

OPINION 6

INTRUSION OF LAW
IN BEDROOM IS BAD

WORLD 8

CHINA BUILDING 30 AIRPORTS
IN TIBET, XINJIANG: REPORT

SPORTS 12

NOVAK TWO WINS AWAY
FROM CALENDAR SLAM

NEW DELHI, FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹3

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FILMS SHOULD
CAUSE CHANGE:
PEDNEKAR
10 VIVACITY

Af mustn't be regional threat: BRICS

Modi chairs meet,
says BRICS has
adopted plan for
counter-terrorism

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India on Thursday outlined its priority at the BRICS summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi saying that the forum adopted a counter-terrorism plan. Russia specifically brought in Afghanistan issue saying the situation there is "a threat to peace" and should not become "a threat to its neighbouring countries, a source of terrorism and drug trafficking."

Participating in the 13th BRICS summit chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chinese President Xi Jinping chose not to mention Afghanistan in his remarks.

Barring Russia, none of the attending top leaders mentioned the alarming situation in Afghanistan following the Taliban takeover with an active support of Pakistan.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said the Afghan crisis is "a threat to peace."

A statement released later by Ministry of External Affairs titled "XIII BRICS Summit: New Delhi Declaration", said,



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the BRICS Summit, via video conferencing, in New Delhi on Thursday

PTI

"We call for refraining from violence and settling the situation by peaceful means. We stress the need to contribute to fostering an inclusive intra-Afghan dialogue so as to ensure stability, civil peace, law and order in the country."

"We condemn in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks near the Hamid Karzai Kabul International Airport that resulted in a large number of deaths and injuries. We underscore the priority of fighting terrorism, including preventing attempts by terrorist organisations to use Afghan territory as terrorist sanctuary and to carry out attacks against other countries, as well as drug trade within Afghanistan", said the statement.

Continued on Page 2

Taliban plan oath ceremony on 20th anniversary of 9/11

IANS ■ KABUL

The interim Government of the Islamic Emirates of Afghanistan (IEA) is likely to take oath of office on September 11, a day which also marks the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks in the US in 2001.

As per reports, the newly-formed Taliban Government has rolled out invitations to various countries to be part of the oath-taking ceremony, including China, Turkey, Pakistan, Iran, Qatar, India and interestingly, the US.

Taliban announced the names of their interim government officials, emphasising that



the formation in Afghanistan will be under a caretaker setup. The Taliban are seeking international recognition and have called on the countries to reopen their embassies in Kabul," he added.

"We recognise that peace and stability are must for

investments. We want good relations with all the neighbours, including China," said Zabiullah Mujahid, spokesperson for the Taliban.

"The war has ended, the country is getting out of the crisis. It is now the time for peace and reconstruction. We need people to support us. Afghanistan has the right to be recognised. The international community should open their embassies in Kabul," he added.

However, the international community is still not ready to recognise the announced interim Government of the Taliban and has raised questions over non-inclusivity of various other ethnic groups.

1 Covid jab 96.6% effective in preventing death: ICMR

Efficacy of 2 shots 97.5%

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A single dose of Covid vaccine is 96.6 per cent effective in preventing death and two Covid shots 97.5 per cent effective in checking fatality, the Health Ministry said on Thursday underscoring the need for vaccination of every individual in the country.

Presently, 58 per cent of the country's adult population have received at least one dose of coronavirus vaccine, while 18 per cent have got both the shots, the total number of jabs administered in India has crossed 72 crore.

"The vaccines are disease-modifying in that they prevent serious disease and death. They are not disease-preventing," Balram Bhargava, director general, Indian Council of Medical Research said at a Press conference here.

The data analysed is for the period between April and August and did not distinguish between the different Covid vaccines currently being administered in the country, said Dr Bhargava.

This information, along with more data on breakthrough infections, is expected to be made available on the



A medic administers Covid-19 vaccine dose to a woman at Civil Hospital in Lucknow on Thursday

PTI

India Covid-19 vaccine tracker, which will be launched on the Health Ministry's website soon, he said.

The tracker combines data from CoWIN, the national Covid-19 testing database and the Covid-19 India portal of the Health Ministry to understand the trends in vaccination.

"The data so far has shown the same effectiveness across all age groups in preventing mortality," Dr Bhargava added.

While the data shows only just about one per cent increase in effectiveness after the second dose, the Government has also appealed to people to ensure that they take the second dose of the vaccine.

Rajesh Bhushan, Union

Health Secretary, added that the pace of vaccination has picked up in September, with an average of 7.8 million doses administered daily so far.

"The total number of doses given in the last nine days is more than 60 million, which was higher than the total doses given in the entire month of May," he said.

On the timelines of availability of vaccines such as Moderna and Johnson & Johnson which have been given the emergency use authorisation, VK Paul, chairman, National Covid Task Force and member-health Niti Aayog said, "There are issues around it we have to find common ground with manufacturers."

We want a prosperous, peaceful, self-reliant Af: Taliban supreme leader

Haibatullah for strong ties with neighbours

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI



The Supreme spiritual leader of Taliban, Shaikh Haibatullah, late on Wednesday released the policies of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan following the announcement of the interim "Cabinet of the New Islamic Sharia Government in Kabul."

His assertions are expected to be the long-term policy priorities for the Taliban regime, experts said.

"We want to have a peaceful, prosperous and self-reliant Afghanistan, for which we will strive to eliminate all causes of war and strife in the country, and our countrymen to live in complete security and happiness," said Haibatullah outlining the Afghan national priority under the new regime.

On the relations with neighbours, he said, "We want strong and healthy relations with our neighbours and all other countries based on mutu-

al respect and interaction. Our relations with those countries will be based on Afghanistan's highest interests and commitments that do not contradict Islamic Sharia and national values of the country, we urge the countries of the world to value strong and good political relations, diplomatic relations and good relations with us."

"Dear compatriots: Congratulations on the withdrawal of all foreign forces, the end of the occupation and the complete liberation of the country... We wish paradise to all the martyrs, healing to the wounded and disabled, healing to the imprisoned and all the suffering in the last 20 years of jihadi struggle for the freedom and establishment of the Islamic system of the country," he said in his statement.

Continued on Page 2

NC leader Wazir's body found in Delhi flat

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

National Conference leader and former member of the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Council Trilochan Singh Wazir, 67, was found dead in a flat in West Delhi's Moti Nagar on Thursday. Wazir's body was found in a decomposed state. The police said they are investigating the death from all angles, including murder.

Initial investigation suggests that Wazir arrived at the Basai Darapur flat around 7-8 days ago. The flat was rented by his acquaintance Harpreet Singh, who is absconding and the police are searching for him. Trilochan Singh was to leave on September 2 for Canada to join his family.

A senior police official said Wazir's family alerted the Jammu Police after they could not establish any contact with him for days. The Jammu Police in turn approached the Delhi Police.

"On Thursday, the Delhi Police received a call com-



plaining about a foul smell from a flat in Moti Nagar. A police team was rushed to the spot," a senior police official said, adding, "On reaching the spot, the police broke open the door and found a partially decomposed body in the wash-room."

Meanwhile, a local resident said Harpreet Singh was last seen on Sunday when he came with a truck and left with his belongings.

"We got to know about the incident when the police came here around 7.30 am today," said local residents.

Continued on Page 2

HC stays survey of 'possible' temple under Gyanvapi Mosque in Varanasi

PTI ■ ALLAHABAD

The Allahabad High Court on Thursday stayed a Varanasi court order for an "archaeological survey" of the Kashi Vishwanath Temple-Gyanvapi Mosque complex for determining if any temple ever existed in place of the mosque.

Justice Prakash Padia also stayed all further proceedings before the Varanasi fast-track civil court on the plea seeking the archaeological survey of the temple-mosque complex.

Justice Padia stayed the Varanasi civil court order, ruling that the subordinate court passed its order ignoring the fact that the high court had reserved its verdict on the plea challenging the maintainability of the suit which had been filed earlier in the lower court for the survey.

The High Court gave its order on two pleas, filed respectively by the Uttar Pradesh Sunni Central Waqf Board and Anjuman Intazamia Masazid, Varanasi, challenging the April



8 order of the Varanasi fast-track court.

"From the perusal of the record, it is clear that the judgment was reserved in all pending petitions by this court after hearing the learned counsel for the parties at length on March 15 this year," Justice Padia pointed out.

"The court below has the full knowledge of the fact that the judgment has already been reserved on March 15," he said.

"In this view of the matter, the court below should not have proceeded and decided the application filed by the

plaintiffs in the Original Suit for the survey by Archaeological Survey of India," Justice Padia added.

"In the opinion of this court, the court below should have waited for the verdict on the petitions pending before the High Court and not proceeded further in the matter till a judgment was delivered," he said.

The High Court also directed that till the next date of hearing all further proceedings on the suit pending before the lower court for the survey of the twin shrine complex shall remain stayed.

TN, Punjab, U'khand get new Guvs

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Lieutenant General Gurmit Singh, who retired as the Deputy Chief of Army, was on Thursday appointed the Governor of Uttarakhand, a post which fell vacant after Baby Rani Maurya tendered her resignation.

Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit has been shifted as Punjab Governor, while Centre's interlocutor and retired IPS officer RN Ravi has been shifted from Nagaland to Tamil Nadu as its new Governor.

Jagdish Mukhi, Assam Governor, has been given additional charge of the Governor of Nagaland till a fresh appointment is made.

According to a Rashtrapati Bhavan communique, President Ram Nath Kovind accepted the resignation of Uttarakhand Governor Maurya and appointed Singh as the Governor of the State.

Continued on Page 2

IIT-M retains top varsity spot for 3rd year in row

IISc Bengaluru secures top spot among research institutions in India: NIRF

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, (IIT-M), has retained the top spot among institutes all over India for the third consecutive year, whereas the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, has secured the top spot among the research institutions, according to the Ministry of Education's National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).

In the universities category, IISc Bengaluru bagged the top spot followed by JNU and



BHU at second and third rank.

While seven IITs — IIT Madras, IIT Delhi, IIT Bombay, IIT Kharagpur, IIT Kanpur, IIT Guwahati and IIT Roorkee — figured in the top 10 in the overall rankings, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and Banaras Hindu University (BHU) were ranked ninth and tenth in the overall rankings.

Among colleges, Miranda House of Delhi University has

been ranked the best college in the country. Lady Sri Ram College for Women also from DU, and Loyola College, Chennai, are placed at second and third ranks respectively.

Delhi University's St Stephen's College, Hindu College and Shri Ram College of Commerce, have been ranked eighth, ninth and tenth.

Continued on Page 2

Cong likely to get Brahmin UP chief

PREETAM SRIVASTAVA ■ LUCKNOW

The Congress is all set to join the race to woo Brahmins in the run up to the Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections early next year.

Congress general secretary and Uttar Pradesh in-charge Priyanka Gandhi Vadra reached Lucknow on Thursday afternoon to take first-hand account of the ground situation before kicking off the campaign for 2022 Assembly elections. Speculation is rife that she is likely to remove present State president Ajay Kumar Lallu and replace him with some "Brahmin face".

According to a senior party leader, Priyanka's UP-based close lieutenants were not comfortable with Lallu and want him to be replaced by a "Brahmin face" as State president.

All major political parties,



Priyanka Gandhi arrives at the Choudhary Charan Singh airport in Lucknow on Thursday

PTI

including Bharatiya Janata Party, Samajwadi Party, Bahujan Samaj Party, have already launched programmes to attract the "Brahmin vote".

Continued on Page 2

Hercules carrying Rajnath, Gadkari conducts mock landing on NH

NH-925 India's 1st NH to be used for emergency landing of aircraft

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A Hercules C-130J plane of the Indian Air Force (IAF) carrying Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari, Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, and Chief of Defence Staff Bipin Rawat, conducted a mock emergency landing on the national highway on Thursday.

NH-925, which connects Barmer and Jalore towns, is India's first national highway to be used for emergency landing of IAF aircraft.

Gadkari and Rajnath Singh on Thursday inaugurat-



Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari and Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhaduria during the inauguration of Emergency Landing Facility (ELF) at Gandhav Bhakasar section on NH-925 in Barmer district on Thursday

PTI

ed a three-km-long emergency landing strip for the IAF aircraft. Gadkari assured the IAF that the emergency landing strips for the armed force's planes will be developed within 15 days instead of 1.5 years.

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) took about 19 months to construct the emergency landing strip on Satta-Gandhav stretch on NH-925 in Barmer.

Continued on Page 2

CPI(M) unhappy at Jaleel's comments

Jaleel alleged that Kunhalikutty had used AR Nagar Cooperative Bank in Malappuram for money laundering

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Kerala's political skyline is in for a change though it is too early to predict when it would happen. Ice has started melting in the ties between the CPI(M) and the Muslim League.

KT Jaleel, former Minister for higher education in the CPI(M)-led Government (2016-2021) has become a persona non grata in the party, if the comments from the top leadership are any indication. Reactions by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and party's Kerala secretary A Vijayaraghavan expressing unhappiness over Jaleel's comments against P K Kunhalikutty, the League

strongman, are being seen as the party's willingness to play ball with the Muslim League.

On Monday, Jaleel, a former SIMI chief, alleged that Kunhalikutty had used the A R Nagar Cooperative Bank in Malappuram district for money laundering. Jaleel charged that Kunhalikutty, a former Minister of industries in the Oommen Chandi-led UDF Government (2011 to 2016) had made use of the Cooperative Bank branch for laundering ₹1,100 crore which he had received as kick-backs and commissions for deals involving some of the public sector units in the State. He further stated that Kunhalikutty had also used the accounts of Chandrika (the daily owned by

Muslim League) to convert unaccounted money to white.

"I have handed over all relevant documents to the Enforcement Directorate and it is sure that they would summon Kunhalikutty for grilling," Jaleel told media persons on Thursday at Kochi after his meeting with the ED officials. He had called on Vijayan on Thursday morning for an unscheduled meeting. Jaleel said after the meeting that he had told Vijayan about the details which he would be handing over to the ED.

But the stance of former SIMI leader was repudiated by Chief Minister Vijayan when the latter briefed the media on Tuesday.

Kerala logs 26,200 new Covid cases

KOCHI: 26,200 new persons were diagnosed with Covid-19 out of the 1.56 lakh samples tested in Kerala during the last 24 hours, according to Veena George, Minister for Health.

In a release on Thursday, the minister said 125 persons died during the last 24 hours and this took the death toll till date in Kerala to 22,126. The Test Positivity Rate 16.69 per cent.

There are 2.36 lakh patients undergoing Covid-19 treatment across the State. 114 health workers were infected with the pandemic during the last 24 hours. The Nipah virus threat that was haunting the State seems to be blowing over as 68 persons under surveillance tested negative on Thursday, said George.

CORRIGENDUM

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Sha Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005

Refer to the advertisement of the **BANK – Auction Notice** published in **The Pioneer (Eng.) Newspapers on September 2, 2021** under the Borrower's Name **KANISHKA (Borrower)**, **SANTOSH KUMARI (CO-Borrower)** with **LAN no. LBGUR000023277520** in Delhi/NCR edition. Due to inadvertent mistake in the Column (E) EMD amount was mentioned as **Rs. 43,00,000/-** instead of **Rs. 4,30,000/-**. We Therefore, requesting to read it as **Rs. 4,30,000/-** and other contents in above said notice remains unchanged.

Date: September 10, 2021
Place: Delhi/ Ncr **Authorized Officer**
ICICI Bank Limited

North Eastern Railway

Open Tender Notice No. NER-BSB0SnT-OT-14-2021: "Open Tenders" through online (E-Tendering) are invited by Divisional Railway Manager (Signal & Telecomm)/Varanasi/N.E. Railway for and behalf of the President of India for the following works:

S.No.: 1, Tender Notice No. and Description of Work : NER-BSB0SnT-OT-14-2021: **Name of Work :** Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of AMARA RAJA make IPS for 36 months (03 years) of BSB Division. (Appx. **Value :** Rs. 30378913.92, **Earnest Money :** Rs. 00.00/-, **Cost of Tender Form :** Rs. 00.00/-, **Completion period :** 36 Months, **Tender Closing Date & Time :** 04.10.2021, up to 15.00 Hrs. **1. Tender Online** will be submitted up to 15.00 Hrs. on date 04.10.2021. 2. For full details and submission of bid kindly visit the official website of Indian railways i.e. www.ircps.gov.in.

Divl. Rly. Manager (S&T)
N.E. Railway, Varanasi
About any Passenger AGENCY complaint SMS on Mob. No. 09794845935

Do not travel with inflammable articles in train

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE FOR MANUFACTURE & SUPPLY
e-Tender No. 140CECTBSP2104.
Date: 01.09.2021

Date: Due to be opened on **04.10.2021.**
Work: Manufacture and supply of
1. Special Grooved Rubber Sole Plate for 60Kg 1 in 8.5 Turnout conforming to RDSO's Drawings.
2. Special Grooved Rubber Sole Plate for 60kg Derailing Switch conforming to RDSO's Drawings.
Quantity: (1) 156 Sets. (2) 87 Sets.
Tender Value (Rs.): ₹ 34,61,039.01/- (Rupees Thirty Four Lakhs Sixty One Thousand Thirty Nine and One Paise). **Cost of tender document: Nil.** **EMD :** Nil. **Closing of tender :** Up to 15:00 Hrs. on date 04.10.2021.

The complete information of above e-Procurement Tender Notice is available over websites <http://www.ircps.gov.in>, <http://www.secr.indianrailways.gov.in> Bids other than e-bids shall not be accepted against above tender.

Executive Engineer/Con./T&S
CPR/10/156 S.E.C. Railway, Bilaspur.
South East Central Railway @seccril



GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF
RURAL WORKS, ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR
(E-Mail address – cerw_bbsr@yahoo.com)
Lr.No. 25127 /Dt.06.09.2021
"e" Procurement Notice for bridge works in Odisha
(Online-04 (Bridge)/2021-22 dt. 06.09.2021)

- Name of the work : Construction of bridge work
- Total No. of works : 01 (One) no
- Estimated cost : Rs 1455.00 lakh
- Class of contractor : Super Class and Special Class as applicable
- Period of completion : 18 (Eighteen) calendar months as applicable
- Other details :

Procurement Officer	Bid identification No.	No. of bridge works	Availability of tender online for bidding
Chief Engineer, Buildings & Bridges, Rural Works, Odisha, Bhubaneswar	Online-04(Bridge)/2021-22	01 (One) no	From 20.09.2021 at 11.00 A.M. To 05.10.2021 upto 5.00 P.M.

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents, which is available in website www.tendersorissa.gov.in

OIPR/25123/11/0009/2122

Sd/
Chief Engineer (Buildings & Bridges)
Rural Works, Odisha, Bhubaneswar

TN, Punjab...

From Page 1

A highly-decorated officer, Lt Gen Singh superannuated from the Army in February 2016 after nearly four decades of service, during which he held prestigious appointments of deputy chief of Army Staff, adjunct general and corps commander of strategic XV Corps that overlooks the Line of Control in Kashmir.

He was also handling China operational and military strategic issues as additional director general of Military Operations.

During his stint in the Army, he was part of numerous expert groups, joint working groups, annual dialogues and China study group meetings for over a decade.

Lt Gen Singh visited China seven times for important military diplomatic and border or Line of Actual Control meetings.

A graduate from the Defence Services Staff Course and National Defence College, Lt Gen Singh has done two M.Phils from Chennai and Indore universities besides being a research scholar on India-China Boundary Issue in the Institute of Chinese Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, during his study leave from the Indian Army.

PUBLIC NOTICE
To be known to all that, Gladys D'Cruze W/o Mr. Victor D'Cruze R/O DDA Janta Flat No. 90-B, First Floor, Pocket, Dilshad Garden, Delhi, purchaser of DDA Janta Flat No. 90-B, First Floor, Pocket, Dilshad Garden, Delhi has applied for conversion of the aforesaid flat from lease hold to free hold, in DDA. The original documents i.e. Demand cum Allotment Letter, Possession Letter, Site Possession Slip and N.O.C. for electricity and water connection etc. of the above flat have been lost. An FIR to this effect has been lodged in Police Station Crime Branch, Delhi, vide SO No. 430/2014, dt. No. 07/09/2021 on 09.09.2021. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above address/phone no. 9891659224 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objections with respect to this property can personally inform or write to Dy. Director (LAB) H or Director (H)-I, D Block, 3rd Floor, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi.

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS

LOST & FOUND

I, Akash Sharma S/o Radhey Shyam Sharma R/O K-35/1, Street No.-1, West Ghonda, Delhi, have lost my Mark Sheet with Roll No. 311004, of 2nd Semester of Civil Engineering from Aryabhata Polytechnic College, Delhi. Finder may inform at 9953001663 or at above address.

