

**OPINION 6**  
GUJARAT AND THE  
GAME OF CHANGE

**WORLD 8**  
TALIBAN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH WORLD  
TO BE DEFINED BY ACTIONS: BLINKEN

**SPORT 12**  
CSK HUMBLE RCB  
WITH ALL-ROUND SHOW

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## New chapter in US-India ties: Biden

### Seeds have been sown for even stronger friendship, says Modi



President Joe Biden meets with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the Oval Office of the White House on Friday in Washington

AP

PNS/PTI ■ NEW DELHI  
/WASHINGTON

India and the US on Friday resolved to take their growing ties in all spheres to a new high and face the emerging global challenges in a united

manner as two democracies. They also noted technology and trade will play a major role in forging strong relations and address many issues.

This was the crucial take away from the nearly two-hour long summit between

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Joe Biden in Washington on Friday. It was the first in-person meeting between the two the leaders since Biden assumed charge early this year.

The high-profile meeting

took place against the backdrop of the raging Covid-19, growing assertiveness of China in the Indo-Pacific and the Afghanistan situation, besides the scourge of terrorism.

The two leaders acknowledged the deep ties that the countries share, with Biden and Modi saying they had met each other before and had the opportunity to exchange ideas before. Biden said he knows Modi for a long time and the first in-person meeting between the duo as US President and Indian Prime Minister will begin a new chapter in the Indo-US relationships.

"Today we begin a new chapter in Indo-US relationships. Four million Indian Americans are making America stronger every day," Biden said. Reciprocating the gesture, the Prime Minister said he had the opportunity to exchange ideas with Biden in 2014 and 2016.

"In 2014 and 2016, I got an opportunity to talk to you. You had shared your vision for Indo-US relations. Those visions were inspiring. Now

## In talks with PM, Kamala refers to Pak's terror role

### US underlines need to strengthen democracy

PNS/PTI ■ NEW  
DELHI/WASHINGTON

US Vice-President Kamala Harris chided Pakistan for sponsoring terrorism and urged it to act against terror groups operating from its soil thereby threatening India and the United States. She made these remarks during her meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Washington.

Voicing concern over the threat to democracies around the world, Harris underscored the need to defend democratic principles and institutions in both India and the US.

During her one on one parleys with Modi, she also underscored the need to close-



ly monitor Islamabad's support for terrorism.

"The Vice-President, suo moto (on her own, unprompted) referred to Pakistan's role in that regard," Foreign Secretary Harsh Shringla told reporters at a news briefing in Washington. He is part of the official delegation accompanying the Prime Minister besides External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval.

The Vice-President added

there were terror groups that were working there. "She asked Pakistan to take action so that these groups do not impact on our security and that of India," the Foreign Secretary said.

"She agreed with the Prime Minister's briefing on the fact of cross-border terrorism, and the fact that India had been a victim of terrorism for several decades now; and on the need to rein in and closely monitor Pakistan's support for such terrorist groups," Shringla said.

*Continued on Page 2*

### Quad leaders to announce working group on space, supply chain initiative and 5G

**Washington:** Leaders of Quad countries — Australia, India, Japan and the US — would announce a new working group on space, a supply chain initiative and a 5G deployment and diversification effort apart from discussing issues like challenges in the Indo Pacific, climate change and Covid-19 pandemic during their his-

toric meeting here on Friday, the White House has said.

At the invitation of President Joe Biden, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his counterparts Scott Morrison from Australia and Yoshihide Suga from Japan have gathered in the American capital for the first-ever in-person Quad summit.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Gangster killed in court by rivals in lawyer guise



Advocates following a shootout at the Rohini court, where gangster Jitender Gogi was being produced on Friday

PTI

### Police shoot both attackers in Rohini court

SHEKHAR SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

Gangster Jitender Mann, alias Gogi, was shot dead by two members of rival Sunil alias, Tillu Tajpuriya gang, who came dressed as lawyers in Delhi's Rohini court on Friday afternoon, raising serious questions about the level of security at the court.

The force's 3rd battalion escorting the gangster then fired back, killing both the

attackers on the spot.

Gogi received three to four bullet injuries and was taken to a nearby hospital, where he was declared brought dead, while two assailants identified as Rahul Tyagi and Jagdeep, alias Jagga, died on the spot. Around 20 rounds were fired.

Delhi Police spokesperson Chinmoy Biswal said swift action by the police team in launching a counter-fire on the two assailants who were in lawyers' attire saved the lives of innocents. "Both the assailants are dead along with undertrial prisoner Gogi," said Biswal.

"All three gangsters dead. No other injury or death occurred," it said.

According to Pranav Tayal,

the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Rohini district, around 1.15 pm Gogi, previously involved in 30 heinous crimes, was brought to the court of Judge Gangandee Singh for criminal trial when the two assailants in lawyer's attire fired at him.

"As Gogi was hit, the police team on escort responded and in the counter-fire both the assailants received gunshot wounds and were immobilised. All three persons were declared brought dead at the hospital," said the DCP.

"A case under appropriate sections has been registered and investigation has been taken up in accordance with the guidelines of apex court and NHRC," said the DCP.

Meanwhile, Joint Commissioner of Police, Northern Range, has been tasked to enquire into the incident and submit a report.

A lawyer, who doesn't wish to be named, told *The Pioneer* that a hearing was going on and there were around 12 to 15 people inside the court when the incident occurred. "Two men dressed as lawyers fired upon Gogi following which people present in the room rushed out to save their lives and the judge also went back to his office just behind the courtroom," he said.

*Continued on Page 2*

### CAPSULE

#### 761 CLEAR CIVIL SERVICES EXAM, SHUBHAM TOPS

**New Delhi:** A total of 761 candidates have cleared the coveted civil services examination 2020, with engineering graduates Shubham Kumar and Jagrati Awasthi bagging the first and second ranks respectively. The Union Public Service Commission on Friday declared the results of the examination, conducted annually to select IAS, IFS and IPS officers, among other civil servants.

#### TWO BSF MEN KILLED IN TRIPURA BRAWL

**New Delhi/Agartala:** Two BSF personnel were killed and their senior officer was injured in a fratricidal shoot out at a post near the Bangladesh international border in Tripura, officials said on Friday.

#### HCQ, I-MECTIN DROPPED FROM COVID TREATMENT

**New Delhi:** The Indian Council of Medical Research-led Covid-19 National Task Force has dropped the use of the drugs ivermectin and hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) from the revised "clinical guidance for management of adult Covid-19 patients".

#### CAG MURMU BECOMES AUDITOR OF IAEA

**New Delhi:** India's Comptroller and Auditor General GC Murmu was on Friday selected as the external auditor of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), a prestigious institution that promotes peaceful use of nuclear energy.

### UK backbench MPs debate Kashmir, India condemns abusive language

PTI ■ LONDON

Members of Parliament from the UK's All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Kashmir have tabled a motion on "Human rights in Kashmir" for a debate in the House of Commons, drawing a strong reaction from India which said any assertion made in any forum on a subject related to an integral part of the country needs to be duly substantiated with authentic verifiable facts.

The Minister for Asia in the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, Amanda Milling, responded to the debate by reiterating the UK Government's unchanged stance on Kashmir as a bilateral issue. The Indian Government expressed its dismay at some of the language used by participating MPs in the Backbench Debate, specifically Pakistani-origin Labour MP Naz Shah.

*Continued on Page 2*

## ₹20,000 crore deal cleared for Make-in-India military aircraft

### 16 Airbus planes to be procured off the shelf in 4 years

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a major boost to the domestic industry, the Defence Ministry on Friday signed a deal worth over ₹20,000 crore with Airbus Defence and Space of Spain for 56 "C-295" medium transport aircraft. They will replace the ageing Avro-748 planes of the Indian Air Force inducted into service in the 1960s.

It is the first project of its kind under which military aircraft will be manufactured in India by a private company. While India will procure 16 aircraft off-the-shelf from Airbus within 48 months of inking the deal, the remaining planes will be manufactured here by Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) within ten years of



signing the contract.

The planes will be manufactured by a consortium of the Airbus Defence and Tata, officials said here. The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi had cleared the deal on September 9.

The in-principle approval for the Avro replacement programme was accorded around nine years ago. A large number of detail parts, sub-assemblies and major component assemblies of aerostructure are scheduled to be manufactured

in India.

Hailing the inking of the deal, Tata Trusts Chairman Ratan Tata described the contract as a "great step" forward in the opening up of the aviation and avionics sector in the country.

"The clearance of the joint project between Airbus Defence and Tata Advanced Systems to build the C-295 is a great step forward in the opening up of the aviation and avionics projects in India," Tata said in a statement.

*Continued on Page 2*

## SC stays Kerala HC hearing on Centre's 10% quota for EWS

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a significant development, the Supreme on Friday stayed the proceedings before the Kerala High Court on a plea challenging the Centre's decision to grant 10 per cent reservation in jobs and admissions to candidates of the economically weaker sections (EWS).

The SC also set aside Madras High Court's observation that the Centre must seek top court's approval on EWS reservation. The apex court's benches were issuing orders on the transfer of cases in EWS in several high courts to the Supreme Court.

In the case of Kerala HC, a bench comprising Chief Justice N V Ramana and Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli issued notice on the plea filed by the Centre seeking transfer of the case from the high court to the apex court which had earlier referred to the similar case for adjudication to a five-judge



Constitution bench.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta appeared for the Centre and sought stay on the proceedings before the high court beside a notice to Nujaim PK who had filed the PIL there.

"Writ Petition involves an identical question of law to one pending before this court, whether the Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Act, 2019 violates the basic structure of the Constitution of India and is against the basic principle of the constitution," said Centre's plea seeking transfer of cases to the apex court.

*Continued on Page 2*

## CBI starts probe into death of Mahant Giri

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has taken over the probe into the death of Mahant Narendra Giri, president of Akhil Bharatiya Akhara Parishad, following a notification from the Centre. A CBI team on Friday reached Prayagraj to interact with the Uttar Pradesh Police officials who investigated the case.

The move comes after the Department of Personnel and Training gave its approval for a CBI probe into the death of the seer who headed the largest organisation of sadhus in India. The mahant was found hanging at Baghambari Mutt in Prayagraj on Monday.

The UP Police had registered a case under IPC sections relating to abetment to suicide against one of his disciples Anand Giri, who was nabbed from Haridwar and brought to Prayagraj for questioning.

*Continued on Page 2*



# 2 BSF troopers killed in Tripura

**New Delhi/Agartala:** Two BSF personnel were killed and their senior officer was injured in a fratricidal shoot out at a post near the Bangladesh international border in Tripura, officials said Friday.

The incident took place Thursday evening near the border fence gate at Khagracheri post of the force in Karbook sub-division of Gomati district.

Head constable Satbir Singh and constable Pratap Singh, belonging to the 20th battalion, were killed in the "fratricidal cross firing" following a minor altercation, said a BSF spokesperson for its Tripura frontier, headquartered in Salbagan, Agartala.

A senior official said Pratap Singh allegedly shot at Satbir Singh, who died on the spot.

Pratap Singh was later killed by a sentry deployed at the post, he said.

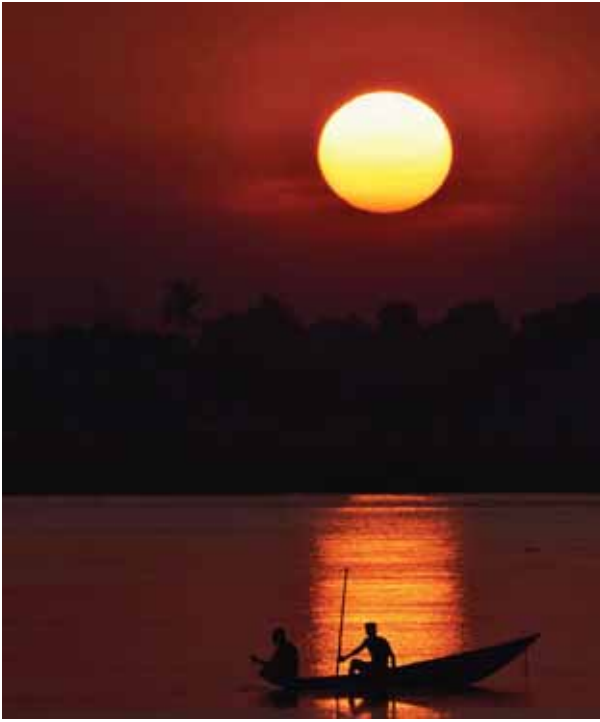
The post commander, Sub Inspector Ram Kumar, suffered bullet injuries on both his legs as constable Pratap Singh fired at him too, he said.

"A departmental inquiry is being conducted to find out the actual cause of the incident and an FIR has been lodged at Silacheri police station," the spokesperson said.

The Border Security Force (BSF) guards the India-Bangladesh border.

Out of the total 4,096 kms of the international border, Tripura shares 856 kms of the front.

