

OPINION 6
IN THE END, THE GAME IS THE WINNER

WORLD 8
ENCOURAGE AFGHANISTAN TO SHUN TERRORISM: XI

SPORT 12
HARMILAN KAUR SETS NATIONAL RECORD IN 1500M

DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

Late City Vol. 15 Issue 256
*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

DEHRADUN, SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2021; PAGES 12 & 2



the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com



HONOUR TO PLAY A COP: ESHA GUPTA 10 VIVACITY

Record 2 crore get jobs on PM's b'day

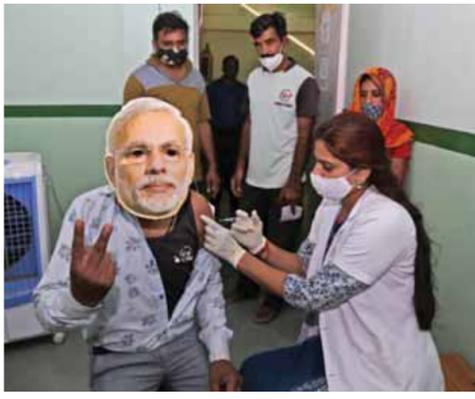
India's total Covid shots is 78.72 cr

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India crossed two crore Covid-19 vaccination in a day for the first time since the launch of the national inoculation programme almost eight months ago as the Government raced to set the landmark on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday on Friday.

The one crore-mark was crossed by the afternoon itself, after which Ministers and BJP leaders put out tweets urging more to get their shots. Social media was also abuzz with congratulations wishes from a large number of supporters even as the Opposition mocked the event as "PR stunt" and fudging of data. Adding Friday's tally, daily vaccinations crossed the one-crore mark for the fourth time in less than a month.

Among States, Jharkhand Bihar registered the highest single-day vaccination at 16.28



A health worker inoculates a Covid-19 vaccine dose to a beneficiary wearing face mask of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on PM's 71st birthday, during a mega-vaccination drive in Beawar on Friday

90% people in Mumbai have anti-bodies

Mumbai: As part of its latest sero-survey conducted in the country's commercial capital since the outbreak of the Covid-19 in March-April last year, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) said on Friday that Covid-19 anti-bodies were found in a sizeable 90.26 per cent of Mumbaikars who were either fully or partially vaccinated.

The study conducted between August 12 and September 9 found antibodies among the 79.86 per cent of unvaccinated citizens.

Detailed report on P5

lakh, followed by Karnataka at 15.47 lakh, Madhya Pradesh at 13.09 lakh, Uttar Pradesh at 12.12 lakh and Gujarat at 11.35 lakh.

Incidentally, Uttar Pradesh has registered the highest number of vaccinations in total so far at 9.18 crore, followed by Maharashtra with 71.3 crore, Madhya Pradesh 5.49 crore, Gujarat 5.47 crore and Rajasthan 5.23 crore.

"On PM @Narendra Modi Ji's birthday, till 1:30 pm, the country has crossed the mark of 1 crore vaccines, the fastest so far, and we are continuously moving forward. I believe that today we will all make a new record of vaccination and give it as a gift to the Prime Minister," Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya tweeted with the hashtags "VaccineSeva" and "HappyBdayModiji".

The Government's tracker showed around 42,000 vaccinations in a minute, said a senior health officer.

"Celebrating the relentless efforts of India's vaccination against Covid-19, we have added a ticker to show vaccinations happening in near real-time. We are currently clocking over 42,000 vaccinations a minute or 700/second," tweeted National Health Authority chief RS Sharma.

Must ensure radicalisation, extremism don't rise: Modi

At SCO meet, PM asks members to encourage 'moderate Islam' in Af

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Drawing attention to the developments in Afghanistan and the Taliban take-over there, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday gave a call to fight "extremism and increasing radicalisation" at the summit meeting of the nine-member forum of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).

He emphasised on the history of "moderate Islam" in the Central Asia and also talked about "territorial integrity" in a veiled message to China.

Addressing the summit, the Prime Minister said, "The land-locked Central Asian countries can benefit immensely by connecting with India and its 'vast market' and indirectly took on China when he said "connectivity cannot be one way street" and affirmed that projects need to be "transparent", giving respect to "territorial integrity".

Modi was alluding to the "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor" or CPEC which India does not recognise as it passes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

Modi said India is helping

to increase connectivity in Afghanistan via Iran's Chabahar Port. The Prime Minister also welcomed Iran as the ninth member of the forum.

Though the Prime Minister spoke through video-conferencing, India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar is physically representing India on at the SCO summit in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. Jaishankar met his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi and discussed bilateral relations, particularly the situation at the Line of Actual Control in Eastern Ladakh.

In his address, the Prime Minister highlighted India's concerns over regional stability and asked the SCO member States, which includes China, Russia, Pakistan and central Asian countries, to ensure the grouping works closely together on issues like connectivity and trust.

Modi referred to "radicalization" many a times saying the biggest challenges before SCO are "peace, security and trust deficit" and sought the 21-year-old forum to take initiative and "fight radicalism and extremism and develop a com-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the SCO Summit virtually on Friday

mon template for it".

The SCO was formed in June 2001 with Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan as members. India and Pakistan became full members in June 2017.

The Prime Minister said the Central Asia has been a region of moderation where "Sufism flourished", and asked SCO should take steps and work to develop a strong network of existing "moderate institutions" there. He called for encouraging "moderate Islam".

"Today, we can see what is happening in Afghanistan. As SCO members it is a must for us all to ensure that there is no radicalisation and extremism on the rise there.

"If we take a look at history, we will find that Central

Asia has been a bastion of moderate and progressive cultures and values. Sufism flourished here over the centuries and spread throughout the region and the world. We can still see them in the cultural heritage of this region," the Prime Minister said.

Jaishankar: Early resolution must for LAC peace

New Delhi/Beijing: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has told his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi that the two sides should work for an early resolution of the remaining issues along the LAC in eastern Ladakh to restore peace and tranquillity in the border areas.

CAPSULE

DELHI RECORDS 1 DEATH, 33 NEW COVID CASES
New Delhi: Delhi recorded one death due to Covid-19 and 33 fresh cases according to data shared by the city health department on Friday.

NIA HAS HELD 168 PEOPLE IN TERROR CASES
New Delhi: The NIA said on Friday that it has so far arrested 168 people in 37 cases.

YOUTUBE PAYS ME ₹4L PER MONTH: GADKARI
Bharuch: Union Minister Nitin Gadkari on Friday said he gets ₹4 lakh every month as royalty from YouTube, as viewership of his lecture videos posted on the platform has increased during the pandemic period.

MARKETS
SENSEX 59,015.89 (-125.27)
NIFTY 17,585.15 (-44.35)
GOLD 45,937.00 (-139.00)
SILVER 60,771.00 (-306.00)

WEATHER
MAX 32.0°C
MIN 22.0°C
Partly Cloudy Sky

POWERED BY UNIGATE GENERAL MEDIA (P) LTD
https://pioneeredge.in

It isn't time to bring fuel under GST regime: FM

1st physical GST meet since Covid indecisive; Tax on Covid drugs cut till year end

VIRENDRA NATH BHATTA ■ LUCKNOW



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chairs the 45th GST Council meeting in Lucknow on Friday

The Goods and Service tax council, comprising the Finance Ministers of all States and Union Territories and Union Finance Minister, which met here on Friday failed to arrive at a decision on the inclusion of petroleum products and diesel in the GST.

The council extended concessional tax rates on Covid-19 medicines, cut tax on cancer drugs and waived GST on import of highly expensive

medicines for muscular atrophy.

The 45th meeting of the GST Council, chaired by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and comprising State Finance Ministers, is the first physical meeting since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. The last such meeting took place 20 months ago on December 18, 2019.

The council's agenda included discussion on taxing petrol and diesel under the single national GST tax, extending tax concession to 11 Covid-19 drugs, and review tax rates

of over 4-dozen items, like oncology medicine and coconut oil among others.

The discussion on inclusion of petrol and diesel under GST was taken on the direction of the Kerala High Court. The court had directed the matter to be placed before the council for discussion. However, the Centre and the States failed to arrive at a decision regarding the inclusion of petrol and diesel under the ambit of GST regime.

Kerala Finance Minister vehemently opposed any move to bring petrol and diesel under the GST regime as that will further reduce revenue generation for the State and asserted that the Centre should reduce its levies on the two commodities to provide relief to the common people. Central excise and State VAT (Value Added Tax) make up for almost half of the retail selling price of petrol and diesel. Bringing them under the GST would impact revenue generation for the States.

New Zealand abandon tour of Pak over security threat

PTI ■ RAWALPINDI

The New Zealand cricket team on Friday abandoned its ongoing tour of Pakistan just before the start of the first ODI here, citing a security threat which the host board insisted did not exist while declaring the pullout a unilateral move.

This was New Zealand's first tour of Pakistan in 18 years and the series comprised three ODIs and five T20 Internationals. Spectators were also to be allowed at 25 per cent of the stadium capacity keeping in mind the Covid factor.

Pakistan Cricket Board chief Ramiz Raja said New Zealand will have to answer for the pullout at the ICC.

"Crazy day it has been! Feel so sorry for the fans and our players. Walking out of the tour by taking a unilateral approach on a security threat is very frustrating. Especially when it's not shared!! Which world is NZ living in?? NZ will hear us at ICC," he tweeted.

Detailed report on P12

2 arrested for extortion, threatening to post nude photos on social media

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has arrested two men for allegedly extorting money from people by threatening to post their nude or morphed videos and pictures on social media platforms.

The duo, who was arrested from Rajasthan and identified as Jahul (25) and Minaj (23), hailing from Mewat area of Rajasthan's Bharatpur district, extorted money from more than 250 people till date, said the police.

According to Pranav Tayal, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Rohini district, the arrests were made on the basis of a complaint by a Delhi-based man at the Begampur Police Station in July this year.

"According to the FIR, the complainant had accepted the friend request of a woman on a social media platform. They exchanged their contact numbers and started chatting on WhatsApp. While chatting on WhatsApp, the woman pro-

voled the complainant to perform a sexual act which was recorded by her. She then began to threaten him and asked him to pay ₹15,000 to get the video deleted," he said.

"After the complainant paid the said amount, he got a phone call from another person who claimed to be a cyber cell officer from Durgapuri. The person told him to get the obscene video deleted from YouTube and other social media sites," said the DCP.

"When the complainant contacted the YouTube purporting to have posted the video, he too demanded a sum from the complainant to delete the video from the video streaming platform," said the DCP.

"Using call detail record analysis and technical surveillance, a raid was conducted in Mewat and both the accused were arrested from there. Three mobile phones used to make extortion calls were seized from their possession," said the DCP.

SOPs issued for Char Dham Yatra from today

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

With the Uttarakhand High Court vacating the stay on conduct of the Char Dham Yatra, the State Government has issued standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the start of the pilgrimage from Saturday.

All the pilgrims and stakeholders will have to observe Covid protocol, the local populace should be vaccinated after identification of buffer zones, the Yatra should be conducted in view of the Covid carrying capacity and an effective enforcement and vigilance system will be put in place. All pilgrims from outside the State will have to register on the Dehradun smart city portal while those from within the state need not register online. All pilgrims will need to procure Yatra e-pass

from the official website of Char Dham Devasthanam Board for visiting the Char Dham shrines. All pilgrims will receive permission only on showing double vaccination certificate 15 days after the second dose.

Those who have had one or no dose will be permitted only with RT-PCR/TrueNat/CBNAAT/RAT Covid negative report not more than 72 hours old than the time of pilgrimage. Further, pilgrims from high case-load states of Kerala, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh will need the Covid negative report even after the double dose vaccination certificate. The limit set for the number of pilgrims visiting the shrines daily is 1,000 in Badrinath, 800 in Kedarnath, 600 in Gangotri and 400 in Yamunotri.

Rackets gifted to PM quote ₹10 cr bids

Money from auction to go for Namami Gange Mission; memorabilia include sports gear

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Fancy the javelin used by gold medalist Sumit Antil in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games or the one used by Neeraj Chopra in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games! Currently, put up for e-auction on the Culture Ministry website, the highest base price for each javelin is ₹1 crore.

The proceeds from the e-auction will go to the Namami Gange Mission aimed at conserving and rejuvenating the Ganga River. The memorabilia include sports gear and equipment of the medal-winning Olympians and Paralympians, a replica of the Ayodhya Ram Mandir, Chardham, sculptures and

paintings among others.

The highest quoted bids for the badminton rackets of Krishna Nagar, the Paralympic gold medalist, and that of Suhas Lalinkere Yathiraj, who won the gold and silver medals at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic games respectively have already gone up to ₹10 crore. In contrast, the lowest-priced item is a small-sized decorative elephant for ₹200.

The base price of Nagar's racket is ₹80 lakh while that of Yathiraj is set at ₹50 lakh. The fence used by CA Bhavani Devi in fencing at the Olympics 2020 received the highest bid of ₹10 crore while its base price is ₹60 lakh. Devi is the first Indian fencer to ever qualify for the Tokyo Olympics after qual-



ifying for the 2020 Summer Olympics.

The boxing gloves worn by boxer Lovlina Borgohain, who won a bronze decoration in the welterweight (64-69kg) classification semi-final for women at the Tokyo Olympics, becoming the third Indian boxer to win at Tokyo Olympics has received a bid of ₹1.80 crore. The base price for the gloves is ₹80 lakh.

The highest bids for the javelin which gave India its first



gold in the 2020 Olympics is over ₹1.20 crore while its base price is ₹1 crore.

The wooden model of the Ram Mandir placed inside a glass box has received the highest quoted of ₹3 lakh so far.

Manipur's two chillis get GI tag

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

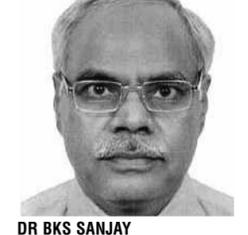
Manipur's Tamenglong Orange and Hathei, special chilli varieties, have been given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

Terming it to be historic, Chief Minister N Biren Singh took to Twitter saying, "What a great start to the day for Manipur! I'm really happy to share that 2 (two) products of Manipur viz Hathei Chilly & Tamenglong orange have been granted the GI Tag. This is a historic milestone in the history of Manipur which will increase the income of the farmers immensely."

The GI tag identifies goods of special quality attributable to its geographical origin. Detailed report on P5

Guest Column

Quality of education depends upon quality of teachers



DR BKS SANJAY

This author owes a lot to all his teachers because they have shaped his life, otherwise he would not have been in this position and writing this column.

Education plays an important role in developing all our human potential. It helps to develop both our inner and outer power. The teachers play an important role in shaping the life of all children and indirectly all citizens.

The teacher-student relationship has changed a lot from the old time to the current time. It has now become very complicated, formal and codified. There has been a tremendous shift in how the teachers used to be in the older

generation to that of now. Traditionally the teacher's never used to work on the principle of business but rather on the tenets of charity or service.

Mahatma Gandhi had said that the earth provides enough to satisfy every man's needs, but not every man's greed. But unfortunately the health and education sector are being run in our country on the motive of financial profit. Gandhi had also said what is really needed to make a democracy function is not knowledge of facts, but the right education. I believe the right education can be given only by qualified teachers. "Nothing counts as much as school," as stated by Horace Mann, an American educational reformer who promoted universal public education and teachers.

The good teachers have the eye that can spot the uniqueness of every child. Each teacher can develop that uniqueness in due course of time. Here I would like to cite Rajguru Dronacharya, Maharshi Gautam and founder of Super 30, Anand

Kumar. It is being seen very well in the field of sports that the quality of the athlete changes tremendously once the right coach tunes him to excel.

BR Ambedkar, the architect of the Indian constitution regarded education as a critical instrument to raise the overall status of all citizens. He believed that through the acquisition of education, especially higher education, socio-economic equality can be promoted. Ambedkar said that the cultivation of mind should be the ultimate aim of human existence. He not only promoted education but reflected it in his ideology and said that my final words of advice to you are, "To educate, agitate and organise; have faith in yourself."

NR Narayana Murthy, founder of the Infosys mentions in his book 'A Better India, A Better World' that he sees the colonial attitude of the Indian elite society every day with a glaring difference in ruled and rulers. Indian elite send their children to English medium school while forcing the children of the poor into

vernacular schools, extol the virtues of poverty while living in luxury and glorify the rural life while they sit comfortably in cities. The former president of India, APJ Abdul Kalam indicated that the communication of good values by reputed people was an important first step in changing the mindset of youngsters. The eminent people should participate on social platforms to speak to the young people and they should be invited in the colleges and universities in academic functions as much as possible. The author has an experience of Mayo Clinic, USA where there was a trend to invite almost every Nobel laureate to deliver a lecture for the staff and students.

American universities currently employ 70 per cent of the world's Nobel Prize winners. If we have a dream to make India a developed nation and a super power of the world then we have to follow the simple principle of all developed nations which have invested a lot on education, starting from primary to high-

er education and reaping the fruits for the nations.

Here, I would like to mention that we do not need only the primary education centers for the children but there should be multiple centres of excellence for higher teaching and training of the teachers as well. John Dewey, an American educationist was the first to start the concept of teacher's training schools because he thought that only well-educated and trained teachers can transfer their knowledge and skill to the children.

When the former President APJ Abdul Kalam was asked what makes a country develop he replied that the obvious indicators are the wealth of the nation, prosperity of its people and its standing in the international forum. Any progress based on dreams requires changes, which require learning. Education is one of the important pillars of the growth of an individual and ultimately of the family, society and the nation. Being educated means you are assuming responsibility towards society. Education will give equal opportunity to everybody. Our nation's goal should be to give every child food, shelter, healthcare and education. Education should teach that duty comes first.

Each generation has to make sacrifices to make a better life for the next generation.

The education field should be given its due importance in the development of any individual, any society and any nation. It influences an individual's behaviour, knowledge and skill which are the tripod for mobility of an individual from the lower strata to higher strata. Hence, in order to live a better and peaceful life we need to be educated. It is education which broadens our horizon. It transforms us completely by changing our mind and thoughts, thereby changing our deeds.

It is said, a former is worth a thousand reformers. It is suggested that irrespective of profession we should follow a principle of DRAFT- Do Right At First Time because repair and redo are costly affairs. Be honest and true to your profession. Create excellence in whatever you do.

The policy makers should ensure that quality education should be given to all, which should be cheap and similar for all citizens. The quality of work depends upon the quality of the worker hence the quality of education depends upon the quality of teacher.

(A Padma Shri recipient, the author is an orthopaedic surgeon based in Dehradun).

Minister's son-in-law appointed as E&T inspector, rules tweaked

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Three months after the Punjab Cabinet faced the ire for giving government jobs to the sons of two Congress MLAs on compassionate grounds, the state Cabinet on Friday approved the appointment of Revenue Minister Gurpreet Singh Kangar's son-in-law as Excise and Taxation Inspector by tweaking rules.

The Cabinet, in its virtual meeting chaired by the Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh, gave a go-ahead for Gursher Singh's appointment as Excise and Taxation Inspector on compassionate grounds "in one-time relaxation without the case being treated as a precedent".

While doing so, the Chief Minister noted that Gursher's father, Bhupjit Singh, had played a major role in blowing the whistle in the Ravi Sidhu PPSC scam to clean up the Punjab Public Service Commission. "Bhupjit Singh, who was posted as Excise and Taxation Officer in Excise and Taxation Department, had died on September 28, 2011. At that time, his son Gursher Singh had just completed his Graduation in Commerce. As per the office records, Jasbir Kaur, wife of late Bhupjit Singh, vide her application dated June 26, 2020, (eight years after her husband's death) had requested for employment in favour of her son Gursher Singh," read the official statement.

Personnel Department had raised objections to providing job to the Minister's son-in-law on compassionate grounds as a special case.

The development assumes significance as Kangar, ahead Navjot Singh Sidhu's appointment as Punjab Congress chief, was backing the former cricketer and part of anti-Capt Amarinder camp. It is believed that Kangar has switched to Chief Minister's side a few weeks back.

Notably, the Congress-led government drew flak after son of Qadian MLA Fateh Jung Singh Bajwa was appointed as DSP and son of Ludhiana north MLA Rakesh Pandey appointed Naib Tehsildar — more than 30 years after both the appointees had lost their respective grandfathers in terrorist attacks in 1987.

Fatehjung's son had announced to give up the job offer after the matter was blown out of proportion, and also reached the party high command.

Before that also, the Congress Government received severe criticism for appointing the grandson of slain Chief Minister Beant Singh as DSP in the state Police force on compassionate grounds by fine-tuning the Rules.

Notably, after coming to power in 2017, the Congress Government had appointed Beant Singh's grandson Gurjib Singh, who is also the brother of Ludhiana MP Ravneet Singh Bittu and cousin of Congress MLA Gurkirat Singh Kotli, as DSP by granting "special permission" by relaxing maximum age requirement.

GHAR GHAR NAUKARI FOR CONGRESS ONLY, SAYS SAD

Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) on Friday said that the blatant manner in which all rules were thrown to the wind to grant the job to the son-in-law of Revenue Minister Gurpreet Singh Kangar proved that the Congress party's "Ghar Ghar Naukari" scheme was restricted to family members of Ministers and Congress legislators and leaders. Terming Gursher's appointment as "patently illegal", former Minister Bikram Singh Majithia said that it was also a cruel joke on lakhs of youth or Punjab who had trusted the Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh and his promise to provide one job in each household of the State. "Forget providing any jobs to meritorious and needy youth, the government is bent on adjusting kin of its leaders by bending the rules," he said.

Haryana BJP to hold protest outside Congress offices today

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party in Haryana will hold protests outside the offices of Congress in the state on Saturday against Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh's

remarks suggesting the farmers to hold the stir against central farm laws at Delhi borders or in the state. Haryana BJP chief OP Dhankar on Friday said that the party leaders and workers will hold a protest outside all Congress offices in the state demanding that Punjab CM Capt Amarinder should be sacked for his statement. His recent statement shows that there is conspiracy to destabilize the economy of Haryana, he said. "We will hold two hours peaceful protest outside the offices of Congress party in Haryana and also ask questions from Congress leaders including former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, Congress state party chief Kumari Selja, Randeep Surjewala, who have so far kept mum on the statement of Capt Amarinder," Dhankar said while talking to the mediapersons here. Capt Amarinder had on Monday at an event in Hoshiarpur district of Punjab said that farmers should desist from holding protests in the state which "stood like a rock" with them in favour of their legitimate issues against farm laws passed by the BJP-led Central Government. Capt Amarinder had also advised the farmers to shift their sit-ins venues to Delhi's borders or in Haryana.

AAP leaders call Navjot Sidhu 'Rakhi Sawant of Punjab politics'

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Congress president Navjot Singh Sidhu's Twitter barbs against Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) led Delhi Government for its "masquerade" over the Centre's contentious farm laws on Friday failed to go down well with AAP leaders, who nicknamed the former cricketer as the "Rakhi Sawant of Punjab politics". Soon, Sidhu hit back with "ape and monkeys" tweet.

It all started with Sidhu's video tweet slamming the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) and AAP over the Centre's contentious farm laws, accusing them of staging a drama over the issue.

Attacking the SAD, Sidhu once again alleged that they were "creators and defenders" of the "black" laws. "The creators and defenders of the black laws are shedding crocodile tears today!! Your drama stands exposed. #Black Day," Sidhu tweeted.

Notably, SAD, led by its president Sukhbir Singh Badal and former Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal, held a protest march against the laws in Delhi on Friday to mark the first anniversary of the passage of the laws, prompting police to detain both leaders.

Sidhu also attacked the AAP, alleging that the Arvind Kejriwal Government in Delhi had last year notified one of the farm laws even when farmers were sitting at the borders of national capital protesting against the legislations.

In a video message on his Twitter handle, Sidhu said that AAP staged a drama of tearing copies of the central farm laws in the Delhi Assembly.

"Exploitation of farmers and decreasing prices even on crops where MSP is announced--@Arvind Kejriwal Ji you notified the Private Mandi's central black law! Has it been de-notified or the masquerading is still going on.?" Sidhu said in another tweet.

In fact, AAP officially released a press statement over the same. Chadha, in his statement, said that Sidhu was suffering from the "disease of making absurd statements" and hence he was forced to make such statements out of habit. He said that Sidhu was not serious about anything and everywhere he was being ridiculed.

Chadha said that Sidhu was earlier making daily statements against his own government and the head of government Capt Amarinder Singh, "but has remained silent after the rebuke of the high command. Now seeing nothing else, Sidhu is talking absurdly against AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal."