Grants given to Puja committees no violation of MCC: TMC Govt

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

A day after the Election Commission of India demanded a detailed report from the State Home Department regarding announcement of grants to different Durga Puja committees of Bengal at a time when model code of conduct was in force in the State in view of the forthcoming by-election for Bhawanipore Assembly seat the State Government on Thursday told the poll panel that it had committed no breach of model code as it was not applicable to the entire State.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee who had lost to Opposition Leader Suwendu Adhikari in Nandigram is contesting a by-election from the

Bhawanipore seat as she has to get the elected to the House before November 6 to remain on the top seat.

Instead of the Chief Minister who declares grants to the Puja committees every year, Chief Secretary HK Dwivedi had on Wednesday announced grants of ₹50,000 to the Puja committees leading the BJP to write a complaint to the ECI alleging violation of MCC.

Replying to the EC query Home Secretary BP Gopalika said that there was no violation of the model code as it was not applicable to the entire State and was limited to only three constituencies of Rezinagar, Jangipur— both in Murshidabad district — and Bhawanipore in Kolkata where elections were being held.

Look Out Circular against Rane's wife, son in Loan default case

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Union MSME Minister and BJP leader Narayan Rane found himself in an embarrassing situation on Thursday, as the Pune Police Crime Branch issued a 'Look Out Circular' (LOC) against his wife Nilam Narayan Rane and MLA-son Nitesh Rane in an alleged ₹65 crore loan default case.

The development came close on the heels of Rane's arrest and subsequent bail over his controversial remarks against chief minister Uddhav Thackeray.

The LOC has been issued based on a complaint lodged by the DHFL with the Pune police. The LOC mentions Nilam Rane as a co-borrower of a loan amount of ₹25 crore in

the name of Artline Properties Pvt. Ltd, while MLA Nitesh N.

Rane has been named as a co-borrower of a loan of Rs.40 crore taken in the name of Neelam Hotels Pvt. Ltd., both companies are based in Mumbai. Both these loan accounts stand with the DHFL Mumbai. They were classified as 'non performing assets' (NPAs), as per the norms of National Housing Bank and Reserve Bank of India.

Nilam Rane and Nitesh owe an outstanding of ₹27.13,18,931 and ₹34,09,61,771 respectively to the DHFL.

The Pune Crime Branch has issued the LOCs against the mother-son Nilam and Nitesh Rane, to the Assistant Director, Look Out Cell, at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA).

IIT-M retains...

From Page 1

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced the sixth edition of NIRF rankings on Thursday. "Rankings are the measure of the quality and excellence of an institution. We must develop regional ranking frameworks and also work to ensure that our ranking framework emerges as a benchmark not only in the country, but also globally, especially for the developing economies," Pradhan said.

Calcutta University, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Jamia Millia Islamia, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Jadavpur University, University of Hyderabad and Aligarh Muslim University bagged the subsequent positions in the universities category.

"The New Education Policy (NEP) also provides us with an opportunity to internationalise our education system. We must work collectively

ly to bring more and more institutions under our rankings framework and also establish India as a preferred global study destination," he added.

St Xavier's College, Kolkata; Ramakrishna Mission Vidyamandira, Howrah; PGSR Krishnammal College for Women, Coimbatore; Presidency College, Chennai, have bagged the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh ranks respectively.

IIM Ahmedabad, Bangalore and Calcutta retained their first, second and third rank respectively among the B-Schools in the country.

In the pharmacy category, the top institute is Delhi's Jamia Hamdard, followed by the Panjab University, Chandigarh and the Birla Institute of Science and Technology (BITS), Pilani.

In the medical colleges category, AIIMS, Delhi bagged the top spot, followed by PGIMER Chandigarh and Christian Medical College, Vellore.

NC leader Wazir's body found...

From Page 1

Taking it to Twitter, the National Conference leader Omar Abdullah expressed shock over the death of his colleague and said,

"Shocked by the terrible news of the sudden death of my

colleague Sardar TS Wazir, ex-member of the Legislative Council. It was only a few days ago that we sat together in Jammu not realising it was the last time I would be meeting him. May his soul rest in peace."

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Mr. Sarajjeet Singh & Mrs. Kajal intends to purchase Freehold builtup Property No. F-8/23 (Block-F-8 & Plot No. 23) land measuring 83.1/2 Sq.Yards, situated at Krishan Nagar, in the area of Village Ghondli, Delhi-110051 from Smt. Urmil Maheshwari who lost Original Sale Deed dated 17.05.1994 in favour of Mr. Lachhman Chand Arya and our client is mortgaging the above said property to LIC HFL. If anybody including Bank, Financial institutions, persons, relative has any claim, right, interest whatsoever in the said property shall also inform within 15 days to the undersigned with documentary evidence. In the event of no response to this notice, then our client shall procure that title of the said property is unencumbered and clear.

Karnail Singh, (Advocate)
K-8, Basement,
Jungpura Extension New Delhi
Contact No. 9811163363 & 9953683363

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is publically notified that the Flat No 86-B, Block-A-3, Sector-71, Noida, has been allotted in the name of Prabhu Dayal Sharma S/o Krishan Lal Sharma R/o B-39/10 Vidyut Vihar, D.V.B. Colony, Ring Road, New Delhi, had sold the said flat, on the basis of GPATO to the following persons: A GPA was executed in favour of Sandeep Kumar Buttan S/o Han Chand R/o W-86, Sector-12, Noida, which is duly registered in the Office of SR-I Noida Vide Book No. IV Volume No. 325 on pages 258/263 at Document No. 873 dated 18.7.2002 and the Agreement to Sell was not registered. So with the help of the notice it is informed the transfer of the above flat goes in favour of Smt. Hema Verma W/o Sandeep Kumar Buttan R/o W-86, Sector-12, Noida if any one has /have any objection he/she may submit his/her, objection in the Housing Department of Noida Authority along-with sufficient proofs within 15 days of the publication this notice.

Sandeep Kumar Buttan

Rahul Gandhi offer prayers at Vaishno Devi shrine

Jammu: Former Congress president and Lok Sabha MP from Wayanad Rahul Gandhi Thursday offered special prayers inside the cave shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi, nestled in Trikuta hills of Reasi district.

Before reaching the cave shrine, Rahul trekked 13 km long serpentine track under tight security arrangements. Rahul attracted lot of attention of fellow pilgrims as he trekked uninterrupted without taking too many breaks.

He also interacted with fellow pilgrims during small breaks.

On reaching Jammu early in the morning, Rahul Gandhi was given routing reception at the airport by the local leaders of J&K unit. From inside the airport he drove straight to the Katra base camp along with a battery of senior Congress leaders including J&K unit incharge Rajani Patil and JKPCG Chief Ghulam Ahmad Mir.

Bollywood financier-turned builder dies in custody

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Two years after he was arrested for the first time for allegedly grabbing a plot of land belonging to the late renowned writer Mulk Raj Anand in the hill station of Khandala, incarcerated Bollywood financier-turned builder Yusuf Lakkadwala died at the Arthur Road Central Jail here on Thursday, following complications arising out of cancer that he was suffering from.

Seventy six-year-old Lakdawala— who had been arrested by the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Mumbai police in 2019 and later taken into custody by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) early this year—had been admitted to jail hospital on September 6 but was declared dead immediately after his admission to the state-run J J Hospital.

Confirming Lakdawala's death, DIG Prison Yogesh Desai said: "He (Lakdawala) was suffering from Cancer. On September 6, he was admitted to the prison hospital located inside the Arthur Road Central Jail. After his condition deteriorated, he was rushed to the JJ Hospital. He died on Thursday afternoon. No foul play has been reported". Meanwhile, the police have registered an Accidental Death Report (ADR). The cause of death has not been ascertained yet.

We want a...

From Page 1

Recalling the contributions of the slain Taliban founder (Amir-ul-Momineen) Mullah Mohammad Omar Mujahd and other such outfit leaders, the spiritual leader said, "The deeds of these leaders and all the heroes and victims of this proud history will be written in golden lines in the pages of history and all Muslims will be proud of them."

Thanking all the Muslims who have helped the Mujahideen in various ways, he further said, "As a caretaker and committed cabinet has been announced by the authorities of the Islamic Emirate to control and run the affairs of the country well and will start functioning soon, I assure all the countrymen that the figures appointed in the country will do a great job for the protection of

Islamic rules and Sharia law in the country, the highest interests of the country, the borders and interests of Afghanistan and for lasting peace, prosperity and development."

He said 20 years of jihad had two major goals-- to end foreign occupation and aggression and to liberate the country, and to establish a complete, independent, stable, central Islamic system in the country.

"The Islamic Emirate will take serious and effective steps in granting human rights, the rights of minorities as well as the rights of the disadvantaged within the framework of the demands of the revealed religion of Islam. All Afghans, without distinction or exception, will have the right to a dignified and peaceful life in their own country, their heads, property, honour and dignity will be protected," he added.

Af mustn't be regional threat: BRICS

From Page 1

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa too attended the meeting.

The declaration further said, "We emphasise the need to address the humanitarian situation and to uphold human rights, including those of women, children and minorities."

In his welcome address, Modi said in the last 15 years, BRICS have many achievements and spoke of adoption of BRICS counter-terrorism plan.

"It is a matter of great pleasure for me and India to chair this summit for the 15th anniversary of the summit. India has received full cooperation from all BRICS partners during its chairmanship. I am deeply grateful to all of you for this. The BRICS platform has witnessed several achievements in one and half decades," he said.

"Today we are an influential voice for emerging economies of the world. This platform has also been useful for focussing attention on the priorities of the developing nations as well," he said.

Thanking the partners for full cooperation during India's presidency, Modi said BRICS has also adopted a counter-terrorism action plan.

In his Afghanistan-focussed address Putin said it is still unclear how what is happening in Afghanistan will affect global and regional security.

"The withdrawal of the US forces and its allies from Afghanistan has led to a new crisis, and it's still unclear how this will affect global and regional security. It is for good reason that our countries have paid special attention to this issue.

"Afghanistan should not become a threat to its neighbouring countries, a source of terrorism and drug trafficking," Putin said.

Chinese President said the five countries of the grouping -- Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa -- have supported multilateralism and taken part in global governance in the spirit of equity justice and mutual assistance.

"Over the past 15 years, our five countries have enhanced strategic communication and political trust in the spirit of openness, inclusiveness, and equality and explored a sound path to interact with each other. Our five countries have sought synergy between our development policies and drawn on our complementaryities. We have made solid progress in various areas of cooperation in the spirit of pragmatism, innovation. And we have forged ahead on our common journey of development," said Jinping

While South African President said despite Covid19 situation solidarity among nations showed "what can be achieved" by coming together, Brazilian President mentioned of his Indian visit for improving bilateral relations.

The theme for the Summit was "BRICS@15: Intra-BRICS cooperation for continuity, consolidation and consensus". This is the second time Prime Minister Modi has chaired the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) Summit. Earlier, he had chaired the Goa Summit in 2016.

BRICS is a forum for economic and political co-operation founded 15 years ago and has, currently, five members - Brazil, Russia, India, China and the South Africa.

Hercules carrying Rajnath, Gadkari conducts mock...

'From Page 1

"Yesterday, when the honourable IAF Chief came to me, he told me that it took 1.5 years to develop this landing strip (in Barmer)," Gadkari said in his speech here after the inauguration.

"Then I told him that we would develop good quality landing strips for you within 15 days instead of 1.5 years," he added. Gadkari said the Armed forces should create a small airport here. "As per my knowledge, there is no airport here in the area of around 350 km. I have told CDS (Chief of Defence Staff) Bipin Rawat that you can create a small airport here," the Minister said.


Cong likely...

From Page 1

Sources in the Congress confirmed that two names, one from Eastern UP of Rajesh Mishra and another from Western UP, Acharya Pramod Krishnam, top the list of probable Brahmin candidates for the State president post.

Meanwhile Priyanka, who is on a three-day visit to review the party's Mission 2022 Assembly polls reached Lucknow on Thursday afternoon. Priyanka will meet the party workers and hold meetings with the leaders on Friday and Saturday. She will also give her approval on the first list of about 40 party candidates for the Assembly polls.

According to the Congress sources, Priyanka Gandhi will review the Congress campaign in every village in the zone-wise meeting. She will also do a detailed review of the formation of gram sabha presidents along with the Congress block and nyaya panchayat samiti formed in every zone.



Bhopal Municipal Corporation
Swachh Bharat Mission (Civil)
11nd Floor, Above Passport office, Kushabhau Thakre Inter-State Bus Terminal (ISBT)
Campus, Ambedkar Marg, Near Chetak Bridge, Bhopal (M.P.)

No.:BMC/2021/177

Tender for online submission are invited on website www.mptenders.gov.in under "Live Tender" and Department Name "Bhopal Municipal Corporation" for following work. Detailed NIT, Tender Schedule and other information can be seen on the website www.mptenders.gov.in.

S.NO.	System NIT No.	Name of Work	Tender Cost (In Rs.)
1	2021_UAD_151489_3	Providing and laying of water pipe line Ghoda Pachhad Dam to MSW Adampur Chawani (3rd Call)	2,74,53,601/-

Corrigendum and Amendment for above NIT shall not be issued separately in newspaper & correction if any, would be published on website only.

Superintending Engineer (SBM)
Municipal Corporation Bhopal

T.N 585/021/022

Winter Action Plan to be ready by Sept 30

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government on Thursday discussed key points of its Winter Action Plan to combat air pollution in the city that will be ready by September 30. Environment Minister Gopal Rai along with senior officials of the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) discussed various points where Government agencies will focus to deal with winter pollution.

These ten points are: Stop stubble burning pollution; stop vehicular pollution; stop dust pollution; stop waste burning; identity hotspots; study Smog Towers; conduct dialogue with States; advance the War Room; upgrade the Green App and coordinate with the Centre and the Commission For Air Quality Management (CAQM). After reviewing preparations for the Winter Action Plan, Rai said the city Government is preparing the plan to run an active campaign against pollution with public cooperation. "Will hold a review meeting with all departments concerned on September



14 and take suggestions on focus points set for the winter action plan and the plan will be prepared by September 30," Rai added.

"The Delhi Government with the support of Delhiites is taking concrete steps to tackle the rising pollution levels. We have started preparations for the Winter Action Plan. A high-level review meeting was held today with officials of the Environment Department, Delhi Pollution Control Committee, Development

Department and Forest Department.

The principal focus of this meeting was to lay an outline for the Winter Action Plan. We drafted an outline keeping in mind the areas that require the prime focus of the Government," Rai said.

"The problem of pollution is not limited to Delhi alone. Experts have ruled that this an airshed issue. However, administrators of our neighbouring States do not consider it to be a reason for pollution. The air-



shed of North India impacts pollution levels immensely. If there's a bump in pollution levels in Ghaziabad, it will naturally impact Delhi as well. Similarly, if something happens in Haryana, Rajasthan or UP that too will impact Delhi. Thus a team will be put together which will hold discussions with the neighbouring States of Delhi and discuss solutions with them," he added.

"The integrated pollution control war room will be upgraded to much higher stan-

dards to help monitor and implement solutions more efficiently," "We can have dialogue and communication with other states.

But only the Central Government and the CAQM can monitor and implement solutions. Through them, we aim to collaborate with the other States and take on pollution with full force. In this view, our final point in the plan will be to coordinate with the Centre and the CAQM," he added.

DTC to have multi-level parking facilities for buses



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Government will develop Multi-Level Bus Parking facilities at various Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) sites. These bus parkings will be uniquely designed and will be a first in the history of Delhi.

The project executed by the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC) will also aim to develop two prime DTC Depot sites- Hari Nagar and Vasant Vihar- into world-class depots with twice the current parking capacity as well as retail spaces.

In a statement, Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot said: "Like many others first, this multi-level bus parking will be

These depots are designed with a Vibration Isolation system with the use of steel helical springs, after noise and vibration impact analyses and a 45 degree angle that would enable 10-15 per cent more buses to be parked at each depot.

These design considerations have been made after detailed research of similar projects abroad and live case studies and simulations.

Various other depot features such as washing pits, fuel filling stations which will in future be replaced by electric charging stations will also be incorporated at these sites.

Apart from these two sites, DTC colonies at Shadipur and Hari Nagar three are being redeveloped into residential units along with retail and commercial facilities. These will also include EWS housing as per Delhi Master Plan 2021 norms.

Earlier in October 2020, DTC had signed an MoU with the NBCC, wherein the NBCC will act as Project Management Consultants for development of its major land parcels in various locations across Delhi, for multi-level bus parking depots, redevelopment of residential colonies of DTC and more commercial facilities. Construction of these multi-level bus depots will start by the end of this year and will be completed in a phased manner by 2024.

Cab driver stabs retired Sub-Inspector



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Police has arrested a cab driver for allegedly stabbing a 61-year-old retired Delhi Police Sub-Inspector after an argument broke out between them inside the vehicle in south Delhi's Hauz Khas area.

The injured man Jitender Rana, a resident of Malviya Nagar, sustained two stab wounds in the abdomen. He is out of danger and currently undergoing treatment at a hospital here.

According to Atul Kumar Thakur, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), South district, the incident took place on September 6 when retired SI Rana along with his wife and daughter were coming from Rajouri Garden in a taxi.

The victim asked the driver to change the position of the side-view mirror, from which light coming from vehicles behind was shining in the face of the passengers during the journey. This led to a heated argument between them. When they finally asked the driver to drop them near Laxman Public School, he suddenly attacked the retired SI with a knife.

Man held for killing his mother in Mundka

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Police has arrested a man, who a week ago had allegedly shot dead his 55-year-old mother following a quarrel between them in outer Delhi's Mundka.

The accused has been identified as Sandeep, who worked as a driver earlier but is presently unemployed. Police said that the accused was absconding since the incident took place on September 1.

According to Parvinder Singh, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Outer district, Sandeep left his job and got addicted to alcohol and on the night of incident, an argument broke out between the mother-son duo after she warned him to mend his ways.

"In a fit of rage, he opened fire on her and the bullet peered through her throat. Soon after the incident, he allegedly came out of his house shouting that he had shot his mother," said the DCP.

"The injured woman Roshni was taken to the Action Balaji Hospital by a relative, Pardeep, who lives nearby and she later succumbed to injuries during the course of her treatment," he said.

AAP Govt to transform lakes into tourist spots

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government will transform lakes into tourist spots. Water Minister Satyendar Jain on Thursday chaired a review meeting of all the projects regarding water body and lake rejuvenation.

Jain said, "The city Government is using sustainable methods for lake revival and is working towards giving a pleasant look to its water bodies besides reviving them by using native plant species to rejuvenate the ecosystem."

He directed the officials associated with projects and said there should be no delays in the work due to improper inter-departmental coordination and gave the deadline of two years to the officials to complete the revival and rejuvenation work of all the 22 lakes and 200 water bodies.

"The lakes should remain filled with clean water throughout the year. It should be ensured that maximum groundwater is recharged through these water bodies. Sludge and solid waste should be cleaned and the ecosystem should be rejuvenated. The lakes should be developed as public spaces with proper landscaping," the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader said.

After discussing this with senior officials, Jain further said, "To achieve the target of rejuvenations of lake on time, the Delhi Government will take the help of experts. The landscape of the lakes should be transformed in such a way that they become the centre of attraction for people and be on the map of every tourist across the world."

He also instructed the offi-



cials to create additional recharge wells near water bodies and lakes to increase their water recharging capacity. He further instructed that drains carrying clean rainwater should be connected to nearby water bodies and lakes.

The Delhi Jal Board (DJB) is working on 45 water bodies and is expected to complete its work by the end of this year. These were the most difficult water bodies to handle as they were receiving direct sewage from nearby areas.

To tackle this,

Decentralised Sewage Treatment Plants (D-STPs) are being deployed on the site-specific requirement.

In the rejuvenation of 22 lakes and green areas, the DJB is using recycled water which will be sourced either from new Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) or existing STPs.

To expedite the work, the Water Minister divided responsibilities between two engineering departments of the Delhi Government which will be involved in the whole rejuvenation work.

MCG officials yet to take action against C&D waste handling firm

Gurugram: Even after demands of action by the councillors of the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) against IL&FS (the concessionaire for handling C&D waste) for flouting MCG norms during the house meeting held on July 30 and despite Mayor Madhu Azad who had also ordered an inquiry, the MCG officials have yet to take any action against the firm.

The MCG has also completed its investigation in the matter but has yet to initiate any action against the firm.

