

OPINION 6
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NEW DELHI, FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 3, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹3



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Pioneer office was Dr Mitra's first home

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

For nearly two-and-half decades, Dr Chandan Mitra's name was synonymous with *The Pioneer*. On Wednesday night, the organisation's helmsman left — left forever — leaving behind his devastated wife, Shobori Ganguli, two sons — Kushan Mitra and Shakya Mitra — and an extended family of colleagues and loved ones.

Dr Mitra, 66, passed away late on Wednesday. He has been keeping unwell for the last one year.

Dr Mitra was a man of many seasons. A two-time member of the Rajya Sabha, an avid reader, a movie buff, a passionate traveller, and, above all, an editor with a sharp political mind and ear to the ground.

Dr Mitra was an alumnus of La Martiniere Calcutta. From there, he went to St. Stephen's College, Delhi, where he was highly active in Left-wing students' politics. Mitra received an MA and MPhil in History from Delhi University and briefly taught at Hansraj College.

In 1984, Mitra received a doctorate at Oxford University, where he was a member of Magdalen College. The subject of the thesis was "Political mobilisation and the nationalism movement in India — a study of eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, 1936-1942".

Mitra's baptism in journalism started as an Assistant Editor with *The Statesman* in Kolkata. Then he shifted to the *Times of India* in Delhi and then to *Sunday Observer*. He was the Executive Editor of *Hindustan Times* before he joined *The Pioneer* in 1997.

Dr Mitra is one of the few journalists who accepted the challenges of running a newspaper as owners, too. When Thapars handed him over *The Pioneer* in 1998, there was all-around skepticism about Dr Mitra's ability to save the news-



Family and close ones pay their last respects to former Rajya Sabha member and *The Pioneer* Editor-in-Chief Dr Chandan Mitra at the Lodhi Road crematorium in New Delhi on Thursday. Pioneer photo

paper from going bust. The Thapars had sunk in a fortune in the newspaper and left behind a rudderless organisation. Dr Mitra understood the enormity of his challenge and convened a meeting of the staff where he told them that the future looked uncertain and people were free to stay on if they were ready to go without salary for months. It was a frank admission by a man who had little knowledge of managing a business enterprise.

In the years to come, Dr Mitra presided over the turnaround of *The Pioneer* and transformed it into a newspaper which grew leaps and bounds, from two editions in 1995 to eight editions now. He

also introduced the *Hindi Thapars* had sunk in a fortune in the newspaper and left behind a rudderless organisation. Dr Mitra understood the enormity of his challenge and convened a meeting of the staff where he told them that the future looked uncertain and people were free to stay on if they were ready to go without salary for months. It was a frank admission by a man who had little knowledge of managing a business enterprise.

Dr Mitra was gifted with a sharp political mind. He had his pulse on Indian politics. In the 1995 Bihar Assembly polls, when everyone was busy writing off Lalu Prasad, Dr Mitra predicted a landslide for him. The poll outcome and his projections matched nearly seat to seat. Even now, journalists and politicians in Bihar remember Dr Mitra for that bold "against-the-current swim".

His passion for politics and his affable ways won him many friends and admirers across party lines.

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India mourns death of trailblazer Editor



Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with Dr Chandan Mitra during an election rally

File photo

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Tributes poured in for Dr Chandan Mitra, 66, who passed away late last night after being ill for some time, with the President, the Prime Minister, Union Ministers and senior party leaders recalling his robust contribution to journalism as his teary-eyed colleague and fellow journalists remembered him as a good friend, mentor and for his "old-fashioned decency".

Prime Minister Narendra Modi took to Twitter to condole Mitra's demise. "Shri Chandan Mitra Ji will be remembered for his intellect and insights. He distinguished himself in the world of media as well as politics. Anguished by his demise. Condolences to his family and admirers. Om Shanti," the PM tweeted.

President Ram Nath Kovind said, "Chandan Mitra was an outstanding journalist and his stint as a parliamentarian added to his reputation. His understanding of Hindi heartland and its history was profound. His demise leaves a void in Indian journalism. My heartfelt condolences to his family and friends."

The distinguished Editor of *The Pioneer* was penning his biography. "I am on to it but there is no time to complete it," he once said in his office while detailing his love for dogs, here, there and elsewhere.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said she was sad to hear about Mitra's death. "Mitra was a commentator on life and society. His death is a great loss for the world of journalism," Mamata said in a message.

Expressing his anguish over the untimely demise of *The Pioneer* Editor, BJP president JP Nadda said Mitra would be remembered for his distinguished career in the field of media and service for people.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh described Mitra as an "immensely respected editor." "Anguished by the passing away Sh Chandan Mitra Ji. An immensely respected Editor, who led the @TheDailyPioneer

& served as a Member of Parliament. His vast experience & insightful understanding of issues always gave readers a new perspective. A huge loss for journalism," he said.

Senior BJP leader Ram Madhav described Mitra as his good friend and expressed his condolences saying "Very sorry to hear about the demise of former MP and senior journalist Sh Chandan Mitra. He was a good friend. Served on the India Foundation Board for many years until his health forced him to withdraw from public activism. Condolences to @kushanmitra and other near and dear. Om Shanti."

Rajya Sabha MP Swapan Dasgupta, an old college-time friend of Mitra, also took to Twitter to express his grief. "I lost my closest friend- Editor of *The Pioneer* & former MP Chandan Mitra this morning. We were together as students of La Martiniere & went on to St Stephen's & Oxford. We joined journalism at the same time & shared the excitement of Ayodhya & the saffron wave," he tweeted.

He posted a nostalgic photograph of Chandan Mitra and himself together during a school trip in 1972. "Be happy my dear friend wherever you are. Om Shanti," he said in another tweet.

Congress leader Shashi Tharoor, a colleague of Mitra at St Stephens, said, "Deeply saddened by this news. Chandan was my campaign manager in my successful race to be President of the St Stephen's College Union Society, served in my Cabinet & succeeded me. We remained in touch over the years, ironically till I returned to Delhi & politics separated us. RIP"

Another Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said, "Dr Chandan Mitra had friends across the political spectrum and made very learned speeches in the Rajya Sabha. Apart from his professional qualifications, his knowledge of Hindi film music was awesome, which he used with great effect in his interventions and writings."

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said he was anguished by Mitra's death. He offered condolences to his family and followers.

Union Minister Bhupender

Yadav said Mitra contributed immensely to the field of politics and journalism. "May his family find the strength to deal with the loss," he added.

The Print Editor-in-Chief Shekhar Gupta tweeted "too soon to go dear Chandan Mitra. You will be sharp, curious and large-hearted wherever you are. Among the finest reporter-editors of our generation. Never let political choices come in the way of professionalism, friendship or old-fashioned decency."

Union Minister Piyush Goyal tweeted, "Deeply saddened at the passing away of former Rajya Sabha MP and senior journalist Shri Chandan Mitra ji. His contributions to the field of media and politics will be long remembered. May God give his family the strength to overcome this loss. Om Shanti!"

Many of the journalists who were mentored by Mitra at different publications recalled his approachable attitude towards greenhorns.

Ashok Malik said, "Crushing to hear of Chandan Mitra's passing. My first boss in Delhi when I moved here in '94, learnt so much from him. A very fine mind and trailblazer in Indian journalism, with a passion for politics and a lifetime of ishq with Hindi film songs. God give him peace. Om Shanti."

"Very saddened to hear of the passing of senior colleague #ChandanMitra. Worked with him when I first joined @timesofindia, Chandan was brilliant and always encouraging, and always up for a joust. His knowledge of @INCIndia was unparalleled. Farewell Chandan. Travel well," said journalist Sagarika Ghose in her tribute.

Senior journalist Kanchan Gupta who for a long time worked with the late Editor in *The Pioneer* said, "My dear friend Chandan Mitra, editor of *The Pioneer*, is no more. May happiness travel with him to the other side. Till we meet again, memories will remain," he added in his tweet.

Insolvency Resolution Professional (IRP) of CMYK Ranjeet Verma expressed his condolence at the passing away of Dr Mitra saying, "It was an irreparable loss to *The Pioneer* family."

**CHANDAN MITRA**

December 12, 1955 — September 2, 2021

RIP Sir, we shall greatly miss you

SHEKHAR GURERA

Deeply saddened by the untimely demise of my mentor and editor of *The Pioneer*, Dr Chandan Mitra. He was a two-time Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament and a gentleman journalist; not only a fine Editor but an excellent human being with an ability to write on versatile subjects. I enjoyed his columns and speeches not just about politics but also on Bollywood, sports, music, cooking, etc. He was a voice of reason and quite an

erudite writer.

There were quite a few things about Chandan (he preferred being addressed to by his first name) that set him apart from high-flying Editors of his times. After our daily editorial meeting in office, he would often drive to Bengali Market to have Gol-gappas... In office get-together parties you could see him at dance shaking a leg with other mates at one moment, and the next he would be seen invading the gathering of junior-most employees with plateful of food

and initiating the feast.

I still remember meeting him first in June 1988, when I was a student and struggling as a freelancer for various national dailies. He was the editorial in-charge of Section 2 (Now *Delhi Times*) of *Times of India*. I was carrying a sketch of Raj Kapoor, made for *Navbharat Times* (TOI's sister publication) in my hand when I introduced myself to Chandan. He welcomed me with a smile, offered me a cup of coffee, and noticed the sketch. He asked me if he could use it for *Times*

of *India*. I readily, and happily, agreed. The next day it appeared on the front page with the news piece related to the death of the great film legend. I still have a frail copy of the edition.

Later I also worked under his editorship at the *HT* for a few years and at *The Pioneer* for more than two decades.

While most cartoonists nurse a grouse against their editors for not giving them creative freedom or desired space, I consider myself lucky enough to work under an editor who



gave me complete freedom for my work. I am grateful for the opportunities I was given to scale several heights in my career due to his confidence in me and his continued guidance. RIP Sir, we shall greatly miss you.

Shri Chandan Mitra was an outstanding journalist and his stint as a parliamentarian added to his reputation. His understanding of Hindi heartland and its history was profound. His demise leaves a void in Indian journalism. My heartfelt condolences to his family and friends

**RAM NATH KOVIND, PRESIDENT**

Deeply saddened by the demise of former Rajya Sabha Member & veteran journalist, Shri Chandan Mitra. He was an erudite & highly respected journalist and parliamentarian. His death is a personal loss to me. Om Shanti!

**VENKAIAH NAIDU, VICE-PRESIDENT**

Shri Chandan Mitra Ji will be remembered for his intellect and insights. He distinguished himself in the world of media as well as politics. Anguished by his demise. Condolences to his family and admirers. Om Shanti

**NARENDRA MODI**

Dr Chandan Mitra was known for his deep knowledge, sharp writings and contributions towards journalism and politics. Deeply anguished by his passing away. My thoughts are with his family and admirers in this hour of sadness. Om Shanti

**RAJNATH SINGH**

Saddened by the demise of Shri Chandan Mitra. He will be remembered for his contribution to the world of journalism and politics. Heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones

MAMATA BANERJEE

I lost my closest friend-editor of *Pioneer* & former MP Chandan Mitra this morning. We were together as students of La Martiniere & went on to St Stephen's & Oxford. We joined journalism at the same time & shared the excitement of Ayodhya & the saffron wave

**SWAPAN DASGUPTA**

Deeply saddened at the passing away of former Rajya Sabha MP and senior journalist Shri Chandan Mitra ji. His contributions to the field of media and politics will be long remembered. May God give his family the strength to overcome this loss. Om Shanti!

PIYUSH GOVAL

Deeply saddened by this news. Chandan was my campaign manager in my successful race to be President of the St Stephen's College Union Society, served in my Cabinet & succeeded me. We remained in touch over the years, ironically till I returned to Delhi & politics separated us. RIP

**SHASHI THAROOR**

Sad to hear of the demise of former MP and veteran journalist Shri Chandan Mitra. He was a kind person and a hub of Knowledge. My condolences to his family, colleagues and loved ones. May his soul attain sadgati. Om Shanti

**NAVEEN JINDAL**

NMC plans to sell Dangal Maidan for a pittance: AAP

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) chief spokesperson Saurabh Bhardwaj accused the BJP-ruled North Delhi Municipal Corporation (NMC) of preparing to sell the 1,100 square metre Dangal Maidan situated behind Delite Cinema at throwaway prices.

The AAP leader also alleged that the builders want to buy the land on freehold instead of leasehold because they know that the AAP will investigate the deal after coming to power and cancel it.

In the standing committee meeting held on Tuesday, the proposal was tabled, Bhardwaj said. "The BJP is convinced

that they are going to lose badly in the next MCD elections, which has caused the BJP leaders to go on a spree of selling off the MCD's assets," he said.

Refuting the charges, Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor said that the people of Delhi have stopped taking AAP leaders seriously as they keep levelling one allegation after another.

"The politics of the AAP is based on leveling serious allegations to get cheap publicity. The NMC has no proposal to sell any of its hospitals and dispensaries and any other properties," he said.

Bhardwaj had on Friday alleged that the North Corporation had sold this

"massive high-profile 1,100 sqm plot of Novelty Cinema in the commercial area for just Rs 34 crore, while its market value should have been between ₹ 125 and ₹150 crore."

The AAP leader had also alleged that the BJP-ruled NMC was fully prepared to sell 10 hospitals and one medical college to the Centre.

The proposal was put on hold after the AAP built up pressure, he said.

However, officials at the NMC said that the proposal to hand over six hospitals run by the Corporation to the Centre was on Wednesday "referred back" to the executive wing of the civic body by its standing committee.



PIC TALK



Security personnel get into a scuffle with members of the Indian Youth Congress protesting against the rise in prices of essential commodities including cooking gas, in New Delhi on Thursday. PTI

Pioneer office was Dr Mitra's first home...

From Page 1

In the BJP, both former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and veteran LK Advani were very fond of him. That proximity saw him being drawn to active politics. He was nominated as a member of the Rajya Sabha in August 2003

when Vajpayee was the PM. He was elected to another term in the Rajya Sabha as a BJP MP from Madhya Pradesh in June 2010. He did join the Trinamool Congress in 2018, but that association never went beyond a mere formality.

Despite the enormous challenges of running an organisation with falling revenue, and keeping himself afloat in the cut-throat world of politics, Dr Mitra remained a "soft and sensitive" gentleman, who would never give the

impression that he was "your boss." In fact, to many of us, who shared with him a long association going into the late 1990s, he was a friend, a mentor, and someone you could sit down with and share your most personal thoughts and dilemma.

Dr Mitra loved driving. Once in a while when after he had enough of politics and the newspaper, he would take to driving.

For him, it was not like driving to Muralth and enjoying parathas there before returning to Delhi, but it would be weeks of adventure for him. From north to south, and east to west, he would drive for months together to discover himself, and the soul of India that always mesmerised him.

The Pioneer office was the second home to Dr Mitra, who would always be there if he was in Delhi. Over cups of coffee and cigarettes, he would have engrossing discussions and debates with colleagues during the evening meetings. Even when he went home, the newspaper and day headlines occupied his mind. Whether in India or abroad, he would inevitably call the News Editor late at night and suggest or keep track of the headlines for the page one stories. When his illness confined him to his home, the office never remained the same.

Someone with an enormous lust for life, Dr Mitra will be remembered as a man with an incisive mind, a loving soul, and someone who never gave up dreaming.

39 new Covid-19 cases reported, 0.06% positivity rate in Delhi

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi reported 39 fresh cases of the Covid-19 on Thursday while the positivity rate stands at 0.06 per cent, according to data shared by the health department of the Delhi Government.

According to the bulletin the total number of fatalities stands at 25,082, while the cumulative case tally has reached 1437839. At least 60483 tests, including 42669 RTPCR/CBNAAT/TrueNat tests, were conducted in the last 24 hours," it said.

As per the bulletin, out of 12004 available beds in hospitals, 223 are occupied as on Tuesday while the rest are vacant.

As many as 141243 people have either been discharged, have recovered or migrated out, it added.

In order to deal with the possible third Covid-19 wave, the Delhi government has taken a number of measures including doubling the number of 'Intensive Care Unit' (ICU) beds since the last wave.

The city Government has been ramping up health infrastructure to prevent a repeat of the crisis witnessed during the peak of the second wave of the pandemic in April-May.

Son fires at mother during fight; Mundka woman critical

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A 35-year-old man allegedly shot and injured his 55-year-old mother following a quarrel between them in outer Delhi's Mundka area. Police said that the woman is undergoing treatment at a hospital and is said to be in a critical condition.

The injured woman has been identified as Roshini, who is currently under medical observation. Meanwhile, the accused identified as Sandeep, is absconding since the incident took place on Wednesday night. The accused is currently unemployed and was living off the rent from their village land.

According to Parvinder Singh, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Outer district, around 9 PM on Wednesday, a Police Control Room (PCR) call was received at the Mundka police station regarding the shooting incident and the injured woman was taken to the Action Balaji Hospital by a relative, Pardeep, who lives nearby, while her son is absconding.

"A preliminary enquiry revealed that Sandeep is going through a marital dispute with his wife Ritu, who lives separately in Rohini. They have

this family beautiful. We want the contribution of all the citizens of Delhi in making the parks of Delhi beautiful. Let us all contribute together in making Delhi a vibrant city. Delhi Government is committed to make Delhi a prosperous city. Beautifying all the parks of Delhi will prove to be a big step in this direction. The atmosphere of these parks will become better and citizens will be able to enjoy getting out," he said.

Delhi Government has also planned to redesign the parks so that all the parks in the capital also look as beautiful as the parks of the developed countries of the world.

"Taking stock of the suggestions from people, the entrance of the parks will be made attractive, there will be open gyms in parks, tracks will be improved for people to walk, and new different species of flowers, fruits and shady plants will be installed," the AAP leader added.

Country will become developed only if the youth is skilled: Sisodia

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Deputy Chief Minister and Education Minister Manish Sisodia Thursday felicitated the students who topped the Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) in Delhi Government's ITI.

Encouraging the youth there, Sisodia said that talented students coming out of training institutes like ITI would write a new story for the future.

"Our country will become developed only when the youth of the country is skilled. Along with getting the degree, the youth will have to become skilled," he said.

"Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there has been a lot of loss to the education of the children.

However, Delhi's ITIs are performing well in the skill education field. We are living in the era where life cannot be easy without skills. Only skilled youth can lay the foundation of a developed country. Any feedback from the students to improve ITI will be extremely useful to us so that our youth can receive world-class training," he added.



As interactions and practical learning was rare in the past 17 months Sisodia directed all the headmasters of ITIs to prepare a programme of action at the earliest for students to be given more practical work so that they have practical knowledge of their course when they seek employment.

It is noteworthy that in 19 Government ITIs of Delhi, students are provided training in 49 trades.

All these trades are affiliated to the National Council for Vocational Training. About 11,000 students enroll in these institutes every year, and after training, more than 80 per cent of the students get employment easily.

AAP Govt to revamp MAMC hostel, says Health Minister Jain



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

India's premium medical college situated in the national Capital will be revamped, Health Minister Satyendar Jain said on Thursday.

Discussing the plan with architects for the Maulana Azad Medical College hostel, Jain, who is the Public Works Department (PWD) Minister in the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Government said, "A new hostel building will be constructed. The new hostel building will enhance the capacity of the existing 438 beds to about

1,000 beds within the same budget; a cost- and design-efficient hostel building will be made."

Jain directed the officials to focus on design while making a cost-efficient structure that would be able to accommodate more students.

"A cost-efficient building should be made, taking design efficiency into account so that more students can be accommodated in the hostel. We aim to bring down the cost of the building and at the same time not compromise with the strength and design of the structure. The officials should look for innovative ways to achieve this aim," he explained.

