

## WORLD 6

YEMEN'S HOUTHIS EXECUTE  
9 OVER OFFICIAL'S KILLING

## MONEY 7

CRYPTOCURRENCY HYPER  
FUND UNDER GOVT SCANNER

## SPORT 8

BOPANNA, RAMKUMAR CRACK  
IN MUST-WIN DOUBLES MATCHPublished From  
DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL  
BHUBANESWAR RANCHI  
RAIPUR CHANDIGARH  
DEHRADUN HYDERABAD  
VIJAYWADA

DEHRADUN, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2021; PAGES 8-4 ₹3



# sunday pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com



## ‘Humiliated’ Captain resigns

Cong's last-ditch effort to negate anti-incumbency; Amarinder to 'explore options'

AMITABH SHUKLA ■ CHANDIGARH

Less than six months before the Assembly polls in the State, Congress changed Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh conceding that it was the best political alternative to dent the growing anti-incumbency against the two-time Chief Minister.

It was clear that the political script written by the Congress high command was unpalatable to the Punjab Chief Minister who submitted his resignation to Governor Banwarilal Purohit soon after 4pm before the meeting of Congress Legislature Party (CLP) to elect a new leader.

Citing continued humiliation by the Congress leadership over the past two months, Capt Amarinder made it clear that he would explore and exercise his future options when the time comes, "There is always an option, and I will use that option when the time comes. At the moment I am still in the Congress," he said after submitting his resignation.

"I was humiliated three times by the Congress leader-



Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh submits his resignation to Governor Banwarilal Purohit at the Raj Bhavan in Chandigarh on Saturday

PTI

ship in the past two months. They called the MLAs to Delhi twice and now convened CLP here," Amarinder said, adding that he had decided and informed Congress president Sonia Gandhi in the morning that he would resign.

"Apparently they (Congress

high command) do not have confidence in me and did not think I could handle my job. But I felt humiliated at the manner in which they handled the whole affair," he told reporters at the gate of the Raj Bhavan after giving his resignation letter to the Governor.

"Let them appoint who they trust," he remarked, taking a dig at the party leadership.

After the arrival of AICC general secretary incharge of the State Harish Rawat and Central observer Ajay Maken in Chandigarh, it was clear that Capt Amarinder would be

## Amarinder blasts Sidhu, Congress

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Out but not defeated, a visibly agitated Capt Amarinder Singh on Saturday declared that he will stay in politics and had his options open, while making it clear that he would never accept an "incapable" Navjot Singh Sidhu as the Chief Minister.

Minutes after handing over his and his Council of Minister's resignation to the Governor, Capt Amarinder hit out at the party high command for humiliating him time and again.

Capt Amarinder claimed that he had fulfilled his duty given to him, serving Punjab as the Chief Minister for nine and half years, including five years of his previous term (2002-2007). "I worked as strongly as I can for my Punjab and the

people and would continue to do so. I am not going to bog down. I have completed my this task. Now I will take over the next," he added.

Keeping the cards close to his chest, Capt Amarinder refused to disclose what he had planned for his future.

Earlier in the day, Amarinder had convened a meeting of Ministers and MLAs supporting him at his official residence here at 2 pm. However, apart from a handful of his close allies in the cabinet and among MLAs, not many attended the meeting.

Amarinder had led the Congress to a stunning victory in the 2017 Assembly polls, following 10 years of Akali rule in the State. The Congress had mustered a brute majority of 80 in the 117-member Assembly.

removed if he did not tender his resignation. Sensing the calm mood, he rushed to the Raj Bhavan and tendered the one-line resignation letter which said, "I hereby tender my resignation as Chief Minister, and that of my Council of Ministers."

## Centre cautions States on Covid as schools open

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As schools reopen gradually in various States, the Centre on Saturday asked the respective authorities to monitor any rising Covid infection trends among children and strengthen the public health response infrastructure, including medical oxygen plants, ICU, and hospital facilities and essential medicine stocking.

The suggestions come amid fear of a third Covid-19 wave as at least 70 districts in 15 States have become a cause of concern in terms of rising Covid-19 cases.

At a review meeting with States on Saturday, the Government noted that around 34 of these districts have a positivity rate exceeding 10 per cent, and in 36 districts the rate hovers between 5 and 10 per cent. Cabinet Secretary Rajeev Gauba, who chaired the meeting, said there was no room for complacency and called for strict enforcement of Covid appropriate behaviour, especially in the wake of upcoming festivities.

He asked the States to implement intensive containment and active surveillance in clusters reporting high cases and not delay the imposition of restrictions, increase testing

## As 3rd wave fear lurking, States told to monitor rise of Covid among kids



while maintaining RT-PCR ratio and promptly commission pressure swing adsorption plants, oxygen cylinders, concentrators and ventilators.

"States were also told to undertake regular reviews for priority implementation of emergency response package II to ensure preparedness with enough headroom, monitor infection spread in children considering that few States have opened schools, monitor breakthrough infections post-vaccination and analyse the emerging evidence, monitor mutations including sending sufficient samples for genome sequencing," the Government said in a statement here.

## Ram Lala jalabhishek: Water from 115 countries received

Water from remaining 77 nations would be procured before Ayodhya temple is constructed, hopes Rajnath Singh

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday received water from 115 countries of seven continents for offering in the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya. He termed it "innovative thinking" and underlined the message of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam".

He made these remarks at his residence here after receiving the water from rivers, streams, and oceans from these 115 countries. Shree Ram Jannabhoome Teertha Kshetra general secretary Champat Rai and Ambassadors and High Commissioners from several countries including Denmark, Fiji and Nigeria were present on the occasion.

The water was procured by



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh receives holy water from 115 nations for Ayodhya Ram Mandir, in New Delhi on Saturday

PTI

NGO Delhi Study Circle, which is led by BJP leader and former Delhi MLA Vijay Jolly. Lauding this effort, Rajnath said, "Procuring water from all the countries of the world replicates the thinking of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam of India. Bringing water from 115 countries is an excellent work."

He hoped water from remaining 77 countries would also be procured by the time construction of the temple is completed. "We will do 'Jalabhishek' of our Ram Lala from that water."

He further said construction of Ram Temple is a moment of pride for everybody adding.

## Supriyo joins TMC months after vowing to quit politics

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

In a blow to the saffron clan, Asansol BJP MP and former Union Minister Babul Supriyo on Saturday quit the party and joined the Trinamool Congress little more than two months after he was stripped of his ministerial status after which he had vowed to quit politics.

Supriyo joined the TMC in the presence of the party's national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee and its Rajya Sabha leader Derek O'Brien.

While the State BJP called it an "act of revenge", the Asansol MP said there is no vengeance in his mind and that he left his earlier party just because he was "feeling stagnated" and the "space for work was increasingly getting narrower.... I thought my effort to serve people for several years got a full stop... why... or how... is irrelevant".

Supriyo's joining the TMC comes close on the heel of at



TMC national general Secretary Abhishek Banerjee with former Union Minister and sitting MP Babul Supriyo after the latter joined the Trinamool Congress in Kolkata on Saturday

PTI

least 5 MLAs, including former BJP national vice president Mukul Roy, quitting that party.

Soon after he joined the BJP, the Union Government on Saturday scaled down the armed security cover of Central paramilitary commandos given to the Asansol MP. His security cover was reduced from the second-highest level of Z to Y category, sources said.

## Sonu Sood, aides evaded ₹20 crore tax, flouted FCRA, alleges I-T dept

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The CBDT on Saturday alleged that actor Sonu Sood and his associates evaded tax of ₹20 crore and claimed that after the Income Tax Department raided him and a linked Lucknow-based infrastructure group, it was found that he routed his "unaccounted income in the form of bogus unsecured loans from many bogus entities".

It also accused Sood of violating the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) while raising donations from abroad.

It had launched searches against the 48-year-old actor and the Lucknow-based group of industries involved in the infrastructure sector on September 15 and the CBDT said the action was continuing.



Boats anchored along the swollen Ganga river following heavy rain, in Varanasi on Saturday

PTI

## Whopping 80 cr Covid vaccines administered

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India has administered 80 crore Covid-19 vaccine doses so far, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said on Saturday. A day ago, India administered the highest ever single-day vaccinations with 2.5 crore doses given in 24 hours, which Mandaviya had described as a golden chapter in world history.

In the meantime, India reported 35,662 new Covid-19 cases and 281 deaths in the last 24 hours. 33,798 got recovered in the same duration.

Kerala recorded 23,260 Covid cases and 131 deaths in the past 24 hours.

The countrywide vaccination drive against the coronavirus was rolled out on January 16 with healthcare workers getting inoculated in the first phase.

"Standing tall against Covid-19, India administers 80 crore vaccine doses. Congratulations to the nation on this momentous feat," Mandaviya tweeted using the hashtag "World's Largest Vaccination Drive".

India took 85 days to touch the 10-crore vaccination mark, 45 more days to cross the 20-crore mark and 29 more days to reach the 30-crore mark, according to the Ministry.



A beneficiary receives a dose of Covid-19 vaccine in New Delhi on Saturday

PTI

## CAPSULE

### CONG: TMC'S ATTACK ON RAHUL UNWARRANTED

**New Delhi:** The Congress on Saturday accused the Mamata Banerjee-led Trinamool Congress of undermining the leadership of the grand old party and said its attack on Rahul Gandhi was "unwarranted and in poor taste". The remarks of the Congress came after the TMC's Bengali mouthpiece 'Jago Bangla' ran a cover story, attacking Gandhi by saying he has failed to take on the BJP and Banerjee, who is the chief minister of West Bengal, should be the opposition's face now.

### SEVEN GIRLS DROWN IN JHARKHAND POND

**Latehar:** Seven girls aged between 12 and 20 years drowned in a pond at a village in Jharkhand's Latehar district on Saturday during 'Karma Puja' festivities, a senior official said. The tragedy occurred at Bukru village under Shreghada within Balumath police station limits when the girls had gone to the pond for immersion after Karma Puja, a major festival in Jharkhand, Deputy Commissioner Abu Imran said.

### THAROOR CALLS FOR PERMANENT CONG CHIEF

**Kochi:** Senior Congress leader and Lok Sabha MP Shashi Tharoor on Saturday called for a permanent president to head the party, which is 'now at an interim stage'. He said all the Congress leaders have sought a permanent president for the party.

## Kabul drone strike killed 10 civilians, admits US military

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The US military has admitted that a deadly drone strike days before its pullout from Afghanistan was a "tragic mistake" as it did not kill the ISIS-K planners bent on attacking the Kabul international airport, and instead killed 10 innocent civilians, including an aid worker and seven children.

Briefing reporters on the results of the investigation of the August 29 drone strike in Kabul, General Kenneth Frank McKenzie, the commander of the US Central Command, also said it was "unlikely that the vehicle and those who died in the attack were associated



with Islamic State-Khorasan or were a direct threat to US forces".

The strike by a Hellfire missile in Kabul on August 29, which was launched in an effort to kill ISIS-K planners, instead killed 10 civilians, he said.

## Sonowal, Murugan BJP's picks for RS bypolls on Oct 4

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

BJP on Saturday announced two candidates for the Rajya Sabha bypolls — Cabinet Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and Minister of State L Murugan from Assam and Madhya Pradesh respectively. The polls would take place on October 4.

Sonowal is the Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, and Murugan is the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting.

Sonowal, who as Chief Minister led the BJP to the second successive victory in the Assam Assembly poll, was inducted into the Modi Cabinet

on July 7. He was compensated for leaving the Chief Minister's post for Himanta Biswa Sarma in May this year.

Murugan was the BJP president of the Tamil Nadu unit. Both the leaders needed to be elected to the Upper House before the period of six months that would end early next year.

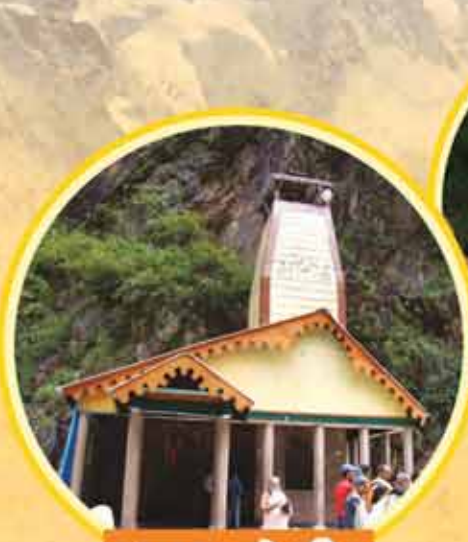
Total of six seats are vacant in the Upper House — two from Tamil Nadu, one from Bengal, one from Assam, one from Madhya Pradesh and one from Maharashtra.

The ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) nominated Sushmita Dev, who in a surprise move recently quit the Congress and joined the TMC.





# देवभूमि उत्तराखण्ड



यमुनोत्री



गंगोत्री



केदारनाथ



बदरीनाथ



हेमकुंट साहिब

## आस्था एवं विश्वास की प्रतीक चारधाम एवं हेमकुंट साहिब यात्रा

18 सितम्बर, 2021 से प्रारम्भ



नरेन्द्र मोदी प्रधानमंत्री

“आध्यात्मिक एवं अलौकिक आनन्द की अनुभूति चारधाम यात्रा में आपका हार्दिक स्वागत एवं अभिनन्दन। श्रद्धालुओं के दर्शन हेतु उत्तराखण्ड की विश्व प्रसिद्ध चारधाम एवं हेमकुंट साहिब यात्रा को कुछ शर्तों के साथ प्रारम्भ कर दिया है। हम आपकी स्वस्थ एवं सुखद यात्रा के लिए संकल्पबद्ध हैं। आपकी यात्रा मंगलमय हो। इसी के साथ आपसे यह भी आग्रह है कि सरकार द्वारा जारी दिशा-निर्देशों का पालन अवश्य करें और चारों धामों के दर्शन कर पुण्य के भागी बनें।”

**पुष्कर सिंह धामी**  
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तराखण्ड

### निम्नलिखित बातों का ध्यान रखें

- केदारनाथ धाम में प्रतिदिन 800, बदरीनाथ धाम में 1000, गंगोत्री में 600 और यमुनोत्री में 400 श्रद्धालुओं को ही प्रतिदिन दर्शन की अनुमति।
- चारधाम यात्रा हेतु प्रत्येक श्रद्धालु को अधिकतम 72 घण्टे पूर्व की कोविड नेगेटिव रिपोर्ट अथवा वैक्सीन की डबल डोज़ लगी होने का सर्टिफिकेट ले जाना अनिवार्य।
- धामों में श्रद्धालु किसी भी कुंड में स्नान नहीं कर सकेंगे तथा मन्दिर के गर्भगृह में भी प्रवेश निषेध रहेगा।
- मन्दिर में दर्शन हेतु एक बार में केवल 3 लोगों को ही होगी अनुमति।
- कोरोना प्रोटोकॉल एवं सामाजिक दूरी का पालन करना अनिवार्य होगा।
- देवस्थानों/मंदिरों में दर्शन के दौरान मूर्तियों को छूने की नहीं होगी इजाज़त।
- देवस्थानों में आवास, खान-पान, चिकित्सा-स्वास्थ्य, स्वच्छ पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता का विशेष ध्यान रखा जाये।
- चारों धामों में मौसम सर्द है, तीर्थ यात्री अपने साथ गर्म कपड़े जैसे कि स्वेटर, शॉल, जैकेट एवं टोपी आदि साथ लायें। तीर्थ यात्री मौसम की जानकारी प्राप्त कर यात्रा करें।
- यात्रा के दौरान किसी भी सहायता के लिए पुलिस, पर्यटन विभाग, देवस्थानम बोर्ड से संपर्क करें।

यात्रा हेतु देवस्थानम बोर्ड की वेबसाइट [www.devasthanam.uk.gov.in](http://www.devasthanam.uk.gov.in) पर तीर्थ यात्रियों को अपना यात्रा पंजीकरण कराना अनिवार्य है।

सूचना एवं लोक सम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तराखण्ड द्वारा जनहित में जारी [www.uttarainformation.gov.in](http://www.uttarainformation.gov.in) [f](https://www.facebook.com/uttarakhandDIPR) [i](https://www.instagram.com/uttarakhandDIPR) [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/uttarakhandDIPR) [whatsapp](https://www.whatsapp.com/channel/0029va1234567890) [telegram](https://www.telegram.me/uttarakhandDIPR) [linkedin](https://www.linkedin.com/company/uttarakhandDIPR) [pinterest](https://www.pinterest.com/uttarakhandDIPR) [tumblr](https://www.tumblr.com/uttarakhandDIPR) [stumbleupon](https://www.stumbleupon.com/uttarakhandDIPR) [dribbble](https://www.dribbble.com/uttarakhandDIPR) [behance](https://www.behance.net/uttarakhandDIPR) [500px](https://www.500px.com/uttarakhandDIPR) [flickr](https://www.flickr.com/photos/uttarakhandDIPR) [shutterstock](https://www.shutterstock.com/user/uttarakhandDIPR) [gettyimages](https://www.gettyimages.com/detail/stock-photo/uttarakhandDIPR) [iStock](https://www.iStock.com/uttarakhandDIPR) [istockphoto](https://www.istockphoto.com/uttarakhandDIPR) [shutterstock](https://www.shutterstock.com/user/uttarakhandDIPR) [gettyimages](https://www.gettyimages.com/detail/stock-photo/uttarakhandDIPR) [iStock](https://www.iStock.com/uttarakhandDIPR) [istockphoto](https://www.istockphoto.com/uttarakhandDIPR)



# Edu dept issues guidelines for reopening schools



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The education department released the set of guidelines for opening of the primary schools on Saturday. The guidelines were issued by education secretary Radhika Jha a day after the education minister Arvind Pandey said that the primary schools in the state

would be opened from September 21. In the order Jha said that the primary schools would remain open for three hours in a day.