The councillors had alleged that the MCG had allotted the company to process the debris, but it is alleged that the company has given its work to some other agency, which is completely against the agreement. According to the sources, the company has also accepted to sublet the work to other agencies before the MCG commissioner, despite this the civic body officials have yet to initiate any further proceeding against the company. The MCG has signed a 20-yr agreement with the company for the disposal of debris in the city. It is written in the agreement that the company cannot sublet its work to any other agency, but despite this, the company has sublet the debris disposal work to any other agency which is completely against the agreement.

PICTALK



People shop ahead of the Ganesh Chaturthi festival in New Delhi on Thursday

Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer Photo

Sarva Karmachari Sangh announces indefinite strike

Gurugram: In protest against the suspension of Superintendent Engineer (SE) Ramesh Sharma of the Municipal Corporation Gurugram (MCG), the Sarva Karmachari Sangh along with the MCG's engineering wing has announced an indefinite strike from Friday.

During the strike, the services of the fire department along with the sanitation system, sewerage system in the city may collapse. However, union leaders have said that the strike will not have any effect on the emergency services.

All the officers and



employees of the Engineer Wing of the Corporation went on a pen-down strike on Thursday after ordering the suspension of SE Ramesh

Sharma by complaining to the Haryana Home and Urban Local Bodies Minister Anil Vij.

All the engineers and

employees expressed their protest by wearing black bands and raised slogans against the administration and the government. During this, MCG Welfare Association of all Engineers, Sarva Employees Union, Contractors Union also submitted a memorandum to Joint Commissioner Headquarters Hari Om Atri addressing the MCG Commissioner.

The main reason for the ongoing tussle between the corporation officials and the councillors is the intervention of the councillors husband and the mayor's son's rule.



DELHI POLICE
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA



NOTICE FOR OBTAINING
TEMPORARY LICENSE FOR
SALE OF REDUCED EMISSION
IMPROVED (GREEN)
CRACKERS
APPROVED BY PESO

Application forms and terms & conditions
will be available w.e.f. 10.09.2021

● Applicant can download prescribed forms and affidavit from
www.delhipolicelicensing.gov.in

● Prescribed form & affidavit are also available at
the offices of jurisdictional DCsP

Forms can be submitted at District DCsP offices from
10.09.2021 to 16.09.2021 (both days inclusive)

Last date of depositing application forms is
16.09.2021 upto 06:00 PM
at the respective offices of jurisdictional District DCsP.

Last date for issuance of license by Districts DCsP is
13.10.2021

Validity of temporary fireworks license for
pucca shops is 24 days and 15 days for temporary shed
from the date of issuance of respective licenses

Appeals against rejection of applications by District DCsP can be
filed before jurisdictional Joint Commissioners of Police/Ranges
between 14.10.2021 & 15.10.2021 (both days inclusive)

Appeals will be decided by the jurisdictional Joint CsP/Ranges
between 17.10.2021 & 18.10.2021 (both days inclusive)

CAUTION: All Licenses are liable to be cancelled
without any prior notice as per directions of
Hon'ble Supreme Court/NGT/DDMA, keeping in view
the present Air quality and Covid-19 Situation.

E-mail to CP, Delhi at: cp.rakeshasthana@delhipolice.gov.in
Write to: CP, Delhi at P.O. Box No. 171, GPO, New Delhi

FOR IMMEDIATE POLICE HELP CALL 112 TO SHARE INFORMATION CALL 1090

DP/9288/2021

100-day plan to boost aviation sector unveiled



Union Minister for Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya M Scindia addresses a Press conference on Maintenance Repair and Operations (MRO's), Flying Training Organisation (FTO) and 100 days target of the Ministry, in New Delhi on Thursday
RANJAN DIMRI / THE PIONEER

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia on Thursday announced a 100-day (from August 30 to November 30) ambitious roadmap to improve the aviation infrastructure in India. Under the plan, four new airports at Agartala, Kushinagar, Jewar in Greater Noida, and a second terminal building at Dehradun — will be constructed in the next 100 days. Six heliports and commissioning of 50 new commercial routes under the Udan scheme too are part of the plan. Addressing a press conference, Scindia said the Centre has allocated ₹255 crore to make Kushinagar airport in Uttar Pradesh operational and landing and take-off of Airbus 321 Boeing 737 flights. “Kushinagar will become the focal point of Buddhist tourism circuit,” he said. Once this airport begins

operating international flights, it will become third functional international facility in the state. At present, two international airports — Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport at Lucknow and Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport at Varanasi — are operational in the state while another one is coming up at Jewar in Gautambudh Nagar. The minister said a new terminal will come up at Dehradun airport in Uttarakhand, to facilitate passenger capacity from the existing 250 to 1,800 after the Centre pumped in ₹457 crore for its upgradation. He also said that Agartala airport will also be upgraded to increase its capacity from 500 passengers per hour to 1,200 per hour at an estimated cost of Rs 490 crore. He said a new airport at Jewar in Uttar Pradesh will come up and the government has earmarked ₹30,000 crore for

it. The airport is expected to have a capacity of two crore passengers every year. Out of the 50 new routes under UDAN, 30 new routes will be launched by October, the minister said. Of the 30 new routes, Alliance Air will launch six new routes, IndiGo and SpiceJet will launch four new routes each. In addition, Big Charter and Star Air will launch eight new routes each. The minister said he has set infrastructure and policy targets which will be implemented by November 30. Scindia confirmed that 50 new routes will be launched under the centre's regional connectivity scheme Udan. The minister also said that the probe report on the plane crash at Kozhikode airport last year will be made public in the next couple of days. As the Government moves ahead with Air India disinvestment, Scindia said the deadline for submission of financial bids will be September 15, indicating that there will be no extension for submitting the bids. While he announced a new policy for Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) activities, he asked for VAT on ATF (Air Turbine Fuel) to be rationalised within the range of 1-4%. ATF price is a key component that has a bearing on the operating cost of airlines. Scindia also said the probe report of the plane crash at Kozhikode airport last year has been submitted to the civil aviation ministry. The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) probed the accident.

Bolstering security need of hour in face of Af uncertainty: Rajnath

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Strengthening security and achieving self-reliance is a necessity in the face of uncertainty across the globe including Afghanistan, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Thursday. He made these observations after presiding over the induction ceremony of indigenously designed and developed medium range surface to air missile (MRSAM) into the IAF at Jaisalmer, Rajasthan. Underlining the need for self-reliance, Rajnath said, “Whether it is South China Sea, Indian Ocean region, Indo-Pacific region or Central Asia, we can see uncertainty everywhere. The current developments in Afghanistan are one such example,” he said. Cautioning that the global scenario is changing very quickly and in an unexpected way, the minister said the equations between the nations are also changing quickly as per their interests. He said the changing geopolitics is affecting trade, economy, as well as the current security scenario. “In such a situation, the strength of our security and our self-reliance is not an achievement, but a necessity.” As regards manufacturing weapon systems, Rajnath said from being tagged as number one defence importer in the world, India today is supplying defence systems and sub-systems to foreign countries and it is something worth to be proud of. The MRSAM (IAF) is an advanced network centric com-



bat Air Defence System developed jointly by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) in collaboration with the Indian industry comprising of private and public sectors including MSMEs. Terming the production of the MRSAM as a “game changer in the air-defence-system,” Rajnath reiterated the government's resolve to strengthen the security infrastructure of the country to deal with any challenges arising out of the rapidly changing global strategic scenario. Rajnath also reaffirmed the government's commitment to bolster the technological base through indigenous research, design and development, with focus on ‘Make in India,’ ‘Make for the world.’ The minister described the development of MRSAM system as a shining example of the close partnership between India and Israel, adding that handing over of the system to IAF has taken this decades-old friendship to greater heights. It has played an important role in strengthening the defence industrial base of India and Israel, he added.

India, Oz to hold 2+2 dialogue from today to strengthen Def ties

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Signifying the growing defence and strategic ties between India and Australia, the two countries will hold the first 2+2 dialogue here for two days starting Friday. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will hold parleys with their Australian counterparts Peter Dutton and Marise Payne. The dialogue comes at a time when the navies of the two countries are involved in a highly complex naval drill off the Australian coast. Moreover, the two navies, along with the US and Japanese navies some weeks back, took part in the Malabar series of exercises in the Western Pacific. Australian Navy also took part in the Malabar series of exercise off the Indian coast last year underlining the growing relations between the Quad nations comprising these four nations. Giving details of the forthcoming dialogue, the external affairs ministry (MEA) said here on Thursday, the parleys on September 11 will cover a range of bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual interest. People familiar with the preparations for the dialogue said the two sides are expected to focus extensively on further ramping up the overall defence and security ties and boost strategic cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region. China has all along opposed the Quad exercises claiming this will lead to militarization of the area. China is flexing its maritime muscle there. “The inaugural 2+2 min-



The two-plus-two dialogue between the Foreign and Defence Ministers was instituted as part of an overall goal to expand strategic cooperation between the two countries

isterial dialogue is being held pursuant to the elevation of India-Australia bilateral relations to comprehensive strategic partnership during the India-Australia leaders' virtual summit on June 4, 2020,” the MEA said in a statement. “The agenda for the Dialogue will cover a range of bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual interest,” it said. The focus of the talks at the two-plus-two dialogue is

expected to be on boosting overall cooperation in the Indo-Pacific in the face of China's growing military assertiveness in the region, the people cited above said. Expanding bilateral cooperation in areas of maritime security is expected to be another area of focus at the two-plus-two dialogue, sources said here. The two-plus-two dialogue between the foreign and defence ministers was instituted as part of an overall goal to expand strategic cooperation between the two countries. The defence and military cooperation between India and Australia is on an upswing in the last few years. In June last year, India and Australia elevated their ties to a comprehensive strategic partnership and signed a landmark deal for reciprocal access to military bases for logistics support during the online summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Australian counterpart Scott Morrison.

EC announces bypolls for 6 Rajya Sabha seats

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Thursday announced bypolls for six Rajya Sabha seats that have fallen vacant due to various reasons. Except for Puducherry, four Rajya Sabha seats fell vacant after the resignation of members due to various reasons while the representative from Maharashtra, Rajeev Satav, passed away in May due to post-Covid complications. According to the EC, two seats from Tamil Nadu and one each from West Bengal, Assam, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra will go to the polls on October 4. In addition, bypoll for a Bihar legislative council seat has also been scheduled for the same day. According to the EC, the counting of votes will take place on the same day. The Madhya Pradesh Rajya



Sabha (RS) seat got vacant after BJP leader and former Union cabinet minister Thawar Chand Gehlot was elevated as the Karnataka Governor in July. The two seats in Tamil Nadu fell vacant due to the resignation of AIADMK leaders K P Munusamy and R Vaithilingam who are now members of the Tamil Nadu legislative assembly. The West Bengal Rajya Sabha seat fell

vacant after resignation of TMC leader and cabinet minister in West Bengal government Manas Ranjan Bhunia. In Assam, the seat held by assembly speaker Biswajit Daimary fell vacant after he resigned from the membership of the upper house of Parliament and his earlier party, the Bodoland People's Front, and joined the BJP before the recent polls in the state. The BJP may field Union

The Maharashtra seat got vacant due to the death of Congress leader Rajeev Satav

minister Sarbananda Sonowal from the Assam seat as he is yet to become a member of either house of Parliament. The Maharashtra seat got vacant due to the death of Congress leader Rajeev Satav in May this year due to Covid-19 infection. In Puducherry, the RS seat will fall vacant soon as the term of incumbent member N Gokulakrishnan ends on October 6. The EC said in its order that all “broad guidelines of Covid-19” have to be followed during the election process that is from the time of issue of notification to the counting of votes. “The chief secretaries of states concerned are being directed to depute a senior officer from the state to ensure that the extant instructions regarding Covid-19 containment measures are complied with while making arrangements for conducting the election,” the EC said.

Straddle carrier, girder transporter to help faster execution of Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train project

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Seeking to expedite the construction of high speed railway, as it is the proven technology in metro and similar projects. Work has already begun on 325 km (in Gujarat state) out of 508 km corridor between Mumbai and Ahmedabad undertaken by the National High Speed Rail Corridor, a unit of Indian Railways. Vaishnaw said if the nation has to achieve results of 21st century then we have to adopt a mindset of 21st century. “This Straddle carrier and

the Girder transporter is a very good example of 21st century mindset...” he said during the launch event and mentioned India is now coming in the select group of country like Italy, Norway, Korea, and China which have been designing and manufacturing such equipment. Straddle carrier equipment is designed to handle the Full Span Precast girders from casting bed to stacking yard and further feeding them to Bridge Gantry for further erection. This is a tyre mounted self-propelled gantry crane having lifting capacity of 1100MT. Girder Transporter is designed to transport the Full Span precast girders fed by Bridge Gantry to erection location. This is 27 axle tyre mounted self-propelled trolley of carrying capacity of 1100MT. The other key dignitaries present at the launch ceremony were Miyamoto Shingo,

Minister, Embassy of Japan, Suneet Sharma, Chairman & CEO, Railway Board, Satish Agnihotri, MD, NHRCL and others. Addressing the gathering, Vaishnaw stated that to encourage Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan initiative, full span launching equipment of 1100MT capacity is indigenously designed. More than 97 percent land has been acquired for the project in Gujarat and Dadra & Nagar Haveli and 30 percent land in Maharashtra. This project will improve skillset in various rail construction technologies. Japanese counterparts will provide training to National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited employees and also to contractors. More than 6,000 workers are already working at various construction sites for the project, thus creating employment opportunities for the local



youth, informed the Rail Minister. He further stated that the Mumbai Ahmedabad High Speed Rail project expected to create more than 90,000 jobs in this area including 51,000 jobs for technicians, skilled and unskilled workers. This project will boost the overall economy of the area by deploying 1000s of trucks, dumpers, excavators, batching plants, tunneling equipment and so on. For the construction of viaduct superstructures of 508 km long, Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Project (MAHSR), the State-of-the-Art construction methodologies like Full Span Launching Methodology (FSLM) will be adopted. This technology will expedite the process of launching girders as the precast girders of full span length will be erected as a single piece for double track viaduct.

Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited
Corporate Office: 1st Floor, 'Dare House', No.2, N.S.C. Bose Road, Chennai-600 001.
Branch Office:- 1st & 2nd Floor, Plot No.6, Main Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110 005

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You, the under mentioned Borrower / Mortgagee is hereby informed that the company has initiated proceedings against you under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and that the Notice under 13 (2) of the Act sent to you by Registered Post Ack. Due for Borrower/s has been returned undelivered. Hence, you are hereby called upon to take notice and pay the outstanding loan amount mentioned against the said account with interest accruing there from within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the company will proceed against you by exercising its dues with interests and costs. It is needless to mention that this notice is addressed to you without prejudice to any other remedy available to the company.

Name and Address of the Borrower/s	Loan Amount	Date of Demand Notice & Amount Outstanding	Description of the property / Secured Asset
LOAN ACCOUNT NO. XH0EEDT0002358982 BORROWER & CO-BORROWERS:- 1. Sikka Promoters Pvt Ltd, C-60 Sikka House Vides Marg Preet Vihar, New Delhi 110092. 2. HARVINDER SINGH SIKKA C 23 Preet Vihar Shakarpur, New Delhi 110092. 3. KUSHAM KAUR C 23 Preet Vihar Shakarpur, New Delhi 110092 4. SIKKA MOTORS PVT LTD B-99 Wazir Pur Industrial Area, New Delhi 110052	Rs. 7,00,00,000/-	08/09/2021 & Rs. 7,01,83,579.76/- as on 08/09/2021 with further interest thereon	All that piece and parcel of property bearing No. - B-125 admeasuring 560 Sq. yds built up on Plot No.39 and 38 situated in the area of Village Sikarpur in the abadi of Hardepur, 100 Road near Durgapuri, Illaga Shahdara, Delhi which is bounded as under. East: Plot No. 37, West: Plot No.39, North: Gali 10' wide South Road 100' wide.

Date: 10-09-2021.
Place: DELHI

AUTHORISED OFFICER:
Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited

कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबंधक, निर्माण इकाई,
उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल संसाधन विकास एवं निर्माण निगम, हल्द्वानी
अर.टी.ओ. रोड, बसुन्धरा बैकेट हौल के सामने, हल्द्वानी (नीतिताल) उत्तराखण्ड ई-मेल- pmmwramnagar@gmail.com

पत्रांक : 1168 /आदेश-4 /110**निविदा शुद्धि पत्र****दिनांक : 08.09.2021**

महाराष्ट्रचक्र(कु), निर्माण विंग, उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम, हल्द्वानी के कार्यालय पत्रांक 1220 /निविदा अनुबन्ध - हल्द्वानी/ 77 दिनांक 03.09.2021. द्वारा राजकीय इष्टर कॉलेज नौकुरियाताल में प्रयोगशाला एवं कक्षा-कक्षा का निर्माण कार्य हेतु आमंत्रित ई-निविदा (Tender ID 2021_MDPEY_36138_1) एवं पत्रांक 1221 /निविदा अनुबन्ध - हल्द्वानी/ 78 दिनांक 03.09.2021 द्वारा राजकीय आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सालय नौकुरियाताल का निर्माण कार्य हेतु आमंत्रित ई-निविदा (Tender ID 2021_MDPEY_36137_1) कि key dates को निम्नानुसार संशोधित किया जाता है:-

S.I.	Key Dates
1	Pre Bid Meeting 13.09.2021, 11:00 hrs
2	Online Bid Submission : Start Date 18.09.2021, 10:00 hrs
3	Online Bid Submission : End Date 25.09.2021, 17:00 hrs
4	Offline submission of original copy of documents : End Date 27.09.2021, 17:00 hrs
5	Date of Technical Bid Opening 28.09.2021, 11:00 hrs
6	Date of Financial Bid Opening to be intimated later

अन्य नियम व शर्त पूर्ववत रहेगी।**परियोजना प्रबंधक**

Plea seeking filling of vacant NHRC posts junked

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday dismissed a plea seeking directions to fill vacant posts at the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). A bench headed by Justice L. Nageswara Rao noted that former apex court judge Justice Arun Mishra has been appointed as the chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission. “In view of subsequent events of appointment of chairman and members this petition has become infructuous,” the bench also comprising Justice B R Gavai said. During the brief hearing, the petitioner told the bench that chairperson and members have been appointed and only two posts are lying vacant. The apex court then asked, “Chairperson has been appointed, why should we keep it pending. The matter has become infructuous.” The top court was hearing a plea filed by lawyer Radhakant Tripathi seeking a direction to fill vacant posts at the National Human Rights Commission. Justice Mishra is also the first non-CJI to be appointed to the NHRC chief post since the amendment of the Protection of Human Rights Act in 2019. The post of NHRC chairperson was lying vacant after Justice H L Dattu, a former Chief Justice of India (CJI), completed his tenure in December last year. Rajiv Jain, former director of the Intelligence Bureau, and justice M M Kumar, former chief justice of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court have also joined as members of the commission.

States told to disclose stock of edible oilseeds

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid skyrocketing edible oil prices, the Centre has asked States to take disclosures of stock of edible oilseeds and oils with the millers and stockists and review weekly monitoring of prices to check hoardings and to ensure transparency in the availability of edible oils and oilseeds. A high level meeting of the ministry of food is expected on Friday. Officials said that despite reduction in the import duty, a sudden surge in the prices have been observed, which may be due to hoardings by the stockist. In a letter to chief secretaries, Principal Secretaries and Commissioners Food and Civil Supplies of states and union territories, Ministry of Food and Consumer Affairs' economic advisor Manisha Sen Sarma has asked states government to direct stockholders-millers, traders, refiners and wholesalers to declare stocks of edible oils and oilseeds and the same should be verified by the states to keep prices under control. “This is not a stock limitation order of any kind,” officials added. As per the data shared by the ministry of consumer affairs a few days back, the average monthly retail prices of groundnut oil increased by 19.24 per cent in July over the same month last year.

No scientific support to inoculate all kids

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid demands to ensure vaccination of children before the reopening of schools in the country, the Government on Thursday said there is neither any scientific validation for such conditions nor any WHO recommendation to do it. But, it said, it is actively working for the scientific validation of vaccines for potential use in children. Niti Aayog Member (Health) Dr. VK Paul said this criterion (vaccinating children for reopening schools) was not acceptable anywhere in the world. “Vaccinating children is not a condition for reopening schools. This criterion is not acceptable anywhere in the world, no scientific body, epidemiological evidence suggests it as a condition...However, vaccination of staff is desirable,” Dr. Paul said at a press conference of the Union Health Ministry on Thursday. Dr. Paul said the government is “actively working” in the direction of scientific validation of the vaccines for potential use in children. Only a few nations have introduced vaccination for children, no WHO recommendation for it...Govt is working actively in direction of scientific validation of our vaccines for potential use in children.

