takes-all or winner-takes-most".

"Network effects, access to large amounts of data, economies of scale and scope, induced behavioural biases among consumers etc., in digital markets, may heighten market concentration and result in the creation of impermeable entry barriers," he

said.

Addressing a conference on competition law organised by industry body Assocham, Gupta said that data hegemony by some digital companies may lead to an "attention economy".

In an "attention economy", big tech players work to capture users' attention, build profiles of their choices and habits, then sell those profiles to advertisers, he added.

"Moreover, since these digital platforms are the ones who make the rules about how different users would interact on their platform, it gives them an incentive to engage in conduct that may not only impede competition in the market but may also strengthen their incumbency advantage," Gupta said.

According to him, the regulator has a very important role in ensuring that these platforms remain neutral, offer a level playing field and allow enterprises, big and small, that access consumers through these platforms to compete on the basis of merits.

The Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) acknowledged that in these fast-evolving and dynamic markets, a regulator's task is much like hitting at moving targets.

# E-commerce cos to log 23% rise in gross GMV at over \$9 bn this year: RedSeer

New Delhi: E-commerce platforms are expected to potentially clock over USD 9 billion gross GMV (Gross Merchandise Value) during the festive season this year as against USD 7.4 billion last year - a growth of 23 per cent, consulting firm RedSeer said on Thursday. For the full year, the overall online gross GMV is expected to touch \$49-52 billion, which is around 37 per cent higher than last year (USD 38.2 billion), primarily driven by strong consumer funnel expansion and the high adoption of online shopping post-Covid across the categories, RedSeer said in its eCommerce Festive Season Report.

# NRIDA to explore smart solutions to improve rural road construction pace

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (NRIDA) is set to pilot smart solutions backed by digital innovations to modernise existing performance monitoring mechanisms and improve the service delivery capacity of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), which aims to expand India's rural road network by 125,000 km in its third phase by 2025. The envisaged solutions will introduce smart payments and micro services-based architecture. This move will help improve the pace of construction, reduce delays, prevent under-utilization of funds, avoid cost overruns, and strengthen the accountability of government officials and contractors.

# Upper middle class to revive consumption cycle again soon: Report

PTI ■ MUMBAI

With higher consumer confidence following the rise in vaccination levels and sitting on already-built-up-savings through the pandemic months, the top 20 per cent of upper-income consumers will help recover the near-term consumption demand, as per a report.

These consumers account for the bulk of the rural and urban demand.

While the economy fared the worst last year, contracting a record 7.3 per cent due to the pandemic, the problem with the economy had begun much earlier in FY16 when consumption demand began to disappear from the economy. The pandemic only added to the contraction.

# Sign Language Day celebrated by ISLRTC

New Delhi: Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC), New Delhi, an autonomous body under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment celebrated 'Sign Language Day' on Thursday at Dr. Ambedkar

International Centre, New Delhi. Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment, Dr. Virendra Kumar was the Chief Guest and Ministers of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Km. PratimaBhoumik and Shri A. Narayanswami were Guests of Honour.

**INDIAN RAILWAYS**  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(RAILWAY BOARD)  
**E-TENDER No. 2021RSI8741TC**

Director, Railways Stores (W), Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, Government of India invites e-tender for procurement of 1,45,532 Nos. Low Torque Grease Seal to RD50 Specification No. WD-63-Misc-2020 of Oct 2020 or latest amendments, if any for AAR Standard Upgraded Class 'E' (6" x 11") Cartridge Tapered Roller bearings used in freight stock.  
**2.0** The interested tenderers are advised to visit the website <http://ireps.gov.in> for details of the tender and submission of their e-bids.  
**3.0** No manual offers will be accepted against e-tender.  
**4.0** Tender will be closed at 15:00 hours on 28.10.2021.

Director, Railway Stores (W)  
Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, New Delhi.  
for and on behalf of the President of India.

2143/2021

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited**  
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)  
Corporate Identity Number: U410P02010SGC33813  
Website: [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in), (Contact Number 9646118754)

Tender Enquiry No. 274/HPS/ED-I/S-413 Dated 21-09-2021  
SE/ Hydrel Projects, PSPCL, Shed A-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala Invites E-Tender for Design, manufacture, supply, erection, testing and commissioning of 4 sets of microprocessor based static excitation equipment along with accessories (including dismantling of existing panels, equipment, cables etc) for 4X15 MW Machine of Shanan Power House, PSPCL, Joginder Nagar, Distt. Mandi (HP).  
For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to <https://ereproc.punjab.gov.in> from 24-09-2021 onwards.  
**NOTE:** Corrigendum and Addendum, if any will be published online at <https://ereproc.punjab.gov.in>  
RO No. 76155/12/458/2021/8166 C-346/21

**SEARCH FOR MISSING FEMALE**



General public is here by informed that this female **Namely: Roopa, W/o Mahipal, R/o H. No. 123 Nanda Enclave, Najafgarh, New Delhi, Age: 30 years, Height: 5'2", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Hair: Black & Long, Wearing: Yellow Suit-Salwar, White Color Chunni and Jutti** in feet, has been missing since 09.07.2021 from the area of P.S. Baba Hari Das Nagar, New Delhi

In this regard a DD No. 92-A, dated 09.07.2021, has been lodged at P.S. Baba Hari Das Nagar, New Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this female but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this female kindly inform to the following.