Discussing the impact of the long closure on the learning of the students, the secretary said that the decision to open the schools has been taken in view of the reduction

in severity of the pandemic of Covid-19. Jha said that the school premises should be sanitised prior to opening of the schools and arrangements for sanitisation, thermal scans and first aid should be made in the schools. The schools should appoint a nodal officer for the Covid-19 and the chief education officers (CEO) have been

## Reopening of schools: Parents sceptical about safety of children

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The decision of the Uttarakhand Government to reopen primary schools from September 21 has met with a guarded response from the parents and the experts. On Friday the Education Minister Arvind Pandey had announced that all primary schools in Uttarakhand would be opened. The Education department released the set of guidelines for opening schools on Saturday. On one hand the parents of the children are relieved that their wards would attend the schools after a long interval of one and half years; the concern for the safety is also discernible.

Shalini Bisht, a resident of Raipur road said, "It is good that the schools are starting after a long time.

The online classes which at present are going on cannot be a substitute for a real classroom.

asked to set up a mechanism for prompt transfer of information in case any case of the disease is detected in the

The mental and physical development of the children is getting affected due to their long stay inside the house. I am ready to send my daughter to the school but want the school to follow all the safety guidelines," she said.

Sachin Sharma of Banjarawala was of the view that the Government should have waited for at least a month as the experts are warning about the third wave of the pandemic of Covid-19. He said that though most of the teachers have got vaccinated, the vaccination of children below 18 years has not started yet.

The national president of the National Association for Parents and Students Right (NAPSR), Arif Khan said that it is really surprising that the government has decided to open the colleges from October 1 but wants the students of primary classes to come to the

schools.

Jha in her order made it clear that the schools would operate both in online and

schools from September 21. He added that the government itself is issuing guidelines for Covid-19 which means that the pandemic is still there and sending children to schools is a risky proposition.

The founder of Social Development for Communities (SDC) foundation, Anoop Nautiyal said that the schools are closed for one and half years and their closure is affecting the overall development and upbringing of the children. He said that though it would be impractical to hope that small kids would follow the Covid-19 protocol but added that the schools and teachers should be more watchful.

He said that about one crore doses of the vaccines have been administered in the state and about 25 lakh people have received both doses which makes it comparatively safe to open the school.

offline mode and the parents would not be forced by the schools to send their wards to the schools.

## 419 pilgrims visit, 19,491 issued e-passes with start of Char Dham Yatra



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

More than 419 pilgrims visited the Char Dham shrines in Uttarakhand on the first day after its start on Saturday. At the same time 19,491 persons have been issued e-passes by the Char Dham Devasthanam Management Board for visiting the Char Dham shrines.

It will be recalled that after the Uttarakhand high court vacated the stay on conduct of the Char Dham Yatra, the State government issued standard operating procedures (SOPs) for starting the pilgrimage from Saturday. According to information provided by the Char Dham Devasthanam Management Board, on the first day of the Yatra, till 4 PM on Saturday 335 persons had visited the Badrinath shrine, 84 had visited Kedarnath while local devotees had visited the Gangotri and Yamunotri shrines. At the same time, 19,491 e-passes were issued till 4 PM on Saturday for those wanting to visit the Char Dham shrines. These included 4,830

e-passes issued to persons for Badrinath, 10,010 for Kedarnath, 2,375 for Gangotri and 2,276 for Yamunotri.

Meanwhile, the start of the Char Dham Yatra has elicited enthusiasm among the devotees and locals involved in businesses dependent on tourists for income. Hundreds of people visited Badrinath- the most visited among Char Dham shrines- on Saturday amidst chants of Jai Badrivishal. The devotees were allowed to pay obeisance to god Badrinath in the shrine from 5 AM. At the same time, hotels and eateries among other businesses, including shops reliant on visitors have also started full fledged operations. This temple township which was in a sedate form for about four months now has now become active and bustling with activity. Elsewhere in Chamoli district, upto 80 members of the Sikh community visited Hemkund Sahib adjoining the Lakshman temple at Lokpal with the opening of the Gurudwara for devotees on Saturday.

## Indian & Nepali soldiers to commence 15th Surya Kiran on Sept 20

PNS ■ BAGESHWAR

The joint exercise of the armies of India and Nepal-Surya Kiran will begin in Pithoragarh from September 20. As part of this joint exercise, the soldiers of both the countries will exchange war skills and disaster control as well as techniques to thwart terrorist incidents. Lieutenant general SS Mahal will launch the 15th Surya Kiran exercise.

According to the government of India, during this exercise, an infantry battalion



from the Indian army and an equivalent strength from the Nepali army would be sharing

their experiences gained during the conduct of various counter-insurgency opera-

counter-insurgency environment in mountainous terrain. Also, there would be a

series of expert academic discussions on various subjects such as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, high altitude warfare, jungle warfare and other aspects. The joint military training would culminate with a gruelling 48-hour exercise to validate the performance of both the armies in counter-insurgency in mountainous terrain. The exercise is part of an initiative to develop inter-operability and sharing expertise between the two nations.

Extensive preparations are

being made in the army sector for the conduct of the joint exercise in Pithoragarh. About 300 soldiers from Nepal and 350 soldiers from India will participate in this exercise.

This joint military training is expected to go a long way in improving bilateral relations and also will be a major step towards further strengthening the traditional friendship between the two nations. The last edition of Surya Kiran was conducted in Nepal in 2019.

## Students share views on online practical exams in pandemic period

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

During the middle of March when the Covid pandemic first started to spread concerns in India, schools and colleges of Uttarakhand followed the lead of other states and shut down all educational institutions.

For the past year, the educational institutes had gone online, so much so that in various colleges the technical practical exams were also conducted in online mode. In such unprecedented times, the lack of regular classes, concerns over offline exams, missed syllabus and proper network issues put the students under a lot of stress.

The Pioneer spoke to the students regarding their views on the past year of education. An engineering student from Dehradun on condition of anonymity shared her experience with online practical exams. She stated that her college collected online structures maintenance fees even before the pandemic, so the students were under the impression that their online practical exams would be fair and helpful. On

the contrary, the university used online softwares which were not proctored and led the students to easily use unfair means. She added the faculty was not open to suggestions and added, "The colleges not utilising the funds led to the undermining of the practical exams for an engineering student." A graduate student from a government university not wanting to disclose her name for fear of the university official shared, "There was a lot of confusion regarding the dates of the exams. Constant postponement and the state university neither deciding on a proper timetable nor sharing it with the students as soon as possible caused us to be in constant state of worry wherein we had to study for the last year's exams but also start preparing for the next year simultaneously." While many of the colleges eventually promoted the students, the students were not given timely updates about any decisions which led to a lot of confusion if an offline exam would be conducted for an online year, something which was protest-

ed by the Uttarakhand Technical University, Dehradun students in April. The government had started an initiative called PM e-VIDYA on May 17, 2020 which contained helpful digital platforms where students could download e-textbooks, CBSE podcasts etc. While most of the students were not aware of this platform, others said that while they knew about it they had no knowledge of how to use it. A school student claimed, "During the lockdown, it was tough for me to buy textbooks, had I known about the platform I would have downloaded reliable e-textbooks."

Currently, certain colleges of Uttarakhand have started their offline classes again after a gap of a year. The students have been given the option to continue their classes online or rejoin offline classes. With growing concerns of a possible third wave of the pandemic, most students are hoping that in the case of yet another year of online classes, the universities would be able to manage online education better and not repeat their past mistakes.



PNS ■ DEHRADUN ■ HARIDWAR

The second phase of the Parivartan Yatra of Uttarakhand Congress started from Har Ki Paidi in Haridwar on Saturday.

The Yatra meandered through the Doodhadhari Chowk, Main Market Haridwar, Jawalapur, Bahadradab and Roorkee on the day and evoked a good response from the people and Congress party workers.

Addressing the party workers in charge of Uttarakhand Congress Devendra Yadav said that every worker and leader of Congress party would raise the voice of the poor and deprived. Launching an attack on the BJP government he said that in the last four and half years the government has failed to fulfil its promise of Ache Din.

He said that the Congress

party would give justice to the people when the people vote it to power in the state. Addressing a public meeting the Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) president Ganesh Godiyal said that the BJP after coming to power stalled all the welfare schemes started by the Congress government.

He said that the recruitment on the backlog posts of SC and STs in the state has remained stalled for a long time. Godiyal assured that every section of the society would get justice when the Congress government is formed in the state.

The leader of opposition (LoP) in the Uttarakhand assembly Pritam Singh said that the Congress party is highlighting the failures of the BJP government both on the roads and in the assembly. He said that the people of the state have decided to hand over the

## Parivartan Yatra in U'khand, impact in Punjab: BJP

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Taking a dig at the Congress, the state president of Bharatiya Janata Party, Madan Kaushik said that the Congress is undertaking a Parivartan Yatra in Uttarakhand but the effects are being seen in Punjab. He said that the Congress has received an immediate outcome of its Parivartan Yatra with change being executed in Punjab. Kaushik said, "Struggling with factionalism and internal dissent, the Congress won't be able to fool the public for long on the basis of lies and drama. The Congress is facing the same sit-

uation in Uttarakhand where its Parivartan Yatra is marked by selective participation of its top leaders.

Its activities are a clear indicator of the factionalism it is facing. In Uttarakhand, the reality of the Congress has come to the fore in the public space at a time when it is trying to misguide the public through its Parivartan Yatra. Elsewhere in India too, in Congress governed states the development works are suffering due to the factionalism in the party as it is being witnessed in Uttarakhand as an example," said the BJP State President.

power to the Congress party in the assembly elections of 2022. He assured that the Congress government would take concrete measures for helping

farmers, women and unemployed. The deputy leader of Congress in assembly, Karan Mahra said that the youth of the state have been duped by the BJP government and exhorted them to exercise their franchise in the election after due consideration. The spokesperson Gaurima Dasgupta said that the huge response the Parivartan Yatra is receiving shows that the Congress party is

returning to power in Uttarakhand.

The Yatra was attended by the executive presidents Jeet Ram, Bhuwan Kapdi, Tilak

Raj Behed and Ranjit Rawat, former PCC president Kishore Upadhyaya, Rajya Sabha MP Pradeep Tamta and Adesh Chauhan and others.

## 'Avoid temptation for easy money to prevent cyber fraud'

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Since the lure of easy money is one of the major reasons due to which people fall prey to cyber crimes like money fraud, the public needs to be cautious and avoid the temptation to gain quick profits. The cyber police station in-charge in Dehradun, Pankaj Pokhriyal said this to The Pioneer while talking about the increasing attempts of cyber frauds and victims who fall prey to such attempts.

Since the past few days, many people have been receiving audio messages and WhatsApp calls in which a man is claiming that the message receiver has won Rs 25 lakh in a lottery. The man is asking the receiver to call a given number through WhatsApp rather than making a direct call from the phone to know more about the process of retrieving the money.

Pokhriyal said that he has heard about this message and the police have received such



complaints in the past too. He said that despite the constant efforts of authorities to raise awareness among people about such scams, many still take such messages seriously. These are just criminal attempts targeted at luring those who are tempted to make quick money. "We encourage people to

immediately contact us if they have been a victim of any cybercrime but many such cases can be prevented easily if people stay aware and cautious," stated Pokhriyal. He also disclosed that if anyone falls prey to cyber crime, they can call at the toll-free number 155260.

**DHFL**  
National Office: HDIL Towers, B-wing, 6th Floor, Anant Kanekar Marg, Station Road, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400051.  
Branch Office: Circle Office North, A- 301 -302, 3rd Floor, Elante Office Complex Industrial Area, Phase I, Chandigarh-160002.  
**For Immovable Property as per Rule 8-(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 and Appendix- IV**  
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited (DHFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of DHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

Name of the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Date of Possession
(Loan Code No. 00005613) (Dehradun Branch) Ashok Kumar Mittal (Borrower) Mamta Mittal (Co-Borrower)	All the Part & Parcel of Khasra No 283, Situated At Mauza Banjarawala Mafi Pargana Pachwa Doon Dehradun Uttarakhand:- 248001.	29-April-2021 for Rs.25,16,781/- (Rupees Twenty five lac Sixteen thousand Seven hundred Eighty one only)	15-Sep-21
(Loan Code No. 00008861) (Dehradun Branch) Anuj Pratap Singh (Borrower) Kamalashi Wo Ashok Kumar (Co-Borrower)	All the Part & Parcel of Khasra No 1267 Min Mauza Kanwali, Sailok Colony Pargana Central Doon Dehradun Uttarakhand:- 248001.	29-April-2021 for Rs.36,53,580/- (Rupees Thirty Six lac fifty three thousand five hundred eighty only)	15-Sep-21
(Loan Code No. 00003222) (Dehradun Branch) Jagdamba Prasad Sermwal (Borrower) Ganeshi Wo Jagdamba (Co-Borrower)	All the Part & Parcel Of Khasra No. 207 Ka Min Old No 99 Situated At Mauza Kargi Grant Pargana Pachwa Doon Dehradun Uttarakhand:- 248001.	17-May-2021 for Rs.20,30,226/- (Rupees Twenty lac thirty thousand two hundred twenty six only)	15-Sep-21
(Loan Code No. 00008334) (Dehradun Branch) Jiaul Haq (Borrower) Imrana I (Co-Borrower)	All the Part & Parcel Of Kha No 709ka Mauza Bhramanwala Dehradun Dehradun Uttarakhand:- 248001.	12-May-2021 for Rs.21,87,508/- (Rupees Twenty one lac Eighty seven thousand five hundred eighty only)	15-Sep-21
(Loan Code No. 00009163) (Dehradun Branch) Zaid Yusuf (Borrower) Shireen S (Co-Borrower)	All the Part & Parcel Of Kha No 774 Mauza Dehradun Uttarakhand:- 248001.	12-May-2021 for Rs.21,09,422/- (Rupees Twenty one lac Nine thousand four hundred Twenty two only)	15-Sep-21
(Loan Code No. 00003485) (Dehradun Branch) Mohit Sharma (Borrower) Rohit Sharma (Co-Borrower)	All the Part & Parcel Of Khasra No. 1152 Min Mauza Kanwali Pargana Central Doon Dehradun Dehradun Uttarakhand:- 248001.	28-Aug-2019 for Rs.34,94,286/- (Rupees Thirty four lac Nine thousand two hundred eighty six only)	15-Sep-21

**Date : September 19, 2021**  
**Place: Dehradun**  
**Sd/- (Authorised Officer)**  
**Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited**



Covid-19: 21 new cases reported in Uttarakhand

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The state health department reported 21 new cases of the novel Coronavirus (Covid-19) and 14 recoveries from the disease in Uttarakhand on

Saturday. 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 3,43,376 while a total of 3,29,619 patients have recovered from the disease so far. In the state, 7390 people have lost their lives to Covid-19 till date. The recovery percentage from the disease is at 95.99 while the sample positivity rate on Saturday was 0.12 per cent.

The state health department reported nine new patients of Covid-19 from Dehradun, six from Chamoli, two each from Udham Singh Nagar and Uttarkashi and one each from Almora and Pauri on Saturday. No new cases of the disease were reported from Bageshwar, Champawat, Haridwar, Nainital, Pithoragarh, Rudrapur and Tehri on the day.

The state now has 282 active cases of Covid-19. Dehradun with 137 cases is at the top of the table of active cases while Pauri has 31 active

The state health department reported nine new patients of Covid-19 from Dehradun, six from Chamoli, two each from Udham Singh Nagar and Uttarkashi and one each from Almora and Pauri on Saturday. No new cases of the disease were reported from Bageshwar, Champawat, Haridwar, Nainital, Pithoragarh, Rudrapur and Tehri on the day.

The state now has 282 active cases of Covid-19. Dehradun with 137 cases is at the top of the table of active cases while Pauri has 31 active



cases. Tehri has active cases of the disease. In the ongoing vaccination drive 1,07,616 people were vaccinated in 961 sessions in the state held on Saturday. As per the data of the state health department 72,04,768 people in the state have received the first dose of vaccine while 27,00,855 have received both doses of the vaccine.

SEWS felicitates Covid warriors

PNS ■ RUDRAPUR

The SIIDCUL Entrepreneurs Welfare Society (SEWS) held a programme to felicitate those who contributed to society during the Covid-19 pandemic. Speaking as the chief guest, Udham Singh Nagar senior superintendent of police, DS Kunwar recalled how doctors, nurses, sanitation workers and media persons worked hard during the pandemic. The SEWS head Manoj Tyagi also expressed his views on the occasion.

The SEWS felicitated doctors who had contributed a lot during the pandemic. Members of the medical fraternity also spoke about the precautions all should continue observing for protection from Covid-19.

Actress Daisy Shah inaugurates designer showroom in Doon



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Actress and dancer Daisy Shah inaugurated designer showroom R Belyia in Dehradun on Saturday along with Agriculture minister Subodh Uniyal.

She said, "I feel elated to be a part of this occasion. I loved the exotic clothing collection by some of the renowned designers from Mumbai. I'm sure that the introduction of such a designer showroom in Dehradun by Rachna will raise the fashion quotient of the city."

Owned by Rachna Bhatt, R Belyia is a one-of-its-kind ethnic women's wear showroom at Rajpur Road. The designer showroom will have collections of several notable designers from Mumbai.

"Coming up with a classy ethnic women's fashion wear showroom in my hometown is like a dream come true. From connecting to the best of designers, finalising the clothing collection, hunting down for a prime venue in the city, to making it all happen, I've been working very hard for this dream of mine," said Bhatt.