**PTI**



Fishermen catch fish in the Hooghly River during sunset, in Nadia district on Friday

PTI

# Quad will work as force for global good: Modi

**Washington [US]:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said Quad will work in the role of "force for global good" and asserted that the cooperation among four countries including India, the United States, Australia and Japan in the group will ensure peace and prosperity in Indo-Pacific.

"I express my gratitude to President Joe Biden for first in-person Quad meeting. Four countries, for the first time, came together to help the Indo-Pacific region after the 2004 Tsunami. Today when the world is battling with Covid-19, we being the Quad members are again together in the interest of humanity. Our Quad vaccine initiative will help people of the Indo-Pacific region," PM Modi said in his opening remarks at the Quad leaders meeting.

"On the basis of our common democratic values, Quad has decided to move ahead with positive thought and approach. I would be happy to discuss supply chain or global security, climate action or Covid response or cooperation in technology with Quad members," he said.

Speaking further, the Prime Minister said, "Quad in a way will work in the role of force for global good. I believe our cooperation in Quad will ensure peace and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific and the entire world."

"The much-anticipated first in-person meeting of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (or Quad, of India, the United States, Australia and Japan), began on Friday. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is participating in the Quad leaders meeting along with leaders of the US, Japan, and Australia in Washington. US President Joe Biden is hosting all the leaders at the White House.

According to sources and official announcements, today's summit will touch upon a variety of subjects like 5G technology, climate change, critical infrastructure, supply chains and regional security.

**Agencies**

# We can fund up to ₹10 cr to develop innovative products: DRDO chairman

**Chennai:** Chairman of Defence, Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) G Satheesh Reddy on Friday said it would fund upto ₹10 crore for research projects to promote and develop innovative products. "The DRDO has a scheme 'Technology Development Funding' to spend on young graduates, those who can join incubation centres and have an idea to convert into a design and a product and we'll support them with ₹1 crore," he said.

Reddy was delivering the convocation address on Friday after handing over degrees to 293 students of the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Design and Manufacturing (IIITDM), Kancheepuram, through virtual platform.

Noting that the country was looking for innovation from the youngsters, he said it is technology that can make the country prosperous. "Come out with new technologies, innovate first-of-its-kind products. Our products have to go all over the world. The world should be flooded with products from India," said Reddy, also the secretary of the Department of Defence..

**PTI**

# HP's Nalagarh to have industrial park for medical devices

**Shimla:** Himachal Pradesh is set to build an industrial complex to manufacture medical devices, helped by a Central Government grant of ₹100 crore.

Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur said the medical devices park will be developed over 265 hectares in Solan's Nalagarh at a cost of around ₹267 crore and the state will get ₹100 crore grant for it from the Centre, according to a statement.

The state is expecting an investment of over ₹5,000 crore with a turnover of ₹20,000 crore besides gainful employment for about 10,000 people, Thakur said.

The CM said the park will be first in northern India, giving a boost to the second stage of industrialisation.

Thakur thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Union government for approving the park in the state.

**PTI**

## CHARDHAM YATRA

# Large number of pilgrims returning without darshan after registration made mandatory

**Gopeshwar (U'khand):** A large number of Chardham pilgrims from outside Uttarakhand are returning without 'darshan' after authorities made registration and e-pass mandatory in the four temples in view of the Covid pandemic.

Pilgrims visiting the temples from outside the state are required to register not only on the Smart City portal but also on the Devasthanam Board portal.

Devotees visiting Kedarnath, Badrinath, Gangotri and Yamunotri from across the country claimed that they were not told about the mandatory requirement of an e-pass of the Devasthanam Board and when they were applying for it now the portal does not open.

Imposing a daily limit on the number of pilgrims visiting the Himalayan temples, the state government had last week issued a detailed standard operating procedure (SOP) to start the yatra from September 18 with strict adherence to Covid norms and put a cap of



1,000 pilgrims daily on Badrinath, 800 on Kedarnath, 600 on Gangotri and 400 on Yamunotri.

The Devasthanam Board's website does not open after it has hit the daily limit on the number of pilgrims prescribed by the Uttarakhand High Court for the four temples.

A Delhi-based devotee, who did not wished to be named, said he had come to visit Badrinath but was left disappointed after being returned on Friday from Pandukeshwar about 14-15 km from Badrinath.

"From Rishikesh to Pandukeshwar, there are several checkpoints where pilgrims are

stopped for document verification. We had all the certificates related to Covid and were not stopped anywhere. But after we reached Pandukeshwar, we were told that a Devasthanam Board e-pass was mandatory. When we tried to log into the board website for an e-pass it did not open," he told PTI over phone.

"We were not told about this mandatory requirement anywhere before Pandukeshwar. If we were aware of it, we would have obtained it before setting out on our journey," he said.

Chamoli Superintendent of Police Yashwant Chauhan said everything is being done in accordance with the orders of the Uttarakhand High Court.

"We cannot do anything at our own level. The matter had even been brought up before Prime Minister Narendra Modi's advisor Bhaskar Khulbe when he had visited Kedarnath and Badrinath on Thursday," he said.

**PTI**

# Minor inmate of residential training centre raped, 5 others molested in C'garh



**Jashpur:** A 17-year-old girl staying at a government-funded residential training centre for differently abled children was raped and five other inmates were molested allegedly by the caretaker of the facility in Chhattisgarh's Jashpur district, police said on Friday.

A watchman of the centre was also allegedly involved in molesting the victims, they said, adding both the accused have been arrested. The incident took place on September 22 in the residential training centre for 'divyangs' (people with disability) and after receiving information in this regard on Thursday night, police swung into action. Jashpur Superintendent of Police Vijay Agrawal said.

**PTI**

# Narcotic jihad: Karat accuses BJP of whipping up Islamophobia in Kerala

**Thiruvananthapuram:** Senior CPI (M) leader Prakash Karat on Friday accused the BJP of creating a communal divide by whipping up Islamophobia in Kerala and urged the Catholics, whose bishop has alleged love and narcotic jihad in the southern State, to be aware of the true character of the saffron outfits.

Referring to the recent speech made by the bishop of Pala diocese of Syro-Malabar Catholic Church Joseph Kallarangat alleging that love jihad and narcotic jihad were being waged against youngsters belonging to non-Muslim communities, Karat said this sweeping allegation has caused alarm and misgivings in Kerala society.

In an article headlined 'No to Communal Divide in Kerala' in the party mouthpiece Desabhimani, a daily, the CPI(M) politburo member said while across the political spectrum the alleged jihadist conspiracy was discounted, the BJP came forward

to support the bishop's stand and called upon the Central government to bring a law against the activities of the alleged jihadists.

"For the BJP, this seemed a good opportunity to drive a wedge between the Muslim and Christian communities and to whip up Islamophobia," he wrote.

He said as far as the alleged love jihad is concerned in Kerala, some years ago there was a disturbing incident of 21 people leaving their homes and families and going to Afghanistan to join the ISIS-Khorasan, a terrorist outfit. Noting that among them were two Christian women who had converted to Islam and joined their husbands to make the trip to Afghanistan, one of them had actually married a Christian and both of them converted, Karat said, "The jihadist network was behind recruiting these people and indoctrinating them in the extremist ideology."

**PTI**

# SC stays Kerala HC...

**From Page 1**

The transfer of the aforesaid writ petition would enable all these cases to be clubbed and heard together and avoid the possibility of inconsistent orders being passed by different courts," it said.

The top court had earlier referred to the five-judge Constitution a batch of pleas and transfer petitions challenging the Centre's decision to grant 10 per cent reservation in jobs and education to economically weaker sections and the Act. The court had refused to stay the Centre's decision. The Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha cleared the Bill on January 8 and 9, 2019 respectively and was signed by President Ram Nath Kovind. The quota will be over and above the existing 50 per cent reservation to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes.

Setting aside Madras High Court's recent observation that the Centre's notification on grant of 10 per cent quota to the EWS in all-India quota (AIQ) seats of medical colleges would require approval of the top court, another bench headed by Justice DY Chandrachud made it clear that it is not quashing the entire High Court order passed on August 25 or stating any opinion on its merit but just setting aside the observations made with regard to top court's approval on EWS quota.

The bench of Justices Chandrachud and B V Nagarathna said the High Court should not have expressed such an opinion while hearing a contempt petition filed by the ruling DMK party in Tamil Nadu and it has "transgressed its jurisdiction". It said, "What the Madras High Court has done is that it has asked the Centre to seek approval of a five-judge bench which will be hearing a challenge made to the validity of 103rd constitutional amendment providing 10 per cent EWS quota. The High Court cannot transgress its jurisdiction while hearing a contempt petition," it said.

# Gangster killed in ...

**From Page 1**

"The metal detection machines have not been working for quite a longtime but the police don't check and ask lawyers for their ID. That is the reason the assailant entered the court dressed as lawyers," he said.

Following the incident, the Coordination Committee of all District Court Bar Associations of Delhi has also announced to suspend their work on September 25. "The Coordination Committee of all District Court Bar Associations of Delhi, in its meeting resolved that the working in the court will be suspended due to revision of security norms on account of today's incident in Rohini Court. All members are requested to abstain from their work on September 25," stated the letter issued by the Coordination Committee on Friday evening.

This is not the first time that a firing in and around a Delhi court premises has claimed lives. In 2018, rival 'Tillu' gang member was shot dead by Gogi's men in the same court's vicinity.

Gangsters Gogi and Tillu Tajpuria, who were once friends, became rivals in 2010 during a college student union election in outer Delhi. In 2018, there was a gang war between members of the Gogi and Tillu gangs in Burari in which three people were killed and five injured. So far, more than 100 people have been killed in the fight between the two gangs.

Gogi, who carried a reward of Rs 6.5 lakh on his head, was arrested along with his three accomplices from Gurugram, Kuldeep Mann alias Fajja, Kapil alias Gaurav and Rohit alias Koi, by a team of Special Cell last year in March, according to police. The Special Cell was on the lookout for Gogi, Fajja and Gaurav for a long time before tracing them to their hideout in Gurugram in March last year. A few months ago, Fajja had managed to escape from the police custody when he was being produced in the Karkardooma court and since that incident, the 3rd Battalion of DAP used to accompany Gogi and his associates to court for hearings.

# New chapter in...

**From Page 1**

The Prime Minister also met his Australian counterpart Scott Morrison in Washington. The meeting came a week after they spoke over phone and reviewed the rapid progress in the India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, including through the recent "two-plus-two" dialogue, and exchanged views on regional developments and the forthcoming Quad meeting. Modi also met with Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga. This was Modi's first in-person meeting with Suga after he took over the reins from Shinzo Abe in September last year.

# UK backbench MPs ...

**From Page 1**

"The Government takes the situation in Kashmir very seriously but it's for India and Pakistan to find a lasting political solution, taking into account the wishes of the Kashmiri people. It's not for the UK to prescribe a solution or to act as a mediator," Milling said.

A Minister from the Indian High Commission in London condemned the attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and highlighted Kashmir's status as an integral part of India.

"It is with sadness that the High Commission of India notes that an august institution of a fellow democracy has been misused today to level abuse against the elected leader of the largest practising democracy in the world," the Minister said, referring to Shah's remarks on the 2002 Gujarat riots.

# ₹20,000 crore deal cleared ...

**From Page 1**

"The C-295 is a multi-role aircraft with several configurations to meet mission requirements. It envisages total manufacturing of the aircraft in India," he said.

He also said, "It will create a domestic supply chain capability to international standards, which has never been undertaken before. The Tata Group congratulates Airbus and the Indian Defence Ministry for this bold step in fully building this state-of-the-art multi-role aircraft in India in support of the Make-in-India thrust to bolster the country's equity framework.

Airbus said the first 16 aircraft will be delivered over four years after the contract implementation and that all the planes will be equipped with an indigenous Electronic Warfare Suite (EWS).

"This contract will support the further development of India's aerospace ecosystem, bringing investment and 15,000 skilled direct jobs and 10,000 indirect positions over the coming 10 years," said Michael Schoellhorn, CEO of Airbus Defence and Space.

Highlighting the significance of the procurement, Defence Ministry officials said the induction of C-295MW will be a significant step

# In talks with PM...

**From Page 1**

Stressing the need to defend democratic principles and institutions as democracies around the world are under threat, Harris told Modi that, "As democracies around the world are under threat, it is imperative that we defend democratic principles and institutions within our respective countries and around the world."

She made these remarks in a joint media appearance with Modi before their first in-person meeting at the White House during which they decided to further cement the Indo-US strategic partnership and discussed global issues of common interest, including Afghanistan and the Indo-Pacific.

"I know from personal experience and from my family of the commitment of the Indian people to democracy, and the work that needs to be done (so that) we can begin to imagine, and then actually achieve our vision for democratic principles and institutions," said 56-year-old Harris, whose mother - Shyamala Gopalan - was a cancer

towards modernisation of the transport fleet of the IAF.