Security of J&K scanned

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday chaired a high level review meeting on the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir and development projects being implemented. Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha, NSA Ajit Doval, Army Chief General M M Naravane, Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla, Director of Intelligence Bureau Arvind Kumar, R&AW chief Samant Goel, BSF D/G Pankaj Singh and CRPF chief Kuldip Singh attended the meeting. The meeting is believed to have discussed about the political and security implications in the Kashmir valley following the death of hardline Hurriyat Conference chairman Syed Ali Shah Geelani and latest situation in Afghanistan. There have been reports that Pakistan-based terror groups Jaish-e-Mohammad and Lashkar-e-Taiba -- both active in Jammu and Kashmir and involved in a large number of terror attacks in the past -- have shifted their bases to Afghanistan with a friendly Taliban regime in place. The Home Minister reviewed the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir and steps being taken to check infiltration from across the border and maintain peace in the union territory, official sources said.

2nd wave not yet over, says Govt

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With the Covid caseload crossing over 40,000 and country's 35 districts still reporting weekly positivity rate of over 10 percent and 30 districts between 5-10 per cent, the Government on Thursday asserted that the second wave is not yet over in many regions and people should observe a low key celebration of the upcoming festivals, that too, at homes. The Centre asked the States to increase the pace of vaccination with special focus on vaccinating the vulnerable population. The warning comes as Kerala witnesses a surge of infections from its recent celebration of its biggest festival, Onam, which also marks the unofficial beginning of India's festive season that lasts till the end of the year “People should not let their guards down as the second wave of the pandemic is yet to end. Low key celebrations of festivals should be encouraged to avoid the spread. Responsible travel rather than revenge travel should be practiced.” “People should be following all the Covid appropriate guidelines from maintaining social and physical distance to wearing masks,” Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan said.

● LIVE

LET'S COME TOGETHER TO SEEK THE BLESSINGS OF LORD GANESHA



Tonight, 7 PM onwards, on the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi, the Delhi Government is organising a grand Pooja and Arti ceremony. The Pooja ritual will be telecasted live on all major TV channels, through which your family can be a part of the Pooja ceremony. This time let's come together to worship and receive blessings from the remover of obstacles, Lord Ganesha.





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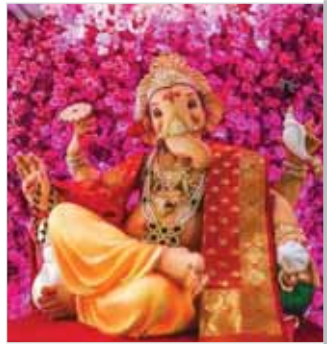
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PAPER WITH PASSION

Festival woes

Rather than a robust, unified response, the States are dealing with the issue haphazardly

The festival season kicks off with Ganesh Puja on Friday and by September end, the country will know if it has managed to avoid the third wave of the Coronavirus pandemic. Big metropolises Delhi and Mumbai have taken precautions to see that the 10-day festival does not become a super-spreader. Public celebrations and gatherings are banned. People have been advised to celebrate the festival indoors. Delhi has said no to installing idols at public places and public idol immersion is also not allowed. The people better prefer eco-friendly idols that can dissolve in a tub of water. In Mumbai, however, the Ganapati Mandals have been asked to provide online *darshan* facilities through social media and cable channels. Idols not higher than four feet can be installed but no more than 10 people at one go are permitted to be around it. One hopes they are all fully vaccinated. For immersion in the sea, only a small group can accompany each idol. Most States have issued their own guidelines, keeping in mind the various traditions followed there. The Centre, along with the Indian Council of Medical Research and National Centre for Disease Control, has called for following safety protocols in view of fears of fresh COVID-19 cases peaking around October. The worst-case scenario envisaged is that the Ganesh and Dussehra festivals — 10-day affairs each — may turn into super-spreaders if public celebrations are not banned. And Diwali and Chhath — two major public events — are due only in November.



LocalCircles, a community social media platform, conducted a survey that reveals that 80 per cent Indian households will have service providers, helps, extended family and friends visit them in the next 30 days. Nearly 60 per cent plan to undertake visits in the next one month while 48 per cent plan to attend get-togethers on account of festivals and special occasions. Why cannot there be a national festival restriction guideline when for all practical purposes the pandemic is considered a national emergency? It is true that India is a democratic federal entity and health is a State subject but virulent viruses do not stand for constitutional formalities. A pandemic such as the highly mutating Coronavirus needs a rapid and unitary response across the nation. The Union and the States should have by now realised the rigidity of the dual federal system where health is an exclusive State subject. And it is not helping the national cause against the pandemic at all. For instance, Andhra Pradesh has restricted public celebrations of all festivals and even deferred mass events like the YSR Achievement Award function and Teachers' Day celebrations. In stark contrast, neighbouring Telangana has allowed Ganapati celebrations on a grand scale, subject to following COVID-19 norms. There are no restrictions on the height of idols and immersion processions are allowed, for which massive arrangements are being made. How is it a case of equitable health and safety when one State prioritises people's interests and another does not?

PICTALK



Devotees take a holy dip in the Ganga on the occasion of Teej, in Prayagraj

PTI

Now or never

Filing her nomination, it's Mamata's final chance to get elected and remain the CM

If any sort of elections are announced in West Bengal, can mudslinging and name-calling be far behind? Barely had the Election Commission of India announced the byelection to three Assembly seats (Bhabanipur, Jangipur and Samserganj) on September 30 than the Enforcement Directorate issued fresh summons to Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's nephew Abhishek Banerjee in connection with a money laundering case. Now, Mamata is not the one to sit back and lick her wounds. She promptly called the BJP leaders "worse than Duryodhana and Dushasana" for foisting false cases on and "unnecessarily harassing" her party leaders. Earlier, in the run-up to the Assembly elections in March-April, the State's parties were highly charged and armed with slogans highlighting their USPs as well as barbs for the other contenders. The temperatures soared and the campaign soon turned acrimonious. Remember, when Mamata injured her ankle during electioneering, the BJP leaders taunted her first with the allegations that she was "doing drama"



for the sake of garnering sympathy votes, and subsequently advised her in mock sympathy to "wear a skirt". There was also a lot of chest-beating between the TMC and the BJP leaders over her "*Khela hobe*" and "Bengal's daughter" remarks.

When the BJP told then Uttarakhand CM Tirath Singh Rawat to resign as he was unable to get elected to the Assembly within six months (no polls could be held due to COVID-19), there was hush-hush talk in political circles that the move was actually aimed at putting moral pressure on Mamata, who was sailing in the same boat after having been defeated in Nandigram by confidant-turned-rebel Suwendu Adhikari. Unperturbed, the Bengali street-fighting leader ignored all such insinuations, besides of course appealing to the Election Commission intermittently to allow the byelections since the pandemic had relatively subsided. Now that the bypoll has finally been announced, she is scheduled to file her nomination papers for Bhabanipur on Friday. One can only hope that wise counsel prevails on both sides (the Congress has anyway decided to sit out of the contest) and that the bypolls can be conducted in the honest sense of electoral politics and democracy so that people can give their verdict, ending the state of uncertainty in Bengal and giving it the rightful head of the State in the real meaning of the phrase.

Intrusion of law in bedroom is bad

It doesn't make good sense to forcibly make and impose laws punishing 'marital rape' when the need of the hour should be to educate society



HASAN KHURSHID

There has been a cacophony from various quarters, especially from feminine activists, that the concept of 'marital rape' should be recognised and the men forcing their wives to be intimate against their willingness should be tried under the law of rape. What an irony that instead of governing society through lessons of morality, ethics and compassion or using the tools of counselling, on each issue of the slightest importance we start emphasising on making laws.

What else will you criminalise in a domestic relationship? You have already started sneaking into bedrooms like a voyeur. There is a strong possibility of vested interests promoting such non-issues. It has been frequently observed that as different watches and clocks give slightly different timings on the same scale of the Standard Time, different courts give varied, divergent and, at times, contradictory judgments on the same matter of law. The reason behind this can be attributed to judicial overreach crossing the barricades of the separation of power norms. Where is the need for individual observations all the time? This phenomenon will surely give rise to divergent judgments from Bench to Bench.

A Division Bench of the Kerala High Court comprising Justices Mohammad Mushtaq and Kausar Edappagath on August 6, 2021, dismissed the appeal of a man who had challenged a family court order allowing his wife's plea for divorce on grounds of cruelty in the name of forced copulation, besides unnatural sex and dowry demands.

However, Section 375 of the IPC provides no space for marital rape. Its Exception 2 states: "Sexual intercourse or sexual acts by a man with his wife, the wife not being under 15 years of age, is not rape." It implies that sex with a wife who is over 15 is not rape, even if it is without her consent. However, in October 2017, in the Independent Thought vs Union of India, the Supreme Court ruled that sex with one's minor wife, who is below 18 years of age, would amount to rape despite her consent. Lord Mathew



Hale, the 17th century Chief Justice of England, wrote in the '*History of the Pleas of the Crown*': "The husband cannot be guilty of rape committed by himself upon his lawful wife, for by their mutual consent and contract, the wife hath given up herself this kind unto her husband which she cannot retract."

Upholding the traditional and cultural history, matrimonial jurisprudence has approved that solemnisation of marriage shall mean the unconditional and lifetime consent to sexual acts by the wife. The 15th Law Commission headed by Justice BP Jeevan Reddy, in its 172nd Report captioned '*Review of Rape Laws*' submitted in March 2000, denied to criminalise marital rape on the ground that it will be an excessive interference of law in marital lives of people. Further, the Parliamentary Standing Committee of Home Affairs, which examined the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2012, in the aftermath of the Delhi gang rape case, in its 167th Report in March 2013 did not recommend criminalisation of marital rape on the ground

“THERE IS A STRONG POSSIBILITY OF VESTED INTERESTS PROMOTING SUCH NON-ISSUES. IT HAS BEEN OBSERVED THAT AS DIFFERENT WATCHES & CLOCKS GIVE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT TIMINGS ON THE SAME SCALE, DIFFERENT COURTS GIVE VARIED, DIVERGENT AND, AT TIMES, CONTRADICTORY JUDGMENTS

that it would have the "potential of destroying the sacred institution of marriage, which is based on mutual love and trust". In 2019, the Delhi High Court had turned down a petition seeking a declaration of marital rape as grounds for divorce. The Supreme Court, too, in the past refused to take up the issue, saying it is the domain of Parliament.

However, despite the above facts, the Kerala High Court gave a new twist to this issue which will have a significant impact on this sensitive matter. The Bench said: "Autonomy is now considered part of privacy and ennobled as a fundamental right." If bodily integrity is a violation of individual autonomy, then it contradicts the provisions of Section 375 of the IPC.

In contrast, the Chhattisgarh High Court on August 23, 2021, on a revision petition, discharged a 37-year-old man from the charge of matrimonial rape, saying that sex with a legally wedded wife is not rape under the IPC. The court, however, retained the charges of Section 377 for 'unnatural sex' and Section 498A for

dowry demands. In his order, Justice NK Chandravanshi said: "In this case, the complainant is legally wedded wife of applicant no.1 (husband); therefore, sexual intercourse or any sexual act with her by the husband would not constitute an offence of rape, even if it was by force or against her wish."

The flip side of this version is that it is not only the nuptial duty of the wife to provide sex to her husband but, on the contrary, it is the primary duty of the husband also to provide the desired level of concupiscence to wife besides meeting her other needs such as protection, provisions, home and other domestic facilities. In many statutes applicable in India, 'impotence' of the husband is one of the major grounds for divorce sought by the wife. But frigidity, barrenness and adulterous ways of wives are not grounds for divorce by men. There do exist promiscuous women who say, "*Yeh dil maange more*". Will there be any law to prevent such acts?

(The writer is a legal journalist and author. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ONLINE EDUCATION SEEMS OFF

Sir — A survey called School Children's Online and Offline Learning (SCHOOL), conducted recently, observed that only eight per cent children in rural households in India attended regular online classes. The survey on learning gaps was conducted after schools in the country remained closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey, conducted on schoolchildren in underprivileged households in 15 States and UTs, shows that 37 per cent of children are not studying at all and about one half are unable to read more than a few words.

The report paints a dismal picture of the condition of school education after the pandemic in rural areas in the country. The survey found that as children did not attend schools for a prolonged period of time, their learning and cognitive abilities were greatly hampered. The report proves that pandemic and extended lockdowns have caused enormous harm to school education, especially in rural areas. A great deal of sustained effort is required to repair this damage. Given that most of the schools in the country are still closed, setting the school education right is indeed a hard task. Unless the schools, especially primary and middle schools, are not resumed, it may be difficult to reverse the learning gaps.

Venu GS | Kollam

PRIVILEGED PASSENGERS

Sir — There are reports that certain people who are entitled to a free 'two-passenger rail pass', misuse the facility by selling the remaining one to others at a discounted price. The Railway Board should devise mechanisms to prevent such misuse. It can be made compulsory to submit ID proofs of the entitled one and the accompanying companion with signatures while getting free rail passes. Original ID proofs by both the entitled person and the accompanying companion should be made compulsory to be carried while travelling. Facility of free rail pass should be withdrawn immediately, if found being misused.

Additionally, the parliamentarians should be reimbursed for rail travels only on submitting proof of actual rail travel ver-

Mahi returns in a new avatar



Indian cricket fans were in for a great surprise as former India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni was on Wednesday appointed the mentor of India's 15-member T20 World Cup squad by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). Announcing the move, BCCI said that they spoke to Dhoni in Dubai and he agreed to mentor the team for the tournament. The event is scheduled to start on October 17 in the UAE and Oman. The 40-year-old Dhoni retired from international cricket last year. Dhoni's enclosure will certainly

help the Virat Kohli-led team in formulating white-ball strategy. Dhoni's vast experience in winning crucial ICC tournaments will certainly come in handy.

Dhoni is one of the most successful captains in the history of Indian cricket. The iconic wicketkeeper-batsman led India to two world titles — the 2007 T20 World Cup in South Africa and the 2011 ODI World Cup in India. Meanwhile, Ravichandran Ashwin returned to India's white-ball outfit after four years alongside the fast-rising trio of Ishan Kishan, Axar Patel and Varun Chakravathy. Also making it to the squad was Suryakumar Yadav, the 30-year-old Mumbai batsman who has been making a name for his power-hitting. The big names to plunge were opener Shikhar Dhawan and leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal. Rahul Chahal has been preferred over Chahal, who has a certainty in India's limited over squads until now.

Jaivanth Paritala | Kothagudem

ified by the TTEs to avoid multiple reservations in different trains for a single journey. The cost of unavailed reserved rail berths or seats should be deducted from their salaries or pensions, if found at fault. Free entitlement of rail travel, including for the parliamentarians and those travelling at Government expense, including for those in public sector undertakings, should only be for two-tier airconditioned rail travel rather than for first-class airconditioned class or above.

Madhu Agrawal | Delhi

'BILLION LITRE' MILK MAN OF INDIA

Sir — Operation Flood, also known as the White Revolution, made India self-sufficient in milk production and it was achieved entirely through the cooperative structure. Dr Verghese Kurien is known as the 'Father of the White Revolution' in India. The revolution is associated with a sharp increase in milk production. Today, around 12 million farmers in more than 22 States across the country own around 250 dairy plants, handling around 20 mil-

lion litres of milk a day. This is a remarkable achievement. While we in India tend to take our achievements for granted, this feat elicited high praise and admiration throughout the world. In 1955, our butter imports were 500 tonne per year; today, our cooperatives alone produce more than 12,000 tonne of butter.

By 1975, all imports of milk and milk products stopped. The import permitted was that of food aid under Operation Flood. A separate agency called the Indian Dairy Corporation (IDC) was created to receive grants of food aid and use it in the Operation Flood; this agency was headed by Verghese Kurien. Any conversation around milk cannot ignore the contributions of Verghese Kurien, famously called 'the Milkman of India' as well as the 'Father of White Revolution'. Every year on the World Milk Day, Indians fondly remember Kurien for his contribution.

Jayanthy Subramaniam | Trichur

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUND BITE

The BJP-led Government of India has played a cruel joke on the *annadaatas* with the current MSP hike.



Punjab Chief Minister
— Capt Amarinder Singh



Former US President
— Barack Obama

It will be wonderful to collaborate with AR Rahman again. He is a wonderful artist and musician and I look forward to this collaboration.



Lyricist
— Gulzar



Former India captain
— Sunil Gavaskar

Atrocities on Muslims have been done at the BJP's behest while other parties kept quiet, not speaking on CAA, triple *talaq*.



AIMIM chief
— Asaduddin Owaisi

FIRST COLUMN

IT IS ‘ALL HANDS ON DECK’ FOR INDIA



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

The coming BRICS summit and the dialogue with the US assume importance for India

September brings to the table key multilateral meetings with focus on recent developments in Afghanistan and the way forward. It is also a crucial month for India's outreach to global powers on issues vital for sustained growth and security in India and the neighborhood. To recap the week's events, Pakistan intelligence agency chief Lt Gen Faiz Hameed landed in Kabul, Pakistan facilitated a meeting of leaders of countries neighboring Afghanistan (Iran, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and China) and Taliban claimed end of resistance in Panjshir. And finally, a caretaker government in Afghanistan is in place led by a team that seems like a Pakistan intelligence agency prop with a few recognized international terrorists. Most of these events are currently unfolding like a Pakistan (also China) choreographed narrative. As we have been mentioning in these columns, the future of Taliban (if not Afghanistan) and their acceptance as a force of governance is being curated by its old benefactor Pakistan. However, one fails to understand



if the situation is temporary optical advantage or long-term nation building. The latter, i.e., building a unified, inclusive and participative government structure in Afghanistan seems beyond the capabilities of Taliban's new dictators. Pakistan in the mid-1970s had managed a similar power game when they installed Daud Khan in Kabul followed by the Mujahideen in late 1980s and finally Taliban in mid-1990s. However, they were short-lived fantasies. Therefore, Pakistan's current euphoria at being Taliban's spokesperson and key negotiator seems ephemeral. Pakistan cannot erode all its resources while trying to prop up a made for 21st century Taliban regime while its citizens suffer at home. It needs a clutch of global sponsors to run with its central Asian and most important anti-India agenda besides as well as all-weather ally China and silent supporter Russia. It definitely needs some verbal assurances from rich Western nations to maintain its credibility in Afghanistan. The Western nations, post a hasty retreat of US and NATO allied forces, are currently using their past allegiances with Pakistan for rescue and evacuation exercises. Most dominant Western nations formally accepting the Taliban regime could be tough. This leaves the landlocked nation Afghanistan again as a global pariah, and a fertile hotbed for any regional power to exploit for terror activities and plunder away the remaining natural resources and minerals.

All this is happening in India's neighborhood and has a direct threat to Indian interests. Therefore, the BRICS summit and the India-US dialogue assume importance. India's agenda at BRICS relates to reform of the multilateral system, counter-terrorism, using digital and technological tools for achieving SDGs and enhancing people-to-people exchanges in the overarching backdrop of evolving geopolitics in Afghanistan. Even though Russia has maintained that it will adopt a wait and watch policy before it recognizes any new Afghan Government, it aligned with China in the UN security council (under India's presidency) on a resolution on Afghanistan. The verbiage emerging from UNSC seemed like a mild rebuke to the Taliban for not keeping its promise of maintaining rights of women, minorities and youth. The outcome of the talks between BRICS leaders moderated by India seem to converge on a shared interest of reminding Afghanistan of not being used as a terrorist training camp and prevention of planning violence in any country around the globe. The objective appears a little difficult to achieve at present. The second crucial window of opportunity for India is the QUAD summit (in person) in end-September and the India-US head of government level bilateral. The focus has to be on peaceful co-existence for all powers in the region for sustained prosperity.

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

A better alternative to conventional urea

Application of nano-fertilisers is emerging as a promising strategy to promote plant growth and development, and limit environment degradation

Even though food is a necessity for a healthy living, excessive use of conventional urea to grow the food is irreparably damaging the environment. The damage is in the form of degraded soil quality that adversely impacts on the climate and contributes to global warming.

So, on one hand conventional urea is helping us grow more food for the population, while on the other, it is harming the environment - the key constituent for a healthy living. In the absence of a substantial alternative, the world is in a Catch-22 situation as it needs a solution to do away with the excessive use of harmful, conventional urea.