TEMPORARY CANCELLATION / DIVERSION / RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS DUE TO NON-INTERLOCKING WORK

It is notified for the information of rail passengers that Northern Railway has decided to undertake Pre-Non-Interlocking and Non-Interlocking work in connection with Electronic Interlocking at Rampur station on Moradabad - Shahjahanpur section of Moradabad Division. To execute this work, traffic blocks will be taken from 20.09.2021 to 24.09.2021. Consequently, the following trains will temporarily be affected as under :-

CANCELLATION OF SPECIAL TRAINS		
Train No. & Name	Date(s) of Cancellation (from originating stations)	
02092/91 Kathgodam - Dehradun - Kathgodam Doon Jansatabdi Spl.	22 & 24.09.2021	
05356/55 Ramnagar - Moradabad - Ramnagar Express Special	22 to 24.09.2021	
05036/35 Kathgodam-Delhi Jn.-Kathgodam Uttar Sampark Kranti Spl.	22 to 24.09.2021	
05014 Kathgodam - Jaisalmer Ranikhet Special	20 to 23.09.2021	
05013 Jaisalmer - Kathgodam Ranikhet Special	22 to 25.09.2021	
05314 Ramnagar - Moradabad Corbett Park Link Express Special	20 to 23.09.2021	
05313 Moradabad - Ramnagar Corbett Park Link Express Special	23 to 26.09.2021	
05331/32 Kathgodam - Moradabad - Kathgodam Express	20 to 24.09.2021	
04511 Prayagraj Sangam - Saharanpur Express	22 to 24.09.2021	
04512 Saharanpur - Prayagraj Sangam Express	21 to 23.09.2021	
05127 Banaras - New Delhi Special	21 to 23.09.2021	
05128 New Delhi - Banaras Special	22 to 24.09.2021	

DIVERSION OF TRAINS			
Train No. & Name	Diverted via	Date (from originating stn.)	
02039 Kathgodam - New Delhi Shatabdi Express Special	Lalkuan - Kashipur Jn. - Kathghar	22.09.2021 to 23.09.2021	
02040 New Delhi - Kathgodam Shatabdi Express Special	Kathghar - Kashipur Jn. - Lalkuan	23.09.2021 to 24.09.2021	
04125 Kathgodam - Dehradun Special	Lalkuan - Kashipur Jn. - Kathghar	22.09.2021	
04126 Dehradun - Kathgodam Special	Kathghar - Kashipur Jn. - Lalkuan	23.09.2021	
03019 Howrah Jn. - Kathgodam Festival Special	Bareilly - Bareilly City - Lalkuan	19.09.2021 to 22.09.2021	
03020 Kathgodam - Howrah Jn. Festival Special	Lalkuan- Bareilly City - Bareilly	20.09.2021 to 23.09.2021	
05909 Dibrugarh - Lalgarh Jn. Express Special	Shahjahanpur - Bareilly Cantt - Chandausi Jn. - Moradabad	22.09.2021	
02369 Howrah Jn. - Dehradun Special	Shahjahanpur - Bareilly Cantt - Chandausi Jn. - Moradabad	23.09.2021	
03257 Danapur - Anand Vihar (T) Special	Lucknow - Kanpur Central - Ghaziabad	22.09.2021 to 23.09.2021	
03258 Anand Vihar (T) - Danapur Special	Ghaziabad - Kanpur Central - Lucknow	22.09.2021 to 23.09.2021	
02219 Ghazipur City - Anand Vihar (T) Suhaildev Express Special	Lucknow - Kanpur Central - Ghaziabad	22.09.2021	
02220 Anand Vihar (T) - Ghazipur City Suhaildev Express Special	Ghaziabad - Kanpur Central - Lucknow	23.09.2021	
02217 Varanasi Jn. - New Delhi Mahamana Express Special	Lucknow - Kanpur Central - Ghaziabad	23.09.2021	
02218 New Delhi - Varanasi Jn. Mahamana Express Special	Ghaziabad - Kanpur Central - Lucknow	22.09.2021	
04200 Balrampur - Gwalior Jn. Superfast Express Special	Lucknow - Kanpur Central - Ghaziabad	23.09.2021	
04199 Gwalior Jn. - Balrampur Superfast Express Special	Ghaziabad - Kanpur Central - Lucknow	22.09.2021	
05656 Sri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra - Kamakhya Express Special	Saharanpur - Meerut City - Khurja Jn. - Kanpur Central	22.09.2021	
04230 Yog Nagari Rishikesh - Prayagraj Sangam Express Special	Moradabad - Chandausi Jn. - Aligarh Jn. - Prayagraj Sangam	22.09.2021	

RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS

Train No. & Name	Date of Origination	Scheduled Departure	Rescheduled Departure
02504 New Delhi - Dibrugarh Rajdhani Special	22 & 24.09.2021	11:25	12:25
05910 Lalgarh Jn. - Dibrugarh Express Special	21 & 23.09.2021	19:50	23:50
04688 Amritsar Jn. - Saharsa Jn. Garib Rath Special	22.09.2021	04:00	05:40

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

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

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

Download RailMadad app.

RailMadad Helpline No.: 139

Please join us on

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Your Convenience - Our Concern

Visit us at : [www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in)

21/09/2021

"SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE"

THE PIONEER

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

In my institution record my name mentioned as PAWAN SINGH . My complete name is PAWAN SINGH DHIMAN for all future for purposes. PAWAN SINGH DHIMAN S/o BISHAMBER SINGH DHIMAN R/o 14B lane No.6 Ashirwad Enclave Dehradun 248001 Uttarakhand

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

Vice President Venkaiah Naidu to honour Tokyo Paralympic medal winners in Gurugram today

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu on Sunday will attend two programmes in Gurugram. The first programme will be organised at Apparel House, Sector-44 at 11 am, where the Vice President will release 5 volumes of books based on the articles and speeches of Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram.

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and other dignitaries will be present on this occasion.

In the second programme,

Naidu will honour Tokyo Paralympic medal winners at NorthCap University, Sector-23 at 2:30 pm. In the Paralympic Games, 19 players from Haryana participated, out of which 6 won medals for the country.

The State Government is giving a reward money of Rs 6 crore, Rs 4 crore and Rs 2.5 crore to the players of Haryana who won gold, silver and bronze medals in Olympics and Paralympics respectively.

The Minister of State for Sports Sandeep Singh will also be present in this programme.

IDFC First Bank Limited

(erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)

CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792

Registered Office - KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai- 600031.

Tel : +91 44 4564 4000 | Fax: +91 44 4564 4022

APPENDIX IV [Rule 8(1)]

POSSESSION NOTICE

(For immovable property)

Whereas the undersigned being the authorised officer of the IDFC First Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 01.06.2021 calling upon the borrower, co-borrowers and guarantors 1.Amrith Sahi, 2.Pooja Sahi, 3.Rama Auto, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.44,98,235.01/- (Rupees Forty Four Lakhs Ninety Eight Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Five And One Paisa Only) as on 05.05.2021 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having 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 under sub – section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 17th day of September 2021.

The borrowers 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 the IDFC First Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited) for an amount of Rs.44,98,235.01/- (Rupees Forty Four Lakhs Ninety Eight Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Five And One Paisa Only) and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub – section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable properties.	
All The Piece And Parcel Of The Property Consisting Of All That Shop Comprising Of Land Bearing Khata No. 756 (Fasli 1399 To 1404) Khasra No. 795/1 Area Measuring 35.13 Sq. Mtrs., With Totally Built Up, Situated At Mauza Rajpur, Pargana Parwa Doon, Dehradun And Bounded As: East: 19 Mtrs Wide Passage, Side Measuring 31.8 Ft. West: Land Of Others, Side Measuring 30 Ft. North: Property Of Shri Vijay Thapiyal, Side Measuring 20 Ft. South: Land Of Shri Jyoti Prasad Badoni, Side Measuring 20 Ft.	
Date: 17-09-2021 Place: Dehradun. Loan Account No: 14335970.	Authorised Officer IDFC First Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)

केनरा बैंक  
(एन सी ई आर बैंक)

POSSESSION NOTICE  
(For Immovable Property)

Canara Bank, Regional Office-I, IT Park, Plot No. 38, Sahasradhara Road, Dehradun

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Canara Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of security interest Act, 2002 (Act. No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice calling upon the Borrower/Surety/Owner/s as given below to repay the amount mentioned below within 60 days from the receipt of the said notice. The borrower/Surety/Owner/s having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Surety/Owner/s and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rules. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The Borrower/Surety/ Owner/s 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 Canara Bank, Respective Branch for the amount detailed below and interest together with expenses thereon.

S. No.	Name of the Branch/Borrower/Guarantor	Description Of Immovable Property	Date of Demand & Possession Notice	Amount Outstanding
1.	Branch: Patel Nagar, Dehradun Borrower: M/s Malik Store Prop. Sri Suraj Malik S/o Sri Virandra Malik (hereinafter referred to as "the Borrower") and Smt Monika Malik W/o Sri Suraj Malik (hereinafter referred to as "the Guarantors")	All that property bearing Khasra No. 696, Khata No. 1323 for the period 1416 to 1421 Fasil located at Mauza Dehrakhas pargana Central Doon District Dehradun. Boundaries: East - Property of Sri Bhatia side measuring 12 ft., West - Property of Sri Virender Chauhan side measuring 12 ft., North- 30 feet wide road side measuring 70 ft., South - land of Sri Dang Bandhu side measuring 70 ft.	Date of Demand Notice 05.06.2021 Date of Possession notice 14.09.2021	Rs. 30,40,394.19 as on 04.06.2021 + Future interest w.e.f. 31.05.2021 + Incidental Expenses & Costs minus Recoveries w.e.f. 04.06.2021 (if any)
2.	Branch: Sub Area Canteen, Dehradun Borrower: Mr. Om Prakash S/o Shri Murari Lal, Co-Borrower: Mr. Vishal S/o Mr. Om Prakash. Guarantor: Mr. Ashok Kumar S/o Shri Dujai and Mrs. Shakuntala Devi w/o Mr. Om Prakash	Emt of Residential Property in the name 1) Mr. Om Prakash S/o Shri Murari Lal and Mr. Vishal S/o Mr. Om Prakash situated at land Khasra No. 1930 area 190.60 sq. mtrs situated at Mauza Arcadia Grant, Pargana Kendriya doon, District Dehradun. Boundaries: East- land of seller, side msg 57 fts, West- Land of seller, side msg 57 fts, North- Property of others, side msg 36 fts, South- 10 fts wide rasta, side msg 36 fts	Date of Demand Notice 07.07.2021 Date of Possession notice 14.09.2021	Rs. 2,20,551.56 as on 07.07.2021 + interest w.e.f. 01.07.2021 + Expenses - Recoveries after 01.07.2021
3.	Branch: Sub Area Canteen, Dehradun Borrower/Mortgagor: Sri Sunil Kumar Narula S/o Mr. Raj Kumar Narula, Co-Borrower: Mrs. Swati Narula W/o Mr. Sunil Narula, Guarantor/Mortgagor: Mrs Bala Rani Narula W/o Late Sri Raj Kumar Narula and Mr. Renu Arora W/o Mr. Jitender Singh	Emt of Residential Property in the joint name of Sri Sunil Kumar Narula S/o Late Sri Raj Kumar Narula, Mrs Bala Rani w/o Late Sri Raj Kumar Narula and Mrs Renu Arora w/o Mr. Jitendra Singh bearing old no. 5, New no.13, Nala Pani Road, Chugh Colony, Dehradun in an area of 64.751 sq. mts totally constructed area consisting of three small rooms, one store, kitchen, bath and latrine with right of ways, easements, passages and all appurtenances, Boundaries: East- Property of Sri Muker Ji, West- Common Passage and road, North- Property previously owned by Sri Magaana Nand, South- Open Land	Date of Demand Notice 03.04.2021 Date of Possession notice 13.09.2021	Rs. 33,78,712.30 as on 02.04.2021 + interest w.e.f. 01.04.2021 + Expenses - Recoveries after 02.04.2021
4.	Branch: Sub Area Canteen, Dehradun Borrower: Mrs. Chamanash W/o Mr. Akhlaq Ahmed, Co-Borrower: 1. Mr. Akhlaq Ahmed S/o Mr. Sharif Ahmed, 2. Mr. Tanveer Ahmed S/o Mr. Akhlaq Ahmed	Emt of Residential Property in the name 1. Mrs. Chamanash W/o Mr. Akhlaq Ahmed, 2. Mr. Akhlaq Ahmed S/o Mr. Sharif Ahmed, 3.Mr. Tanveer Ahmed S/o Mr. Akhlaq Ahmed situated At Aabadi land Khata No.0082 Fasil year 1416-1421 Fasil, Khasra No.215Ka, (215 min) and aabadi khasra number 216 having land area 1620 sq. fts or 150.50 sq. mtrs situated at Mauza Ultri Gaon, Pargana Central Doon, District Dehradun, Boundaries: East- Land of others, West- Property of Shri Atar Singh, North- 10 fts wide road, South- Property of Shri Batta	Date of Demand Notice 03.07.2021 Date of Possession notice 13.09.2021	Rs. 27,17,337.91 as on 30.06.2021 + interest w.e.f. 01.07.2021 + Expenses - Recoveries after 30.06.2021
Date - 18.09.2021		Place: Dehradun	Authorized Officer, Canara Bank	

Although every possible care and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and sellers who do not owe any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Delhi/New Delhi only. Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertisement before responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group's will not be held responsible for any kind of claim made by the advertisers of the products & services and shall not be made responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisements.

Printed and published by Ajit Sinha for and on behalf of CMYK Printech Ltd., published at Unigate General Media Pvt Ltd # 162, Old Nehru Colony Opp Uttarakhand Jal Sansthan Dharampur, Dehradun-248001 Ph: 0135-2673111, Mob 90450557787 and printed at Amar Ujala Publications Ltd, Plot No-H-1 to H-6, Selaqui Industrial Area, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, Executive Editor: Navin Upadhyay, AIR SURCHARGE of Re. 1.00 East: Calcutta, Ranchi, Bhubaneswar, North: Leh: West: Mumbai & Ahmedabad South: Bangalore & Chennai. Central : Khajuraho, Delhi Office: No. 6, Behind Gulab Bhawan, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110 002, Phone: 011-40110455, Communication Office: F-31, Sector 6, NOIDA, Gautam Budh Nagar-201301, U.P. Phone: 0120-4879800 & 4879900, Lucknow Office: 4th Floor, Sahara Shopping Centre, Faizabad Road, Lucknow-226 016. Telephones: 0522-2346443-45



# Disruptions of proceedings contempt of House: Naidu



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a first of its kind observation by any presiding officer of the legislatures in the country and in the context of rising disruptions, Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu on Saturday unequivocally held that disruptions of proceedings amount to contempt of the House and disruptors can't claim it as their privilege to do so.

Delivering the second Ram Jethmalani Memorial Lecture on "Is disruption of parliamentary proceedings an MP's privilege and/or a facet of parliamentary democracy?" Naidu spoke at length on the intentions of various rules and other provisions requiring high standards of behaviour of MPs in the House and the scheme of privileges and argued that disruptions negate the objective of



effective performance by individual members and of the House collectively.

Speaking on disruptions in the Parliament, Naidu informed that the productivity of Rajya Sabha is being quantified since 1978 and during the first 19 years till 1996, the productivity of the House has been over 100% and has begun to decline since then. While the House clocked annual productivity of over 100% during 16 of these 19 years, it was so only in two years in 1998 and 2009 during the next 24 years and not even once in the last 12 years.

The Chairman further said that the productivity of Rajya Sabha during 2004-14 has been about 78% and it declined to about 65% since then. Of the 11 sessions that Shri Naidu presided over, four of them

clocked low productivity of 6.80%, 27.30%, 28.90% and 29.55% and during the year 2018, the Rajya Sabha recorded the lowest ever productivity of 35.75% under the impact of disruptions, he stated.

During the last monsoon session (254th), the Rajya Sabha lost more than 70% of the scheduled time including over 76% of the valuable Question Hour time, the Chairman noted.

Since the Rajya Sabha came into being in 1952, only 10 members were suspended for misconduct inside the House during the first 57 years while 18 were also suspended in the last 11 years including 9 in the last one year.

Giving this information, Naidu noted that these sus-

pensions do not reflect the gravity of the situation since such actions were not taken on all occasions for various reasons.

Seeking to answer in the negative, if disruption can be claimed as a privilege by MPs, Chairman Naidu argued that the Rules of the House, the Code of Conduct, the detailed Parliamentary Etiquette to be complied with by the Members of Rajya Sabha were clearly aimed at ensuring a high standard of behavior of members inside the House befitting the solemnity of proceedings of the House while the scheme of privileges granted to the Members are intended to enable effective performance of the Members individually and of the House collectively.

He asserted that accordingly, disruptions negate the principle of effective functioning of the House besides being against the wishes of the people.

Earlier in his speech, Naidu described Jethmalani as a rebel and radical thinker who brought innovation to legal inquiry and opened new vistas of interpretation and opportunities in every major case he argued during his 77 year long and successful career as a leading lawyer.

## Unforgettable moment: Modi on 2.50 cr shots on his b'day

**Panaji:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said it was an unforgettable and emotional moment for him as over 2.50 crore Covid-19 vaccine doses were administered in the country on his 71st birthday.

"With your efforts, India has created a world record of administering over 2.5 crore vaccines in a single day, a feat not even the most powerful nations have been able to achieve," PM Modi said during an interaction via video link with healthcare workers and beneficiaries in Goa.

"We saw how the nation kept looking at CoWIN dashboard yesterday. Over 15 lakh vaccinations per hour, over 26,000 vaccinations every minute took place yesterday. Over 425 people were administered vaccines each second," he said.

PM Modi said he appreciates all doctors, medical staff, and people in administration in the country for this effort. The huge effort and skilled manpower needed to accomplish this task show the might of India, he added.

"Birthdays come and go but I have been away from such

things. But yesterday was emotional for me. It has become an unforgettable occasion for me," PM Modi said.

Without naming any party, PM Modi said "a political party" developed fever after over 2.5 crore vaccine doses were administered on his birthday.

"People speak of fever as a side effect of vaccines, but a political party experienced fever after 2.5 crore vaccines were administered on my birthday," he said.

PM Modi praised Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant and his government for overcoming challenges in accomplishing 100 per cent vaccination of the first dose of covid vaccines in the coastal state.

Goa is on way to becoming a leading state in India as far as vaccination is concerned, PM Modi said.

"Goa is playing important role in the success of the world's largest and fastest vaccination drive - 'Sabko vaccine, muft vaccine'. In the past few months, Goa fought bravely against heavy rainfall, cyclone and flood, under the leadership of Pramod Sawant," he said.