"After a few days, Sidhu would again start his rhetoric against Capt Amarinder Singh. In fact, Sidhu has to make any statement whether it is necessary or not," said Chadha.

AAP leader further said that even the Congress high command and the Congress leadership do not take Sidhu seriously.

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS PUBLIC NOTICE

In my High school Certificate, passing year 2019, Roll No. 19043347, my mother's name has been wrongly entered as KABITA. Where as her correct name is KAVITA and it should be updated for all future purposes. Sachin S/o Brijmohan, Vill- Darson, Dist-Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand

I, Neelam Sharma W/o Chandrashekar Sharma R/o 63/6 Anand Vihar Kaulagarh Road Dehradun, have lost my original sale deed which is registered vide Book No. 1 Jild 3520 Page No. 61 AFD Book No 1 Jild 3895 dated 19.09.90. No EQM has been taken on the same.

I, Avighn, S/o Ms. Pranju Gupta R/o 215 Panditwari Phase II Dehradun would henceforth be known as AVIGHN GUPTA for all future purposes.

Disclaimer
The Pioneer does not take responsibility for the content for the advertisement (Display/Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own.

For advertisement booking or any query contact-9045057787

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CIVIL) PLANT WW
DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF N.C.T. DELHI
CHANDRAWAL-WATER WORKS NO.II CIVIL LINES : DELHI-54
Office Telephone No.-23815504 E-mail:- eecplant.djb@nic.in

"STOP CORONA-WEAR MASK, FOLLOW PHYSICAL DISTANCING, MAINTAIN HAND HYGIENE"
PRESS MIT NO. 17/ (2021-22)(Re-invited)

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Estimated Earnest Money (EMD)	Tender Processing Fee (Fresh)	Publication date of tender in e-procurement solution	Last date & time for receipt of tender from e-procurement solution
1.	Construction of Porta Cabin, Toilet Block and boundary wall near type-II Staff Qtrs. at Hasanpur Reservoir. (Tender ID: 2021_DJB_208449_1)	2552559/-	Exempted vide Office Order/Enforcement No. DUB/2020-21/ATIS-C-1077/971 dated 23/12/2020 of Jt. Director (F&A), DJB	500/-	16.09.2021	04.10.2021

The more detail required above can be seen on website www.delhi.govtprocurement.com

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Adv. No. J.S.V. 401(2021-22)

EX. ENGINEER (C) PLANT, WW

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank Zonal Office: 1, Clock Tower, Ghantaghar, Gandhi Road, Dehradun, (UK) 248001
ALLAHABAD Email: dehradun@indianbank.co.in, Ph.: (0135)-2713976

POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immovable Property)

Notice is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement (Security) Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer issued a Demand Notice on the dates noted against each account as mentioned hereinafter, calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The borrowers/ guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the under noted borrowers / guarantors/mortgagors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property/ies described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under Sec.13 (4) of the said Act read with Rules 8 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned against each Account. The borrowers/ guarantors/ mortgagors in particular and public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Indian Bank (E- Allahabad) for the amounts and interests thereon mentioned against the account herein below. The attention of the borrowers detailed hereunder is invited to the provisions of subsection (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of the Branch/ Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor	Description of Immovable Property	Demand Notice Date	Date of Possession	Outstanding Due Amount
Branch: Rishikesh (E-AB) Borrower/Mortgagor: Mrs. Suruchi Chandola W/o Mr. Ajay Bandhu Chandola	Residential building in the name of Mrs. Suruchi Chandola W/o Mr. Ajay Bandhu Chandola at Khatauni No. 328, Khasra No. 1915 m. Jul Rakba Mauja Kharkhara, Tehsil Rishikesh, Dist. Dehradun, measuring 297.39 Sq. Mtrs. Or 355.50 Sq. Gaj. Covered area 229 Sq. mtr. Boundaries: East-Road 16 feet wide, 50 feet West-Property of others, 50 feet North-Property of Shri Rana, 64 feet South-Property of others, 64 feet South, Boundaries (As per visit report): East: Road 16 feet wide West: Land of seller, side 50 feet North: Land of Ranaji, side 64 feet South: Land of seller, side 64 feet	15.05.2021	14.09.2021	Rs. 24,65,208.00 + Interest & Expenses

Date: 17.09.2021 Place: Dehradun Authorised Officer, Indian Bank

Uttarakhand Gramin Bank (sponsored by State bank of India)
Regional Office-1, UGB Tower, Dharampur, Haridwar Road, Dehradun- 248001, Ph. 0135-2669825, 2669883

APPENDIX IV (SEE RULE 8(1) POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immovable Properties)

Whereas the Undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Uttarakhand Gramin Bank under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) of the Act & rule 3 of the security interest (enforcement) rules 2002 issued a Demand Notice as mentioned against account stated herein 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 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 section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the security interest (enforcement) rules 2002. Borrower/ Guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the mentioned property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Uttarakhand Gramin Bank for the amount and interest thereon plus other charges. The borrower's attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Schedule of Property and Other Details:-

Name of Borrowers/ Guarantors	Description of Property	Date of Possession	Outstanding Amount
1. Sh. Sushil Kumar Kohari S/o Sh. Murlidhar Kohari, R/o 105/03 Pathariya Peer, Nashvillia Road, Dehradun (Borrower/ Mortgagor), 2. Sh. Ranvir Singh Negi, S/o Sh. Gopal Singh Negi, R/o H.No. P-72, Talwar Lane, Nashvillia Road, Dehradun, (Guarantor), 3. Smt. Meenu W/o Late Sudesh Kumar, R/o 165, Nashvillia Road, Dehradun, (Guarantor/Legal Heir)	All that First Floor portion of part of property bearing No. 105/03 (New No. 03/02) Chaudhary Bihari Lal Mang, Dohalwala, Dehradun, area measuring 47.59 sq.mtr., bounded and butted as under:- East :- 8 ft wide common street, West :- 12 ft wide common street, North :- Property of Smt Premalata Sharma, South :- property of Sh. Gupta Ji.	15.09.2021 Demand Notice Date 24.04.2017	Rs. 6,69,524/- (Six Lakh Sixty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Twenty four Only) as on 23.07.2017 together with further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus cost, charges and expenses till date of payment
1. M/s Bansal Super Mart, Prop Smt Rajni Bansal W/o Sh Sandeep Bansal R/o 148 Green Park, Niranjanpur, Dehradun (Borrower) 2. Smt Rajni Bansal W/o Sh Sandeep Bansal, R/o 148-Green Park, Niranjanpur Dehradun (Borrower/ Mortgagor), 3. Shri Pradeep Bansal S/o Sh Satya Prakash Bansal, R/o 148-Green Park, Niranjanpur, Dehradun (Guarantor) 4. Sh Sandeep Bansal S/o Sh Satya Prakash Bansal R/o 148-Green Park, Niranjanpur, Dehradun (Guarantor)	All that property bearing Khasra No 800 Da (Old no 358), Area 150.41 Sq Mts situated at Mauza Niranjanpur District Dehradun on which a Double story house having a total area of 169.48 Sq Mts is constructed, bounded and butted as under:- East- Property of Sh Kashyap, West- Property of Sh Wazir and Shri Surinder Walia, North- Property of Shri Lal Kishori, South- 20 ft Wide Passage in part and Property of Shri Surinder Walia in part.	16.09.2021 Demand Notice Date 21.01.2021	Rs. 16,89,609/- (Rs Sixteen Lac Eighty Nine Thousand Six Hundred Nine Hundred and further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of payment
1. M/s Bansal Telecom Centre And Ready-made Garments, Prop Sh Rajneesh Kumar S/o Sh Shiv Dayal Kapoor R/o 148 Green Park, Niranjanpur, Dehradun (Borrower) 2. Shri Sh Rajneesh Kumar S/o Shiv Dayal Kapoor R/o 148-Green Park, Niranjanpur Dehradun (Borrower), 3. Smt Rajni Bansal W/o Sh Sandeep Bansal, R/o 148-Green Park, Niranjanpur, Dehradun (Guarantor/ Mortgagor) 4. Sh Sandeep Bansal S/o Sh Satya Prakash Bansal R/o 148-Green Park, Niranjanpur, Dehradun (Guarantor)	All that property bearing Khasra No 800 Da (Old no 358), Area 150.41 Sq Mts situated at Mauza Niranjanpur District Dehradun on which a Double story house having a total area of 169.48 Sq Mts is constructed, bounded and butted as under:- East- Property of Sh Kashyap, West- Property of Sh Wazir and Shri Surinder Walia, North- Property of Shri Lal Kishori, South- 20 ft Wide Passage in part and Property of Shri Surinder Walia in part.	16.09.2021 Demand Notice Date 21.01.2021	Rs. 12,45,788/- (Rs Twelve Lakh Four Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty Eight Only) and further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of payment
1. Smt Rajni Bansal W/o Sh Sandeep Bansal R/o 148 Green Park, Niranjanpur, Dehradun (Borrower/ Mortgagor) 2. Shri Sandeep Bansal S/o Shri Satya Prakash Bansal, R/o 148-Green Park, Niranjanpur Dehradun (Borrower), 3. Sh Dinesh Kumar S/o Shri Sampat Ram, R/o 112- Mini MIG, Phase-2, Indira Puram Colony, GMS Road, Dehradun (Guarantor) 4. Sh Pradeep Bansal S/o Sh Satya Prakash Bansal, R/o 255/43, Brahampuri, Niranjanpur, Dehradun (Guarantor)	All that property bearing Khasra No 800 Da (Old no 358), Area 150.41 Sq Mts situated at Mauza Niranjanpur District Dehradun on which a Double story house having a total area of 169.48 Sq Mts is constructed, bounded and butted as under:- East- Property of Sh Kashyap, West- Property of Sh Wazir and Shri Surinder Walia, North- Property of Shri Lal Kishori, South- 20 ft Wide Passage in part and Property of Shri Surinder Walia in part.	16.09.2021 Demand Notice Date 21.01.2021	Rs. 24,49,469/- (Rs Twenty Four Lakh Forty Nine Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Nine Only) and further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of payment

Place : Dehradun, Date : 17.09.2021 Authorised Officer

Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Government of India

Department of Social Justice & Empowerment is inviting Applications from the eligible candidates for appointment on contractual basis as National Coordinator and. Consultants for implementing scheme "Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE)".

Nature of post	Number
National Coordinator	1
Consultants	2

The interested candidates shall refer to the Website of the Ministry of Social Justice a Empowerment (www.socialjustice.nic.in) for eligibility conditions, financial norms, selection procedure and other relevant details. The last date of submission of proposal is 30.09.2021

For any queries, contact Shri Shantanu Dixit, Assistant Director (DP Division),
Email: dixit.shantanu@nic.in
davp 38101/11/0013/2122

NOTICE OF 4th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 4th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Members of JANSANCHAY NIDHI LIMITED will be held on Thursday the 30th September, 2021 at 11.00 A.M at the Registered Office of the Company at Mussoorie Road, Chamba, Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand-249145, India to transact the following businesses:-

AS ORDINARY BUSINESS

- To receive, consider & adopt the audited Balance Sheet as on 31.3.2021 and Profit & Loss Account for the year ended on that date and reports of the Board of Directors and Auditors thereon.
- To appoint a director in place of Dhani Ram Chamoli, Director (DIN:09037903), who retires by rotation and being eligible, offers himself for re-appointment.

AS SPECIAL BUSINESS

- Appointment of Deepika Panwar as director in place of Sh. Arvind Rawat to fill the casual vacancy created due to his sudden death.

By Order of the Board of Directors
For JANSANCHAY NIDHI LIMITED
DIRECTOR
DIN-07599011
Date: 02.09.2021

Primary schools to reopen from Sept 21 in U'khand

Edu dept faces daunting task of implementing Covid-19 protocols

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

After almost one and a half years of Covid-19 pandemic enforced closure thousands of primary schools in Uttarakhand would reopen from September 21. The orders to open the schools in the State were given by the Education Minister Arvind Pandey on Friday.

The education department would now issue the order and SOPs to be followed in opening of the schools. However the parents would have the option of not sending their wards to

the schools. The minister has assured that for students of classes I to V, studies would be done in both online and offline modes.

Pandey said that he has asked the education department to start all the government and private primary schools in the state from September 21. The minister said that the students are away from the schools for quite a long time and now when things have got somewhat normalised on the Covid-19 front, the Uttarakhand government has decided to open schools in the state.

Pandey however added that the pandemic of Covid-19 is not over yet so he has directed the officers that the protocols of Covid-19 should be followed in the schools. The minister cat-

egorically said that the parents would not be forced to send their wards to the schools and would have the option of online studies as well.

The schools were closed on March 14, 2020 in Uttarakhand to prevent students from Covid-19 infection. Through the minister has assured that the Covid-19 protocol would be observed in the schools, the experts are sceptical of it.

They opine that it would be almost impossible to ensure that students of primary sections follow the guideline and adopt Covid-19 appropriate behaviour. The parents are concerned since the vaccination of children has not started yet and experts have warned that the third wave of pandemic would affect the children the most.

Transport dept appoints nodal officers for Char Dham Yatra

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

In view of the commencement of Char Dham Yatra in the state, the transport commissioner Deependra Chaudhary has issued orders to the officials concerned after the meeting with the transport secretary Ranjit Sinha on Friday. The department has appointed deputy transport commissioner Sanat Kumar Singh as the senior in-charge to examine arrangements of the Char Dham Yatra. The regional transport officer (RTO) of Dehradun is appointed as the nodal officer and assistant regional transport officers (ARTOs) of Rishikesh, Dehradun, Haridwar, Uttarkashi, Kotdwar, Pauri, Tehri and Karnprayag as the assistant nodal officers. The nodal officer has been ordered to issue advisory about do's and don'ts for the pilgrims. The department has also established a help centre in Char Dham Yatra Bus Terminal in Rishikesh in association with other departments which will remain active from 6 AM to 8 PM. The commissioner informed that temporary check

posts have also been set up at Bhadrakali and Tapovan in Brahmapuri to control overloading, speeding and illegal operation of vehicles. He has also directed the ARTOs concerned to deploy additional teams to ensure regular

checking at check posts on all the main routes. Besides this, the commissioner has also ordered the officials to speed up the process of issuing green cards to commercial vehicles under the Uttarakhand Motor Vehicles Rules, 2011.

Hemkund Sahib to also open for pilgrims today

PNS ■ JOSHIMATH

With the Char Dham shrines being opened for the public from Saturday, the portals of Hemkund Sahib will also be opened for devotees from today. In view of Covid-19, certain conditions will have to be followed by the pilgrims.

As per the conditions kept in view of Covid-19, only 1,000 pilgrims will be allowed to visit the Gurudwara in a day. The Hemkund Sahib Trust has completed necessary arrangements for the pilgrimage. Residents of the Bhyundar

valley in Chamoli district are happy with this development. The local hospitality businesses had opened here with the opening of the Valley of Flowers earlier and with this the pilgrims to Hemkund will not face inconvenience. Hemkund Sahib Trust vice chairman NS Bindra said that pilgrims will be allowed to visit the Gurudwara as per the Covid guidelines.

Further, they will be allowed to move ahead on the pilgrimage only after procuring their registration certificate from the Rishikesh Gurudwara Trust.

Massive vaccination drive held in U'khand

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

A massive vaccination drive was organised in Uttarakhand on the occasion of 71st birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday. In the drive a total of 1,72,641 people were administered vaccines in different parts of the state. The department had taken up a target to vaccinate two lakh people on the day and had set up 1944 vaccine centres in the state for the purpose. In Dehradun district a total of 23,474 vaccine doses were administered on Friday. The Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, union minister Prahlad Joshi, union minister of state Ajay Bhatt, Uttarakhand health minister Dhan Singh Rawat and others visited a vaccination centre in the Gandhi centenary hospital on the day.

Meanwhile the state health department reported 25 new cases of the novel Coronavirus (Covid-19) and 23 recoveries from the disease on Friday. No death from the disease was

reported on the day in the state. The cumulative count of Covid-19 patients in the state is now at 3,43,355 while a total of 3,29,605 patients have recovered from the disease so far. In the state, 7389 people have lost their lives to Covid-19 till date. The recovery percentage from the disease is at 96 while the sample positivity rate on Friday was 0.15 per cent.

The state health department reported six new patients of Covid-19 from Pauri, five each from Dehradun and Uttarkashi, three from Haridwar, two from Almora and one each from Champawat, Nainital, Rudraprayag and Udham Singh Nagar on Friday. No patients were found in Bageshwar, Chamoli, Pithoragarh and Tehri on the day.

The state now has 282 active cases of Covid-19. Dehradun with 134 cases is at the top of the table of active cases while Pauri has 30 active cases. Tehri has no active cases of the disease now.

Arya discusses issues of Anganwadi workers



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Women Empowerment and Child Development (WECD) minister Rekha Arya conducted a meeting with the representatives of various Anganwadi workers associations of the state to discuss their issues on Friday. In the meeting, Anganwadi workers said that they want a raise in the monthly allowances for the Anganwadi worker of every level. Arya said to this that the department will present a proposal for the same in the next cabinet meeting. The associations also demanded the department to hire assistants

for those Anganwadi workers who work in more populated areas.

On this, the WECD minister directed the officials to conduct a survey to figure out the proportion at which the Anganwadi workers are appointed in more populated areas. She ordered a list of such places in order to readjust the duties of the workers on its basis. The Anganwadi workers also demanded summer and winter vacations on which Arya has directed the officials to study such practice in other states too. The Anganwadi representatives said that besides their regular duties, other

departments also put them on duty for various works and sometimes, a single worker receives multiple orders to be on many duties from various departments. Arya directed the WECD secretary HC Semwal to issue orders to all district magistrates to allot duties to Anganwadi workers through the district programme officers (DPOs) so that duties can be allotted properly. Arya praised the Anganwadi workers for their contribution and said that the department will also propose in the cabinet to make the workers beneficiaries of certain welfare schemes too.

Work with the aim of winning 60+ seats: Joshi

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Bharatiya Janata Party state election in-charge and Union minister Prahlad Joshi directed the party's Assembly constituency in-charge to work with the aim of victory in more than 60 seats for the party. Addressing a meeting of the party's constituency in-charges here on Friday, Joshi said that they will ensure that the public reach of developmental works done by the Central Government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the state government. It is important to strengthen each booth from the electoral perspective and it is with this that the BJP will be elected to office again. Joshi further opined that the opposition is stumped at the rising popularity of PM Modi. The opposition parties are consistently trying to build a negative atmosphere against the government. Considering this, the party's Assembly in-charges have to be protected from Covid-19 and the political epidemic of the opposition, he said. He further said, "It is



due to the policies of the BJP that more than one lakh fraudulent NGOs have closed down and more than five crore fake ration cards were caught. Stumped by such developments, the opposition is posing as a well wisher of the public and opposing the BJP with propaganda."

He advised that the party's Panna Pramukhs should prepare an action plan for spreading the works of the Modi gov-

ernment in the past seven years to the public.

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that the Assembly in-charges have always conducted political management successfully. He also appreciated the functioning of PM Modi and its impact. Election co in-charges RP Singh, Locket Chatterjee, BJP state president Madan Kaushik and other office bearers were also present on the occasion.

Cong starts missed call campaign to register unemployed

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

In an attempt to woo the young voters the Uttarakhand Congress has started a drive to register unemployed youth. The drive was launched in a programme of Youth Congress by the state in charge of the Congress party Devendra Yadav, Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) president Ganesh Godiyal and former PCC president Kishore Upadhyaya. The state media in charge of the Uttarakhand Congress Rajiv Mehrishi told The Pioneer that the party has released a phone number on which the unemployed can register themselves by giving a missed call. He said that the objective of the drive is to get

data of the unemployed in the state. The Congress leader said that when the party comes to power in the state, efforts to provide employment to those registered in the drive would be made. Mehrishi added that a review meeting of the different committees of the party was held in Haridwar on Friday. He said that the progress of different committees constituted for elections were reviewed by senior leaders. The meeting was attended by Devendra Yadav, PCC President Ganesh Godiyal, co-in-charge Deepika Pandey, executive president Tilak Raj Behed, Rajya Sabha MP Pradeep Tamta, Kishore Upadhyaya and chairman and convener of different committees.

Minister Pandey donates blood on Modi's B'day



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Education minister of Uttarakhand Arvind Pandey donated blood on the occasion of the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday. The minister donated blood at the Government Doon Medical College (GDMC) hospital on the day. He said that blood donation is the biggest donation and during the pandemic period the stocks of blood in the banks have decreased. The minister appealed that everyone should come forward and donate blood so that there is no deficiency of blood in the blood banks of the state and lives of the people are saved. Pandey also distributed fruits to students of Government school Dehra, Rajpur Road on the day.

CM Dhami flags off ATM vans of cooperative banks

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami flagged off the mobile ATM vans of the Cooperative banks at his residence on Friday. Speaking at the occasion, he said that these vans would provide the facility of cash withdrawal in different districts of the state. These vans would help the tourists and those visiting the state, he said.

The minister for cooperatives, Dhan Singh Rawat said that the facility of mobile ATM vans of cooperative banks is being provided with the help of National Agriculture Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in

every district. He said that one can withdraw cash from any bank account from these ATM mobiles.

On the occasion, five ATM mobile vans were flagged off from the CM residence while the remaining five were sent to their destinations from the district cooperative bank headquarters. It is pertinent to mention here that mobile ATM vans helped people during the pandemic period.

The registrar cooperatives Anand Swarup, chairman of state cooperative bank Dan Singh Rawat, additional registrar and Managing Director (MD) cooperative bank Ira Upreti and chairmen of different cooperative banks were present on the occasion.

Nanda Devi Mahotsav concludes in Nainital

PNS ■ NAINITAL

The 119th Nanda Devi Mahotsav concluded with the ritual immersion of the idols of goddesses Nanda and Sunanda here on Friday. Organised jointly by the Shri Ram Sevak Sabha and the district administration, the Nanda Devi Mahotsav saw devotees paying obeisance to the goddesses in considerable numbers and various cultural presentations also being held apart from the religious rituals. Though only groups of 20 devotees each were allowed by the authorities to enter the Naina Devi temple to pay obeisance to the goddesses, a large number of devotees offered their prayers on the goddesses. On the last day of the festival, a cultural troupe from Almora performed outside the Naina Devi temple. Other performances including renditions of devotions songs were also telecast live on television. The goddesses were taken out in a



ceremonious procession across the city after which the idols were immersed in the lake here. The last day of the Mahotsav also saw members of the Anjuman-e-Balistania Shia community offering water at the Tallital rickshaw stand to the devotees coming to offer their prayers to the goddesses. The organising body, Shri Ram Sevak Sabha thanked the district administration, municipality, Ma Naina Devi Amar Uday Trust and the devotees along with the media for cooperating in successful conduct of the festival.

Traffic director cycles in Doon to check various aspects

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Uttarakhand Traffic director Mukhtar Mohsin cycled in various areas of Dehradun city to ascertain various aspects of traffic movement and management on Friday.

Seeking information about the condition of various traffic junctions, he tried to ascertain aspects like traffic flow, vehicular load and problems being faced at such junctions. Mohsin also learnt about the condition of traffic signals at various intersections and issued directions for necessary action where required. Pressing the emergency call box button at



Survey Chowk, provided to facilitate emergency police and medical help to citizens, the Traffic director received a response from a constable in

the control room. He also checked the NNPR cameras, CCTV cameras, warning buttons and panic buttons installed at intersections. Mohsin also directed the traffic inspector to tow vehicles kept in the no-parking zone at Clock Tower and between Nany Bakery and Survey Chowk.

He also directed the officials concerned to take necessary action to prevent city buses from dropping passengers at the turns at Prince Chowk.

The Traffic director also interacted with members of the general public to learn about their views about the traffic situation.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Home Finance | Registered office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051

Corporate Office: ICICI HFC Tower, JB Nagar, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai-400059
Branch Office: Showroom No. 301, 3rd floor, Shri Ram Arcade, Old Municipal No. 74, Rajpur Road, Dehradun Pin- 248009

Whereas
 The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company 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 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 Home Finance Company Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/Co-borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of property/ Date of Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Khurram (Borrower), Gulfaroz (Co-Borrower), NHDEHO0001298234	Kha Mauza Mazra Pargana Kandritadood Kharsa No 708 Dehradun- 248001 Uttarakhand-248001 Date of Possession- 16/09/2021	15-06-2021 Rs. 19,82,059/-	Dehradun

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantor(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 18, 2021
Place: Dehradun-B

Authorized Officer
ICICI Home Finance Company Limited

possession notice (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Punjab National Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & 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, issued demand notices on the dates mentioned against each account calling upon the respective Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice(s) date of receipt of the said notice(s). The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Symbolic Possession** of the property/ies 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 Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on the dates mentioned against each account. The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Punjab National Bank for the amounts and interest thereon. The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors 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.