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VARIOUS WORKS AT MUMBAI DIVISION
For & on behalf of President of India, Principal Chief Engineer, Central Railway, G.M. Building, 2nd floor, CSMT Mumbai-400001 invites e-bids at e-Procurement website, "www.ireps.gov.in".
1) Tender No.: W188C32021 Date & Time of closing: 20.09.2021 at 15:00 hrs. Brief Description of Stores: Manufacture and supply of Metal Liner for use with ERC MK-III flat toe on concrete sleeper for 60 Kg rail to Drg. No. RDSO/T-3740, Alt-6 (latest alterations) Quantity: 3,66,28,071 Numbers. EMD: Rs. 50,00,000/-
2) Tender No.: W188C632021 Date & Time of closing: 24.09.2021 at 11:15 hrs. Brief Description of Stores: Manufacture and supply of combination Metal Liner for use with ERC MK-III flat toe on concrete sleeper for 60 kg UIC rail to Drg. No. RDSO/T-3741/42 (Alt.6) with latest alterations. Quantity: 1,23,25,019 Sets. EMD: Rs. 50,00,000/-
3) Tender No.: W188C642021 Date & Time of closing: 27.09.2021 at 11:15 hrs. Brief Description of Stores: Manufacturing and Supply of Glass Filled Nylon-66 Insulating Liner for use with ERC MK-III flat toe on concrete sleeper for 60 kg UIC rail to Drg. No. RDSO/T-3706. Quantity: 2,10,17,859 Numbers. EMD: Rs. 20,00,000/-
4) Tender No.: W188C652021 Date & Time of closing: 28.09.2021 at 11:00 hrs. Brief Description of Stores: Manufacture and supply of combination Glass Filled Nylon-66 Insulating Liner for use with ERC MK-III flat toe on concrete sleeper for 60 Kg Rail conforming to Drawing No. RDSO/T-3707 & RDSO/T-3708 as per specification No. IRS-T-44-1995. Quantity: 45,66,228 Sets. EMD: Rs. 20,00,000/-
5) Tender No.: W188C662021 Date & Time of closing: 29.09.2021 at 11:00 hrs. Brief Description of Stores: Fabrication and Supply of Glued Joint for 60 kg Rail on PSC Sleeper conforming to RDSO Drg No. T-2572 (latest alteration). Quantity: 56,995 Nos. EMD: Rs. 50,00,000/-
The complete information of above E-Procurement Tender notice is available on website "http://www.ireps.gov.in". Bids other than in the form of E-bids shall not be accepted against above Tender.
Tender Notice No. 09/2021
Date : 02.09.2021 for e-Procurement.
Rail Madad Helpline: 139 383

Change of Name
It is for general information that I **Sadar Jamshed D/o. Jamshed Ahmad Khan**, Residing at R-198, GF, Lane No.5, Jogabai Extn., Jamia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi-110025, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as **Jamshed Ahmad** in my 10th Class educational documents.
The actual name of my father is **JAMSHED AHMAD KHAN**, which may be amended accordingly.

NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given that share Certificate No(s) 51108 for 100 shares(s) bearing distinctive nos. 13467701, 13467702, 13467703, 13467704, 13467705, 13467706, 13467707, 13467708, 13467709, 13467710, 13467711, 13467712, 13467713, 13467714, 13467715, 13467716, 13467717, 13467718, 13467719, 13467720, 13467721, 13467722, 13467723, 13467724, 13467725, 13467726, 13467727, 13467728, 13467729, 13467730, 13467731, 13467732, 13467733, 13467734, 13467735, 13467736, 13467737, 13467738, 13467739, 13467740, 13467741, 13467742, 13467743, 13467744, 13467745, 13467746, 13467747, 13467748, 13467749, 13467750, 13467751, 13467752, 13467753, 13467754, 13467755, 13467756, 13467757, 13467758, 13467759, 13467760, 13467761, 13467762, 13467763, 13467764, 13467765, 13467766, 13467767, 13467768, 13467769, 13467770, 13467771, 13467772, 13467773, 13467774, 13467775, 13467776, 13467777, 13467778, 13467779, 13467780, 13467781, 13467782, 13467783, 13467784, 13467785, 13467786, 13467787, 13467788, 13467789, 13467790, 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Too early to recognise Taliban: Govt

‘Talks are being held to ensure Af not used for terror activities’

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Two days after India had the first formal contact with the Taliban dispensation, the Government on Thursday said it was “still early days” to think about recognising the Taliban.

External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi also said the talks were held to ensure that Afghanistan is not used for terrorist activities.

Asked about further meetings with the Taliban that took control of Afghanistan about a fortnight back, Bagchi said he had no update on the same. “Do not want to speculate. It’s not a matter of yes and no. Our aim is that Afghanistan’s land should not be used for terror activity of any kind,” he said.

To a volley of questions on whether India would recognise a Taliban regime in the backdrop of the meeting, Bagchi

said, “It was just a meeting. I think these are very early days.”

India was not aware of any details or nature of the Government that could be formed in Afghanistan by the Taliban, he added.

Addressing a media briefing, the spokesperson said the evacuation operation that has remained halted since the past few days would resume once the Kabul airport became operational.

“Currently Kabul airport is not operational. We will resume our operation to evacuate people from Kabul as soon the airport service will resume,” he said, adding India’s current priority was the safety of Indian people in Kabul.

He said India used the first formal meeting in Doha to convey its concerns over the possible use of the Afghanistan territory for anti-India activities and to bring back the remaining Indians from Afghanistan. “We received a positive response,” he said referring to the meeting between Mittal and Stanekzai.

In a statement issued after the talks on Tuesday, the Government had said discussions focused on safety, secu-



Afghan Resistance Movement troops on a Soviet-era tank as they patrol along a road in Panjshir province

AFP

rity and early return of Indian nationals stranded in Afghanistan. The travel of Afghan nationals, especially minorities, who wish to visit to India also came up.

Mittal raised India’s concern that Afghanistan’s soil should not be used for anti-

Indian activities and terrorism. The Taliban representative assured the Indian ambassador that these issues would be positively addressed.

These assertion by the Ministry of External Affairs came in the backdrop of political leaders like former Jammu

and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah asking the Government to spell out its stand regarding the Taliban and whether it viewed it as a terrorist organisation or not.

Asking the Central Government to make up its mind on the matter, he said on Wednesday, “Either the Taliban is a terror organisation or it is not. Please clarify how you (the Government of India) see the Taliban...If it is not a terrorist organisation, please move in the UN to remove it from the list of terror organisations. Let its bank accounts start functioning. Let us not treat them differently.”

“If they are a terror organisation, why are you talking to them? If they are not a terror organisation, why are you banning their bank accounts? Why are you not recognising their Government? Make up your mind,” he said.

Taliban to copy Iran model of Govt with Supreme Leader

Mullah Akhundzada to be named supreme authority

Peshawar: The Taliban are all set to announce the formation of a new Government in Kabul on the lines of the Iranian leadership, with the group’s top religious leader Mullah Hebatullah Akhundzada as Afghanistan’s supreme authority, a senior

member of the group has said.

“Consultations are almost finalised on the new Government, and the necessary discussions have also been held about the cabinet,” Mufti Inamullah Samangani, a senior official in the Taliban’s information and culture commission, said on Wednesday.



Taliban fighters buy Taliban flags in Kabul

File photo

Actor Sidharth Shukla dies



PTI ■ MUMBAI

Popular television and film actor Sidharth Shukla, who became a household name with his role in the long-running TV show “*Balika Vadhu*”, died on Thursday. He was 40.

Shukla, who is survived by his mother and two sisters, was dead when he was taken to the Cooper Hospital in Juhu around 10.20 am, authorities at the hospital said.

Though some reports suggested a heart attack, the cause of his sudden death, which sent shockwaves through the industry and TV fandom and ignited fresh debate on the pulls and pressures of showbiz, is not immediately clear.

“He was brought dead to the hospital. The cause of the death will be known after the post-mortem is conducted... It will take some time,” Cooper Hospital Dean Dr Shailesh Mohite told PTI.

54% got 1 dose, 16% received both vaccines

Average dose per day in August rises to 59.29 lakh

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Thursday said at least 16 per cent of India’s adult population has received both doses of Covid-19 vaccine while 54 per cent have been administered at least the first dose. The total cumulative number of doses administered in the country has crossed 66 crore, said Rajesh Bhushan, Union Health Secretary.

“We administered 18.38 crore of doses in August 2021 alone. The average dose per day administered in August is 59.29 lakh. In the last week of the month we administered more than 80 lakh doses per day,” he said at the routine press conference here.



A health worker administers the vaccine for Covid-19 in Mumbai on Thursday AP

ference here.

“That’s a huge achievement and would not have been possible without very effective and optimal participation of all healthcare workers, State Governments and Union Territory administrations,” Bhushan said.

In Sikkim, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Himachal Pradesh, 100 per cent of the adult population have received at least one dose of Covid-19 vaccine, said the official.

According to data shared at the Press conference, the number of vaccine doses administered daily has increased from 19.69 lakh in May to 39.89 lakh in June and further to 43.41

lakh in July.

In Sikkim, 36 per cent of the eligible population have been administered the second dose, in Dadra and Nagar Haveli it is 18 per cent and in Himachal it’s 32 per cent.

Besides, in Tripura, Ladakh, Daman and Diu, the Lakshwadeep and Mizoram, over 85 per cent of the population have been administered the first dose.

Bhushan said that 99 per cent of the healthcare workers have received the first dose of vaccine while 84 per cent of the eligible healthcare workers have taken the second dose.

He said 100 per cent of the frontline workers have been administered the first dose while 80 per cent of them have been given the second dose.

More than 64.65 crore Covid-19 vaccine doses have been provided to States and Union Territories so far by the Centre for free and under the direct State procurement category,” the Ministry said in a statement here.

India sees biggest single day rise of 47K cases in 2 months

Govt warns public against lowering guard during festivals

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amidst a sharp surge in daily coronavirus cases — 47,092 new Covid-19 cases — the biggest single-day rise in two months — and 509 death in 24 hours, the Government on Thursday warned the public against lowering the guard against coronavirus disease ahead of festive season.

Union Health Ministry officials at a presser said people should celebrate festivals at home, follow Covid-appropriate behaviour and get vaccinated as and when their turn comes.

A string of festivals like Navratri, Ganesh Chaturthi, Eid, Diwali have prompted the Government to keep its finger



crossed amidst fear of an impending third wave in the same period.

Dr VK Paul, Niti Aayog member, said mass gatherings have to be discouraged and full vaccination should be a prerequisite if attending a gathering is essential.

“Even as we accelerate vaccination, there is a need to take precautions. If the virus mutates we will have no control. So adopt covid appropriate behavior including vaccination and use of mask,” Dr Paul said.

The Niti Aayog member’s advisory comes in the backdrop of reports of the emergence of a new variant of Covid from South Africa coupled with a large-scale study investigating Covid-19 break-

through infections published in The Lancet Infectious Diseases journal which said people who tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 (coronavirus) after one or two vaccine doses had significantly lower odds of severe disease or hospitalisation than unvaccinated people.

Researchers also found that the odds of experiencing long Covid (illness lasting 28 days or more after a positive test) were cut in half for people fully vaccinated with two doses

At the same time, as a precautionary measure, the Union Health Ministry said, a negative RT-PCR result not older than 72 hours has been made mandatory for passengers travelling to India from seven more countries, including China and South Africa. The move comes after the discovery of a new Covid variant — C.1.2 — which could be more infectious and has shown signs of evading protection provided by vaccines.

While earlier this rule was only applicable for arrivals from the UK, Europe and West

Covid-19 IN INDIA
TOTAL CASES: 3,29,02,339 (+45,618)
DEATHS: 4,39,916 (+355)
RECOVERED: 3,20,56,076 (+34,656)
ACTIVE: 3,93,534
MAHA: 64,73,674 (+4,342)
KERALA: 41,22,133 (+32,097)
K'TAKA: 29,51,844 (+1,240)
TN: 26,17,943 (+1,562)
DELHI: 14,37,839 (+39)

Asia, seven more countries — South Africa, Bangladesh, Botswana, China, Mauritius, New Zealand, Zimbabwe — have been added to the list today, according to a latest guideline, said Rajesh Bhushan, Union Health Secretary.

Now, fliers can get baggage delivered from Delhi T3 to any location in India

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Domestic and international passengers can now get their excess baggage delivered from Delhi airport’s Terminal 3 to any location in India, Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) said on Thursday.

Passengers will have the option of getting their luggage delivered by air or by road.

“For this, passengers have to visit the ‘Avaan Excess’ counter at T3 of Delhi airport and book their excess baggage,” the DIAL said in a statement.

Avaan Excess is associated with GATI, logistics company, which will deliver the baggage within 72 hours by air; however if a passenger chooses delivery by road then baggage would reach the destination within four to seven days.

“The booked baggage



would be insured by the concessionaire,” the DIAL spokesperson said.

“Delhi Airport has been pioneer in providing world-class experience to the passengers. In these pandemic times, travelling safe, conveniently and stress-free, along with heavy luggage is a real challenge for flyers.

“Our excess baggage delivery service will not only help travelers in flying stress-free but also save them from standing in baggage check-in and pick up queues at the airports. All they have to do is to book their baggage at an affordable price and fly hassle-free,” CEO-DIAL Vidh Kumar Jaipuria said.

3 Indian institutes in top 400 in world

IISc leads Indian tally in THE Rankings 2022, Oxford tops list

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Three educational institutes from India have made it to the list of the best 400 universities across the world in the latest Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022.

As per the rankings, Indian tally is led by the IISc Bangalore — a consistent first among Indian institutes. Globally, the University of Oxford tops the ranking for the sixth consecutive year.

A total of 71 universities/institutes made it to this year’s THE rankings compared to 63 last year.

Ten Indian universities, including Banaras Hindu University, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Delhi Technology University (DTU),

Jamia Millia Islamia, and Punjab University, have been placed in the 601-800 ranks. The University of Delhi has been ranked on the 801-1,000 bracket.

While the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, has found a place in the 301-350 band, which is the highest position held by an Indian Institute in the world university rankings for this year. IIT Ropar has secured a place in the 351-400 ranking. It is followed by the JSS Academic Higher Education and Research, and IIT Indore, Alagappa University, and Thapar University.

The IITs, including Delhi, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Mumbai, Guwahati, and Madras, had boycotted the rankings last year over doubts on trans-

parency.

University of Oxford tops the chart followed by California Institute of Technology, Harvard University, Stanford University, University of Cambridge, MIT, Princeton University, University of California Berkley, Yale University and University of Chicago ranking 10th.

Country-wise, the US is the most-represented country overall with 183 institutions, and also the most represented in the top 200 (57), although its share of universities in this elite group is falling. China has two institutions in the top 20 for the first time: Peking University and Tsinghua University share 16th place. Institut Polytechnique de Paris is the highest new entry at 95th place, following a merger of five institutions.

The Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022 include more than 1,600 universities across



IISc Bangalore

99 countries and territories.

China now has the joint fifth-highest number of institutions in the top 200 (up from joint seventh last year), overtaking Canada and on a par with the Netherlands. Six new countries feature in the table compared with last year:

Azerbaijan, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Palestine and Tanzania.

Harvard University tops the teaching pillar, while the University of Oxford tops the research pillar and Macau University of Science and Technology leads the international pillar.

PMC Bank scam: ED attaches ₹233 cr HDIL shares



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday said it has attached partly paid Compulsorily Convertible Preference shares of Housing Development Infrastructures Ltd (HDIL) group of companies worth ₹233 crore under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act in the PMC Bank scam.

On the strength of these shares, HDIL has right for allotment of under construction flats measuring 90,250 square feet FSI in Ghatkopar, Mumbai-based Aryaman Developers P Ltd. The developer has given an undertaking to ensure not to sell/transfer/alienate or create any third party rights thereon on completion of the project.

The ED had initiated investigation under PMLA on the basis of FIR dated September 30, 2019 registered by Economic Offences Wing, Mumbai Police under the provisions of Indian Penal Code

against Joy Thomas (Managing Director) of PMC Bank, Waryam Singh (Chairman), Sarang Wadhawan, Rakesh Kumar Kuldip Singh Wadhawan of Housing Development Infrastructures Ltd and promoters and executives of certain developers. The executives named in the EOW, Mumbai case are of Somerset Construction Pvt Ltd, Serveall Construction Pvt Ltd, Sapphire Land Development Pvt Ltd, Emerald Realtors Pvt Ltd, Awas Developers & Construction Pvt Ltd, Prithvi Realtors and Hotels Pvt Ltd, Satyam Realtors Pvt Ltd and others for causing wrongful loss to the tune of ₹4,355 crore to PMC Bank and corresponding gain to themselves.

“Investigation under PMLA revealed that in spite of default in payment, HDIL group companies availed loans from PMC from time to time. The mode and manner of operation of bank accounts of HDIL clearly indicate the connivance of PMC Bank officials

ED files fresh money laundering case in Ranbaxy cheating case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The ED has filed a fresh money laundering case against conman Sukesh Chandrasekhar and others for allegedly duping Aditi Singh, spouse of former promoter of pharma major Ranbaxy, Shivinder Singh, of ₹200 crore. Chandrasekhar faces several cases by the Delhi Police and the ED.

The ED took cognisance of the Delhi Police's Economic Offences Wing FIR for registering the latest case against Chandrasekhar under Prevention of Money Laundering Act, sources said. The agency is also in the process of registering another money laundering case in connection with the conman duping Japna Singh, wife of another former Ranbaxy promoter Malvinder Singh, to the tune of nearly four crore.

Besides Chandrasekhar, the agency has named his associates Deepak and



Pradeep Ramdani who allegedly received the cash worth ₹150 crore from the spouse of the pharma major's former promoter in the national Capital.

The conman, according to the ED, has been running an extortion racket from the Rohini jail here where is undergoing judicial custody. The modus operandi of the conman entailed using an illegally procured mobile phone inside the jail and making spoofed calls posing himself as senior Government functionaries offering assis-

tance in pending cases of high profile accused in lieu of a charge.

In Aditi Singh's case, the conman offered her help in getting bail to Singh brothers who were undergoing custody in criminal cases.

The sources said out of the ₹200 crore received from Aditi Singh, ₹150 crore were handed over to the conman's associates in three equal tranches of ₹50 crore each and another ₹50 crore was transferred through banking channels to an offshore account.

Chargesheet filed in Narada sting op case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The ED on Thursday filed a prosecution complaint (chargesheet in police parlance) under Prevention of Money Laundering Act in Narada Sting Operation case against then Transport and Housing Minister Firhad Hakim and Panchayat Minister Subrata Mukherjee of West Bengal Government, MLA Madan Mitra, former Mayor of Kolkata Sovan Chatterjee and IPS officer SMH. Meerza of WB cadre before the Special Judge (PMLA), Kolkata.

The agency has prayed to the court for awarding punishment to the accused for committing offence of money laundering and confiscation of the amount of illegal gratification.

The ED had initiated investigation on the basis of FIR dated April 16, 2017 registered by ACB, CBI under the provisions of Prevention of Corruption Act and the Indian Penal Code (IPC) against 12 public persons which includes sitting MLAs and MPs of



West Bengal and an IPS officer of West Bengal cadre. As per the CBI FIR, Mathew Samuel had conducted a sting operation during 2014 and recorded visual footage of these persons, who either themselves took money or instructed someone else to take money on their behalf from him.

In the sting operation, it was seen that the accused, in their capacity as public servants, accepted bribes to favour an individual, who was posing as a representative of a company at

the time of the transaction. “Money laundering investigation conducted by ED has revealed that accused persons not only received illegal gratifications but also possessed the proceeds of crime and tried to conceal it by creating fictitious stories and mislead the investigation. Therefore today, ED has filed Prosecution Complaint, wherein it is highlighted that how the highly placed persons laundered the proceeds of crime/illegal gratification,” the agency said in a statement.

Govt for medicinal plant farming to raise growers' income

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With an aim to help enhance income of farmers and realise the dream of Green India, the Government on Thursday launched a national campaign to cover around 75,000 hectares of land in the next one year across the country with medicinal plants which have huge demand in the domestic and global herbal market.

In this regard, the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) under the Union Ministry of Ayush kicked off a programme from Saharanpur in UP and Pune in Maharashtra. This program is second in the series of programs being organized by the Ministry under the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

In Pune medicinal plants were distributed to the farmers while those who were already cultivating medicinal plants were felicitated. Nilesh Lanke, MLA from Partner in Ahmednagar district, Dr. Asim Ali Khan, DG, Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), and Dr.

Chandra Shekhar Sanwal, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, NMPB, led the events from different locations.

Dr. Sanwal said that “this effort will give more impetus to the supply of medicinal plants in the country”. A total of 7500 medicinal plants were distributed to 75 farmers on this occasion. A target has been set to distribute 75 thousand saplings.

Similarly, in Saharanpur, Minister of State for Ayush, Uttar Pradesh, Dharam Singh Saini along with Research Officer of National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Sunil Dutt, and officials of Ministry of Ayush also participated. The farmers cultivating medicinal plants were felicitated by Saini. Medicinal plants were distributed free of cost to 150 farmers who came from many nearby districts. These included mainly 5 species of plants - Night-flowering Jasmine (Parijat), Golden Apple (Bel), Margosa Tree (Neem), Indian Ginseng (Ashwagandha) and Indian Blackberry (Jamun). 750 Jamun saplings were separately distributed free of cost to the farmers.

Scindia urges Telangana, Meghalaya CMs to help strengthen aviation sector



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya M Scindia has written to Chief Ministers of Telangana and Meghalaya, requesting their personal intervention in expediting various matters for strengthening aviation infrastructure in these States. While writing to Telangana CM K. Chandrashekar Rao, Scindia has drawn his attention towards the issue of extension of period of Concession Agreement for Hyderabad International Airport Limited (HIAL).