When they are aware that



## PM should daily celebrate his b'day, Cong takes a dig

**New Delhi:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi should celebrate his birthday every day as some BJP-ruled states "performed" on the day and vaccinated many times the daily average, the Congress said on Saturday. The party took a dig at Modi a day after India achieved the highest record of 2.5 crore Covid-19 vaccinations on a single day. The Prime Minister's reaction came after senior Congress leader P Chidambaram tweeted asking

why we had to wait until the PM's birthday. "Happy and grateful that 2.5 crore vaccinations were administered yesterday But why did we have to wait until the PM's birthday? Suppose the PM's birthday was on December 31 then would the 2.5 crore vaccinations have been done only on the last day of the year? Vaccination is not like cutting a cake on a birthday," he tweeted. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said this is the pace of vaccination the country needs.

all people are vaccinated, tourists will also feel safe and

flock to Goa in more numbers, he said. PTI

# Taliban trying to sell leftover US weapons to overcome fin crisis

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

Facing financial crunch, Taliban is negotiating with African countries to supply leftover American weapons. In lieu of the weapons, the outfit is seeking payments in diamonds to trade the same through white channels in the international markets.

The African diamonds are globally reputed to be of high quality and the Taliban is aiming to offset the financial crisis amid pending recognition of its regime from the international market and a staring drought in Afghanistan.

The crisis is such that the Taliban has started selling off seized properties of the political and ideological opponents. A number of such properties have already been sold off to the Pakistanis based in Kandahar. Several properties in other cities are also on the block.

In view of the financial mess the country is going through, the Taliban has sought aid from a number of countries like Germany and Iran as also from the international community.

In addition, the Taliban has already invigorated the drug cartel in collusion with the Pakistani military-ISI syndicate to the Al Qaeda affiliates in Africa like the Boko Haram and Al Shabab.

Founder President of the Afghanistan Republic Salvation Front and counter-terrorism expert Ajmal Sohail

said, "Taliban is essentially a terrorist or an insurgent organization that has been involved in drugs trade and smuggling of antiques and has also relied on funding from the Sheikhs of the Gulf countries. But such funds cannot sustain a government at the helm in Kabul. Running a government is an altogether different ballgame than operating a guerilla organization. Having realized the constraints of governance, the Taliban is already amplifying messages of an inclusive government and respect of human rights, all of which are aimed at seeking recognition for its regime and subsequently gaining access to international funding."

Meanwhile, attacks on Pakistani troops continue in Pashtun dominated areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The Tehrik-eTaliban Pakistan (TTP) reportedly attacked a Pakistani military post in Bajaur late last night.

Quoting sources on the ground, Sohail said several Pak soldiers were killed and wounded in the attack by the TTP.

A spokesman for the Pakistani Taliban said in a statement that they had targeted a Pakistani military post in the Nawagai area of Bajaur, killing and wounding the militants.

The TTP is a breakaway faction of the Afghan Taliban active in Pashtun dominated areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan.

# SC favours disbursal of Maha's ₹25cr to Covid-orphaned kids



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court is in favour of disbursing the over ₹25 crore deposited by the Maharashtra Government in the apex court registry five years ago to children who lost both parents during the Covid pandemic in the State.

A bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud and B V Nagarathna noted earlier this week that the state has about 19,000 children who lost a parent due to Covid-19 and 593 who lost both their parents.

Maharashtra, one of the worst affected states during the second wave of pandemic earlier this year, had deposited the money in the apex court registry in an old

matter related to medical college admissions.

The Supreme Court noted that the government of Maharashtra formulated a policy on June 17, 2021 envisaging that Rs 5 lakh be placed in fixed deposit for children who lost both their parents due to the pandemic and the money will be payable to them after they attain the age of maturity.

"The amount of ₹20 crores which was deposited (by Maharashtra government) in pursuance of the order dated December 2, 2016 stands enhanced to ₹25,53,25,548 as a result of accretions of interest," the bench said.

The top court said before it directs the disbursal of the

money to the State of Maharashtra, it wants that a concrete statement be placed on affidavit about the manner in which the money will be utilised for the benefit of children affected by the death of either or both parents due to the Covid pandemic.

"The Secretary, Women and Child Development of the State of Maharashtra shall file an affidavit within a period of three weeks. The Court shall thereafter pass an appropriate order after scrutinizing the proposal," the bench said in its order passed on September 13.

Advocate Sachin Patil, appearing for the Maharashtra government, submitted a note giving details on how the money would be utilized in the interests of the children.

## Courts can summon persons not accused only after cogent proof: SC



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has said that courts can exercise their power to proceed against persons not accused but appearing to have committed an offence only when there is "strong and cogent evidence" against such individuals and not in a "casual and cavalier manner".

Under Section 319 of Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), when during the course of inquiry or trial of offence, it appears from the evidence that any person, who has not been made an accused, has committed any offence; the court can proceed against such individual for the offence which he appears to have committed.

A bench of justices K M Joseph and P S Narasimha while dealing with a criminal case said, "This is yet another case where summons issued purporting to invoke power under Section 319 of the CrPC has brought the newly summoned person to this court."

It said that the test as laid down by the constitution bench of this court for invoking power under Section 319 CrPC inter alia includes the principle that only when strong and cogent evidence occurs against a person from the evidence the power under Section 319 CrPC should be exercised.

"The power cannot be exercised in a casual and cavalier manner. The test to be applied, as laid down by this court, is one which is more than prima facie case which is applied at the time of framing of charges," the bench said in its September 13 order.

The top court referred to the 2014 constitution bench verdict in Hardeep Singh versus State of Punjab and others which dealt with the issue of applicability of Section 319 CrPC and said it will all depend upon the evidence which is tendered in a given case as to whether there is a strong ground to proceed against an individual, who has not been made accused.

## Dunzo Med Air consortium to conduct drone vaccine delivery trials



IANs ■ NEW DELHI

Dunzo Med Air consortium will conduct drone trials for the 'Medicine from Sky' initiative of the Telangana Government from Monday.

Accordingly, drone delivery tech firm, 'Skye Air' that focuses on an end-to-end ecosystem for UAV based logistics will be conducting this as a part of the 'Dunzo Med Air' consortium led by the hyper local giant, 'Dunzo Digital'.

The trials will begin on September 20 in Vikarabad, Telagana and shall continue till September 25 during which several healthcare logistics related cases will be demonstrated.

On its part, Skye Air said it will conduct around 50 flights all delivering vaccines.

These BVLOS 'Beyond Visual Line of Sight' trials will deliver vaccines up to 12 km within an expected time frame of 18 minutes.

Each drone will carry vaccines in temperature-controlled boxes.

# India inks ₹230 cr deal with France to buy phased out Mirages



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In an effort to maintain operational readiness and increase the life of its Mirage jets, the IAF has signed an agreement with France to buy phased out Mirages flown by its air force. The deal is worth over ₹ 230 crores and the airframes of these planes will be brought to India in containers.

At present, India has a fleet of 50 Mirage planes procured in 1985. These versatile planes were used in the Balakot air strikes against terrorist hide outs in 2019.

All these planes are now in mid-life upgrade and the acquisition of the phased Mirages will ensure seamless availability of spares, sources

said here on Saturday. Moreover, this procurement will make sure maintenance cycle of these jets is adhered to thereby prolonging their operational life.

Incidentally, the IAF had inked a similar pact some years too and bought phased out Mirages from France. The Mirage fleet is based in Gwalior.

France is in the process of switching over to Rafale jets and has phased most of its Mirages.

The 36-jet deal with India for Rafales will be completed next year with the last batch of two planes arriving here. The IAF has placed these jets in two bases including Ambala in north and Hashimara in West Bengal in the east.

# Nadda gives tips to Dalit leaders for Assembly polls

IANs ■ NEW DELHI

With an eye on next year's crucial assembly polls in Uttar Pradesh, BJP national president J.P. Nadda on Sunday gave tips to the Dalit leaders who had gathered in Varanasi, the Parliamentary constituency of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on how to win votes.

Referring to various schemes run by the Modi government -- Jan Dhan Yojna, Antyodaya, toilets, housing, education, Ujjwala, Ayushman Bharat, campaign to connect villages with electricity, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Samman Yojana, Mudra loan etc -- Nadda claimed that for the first time in the country the government is following the right path shown by Babasaheb Ambedkar.

Nadda said that the work that the Modi government has done for the Dalit members of the society in the last 7 years, the previous governments could not do even in 70 years.

In view of the number of Dalit voters in Uttar Pradesh, while virtually launching the two-day meeting of the BJP Scheduled Caste Front's national executive convened in Prime Minister Modi's parliamentary constituency Varanasi, the BJP President claimed that the Modi government has taken the steps



in the interest of Dalits which no previous government had ever taken. He asked the workers to take the facts along with the data directly to the Dalit voters.

Accusing the Opposition parties of using Dalits only as a vote bank, Nadda said that the Congress has always insulted Babasaheb and the BJP has only respect for him.

After OBC voters, the number of Dalit voters is very high in Uttar Pradesh. Out of 403 seats in the UP Legislative Assembly, 84 seats are reserved for the SC category. The population of Dalit voters in the state is about 21 per cent and out of this, more than half are Jatavs -- about 54 per cent. In 42 districts of the State, the population of Dalit voters is

more than 21 per cent. The history of the last three assembly elections shows that the political party which got more seats out of the reserved seats, was because of the Dalit votes.

The BJP wants to win the hearts of the Dalits of the state once again by holding a meeting of the National Executive of the SC Morcha in Varanasi. In the two-day meeting, the BJP will plan a strategy on how the Dalits of Uttar Pradesh should be told about the work of the government and how they have benefited from the various schemes. Dalits will be informed about not only the schemes of the government but it will also expose other opposition parties including the BSP and the SP over their hollow promises.

## CVC recommends implementation of 'Integrity Pact' in all Govt procurements



IANs ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has made recommendation for implementing the of Integrity Pact (IP) in all public procurements by the various Ministries and the Departments.

IP helps government and companies to reduce high cost and maintain quality control. IP adoption creates public confidence and trust in decision making process.

In its order issued on September 14, 2021, the CVC said that in order to enhance the transparency and probity in public procurement, it has provided the Standard Operative Procedure which also envisages the appointment of an independent external monitor.

"The IP will also envisage the appointment of Independent External Monitor who are eminent and experience person of high integrity, adequate experience, a person of high integrity and having unblemished service record are appointed as IEM in any organisation, the Commission is empaneling persons of integrity, after following due process to such person," the order said.

"The panel of such persons is updated at periodic intervals to ensure the constant availability of suitable person for nomination/appointment as IEM," it added further.

Realising the importance of IP as a vigilance tool in controlling corruption in public contracting and procurement, the CVC has, through its office

Orders recommended adoption of Integrity Pact to all the Secretaries to the government, all Chairman and Managing Director (CMDs) of Public sector Units, Public Sector banks and all Chief Vigilance Officers and provided them basic guidelines for its implementation in respect of major procurements in the government organisations.

On May 18, 2009, it issued Standard Operating Procedure spelling out all the details of the IP which has been revised as per the need basis and in its latest order on September 14 revised the SoPs and provided the appointment of IEM for all government procurements.

The CVC is an apex vigilance institution to advise and guide Central Government agencies in the field of vigilance.



# Taliban replace Ministry for women

Afghanistan’s new rulers set up a Ministry for ‘propagation of virtue and the prevention of vice’ in building that once housed Women’s Affairs Ministry

AP ■ KABUL

Afghanistan's new Taliban rulers set up a Ministry for the "propagation of virtue and the prevention of vice" in the building that once housed the Women's Affairs Ministry, escorting out World Bank staffers on Saturday as part of the forced move.

It's the latest troubling sign that the Taliban are restricting women's rights as they settle into Government, just a month since they overran the capital of Kabul. In their first period of rule in the 1990s, the Taliban had denied girls and women the right to education and barred them from public life.

Separately, three explosions targeted Taliban vehicles in the eastern provincial capital of Jalalabad on Saturday, killing three people and wounding 20, witnesses said. There was no immediate claim of responsibility, but Islamic State (ISIS) terrorists, headquartered in the area, are enemies of the Taliban.

The Taliban are facing major economic and security problems as they attempt to govern, and a growing challenge by ISIS insurgents would further stretch their resources.

In Kabul, a new sign was up outside the women's affairs



Ministry, announcing it was now the "Ministry for Preaching and Guidance and the Propagation of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice."

Staff of the World Bank's \$100 million Women's Economic Empowerment and Rural Development Programme, which was run out of the Women's Affairs Ministry, were escorted off the grounds Saturday, said programme member Sharif Akhtar, who was among those being removed.

Mabouba Suraj, who heads the Afghan Women's Network, said she was astounded by the flurry of orders released by the Taliban-run government restricting women and girls.

Meanwhile, the Taliban-run education ministry asked boys from grades 7-12 back to school Saturday along with their male teachers but there was no mention of girls in those grades returning to school. Previously, the Taliban's minister of higher education minister, had said girls would

be given equal access to education, albeit in gender-segregated settings.

"It is becoming really, really troublesome. ... Is this the stage where the girls are going to be forgotten?" Suraj said.

"I know they don't believe in giving explanations, but explanations are very important."

Suraj speculated that the contradictory statements perhaps reflect divisions within the Taliban as they seek to consolidate their power, with the more pragmatic within the movement losing out to hard-liners among them, at least for now.

Statements from the Taliban leadership often reflect a willingness to engage with the world, open public spaces to women and girls and protect Afghanistan's minorities. But orders to its rank and file on the ground are contradictory. Instead restrictions, particularly on women, have been implemented.

Suraj, an Afghan American who returned to Afghanistan in 2003 to promote women's rights and education, said many of her fellow activists have left the country.

She said she stayed in an effort to engage with the Taliban and find a middle ground, but until now has not

been able to get the Taliban leadership to meet with activists who have remained in the country to talk with women about the way forward.

"We have to talk. We have to find a middle ground," she said. Also on Saturday, an international flight by Pakistan's national carrier left Kabul's airport with 322 passengers on board and a flight by Iran's Mahan Air departed with 187 passengers on board, an airport official said.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorised to speak to the media, said the two flights departed on Saturday morning. The identities and nationalities of those on board were not immediately known.

The international flights were the latest to depart Kabul in the past week as technical teams from Qatar and Turkey have worked to get the airport up to standard for international commercial aircraft.

A Qatar Airways flight on Friday took more Americans out of Afghanistan, according to Washington's peace envoy, the third such airlift by the Mideast carrier since the Taliban takeover and the frantic US troop pullout from the country.

## 3 dead as series of explosions hit Af's Nangarhar province



Taliban fighters and residents gather at the site of an explosion in Kabul on Saturday. A sticky bomb exploded in the capital Kabul

AP

AP ■ JALALABAD

Witnesses say a series of three explosions that targeted Taliban vehicles in the capital of Afghanistan's eastern Nangarhar province has left at least three dead and 20 wounded.

No one immediately took responsibility for the attack Saturday in Jalalabad, but the increasingly violent Islamic State group affiliate is head-

quartered in eastern Afghanistan and are enemies of Afghanistan's new Taliban rulers.

It wasn't immediately clear whether Taliban officials were among the dead and wounded.

Also on Saturday a sticky bomb exploded in the capital Kabul wounding two people, said police officials.

The target of the Kabul bomb was not immediately clear.

## Fearful US residents in Afghanistan hiding out from Taliban

Kabul: Every night in yet another house in Afghanistan's capital, a US green card-holding couple from California take turns sleeping, with one always awake to watch over their three young children so they can flee if they hear the footsteps of the Taliban.

They've moved seven times in two weeks, relying on relatives to take them in and feed them. Their days are an uncomfortable mix of fear and boredom, restricted to a couple of rooms where they read, watch TV and play "The Telephone Game" in which they whisper secrets and pass them on, a diversion for the children that has the added benefit of keeping them quiet.

All of it goes on during the agonizing wait for a call from anybody who can help them get out. A US State Department official contacted them several days ago to tell them they were being assigned a case worker, but they haven't heard a word since. They've also been talking to an international rescue organisation.

"We are scared and keep hiding ourselves more and more," the mother said in a text message to The Associated Press. "Whenever we feel breathless, I pray."

Through messages, emails and phone conversations with loved ones and rescue groups, AP has pieced together what day-to-day life has been like for some of those left behind after the US military's chaotic withdrawal — that includes US citizens, permanent US resident green-card holders and visa applicants who aided US troops during the 20-year war. Those contacted by AP — who are not

being identified for their own safety — described a fearful, furtive existence of hiding in houses for weeks, keeping the lights off at night, moving from place to place, and donning baggy clothing and burgas to avoid detection if they absolutely must venture out.

All say they are scared the ruling Taliban will find them, throw them in jail, perhaps even kill them because they are Americans or had worked for the US government. And they are concerned that the Biden administration's promised efforts to get them out have stalled.

When the phone rang in an apartment in Kabul a few weeks ago, the US green card holder who answered — a truck driver from Texas visiting family — was hopeful it was the US State Department finally responding to his pleas to get him and his parents on a flight out. Instead, it was the Taliban.

"We won't hurt you. Let's meet. Nothing will happen," the caller said, according to the truck driver's brother, who lives with him in Texas and spoke to him afterwards. The call included a few ominous words: "We know where you are."

That was enough to send the man fleeing from the Kabul apartment where he had been staying with his mother, his two teenage brothers and his father, who was in particular danger because he had worked for years for a US contractor overseeing security guards.

"They are hopeless," said the brother in Texas. "They think, 'We're stuck in the apartment and no one is here to help us.' They've been left behind."

## After Afghanistan pullout, US seeks NATO basing, intel pacts

AP ■ ATHENS

Against the backdrop of the troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, the top US Military officer is meeting in Greece with NATO counterparts this weekend, hoping to forge more basing, intelligence sharing and other agreements to prevent terrorist groups from regrouping and threatening America and the region.