It is a transport aircraft of 5-10 tonne capacity with contemporary technology that will replace the ageing Avro transport aircraft.

The aircraft is capable of operating from semi-prepared strips and has a rear ramp door for quick reaction and para dropping of troops and cargo. The aircraft will give a major boost to tactical airlift capability of IAF, especially in the Northern and North-Eastern sector and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The project will provide a major boost to the "Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan" that offers a unique opportunity for the Indian private sector to enter into technology intensive and highly competitive aviation industry.

All the 56 aircraft will be fitted with indigenous electronic Warfare Suite. After completion of the delivery, the subsequent aircraft manufactured in India can be exported to countries which are cleared by the Government.

The project will give a boost to the aerospace ecosystem in India wherein several MSMEs spread over the country will be involved in the manufacturing of parts of the aircraft. The programme will also involve the development of specialised infrastructure in the form of hangars, buildings, aprons, and taxiways.

researcher and civil rights activist from Chennai.

Describing India as a "very important partner" to the US, Harris said she looks forward to discussing how the two countries can continue to best work together to strengthen their relationship around their mutual concerns and the challenges they face, but also the opportunities that those challenges present.

The Prime Minister described Harris as a "source of inspiration" for many people around the world. He expressed confidence that bilateral relations will touch new heights under President Joe Biden and her leadership.

"You are being elected as the Vice-President of America has been such an important and historic event. You are the source of inspiration for so many people around the world," Modi said.

"I am so confident that under President Joe Biden and your leadership, our bilateral relationship will touch new heights," the Prime Minister said.

Modi also extended an invitation to Vice President Harris and Second Gentleman Douglas Emhoff to visit India.

# CBI starts probe into death of Mahant Giri

**From Page 1**

Anand Giri was expelled from the Math earlier this year on charges of indiscipline. But he later apologised to the Mahant who took him back into the Math.

Anand Giri has claimed that he was framed in the case and alleged that the mahant was murdered by those who stole money from the Math.

"On the instructions of UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, a probe by the CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation) has been recommended in the incident pertaining to the sad death of the chairman of Akhara Parishad Mahant Narendra Giri," the Uttar Pradesh's Home Department had said on Wednesday.

The Uttar Pradesh Police had on Tuesday constituted an 18-member SIT to probe the death of the seer and detained one of his disciples in Haridwar. The police have arrested three accused in the case so far who will be questioned by the CBI now.

A purported suicide note was also found, in which the seer had written that he was mentally disturbed and upset with one of his disciples, the police had said.

# Suhas L Yathiraj creates history

**New Delhi:** Suhas L Yathiraj has done what has never happened in the last 56 years of history. That's when the voice came from the heart of the whole country, thank you Suhas. In the Tokyo Paralympics, Noida DM Suhas L Yathiraj not only won the silver medal in the men's singles competition of badminton but also created history. This was the best performance by an administrative officer in the Paralympic Games so far. He became the first IAS of the country to win the medal.

## कार्यालय नगर निगम, भोपाल

विद्युत शाखा

आई.एस.बी.टी. गोविन्दपुरा भोपाल

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना द्वितीय

क्रमांक: 370/वि.शा./2021

दिनांक 17.09.2021

निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु दो लिफाफा पद्धति के अनुसार परसेन्टेज/आयटमरेट मोहरबंद निविदाएं निर्धारित प्रपत्र पर ऑनलाईन आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।

क्र.	ऑनलाईन टेंडर नं.	कार्य स्थल का नाम	अनुमानित राशि	घरोहर राशि	निविदा प्रपत्र की कीमत	टेंदेदार की श्रेणी	कार्य हेतु निर्धारित एम.ओ.आर.	कार्य की अवधि
1	2021_UAD_152352.2	Street light arrangement at various places in Bhopal	17992260/-	180000/-	12500/-	Original manufacturer or their authorised dealer who registered Electrical contractor in centralized registration system in MPPWD having valid electrical license	Non SOR item	2 Months

**नियम व शर्तें :-**

निविदा प्रपत्र की निर्धारित राशि, धरोहर राशि एवं अन्य आवश्यक दस्तावेज ऑनलाईन प्रस्तुत करने होंगे। समस्त विस्तृत जानकारी [www.mptenders.gov.in](http://www.mptenders.gov.in) पर देखी जा सकती है। कोई भी संशोधन पृथक से समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित नहीं किया जायेगा। संशोधन [www.mptenders.gov.in](http://www.mptenders.gov.in) पर देखा जा सकता है।

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**नगर निगम भोपाल**



PUSA BIO-DECOMPOSER FOR NIXING STUBBLE BURNING

# Give low-cost solution to farmers: Delhi to States

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday said that Pusa bio-decomposer (a microbial solution that can reportedly turn crop residue into manure) is cheaper than other alternatives to stubble burning and urged neighbouring States to make this low-cost solution available to their farmers.

He launched the preparations of the Pusa bio-decomposer at Kharkhari Nahar Village in southwest Delhi and said, "This bio-decomposer is cheaper than other alternatives to stubble burning. It costs less than Rs 1,000 per acre. The Delhi Government is bearing its cost in the national Capital. We appeal to all States to make this low-cost solution available to their farmers like Delhi did."

Incidentally, last year,



around 300 farmers in Delhi had got the bio-decomposer sprayed on 1,950 acres of farmland and this year, 844 Delhi farmers will spray this solution on about 42,000 care of land. The Commission for Quality Management also has ordered all States to use the bio-decomposer aiming to deal with stubble burning pollution.

Kejriwal said, "Earlier, farmers would burn the stubble left in their fields after har-

vesting. Now the stubble decomposes within 15-20 days of spraying the solution and turns into a fertiliser. Stubble was earlier a liability for us when it had to be burnt, but now, once it decomposes, it turns into an asset. When stubble is burnt, nutrients and good bacteria of the soil also tend to get eradicated. But when it is decomposed using the solution, it enriches the soil.

## Reach out to voters through social media: Delhi CEO

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In a move to further strengthen the voter education programme through use of technology and encourage the youth to participate in the electoral process, Delhi's Chief Electoral Officer held an online social media training session with officials concerned and exhorted participants to disseminate information using an official social media handle to create awareness among voters.

Delhi's Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Dr Ranbir Singh said that the motive behind this training was to impart knowledge, skill and expertise to election officials at all levels for using social media to actualize the mission of the Election Commission of India (ECI) that no voter should be left behind.

"Today's youth is tech-savvy and spends lot of time on social media. We should, there-

fore, interact with them where they spend their time and motivate them to become proud voters of our great democracy," he said.

Many aspects of social media platforms were discussed in this informative training session. While commencing the social media training session, Dr Singh said, "Today social media has become indispensable and is eclipsing even the mainstream media in its reach and content diversity. It has enabled people belonging to each section of society to directly converse about issues affecting them and share suggestions. Now, campaigns are not confined to just posters and banners. Social media campaigns are full of info-commercials, advertisements, blog posts, and lakhs of tweets, Instagram posts and Facebook posts that create a much stronger and wider impact"

## New Delhi Railway Station to get major facelift: Kejriwal

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said on Friday that the Government is committed towards the redevelopment of the New Delhi Railway Station which is the country's most important railway station.

A presentation regarding the redevelopment project was held in the presence of the Lieutenant-Governor, Arvind Kejriwal, Delhi Chief Secretary, DDA Vice-Chairperson, and Niti Aayog CEO, along with senior officials from departments concerned.

Kejriwal said, "This is a very important project, especially considering the fact that Delhi is the national Capital, and New Delhi Railway Station is the most crucial railway station in the country. I assure complete cooperation on behalf of the Delhi Government to the Railways and all agencies concerned. I hope this project gets completed quickly so we all can see New Delhi Railway Station become one of the most beautifully-developed railway sta-



tions soon."

It is noteworthy that the station is the largest and second-busiest railway station in the country and handles approximately 4.5 lakh passengers daily and approximately 160-170 million passengers annually. The redevelopment of the station and its surrounding areas shall create state-of-the-art amenities and facilities for passengers, a new community space for the public, smooth and congestion-free connectivity to the station and most modern commercial areas.

The redevelopment work is being done by the Ministry of Railways. Necessary NOCs have been submitted by almost all the departments concerned,

including the Airports Authority of India, NDMC, PWD, BSES and the Forest Department. Its built-up area will be about two lakh twenty thousand square meters. Separate pick up and drop zones will be allocated for the convenience of the passengers. There will be a twin tower of 40 storeys which will house a hotel, offices, retail shops and other facilities. A multi-level car parking will also be constructed at the station. Apart from this, multi-modal integration, road network, and social infrastructure will be developed.

A Railways Office will be constructed in 45 thousand square meters. Several improvements have been made in the design, such as provision for barrier-free movement of pedestrians, street geometry enhancement, e-vehicle facilities, and bolstering of women's safety. Further, 91 bus bays, 1,500 ECS parking, skywalks for pedestrians and metro passengers will be developed on site.

## HC directs Govt to appoint IHBAS director

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Thursday directed the Delhi Government to appoint, as expeditiously as possible, a new Director to head the Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences (IHBAS).

"We expect that recruitment will be completed at the earliest," observed a Division Bench of Chief Justice DN Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh while adjourning the plea against extension of tenure granted to incumbent Director, NG Desai, after he attained the age of 65 years.

The high court instructed

the Govt. Of NCT of Delhi to complete the selection process of new director IHBAS before November 15, 2021.

The petition was filed by Tej Bahadur Singh, an ex-employee of the institute, claiming that Desai was appointed to the post in 2016 for five years, or up to the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.

Accordingly, Desai should have demitted office in October 2020, when he turned 65. Singh alleged that the Delhi Government has been 'illegally' extending his tenure for the reasons best known to them.

## Delhi sees 24 Covid cases

NEW DELHI: Delhi reported 24 Covid-19 cases on Friday while the positivity rate stood at 0.03 per cent, according to data shared by the health department. According to the report, a total of 69,465 tests - 46,555 RT-PCR tests and 22,910 rapid antigen tests -- were conducted a day ago, the bulletin said. "The death toll due to the coronavirus infection in Delhi stands at 25,085. The number of cumulative cases on Friday stood at 143,865. Over 14.13 lakh patients have recovered from the virus. Three fatalities due to the coronavirus infection have been reported this month, one each on Sept 7, Sept 16 and Sept 17," it said.

## MCG imposes ₹5 lakh fine for illegal demolition and dumping of construction waste

Gurugram: The Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) has taken strict action against those who are conducting demolition of their structure and dumping construction waste illegally.

Following this action, the MCG has imposed a fine of ₹5 lakh and sealed two structures that were involved in demolishing their structure without prior permission from the MCG.

Apart from this, the civic body will also recover more than ₹23 lakh from the building owners for lifting the debris. Recently, in the MCG

house meeting, the municipal councillors had raised the issue to curb those who throw the debris in the open illegally the city, taking note of the issue the civic body started a campaign to take action against offences who are dumping construction waste illegally in the city and Aravali area. The following information on Thursday, a team of the civic body reached in Old DLF, Sector-14 area where a building was demolishing without the permission of the Municipal Corporation and its debris was being dumped in Aravalli and other public places.

## South Delhi civic body inaugurates dialysis centre

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) dedicated a newly-constructed dialysis centre at Kalkaji's Poornima Sethi Multi Speciality Hospital to citizens.

SDMC Mayor Mukesh Suryan said that the cost of each session of dialysis costs anywhere between ₹6,000 and ₹7,000 in private hospitals but the same facilities will be made available at ₹1,400 in Poornima Sethi Multispecialty Hospital.

The mayor said that patients may require dialysis two-three times in a month and even require recommendations to get dialysis done.

Elaborating about facilities available at the centre, the Mayor said that the centre has been set up with the cooperation of Nipro Medical Corporation.

"The 'state of the Art' centre will have a 10-bedded dialysis facility.

With the setting up of the centre, patients mainly belonging to the low economic background will get a hassle free facility of dialysis and at a very marginal rate," he said.

He also said that the move of the SDMC will help in facilitating patients living in SDMC area mainly Kalkaji as they will get a facility of dialysis in nearby locality.

## Four shops sealed in the V3S shopping mall

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The property tax department of East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) has sealed four shops in the V3S shopping mall in Laxmi Nagar for non-payment of outstanding tax. Additional Commissioner Dr Brajesh Singh said that due to non-payment of tax, these shop owners were given notice and sealed on Friday. "The corporation owes a total of Rs 23,32,000 lakhs to these property owners," he said. Dr Singh said that the last date for payment of property tax for the financial year 2021-22 with a rebate of 15 percent is September 30, 2021.

# Launch of SAMARPAN

(A Unique Volunteer Programme)

## by Chief Minister, Haryana

“‘SAMARPAN’ programme is a medium of social service through which the State Government invites the citizens to bring positive reforms in the society.”