World over, agriculture is facing a wide spectrum of challenges, such as stagnation in crop yields, low nutrient use efficiency (NUE), declining soil organic matter, multi-nutrient deficiencies, shrinking arable land and water availability. Depletion and degradation of land and water resources present serious challenge for food, livelihood and nutritional security for the ever-growing population. Hence, a solution was warranted that could solve both the problems of food production at the same time keeping the environment safe.

Finally, Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) came out with a solution. IFFCO has developed a nanotechnology-based Nano Urea (liquid) fertilizer that offers solutions to most of the problems that come with the use of conventional urea. The Nano Urea has been developed indigenously, for the first time in the world, at IFFCO's Nano Biotechnology Research Centre(NBRC) in Kalol, Gujarat through a proprietary patented technology.

IFFCO's drive into this revolutionary product was based on the contemporary and future challenges for agriculture in terms of water scarcity, impact of climate change, farm productivity and contribution towards creating a nutritious food surplus country.

Nano Urea (liquid) is a source of nitrogen which is an essential nutrient required for proper growth and development of a plant. Nitrogen is a key constituent of amino acids, enzymes, genetic materials (DNA-RNA), photosynthetic pigments (chlorophyll) and energy transfer compounds (ATP-ADP) in a plant.

Since nano nitrogen particles are dispersed in liquid form in Nano Urea, it starts acting almost immediately when sprayed on crop leaves to meet the crop's nutritional requirement and also triggers pathways for uptake and assimilation of nitrogen inside the plants.

Typically, nitrogen content in a healthy plant is in the range of 1.5 per cent to 4 per cent. Foliar application of Nano Urea (liquid) at critical crop growth stages of a plant effectively fulfils its nitrogen requirement and leads to higher crop productivity in compar-



SINCE A 500ML BOTTLE OF NANO LIQUID UREA IS EQUIVALENT TO A BAG OF UREA, THE COST OF THE SAME TO THE FARMERS WILL ALSO COME DOWN ACCORDINGLY. BEING SMALLER IN PACKING, THE EXPENDITURE ON ITS TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE WILL ALSO BE REDUCED

(The writer is former Consultant, Planning Commission. The views expressed are personal.)



ison to conventional urea.

Application of nano-fertilisers is now emerging as a promising strategy to promote plant growth and development. Precision and sustainable agriculture practices lead to efficient use of water, fertilizer, and other inputs. This makes agriculture more sustainable by reducing the waste, environmental pollution and energy consumption.

Farmers typically apply fertilizers through the soil by either surface broadcasting, subsurface placement, or mixing with irrigation water. However, a large portion of bulk conventional fertilizers like urea is lost to the atmosphere or surface water bodies, thereby polluting the ecosystem. Excess nitrogen is lost through volatilisation as NH₃ or emissions N₂O (a greenhouse gas) or NO or through NO₃ leaching or runoff to water bodies leading to eutrophication and nitrate contamination.

The Nano urea (liquid) developed by IFFCO has a dynamic advantage due to its nano-scale morphology and surface area to volume size ratio, which makes it more impactful. It is thus required in lesser measure compared to the conventional urea fertilizer to fulfill plant's nitrogen requirement.

All India efficacy trials on over 40 crops by Indian Council of Agricultural Research's (ICAR)

institutes, state agricultural universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, and farmers at more than 11,000 locations have demonstrated that Nano Urea (liquid) increases crop productivity and can reduce the requirement of conventional Urea by 50 per cent. Further, application of nano urea (liquid) improves yield, biomass, soil health and nutritional quality of the produce.

Nano Urea (liquid) has been tested for bio-safety and toxicity as per the guidelines of Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India and international guidelines developed by OECD, which are adopted and accepted globally. Nano Urea (liquid) is completely safe for human, animals, birds, rhizosphere organisms and environment at the recommended levels of application.

As per general practice, agricultural experts recommend use of two and a half bags of urea in one acre of wheat crop. Since a 500 ml bottle of Nano Liquid Urea is equivalent to a bag of urea, the cost of the same to the farmers will also come down accordingly. Being smaller in packing, the farmer's expenditure on its transportation and storage will also be reduced. This will eventually lead to an increase in farmers' income. IFFCO has fixed the price of one bottle of its Nano Liquid Urea at Rs 240.

About 11,000 agricultural field

trials were conducted on more than 94 crops across India to test the effectiveness of Nano Liquid Urea. An average eight per cent increase in crop yield has been observed in these trials.

One single particle of urea is equivalent to 55,000 small Nano Urea particles. On foliar application, these small particles are delivered directly to the plant cell, thereby releasing nitrogen inside cells. This process not only increases efficient use of nitrogen but is also environment friendly.

The government is also mulling to encourage rational use of nano urea, which is in liquid form, in the agriculture sector to address the issue of farmers' migration and help in reducing cultivation cost and doubling farmers' income. It has also been observed that the practice of fixing a Minimum Support Price (MSP) for various crops by the government is not working effectively for the welfare of farmers as the increased cost of cultivation has forced many farmers to leave farming and look for better sources of earnings.

Experts are of the view that nano ureas a cost-effective solution to problems faced by farmers in the agriculture sector. The new form of urea would prove to be a boon for the sector as farmers would get high yield at a reduced cost of fertilisers.



NN KAUL

POINT COUNTERPOINT

WE ARE NOT MICE BUT TIGERS. I AM HAPPY THAT I AM BACK TO MY HOME, BHABANIPUR. — WEST BENGAL CHIEF MINISTER

MAMATA BANERJEE



WHETHER SHE (MAMATA) IS A LIONESS OR A TIGRESS, WE'VE SEEN THAT IN NANDIGRAM. SHE LEFT BHABANIPUR TO CONTEST IN NANDIGRAM. — BENGAL BJP PRESIDENT

DILIP GHOSH

Developing bridges while bridging development

India's 'development diplomacy' is taking shape in Maldives by funding the largest infrastructure development project there

The field of urban development plays an extremely important role not only in developing infrastructure, but also in developing symbiotic international relations. With the city-sizes and urban population growing globally, 'development diplomacy' has been becoming more and more a crucial part of the foreign policies of developing nations. As a result, investment in urban development on bilateral or multilateral contours has a massive potential for a nation located as strategically as India.

The latest move of the Government to fund the largest ever infrastructure development (Greater Male Connectivity Project) in the Maldives is a conscious step towards tapping this potential.



PIYUSH S GIRGAONKAR

(The writer is an Urban Planner. The views expressed are personal.)

Aimed at striking a win-win balance, the Greater Male Connectivity Project has various associated dimensions ranging from circular economy to population density and from corridor strategy of development to Indo-China relations.

Made up of around 1192 inhabited, uninhabited and even disappeared islands, the geographical story of Maldives is some what similar to that of Mumbai. With a thumping population of around 227,000 (nearly 40 per cent of the population of Maldives) spread over an area of only 8.3 Sq. KM, Malé, the capital of Maldives is one of the most densely populated cities on the planet. This emphatic population density amid land scarcity has subjected Malé to considerable institutional, infrastructural

and financial strain.

To accommodate this decongestion sustainably, inducing the development in nearby islands is the most scientific way. As the current strain, geographical setup and need of decongestion are inter-linked, establishing a concrete physical link between Malé and nearby islands may emerge as an effective solution. Such a connectivity may further foster the socio-economic growth as well as emerge as a significant economic corridor.

Understanding the importance of establishing an economic corridor between individual islands in an urban governance scenario as complicated as Maldives, India has proposed a mega connectivity project that will build a bridge establishing a direct link between Malé and three other islands (Villingili, Gulhifahu and Thilafushi). This project, named as the 'Greater Male Connectivity Project' (GMCP) is set to change the destiny of Maldives, subject to effective implementation. Estimated to cost around Rs 3500 crore, the GMCP will enhance not only the intra and inter island connectivity but also the international connectivity given the proximity of the bridge towards the Velain international airport.

Out of the total cost, around Rs 700 crore will be outrightly funded by India whereas remaining Rs 2800 crore will be given to the Maldivian Government for lending it (Line of Credit) to the AFCONS (the Mumbai based company that will build this mega bridge). Further, for providing the construction materials, human resource, technological support etc., only Indian companies will be assigned, meaning that the amount of Rs 2800 crore will get circulated only between Indians for a foreign project, on foreign soil.

The opportunity to pump such a huge amount into the Indian economy underlines tangible potential of the urban and infrastructure development sector.

Connecting two cities/regions by a transport corridor for creating a potential investment region, and to reduce regional socio-economic inequalities thereby striking regional cohesion, is the core principle of 'Corridor strategy of regional development'.

Application of a similar strategy is being done in the planning and designing of the GMCP that is suitable for the sustainable and resilient growth of Malé in the future where the population density and economic activities are distributed rationally.

After launching the Maitri Setu between India and Bangladesh, the Government of India is set to yet again trust the corridor development card for the GMCP. Not just abroad, but internally, the develop-

ment of corridors such as Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC), Bangalore-Mumbai Economic Corridor (BMEC), shows the inclination of the present Government to undertake multi-scalar/trans-scalar planning exercises for enhancing economic and infrastructural balance between two distant regions.

It is noteworthy, that, along with the provision of Covid-19 vaccines, energy efficient LEDs for Malé city and initiating multiple direct flights to Maldives, India is giving a rock-solid backup for the development of Maldives' largest ever infrastructure project. It highlights the Indian government's 'neighborhood first' policy, this time, by developing a bridge while bridging development.

Taliban decrees end to demonstrations

AP ■ KABUL

The Interior Ministry of the new Taliban Government is seeking to end protests in Afghanistan after days of demonstrations that have brought heavy-handed assaults on protesters.

The Minister has issued an order to end all protests in the country — unless demonstrators get prior permission, including approval of slogans and banners.

It's unlikely the women who have been leading near daily protest demanding their rights from the country's hard-line Islamic rulers will be allowed to protest under the new rules. In the words of the Ministry's statement, "It is announced to all citizens not to attempt at the present time to hold any demonstrations under any name whatsoever."

Austin: al-Qaeda may seek comeback

Kuwait City: US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin said, the al-Qaeda extremist group that used to attack United States 20 years ago may attempt to regenerate there following an American withdrawal that has left the Taliban in power. **AP**



CIA director discusses regional security, Afghan situation with Pak Army chief, ISI head

Islamabad: America's Central Intelligence Agency Director William Burns on Thursday met Pakistan Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa and ISI head Lt Gen Faiz Hamid during which they discussed issues related to regional security issues and the current situation in Afghanistan, the Military said.

The meeting was held after the Taliban on Tuesday unveiled a hardline Interim Government with at least 14

members of the Cabinet, including acting Prime Minister Mullah Mohammad Hasan Akhund, being listed on the UN Security Council's terrorism blacklist.

Burns and Bajwa exchanged views on matters of mutual interest, regional security and the current situation in Afghanistan, the Pakistan Army's media wing, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), said in a statement. **PTI**

Afghanistan's music school attacked

Journalists thrashed by Taliban

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In the signs of the times ahead in Afghanistan post-Taliban takeover, the members of the militia have attacked journalists there and destroyed the instruments at the National Institute of Music of Afghanistan.

"The Taliban entered the National Institute of Music of Afghanistan and destroyed all the instruments there," an expert tracking the development said.

The premiere music institute was an important cultural and arts rejuvenation story of the erstwhile democratic Afghanistan. The institute's ensembles comprising school students, including the all-female Zohra orchestra, have performed around the world from Carnegie Hall in New York to the World Economic Forum in Davos. Many of these young musicians came from impoverished communities but the Taliban has banished all such arts under the Sharia administration.

In another incident on Wednesday, Ghorban

Mohammad "Andarabi" of the Afghan National Defence Force was kicked out of his house by the Taliban and shot dead in front of his children in Khenjan district. He was liquidated despite being given amnesty by the Taliban in an indication that there is no shift in the brutality of the UN-sanctioned outfit or any respect for its own words of commitment.

While the Taliban has assured freedom of expression under its rule, the outfit members tortured at least two reporters of the newspaper *Al-Iteha Rooz* after their arrest.

The outfit had in the past exhorted that there would not be any reprisals against those who worked for the US or NATO forces or their sympathisers. However, the action on the ground belied the Taliban's commitment, added Afghan watchers.

The manner and the contents of the orders being issued by the Ministers of the interim Government in Kabul suggests they are largely not capable of handling an administration even though they may be good at guerilla warfare, they added.

US not in a rush to recognise Taliban Govt: White House

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The US is not in a rush to recognise the new Taliban-led interim Government in Afghanistan but was engaged

with the people who are now overseeing and controlling the country to get the American citizens out of the strife-torn nation, according to a top White House official.

ARSF calls for respect of freedom of expression

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid reports of firing by Taliban on women protesters in Kabul and elsewhere in Afghanistan, the Germany-headquartered Afghanistan Republican Salvation Front has demanded that the freedom of expression of the people should be respected.

Freedom of expression must not be erased and constructive criticism should be utilised to improve the functioning of the Government in Afghanistan, it said.

"After years of hardship and oppression, Afghans were given the opportunity to assert their rights under the republic of Afghanistan. But twenty years later, the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has re-emerged and gained control of Afghanistan. Now the Taliban need not deprive them of their rights," ARSF president Ajmal Sohail said in a statement.

"Every citizen of a country has the right to speak out against injustice and to demand

justice. Every human being and system has flaws and in order to eliminate these flaws, it is necessary for the state to listen to the voice of the people, fill the gaps by taking advantage of their advice and sound criticism. By appreciating sound criticisms from the public and addressing the shortcomings, the existing government and system at the national level in Afghanistan can emerge as a better face at the international level," Sohail further said.

"The Presidential Palace lowered the national flag again, in response to which the general public announced a protest. The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, the Taliban's reference to the country's name, says that no one is allowed to protest. If anyone goes out to protest, the person will be responsible for this and will face a serious backlash from the security forces. Such threats from the administration in itself is a huge and unacceptable blow to freedom of expression in the short term, he added.

Dozens of Westerners, including Americans, leave Kabul

Kabul: Dozens of foreigners, including Americans, have left Kabul on an international commercial flight, marking the first large-scale evacuation since US and NATO forces left Afghanistan late last month.

Their departure on Thursday represented a breakthrough in the bumpy coordination between the US and Afghanistan's new Taliban lead-

ers. The Taliban have said they would let foreigners and Afghans with valid travel documents leave, but a dayslong standoff over charter planes at another airport had cast some doubt on Taliban assurances.

The Qatar Airways flight is heading to Doha.

A senior US official said that Americans, green card holders and other nationalities

Af's acting PM appeals to past Govt officials to return; assures 'full protection'

Peshawar/ Kabul: Afghanistan's acting Prime Minister Mullah Mohammad Hasan Akhund has appealed to former officials of past Governments to return to the country and assured them "full protection", saying the period of bloodbath is over and they face a humongous task to rebuild the war-ravaged nation.

"We paid a heavy price for seeing this historic moment in Afghanistan," Mullah Hasan said on Wednesday, a day after the hardline Islamic insurgents unveiled an interim Cabinet after seizing power in Kabul.

"We appeal to the officials of past governments to return to their country as we will give them full protection of their lives. We are faced with the huge task of rebuilding and reconstruction of war-ravaged Afghanistan," he said. **PTI**

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform to all concerned that Late Shri Ramesh Chander Mahajan S/o Late Ishar Das R/o B-107, Sector-50, Noida, Distt. G.B. Nagar U.P. has property in Noida. House No. B-107, Sector-50, Noida G.B. Nagar (U.P.) which is registered at sub registrar office sadar-1st Gautam Budh Nagar in Bahi No. 3, Jild No. 891, at page no. from 117-130 on 21.08.2019 at serial no 1693. So the above property is being transferred to the name of Smt. Keena Mahajan Wo Rohit Mahajan R/o B-107, Sector-50, Noida, Distt. G.B. Nagar U.P. on the basis of registered Will. So all the related people are informed that if someone has any objection about the transfer of above property, then they can submit their objection in Noida Authority Residential department with all document proof within 30 days from the publishing date of this information. Smt. Keena Mahajan

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform to all concerned that Late Shri Ramesh Chander Mahajan S/o Late Ishar Das R/o B-107, Sector-50, Noida, Distt. G.B. Nagar U.P. has property in Noida. House No. B-106, Sector-50, Noida G.B. Nagar (U.P.) which is registered at sub registrar office sadar-1st Gautam Budh Nagar in Bahi No. 3, Jild No. 891, at page no. from 117-130 on 21.08.2019 at serial no 1693. So the above property is being transferred to the name of Sonum Mahajan & Soni Mahajan both S/o Keena Mahajan & Rohit Mahajan R/o B-107, Sector-50, Noida, Distt. G.B. Nagar U.P. on the basis of registered Will. So all the related people are informed that if someone has any objection about the transfer of above property, then they can submit their objection in Noida Authority Residential department with all document proof within 30 days from the publishing date of this information. Smt. Keena Mahajan

WESTERN RAILWAY
RENEWAL WORK OF PIPE BRIDGE Executive: DEN (East) BCT Tender No.: BCT/21-22/192 Date: 08/09/2021 Work & Location : Udhna - Jalgaon section: Renewal of pipe bridge by providing box culverts (total = 16 bridges) Approx. Cost of Work : ₹ 53.79/11.50/- EMD: Nil Last Date & Time for Submission & Opening : 15.00 Hrs. on 05/10/2021 and Opening at 15.30 Hrs. on 05/10/2021 Please visit our website www.ireps.gov.in to view detailed tender containing cost of tender document (Non-Refundable), EMD, Eligibility Criteria, Similar Nature of Work, detailed tender conditions. Manual offers will not be considered. D-403 Like us on: f facebook.com/WesternRly



Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh Delhi- 110005

PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET						
[See proviso to rule 8(6)] Notice for sale of immovable assets						
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.						
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder;						
Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) /Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Mudit Agarwal (Borrower), Varsha Agarwal, Bharti Agarwal (Co-Borrower) LBLUC00002367082	Flat No 1704, Floor- 17 Tower T1, Sunworld Arista Sector- 168, Noida, Noida 201301. Area 2100 Sq Ft	Rs 1,45,86, 550.13/- (as on August 24, 2021)	Rs. 1,00,00, 000/- Rs. 10,00, 000/-	October 04, 2021 From 11AM to 2:00 PM	October 25, 2021 From 11:00 AM Onwards
2.	Amit Kumar Agarwal (Borrower), Bharti Agarwal (Co- Borrower) LBLUC00002367083	1703 17th Floor, Tower- 1 Sunworld Arista, Sector- 168, Noida, Noida 201301 Area – 2100 Sq. Ft.	Rs 1,45,75, 907/- (as on August 24, 2021)	Rs. 1,00,00, 000/- Rs. 10,00, 000/-	October 04, 2021 From 11AM to 2:00 PM	October 25, 2021 From 11:00 AM Onwards
3.	Esha Laxman (Borrower), Divay Mehta (Guarantor) LBDEL00002430981	Flat No 504, 5th Floor Tower 1 Plot No GH 01/C, Sunworld Arista Sec 168, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar 201301. Area 2100 Sq Ft	Rs 1,39,37, 326/- (as on August 24, 2021)	Rs. 1,00,00, 000/- Rs. 10,00, 000/-	October 04, 2021 From 11AM to 2:00 PM	October 25, 2021 From 11:00 AM Onwards
4.	Amit Munshi (Borrower), Bharti Munshi (Co- Borrower) LBFDB00002392846, LBDEL00002401887	Flat No 12a06, 12A Floor, Tower 6 Sunworld Arista, Plot No Gh 01/C Sector 168, Noida, Noida 201301. Area 2100 Sqft	Rs. 1,42,26, 069.01/- (as on August 24, 2021)	Rs. 1,00,00, 000/- Rs. 10,00, 000/-	October 04, 2021 From 11AM to 2:00 PM	October 25, 2021 From 11:00 AM Onwards
5.	Manul Agarwal (Borrower), Samta Gupta (Co-Borrower) LBDEL00002391703	Flat No 304, 3rd Floor Tower 1 Sunworld Arista, Plot Num GH 01/C Sector-168, Noida, Noida 201301. Area- 2100 Sq Ft.	Rs. 1,39,24, 606/- (as on August 24, 2021)	Rs. 1,00,00, 000/- Rs. 10,00, 000/-	October 04, 2021 From 11AM to 2:00 PM	October 25, 2021 From 11:00 AM Onwards
6.	Anupam Kumar Nigam (Borrower), Preeti Anupam Nigam (Co- Borrower) LBLUC00002420735	Flat no 1605, 16th Floor, Tower 1 Sunworld Arista, Plot No Gh 01/C, Sector 168, Noida 201303. Area- 2100 Sq Ft	Rs. 1,45,89, 586/- (as on August 24, 2021)	Rs. 1,00,00, 000/- Rs. 10,00, 000/-	October 04, 2021 From 11AM to 2:00 PM	October 25, 2021 From 11:00 AM Onwards
7.	Nabajyoti Borah (Borrower), Jonali Nabajyoti Borah (Co- Borrower) LBDEL00002437971	Flat No 706, 7th Floor Tower 1, Plot No GH 01/C Sunworld Arista, Sec 168, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar 201301. Area 2100 Sq Ft.	Rs. 1,34,56, 253/- (as on August 24, 2021)	Rs. 1,00,00, 000/- Rs. 10,00, 000/-	October 04, 2021 From 11AM to 2:00 PM	October 25, 2021 From 11:00 AM Onwards
8.	Amit Verma (Borrower), Neetu Verma (Co- Borrower), Deepak Arora (Guarantor) LBGHZ00002423457	Flat No 1606, 16th Floor Tower 1 Sunworld Arista, Plot No GH 01/C Sector 168, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar 201301 Area- 2100 Sq Ft.	Rs. 1,44,17, 505/- (as on August 24, 2021)	Rs. 1,00,00, 000/- Rs. 10,00, 000/-	October 04, 2021 From 11AM to 2:00 PM	October 25, 2021 From 11:00 AM Onwards
9.	Nishant Dalmia (Borrower), Nayan Dalmia (Co- Borrower) Vasudha Dalmia (Guarantor) LBGHZ00002422226	Flat No 1606, 16th Floor Tower T6 Plot No GH 01/C, Sunworld Arista Sector 168, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar 201301. Area- 2100 Sq ft.	Rs. 1,44,99, 012/- (as on August 24, 2021)	Rs. 1,00,00, 000/- Rs. 10,00, 000/-	October 04, 2021 From 11AM to 2:00 PM	October 25, 2021 From 11:00 AM Onwards

The online auction will be conducted on website URL.Link=https://disposallhub.com) of our auction agency **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited**. The Mortgagors/ noticee are given a final chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **October 22, 2021 before 05:00 PM** else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at **ICICI Bank Limited, 3rdFloor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh, Delhi-110005** and thereafter they need to submit their offer through the above mentioned website only/on or before **October 22, 2021 before 05:00 PM** along with scan image of Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. Kindly note, incase prospective bidder(s) are unable to submit their offer through the website then signed copy of tender documents may be submitted **ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh, Delhi-110005** on or before **October 22, 2021 before 05:00 PM**. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/Scheduled Bank in favour of **"ICICI Bank Limited"** payable at **Delhi**.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact **ICICI Bank Limited on 9372730494** or **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited on 9710029933/9810029926/01244233933**

Please note that Marketing agencies 1. **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited**. 2. **Augeo Asset Management Pvt Ltd** 3. **Props AMC**. have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4p4s

Date: September 10, 2021
Place: Delhi NCR

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link-<https://disposalhub.com>) of our auction agency **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited**. The Mortgagees/ noticees are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **October 22, 2021 before 05:00 PM** else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.