**E-Mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) SHO**  
**Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> P.S. Baba Hari Das Nagar, New Delhi**  
**Fax: 011-24368639 Ph. 011-25315302, 8750871028**  
**Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 DP/381/DW/2021**

**Chief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency**  
First Floor, Directorate of Panchayatiraj, Opp-T Park, Sahasradhara Road, Dehradun.

Ref. No. 1651/II-02(xix)/ITCO/URRDA/21 Dated : 23-09-2021  
**PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY) e-Procurement Notice-07/2021-22**  
The Chief Engineer, URRDA on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of Roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Districts of **Almora, Bageshwar, Pithoragarh & Uttarkashi for 05 number of Packages with estimated cost totaling to Rs. 16.00 Crore** including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors registered with PWD/CPWD or equivalent".  
Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement : 25-09-2021.  
**Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission:** The bid documents are available online and should be submitted online in [www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in). The bidder would be required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities.  
The bidders are required to submit original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (ii) of ITB with **CONCERNED CIRCLE OFFICES, mentioned in SBD/MBD, only up to or before the time and date of the submission of the Bids (for World Bank funded works) and on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the bid (for Regular PMGSY Works)**, either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive. No Physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.  
Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 01-10-2021 01:00 PM.  
For further details please log on to [www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in)  
**Chief Engineer, URRDA, Dehradun.**  
\* Non Registered bidders may submit bids, however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.  
**Note :** For e-Procurement for any sort of queries 0135-2608125 number may be contacted 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM.

**SEARCH FOR MISSING**



General Public is hereby informed that person namely **Ramshankar Saket S/o Lt. Sh. Kemla Saket R/o VPO Sarai Unmulan Tehsil: Sirmour, Distt: Rewa Madhya Pradesh** has been missing from ISBT Kashmir Gate, Delhi since 07.01.2021 In this regard a **DD No. 61A Dated 22.01.2021** has been lodged at PS, Kashmir Gate, Delhi.

The description of missing person is as under:

**Name :** Ramshankar Saket, **Father's Name :** Lt. Sh. Kemla Saket, **Age :** 24 years, **Height :** 5'5", **Face :** Round, **Complexion :** Shallow, **Built :** Thin, **Wearing:** Red Colour Jearsy, Jeans and white colour shoes in feet.  
If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.

**Website : <http://cbi.nic.in> SHO**  
**e-mail : [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) P.S., Kashmir Gate, Delhi**  
**Ph.: 011-23014046 (Direct) 23015229 & 23015218 Extn.-210**  
**Fax: 011-23011334 Ph. : 011-23968730**  
**DP/906/N/2021**

**SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED**



General Public is hereby informed that one girl **Namely: Babita, D/o: Sh. Lakhan, R/o: B-1236, Gali No. 4, Sangam Vihar, Tigr, New Delhi, Age: 14 Years, Height: 4'3", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Mental Status: Mentally ill, Wearing: Orange Colour Suit and Green Colour Dupatta and Slipper** in feet has been missing/kidnapped from her house. In this regard **FIR No. 145/21, U/s 363 IPC, Dated 25.04.2021**, has been lodged at **P.S. Tigr, New Delhi**.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing/ kidnapped girl please inform the undersigned.

**Web-site : <http://cbi.nic.in> SHO**  
**E-Mail ID: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) P.S. Tigr, New Delhi**  
**Fax: 011-23011334 Ph.: 8375801422, 8750870834**  
**DP/691/SD/2021**

**PARADIP PORT TRUST**  
**e-TENDER CALL NOTICE**  
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My clients Daulat Singh S/o Sh. Aan Singh & Smt. Dhanno Devi W/o Sh. Daulat Singh both R/o C 460, New Seemapuri, Delhi-95, debarred the son Ghanashyam & his wife Smt. Khatri from their all movable-immovable properties and severed all relations with them due to their disobedience and quarrelsome nature. My clients shall not be responsible for their any act whatsoever in future.  
**Mohit Bansal (Advocate)**  
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My clients Mr. Ashok Kumar S/o Sh. Pheru Singh and his wife Mrs. Usha both R/o H. No. 181, Shyam Gali No. 1, Moujpur, Delhi/110053 have debarred their son Rahul and his wife Divya from their all movable and immovable properties and also severed their relations from them due to their deplorable behaviour. If any person deals with them in future, my clients shall not be responsible for the same.  
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"It is to inform to the public at large that my client **Mrs. Priyanka Kumari**, approached Fullerton India Home Finance Company Ltd. for a Home Loan against A Freehold Residential built-up Property bearing no. D-423, First Floor, Front Side, Without Roof Rights, admeasuring 60 Sq. Yards i.e. 50.166 Sq. Meter out of Kharsa No 13/13, situated in the revenue estate of Village Mirzapur Delhi State colony known as Mahvir Enclave, New Delhi - 110045 hereinafter referred to as 'the said property' which he owns vide **Sale Deed Dated 19.03.2019** executed by **Mrs Bimla Kumari W/o Mr Lal Babu** in favour of **Mrs Priyanka Kumari W/o Mr Satya Prakash** Duly Registered with SR IX, New Delhi Vide Doc. No. 2269, Vol No. 9931 BOOK NO-1, Page No.187-193, dated on 20-03-2019.  
That this is a General publication made in favour of public if any person further having any type of claim/right/title/interest over the said property may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lien etc.  
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0120-4554882, 7011172764