The Minister mentioned that a Concession Agreement (CA) dated December 20, 2004 has been executed between Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India and HIAL for development, construction, operation and maintenance of Hyderabad International Airport. In terms of clause 13.7.1 of CA, M/S HIAL has requested for extension of its concession period for another 30 years beyond the initial 30 years, i.e beyond March 23, 2038 and till 23.03.2068. The State Government has been requested to re-examine the request of HIAL for extension of the period of Concession Agreement and furnish its recommenda-

tions to the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Scindia also underscored the issue of operationalization of Warangal Airport and its inclusion under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik). He mentioned that Warangal Airport is within 150 km aerial distance of HIAL and can be developed with mutually agreeable solution, to be explored by State Government of Telangana with HIAL and Airports Authority of India (AAI).

Similarly, Scindia has requested for personal intervention of Meghalaya CM Conrad K Sangma, in expediting operationalization of Tura Airport. He mentioned that Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched RCS - UDAN to enhance regional air connectivity from unserved and underserved airports in the country by making air travel affordable to the masses. Tura airport figures in the tentative list of unserved airports. Bids for Helicopter operations have been received for two RCS routes i.e., Shillong to Tura vv and Guwahati to Tura vv in special round of bidding 4.1 and the same is likely to be finalised soon as per the provisions of Scheme document.

SC irked by fake news on social media



New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday voiced serious concern over running of fake news on social media platforms and web portals, and said even news shown in a section of channels bears communal tone, which may bring a bad name to the country.

A Bench headed by Chief Justice N V Ramana was hearing a batch of petitions including the one filed by Jamiat Ulema-i-Hind seeking directions to the Centre to stop dissemination of “fake news” related to a religious gathering at the Markaz Nizamuddin and take strict action against those responsible for it.

“Everything shown in a section of private news channels bear a communal tone. Ultimately, this country is going to get a bad name. Did you ever attempt to regulate these private channels,” asked the bench. Social media only listens to “the powerful voices” and several things are written against judges, institutions without any accountability, said the bench which also comprised justices Surya Kant and A S Bopanna.

“There is no control over fake news and slandering in web portals and YouTube channels. If you go to YouTube, you will find how fake news is freely circulated and anyone can start a channel on YouTube,” it said.

The top court agreed to hear after six weeks the Centre's plea seeking transfer of petitions from various high courts to itself on the issue of newly-enacted IT rules meant to regulate online content including social media and web portals.

Hyderabad firm gets nod for trial of Covid jabs on kids

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has given nod to Hyderabad-based Biological E Limited to conduct phase 2/3 clinical trials of its 'Made in India' Covid-19 vaccine on children aged between 5 and 18 years with certain conditions. Serum Institute of India, Bharat Biotech and Zydus Cadila are already in the race to manufacture vaccines for the kids.

The phase 2 and 3 clinical trials have been conducted as per approved protocol titled 'A Prospective, Randomised, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Phase-2/3 Study to Evaluate Safety, Reactogenicity, Tolerability and Immunogenicity of Corbevax Vaccine in Children and Adolescents', said sources in the Ministry.

The trial will be conducted across 10 sites in the country. The DCGI's permission

was given based on the recommendations by the Subject Expert Committee (SEC) on COVID-19.

“Phase 3 trial work of Biological E going on. Stockpile being produced. We should wait for results, we hope it'll be in next month or 2. They've made a broad commitment that they'll supply a significant amount by year-end,” said Dr VK Paul, Member-Health, Niti Aayog on Biological E for adult vaccines.

CBI files case against firm for irregularities in JEE (Mains)

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has registered a case against a private company and others, including its directors and three employees and private persons (conduits), on the allegations of irregularities being committed in the ongoing JEE (Mains) Exams 2021 and conducted searches at several locations across the country.

The accused educational institution Affinity Education Pvt. Ltd., its directors Siddharth Krishna, Vishwambhar Mani Tripathi and Govind Varshney have

been named as accused in the case.

“It was further alleged that the accused company and its directors were manipulating the online examination of JEE (Mains) and facilitating aspiring students to get admission in top NITs in consideration of huge amount by solving the question paper of the applicant through remote access from a chosen examination centre in Sonapat (Haryana),” the CBI said in a statement.

It was also alleged that the accused used to obtain Xth and XIIth mark sheets, the User IDs, Passwords, and post-

dated cheques of aspiring students in different parts of the country as security and once admission was done, they used to collect heavy amount ranging from RS 12-15 Lakh per candidate.

Searches were conducted on Thursday at 19 places including Delhi and NCR, Pune, Jamshedpur, Indore and Bangalore which led to recovery of 25 laptops, seven personal computers, around 30 post-dated cheques along with voluminous incriminating documents/ devices including PDCs and mark sheet of different students.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
(Construction Organization)
TENDER NOTICE

The Deputy Chief Engineer / Const.-I/Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi, for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender (Single packet) for the following work:

1. Name of work & location	Maintenance & repair works of offices, Rest Houses, Audit office and staff quarters including external painting of Gole building and other allied works at CAO/C office complex, Kashmere Gate, Delhi.
2. Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 79.80 Lacs, (Rs. Seventy nine point eighty lacs).
3. Earnest Money Amount to be deposited Online	Rs. Nil
4. Completion period of work	12 (Twelve) Months from the date of issuance of acceptance letter.
5. Sale/availability of tender document on Railway website	Tender documents will be available on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 10.09.2021 to 24.09.2021 upto 11:30 hrs.
6. Last date and time for uploading of tenders	24.09.2021 upto 11:30 hours. Tender documents can be uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS website w.e.f. 10.09.2021 to 24.09.2021
7. Date and time of opening of tender	24.09.2021 at 11:30 hours (immediately after close of uploading of tender (D2).

No. 55-G-C-K-GATE-DLI Dated : 01.09.2021. 1977/21

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

CORRIGENDUM
ICICI Bank

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

Notices under SARFAESI Act for Loan Account No. LBGUR00004365063. Name of the Borrower VINOD UPADHYAY property address FLAT NO-1504, 15TH FLOOR TOWER-2, UNIBERA TOWERS SECTOR-1, GREATER NOIDA, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH were published as Demand Notice under section 13(2), in annexure "B" dated March 25, 2021 and same was also published in The Pioneer + Pioneer dated June 24, 2021 respectively. We wish to mention that inadvertently and unintentionally a typographical error has occurred in the said notices and area was mentioned as FLAT NO- 1504, 15TH FLOOR TOWER- 2, UNIBERA TOWERS SECTOR-1, GREATER NOIDA, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH instead of FLAT NO- 1504, 15TH FLOOR TOWER-2, PLOT NO GH-16F, BLOCK-D UNIBERA TOWERS SECTOR-1, GREATER NOIDA, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH We therefore, request you to please read the same as FLAT NO-1504, 15TH FLOOR TOWER-2, PLOT NO GH- 16F, BLOCK-D UNIBERA TOWERS SECTOR- 1, GREATER NOIDA, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH.

Date: September 03, 2021
Place: Delhi/ Ncr

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

INDIAN RAILWAYS

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(INDIAN RAILWAYS ORGANIZATION FOR ALTERNATE FUELS)
4th Floor, Railway Office Complex, Tilak Bridge, New Delhi 110002
Telephone No. - 011-23379107, Fax No.- 011-23379083

CORRIGENDUM-I
Tender No :-IROAF/FUEL CELL/DEMU/P1/2021 Dt 27.07.2021
Name of work :- "Hydrogen Fuel cell based DPRS with regenerative braking system 1200 KW DEMU"
S. No. As per Tender document Dt 27.07.2021 To be read as
1. 2nd Pre Bid conference - To be held at IROAF office on 09.09.2021 at 11:30 hrs. 2nd Pre Bid conference - To be held at IROAF office on 09.09.2021 at 11:30 hrs.
2. Date and time of opening of tender- 05.10.2021 at 11:30 hours Date and time of opening of tender- 25.11.2021 at 11:30 hours

Please visit website <https://www.ireps.gov.in>
Contact Person : Chief Mechanical Engineer/BD, Indian Railways Organization for Alternate Fuels (IROAF), Government of India, Ministry of Railways, 4th Floor, Railway Office Complex, Tilak Bridge, New Delhi-110002
Telephone No.- 011-23379107, Fax No.:- 011-23379083
Email: cmebidroaf@gmail.com

1978/2021

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
PLANNING AND INVESTIGATION DIVISION
ROAD CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT (RCD), RANCHI
Nirupan Bhawan, 3rd Floor, Room No. 401, 56-Set, Doranda, Ranchi-834002

e-Procurement (Very Short Tender Notice)
Letter of Invitation (LOI) No.-23/2021-22
1st Call

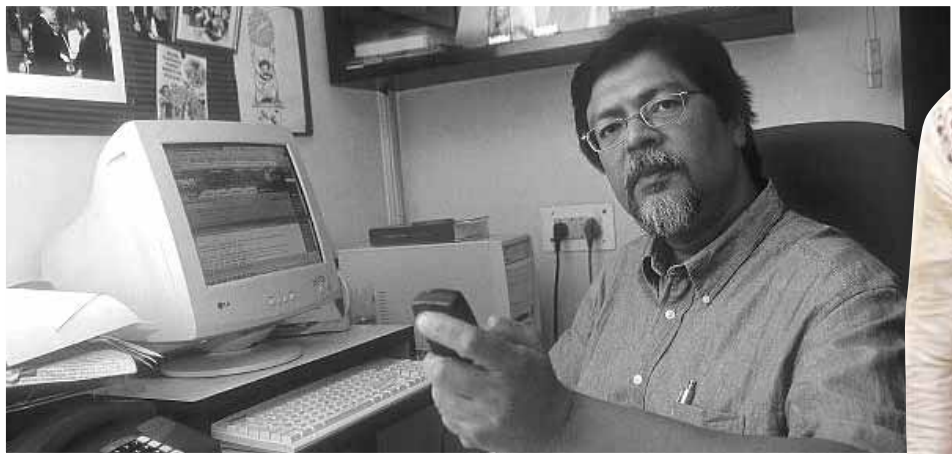
Tender Ref No:- RCD/PI Div./Ranchi/23/645 **Date:-01.09.2021**

1	Name Of Work	Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Land Acquisition Proposal, Detailed Resettlement and Rehabilitation Proposal & Detailed Forest Diversion Proposal for Widening and Strengthening of Gardhi to Sardiha Road in the State of Jharkhand from empanelled consultant with RCD under category-I vide letter No. 686(S) WE Dated 29-01-2019.
2	Tentative Length	8.880 Km.
3	Period of Completion of Work	60 Days
4	Cost of Tender documents	Demand Draft/Banker Cheque of any Scheduled Bank (non-refundable fee) of Rs 5000/- (Five Thousand) only. EMD:- 2 % of the quoted amount (Net of GST) in the form of current issue of NSC, Fixed Deposits of a Scheduled Bank (all the above mentioned form of Security deposits money issued within the State of Jharkhand), Bank Guarantee issued by any Scheduled Bank anywhere in India Payable at Ranchi in favour of Executive Engineer, Planning & Investigation Division, Road Construction Department,(RCD), Ranchi for a period of 45 days beyond the validity of bid.
5	Mode of Bid Submission	e-tendering(http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in)
6	Date/Time of Publication of Tender on Website	06.09.2021, 10:30 AM
7	Last Date/Time of Bid Submission	14.09.2021, 12:00PM
8	Last Date/Time of Submission of Tender Fee & EMD	14.09.2021, 12:00PM
9	Date and Time of Bid opening	15.09.2021, 12:30 PM
10	Bid validity	120 days
11	Bid Submission Address	Chief Engineer(Communication), Road Construction Department, 1 st Floor, Engineer Hostel No.-2, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004
12	Designation and Contactno. of Tender inviting Officer	Executive Engineer, Planning and Investigation Division, RCD, Ranchi Mob-94311-65712

Note:- Only e-Tender shall be accepted. For more information Please visit the site e-tendering (<http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>)

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Planning & Investigation Division,
Road Construction Department (RCD), Ranchi-834002.

PR.NO.252593 Road(21-22):D



To Sir, with love SMOKE CAME WITH AROMA OF LOVE

VIPUL NAUTIYAL ■ NEW DELHI

Seldom did he lurk around, the strode with unmistakable authority in each step. Though equipped with a booming voice, which he used often to good effect, he would also be caring enough not to embarrass his staff — “colleagues”, as he referred to them — by not stealthily reaching them, a polite grunt preceded his steps.

At the book-release function for the iron-fisted KPS Gill’s *Faultlines*, when a young reporter shyly introduced himself in the presence of the Editor, Dr Mitra warmly said, “He is my colleague from *The Pioneer*. You must have a drink with him.” Another time, when a particular article was praised by a gentleman of Mahatma Gandhi’s lineage, he called the writer inside his cabin and wryly remarked, “Yes, even I liked it. Now, do you need a letter of appreciation from me, too?” Upon being requested that he could express his appreciation in the annual increment assessment, he just threw a broad grin across his broad desk. As an aside, the raise didn’t come about.

He smoked, drank and sang with aplomb. Whenever a suitable situation presented itself, of course. Though, at one time, he did miss mentioning a Dev Anand song while writing in the fortnightly glossy about the memorable songs pictured in train compartments. At the first allusion to the missing song, he was the first to perk up at his omission and sing it full-throated. A baritone, he hummed in the lift, the restroom and in the car, too.

At the workplace, he was terrifying. The staff eagerly awaited the log book for comments as it came to the News Desk from the Editor’s cabin. This one time, he wrote with his red pen, “Ignoramuses.” Several feet scampered towards the dictionary, and several others flew to cover their gaping mouths.

Many of us have been blessed with at least the cigarettes, sometimes a little other stuff, too, pinched off him in the ungodly hours. The smoke came with the aroma of love and affection. There have been hard times, differences, happy times, and sad times sometimes, like it is now. We all hope that he is happy and peaceful in the place, fragrant with his Old Spice (Original), a cigarette between his fingers and a joyful Kishore Kumar number on his lips: *Main zindagi ka saath nibhaata chala gaya...* (This one is by Mohd Rafi, by the way!).

‘He didn’t mince words & set new standards for courageous reporting’

UPAMANYU HAZARIKA
SENIOR ADVOCATE

Chandan exemplified daring and courage, as a star reporter, editor, owner — in public life as a part time politician. My first interaction with him was in 1998 when he bought over *The Pioneer* for one rupee from the Thapars who wanted to divest a loss making business and I had to look into the legalities on his behalf, in 1998.

He made a promise to himself and his employees that the paper would come out everyday without any break even though it was in dire financial straits and he not only made it good but actually expanded to multiple editions.

His ideological orientation

towards the BJP led a large number of his contemporaries in the English language press to ostracise him, but he didn’t flinch and *The Pioneer* became the first mainstream English daily to take stance towards the Right and provided a platform for all those with a similar stance. It requires courage to be the first person to do so and Chandan wasn’t left wanting.

To keep a loss making venture afloat without stopping publication for a single day required him to foray into the publications business which he did successfully, but always geared towards keeping *The Pioneer* afloat, his one and only priority.

Even though a BJP ticket at that time wasn’t a winning proposition from West Bengal

he nevertheless plunged into the 2009 Lok Sabha elections from Howrah which he fought with aplomb.

He didn’t mince his words and set new standards for courageous reporting, one of the first editors to be hauled up for contempt by the Supreme Court and having done *Pioneer* work for well over 15 years I can say with certainty that he would have notched up the largest number of defamation cases as an editor and mind you when *The Pioneer* was functioning on a perpetual financial knife edge.

Chandan can be summed up very well in Muhammad Ali’s words “He who is not courageous enough to take risks will accomplish nothing in life.”



AN UNFINISHED LETTER...

NEERAJ KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Sahab, Madam,

I would have been in fifth standard when we first moved to the servant quarters in Humayun Road upon Sahab’s appointment as a Member of Parliament. It was a giant leap for my family. Shifting to a bigger house with a garden just around the corner and a driveway so long; that was too much space for me to handle. I was overjoyed.

I liked seeing you leave for office every morning. Dressed in semi-formal attire, often donning a kurta, exuberating the epitome of a man as you reached out to your equally lux and juggernaut of a vehicle the ‘Terracan’. I remember how you played with ‘Loin and Bou’ before entering the SUV. Loin, who appeared a prodigal child in your presence, was also the first one to welcome you at night. And amid this mid-morning routine, Madam was always there accompany-

ing you.

We have grown up watching you and Madam from the Humayun Road resident to the home in Feroz Shah road. My father, Mahesh Ram, used to tell us stories about your accomplishments in the media, about how the senior leaders and politicians were worried about being ‘penned down’ by you and that is how I’ve tried to imbibe whatever little I could learn from you.

Today, when I look back, I realise how blessed my family

and I have been. The point of saying all this today is to tell you how big and positive impact you have had upon us and how grateful I am to you and Madam, though I cannot be grateful enough, for what you’ve given to us in all these years.

(The writer, a young son of Dr Chandan Mitra’s driver, had started to pen a letter to The Pioneer’s Editor, but before he could finish it, Dr Mitra left for the heavenly abode)

Saddened to know about the passing away of senior journalist & former Rajya Sabha MP Chandan Mitra ji. I fondly remember my old association with him. May Almighty grant strength to the family to bear this irreparable loss and grant eternal peace to the departed soul
AMARINDER SINGH

My dear friend Chandan Mitra, editor of The Pioneer, is no more. May happiness travel with him to the other side. Till we meet again, memories will remain
KANCHAN GUPTA

Anguished by the passing away Sh Chandan Mitra Ji. An immensely respected Editor, who led the @TheDailyPioneer & served as a Member of Parliament. His vast experience & insightful understanding of issues always gave readers a new perspective. A huge loss for journalism
ANURAG THAKUR

Deeply saddened to hear about the passing away of senior journalist & former parliamentarian Dr Chandan Mitra Ji. He will be deeply missed by his friends & admirers. I offer my sincerest condolences to his family. Om Shanti!
HARDEEP SINGH PURI

Too soon to go dear Chandan Mitra. You will be sharp, curious and large-hearted wherever you are. Among the finest reporter-editors of our generation. Never let political choices come in the way of professionalism, friendship or old-fashioned decency
SHEKHAR GUPTA

Very sad to hear about the passing of Chandan Mitra. I knew him from my Calcutta days and hugely admired his talent, his ability to encourage young people and his basic decency as a human being
VIR SANGHVI

Saddened to hear about the demise of Dr Chandan Mitra. A stalwart in journalism & former Rajya Sabha MP
ASHWINI VAISHNAW

Sad to hear about the passing away of Chandan Mitra Former MP Rajya Sabha. We opposed each other on many issues but always with dignity
SUSHMITA DEV

Mitra created a distinct identity for himself in the media as well as politics on the basis of his intellect and deep analytical abilities
SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN

Pained to learn about the demise of former MP and senior journalist Shri Chandan Mitra Ji. He will be remembered for his distinguished career in the field of media and service for people. My thoughts and prayers are with his family in this time of grief. Om Shanti
JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA

I’m shocked and deeply saddened to hear the demise of dear old friend Chandan Mitra Ji, a renowned senior journalist & politician. I’ll always cherish our friendship and all those memorable moments that we had shared for long time. My deepest condolences to his family
KIREN RIJU

Chandan Mitra Ji was an exceptionally humble human being. He set new standards in journalism and devoted his life to building The Pioneer into a very respected national daily. I am pained to learn of his demise. His intellect, insights & vibrance shall be missed. My condolences
HIMANTA BISWA SARMA

Very saddened to hear of the passing of senior colleague #ChandanMitra. Worked with him when I first joined @timesofindia, Chandan was brilliant and always encouraging, and always up for a just. His knowledge of @INCIndia was unparalleled. Farewell Chandan. Travel well
SAGARIKA GHOSE

Distressed by the news of the demise of former BJP MP and distinguished journalist, Sh Chandan Mitra ji. His intellect and contribution to the fields of media and politics will be remembered for years to come. My heartfelt condolences to his family and admirers. Om Shanti
JYOTIRADITYA M SCINDIA

Devastated to hear about the passing away of Chandan Mitra. Top journalist, affable politician, and such a nice man.... We will miss you, Chandan. Om Shanti
VIKRAM CHANDRA

My deepest condolences to the family members of Shri #ChandanMitra ! May the noble Soul Rest in Peace
ABHJIT MUKHERJEE

Saddened to hear about the demise of Former Rajya Sabha MP and Senior Journalist Chandan Mitra. My thoughts and prayers with the Family. May he rest in Peace
SUPRIYA SULE



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PAPER WITH PASSION

A matter of life

Air pollution, a silent killer, eats away almost nine years of a person's life in north India

The people of Delhi in particular and north India in general wake up to a dangerous reality. Air pollution is turning from bad to worse and is making them die early. An American research institute has said the average Indian in this region is going to lose over nine years of his or her life if air pollution remains at the 2019 levels. The worst-polluted region is the Indo-Gangetic plain, including Delhi. About 40 per cent of the population lives here. Delhi is the most polluted where air pollution is shortening life by nearly a decade. Uttar Pradesh is a close second at 9.5 years. Air pollution is enveloping this region like a coffin cloth. The WHO guidelines say that PM 2.5 (particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter) should not go beyond 10 microns per cubic metre. In 2019, the average concentration of PM 2.5 in India was 70 microns per cubic metre — the highest in the world. If these levels continue to hold, they will eat away people's lives. These particles are ultra-fine and pass through the lungs and, carried by the bloodstream, expose nearly all cells in the body. A Centre for Science and Environment report quoted research papers that these particles cause "head-to-toe harm", from heart and lung disease to diabetes and dementia and cancer to brittle bones, damaged skin and fertility. Air pollution is said to have caused 1.8 million deaths in 2015, averaging about the same since then.