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Date: September 10, 2021
Place: Delhi NCR
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

NORTHERN RAILWAY	
TENDER NOTICE	
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)	
N.I.T No.	128-W/280/O.E.T.-21-22-WV-NIT-06 (A & B)
Name of Work with its location	A. TTR (FS + TWS + WCMSC) Complete renewal of points & crossing of 1 in 8.5, 1 in 12 & 1 in 16 on PSC sleepers complete in the section of SSEP:WAY/HNZM & DB under ADEN/HNZM & TKD. Definition of Similar Work: - CTR/TRR/FR/TTR including raising of track deeping screening, distressing of track, pre & post works for track maintenance machine, TRT/PQRS/ballast, screening/ regulating machines & TTR By T-28. B. TTR (FS + TWS + WCMSC) Complete renewal of points & crossing of 1 in 8.5, 1 in 12 on PSC sleepers complete in the section of SSEP:WAY/GGN under ADEN/DEE. Definition of Similar Work: - CTR/TRR/FR/TTR including raising of track deeping screening, distressing of track, pre & post works for track maintenance machine, TRT/PQRS/ballast, screening/ regulating machines & TTR By T-28.
Approx. Cost of work	A. ₹27862594.22 B. ₹28276384.01
Completion period of work	A. 12 Months B. 12 Months
Date and Time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 15.00 hrs on 05.10.2021 Opening of Tender at 15.00 hrs. on 05.10.2021
Website particulars notice board location	Above tender available on complete details of tender can be seen IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in
No. 128-W/280/O.E.T.-21-22-WV-NIT-06 (A & B) Dated: 09.09.2021 2027/21	
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE	
PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED	
(See Section 82 Cr. PC)	
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused namely Honey Khurana S/o Gurmeet Singh Khurana R/o H.No. 183, Thapar Nagar, Gurudwara Road, Meerut, UP has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 423/2016 Dt. 13.05.2016 u/s 420/120B/34 IPC, P.S.: Janakpuri, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrants of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Honey Khurana could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Honey Khurana has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Honey Khurana of FIR No. 423/2016 Dt. 13.05.2016 u/s 420/120B/34,IPC P.S.: Janakpuri, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 16.11.2021 . By order Neetika Kapoor, Metropolitan Magistrate-11 Room No.05, Ground Floor, Dwarka District Court, New Delhi	
DP/535/WD/2021	

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियंता, लोक निर्माण विभाग, (वि./यां.) मंडल, बिलासपुर (छ.ग.) ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट निविदा सूचना			
Portal : http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in			
स्वीकृत शासन, लोक निर्माण विभाग, वि./यां. मण्डल, बिलासपुर में निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु अनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:			
नि.आ.सू. दिनांक 02.09.2021 तथा डाउनलोड की अंतिम तिथि 22.09.2021			
प्रथम आमंत्रण			
क्र.सं.	नि.आ.सू. क्रमांक	ऑनलाईन टेंडर नंबर	कार्य का नाम
1.	07	82706	Balance work of H.V.A.C system at Medical College, Raigarh (C.G.)
निविदा में भाग लेने की प्रक्रिया एवं निविदा के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी विभाग के उपरोक्त वेबसाईट में देखे जा सकते हैं।			
हस्ता / – अधीक्षण अभियंता लो.नि.वि. (वि./यां.) मण्डल बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)			
R.O. No:- 63511/7 R.O. Date:- 08/09/2021			

Bangkok: Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha sacked two Cabinet members on Thursday, including one who was widely reported to have unsuccessfully plotted for him to lose a parliamentary no-confidence vote last week.

Deputy Agriculture Minister Thammawat Prompaow was deeply controversial even before the alleged mutiny attempt for being imprisoned for four years in Australia in the 1990s in a case involving heroin smuggling.

He has also faced other scandals, including a claim that his doctorate in public administration was fraudulently earned. He has rejected

all accusations of wrongdoing.

Thammanat won his Cabinet position by being a political power broker capable of turning out the vote in northern Thailand for the governing Palang Pracharath party, and was made party general secretary in June. Because of his reputation, it isn't clear whether his dismissal will strengthen or weaken Prayuth's government.

Palang Pracharath is the military-backed party that nominated former army commander Prayuth as Prime Minister after the 2019 general election. Prayuth led a military government from 2014 to 2019 after staging a coup. **AP**

Covid surge in the US: The summer of hope ends in gloom

AP ■ WASHINGTON

The summer that was supposed to mark America's independence from Covid-19 is instead drawing to a close with the US more firmly under the tyranny of the virus, with deaths per day back up to where they were in March.

The delta variant is filling hospitals, sickening alarming

numbers of children and driving coronavirus deaths in some places to the highest levels of the entire pandemic. School systems that reopened their classrooms are abruptly switching back to remote learning because of outbreaks. Legal disputes, threats and violence have erupted over mask and vaccine requirements.

The US death toll stands at

more than 6,50,000, with one major forecast model projecting it will top 7,50,000 by December 1.

"It felt like we had this forward, positive momentum," lamented Katie Button, executive chef and CEO at two restaurants in Asheville, North Carolina. "The delta variant wiped that timeline completely away."

RBI hopes 9.5% growth estimate will be met

PTI ■ MUMBAI

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Thursday said many fast indicators are showing an uptick in economic activity and the Reserve Bank is quite optimistic about its 9.5 per cent GDP growth estimate for FY2021-22 at present.

He said the impact of the second wave of Covid-19 has waned by August, and economic growth will be better from the second quarter onwards on a sequential basis.

Speaking at an event organised by The Indian Express and Financial Times, Das said the RBI has decided to give more emphasis on

growth because of the pandemic and operate in the 2-6 per cent inflation band set by the government for it.

The central bank will seek to gradually move towards achieving the 4 per cent target over a period of time, he said, adding that the possibility of a sustained increase in inflation is unlikely.

Easy liquidity conditions in the global markets are among the conditions which are leading to a surge in markets domestically, he said, making it clear that there is no evidence of the high asset prices affecting the inflation situation.

A call on continuing with the accommodative stance or

not will be taken by the rate-setting panel of the RBI, he said, replying to a question and added that it does not see high inflation getting generalised.

The banking system's gross non-performing assets ratio stood at 7.5 per cent as of the end of June quarter, and the same is "manageable" as of now, Das said, underlining that lenders also have adequate capital buffers.

To a question on high haircuts taken by banks in debt resolutions, he said there is scope for improvement in the functioning of IBC which can include legislative changes and also time taken for a case by the bankruptcy courts.

Govt to release ₹56,027 cr to exporters against pending tax refunds

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Thursday said it will release ₹56,027 crore to exporters against pending tax refunds under different export incentive schemes.

The amount will be disbursed to more than 45,000 exporters, the commerce ministry said. The ₹56,027 crore, which is being released under various export promotion schemes, is over and above duty remission of ₹12,454 crore for the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP) Scheme and ₹6,946 crore for Rebate of State and Central Levies and Taxes (RoSCTL) Scheme already

announced. The amount will be disbursed this year only, Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal told reporters here.

Benefits will help sectors to maintain cash flows and meet export demand in international market, which is recovering fast this financial year, he said.

Further, the commerce and industry ministry said that the Government of India has decided to budget ₹56,027 crore in 2021-22 itself in order to disburse all pending export incentives due to exporters.

This amount includes claims relating to MEIS (Merchandise Export India Scheme), SEIS (Service Exports India Scheme), RoSL (Rebate of State Levies), RoSCTL.

India's fuel demand jumps 11% in Aug

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's fuel demand soared almost 11 per cent in August when compared with the same month last year but lower than the previous month as monsoon rains slowed mobility and consumption.

Fuel consumption totalled 16 million tonnes in August, up from 14.42 million tonnes a year back but lower than 16.83 million tonnes in July 2021, data from the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPA) of the Oil Ministry showed.

Sales of petrol, which had reached pre-Covid levels a couple of months back, rose 13 per cent year-on-year to 2.69 million tonnes and was up 2.5 per cent over July 2021.

Consumption of diesel - the most used fuel in the country - jumped 15.6 per cent to 5.6 million tonnes from a year earlier but fell 8.7 per cent from the previous month as monsoon rains stalled the mobility of trucks.

Cooking gas or liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) sales increased 2.4 per cent to 2.3 million tonnes, while naphtha sales fell 5.1 per cent to 1.02 million tonnes.

LPG sales fell 1.6 per cent month-on-month. Sales of bitumen, used for making roads, were 3.1 per cent up, while fuel oil use edged up 8 per cent in August. Naphtha demand at 1.02 million tonnes was 5 per cent lower than a year back and 16 per cent lower than July 2021.

India can export 6 million tons of sugar next season: ISMA

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India, the world's second largest sugar producer, can export 6 million tonnes of the sweetener in the 2021-22 season commencing next month, taking advantage of the firm global market, industry body ISMA said on Thursday.

The country exported about 6.67 million tonnes of sugar in the first 11 months of the 2020-21 season (October-September), higher than the 5.57 million tonnes shipment made in the year-ago period.

Total sugar exports in the current season could surpass 7 million tonnes, it said.

Currently, global prices are ruling a more than four-year high at round 20 cents per pound due to likely sugar deficit in the world market in the next season on expected fall in production in Brazil, it added.

"This would mean that Indian sugar mills have a good opportunity to export their surplus sugar in the next couple of months up to January 2022, and thereafter till April 2022 before Brazilian sugar comes into the market," Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) said in a statement. Many sugar mills have signed forward contracts for export in the upcoming season, it said.

Sensex, Nifty end marginally higher in volatile trade

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty managed to end in positive territory after fighting bouts of volatility on Thursday as investors followed risk-off mode in global markets. After a volatile trade, the 30-share Sensex ended 54.81 points or 0.09 per cent higher at 58,305.07 -- its all-time closing high.

The NSE Nifty rose 15.75 points or 0.09 per cent to settle at 17,369.25.

On the Sensex chart, Bharti Airtel was the top gainer, followed by Nestle India, Tata Steel, Bajaj Finserv, HCL Tech and ITC.

On the other hand, Titan, UltraTech Cement, Bajaj Auto,

HDFC Bank and Axis Bank were among the laggards.

Of the Sensex constituents, 18 shares logged gains and 12 suffered losses.

During the holiday-truncated week, the Sensex rose 175.12 points or 0.30 per cent, while the Nifty advanced 45.65 points or 0.26 per cent.

Sectorally, telecom, power, utilities, capital goods and metal indices rose up to 2.40 per cent. On the other hand, realty, consumer durables, bankex and finance ended in the red. Broader midcap and smallcap indices rose up to 0.56 per cent. "Domestic markets were highly volatile tracking negative cues from global markets amidst selling seen in realty and pharma stocks.



Union Minister for Food Processing Industry Pashupati Kumar Paras on Thursday inaugurated 'Food Processing Week' as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav on Thursday along with his deputy Prahlad Singh Patel. Total six projects worth over ₹76 crore were cleared by the Ministry



BOMBAY MERCANTILE CO-OPERATIVE BANK LIMITED

(Estd: 1939)

(Multi State Scheduled Bank)

Regd Head Office : Zain G. Rangoonwala Building, 78, Mohammed Ali Road, Mumbai - 400 003.
Tel : 022-23425961/62/63/64, 23449586, 62552800 For Account Balance Enquiry Missed Call : 9512004406

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the 84th Annual General Meeting of the Members [Shareholders] of BOMBAY MERCANTILE CO-OPERATIVE BANK LIMITED will be held on Friday, 24th September, 2021 at 10.30 a.m. at HAJ COMMITTEE OF INDIA, Baitul Hujaj [Haj House], 2nd Floor, 7A, M.R.A. Marg [Palton Road], Mumbai - 400 001 to transact the following business:

- To confirm the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 30th December, 2020.
- To consider and adopt the Report of the Board of Directors and the Audited Balance Sheet, Profit & Loss Account and Statutory Auditor's Report for the year ended as on 31st March, 2021.
- To appropriate Net Profit as recommended by the Board of Directors for the year ended 31st March, 2021.
- To approve the appointment of Auditors for the Bank for the year 2021-2022 and fix their remuneration.
- To consider the Annual Budget of the Bank for the year 2021-2022.
- To Approve the amendment in Bye-Law No. 10(2) and 62 as per Annexure attached.
- To grant Leave of Absence to the Members of the Bank who have not attended this 84th Annual General Meeting.
- Any other issue / business with the permission of the Chair.

By Order of the Board of Directors
Sd/-
DR. M. SHAH ALAM KHAN
MANAGING DIRECTOR

Date : 6th September, 2021
Place: Mumbai.

Note:

- If there is no quorum within half an hour after the appointed time, the Meeting shall stand adjourned to 11.00 a.m. on the same day and the Agenda of the Original Meeting shall be transacted at the said venue, irrespective of the rule of quorum, in terms of Bye-Law No. 39.
- Any Member desiring information pertaining to Accounts, is requested to write to the Bank, at-least six days in advance of the date of the Annual General Meeting.
- Copies of the Annual Report are available at the Head Office and the Branches of the Bank.



FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE

(Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education)
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun - 248006, Uttarakhand
Phone : 0135-2224288, 2224286, 2224273, Fax: 0135-2758855, Website: www.fri.icFRE.gov.in, www.cppp.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

The Head, Engineering Cell, FRI, Dehradun invites on behalf of Director, FRI Dehradun online item rate bids from approved and eligible contractors of CPWD, MES, Railways, P&T, State PWD & other Govt. Department etc. :

- NIT No. :** 36-125/2021-22/Head/Engineering Cell/Civil
- Tender ID No. :** 2021_ICFRE_647179_1.
- Name of Work :** Repair and renovation work in Forest Seed Testing Lab(Room No. 1 & 2) Near Range Office at FRI
- Estimated Cost :** Rs. 2,30,300/-, **Earnest money :** Rs.4,600/-, **Tender fee Rs.** 590/- and **Period of completion:** 30 days, **Last date and time of submission of bid:** 15.09.2021 at 3.00 P.M.
- The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>. and www.fri.res.in

Head, Engineering Cell,
Forest Research Institute, Dehradun



JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Indira Circle, Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, Jaipur-302004

No. : JDA / EE / Housing-I / 2021-22 / D-440 Dated : 08.09.2021

CORRIGENDUM

Following amendments are been made in the tender notice no. जविप्रा/अधि.अभि./हाउसिंग-1/03/2021-22 "Concessionaire for Repair / Retrofit, Develop, Operate and Transfer (RDOT) by converting existing Government funded vacant houses into Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs) for a period of 25 years"

Discription	Earlier Date	Amendments in Date
Last date of uploading bid	10.09.2021	23.09.2021
Date of opening of bid	13.09.2021	27.09.2021

UBN No. JDA2122WLOB0234
All the conditions of bid remain the same.

Engineer (Housing-I)
JDA, Jaipur

Raj. Samwad/C/5874/2021-22



Government of Rajasthan

Office of Project Director

Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Project

AVS Building, Jawahar Circle, JLN Marg, Jaipur - 302017
Tel No : 0141-2721966, Fax No : 0141-2721919
Email: mail.ruidp@rajasthan.gov.in; web site: www.ruidp.rajasthan.gov.in

Invitation for Bids No: RUIDP/OCB/FSTP/07

1. Local Self Government Department, Government of Rajasthan invites online unconditional bid through e-procurement portal <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> for the following works (Design, Build, Operate & Maintenance) from eligible enlisted contractor.

No	Cluster/ Package No	Name of Package and details of works	Dead line for receipt of bids
1	RUIDP/FSTP/ BAYANA /01	Lot-1: Design, Supply, Construction, Testing, Trial run and commissioning of FSTP with 5 years operation and maintenance at Bayana (Bharatpur), Rajasthan including supply, testing of vehicle mounted suction machine for fecal sludge desludging (RUIDP/FSTP/BVN/01) Lot-2: Design, Supply, Construction, Testing, Trial run and commissioning of FSTP with 5 years operation and maintenance at Roopbas (Bharatpur), Rajasthan including supply, testing of vehicle mounted suction machine for fecal sludge desludging (RUIDP/FSTP/RPB/01) Lot-3: Design, Supply, Construction, Testing, Trial run and commissioning of FSTP with 5 years operation and maintenance at Rajkheda (Dholpur), Rajasthan including supply, testing of vehicle mounted suction machine for fecal sludge desludging (RUIDP/FSTP/RKH/01)	Up to 18:00 hours on 5th October, 2021


2. Bid document for downloading would be available at e proc website www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in starting from 3rd September, 2021. Deadline for bid submission is as shown as in the Table above.

3. Pre-bid Meeting for all the work packages will be held at 15:00 hours on 15th September, 2021. All the prospective bidders are advised to participate in the Pre-bid meeting.

4. Any addendum, clarification to the bidder's queries and corrigendum etc. will be published on the e-proc web sites and will not be published in Newspapers.