- Manohar Lal, Chief Minister, Haryana

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- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

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# Flex-fuel engines to be must soon: Gadkari



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

All vehicle manufacturers will soon have to mandatorily power vehicles with flex-fuel engines (that can run on more than one fuel). Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari on Friday revealed he will be issuing an order in this regard in the next 3 to 4 months.

Flex engines are power trains that can run on more than one fuel, adding to the consumer's choice. Additionally, these engines reduce dependency on conventional fossil fuel such as gasoline. Flex fuel engines are popular in some Latin American countries as well as in the United States.

The announcement by the transport minister was made while addressing people during the foundation stone laying ceremony of the flyover from Rajaram Bridge in Pune.

Gadkari said, "In the next three to four months, I will be issuing an order, mandating all



vehicle manufacturers to power vehicles with flex engines."

"I am going to issue an order in the next three to four months, in which carmakers - from BMW, Mercedes to TATA and Mahindra - will be asked to make flex engines," he said.

Gadkari said he had asked Bajaj and TVS companies to introduce flex engines in their vehicles, and also instructed them not to approach him until and unless they do so, after which they came up with an ethanol-flex engine.

Flex-fuel, or flexible fuel, is an alternative fuel made of a combination of gasoline and methanol or ethanol.

He said he wishes to see the country get rid of petrol and diesel consumption in his lifetime by switching to locally-produced ethanol. "I have a wish. I would like to stop the petrol and diesel use in the

## Rules to make car horns sound like musical instruments: Min

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Gadkari also said that in order to tackle the issue of noise pollution caused by honking, rules would be framed to make car horns sound like musical instruments. "I have ordered all the carmakers to make horns using the sounds of musical instruments," he said.

country in my lifetime and our farmers can give the alternative to this in the form of ethanol," he said.

# WHO OK's monoclonal antibodies therapy to treat Covid-19 patients

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A World Health Organization (WHO) panel on Friday gave its green signal to monoclonal antibodies therapy — Casirivimab and imdevimab — for management of two categories of covid-19 patients.

The two monoclonal antibodies that when used together bind to the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, neutralising the virus's ability to infect cells.

The panel recommended it for patients with non-severe covid-19, who are at highest risk of hospitalization and those with severe or critical covid-19 who are seronegative, meaning they have not mounted their own antibody response to covid-19.

The study on which the recommendations were made was also published in the British Medical Journal (BMJ). The first recommendation is based on new evidence from three trials that have not yet been peer reviewed, but show that casirivimab and imdevimab probably reduce the risk of hospitalization and duration of symptoms in those at highest risk of severe disease, such as unvaccinated, older, or immunosuppressed patients.



This second recommendation is based on data from the RECOVERY trial showing that casirivimab and imdevimab probably reduce deaths (ranging from 49 fewer per 1,000 in the severely ill to 87 fewer in the critically ill) and the need for mechanical ventilation in seronegative patients.

For all other covid-19 patients, any benefit of this antibody treatment is unlikely to be meaningful. The recommendations are part of a living guideline, developed by the WHO with the methodological support of MAGIC Evidence Ecosystem Foundation, to provide up to date, trustworthy guidance on the management of covid-19 and help doctors make better decisions with their patients.

The panel acknowledged

several cost and resource implications associated with this treatment, which may make access to low- and middle-income countries challenging. For example, rapid serological tests will be needed to identify eligible patients who are severely ill, treatment must be given intravenously using specialist equipment, and patients should be monitored for allergic reactions.

They also recognise the possibility that new variants may emerge in which casirivimab and imdevimab antibodies may have reduced effect. However, they said, given the demonstrated benefits for patients, "the recommendations should provide a stimulus to engage all possible mechanisms to improve global access to the intervention and associ-

# Covaxin likely to get EUA from WHO soon

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Hyderabad-based drug manufacturer Bharat Biotech is expected to get the emergency use authorisation (EUA) from the World Health Organisation for its Covid-19 vaccine Covaxin soon.

This was announced by Union Minister of State (MoS) for Health, Dr Bharati Pravin Pawar on Friday.

It has emerged that the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunisation (SAGE) is expected to meet at the WHO on October 5 during which they will discuss the issue of granting the EUA to Covaxin.

The SAGE is tasked with advising the WHO on overall global policies and strategies, ranging from vaccines and technology, research and development, to delivery of immunisation and its linkages with other health interventions.

The global health agency had earlier sought clarification on the data submitted by the Hyderabad-based vaccine manufacturer. The October 5 meeting has been called by



SAGE after Bharat Biotech provided all the required data to the WHO.

In a related development, Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Biotech International Ltd, Krishna Ella, has said that the firm's Covaxin production would touch 55 million doses in October as against 35 million in September. "We are supplying 35 million this month. Next month we will be definitely supplying 55 million doses. Production at Bangalore is catching up very fast," he said.

Bharat Biotech has also entered into an arrangement with Indian Immunologics and Hester Biosciences for manufacturing Covaxin. Ella also informed that if the Centre permits, the firm is ready to export the jab, though the firm is not in a hurry to look for overseas markets.

# UPSC opens application window for women to apply for NDA exam

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Following the Supreme Court directive, the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has opened an application window for women candidates to apply for the National Defence Academy and Naval Academy Examination, 2021. The examination is scheduled to be held on November 14.

"In compliance with the Supreme Court of India's interim direction permitting the women candidates to take part in the National Defence Academy and Naval Academy Examination (II), 2021 by its order dated 18/08/2021 in WP (C). No.1416/2020 filed by Kush Kalra Vs. UoI & Others, the Union Public Service Commission has decided to open the online portal of application on its website (upscon-line.nic.in) for this Examination to enable the unmarried



women candidates ONLY by issuing a corrigendum to the Notice No. 10/2021-NDA-II, which was published on 09/06/2021," the UPSC said in a statement on Friday.

Physical standards and the number of vacancies for women candidates would be notified after it is received from the Ministry of Defence, it said.

The application window will remain open for women candidates from September 24 to October 8 (till 6 PM), said

the statement issued by the UPSC. No application will be accepted beyond the prescribed last date/time, i.e., 08.10.2021 (till 6 PM) or through any mode other than the aforesaid online mode, it said.

"Women candidates are not required to pay fee for their application for this examination," the statement said.

The admission of the women candidates in the national defence academy and

naval academy examination (II), 2021, will remain provisional and subject to the final outcome of a writ petition pending in the court or such other order(s) as may be passed by the Supreme Court and action by the government of India in the matter, the statement said.

In a major step towards gender equality, the apex court had on August 18 allowed eligible women to take the examination for admission to national defence academy. A bench of Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Hrishikesh Roy passed the interim order on a plea filed by a person named Kush Kalra who sought a direction to the authorities concerned to allow eligible female candidates to appear in the national defence academy and naval academy examination' and train at the NDA.

A couple of days ago, the Supreme Court stressed that it "cannot belie the aspirations of young girls" as it rejected the Centre's request to conduct the first-ever examination for women candidates for their entry into the NDA in May and directed that they should be allowed to take the upcoming exam on November 14.

# Bihar's lad tops Civil Services exam 2020

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Bihar's Shubham Kumar, who studied in IIT Bombay, has topped the Civil Services exam 2020 while Jagrati Awasthi, a B. Tech in Electrical Engineering from MANIT, Bhopal, has bagged the second rank. Ankita Jain, Yash Jaluka and Mamta Yadav are at the third, fourth and fifth positions respectively.

Ria Dabi — the younger sister of IAS officer Tina Dabi — has secured rank 15. Tina Dabi had topped the coveted exam in the year 2015. Ria and Tina are both alumnus of Lady Shri Ram College of Delhi University. The IAS officer took to Instagram to congratulate her younger sister.

"I am delighted to share that my younger sister Ria Dabi @ria.dabi has got rank 15 in UPSC 2020 exam" the officer tweeted. IAS Tina Dabi is currently posted in the Rajasthan cadre as the Joint Secretary Finance (Tax).

The Union Public Service



Commission (UPSC) on Friday declared the Civil Services Results 2020 that was conducted under strict SOPs mandated by the government.

Among the top 25 candidates, 13 are men and 12 women. The recommended candidates also include 25 persons with Benchmark Disability (7 Orthopedically Handicapped, 4 Visually Challenged, 10 Hearing Impaired and 4 Multiple Disabilities), a UPSC notification mentioned.

The prelims exam was

total of 761 candidates have been recommended for appointment. The appointment to the various Services will be made according to the number of vacancies available with due consideration to the provisions contained in the Rules for the Examination. The candidature of 151 recommended candidates is provisional.

This recruitment drive is to fill up 836 posts out of which 180 for I.A.S., 36 for I.F.S., 200 for I.P.S., 302 for Central Services Group A and 118 for Group B Services. The marks of the candidates will be available on the website within 15 days from the date of declaration of the result.

The Commission has a "Facilitation Counter" near Examination Hall in its campus. Candidates can obtain any information / clarification regarding their examinations / recruitments on the working days. Candidates can check for more related details on the official site of UPSC.

# BJP takes dig at Opp for demanding caste-based census

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The ruling BJP, which has ruled out caste census as demanded by many opposition parties, including its own allies like Janata Dal (U) in Bihar and Apna Dal (S), in UP on Friday, took a dig at what it called "one caste parties" and sought to know how much power-sharing or representation they have themselves given to various social groups.

BJP, which in the last Parliament session debate, gave some faint indication that they may go for the caste-census (read OBC), has finally settled for its original official stand that caste census would be restricted to SCs and STs.

An OBC caste census, many political observers see, may pave way for a volatile Mandal-2 and disrupt the reservation arithmetic in the country.

JD (U) had recently asked the Modi-Government to hasten with the announcement of a caste-census. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar is seeking to strengthen his party's OBC vote-bank by way of triggering a politically sensitive OBC caste-census in the State. Former deputy-Chief Minister and Rajya Sabha member Sushil Kumar Modi had also backed caste-census in Bihar and other States.

A day before the Modi Government, in an affidavit in the Supreme Court, had vir-

tually ruled out caste census in the country.

BJP spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi took a swipe at parties advocating it and asked how much representation have they given to different social groups in their organisations and among elected representatives.

He said there could be varying stand on the issue from various political parties including the BJP allies. Most of the regional parties which draw their core support from some of the Other Backward Classes, are pitching for a caste census.

Addressing a press conference here, Trivedi criticised parties such as the Samajwadi Party, Rashtriya Janata Dal and Bahujan Samaj Party, all of whom have called for caste census, alleging their leaders were projected as leaders of the poor and deprived communities but they ended up promoting their own families.

Asked about the government's stand on the issue, he said it has taken a position on "technical grounds".

Samajwadi Party patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav used to be called "dharti putra" (son of the soil) but he ended up promoting his son. Mayawati, addressed as "behan" (sister) by her admirers, spoke of the deprived communities but groomed her brother," Trivedi.

He also attacked the RJD for its alleged family rule and corruption.

# Ministry data shows rise in kharif crops sowing



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As rainfall improved across India and monsoon retreat is expected by the end of first week of October due to formation of low pressure area over the Bay of Bengal, the Ministry of Agriculture on Friday released a data of kharif crops sowing, which is 1,115.29 lakh hectares, an increase by 43.61 lakh hectare against the previous year of 1071.68 lakh hectare.

As per the data, area coverage increased under Rice, Pulses, Oilseeds and Sugarcane. Area coverage is marginally less under Jute & Mesta (0.01 lakh ha), Cotton (0.34 lakh ha) and Coarse - cum- Nutri Cereals (6.24 lakh ha). According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), a low pressure area over the Bay of Bengal is likely to intensify into a depression on Saturday and bring heavy rains in Odisha and Andhra

Pradesh over the next three days.

The agriculture ministry data showed rice acreage has increased by 31.63 lakh ha to 420.36 lakh ha against 388.73 lakh ha during the corresponding period of normal.

The area coverage under pulses increased by 3.73 lakh ha to 141.58 lakh hectares against 137.85 lakh ha during the corresponding week of normal. Area coverage increased in Arhar by 2.75 lakh ha, Moongbean by 1.91 lakh ha and Urdbean by 0.45 lakh ha.

The area under coarse-cum-nutri cereal coverage increased by 3.73 lakh ha to 141.58 lakh hectares against 137.85 lakh ha during the corresponding week of normal.

The IMD said that latest satellite and radar imageries and meteorological observations indicate that a well-marked low pressure area has formed over east-central and

adjoining northeast Bay of Bengal.

This is the second depression of the season and the second also in September since no depressions formed between June and August.

Normally 5 to 6 depressions form during the monsoon season bringing extensive rainfall to central and west India. Another cyclonic circulation is expected to form around September 28 which will again bring a fresh spell of rain to east and central India, according to forecasts by India Meteorological Department's Regional Specialized Centre for Tropical Cyclones.

There is only a 2 per cent deficiency in monsoon rain since June 1 with 0 per cent excess over central India; 4 per cent deficiency over northwest India; 9 per cent excess over peninsular India and 11 per cent deficiency over east and northeast India according to the IMD.