Army Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the meeting of NATO defense chiefs will focus in part on the way ahead now that all alliance troops have pulled out of Afghanistan and the Taliban are in control.

Milley, US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin and

American intelligence officials have warned that al-Qaida or the Islamic State group could regenerate in Afghanistan and pose a threat to the United States in one year to two years.

The US Military has said it can conduct counterterrorism surveillance and, if necessary, strikes in Afghanistan from "over the horizon" — meaning from assets based in other countries. But they have made it clear that surveillance flights from bases in the Persian Gulf are long and provide limited time in the air over Afghanistan. So they have talked about seeking basing agreements, over-flight rights and increased intelligence-sharing with nations closer to Afghanistan, including some neighbours.

## Imran says he 'initiated a dialogue' with Taliban for inclusive Afghan Govt

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan on Saturday said that he has "initiated a dialogue" with the Taliban for an inclusive Afghanistan government having Tajiks, Hazaras and Uzbeks, a day after the SCO members sought representation for all ethnic, religious and political groups in the new dispensation.

The Taliban, which seized control of Afghanistan in mid-August, had promised an "inclusive" government that represents Afghanistan's complex ethnic makeup, but there is no Hazara member and no woman in the interim 33-member Cabinet.

Taking to Twitter, Khan said: "After mtgs (meetings) in Dushanbe with leaders of Afghanistan's neighbours & especially a lengthy discussion with Tajikistan's President Emomali Rahmon, I have initiated a dialogue with the Taliban for an inclusive Afghan govt to include Tajiks, Hazaras & Uzbeks". However, details of the "dialogue" were not shared by him or other officials.

After 40 years of conflict, this inclusivity will ensure peace and a stable Afghanistan, which is in the interest not only of Afghanistan but the region as well, Khan said in another tweet.

Addressing the Shanghai

Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit on Friday, he said: "the Taliban must fulfil the pledges made, above all for an inclusive political structure where all ethnic groups are represented. This is vital for Afghanistan's stability".

Khan said that it was also important to ensure respect for the rights while making certain that Afghanistan would never again be made a safe haven for terrorists.

The SCO leaders, in a joint declaration issued at the end of the annual Summit of the bloc in Tajikistan on Friday, voiced support for an independent, democratic and peaceful Afghanistan, free of terrorism, war and drugs.

## Yemen's Houthis execute 9 over senior official's killing

AP ■ SANAA

Yemen's Houthi rebels on Saturday said they executed nine people for their alleged involvement in the killing of a senior Houthi official in an airstrike by the Saudi-led coalition more than three years ago.

The public executions by firing squad were carried out in the rebel-held capital of Sanaa, according to the Iranian-backed Houthis who distributed photos apparently showing the executions. The executions took place despite repeated calls by rights groups and lawyers to stop the killings.

The public executions by firing squad were carried out in the rebel-held capital of Sanaa, according to the Iranian-backed Houthis who distributed photos apparently showing the executions. The executions took place despite repeated calls by rights groups and lawyers to stop the killings.

The nine were among more than 60 people the

Houthis accused of involvement in the targeted killing of Saleh al-Samad in April 2018. Former President Donald Trump was also accused, according to court documents obtained by The Associated Press. Also accused were top Western, Israeli and Gulf officials.

The Houthis accused the nine of spying for the Saudi-led coalition.

Al-Samad, who held the post of president in the Houthi-backed political body, was killed in an airstrike by the Saudi-led coalition in the coastal city of Hodeida.

The nine, including a 17-year-old boy, were arrested months after al-Samad's killing. They had been forcefully disappeared for months in undisclosed places where they suf-

fered inhuman treatment, according to Abdel-Majeed Sabra, a Yemeni lawyer representing one of the people executed.

Hundreds of people, mostly Houthis and their supporters, attended the executions, which were also broadcast on big screens early Saturday in Tahrir Square in the capital of Sanaa. The executions and their display cause outrage across the country, including Sanaa, where people refrain from criticising the rebels for fear of reprisals.

The nine wore sky blue prison garb with their hands bound behind their backs. Masked guards led them an open area and forced them to lie down on their stomachs. Another officer with a rifle shot them to death in their backs.

## North Korea expanding uranium enrichment plant

Seoul: Recent satellite images shows North Korea is expanding a uranium enrichment plant at its main Yongbyon nuclear complex, a sign that it's intent on boosting the production of bomb materials, experts say.

The assessment comes after North Korea recently raised tensions by performing its first missile tests in six months amid long-dormant nuclear disarmament diplomacy with the United States.

"The expansion of the enrichment plant probably indicates that North Korea plans to increase its production of weapons-grade uranium at the Yongbyon site by as much as 25 percent," Jeffrey Lewis and two other experts at Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey said in a report.

The report said satellite

images taken by Maxar shows construction in an area adjoining the uranium enrichment plant at Yongbyon.

It said a satellite image taken on Sept 1 shows North Korea cleared trees and prepared the ground for construction and that a construction excavator is also visible.

The report said a second image taken on Sept 14 showed a wall erected to enclose the area, work on a foundation and panels removed from the side of the enrichment building to provide access to the newly enclosed area.

"The new area is approximately 1,000 square meters, enough space to house 1,000 additional centrifuges," the report said. "The addition of 1,000 new centrifuges would increase the plant's capacity to produce highly enriched uranium by 25 per cent." AP

## France recalls envoy protesting Australia-US submarine deal

AP ■ CANBERRA

France's ambassador to Australia described Saturday as a "huge mistake" Australia's surprise cancellation of a major submarine contract in favour of a US deal, delivering a final protest as the envoy was recalled from the country in an unprecedented show of anger among the allies.

Jean-Pierre Thebault delivered his comments as he left his residence in the pandemic locked down capital of Canberra.

"This has been a huge mistake, a very, very bad handling of the partnership," Thebault said, explaining that the arms agreement between Paris and Canberra was supposed to be based "on trust, mutual understanding and sincerity".

Paris recalled its ambassadors to Australia and the

United States on Friday to protest a deal among the United States, Australia and Britain to supply Australia with a fleet of at least eight nuclear-power submarines. Thebault flew out of Australia on a flight to Doha, Qatar, around 17 hours after the announcement from Paris.

The US deal scraps a 90 billion Australian dollar (\$66 billion) contract with French majority state-owned Naval Group, signed in 2016, to build 12 conventional diesel-electric submarines.

"I would like to be able to run into a time machine and be in a situation where we don't end up in such an incredible, clumsy, inadequate, un-Australian situation," the French ambassador added.

Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne's office earlier had issued a statement responding to the diplomat's

recall and noting Canberra's "regret" over its ally's withdrawal of its representative.

"Australia understands France's deep disappointment with our decision, which was taken in accordance with our clear and communicated national security interests," the statement said. It added that Australia values its relationship with France and looked forward to future engagements together.

Payne and Defence Minister Peter Dutton are currently in the United States for annual talks with their US counterparts and their first with President Joe Biden's administration.



### INDONESIA'S MOST WANTED KILLED

Palu (Indonesia): Indonesia's most wanted terrorist with ties to the Islamic State (ISIS) group was killed on Saturday in a gunbattle with security forces, the military said, in a victory for the counterterrorism campaign against extremists in the jungles of Sulawesi island. Ali Kalora was one of two militants killed in the shootout, said Central Sulawesi's regional military chief Brig. Gen. Farid Makruf. He identified the other suspected extremist as Jaka Ramadan.

### UAE REMOVES TEST RULE FOR OTHER EMIRATES

Dubai: The capital of the United Arab Emirates has ended a policy requiring those coming in from other emirates to have a recent negative coronavirus test. Abu Dhabi made announcement on Saturday, saying that people from the UAE's six other emirates could enter the capital from Sunday without getting a test.

### 1ST CASE OF COVID IN AMERICAN SAMOA

Pago Pago: American Samoa, a US territory in the Pacific, reported its first case of coronavirus on Friday. The territory's acting governor, Lt. Gov. Talauega Eleasalo Ale, and health officials said the islands' first case of Covid-19 was in a resident who returned to America Samoa from a trip to the US mainland and Hawaii earlier this week.

### VIOLATIONS REPORTED IN RUSSIAN ELECTION

Moscow: The head of Russia's second-largest political party is alleging widespread violations in the election for a new national parliament, in which his party is widely expected to gain seats. Communist Party head Gennady Zyuganov said on Saturday — the second of three days of voting in the election — that police and the national elections commission must respond to reports of 'a number of absolutely egregious facts' including ballot-stuffing in several regions.


### UNSC URGES SOMALIA'S LEADERS TO COMPROMISE

United Nations: The UN Security Council urged Somalia's feuding Government leaders on Saturday to resolve their disagreements through dialogue and give top priority to holding long-delayed national elections this year.



**Office of the Executive Engineer, Construction Division,  
Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam, Khatima**  
P'ilbhit Road, Near Allahabad Bank, Khatima (U.S. Nagar) E-mail : eecdktatima@gmail.com

<u>E-Tendering/Tender Notice</u>			
<b>Letter No. 1396/Nivida/64    Date : 18.09.2021</b>			
1. Name of Work :- Rising Main (DI Pipe), Over Head Tank, Pump House cum attendant Room, Boundary wall and all other appurtenant works etc.			
Name of Scheme		Estimated cost	Period of completion of work:
(A)	Nausar - Mohammadpur Bhudiya (MVS) W/S Scheme	Rs. 56.37 Lakh	06 months
(B)	Bhudiya Tharu (MVS) W/S Scheme	Rs. 56.64 Lakh	06 months
(C)	Bhagchuri (MVS) W/S Scheme	Rs. 51.06 Lakh	06 months
(D)	Mundeli (MVS) W/S Scheme	Rs. 54.39 Lakh	06 months
(E)	Tukari (MVS) W/S Scheme	Rs. 54.08 Lakh	06 months
(F)	Salmata (MVS) W/S Scheme	Rs. 50.07 Lakh	06 months
(G)	Pipaliya Pistaur (MVS) W/S Scheme	Rs. 51.99 Lakh	06 months
<b>Key Dates-</b>			
1	Date of Online Publication		21.09.2021 at 17:00hrs.
2	Document download : Start Date		22.09.2021 at 10:00hrs.
3	Document download : End Date		05.10.2021 at 17:00 hrs.
4	Pre Bid Meeting		27.09.2021 at 14:00 hrs.
5	Bid Submission : Start Date		22.09.2021 at 10:00hrs.
6	Bid Submission : End Date		05.10.2021 at 17:00 hrs.
7	Offline submission of documents (Cost of bidding document, Bid Security, Original Affidavits & all the Supporting Documents in support of qualification).		06.10.2021 upto 17:00 hrs.
8	Date of Technical Bid Opening		07.10.2021 at 11:00 hrs
9	Date of Financial Bid Opening		To be announced Later
10	Details of tender, corrigendum or cancellation etc. may be obtained at web site: <a href="http://www.uktenders.gov.in">www.uktenders.gov.in</a>		
<b>Executive Engineer</b>			



**ICICI Bank**  
Whereas

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

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Santosh Gusain & Pushpa Gusain/ LBFDD00002370675	House No- 91p, 1st Floor, Residential Scheme Surya Nagar Phase-2 Sector-91, Faridabad, Haryana/ Sep 14, 2021	March 25, 2021 Rs. 39,90,504/-	Delhi/ NCR

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



# Cryptocurrency Hyper Fund under Govt scanner

■ NEW DELHI

The Government is keeping a close eye on cryptocurrency floating in the market based out of the country following alert that agencies responsible to check financial fraud are watching a company called Hyper Fund.

Sources said Hyper Fund, a DEFI by Hyper Tech Group has come under the radar recently. The Group claims to have launched the Hyper Fund to provide a decentralized financial infrastructure. Hyper Fund was announced in mid-2020.

As per the company website it is led by Ryan Xu, however, with the Multi-Level Marketing (MLM) model Hyper Fund has been luring investors with higher returns and such offerings, a common practice under Ponzi Schemes, that got the authorities alerted in the first place.

According to sources, complaints against such Funds have started pouring in several states. In India, the RBI, Union Finance Ministry and SEBI had warned people against cryptocurrency trading. The RBI is planning to launch India's official digital currency- E Rupee soon.

The Finance Ministry has



clarified that Virtual currencies are also not legal tender. Hence, VCs are not currencies. The RBI has also clarified that it has not given any licence/ authorization to any entity/ company to operate or deal with Bitcoin or any virtual currency.

In June 2018, Amit Bhardwaj was arrested at the Delhi Airport by Pune police along with his brother Vivek Bhardwaj in connection with an alleged Ponzi scheme. Bhardwaj, started his own bitcoin mining operations and allegedly cheated more than 8,000 people to the tune of Rs 2,000 crore from across the country.

He has lodged a complaint with the Delhi Police special cell, alleging that he received an extortion call and was asked to

pay protection money on September 6, 2021. He had setup multi-level marketing (MLM) scam by luring investors to give him Bitcoins in return for promised higher returns, police had alleged.

Regulators in UK have issued warning against such fund and the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) have warnings issued for both Hyper Fund and Fund Advisor.

On its website, which was first published on in March 23, 2021 and later updated on August 31, the FCA said, "We believe this firm may be providing financial services or products in the UK without our authorisation. Almost all firms and individuals offering, promoting or selling financial services or products in the UK have to be authorised or registered by us.

## Opposition-ruled States demand extension of GST compensation regime beyond June 2022

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Finance Ministers of Opposition-ruled states have demanded that the GST compensation cess regime be extended beyond June 2022.

Briefing reporters after the 45th GST Council meeting in Lucknow on Friday, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said the regime of paying compensation to states for revenue shortfall resulting from subsuming their taxes such as VAT in the uniform national tax GST will end in June next year.

However, the compensation cess, levied on luxury and demerit goods, will continue to be collected till March 2026 to repay the borrowings that were done in 2020-21 and 2021-22 to compensate states for GST revenue loss.

In his speech at the meet-

ing, Tamil Nadu Finance Minister P Thiaga Rajan demanded continuation of the compensation mechanism, and deferment of a decision on this issue.

"While we are broadly, and firmly in favour of the continuation of the compensation mechanism, we are concerned by many of the details," he said.

Thiaga Rajan said all the Council Members will require some time to analyse and assess the features and consequences of the options presented during the 45th meeting, and hence expect that any decision on the way forward will be deferred to the 46th meeting at least.

"To be doubly sure, we formally place a request that no final decision be made on this most important issue without the benefit of the time needed to fully assess the options," Thiaga Rajan added.



## Deadline for PAN-Aadhaar linkage extended till March 2022

■ NEW DELHI

Centre has extended the deadline for linking Aadhaar with PAN by six more months, till March 2022.

The earlier deadline was till September 30.

Accordingly, the decision came as a relief measure for tax players during pandemic era.

"The Central Government, in continuation of its commitment to address the hardship being faced by various stakeholders on account of the Covid-19 pandemic, has, on consideration of representations received from various stakeholders, decided to extend timelines for compliances under the Income-tax Act, 1961," CBDT said in a statement late on Friday night.

"Time limit for intimation of Aadhaar number to the Income tax Department for linking of PAN with Aadhaar has been extended from 30th September, 2021 to 31st March, 2022."

Besides, the due date for completion of penalty proceedings under the IT Act has also been extended from September 30, 2021 to March 31, 2022.

## BRIEFS

### GM OFFERS SHRAMDAAAN AT NETAJI BHAVAN METRO STATION



**Kolkata:** Metro Railway has been observing Swachhta Pakhwara from 16th – 30th September, 2021. As a part of this drive Shri Manoj Joshi, General Manager and other senior officers of Metro Railway offered Shramdaan at Netaji Bhawan Metro station today on 18.09.2021. Shri Joshi also inspected platform, mezzanine floor, staircases, Machine Room, dustbins of the station to check the standard of cleanliness being maintained. General Manager also urged all Metro users and staff to maintain the high standard of cleanliness of Metro premises and trains. At Noapara Car Depot Complex a special cleaning drive was also undertaken today to clean the Depot Complex. Officers and staff of the Depot took part in this activity.

### IRCTC DEDICATES A NEW FOOD PLAZA AT NEW DELHI RAILWAY STATION

**New Delhi:** The Indian Railway Catering And Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC) has been playing a pivotal role in revolutionizing the hospitality and catering business of Indian Railways across the country. In its latest drive, the company has recently dedicated a new Food Plaza – 'Pop n Hop' for the passengers at New Delhi railway station on Platform No. 16 towards Ajmeri Gate side. The 'Pop n Hop' Food Plaza is one of the most exquisite and extensive food and beverage facility created by IRCTC for the passengers and tourists to have wide variety sumptuous food offered in a hygienic and extremely comfortable environment. The passengers and tourists visiting New Delhi railway station will no more have to hunt for quality food or bring food along with from home as the new Food Plaza will promise to offer quality food to tantalize the taste buds at reasonable prices.

### AMIT SHAH PLANTS SAPLING AT CRPF TRAINING CENTER



Union Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah planted 10 millionth sapling at CRPF Training Center in Nanded, Maharashtra under 'All India Tree Plantation Campaign-2021' being run by Central Armed Police Forces CAPFs have done the work of planting 10 million trees in more than 170 districts across the country. We had set a target that all the paramilitary forces together will plant more than 10 million trees and take good care of them till they grow to a height above our heads, and today we have accomplished this year's target of 10 million ahead of time.

### CLW JOINS RAIL KAUSHAL VIKAS YOJANA

To empower the youth of vibrant India with industry-relevant skills, Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW) has joined the 'Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana', on 17.09.2021. Shri Ashwini Vaishnav, Hon'ble Minister for Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India, launched the 'Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana' on all India level in 75 Rly. Training Centres including CLW via video conference, on 17.09.2021. It is an integral part of Skill India Mission adopted by Indian Railways under the aegis of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana as a part 75 years of "AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV".