# BON APPETITE

TANMAYA DAS finds that the fare at Dhansoo cafe in Gurgaon has interesting twists and riveting representations

The majority of millennials enjoy spending countless hours in a cosy, teeny-tiny café. I had an excellent reason to test the new Dhansoo café in Gurgaon because I had been travelling since the morning to explore the city. I'm sure it will be the next big thing for foodies as the place offers a wide range of delicacies with a *dhansoo* touch. The café was the nicest pick, thanks to its lovely lighting, and décor of gorgeous flora murals that complemented the vibe immensely, while the umbrella-shaped lighting added a romantic touch to the space. The wine glasses were hanging upside down in the mocktail section and the calm romantic music playing in the background flattered me. I could see families and friends gathering around to spend a wonderful time on the weekend. The place displayed a colourful array of Indian cuisine with intriguing names on the menu list. Despite the fact that the café was packed, I was able to secure a little table in the corner to escape the din. The exquisite décor of the café brought back memories of evenings that I used to spend with my friends. I decided to try a few Indian dishes



to break my train of thought about those lovely moments spent at my hometown. After a while, I was served with small *Podi idli*, along with refried kidney beans and smoked tomato chutney, I had a yearning for something spicy, and this dish satisfied that need. *Podi idli* presented with spicy tomato chutney gave a burning sensation, but the bland flavour of refried *rajma* balanced out the spicy taste. Being an ardent non-vegetarian, I do have a fascination for chicken kebabs too. I vividly recalled my college days when we ate chicken kebabs for almost a month before getting sick of them. However, the next item on my list was to try

*Dhansoo corn seekh kebab*, as the name suggested distinctiveness. The dish was presented with mint chutney and *varqui* paratha along with masala onion. As I took a bit of the *seekh* kebab with mint chutney, it tasted little savoury, appealing to my tastebuds to the fullest. A delightful mocktail with

detoxifying advantages of fresh kiwi and cucumber, along with jalapenos, mint springs, and coriander leaves was brought aside the corn *seekh* kebab. I sipped the drink carelessly, enjoying the combination of sweetness and tartness entirely throughout the meal. Nonetheless, some of my South

Indian acquaintances recommended that I must try *chettinad* paneer someday. While perusing the menu, I discovered *Chettinad pulled chicken*, which described the ingredients like a shredded chicken with *idiyapam* and gunpowder. It reminded me of my friend's suggestion and I ordered the dish right away. As I took a bite, I opted not to eat any more as it was extremely spicy and hot, which I was not aware of beforehand. Thankfully, *Kaala jadoo* came to the rescue and soothed my tastebuds immediately. The amazing combination of activated charcoal detox juice with sweet lime helped me to relax for a while with a chill sensation on my tongue. The corporate chef Ashish offered *Pallet clinger* that came on the house gracefully. I loved how the drink was presented in two miniature bottles with a small leaf marked on each of them, which gave it a cute appearance on the table. My taste buds were sweetened to the core by the lovely pink strawberry syrup and I happily finished the entire drink. Out of all dishes, my personal favourite was the *British paneer butter masala* (I always have a soft corner for paneer butter masala, honestly), which had a fantastic balanced flavour of all masalas. The creamy soft gravy had a sweet taste of tomato and butter, and the soft paneer was great and worth trying again. Finally, *Yaddon ki churri* was served with *kalakand* and *rabri* was the last dish for the day. The sweetness of *rabri* appealed to me, the pleasant taste mesmerised my soul. As I went out of the cafe, more people came in, and the place got busy and lively in the evening. All of the customers were greeted with a humble nod from the employees. I could see the staff preoccupied while serving the best cuisine to their customers, making them contented. The courteous workers greeted me with a sincere smile and insisted on seeing me again as I was leaving, it was indeed a pleasant evening.

## Partying on the health bandwagon

JYOTI DABAS shares five secrets and tricks to socialising while sticking to your health goals



Do you feel your health goals derail every time you socialise with your relatives and friends? Worried that you might overeat or drink too much and fall off the bandwagon? Or do you cancel all your social invites so you don't lose your progress? Well, look no further, we have got you covered. Going out with friends, family or for social events no longer needs to be stressful, daunting or a full-of-guilt affair anymore. You can bake your cake and eat it too! All you have to do is keep the following five guidelines in mind which will help you stay on track:



light during the day for your night-out. On the contrary, arriving hungry to a party or a dinner will lead you to make poor food choices such as snacking on fried foods, peanuts, and so on. Instead, according to the 'quantified nutrition' methodology, spread the excess calories in a structured manner over the next three to four days.