S. No.	Name of the Branch/Borrower / Guarantor	Description of Mortgaged Immovable Property	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Symbolic Possession	Amount outstanding as on the date of demand notice
1.	Branch: Niranjanpur, Dehradun Borrower : Ms. Shanti Ram A Class Contractor (Partnership Firm) through its Partner Sh. Shanti Ram Dobhal S/o Hari Nand, Add.-1: C/o Deepa Mehta Shyamprasad Arcadia Near Durga Mandir Bhandari Gate Premnagar Dehradun. Add.-2: Village Puratad PO Dammigad, Tyuni, Dehradun Partner/Mortgagor: Sh. Satish Jaktia S/o Sh. Jeet Singh Jaktia, R/o 92 Alaknanda Encalve, Lane No. 3 GMS Road PO Kanwali Dehradun, Guarantor/	All That Property Bearing Khata no. 444 (Fasli Year 1394-1399) Kharsa no. 1527/1, area measuring 103.16 Sq. mt. Covered area at Ground Floor is 64.43 Sq. mt. and covered area at First Floor is 64.43 Sq. mt. Total Covered Area is 128.87 Sq. mt. Situated at Vill. Kanwali, Pargana Kendryadood, Tehsil Sadar District Dehradun. Boundaries: East-Property of Seller, Side measuring 74ft. West-Property of Smt. Anju Bari and other, Side measuring 74ft North-Property of Smt Suman Chand, Side Measuring 15ft. South-25 ft Wide Road, Side Measuring 15 ft. Ownership: 1. Sh. Rakesh Chadha S/o Sh. Ved Prakash Chadha, 2. Sh. Vinay Kumar Chadha S/o Sh. Ved Prakash Chadha, 3. Sh. Satish Jaktia S/o Kanwali Dehradun, Guarantor/ Sh. Jeet Singh Jaktia	27.04.2021	15.09.2021	Rs. 26,97,264.26 + Other charges, further interest from 01.04.2021

Date: 17.09.2021 **Place: Dehradun** **Authorised Officer, Punjab National Bank**

India asks China for early resolution of LAC row

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With the objective of restoring peace at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar urged his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi to work for an early resolution and hold talks soon.

The two ministers met at the sidelines of the ongoing Shanghai Co-operation Organisation (SCO) summit in Dushanbe, Tajikistan on Thursday and Jaishankar also asked the Chinese to avoid viewing its ties with India through the lens of a third country.

The two ministers reviewed the current situation at the LAC in eastern Ladakh and agreed that military and diplomatic officials of both sides should meet again and discuss resolving the remaining issues at the earliest.

The 12th round of Corps Commander level talks were held on July 30 to find mutually agreed process of withdraw troops from the flashpoints at the LAC. The next round is likely to take place soon, sources said here on Friday. On the meeting between Jaishankar and Wang Yi, the former told the latter India had never subscribed to any "clash of civilisations theory" and that Asian solidarity would depend on the example set by India-China relations, the external affairs ministry (MEA) said here on Friday.

He also said the two sides need to establish a relationship based on "mutual respect" for which it was necessary that China avoid viewing the ties with India from the perspective of its relations with third coun-



tries, it said.

On Twitter, Jaishankar said: "It is also essential that China does not view its relations with India through the lens of a third country." While Jaishankar mentioned "a third country", the statement by the MEA talked about "third countries". It is learnt that the two sides also exchanged views on developments in Afghanistan after the Taliban's takeover of the country.

The MEA in its statement said the two ministers discussed the situation at the LAC and took stock of the global developments. Jaishankar underlined that it was necessary to ensure progress in the resolution of remaining issues so as to restore peace and tranquillity along the LAC. He also said such an atmosphere in the border areas has been an essential basis for progress in the bilateral relations.

"In this regard, the ministers agreed that military and diplomatic officials of the two sides should meet again and continue their discussions to resolve the remaining issues at the earliest," the MEA said.

"In this context, the external affairs minister recalled that Foreign Minister Wang Yi had in their last meeting noted that the bilateral relations were

at low ebb," it said. The MEA said both sides in the previous meeting had agreed that a prolongation of the existing situation was not in the interest of either side as it was impacting the relationship in a negative manner.

Jaishankar noted that since their last meeting on July 14, the two sides had made some progress in the resolution of the remaining issues along the LAC in eastern Ladakh and had completed the disengagement in Gogra area. However, there were still some outstanding issues that needed to be resolved, the statement said.

Wang and Jaishankar had held a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of another conclave of the SCO in Dushanbe on July 14. In the meeting, Jaishankar told Wang that any unilateral change in the status quo along the LAC was "not acceptable" to India and that the overall ties can only develop after full restoration of peace and tranquillity in eastern Ladakh.

Giving details about the latest meeting, the external affairs ministry said the two ministers also exchanged views on the recent global developments.

Jaishankar conveyed that India had never subscribed to any clash of civilisations theo-

Oz defends alliance with US, UK

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With China adopting an aggressive posture in the Indo-Pacific region, Australia on Friday defended its decision to forge an alliance with the US and UK known as AUKUS.

This alliance was unveiled on Thursday by Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and US President Joe Biden.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh were informed about this decision by their respective Australian counterparts before the formal announcement.

China criticised the security alliance saying it will gravely undermine regional stability and aggravate the arms race. Under the AUKUS, Australia will get nuclear powered submarines by other two countries.

France also took exception to the grouping and said its exclusion from the alliance reflected a lack of coherence when common challenges are being faced in the Indo-Pacific region. It was also cut up with Australia as a deal to build submarines for Australia was also cancelled.

Justifying his country joining the AUKUS, Australian High Commissioner to New Delhi Barry O'Farrell said here

China's massive military modernisation programme, challenging strategic environment in the Indo-Pacific and intensification of great power competition in the region prompted Canberra to become part of the ambitious AUKUS partnership.

"The decision reflects a much more challenging strategic environment, an environment we share with India, where great power competition is intensifying, where territorial tensions in the South China Sea, Taiwan and elsewhere are becoming more challenging," he said.

The partnership, seen as an effort to counter China in the Indo-Pacific, will allow the US and UK to provide Australia with the technology to develop nuclear-powered submarines for the first time.

The High Commissioner said AUKUS will not affect the Quad coalition of India, Australia, US and Japan. He said the Australian prime minister, the foreign minister and the defence minister spoke to their counterparts in India to inform them of the decision before the announcement on the AUKUS partnership was made.

The envoy said the investment in the Indo-Pacific in expanding military capability is proceeding at an "unprecedented rate" and it is being driven by China, which has the largest military modernisation programme underway in the world.

He said India and China had to deal with each other on merits and establish a relationship based on mutual respect.

"For this, it was necessary that China avoid viewing our

bilateral relations from the perspective of its relations with third countries. Asian solidarity would depend on the example set by India-China relations," the statement said.

Taliban back in narco trade, dealing with US for release Al Qaeda man



RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

The Taliban is back in the business of narcotics 'trade' and has created a new route for global supply by shipping the contraband to Turkey through Pakistani military and commercial aircraft for onward distribution to Europe and elsewhere.

The Taliban is also negotiating with the US for release of notorious drug lord Haji Bashir Noorjai, lodged in the US prisons since 2009 in exchange for releasing the Americans and Afghans stranded in Afghanistan. For this, the Taliban is willing to exchange abducted American civil engineer and military contractor Mark Randall Frerichs who had disappeared in Afghanistan in January 2020 from the Afghanistan-Pakistan border, sources tracking the developments in Afghanistan said.

Noorjai is also well connected to Al Qaeda and its affiliates in South Africa like Al Shabab who could also be exploited for the arms trade in the continent besides expanding the spread of the contraband in the region.

While both the Taliban and the Pakistan Army-ISI (Inter-Services Intelligence) combine are on the same page for reinvigorating the drugs trafficking, the current regime in Kabul is also claiming seizure of drugs consignment at Kabul airport with the twin agenda of an image makeover and checking any trafficking of the contraband by individuals and entities who bypass the regular channels for such illicit business. Such fake seizures will also help Taliban build a new image in line with international laws and help it gain international recognition of its governance structure, they said.

The new modus operandi has been activated as Pakistan is using its leverage with Turkey for transshipment of the contraband through regular civilian airways as well as military planes, they further said.

Amid the ongoing bargain for release of Noorjai, the Taliban is aiming to revive the traditional drug routes via the Middle East to South Africa and scale up the entire illicit drugs business chain to augment the funds crunch that Kabul is facing post-takeover of

Afghanistan on August 15.

The development comes as the Taliban is facing dire financial crisis and the Afghan foreign minister had recently visited Islamabad to seek aid but Pakistan could not commit grants due to its bankrupt economy.

However, Islamabad agreed for active facilitation of the drugs trade.

Senior counter-terrorism expert of Afghan origin Ajmal Sohail said, "Drug trafficking has remained the mainstay of revenue generation for Taliban and the militia is back to its old tactic."

However, to keep the international community in good humour, Taliban is projecting itself as the good guy by showcasing the seizure of the contraband at Kabul airport as a measure of revamped Taliban."

The Taliban also has begun taking payments for the supplies of drugs to Europe and countries in North as well as South America through African conduits in diamonds and generating revenue through white channels, added Sohail who is also founder of Afghanistan Republic Salvation Front.

NIA conducts searches in Tamil Nadu

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) conducted searches in Tamil Nadu and arrested an accused in the Madurai Hizb-ut-Tahrir case.

The searches were conducted at two locations in Thiruvavur and Tanjore districts of Tamil Nadu after which an accused Bava Bahrudeen alias Mannai Bava, was arrested.

The case was initially registered at Thideer Nagar Police Station, Madurai City in which Mohammed Iqbal alias Senthil Kumar had used his Facebook account "Thoonga Vizhigal Rendu" in Kazimar Street to upload posts that denigrated a particular community and fomented communal disharmony among different religions in a manner prejudicial to the maintenance of public order, the NIA said.



"Investigation has revealed that the accused person Mohammed Iqbal conspired with others including Mannai Bava, in the name of Hizb-ut-Tahrir to re-establish Islamic State and implement Sharia globally including in India," the agency said in a statement.

In furtherance of this conspiracy, they had participated in closed door Bayans (meetings) and created multiple accounts on various social media applications to upload posts intended to disclaim and disrupt the sovereignty

and territorial integrity of India. The conspiracy meetings / closed door Bayans were helmed by the arrested accused person Mannai Bava and conducted in Madurai, Erode, Salem, Tanjore districts in Tamil Nadu.

During the searches conducted in Mannargudi of Thiruvavur district and in Mansur Ali Thaikal area of Tanjore district, 30 books, handwritten documents containing incriminating literature related to Hizb-ut-Tahrir and establishment of Islamic State / Khilafat and three digital devices were seized, it added.

NIA: Probed 37 ISIS-linked terror cases, 168 arrested

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The National investigation Agency (NIA) on Friday said it has investigated 37 cases of terror attacks, conspiracy and funding which have been inspired by the Islamic State ideology.

The most recent case was registered by NIA in June 2021. A total of 168 accused have been arrested in these cases and chargesheets have been filed in 31 cases. As many as 27 accused have been convicted after trial, it said.

"Investigation by NIA has revealed that IS (Islamic State) is trying to spread its tentacles in India through continuous propaganda online. Gullible youth are targeted on open social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Once a person shows interest, he or she is then enticed to communicate with online handlers based abroad using encrypted social media platforms," it said in a statement.

An appeal is being made that any such activity noticed on the internet maybe brought to the notice of the authorities

Depending on the gullibility of the person, the handlers then use the person for uploading online content, translation of IS texts to local language, conspiracy, preparation of a module, collection of arms and ammunition, preparation of IEDs, terror funding and even attacks, it further said.

An appeal is being made that any such activity noticed on the internet maybe brought to the notice of the authorities. NIA may be contacted at telephone number- 011-24368800, it added.

SC recommends 8 names for CJs for a number of HCs

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court collegium headed by CJI NV Ramana is learnt to have recommended eight names of judges, including acting chief justice of Calcutta High Court Justice Rajesh Bindal, for their elevation as chief justices of different high courts. The Collegium including the senior most four judges of the apex court also decided to transfer five Chief Justices of High Court and 28 High Court Judges to other States.

Tripura High Court Chief Justice Akil Kureshi has been transferred to Rajasthan. The Justice Kureshi, one of the senior-most high court judges in the country, was originally elevated as a judge in the Gujarat High Court and has been in news due to his non-elevation as a judge of the apex court. His decision to give CBI custody of Amit Shah in 2010 invited controversies.

Justice Bindal of Calcutta

High Court has been in news recently due to his administrative and judicial decisions in matters related to political stand-off between the BJP and the Trinamool Congress in West Bengal. Chief justice of Andhra Pradesh High Court Justice Arup Kumar Goswami has been transferred to Chhattisgarh High Court, Chief justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court Justice Mohd Rafiq to the Himachal Pradesh High Court. The Collegium also recommended transfer of Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court Justice Indrajit Mahanty to the Tripura High Court and Meghalaya High Court Chief Justice Biswanath Somadder to the Sikkim High Court.

Besides Justice Bindal, the Collegium has recommended names of Justices Prakash Srivastava, Prashant Kumar Mishra, Ritu Raj Awasthi, Satish Chandra Sharma, Ranjit V More, Aravind Kumar and R V

Malimath for appointing them as chief justices of different high courts across the country, the sources said. Sources said names of Justices Prakash Srivastava, Prashant Kumar Mishra and Ritu Raj Awasthi have been recommended for appointment as chief justices of high courts of Calcutta, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

After assuming charge as the CJI in April this year, Justice Ramana has recommended nearly 100 names for appointment to different high courts, sources said.

The 25 high courts of the country have a combined sanctioned strength of 1,080 judges and on May 1, 2021, the high courts were functioning with 420 judges only.

The series of recommendations have been made close on the heels of a historic decision to recommend 68 names in one go for judgeship in 12 high courts across the country.

Haryana Public Service Commission
Bays No. 1 - 10, Block- B, Sector- 4, Panchkula

Announcement

It is hereby announced for the general information of the candidates who have applied for the following post that the Commission has decided to conduct Recruitment Test, as per schedule given below:-

Sr. no.	Name of the Post & Department	Advt. No.	Date & Time
1	Dental Surgeon (Class-II) in the Health Department, Haryana.	2/2021	26.09.2021 02:00 PM to 05:00 PM

The Candidates are advised to download their Admit Cards from the Commission's website i.e. <http://hpsc.gov.in> with effect from 18.09.2021.

It is made clear that all the candidates who had applied for the above mentioned post are provisionally allowed to appear in the Recruitment Test subject to the fulfillment of all eligibility conditions as per advertisement. The eligibility of the candidates who will be declared qualified for interview will be checked later on.

Notes:

- Candidates are directed that they may download the admit card and take black & white print of the same on A-4 size paper so that their photos & other particulars can easily be seen /verified. Candidates having small size Admit Cards with illegible photos /signatures will not be allowed to enter the Examination centre.
- The candidates are advised to read all the instructions very carefully.

Deputy Secretary
Haryana Public Service Commission
Panchkula

Date: 17.09.2021
RO NO. 4809 Dt. 17-09-2021

Vitiligo patients finding succour in herbal remedies

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Many patients with vitiligo which is an autoimmune disorder characterised by the loss of skin colour in parts of a body seem to be finding succour in herbal remedies like Lukoskin developed by government's premier research agency Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO).

Consider this. Till now, more than one lakh patients suffering from the skin condition, also known as leucoderma, have been treated with Lukoskin with an average success rate of 70 per cent, said Dr Nitika Kohli from AIMIL Healthcare which is manufacturing and marketing the drug.

An ayurveda expert herself, Dr Kohli said, that after DRDO transferred the technology, clinical trials were conducted on the patients and then in 2011 it was launched in the market. "In these ten years, over one lakh patients have been treated with the drug. We found a 70 per cent success rate," she said.

An estimated four to five per cent of the Indian population suffers from leucoderma.



The condition is characterized by patches of the skin losing their pigment. The condition is noticeable in people with dark skin.

For better success rate and with an aim to reach out to more patients, the AIMIL is in the process of launching the advanced version of the drug. DRDO is already working in this direction.

Dr Kohli was speaking at a conference "Clinical management of tough skin diseases" held online to mark the ten years of launch of Lukoskin as well as of AIMIL Healthcare. Representatives and doctors from various medical streams including allopathy who had participated in the programmes

also highlighted the role of herbs in general and Lukoskin in particular in the treatment of leucoderma.

The ointment has seven herbal ingredients having properties such as anti-blister, anti-irritation, anti-septic, wound healing properties, while the oral formulation is designed to improve the auto immune system and supplement copper which checks the emergence of new spots, shared Dr Kohli.

In fact, Dr Hemant Pande, senior scientist from DRDO's Pithoragarh lab Defence Institute of Bio-energy Research (DIBER) who last year won prestigious 'Science Award' on National Technology Day for developing the herbal drug had said that though remedies of vitiligo viz., allopathic, surgical and adjunctive were available, none of them were very effective or without side effects.

"Moreover, these are either costly or single molecule based, with very low level of efficacy and develop side-effects like blister, edema, irritation in the skin with the result most of the patients discontinue the treatment," Pandey, a recipient of several prestigious awards for his contribution in herbal medicine field had said.

Cong wishes Modi on b'day, says country paying prices for his failures

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress on Friday wished Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his 71st birthday but said the country is paying the price for his "failures" on several fronts and so the day is being observed as "unemployment day", "anti-farmer day" and "high prices day".

The party reminded that birthdays of former prime ministers are celebrated as different days, with Jawaharlal Nehru's birthday as "Children's Day", Indira Gandhi's as "National Integration Day", Rajiv Gandhi's as "Sadbhavana Diwas" and Atal Bihari Vajpayee's as "Good Governance Day" but Modi's birthday is being observed as "unemployment day".

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi extended his wishes to the prime minister on Twitter. "Happy Birthday, Modi ji," said Rahul. For the Indian Youth Congress and the NSUI, it was "national unemployment day".

Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinete said she prays that God gives the prime minister the wisdom to realise what he has led the country to

Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinete said she prays that God gives the prime minister the wisdom to realise what he has led the country to. "It is the prime minister's birthday and from this platform, we wish him a happy birthday. We pray for his well being, but we do believe that this day is being celebrated in many parts of the country as unemployment day, anti-farmer day, high prices day, crippled economy day, as winning over your crony capitalists friends day, as ED, IT, CBI raid day, and the corona mismanagement day," Shrinete said at AICC Press conference.

Covid antibodies in 90.26% Mumbaikars: BMC

Cop shot by ultras in J&K

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

As part of its latest sero-surveys conducted in the country's commercial capital since the outbreak of the Covid-19 in March-April last year, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) said on Friday that Covid-19 antibodies were found in a sizeable 90.26 per cent of Mumbaikars who were either fully or partially vaccinated.

In the fifth sero-surveillance study conducted by the BMC between August 12 and September 9, 2021, antibodies were found among the 79.86 per cent of unvaccinated citizens, while the prevalence of antibodies in people from slum as well as non-slum areas much higher compared to previous sero-surveys.

Disclosing the findings of the fifth sero survey, Mumbai Municipal Commissioner I S Chahal said here on Friday: "Even if antibodies are found, Mumbaikars will have to take precautions like use of masks, hand Hygiene and safe distancing norms".

The BMC released the fifth sero-surveillance findings on a day when Mumbai recorded 387 infections and three deaths. As many as 434 Covid-19 patients were discharged from various hospitals after full recovery, the BMC pegged the total "active cases" in the metropolis at 4,658.

While the BMC had earlier conducted three Sero surveillance Studies for Covid-19 for all people, while it carried out one Sero-surveillance study only for Paediatric population

SERO-SURVEY REPORT

previously. Anticipating the possible third wave of Covid-19, the fifth sero surveillance was conducted by the state public health department and LTMCM & GH, Sion Hospital with the support from A.T.E. Chandra Foundation and IDFC Institute.

The results of the previous three Sero-surveys conducted by M.C.G.M concluded that the recent trends in Sero-positivity corresponded with the Covid-19 cases in the second wave. The fifth Sero-survey could be instrumental in identifying trends of probable upcoming third wave and exposure of the population to the virus.

The study was cross-sectional in nature and included participants above 18 years of

age, from all 24 wards of the city of Greater Mumbai. In all, 8,674 were samples were collected and tested. Anti-SARS-CoV2 Ig G antibodies was detected using an ELISA based assay.

Study participants were selected by systematic random sampling and those visiting Municipal Dispensaries and General Practitioners' Clinics in slum and non-slum areas respectively. The participants were recruited with informed consent. Data collection was done by the means of a mobile software application.

According to the fifth sero-survey, overall Sero-prevalence in the city of Greater Mumbai was 86.64 per cent, while the study estimated around 87.02 per cent prevalence

in slums, while 86.22 per cent prevalence in non-slums in the 24 wards.

The sero-prevalence among males is 85.07%, sero-prevalence among females is 88.29 per cent which is higher as compared to males. Almost 65 per cent of those who participated in the study had received Covid-19 vaccines and 35 per cent did not receive any vaccine.

"Sero-prevalence amongst partially and fully vaccinated participants is 90.26 per cent. Sero-prevalence amongst those who have not taken Covid-19 vaccine is 79.86 per cent," Chahal said.

Of total samples, 20% were health care workers. Sero-prevalence in health care workers is 87.14%. The age-wise sero-prevalence varies from 80 per cent to 91 per cent among the

study subjects.

"Overall sero-prevalence in slum and non-slum areas in the city of Greater Mumbai is much higher as compared to the last sero-survey. There is no statistically significant difference in sero-prevalence of Mumbai City and Suburbs. In this survey, sero-prevalence in slum population is 87.02 per cent, while in non-slum population it is 86.22 per cent which is a meagre difference," Chahal said.

There is marginal difference in the gender-wise sero-prevalence with females showing 88.29% sero-prevalence as compared to males i.e., 85.07 per cent sero-prevalence was significantly higher in study subjects who received either first or both doses of Covid-19 vaccine as compared to their unvaccinated counterparts.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ JAMMU

In yet another targeted attack Jammu & Kashmir police personnel was shot dead by 'unidentified' terrorists near Wanpoh in South Kashmir district of Kulgam late Friday evening.

The police cop, identified as Bantooji Sharma, was deployed with the Railway Police. Soon after hitting him from a close range the terrorists fled the area leaving behind police personnel in a pool of blood.

According to local police, a critically injured policeman was rushed to the GMC, Anantnag where doctors

declared him dead.

The entire area was cordoned off by the security personnel to track down the footprints of the terrorists behind the attack.

Searches were conducted in the nearby areas and special nakas were set up to regulate the movement of vehicles.

A young Sub Inspector on probation AA Meer was earlier shot dead from a close range in Khanar area of Srinagar on September 12.

Several politicians including former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Peoples Conference Chairman Sajad Lone condemned the attack and offered their condolences to the bereaved family.

Cong forms screening committee for UP polls

New Delhi: Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Friday constituted the party's screening committee for the upcoming high-stakes Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh next year.

Senior party leader and a former Union Minister Jitendra Singh has been named as the chairman of the committee, while Rajya Sabha MP Depender Singh Hooda and Maharashtra MLA Varsha Gaikwad have been chosen as its members.

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, state unit president Ajay Kumar Lallu and legislature party leader in state Aradna Misra have been appointed as ex-officio members of the screening committee. The ex-officio members also comprise all AICC secretaries for Uttar

Pradesh.

The committee will be responsible for shortlisting candidates for the elections. The Congress is eyeing to make a comeback in Uttar Pradesh after over three decades and is gearing up to contest the next year's election without forming any alliance.

In the 2017 polls, the Congress secured only seven of the 403 Assembly seats having joined hands with the Samajwadi Party (SP).

Last week, the Congress had invited applications from prospective candidates and days later, the party's Uttar Pradesh unit asked those seeking tickets for next year's election to deposit ₹11,000 with their applications.

"All applicants should submit their applications with the

authorised persons at the district/state level along with a 'sahyog rashi (contribution amount)' of ₹11,000 by September 25, 2021," an order issued by UP Congress chief Ajay Singh Lallu said.

The party said this step was taken to keep away candidates who were not serious about the election.