### LIVE LEARNING PLATFORM IN REGIONAL LANGUAGES

**New Delhi:** Taking ahead the National Skill Development Corporation's initiative to boost employability and enhance enhancement training and placements, Orion Edutech unveiled LearnHat, an interactive live learning platform that acts as a bridge between students and tutors primarily focusing on smaller towns. Its value proposition rests on delivering its sessions in a number of regional languages. "India is a diverse country, where regional language forms a comfort bond unlike any other. We therefore wanted to extend this to education as well, to make earning more fun, engaging and a meaningful experience," said Priyadeep Sinha, CEO of LearnHat.

## Come Jan 1, non-filers of monthly GST return to be barred from filing GSTR-1

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Businesses that default on filing summary return and paying monthly GST will not be able to file GSTR-1 sales return of the succeeding month from January 1 next year.

The GST Council in its Lucknow meeting on September 17 has decided to take a host of measures to streamline compliance, including mandatory Aadhaar authentication for businesses to file refund claims.

These moves would help prevent revenue leakage due to

evasion of Goods and Services Tax (GST), which was launched on July 1, 2017.

The Council decided to amend Rule 59(6) of the Central GST Rules with effect from January 1, 2022, to provide that a registered person shall not be allowed to furnish Form GSTR-1, if he has not furnished the return in Form GSTR-3B for the preceding month. Currently, the law restricts filing of return for outward supplies or GSTR-1 in case a business fails to file GSTR-3B of preceding two months.

## 'Telecom players' ARPU to grow even without tariffs hikes

■ NEW DELHI

The average revenue per user (ARPU) of the cellular industry could grow even without tariffs hikes as data usage and penetration zooms over the last 1-to-2 years.

As per India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra): "The sliding voice tariffs, growing data tariffs, increasing data usage per subscriber and increasing data subscribers in the overall subscriber base over the last one year indicate that the average revenue per user of the industry could grow even without tariffs hikes."

Besides, the ratings agency, cited that industry-wide subscriber base increased by 4 million subscribers on a month-on-month (MoM) basis in June 2021 to 1,181 million subscribers, as against a sharp decline of 6.3 million subscribers in May 2021. "Broadband subscriber base also grew in June 2021 by 11.7 million subscribers to 769 million subscribers." However, the visitor location register subscriber base, which shows active subscribers, reported a dip by 1.3 million subscribers mom in June 2021 to 985 million subscribers, the agency said.

## Covid might shift India's growth model

■ NEW DELHI

The Covid-19 pandemic could act as an inflection point to shift India's growth model from being consumption driven to investments-led.

In its Ecoscope report, Motilal Oswal Financial Services, said: "With Covid-19 hurting India's 'Household' (HH) and 'Government' sectors adversely, the continuity of

strong consumption growth is in question."

"On the contrary, with listed companies' financial positions improving and an uptick in household investments in the Real Estate sector (called physical savings), the narrative of investment-led recovery is gaining momentum."

The report prescribed that various economic participants - households, governments, listed companies, and unlisted

corporates -- to increase their fixed asset investments in the immediate future based on their financial position.

At present, the listed and unlisted corporate sector accounts for only about half of total investments in India.

The 'HH' sector including unincorporated enterprises accounts for 35-40 per cent in India's investments, while the remaining 12-13 per cent is contributed by centre and states

governments. Besides, the report cited that demand environment is expected to remain subdued due to weak financial position of 'HH' and government sector. "Despite household investments picking up strongly in 2HFY21, given that Indian households bore the maximum brunt of Covid-led losses in CY20 (and CY21), we believe household spending would remain subdued over the next few years."

### HOUSING BOARD HARYANA SECTORE-23, FARIDABAD PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of the General Public that House No. 527/LIG, Sector -22 Faridabad was transferred / allotted in the name of **Smt. Pratibha Saxena** D/o Late Sh. A.P. Saxena R/o H.No. 527/LIG, Sector -22, Faridabad vide letter No. 4423 dated 22/12/89, Now above allottee / transferee Sale Deed Holder Sh. Girraj Prasad S/o Sh. Begraj has expired on 04/04/2018 Now Sh./Smt. allottee / transferee / Sale deed holder Sh. Raj Kumar Aggarwal and Sh. Lalit Aggarwal both S/o late Sh. Girraj Prasad R/o H.No. 527/LIG, Sector-22 Faridabad has submitted the documents for the transfer of the allotment of the above mentioned house due to the death of the allottee / Transfer being his her legal heirs.

Now by the present Public Notice, it is informed to all public in General that in case anybody has objection to the above said transfer of allotment of house, in the name of Sh. Rajkumar Aggarwal and Sh. Lalit Aggarwal. He/She can file the objection within 30 days from the publication of this notice after that necessary action for the transfer of the above mentioned house will be taken by this office as per Rules and no objection will be entertained after 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Estate Manager  
Housing Board Haryana,  
Faridabad

### WESTERN RAILWAY E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE NO. S/34/2021 Date : 16.09.2021

S.N.	Short Description of item	Quantity	T.O.D
887	NAFTC sheet	1000 Nos.	01.10.2021
888	Amalgamated Transformer Rectifierunit	20 Nos.	05.10.2021
889	Cut Off Angle Cock	3674 Nos.	06.10.2021
890	Coronary Non Complaint Balloon	834 Nos.	07.10.2021
891	Blind Socket Assembly with Locking	90 Nos.	08.10.2021
892	MSDAC Transportation Install. Testing and Comm.	4 Set	08.10.2021
893	POH Kit	950 Set	08.10.2021
894	Membrane for Crowned Gear Coupling	225 Nos.	09.10.2021
895	Set of Suspension Tube	43 Set	11.10.2021
896	4.5 KW Understung	60 Nos	13.10.2021

Regarding detailed notice, EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) and [www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in).

0422 For Principal Chief Materials Manager

Like us on : [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly) Follow us on : [twitter.com/WesternRly](https://twitter.com/WesternRly)

### GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (PHE): WATER: ASSAM CUM

ADDL. MISSION DIRECTOR, JAL JEEVAN MISSION ASSAM HENGGRABARI, GUWAHATI-36

No. PHE-19/JJM/PB/2020-21/T-

### Notification

It is for general information of all concerned those contractors who submitted their EOLs against EOI No. 14 of 2021-22 of this office for "Empanelment of Non PHE contractors under JJM Assam" on or before 16:00 hrs. of 04.09.2021 but not considered for empanelment due to shortage of required documents as per EOI Document or submission of erroneous documents are requested to submit the requisite shortfall document(s) within 16:00 hrs. of 27.09.2021 for consideration for empanelment. Submission of such required documents after 16:00 hrs. of 27.09.2021 shall not be entertained under any circumstances. The detailed required documents to be submitted by such defaulting contractors may be seen from the Notification section in the web site [www.jimassam.in](http://www.jimassam.in) up-to 27.09.2021. This may be treated as a final intimation and no further communication after the closing date shall be made from this end in regards to the empanelment process after the closing date and time.

Sd/-  
Chief Engineer (PHE) Water, Assam  
CUM  
Additional Mission Director, JJM, Assam  
Janasanyog/C/5686/21 Hengrabari, Guwahati-36

### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Vijay Prakash** S/o Kapil Muni R/o WZ-783, Naraina Village, New Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case DD No. 44-A dated 13.04.2015 u/s 53/116 DP Act. P.S. Naraina, New Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Vijay Prakash** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Vijay Prakash** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Vijay Prakash** accused of DD No. 44-A dated 13.04.2015 u/s 53/116 DP Act. P.S. Naraina, New Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **21.10.2021**.

By Order :  
**Sh. Himanshu Raman Singh**  
Metropolitan Magistrate,  
Room No. 20, Main Building,  
Patiala House Court, New Delhi

DP/553/WD/21

### NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

E-Procurement Tender Notice No. 21/07 Dated:14.09.2021

#### E-Procurement Tender Notice

On behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Material Manager, North Central Railway, Prayagraj invites the E-procurement tenders:

Tender No.	Description	Qty.	EMD (Rs)
19215445	Steel Bed with Box. Size-L-1980 mm. W-925mm. H-840mm, Ply 12mm as per drawing attached in PDF.	137 Nos.	₹ 29,600/-

**Tender Opening Date-07.10.2021.** Note:- 1- The complete information of above E-Procurement Tender are available on IREPS website i.e <http://www.ireps.in>. 2-Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above Tender. For this purpose, Vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with class III digital signature certificates issued by CCA under IT Act-2008. 3-Rates entered into financial rate page and duly signed digitally shall only be considered. Rates and any other financial entry in any other form/letter head if attached by vendor shall be straight away ignored and shall not be considered. 4- Documents being attached should be signed on their body. 5- Allocation for "Cost of Drawing" is 2-650 and for "Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)" is Deposit Misc. Stores-00844517. The above tender notice has been uploaded on <http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in>. In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the IREPS website may be approached. 1012/2021 V

North Central Railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @CPRONCR

### SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRL



PUJA

General public is here by informed that this girl **Name:** Puja, **D/o** Sh. Ramu, **R/o** R Block 118-19, Mangolpuri, Delhi, **Age:** 20 years, **Height:** 5 Feet, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Build:** Medium, **Wearing:** Green Color Suit and White Color Salwar and Slippers in feet, has been missing/ kidnapped since 25.07.2021 from

her house.

In this regard a DD No. 85A, dated 26.07.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Burari, Delhi.

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

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

**E-Mail:** [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) **SHO**  
**Website:** <http://cbi.nic.in> **PS. Burari, Delhi**  
**Ph:** 011-24368639 **Ph. 011-27616844, 8750870132**  
**Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641** **DP/1381/N/2021**

## Profit booking, global volatility to impact stock moves

■ MUMBAI

Sky-high valuations along with global tapering fears will impact stock market movements during the upcoming week.

Accordingly, market observers, pointed out high possibility of profit booking led slide on the back premium valuations and likely absence of positive domestic triggers.

Nonetheless, key indices - S&P BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty50 -- are expected to reach new intra-day record highs of 60,000 points and 18,000-mark, respectively.

Last Friday, the Sensex closed at 59,015.89 points after making an intra-day record high of 59,700, while Nifty ended the day's trade at 17,585.15 points.

It had breached the 17,790

level intra-day on last Friday.

"Broad market correction amidst high volumes gives the first hint of distribution," said Deepak Jasani, Head of Retail Research, HDFC Securities.

"An adverse US Fed meet outcome next week could accelerate the correction that is typical in September, especially in the US markets."

## कार्यालय नगर निगम, देहरादून (सार्वजनिक निविदा सूचना)

पत्रांक:- 414 / भूमि-2021, दिनांक:- 18.09.2021

नगर निगम क्षेत्रान्तर्गत निम्नलिखित मार्गों पर लगे विद्युत पोलों पर पोल क्योस्क के माध्यम से विज्ञापन प्रदर्शित करने हेतु दिनांक 01.11.2021 से दिनांक 31.10.2023 तक कुल 2 वर्ष हेतु सार्वजनिक निविदा सूचना प्रकाशन की तिथि से दिनांक 12.10.2021 की अपरान्ह 2.00 बजे तक पोल क्योस्क विज्ञापन की ई0 निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

पोल क्योस्क स्थल का विवरण	कुल पोल	निगम द्वारा आरक्षित धनराशि
निविदा प्रपत्र के अनुसार	15477	1,05,00,000

निविदा के साथ निविदा सूचना प्रपत्र में अंकित निविदा धनराशि की 03 प्रतिशत धनराशि रु0-3,15,000/- की सी0डी0आर0/एफ0डी0आर0 हेतु सम्बन्धित बैंक का डिजिलेयरेशन पत्र मूल में एवं निर्धारित निविदा फार्म का शुल्क रु0-11800/- का डिमांड ड्राफ्ट जो नगर निगम देहरादून के नाम फ्लेज होगी एवं निविदा फार्म में अंकित अन्य तकनीकी दस्तावेजों को दिनांक 11.10.2021 की सांय 4.00 बजे तक मूल में निगम कार्यालय में जमा कराना अनिवार्य होगा। दिनांक 11.10.2021 तक दस्तावेज मूल में निगम कार्यालय में जमा न किये जाने पर निविदादाता को असफल माना जायेगा। निविदादाता दिनांक 12.10.2021 को अपरान्ह 2.00 बजे तक ई0निविदा हेतु उत्तराखण्ड शासन की ई0 टैन्डर वेबसाईट [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in) पर अपलोड करना सुनिश्चित करें। तकनीकी निविदा दिनांक 12.10.2021 सायः 4.00 बजे गठित निविदा समिति के समक्ष खोली जायेगी, तकनीकी निविदा में सफल व्यक्तियों/फर्मों की वित्तीय निविदा अग्रिम तिथि में खोली जायेगी। निविदा प्रपत्र एवं शर्तें विज्ञापित प्रकाशन की तिथि से किसी भी कार्यदिवस में दिनांक 08.10.2021 की सांय 04.00 बजे तक नगर निगम कार्यालय में निर्धारित शुल्क जमा कराकर भी प्राप्त की जा सकती है। अधिक जानकारी के लिये निम्नलिखित मोबाईल नं0-7017981898 पर सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

नगर आयुक्त, नगर निगम, देहरादून

### Public Notice

This is to inform that the Smt. Kamlesh W/o Shri Prem R/o 15/315, Dakshin Puri Extension, Dr. Ambedkar Nagar, South Delhi, Pushpa Bhawan, Delhi is also the owner of property address D-137,138, 139, Sai Vihar, Phase-II, Bhupani Mor, Faridabad declares through this public notice that Smt. Kamlesh Disown her son namely Vinesh from her Property and he has no right towards her moveable and immovable assets and any reason is due to his and his wife nature and misbehavior towards her.

**Nishkarsh Gupta (Advocate)**  
Mob No: 7011887119

## THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS

### THANKSGIVING

Thank you Holy Spirit for Blessings Celine.

PD(9080)C

### LOST AND FOUND

This is to inform that I Sudhir Anand S/o Sudarshan Anand R. P-16 Sector 20 Noida 201301 have Lost the Sale Deed executed between Noida Authority and Mr. Shiv Nandan S. Ahluwalia S/o S.S. Ahluwalia Registered with Noida Authority via JdNo 749 Vd no. 11 Page no 4016 Dated: 24/08/91 and Original Transfer/ Permission Letter No. 13932 Noida/ Housing / 2005 dated 29.6.2005 between Mr. Shiv Nandan S. Ahluwalia S/o S.S. Ahluwalia and myself I E Sudhir Anand. I have Registered a FIR for the same with The Noida Police via FIR No.80 Dated 10.09.2021. This is To inform that I am the lawful owner of the property via Bahi no.1, Jld no 749/754 page no. 11/49/368, M.No 4016 Document no 4015 Dated: 24.08.1991. There is no Change/Liigation/Mortgage or any kind of Dispute against the captioned property. That I am selling the property to Priya Sharma & Yogesh Kumar Sharma and that I stand to fully indemnify the buyer in case of any misrepresentation, fabrication, concealment of facts pertaining to property being sold by me.



# Bopanna and Ramkumar crack in must-win doubles match, India lose 1-3 to Finland

PTI ■ ESPOO (FINLAND)

Rohan Bopanna and Ramkumar Ramanathan blew their chances in the must-win doubles match as India lost the World Group I tie 1-3 to hosts Finland in the Davis Cup, here on Saturday.

Captain Rohit Rajpal changed the doubles combination by pairing Bopanna with Ramkumar instead of left-handed Divij Sharan but they lost the crucial match 6-7(2) 6-7(2) to Henri Kontinen and Harri Heliövaara in one hour and 38 minutes.

Coming into the match down 0-2, Indians needed to win the doubles to stay alive in the tie.

Prajnesh later beat Patrik Niklas-Salminen in the dead fourth rubber 6-3 7-5, while the fifth match was not played.

India will now have to compete in the Play-offs next year to keep their place in the World Group I.

Heliövaara was considered the most vulnerable of all four players on the court but he raised his game by several notches and created a huge impact on the outcome of the match with his fearless approach.

The Indian, on the contrary, fumbled even when they had advantage as they up by a break and had four break-points in the eight game of the second set but squandered the chances.

After doing all the hard work, the Indians cracked at crucial junctures.

Bopanna said the fact that the Finnish players have played together at a higher level made a difference to the match.

“We were playing first time together at this level. In close points it did make a difference. But we played a great match, (considering) we were playing for the first time together,” said the 40-year-old.

Bopanna also backed the captain’s call in changing the combination saying, he and Ramkumar were the right pair for today’s match.

He also said that India needs to do well in singles matches if the team has to win



ties in Davis Cup.

“Four points are from singles matches, that’s where we need to focus. It’s been six years that an Indian singles player has beaten a higher-ranked player in Davis Cup.

“We need to have good structure back home, good junior system. Cricket does well because there is a fantastic structure, so every sport needs something like that. You can’t do it on your own. The Federation and the government has to come together,” he said.

In the opening set, at 3-3, the Indian pair attacked the serve of Heliövaara, going 30-all but the home player served big on the next two points to ensure the set stays on serve.

Eventually the opening set went to tie-breaker. Heliövaara found a stunning service return winner off Bopanna on the second point to get the mini break and also held his serve as Finland took a 4-1 lead.

Then came Ramkumar’s double fault and a volley error at the net that gave Finland players five set points. They converted the second when Ramkumar could not return Kontinen’s serve.

A forehand winner by Ramkumar at 30-all in the second game of the second set, set up the first break chance for India and they converted when Kontinen could not return Bopanna’s backhand.

However, the big-serving

Bopanna dropped his own serve in the next game when he made consecutive unforced errors.

Bopanna’s serve again came under attack but he managed to hold after going down to deuce points from 40-15 as India led 4-3.

In the next game, the Indians went up 40-0 on Heliövaara’s serve but blew away all three breakpoints and later one more to let the rivals hold for a 4-4 scoreline.

Another tie-breaker followed. Helovaara pulled off a sensational forehand winner at 5-2 to get to first match point and it was all over for India when Ramkumar could not return the ball in the next point.

## Extended NZ squad flies out of Pakistan on chartered plane



PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

An extended 33-member New Zealand cricket squad left for Dubai on a chartered flight from Islamabad on Saturday evening, a day after abandoning its entire tour of the country over security fears.