# Ahead of Modi-Biden meet, Tikait asks US Prez to 'focus' on farmers' struggle

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Hours ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's bilateral talks with US President Joe Biden, Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) spokesperson Rakesh Tikait on Friday urged the latter to focus on the concerns of many Indian farmers, who have been protesting against the controversial farm laws passed by the Centre, during the meet.

Tikait talked about their protest against the farm laws and said hundreds of farmers have died during their agitation. In a previous video message, Tikait has appealed to non-resident Indian (NRI) farmers from the US to hold a protest during PM Modi's programme in New York on

Saturday in support of the 10-month-long farmers' agitation at Delhi's borders. This is trending on social media in India.

In a tweet, Tikait said at least 700 farmers have died in less than a year while protesting against the three farm laws. "Dear @POTUS, we the Indian Farmers are protesting against 3 farm laws brought by PM Modi's govt. 700 farmers have died in the last 11 months protesting. These black laws should be repealed to save us. Please focus on our concern while meeting PM Modi," Tikait, tweeted tagging him.

Earlier, in a video message, Tikait has "We appeal to all Indians living in the US. India's prime minister will be there on September 25 in

New York for a programme. "All Indians in the US should place a 'farmers' flag on their vehicles and raise banners of 'No Farmer No Food' and register your protest in support of farmers," he said.

As the farmers protests have completed 302 on Friday, the agitating farmers groups under the banner of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha has given a call for a complete Bharat Bandh on September 27 to ensure all roads, trains, markets and educational institutions will remain closed from 6am to 4 pm.

Leaders of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha have urged farmers, members of trade unions and Government employees to support the Bharat Bandh call.

# SC notice to Centre on appeal challenging NGT order on water extraction fine

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Friday sought response from the Centre and others on an appeal against an NGT order slapping a penalty of 25 lakh on Noida Golf Course society for unauthorised extraction of water.

A bench comprising Justices S A Nazeer and Krishna Murari issued notices to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Uttar Pradesh government, Central Ground Water Authority, New Okhla Industrial Development

## The counsel appearing for the Noida Golf Course told the bench that it was using recycled water from the sewage treatment plant provided by the Noida Authority

Authority, and others while seeking their replies on the

appeal against the NGT order.

The top court tagged the appeal with a similar pending matter before it.

"Don't over-exploit groundwater. Are you still withdrawing groundwater," the bench said.

The counsel appearing for the Noida Golf Course told the bench that it was using recycled water from the sewage treatment plant provided by the Noida Authority.

The apex court was hearing a plea filed by Noida Golf Course society challenging the NGT order.



# BJP, Nishad Party to fight UP polls together

**Lucknow:** The BJP and the Nishad Party will contest the upcoming Assembly polls together in Uttar Pradesh and will work towards forming the next Government in the State, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said on Friday.

Pradhan, who is BJP's in-charge of Uttar Pradesh polls, made a formal announcement of the alliance at a press conference here in the presence of Nishad Party, or Nirbal Indian Shoshit Hamara Aam Dal, chief Sanjay Nishad.

"We will have an alliance with the Nishad Party. We (BJP-Nishad Party) will fight the 2022 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections together with strength, and today the leaders of both the parties are making a formal announcement about it," Pradhan said.

"Not just the Nishad Party, we also have an alliance with the Apna Dal and we will work together to form the Government in the State," he added.

Replying to a question, Pradhan said the upcoming state elections will be fought under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

Recently Sanjay Nishad was in the news for his demand that the BJP should project him as a deputy chief minister face in the elections. He claimed that Nishads (fishermen) constitute about 18 percent of total votes and play a deciding role on 160 assembly seats.

Nishad, who had been putting conditions for an alliance with the BJP, however, did not answer questions of media persons during the press conference on Friday.

Asked about conditions of the alliance, Pradhan said that talks have been held on all issues and it will be made public at an "appropriate time".

The Nishad Party had contested the 2017 Assembly elections in alliance with the Peace



Union Minister and BJP's UP election incharge Dharmendra Pradhan being welcomed by UP BJP president Swatantra Dev Singh (L) and Nishad Party president Sanjai Nishad (R) before a press conference, in Lucknow on Friday

PTI

Party led by Dr Ayub and contested 72 seats.

Its candidate Vijay Mishra had won from Gyanpur in Bhadohi district.

In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the party entered into an alliance with the BJP and Sanjay Nishad's son Praveen Nishad was nomi-

nated from Sant Kabir Nagar wherefrom he won the elections.

Recently, a news channel had done a sting operation on Sanjay Nishad wherein he purportedly claimed that he sells party tickets in the elections. However, he had termed the episode as a conspiracy against

him.

When Pradhan was asked about the sting operation, he remarked, "Even after that we have met (aligned)."

About Modi and Adityanath, he said people in the state have unwavering faith in them. Faith is most important in a democracy, he added.

"The prime minister has given a call for sabka saath, sabka vikas and sabka vishwas," Pradhan said.

When asked as to why the BJP, which claims to be the world's largest party, was nurturing caste satraps, he said in the 2022 elections, the saffron party will be able to connect deeply with people from other societies as well.

The BJP has brought many political powers together and has started the process of taking it forward, he said.

Pradhan claimed that the BJP has really benefited from farmers and is committed to doubling their income.

PTI

# UP Cong finding it tough to retain its Brahmin leaders

PREETAM SRIVASTAVA ■ LUCKNOW

The 'Brahmin vote bank' remains the top agenda of all major political parties including the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and the Samajwadi Party (SP), despite not giving Uttar Pradesh (UP) any Brahmin Chief Minister so far. They all are holding 'prabuddh sammelans' to woo the community or are planning it. All this time the Congress, which has given half-a-dozen Brahmin Chief Ministers to UP, has gradually distanced itself from this section, forcing even veteran Brahmin leaders to quit the party one by one.

Surprisingly, the leaders of this community and their kin, despite enjoying or blessed with prime positions from time to time, are now leaving the grand old party as they see a very bleak future in it.

Sources in the Congress said that the leaders quitting the party blame the step-motherly treatment they were getting in the party for their leaving the party. Some of them were more vocal to blame the party

high command (read Sonia, Rahul and Priyanka) as the reason for their exit from the party. The most common grievance of the leaders at the time of leaving Congress has been that they did not get proper "hearing" from the high command.

Former Congress Chief Minister Sriprata Mishra's son Rakesh Mishra quit the party and joined BJP in 2016 before the last assembly elections claiming that he was not getting proper treatment in the party.

Even party state president Dr Rita Bahuguna Joshi, who was later removed from the post and replaced by Raj Babbar, also quit Congress to join BJP, making similar allegations against the high command.

Dr Rita Bahuguna Joshi's father late Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna, was also a Brahmin Chief Minister given to UP by Congress. Not just Rita Bahuguna Joshi, her brother Vijay Bahuguna was also given prominence in Congress he was made the chief minister of Uttarakhand but still the family later blamed the party of not giving them their 'due' and quit.



Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) raise slogans during a protest to demand hike in wages and permanent jobs, in Bengaluru on Friday

PTI

# Didi vows to save India from 'Talibs'

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Seeking votes for herself in the Bhawanipore Assembly by-elections Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday linked her victory to future emancipation of India from "Talibanisation".

Saying that her victory would lay the foundation of all future struggles against right wing communalism Banerjee said "I need each of your votes because that one vote can create the difference ... if I lose then someone else would be the Chief Minister but my victory would obviously intensify the struggle against Talibanisation of India ... India's freedom from a Talibani culture depends upon this elec-

tion."

Vowing to throw out the "Taliban raj" she said "I will do all possible things to ensure that India is not radicalized ... India has always been a tolerant state and it will continue to remain so ... we will never let India to be Talibanised".

Attacking the Centre and the Delhi Police which functions under the Union Government Banerjee said "those who talk about law and order situation in Bengal should see how today three under trials were killed in a broad-day light shoot-out inside a high security court in Delhi ... this means that there is no law and order there ... in fact there is no law and order in any BJP-ruled State ... be it

Tripura, Assam, UP, Bihar or elsewhere."

Claiming that her regime had transformed Bengal into a front ranking State she said, "today Bengal is among the top three States of the country ... Bengal's version of Silicon Valley is developing at a brisk pace, the Left Front had left 12 universities but I have made 34 ... the health sector has revolutionised with more multi-super speciality hospitals coming up ... the existing hospitals have been decked up ... we have unleashed a plethora of social schemes to encourage education, employment and women's empowerment."

She said that in coming 20 years Bengal would become the

number one State in the country in terms of development and industrial activity.

"Recently a team from Australia has come to conduct a survey ... it has found that Bengal with all its resources and potentiality will become the number one industrially developed state in the country," she said.

By-elections to Bhawanipore seat will take place on September 30.

The Chief Minister is seeking election from this seat which incidentally is her home too as she was defeated in the April-May Assembly elections from Nandigram seat where she was contesting against her main rival Suvendu Adhikari.

# Rajasthan: 4 held for bid to make dummy candidates write REET

**Jaipur:** The Rajasthan Police on Friday arrested four members of a gang for an alleged bid to make dummy candidates write a State eligibility exam for teachers, which is scheduled for Sunday.

The State Government has made extensive arrangements for the Rajasthan Eligibility Examination for Teachers (REET), in which over 16 lakh candidates are set to appear at around 4,000 centres in the State.

Apart from deploying measures to check copying, the government is providing free travel facility to the candidates. According to police, the four people were arrested with ₹5.60 lakh in cash in the State's Dausa.

Chats and an audio recording related to the examination have been recovered while their mobile phones are being checked, Dausa SP Anil Kumar Beniwal said. He said that during interrogation, the accused revealed about crores of rupees taken from several candidates for different competitive examinations.

Role of some coaching institutes and libraries has come to the fore, he added.

PTI

# AMU students protest against arrest of Islamic scholar Siddiqui

**Aligarh/Lucknow:** A group of students in Aligarh Muslim University held a march in the campus on Friday to protest against the arrest of Islamic scholar Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui for allegedly running a conversion syndicate.

Siddiqui was arrested from Meerut last week and a local court remanded him in judicial custody till October 5.

In Lucknow, the Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorist Squad asked people to share any information related to Siddiqui and another accused Mohammad Umar Gautam.

The protesters in Aligarh handed over a memorandum addressed to the president to a senior official of AMU.

In the memorandum, they said the arrest of some Muslim clerics over alleged unlawful

## ALLEGED CONVERSION RACKET CASE

religious conversions and the "harassment and eviction of Muslims in Assam on the citizenship issue were creating an atmosphere of fear and insecurity in the minds of Muslims".

"Such witch-hunting of minorities would pose a threat to the peace and stability in the country," the memorandum added.

Siddiqui was arrested three months after Delhi's Jamia Nagar residents Mufti Qazi Jahangir Alam Qasmi and Gautam were apprehended by the ATS.

Qasmi and Gautam were running Islamic Dawah Centre, an outfit allegedly working on the ISI funding for converting deaf-mute students to Islam,

according to officials.

The ATS has so far arrested 11 people, including Siddiqui, in connection with a religious conversion racket case.

Those arrested were booked under relevant sections of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2020 and the Indian Penal Code, the officials said.

A senior police official on Friday said any information about Siddiqui and Gautam's accomplices, family members, moveable and immovable assets, etc. Can be shared on mobile number 9792103156 and email ID controlroom.Ats-up@gov.in.

PTI

# Maha: Women cops' duty slashed from 12 hrs to 8 hrs

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In a major relief to female police personnel in the State, the Maharashtra Government on Friday announced its decision to reduce the current gruelling 12-hour duty to a manageable eight-hour shift daily.

Maharashtra's Director-General of Police Sanjay Pandey made a formal announcement to this effect, which was welcomed by the police and leaders across the political spectrum.

Welcoming the decision, NCP MP Supriya Sule thanked Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and Home Minister Dilip Walse-Patil for taking a "good decision" that would help balance their family and professional lives.

"The Maharashtra Government has taken a decision to reduce the daily working hours from the current 12 hours to eight hours. This is a good decision which will help women police personnel in balancing their family and professional lives well," Supriya tweeted.

The Mumbai Police had begun to implement 8-hour shifts in police stations after a pilot project launched in 2016 and even regular weekly offs were being given to all policemen in the city, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic. Maharashtra has a police force of more than two lakh personnel, including a 15,000 policewomen, spread across 36 districts.

# DOMBIVLI GANGRAPE CASE 2 more arrested, number rises to 26

**Mumbai:** The Special Investigation Team (SIT) of Thane Police has arrested two more persons in connection with the alleged blackmailing and repeated gangrape of a 15-year-old girl, an official said on Friday.

With this, the number of arrested persons went up to 26, while two minors have also been detained. The girl was allegedly raped multiple times at different places in Thane district including Dombivli, Badlapur, Murbad and Rabale between January 29 and September 22 this year.