### Remember the ½ and ¼ rule

While going out is fun and you should enjoy yourself and eat what you desire to, there is an easy way to ensure you do not overdo on calories. To begin with, make sure that you fill up half your plate with vegetables. These could be low calorie vegetables, which means those that are high in fibre or water content. Of course, you need a balanced meal, so add lean proteins such as chicken, fish, or paneer to fill quarter of your plate. And last but not least, fill the remainder of your plate with carbohydrates such as rice or lentils. This can be a good guideline if you want to have an overall low-calorie meal.

### Everything in moderation is fine

Want to eat that burger, pizza or slice of cake? Go ahead! A few bites will not derail you from achieving your health goals. In fact, depriving yourself from food often leads to binge-sessions. You might end up consuming three-fold or four-fold of the calories in comparison to just a few bites. When you are eating your favourite high calorie food, make sure you slow down your eating — savor the taste, texture and make every bite last. Now all you have to do is ensure you balance the remainder of your meal with nutritious food items.

### Starving yourself before going out might not be a good idea

You could not be more wrong to think that you will adjust the calories by starving yourself or eating

### Enjoy the occasion

It can be stressful to go out and keep worrying about your calorie intake and the food you are consuming. But remind yourself that you are outside to enjoy your food, so go have fun! Forget the food, strike a conversation with your friends, dance, play a game and simply enjoy the moment and the company you are in.

### Watch out for alcohol-based or carbonated/sugary drinks

Calories from alcohol, mixers and accompanying food can quickly add up. Ideally, alcohol is never advisable but for some, it is an inevitable part of enjoying the occasion. The best thing is to be aware and choose your drinks and mixers wisely. Cocktails can be the worst offenders while food that goes along with the drinks pile up the calories. There are some great alternatives including infused water or low calorie drinks that have negligible calories. Keep hydrated and enjoy your time out without fussing about ruining your progress.

You no longer have to be a hermit when it comes to accepting social invites. Needless to say, do not overdo it if you are serious about seeing progress. Keep these guidelines handy and remember to plan well in advance. You are now well equipped with the above tips which will allow you to have a fun and stress-free night-out.

(The author is the co-founder and CEO of Institute of Nutrition and Fitness Sciences (INFS).)

Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) or Polycystic ovarian disease (PCOD) is a hormonal imbalance disorder. As per the results of a recent country-wide survey, close to 16 per cent women in the age-group of 20 to 29 years suffer from PCOS/PCOD. It is typically earmarked by irregular periods or by no menstruation at all. In this condition, women typically have multiple cysts in their ovaries that are caused by an overproduction of hormones called androgens. As a result, many are overweight and develop associated complications. Lifestyle changes and dietary modifications can play a major role in dealing with this hormonal disorder and in losing weight. If the symptoms are not controlled, the risk for heart disease, Endometrial cancer, Type 2 diabetes (T2D), and high blood pressure increases. It affects the woman's fertility and can cause complications during pregnancy. Many women with PCOS or PCOD have been able to manage their symptoms and

## Battling with PCOS/PCOD

ROHIT SHELATKAR suggests superfoods to fight hormonal imbalance

reduce the risk of associated medical issues by modifying their diet and lifestyle choices. These simple lifestyle tweaks can improve your overall health while reducing the anxiety that can significantly impact one's ability to conceive.

Here are some superfoods for PCOS/PCOD women should include as a part of their diet:

### Leafy greens

Women must include at least one-two servings of nutritious leafy green vegetables in their diets. Not only are these healthy, but they are also rich in vitamin B. It is an important nutrient that supports fertility by regulating ovulation, insulin control, and regular



ising blood flow in the body. Hence, a high intake of vitamin B can help in managing the symptoms associated with PCOS.

### Omega-3

It is an important nutrient that can help in correcting hormonal imbalances. Certain fishes like salmon and sardine are rich in omega-3. It also helps to control stress levels and

reduce inflammation that may cause uncontrolled weight gain. If these fishes are not available, fish oil supplements can be taken. Vegetarians can opt for flax seeds or walnuts with yoghurt or smoothies.

### Legumes

These nutrient-dense chickpeas, beans, lentils, peas, and soybeans are loaded with fibre and protein with zero cholesterol. Legumes are beneficial for diabetes manage-

ment because of their low glycemic index, which leads to a low rise in blood sugar after consumption. Additionally, they are also rich in proteins and can be taken by themselves, as a side dish with salads, wraps, or tacos.

### Berries

Berries are extremely beneficial for patients with PCOS as they are filled with antioxidants that may help reduce oxidative stress. Berries contain polyphenols, which have been shown to help in the management of weight, diabetes, and indigestion. A mix of strawberries, blueberries can be consumed with yoghurt for additional benefits.

### Oats

These contain soluble and insoluble fibres that slow down the absorption of fat and sugars in the body. Oats also contain vitamin B which helps in increasing the production of progesterone hormone. The zinc in oats can benefit hair growth while reversing PCOS.

A healthy diet helps to reduce the risk or impact of heart disease. Women who follow a low-carbohydrate or a low-GI diet have improved insulin metabolism and lower cholesterol levels.