The New Zealand players and officials had to undergo rapid COVID-19 tests at the airport and after all the reports came negative, they were allowed to board the flight amid tight security protocols.

New Zealand Cricket (NZC) called off the series in Pakistan abruptly on Friday just before the first One-Day International at the Rawalpindi stadium, citing they had received a serious threat.

Neither the New Zealand board nor their government has shared the nature of the

threat with the Pakistan government, security officials or the Pakistan Cricket Board.

A clearly upset interior minister, Sheikh Rasheed Ahmed, said on Saturday that there was no threat to the New Zealand team and they just made up an excuse to leave for home as they didn’t want to play the series.

New Zealand had arrived in Pakistan on September 11 for a white-ball series after 18 years and were scheduled to play three ODIs and five T20 Internationals.

They also held a few practice sessions at the Pindi stadium under tight security but on the day of the match, all hell broke loose when the two teams didn’t leave the hotel before it emerged that the visitors had got a threat leading to their government advising them to abandon the tour.

## Channelise your anger, become a world class team: PCB Chairman Raja to his players

PTI ■ KARACHI

New Zealand’s abrupt decision to pull out of their cricket tour of Pakistan has created “an unfortunate scenario” but the hosts know how to overcome such crises, the chairman of the country’s cricket board Ramiz Raja said on Saturday.

New Zealand abandoned the tour on the day of the

opening fixture on Friday citing a government security alert, while England are also reconsidering their men’s and women’s team visits to Pakistan next month.

The tour was due to start with the first of three one-dayers in Rawalpindi but New Zealand did not travel to the stadium.

“It’s an unfortunate scenario,” Raja, who took over as



Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman on Monday, said in a video posted on the board’s Twitter handle.

“But we’ve faced similar situations in the past and have always overcome them. We’ve tremendous resilience... it’s a setback to staging international cricket in Pakistan but we’ll overcome this crisis too.”

Several Pakistan players

took to Twitter to vent their anger and frustration at New Zealand’s decision. Raja advised them to channel it into improving their performance.

“My message to the team is -- vent your anger and frustration through your performance on the field. “If you become the best team in the world, others will queue up here to play you in Pakistan.”

## Honey Baisoya ends title drought, lifts J&K Open trophy

PTI ■ SRINAGAR

Delhi’s Honey Baisoya on Saturday ended a three-year title drought by claiming a four-stroke win over Gurugram-based Veer Ahlawat at the J&K Open. Six-time PGTI winner Baisoya (67-69-66-68), who was struggling for form through the season, totalled 18-under 270 for the week following his classy final round of four-under 68 at the Royal Springs Golf Course.

He thus skyrocketed from 85th to 22nd place in the PGTI Order of Merit.

Ahlawat (67-71-70-66) also made his presence felt in the last round with a score of 66 to finish second at 14-under 274 in the Rs. 40 lakh event.

Patna’s Aman Raj (68-71-70-66) too shot a 66 on day four to take the third place at 13-under 275.

Baisoya, the overnight leader by four shots, had a nervy start to the day as he made some tough par putts from five to six feet on the first six holes



even as the likes of Angad Cheema and Kartik Sharma piled on the pressure on the leader with early birdies.

Baisoya almost found the hole with his chip on the seventh but eventually tapped in for his first birdie of the day. A 20-foot birdie conversion followed on the ninth as he made the turn with a two-shot cushion.

He dropped his first bogey of the tournament when he three-putted on the 13th. That narrowed down his lead over Veer Ahlawat to just two shots.

Baisoya made a final push for victory with birdies on the

14th and 15th as a result of some long conversions thanks to his new putter.

The 25-year-old landed his approach from 134 yards to within a foot to set up another birdie on the 17th that all but sealed the deal for him.

“It still feels like a dream because till last week I was very low on confidence and not even sure of shooting an under-par score. So this win is all the more special,” said Baisoya, who had just one top-20 from 10 starts in the season. “Normally I’m a very aggressive player but with the confidence not being up there I

tried to play more conservatively than I usually do. I used the 2-iron a lot and struck it to perfection all week.

“I also didn’t make mistakes on the green like I had done in preceding events. The goal this week was to make the cut and I ended up winning. So it’s still sinking in,” added Baisoya, who took home the winner’s cheque worth Rs. 6,46,600.

Ahlawat posted his second straight runner-up finish on the PGTI to move up from fifth to third in the Order of Merit.

Raj’s 66 lifted him seven places to the third position. He made seven birdies and a bogey. Om Prakash Chouhan (66) of Mhow and Panchkula’s Angad Cheema (70) shared fourth place at 12-under 276.

Delhi’s Chiragh Kumar (67) finished a further shot back in sixth place at 11-under 277.

Kolkata’s Viraj Madappa shot the day’s lowest score of 65 to secure tied seventh along with Kartik Sharma (72) of Gurugram at 10-under 278.

## Mohammad Hussamuddin enters quarterfinals at National Boxing Championships

PTI ■ BELLARY (KARNATAKA)

Commonwealth Games bronze medalist Mohammad Hussamuddin (57kg) stormed into the quarterfinals with a 5-0 win over Chhattisgarh’s Sahil at the National Boxing Championships here on Saturday. Defending champion Hussamuddin, who is representing Services Sports Control Board (SSCB), displayed smart and mature boxing and landed plenty of punches to secure a unanimous 5-0 win.

He will face Rushikesh Goud of Maharashtra on Sunday.

In the other round of 16 match in the 57kg category, Haryana’s Sachin was up against Manipur’s Jobison Yengkokpam.

World youth champion Sachin, who caused a huge upset on Friday by defeating

world championship medallist Gaurav Bidhuri, made light work of his opponent and won 5-0 to book his spot in the quarters. In 54kg, Goa’s Roshan Zamir produced a dominant show in the last round to outwit Suraj Bhan Singh of Rajasthan 3-2 in one of the closest bouts of the day.

Rajasthan’s Bhim Pratap Singh (51kg) and Delhi’s Rohit Mor (57kg) too progressed into the quarterfinals with identical 5-0 victories on the fourth day of the championships.

In the 60kg match, Tripura’s Parvinder Poonia beat Prabhu Murali of Tamil Nadu 5-0. Chandigarh’s Aman (67kg) and Sachin (71kg) impressed everyone with their attacking boxing as both of them won after forcing the referee to stop the contest (RSC) in the second round and sailed into the quarters.

## Young, stacked US team faces familiar battle in Ryder Cup

AP ■ GOLF WRITER

The Americans would seem to have a lot in their favor at the Ryder Cup.

They are on home soil at the Whistling Straits along the Wisconsin shores of Lake Michigan. A full house is expected, along with louder than usual cheering for the Stars & Stripes because of COVID-19 travel restrictions for European-based fans. As for the players? Younger than ever, to be sure, but no less stacked. The Americans have eight of the top 10 in the world ranking — Europe only has Jon Rahm at No. 1 — on a team that has won twice as many majors.

This is nothing new, of course. With one exception, the Americans always bring a better collection of players to the Ryder Cup. They just rarely leave with the precious gold trophy.

“We have the best players this year,” said Paul Azinger, the lead analyst for NBC Sports who still uses pronouns as if it were 2008 when he was the U.S. captain. “And obviously, they (Europe) roll in with the most confidence and maybe the best team.”

The trick is getting the American players to realize that. At the last Ryder Cup in France three years ago, the U.S. was just as loaded, with nine major champions on the 12-man squad who had combined to win 10 of the last 16 majors.

They got smoked again.

“I feel like on paper, from head to toe, the world ranking, I would say we’re a stronger team,” U.S. captain Steve Stricker said. “But I don’t think our guys feel we’re better. They know deep down how hard it is to beat them.” All that matters on paper are the results. Europe has won nine of the last 12 times in the Ryder Cup. And while the U.S. still holds a 26-14-2 advantage



dating to the start in 1927, that’s not the real measure. Continental Europeans did not join the fray until 1979, and since then they are 11-8-1.

Europe, with Padraig Harrington now at the helm of the juggernaut, tries to extend its dominance at the 43rd Ryder Cup, which was postponed one year because of the pandemic.

Three relentless days of matches Sept. 24-26 will be held at Whistling Straits, the cliffside course with 1,000 or so bunkers that has hosted the PGA Championship three times in the last 17 years. American players, it should be noted, have been runner-up in all three.

Why do the Europeans keep winning the Ryder Cup?

They relish the role as underdogs. They seem to play with a chip on their shoulders, perhaps because the Americans don’t — and probably should — have one on theirs. “That’s our advantage, I guess, in a way, right?” Ian Poulter said in a SiriusXM PGA Tour Radio interview. “That we have delivered when perhaps we shouldn’t have delivered. And this is the magical question that gets asked all the time. That’s what has the American press scratching their head. That’s what has the American team scratching their heads at times.

On paper — on paper — the U.S. team should have delivered.

“It’s for us to enjoy and for the American team to figure out,” he said. “There is a level of magic sauce which we’ve been able to create over the years.”

Europe is bringing winning experience to Wisconsin.

Lee Westwood ties a European record by playing in his 11th Ryder Cup at age 48. He joins Sergio Garcia, already with the highest points total in history, on a short list of those who have played in Ryder Cups over parts of four decades. Garcia has contributed 25 1/2 points, the same amount as this entire U.S. team combined.

Whatever experience the Americans bring are mostly bad memories. Their lone victory in the last decade was at Hazeltine in 2016 against a European team that had six rookies. Only one of them, Matt Fitzpatrick, made it back on another team.

The six rookies are the most for the Americans since 2008 when they won at Valhalla.

Those include Collin Morikawa, who was an amateur when the last Ryder Cup was played and since then has won two majors, a World Golf Championship and led the U.S. standings in his first year of eligibility.

## Lewandowski scores again as Bayern Munich routs Bochum 7-0

AP ■ BERLIN

Robert Lewandowski scored yet again as Bayern Munich’s 7-0 rout of promoted Bochum in the Bundesliga on Saturday.

Lewandowski stretched his scoring run to 19 consecutive games across all competitions for Bayern. The Poland star’s second half goal also ensured he became the first Bundesliga player to score in 13 consecutive home games.

Bayern was already confident after starting the Champions League on Tuesday beating Barcelona 3-0, while Bochum arrived in Munich after two league defeats.

The visitors made a solid start until Leroy Sané opened the scoring with a brilliant free kick in the 17th minute. It was Bayern’s first shot on target.



Sané set up Joshua Kimmich in the 27th and Serge Gnabry picked the far corner for Bayern’s third in the 32nd.

An own goal from Vasilios Lampropoulos completed a first half to forget for Bochum — though history

## Mane reaches 100 goals for Liverpool in 3-0 win over Palace



AP ■ LIVERPOOL

Sadio Mane scored for the ninth straight time against Crystal Palace and reached 100 goals for Liverpool to set his team on its way to a 3-0 win in the English Premier League on Saturday. The Senegal forward got to the milestone at Anfield by converting from close range in the 43rd minute after Mohamed Salah’s header from a

corner was parried out by Palace goalkeeper Vicente Guaita. Of Mane’s century of goals for the Reds, which have come in 224 games, 10 have been scored against Palace.

Salah added the second in the 78th and that also came from a corner, with the Egypt international volleying in after a delivery from the left was deflected to him at the back post. Naby Keita scored the best of the lot in the 89th minute with a volley from the edge of the area after the ball was punched clear by Guaita. It proved to be a tough game for Liverpool, which was without its two attacking full backs because Trent Alexander-Arnold was ill and Andrew Robertson was rested, and there were some nervy moments before Salah’s goal. Liverpool has won four of its five games in the league and conceded only once, its improved defensive showings coinciding with the return from injury of center back Virgil van Dijk.

## Falcao scores in debut as Rayo beats Getafe 3-0

AP ■ BARCELONA

Radamel Falcao scored 10 minutes into his debut with Rayo Vallecano on Saturday, completing a 3-0 league win over Getafe in a derby between the Spanish capital’s two more modest clubs.

The veteran striker went on as a 71st-minute substitute with Rayo 1-0 ahead. Midfielder Pathé Ciss doubled the lead shortly before he set up Falcao with a pass for the Colombian to score from an angle.

Oscar Trejo had put Rayo ahead with a penalty nine minutes into the match at Vallecas Stadium.

Rayo goalkeeper Stole Dimitrievski denied Getafe a late goal when he saved Enes Unal’s penalty.

Rayo has two wins, a draw, and two defeats in its return to Spain’s top division. Getafe is



last after losing all five games. The 35-year-old Falcao signed with Rayo earlier this month as a free agent.

“I had dreamed of being able to go out there and score a goal,” Falcao said. “My team-

mates have given me a lot of support. I feel right at home.”

Falcao had two highly successful seasons with Atlético Madrid from 2011-13, when he helped it win the Europa League and the Copa del Rey.



# the pioneer agenda

FROM THE INSIDE



## Taming the dragon

*Blinkers Off* serves as an important tool in understanding that the threat Beijing poses is multi-dimensional, & response to it should also be the same

2



4

## Turn Ahamkara into asset

How you negotiate the present, defines the way future may unfold, and which could stretch on even to the next birth

You have to be the best of whatever you are, but successful, cool actresses come in all shapes and sizes  
—Jessica Alba



# MAKING OTT PLATFORMS PROFITABLE IN INDIA



If streaming services are looking at making profits in India, they should adapt to regional realities, start thinking creatively and take a leaf out of what has worked globally, writes AJAYYA KUMAR

The Covid-19 induced lockdown might have given a shot in the arm for streaming services, but making substantial profits in the Indian market still remains an elusive dream for most of them. In the financial year 2020, Netflix India recorded a revenue of Rs 924 Crore and managed to eke out a marginal profit of Rs 9 crore. The streaming giant's overall profits globally for the same year stood at a whopping \$2.8 billion.

Disney+Hotstar in India, on the other hand, recorded revenue to the tune of Rs 1629 Crore with losses amounting to Rs 362 crore. Hotstar is currently India's largest streaming platform with a subscriber base of 300 million.

According to an analysis by Media Partners Asia, India's online video market is projected to grow at a CAGR of 26 per cent over 2020-25 to reach US\$4.5 billion. Another report by Boston Consulting Group notes that the OTT video streaming market alone in India is set to touch US\$5 billion by 2023. And for a share of this pie contend not just Netflix, Amazon Prime, and Disney+Hotstar, but around 30 streaming platforms including AltBalaji, Zee5, SonyLiv, MXPlayer, ManoramaMax, Neestream, and so on.

The right revenue model still remains an enigma, thanks to the uniqueness of the Indian market. There are no proven models in the Indian media industry to show that subscription-led growth is if at all possible. Be it the newspapers or entertainment channels, the advertisement brings in the lion's share of the revenue. While Netflix and Amazon Prime banks entirely on subscriber revenue, Disney+Hotstar which has a base of both paid and unpaid subscribers see its share of ad revenue coming in through the advertisements shown to the unpaid subscribers. While it is yet to be cracked which of these models would ultimately work, there are few things streaming platforms could work on meanwhile.

### EXPLORE THE UNEXPLORED

On June 1, 2021, a review of the Malayalam Movie *Joji*, starring Fahadh Fazil and directed by Dileesh Pothan, appeared in *The New Yorker* magazine. This wasn't the first time the international magazine reviewed an Indian movie. In fact, on April 15 it had published Richard Brody's take on *Duvidha*, the 1973 film by Mani Kaul. But *Joji* was different. For one it was a regional language movie. And rarely has international media recognised non-Hindi movies, probably with the exception of the works of Satyajit Ray, as Indian movies. To take a review seriously or not is one thing. But to me, it was the beginning of a change; Undeniably the world is starting to take note of Indian regional content, especially from the South. Now, this is a moment to be seized; not only by the language movie industry but also by the OTT players that are looking to turn profitable in the Indian market.

If *Joji* premiered on Amazon Prime, *The Great Indian Kitchen*, yet another Malayalam movie that garnered critical acclaim from across the world, made its first appearance on Neestream, a regional OTT platform. The movie later became available on Amazon Prime too. *Nayattu* and *Jagame Thandhiram* streaming on Netflix, *C U Soon*, *Kuruthi* and *Karnan* streaming on Amazon Prime and *Netrikam* streaming on Disney+Hotstar are some of the notable movies from regional productions that premiered on international OTT platforms during the pandemic season. Some of the other notable Malayalam films currently streaming include *Aarkkariyam* and *Santhoshathinte Onnam Rahasyam*, while the Tamil movie industry came together to produce the anthology *Navarasa* now running on Netflix.

Meanwhile what particularly stands out is the glaring absence of any noteworthy productions from the behemoth that is Bollywood. Clearly, it is the regional language movies that have helped the streaming platforms to offer a diverse range of content and cash in on the subscription surge during the pandemic. This is a signboard. The first step towards profitability for OTT platforms is to spot the industries that are nimble, agile, dynamic and quick to adapt to the changing socio-economic circumstances. But the efforts shouldn't stop at simply sourcing the content. Given the diversity of movie industries in India, streaming platforms are looking at a cornucopia of possibilities.

Let's start from the South. Given the high literacy rates in the Southern states, OTT platforms are looking at a large market for their English and international content. While *The New Yorker* might have reviewed *Joji* this year, what is to be noted is that there already exists an international audience for Malayalam movies and a Malayali audience for international movies, thanks to IFFK and various other film festivals.

Then there is the large Indian diaspora outside the country. According to a report by the United Nations, India has the world's largest diaspora population — 18 million — living outside the country. A large part of them is Malayalis, Tamils, and Punjabis. In other words, by exploring regional content, streaming platforms would be striking a goldmine.

### OFFER MORE DIVERSITY, LEARN FROM WHAT HAS WORKED INTERNATIONALLY

Streaming services in India should take a leaf out of what has worked internationally for their global counterparts.