The survivor has named 33 men as accused, police had said on Thursday. "We have arrested two more persons. Both were nabbed from Navi Mumbai on Thursday night, one of them from Rabale area. So far, 26 persons have been arrested and two minors detained. Search is on for remaining accused," a police official said.

Based on the girl's complaint, the Manpada police in Dombivli on Wednesday registered a case against 33 persons under IPC sections 376 (rape), 376 (n) (repeated rape), 376 (d) (gang-rape), 376 (3) (rape on a woman under sixteen years of age) and provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

As per the girl's statement to police, she met main accused Vijay Phuke and Tushar Kasbe in December 2020 through a common friend, and Phuke began to chat with her on mobile phone. On January 29, Phuke called her to a spot in Dombivli East and took her in an auto rickshaw saying they were going to meet their common friend. But she was taken to some other place where four persons including Phuke gang raped her, she alleged.

The accused blackmailed her

by threatening to circulate her pictures and recorded a video of the sexual assault on their mobile phones, she said. In February, the girl's family shifted to another residence.

On February 20, Phuke called and asked her to meet him. When she refused, he accosted her near her new house the next day, and threatened to show her video to her family members, she alleged. Scared, she agreed to go with him and was sexually assaulted by at least eight men this time, she told police. Similar incidents happened on March 22, May 5 and 16, July 28 and September 22, and sometimes she was given sedatives before she was raped, she claimed.

On May 5, when she did not return home at night, her mother had even filed a missing person complaint, but the girl returned the next day and did not tell anything to her parents.

PTI

# Schools to reopen from Oct 4 in Maha

- Govt issues SOPs for reopening of schools
- Makes jabs compulsory for teachers, non-teaching staff

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

After a gap of 18 months of Covid-19 triggered lockdown, middle, secondary and higher secondary schools will finally reopen in Maharashtra from October 4, with some restrictions.

After getting a go-ahead from Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, State Education Minister Prof. Varsha Gaikwad announced formally that the schools for standard 5 to 12 in rural areas and for standard 8 to 12 in urban areas will reopen on October 4.

Announcing the re-opening of schools, Prof. Gaikwad tweeted: "Based on detailed deliberations with the paediatric task force, all stakeholders & guidance of @CMOMaharashtra, SOPs for school reopenings have been further strengthened. Schools can restart physical classes for Std 5-12th in rural areas & Std 8-12th in urban areas from October 4".

Prof. Gaikwad said that her Ministry had on August 10 released a set of Standing Operating Procedures (SOPs) relating to health, cleanliness and safety to be followed ahead of the reopening of the schools and that some more SOPs were being issued.

"For the safety of the staff & students, vaccination has been made compulsory for teachers/staff. We have also constituted a task force headed by the collector/commission-

er to monitor the resumption and safe operations of schools," Prof. Gaikwad tweeted.

In the important measure suggested in the SOP, the school administration has been asked to prepare an action plan on what each school has to do in the event of students, teachers and non-teaching employees falling sick. If the schools were to be closed down, what measures will be taken to ensure that the education goes without interruptions.

Among other things, the SOP has suggested that a "Back-to-School" campaign be launched by the school establishments to draw students back to schools, that school create health infrastructure giving facilities like providing water to students to wash their hands, calibrated contactless infrared digital thermometers and sanitisers in schools in both urban and rural areas.

The SOP has also recommended that vehicle arrangements be made to ferry students safely to schools and back to their homes.

As a precautionary measure, the SOP has made it mandatory for teachers and non-teaching staff in schools to undergo Covid-19 tests 48 hours prior to the start of schools and submit the test reports to the school establishments. Those testing positive may join their duty after completing their quarantining period. The period during which the affected teaching and non-teaching staff recovering from Covid-19 may be treated as "sick leave" by their establishments.

Those testing negative would have to follow all the prescribed guidelines and in the event of any of them showing symptoms of Covid-19, they would have to undergo the necessary Covid-19 tests immediately.

# Kerala records 17,983 new Covid cases, 127 deaths

PTI ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala on Friday logged 17,983 new Covid-19 cases and 127 deaths, taking the infection count to 45,97,293 and the death toll to 24,318.

State Health Minister Veena George said 1,10,523 samples were tested in the last 24 hours.

According to her, there are 841 wards across 422 local self Government bodies with the weekly population infection ratio (WIPR) above 10 per cent.

"There are 1,62,846 active Covid-19 cases of which only 12.6 per cent are admitted to hospitals," the Minister said. Meanwhile, 15,054 persons recuperated from the disease on Friday, taking the total cured to 44,09,530.

"Of those infected today, 72 reached the state from outside while 16,918 contracted the disease through their contact. The source of infection of 877 are yet to be traced and 116 health workers are also among the infected," the Minister said in a release.

Among the districts, Thrissur reported the highest number of fresh infections--2,784, followed by Ernakulam with 2,397 and Thiruvananthapuram 1,802.

There are 4,69,954 persons under observation in the state of which 22,512 are in isolation wards of various hospitals.

The Minister also said that 91.3 per cent of the targeted population, which is above 18 years of age, have taken the first dose of the Covid vaccine and 39 per cent of the same age group received both the doses.



Union Information & Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur (C) launches a poster at the inauguration of the First Himalayan Film Festival in Ladakh on Friday. On his left are Lt-Governor RK Mathur & Producer Vidhu Vinod Chopra (EL) and on his right actor Siddharth Malhotra and LS MP Jamiyang Tsering Namgyal (ER)

# Covid curfew imposed in parts of Srinagar for 10 days

**Srinagar:** Authorities in Srinagar on Friday imposed a curfew in parts of the city for 10 days in view of a steep rise in the number of Covid positive cases over the last few weeks.

The order to impose the curfew was issued by Srinagar District Magistrate Mohammad Aijaz Assad.

"There has been a steep rise in Covid positive cases in Srinagar in the last 24 days which need intervention and effective measures," the order read.

The identified hotspots have been declared as micro-containment zones vide various orders in order to check the spread of the disease, it said.

"Whereas, certain measures, u/s 144 CrPC were in place for containment of spread of Coronavirus, largely aimed at prohibition on public gathering and movement of public transport, it has observed that around 70 per cent of the daily positive cases during these days have been detected from few particular areas," Assad said in the

order. He said as measures have not led to a significant decline in the number of cases, more stringent steps are needed to ensure that the infection does not spread exponentially.

"Strict containment measures are also required in order to ensure safety of the general public and to prevent transmission of Covid to other parts of Srinagar," he said.

Assad said the situation has been reviewed and after obtaining feedback from the stakeholder agencies, it has

been felt expedient to put in place reasonable restrictions to minimise the chances of public gatherings and contain the spread of Covid infection.

"... I hereby order that there shall be strict Corona curfew in the areas of Zadal (SMC Ward No's: 55-Hawal, 56-Alamgari Bazar, & 63-Kathi Darwaz) and Lal Bazar (SMC Ward No's: 59-Lalbagh, 60-Botshah Mohalla, 61-Umer Colony) for a period of 10 days starting from today," the order read.

PTI





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PAPER WITH PASSION

## Endgame

The UN General Assembly is divided vertically over recognising the interim Taliban Govt

The UN General Assembly, divided between the United States and China blocs over the future of Afghanistan, is to decide whether to recognise the interim Government of the Taliban. China carries the rhetoric. The US, the numbers. The Assembly is fast turning into a platform for nations to articulate their stands on the Taliban, depending on which side they are aligned with. In the end, the Assembly may reach a decision, whatever it may be, but it will not be unanimous; rather influenced by the bloc that has its way. The China-Russia-Pakistan axis has been quick off the blocks. Russia is making all the right noises about not being hasty in recognising the interim Government till the Taliban honours its assurances. In reality, however, it wants the axis to be recognised by the world community as the influencer in Afghanistan. China is blunt, making it a contest of wills between itself and the United States. It wants the UN bodies to lift all sanctions against the Taliban and for the US to unfreeze Afghanistan's foreign exchange reserves. Pakistan goes a step ahead, demanding a road map that leads directly to the recognition of the interim Government. The axis members also went to Kabul to meet the Taliban as well as political leaders of the previous Government, raising the twin issues of curbing terrorism and formation of an inclusive government, echoing the very same demands of the American bloc.



The P-5, which is how the five permanent members of the UN Security Council are called, is divided worse than the General Assembly. France is currently unhappy with the AUKUS submarine row and will need immense coaxing to stand alongside the US and the UK against China and Russia. Given the rigid stands of the permanent members, it will depend on the ability of the rest of the world to pool itself together for a majority decision on the recognition issue. Whether on account of the backing of the axis or the Taliban's inherent ideological cussedness, the latter have so far shown no remorse for their previous excesses that make them untrustworthy in the eyes of the world and appear not bothered about exhibiting some humility while awaiting recognition. They are going ahead with their intent of re-introducing the regressive religious agenda. They have ignored the world's observation about the treatment of women and their absence in the interim Government. The religious police are back in action, enforcing Islamic laws. Former detainees at Guantanamo Bay have been posted to the Defence Ministry and the Intelligence department. The former head of the religious police calls for executions and amputations to return. It is to be noted that what seems to be the impertinence of the Taliban stems from their correctly-held belief that the humanitarian world agencies will not allow the distressed people of Afghanistan to die of hunger, irrespective of the recognition of their Government. They are willing to play the waiting game.

### PICTALK



Hovering clouds are reflected on a steel figurine in Connaught Place, New Delhi

Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

## Untamed

The latest gunshots in a Delhi court prove that there is no fear of the law, besides police apathy

In an appalling incident, firearms were cocked and 30-40 rounds of bullets flew inside a crowded courtroom in Delhi's Rohini court complex on Friday afternoon, causing at least three deaths and triggering scare and mayhem among lawyers and litigants, including women and children. Even the additional sessions judge presiding over the proceedings was present in the courtroom at the time of firing. The transportation of the contraband inside the supposedly secure court complex leads to doubts whether metal detectors were operational at all and, if they were, how the armed men could get past the security personnel. The horrifying incident is yet another grim reminder, if one was still needed, that even the temples of justice are far from safe or sacrosanct and are being wantonly violated by violence, bloodshed and gore. The latest such incident inside the Rohini court complex, where gun-toting people with murder in their heart (even if dressed as lawyers) are apparently allowed to walk in at will and leisure, raises serious and numerous questions about security lapses on various court campuses even in the Capital; one can only imagine and shudder about what could be, or may, happen in mofussil townships' court buildings across the nation.



The courts, going by the nature of their primary occupation of dispensing justice and being the amalgamation point of all sorts of people — ranging from the hoi polloi to actors to business tycoons to politicians to advocates, magistrates and judges, should be heavily protected and sanitised. Even more shockingly, Friday's was the fourth such firing instance in the last five years inside the Rohini court. Earlier, in July this year, a 45-year-old man was shot dead outside an advocate's chamber in Dwarka court complex. Several other incidents come to mind: A 27-year-old gunned down (near Saket district court, May 2019); an undertrial shot (Rohini court complex, 2017); another undertrial shot (Rohini court complex, April 2017); head constable killed in firing (Karkardooma court, 2015); and a murder attempt on a man (Patiala House court complex, 2003). Besides, there have been sundry instances where shoes and even night soil were hurled at the presiding legal officers/magistrates/judges inside Delhi's courtrooms during hearings. It's high time that the top cop in Delhi, who is already on the wrong side of popular public opinion for being too close to the ruling dispensation, started pulling his weight.

# Gujarat and the game of change

Unlike elsewhere, the State's youth favour modern schemes, progress and qualitative development in society and economy over casteism



PRAFULL GORADIA

India's ancient wisdom lay in distributing duties to Brahma, Vishnu and Mahesh (the Creator, the Preserver and the Destroyer), when necessary. No single deity can handle everything, no matter how powerful or versatile He is. But our people expect one Minister or Chief Minister to win elections, run the Government, supervise Ministers, keep a tab over all MLAs and then win the elections again. In Gujarat's case, the Chief Minister was not credited with winning the 2017 poll. It was won on the strength of PM Modi's popularity. It is an old belief that once elected, the Chief Minister should carry on until the next poll, normally five years. Even American Presidents occasionally break their firm four-year term.

There is a firm impression among the political class that it was Bhupendrabhai, whose small company built the Sabarmati River Front which helped boost the beauty of Ahmedabad. The other impression is that he also constructed Ahmedabad's Bus Rapid Transit System, which is running successfully unlike other cities where such a scheme did not take off. Since these achievements, Bhupendrabhai has been on the BJP's mind which likes modern schemes delivered in perfection and on time. He is a Kadva Patel, not a Leuva. They are supposed to have descended from Rama's sons Lav and Kush; hence their names begin with 'L' and 'K'.