The party has also started the second phase of its training programme, titled 'Prashikshan Se Parakram Mahaabhiyan', to train party workers. About 100 camps will be organised to make 30,000 workers battle-ready ahead of the crucial election. The programme will continue till the end of September.

During the first phase of the campaign, continuing for 11 days, the party trained 25,000 of its workers. PNS

BSF DG reviews security situation along border

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ JAMMU

After taking stock of the prevailing security situation along the International Border across Jammu frontier the newly-appointed Director-General of Border Security Force, Pankaj Kumar Singh Friday wined up his maiden visit of Jammu frontier. During his stay, DG BSF toured the Ramgarh sector of Samba and RS Pura & Arnia Sectors of Jammu frontier.

Inspector General of BSF, Jammu Frontier NS Jamwal along with other senior officers visited several border posts where they briefed him on the spot.

According to the Public Relations Officer of BSF Jammu frontier, "DG BSF reviewed the overall deployment of BSF and also the domination plan with the senior officers of the Jammu frontier on ground zero".

DG BSF also visited the critical areas of Aik Nallah, Phalku Nallah and other areas of R S Pura and Arnia Border area and held discussions



with sector/unit commanders on the ground and reviewed the security situation.

During his stay, DG BSF also interacted with jawans through sainik sammelan and was full of praise for

BSF Jawans for their dedication towards safeguarding the frontiers of the Nation.

DG BSF was impressed with the commitment of the border guards despite facing tough conditions.

HC junks fake lawyer's bail plea

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Cessy Xavier, the glamorous lady who made hundreds of head turn in the district court premises of Alappuzha where she practiced claiming that she was a qualified lawyer, was asked by a single judge Bench of Kerala High Court to surrender before the authorities for interrogation. Judge V Shircy on Friday dismissed the anticipatory bail petition moved on behalf of Xavier who had no legal qualifications to practice as an advocate.

The controversial woman had been practicing in courts in Alappuzha for two years without any degree in law. She even managed to get elected as an office bearer of the district bar council using her friend's credentials.

The prosecution had opposed Xavier's bail plea on the ground that some of the offences alleged against her were non bailable and she should be subjected to custodial interrogation to know she managed to get enrolled as an advocate using fake credentials.

The prosecution along with the bar council told the Court that it was imperative to ensure that such fake activities are not repeated in future.



Workers put handloom fabrics for drying in a field at Shantipur in Nadia district on Friday

PTI

Ex-top cop of Kerala hails new TN Guv

CHENNAI: When R N Ravi, the Central Government's interlocutor to Nagaland will be sworn in as the Governor of Tamil Nadu on Saturday morning, it would be celebration time for T P Senkumar, former chief of Kerala Police.

Senkumar, a 1983 batch officer of the Indian Police Service, was appointed to the Kerala cadre, his joy knew no bound as he was thrilled at the prospect of training and working under Ravi, an iconic figure among IPS officers in Kerala. "I had great dreams of getting trained under Ravi who was a hero among the people of the State as well as the police officials. But the senior official in charge of taking decision on such things had other ideas and I lost the race," Senkumar wrote in his autobiography "My Police Life".

Senkumar told *The Pioneer* that Ravi left Kerala for central deputation within a few years. "Though he returned to the State after five years, he was again called back to the Centre and he was given very sensitive and significant assignments. I met him many times on an officer-to-officer basis and he was very cordial with me," said Senkumar who superannuated in 2017. Like his idol Ravi, Senkumar too had excelled in the field of Intelligence and is known as one of the best intelligence chiefs the State had seen.

The new Governor of Tamil Nadu would have many former Intelligence experts for company in Chennai city itself. M K Narayanan, former National Security Advisor who was also a former Governor of West Bengal, ESL Narasimhan, former chief of the Intelligence Bureau and Governor of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, K V S Gopalakrishnan, former special director, IB are some of the leading lights of the intelligence community based in Chennai with whom Governor Ravi would be interacting regularly.

Railway-focused skill development programme launched

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Friday launched a skill development programme with a special focus on jobs that are relevant to the Railways. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched the Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana, a programme under the aegis of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), aims to train 50,000 candidates over the next three years.

"The aim of this initiative is to impart training skills to the youth in various trades to bring qualitative improvement," Vaishnaw said.

"Initially, the training will be provided to 1,000 candidates. The training will be provided in four trades namely Electrician, Welder, Machinist and Fitter and will comprise of initial basic training of 100 hours. Training programmes in other trades will be added by zonal railways and Production units based on regional demands and needs assessment," a Railway Ministry statement said. "Training shall be provided free of cost and participants will be selected from applications received online, following a transparent mechanism on the basis of marks in matriculation. Candidates who are 10th passed and between 18-35 years shall be eligible to apply. Participants in the scheme shall however have no claim to seek employment in Railways on the basis of this training," the statement added.

Vaishaw also stressed that training in remote areas will be conducted under this programme.

The programme curriculum has been developed by Banaras Diesel Locomotive Works which will also standardize assessments and maintain centralized database of participants. The scheme will be launched for 1000 participants initially and will be over and above the training provided to apprentices under the Apprentice Act 1961. "Trainees shall be required to undergo a standardized assessment and will be awarded certificate in the allotted trade by the National Rail & Transportation Institute, upon conclusion of their programme. They will also be provided Toolkits relevant to their trade which would help these trainees utilize their learnings and enhance their capacity for self-employment as well as employability in various industries," a rail Ministry statement added.

Kerala HC junks plea against administrative reforms in Lakshadweep

KOCHI: The efforts of Save Lakshadweep Forum, an all-party initiative launched by the residents of the Union Territory to stop the anti-people policies pursued by the Administrator of Lakshadweep Praful Patel came to a naught on Friday as the Kerala High Court nixed the last of the Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by the forum challenging various reforms launched by the administration.

A Division Bench consisting of Chief Justice S Manikumar and Judge Shaji P Chaly on Friday dismissed the PIL petition filed by a Lakshadweep based lawyer challenging the Administration's decision to shut down the dairy farms in the islands and to remove meat from the menu of the daily noon meal served in the schools in Lakshadweep Islands. The judges said that they concurred with the argument by the standing counsel of Lakshadweep Islands that the court should not interfere in policy decisions taken by the administration.

The decision to shut down the dairy farms in the islands was because of the more than Re one crore loss incurred by the administration every year in its efforts to

maintain the same. The administration also told the Court that the move to take meat off from the mid-day meal served in school was to ensure that the nutritional value stipulated in the rules. The court also agreed with the contention that any menu that met the nutritional value could be served by the government.

Interestingly, the Kerala High Court in June 2021 had stayed the operations of these decisions and had sought explanation from the administration. The islands witnessed massive protests and demonstrations demanding that Patel be called back from Lakshadweep. The Save Lakshadweep Forum leaders had said that thousands of BJP workers in the archipelago had quit the party to join secular parties against the move by the administration to saffronize the islands.

The SLF had contended that the decision of the administration to change the mid-day meals menu and shut down dairy farms in the islands infringed upon the ethnic culture, heritage, food habits and rights of the residents under Articles 19 and 300A of the Constitution of India. PNS

KVIC launches SPIN scheme for potters' community in Varanasi

New Delhi: Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) on Friday launched a unique Scheme called SPIN (Strengthening the Potential of India) and set up a pottery cluster under SFURTI Scheme in Varanasi to empower over 1100 people of the marginalized potters' community on the occasion of 71th birth anniversary of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. On this occasion, 780 electric potter wheels were sanctioned to the participants of SPIN Scheme. Further, in Gujarat, KVIC distributed 50 charkha to women artisans at Kevadia to engage them with self-employment and sustainable livelihood. Chairman KVIC Vinai Kumar Saxena was present on the occasion. PM Modi's birth anniversary is being celebrated as "Sewa Diwas".

Union Minister of State for MSME, Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma launched the SPIN Scheme in which 780 potters from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan and Jharkhand have registered for financial assistance from the bank to begin their own business. Out of these, 110 artisans are from Varanasi. Unlike Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana, which is a subsidy-based program, SPIN Scheme enables the registered potters to get a direct loan from the banks under Pradhan Mantri Shishu Mudra Yojana. Under the SPIN Scheme, KVIC is acting as a facilitator for financial aid to potters through RBL bank and also providing training to the artisans, opting for this scheme.

Under this scheme, there will be no financial burden on the exchequer and the loan

will be repaid by the potter in easy instalments. The SPIN scheme, thus, aims at infusing self-sustainability in the Indian pottery sector.

Verma also inaugurated "Kashi Pottery Cluster" at Village Bhatti in Varanasi. This is the first pottery cluster in Varanasi district set up by KVIC under the SFURTI Scheme. The cluster, set up over an area of 7100 square feet at the cost of Rs 2.50 crore, has provided direct employment to 340 pottery artisans who have been trained by KVIC. The cluster is equipped with modern equipment like furnaces, electric potter wheels, blunger machines, pug mills and other modern equipment for higher production of clay pottery.

"SPIN is a specially designed program to make potters self-sustainable. Under the scheme, KVIC will facilitate potters to get easy loans from banks that will help the potters to diversify their activities and enhance their income. This will reduce their dependence on government subsidy and thus make our potters self-reliant," Verma said. He further said that the new Kashi pottery cluster will help traditional potters in increasing their skills with the help of modern equipment which will eventually help them occupy a bigger market space and get a better income.

Chairman KVIC, Saxena said sustainable development by creating local self-employment is the key objective of KVIC which is aligned with the Prime Minister's commitment of "Job to Every Hand" (Har Hath Me Kaam). PNS

Manipur's oranges, chillies get GI-Tag

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Terming it to be historic, Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh took to Twitter saying, "What a great start to the day for Manipur! I'm really happy to share that 2 (two) products of Manipur viz Hathei Chilly & Tamenglong orange have been granted GI Tag.

This is a historic milestone in the history of Manipur which will increase the income of the farmers immensely." The GI status is an indication that identifies goods as produced from a particular area which has special quality attributable to its geographical origin.

Tamenglong orange is known to be the species of the mandarin group, which is a unique fruit crop found only in

Tamenglong district that contributes over 50 per cent of the state's annual production. It is famous especially for its well-blended sweetness and tart taste.

Manipur Organic Mission Agency (MOMA) applied for GI tags for Tamenglong orange and Sirarakhong Hathei chilli in 2019. In Manipur's Ukhrul, Hathei chilli is considered to be God's gift and the pride of the region.

Hathei chilli flourishes only in the hills of Mahadev surrounding the remote Tangkhul Naga inhabited Sirarakhong village in the Ukhrul district. Manipur has been promoting these two produce by celebrating the Orange Festival every December and Sirarakhong Hathei festival every August for over a decade now.



Tourists during a camel safari in the desert of Pushkar on Friday

PTI

www.dailypioneer.com

facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/

PAPER WITH PASSION

Unholy matrimony?

The issue of interfaith marriages in certain States, especially in UP, is a simmering cauldron

As Uttar Pradesh slowly gears up for next year's Assembly elections, there is a concern that any communal polarisation adopted by political parties can draw undue attention to interfaith marriages, instilling a sense of fear and apprehension in young couples in love. "Love jihad" is the pejorative term the right-wing groups use to describe such marriages. The phrase has a negative resonance all over the State and interfaith couples either wanting to marry, or immediately after marriage, seek the protection of the courts to escape the anger of the parents and the fury of the vigilante groups. The Allahabad High Court on Thursday for the umpteenth time reiterated that two adults have the right to choose whom they wish to marry, irrespective of their religion. A Division Bench of Justices Manoj Kumar Gupta and Deepak Verma passed the order while granting protection to an interfaith couple worried about the anger of their parents over their relationship. The court also clarified that since the two individuals are major, "nobody, not even their parents, could object to their relationship". It is significant to note that the said court receives numerous petitions from young couples every week. A survey of orders the court passed showed that it had granted relief to over 100 couples of interfaith and inter-caste marriages in the month of November 2020. Many of these cases related to interfaith marriages, involving the conversion of one of the partners.



These included some cases where the court quashed criminal cases filed against the male partner alleging the girl had been kidnapped. As "love jihad" theories abounded in UP around that time, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath stated his Government's decision to bring a law against it. The statement came in the wake of a single Bench of the Allahabad High Court saying in a case that religious conversion for the sake of marriage was invalid. However, a higher Bench of the same court overruled the verdict a few days later, stating that "the right to live with a person of his/her choice, irrespective of religion professed by them, is intrinsic to right to life and personal liberty". This order quoted a 2006 Supreme Court ruling that upheld the couple's right to marry partners of choice and that the couple is "not harassed by anyone nor subjected to threats or acts of violence". The UP Government promulgated the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religious Ordinance, 2020, criminalising religious conversion by marriage, around the same time. With a few other States also bringing in such a law, the Supreme Court was moved to review it. With the election fever gripping UP, interfaith marriages have the potential to draw the attention of vigilante groups on the question of conversion. In the case related to Thursday's verdict, the woman had also applied for conversion from Islam to Hinduism. However, it is cases where the girl applies for conversion to Islam from Hinduism that become controversial.

PICTALK



Dense clouds form over the fields after a heavy rain spell, in New Delhi

Ranjana Dimri/Pioneer

Love and hate

The influential Church is taking up cudgels against elements that seek to 'divide' people in Kerala

The virus of communal hatred has come out in the open in Kerala following the startling disclosure made by Mar Joseph Kallarangatt, the Bishop of Pala Diocese. Addressing thousands of Catholic devotees who had gathered for a religious congregation at the ancient Marth Mariam Church in Kuravilangadu, the Bishop warned the laity about the dangers of "love jihad" and "narcotics jihad" that have done irreparable damage to the community. Thousands of Christian girls, many of them conservative Catholics, have fallen prey to these jihads over the last few years, said the Bishop. Elaborating on the *modus operandi* of the aggressors, the spiritual leader said that some elements of a particular religion were out in the open to liquidate the non-believers as part of their mission to establish a Caliphate in India. This is not the first time a statement like this is being made. The Christian community has been on a warpath against the State administration because of the alleged callousness of the police and other law-enforcing agencies towards their complaints that girls belonging to their sect were being targeted through the two "jihads" and are trafficked to west Asian nations.

There were many instances of Christians staging demonstrations across Kerala to highlight their plight which were ignored by the mainstream media and liberals, labelling these as part of the "Sangh Parivar agenda" to divide Christians and Muslims. While Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan feigned ignorance about "narcotics jihad", Opposition leader VD Satheesan warned the Bishop from issuing irresponsible statements. But Bishop Kallarangatt was joined by Bishops of the Changanassery and Irinjilakkuda dioceses, who too expressed their fear over the phenomenon haunting the laity. The Bishops' statements come immediately after the Kerala Catholic Bishops Council announced anxiety over the depleting Christian population in the State due to factors like family planning and migration. The Church even announced incentives, including financial as well as educational allowances, to couples who raise more children. Kerala is known for communal amity and this should not be overturned as part of appeasement and vote bank politics. Most of the de-addiction centres in Kerala are under the Church's management and they keep track of the number of persons getting addicted. Hence, the Bishops are speaking from a position of strength and the administration should listen seriously to what they say.



In the end, the game is the winner



VIJAY LOKAPALLY

The controversy over the cancelled fifth Test in England notwithstanding, gentle nudges by well-meaning seniors mean that cricket is in happy hands

Cricket is a wonderful, Indian game and the point was driven home well by Virat Kohli and his ambitious team in an exciting summer season. The English came to admire the stuff that India produced during a phase that began with the World Test Championship in June and culminated at Old Trafford with the fifth and final Test being cancelled on account of COVID fears. India led the series 2-1.

When the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) president Sourav Ganguly revealed that the Indian team was reluctant to play, he was only confirming the backing the players had. Health and safety of the players is paramount but the decision did not go down with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) which insisted that the match be treated as forfeited by India and the result should go in their favour to tie the series. It hangs in balance as the matter rests with the International Cricket Council (ICC) following a claim by the ECB to grant them the match.

Overflowing audiences at the venues marked the fare. Test cricket was at its glorious best and it was just the advertisement to keep the administrators and the broadcasters happy. Cricket was entertaining. The royal battle between England's legendary James Anderson and the cream of Indian batting should rank as classic in the folklore of the game. It was breathtaking and evoked memories of some fascinating contests that India and England have been locked in, notably the 1971 thriller at The Oval in 1971 when India won on the strength of leg-spinner BS Chandrasekhar's striking blows to register their first ever win on English soil.

The 2021 series was projected as the most-awaited in a long time since it featured some of the modern greats of the game—Anderson and Virat Kohli—with charmers like Joe Root and Jasprit Bumrah bringing a touch of exciting personal rivalry. Root was exemplary and Bumrah unplayable at times, setting benchmarks to last ages. It was



hard to estimate the degree of excellence between Root and Bumrah.

Anderson won his personal battles with Kohli but the latter came out tops as he marshalled India to win two Tests in a remarkable show of temperament. Nothing was beyond India as the team once again established itself as an enviable combination. For India, the takeaways were rich.

There was much to celebrate in the rise of KL Rahul as an opener, who promises to make huge strides and the return to form of Rohit Sharma. The two hit a century each and importantly assured the selectors of their investment. With Cheteshwar Pujara coming to grips with his capabilities, India benefited at the opportune time to enjoy more dominating sessions than the home team.

True, England swept India off their feet at Headingley in an embarrassing innings defeat for the touring team but the match that stood out saw India win a regal contest at The Lord's. The home of cricket saw Rahul crack a majestic century and Mohammed Siraj produce



A REMINDER FROM FORMER CAPTAIN SUNIL GAVASKAR REKINDLED THE MEMORIES OF CRICKET FANS OF THE GESTURE BY ENGLAND WHEN THEY RETURNED TO COMPLETE THE TOUR HALTED BY THE MUMBAI TERRORIST ATTACK IN 2008

unforgettable spells of four wickets each in the two innings. India made a remarkable fightback through a last-wicket stand of 89 runs between Mohammed Shami and Bumrah. This pair highlighted the tenacity of the team on the final day of the match as England succumbed after having begun the day in a commanding position.

Two half centuries by Shardul Thakur at critical stages of the fourth Test at The Oval propelled the team into a position of strength to call the shots, courtesy the fast bowlers. Criticised for not playing off-spinner Ravinchandran Ashwin even once in a Test against England, Kohli stood tall for his decision to play four fast bowlers. They did not let him down and it was down to the final Test. Sadly, the circumstances played havoc and the match had to be called off.

It was an unprecedented development and reports emerged of the two Boards drifting away from their acclaimed healthy association to honour each other's commitments. A reminder from Sunil Gavaskar rekindled memories of the cricket fans

of the gesture by England when they returned to complete the tour halted by the Mumbai terrorist attack in 2008. The former India captain wants India to return the favour by travelling to England next year to play the cancelled Test.

In these difficult times, it is important to spare a thought for players' mental health, who were driven to take the decision of "refusing" to play the final Test. Their fears of getting infected were genuine and the Indians were not the only one to be compelled into taking such a stand. Australia postponing their tour to South Africa was among the prominent fixtures that failed to take off.

Spending long periods in quarantine has taken its toll on all sportspersons. The Indian Premier League 2021 has seen quite a few players withdrawing from the competition in Dubai. And Kohli deciding to quit T20 captaincy after the World Cup this year sums up the cricket in the pandemic—it is too exacting.

(The writer has been a sports journalist for 35 years with The Hindu and Sportstar. He has authored five books on cricket.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TAPPING THE RIGHT POTENTIAL

Sir — A bird sitting on a tree is never afraid of the branch breaking because her trust is not on the branch but on its wings. Likewise, every business today is at the mercy of its IT infrastructure. A rigid infrastructure can render some organisations incapable of tapping into new opportunities. Server Message Blocks (SMBs) today are challenged by the increasingly complex and demanding modern requirements put on their IT infrastructure. To overcome these hurdles, SMBs are implementing next-generation Hyper Converged Infrastructure (HCI) solutions that bring increased agility, flexibility and growth to meet demands such as sustainable IT costs, better application performance and better data storage scalability and efficiency.

This enables SMEs to combine agility and flexibility with the control, visibility, and performance of an agile environment. Thus, you can streamline IT operations with fast, efficient, resilient and intelligent hyper-converged platforms when you choose consistency and simplicity. Having faced lockdown and other hurdles, it is time to look for a win-win situation. We should be able to win over a tight situation.

MR Jayanthi | Coimbatore

THE BIGGER PICTURE

Sir — It is no doubt that Virat Kohli is India's most celebrated player in cricket. He, as a Captain, performs best in every format of the game, whether it be World Cup, ODI or T-20 series. But it is appreciative that he himself came forward to name Rohit Sharma, and decided to quit T-20 captaincy for the best of the team. Kohli made a good decision for the team by himself creating space for his comrade Rohit, who is also exceptionally successful in the T-20 format.

The trend of change in captaincy is the ultimate law of change. What earlier MS Dhoni and other captains did, needs to be done by Virat also. As a player, it is more important to ensure the victory of the team rather than personal records.

Humanity proves costly



The raids, euphemistically called 'search operations' and 'surveys' at the houses and offices of Sonu Sood and Harsh Mander by the Income Tax Department and the Enforcement Directorate respectively were politically motivated and typical of the Modi Government. These were just the latest in a series of raids conducted by central agencies as part of intimidatory tactics. Sonu Sood and Harsh Mander are patriotic men who serve their country well; they are much loved and highly respected for their service to the

society. Sonu Sood has been extolled as a 'real life hero' for arranging food and transportation to migrant workers during lockdowns and oxygen supply to hospitals treating Covid-19 patients amid the oxygen crisis.

It is unfortunate that the Government unleashes central agencies on those who do not side with it or toe its line as a matter of routine. It has not spared even a well-known public intellectual and a tireless campaigner for human rights as Harsh Mander. The Government seems to think that anyone who is not with it is against it and deserves to be proceeded against and painted in a bad light. The irony is that real economic offenders enjoy political patronage and get off scot-free. The raids of this kind smack of witch-hunt and do our democracy no proud. Sonu Sood and Harsh Mander deserve recognition for their good work; the Government can make amends to them for the raids by conferring them on them.

G David Milton | Maruthancode

After all, a player cannot place himself superior to his team. Placing Rohit Sharma as captain is a good decision. Rohit and Virat are almost equivalent in terms of talent and quality. Rohit Sharma is a calm and talent loaded player, no doubt that he will definitely lead the men in blue in a prominent way.

Kirti Wadhawan | Kanpur

AN ALARMING PHENOMENON

Sir — Since time, immemorial man and environment are intrinsically linked as the progress and development of the former hinges on the latter. However, human activities over the last few decades like rapid urbanisation, excessive mining, vehicular pollution, indiscriminate cutting of forests etc have altered the balance beyond recognition. In recent years, the increasing trend of forest fires engulfing many parts of the world, floods, droughts and frequency of cyclones becoming a routine affair can be attributed to climate change. This has a tendency to alter our

biodiversity, which is an alarming signal.

Climate change is a universal phenomenon which can be gauged from the recent report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). According to the report, global temperatures might rise by 1.5 per cent by 2030 due to excessive harnessing of nature. The global climate architecture is now governed by the Paris Agreement of 2015. The World Ozone Day is celebrated on September 16 every year to commemorate The Montreal Protocol signed in 1987 to limit and phase out man-made ozone-depleting chemicals like CFCs in a time-bound manner. The ozone layer lies in the stratosphere which prevents harmful ultraviolet rays from entering the earth's surface. The climate crisis can only be overcome by global cooperation and shifting to green and low carbon energy.

Vijay Adhikari | Nainital

SOUNDBITE

The Indian Constitution has been amended as many as 127 times, so why can it not be amended once again to scrap the farm laws?



Punjab Chief Minister —Amarinder Singh



If a comprehensive Government is not formed in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran will suffer more than any other country.

Iranian President —Ebrahim Raisi

Success for me is offering listeners a song that transports them to the zone of the song. I think 'Kanta Laga' did just that.



Singer —Honey Singh



Virat has been a true asset for Indian cricket. He is one of the most successful captains in all the formats.

BCCI president —Sourav Ganguly

We can bring our start-ups and entrepreneurs together to create the innovative spirit towards making India a stakeholder in emerging technology.