5. Bidders may contact Additional Project Director, RUIDP (0141-2548404), Jaipur for any information on bidding process. UBN-JUD2122WLOB000012

Project Director, RUIDP
Raj.Samwad/C/21/5863



Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh Delhi- 110005

PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

[See proviso to rule 8(6)]
Notice for sale of immovable assets

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) /Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price/ Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Raj Verma (Borrower), Avinash Verma (CO-Borrower) LBGUR00004004187	Flat No T4/1806, 18th Floor Sun World, Arista Sector 168, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar 201301. Area 2185 Sq Ft.	Rs 11,773, 062/- (as on August 30, 2021)	Rs. 1,00,00, 000/- to Rs. 10,00, 000/-	October 04, 2021 From 11AM to 2:00 PM	October 11, 2021 From 11:00 AM Onwards
2.	Cheena Gupta (Borrower), Manav Gupta (Co-Borrower) LBLUD00002382529	Flat No. T 10/2003, Floor 20th Tower 10, Sunworld Arista GH-01/C, Sec 168 Noida Express Way Noida Uttar Pradesh 201301. Area 615 Sq Ft.	Rs 51,68,886/- (as on August 31, 2021)	Rs. 28,00, 000/- to Rs. 2,80, 000/-	October 04, 2021 From 11AM to 2:00 PM	October 11, 2021 From 11:00 AM Onwards
3.	Esha Laxman (Borrower), Divay Mehta (Co-Borrower) LBDEL00002432219	Flat No 307, 3rd Floor Tower 10 Sunworld Arista. Plot No GH 01/C Sector 168, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar 201301. Area 615 Sq. Ft	Rs 53,81,287/- (as on August 30, 2021)	Rs. 28,00, 000/- to Rs. 2,80, 000/-	October 04, 2021 From 11AM to 2:00 PM	October 11, 2021 From 11:00 AM Onwards
4.	Archana Gupta (Borrower), Sharad Gupta (Co- Borrower) LBFDB00002378934	Flat No 2501, 25th Floor Tower 10 Sunworld, Arista Plot No GH 01/C, Sec 168 Noida, Noida 201301. Area- 615 Sq. Ft.	Rs 43,63,557/- (as on August 30, 2021)	Rs. 28,00, 000/- to Rs. 2,80, 000/-	October 04, 2021 From 11AM to 2:00 PM	October 11, 2021 From 11:00 AM Onwards

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link-<https://disposalhub.com>) of our auction agency **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited**. The Mortgagors/ noticee are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **October 08, 2021 before 05:00 PM** else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at **ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh, Delhi-110005** and thereafter they need to submit their offer through the above mentioned website only on or before **October 08, 2021 before 05:00 PM** along with scan image of Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. Kindly note, incase prospective bidder(s) are unable to submit their offer through the website then signed copy of tender documents may be submitted **ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol bagh Delhi-110005** on or before **October 08, 2021 before 05:00 PM**. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/Scheduled Bank in favour of "**ICICI Bank Limited**" payable at **Delhi**.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact **ICICI Bank Limited on 9372730494** or **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited on 9710029933/9810029926/ 01244233933**

Please note that Marketing agencies 1. **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited**. 2. **Augeo Asset Management Pvt Ltd 3. Props AMC**. have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property. The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4p4s

Date: September 10, 2021
Place: Delhi NCR

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

Integra Telecommunication and Software Limited

Regd. Office: Flat no. 1311, 13th floor, Devika Tower 6 Nehru Place New Delhi South Delhi/110019
Corp. Off: 610/611, Nirmal Galaxy Avior, L.B.S Road, Near Johnson & Johnson, Mulund (West), Mumbai-400080
E-mail: info@integratelesoftware.com, Website: www.integratelesoftware.com
CIN:L74899DL1985PLC020286, Phone: 011-41008327/022-61982800

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the 36thAnnual General Meeting ("AGM") of the Members of Integra Telecommunication and Software Limitedis scheduled to be held on Thursday, September 30, 2021 at 03:00 P.M. (IST), through video conferencing ("VC") or other audio-visual means ("OAVM"), totransactthe businesses, as set out in the Notice of the AGM.

In view of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs ('MCA') vide its circular No. 20/2020 dated May 5, 2020 w.r.t. Clarification on holding of Annual General Meeting (AGM) through video conferencing ("VC") or other audio visual means ("OAVM") read with circular No. 14/2020 dated April 8, 2020, circular No.17/2020 dated April 13, 2020 (collectively referred to as "MCA Circulars") andSecurities and Exchange Board of India vide its Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD 1/CIR/P/2020/79 dated May 12, 2020 w.r.t. Additional relaxation in relation to compliance with certain provisions of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015- Covid-19 pandemic ("SEBI Circular"), permitted the holding of the AGM through VC/OAVM, and dispensed personal presence of the Members at the common venue during AGM. In compliance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 ("Act"), SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 ("SEBI Listing Regulations"), MCA Circulars and SEBI Circular, the AGM of the Company is being held through VC/ OAVM. Hence, the Members can attend and participate in the ensuing AGM through VC/OAVM.

In terms of the aforesaid MCA Circulars and SEBI Circular, the Notice of the AGM and the Annual Report for the financial year 2020-21 has been sent on **Wednesday, September 8, 2021** by email to those Members whose email addresses are registered with the Company/Depositories. The requirements of sending physical copy of the Notice of the AGM and the Annual Report to the Members have been dispensed vide the aforesaid MCA Circulars and SEBI Circular.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 as amended, the Secretarial Standard on General Meetings ('SS-2') issued by the Institute of Company Secretaries of India and Regulation 44 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 ('SEBI Listing Regulations'), the Company is providing the facility for Remote e-voting as well as the e-voting at the AGM toits Members to exercise their right to vote by electronic means on any or all of the businesses specified in the Notice convening 36thAGM through NSDL e-voting platform. The details pursuant to the Act are as under:

- Members holding shares either in physical form or in dematerialized form, as on the Cut-Off Date, i.e., **Thursday, September 23, 2021** only shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting, participating intheAGM through VC/OAVM facility and e-voting during the AGM, and exercise their right to vote by electronic means on any or all of the businesses specified in the Notice
- The Remote e-voting commences on Monday, September 27, 2021, 09:00 A.M. (IST) and ends on Wednesday, September 29, 2021,05:00 P.M. (IST).** During this period Members of the Company, holding shares either in physical form or in dematerialized form, as on the cut-off date may cast their vote electronically. The e-voting module shall be disabled by NSDL after the aforesaid date and time for voting and once the vote on a resolution is cast bythe Member, the Member shall not be allowed to change it subsequently.
- A person who is not a Member as on cut- off date should treat this Notice for information purposes only.
- A member whose Email ID is already registered with the Company/Depository, may follow the instructions for e-voting as provided in the Notice of the AGM. Memberwhose Email ID are not registered with the Company/Depository Participants, shall follow the process as mentioned in the Notice of the AGM for procuring User ID and Password and registration of Email ID for e-voting.
- Detailed procedure for remote e-voting is provided in the Notice of AGM. The instructions for attending theAGM through VC/OAVM are also provided in the Notice of the AGM.
- Any Person who becomes a Member of the Company after dispatch of Notice and holding shares as on cut-off datei.e.Thursday, September 23, 2021 may obtain login id and password by sending an email at evoting@nsdl.co.in or cs@siagroup.co.in by mentioning Folio No./DP ID and Client ID. The voting rights of the Members shall be in proportion to their shares of the paid-up equity share capital of the Company as on the cut-off date.
- AMember can opt for only one mode of voting i.e. either through Remote e-voting or by e-voting system at the AGM. The procedure for e-voting at the AGM is same as the procedure for remote e-voting. The Members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting prior to the AGM may participate in the AGM through VC/OAVM facility but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again through the e-voting system during the AGM. Only those Members, who are present in the AGM through VC/OAVM facility and have not casted their vote on the businesses as specified in the Notice throughRemote e-voting and are otherwise not barred from doing so, shall be eligible to vote through e-voting system available during the AGM.
- The Board of Directors has appointed Mr. Rushabh Narendra Doshi, Practicing Company Secretary (holding ACS No. 24406 and CP No. 11412) as a Scrutinizer to scrutinize the e-voting atAGM and Remote e-voting process in a fair and transparent manner.
- The Notice of AGM and the Annual Report for the financial year 2020-21 are available on the Company's website at www.integratelesoftware.com,website of the Stock Exchanges i.e. BSE Limited at www.bseindia.com and NSDL's website at www.evoting.nsdl.com.
- The result of e-voting along with Scrutinizer's Report shall be placed on the Company's website www.integratelesoftware.com and shall also be submitted to BSE Limited.

In case of any queries, you 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 call on toll free no.: 1800-222-990 or send a request at evoting@nsdl.co.in or contact Ms. Pallavi Mhatre, Manager or Ms. Soni Singh, Asst. Manager, National Securities Depository Limited, Trade World, 'A' Wing, 4th Floor, Kamala Mills Compound, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai - 400 013, at the designated email id—evoting@nsdl.co.in or pallavid@nsdl.co.in or SoniS@nsdl.co.in or at telephone nos.:- +91 22 24994545, +91 22 24994559, who will also address the grievances connected with the voting by electronic means.

For, Integra Telecommunication and Software Limited

Sd/-
Date : 08th September, 2021
Place : Mumbai

MumbaiJeet Rajen Shah
Director & CFO

The Asian look of the age-old Mamagoto (which literally translates to 'to play with food'), is an atmosphere that attracts all its customers. The colourful imagery and quirky abstractions catch the eye. I spotted the Japanese and Chinese paintings at my first look, and was especially impressed by the impressionistic nature of the *Taking Tiger Mountain* of the Chinese cigarette cards. The whimsical semblance of the manga movement could be distinguished in the cafe's varied pictures.

Since 2010, the pan Asian cafe is renowned for its street hawker cuisine and its urban art. The food is supposed to be a fusion of street food of various places like Hong kong, Seoul, Bangkok, Tokyo, and so on. Hitherto, I had only heard about its popularity, but now was the time to test the waters. We were supposed to try Mamagoto's newly inducted menu 'The Shanghai Nights'. The name Shanghai in the 1920s denoted the hedonistic liberal metropolitan in China which was filled with a plethora of jazz clubs, gambling dens and, of course, gangsters. Through their new cuisine, I could sense their attempt to evoke nostalgia for the tradition.

We were treated with rice crackers as hors d'oeuvre, which were basically fryums but tastier and bet-

APPETISING AFFAIR

KHUSHBU KIRTI explores Mamagoto's fresh cocktail menu, 'Shanghai Nights'

ter cooked. They also came in colourful patterns that quickly captivated the eye.

I was *In The Mood For Love*, no, don't get me wrong. That's the name of the first cocktail that was served to



us. I can easily claim it was what love would taste like in a cocktail: strong, bitter-sweet, enthralling, hot and cold at the same time. It looked enchanting in its appearance, with a huge bubble fixated magically on the top of the glass. Instead of creating butterflies in the stomach, the tequila, beguiled by rose vermouth, formed this sensation in my __, something I had never experienced before. After trickling down the food pipe and creating chills along the way, the drink softly hit. I could taste the apricot puree, mixed with vanilla syrup differently. The muddled strawberry and lime juice proffered the bitter-sweet taste that lasted on the tongue for a while.

We were worried the first drink itself would give us the high most cocktails in a row cannot provide. Thus, the *Chicken Dumplings* were a major saviour. The soft dumpling dissolved in our mouths, the moment we tasted it. The chicken was perfectly cooked, and steamed just the right amount.

The *Le Shanghai* cocktail was up next. The excitement level, along with the expectations, of my friends and mine was high, since the start was so impeccable.

True to their name, Mamagoto didn't fail us. The drink was brought inside a glass dome kind-of structure, filled with smoke. The base of whisky blended well with the sweet taste of maple and hazelnut. It was only enhanced with smoke. While the drink was light and sweet, it was a good pre-appetiser for *The Smuggler's Paradise*, a blend of dark rum plus brandy. We were told

that this was the very drink Shanghai originally became known for. While it was garnished with the local pudding, it gave a certain hit well appreciated by the tasters around me. The minty taste was only augmented by the angostura bitters. The only additional lime juice and sugar syrup gave it, yet again, a sweet taste.

This was followed by *Lentil Chicken With Peanuts*, as the name suggests, a spicy mixture of delicious pieces of chicken with peanuts. The dish was the perfect combination of spicy, chewy and soggy.

We were served with *Wild Dance*, a bourbon, grenadine, lime juice and honey concoction, the taste of which was supplemented by fruits, especially orange. It was garnished with an 'okay' sign of orange peeling, signally the fine drink we were going to have. We were informed of the allusion of *Wild Dance*, which was supposedly the first jazz band of Shanghai in the 1930s. We were surprised to hear



that the band was actually commissioned by a gangster named Du Yuesheng (Big-Eared Du).

The last cocktail of the evening was *Paris Of The East*. With the base of relaxing rum *Old Monk*, the fusion of juices escalated the tangy flavours. The amalgam of pineapple, pomegranate, lime and coconut juices gave it a sweet fruity taste — a flawless ending to a pleasant night.

CHRISTY VARGHESE heads out to sample the fare by Westin, Gurgaon's 'Treasures of Trichy'

GASTRONOMIC DELIGHTS OF TIRUCHIRAPPALLI

Picking up from where we left off after sampling the wares of Kerala for Onam, we felt we have not yet had enough. We were eager to taste some more dishes from South India, and were on the lookout for any opportunity that could cater to our cravings.

And that is when we found out that The Westin, Gurgaon had commenced a 13-day long culinary symphony titled, 'Treasures of Trichy' to enliven the traditional and flavourful spirit of Tiruchirappalli, from September 3. On further enquiry, we found out that the 'Treasures of Trichy' food festival, curated by chef Vijaykumar, was all about celebrating the cuisine with a traditional showcase of timeless delicacies based on authentic South Indian recipes from his homeland - the vibrant city of Tiruchirappalli. Lying along the banks of the Cauvery, this ancient city, soaked in spirituality and rich history, is full of diverse and flavourful treasures. Well, we were hooked from the moment we realised we would be able to binge on another cuisine from Southern India, and reserved a table for lunch without further ado.

The day we visited Westin, we took particular care in having an extremely light breakfast, preparing well in advance for a sumptuous lunch. As we made our way to Westin we could not stop thinking about food, probably because we were somewhat hungry, and decided to while away our time



reading about the food from Trichy. The cuisine here has been influenced by the various regimes that have ruled this area over the centuries and an amazing blend of fragrant spicy dishes has emerged from the melee. Majority of the dishes here are rice based, with the regions situated on the banks of Cauvery being known as the rice bowl of Tamil Nadu. Aside from that, coconut also plays an important role in the cuisine of Trichy.

Scrolling through some drool-worthy images of traditional dishes engineered in Trichy households, we did not realise how quickly time passed

as our cab pulled up at the entrance of The Westin. As we navigated through the lobby to the establishment's all-day dining restaurant, Seasonal Tastes, the lunch buffet was being spread. But we had our eyes only on the Treasures of Trichy. We sought out chef Vijaykumar and expressed that we were there only for his food and that we couldn't wait to fill ourselves to the brim. He had a hearty chuckle before sharing, "For this food festival, I have recreated some simple yet heavenly recipes perfected and passed on by generations. These recipes are restricted to the homes in the inte-



riors of the region and untapped by people outside of those places. You may rest assured, I will be sending only the most choice dishes your way."

After we seated ourselves we rubbed our hands together in giddy joy, in eager anticipation of what was to come. Right off the bat we were spoilt for choice, in a throwback to the sense of hospitality that the southern regions of India are known for, with three different appetisers. Small vadas, crispy fried florets of cauliflowers, and succulent chicken nuggets were served with an assortment of chutneys and pickles. We were particularly obsessed with the soft hunks of chicken, which the chef told us were so succulent because they were marinated for over half an hour with lemon juice, and the cauliflower crisps, which went really well with the tomato chutney.

When the main course was set on our table, we realised what a wise decision that light breakfast was, because what we had in front of us was a diverse array of some of the best dishes to be featured among the 'Treasure of Trichy'. The selections included a

delectable *Mutton sukha* (mutton roast), *Kozhi varuval* (fried chicken curry) which went really well with the *Malabar porotta*. The chef, in one of his customary chats with us, as he dropped by our table periodically to check that everything is in order, shared that he preferred the porottas with the fish curry. The *Paal katti melagu* (paneer curry) was particularly creamy and we fancied it as a stand-alone dish. The *Lemon rice* disappeared in a jiffy, and that was no surprise, it reminded us of home, after all.

Rubbing our tummies, we had just enough room for the traditional *Seviyaan paayasam* and the rich *Rava kesari*. While the *paayasam* hit the right notes as a sweet dish, since there are some among us who don't like a dessert that is too sweet, the *kesari* was extremely sweet. But we did not mind that, we reveled in the sugar rush.

Without wasting any time, considering how the festival ends on September 15, we would recommend you visit The Westin, Gurgaon for some lip-smacking fare from Trichy.

COCONUT MACAROONS

WHAT YOU NEED

- Unsweetened coconut (finely shredded and dry): 1 cup
- Almond flour: ½ cup
- Pure maple syrup: ¼ cup
- Coconut oil (melted): 3 tbsps
- Vanilla: ½ tsp
- Sea salt: ⅛ tsp
- Chocolate chips (dairy-free) : 3-4 tsp

METHOD

- Preheat the oven to 300° F.
- In a medium-sized mixing bowl, combine the coconut, almond flour, maple syrup, coconut oil, vanilla, and sea salt.
- Scoop the batter onto a parchment-lined baking sheet with a rounded tablespoon or tiny cookie scoop.
- Preheat oven to 200°F and bake for 20-22 minutes. Remove from the oven and set aside to cool. Wait around 15 minutes before serving or dipping in chocolate because they will harden up as they cool.
- If using melted chocolate, place chips in a microwave-safe bowl and microwave for 30 seconds, stirring halfway through. Heat for additional 10 seconds if the chips aren't completely melted. Add a teaspoon of heated coconut oil to thin out the chocolate if it seems too thick after melting.
- Dip and/or drizzle each macaron with melted chocolate.
- Allow 5-10 minutes for the chocolate to solidify before placing the macarons in the fridge or freezer. Refrigerate or freeze any remaining macarons. Allow at least 10 minutes for them to defrost before eating if you store them in the freezer.

Courtesy: Shikha Mahajan, a holistic nutritionist and the founder of Diet Podium

R E C I P E S

KESARI POTATO HALWA WITH SILKEN PISTACHIO RABDI

WHAT YOU NEED

For *kesari* potato halwa:

- Potatoes: 200 gm
- Coconut milk: 100 ml
- Sugar: 150 gm
- Cardamom powder: 2-3 gm
- Almond: 10 gm
- Cashew: 10 gm
- Pistachio: 10 gm
- Raisins: 10 gm
- Saffron: 8-10 strands
- Ghee: 2 tbsps
- Godrej rice bran oil: 50 ml

For *silken pistachio rabdi*:

KHASHAWADI ROLL

WHAT YOU NEED

For *Khashawadi Roll*:

- Cottage cheese: 150 gm
- Green chutney: 10 gm
- Mango chutney: 10 gm
- Cashew nut: 30 gm
- Turmeric powder: ½ tsp
- Salt to taste
- Tomato puree: 1 cup
- Red chili powder: 1 tsp
- Coriander powder: 1 tsp
- Garam masala: ½ tsp
- Curd: ½ cup
- Onion: 1
- Cooking oil
- Butter

- Milk: 250 ml
- Sugar: 30 gm
- Cardamom powder: 2 gm
- Pistachio: 30 gm
- Condensed milk: 15 gm

METHOD

For *silken pistachio rabdi*:

- Boil milk on low flame. Keep on stirring till only half of it is left.
- Add condensed milk, sugar and cardamom.
- Reduce it to thick paste consistency. It will take about 20 minutes for this stage.
- Add boiled pistachio paste to the mixture.
- Cook for five minutes more and let it cool.

For *kesari* potato halwa:



For *Dahi ke roti kebabs*:

- Hung yogurt: 200 gm
- Paneer: 50 gm
- Onion (small): 1
- Capsicum (small): 1
- Carrot (small): 1
- Coriander: 2 tbsps
- Salt to taste



- Soak saffron strands in coconut milk.
- Take the potatoes and wash it well. Prick it using a fork.
- Boil over the stove top till the potatoes get boiled. Keep checking it. Once done, remove it from heat, strain and let it cool down properly. It will help in peeling the skin easily, as the potatoes will be too hot.
- The potatoes should

not contain any excess water. Place the cooked and peeled potatoes in a large bowl and mash it well using a potato masher. At the end you may have to use hands to knead it like dough and break the small lumps, if any.

- In a medium size frying pan, heat about half the oil and sauté the mashed potato in the pan for ten minutes. Keep stirring it frequently on medium heat otherwise the potatoes will stick to the pan.
- Add the saffron soaked coconut milk and keep stirring. Now add the sugar. The sugar will start to melt and you will get a soupy consistency mixture.

- Stir in the cardamom powder and keep adding the remaining oil slowly. Keep mixing the halwa until the ghee separates and the halwa thickens. This might take another ten minutes. Transfer it to a greased mould and demould it onto a plate.