According to news reports, French show *Lupin* streamed on Netflix held the number one spot in countries like Brazil, Argentina, Germany, Italy and Spain and the number two spot in the US. This only means one thing — out there, there seems to be a genuine and ever-increasing demand for premium non-Anglophone content. In this sense, India is a

“ ACCORDING TO AN ANALYSIS BY MEDIA PARTNERS ASIA, INDIA'S ONLINE VIDEO MARKET IS PROJECTED TO GROW AT A CAGR OF 26 PER CENT OVER 2020-25 TO REACH US\$4.5 BILLION. ANOTHER REPORT BY BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP NOTES THAT THE OTT VIDEO STREAMING MARKET ALONE IN INDIA IS SET TO TOUCH US\$5 BILLION BY 2023. AND FOR A SHARE OF THIS PIE CONTEND NOT JUST NETFLIX, AMAZON PRIME, AND DISNEY+HOTSTAR, BUT AROUND 30 STREAMING PLATFORMS INCLUDING ALTBALAJI, ZEE5, SONYLIV, MXPLAYER, MANORAMAMAX, NEESTREAM, AND SO ON

goldmine for streaming services with its linguistic diversity.

But linguistic diversity alone doesn't serve the purpose. Barring a handful of shows or movies, Indian content has not been able to create much of a ripple in the international arena, owing to the relatively poor quality of the content.

Now here is something to consider. One of the features that have set Netflix a class apart from its competitors globally is its huge investment in original content. Reports suggest that in 2019 about 85% of its new spending was set apart for original content, more than any of its competitors dared to. In India too Netflix has taken a lead by setting up its first global post-production facility in Mumbai.

Producing original content of all hues and (Indian) languages with strict quality checks for a pan-Indian and international audience could work magic for Indian streaming services. Keep experimenting and do not hesitate to disrupt your own revenue/content models if need be. Because now this is a bus that OTT platforms cannot afford to miss.

### ROPE IN THE STALWARTS

What streaming platforms should further aim is to bring traditional producers into their folds. If the initial focus of OTT platforms was to license existing content, the pandemic has changed their course of action to producing original content and premiering movies. But there is still a large section of producers who are wary of these platforms. These traditional producers have been deciding the ways of the industry for a long time. Many of them are actors and even superstars controlling production, distribution, and the overall dynamics of the industry. Alienating them or even appearing as a threat to their business would in no way bode well for the new-age players.

But if streaming platforms could come up with ways to accommodate them and make a business model around it, it would be a win-win for all. OTT services so far have more or less been working with the new crop of movie makers from the regional cinema and have been able to successfully give shape to new movie aesthetics and language. Roping in the traditional players would be the cherry on top and will help attract a wider segment of the audience. For example, consider streaming services tying up with AMMA, the Association of Malayalam Movie Artists. Such a partnership would mean that now the streaming services would get to enjoy the benefits of the clout wielded by the stalwarts of the industry, while the industry reaps the benefits of being in alliance with platforms that are international, sophisticated, and professional. If streaming services this way get a dip at the massive pool of talent, for artists and technicians it would mean more work even during crisis times like the pandemic and therefore more stability.

Such partnerships would also help to usher in a world where theatres do not view OTT platforms as a threat. It would open up a new world of complementary existence where theatres would still benefit from the rush during the initial release and for sustained viewing and wider reach, there would be the OTTs. And no doubt, the ultimate winner would be the movie itself which would get the grand release it deserves without worrying about 'running' days being cut short as new movies come in.

In a nutshell, being creative in the ways it associates with the movie industry and its stakeholders should be the way forward for OTT services.

### EXPERIMENT WITH DYNAMIC CONTENT

While all that is said about static content, what still remains uncharted territory for streaming services is dynamic content. Exploring live content like music concerts and stand-up comedy will help the OTT players further their reach and bring in a new audience who have been deprived of live shows during the pandemic. It is in fact surprising that such programmes are still largely hosted on video communication platforms like Zoom given that the pandemic has been the perfect opportunity for the Netflixes and Amazon Primes of the world to experiment with it.

If you are further looking to expand your reach, ever thought of news and the popularity of news programmes in India? Sure, there may be regulatory issues for OTT channels to broadcast news as of now. But, learn from the radio. In India, All India Radio holds the right to broadcast news and current affairs programmes, and private broadcasting stations are prohibited from airing the same. But several FM stations have found workarounds in the form of programmes that are satirical takes on current affairs or other fun variations which are essentially not news programmes, but yet manage to pass on the news to the audience. To sum it up, be creative. If OTT platforms could come up with shows similar to that of 'Last Week Tonight with John Oliver' it is bound to capture the attention of a huge section of the audience.

There is also a growing audience for art and science content. Although streaming services have covered this to an extent, to make it a more balanced mix would be a welcome move.

All that said and done, ultimately the success and profitability of OTT platforms would depend on how well they can gel with our lifestyles. Movies and theatres succeeded by doing the same, by being our oases of entertainment and our weekly escape from reality. Streaming services should pull all stops to replicate the same and leave no stone unturned in this journey.

*The writer is an ethical Investor, start-up mentor, art curator and author*



Excerpted with permission from *Swimming Against the Tide: True Story of Para Swimmer* by Madhavi Latha Prathigudupu, published by SAGE Publications India



# Challenges before US in post-Taliban Af

With great power comes great responsibility. This age-old maxim is a pertinent poser before the American defence and strategic dispensation in a post-Taliban Afghanistan. Americans call their humanitarian and democratic zeal in Afghanistan part of their super cop and regulator stature imbued with yeomanly and philanthropic verve. Undeniably, there is an iota of value-laden foreign policy analysis premised upon what transpires in the larger global polity and the regional dynamics of South Asia. One can also cite, as an attendant strategic constraint, America's failure to justify the long war, as far as the American presence in Afghanistan after September 11 is concerned. President Joe Biden arranged for the American withdrawal from the twilight zone's battle stations but it is not his personal decision. The decision to make the exit had already been taken by President Donald Trump where-in, a deal was struck with the marauding Taliban that Afghanistan will not be deftly utilised as a springboard for terror attacks on the American homeland. President Biden has merely walked the talk as he persisted with the White House's decision to evacuate the American interests from Afghanistan as the culmination of a mission.

The question that we need to ponder over is that is it the kosher time to leave Afghanistan? And, are the detractors correct when they contend that when the United States of America could not neutralise the Taliban in a two decade-long "Long Occupation" and the attendant "Long War", could they have made a difference in the political and security scenario after the Kabul's state forces collapsed without waging any major semblance of aggression and resistance.

Now, in the aftermath of the IS Kohorasan machinated casualties of American marines at the Kabul Airport, will Washington carry out a mission as they had done in 2014 in Iraq as the power vacuum there had been surreptitiously occupied by the Islamic State and its novae dictum of territorial dominance. One opinion contends that the US could have negotiated with the Taliban in Qatar and also continued to aid and abet the battle in the twilight zone of

Afghanistan. American presence was required as it was hugely successful in diminishing the influence and the advent of the nefarious Islamic State (ISIS). American interests could have stayed on till the menace of the Taliban was completely eradicated. With the Pakistan strategic depth in the west of the contested Durand line, it was difficult for the US to topple the Taliban juggernaut. The excruciatingly high pace of a week within which the Mullah Baradar's men overtook the entire nation was not adequately forecasted by the American think tanks and the American Fourth Estate. The US denomination was expecting the fall of the Taliban in two to three months but the mind boggling one sidedness of the long war's culmination left even the most hardened analysts flummoxed by the high riding military spectacle of the Taliban vis-a-vis the defence strivings forwarded by the NATO aided and US backed ANSF.

Now, as the Taliban have emerged triumphant in Kabul and beyond the capital, what one can eke out for the role-play of the Americans? Though it would be too far-fetched to compare the American withdrawal with the dirty war, that is, the American intervention in Vietnam, still, the American resolve has not been so quintsessentially steely and stealthy as was expected when the outcome of the American nay-saying is there to be witnessed and captioned by all and sundry. America would either have to rebalance its ties with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in the light of Prime Minister Imran Khan shamelessly wishing for the Taliban's ascendance along with his ISI chief's hobnobbing with the Taliban. As Pakistan has always enjoyed the status of a frontline state for the US, one can witness a re-run of the eighties and nineties when the Americans seldom quizzed Pakistan about their efforts in propping up the Taliban's fervid Frankenstein.

The US will have its task cut out as the New Delhi dispensation will point at the new camaraderie which has been spawned between the Taliban and Chinese President Xi Jinping. Since the last couple of years, a few Taliban negotiators have visited Beijing and it appears as the wraith of China-Taliban nexus rolls



out, the Taliban have promised China of not letting Afghanistan turn a springboard for anti-China forces. The Taliban's promissory note contends that Taliban will not let ETIM (East Turkistan Islamic Movement) foment insidious acts of separatism and insurgency in the turbulent province of Xinxiang in China and also the Taliban have expressed a desire to invite the OBOR and BRI initiative akin to the CPEC in Pakistan in order to take up the mantle of development and growth in Afghanistan. America can be assaulted with terror attacks as its widely believed that the Taliban have well delineated linkages with al-Qaeda which can utilise the Afghani space as a platform and rostrum for planning and executing ministrations against the American homeland as they had done twenty odd years back at the World Trade Towers behemoth as posited by the American Secretary

of State, Anthony Blinken. President Biden too dished out heady rhetoric when he vowed to avenge the death of American marines at the Kabul Airport as he declared, "We will not be inactive. The perpetrators of the American casualties will be dealt with assiduously, with alacrity and immediately".

C Rajamohan astutely declares and analyses in the *Foreign Policy* magazine that, "The withdrawal of all US troops from Afghanistan is likely to accelerate current trends in India's relations with the US, China, and Russia: greater cooperation with Washington, deeper conflicts with Beijing, and wider fissures in the traditional strategic partnership with Moscow. Reinforcing these structural shifts — and their mirror image — are Pakistan's changing relations with the US, China, and Russia."

Thus, it is bound to witness a splurge in the context of systemic and

structural modifications as far as India and the US are concerned. The proximity of the Indian State of Kashmir to Kabul and the rekindled Pakistan's ambition might bring the White House and New Delhi closer to each other as it's the very own dictum of the US, GWOT, (Global War on Terror), which is bound to take a new violent turn in the near future.

Also, the American strategy of containing terrorism originating from Rawalpindi might too become much more hoarse and strident leading to a further wedge in the relationship between Islamabad and Washington. The White House needs to realise that India will be impacted by the jihad from Taliban-occupied Afghanistan, though the Taliban have promised otherwise. The million dollar pertinent question is how can a terror group be venerated and relied upon when the US too has listed several of the members of

the Taliban Government as terrorists. Can the Americans trust a nation whose cabinet ministers ride in SUVs and carry guns in meetings in the Presidential house with the heady rolls of bullets hanging afire. It brings us back to the strivings of Jaswant Singh during the Indian passenger plane's hijacking to Kandahar.

The same game returns akin to the classical great game but it is very apparent that if the terror factory and enterprise goes awry in Afghanistan, then the US might have to rethink on a "re-surge" of intervention in order to stem a conflagration in South Asia. And is it a mission unaccomplished, as far as, the reconstruction and nation building responsibilities of the US go?

(The writer teaches at International Relations and International Organisations, IIPA, New Delhi)

The million dollar pertinent question is how a terror group can be venerated and relied upon when the US too has listed several of the members of the Taliban Government as terrorists. Also, the American strategy of containing terrorism originating from Rawalpindi might become much more hoarse and strident leading to a further wedge in the relationship between Islamabad and Washington



MANAN DWIVEDI

## PERSPECTIVE

# Abraham Accords for peace in West Asia a misnomer

Establishing normal ties among the nations is a positive development in international relations. However, the Abraham Accords do not promise any hope for normalcy between Israel and the rest of West Asia. The central point here is the establishment of the Palestinian state. The great peacemakers and the global governance institutions are mute spectators to one of the oldest boiling points of West Asia — Palestine. Unless the issue of a permanent Palestine is addressed, the Abraham Accords will simply turn into a footnote for sure



MAKHAN SAIKIA

The historic Abraham Accords completed one year this week. Hopes and fears, as expected, have continued in the West Asian region since then. The agreement has heralded no credible peace so far. But the pact has marked a fundamental shift in Arab-Israeli relations. Of course, the Donald Trump Administration then, amid all the chaos, had brought three warring nations — Israel, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Bahrain — to the negotiation table.

Foreign policy experts across the globe are divided on the reasons for the signing of the Abraham Accords. This agreement, signed on September 15, 2020, by Israel, the UAE and Bahrain, and mediated by the US, has paved the way for normalisation of relations among three nations in West Asia. It was indeed an unprecedented move initiated by the Trump Administration. Basically, this 12-point agreement highlights the much-needed peace to be brought in among these rival nations in the region. In fact, the name "Abraham" was accorded to the treaty to honour the patriarchy of three most significant monotheistic religions on this earth — Islam, Christianity and Judaism. Known as the "Father of Faith", Abraham can well be regarded as the unifier of all the three religions as they all draw their origin from him only.

While signing the agreement, the UAE and Bahrain pledged to normalise relations with Israel. Interestingly, within a week of the signing of the accords, the two other Muslim nations from the African continent Sudan and Morocco followed suit. What was surprising was that the issue of Palestine was nowhere pegged to the accords by the signatories. Precisely, the unrest in Palestine has been the hornets' nest for decades now for which Israel has turned out to be the arch enemy of many of these Arab nations in the region. Another striking point was



that the UAE and other signatories to the agreement did not demand more critical concessions like the end of Israeli annexation of more territories or most importantly, the final establishment of a Palestinian state in the region. Truly, all these could have been set as preconditions for signing the historic pact.

It clearly shows how the parties to the pact and its high-profile mediator, Trump, were trying to push the vexed issues to the background. And, thus the understanding among all the three rival nations of West Asia seemed more like a business deal than a historic diplomatic milestone. Further, the international community must note here that the last year's deal demanded that Israel refrain from *de jure* annexation of territories in the most contested region. But then who could stop Israel today? Everyone knows how outgoing Israeli Prime Minister

Benjamin Netanyahu pursued his larger goal to establish the legitimacy of the state of Israel. And for all practical purposes, he received full support of the Trump Administration. This accords, in fact, helped Netanyahu get some important benefits like: first, he proved himself as a world statesman among his voters and sympathisers when he was facing serious allegations of corruption back home; second, he managed to make peace with the Arabs during his reign, but not with the Palestinians; and finally, he was cleverly diverting the attention of the Israeli public from the mismanagement of the Covid crisis by his office. In all, Netanyahu tried to enhance his image and pushed back the Palestinian cause much farther.

All the signatories to the Abraham Accords are still enemies. But then why such rival nations wanted to come to the negotiation

table? Was it because of America's intervention, both for long-term business interest and for achieving another milestone in global peace and diplomacy? Many experts say that some of the Gulf States like the UAE, having a global ambition, rightly see business opportunities in the normalisation of relations with Israel. It seems Washington has already promised Abu Dhabi advanced weapons like the F-35 stealth fighter and the EA-18 G Growler electronic warfare aircraft. All these were once inconceivable for the UAE, and these armouries are needed both to demonstrate regional leadership and possibly to effectively counter Iran, its potential enemy on the other side of the Gulf. And the interesting point is that both Israel and the US are equally suspicious of the role of Iran like the way it is perceived by the Emiratis and Bahrain. Till 1969, Iran used to claim

Bahrain as a part of its territory. Therefore, even today, the restive Shia majority of Bahrain is regarded as the fifth column of Iran by the successive rulers of the country. The UAE and Bahrain can easily explore business opportunities in Israel, particularly in its most advanced high-tech sector. On the other hand, these two Gulf states can easily attract millions of Israeli tourists who are avid holiday makers.

Another significant impact of the deal is that Iran is now fully surrounded by all its enemies in the region — the Sunni regimes accompanied by an all-powerful Israel. This agreement has added pressure both to the clerics and to the political leadership of Iran. Besides the tough economic sanctions of Washington, Teheran is now facing a strong strategic pain. Clearly, once again Palestinians who have been waiting for a homeland are feeling betrayed by the accords. This agreement breaks the decades-long understanding among the Arab nations that the normal ties with Israel could be established only when an independent Palestinian state would be formed. Sadly, since 2020, Israel is coming closer to major nations of West Asia and Africa while continuing its occupation both in the West Bank and in the East Jerusalem.

Moreover, the accords have enhanced the status of Israel in the West Asian region. In a sense, it has clearly put an end to its isolation among the Arab nations. And definitely, America is celebrating after offering Israel a golden opportunity to establish its identity among the most powerful Gulf States of the zone.

Today, West Asia is trembling as paradigm shift is happening faster than expected. Stable peace still eludes West Asia. And the question is how far? Probably, chaos in this part of Asia is a never-ending process. Frankly speaking, estab-

lishing normal ties among the nations is a positive development in international relations, but when it comes to Abraham Accords, it could be a misnomer to say so. Nowhere does it promises any hope for normalcy between Israel and the rest of West Asia. The central point here is the establishment of the Palestinian state. And it is not happening and may not come to reality soon. This agreement was a great victory for Trump, the crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and the de facto ruler of the Emiratis Mohammed bin Zayed, Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia Mohammed bin Salman, and then Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu. In fact, all of them needed the accords more than anyone else.

Today, the Joe Biden Administration is fully supportive of normalisation of relations between Israel and the rest of the Arab nations. But unfortunately, his regime is not able to offer the same inducements to Naftali Bennett, the new Prime Minister of Israel. And the situation in West Asia has remained the same as every single day new wounds are appearing both in West Bank and in East Jerusalem. The Palestinians are crying foul over the occupation of their land. The great peacemakers and the global governance institutions are mute spectators to one of the oldest boiling points of West Asia, i.e. Palestine. Finally, unless the Israeli occupation ends and the issue of a permanent Palestine is addressed, the Abraham Accords will simply turn into a footnote for sure.

(Dr Makhan Saikia has taught political science and international relations for over a decade in institutions of national and international repute after specialisation in globalisation and governance from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. He is the chief editor of the Journal of Global Studies, an international research journal)