Prime Minister —Narendra Modi

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN
AUTO-EUGENICS
IN AMERICA

Most Americans dying of COVID are not vaccinated, and most of them are Republicans



GWYNNE DYER

Eugenics was a 20th-century pseudo-science that purported to improve the human breed by weeding out the 'least fit', often by measures like compulsory sterilisation or, in the case of the Nazis, death camps. But this is the 21st century, and now people can do it for themselves. 'Auto-eugenics' is the just-named phenomenon in which the excessively gullible and the intellectually challenged are weeding themselves out. It's most prominent in the United States, where 28 per cent of Americans say they do not plan to get vaccinated against coronavirus or are unsure whether they will do so. The only country in the developed world where vaccine refuseniks are more numerous is Russia, where they at least have the excuse that the state lies to them about everything all the time. Covid deaths in the United States last week were running around two thousand a day, whereas in Canada, right next-door, they were around thirty. President Joe Biden was on national television a few days ago urging unvaccinated Americans to



get the jabs, and declaring 'vaccine mandates' that oblige federal employees and companies that employ more than one hundred people to do so. He even allowed himself a little anger towards the more than 80 million Americans who are still refusing vaccination. But there's a puzzle here. Deep down, Biden must realise that the unvaccinated are doing him a favour by dying in large numbers. More than 97 per cent of those two thousand dead a day are not vaccinated, and it's a safe bet that at least 90 per cent of them are Republicans. The vast majority of anti-vaxxers who are still alive by next year's mid-term elections will vote Republican, and if they all make it that far then the present ultra-thin Democratic majorities in both houses of Congress could easily evaporate. In the circumstances, therefore, Biden's attempt to keep Republican voters alive borders on the quixotic. Or does it? A more cynical analysis suggests that he may be making a two-way bet. He is getting credit for doing his duty as president and trying to protect all Americans' lives, but at the same time the added pressure that his new measures put on anti-vaxxers is likely to drive them even deeper into their rejection of science and logic.

Republican governors from Georgia to Arizona are already planning to make legal challenges to his new vaccine mandates, and at the least they will probably manage to tie them up in the courts long enough to ensure that lots more Republican voters die. So in the end it comes down a kind of race. On the one hand, almost all Republican-controlled states are passing new voter-suppression measures to make voting harder for Democratic supporters, and especially for those who are poor and/or non-white. On the other hand, a significant proportion of Republican voters are striving to remove themselves from the gene pool by refusing to be vaccinated, and they can't vote Republican if they are dead. Losing an extra 50,000 guaranteed Republican voters to Covid-19 each month is bound to have an impact in at least some marginal elections next year. Which trend will shift the needle more strongly remains to be seen, but it is bound to a topic of furious in-house debate among Republican electoral strategists. You can safely assume that they have the relevant numbers at their fingertips, but that they are finding it almost impossible to shift the ideology. It's generally seen as insensitive to talk about this sort of thing in public, but admit it: wouldn't you like to be a fly on the wall when they debate this matter among themselves?

(Gwynne Dyer's new book is 'The Shortest History of War'. The views expressed are personal.)

Using science for a self-reliant India

From agriculture to artificial intelligence, Indian science has seen a resurgence over the last one year and made notable contributions to several domains



BIJU DHARMAPALAN KAPIL K. TRIPATHI

The clarion call for Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan (self-reliant India campaign) by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has brought about a tremendous transformation in the nation's scientific landscape. The scientists from our public sector research institutions took up the call and initiated many projects in mission mode to nurture an ecosystem that promotes research and innovation.

From agriculture to artificial intelligence, Indian science has seen a resurgence during the past year. The scientists have come out with great innovations that can compete with any in the western world. The quantum of research output produced during the Covid-19 pandemic is commendable. India became the first country to come out with a DNA-based coronavirus vaccine.

Science will gather acceptance only if it reaches the masses. In order to disseminate these research outputs to public, the India Science Channel, the national Science channel of our country, is producing a series of short movies under the category 'Science for a Self-Reliant India' since January 2021, through OTT platform.

The programmes are telecast both in Hindi and English so that they reach the maximum viewers. During the pandemic, the channel has produced several programmes to disseminate information regarding the covid research coming out from our research laboratories. Programmes like Tackling Covid-19: Masks, Diagnostic kits, Ventilator, Anindigenous Covid-19 vaccine, India's Battle for Oxygen Supply, Vaccine: India Fights Back, The Mystery of SARS-CoV-2 Mutations, Battling Covid-19: Dynamic Interventions, Covid-19 Vaccines and Road Ahead, highlighted the our efforts in tackling the deadly disease.

India has also developed an impressive track record in genomic research and biotechnology. The Department of Bio-Technology has been working on mission mode to provide a roadmap and an added impetus towards the growing field of genomics research in areas like cancer, hereditary diseases like diabetes to the sequencing of viruses like Covid-19.

The episode 'India's Genomics Mission' highlights the contributions of National Centre for Microbial Resource (NCMR), which is a part of the National Centre for Cell Science, Pune, Centre for Brain Research at the Indian Institute of Science and Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Hyderabad.

The episode highlights some of the flagship programmes towards making India a leader in genomic research programmes like the Genome India Project, the Human Microbiome Initiative and the National Genomic Core.

Tremendous developments have



AS INDIA'S URBAN POPULATION RAPIDLY GROWS — THE COUNTRY FACES MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES ASSOCIATED WITH THE QUANTUM AND KIND OF WASTE GENERATED EACH DAY. THE WASTE NOT ONLY HAS A DIRECT IMPACT ON OUR HEALTH AND THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMY, BUT ON THE ENTIRE ECOSYSTEM

(Biju Dharmapalan is a popular science writer. Kapil K. Tripathi is a scientist at Vigyan Prasara, New Delhi. The views expressed are personal.)



made in the field of alternative energy sources like Solar Energy.

The episode on 'Solar Energy' tracks the science that propelled the indigenous photovoltaic cell and solar panel. In order to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels government has initiated e-mobility project. The 'Going Electric' focus on the movement to transition to electric vehicles in India, a critical move that will help both the environment and the economy.

The Government of India has a multipronged strategy to reduce imports by increasing indigenous production of biofuels in the Indian energy basket-like blending ethanol to petroleum by 20 per cent and biodiesel to diesel by five per cent. Multiple initiatives to increase indigenous production of biofuels have been taken up. The movie 'India's Push for Greener and Cleaner Fuel' highlights the contributions made by CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum in the field of biodiesel production.

Agriculture, including the animal husbandry sector, which is the back bone of our rural economy, also made tremendous developments to improve productivity. The programmes like 'Improving oilseed production', 'Transforming Lives Through Temperate Horticulture', 'The Fragrance Economy', 'The Cattle factor', High Altitude Animal Husbandry, 'Cold Water Fishery in Kashmir', 'India's Milk Story', etc., telecast on the channel highlighted how science is transforming rural economy.

The country has been at the fore front of developing assistive

devices for the disabled. The episode 'Assistive Devices for the Disabled' explores how technology can power assistive devices that help people with disability overcome some of the barriers they face in life.

As India's urban population rapidly grows - the country faces major environmental challenges associated with the quantum and kind of waste generated each day. The waste not only has a direct impact on our health and the country's economy, but on the entire ecosystem. The movie, 'India's Solid Waste Management Strategy', showcases few innovative techniques and technologies for Solid Waste Management (SWM) implemented by various municipal corporations as part of Swachh Bharat Mission.

Mobile usage in India is on the rise. By 2023, over 55 per cent of our population will be using not just any phone, but a smartphone.

The problem is that people are buying imported phones and accessories, not Indian ones, to meet our smartphone needs. The episode 'The Indian Mobile Phone Sector' track how India is upping her manufacturing capacity in the mobile phone sector.

Indian has made notable contributions in infrastructure developments especially in high altitude Roads, bridges and tunnels. They are of vital importance for a nation to grow, develop, protect and indeed become Atmanirbhar. The episode 'Sela Tunnel Project — Making the Impossible Possible' takes viewers to the Balipara-Chardwar Tawang Road

or BCT, which connects the hinterland to the border areas of Tibet and China. The episode also covers the Sela Tunnel Project being excavated and built at over 13,000 feet and highlights the contributions of Border Road Organization in nation building.

Science should be propagated among the children if we need to develop scientific temper in our society. Toys can be used as a perfect teaching model to promote science education among children, unfortunately most of scientific toys are imported. In the episode 'Science Through Play', the indigenous toy-making industries like Stemrobo and Smartivity are highlighted.

The future of science belongs to AI technology as it is going to transform our society. The episode 'Robotics in India' highlights the advancements made by India in this sector. The contributions of start-up companies like Gridbots from Ahmedabad, Asimov Tech from Kerala, are showcased in this episode.

The country has indeed made commendable achievements in every field of science and technology.

The India Science channel has been at the forefront in disseminating the scientific information and acts as a bridge between scientists and society. The channel within a short span of time has emerged as the most wanted source of reliable scientific content for the academic community as well as the common man. The channel also uses social media platforms effectively in its effort to make science more popular.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

BENGAL WILL PROTECT HINDUSTAN AND WILL NOT ALLOW IT TO BECOME PAKISTAN OR TALIBAN.
—WEST BENGAL CM
MAMATA BANERJEE



SHE SHOULD SAY THIS 'PAKISTAN THING' TO HER MINISTER FIRHAD HAKIM, WHO TALKS ABOUT 'MINI PAKISTAN'.
—BJP LEADER
PRIYANKA TIBREWAL

India and Australia: Emerging global leaders

In the post-COVID order, the US alone may be unable to guarantee international peace and security, and India and Australia have to step in

The inaugural Australia India 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue between the Australian Defence Minister Peter Dutton, Foreign Minister Marise Payne and their Indian counterparts Rajnath Singh and S Jaishankar was held when the constellation of bilateral and strategic determinants could not have been more favourably placed. Bilateral ties, elevated to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in June 2020, have reached a historical high, emerged as an important cog in the rapidly evolving world hierarchy, as Jaishankar once argued.

New Delhi and Canberra have hitched on to the tide that propels bilateral, trilateral and quadrilateral engagements.



ASHUTOSH MISRA

(The writer is the CEO, Institute for Australia India Engagement and Editor-in-Chief, India News Australia. The views expressed are personal.)

The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) has initiated a timely and well-advised review of the Peter Varghese's report, 2018, An India Economic Strategy to 2035, in the context of altered international diplomatic and economic settings. There was a need to recalibrate bilateral trade strategies and diplomatic engagements. On the other hand, India's Australia Economic Strategy authored by Anil Wadhwa has been launched at the right time.

The two reports together are critical for realigning business and trade strategies amid rising bilateral tensions with China and in sync with Australian Senator Simon Birmingham who said, "Australia must look into



alternative markets in the European Union and India".

There is no denying that bilateral bonhomie has been driven by COVID-19's impact and Australia's growing tensions with China over the treatment of Uighur Muslims in Xinjiang, Hong Kong crackdown, alleged foreign interference in Australia's internal political functioning, tariff wars and impact of the pandemic on the one hand, and India's

troubled ties with China, especially military conflict in Doklam and Ladakh, on the other. Senator Marise Payne has been a vociferous critic of China, and Member of Parliament Peter Dutton unsparing in accusing China for cyber-attacks on Australia. Jaishankar has reiterated that ties are independent of their respective relationships with China, and both sides have dismissed Quad as a future "Asian NATO".

Both the US-India and India-Australia ties are seen as "natural" partnerships, for upholding democracy, respect for territorial sovereignty and unrestrained access to global common goods.

Quad's evolution as a rising "concert of democracies", which Australia has described

as an "anchor of peace and stability in the region" has bolstered bilateral understanding. The 2+2 joint press statement reaffirms this realization, while anchoring the defence ties on three Cs - comfort (of the bilateral relationship in strategic and security spheres), convergence (over security matters) and commitment (to free, open and rules-based Indo-Pacific). The re-entry of Australia in the Malabar exercise and the Mutual Logistical Support Agreement are two key developments denoting fresh thinking in not only New Delhi and Canberra, but also in Washington and Tokyo on the Indo-Pacific.

At a trilateral front, India's 'Act East' policy, Australia's 'Pacific Step-up'

and Indonesia's 'Global Maritime Fulcrum' (GMF) complement one another. India employs to elevate its Act East policy based on commerce, culture and connectivity, in sync with the seven-point Indo-Pacific Vision that PM Modi articulated at the Shangri-La Dialogue in 2018, and vision SAGAR (Security and Growth for all in the Region). Act East policy complements Australia's 2018 Pacific-Step Up too in addressing challenges related to states' sovereignty and regional stability, security and prosperity. Similarly, Indonesia's 2014 GMF affirms Indonesia's vital interests as an archipelagic state at the crossroads of contending major power interests. The GMF prioritized the strength-

ening of the regional architecture to prevent the hegemony of major powers and promote comprehensive maritime cooperation in the Indian Ocean, including the Indian Ocean Rim Association. Similarly, the Australia-Japan-India and the India-France-Australia trilateral also adhere to the Quad-based commitments.

In sum, while Australia and India ties turned a new leaf in the early 2000s, what has changed in 20 years is a growing convergence of bilateral and strategic interests and a realisation that in the evolving post-Covid-19 order, the US alone may not be able to guarantee international peace and security, for which they will have to step-up their desired roles.

Encourage Af to shun terrorism: Xi

Chinese President says SCO nations should guide Afghanistan to develop an inclusive political structure

PTI ■ BEIJING

21ST SUMMIT OF SCO

Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday said that the SCO countries should step-up coordination and encourage Afghanistan to put in place an inclusive political framework wedded to moderate policies and resolutely fight all forms of terrorism after the Taliban takeover of Kabul.

withdrawal of foreign troops has opened a new page in its history. But Afghanistan still faces many daunting challenges, and it needs the support and assistance of the international community, particularly countries in our region.



mon security.”
“Faced with complex and fluid security dynamics in the region, we need to pursue common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, and take tough actions against terrorism, separatism and extremism,” he said.

maintained contacts with the Taliban before and after it took over power in Kabul in mid-August, has announced a \$31 million aid for food and vaccines for Afghanistan.

He particularly named the Uygur militant organisation, the East Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM), which is fighting for the independence of the volatile Xinjiang province where the US and the EU countries accuse China of committing human rights violations against the native Uygur Muslims.

“We need to encourage Afghanistan to put in place a broad-based and inclusive political framework, adopt prudent and moderate domestic and foreign policies, resolutely fight all forms of terrorism, live in amity with its neighbours and truly embark on a path of peace, stability and development,” he said.

China has asked the Taliban not to permit the ETIM in Afghanistan to stage attacks on Xinjiang which shares borders with the war-ravaged country.

Xi also said that the SCO countries “need to follow the journey of upholding our com-

Later, addressing the joint summit of the leaders of the SCO and the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO) member states on the Afghanistan issue via video link, Xi called for efforts to promote a steady transition of Afghan situation, engage Afghanistan in dialogues and

help the Afghan people tide over difficulties.

Founded in 1992, the CSTO groups six former Soviet republics of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan, with the aim of safeguarding peace and stability in Eurasia.

Member states of the SCO and the CSTO should join hands to safeguard peace and stability, which are “more precious than gold,” Xi said.

Relevant parties in Afghanistan should be urged to resolutely crack down on and eradicate terrorist organisations and prevent terrorist forces in Afghanistan from wreaking havoc, the Chinese President said.

China will provide the Afghan people with timely humanitarian and medical support in fighting Covid-19, Xi said.

Xi, in his speech, said that the SCO countries need to strengthen cooperation on counter-narcotics, border control and security for major events, and speedily improve the SCO’s security cooperation mechanism.

Taliban orders male students, teachers to school

AP ■ THE HAGUE



Afghans play cricket at the Chaman-e-Hozari Park in Kabul on Friday

AP ■ ISTANBUL

Taliban previously allowed girls in grades one to six to resume their classes. In the past, the hardliner group that took over Afghanistan last month had forbidden girls and women from attending school and work.

The Taliban’s Education Ministry says all male students grades 6 to 12 and male teachers should resume classes starting on Saturday.

In some of the provinces, women still are not allowed to continue their work, with exceptions for women who have worked in health departments, hospitals and education.

The statement on Friday published on Facebook did not include girls of that age, and the lack of guidance highlighted ongoing concerns that the Taliban might impose restrictions on girls and women. The

‘New reality’ established in Afghanistan: Pak PM

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD



Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan on Friday said that a “new reality” has been established in Afghanistan after the Taliban seized power in Kabul and it is now in the international community’s “collective interest” to ensure that there is no renewed conflict in the war-torn country and it will never again become a safe haven for terrorists.

civil war, and without mass exodus of refugees, should be a matter of relief,” Khan said, adding that it is now in the international community’s collective interest to ensure that there is no renewed conflict in Afghanistan and the security situation is stabilised.

Addressing the 21st Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Council of Heads of State (SCO-CHS) Summit in Tajikistan’s capital, Dushanbe, Khan said it should be a matter of relief for the world that the takeover of Afghanistan by the Taliban and the full withdrawal of foreign forces from the country happened “without bloodshed, without civil war, and without mass exodus of refugees.”

Equally urgent priorities are to prevent a humanitarian crisis and an economic meltdown, he said.

Pakistan, which had suffered due to the spillover of conflict and instability in Afghanistan, had an interest in a peaceful and stable Afghanistan, he said.

“We must remember that the previous government depended heavily on foreign aid and its removal could lead to economic collapse. This is a moment to stand by the Afghan people, firmly and unequivocally,” he said.

“The sudden change of the previous government which surprised everyone, the takeover by the Taliban, and the full withdrawal of foreign forces, has established a new reality in Afghanistan.

He said that the Taliban rulers should make good on their commitments.

“That all this happened without bloodshed, without

“The Taliban must fulfil the pledges made above all for inclusive political structure where all ethnic groups are represented. This is vital for Afghanistan’s stability,” he said.

Armenia takes Azerbaijan to UN court alleging discrimination

AP ■ THE HAGUE

Armenia is taking its decades long territorial dispute with neighbouring Azerbaijan — that erupted into armed conflict again last year — to the United Nations’ highest court.

region tried to join Armenia, and escalated into war after the 1991 collapse of the USSR, leaving an estimated 30,000 dead and displacing about 1 million.

Armenia filed a case at the International Court of Justice alleging breaches by Azerbaijan of an international convention that aims to eliminate racial discrimination, the court announced late on Thursday.

Fighting that erupted again a year ago killed hundreds, making it the biggest flare-up in the conflict since 1994.

Armenia alleges that Azerbaijani committed “grave violations of the racial discrimination convention” during last year’s fighting.

The 15-nation Council voted on the draft resolution that extended the mandate of

Armenia says that even after a Russia-brokered ceasefire came into force on Nov. 10, “Azerbaijan has continued to engage in the murder, torture and other abuse of Armenian prisoners of war, hostages and other detained persons,” according to the court.

Britain and the EU are at odds over trade arrangements that have imposed checks on goods coming to Northern Ireland from the rest of the UK.

“The coming days, we will hold #Armenia to account for breaches of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,” Azerbaijan’s deputy Foreign Minister Elnur Mammadov said in a tweet.

They were agreed by both sides in their divorce deal, to keep an open land border between the north and EU member Ireland — a key pillar of Northern Ireland’s peace process.

“The Taliban must fulfil the pledges made above all for inclusive political structure where all ethnic groups are represented. This is vital for Afghanistan’s stability,” he said.

Britain says the new checks are onerous and wants to rewrite the agreement, but the EU says it will not renegotiate.

UN Security Council extends mandate of UNAMA for 6 months

PTI ■ UNITED NATIONS

UNAMA until March 17, 2022.

The UN Security Council on Friday extended for six months the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), unanimously voting on a resolution that emphasises the importance of the establishment of an inclusive and representative government.

UNAMA until March 17, 2022.

dered humanitarian access, for United Nations humanitarian agencies and other humanitarian actors.

“The UN Security Council on Friday extended for six months the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), unanimously voting on a resolution that emphasises the importance of the establishment of an inclusive and representative government.

The resolution, stressing the important role that the United Nations will continue to play in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan, recognises the need for strengthened efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan and the important coordination role of the United Nations, and reaffirming that the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance requires all parties to allow full, safe and unhin-

It also reaffirms the importance of combating terrorism in Afghanistan, including those designated by the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015), and ensuring that the territory of Afghanistan should not be used to threaten or attack any country.

Pelosi warns UK not to imperil N Ireland peace with Brexit

AP ■ LONDON

House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi warned Britain on Friday that there will be no US-UK trade deal unless the British government solves post-Brexit disagreements with the European Union that risk destabilizing Northern Ireland’s peace.

Myanmar court sets Oct 1 for Suu Kyi corruption trial

AP ■ BANGKOK



A trial of Myanmar’s ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi on corruption charges is set to begin on October 1, a member of her legal team said on Friday.

law in a case that was transferred earlier this week to Nappayitaw from Yangon, Myanmar’s biggest city.

They were agreed by both sides in their divorce deal, to keep an open land border between the north and EU member Ireland — a key pillar of Northern Ireland’s peace process.

Suu Kyi’s supporters as well as independent analysts say all the charges against her are politically motivated and an attempt to discredit her and legitimize the military’s seizure of power while keeping her from returning to politics. Her lawyers deny any wrongdoing.

Britain says the new checks are onerous and wants to rewrite the agreement, but the EU says it will not renegotiate.

The army takeover was met with massive popular resistance, which is continuing despite harsh measures by security forces to quash it.

“The United States, which played a key role in securing Northern Ireland’s 1998 Good Friday peace accord, has cautioned Britain against doing anything to undermine the peace settlement.

Suu Kyi, 76, has been charged in five cases under the anti-corruption law, four by the Mandalay Region High Court that will now be tried in Nappayitaw, and one by the Yangon Region High Court.

Office of the Superintending Engineer
2nd Circle, Public Works Department, Nainital-263002
Phone/Fax: 05942-235728/ 232030 Email: sepwntnl@rediffmail.com

Letter No. : 4219 / 41 M-2/2020-21 Dated : 16/09/2021

National Competitive Bidding (E-Tendering)

Superintending Engineer, 2nd Circle, Public Works Department Nainital on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites e-tender (two bid system). For further details please log on to <http://www.uktenders.gov.in> from **23.09.2021**.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Earnest Money (₹ in Lacs)	Cost of Tender	Validity of Tender	Period of Completion	Contractor's Category of Registration
1	Extension work of Ramnagar Transportnagar to Chikhiya Motor Road in District Nainital Constituency Ramnagar Under Honourable C.M. Announcement No. 641/2019	5.00	5000.00 + 18% GST	120 Days	12 Month	Class A and above Class in any State Govt./ Central Govt. or any Govt. Undertaking in Road Works.
2	Reconstruction and Improvement work of Haiduwa Thari Kandla Motor Road on Ramnagar Kashipur Road District Nainital Constituency Ramnagar Under Honourable C.M. Announcement No. 640/2019	3.60	5000.00 + 18% GST	120 Days	12 Month	Class A and above Class in any State Govt./ Central Govt. or any Govt. Undertaking in Road Works.

South Africa’s top court rejects ex-Prez Zuma’s application to rescind his jail sentence

Johannesburg: South Africa’s top court on Friday rejected former President Jacob Zuma’s application to rescind his 15-month-jail sentence for contempt of court. Zuma handed himself over in July after the Constitutional Court found him to be in contempt of court for repeatedly refusing to return to the Commission of Inquiry into State Capture, where several witnesses have given details of his alleged role in a number of issues relating to the looting of state departments and parastatal organisations.

In a majority judgment of the Constitutional Court, Judge Sisi Khampepe dismissed 79-year-old Zuma’s application of rescission with costs. Commenting on Zuma’s conduct, Khampepe said that he had wilfully refused to participate in litigation and then reopened the case when it suited him.

“The majority emphatically reject any suggestion that litigants can be allowed to butcher of their own will judicial process which in all respects has been carried out,” Khampepe said. PTI

Expansion of Nepal Cabinet within a week: Senior leader

Kathmandu: The Nepal Government led by Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba will take “full shape” within a week with the expansion of the Cabinet, a senior leader of the ruling coalition said on Friday.

Even two months after coming to power, Prime Minister Deuba has not been able to expand his Cabinet due to prolonged power sharing negotiations among the five-party ruling alliance. At present, Deuba is running the Government with five ministers, with himself heading 17 Ministries.

Speaking at the inauguration of the newly-formed party’s central office in Aloknagar-Baneshwor area in the outskirts of Kathmandu, Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Socialist) Chairman Madhav Kumar Nepal said, “The Cabinet would get full shape within a week.” PTI

After fires, Europe’s Med leaders pledge climate cooperation

Athens: The leaders of Europe’s Mediterranean countries pledged on Friday to expand cooperation against climate change, at a meeting in Athens held in the aftermath of massive wildfires that ravaged parts of southern Europe.