Three factors — garbage burning, construction and transportation — cause air pollution in India. Biomass burning pollutes the air in the rural areas

along with seasonal stubble burning. Experts have suggested that garbage burning be tackled first and in the short term. In most Indian cities, over three-fourths of garbage is collected daily. If municipal efficiency is increased to lift the remaining garbage, burning would be avoided and that can reduce air pollution to some extent. Measures are being taken by the Government to check pollution on account of transportation and construction. The National Clean Air Programme is aimed at cutting particulate pollution by at least a third at the 2017 levels by 2024. If that is achieved, national life expectancy may increase by about two years and 3.5 years for residents of the northern region. However, these are massive exercises as the number of vehicles continues to zoom and construction activity sees no contraction at all. On top of it, violation of environmental rules is rampant. It is now imperative to reduce traffic-based air pollution by carpooling and sharing taxis, using bicycles and public transport, owning CNG and electric vehicles, improving road signages for easier driving, lane driving and better roads to avoid jams, and shifting to solar energy. Western countries also faced air pollution in the past but they made progress in the last decades not by chance but as a result of policy choices. That is what every Indian has to make because it is a life-and-death question.



PICTALK



A BSF personnel helps a woman lift a bucket of water, near the LOC in the KG sector of Poonch

PTI

Pouring trouble

Though the rain comes as a relief, the administration's apathy is a reason for worry

It is raining cats and dogs in Delhi. That is correct: Delhi, not Mumbai. #Delhirains is trending. The national Capital is witnessing one of the heaviest rains ever for the last couple of days. The intermittent rains have played havoc with the civic amenities. According to the Meteorological department, Delhi has witnessed such rainfall after 19 years and the fifth in an all-time high in a single day. Late monsoon rains have brought relief from the heat and sultry weather that prevailed almost through August. It is time to welcome the rains and brace up for the hardships it brings along — waterlogging, traffic snarls; actually a nightmare for the last three days, and even the fatal risk of electrocution from the loose hanging electric wires. Twitter is flooded with pictures and videos of waterlogging. People are making videos while stuck in traffic for hours. Somehow, it is the same old story every monsoon; authorities just cannot fix the city's waterlogging. Hundreds of crores of rupees literally go down the drain in the name of mending potholes and cleaning drains every year but, come rain, they stand exposed. However, this time it is even worse owing to the heavy rains. Boats were plying on Delhi's roads on September 1.

The rainwater entered several public buildings, throwing normal life out of gear. The Capital is already on 'orange alert' as the Indian Meteorological Department has warned of heavy rains and thunderstorms in the coming days. "Thunderstorm with moderate to heavy-intensity rain would occur over and adjoining areas of most places of Delhi ..." the IMD posted on Twitter. As Delhiites reel under the threat of heavy rains, they can have a sigh of relief on one count. After the onslaught of the second wave of Coronavirus, the city reported zero deaths and only 36 new cases on September 1. It is indeed good news as the schools have just reopened in the Capital: Though not many children came to school, one for the apprehension of the third wave of COVID-19 and second for the rains. Hopefully, things should ease in the coming days as the monsoon normally retreats in September. Nevertheless, the civic authorities would do well to monitor post-monsoon diseases, such as dengue, and take appropriate measures to ward off another spell of health emergency rather than press the panic button after the damage is done.



Nepali migrants' pleas in Afghanistan

The world has been evacuating respective citizens from Afghanistan, but Nepal needs to do much more to bring succour to its nationals



RISHI GUPTA

Amid the Taliban's takeover of power in Afghanistan, the leading global powers continue to repatriate their citizens from the strife-torn country. At the same time, geographically smaller countries are juxtaposed to international cooperation in repatriating their citizens. In South Asia, Nepal is one such country, trying to repatriate its 1,500 citizens from Afghanistan. On August 15, the country's Home Minister Bal Krishna Khand convened an inter-ministerial meeting chaired by the Chief Secretary of the Government of Nepal under the chairmanship of the Heads of Central Asia, West Asia and Africa divisions of the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Ministry of Health and Population, Nepal Police, and COVID-19 Crisis Management Centre and the Department of Consular Services, to chalk out an action plan to repatriate the Nepalese citizens.

The Government of Nepal has created an online portal, WhatsApp group and emergency hotlines for its citizens to register their repatriation requests. Since Nepal does not have a diplomatic mission in Afghanistan, the Nepalese embassy in New Delhi is assigned with the Afghan desk. In this process, the Nepal Government has also sent formal requests to the United Nations, the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, the European Union and Japan to immediately rescue and repatriate the Nepalis working in Kabul.

Notably, more than 100 Nepalese nationals were working at the United States embassy in Kabul, and 200 more with the Canadian and German embassies. The first batch of Nepalese repatriation took place on August 17 with the help of the United States Air Force.

As of August 29, a total of 778 Nepalese citizens have been rescued and taken to Kathmandu. India is also helping Nepalese workers to board its repatriation flights from Kabul. Meanwhile, the exact number of Nepalese stuck in Nepal is estimated to be between 15,000 and 20,000. However, only



1,500 are put on record because many Nepalese are engaged in the informal sector jobs and missing documentation with the Government of Nepal. The 2020 Nepal Migration Report estimates that the most significant number of labour migrants from Nepal to Afghanistan was deployed in security services.

In the last two decades, Nepal has become one of the largest exporters of human resources worldwide, with the majority working in India, Malaysia, the Gulf countries and the United States. Out of a total labour force of 7.5 million, an estimated three million labourers were working abroad in 2017-18, constituting 41.5 per cent of the total. Nepal's economy has seen drastic changes due to increasing contributions made by the remittances into the GDP. In 2019-20 alone, Nepal received a record 961.05 billion Nepali Rupee (NR) as remittances, accounting for 22.5 per cent of Nepal's current gross domestic product of ₹4.26 trillion evaluated at the current market prices.

With extraordinary contributions made by the Nepali migrants to the country's economy, missing capable repatriation strength and aviation, coordination with the host countries and missing legal



IN THE LAST TWO DECADES, NEPAL HAS BECOME ONE OF THE LARGEST EXPORTERS OF HUMAN RESOURCES WORLDWIDE, WITH THE MAJORITY WORKING IN INDIA, MALAYSIA, THE GULF COUNTRIES AND THE UNITED STATES

and strategic understanding acutely risks the lives of millions of migrants. In the last 11 years, 7,467 Nepalese workers have died in the host countries, and in many cases, families of the deceased have failed to afford a coffin or bear transportation costs. Between 2008-2019, an estimated 21 migrants have died in Afghanistan due to terrorist attacks and other unknown reasons. There were 13 Nepalese killed in the terrorist attack on Canadian embassy in Kabul in 2016.

The earthquake of 2015, COVID-19, the Israel-Palestine Conflict and Afghanistan in the current scenario are such reminders, demanding improved capabilities and emergency response from the Nepalese Government. For instance, as soon as the other countries began to close down their borders due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019, there was a surge of requests from migrant labourers, students and others stuck on foreign soils to the Government of Nepal for repatriation. During the 2015 earthquake, Nepalese migrant workers had pleaded to their Government to arrange for their repatriation after they could not return from the Gulf countries due to confiscation of passports by their employers.

On all these emergency occasions, Nepal's constant reliance on the international community for rescue, repatriation and emergency responses exhibits the lack of political will in developing its own capabilities. The rising export of human resources requires a systematic post-departure response and emergency assistance. Political appointments in foreign missions have become a trend in Nepal that creates a vacuum and weakens diplomatic capabilities due to a lack of dedicated training in the field. Therefore, Nepal needs to develop an 'Emergency Response Team' trained explicitly for such emergency missions evolving army personnel, diplomats and Government officials. Nepal also needs to understand that diplomatic capabilities define one's external outlook in global affairs in the modern-day world. Nepal has time and again asserted its position in world politics, especially on international fora, but such weaknesses work against its aspirations.

(This concludes the two-part series on the Afghanistan developments' impact on Nepal.)

(The author is a Research Assistant with the Vivekananda International Foundation. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NEW JOINEE IN THE CONGRESS?

Sir — After Prashant Kishor's contribution to the TMC's win in West Bengal, the Congress party showed its inclination to hire the poll tactician. But the Congress is in a dilemma after Kishor asked for the party membership. The party high-command, the Gandhis, apparently are in favour of inducting the poll analyst into the party. However, some 'senior' leaders are reluctant to see Kishor hog the lime-light in the party. Kishor has demanded a "free-hand" to plan his strategy for the Congress in future elections.

Evidently, if a newcomer gets a major say in the all important elections, where will they go? If Kishor reports directly to Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, the importance of the 'rebels' in the party would further diminish. According to the seniors, Kishor had nothing kind to say about the Congress party a few years ago when he was working for another party. But all this is common in politics, and may not cut ice with the shrewd Sonia Gandhi. She knows that in the grand old party, that has been struggling lately, Kishor may be a stabilising factor. After all, politics is about winning elections and the Congress supreme leader knows this well.

Ganapathi Bhat | Nagpur

A DECISION WORTH A DISCUSSION

Sir — Justice Shekhar Yadav of Allahabad High Court deserves all 'compliments' for recommending in his order that cows should be declared as national animal and cow protection to be kept as a fundamental right of Hindus. He further observed that if the culture of a country and its faith gets hurt, the country becomes weak. The detailed court order highlighted that the right to life is above the right to kill and the right to eat beef can never be considered a fundamental right and the cow is useful even when it is old and sick. The court order further observed that its dung and urine are very useful for agriculture, medicines, and most of all, for worshipping as a mother.

Taking cues from the court verdict, it is right time that the Central Government

An era comes to an end



The demise of veteran journalist Chandan Mitra is saddening. He was an outstanding journalist, a well-respected name and a towering figure in the Indian media. His stint in Parliament added to his reputation. Chandan Mitra Ji will be remembered for his intellect and insights. He distinguished himself in the world of media as well as in politics and always upheld the finest professional standards. He had vast experience and insightful understanding of

issues of national importance and gave readers a new perspective. He was the editor-in-chief of the esteemed daily *The Pioneer*. He was an approachable editor and always encouraged people.

He helped many individuals transform into fine journalists. His sudden demise not only shocked the media fraternity, but also left them sad. Senior journalist and MP, Swapan Dasgupta, shared an old picture of him and Chandan Mitra on Twitter and expressed grief at losing his closest friend. Many senior leaders and his fellow journalists expressed condolences on social media. Chandan Mitra gave an unafraid voice to journalism when he was in his prime. Losing an unafraid voice like him is a loss to the media fraternity. He will always be remembered as a towering figure in the world of journalism. Leaving behind a legacy of excellence, with his demise, a chapter of Indian journalism has come to an end.

Ramesh G Jethwani | Bengaluru

may legislate on lines of observations made by Justice Shekhar Yadav to declare cows as national animal and to ban cow-slaughter. Justice Yadav denied bail to the man, saying he had slaughtered cows earlier, too, causing social disharmony. The court concluded that if released, he would commit the same crime again.

Subhash Chandra Agrawal | Delhi

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR AFGHANISTAN?

Sir — The Taliban are taking charge of Afghanistan in the aftermath of its takeover. It is all set to form and announce the Government in coming days, marking the beginning of a new chapter in the country's history. The new Taliban Government will be keenly watched for how it responds to the UNSC resolution, calling on it to ensure that Afghanistan territory is not used by extremist groups to threaten or attack any country or give shelter or train militants. Negotiations are said to be ongoing between the Taliban and many

countries on safe passage for evacuation of foreign nationals. The new Government will have to decide on allowing those Afghans who wish to leave the country.

The composition of the Government will reveal if the Taliban keeps its promise of an inclusive Government with representation for all ethnic minorities and tribal communities. The perception of the new Government will largely hinge on how it dilutes religious fundamentalism in general and treats women in particular. By giving amnesty to those who worked for the previous US-backed Government, the Taliban can demonstrate that it has mellowed over the last two decades. It will invite the charge of cultural crackdown if it takes decisions like banning certain forms of music as un-Islamic.

G David Milton | Tamil Nadu

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUND BITE

It has been decided to earmark every Sunday at all Government COVID vaccination centres only for administering the second dose.



Punjab Health Minister — Balbir Singh Sidhu



Our commitment on the part of the United Kingdom to Afghanistan remains. We need to adjust to the new reality.

British Foreign Secretary — Dominic Raab

Gone too soon Siddharth (Shukla)...you shall be missed. Condolences to the family. RIP

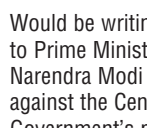


Actor — Salman Khan



It means a lot to him when his team takes a wicket. So I want to show Virat Kohli what it means to us to get him out.

England bowler — James Anderson



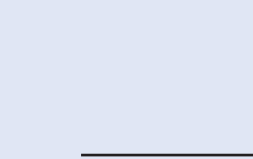
Would be writing to Prime Minister Narendra Modi against the Central Government's plans to privatise public sector companies.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister — MK Stalin

FIRST COLUMN

INDIA AT THE BLED STRATEGIC FORUM

India reaches out to key European Union member-nations for strategic partnership



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

Two presidents, ten prime ministers, two European commissioners besides a bunch of foreign ministers attended one of Europe's most prestigious ministerial conferences this week in a town of central Europe, Bled in Slovenia. The Bled Strategic Forum, the European thought leadership and networking platform frames global narratives on key issues for the European Union. Some of the key agendas that came up for discussion included the role of Europe in the Indo-Pacific region, transatlantic relations and the future of Afghanistan. That is where India comes into the picture as external affairs minister S. Jaishankar was perhaps the first Indian foreign minister to participate in this summit discussion. Incidentally, India has just come out as the chair of UNSC, and the foreign minister visited two other key countries in the region in the wake of the changed geopolitics in India's vicinity. The fall of Kabul and ignominious exit of US and NATO allies has at least temporarily changed the geopolitics of the region. China



and its all-weather friend Pakistan have been the first countries to formally welcome the infamous Taliban-led leadership in Afghanistan. China and Russia, meanwhile, have refrained from a vote on the US-drafted UNSC statement on Afghanistan. This fulfills the long stated strategic objectives of both nations including unfettered access to a treasure trove of nearly \$1 trillion in minerals and metals. Both countries are not India's best friends and will use this opportunity to create an atmosphere of threat on India's borders, if not within the country, and counter Indian charges of human rights violations in Afghanistan with alleged violations in Kashmir. China wants to use Afghanistan as its first step towards achieving a superpower status even as it harps on the misery and fall of a 'democratic' regime in Afghanistan. The deep military state of Pakistan run from Rawalpindi is more than happy to keep India busy with security threats using non-State Taliban players armed with sophisticated weapons. India's outreach for finding a new bunch of partners, therefore, is a step towards establishing a new axis of strategic friendship in the region. India reached out to key diplomats of Europe and influencers of Europe during Jaishankar's tour of Slovenia, Croatia and Denmark. The issues deliberated upon included future of Afghanistan after Western forces' withdrawal, the march of China into Europe and India-EU. It may be the first time that the Forum spent an entire day discussing some of these issues, underlining a growing level of engagement between European Union members and India. An EU report released in August highlights the highest number of trade defense measures taken against China for unfair trade practices in 2020. It also notes a new type of surreptitious trade practice emerging from China, and it has "imposed countervailing duties on cross-border financial support given by China to Chinese-owned companies manufacturing glass fiber fabrics and continuous filament glass fiber products based in Egypt for export to the EU". This means that, for the first time, "the Commission addressed cross-border subsidies given by a country to enterprises located in another country for exports to the EU". Clearly Europe is closely monitoring the China danger and India needs to get its narrative integrated with mutual economic benefits. The Indian trade minister has talked about possible free trade agreements with the EU. India's interests with EU also converge on many emerging areas such as Artificial Intelligence, digital economy and therefore policy framework, cyber security and obviously a flourishing trade relationship. India can wait out the near-term play on the Afghan front, but it has to play the strategic long-term, loyal partner role with the EU to be in a safe place.

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

A perspective on Indian healthcare

It is time to focus on indigenous AYUSH system as the first line of treatment in healthcare as the sector must be spruced to grow further

The Indian healthcare sector has been grappling with various issues for quite a while now and needs an immediate address. Lack of infrastructure, shortage of efficient and trained manpower and high out-of-pocket expenditure, among others, are the perils to the growth of India's quality health infrastructure. Though providing quality healthcare facilities to a population of 1.4 billion in itself remains a Herculean task, it can be made possible with the efficient working of the private sector with strong Government backing, by way of effective reforms in the health infrastructure domain.

There has been a severe shortage of trained manpower in the medical stream and this includes doctors, nurses and paramedics. There is scope for raising the capacity of existing teaching and training institutes while adding new ones in the long run.

Similarly, deficient infrastructure in the form of lack of a well-equipped medical institutes is glaring. It is hoped that things improve with the newly-constituted National Medical Commission (NMC), which has put forward the idea of doing away with the requirement of minimum of five acres of land for setting up a medical college. A diligent move like this could possibly change the equation when it comes to setting up more medical teaching facilities in the country to curtail the shortfall of experienced medical doctors and staff.

On the other hand, high out-of-pocket expenditure, even for basic health facilities, has been a cause of concern. Every citizen has the right to access to basic health facilities and a possible solution to address the issue could be to increase the adoption of health insurance, including imparting knowledge and spreading awareness on the benefits of having health insurance. Perhaps, the Government and private institutions both need to work together for this.

AYUSH is the acronym of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy. Over the centuries, many medical systems have emerged in India. Ayurveda is the ancient and sacred system of health care, originated in India over 5,000 years ago. This was further enriched by saints with siddha and yoga practices. Unani Tibb, which was known from the period of Hippocrates, came to India during the 8th century AD. Like Unani, Homeopathy, which is not of Indian origin, got blended with the Indian traditional medical practice due to similarity in its holistic medical philosophy and principles.

Regardless of why an individual uses it, AYUSH medicine provides important health care services in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of an extensive range of ailments. The introduction of Allopathy (or Western medicine) which is based on biomedical concepts that provide fast action led to the neglect of Indian tradition-



THERE IS A NEED TO DEPLOY TECHNOLOGY WHEREVER POSSIBLE TO STREAMLINE THE PROCESSES IN ORDER TO MANAGE EFFICIENT PATIENT FLOW. IN ADDITION, THERE IS THE CHALLENGE TO THINK BEYOND THE OBVIOUS AND PROMOTE HOME CARE OR TELEHEALTH SERVICES, WHICH CAN BE LEVERAGED TO REDUCE THE PATIENT-LOAD BURDEN TO A LARGE EXTENT

(The writer is Senior Vice-President, PHDCCI and Chairman, Multani Pharmaceuticals Ltd. The views expressed are personal.)



al medical systems. Of course, the Allopathic system is bio-medicine based on experimental concepts due to their remarkable information on causation of diseases, their course, prognosis, management of disease, among others. But it is not the solution to complete health, as here drugs are effective as long as you take them. Allopathy treats a part and disease rather than eliminating the root cause of the ailment.

Health is not only the state of being free from illness or injury. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. There are numerous factors that have led to the widespread and increasing appeal of Ayurveda and AYUSH medicine throughout the world. The United States and European countries have advanced and developed healthcare systems based on Allopathy but failed during COVID-19. Interest in AYUSH medicines is particularly of those who have benefited from the AYUSH concept of immunity during the pandemic. It is affordable, closely corresponds to the patient's ideology, safety and efficacy - these are the popular reasons for the acceptance of AYUSH medicine. AYUSH medicines have demonstrated efficacy in areas such as mental health, disease prevention, treatment of non-communicable diseases, and improvement of the quality of life for persons living with chronic diseases as well as for the aging population.

Now it is time to focus on the indigenous AYUSH system as the first line in healthcare. This is why

the government has given attention on mainstreaming the Potential of AYUSH in National Health Policy 2017. The shift to AYUSH will boost both revenue and employment in many sectors, particularly the cultivation, collection and processing of medicinal plants. Medicinal preparations of AYUSH system include single herb or poly-herbal formulations with or without other natural active ingredients.