Weight loss or weight management will help to manage the side effects of PCOS. In addition, women with PCOS/PCOD must seek medical advice, especially if they are taking fertility supplements to compensate for the nutrients missing from their daily diet. Women dealing with PCOS/PCOD often find it challenging to keep stress at bay. But long-term stress can have a negative impact on hormones and fertility. However, there are multiple researches that show a link between high stress and infertility. High levels of stress trigger the release of the hormone, cortisol. To more effectively manage stress, affected women can practice meditation, exercise, yoga, or try counselling. (The author is a fitness expert and the VP at Vitabiotics.)

## R E C I P E S



### PEPPER CIGAR ROLL

- WHAT YOU NEED**
- Spring roll sheet: 3
  - Red capsicum: 10 gm
  - Green capsicum: 10 gm
  - Yellow capsicum: 10 gm
  - American corn: 5 gm
  - Black pepper: 1 gm
  - Broth powder: 2 gm
  - Maggi seasoning: 1 gm
  - Garlic: 10 gm

### METHOD

- Take all the ingredients and toss them together.
- Use the sheets of spring roll and put the mixture into them. Roll and place them in a fryer.
- Lastly, serve with sweet chili mayo in shot glasses to make them look more appealing and presentable.

Courtesy: Corporate Chef Kapil at The Western Village

### OATS IDLI

#### WHAT YOU NEED

- Oats/rolled oats: 1 ½
- Olive/groundnut oil: 3 tsp
- Mustard: 1 tsp
- Urad dal: ¼ tsp
- Chana dal: 1 tsp
- Cumin: ½ tsp
- Curry leaves: 2-3
- Ginger paste: ½ tsp
- Chilli (finely chopped): 2
- Carrot (grated): 1
- Turmeric: ¼ tsp
- Curd/yoghurt: ½ cup
- Water: 1 cup
- Coriander (finely chopped): 2 tbsp
- Salt: ¾ tsp
- Eno fruit salt: ½ tsp



### JUNGLE FISH

#### WHAT YOU NEED

- Salmon: 200 gm
- Mushroom: 100 gm
- Asparagus: 25 gm
- Avocado: 20 gm
- Butter: 10 gm
- Salt
- Pepper
- Lemon
- Coriander
- Green chili
- Garlic

### METHOD

- Take the salmon and wash the fillet pieces properly. Use a paper towel or clean kitchen towel to pat each fillet dry on the top and bottom to prevent them from sticking to the pan. Rub salt, pepper and lemon juice all over the fillet pieces.
- Place over medium-high heat and let the pan heat up for a couple minutes.
- Add and spread the butter



### METHOD

- In a *kadhai*, heat the oil and splutter mustard, *urad* dal, chana dal, cumin and few curry leaves.
- Add ginger paste and chillies. Sauté slightly.
- Further, add a carrot and turmeric and sauté for 2 minutes.
- Now add the oats and roast on low flame until it turns aromatic.
- Transfer the mixture and allow it to cool completely.
- Add curd and water. Mix well, while making sure there are no lumps.
- Further add coriander, salt and water. Mix well, making sure to form an idli batter consistency.
- Let the batter rest for 20 minutes or until the oats absorb water.
- Just before steaming, add Eno fruit salt and mix well. Steam the oats idli for 15 minutes on medium flame.
- Remove it from the steamer and serve.

Courtesy: Aakriti Arora

### VARHADI RASSA FROM VIDARBHA

#### WHAT YOU NEED

- Carrots: 100 gm
- Beans: 100 gm
- Potatoes: 100 gm
- Cabbage: 150 gm
- Onions: 2
- Tomatoes (pureed): 2
- Coriander leaves: 1 handful
- Mint leaves: 1 handful
- Green chilly (chopped): 3
- Ginger garlic paste: 3 tsp
- Garam masala: 2 tsp
- Coriander powder: 1 tsp
- Red chilli powder: 2 tsp
- Turmeric powder: 1 tsp
- Mustard seeds: 1 tsp
- Cinnamon: 1 inch
- Bay leaf: 1
- Grated coconut: 6 tsp



- Godrej groundnut oil: 2 tbsp
- Salt as per taste

### METHOD

- Dry-roast coconut and onion together and grind them to smooth paste with coriander and mint leaves.
- Heat oil and add mustard seeds,

bay leaf, and cinnamon stick.

- Add green chilli and mix well.
- Then, add ginger garlic paste and sauté for a minute.
- Further, add onion and coconut paste and saute till it is golden brown.
- Add fresh tomato puree and cook well.
- After that, add salt, turmeric and red chilli powder and coriander powder.
- Wash, clean and cut all the vegetables in small cubes and boil them separately.
- Add the above in the gravy. Mix it well and cook for 20 to 30 minutes.
- Add garam masala and water as per requirement. Bring it to a boil and garnish with coriander leaves.
- Serve hot with steamed rice.

Courtesy: Godrej Vikhroli Cucina

for thinner fillets.

- In the same pan put mushroom, asparagus and garlic. Add salt, pepper and lemon juice and fry it till it's properly cooked
- In a blender, make avocado sauce with coriander, green chili, garlic, lemon juice and salt.
- Put the vegetables and fish on a plate along with avocado sauce and enjoy.