They expressed their “strong conviction that urgent and ambitious global action (is needed) at national, regional and local levels”, according to a joint statement issued after the talks got underway.

“It is absolutely the right move at the right time because we all see that climate change is heavily affecting the Mediterranean region,” European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said. Attending the talks were President Emmanuel Macron of France, Italian PM Mario Draghi, Spain’s Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez and leaders and senior representatives from Malta, Greece, Cyprus, Slovenia, Croatia and Portugal. AP

Chinese astronauts safely return to earth after 90 days

Mission to build space station successful

Beijing: China on Friday announced that the manned mission to construct its first space station was a complete success after three Chinese astronauts returned to Earth after 90 days, concluding the country’s longest crewed mission.

The Shenzhou-12 manned spaceship carrying astronauts Nie Haisheng, Liu Boming and Tang Hongbo touched down at the Dongfeng landing site in north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region at around 13:35 local time, the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) said. The mission to construct the space station was a complete success, it said.

The three astronauts from the Shenzhou-12 manned spaceflight mission are in good condition after landing on Earth, official media reported. They spent 90 days at the Tianhe module on China’s space station, some 380km above Earth.

Earlier, the main parachute of the re-entry capsule of Shenzhou-12 was deployed successfully ahead of the spacecraft’s landing in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

The three astronauts entered the space station module in June this year on a three-month mission to build many of its components.

Billed as the most prestigious and strategically important space project for China after the country’s recent Mars and previous Moon missions, the low orbit space station would be the country’s eye from the sky, providing round the clock bird’s-eye view for its astronauts on the rest of the world. PTI

WOMAN SUES FOR RIGHT TO FREEZE HER EGGS
Beijing: After almost two years, an unmarried woman suing for the right to freeze her eggs in Beijing is getting her case heard in court on Friday in a rare legal challenge against the country’s restrictions on unmarried women in reproductive health. Teresa Xu has been waiting since December 2019 for her second hearing at the Chaoyang People’s Court in Beijing.

PAK COURT SENTENCES 5 ULTRAS TO 5 YRS EACH
Lahore: An anti-terrorism court in Pakistan’s Punjab province on Friday handed down five-year imprisonment each to five terrorists, including those belonging to the banned Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). An official of the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) said the convicted terrorists — Muhammad Aslam, Basharat Khan, Muhammad Ali, Niaz Abbas and Adil Abbas — were arrested by the CTD early this year from Sargodha and Khushab districts of Punjab.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

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

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

Sl. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (₹s.)	Name of Branch
1.	Sanjay Madan LBMND00001491835	Flat No- 502, 5th Floor Tower/ Block No- 3, Unitech Cascade, Greater Noida Uttar Pradesh/ September 15, 2021	Jan. 31, 2020/ Rs. 6,48,196/-	Himachal Pradesh

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 18, 2021
Place: Delhi/MCR (Noida)

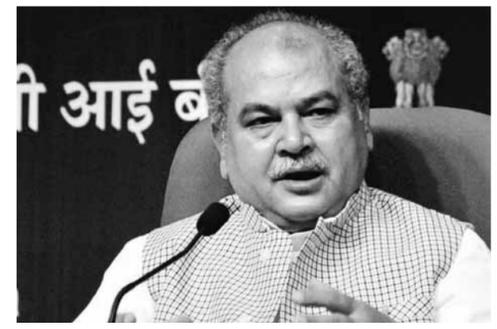
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public at large are hereby informed that below mentioned documents have been misplaced / lost the following documents:- 1. Original GPA/Sale Deed executed by Mr. Sunil Kumar in favour of Mr. Pardeep Kumar in respect of said property (House No.35 area measuring 69 sq. yds.) Accordingly, Police Complaint has already been lodged dated 16.09.2021 in P.S.- Crime Branch Delhi. Vide LR No.704395/2021 and the same is under investigation. If any person has found/ Information/ Possession /Knowledge of above said missing GPA/Sale Deed in favour of Mr. Pardeep Kumar or has any claim/ right/ title of any kind over the said property, then submit/ intimate within 7 Days, in writing to Vikas Shokeen, Advocate, AB-18, Mianwali Nagar, PO Sunder Vihar, Delhi-110087. Thereafter any kind of claim will not be acceptable.

VIKAS SHOKEEN ADVOCATE
Res. & office AB-18 Mianwali Nagar, Paschim Vihar New Delhi 87
Email-vikasreports@gmail.com
Mob. No. 9670059555 Resl. 011-25286699

Centre taking steps to achieve nutritional security: Agri Min Tomar



Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said the Government is taking necessary steps to achieve nutrition security along with food security. Inaugurating a two-day conference at Hyderabad, the minister said it was upon India's initiative that the United Nations declared year 2023 as the International Year of Millets. Tomar urged the present generation to understand the importance of nutritious foodgrains like millets and make it a part of their daily diet, according to an official statement. The Minister highlighted that the Centre has announced the Agriculture

Fuel prices maintain stability

Auto fuel prices in the country have maintained stability amidst volatility in global oil prices with crude on the boil again rising sharply for past few days. The oil marketing companies (OMCs) on Friday kept pump prices of auto fuels petrol and diesel unchanged, the 12th consecutive day of no revision, as they preferred to watch the global oil situation before making any revision in prices. Accordingly, the price of petrol and diesel remained unchanged at ₹101.19 and ₹88.62 per litre in Delhi, as per Indian Oil Corporation, the country's largest fuel retailer. In Mumbai, the petrol price is stable at Rs 107.26 per litre on Friday, while diesel rates also remained unchanged at ₹96.19 a litre. Across the country as well, petrol and diesel prices remained static on Friday but their retail rates varied depending on the level of local taxes in a particular state. Fuel prices have been hovering at record levels on account of 41 increases in its retail rates since April this year. Under the pricing formula adopted by oil companies, rates of petrol and diesel are to be reviewed and revised by them on a daily basis.

Gadkari gets ₹4 lakh royalty per month from YouTube for lecture videos

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari on Friday said he gets ₹4 lakh every month as royalty from YouTube, as viewership of his lecture videos posted on the platform has increased during the pandemic period. While reviewing the progress of the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway (DME) in Bharuch, Gadkari further said his ministry has started rating road construction contractors and consultants. During Covid-19 times, the road transport and highways minister said, he did two things. "I became a chef and started cooking at home and giving lectures through video conference. I delivered more than 950 lectures online, including lectures to foreign universities students, which were uploaded on YouTube. "Viewership of my YouTube channel increased and YouTube now pays me ₹4 lakh per month as royalty," he said. Gadkari, who is known for his frank views, said that in India, those who do good work, don't get appreciation. The minister also emphasised on the importance of network of modern and high-quality roads for economic development and creating employment opportunities.

64th annual general meeting of NAFED held



The 64th Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) of National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) was held at New Delhi today. Welcoming the participants, Bijender Singh, Chairman NAFED thanked to the Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, MoS for Agriculture, Shri Kailash Choudhary, Shri Rupala ji, Secretary (A&C), Additional Secretary (A&C) and other senior officers in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Ministry of Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution for their constant

guidance and support to NAFED from time to time and reposing confidence in NAFED by entrusting various tasks. He assured the Government that NAFED would strive hard to accomplish the tasks assigned by the Government to the best of its ability. Hon'ble Chairman also extended his gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India for creating a separate "Ministry of Cooperation" and giving it under the able and dynamic leadership of Hon'ble Shri Amit Shah Ji.

Markets pull back from record highs on profit-booking

Equity benchmarks surged to fresh lifetime peaks on Friday but finished with modest losses, snapping their three-session winning streak, as investors rotated out of RIL, metal and IT stocks at higher levels. After gyrating 866 points during the day, the 30-share BSE Sensex settled 125.27 points or 0.21 per cent lower at 59,015.89. It had surged to a lifetime high of 59,737.32 in the morning session. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty slipped 44.35 points or 0.25 per cent to close at 17,585.15, after touching an intra-day record of 17,792.95.

EXTENSION OF PERIODICITY OF SPECIAL TRAIN

This is notified for the information of rail passengers that Railways have decided to extend the periodicity of the run of Train No. 02871/02872 Islampur-New Delhi-Islampur Magadh Superfast festival Special Train as under:-

Train No. & Train Name	Days of Run	Extended Up to (JCO)
02871 Islampur - New Delhi Magadh Superfast Special	Daily	Upto 01.01.2022
02872 New Delhi - Islampur Magadh Superfast Special	Daily	Upto 02.01.2022

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

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

RailMadad Helpline No. 139

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

Download RailMadad App

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Your Convenience - Our Concern

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

Please join us on

"SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE"

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known that my clients Smt. Shakuntla W/o Shri Jagbir and Shri Jagbir @ Jagbir Singh So Late Shri. Budhu R/o H.No. 57, Jalalabad Jalapur, Inholi, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh-250001, has debarred and disinherited his son Shri Gopal aged 44 yrs & daughter in law Smt. Asha aged 41 yrs, from all his properties, both movable and immovable, my client has no control over his said son & daughter in law who have no respect and regard for my client & his family members. My client will not be responsible for any act & deeds of above named person in manner.

Sanjay Kumar (Advocate) 112, Lawyer Chamber Block, Saket Court Complex, New Delhi-110017

PARADIP PORT TRUST

PARADIP -754142, ODISHA (INDIA)

(An autonomous body under Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Govt. of India)

No. AD/RSC-I-21/16/2013(Pt.I)/2225 Date: 15.09.2021

ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited from Indian Nationals for engagement of 05 (Five) General Duty Medical Officers on contractual basis in Paradip Port Trust.

For further details, visit our website: www.paradipport.gov.in

PPT/PR/109/21-22, Dt.16/09/2021

Dy. Secretary

Revised Extension of Periodicity of Special Train

In continuation to the notice "Extension of Periodicity of Special Trains" which was published in various newspapers on 15.09.2021. The following amendments are being issued:-

Train No. & Train Name	Days of Run	Earlier Published	Revised Extended Period
02584 Anand Vihar (T) - Hatia Special Express	Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday	05.10.2021 to 03.01.2022	05.10.2021 to 31.12.2021

Note:- Above train will run fully reserved.

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

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

RailMadad Helpline No. 139

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

Download RailMadad App

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Your Convenience - Our Concern

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

Please join us on

"SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE"

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

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

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Number (Loan Account Number (DHFL Old LAN & ICICI New LAN)	Description of Property/ Date of Possession	Date of Demand/ Amount in Demand/ Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Subodh Choudhary/ Sumita Devi A/c No.- 25500001227 A/c No.- ZPTU0000594384	House No.- E-1304 (old No. WZ-480-C), LHS 1st Floor Without Roof, Kharsa No- 659 & 660, Vill. Basal Darapur, Sudershan Park Delhi/ 15-Sep-2021	December 11, 2019 Rs. 21,59,468/-	Delhi

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

Date: September 18, 2021

Place: Delhi/ Ncr

Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

Govt working on setting up backstop facility for corporate bond market: Finmin official

In a bid to deepen the corporate bond market, the Government is working on setting up a 'backstop facility' as announced in the Budget, a senior government official said on Friday. Speaking at an event organised by CII, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Anand Mohan Bajaj said the government in consultation with RBI has increased foreign investor participation ceiling in corporate bonds from 9 per cent to 15 per cent. On the corporate bond market, he said a lot has been done over the years and a lot needs to be done. "We are working on a very comprehensive facility. It will certainly instil confidence among the participants in the corporate bond market," he said.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

U/o Commissioner of Fisheries, Matsya Bhavan, Street No. 4, Shaninagar, Masab Tank, Hyd-28

Date: 16-09-2021

Commissioner of Fisheries invites Bid on e-Procurement Platform For Supply of Fresh water Scampi Juveniles (Macrobrachium rosenbergii) for selected reservoirs and tanks in the state of Telangana during 2021-22. Time schedule of various tender related events (1) Bid calling date: 18-09-2021 at 11:00 AM (2) Pre-bid - Queries regarding the bid to be accepted through online to the mail ID: lstenders.prawnseed@gmail.com upto 10:00 AM on 20-09-2021 (3) Last date/time for issuing clarification: 20-09-2021, 05:00 PM (4) Bid submission starting date/time: 21-09-2021, 10:00 AM (5) Bid closing date/time: 27-09-2021, 2:00 PM (6) Bid opening date/time: 27-09-2021, 03:30 PM (7) Bid Document Fee: Rs. 10,000/-. Contact person name and phone number: Sri. T. Srinivas, Deputy Director of Fisheries (Inland) Ph: 9849403752. If you are interested in participation, please visit website at www.tender.telangana.gov.in and bid document can be downloaded free of cost from the above website and also www.fisheries.telangana.gov.in. Phone No. 040-22331621, E-mail: dfl.telangana@gmail.com

Sd/- Lachiram Bhukya Commissioner of Fisheries

उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग

हस्ताक्षर पिन कोड- 249404

संख्या : 141/06/डी0आर0/प-04/एफ0आर0ओ/2021-22

दिनांक: 17, सितम्बर, 2021

लघु विज्ञापित वन क्षेत्राधिकारी परीक्षा-2021

एतद्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि वन विभाग में वन क्षेत्राधिकारी के रिक्त पदों पर सीधी नतीं द्वारा चयन हेतु पूर्व में उत्तराखण्ड शासन द्वारा उपलब्ध कराये गये अध्याचन पत्र संख्या-1029/X-1-2021-04(28)/2001, दिनांक 26 जुलाई 2021 में उल्लिखित श्रेणीवार/उपश्रेणीवार रिक्तियों की अनुसार ही आयोग कार्यालय द्वारा विज्ञापन संख्या: A-1/E-4/2021-22 दिनांक 11 अगस्त, 2021 प्रकाशित किया गया है। शासन ने प्रसन्नत पद पर चयन हेतु आयोग कार्यालय को उपलब्ध कराये गये संशोधित अध्याचन पत्र संख्या-1567/X-1-2021-04(28)/2001, दिनांक 10 सितम्बर, 2021 में श्रेणीवार/उपश्रेणीवार रिक्तियों की संख्या को संशोधित/परिवर्तित कर दिया है। शासन द्वारा उपलब्ध कराये गये संशोधित अध्याचन के आलोक में ऑनलाइन आवेदन पत्र स्वीकार किये जाने की अंतिम तिथि को विस्तारित करते हुए 08 अक्टूबर, 2021 (रात्रि 11:59:59 बजे तक) निर्धारित किया गया है। संशोधित अध्याचन में श्रेणीवार/उपश्रेणीवार संशोधित/परिवर्तित रिक्तियों की संख्या संबंधी विस्तृत विज्ञापित आयोग की वेबसाइट www.ukpsc.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है। विज्ञापन की अन्य शेष शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।

(कर्मचर सिंह) सचिव

ICICI Bank

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

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Number (Loan Account Number (DHFL Old LAN & ICICI New LAN)	Description of Property/ Date of Possession	Date of Demand/ Amount in Demand/ Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Subodh Choudhary/ Sumita Devi A/c No.- 25500001227 A/c No.- ZPTU0000594384	House No.- E-1304 (old No. WZ-480-C), LHS 1st Floor Without Roof, Kharsa No- 659 & 660, Vill. Basal Darapur, Sudershan Park Delhi/ 15-Sep-2021	December 11, 2019 Rs. 21,59,468/-	Delhi

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

Date: September 18, 2021

Place: Delhi/ Ncr

Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

DHFL National Office: HDIL Towers, B-wing, 6th Floor, Anant Kanekar Marg, Station Road, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051. Branch Office: Dhranjai Building 'A' Ground & 1st Floor, Beside Axis Bank, Opp. Monalisa Building, Agra Road, Hari Niwas Colony, Naurpada, Thane (West) 400602.

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The undersigned is the Authorized Officer of Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. (DHFL) Under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorized Officer has issued Demand Notice under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s) the "said Borrower(s)", to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) to pay to DHFL, within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s), as security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to DHFL by the said Borrower(s) respectively.

Name of the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s) Loan Code	Demand Notice Date and Amount With NPA date	PROPERTY ADDRESS
(LC No. 00001858 of Delhi Janakpuri Branch) Moh Itayek (Borrower) Firuz Khan (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1462484 /- (₹ Fourteen lakh Sixty Two Thousand Four Hundred Eighty Four) NPA (11-04-2021)	Gali No. 01, Phase-2, Vill-Meerpur Hindu Pargana & Teshil-No. Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh- 201012
(LC No. 00044743 of Delhi - Safdarjung Branch) Ram Sankh (Borrower) Rahul Kamnolja (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1420438 /- (₹ Fourteen lakh Twenty Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Eight) NPA (11-04-2021)	Flat No-19, Fourth Floor, Pocket-3, Block-C8, Sector-G8, Narela Dda Flat, Delhi New Delhi - 110040
(LC No. 00044529 of Delhi - Safdarjung Branch) Chhotu Lal (Borrower) Geesla Devi (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1402943 /- (₹ Fourteen lakh Two Thousand Nine Hundred Forty Three) NPA (11-04-2021)	Prop No. T-92, Flat No. 7 / Uf Front Side Comer Lhs Poon Kh No.1151/3 Chaudhary Daryam Agrar, Ward-6 Mehrauli New Delhi Delhi-110030
(LC No. 00000923 of Cannanaga Place Branch) Sunil Lohani (Borrower) Manju Lohani (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1326943 /- (Thirteen lakh Twenty Six Thousand Nine Hundred Forty Three) NPA (11-04-2021)	231 Third Floor Front Side With Roof T-Block Extension Uttam Nagar New Delhi Delhi-110059
(LC No. 00000416 of Dwarka Branch) Praveen Chandran (Borrower) Sudha Chandran (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1298678 /- (₹ Twelve lakh Ninety Five Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Eight) NPA (11-04-2021)	Kh.No.55/16 And 54/21/1 Village Palam,Raj Nagar-2 Delhi New Delhi-110045
(LC No. 00042365 of Delhi - Safdarjung Branch) Sanjeet Kumar (Borrower) Sonni Devi (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1257038 /- (₹ Twelve lakh Fifty Seven Thousand Thirty Eight) NPA (11-04-2021)	Flat No 419, Second Floor Block C Pkt 11 Jasola Delhi New Delhi-110025
(LC No. 00001046 of Rohtak Branch) Gobind Narayan Jha (Borrower) Sudha Jha (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1185765 /- (₹ Eleven lakh Eighty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Five) NPA (11-04-2021)	Without Roof Rights, Gali No-8, Kh.No.58/23/2 Vill-Palam Raj Nagar-2 New Delhi Raj Nagar-2 New Delhi North West Delhi-110077
(LC No. 00011227 of Ahmedabad Branch) Vinaykumar Radhamohan Singh (Borrower) Ranjana Singh (Co Borrower 1) Shantilal Dabhi (Co Borrower 2)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1170359 /- (₹ Eleven lakh Seventy Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Nine) NPA (11-04-2021)	Flat No-A/406, Shalin Heights-4, Nr-Orshaninagar, Lambha - Vatva Road, Naro Naro Ahmedabad Gujarat-382405
(LC No. 00001104 of Netaji Subhash Place Branch) Lekhraj (Borrower) Asha Rani (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1160221 /- (₹ Eleven lakh Sixty Thousand Two Hundred Twenty One) NPA (11-04-2021)	Portion With Roof Rights, Block A Gali No. 19 Kh No. 109/14 Vill Palam, Uttam Nagar, Delhi Palam, Uttam Nagar, Delhi New Delhi-110045
(LC No. 00001106 of New Delhi-west Branch) Ramesh Chand Boyat (Borrower) Sheshank Boyat (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1161180 /- (₹ Eleven lakh Sixteen Thousand One Hundred Eighty) NPA (11-04-2021)	Flat No. 3 1St Floor Tower 15 Zara Aavaas Sector 104 Sector 104 Gurgaon Haryana - 122001
(LC No. 00002454 of Noida Branch) Alam Parkash (Borrower) Chirag Kathuna (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1053397 /- (₹ Ten lakh Fifty Three Thousand Three Hundred Ninety Seven) NPA (11-03-2021)	Dda Lig Flat No-168a Ground Floor Block-Qu Near Dda Market Piltampura Delhi Piltampura Delhi New Delhi-110034
(LC No. 00041742 of Delhi - Pilmupura Branch) Tahir Kumar (Borrower) Mayra Rani (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1045343 /- (₹ Ten lakh Forty Five Thousand Three Hundred Forty Three) NPA (11-04-2021)	Plot No. 86 Upper Ground Floor Rear Side Kharsa No. 380 Gali No. 2 Vill. Bindapur, Subhash Park Extension Block-B New Delhi-110059
(LC No. 00001258 of Delhi Rajouri Garden Branch) Uma Kant Tiwari (Borrower) Preeti (Co Borrower 2)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 997608 /- (₹ Nine lakh Ninety Seven Thousand Six Hundred Eighty) NPA (11-04-2021)	Nr-B-Block Park, Dif Ankur Vihar, Loni, Ghaziabad Gautambudh Nagar Uttar Pradesh-201301
(LC No. 00001167 of Bhubaneswar Branch) Biswajit Rout (Borrower) Pradip Kumar Nayak (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 994634 /- (₹ Nine lakh Ninety Four Thousand Six Hundred Thirty Four) NPA (11-04-2021)	Flat No-210, 2nd Floor, Block A Tusi Garden, Manguli, Mz-Badakeshwar Pht No-69/69/373, 69/374, 67, 68 Pht No-69, 69/373, 69/374, 67, 68 Cuttack Orissa-753001
(LC No. 00042774 of Gurgaon-Sohna Road Branch) Anandesh Kumar (Borrower) Khushboo Singh (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 938309 /- (₹ Nine lakh Thirty Three Thousand One Hundred Ninety) NPA (11-04-2021)	Unit No.-1208 Tower No-4 Pyramid Urban Homes Sector-70A, Sohna Gurgaon Haryana - 122001
(LC No. 00000801 of Cannanaga Place Branch) Prem Kumar (Borrower) Kanchan (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 912465 /- (₹ Nine lakh Twelve Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Five) NPA (09-01-2021)	Property No. 34-C/Unit No. 1, Upper Ground Floor Rear Side Kh No 491/421 Arjun Nagar Kh No 491/421 Arjun Nagar Vill. Humayunpur Delhi New Delhi-110029
(LC No. 00000199 of Gurgaon Branch) Rajesh Kumar (Borrower) Dimple D (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 892784 /- (₹ Eight lakh Ninety Two Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty Four) NPA (11-04-2021)	Flat No-25, Second Floor, Dda Janta Flat, Pocket-6, Sunrise Apart, Nasir Pur, Dwarka New Delhi, Dwarka Delhi New Delhi-110075
(LC No. 00001699 of Noida Branch) Ravinder (Borrower) Krishan Choudhary (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 852304 /- (₹ Eight lakh Fifty Two Thousand Three Hundred Four) NPA (11-04-2021)	H No A41 Ground Floor Block A Pocket 11 Jasola Jasola New Delhi-110001
(LC No. 00000776 of Ghaziabad Branch) Maya (Borrower) Balbir (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 795723 /- (₹ Seven lakh Ninety Five Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Three) NPA (11-04-2021)	Property No. C-1/37, Block-C-1 Ground Floor, Front Side Flat (G-1) Dif Ankur Vihar, Loni Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh-201202
(LC No. 00000932 of Haridwar Branch) Kuldeep Singh Bhandari (Borrower) Vinod Singh Bhandari (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 738410 /- (₹ Seven lakh Thirty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Ten) NPA (11-04-2021)	Gram Suman Nagar, Pargana Roorkee Haridwar Uttar Pradesh-249402
(LC No. 00000969 of Rohini Branch) Rajesh Kumar (Borrower) Dimple (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 661147 /- (₹ Six lakh Sixty One Thousand One Hundred Forty Seven) NPA (11-04-2021)	Flat No 25 2Nd Floor D D A Janta Flat Pocket 6 Nasir Pur Nasir Pur Dwarka New Delhi - 110075
(LC No. 00000594 of Faridabad Branch) Sachin Bajaj (Borrower) Anjali Bajaj (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 533181 /- (₹ Five lakh Thirty Three Thousand Three Hundred Eighty One) NPA (11-03-2021)	Flat No 902, 9Th Floor Tower A2 Type B Srs Palm Homes Sector 7 Srs Palm Homes Sector 7 Palwal Faridabad Haryana - 121102
(LC No. 00044454 of Gurgaon - Sohna Road Branch) Mohit Taneja (Borrower) Uma Taneja (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 484271 /- (₹ Four lakh Eighty Four Thousand Two Hundred Seventy One) NPA (11-04-2021)	Plot No. 11 1St Floor (L/S) Kh No. 80/5 Roor Urban Vihar New Delhi-110059
(LC No. 00001582 of Rohini Branch) Jaspreet Singh (Borrower) Manpreet Singh (Co Borrower 1) Jaswant Kaur (Co Borrower 2)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 446360 /- (₹ Four lakh Forty Six Thousand Three Hundred Sixty) NPA (11-04-2021)	Plot No.R-142, 2Nd Floor Western Side Portion, Kh No. 75,76,85 To 89,92 To 97, 106,120 Block R Vill Bindapur 106,120 Block R Vill Bindapur Uttam Nagar New Delhi-110059
(LC No. 00000723 of Gurgaon Branch) Puneet Goswami (Borrower) Ramesh Giri (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 100752 /- (₹ One lakh Seven Hundred Fifty Two) NPA (11-04-2021)	Property No. B-110, C-3 Tronica City Loni Ghaziabad Loni Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh-201001
(LC No. 00002007 of Rohini Branch) Surender Kumar Sharma (Borrower) Gaurav Sharma (Co Borrower 1) Meena Sharma (Co Borrower 2)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1732456 /- (₹ Seventeen lakh Thirty Two Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Six) NPA (11-04-2021)	Plot No-A-61, Ground Flr, New No-C-13 Kharsa No-828/2, Village Mandawali Fazzal Gali No-6, West Vinod Nagar, Gali No-6, West Vinod Nagar, Delhi New Delhi-110092
(LC No. 00001234 of Rohini Branch) Suneel Sharma (Borrower) Gaurav Kumar (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1646295 /- (₹ Sixteen lakh Forty Six Thousand Two Hundred Ninety Five) NPA (11-04-2021)	Flat No-L605, Sixth Floor, Block L, Aerogym, Village Badli Rapsana Ighs Roorkee Ighs Roorkee Haridwar Saharanpur Uttar Pradesh-247663
(LC No. 00043583 of Delhi - Safdarjung Branch) Vandana (Borrower) Jeevan Singh (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1555774 /- (₹ Fifteen lakh Fifty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Four) NPA (11-04-2021)	P.No.Rza-10, 3Rd Floor Rear Side (With Roof), Kh.No.16/6/2, Vill Asalapur,Mahindra Park, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059
(LC No. 00002466 of Noida Branch) Tahir Noor (Borrower) Sabista (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 1373312 /- (₹ Thirteen lakh Seventy Three Thousand Three Hundred Twelve) NPA (11-04-2021)	Prop. S-221/169, Ff Without Roof, Block-S, Galino, 4, Kh. 205, Village Khasia, Vishnu Garden Khasia, Vishnu Garden New Delhi-110018
(LC No. 00042768 of Noida-sector 2 Branch) Neeraj Verma (Borrower) Alok Verma (Co Borrower 1) Subhash Chand Gupta (Co Borrower 2)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 990564 /- (₹ Nine lakh Sixty Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Four) NPA (11-04-2021)	1/5405, Second Floor, Without Roof, Plot No-30, Kharsa No-156/158 & 159, Gali No-14-A, Balbir Nagar Extr Shahrada New Delhi-110032
(LC No. 00000482 of Bahadurgarh Branch) Sohan Singh (Borrower) Pushpindra Kaur (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 680953 /- (₹ Five lakh Sixty Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Three) NPA (11-04-2021)	Wz 9/1, 2Nd Floor, Without Roof Right, Kharsa No 23/5, Village Keshpur, Bhupinder Nagar Delhi New Delhi-110001
(LC No. 00001306 of Rohini Branch) Saraswati Devi (Borrower) Shashank (Co Borrower 1)	16-06-2021 / ₹ 528592 /- (₹ Five lakh Twenty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Two) NPA (11-04-2021)	1/9969 A First Floor, Gali No. 3C West Gorkah Park Shahrada Shahrada Delhi New Delhi-110032
(LC No. 00003396 of New Delhi Branch) Ajay Vikram Singh (Borrower) Anila Devi (Co Borrower 1) Krishna Devi (Co Borrower 2)	28-06-2021 / ₹ 1101592 /- (₹ Eleven lakh One Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Two) NPA (12-05-2021)	Plot No.-336 Omxare Green Meadow City- Plot Omxare City-2 Bhiwad/Alwar Rajasthan - 301019
(LC No. 00004112 of New Delhi Branch) Ajay Kashyap (Borrower) Santosh Kashyap (Co Borrower 1) Akash Kashyap (Co Borrower 2) Vijay Kashyap (Guarantor 1)	28-06-2021 / ₹ 3544568 /- (₹ Thirty Five lakh Forty Four Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Eight) NPA (12-05-2021)	Property No lxv67 (part Of Plot) Sham Block, Kailash Nagar Near Pnb Bank Gandhi Nagar Delhi New Delhi-110031
(LC No. 00004567 of New Delhi Branch) Dushendra Singh (Borrower) Neeraj (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 / ₹ 3338419 /- (₹ Thirty Three lakh Thirty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Nineteen) NPA (12-05-2021)	South Part Of Plot No.89, J.p. Colony, Tonk Phatak, Near J. P. Under Pass, Jaipur Bharatpur Rajasthan-321001
(LC No. 00004994 of New Delhi Branch) Bharat Singh (Borrower) Preeti Rana (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 / ₹ 1408924 /- (₹ Fourteen lakh Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Four) NPA (12-05-2021)	Flat No-35, Third Floor Block-C-7, Pocket-3, Sector-G-8, Narela, Delhi New Delhi-110040
(LC No. 00005090 of New Delhi Branch) Banshi Dhar (Borrower) Neema Panth (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 / ₹ 903801 /- (₹ Nine lakh Three Thousand Eight Hundred One) NPA (12-05-2021)	Flat No. 318, Ground Floor, DDA Janta Flat Pocket-1, Sec-A- 5 Narela Residential Scheme Nare Delhi New Delhi-110040
(LC No. 00001792 of Ghaziabad Branch) Munish Arora (Borrower) Meenakshi Arora (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 / ₹ 870236 /- (₹ Eight lakh Seventy Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Six) NPA (12-05-2021)	Flat No - 184 Mig Flat Ground Floor Block Kg - 1, Near Kerla Pocket Block Vikas Puri New Delhi - 110018
(LC No. 00000365 of Rohini Branch) Tajinder Sachdeva (Borrower) Chahni Sachdeva (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 / ₹ 771928 /- (₹ Seven lakh Seventy One Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Eight) NPA (12-05-2021)	Plot No-B-1/3, Block-B-1 Second Floor (front Center Post), Dif Ankur Vihar, Loni, Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh-201202
(