Smart technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) are making a world of difference in the way health systems in developing countries work. For instance, in Brazil, Malaysia and the Philippines, AI is being deployed to control various mosquito-borne diseases, including dengue, Zika, and chikungunya, among others.

And in other developing nations, hospitals are using AI to accurately predict a patient's risk of a heart attack seven years before it might occur. This way, resources and medicine can then specifically target people at the highest risk. The good part is India is also harnessing the potential of AI in healthcare and facilities are being upgraded in this regard.

People in rural and distant areas still lack access to basic healthcare. There is a need for filling the gap in the last-mile delivery of patient care in remote locations. As India aims to raise the stakes in digital transformation in the healthcare system, companies or even start-ups in the healthcare domain can create and deploy innovative technology to facilitate last-mile delivery of services.

Overall, there is enough scope for the healthcare ecosystem to be

enabled with a framework of preventive caregiving using clinical knowledge, access to clinical data, and usage of new-age smart clinical tools to enable predictability while deploying cutting-edge technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), and Natural Language Processing (NLP).

As part of Government initiatives towards improving the healthcare ecosystem in the past few years, the Union Government has been rolling out a series of reforms to achieve universal healthcare through the implementation of the National Health Policy of 2017, the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan and National Digital Health Mission (NDHM).

Building digital infrastructure for the healthcare sector through the National Digital Health Mission (NDHM) initiated by the Prime Minister's Digital India movement will bring in reforms for improving healthcare delivery to the last mile in the next few years.

However, there is a need to deploy technology wherever possible to streamline the processes in order to manage efficient patient flow. In addition, there is the challenge to think beyond the obvious and promote home care or telehealth services, which can be leveraged to reduce the patient-load burden to a large extent.

As aforementioned, the pandemic has been a sort of eye-opener for the healthcare ecosystem and various steps have already been initiated to bring about changes in the long run.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

FOR THE BJP GOVERNMENT, THE RISE IN GDP STANDS FOR THE RISE IN THE PRICES OF GAS, DIESEL AND PETROL. — CONGRESS LEADER RAHUL GANDHI



HERE'S WHAT RAHUL MEANS, G STANDS FOR THE GANDHI FAMILY, D FOR HIS POLITICAL GURU DIGVIJAYA SINGH AND P MEANS P CHIDAMBARAM. — MADHYA PRADESH HOME MINISTER NAROTTAM MISHRA

FM on petro prices: In search of logic

There is no international compulsion on the present BJP Government and yet it went on increasing the fuel prices

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said recently that reducing prices of petroleum products is not possible till 2026. The key question is if collecting nearly ₹22 lakh crore to repay just ₹2.38 lakh crore dues is justified? Let us juxtapose her assertions with the data presented to parliament over the years by the ministry of petroleum and natural gas.

She presented several fallacious arguments changing the goal post continuously, in tune with BJP's empty promises like depositing ₹15 lakh into the bank accounts of each Indian. Her statement is motivated by the fact that public at large is resenting the perennial price rise that is reflected in the latest edition of Mood of The Nation



VEERAIAH KONDURI

(The writer is former CWC member of All India Agricultural Workers Union. The views expressed are personal.)

Survey by India Today. It is also motivated by Amit Malaviya, head of BJP's IT cell, the churning house of fake news. I am surprised to know the fact that the cell is more knowledgeable of public finances than the Finance Minister.

In 2018, then minister for petroleum and natural gas Dharmendra Pradhan argued that the constant increase of petro prices was inevitable as the Government wanted funds to subsidise food security. This contention is also false as the expenditure on account of food security was reduced from ₹1,39,419 crore in 2015-16 to ₹1,08,688 crore by 2019-20. Moreover, the central Government saved a good amount of money from subsidies on petroleum prod-



ucts. The central subsidy on petrol stood at ₹85,378 crore in 2013-14 but came down to ₹24,460 by 2018-19, amounting to a saving of nearly ₹60,000 crore. Same as the case with the savings of ₹25,000 crore from reduced subsidies on kerosene supplied through public distribution system and ₹30,000

crore on LPG subsidy. Thus, the BJP government over the last six years saved an amount ₹1.15 lakh crore by constantly reducing the subsidies on petro products.

Another important reason for the price rise is the 'under recoveries' argument. The reported under recoveries in 2012-13 stood at ₹1,029 crore and it came down to ₹28,249 crore in 2017-18. We could not see any amount mentioned against this head in the latest annual reports of petroleum ministry. That means over the period, the petroleum companies recovered their dues in full. Thus, an additional amount of ₹1.40 lakh crore has been mobilised through day-to-day price manipulation of petro products. This could only be pos-

sible when the constantly increased prices of petro products factors a percentage of price towards this end.

It is well known that a whopping ₹18.11 lakh crore accrued to the central Government by way of central excise tax, reflecting a 400 per cent increase between 2014-15 and 2020-21. Approximately, another ₹12 lakh crore accrued to the states. Cumulatively the state and central Governments made a hole in the people's purse to the tune of ₹32.66 lakh crore of which ₹20.66 lakh crore went directly to the centre. The reason for this, according to the BJP's IT cell and the finance minister, is to repay the oil bonds raised by the UPA Government.

The UPA Government,

due to coalition compulsions, was more sensitive to the public mood. This core aspect of governance is missing from the current dispensation. The issuance of oil bonds was also the result of policy frame work adopted by former finance ministers. The UPA wanted to reduce the burden of under recoveries to the oil marketing companies while reducing the price burden on the common man. With this dual goal the then central Government issued oil bonds. Accordingly, consumers were able to get the petro products at artificially reduced prices. However, the UPA Government was compelled to do so due to the reasons beyond its control over international oil prices.

There is no such an inter-

national compulsion on today's BJP Government and yet it went on increasing the prices. The cost of oil bonds issued by the UPA government was ₹2.38 lakh crore between 2014 and 2026. If the pace of central excise duties continues till 2026, the accruals to the exchequer would be to somewhere between ₹40-50 lakh crore. That means, the central Government has designed a method that enables it to credit 200 times higher amount than it is supposed to pay without any formal policy announcement. This is the loot that was happening in broad day light over the last seven years. To justify this, the finance minister brought in a fallacious logic that cannot stand even minimal scrutiny.

No rush for US to recognise Taliban: WH

Washington: There is no rush to recognise the Taliban either by the United States or many of the countries that it has spoken to, the White House said asserting that such a move would be dependent on what they deliver on the expectations of the global community.

“There’s no rush to recognition from the United States or any country we have spoken with around the world. It will be very dependent on their behaviour and whether they deliver on what the expectations are of the global community,” White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki told reporters at her daily news conference on Wednesday.

At a separate news conference, the State Department echoed the same view. “We will continue to have conversations that serve our interests, as well as our allies and partners,”



Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Victoria J Nuland told reporters.

“But the first thing we want is to see them live up to the obligations that they have under the UN Charter, as well as the public statements that they themselves have made about their expectation for an Afghanistan that respects human rights, respects international law, allows international citizens and Afghans who wish to leave,” she said in response to a question.

The US obviously had contacts with the Taliban during the withdrawal, she said.

“We had it during the effort that we were trying to midwife a negotiation. Those conversations have continued intensively to enable the evacuation of - that we undertook, and to try to get the kinds of guarantees of safe passage, etc., and tolerance, and to talk about the standard set in the UN Security Council resolution to talk about the terrorist threat as well because the expectation is that they claim to be able to control the security of Afghanistan,” Nuland said.

The United States, she said, stands by the latest UN Security Council resolution. “Those are the international community’s expectations and the UNSC’s expectations for a Taliban-led government, and the way it will govern, and the way it will interact with the international system,” she said. **PTI**

Afghan women rally for rights in western region

Kabul: Some three dozen Afghan women have held a demonstration in front of the governor’s office in western Herat province, urging the new government to uphold advances in women’s rights following the Taliban takeover.

Friba Kabrzani, an organiser of the Thursday rally, says that women should have political participation in the new Government, including the Cabinet and Loya Jirga, or elders’ council.

Afghan women have made many sacrifices over the past 20 years to achieve what they have, she said, adding: “We want the world to hear us and we want our rights to be saved.”

Kabrzani says that some local families did not allow other women to join the march although they wanted to out of fear for their safety, after the ultraconservative Taliban religious militia took control of the country in mid-August.

Another participant, Maryam Ebram, said that although the Taliban were giving beautiful speeches on television, there have been abuses of power in the public space. **AP**

EU pushes for more autonomy amid Afghanistan fallout

Brdo Castle (Slovenia): Still reeling from the European Union’s shortcomings in Afghanistan, officials from the 27-nation bloc met Thursday to discuss ways to improve their response to future crises and not be so reliant on the U.S.

European ministers of defense and foreign affairs gathered in Slovenia for talks also involving NATO and U.N. Officials to look at ways to improve the bloc’s operational engagement and develop a rapid response force capable of operating in difficult military theaters.

Ministers will discuss plans for the so-called strategic compass, a document aiming at harmonizing crisis management and defining defense ambitions for the bloc that is expected to be drafted before the end of the year.

“It’s clear that the need for more European defense has never been as much as evident as today after the events in Afghanistan,” EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said upon his arrival. **AP**

Those left in Af complain of broken US promises

Kabul: Even in the final days of Washington’s chaotic airlift in Afghanistan, Javed Habibi was getting phone calls from the US Government promising that the green card holder from Richmond, Virginia, his wife and their four daughters would not be left behind.

He was told to stay home and not worry, that they would be evacuated. Late Monday, however, his heart sank as he heard that the final U.S. Flights had left Kabul’s airport, followed by the blistering staccato sound of Taliban gunfire, celebrating what they saw as their victory over America.

“They lied to us,” Habibi said of the US government. He is among hundreds of American citizens and green card holders stranded in the Afghan capital.

Victoria Nuland, undersecretary of state for political affairs, would not address individual cases but said all U.S. Citizens and lawful permanent residents who could not get evacuation flights or were otherwise stranded had been contacted individually in the past 24 hours and told to expect further information about routes out once those have been arranged.

“We will communicate directly to them personalized instructions on what they should do, when they should do it, and how the United States government feels we are best positioned to help them do that,” added State Department spokesman Ned Price.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken praised the evacuation effort despite the scenes of thousands of people jammed outside the gates at Kabul’s airport. **AP**

UK Foreign Min travels to Qatar for Af safe passage talks

PTI ■ LONDON

UK Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab will meet the Amir of Qatar and the Qatari Foreign Minister in Doha on Thursday to discuss the situation in Afghanistan and secure safe passage for British nationals and Afghan supporters from the conflict-torn country, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) said.

The FCDO said the Cabinet minister’s decision to visit Doha first on a trip to the region reflects the “high-profile” role the Qataris have played with regard to Afghanistan in recent years, including hosting the Taliban political office in Doha since 2013.

The prospect of getting Kabul airport up and running and safe passage for foreign nationals and Afghans across land borders is said to be on top of the agenda for his visit to Qatar. The Gulf state has already begun discussions about how best to ensure security at Kabul airport.

In Doha, Raab will meet the Amir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al Thani, and deputy prime minister and foreign minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman al Thani.

“The Foreign Secretary will seek Qatari views on the feasibility of a functioning airport in Kabul, either for charter or commercial flights, which would provide a vital route for remaining UK nationals and Afghans most at risk to leave the country,” the FCDO said.

Taliban all set to announce its new Govt

Peshawar: The Taliban are all set to announce the formation of a new Government in Kabul on the lines of the Iranian leadership, with the group’s top religious leader Mullah Hebatullah Akhundzada as Afghanistan’s supreme authority, a senior member of the group has said.

“Consultations are almost finalised on the new government, and the necessary discussions have also been held about the cabinet,” Mufti Inamullah Samangani, a senior official in the Taliban’s information and culture commission, said on Wednesday.

He said the group is all set to announce the formation of the new government in Kabul in the next three days.

In the new set-up, 60-year-old Mullah Akhundzada will be the Supreme Leader of the Taliban government, which will follow the pattern of the Iranian leadership.

In Iran, the supreme leader is the highest political and religious authority of the country. He ranks

above the president and appoints the heads of the military, the government, and the judiciary. The supreme leader has final say in the political, religious and military affairs of the country.

“Mullah Akhunzada will be the leader of the Government and there should be no question on this,” he said, indicating that the president will work under his oversight. Mullah Akhunzada is the top religious leader of the Taliban and has been serving at a mosque in Kachlaak area of Balochistan province for 15 years.

Samangani said that under the new governmental set-up, governors will control the provinces, while the district governors will be in-charge of their respective districts. The Taliban has already appointed governors, police chiefs and police commanders for provinces and districts.

The name of the new governance system, the national flag and the national anthem are yet to be finalised, he said. **PTI**

EU agency says to focus on vaccines first not booster shots

Brussels: The European Union’s infectious diseases agency on Thursday urged countries to push ahead with their primary coronavirus vaccination programs and played down the need for booster shots to ward off the delta variant among the general public.

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control said that approved vaccines are “currently highly effective” in limiting the impact of Covid-19. “The priority now should be to vaccinate all those eligible individuals who have not yet completed their recommended vaccination course,” it said.

After a slow start to Europe’s vaccine drive, the EU’s executive branch, the European Commission, announced this week that on average 70 per cent of adults are fully vaccinated across the 27-nation bloc. But

national vaccination rates vary, with Bulgaria and Romania notably slow with their programs.On Wednesday, France became the first big EU country to start administering booster shots of Covid-19 vaccine to people over 65 and those with underlying health conditions as the delta variant spreads in the country. Spanish health authorities are considering similar action.

The ECDC said additional shots should be considered for people “with severely weakened immune systems” if the first shots don’t protect them well enough, but that “there is no urgent need for the administration of booster doses of vaccines to fully vaccinated individuals in the general population.”

It’s common for protection from vaccines to decrease over time. **AP**

Merkel steps down with legacy dominated by tackling crises

Berlin: Angela Merkel will leave office as one of modern Germany’s longest-serving leaders and a global diplomatic heavyweight, with a legacy defined by her management of a succession of crises that shook a fragile Europe rather than any grand visions for her own country.

In 16 years at the helm of Europe’s biggest economy, Merkel did end military conscription, set Germany on course for a future without nuclear and fossil-fueled power, enable the legalization of same-sex marriage, introduce a national minimum wage and benefits encouraging fathers to look after young children, among other things.

But a senior ally recently summed up what many view as her main service: as an anchor of stability in stormy times. He told Merkel: “You protected our country well.”

“All the major crossroads you had to navigate ... We never mapped out in any election program — they came overnight and you had to govern well,” Bavarian governor Markus Soeder said. Merkel passed her first test in 2008, pledging at the height of the global financial crisis that Germans’ savings were safe. **AP**

Floods sweep cars into sea, damage homes in northeast Spain

Alcanar (Spain): Spain’s northeast town of Alcanar took toll Thursday of the damage to homes and businesses caused by flooding produced by intense rain that fell on large areas of the country.

Residents said that they were fortunate that no lives were lost when over 250 liters per square meter (45 gallons per square yard) were dumped on the town between midnight and 6 p.M. On Wednesday.

“We had to get upstairs to our apartment and then leave it all in God’s hands,” said Rosa Maria Sancho, the 67-year-old owner of a restaurant on the Alcanar boardwalk.

The flash flooding quickly turned streets into swift rivers that swept away all in their path. Several cars were carried away and around a dozen ended up tossed into the surf of the Mediterranean Sea. Homes and businesses were filled with mud, water and debris. Sancho’s daughter Carla Bayerri said that they watched helplessly as “part of the terrace went into the sea.”

Other parts of Spain’s central and northern areas, including Madrid, also saw flooding on Wednesday. **AP**

Pak shuts key border crossing with Af

Islamabad: Pakistan on Thursday temporarily closed a key border crossing with Afghanistan, apparently due to fear of the influx of refugees eager to leave their homeland after the Taliban seized power last month.

Chaman border crossing - the second-largest commercial border point with Afghanistan after the Torkham commercial town in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa - has been closed due to security threats, Geo News reported, citing sources.

Earlier in the day, Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed had said that the Chaman crossing may be closed for some days due to security threats.

“We will be closing the Chaman crossing for a while,” he said, without specifying how long the border would be shut. He said there was calm in and around the border. “Our forces are present at the border. We are proud of our security institutions for the service they are rendering for the security of the country,” he said.

He said Pakistan desires peace and stability in Afghanistan, adding that peace in Afghanistan is important for peace in Pakistan. **PTI**

GLOBE TROTTER

FIGHTING IN YEMEN KILLS 28 IN ONE DAY
Sanaa: Fighting has flared up between Yemen’s pro-government forces and Houthi rebels in the oil-rich government stronghold of Marib province, with at least 28 fighters killed over the last 24 hours, security officials from both sides and tribal leaders said on Thursday. Most of the fatalities were among the Iran-backed rebels assaulting the city of Rabbah, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the media.

NEPAL TO STUDY BORDER ISSUES WITH CHINA

Kathmandu: The Nepal Government has decided to form a committee to look into the border issues with China in the northern Himalayan region of the country.The decision to form the committee was taken on Wednesday at a meeting of the Council of Ministers at Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba’s official residence in Baluwatar.

The committee will study the problems related to the Nepal-China border from Liri Lapcha to Hilsa of Manikha rural municipality in Humla district. Government spokesperson Gyanendra Bahadur Karki said. China had reportedly encroached on Nepali land and built nine buildings in Humla last year. A government team led by the Chief District Officer also conducted an on-site study.

8 DIE AS HURRICANE REMNANTS HIT NORTHEAST
New York: Atleast eight deaths in were reported in New York City and New Jersey as relentless rain from the remnants of Hurricane Ida sent the New York City area into a state of emergency early Thursday and the storm carried into New England with threats of more tornadoes.Police in New York City reported seven deaths, including a 50-year-old man, a 48-year-old woman and a 2-year-old boy who were found unconscious and unresponsive inside a home. They were pronounced dead at the scene, police said. One death was reported in New Jersey.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for notice to all that due to ir retrievable breakdown and differences, we are hereby disinheriting our son **Mr. Aman Tuli** from the entirety of our wealth and estate, none of which is coparcenary property, and he is wholly dis-entitled from receiving or benefiting in any manner from any proceeds thereof. **Dr. Ashok Tuli & Mrs. Puja Tuli**
Gautam Swarup (Advocate)
D/1562/2014 C-203,
2nd Floor, G.K-1, New Delhi -110048

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform to the public at large that Mrs. Ritu Jain who is purchasing the Entire Freehold Property Bearing No. A-7/41, Area Measuring of 66+66+43= 175 Sq. Yards, Situated in the Abadi of Krishan Nagar in the Area of Village Ghondli, Illaga Shahdara Delhi-110051 from Ms. Ashima Joshi, Mr. Rajeev Joshi and Mr. Rajesh Kumar Joshi and same to be financed by Aditya Birla Housing Finance Ltd. That, Original Regd. GPA dated 19.09.2008 executed by Mr. Arjun Lal Khanchandani in favour of Mr. Rajesh Kumar Joshi, Vide Doc. No.9919 and Regd. GPA dated 22.09.2008 executed by Mr. Naresh Kumar in favour of Mr. Rajeev Joshi, Vide Doc. No.9985 have been lost or not available. If any Person having any type of claim/right/interest over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, stating his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances,lien etc.

Lucern Legal LLP

Office No. G-03, at Ground Floor, on Plot No. D-61, Sector-2, Noida, UP-201301

Contact # 0120-4130438

SUNIL HEALTHCARE LIMITED
Regd. Office:- 38E/252-A, Vijay Tower, Shahpurjat, New Delhi-110049
CIN:- L24302DL1973PLC189662
Email:- info@sunilhealthcare.com / Website:- www.sunilhealthcare.com,
Tel:- +91-11-4943555/00, Fax:- +91-11-43850087

NOTICE
(KIND ATTENTION: EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS OF SUNIL HEALTHCARE LTD.)
In order to send Annual report, Notice and other communications to the shareholders in electronic mode for ensuing the 47th Annual general Meeting which will be held through Video conferencing/other Audio Visual Mode, we request the Shareholders of Sunil Healthcare Limited, who have not yet registered their **email address** or bank account details, to register the same in respect of shares held in electronic form with the Depository through their Depository Participant(s) and in respect of shares **held in physical form, a request letter in writing duly signed by the shareholder**, requesting to the Company's Registrar and Transfer Agent, **M/s Alankit Assignment Limited at "4E/2, Alankit House, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi 110055"**, Contact no. 91-11-4254 1234 **email id: lalit@alankit.com, rta@alankit.com**, or to the Company Secretary of the Company at **cs@sunilhealthcare.com**; by quoting the Folio no. and self-attested copy of PAN Card.
Pursuant to General Circular No. 02/2021 Dated January 13, 2021 Read with General Circular No. 20/2020 dated May 05, 2020 issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, the Company has enabled a process for limited purpose for receiving the Annual Report and Notice of the 47th Annual General Meeting (including remote e-voting/e-voting instructions) electronically and the member may temporarily update their email id by dropping a email alongwith signed request letter to our E-voting and Video conferencing Agency Link Intime India **delhi@linkintime.com** or to the Company at **cs@sunilhealthcare.com**.