- Heat oil and lightly fry the cashew nuts, almond slivers and pistachios till light brown.
- Serve hot the *kesari* potato halwa with silken pistachio *rabri* and garnish with slivers of almond, cashew, pistachios and raisins.

Courtesy: Chef Chetan at Godrej Veg Oils' Sahi Shuruat initiative of Godrej Vikhroli Cucina

METHOD

- Take a thick and creamy curd (hung curd) and add one cup crumbled paneer.
- Then, add onion, ginger, chili and coriander powder. Also, add salt and crushed pepper.
- Then, add breadcrumbs to remove excess moisture.

- Mix it well making sure the paneer and hung curd are combined well. Do not over knead as the curd will start to release moisture.
- Prepare small size kebab and coat them with corn flour to remove excess moisture

- Then, deep fry the patties in oil on medium flame while stirring occasionally till they turn golden brown.
- Serve dahi *ke* kabab with *pudina* chutney or sauce.

Courtesy: Chef Satvir Singh, Executive Chef at Anuraga Palace in Ranthambore.

Sale Notice	
The under mentioned Assets will be sold through auction on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for recovery of dues as per court orders, in the following cases:-	
Case Details	Asset Details
ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Vikram Pal, 446/17	Vehicle No. DL10CB4740 Make and Model: CHEVROLET BEAT DIESEL LS 1.0 LTT EX 2.5 M2DIH 2WDBS, Manufacturing year 2013, Reserve Price: Rs 1,30,000, EMD Amount Rs 13,000, EMD is to be made in favour of ICICI Bank Limited Payable At Delhi And Bidder Has To Bring Original EMD At Site With KYC
ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Shishir Dutt Sharma, Suit No. 1967/17	Vehicle No. DL8CAK6823 Make and Model: FORD FIGO 1.4 EXI, Manufacturing year 2015 Reserve Price: Rs 3,50,000, EMD Amount Rs 35,000, EMD is to be made in favour of ICICI Bank Limited Payable At Delhi And Bidder Has To Bring Original EMD At Site With KYC
ICICI Bank Ltd VS Pankaj Devi, C.S. No. 3685/17	Vehicle No. DL1LW1442 Make and Model: ASHOK LAYLAND AL DOST LS, Manufacturing year 2015 Reserve Price: Rs 40,000, EMD is to be made in favour of ICICI Bank Limited Payable At Delhi And Bidder Has To Bring Original EMD At Site With KYC
ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Brijesh Sharma, Suit No. 1772/18	Vehicle No. UP16BF9360 Make and Model: MARUTI ALTO 800 LXI, Manufacturing year 2016 Reserve Price: Rs 90,000, EMD Amount Rs 9,000, EMD is to be made in favour of ICICI Bank Limited Payable At Delhi And Bidder Has To Bring Original EMD At Site With KYC
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ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Akash Sharma, CS (COMM) No. 735/20	Vehicle No. DL1ZB0772 Make and Model: HYUNDAI XCENT VTVT S, Manufacturing year 2018
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ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Punit, CS (COMM) No. 900/2019	Vehicle No. HR55AA9790 Make and Model: MAHINDRA KUV 100 K4 PLUS D, Manufacturing year 2016
ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Ram Sewak, CS (COMM) No. 68/2020 (1934/19)	Vehicle No. UP14FT7944 Make and Model: CHEVROLET BEAT PS PETROL , Manufacturing year 2016
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ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Mohammad Arif, CSSCJ: 1871/19	Vehicle No. UP14DD2489 Make and Model: MARUTI WAGON R LXI CNG, Manufacturing year 2017
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Auction Date: 27-September-2021 From 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.
Venue: Godara Yard, Khewat No:166/1, Near Atul Kataria Chowk, Behind Gyan Devi School, Sec-17, Sukhrali, Gurugram- 122022.
Contact Person- Rajeev Ranjan (8584874809)/Jitendra Kumar (7304914763)
Terms of Sale
The particulars of the said asset specified herein above have been stated to the best of the information and knowledge of the undersigned, who shall however not be responsible for any error, misstatement or omission in the said particulars. The interested participant/s are therefore requested, in their own interest, to satisfy himself / themselves/ itself with regard to the said asset and other relevant details pertaining to it before submitting the bids. All bidders are required to come at site with original KYC pro to participate in the auction and also original DD of EMD wherein applicable. Successfully approved bidder shall have to deposit sale amount (Excluding EMD amount if applicable) within 5 days from the auction date by the way of pay order/demand draft/RTGS/NEFT. In case if you fail to make the remaining sale amount within 5 days, your EMD amount will be forfeited wherein you have submitted EMD.
The intending bidders may visit at ICICI Bank Ltd, 1st Floor, SD Tower, Community Centre, Plot No-7, Rohini Sector-8, New Delhi-110085, for details and inspection of the said hypothecated vehicle.

Novak two wins away from Calendar Slam

World No 1 will face Olympics Gold medallist Zverev in rematch of Tokyo 2020 semi-final

AFP ■ NEW YORK

Novak Djokovic moved within two matches of completing the first men's calendar-year singles Grand Slam in 52 years on Wednesday, rallying to defeat Italian Matteo Berrettini in a US Open quarter-final.

Top-ranked Djokovic stretched his Grand Slam win streak to 26 matches by eliminating sixth seed Berrettini 5-7, 6-2, 6-2, 6-3 at Arthur Ashe Stadium in a rematch of July's Wimbledon final.

"I think it was a great performance overall," Djokovic said, calling his last three sets "the best three sets I've played in the tournament."

The world No 1 booked a semi-final date on Friday against Olympic champion Alexander Zverev, who beat Djokovic in the semi-finals in Tokyo.

"He's in tremendous form. He has been winning a lot," Djokovic said. "He's one of the best players in the world right now and I'm pumped. The bigger the challenge, the more glory in overcoming it."

Djokovic is trying to become the first man to win all four major titles in the same year since Rod Laver in 1969, but he wasn't ready ponder the glory of that challenge just yet.

"Only focusing on the next match. Don't ask me about history," Djokovic said. "I'm thinking only about the next match. Step by step."

The 34-year-old Serbian also seeks his fourth US Open title and men's record 21st career Slam trophy, which would lift him one above the mark he shares with Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal, both absent with injuries.

German fourth seed



Djokovic vs Zverev
Live from 12:30am IST
STAR SPORTS SELECT 1 & 2

Zverev, last year's US Open runner-up, reached his fourth career Slam semi-final by eliminating South Africa's 46th-ranked Lloyd Harris 7-6 (8/6), 6-3, 6-4.

Zverev denied Djokovic's bid for a 'Golden Slam' sweep of all four major titles plus Olympic Gold, but Djokovic leads their all-time rivalry 6-3.

"He's the best player in the world. He's very difficult to beat," Zverev said. "I was the first player to beat him in a very big match this year. That does give you something."

Zverev is on a 16-match win streak that includes a title last month at Cincinnati. Djokovic didn't play between the Olympics and the Open.

Emma's dream run continues

New York: British 18-year-old sensation Emma Raducanu became the first qualifier to reach the US Open semi-finals by defeating Tokyo Olympic champion Belinda Bencic 6-3, 6-4 on Wednesday.

Raducanu, only the fourth qualifier to reach a Grand Slam semi-final, made the Swiss 11th seed the highest-rated victim of her young career in making history on the New York hardcourts.

"It was a really tough match," Raducanu said. "I'm really glad to have come through."

Next for World number 150 Raducanu, who hasn't dropped a set at the Open is a first-ever matchup against

Greek 17th seed Maria Sakkari, who ousted Czech fourth seed Karolina Pliskova 6-4, 6-4.

Sakkari, whose first Slam semi-final came in June at the French Open, also eliminated 2019 US Open winner Bianca Andreescu, and Czech 10th seed Petra Kvitova, a two-time Wimbledon champion, in matching her best Slam run.

Raducanu became the youngest US Open women's semi-finalist since Maria Sharapova in 2005, although she is only a couple of months younger than Canadian 19-year-old Leylah Fernandez, who will face second-seeded Aryna Sabalenka in Thursday's other semi-final. **AFP**

TTFI calls meeting to discuss Manika's fixing allegations against national coach

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) has called its executive committee meeting on Saturday to discuss star player Manika Batra's allegations of match-fixing against national coach Soumyadeep Roy.

After Manika's allegation, in response to the TTFI's show-cause notice, that the national coach had asked her to throw a match during the Olympic qualifiers, the federation had asked Roy for a written response which he has submitted.

"The issue will be discussed in the virtual meeting and I will propose formation of an inquiry panel but the committee will take the final call," TTFI secretary Arun Banerjee said on Thursday.

TTFI president Dushyant Chautala is expected to attend the meeting.

CAMP IN SONIPAT

On the ongoing national camp in Sonipat, Banerjee said most of the players have reported barring Manika. G Sathiyam,



who had wanted to train in Poland instead, is also expected to reach in a day or two.

The federation recently made camp attendance compulsory for players to be eligible for big events, including the Asian Championships in Doha later this month.

Sutirha Mukherjee, who did not report to Sonipat at the start of the camp, has also reached after recovering from fever, said Banerjee. "The rules are pretty clear. You have to attend the camp to be eligible for selection," he said.

AFP ■ LONDON

Ben Stokes was left out of England's provisional squad announced on Thursday for next month's T20 World Cup.

Stokes is currently taking an indefinite leave of absence from cricket for his mental wellbeing and to recover from a finger injury.

The 30-year-old all-rounder, a key member of the side that won the 2019 50-over World Cup, has not taken the field since July.

"Durham's Ben Stokes was not available for selection and continues to take an indefinite break from all cricket to prioritise his mental wellbeing," said an England and Wales Cricket Board statement.

But fast bowler Tymal Mills has been included, returning to the side for the first time since 2017.

Mills has impressed during this season's domestic T20 Blast and starred for Southern Brave as they won the inaugural edition of the Hundred.

"I believe we have selected a squad that covers all bases and has the depth to be successful in what is expected to be a very competitive tournament featuring the best players

Covid cloud over Manchester Test

5th Test (Day 1)
Live from 3:30pm IST
SONY SIX NETWORK

PTI ■ MANCHESTER

Jasprit Bumrah will have to squeeze every ounce of energy from his already overworked body while Ajinkya Rahane will hope to get one final chance to save his international career when India take on England in the fifth and final Test, chasing a historic series win.

The weather prediction for the game starting Friday would bring smiles in the Indian camp as there is forecast of rain during the first two days which increases the chance of Virat Kohli becoming the first Indian captain to win an away Test series both in Australia (2018-19) and England (2021).

India are leading 2-1 right now.

However, just like the last four Tests, the visitors' line-up for the game is set to evoke curiosity.

At the heart of the conversation will certainly be Bumrah's workload after having bowled 151 overs already in the past one month, including 22 intense overs on the fourth and fifth day of the Oval Test.

Just like Bumrah, another complicated "to be or not to be situation" surrounds Rahane's inclusion after his twin failures on a good batting deck at the Oval.

Six failures in seven innings with confidence shot to pieces is not the Rahane everyone is familiar with.

Yet, considering this is the last Test of the series, Kohli might think of giving his deputy one last chance failing which his India career might be in line now that he is 33 years old.

If not, then Suryakumar Yadav's flamboyance or Hanuma Vihari's doggedness could be used to unsettle the English attack.

With Mohammed Shami being declared fit, he is set to



Virat Kohli arrives for Team India's practice session on Wednesday

AP

walk into the playing XI but skipper Kohli's call in absence of head coach Ravi Shastri and bowling coach Bharath Arun, both suffering from Covid-19, will be crucial.

Umesh Yadav (6 wickets) and all-rounder Shardul Thakur (3 wickets 117 runs), after their respective impressive performances in the last game, aren't going to be benched and Bumrah is someone who will be required big time in the biggest game of the series.

In case, the team management looks at the bigger picture and decides giving Bumrah an option to cool his heels, then Mohammed Siraj, despite an underwhelming show in the last Test, will get

England expecting final Test to go ahead: Buttler

PTI ■ MANCHESTER

England vice-captain Jos Buttler on Thursday said he expects the fifth and final Test against India to proceed as scheduled despite a fresh Covid-19 case in the visiting camp.

"I don't know too much, to be honest, at the moment. At present we are expecting the game to go ahead. Things are all fine in our camp. We are

looking forward to the game," Buttler said when asked about the latest development.

Buttler, who was on paternity leave during the Oval Test, said his team is all fired up to square the series, which India leads 2-1 at present.

"It was a fantastic Test match (at the Oval). The Indians played brilliant cricket. We want to win this Test match and level the series. The spirits are high in the side, it's

a must win game for us," he said.

There is speculation that England pace spearhead James Anderson might be rested for the game but Buttler hinted otherwise.

"He has bowled fantastically well in the series. Jimmy is incredibly fit. He has looked after himself very well. He looks exactly the same (as was in first match) and is available for selection," he said.

England without Stokes for T20 WC

in the world," said England head coach Chris Silverwood. "Tymal Mills deserves his inclusion and has demonstrated over the past couple of years, but particularly this summer, that he has all skills to succeed at this level," he added.

Eoin Morgan leads a squad featuring several 50-over World Cup winners, including Jason Roy, Jonny Bairstow, Jos Buttler, Adil Rashid, Chris Woakes and Mark Wood.

Lancashire all-rounder Liam Livingstone has been included after scoring an England T20 record 42-ball hundred against Pakistan this season.

Fast bowler Jofra Archer had already been ruled out with an elbow injury while, as expected, there is no place for Test skipper Joe Root in the 15-man squad.

Surrey's Tom Curran and the Hampshire pair of Liam Dawson and James Vince are the travelling reserves.

As part of their build-up to the tournament, England are scheduled to



play four warm-up matches, including a two-match T20 series against Pakistan.

SQUAD

Eoin Morgan (capt), Moeen Ali, Jonny Bairstow, Sam Billings, Jos Buttler (wkt), Sam Curran, Chris Jordan, Liam Livingstone, Dawid Malan, Tymal Mills, Adil Rashid, Jason Roy, David Willey, Chris Woakes, Mark Wood. **Reserves:** Tom Curran, Liam Dawson, James Vince

RASHID RESIGNS

While all eyes are on recent developments in Afghanistan after the Taliban took over the country, the nation's cricket board revealed its T20 World Cup squad on Thursday.

Leg-spinner Rashid was named as the captain while veteran wicket-keeper Mohammad Shahzad was also included in the squad. Afzar Zazai and Farid Ahmad Malik were announced as the two standby players.

Faf, Tahir, Morris miss out

Johannesburg: Former captain Faf du Plessis, veteran leg-spinner Imran Tahir and all-rounder Chris Morris were left out as South Africa on Thursday announced an 15-member squad for the upcoming T20 World Cup.

Temba Bavuma, who had surgery on Sunday and is expected to be fit by mid to late October, will lead the young team, which also features Keshav Maharaj, the left-arm spinner who is yet to play a T20I. In the spin department, apart from Maharaj, Tabraiz Shamsi and Bjorn Fortuin will be the specialist bowlers in the

squad. Quinton de Kock, Aiden Markram, Heinrich Klaasen and David Miller will form part of an experienced batting line-up, while the fast-bowling line-up features Kagiso Rabada, Lungi Ngidi and Anrich Nortje.

Squad: Temba Bavuma (c), Keshav Maharaj, Quinton de Kock (wk), Bjorn Fortuin, Reeza Hendricks, Heinrich Klaasen, Aiden Markram, David Miller, W Mulder, Lungi Ngidi, Anrich Nortje, Dwaine Pretorius, Kagiso Rabada, Tabraiz Shamsi, Rassie van der Dussen. **AFP**

However, moments later, in a stunning development, Rashid Khan announced his decision of stepping down as the captain of the T20 side.

"As the captain and responsible person for the nation, I reserve the right to be part of the selection of the team. The selection committee

and ACB has not obtained my consent for the team which has been announced by ACB media," he wrote in a post on Twitter.

"I am taking the decision of stepping down from the roles as the captain of Afghanistan T20 side," he added.

Syed Modi Int'l tourney cancelled

New Delhi: The Syed Modi International Super 300 tournament was on Thursday cancelled by the Badminton World Federation for the second year in a row.

The tournament, which was also cancelled last year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, was scheduled to be held in Lucknow from October 12 to 17.

"Further to August's announcement detailing updates to the BWF Tournament Calendar 2021, the BWF can confirm the Syed Modi India International 2021 is now cancelled," the apex body said in a statement.

BWF, which has had to cancel several tournaments due to Covid-19 complications and restrictions, however, did not specify the exact reason for calling off the tournament in India.

"The BWF regrets the cancellation but remains committed to delivering a safe and structured series of badminton tournaments for the rest of the year," the statement read. **PTI**

CA to cancel Afghanistan Test over Taliban stance on women

Melbourne: Cricket Australia on Thursday made it clear that it will not host the Afghanistan men's team next month if women are not allowed to play the game under Taliban rule.

CA's statement comes a day after Taliban's cultural commission, Ahmadullah Wasiq, was quoted as saying that it wasn't necessary for women to play cricket.

"Driving the growth of women's cricket globally is incredibly important to Cricket Australia. Our vision for cricket is that it is a sport for all and we support the game unequivocally for women at every level," the CA said.

"If recent media reports that women's cricket will not be supported in Afghanistan are substantiated, Cricket Australia would have no alternative but to not host Afghanistan for the proposed Test Match due to be played in Hobart."

"We thank the Australian and Tasmanian Governments for their support on this impor-

tant issue," it added.

The one-off Test between Australia and Afghanistan is scheduled to begin on November 27 in Hobart.

The Australian Cricketers Association (ACA) also endorsed CA's stance.

"What is happening now in Afghanistan is a human rights issue that transcends the game of cricket.

"And while we would love to see players such as Rashid Khan play against Australia, hosting this Test Match cannot be considered if that same opportunity to play the game is denied to Roya Samim and her teammates," it said.

Sports Minister Richard Colbeck has called for the ICC's intervention on the matter. "Excluding women from sport at any level is unacceptable," Colbeck said in a statement. "We urge international sport authorities, including the International Cricket Council, to take a stand against this appalling ruling." **PTI**

Italy, Spain & Germany win

AFP ■ LONDON

Moise Kean grabbed his first international goals since March 2019 as Italy thrashed Lithuania 5-0 in World Cup qualifying on Wednesday, as Damian Szymanski's late header forced England to settle for a draw in Poland.

Italy had drawn their previous two qualifiers to slip into a battle with Switzerland for automatic qualification from Group C.

But the European champions produced a dominant display against Lithuania in Reggio Emilia.

Young striker Kean, who rejoined Juventus from Everton, scored twice in the first half. Edgaras Utkus put through his own net and Giacomo Raspadori also scored as Italy moved four ahead at the break.

Giovanni Di Lorenzo made it five in the second period as Roberto Mancini's side stretched their lead over Switzerland at the top of the table to six points.

England, who were beaten by Italy on penalties in the Euro



2020 final, lost their 100 percent record in qualifying with a 1-1 draw against Poland in Warsaw.

Spain's qualification hopes were under threat heading into their game at Kosovo, but a 2-0 win, coupled with Sweden's surprise 1-2 loss to Greece, gave Luis Enrique's side a much-needed boost.

Germany made it three wins from three for the former Bayern Munich boss Hansi Flick

with an impressive 4-0 victory in Iceland.

There had been serious questions marks raised about the form of forwards Timo Werner, Serge Gnabry and Leroy Sane, but all three netted in Reykjavik.

In Group E, Belgium continued their cruise towards qualification as Dennis Praet's first-half effort saw Roberto Martinez's side edge out Belarus 1-0.

India to tour South Africa for all-format series in Dec-Jan



PTI ■ JOHANNESBURG

India will tour South Africa for an all-format series in December-January, Cricket South Africa (CSA) said on Thursday.

According to the itinerary announced by CSA, India is set to play three Test matches, as many ODIs and four T20Is during the tour.

Two Tests are scheduled in Johannesburg from December 17 to 21 and January 3 to 7, while Centurion will host the second Test from December 26 to 30.

The Test matches will be fol-

Conflict of Interest complaint against Dhoni's appointment

New Delhi: The BCCI apex council on Thursday received a complaint against former captain MS Dhoni's appointment as the Indian team's mentor for the T20 World Cup, citing the conflict of interest clause in the Lodha Committee reforms. Former Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association life member Sanjeev Gupta, who has previously filed a series of Conflict of interest complaints against players and administrators, has sent a letter to the apex council members that Dhoni's appointment is a violation of the Conflict of Interest clause, under which one person cannot hold two posts. Dhoni is also captain of Chennai Super Kings in IPL.

lowed by three ODIs and four T20Is to be held in Cape Town and Paarl.