Courtesy: Chirag Barjalya



# RCB seek return to winning ways against resilient CSK

PTI ■ SHARJAH

Star-studded Royal Challengers Bangalore would look to shrug off the crushing defeat in the previous outing and get their mojo back when they take on Mahendra Singh Dhoni's resilient Chennai Super Kings in an Indian Premier League (IPL) match, here on Friday.

While RCB will look to start afresh, CSK got a confidence-boosting 20-run win against defending champions Mumbai Indians on Sunday night. It is imperative for RCB to improve upon their batting as they seek to keep their place in the top half of the points table. It will be important that the openers -- Devdutt Padikkal (217 runs) and skipper Virat Kohli (203 runs) -- provide a solid start. But the opening duo would also need support from the middle-order, which crumbled against Kolkata Knight Riders.

The likes of Glenn Maxwell (233 runs) and AB de Villiers (207 runs) will have to perform in unison against a strong CSK attack. Australian Maxwell did justify his high price tag during the first leg, becoming the side's top scorer. He would be raring to go once again as will the ever-reliant De Villiers.

CSK could have suffered the reversal in their tie against Mumbai had it not been for youngster Ruturaj Gaikwad's mature unbeaten knock of 88 off 58 balls.

The team's leading run-getter Faf du Plessis (320 runs), Moen



Ali were out for ducks while Ambati Rayudu was retired hurt on nought. Veterans Suresh Raina and Dhoni also failed to reach double digit scores and the side was reeling at 24 for 4. But Gaikwad was not ruffled and kept

his calm, steering the three-time champions to a respectable 156 for 6. He stitched crucial partnerships with all-rounders Ravindra Jadeja and Dwayne Bravo, who smashed 23 runs off eight deliveries, taking the team over the 150-run mark.

Defending a modest total, CSK showed immense resilience as the bowlers led by pacer Deepak Chahar and Dwayne Bravo handed the "Yellow Army" their sixth win of the season.

A win on Friday will take

them back to the top of the table. CSK will also have the option to choose young England all-rounder Sam Curran, who had been one of the breakout stars of last year's IPL, shining with both the bat and the ball.

# I respect team's decision to let Pant stay as captain: Iyer

PTI ■ DUBAI

Shreyas Iyer says he relished captaining the Delhi Capitals in the IPL but completely respects the team management's decision to let Rishabh Pant stay as leader of the pack till the end of the 2021 season.

Iyer had led the Capitals to the summit clash of the 2020 season but he missed the first phase of this year's season due to a shoulder injury and the management asked Pant to captain the side.

The 26-year-old returned to the side before IPL's resumption after the COVID-19 forced break but the Capitals chose not to change the leader again, keeping Pant in the captain's chair.

The young Mumbai batsman, who hit a blistering 47 in team's win on Wednesday night, said he understands team's policy and has no complaints.

"When I was given the captaincy, I was in a different frame of mind and my decision-making and temperament level was very good and I benefited from it in the last two years," Iyer said at the post-match press conference.

"This is part of the decision-making from the franchise or whatever decision they took, I respect the fact and Rishabh is leading the side well from the start of the season and they thought that he should be continued till the season end and I completely respect the decision," he added.

The 26-year-old said he continues to enjoy the pressure situation as he thrives in such circumstances.



"And no drastic change has come that my focus has increased in batting. When I was captain, I like to soak in the pressure, when there is pressure, there are more challenges and, in such situations, I perform, that is my mind-set."

"Even today (Wednesday) when I went in, there was pressure to win the game. The wicket was playing uneven, so the mind-set is the same that being a main part of the team, you have to finish the match and whenever I play, my mindset is that I play till the last ball and see to it that I make the team win."

The aggressive batsman it is a "really good feeling" to contribute in team's win in his first match post comeback.

"I wouldn't say that I'm satisfied because the hunger has just gone up and the appetite keeps on increasing every match you play, so yeah, not satisfied or not contained," he said after DC demolished Sunrisers Hyderabad by eight wickets.

# You have to be best on that day: Rohit on match against KKR



FIANS ■ ABU DHABI

Mumbai Indians skipper Rohit Sharma believes that T20 is a format in which one has to be at his best on the day. He added that the match against Kolkata Knight Riders in the Zayed Cricket Stadium on Thursday will not be a cakewalk for his team.

"I honestly don't believe in past records because T20 is game of/on that particular day what happens. It's a game of that. You have to be best on that day," said Sharma in a video posted by the franchise on social media. Mumbai vs Kolkata matchup in the IPL presents a very one-sided story. In 28 matches between the two teams, Mumbai, IPL winners for five times, have the dominant hand, winning 22 times against Kolkata, the two-time champions.

"They (KKR) are a good opposition. They play cricket really well as a team and they will be obviously coming off from some confidence after their last win. So, it's not going to be a cakewalk for us. I know we've had a very handy record against them. But it's important we turn up really well on that particular day and do the job," added Sharma.

Sharma missed Mumbai's first match of the UAE leg of IPL 2021, the 20-run defeat to Chennai Super Kings in Dubai on Sunday. Chasing 157, Mumbai were hurt by lack of partnerships by their batsmen.

"When you are chasing a score like 157, you need to build those partnerships. Small partnerships and make sure that you are keeping yourself in the game as long as possible," observed Sharma.