For Sunil Healthcare Limited
Sd/-
Santosh Kumar Sharma
Company Secretary & Compliance Officer
F-6817

Place: New Delhi
Date: 02.09.2021

ROTOGRAPHICS (INDIA) LIMITED
CIN: L74899DL1976PLC008036
Regd. Office: Unit No 8, Ground Floor, Pocket M, Sarita Vihar New Delhi-110076
Website: www.rotoidia.co.in Email info@rotoidia.co.in Phone: 011-47366600

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Notice is hereby given that the 46th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the members of Rotographics (India) Limited ("the Company") will be held on **Wednesday, September 29, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.** through Video Conferencing ("VC")/ **Other Audio-Visual Means ("OAVM") ("the Meeting")** as per provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rules made thereunder and SEBI (Listings Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 read with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs ("**MCA**") circular dated April 8,2020 and April 13,2020 and May 5,2020 and Jan 13, 2021. (Collectively referred to as MCA circulars) and SEBI circular dated May 12,2020 and Jan 15,2021.To transact the businesses as set out in the Notice of AGM. Electronic copy of the Notice of the AGM along with Annual Report and Annual Accounts for the Financial Year 2020-21 (**the 'Annual Report'**) of the Company has been sent electronically to the members to their registered mail address with the Depositories/ Company. These documents can also be downloaded from the Company's website Link **www.rotoidia.co.in** and the website of NSDL **www.evoting.nsdl.com**. Members holding share either in physical or demat form, on the **cut-off date i.e. Wednesday, 22nd September, 2021** shall cast their vote electronically through the electronic voting system of NSDL at **www.evoting.nsdl.com**.

Members are hereby informed that:
1. The business as set forth in the Notice of the AGM may be transacted through remote e-voting or by e-voting system at the AGM.
2. The remote e-voting period shall commence on **Sunday, 26th September, 2021 at 9:00 am** and ends on **Tuesday, 28th September, 2021 at 5:00 pm**. The Cut-off date for the remote e-voting process is Wednesday, 22nd September, 2021.
3. The Register of Members and Share Transfer Books of the Company will remain closed from **23rd September, 2021 to 29th September, 2021** (both days inclusive).
4. The remote e-voting module shall be disabled by NSDL beyond 5:00 p.m. on 28th September, 2021 and once the votes, on a resolution is cast by the member, the member shall not be allowed to change it subsequently. The facility for voting will also be made available during the AGM, and those members present in the AGM through VC/OAVM facility, who have not cast their vote on the resolutions through remote e-voting, shall be eligible to vote through the e-voting system at the AGM. The members who have cast their votes by remote e-voting prior to the AGM may also attend the AGM through VC/OAVM facility but shall not be entitled to cast their votes again. Only persons whose name is recorded in the register of members or in the register of beneficial owners maintained by the depositories as on the cut-off date shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting or e-voting at the AGM.
5. Any Person, who acquire shares and become members of the Company after dispatch of Notice of AGM but before cut-off date of Wednesday, 22nd September, 2021 may obtain their USER ID and password for remote e-voting by sending a request at **evoting@nsdl.co.in, info@skylinerta.com** or **info@rotoidia.co.in**.
6. The detailed procedure for remote e-Voting before and during the AGM is provided in the Notes to the Notice of the AGM.
7. Members who need assistance before or during the AGM, can contact NSDL on evoting@nsdl.co.in / 1800 10220 990 and 1800 224 430 or contact Ms. Pallavi Mhatre, Manager or Ms. Soni Singh, Asst. Manager, National Securities Depository Limited at the designated email id: **evoting@nsdl.co.in** or **pallavid@nsdl.co.in** or **SoniS@nsdl.co.in**

By Order of the Board of Directors
For Rotographics (India) Limited
Sd/-
Ankit Bansal
Company Secretary

Date: 01.09.2021
Place: New Delhi

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

Notices under SARFAESI Act for Loan Account No. LBDEL00002938126, Name of the Borrower **POOJA JUYAL, ANKIT GUPTA** property address **FLAT NO 903, 9TH FLOOR TOWER-5, TOWER-3 4, 5, PLOT NO GH-16F UNIBERA TOWERS SEC-1 GREATER NOIDA, NOIDA, UTTAR PRADESH** were published as Demand Notice under section 13(2), in annexure "B" dated **March 25, 2021** respectively. We wish to mention that inadvertently and unintentionally a typographical error has occurred in the said notices and area was mentioned as **FLAT NO 903, 9TH FLOOR TOWER-5, TOWER-3 4,5, PLOT NO GH-16F UNIBERA SEC-1 GREATER NOIDA, NOIDA, UTTAR PRADESH** Admeasuring Area is **1495 Sq Feet** instead of **FLAT NO 903, 9TH FLOOR TOWER-5, TOWER-3 4 5, PLOT NO GH-16F, UNIBERA TOWERS SEC-1 GREATER NOIDA, UTTAR PRADESH** Admeasuring Area is **1455 Sq Feet** We therefore, request you to please read the same as **FLAT NO 903, 9TH FLOOR TOWER-5, TOWER- 3 4 5, PLOT NO GH-16F, UNIBERA TOWERS SEC- 1 GREATER NOIDA, NOIDA, UTTAR PRADESH A**dmeasuring Area is **1455 Sq Feet**.

Date: September 03, 2021
Place: Delhi/ Ncr

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

O/o FOREST MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM, RAIPUR (C.G.)
Aranya Bhawan, North Block, Sector-19, 3rd Floor,
Room No. TR-07, Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar, Raipur
Email - cfmis.cg@gov.in
Website : www.fmrisonline.org, www.cgforest.nic.in

No./FMIS/Tender/2021/ 1017
Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar
Raipur, Dt. 2/9/2021

Tender in Envelopes super-scribing "**Tender for Supply and Installation of IT & Electronic Goods**"are Invited from reputed IT firms. The Tender document can be purchased from the office of DFO, FMIS by paying Rs.1000/- per form by DD in the name of DFO FMIS till 04.10.2021 during office hrs (If Tender is not finalized on due date 04.10.2021 then 2nd round of Tender will be on 13.10.2021, If 2nd round of Tender is not finalized then 3rd round of Tender will be on 20.10.2021), The document shall be received till 04.10.2021/13.10.2021/20.10.2021 at 12.00 PM and will be opened on same day at 2.00 PM

The bid document is available at **www.fmisonline.org** for viewing purpose only.

Conservator of Forest,
R. O. No. 63362/4 Forest Management Information System,
R. O. Date 02/09/2021 Nawa Raipur, Atal Nagar (C.G.)

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

Notices under SARFAESI Act for Loan Account No. LBDEL00002938126, Name of the Borrower **POOJA JUYAL, ANKIT GUPTA** property address **FLAT NO 903, 9TH FLOOR TOWER-5, TOWER-3 4, 5, PLOT NO GH-16F UNIBERA TOWERS SEC-1 GREATER NOIDA, NOIDA, UTTAR PRADESH** were published as Demand Notice under section 13(2), in annexure "B" dated **March 25, 2021** respectively. We wish to mention that inadvertently and unintentionally a typographical error has occurred in the said notices and area was mentioned as **FLAT NO 903, 9TH FLOOR TOWER-5, TOWER-3 4,5, PLOT NO GH-16F UNIBERA SEC-1 GREATER NOIDA, NOIDA, UTTAR PRADESH** Admeasuring Area is **1455 Sq Feet** We therefore, request you to please read the same as **FLAT NO 903, 9TH FLOOR TOWER-5, TOWER- 3 4 5, PLOT NO GH-16F, UNIBERA TOWERS SEC- 1 GREATER NOIDA, NOIDA, UTTAR PRADESH A**dmeasuring Area is **1455 Sq Feet**.

Date: September 03, 2021
Place: Delhi/ Ncr

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

Notice Inviting Re-e-Tender
No.SS/HRMIS/1383/2020/7396 Date : 02.09.2021
Mission Director, Rashtriya Madhyamik Siksha Abhijan (Samagra Shiksha), Assam, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19 invites re-tender through e-Tendering process from Reputed Registered Companies for Development of Human Resource Management Information System (Transfer & Posting of Teachers) and Implementation, Support and Maintenance.

To participate in the tender process through e-procurement document, bidders should have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) and have to register in the portal https://assamtenders.gov.in by themselves. The Bidders who have downloaded the tender schedules containing the tender details, terms and conditions, from the website shall submit their tender on-line on the website https://assamtenders.gov.in, with proof of payment of non refundable tender processing fee of Rs. 5000/- (Rupees five thousand) only in the form of demand draft/ Bankers Cheque in favour of Mission Director, Rashtriya Madhyamik Siksha Abhijan, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19, Assam, from any nationalized/Scheduled Bank and payable at Guwahati. The tender should be submitted on-line as per date and time of submission as per prescribed schedule.

Sd/- Mission Director,
Janasanyog No. CF/188/21
SSA/RMSA, Assam, Khilipara, Guwahati-19

Sensex, Nifty surge to new peaks as bulls return

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Markets resumed their upward march on Thursday after a day's pause as hectic buying in IT, FMCG and bank stocks propelled benchmarks to new closing highs.

The 30-share BSE Sensex rallied 514.33 points or 0.90 per cent to finish at its fresh all-time high of 57,852.54. Similarly, the NSE Nifty surged 157.90 points or 0.92 per cent to record 17,234.15.

TCS topped the Sensex gainers chart with a jump of 3.34 per cent, followed by HUL, UltraTech Cement, Dr Reddy's, Nestle India, Kotak Bank and Titan.

TCS, Reliance Industries, HUL and HDFC accounted for around half of the benchmark's gains.

In contrast, M&M was the

top loser, tumbling 2.29 per cent after the automaker said it will slash output by up to 25 per cent owing to the global semiconductor shortage.

Bajaj Auto, Bajaj Finserv, Bajaj Finance, Asian Paints and I&T were among the other laggards, dropping up to 0.79 per cent.

The market breadth was positive, with 22 Sensex components ending in the green, while the remaining eight nursed losses. "Indian markets started on a positive note despite mixed Asian market cues which traded lacklustre as investors eye US jobs data. During the afternoon session, markets added to the gains on the back of sustained buying activities by traders," said Narendra Solanki,

Head- Equity Research (Fundamental), Anand Rath.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said domestic indices climbed amid positive economic data, FII buying and mixed global markets ahead of the release of US job data.

"Economic data is nudging the performance of core sectors like capital goods and industrials while the recent high performance of the market is also tempting investors to shift to safer defensive sectors. All major sectors followed the market trend while the auto sector lost ground due to weak sales," he added.Sectorally, BSE

FMCG, IT, consumer durables, teck, basic materials and realty indices advanced as much as 1.56 per cent, while auto and oil and gas indices ended in the red. Broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices spurred up to 0.93 per cent.

India's August exports rise over 45%

IANs ■ NEW DELHI

India's merchandise exports in August 2021 rose to \$33.14 billion, higher by 45.17 per cent on a year-on-year basis, preliminary data showed on Thursday.Exports in August 2020 stood at \$22.83 billion.

Besides, the data furnished by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry showed that in comparison to August 2019, last month's exports rose by 27.5 per cent.

"Value of non-petroleum exports in August 2021 was \$28.58 billion, registering a positive growth of 36.57 per

cent over non-petroleum exports of \$20.93 billion in August 2020 and a positive growth of 25.44 per cent over non-petroleum exports of \$22.78 billion in August 2019.

"Value of non-petroleum and non-gems and jewellery exports in August 2021 was \$25.15 billion, registering a positive growth of 31.66 per cent over non-petroleum and non-gems and jewellery exports of \$19.1 billion in August 2020 and a positive growth of 28.53 per cent over non-petroleum and non-gems and jewellery exports of \$19.57 billion in August 2019."



Imperative to ensure orderly growth of account aggregator ecosystem: RBI Dy Guv

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The account aggregator ecosystem in the country is in a nascent stage and there is a need for its orderly growth, Reserve Bank of India's deputy governor M Rajeshwar Rao said on Thursday.

Account Aggregators (AA) are entities that enable financial data sharing from Financial Information Providers (FIPs) to Financial Information Users (FIUs), based on the consent from the customers.

"The account aggregator ecosystem is still in a nascent stage of development. But given the sensitivity of the platform on account of the nature of data handled by it, it becomes imperative to ensure that the growth is orderly," Rao said while speaking at iSPIRIT Foundation event.

AA acts as an intermediary and helps connect the cus-

tomers to multiple Financial Information Providers (FIPs) through standardised API (Application Programming Interfaces).

Some of the account aggregators that have received approval from RBI include CAMSFinServ, Cookiefar Technologies Pvt Ltd, FinSec AA Solutions Pvt Ltd and NSEL Asset Data Ltd, among others. The deputy governor said as the business of account aggregators grow, it is feasible for different categories of financial institutions, under the jurisdiction of different financial regulators, to talk to one another over their respective technology based platforms.

"Seamless movement of data over different institutions with complete confidentiality will be the basic requirement for orderly growth and smooth functioning of the account aggregator framework," he said.

CAG urges auditors to use data analytics, AI for optimising resources

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has urged the auditors to make far greater use of data analytics and Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for optimising efficient use of their own scarce resources and also effectively meeting the requirements and needs of their stakeholders.

In his opening remarks at the e-seminar on "IT Audit in the Era of Industrial Revolution 4.0: Opportunities and Challenges" of INTOSAI WGITA, CAG C Murmu on Thursday emphasised that, in the fourth industrial revolution, audit professionals, especially Information Technology auditors, must prepare themselves to face multi-faceted changes and challenges.

Gatishakti scheme to provide framework for National Infrastructure Pipeline plan: Gadkari

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari on Thursday said ₹100 lakh crore-Gatishakti scheme will provide a framework for the National Infrastructure Pipeline programme and make Indian products more competitive by cutting down logistic costs and improving supply chains.

Addressing the American

Chamber of Commerce's (AMCHAM) 29th AGM, Gadkari also sought investments in the road sector from insurance and pension funds of the US."Our Government is soon going to launch the national master plan of (the) Prime Minister - Gatishakti scheme of more than ₹100 lakh crore for holistic and integrated infrastructure development in India," he said.

Civil Aviation Minister Scindia writes to CMs of Telangana, Meghalaya

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya M Scindia has written to Chief Ministers of Telangana and Meghalaya, requesting their personal intervention in expediting various matters for strengthening aviation infrastructure in these States. While writing to Telangana CM K. Chandrashekar Rao, Scindia has drawn his attention towards the issue of extension of period of Concession Agreement for Hyderabad International Airport Limited (HIAL).

The Minister mentioned that a Concession Agreement (CA) dated December 20, 2004

has been executed between Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India and HIAL for development, construction, operation and maintenance of Hyderabad International Airport. In terms of clause 13.7.1 of CA, M/S HIAL has requested for extension of its concession period for another 30 years beyond the initial 30 years, i.e beyond March 23, 2038 and till 23.03.2068. The State Government has been requested to re-examine the request of HIAL for extension of the period of Concession Agreement and furnish its recommendations to the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

India, UK agree investment boost at Economic and Financial Dialogue

PTI ■ LONDON

New steps to tackle climate change and boost investment were announced on Thursday at the 11th India-UK Economic and Financial Dialogue (EFD) between Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and UK Chancellor Rishi Sunak, driving forward the bilateral agenda of an Enhanced Trade Partnership.

Sitharaman and Sunak, who met virtually for the annual summit, signed off a USD 1.2-billion package of public

and private investment in green projects and renewable energy to boost India's green growth ambitions.

This includes a USD 1 billion investment from CDC, the UK's development finance institution in green projects in India, joint investments by both Governments to support companies working on innovative green tech solutions, and a new USD 200 million private and multilateral investment into the joint Green Growth Equity Fund which invests in Indian renewable energy.

Indian, Delhi Govt to jointly prepare airport metro line

Today with the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Limited, a joint venture of the Government of India and the Government of Delhi, to prepare the DPR of the proposed airport metro for a total of 35.64 km from Pari Chowk in Greater Noida to Noida International Airport. The contract has been signed by Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority.

The total distance of the

proposed metro from Pari Chowk to Noida International Airport has been estimated as 35.64 km. Along with this, feasibility study of metro rail project from Pari Chowk in Greater Noida to Shivaji Station, New Delhi will also be done by DMRC. The said DPR will be made available in the authority by DMRC within a period of 09 months, after which the development work of the metro will be started.

NOTICE FOR CANCELLATION OF RE-e-TENDER

No. SS/HRMIS/1383/2020/7395

Date : 02.09.2021

The tender invited vide Re-e-Tender No.SS/HRMIS/1383/2020/7329 Date: 25.08.2021 for Development of Human Resource Management Information System (Transfer & Posting of Teachers) and Implementation, Support and Maintenance is hereby cancelled due to administrative reasons.




Sd/ Mission Diredctor,

Janasanyog No. CF/1185/21

SSA/RMSA, Assam, Khilipara, Guwahati- 19

CORRIGENDUM



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

Notices under SARFAESI Act for Loan Account No. LBNOD00002408121. Name of the Borrower PRIYANKA TAKSH OD, TAKSH KRISHNA DASS property address FLAT NO-1701, 17TH FLOOR TOWER-1 PLOT NO-GH 01C, SUNWORLD DEVELOPERS PVT LTD SECTOR 16B SUNWORLD ARISTA, UTTAR PRADESH, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR were published as Demand Notice under section 13(2), in annexure "B" dated March 25, 2021 and same was also published in The Pioneer + Pioneer dated June 24, 2021 respectively. We wish to mention that inadvertently and unintentionally a typographical error has occurred in the said notices, and area was mentioned as FLAT NO- 1701, 17TH FLOOR TOWER- 1 PLOT NO-GH 01C, SUNWORLD DEVELOPERS PVT LTD SECTOR 16B SUNWORLD ARISTA, UTTAR PRADESH, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR instead of FLAT NO- 1701, 17TH FLOOR TOWER-1 PLOT NO- GH 01C, SUNWORLD DEVELOPERS PVT LTD SECTOR 16B SUNWORLD ARISTA, UTTAR PRADESH, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR We therefore, request you to please read the same as FLAT NO- 1701, 17TH FLOOR TOWER- 1 PLOT NO-GH 01C, SUNWORLD DEVELOPERS PVT LTD SECTOR 16B SUNWORLD ARISTA, UTTAR PRADESH, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR


Date: September 03, 2021

Place: Delhi/ Ncr

Authorized Officer

ICICI Bank Limited

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed that one male namely **Rajesh Kumar, S/o: Om Prakash, R/o W 70/342, Indira Camp No. 2, Vikasपुरी, New Delhi, Age: 55 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Thin, Hair: White, Mentally Disturb, wearing Cream colour Shirt, Black Jeans and Slipper in feet, has been missing from his house since 16.08.2021. In this regard a DD No. 98A, dated 17.08.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Vikasपुरी, Delhi.**

Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the male but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about him please inform undersigned.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in

Fax: 011-24368639

Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO

P.S. Vikasपुरी, Delhi

DP/528/WD/2021

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified deadbody of male **Age : About 50-55 years, Height : 5'6", Complexion : Shallow, Face : Long, Build : Thin, wearing Brown colour Nickar, White colour Lungi & White colour Kurta, was found dead on 30.08.2021 by train accident at K.M. Pole No. 7/15G to 7/17G Old Anand Vihar Railway Station, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 22-A dated 30.08.2021 u/s 174 Cr.P.C. has been lodged at P.S. Anand Vihar Railway Station, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved for 72 hours for identification in the mortuary of GTB Hospital, Delhi.**

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

SHO - P.S. Anand Vihar Railway Station, Delhi

Tel. No. : 011-22145601, 22145602

DP/234/RLY/21

SEARCH OF KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one boy, (depicted in the photo), **Namely: Faran, S/o: Sonu, R/o: H.No. E-241, Gali No. 09 Shastrī Park, Delhi. Aged: about 1 year & 6 Months, has been kidnapped from above said address since 15.02.2017 at registered vide FIR No. 131/17 u/s 363 IPC, Dated 15.02.2017, has been lodged at P.S. New Usmanpur, Delhi.**



Faran

Her physical description is as under:

Height: 1' 4" Feet, Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Thin, Clothing: Gulabi & White Colour Sweater, Green Colour Pajami and Pink Colour Sandel in feet

Any person is having any information/clue about this kidnapped boy, may inform SHO, P.S. New Usmanpur, Delhi at E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.nic.in or website : <http://cbi.nic.in> Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641

S.H.O

P.S. New Usmanpur, Delhi

Ph. 011-22172410, 22175468

DP/1001/NE/2021

MEYER APPAREL LIMITED

CIN: L1810HR1993PLC032010

Regd. Office: No. 3&4, Mustil No.19, Kila No.5, opposite Tata Consultancy N.H-3, Village Narsingh Pur, GURUGRAM- 122004, (HARYANA) INDIA

E-mail: viyay.garg@meyerapparel.com, Website: www.meyerapparel.com

NOTICE OF THE 28th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, E-VOTING AND BOOK CLOSURE INFORMATION

NOTICE is hereby given that the 28th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Meyer Apparel Limited will be held on **Saturday, 25th September 2021 at 12:30 PM** IST through Video Conferencing (VC) or Other Audio Visual Means (OAVM) in accordance with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) General Circular No.20/2020 dated 05th May, 2020 that allows companies to hold AGM in the manner detailed in the General Circular No. 14/2020, dated 08th April, 2020 and General Circular No. 17/2020 dated 13th April, 2020 read with SEBI Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD/1/CIR/P/2020/79 dated 12th May, 2020 without the physical presence of the Members at a common venue to transact the business as set out in the Notice of the 28th AGM dated 13th August, 2021.