Another unnoticed factor is opportunity. Most MLAs, 182 in Gujarat, contest elections in the hope of becoming Ministers if they win, provided they belong to the winning party. Those who don't, generally have to shelve their hope unless and until there is floor crossing on a big scale. If the party with a majority has, say, 100 seats, 25 might get a portfolio each. What about the remaining 75? They don't have much opportunity of self-promotion except the odd MLA who might rise by chance. It is, therefore, appropriate that the party in power should make changes as the Government moves along. Not all Ministers are efficient and, therefore, need to be replaced.

True, in the peculiar Indian situation, most parties need to replace an OBC with an equally



representative OBC. The quality of his/her work is then usually sidelined. However, times are changing; today's youth do not give priority to caste as their fathers or grandfathers did. These youth want to get on in life. There is only a limited chance of this happening if the society or economy does not get on. That means qualitative development and quantitative growth of professions. They realise that they cannot expect development when the country's politics is hamstrung by caste. If politics does not change, society would be all politics, no progressive economy and a static society — a recipe for misery. In short, if the leader of the party trying to win an election cannot inspire development and only a *status quo*, the other party might win by default.

It is notable that Gujarat has not digested a third party — there are only the Congress and the BJP. All those who tried to be a third force have failed. The last to experiment with a third party was Keshubhai Patel, Gujarat's former (now deceased) Chief Minister. However, the only one elected from this new party was Keshubhai himself. In the



TODAY'S YOUTH DO NOT GIVE PRIORITY TO CASTE AS THEIR FATHERS OR GRANDFATHERS DID. THESE YOUTH WANT TO GET ON IN LIFE. THERE IS ONLY A LIMITED CHANCE OF THIS HAPPENING IF THE SOCIETY OR ECONOMY DOES NOT GET ON

upcoming Assembly poll, there will be three parties contesting. Apart from the BJP and the Congress, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) will also contest. The triangular contest should make things easier for the BJP.

Gujarat is one State where economics subordinates politics. But the Congress, especially when Madhavsinhbhai Solanki was the CM, escalated casteism to extraordinary heights, a strategy borrowed from UP and Bihar, but spelt the Congress' decline in Gujarat. The party for a few elections fought on a combination of castes called KHAM or Kshatriyas, Harijans, Adivasis and Muslims. The other mistake the Congress made was its socialism which clashes with the Gujarat psyche. He is sold on business and free enterprise. The Congress remained in power for years only because there was none other.

Remarkably, Gujarat's tallest leaders have devoted themselves to the service of the country rather than confine themselves to their State. Swami Dayanand Saraswati founded the Arya Samaj movement as well as revived the Vedic practice of *shuddhi* or return to Hinduism voluntarily. Gandhi

was never a State leader although he had the Kochrab Ashram in Ahmedabad. Sardar Patel worked for India phenomenally and unified the country following Independence. Two-fifths of it comprised princely States and not British India. Now we have PM Modi, about whom volumes have been written and will continue to be written.

But the change of guard in Gujarat, as in Assam a few months ago, does demonstrate that the BJP does not shy away from making decisions for upgrading the polity. In pursuit of this goal, the party is least hesitant to replace incumbents. In complete contrast stands the Congress, which has been reduced to a family business, where only fawning courtiers are tolerated. The recent resignation of Captain Amarinder Singh, barely four months away from Assembly elections, says it all. His humiliation at the hands of newcomers bespeaks volumes of how a once grand party now lives on a glory that has long vanished.

(The writer is a well-known columnist, an author and a former member of the Rajya Sabha. The views expressed are personal.)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### OUTLAWS IN ROHINI COURT

Sir — The shootout that took place in the Rohini court precincts between cops and members of a gang is rather shocking, brutal and needs to be condemned. The killing has taken place in the temple of justice and is a matter of great concern. How the assailants were allowed to enter the premises without proper scrutiny and security check, that too carrying guns, is a million-dollar question. It is really a major security and intelligence failure. Such incidents inside a court of law are a shame on our nation.

Zero tolerance against such violence is the need of this land which is famous for *ahimsa* and tolerance. Those involved/complicit in the incident should be arrested and punished severely. Also, security in our court premises and at other public places where people congregate should be beefed up when such hardcore criminals are taken to courts for hearing. Most trials on such criminals can be held by video conferencing to avoid such untoward incidents in the court premises. A gram of precaution is sure to save a kilo of confusion.

Sravana Ramachandran | Chennai

### NO DUE DILIGENCE

Sir — The new income tax e-filing portal had a bumpy start from the day of its launch on June 7, 2021, as it continued to face technical glitches even after more than three months. Taxpayers and tax professionals have been criticising Infosys for launching the website without adequate testing. The approach for implementing a website of such vital importance should be in a parallel or phased implementation, but the developers opted for the cut-off approach as the erstwhile website was junked even before the new website went live.

The role of users (tax experts of the Income Tax Department) involved with Infosys developers should also be investigated as they did not give enough emphasis on User Acceptance Testing (UAT) sign-off process. UAT is a major milestone and has pre-defined deliver-

## A compensation too small



The Government of India has finally announced an aid of ₹50,000 to the families of each COVID-19 patient who succumbed to the virus. Though any sum of money cannot bring back the person, it is good to see that the Government at least took its responsibility to come forward for those who are meeting hardships in their lives after losing their family member(s). The financial aid would be given if the cause of death is certified as COVID-19. The money would be provided by the States from the State

Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and the disbursement of the amounts would be carried out by the District Disaster Management Authority or district administration concerned to the families.

Various countries are making memorials for the COVID-19 deceased; the COVID Memorial Park in the US and the National COVID Memorial Wall in the UK are excellent examples of efforts to honour those who left untimely. To cope with this trauma, we need economical, social and moral support, especially to the poverty-stricken sections. There are many who could hardly manage their health expenses during the second wave; therefore, this compensation should be a help to them. But those who are in large debts would not really benefit from such a small amount. India has reported more than 4,40,000 virus-related deaths so far and, therefore, the process will not be easy.

Kirti Wadhawan | Kanpur

ables that are signed off between users and developers' team — the tax experts and technology experts — as it is a kind of 'No Objection Certificate' (NOC) from users. It is still a mystery as to how the website has been launched without documenting any formal user acceptance sign-off. Whatever it is, issues with the new IT Portal should be sorted out soon in a time-bound manner.

Sagar Gambhir | Ludhiana

### TALIBAN DIVIDES S ASIAN NATIONS

Sir — The SAARC Foreign Ministers' meeting, scheduled for September 25, was cancelled after most member States objected to Pakistan's request to allow the Taliban regime to represent Afghanistan in the meeting. Given that the Taliban's return to power in Afghanistan has badly affected the geopolitical situation, the resistance against inclusion of the Taliban among the SAARC members is justified. Afghanistan was inducted into SAARC in 2007 taking into account its struggle to emerge from years of war and isola-

tion and its links to the rest of the region.

True, some western countries are engaged with the Taliban to assist the people of that country. It must be understood that even Pakistan, that is fully supportive of the Taliban Government, is yet to officially recognise it. Pakistan's attempt to give a symbolic representation to the Taliban's interim Government at the regional meeting met with fierce resistance from most of the other member countries. Amir Khan Muttaqi, the Taliban's acting Foreign Minister, like many other Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan Cabinet members, is a designated terrorist. It can reasonably be assumed that it is a bid to pressure SAARC to grant legitimacy to the IEA. But given that the Taliban is not concerned about criticism against its regressive policies, the grant of recognition to the Taliban Government would be difficult.

Venu GS | Kollam

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## SOUND BITE

If the BJP members are so averse to Muslims, they should abandon houses built by Muslims and also disclose how many Muslims work for them.



Farmer leader — Rakesh Tikait



Both France and the US have strong interests in strengthening our respective relationships with India. This is something that we strongly support.

### US Secretary of State

— Antony Blinken

It is surreal to know that Aarya has been nominated at a platform as prestigious as the International Emmy Awards.



### Actor

— Sushmita Sen



I don't believe in past records because T20 is a game of what happens on a particular day. You have to be the best on that day.

### Mumbai Indians skipper

— Rohit Sharma

The seizure of over 3000 kg of heroin is unprecedented and points to a major crime syndicate operating freely in India.




### Former Finance Minister

— P Chidambaram



FIRST COLUMN


TIME TO SCALE UP LOCAL DEVELOPMENT



VINAYSHIL GAUTAM

Records are an essential part of civil administration. The problem comes in seeking an all-India frame of reference, say for land measurement. This happens because the unit of measurement - acre, *bigha*, etc — is known by different names in different parts of the country. There is not much problem when the unit of reference is limited and localised. The problem exacerbates itself when different regional comparisons become necessary.

That is not the end of the story. In certain parts of India, say Goa, the ownership title itself is still a continuation of the Portuguese pattern of reference. This makes the tracing of the ownership complicated and the authentication tricky. Business, therefore, has to contend with situations to resolve which no informed reference work is available.



This makes an all-India pattern of handling land development issues complex and at times complicated. If the nomenclature of the unit of reference in use is not uniform, for planning purposes, inaccurate and locally unfamiliar yardsticks may have to be applied. This would lead to a situation of approximation of the realities on the ground to the measurements for planning purposes. Accordingly, where precision be needed there would be a need to feel one's way through. Sometimes, it would work, on other occasions, there would be an element of tentativeness. Significantly, however, no dictionary on the conversion of land units from one to another exists. There are difficulties in envisaging it.

If that be so, it may be useful to do only a certain type of planning at a national level and leave certain other types of planning, (say in terms of frameworks reference of minor irrigation) to the local level. In effect, this is what is happening in many areas. However, these complexities can make for gaps in the formal skill formation of a civil servant before he is put on the job to start operating the system. The average Indian civil servant is smart, shrewd and has a keen eye for reality perception. These attributes can work both constructively and the other way round.

Since one of the aspirations of developmental planning is to standardise the frameworks of reference, this issue of land units and their diversity needs to be reduced to more manageable proportions. A beginning can be made to bringing in some kind of uniformity of units of measurement, to begin with, at the district level. Fortunately, this has already been happening in practical terms in the recent past.

This is the great strength of Indian administration, where solutions are devised at a local level and the basic Indian ingenuity comes to play where formal yardsticks may fail. The need, therefore, is to have norms with resilience. If the norms can tolerate deviations of a certain percentage or magnitude, the system will work. Excessive rigidity has its problems.

Interestingly, the more economically successful states like Gujarat, Kerala or Karnataka have been able to feel their way through this problem more effectively. States which emerged out of direct British rule (where there was an excessive effort to work with externally imposed units of measurement and yardsticks) have had difficulties in making administration a social reality.

As one begins the 75th year of Independence, there is time for celebration and there is also time for reflection on what are the areas of national development which require some tweaking of the parameters of analysis, investment and more.

There is a need for are think on the significance to be attached to local and regional developmental processes. More than language or ethnicity need to be factored into the situation, requiring greater insight and analysis.

*(The writer is a well-known management consultant. The views expressed are personal.)*

# The important issue of unemployment



ALOK **RANJAN**

## India needs a national employment policy to meet the demand and supply of labour, maintain global labour standards and ensure basic rights to workers

The issue of unemployment is getting maximum attention from politicians, policy makers, economists, civil servants and media. In the beginning of the coming year, elections to Uttar Pradesh and several other states are to be held and political parties across the board have realized that unemployment is a live issue with the youth and they have to provide solutions to this problem. Promises are being made one after another.

In the recent Bihar elections, one party promised 10 lakh jobs. Just the other day, I witnessed on TV a national party promising one lakh jobs within six months of coming in power and also about giving an unemployment allowance. Parties in power are talking about the number of jobs that they have created. It is clearly a crucial issue wanting a policy response from governments.

The problem of unemployment has become more severe due to the extraordinary circumstances created by COVID-19. A study done by Azim Premji Institute showed that about 100 million people lost their jobs in the nationwide lockdown during April to May 2020 and even though the situation improved after that, about 15 million workers continue to remain out of work and the incomes also are depressed. As a result, the labor share of GDP has fallen by over five percentage points from 32.5 per cent in the second quarter of 2019-20 to 27 per cent in the second quarter of 2020-21.

Of the decline in aggregate income, 90 per cent was due to reduction in earnings implying that though most of the workers got back to work they had to settle for lower earnings. States having a higher number of Covid-19 cases were responsible for higher number of job losses. Lockdowns led to fall in mobility further causing decline in the income levels. The impact of the pandemic was disproportionately higher on the women and the younger workers. The study found that only 19 per cent of women workers remained employed. One reason was that with the new culture of work from home the burden of domestic work increased and working women had to bear the brunt of it.

COVID-19 also resulted in a change in the structure of unemployment. Workers moved from formal to informal employment and from salaried jobs to self-employment and daily-wage employment. The reverse movement from nonfarm to farm jobs took place as migrant labor rushed back to their villages and agriculture emerged as a fall-back option. This is the very opposite of what happens when development takes place.