The 34-year-old praised New Zealand pacer Adam Milne, who took two wickets for 21 runs in the match against Chennai. "Adam Milne, especially, is coming from a very good tournament in UK. He's a good bowler, bowls really fast. It's all about getting that confidence and he got the confidence in the first game. So, I just hope that he builds on it."

Sharma concluded by saying that the defending champions are capable of making a fightback in the tournament. "We just have to come back and comeback really strong and tick those small boxes. I think, if you look at the potential in this squad, we have got all bases covered."

# Army Red withdraws from quarterfinal due to Covid

FIANS ■ KOLKATA

The Durand Cup quarter-final match between Army Red and FC Bengaluru United (FCBU), scheduled for Friday at the Kalyani stadium, has been called off after a Army Red player tested positive for Covid-19 virus on Thursday.

As the player had come into contact with other teammates during Thursday's training session, the Army Red squad decided to withdraw from the tournament as a result and



FCBU received a bye into the semi-finals.

All decisions have been taken, keeping in mind the health and safety of players and officials primarily and the continuity and success of the tournament, the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) of 130th Durand Cup informed in a release on Thursday.

It is learned that one player of Army Red tested positive in the mandatory Rapid Antigen Test conducted in the morning. He was asymptomatic while the

other players have tested negative.

The organising committee has decided to go ahead with other matches as they are being held at other venues and there has not been any contact between the players since the last Covid test which had come negative for the said player.

Meanwhile, the LOC has also decided to shift the quarter-final match between FC Goa and Delhi FC from the Mohan Bagan ground to the Kalyani Stadium because of heavy rains in Kolkata.

# Odisha to host Men's Junior Hockey WC

FIANS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Odisha will host the International Hockey Federation's (FIH) Men's Junior Hockey World Cup from November 24 to December 5 at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik announced on Thursday.

Addressing a special event organised here for this purpose, Patnaik said that recently the Hockey India had approached the state government to support it for the Men's Junior Hockey World Cup, which is to be held in two months' time.

"It is a short notice for making arrangements for such an event, especially during the pandemic period. But since the country's prestige is at stake, we readily agreed to support," he



said. Stating that the junior India team had won the last hockey World Cup, he said, "As a defending champion, I am sure that our team will emerge victorious again on home turf."

The Chief Minister further said that hockey has a special place in the minds of the people of Odisha and hockey players from the state have led the country in many international tournaments.

# Paralympics bronze winner Sharad diagnosed with heart inflammation

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Tokyo Paralympics bronze medal-winning high jumper Sharad Kumar has been diagnosed with heart inflammation and has undergone a few more tests, reports of which are still awaited.

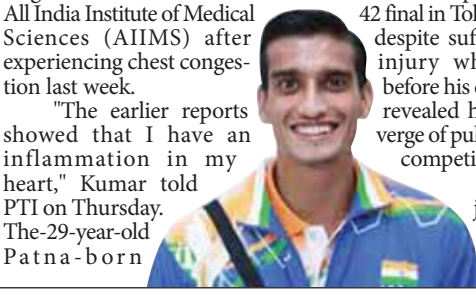
Kumar, who won a bronze in the T-42 high jump event in the Tokyo Paralympics on August 31, was admitted to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) after experiencing chest congestion last week.

"The earlier reports showed that I have an inflammation in my heart," Kumar told PTI on Thursday. The 29-year-old Patna-born

athlete, who stays in Chhatrapur, was discharged from the medical facility earlier this week but had to come back for some more tests. "I have come back here for more tests. Since I live just 10 minutes away, I had asked the hospital authorities to allow me to go home," he added.

Kumar, whose left leg was paralysed after he was administered a spurious polio vaccine as a toddler, competed in the T-42 final in Tokyo last month despite suffering a knee injury while training before his event. He later revealed he was on the verge of pulling out of the competition.

Kumar had jumped 1.83m to win the bronze. He is



# HC asks Centre to conduct inquiry into allegations against TT body

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Thursday stayed the Table Tennis Federation of India's mandate on compulsory attendance at the National Coaching Camp in order to be selected for any upcoming international event and asked the Centre to conduct an inquiry into

Manika Batra's complaint against the sports body. Justice Rekha Palli further said that if warranted, the Union Sports Ministry may look into the affairs of the TTFI as well. Justice Palli was hearing a plea by Batra who was left out of the Indian contingent for the upcoming Asian Table Tennis Championships and has alleged that the national coach Soumyadeep Roy "pressurized" her to "throw away" an Olympic qualifier match in favour of one of his personal trainees.

The judge said the rule mandating compulsory attendance at the national camp has been enforced "at a point when there was a complaint pending against the national coach" and the same "does not inspire confidence". "They are overreaching the court. I will issue a notice of contempt. I pass an order and you appoint a new person. This is shocking... I am expressing my anguish," the judge stated. "I am of the view that the operation of the rule is required to the stayed till the next date of hearing. Respondent no. 2 (Sports Ministry)... is itself inclined to hold an inquiry into the serious allegations by the petitioner. There is no reason why respondent no 1 (federation) should continue with its rule," she ordered.