The Notice of the 28th AGM dated 13th August, 2021 and the Annual Report including the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March, 2021 along with login details of joining the 28th AGM will be sent only by email to all those Members, whose email addresses are registered with the Company or its Registrar & Share Transfer Agent (RTA) or with their respective Depository Participants in accordance with MCA Circular(s) and SEBI Circular. Members can join and participate in the 28th AGM through the VCO/AVM facility. The instructions for joining the 28th AGM and the manner of participation in the remote electronic voting or casting vote through the e-voting system during the 28th AGM are provided in the Notice of the 28th AGM.

The Schedule of Events for e-voting is as follows:-

Cut Off Date for E-Voting	18 th September 2021
Book Closure Date	18 th September 2021 to 25th September 2021 (Both Days Inclusive)
Remote e-Voting Start Date & Time	22 nd September 2021 at 09:00 A.M.
Remote e-Voting End Date & Time	24 th September 2021 at 5:00 P.M.
AGM Start Date and Time	Saturday, 25th September 2021 at 12:30 P.M.

Members whose email addresses are not registered with the depositories can register the same for obtaining login credentials for e-voting for the resolutions proposed in the Notice of 28th AGM in the following manner:

i. For Physical shareholders- Please provide necessary details like Folio No., Name of Member, scanned copy of the share certificate (front and back), PAN (self-attested scanned copy of PAN card), AADHAR (self-attested scanned copy of Aadhar Card) by email to Company to Mr. Vijay Garg Company Secretary email id at viyay.garg@meyerapparel.com.

ii. For Demat Shareholders- Please provide Demat account details (CDSL-16 digit beneficiary ID or NSDL-16 digit DPID + CLID), Name, client master or copy of Consolidated Account statement, PAN (self-attested scanned copy of PAN card), AADHAR (self-attested scanned copy of Aadhar Card) to the Company email ldviyay.garg@meyerapparel.com.

In case of any queries / grievances relating to e-Voting. Members may refer the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Shareholders and e-voting user manual for Shareholders available at the download section of www.evoting.nsdl.com or contact on toll free no.: 1800-222-990 and 1800 224 430 or send a request at evoting@nsdl.co.in or write to Mr. Vijay Kumar Garg, Company Secretary at viyay.garg@meyerapparel.com / admin@skylinertf.com. The attendance of the Members attending the AGM through VCO/AVM will be counted for the purpose of ascertaining the quorum under Section 103 of the Companies Act, 2013. The Notice of the 28th AGM and the Annual Report is also made available on the website www.meyerapparel.com of the Company at and as well as on the website of NSDL at www.evoting.nsdl.com and on the website of Stock Exchanges' www.bseindia.com for BSE Limited.

For Meyer Apparel Limited

Sd/-

(Vijay Kumar Garg)

Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

ADDI INDUSTRIES LIMITED

CIN: L51109DL1980PLC256335

Registered Office: 23, Eastern Avenue, Maharani Bagh New Delhi-110065

Tel: 011-26840825, Email: atul.addi@gmail.com

NOTICE OF THE 39th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, E-VOTING INFORMATION AND BOOK CLOSURE DATE(S)

Dear Members,

The 39th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the members of **Addi Industries Limited** ("the Company") will be held on **Thursday, 30th September, 2021 at 9:00 A.M.** through Video Conferencing ("VC")/Other Audio Visual Means ("OAVM") facility without the physical presence of the members at a common venue to transact the businesses as set out in the Notice of AGM in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013(Act) and Rules framed thereunder and the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 read with Circular No.14/2020 dated 08th April, 2020, Circular No. 17/2020 dated 13th April, 2020, Circular No. 20/2020 dated 05th May, 2020 and Circular No. 02/21 dated 13th January, 2021 issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) and Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD/1/CIR/P/2020/79 dated 12th May, 2020 and Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD/2/CIR/P/2021/11 dated 15th January 2021 issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), hereinafter referred to as the "Circular(s)".

Since the meeting will be held through VC/OAVM, facility for appointment of proxy will not be available for the AGM.

The Notice of AGM and Annual Report for the Financial Year 2020-21 have been sent to all the members, whose e-mail address are registered / available with the Company / Depository Participants (DP) as on 30th August, 2021. Please note that the requirement of sending physical copies of the Notice of AGM and Annual Report to the members have been dispensed with in terms of the aforesaid Circular(s).

In compliance with Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013, Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, as amended and Regulation 44 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and aforesaid Circular(s), the Members are provided with the facility to attend AGM through Video Conferencing (VC) / Other Audio Visual Means (OAVM), to cast their vote electronically through the Remote e-voting before the AGM and through e-voting during the AGM, through the Authorised Agency, **Central Depository Securities Limited (CDSL).**

The process and manner of Remote e-voting / e-voting during the AGM and instructions for participation at the AGM through VC/OAVM are provided in the Notice of AGM.

Pursuant to Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2015 as amended, Members are hereby informed that:

a) The Ordinary Business and the Special Business as set out in the Notice of 39th AGM will be transacted through voting by electronic means;

b) The Remote e-voting shall commence on 27th September, 2021 at 09:00 A.M.;

c) The Remote e-voting shall end on 29th September, 2021 at 05:00 P.M. Thereafter, the facility of Remote e-voting shall be disabled by CDSL.

d) The e-voting rights of the Members shall be in proportion to the paid-up value of their Shares in the Equity Share Capital of the Company. Members of the Company holding Shares either in physical form or in dematerialized form, as on the cut-off date i.e. 23rd September 2021, may cast their vote by Remote e-voting before AGM / e-voting at AGM.

e) Any person who acquires Shares of the Company and becomes member of the Company after dispatch of the Notice and holding Shares as on the cut-off date i.e. 30th August, 2021 may obtain the login id and password by sending a request at evoting@cDSLindia.com. However, if you are already registered with CDSL for Remote e-voting then you can use your existing user ID and password for casting your vote.

f) **Members may further note that:**

(i) Once the vote on a resolution is cast by the Member, the Member shall not be allowed to change it subsequently.

(ii) Members who have voted through Remote e-voting prior to the AGM may also attend the AGM but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again at the meeting.

(iii) A person whose name is recorded in the register of members or in the register of beneficial owners maintained by the depositories as on the cut-off date shall be entitled to avail the facility of Remote e-voting as well as e-voting at the AGM.

(iv) The Notice of AGM and Annual Report are available on the website of the Company at www.bseindia.com and website of NSDL at www.evotingindia.com.

(v) **In case of any grievance connected with the facility for voting by electronic means, Members can contact CDSL, e-mail id: helpdesk.evoting@cDSLindia.com or contact at 022-23058738 and 022-23058542/43. Members may also write to the Company at the e-mail id: atul.addi@gmail.com**

Book Closure: Pursuant to the provisions of Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 and Regulation 42 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the Register of Members and Share Transfer Books will remain closed from 24th September, 2021 to 30th September, 2021 (both days inclusive) for the purpose of this AGM.


For ADDI Industries Limited

Sd/-

Chaman Lal Jain

Managing Director, DIN: 00022903

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown was found unconscious on 24.08.2021 at Rajiv Chowk Metro Station, New Delhi and admitted to Lady Harding Hospital on MLC No. 1667/21, New Delhi. In this regard DD No. 52-A dated 25.08.2021 has been lodged at Police Station, Connaught Place, New Delhi.**

During the treatment Doctors declared him dead. Identification of unidentified dead body is as under:

Name: Unknown, Age: About 40 Years, Height: 5'5", Complexion: Shallow, Built: Thin, Face: Oval, Wearing: Green T-Shirt and grey pant.

If anyone has any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.

SHO

Police Station, Connaught Place, Delhi

DP/319/NDD/2021(UIDB) Ph: 011-23747100, 8750870525

CUBICAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED

Regd. Office:- 456, Aggarwal Metro Heights, Netaji Subhash Place, Pitampura, New Delhi-110034

CIN:- L65993DL1990PLC040011

Ph:- 011-47057757

Email id:- cubfinser@yahoo.com

NOTICE

The Notice of the 31st AGM and the Annual Report for the year 2020-21 including the financial statements for the financial year ended March 31, 2021 ("Annual Report") has been sent only by email to all those Members, whose email addresses are registered with the Depository Participants or Company in accordance with the MCA Circulars and SEBI Circular. The requirement of sending physical copy of the Notice of the AGM and Annual report to the members have been dispensed with vide MCA circulars and SEBI Circular.

Members holding shares either in physical form or in dematerialized form, as on cut off date i.e. 21st September 2021 may cast their vote electronically on the ordinary and special, as set out in the Notice of the 31st AGM through electronic voting system ("Remote e-voting") of CDSL.

In connection with the Remote E-voting Facility and meeting through Video Conferencing/Other Audio Video Means (VC/ OAVM), we wish to notify the shareholders as under:

a) The business, as set out in the Notice of AGM, may be transacted through remote e-voting as per Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and Regulation 44 of SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 or e-voting system at the AGM

b) The shareholders holding shares as on 21st September, 2021, being the cut-off date, may participate in the Remote E-voting exercise. The notice convening the AGM has been sent through email to those shareholders holding shares as on 3rd September, 2021. Notice convening the said AGM shall be sent by e-mail to those persons becoming shareholders after 3rd September, 2021, and holding shares as on 21st September, 2021 and whose e-mail ids are registered with the Company/depositories. Such shareholders may also obtain the Login ID by sending a request to helpdesk.evoting@cDSLindia.com or to beetalrta@gmail.com or to cubfinser@yahoo.com mentioning his/ her Folio No. / DP ID & Client ID.

c) Details of the manner of casting votes is mentioned in the Notice of AGM which is also displayed on the website of the Company at www.cubical90.com and shall be displayed on the website of the Remote E-voting agency, Central Depository Services Limited, at <https://www.evotingindia.com>.

d) Remote E-voting shall commence at 9:00 A.M. on 25th September, 2021 & shall be available only till 5:00 P.M. on 27th September, 2021 and shall not be available thereafter.

e) members may note that: i) The remote e-voting module shall be disabled after 5:00 p.m. (IST) on 27th September, 2021 ii) The facility for electronic voting system, shall also be made available at the AGM. iii) Members attending the AGM, who have not cast their votes through remote e-voting, shall be able to exercise their voting rights at the AGM. The Members who have already cast their votes through remote e-voting may attend the Meeting but shall not be entitled to cast their votes again at the AGM. iv) a person whose name is recorded in the register of member or in the register of beneficial owner maintained by the depositories as on 21st September, 2021 being the cut off date shall only be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting or e-voting at the AGM.

f) In case of any query/clarification/ grievances related to Remote E-voting/E-voting, shareholders may contact to Mr. Bhawendra Fula, Senior Manager, Beetal Financial Computer Services Private Limited, 99, Madangiri, behind LSC, New Delhi - 110062, Ph No: 9312711085, e-mail:- beetalrta@gmail.com or may write to the CDSL E-voting team at helpdesk.evoting@cDSLindia.com.

g) Mr. Mukesh Kumar Aggarwal, Company Secretary in Practice, has been appointed as the Scrutinizer to scrutinize the Remote E-voting/E-voting process.

h) Kindly note that once you have cast your vote through E-voting, you cannot modify your vote.

i) The consolidated results of the Remote E-voting/E-voting at AGM, if any, which may be taken at the AGM, shall be announced by the Company within 3 days of the AGM & displayed on the websites of the Company and of the Remote E-Voting Agency and also informed to Stock Exchanges.

Notice is further given pursuant to Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 10 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 that the Register of Members and Share Transfer Books of the Company shall remain closed from Wednesday, 22nd September, 2021 to Tuesday, 28th September, 2021 for the purpose of AGM for the FY 2020-21.

For Cubical Financial Services Limited

Sd/-

Ashwani Kumar Gupta

(Managing Director)

Place: New Delhi

Date: 2 September, 2021

Keeping your loved ones safe should not be a topic that is kept under the wraps. 'Let's talk about consent' is a conversation worth having.

NOT JUST A NEWS HOUND



Gone too soon



Shukla is survived by his mother and two sisters.

Need-based businesses bloom



TREND BLAZER

MALAIKA PROMOTES HEALTH IN & OUT

fairtalk
KIARA ADVANI

A portrait of actress Kiara Advani, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. She has dark hair and is wearing a dark blue top.

dailytalk
ANSHUMAN JHA

A portrait of Anshuman Jha, a man with dark, wavy hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a bright red tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

'I'VE COME FULL CIRCLE'



77

HIGHWAY OF TASTE

The GT Road spreads out the flavours from Kabul to Chittagong before its patrons, says SAIMI SATTAR

Afghanistan has been in the news, our thoughts and prayers for the past fortnight. When I walked in through the doors of GT Road restaurant, an Afghan, albeit, one who lived in a different time, was the person who crossed my mind. Sher Shah Suri, the founder of the Suri Empire, extended the Grand Trunk Road from Chittagong in the frontiers of the province of Bengal in northeast India to Kabul in Afghanistan in the far northwest. The precursor to the National Highways, which connect the major cities of India, eased travel along the route. But then, I digress from the reason that we were here — food.

The first thing that loomed into vision was a vintage-style car placed at the entrance. The swords, the knives and the guns that hung on the wall as well copper serving dishes make you step back in time and



visualise yourself galloping down the dusty road on an Arabian steed. Snapping back to the present, I looked around and saw grills embedded within the serving tables, akin to a popular barbecue chain that is a hot favourite among the carnivorous *tikka*-devouring populace. I grimaced inwardly as eating three different kinds of meat dunked in one sauce with a slight variation does not add up to an ideal meal. Till the time the flavours

are distinct and created to sync with the protein in question — where it is more robust for red meat, slightly less pungent for chicken but just enough to elevate its otherwise bland taste and just a basic marinade to enhance the usually mild fish flavour — I would rather stick to greens. However, I could not have been farther off the mark.

A lot of thought has been put into the way that the menu has been designed to be in tandem with



the name of the restaurant. So, at any given time, there are dishes — starters, mains or desserts — from each of the places that the 2,600 km long GT road touches, on offer. And the menu keeps rotating so that if you happen to visit it twice, you can sample a different fare each time.

We began our culinary journey, for it can rightly be called so here especially, by digging into *Bhetki maccher fry* from Kolkata and *Sarson jhinga* from Amritsar. While the fish was succulent with a hint of lemon and black pepper, the sweet flavour of the prawns was perfectly balanced by the pungency of the mustard. Next up was the *Kurkum mirch ka paneer tikka* from Peshawar, which I bit into with some trepidation as my threshold level for the heat is nothing to boast off. But while the tang was intact, I did not find myself reaching out for a glass of water to take charge of the intense hiccupping which is my usual reaction to

an overload of capsaicin. I was feeling quite full, so rather than sampling a bit of everything from the main course, I dished out a spoonful of *Khumb matar* which was highly recommended. And then, another. And, one more. The creamy texture, the sweet-cheesy flavour and the well-done peas and mushrooms that practically melted in the mouth combined to make it the most perfect rendering of the dish. The hint of *kasuri methi* added an adequate amount of freshness to ensure that the dish was not cloying on the taste buds.

Of course, the sweetest part of any meal is the dessert. We dug into the *Pan ice cream* and which maintained the equilibrium between its traditional origins and modern presentation. This was followed by amazingly crisp and thin *jalebis* paired with *rabri*... if ambrosia had another name, this would be it.

Satiated, I made my way home with the hope that I would undertake this journey on the highway of taste, again.

‘Watch when you eat what you eat’

On the occasion of National Nutrition Week, MAC SINGH shares eight reasons why you should eat light at night



We have come across a number of dietitians suggesting that it would be best if you have your meals early. But have we ever wondered why is it so?

Read on to understand the science behind this popular piece of advice.

DISTURBS THE CIRCADIAN RHYTHM

Let's first understand the circadian rhythm. Circadian rhythm or the biological clock governs your hormones. At sunset, the circadian rhythm signals your body to release hormones which cause your body to go into a state of rest. Anything consumed after sunset does not go through the optimum digestion process and gets stored as fat.

AFFECTS YOUR SLEEP

Having food late in the night not only gets stored as fat but also makes it hard for the body to rest. This affects your sleep and as a result you remain tired and lethargic.

AFFECTS YOUR SKIN'S HEALTH

Eating at abnormal hours disrupts the skin's biological clock, blunting the efficiency of the enzymes that protect your skin from ultraviolet rays, increasing the chances of sunburn.

RAISES YOUR GLUCOSE LEVELS

Since the body is in a state of rest, the insulin production decreases too. As a result, your sugar levels rise as there is no insulin available to regulate the entire process.

CAUSES ACID REFLUX

Have you ever had a burning sensation in your chest, when you prepare to sleep within a short while after having your dinner? Have you ever experienced the regurgitation of food or the presence of some sour liquid in your mouth? When your stomach is struggling to digest food while you lay on your bed, it leads to the loos-

ening of the esophageal sphincter which causes acid reflux in the middle of the night. Acid reflux is a digestive disease in which stomach acid or bile irritates the food pipe lining.

POOR MEMORY AND CONCENTRATION LEVELS

Irregular eating patterns can affect your mind and concentration levels. Don't believe us? Feel free to look it up, and I hope that would lead to the formation of new, healthy habits.

INCREASES WEIGHT

Eating late in the night hampers your digestion. This results in all the food you eat not getting digested as the digestive system is at rest, thereby getting stored as fat.

CAUSES HORMONAL IMBALANCES

With the setting of the sun, our body goes into a state of rest. This onset of rest is regulated by hormones. If you choose to eat at abnormal hours your hormones are likely to get confused about their functioning and hence a number of hormonal disorders such as PCOD and diabetes.

DEVELOPING EATING DISORDERS

Consuming food late in the night, if carried out every now and then, can cause the mind to demand food at the wrong time which leads to an eating disorder called Night Eating Syndrome (NES), problems associated with which have been already covered above.

What you eat is just as important as when you eat. Hence keep a check on your timings as well to maintain good health while achieving sustainable weight loss.

(The author is a dietician and the co-founder of Fitelo, a mobile app for weight loss, diet planning and better overall well-being.)



Founded by Vyom Shah in 2019, Foodism is a bootstrapped food tech startup for food enthusiasts and home chefs to explore, connect, network, and share their experiences.

It is India's only such platform that enables all food lovers, health and wellness enthusiasts to monetise their content. Homemade/handmade cuisines by home chefs give all foodies a plethora of delectable options to choose from and savour. Foodism's website already houses over 10,000 registered users and more than 2500 home chefs. Read on for excerpts of the interview

What is your vision for the company?

Foodism stemmed from my love for food and now it has grown to something much, much bigger. I want to take Foodism to the world, make internationally shipped, home-made gourmet food a possibility someday. More recently, my

For the foodies

KHUSHBU KIRTI catches up with VYOM SHAH, the founder of Foodism, a community that is growing by the day



consider adding more product categories.

Do you wish to create a team of entrepreneurs?

Yes, that's the dream. I want to be able to bring together talented skilled home chefs who can make gourmet food at home. The ideal team of home chefs would be driven, skilled in their area of cooking, hygienic and enthusiastic about serving food.

What motivates you?

I am motivated by the fact that there is so much talent that I can streamline, organise in this country. If only we could tap

into the home chefs market and make these delicacies available to people across cities, diluting all regional borders and only focusing on the love of food — wouldn't that be fantastic? I wouldn't call it as much education as hand-holding and grooming these entrepreneurs. They're already amazing — that's why they are with Foodism. We'll help out with their paperwork, we'll ensure they have access to the information they need.

Where do you see Foodism in the next five years?