Bollywood
 'Not many people know about this, but my elder brother, Daler Mehndi, is very scared of darkness.'
 —Mika Singh

<https://www.dailypioneer.com/vivacity/>

SHORTCIRCUITS



BADSHAH
 'Bad Boy X Bad Girl is a groovy, playful tease that makes you want to let your guard down, break those boundaries and have some fun! All of us have an unexplored wild side and sometimes it is great to leave all your worries behind and enjoy the every single moment.'



ESHA GUPTA
 'Playing the role of a cop is an honour. I have always been fascinated by women in uniform. It's a challenging yet an exciting character to portray in *Nakaab*. Women have made great strides in all fields. I am glad that actors now finding their way in web series and films in the Indian entertainment industry.'



WAMIQA GABBI
 'My father is a writer and he always made sure that I watch all the plays that were happening in the Tagore Theatre in Chandigarh. He has always encouraged me. He is my pillar and it is because of him that I am an artiste today.'



VIVEK OBEROI
 'It (*PM Narendra Modi*) traces journey from his modest origins to his historic victory as the Chief Minister of Gujarat and eventually his nomination as the Prime Minister of India. I feel immense pleasure that this inspirational story will now have a wider reach.'

HELEN MIRREN
 'I knew someday I would get a role in the Harry Potter universe, and I'm so pleased to take part in the 20-year film celebration by hosting the forthcoming quiz show *Harry Potter: Hogwarts Tournament Of Houses*. The film has inspired such enchantment, it will be amazing reignite that magic for the fans.'



VOGUE

RISING TO THE OCCASION

NATASHA BHARADWAJ confesses that she took workshops with her mother's help to get into the skin of Dr Diya. By **KHUSHBU KIRTI**

The newly released OTT *Mumbai Diaries 26/11* is up and running on Amazon Prime TV and has garnered a lot of praise in its bank. Soaring high on all ratings, the web series brings on the screen a portrayal of the terrorist attacks that occurred on the fateful night of November 26, 2008, in Mumbai. The show, however, highlights a unique angle — the point of view of the medical fraternity that treated the victims of the attacks, under mammoth pressure and amidst back-breaking circumstances. One of the resident doctors, Diya Parekh, is played by the model-turned-actress Natasha Bharadwaj.

In an exclusive heart-to-heart with Bharadwaj, she opened up about her experience playing Dr Diya. Below are certain excerpts from the interview:

On talking with Shreya Dhanwanthary, we gathered that the series, Mumbai Diaries 26/11, explores an angle that hasn't been discussed before - what went through the front-line workers that calamitous night.

On that note, tell us a bit about your character.

This is the first time we've had a medical drama as a show and how the doctors are under constant pressure, and how they work round the clock, is what we had to witness and understand, even live the experience, in a way. No matter what is happening in their personal lives, they put themselves out there and treat as many patients as possible, saving each and every breath. This was extremely important for us to know.

Talking about my character, I play Dr Diya Parekh and she is this girl who comes from a sense of privilege. Her *Dada ji* owns the hospital but she is someone who wants to create a mark and is good at her job, too. But at the same time, she is suffering from anxiety and depression and how these problems kick in at a time when you just don't want them to and how she needs to cope with every situation is the focus. This is her time to shine and to prove



Prepping to shine

RAKUL PREET SINGH enrolled for medical classes for her new comedy film *Doctor G*

Actress Rakul Preet Singh, whose look from the forthcoming Ayushmann Khurrana-starrer *Doctor G* was unveiled recently, had to enroll for medical classes to get into the skin of her character in the film.

To essay Dr Fatima, Rakul had to learn medical terminology and also nuances of some important surgical procedures for this family entertainer directed by Anubhuti Kashyap.

In order to make everything related to the medical world appear authentic on screen, the makers had arranged for experts to conduct special sessions with the cast — Rakul, Khurrana and actress Shefali Shah and train them as part of their characters' prep.

"Shooting for *Doctor G* has turned out to be an interesting experience. Since I play a doctor, the mannerisms and actions needed to be precise. It was mandatory to learn important things related to the medical world to make it look real on screen," expressed Rakul.

"The journey of becoming Dr Fatima was an amazing process which I will cherish forever," she added.

Rakul said that she and the makers wanted her character to seem genuine and relatable.

"We did multiple look tests to get her look right. The idea was for her to look as close to real as possible and bring out the endearing quality of her character. By just wearing the doctor's coat, you suddenly get a sense of responsibility even though I was only playing a character," Rakul continued.

The actress admitted, "While treating patients for scenes, one truly understands how much responsibility doctors have on their shoulders and how difficult their life is."

The film *Doctor G* is a campus comedy drama, co-written by Kashyap, Sumit Saxena, Vishal Wagh and Saurabh Bharat.

—JANS

her mettle. That is when Dr Diya puts everything aside, focusses at the humongous task at hand and really pulls through.

I read somewhere that your mother is a doctor. Did that help you engulf the essence of the role?

Yes, my mother is a doctor and she has always been my inspiration. She has really helped me groom into the character. I was blessed to have her beside me, who could talk me through this because her experiences were something that I actually fed off. She has treated so many patients and there are innumerable stories that are unbelievably inspiring and heart wrenching. I cannot define the take-away really but this has helped me tremendously in creating Dr Diya, undoubtedly. I remember I used to visit the hospital with her, as a kid. She would go to operate and I used to sit around in her cabin. I enjoyed looking at the slides placed under the microscope and for the longest time that I can

remember, I've always been in a hospital environment. However, this show needed something completely different. It's a government hospital. There are entirely different kinds of obstacles that occur at a government hospital and when everything breaks loose, how these hospitals really get affected was what we needed to portray in the show.

Acting is something inspired from reality... how much and what kind of research did you do? How did you prepare for the finer details which were reflected on screen while playing a resident doctor?

Getting into the skin of the character was extremely (elongates on the word, emphasising on it) important. Mr Nikhil Advani, our director, and the co-director, Mr Nikhil Gonsalves, both had such a clear vision of what they wanted and the way they wanted it. Before our medical workshop started for the web series, I began my own workshops. I discussed with my mother her experiences, and the manner doctors function in reality. I tried to soak the med-

ical jargon. Thereafter, I went for a first-aid workshop at the American Heart Association and I also went to one of my mother's colleague's government hospitals. I was there for a couple of days to witness what trauma is like, what emergencies looked like and that helped me step into the shoes of the character. At the same time, I had to learn and unlearn a lot. I believe this is what aided me in preparing for the finer details which were reflected on screen while playing Dr Diya.

From modelling, dancing, karate, to films, you have had a successful career as a dancer and model. How did the shift to Bollywood take place? How are the two lives different for you? And, which one do you like more?

I'm extremely grateful for everything that I've had the opportunity to do. I don't think there has been any kind of shift. I've aspired to become an actor since the very beginning. I am glad and thankful that, at the moment, I received the opportunity to work with such brilliant people who create lovely cinema that touches people's hearts. One thing has led to the other so I'm just happy for all the good experiences and bad, but everything that took place has made me who I am today and I am nothing but grateful for it all.

'I went to one of the government hospitals and was there for a couple of days to witness what trauma is like and what emergencies looked like and that helped me step into the shoes of the character'

Think Bhangra and the first name that comes to everyone's mind is Daler Mehndi. The voice behind popular hits, from *Bolo Ta Ra Ra Ra*, *Tunak Tunak* to *Ho Jayegi Balle Balle*, is not just restricted to the upbeat genre, though. Someone who is popular for his exuberant energy in all his music videos, he has also lent his voice to some iconic songs that were featured in Bollywood such as *Jiyo Re Bahubali*, *Zor Ka Jhatka* and the title track for *Dangal*.

On the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi, Mehndi recently released *Chintamani Ganesha*, a song which is underlined by his trademark energy and the devotional song provided us with an opportunity to speak with the living legend himself.

It took some time, and lots of coordination, but Mehndi managed to make enough time for a quick chat with us, in between shows. After performing for two hours, he says he has to drive for another hour before he reaches the next venue in time for an hour-long show. That surprises us, someone of his stature, would he not have a retinue of chauffeur-driven cars at his disposal?

When we express our surprise, Mehndi laughs before sharing, "I like driving myself. I think driving keeps my mind sharp, one can't really drive if they are lazy. Sure, whenever I am on the road, a few drivers always accompany me and there is at least one other car behind me, but I like driving myself, humming some ghazals."

Energetic. That is probably the most appropriate word in the dictionary if you have to describe Mehndi with one word. All his videos feature him having the time of his life, with a wide smile plastered on his face. We thought it would be prudent

Paying homage

On the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi, singer, songwriter, author and record producer **DALER MEHNDI** released a new song. **CHRISTY VARGHESE** uses the opportunity to talk about his devotion and more

to ask him from where does he obtain his signature energy and whether he is always like that, full of life? "You know, you are not the first person to ask this," he says with a smile, "Right before my last performance the organisers asked me what's my poison, and when I told them I would like a cup of hot tea, they were surprised. I am used to that reaction, when people see me, they might think that I drink. To them that is the source of unrestrained energy; however, for me, music is the substance of choice. I would say that at least 99 per cent of my life is spent being energetic. And the remaining one per cent? It might be more than one per cent, I think, but whenever I turn away from music, I see the troubles and strives of our fellow people. Otherwise, I believe I have a lot to be thankful for, and that alone is enough to keep me happy."

Speaking about *Chintamani Ganesha* and Ganesh Chaturthi, he went on to reveal, "*Bolo Ta Ra Ra Ra*, my first album, released in 1995 during Ganesh Chaturthi. It broke all records back then and I have never looked back, since. My own sentimental connection with the festival aside, I think this 10-day festival Ganesh Chaturthi offers respite from monotony to people. Against the backdrop of the pandemic my own sentimental connection aside, it is one of the



festivals which bring happiness, and respite from the monotony of life, something we all could use in these pandemic times, which is why I released the song *Chintamani Ganesha* — *wo sab ki chinta door karte hai*..."

Mehndi is someone who is openly religious and can be seen periodically celebrating occasions with songs of worship across the country. Earlier this year, he penned and performed an exclusive bhajan at the Vaishno Devi shrine, to signify the commencement of Navratri. He expresses his belief that all religions promote the same message of love and harmony, and if he receives the opportunity to celebrate a god with his god-

given gift, he won't shy away from doing so.

"I was born to a conventional family in Patna, Bihar and grew up listening to the melodies of the *Guru Granth Sahib Ji*, which is composed in and divided into a total of 60 ragas which combine the hymns of many saints. The teachings of Guru Granth happen to be something I hold dear. It taught me to respect all the faiths across the globe. We all are one, ultimately. I have never felt that 'oh, this is a God that I don't worship, hence I should not sing their praises.' If I can lend my voice to celebrate a god, I will happily do so without any qualms," he shares.

As our conversation deviated

from the script, like most good conversations do, he went on to reminisce about the distant past, grateful for everything, including the people he met and had a hand in Daler Singh becoming Daler Mehndi. "I ran away from home in 1982 to learn music from Rahat Ali Khan from Gorakhpur, who was kind enough to teach me the finer nuances of the *Patiala Gharana* style of Indian classical music. Another teacher was ghazal maestro Parvez Mehdi, from whose name, the celebrated suffix Mehndi got added to my name. Back then I wanted everything that one would have wanted in those times. My name and photograph on hoardings, and the likes, I am sure you know what I mean. I am glad fame came knocking on my door much later, in 1995, after *Bolo Ta Ra Ra Ra*, because then I did not let it get to my head," he ruminates thoughtfully, before adding, "Now my only dream is to share different types of music with the world. I am not one to brag but when big names of the west, like Deadmau5 or Marshmello, come to India they seek me out, all by the grace of God. And if God wills, I will go a long way, yet. I am still hungry to showcase my energy with a lot more music."

One thing that was on our script, and that we did not forget to ask about was a little story concerning *Tunak Tunak*, which is arguably Mehndi's biggest hit. The song's video, which was made on a then unprecedented budget of \$610,000, features hundreds of CGI versions of the singer dancing to the catchy beat of the song. We found a lot of anecdotes on the internet, but no original quotes by the singer behind the hit. Well, the story is as follows, in the words of the living legend himself, "Certain popular journalists had said that I became

popular only since women are dancing with me in my videos. And I don't remember what happened, I suppose I was just extremely angry with them and took it personally. I challenged them that I will release a song which will feature only my voice and only me in the video. And all credit goes to the supreme power above us all, that song was a hit. The very first day witnessed the sale of over 10 lakh units of cassettes being and two lakh CDs."

Well, it is clear who won that challenge. The beats of *Tunak Tunak* happen to be a cult hit in South Korea, and just about every kid having heard that tune at least once since it is played in the background of advertisement of food items in the country.

Since he had to prepare for his next performance, we had to cut our conversation short with one last question — as a record producer, what does he expect from emerging talent? "Well, kids these days are versatile. The current young generation is extremely lucky, everything is just the swipe on a smartphone away. Whatever information you seek, is available through multiple reliable sources. The talent that is emerging is extremely talented. My only advise to someone who wants to make something of themselves in the music industry, is that they should stay away from drugs and liquor. And another factor I don't compromise on is that the person should be down to earth, and be willing to learn," Mehndi concludes with a warm smile.



A style statement

In a tête-à-tête with TANMAYA DAS, ace fashion designer ANJU MODI shares her thoughts on the evolution of the Indian fashion industry

In the year-2020, the fashion industry was trying to hold back its position, as the concept of work from home (WFH) became inevitable. Most of the people started working from home. Retail shops were shut down due to the pandemic and online shopping increased to encourage social distancing. Due to cost-cutting and new responsibilities, expensive purchases were curtailed, which subsequently affected the fashion industry.

Now that the world is slowly returning to normalcy, we have all started to regain and reshape ourselves in the new economic sphere. Renowned designer Anju Modi speaks of the challenges that the Indian fashion industry is facing currently.

She says, "The designers have to come forward in terms of competitive clothing. You use Indian handloom fabric to make it an anti-fit loose dress or a simple shift dress. It is more comfortable as it absorbs sweat. So, I make dresses that can be worn at home all day long. However, for now, designing competitive clothing is a challenge."

Also, it is undeniable that clothes shape our personality, bringing out the best version of ourselves. Our clothes and jewellery have always been inspired by our cultures and traditions. On this note, she says, "As humans started to get civilised, presenting oneself was always a prime psychological and emotional point within a human being. Even our kings and royal families were all extremely conscious of how they should be wearing their clothes, the jewellery, turbans, attire, shoes, and/or makeup." Moreover, she adds that the psychology of presenting oneself lies at the core of human existence.

On being asked about her fascination with historical characters, she points out that everything has been shaped by history. She expresses, "We get inspired by classical music, 500-year-old Amir Khusrow's poetry, and Mughal influences in our craft. So, I feel that in today's generation, our lifestyle is a reference to previous cultural influences. However, we need to reinvent and make garments that are wearable and relevant in today's time. So, as a designer, I am interpreting our Indian designer traditions and culture."

During the 90s, people were clueless about fashion. Since childhood, Anju used to be surrounded by several art forms, and music. Such an atmosphere created a natural inclination towards arts and designs. Afterwards, she went on to understand the culture as well as the lifestyle of weavers and their philosophy. Of all young designers, Rahul Mishra and Pero are some of her favourite brands. She shares, "My son and daughter-in-law made a promising mark in the fashion industry with their label, AMPM. They will take the craft much further."

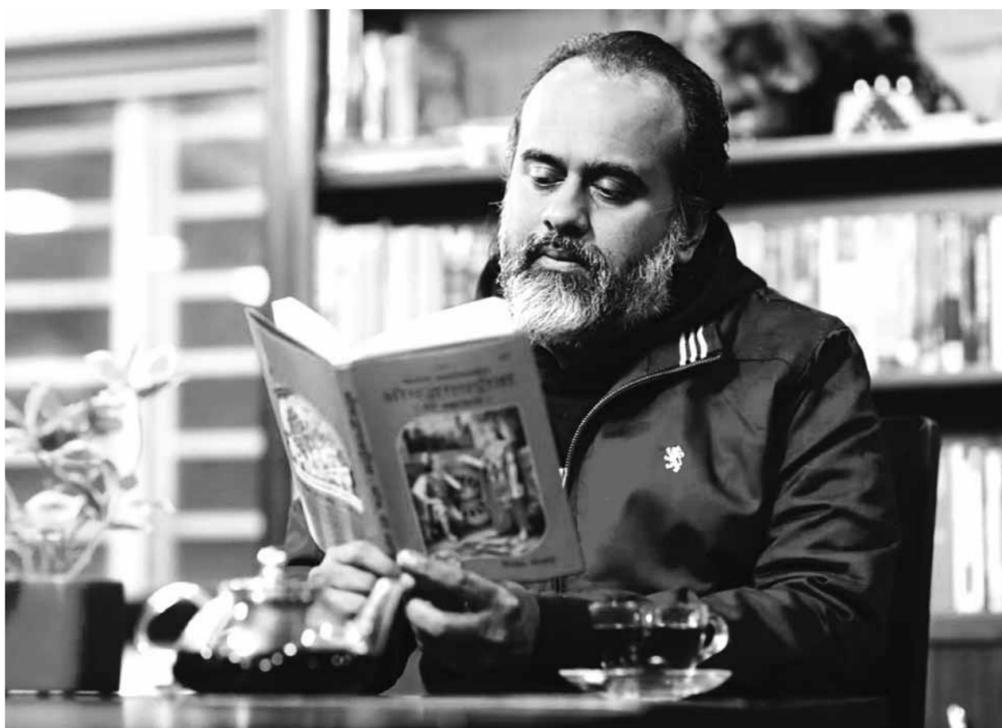
To her, the fashion industry in India has explored many avenues, but the real challenge is to make clothing more relevant to the modern lifestyle. "I cannot say that something is not unexplored. Everybody has



worked in each region, including lehengas, cholis, anarkali, Hyderabad and Pakistani shararas, and farshi. So, a lot of areas have already been explored. The question here is how do we take out the traditional attire and make it relevant in today's lifestyle. Since the younger generation is fast-paced, they don't want so much fabric and weight on themselves. One needs to select the best textile and make it into a stylish garment. So, I sincerely believe that styling garments for today's generation is one area which needs more exploration," she elaborates.