# La Liga: Asensio, Benzema star as Real beat Mallorca 6-1

FIANS ■ MADRID

Marco Asensio scored a hat-trick and Karim Benzema struck a brace of goals as Real Madrid soared on their goal-scoring prowess to thrash Mallorca 6-1 and rose to the top of the table in the Spanish La Liga.

Asensio scored in the 24th, 29th, and 55th minute while Benzema struck in the third and 78th minute as Real Madrid produced another goal-fest for the Santiago Bernabeu faithful. Isco scored the sixth goal in the 82nd minute while Lee Kang-In got the lone goal for Mallorca in the 25th minute.

The game was a lively affair and was played at a high intensity throughout. The Real got off to an electrifying start when Benzema latched onto a missed controlled ball by Gaya and fired it past goalkeeper Manolo Reina to net his seventh goal of the league campaign after just three minutes on the clock. In the 7th minute, the hosts almost doubled their lead when Marco Asensio's in-swinging corner kick was cleared off the line by the defence.

The visiting goalkeeper Reina was once again beaten in the 229th minute.



Rodrygo picked up the ball inside the box with his back to goal, turned, and crossed. The ball deflected off both Valjant and Reina falling kindly for Asensio who slammed in the rebound for his first goal of the evening. Mallorca's response was immediate, as Lee Kang-In produced a fine piece of individual skills before curling the ball superbly past Thibaut Courtois.

Real took control after Mallorca reduced the margin. The game was an end-to-end

affair, Benzema linked up with Asensio after 29 minutes, his superb control and finish saw him dispatch the ball expertly past Reina. The Balearic midfielder doubled his tally and could have made it three seven minutes later. Vinicius Jr. delivered to the far post, Benzema got on the end of it and headed towards the penalty spot where Valjant was on hand to clear Asensio's effort off the line as the team went for half-time with Real leading 3-1.

MM-198

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER: BAMRA WILDLIFE DIVISION.

Email-[dfobmbw1004@gmail.com](mailto:dfobmbw1004@gmail.com)

CORRIGENDUM

As per the instruction of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Odisha, Bhubaneswar vide memo No. 14358 dt.23.08.2021 the tender call notice vide bid identification No. 01 Dt.21.08.2021 for construction of Range Officer's Residence, Forester Quarters, Forest Guard Quarter and Barrack of Bamra WL Division as published in daily news papers of "The Pioneer" (English), "Pratidin" and "Prameya"(Odia) on dt.16.09.2021 is hereby cancelled.

OIPR-08064/11/0003/2122

Divisional Forest Officer, Bamra Wildlife Division.

B-413 GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MALKANGIRI(R&B) DIVISION, MALKANGIRI  
e-Procurement Notice  
Bid Identification No. E.E.(R&B)-MLK-07/2021-22

No. 4370	Date.21.09.2021
1 Name of the work:	Civil & EI work
2 Total No. of Works	02 No.
3 Estimated cost:	Rs.8.10 to 12.37 lakhs
4 Period of completion:	03(Three) months
5 Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal:	From 11.00 hrs. of 28.09.2021 To 16.00 hrs. of 08.10.2021
6 Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the Portal:	16.00 hours of 08.10.2021
7 Date of opening of Tender.	11.00 hours of 11.10.2021
8 Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid:	Executive Engineer Malkangiri(R&B) Division

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal <https://tenders.orisssa.gov.in>

Executive Engineer  
Malkangiri (R&B) Division

OIPR-34063/11/0002/2122

0-758 GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA  
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF  
RURAL WORKS : BHUBANESWAR

Unit-IV, Sachivalaya  
Bhubaneswar-25  
Fax-0674-226

No. 26841 Date. 20.09.2021  
RR-BR-MISC-(Part-III)-03/2013

1st corrigendum to Bid Identification No- Online-04/2021-22(Bridges) invited vide this office letter No-25120 Dt.06.09.2021

Due to some unavoidable circumstances, partial modification in tender ID No- Online-04/2021-22(Bridges) invited vide this office letter No-25120 dt-6.09.2021 has been made which may be read as follows.

(i) The BID Identification No- Online-04/2021-22 (Bridges) may be read as Bid Identification No-Online-04/2021-22 (Bridges)

(ii) The date of availability of tender, Seeking tender clarification, Opening of Technical bid has been modified as follows.

Sl. No.	Items	Time schedule as per original TCN	Time schedule as per Corrigendum notice
1	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding	From 20.09.2021 at 11.00 AM To 05.10.2021 up to 5.00 PM	Extended From 30.09.2021 at 11.00AM To 21.10.2021 up to 5.00 PM
2	Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification if any	28.09.2021 at 2.00 PM	8.10.2021 at 2.00 PM
3	Date & Time of opening of tender ( Technical Bid)	07.10.2021 at 11.00 AM	22.10.2021 at 11.00 AM
4	Date & Time of opening of tender ( Price Bid)	Will be intimated separately	Will be intimated later on to the successful bidders

All other terms and conditions will remain unaltered

OIPR-25123/11/0010/2122

Sd/- Dt.20.09.2021  
Chief Engineer (Buildings & Bridges)  
Rural Works, Odisha, Bhubaneswar