We'll have rolled out the app and gained many members hopefully — by this year-end itself, we want to onboard 500 home chefs as sellers on the app! Apart from that, in the next five years we would have created more product categories also. We would have easily rolled out many more verticals that are currently in the ideation phase.

R E C I P E S

MAWE AUR MEWE KA PULAO

WHAT YOU NEED

- Basmati rice: 1 cup
- Cumin seeds: ½ tsp
- Ghee: 60 gm
- Cinnamon stick: 1
- Bay leaf: 1
- Onion: 110 gm
- Pistachio: 20 gm
- Cashewnut: 10 gm
- Almond: 20 gm
- Raisin: 15 gm
- Khoya: 50 gm
- Saffron: few strands



METHOD

- Wash and soak rice for 30 minutes.
- Heat ghee in a medium sized pan over medium heat. Add cumin seeds, cinnamon and bay leaf. Allow them to sizzle for 30-40 seconds.
- Now add onions and fry until light golden-brown. Add almond, pistachio, cashewnut and raisins; sauté for two-three minutes followed by rice.
- Add water, salt to taste and bring to a boil. Boil for a couple of minutes on high heat and then cover with lid and cook until all water is absorbed.
- Garnish with mawa and saffron strands.

Courtesy: Chef Hari Ballabh Singh at Tradition Saffron, Ozen Reserve Bolfiushi's Indian outlet in the Maldives.

POTHI KOZHI BIRYANI

WHAT YOU NEED

- Country chicken: 2 kg
- Onion: 700 gm
- Ginger: 70 gm
- Garlic: 60 gm
- Green chili: 80 gm
- Tomato: 120 gm
- Mint leaves: 100 gm
- Coriander: 80 gm
- Cashew: 70 gm
- Raisin: 70 gm
- Rose water: 120ml
- Fried onion: 150gm
- Saffron (dissolved in milk): ¼ gm
- Ghee: 340ml
- Lime (juice): 3 limes
- Kaima rice (washed and strained): 1200 gm
- For the biryani's masala:**
- Clove: 10 gm
- Cinnamon: 15 gm



- Green cardamoms: 20 gm
- Mace: 5 gm
- Fennel seeds: 40 gm
- Nutmeg: 5 gm
- Shahi jeera: 15 gm

For preparation of biryani rice:

- Star anise: 2 gm
- Refined oil: 160 gm
- Cardamom: 2 gm
- Cloves: 2 gm
- Cinnamon stick: 2 gm
- Rose water: 2 ml
- Lime (juice): 2 limes

- Salt to taste

METHOD

For biryani rice:

- Heat refined oil in a thick-bottomed pan. Crush whole spices, add the strained/soaked

kaima rice along with the spices to the pan and fry for three minutes.

- Add boiled water and simmer until the water evaporates partially. Add lime juice and rose water. Stir well and cover with a lid and cook for five minutes, until the rice is 90 per cent cooked.

Final assembly:

- Heat ghee in an *uruli* and fry 200 grams of the onion (sliced) until golden- brown in color along with the cashews, raisins and keep aside.
- Roughly crush the ginger, garlic and green chili. Sauté the remaining onions, ginger, garlic, green chili until tender, add sliced tomatoes, cook until soft.
- Add the meat and cook until it is half done. Add the masala, prepared earlier, and

chopped mint leaves; mix well and cook till is 80 per cent done.

- Add lemon juice, mint and coriander leaves, mix well and switch off the flame.
- Layer the cooked rice over the meat. Add remaining fried onions, fried cashew nuts, raisins and sprinkle with the saffron milk, rose water. Prepare two layers of rice and chicken masala.
- Cover the vessel with a lid. In addition, burn some charcoal on a low heat to let rice and masala cook together.
- Place portions on a banana leaf, tie it up with a thread, and leave it to cook slowly over charcoal heat.
- Serve hot with raita and dates pickle.

Courtesy: Chef Rounak Kinger at JW Marriott Kochi



PANEER LAUNG LATA

WHAT YOU NEED

- Paneer: 120 gm
- Cashewnut: 5 gm
- Raisin: 5 gm
- Pistachio: 5 gm
- Almond: 5 gm
- Mawa: 20 gm
- Cashewnut paste: 50 gm
- Tomato puree: 60 gm
- Refined oil: 20 ml
- Cloves: 6
- Roasted jeera powder: 2 gm
- MDH kitchen king masala: 3 gm
- MDH garam masala: 2 gm
- MDH dhaniya powder: 2 gm

- Tata salt: 2 gm
- MDH kasturi methi: 1 gm
- Onion (chopped): 50 gm
- Tomato (chopped): 25 gm
- Green chilli (chopped): 1 gm
- Garlic (chopped): 5 gm
- Amul butter: 10 gm
- Amul cream: 15 ml
- Green cardamom powder: 2 gm
- Rose water: 2 ml

METHOD

- Cut rectangle slice of paneer, which is approximately 2 inches by three inches.
- Grate balance paneer, mawa & mix

with chopped cashew, pistachio, raisin and almond.

- Roll the above mixture in paneer slices and lock them with cloves
- Heat oil in a pan and saute the paneer rolls till they gain a slight golden colour and keep it aside
- Heat butter in a pan, add garlic, green chilli, onion, tomato and cook it well.
- Add all the masalas, cashewnut paste and tomato puree, cook it for 10 minutes on low heat.
- Finish with butter and cream.
- Serve the gravy in a bowl and put paneer rolls on the top.

Courtesy: Maseleedar Modern India Kitchen, Thane

India all out for 191

Shardul justifies his selection with 36-ball 57 before Eng end Day 1 on 53-3



PTI ■ LONDON

Shardul Thakur's counter-attacking half-century wasn't good enough to save the Indian batting from another embarrassment before Jasprit Bumrah's menacing opening spell kept the visitors on an even keel against England on the opening day of the fourth Test. At stumps, England were 53 for 3 in response to India's 191, having lost openers Rory Burns (5) and Haseeb Hameed (0) to

the extra pace and bounce generated by Bumrah (6-2-15-2). Umesh Yadav (6-1-15-1) then bowled an off-cutter in his second spell to breach in-form Joe Root (21)'s defence which helped the visitors end the day on a high note. That Indian shoulders didn't drop after being reduced to 127 for 7 was all because of a man playing only his fourth Test. Justifying his tag as a bowling all-rounder, Shardul

smashed 57 off 36 balls and added 63 for the eighth wicket with Umesh to take the total closer to 200 which had looked improbable after another 'brain fade' dismissal from Rishabh Pant. India lasted just 61.3 overs with Cheteshwar Pujara (10) and especially Ajinkya Rahane's (14) failures becoming glaring enough and couldn't be papered over by skipper Virat Kohli (50 off 96 balls), who played some gorgeous strokes en route his

Ashwin overlooked again

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A couple of days back, Ravichandran Ashwin posted pictures on social media in which he was seen doing shadow batting. In one, he was playing the cover drive and in the other, he could be seen practising leaving the deliveries. Nothing was out of place only that he was practising left-handed and the accompanying tweet read "The desire to ignite something different everyday never burns out." It was perhaps his way of telling the world that may be "left" would have been the "right choice". On Thursday, Indian skipper Virat Kohli once again

announced at the toss that India's fourth highest wicket-taker in Test cricket would not be among the five best bowlers who would be playing the Oval Test against England. Ravindra Jadeja, with two wickets from last three Tests, was persisted with for his left-handed willow wielding. "It's something that we thought is a good match-up for Jadeja as well, because mostly all our seamers bowl over the wicket. It's a nice little spot for the left-handers as well. "I think according to the match-ups, it fits perfectly for our team — plus the balance he is giving us with the bat as well currently," explained Kohli.

half-century.

Save couple of half-centuries, none of the Indian batters crossed the 20-run mark. For England, Chris Woakes (15-6-55-4) was splendid in his comeback game and no praise would be enough for the fast-rising Ollie Robinson (17.3-9-38-3), who bowled a couple of beauties to get rid of KL Rahul and Kohli. Anderson bowled one of his classic 'in-out' (swinging in and shaping out) delivery to send Pujara back and Rahane was Overton's victim with Moeen Ali not even required to bowl a single over.

With Ravichandran Ashwin being sidelined for the fourth time, the logic of playing Ravindra Jadeja as a batting all-rounder has partially backfired after team management promoted him to No 5 ahead of Rahane and the move flopped big time. For Rahane, the time is simply running out after yet another failure and the fact that he needed to be hid behind Jadeja under the pretence of having a

left-right combination, said it all. As far as Pujara is concerned, an expert of Sunil Gavaskar's stature has pointed out that his dismissals are a result of technical problems with hands moving towards the ball with minimal feet movement. Anderson got one to nip back in the air as the batsman shaped to play an inswinger and by the time it landed it moved a shade away to take Pujara's outside edge. The balance was all awry and result was a simple catch to Bairstow behind the stumps. The skipper was the only one among the three middle-order big guns who looked like batting with some purpose. There were flowing cover drives, a picturesque on-drive but when Robinson came back for his post-lunch spell and bowled one on the length which climbed as well as moved inward forcing Kohli to close the bat face for a shot towards mid-wicket. But all it did was to clip the outside edge into Bairstow's gloves.

Kohli fastest to 23K runs in international cricket

PTI ■ LONDON

India skipper Virat Kohli on Thursday became the fastest to reach 23,000 runs in international cricket. Kohli achieved the feat in his 490th innings on day one of the fourth Test against England. The India skipper was eventually dismissed by Ollie Robinson on 50, his 27th in the longest format. Sachin Tendulkar is the leading run-getter in international cricket with 34,357 runs, followed by Kumar Sangakkara (28,016) and Ricky Ponting (27,483). Kohli is number seven in the overall standings and is closing on Rahul Dravid's record of 24208 runs.

We're the team everyone wants to beat: Virat

PTI ■ LONDON

India captain Virat Kohli says his relationship with head coach Ravi Shastri is based on mutual respect and trust, something that has helped them make this team the one that "everyone wants to beat." "Our working relationship, and off the field as well, has been built on mutual respect and trust, on a vision that has

been shared, which has been focussed in one direction which is to take Indian cricket higher and in a better place than we found it," said Kohli. "That was always our aim and I think, along with the brilliance of the whole team, the talent that we have been blessed with, we have been able to achieve that. "We stand as the team that everyone wants to beat anywhere we play in the world and that for us is a matter of immense pride," he added. The 32-year-old prolific scorer averages over 50 in all three formats. In 96 Tests, he has 13,646 runs, while in 254 ODIs, he has accumulated 13,061 runs. In 89 T20 Internationals, he has 2272 runs.

Pressure will be more on India than us: Babar on T20 WC clash

Karachi: Pakistan captain Babar Azam feels pressure will be more on the fancied India when the arch-rivals meet in the T20 World Cup on October 24. After a meeting with the Pakistan Cricket Board Chairman in waiting, Ramiz Raja, Babar said: "I think India will be under more pressure as compared to Pakistan during the World Cup match. "We would like to start our campaign by defeating India." The arch-rivals are set to clash in Dubai in the group stage of the World T20 Cup. Both teams have not played any cricket against each other since the World Cup 2019 in England when India won comfortably. PTI

Indian W team 'somehow' getting by in 'tiny rooms' of Govt quarantine

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

It is only day four of the Indian women's cricket team's 14-day hard quarantine in "tiny" hotel rooms in Brisbane but the isolation is beginning to take a toll on the players, a BCCI official has said. The official said that rooms are too small at the Government's institutional quarantine facility with players somehow managing to do light training. "The rooms are way too small. You barely manage to move around and do some training. There are no guards manning the place like the players witnessed in the UK but it is very strict. "The food served though is okay and there is change in menu everyday. It will be a challenging two weeks," the official said.

The players had an easier time in the UK as they were allowed to train within the first week of their quarantine after spending two weeks in isolation in Mumbai. The squad arrived in Brisbane on Monday after change in tour itinerary due to Covid-19 related restrictions in Sydney, Perth and Melbourne, the original venues for the series comprising three ODIs, a Day-Night Test and three T20s. All matches will now be played in Queensland with the start of the series likely to be delayed by two days to September 21. The men's cricket team, which toured Australia this year, was allowed to train for a limited period during its quarantine. The women though are confined to their hotel rooms for 14 days.

India play 1-1 draw with Nepal

Kathmandu: The Indian men's football team played out a 1-1 draw against Nepal in an international friendly on Thursday with Anirudh Thapa finding the equaliser after the hosts grabbed the lead. Anjan Bista scored for Nepal in the 36th minute before Thapa netted one for the visitors at the Dashrath Stadium here. The two teams will play another friendly on September 5. The matches kick start India's preparations for next month's SAFF Championships in Maldives. PTI



Aruna withdraws from repechage due to suspected fracture

Tokyo: India's Aruna Tanwar was on Thursday forced to withdraw from the repechage round of the Paralympics women's taekwondo K44-49kg class because of severe injuries sustained during her opening bout of the Games despite which she fought in the quarter-finals. Aruna was scheduled to feature in the repechage round later in the evening after she lost to fourth-seeded Espinoza Carranza of Peru in the quarters. All losing quarterfinalists from the main draw make the repechage where a player has to win three bouts to clinch the Bronze medal. But it turned out to be an anti-climax for the 12th seeded Indian as a possible hit on her right foot during her opening round 29-9 win over fifth seed Danijela Jovanovic of Serbia drew curtains to her campaign. The explanation given by the Indian delegation for Aruna's withdrawal from the repechage round was "probable

fracture of left forearm and possible fracture of right foot." The withdrawal form also cited "severe pain and dysfunction due to the above injuries" as the reason behind her decision to not contest any further in the competition. Aruna fought with the injury in the quarterfinals and was no match for her Peruvian opponent as she lost the one-sided bout 84-21. Prachi Yadav qualifies for Canoe sprint semifinal **Tokyo:** India's Prachi Yadav on Thursday qualified for the semifinals of canoe sprint event in women's Va'a single 200m at the Tokyo Paralympics. The 26-year-old from Bhopal recorded a time of one minute, 11.098 seconds — 13.014 seconds behind leader Great Britain's Emma Wiggs (58.084s) in class VL2 heat 1 at the Sea Forest Waterway here. The semifinal will be held on Friday. PTI

Bhagat sails into semis

PTI ■ TOKYO

World No 1 Pramod Bhagat sailed into the men's singles semifinals after beating Ukraine's Oleksandr Chyrykov in his second group A match of the Tokyo Paralympics badminton event on Thursday as the country's shuttlers expectedly produced strong performances. The 33-year-old Bhagat, also a reigning world champion, saw off Chyrykov 21-12, 21-9 in 26 minutes to top his group and enter the last four in class SL3. "I was in the groove today and played really well. Oleksandr Chyrykov is a good player and played some good strokes in the match. I am very happy that I have reached the semi-finals," Bhagat said. "Things are going to be tough from here as the knock out stages start. My focus is on one match at a time and also the last league game of the mixed doubles which is a do-or-die situation for us." Bhagat and Palak Kohli will play Siripong Teamarom and Nipada Saensupa in mixed doubles class SL3-SU5 on Friday.



Germany's Jan Niklas Pott and Thailand's Siripong Teamarom in SL4 class respectively, second seed Krishna outwitted Malaysia's Taresoh Didin in SH6 class. Young Palak also overcame Turkey's Zehra Baglar in her second women's singles match of group A. The 38-year-old Suhas took just 19 minutes to see off Pott 21-9, 21-3 in a lopsided group A clash, while Tarun, 27, too didn't break a sweat, beating Teamarom 21-7, 21-13 in a group B match that lasted 23 minutes. Krishna then prevailed 22-20, 21-10 over Didin in a 33-minute group B match. In women's singles SU5 class, Kohli beat Zehra 21-12, 21-18 in 27 minutes. She had lost her opening match to Japan's Ayako Suzuki. Earlier in the day, the 19-year-old Kohli and her partner Parul Parmar, 48, went down 7-21, 5-21 to second seeded Chinese pair of Cheng Hefang and Ma Huihui in a group B women's doubles SL3-SU5 class match.

111 & COUNTING

Cristiano Ronaldo breaks all-time record of most goals in international football

AFF ■ FARO/PARIS

Cristiano Ronaldo became the all-time top scorer in men's international football with two late goals as Portugal beat the Republic of Ireland 2-1, while holders France drew 1-1 with Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2022 World Cup qualifying on Wednesday. A day after completing his return to Manchester United, Ronaldo had an early penalty saved by teenage goalkeeper Gavin Bazunu in Faro before Ireland took the lead on the stroke of half-time. John Egan's glancing header put Stephen Kenny's side on course for a famous win, but Ronaldo broke Irish hearts with an 89th-minute equaliser — a goal that took him past the Iranian Ali Daei's record of 109. The 36-year-old Ronaldo then snatched all three points for Portugal in the sixth minute of injury time, rising highest to power in a header from Joao Mario's right-wing cross. "This record is mine and it is unique. I'm extremely happy and it's another one for my career," Ronaldo told RTP public television. The five-time Ballon d'Or winner also equalled Sergio Ramos's European mark of 180 caps. "The motivation comes from the desire I have to continue playing football, also from this last contract I signed



yards. Antoine Griezmann equalised when Dzeko's header at a corner struck the France forward and bounced just over the line, but the hosts saw Jules Kounde sent off for a reckless tackle early in the second half. France hold a four-point lead at the top of Group D above Ukraine, who conceded a last-gasp goal in a 2-2 draw away to Kazakhstan. Finland are six points adrift but have two games in hand. Erling Haaland scored his first World Cup qualifying goal in Norway's 1-1 draw against the Netherlands in Oslo. Haaland's scrappy finish gave Norway the lead on 20 minutes, but Davy Klaassen levelled before the break as Louis van Gaal began his third stint in charge of the Dutch national team. One point separates the leading four teams in Group G, with Turkey top despite blowing a two-goal lead in a 2-2 draw at home to Montenegro. Croatia, the 2018 World Cup runners-up, drew 0-0 away to Russia and remain above their opponents on goal difference as leaders of Group H. Daniel Wass and Joakim Maehle scored two quick-fire goals as Euro 2020 semi-finalists Denmark swept Scotland aside 2-0 to make it four wins from four in Group F.

Stephens downs Gauff, Halep also wins

AFF ■ NEW YORK

Defending champion Naomi Osaka advanced to the third round of the US Open by walkover while 2017 champion Sloane Stephens put up a masterclass to beat Coco Gauff in the second round on Wednesday on the rain-hit third day. Osaka reached the third round when 20-year-old Serbian qualifier Olga Danilovic withdrew due to illness. Sloane Stephens, the 2017 US Open winner who could meet Osaka in the fourth round, beat 21st seed Gauff 6-4, 6-2 in an all-American showdown. "I'm really pleased with how I played," Stephens said. Two-time Grand Slam winners Victoria Azarenka and Garbine Muguruza booked a third-round showdown. Spanish ninth seed Muguruza, the 2016 French Open and 2017 Wimbledon winner, beat Andrea Petkovic



6-4, 6-2, taking her first win in four tries against the German. She will next face two-time Australian Open champion and three-time US Open runner-up Azarenka, the 18th seed from Belarus who defeated Italy's Jasmine Paolini 6-3, 7-6 (7/1). "The next round is going to be exciting for both of us," Azarenka said. Azarenka and Muguruza

have split four career meetings. Muguruza won the most recent in 2020 at Rome and again by walkover in this year's Doha semi-finals. Romanian 12th seed Simona Halep, the 2018 French Open and 2019 Wimbledon champion, replaced Osaka on Ashe and dispatched Slovakian Kristina Kucova 6-3, 6-1. Despite a bandaged right

Tsitsipas, Medvedev advance

AFF ■ NEW YORK

Stefanos Tsitsipas took another trademark long bathroom break then credited it for advancing to the third round while Russian second seed Daniil Medvedev and fifth-seeded compatriot Andrey Rublev breezed into the third round of the US Open on Wednesday as a storm lashing New York forced the suspension of an indoor match. The 23-year-old Greek third seed was booed after taking more than eight minutes between the third and

fourth sets but dominated after his extended toilet trip to flush Frenchman Adrian Mannarino 6-3, 6-4, 6-7 (4/7), 6-0 at Arthur Ashe Stadium. Medvedev, this year's Australian Open runner-up, defeated Germany's Dominik Koepfer 6-4, 6-1, 6-2. The Toronto champion had also beaten Koepfer on his way to the 2019 US Open final. Russian fifth seed Andrey Rublev beat Spain's Pedro Martinez 7-6 (7/2), 6-7 (5/7), 6-1, 6-1. He next faces 50th-ranked American Frances Tiafoe, who warns, "I'm coming after him." Spain's Rebeka Masarova 6-2, 7-5. A women's match scheduled later at Armstrong, German sixth seed Angelique Kerber against Ukraine's Anhelina Kalinina, was postponed to Thursday.