Our workspaces influence our productivity levels so we need to choose the elements in our workspaces wisely. On being asked about redefining home spaces during the pandemic, she observes, "Everyone has become a home-conscious person. In this endeavour, I collaborated with an interior designer, Rajiv Goel who is providing workspaces at home. People have created their own WFH spaces. They have all the required gadgets, a library, and books. WFH has become a part of our lifestyle in these uncertain times."

Currently, she is engaged with Sanjay Leela Bansali for his first-ever web series, Heera Mandi. Simultaneously, there are several projects lined up that have been experiencing some hiccups due to the Covid. "The pandemic has taught us a huge lesson. It has given us time to rethink and reinvent ourselves. Our perspectives on life, relationships, and emotions have changed. So, my only message is that one should not lose one's equilibrium again. Relax! Enjoy the music, dance, and all the classical textiles. Be an art lover!" she concludes with a wide smile.



EXPLORING THE TRUTH

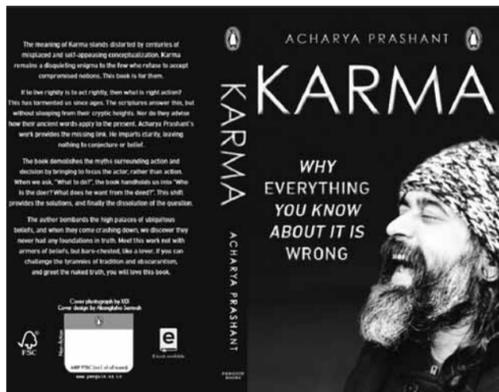
ACHARYA PRASHANT decentres action in the totality of karma, in a heart-to-heart with KHUSHBU KIRTI

in a dimensionally different way. Now it is the Truth within shining as the Truth outside. Only now, can one say 'aham Brahmasmi'. So, the notion is not something that is rightfully available to the common ego state to utter. In the common state, aham is just aham, not Brahma; and when aham is just aham, obviously aham and sansaar are two ends of duality, together but never in union.

A deeply spiritual person alone has the right to say, 'aham Brahmasmi'.

As an Advait philosopher/practitioner, you are known to propagate the teachings of Upanishads and the Gita, what challenges have you faced in teaching the modern audience?

Popular modernity is a lot about belief in the self and a blanket repudiation of the past. Together these two form a lethal, self-destructive combination. Firstly, the belief in the self as a genuine, original or authentic entity is misplaced; secondly, a



lot that can dispel that belief is stationed in the past. So, when you have a strong, even if false, belief coupled with an aversion to that which can probe and dispel this belief, then you are in a situation that is not only false but also designed to keep the false secure, and that is the challenge that I face with the so-called

modern mind and that is the problem that modern mind faces with itself. One of the problems with popular misinterpretations of modernity is that they accord the self and its desires a very high, actually the highest value, without ever bothering to enquire where the self comes from and whether it

deserves such a high value. So, the ego's nature is such that it is extremely self-protective and the notion that convinces it of its infallibility becomes very valuable and indispensable to itself. So when it is faced with the oriental scriptures whose central idea is the falseness of the ego self, the first reaction of the ego is to resist them, find faults with them and declare them outdated.

Who are the seminal philosophers you follow and why?

Philosophy is authentic only when it makes one come to the self. Therefore, philosophy has to be spiritual; and philosophy has to be a way of life, not merely a structure of thought. The philosophers who appeal to me would include the Rishis of the Upanishads, Sage Ashvatkara, Adi Shankaracharya, Plato, Socrates, Gautama Buddha, Kabir Saheb, Krishna, Lao Tzu, and Nagarjuna from the Buddhist tradition.

Devotion as she knows best

ANKITA LOKHANDE talks about the significance of the festival in her life as she is all set to perform a mesmerising Ashtavinayak act during Ganesh Utsav With Zee TV. By TEAM VIVA

With festivities around the corner and the restrictions limiting the celebrations across India, Zee TV has a surprise coming your way! The channel is all set to give you the look, feel, and flavour of Ganesh Chaturthi from the comfort of your homes as it presents an extravagant celebration through a special episode of Ganesh Utsav with Zee TV. This unique celebration will see lots of fun, dance, masti and conversations with top telly stars celebrating Ganesh Chaturthi with all of you.

Viewers are in for some amazing performances. While Kumkum Bhagya and Kundali Bhagya's iconic duos — Abhi (Shabir Ahluwalia)-Pragya (Sriti Jha) and Karan (Dheeraj Dhoopar)-Preeta (Shradha Arya) — will make you fall in love with them all over again as they showcase their adorable chemistry, actor Ankita Lokhande will ensure that this Ganesh Utsav is memorable for one and all, as she performs a breathtaking Ashtavinayak dance act. The actress left no stone unturned when it came to her performance for Bappa.

Talking about Ganesh Utsav with Zee TV, Ankita shared, "I have come for Zee TV's Ganesh Utsav after a long time, and there are so many memories that I have of this annual event, which came rushing back to me as soon as I came on the set. To be honest, being a dancer, I am always excited about my performance, especially when I am going to perform for Ganpati Bappa. It's truly a different feeling altogether. I remember when Pavitra Rishta was on air, the Ganesh Chaturthi event used to start with our show, but this time around, I've joined the Zee Kutumb for my special act. I am excited as well as nervous about my performance because I am doing a solo act for Lord Ganesha and can't wait to see everyone's reaction towards my act."

Ankita, who is known for her dancing skills, will surely take your breath away with not just her mesmerising act, but also her angelic



avatar. Talking about her plans for this Ganesh Utsav, she added, "I have always had Bappa at my house since my childhood and this year as well, I have welcomed him home for 11 days. There is so much preparation that we do, from decorating the

house to making Bappa's favorite modaks, ladoos, puran poli and I am very excited for it this year."

(To watch the grand celebration, tune in to Ganesh Utsav With Zee TV on September 19 2021 at 12 pm, only on Zee TV)

Season two of *The Morning Show*, starring Jennifer Aniston and Reese Witherspoon, had filmed just 13 days when the COVID-19 pandemic shut down production in March 2020.

The writers for the show, which revolves around the behind-the-scenes drama of a morning news program, soon decided that the scripts should reflect what was happening in the world. Instead of diving right into the chaos of the early days — lockdowns and quarantines — the new season, which debuted yesterday, unfolds in the first months of 2020 leading up to the declaration of a pandemic. Before that, the Coronavirus had been looming but seemed like a problem far removed.

"Everything that you're doing while you don't know what's about to hit you is exactly what we were trying to capture," said Witherspoon.

These script changes were a sense of déjà vu for the writers. The planned plot of season one had also changed course. That revision incorporated the Time's Up and #MeToo movements that exposed misconduct by men in media and entertainment, most notably disgraced movie mogul Harvey Weinstein.

The first season saw Aniston and Witherspoon's characters often pitted against one another. In season two, there's less time to spar because everybody's got their own problems. Each character confronts questions of identity, in both how they're seen by the world at large and how they view themselves.

Desean Terry plays disenfranchised news anchor Daniel, who is told outright that he's as big as he's ever going to get so he should be satisfied. As a black man, he feels a responsibility to represent people of color and share their stories, and he's not getting the opportunity to do so.

"I hope people see those nuances that can happen," said Terry. "The system wears on you and it starts to actually really impact you in this very deep and personal way and you take on the cost. We see him call out the system but also an insecurity creeps in."

Mark Duplass' character, Chip, who could have been a walking

Keeping up with times

Cancel culture dominates the latest season of *The Morning Show*



advertisement for Pepto-Bismol in season one as the executive producer of the programme, now isn't sure where he fits in when he's not the boss.

"He's being pulled back to the power that he used to have that he no longer has," said Duplass. "I think white men are struggling a lot right now with the loss of that, and they get real fussy when they lose it. They don't know how to deal with it."

The complexities of cancel culture are examined as well. *The Morning Show* looks at what can happen next for someone who has been publicly outed for their behavior, the paranoia over being guilty by association to a canceled person, and how it's easier said than done to erase someone from your life. "My question always was, 'What happens to these (canceled) people?'" says Aniston. "The beauty of the writing is just the head-on honesty. Saying what people say behind closed doors."

Aniston's portrayal of Alex Levy, a beloved, trusted TV personality who runs hot and cold off screen, earned her an Emmy and

Golden Globe nomination and a SAG award win.

"She's a labyrinth of a human being," said Aniston of her character, adding that she's met people like Alex "along the way."

"I've worked with them, where you just don't know what you're gonna get. They always scare me," Aniston said.

Some of the best moments of season two are Aniston's scenes with Duplass. Their characters have a long, shared work history and in seconds can go from friends without filters to spewing deep, cutting vitriol.

"I think part of the reason why people respond to Chip and Alex and their relationship like they do is because of the way that Jen and I really like each other," said Duplass. "We imbue that relationship with a playfulness and a love that also layers into the darkness and the toxicity that's on the page. So as hard as some of those scenes are, I look forward to them."

There's one scene with the two in a car that is hilarious and horrifying to watch.

Aniston says she told director

Mimi Leder, "I think I've got about two (takes) in me" but calls the end result "fantastic" and "a purging."

Billy Crudup, who plays enigmatic TV executive Cory Ellison, says his Emmy-winning role on *The Morning Show* has afforded him a delicious opportunity he thought was long gone.

"When you get into your 50s, there's a notion that you might have one or two more of these (roles) in your career," said Crudup. "To get to do something that's as extravagant as this character is otherworldly."

Season two adds Hasan Minaj (from *The Daily Show* and *Patriot Act With Hasan Minaj*) and Julianna Margulies, of *The Good Wife* fame, to the cast.

"We had the best time," said Witherspoon of Margulies. "I've always been a fan of hers. I've known her a little bit socially, but just getting to spend that time with her is so meaningful to me. And can I say I loved working with Hasan because he made me laugh so hard."

NZ put off Pak tour over security



IAN S ■ RAWALPINDI

New Zealand have called off their white-ball tour of Pakistan because of security concerns ahead of the first of three ODIs at Pindi Cricket Ground in Rawalpindi on Friday. New Zealand were visiting Pakistan for the first time after 18 years for a white-ball tour featuring three ODIs which were to be followed by five T20s in Lahore.

Players and support staff members from both sides did not come out of the hotel and were asked to stay in their rooms. Spectators were not allowed to enter the stadium. After a period of uncertainty and chaos caused by the delay apart from rumours of COVID-19 outbreak in either camp, a statement from New Zealand Cricket (NZC) was issued.

"However, following an escalation in the New Zealand Government threat levels for Pakistan, and advice from NZC

security advisors on the ground, it has been decided the BLACK-CAPS will not continue with the tour. Arrangements are now being made for the team's departure," read the NZC statement.

The chief executive of NZC David White said it was simply not possible to continue with the tour given the advice he was receiving. "I understand this will be a blow for the PCB (Pakistan Cricket Board), who have been wonderful hosts, but player safety is paramount and we believe this is the only responsible option."

New Zealand Cricket Players Association chief executive Heath Mills echoed White's sentiments. "We've been across this process throughout and are fully supportive of the decision. The players are in good hands; they're safe -- and everyone's acting in their best interests."

NZC also said it will not comment on the details of the security threat nor the updated

arrangements for the departing squad. New Zealand, led by Tom Latham, had arrived in Islamabad on September 11 after losing a five-match T20I series to Bangladesh 3-2. Since the start of this century, New Zealand first came to Pakistan in 2002 under Stephen Fleming. They had to abandon the tour on the morning of the second Test in Karachi after a bomb exploded outside their team hotel. The last time New Zealand toured Pakistan was in 2003 for a five-match ODI series, which they lost 5-0.

The PCB issued a statement shortly after NZC released one, saying that no security threat of any kind existed for the visitors. "Earlier today, New Zealand Cricket informed us they had been alerted to some security alert and have unilaterally decided to postpone the series."

"Pakistan Cricket Board and Pakistan Government made foolproof security arrangements for all visiting teams. We have

Pak Minister links New Zealand tour cancellation to Afghanistan

IAN S ■ NEW DELHI

Hours after the New Zealand cricket team called off its tour of Pakistan just before the start of the first ODI in Rawalpindi, Pakistan Interior Minister Sheikh Rasheed Ahmad said on Friday that the tour was cancelled under an international 'conspiracy', Express Tribune reported.

Addressing a press conference in Islamabad, Ahmad said that he will not name the conspirators. However, he added that some forces want to make Pakistan a scapegoat



after what has been happening in Afghanistan. The New Zealand authorities do not have substantive proof of a threat in Pakistan, the minister said, hours after the Kiwis cancelled their tour of Pakistan, Geo TV reported.



National Open Athletics: Harmilan Kaur sets national record in 1500m

AP ■ WARANGAL

Punjab's Harmilan Kaur Bains stole the thunder from the sprinters by breaking Sunita Rani's long-standing national record in the 1500 metres on the second day of the 60th National Open Athletics Championships in the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Hanamkonda on Thursday.

The 23-year-old start-to-finish specialist cruised home in 4:05.39 to erase the mark set by Sunita Rani at 4:06.03 in the Asian Games in Busan in 2002. She also shattered OP Jais's meet record of 4:11.83 set in Delhi in 2006. Delhi's KM Chanda gamely shadowed Harmilan until the Punjab runner sped away at the bell to win by a sizable margin. Harmilan, undefeated in eight national-level 1500m races since January 2020, has shown rapid progress, improving from 4:14.68 in the Khelo India University Games in Bhubaneswar last year to 4:08.70 and 4:08.27 in the Federation Cup (March 16) and Indian Grand Prix 4 (June 21)

respectively in Patiala. On Thursday, she capped it with a National mark, the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) said in a release on Thursday.

It needed such a strong effort to push a couple of good sprint events to the shade. Naresh Kumar (Andhra Pradesh) and Delhi's Tarandeep Kaur took the honours as the fastest male and female athlete of the meet by winning the 100m dash Naresh Kumar's 10.30 seconds win came with the second-fastest time by an Indian in 100m this year behind Gurindervir Singh's 10.27 seconds in Patiala on June 26. It also gave the 23-year-old from Guntur a place among the five fastest sprinters in Indian history. Quite inevitably, it gave him the meet record, improving on Anil Kumar's 10.37 seconds set in 2001.

The race produced personal bests for Assam's Amlan Borgohain and Harjit Singh (Services) with times of 10.34 seconds for both, a photo finish separating them by six-thousandths of a second to secure the silver medal for the former.

'Which world is NZ living in?' PCB chief

IAN S ■ NEW DELHI

The newly-appointed Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman, Ramiz Raja on Friday lashed out at the New Zealand Cricket for abandoning their international series at the last minute after claiming to have received a security alert from their government back home.

New Zealand have called off their white-ball tour of Pakistan because of security concerns ahead of the first of three ODIs at Pindi Cricket Ground in Rawalpindi. Raja warned NZC that the matter will be taken up before the International Cricket Council (ICC). He took to Twitter to express his anguish.

Sharath named chairman of BCCI junior selection committee

IAN S ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian cricket board (BCCI) on Friday appointed the national junior selection committee with former Tamil Nadu batsman Sridharan Sharath as its chairman.

While S. Sharath is the representative selector from South Zone, former Gujarat wicket-keeper-batsman Pathik Patel is the selector from West Zone and former Bengal medium-pacer Ranadeb Bose is from East Zone. Former Punjab batsman Krishan Mohan, who is now with Himachal Pradesh in coaching capacity, is the North Zone selector while ex-Madhya Pradesh pacer Harvinder Singh Sodhi is the selector from Central Zone.

"Former Tamil Nadu captain Mr Sharath Sridharan will head the committee," said a statement from the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). The first cricketer to play 100 Ranji Trophy matches for Tamil Nadu, Sharath scored 8700 runs, including 27 centuries and 42 half-centuries in 139 first-class matches with an impressive average of 51.17, during his 15-year-long domestic career.

Not getting selected for T20 World Cup not the end of it all: Pacer Siraj



IAN S ■ MUMBAI

Indian pace bowler Mohammed Siraj has said that the recently-concluded Test tour of England was a "great experience" and that he was happy that he could repose the faith of his captain Virat Kohli during the series.

Siraj played a key role in India taking a 1-0 lead in the series, notching eight wickets in the Lord's Test, which led to the visitors winning the tie by 151 runs.

"The England tour was a great experience by any stretch of imagination. I am glad that I could repose the faith of my captain Virat bhai, head coach Ravi Shastri, the support staff and the entire team," the 27-year-old, who has so far amassed 30 wickets in the nine Tests, told Sportstar on Thursday.

Siraj though said that he was a bit disappointed at not being selected in the side for the ICC T20 World Cup in the UAE and Oman in October-November this year.

"Well, selection is not in our hands. It was certainly a dream to play in the T20 World Cup. But, again, that is not the end of it all. I have many more goals -- the biggest being to play a lead role in helping the team to win matches," said Siraj.

"I will take things as they come for I believe in destiny and be content in whatever opportunities I get even as the pursuit for excellence at the highest level continues," he added.

Siraj said that sharing the ball with the likes of pace stalwarts Ishant Sharma and Mohammed Shami was a great experience.

England's tour of Pakistan next month in doubt now: Reports



IAN S ■ NEW DELHI

England's tour of Pakistan next month was thrown into doubt on Friday after New Zealand abandoned their international series there on security grounds.

According to a Daily Mail report, the Black Caps did not leave their hotel for the first one-day international and no spectators were admitted to the stadium in Rawalpindi after the country's cricket board received security advice. Before the scheduled time of the toss for the day-nighter, confirmation came that the tourists would be returning home before a ball

had been bowled. The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) then said that they will decide on whether next month's tour of Pakistan can go ahead in the next 48 hours.

"We're aware of New Zealand's decision to pull out of the Pakistan tour due to a security alert," a spokesperson was quoted as saying by standard.co.uk. "We are liaising with our security team who are on the ground in Pakistan to fully understand the situation. The ECB Board will then decide in the next 24-48 hours whether our planned tour should proceed."

Shiva sails into last-16, Gaurav Bidhuri bows out of National Championships

PTI ■ BELLARY

Five-time Asian medallist Shiva Thapa (63.5kg) stormed into the pre-quarter-finals with a knockout victory but former world championship bronze-winner Gaurav Bidhuri (57kg) exited after an opening loss in the men's National Boxing Championships here on Friday.

Representing Assam, Thapa knocked out Shubham Mamta of Steel Plant Sports Board (SPSB) in the opening round of his bout. Shubham was attended to by the medical team after the body shot threw him off balance in the ring.

"There is pain but he should be alright. He will be assessed again tomorrow," a top official at the tournament told PTI. However, Bidhuri (Railways Sports Promotion Board) was upstaged by Haryana's Sachin, who prevailed 4-1 in the bout. Sachin is the reigning youth world champion. Another Haryana pugilist and South Asian Games champion Ankit Khatana made his way into the 75kg quarter-finals after he



out-punched Himachal Pradesh's Dharm Pal in unanimous victory. Telangana's Savio Dominic Michael (54kg) and Goa's Ashok Patil (67kg) too progressed to the last-eight stage with identical 4-1 victories.

While Savio defeated Jharkhand's Krishna Jora, Ashok Patil got the better of

Himachal Pradesh's Mohan Chander. Chandigarh's Kuldeep Kumar (48kg) and Sachin were among the other boxers to make progress on the third day of the Championships.

Kuldeep booked a berth in the quarter-finals after an easy 4-0 win over Rajasthan's Sushil Sahran.



Elyse Perry set to return to new-ball role against India women

IAN S ■ MACKAY

Australian women's team pace bowler Elyse Perry, who is set to return to her role as new-ball bowler after her career over the past 18 months was hampered by hamstring injury, has termed the forthcoming ODI series against India as an opportunity.

"With Megan Schutt missing for this series, there might be more opportunity there with the new ball, especially initially," said Perry ahead of the ODI series against Indian women's team that begins on Tuesday (September 21).

Perry, who has picked 298 international wickets across 246 Tests, ODIs and T20s, is just one of seven bowlers to have taken 150 wickets in women's ODIs.

She barely bowled during the one-day series against New Zealand in March-April, sending down just six overs in the first two matches as first change. She didn't bowl in the third ODI.

F1 drivers Vettel, Stroll to remain with Aston Martin for next season

IAN S ■ LONDON

Formula 1 team Aston Martin have confirmed an unchanged pairing of Sebastian Vettel and Lance Stroll for next year.

Vettel had joined Aston Martin from Ferrari at the start of this season, netting the team's first podium at the Azerbaijan Grand Prix. The four-time champion will continue his journey with the British team next year alongside Canadian driver Stroll, as Formula 1 moves into its new era of regulations.

"I am really looking forward to racing the new generation of Formula 1 cars," said Vettel. "Their look is very different and the new technical regulations should give us cars that can race much more closely than recently," the German told formula1.com on Thursday.

"More exciting racing will be great for the drivers as well as for the fans. The changes are so big that every team will be starting from a new beginning, so it will be a great opportunity for us at Aston Martin? I believe in the strength of our new growing team, so I am already looking forward to 2022."

Stroll, meanwhile, added, "Next season I will be embarking on my sixth year in Formula 1, alongside my teammate Sebastian? and I greatly look forward to continuing the journey with him



next year. We have not achieved what we set out to do this year, but that has only amplified our hunger and drive for success next season."

Vettel was signed to Aston Martin on a 'one plus one' contract, giving the team an option on his services for 2022, which they decided to take up. Speaking of his driver line-up for 2022, Team Principal Otmar Szafnauer said, "Lance is one of the most gifted drivers in modern Formula 1, and to that raw talent he is now adding serious racecraft."

"A four-time world champion, having driven 271 Grands Prix, of which he has won 53, Sebastian is also a massive asset to our team, and next year we expect both of them to race well in what will be a very different formula from the current one."

Academic & sporting excellence achievable: Paralympic medallist & IAS officer Suhas

IAN S ■ NEW DELHI

Suhas Yathiraj lives by the philosophy of 'sports helps you conquer your own self'. And he lived by his own words by clinching a silver medal in badminton at the Tokyo Paralympics. Significantly, his achievement also helped break a common stereotype in India that does not equate sporting excellence with academics.

Yathiraj is an officer in the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), having achieved success in one of the toughest examinations in the country at the very first attempt.

It was only in 2015/16 that he turned into a professional parabadminton player and has since then been managing his duty as the District Magistrate of Gautam Buddha Nagar and his training as a sportsperson to good effect.

"I think this (Tokyo Paralympics) medal was celebrated by everyone in the country. The amount of reception that we got in New Delhi airport (shows that)," Yathiraj told Olympics.com. "I think the myth that studies and sports can't be pursued together has



been broken. Many are surprised that a person can be good in both studies and sports.

"Parents also want their children to be good in studies and sports. They look at studies as the more stable option. I think many of the youth can at least get the confidence to pursue both," he added.

The celebration at home around his achievement at the Paralympics medal also makes him believe that the Tokyo Olympics

and Paralympics was a watershed moment for India as it helped to develop a sporting culture.

"The amount of support, love that everyone is showing is great. There was a time when celebrities in the country used to be film stars and only cricketers," Yathiraj said.

"But I think now, the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics would be a watershed moment in the history of India, because of the amount of adulation and recognition the Olympians and Paralympians are getting. I think it's definitely heart-warming," he added.

And badminton remains a spiritual experience for him. He, however, is extremely methodical in his approach towards the sport and likes to work on its crucial details.

"Badminton is meditation for me. I am extremely methodical. I develop my attack skills, defense skills, my reach. I work minutely on that part and also how I would cope up in the match. I visualize matches in my head. So yeah, I do have methods that give me comfort while playing," Yathiraj explained.

Moreover, he is not active on

social media and stays away from it, in part because of his professional role and because he believes that it doesn't add value to his life. "I am not at all a reserved person. Because of the administrative job that I hold, I have intentionally kept myself away from social media because I don't see any value addition through it. I have always believed that we should not go behind fame or money or anything," Yathiraj said.

Yathiraj, 38, also considers the silver medal at Tokyo Paralympics will motivate him to go one better at Paris Paralympics in 2024.

Yathiraj, who has an impairment to his ankle, overcame the challenges thrown at him to excel in badminton. And he has several international achievements to his name.

He became the first-ever serving Indian bureaucrat to represent and win a medal for India at the global level when he won gold at the 2016 Asian Para Badminton Championship. That journey has now taken him to the Paralympics where he was just beaten in the final of the SL4 category men's singles by Lucas Mazur of France.