COVID-19 reversed the process of development and pushed millions into poverty. Another study found that about 230 million people became poor as



THE COUNTRY IS FACED WITH THE CHALLENGE OF EMPLOYMENT CREATION AS WELL AS THAT OF UNDER-EMPLOYMENT. THE INTERESTING THING IS THAT WE HAVE WITNESSED ALMOST SEVEN PER CENT GROWTH RATE PER ANNUM SINCE 2000 BUT THE EMPLOYMENT GROWTH FOR THE SAME PERIOD HAS SLOWED DOWN TO EVEN LESS THAN ONE PER CENT

*(The writer is former Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh. The views expressed are personal.)*



result of the adverse impact of Covid. Inequalities also increased as the poorer households were worse affected. During the 2020 lockdown the poorest 20 per cent of households lost their entire income. The decrease in income led to households reducing their food intake and borrowing money thereby making them more vulnerable. There was already a situation of excessive number of people subsisting on the small and marginal holdings that characterize our agriculture sector. With migrants and others returning to their villages the already existing problem of disguised unemployment was further exacerbated.

The CMIE (Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy), which comes out with the data for unemployment shows that in the first two months of lockdown the unemployment rate went as high as 23.5 per cent but the situation has considerably improved now though it would still be called critical. The latest figure for 19th September shows that the unemployment rate of India is 7.46 per cent (9.14 per cent urban unemployment and 6.69 per cent rural unemployment). Urgent policy measures to create employment are the need of the hour.

The problem of unemployment is not only because of Covid but has been widespread even before the pandemic set in due to various structural factors. India is a young nation and majority of its population is in the age group between 15 to 45 years and the median age is 28.4 years. Almost about eight to 10 million new entrants are entering the

labor force every year. India should be able to take the advantage of this favorable demographic dividend but the growing unemployment is a major obstacle in the path. The country is faced with the challenge of employment creation as well as that of under employment. The interesting thing is that we have witnessed almost seven per cent growth rate per annum since 2000 but the employment growth for the same period has slowed down to even less than one per cent. Curiously in the 1970s and 1980s when we witnessed the “Hindu” rate of growth of three per cent, the corresponding figure for rate of growth of employment was around two per cent. This jobless growth is indeed a cause for worry. With the advent of cost-effective modern technology industry has been replacing labor with capital. Moreover, it has been argued by some that because of the lack of labor reforms and consequent rigidity in the labor market there is a greater incentive for industry to substitute labor with capital. It is also a fact that the majority of the organized manufacturing sector is paying wages below the minimum salary recommended by the seventh central commission of Rs.18,000 per month leading to a situation where there is great hunger for a government job. In UP we found that even when jobs in the “D” category were advertised the majority of the applicants were graduates and even Ph.Ds. had applied. For a few hundred jobs more than a lakh had applied. Nothing brings out the crucial issue of unemployment more than these figures.

To tackle the problem of unemployment on a war footing requires the creation of a data base of unemployed people. The employment exchanges need to be modernized and computerized so that they can match people with jobs. There is a need for a separate department of employment as currently this is a part of the labor department. Above all, it is imperative to have a national employment policy. It will need to be formulated after consultation with all stake holders including employers and organizations of workers. This policy will not merely be a job creation programme but attend to factors relating to demand and supply of labor. It will endeavour to provide decent work to people maintaining international labor standards and ensuring social protection and fundamental rights to the workers.

Such focused attention on unemployment is required to address the vital issues of huge informal employment, rising unemployment amongst the youth and the educated, shortage of skilled work force, jobless growth, declining female work participation rate, threat of automation and the changes that technology is bringing to the overall job environment.

It is hoped that in the coming elections all the political parties will make creation of employment their most important agenda. If this does not take place then the demographic dividend will be converted into a disaster and the abundant energy of youth shall be diverted into negative channels.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

THE GANDHI KIDS ARE INEXPERIENCED AND MISGUIDED WHILE SIDHU IS A DRAMA MASTER AND BEHAVES LIKE A SUPER CM. —FORMER PUNJAB CHIEF MINISTER CAPTAIN AMARINDER SINGH



THE CAPTAIN IS AN ELDER AND IT'S NATURAL FOR ELDERS TO GET ANGRY. BUT THERE IS NO PLACE FOR ENVY OR REVENGE IN POLITICS. —CONGRESS NATIONAL SPOKESPERSON SUPRIYA SHRINATE



China threatens global governance

A forward-looking United Nations, which will ‘save succeeding generations from the scourge of war’, is *sine qua non*



GAURIE DWIVEDI

*(The writer is a senior journalist and author of "Blinkers Off, How Will The World Counter China". The views expressed are personal.)*



successfully game the system.

As China's clout in these global agencies stood out, so did its modus operandi. China's disproportionate influence came without commensurate spend. A 2017 Brookings study that analysed grants to 53 multilateral agencies during 2014-2016 showed that of the total annual funding of \$63 billion, the USA contributed \$ 14.1 billion -- 22 per cent of the total. The UK came next at \$7.6 billion accounting for 12 per

cent of the total funding, followed by Japan with \$5.4 billion, and Germany fourth with \$4.4 billion. In comparison, China's contribution was a little over \$1 billion. So, the UK, which has one-sixth the GDP of China, gave seven times more in grants to these institutions and had much less representation than Beijing in these agencies. Broken down on the basis of funders relative to the organisation (23 largest organisations were taken for this), the data sheds light on how easily Beijing was able to sidestep its role in global efforts to address mankind's most vital concerns. The data shows that China's contribution was less than one per cent in a dozen agencies.

The UN needs to reflect

the world politics of 2021 and not of 1945 and must pave the way for the capabilities of major players like India and Japan to be leveraged in a bigger way. The developments in the Indo-Pacific and China's increased sabre-rattling have acted as a catalyst to start the process of reforming the UN. In response to these new global realities, countries are now moving towards unilateralism, populism, and nationalism, at the expense of multilateralism, pushing the UN towards oblivion. Only a revamped UNSC is capable of restoring its credibility in ensuring that the rule of law is protected and honoured. A forward-looking UN, which will 'save succeeding generations from the scourge of war', is sine

qua non. Despite its many imperfections, the UN continues to be the only port of call for many countries.

It is a given that China will influence multilateral decisions on issues that have far-reaching impact. To limit Beijing's ability to influence outcomes by working different levers of decision making, major powers like the USA, India, the UK, France and Japan must focus on building issue-based consensus. On some of the existential threats, the general body could be given more powers to empower nations to arrive at a consensus, without undermining the veto power of P5. Decision-making in global institutions needs to be more transparent and accountable. The USA can build pressure

on China and Russia with the help of its allies and partners like India to start a narrative isolating the two authoritarian states.

While there have been several attempts in the past to realign the global body, the present flux in the Indo-Pacific, the heightened uncertainty after the USA's withdrawal from Afghanistan and continued aggression against Taiwan should strengthen resolve to act.

In 2019, the UN celebrated its 75th birthday and took pride in reducing the number of people in abject poverty under the previous Millennium Development Goals. For the organisation to celebrate its centenary year, it needs to keep the "fox away from the hen house".



# Quad leaders to announce new working group: White House

# US VP Kamala Harris 'source of inspiration' for many: Modi

Both France, US have strong interests in strengthening respective relationships with India even more: Blinken

# SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

**Whereas**

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Arun Kumar/ Parveen Kumar/ LBDEL00005156619	Flat No 769, Second Floor Cat LIG Block GH 01 Pocket 1 Garima Apartment Rohini Sector 29 Delhi/ September 20, 2021	June 19, 2021/ Rs. 18,61,456/-	Delhi/ Ncr
2.	Chandra Wati/ Ram Singh/ LBDEL00002405966	Flat No 44, Ground Floor Sec G2 Pocket 2 Block D1 LIG Narela Delhi Delhi/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021/ Rs. 12,29,310/-	Delhi/ Ncr
3.	Gurmeet Kaur/ Inder Mohan Singh/ LBDEL00004163264	Property Number- 45, Second Floor, Without Roof Rights, Road Number- 43, West Punjabi Bagh, Delhi/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021/ Rs. 30,25,955/-	Delhi/ Ncr
4.	Haroon Ahmad/ Hayat Ahmad/ LBDEL00001374790	Flat No- 60B- B-12, Dhawalgiri Appart, Sec-34 Noida/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021/ Rs.15,19,291/-	Delhi/ Ncr
5.	Leena Sharma/ Prashant Sharma/ LBGHZ00002392504/ LBGHZ00005207615/ LBND000005248184	Flat No- 23173, 23rd Floor Marvella Mahagun My Woods, Plot No- GH- 04 Sec-16C, Greater Noida Uttar Pradesh/ September 21, 2021	June 25, 2021/ Rs. 38,32,138/-	Delhi/ Ncr
6.	Mamta Bajaj/ Bajaj Holographics India Pvt Ltd/ Kapil Bajaj/ LBGUR00003004490	Flat No- NGC 24, Tower- C, DLF New Town Heights Sec-90, Gurgaon, Haryana/ September 21, 2021	June 16, 2021/ Rs. 76,20,029/-	Delhi/ Ncr
7.	Neeraj Singh/ Pankaj Kumar Singh/ LBGHZ00002927751	Flat No 607 6th Floor Tower T1, Unnati The Aranya Height Plot No GH 02 Sec-119 Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh/ September 21, 2021	June 23, 2021/ Rs. 50,61,347/-	Delhi/ Ncr
8.	Ram Kishor/ Reena Pal/ LBND000004901191	Shop No LG- 408H, Lower Ground Floor, Gaur City Centre, Plot No C1 A GH 01, Sector 4, Greater Noida, Noida/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021/ Rs. 15,96,522/-	Delhi/ Ncr
9.	Rekha Sahoo/ Niranjan Sahoo/ LBDEL00002432292	DDA Flat No 4314, First Floor And Cat- SFS- III, Duplex With Scooter Garage, Pocket- 5 And 6 Sector- B, Vasant Kunj, Delhi./ September 21, 2021	June 24, 2021/ Rs. 1,89,17,065/-	Delhi/ Ncr
10.	Suman Garg/ Sanjeev Kumar Garg/ LBGUR00004221496/ LBGUR00004221484	Flat No 1401, 14th Floor, Tower- T- 9 Nirala Estate Tech Zone, Greater Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar/ September 21, 2021	June 25, 2021/ Rs. 28,64,182/-	Delhi/ Ncr
11.	Sunita Agrawal/ Shailendra Kumar Agarwal/ Gaurav Agarwal/ LBND000002082390	Flat No 4182, Floor-18, Type- C, Tower- 4, Aits Tourmaline, Village Babupur, Sector 109-B, Gurgaon Haryana/ September 21, 2021	June 23, 2021/ Rs. 1,56,65,398/-	Delhi/ Ncr
12.	Usha Goeil/ Atul Kumar Goyal/ LBFDB00002409994	Property No-1334, Ground Floor, Sec-16, Faridabad, Haryana/ September 21, 2021	June 23, 2021/ Rs.1,04,77,036/-	Delhi/ Ncr
13.	Sunita Agrawal/ Shailendra Kumar Agarwal/ Gaurav Agarwal/ LBND000002082389	Flat No-7112, 11th Floor, Type-A, Tower-7, Aits, Triumph Sector-104, Gurgaon, Haryana/ September 21, 2021	June 23, 2021/ Rs. 2,36,55,084/-	Delhi/ Ncr
14.	Raj Kumar Lamba/ Anju Sharma Lamba/ LBDEL00002973477/ LBDEL00004310686	DDA Janta, Flat No 2611, Ground Floor, Pocket-2, Vasant Kunj, Sector- C, Delhi/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021/ Rs. 28,28,921/-	Delhi/ Ncr
15.	Deepthi Agarwal/ Samarth/ LBDEL00002945108	Flat No- 901, 9th Floor Pan Oasis Tower- J, Plot No GH- 001, Sector-70 Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh/ September 21, 2021	June 23, 2021/ Rs. 29,60,035/-	Delhi/ Ncr
16.	Amit Tyagi/ Ankita Tyagi/ LBGHZ00002068193	Flat No-1404, 14th Floor Tower- C, Aims Golf Avenue Group Housing, Plot Bearing No GH 02 Sector- 75, Noida/ September 21, 2021	June 23, 2021/ Rs. 39,75,858/-	Delhi/ Ncr
17.	Gaurav Bansal/ Preeti Bansal/ LBDEL00002440422	Flat No 1903, 19th Floor Tower- CM2, Plot No-GH 01A Sector-74, Supertech Capetown, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh/ September 21, 2021	June 25, 2021/ Rs. 29,74,817/-	Delhi/ Ncr
18.	Dhruv Harjai/ Ravi Mohan Harjai/ LBGUR00002410976	Flat No 103, 1st Floor Tower- V, The Hyde Park Plot No GH-03 Sector-78, Noida/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021/ Rs. 82,81,520/-	Delhi/ Ncr
19.	Gagarin Kishen Goswami/ Gita Goswami/ LBND000002060959	1204 12th Floor, Tower- D4, New Town Plot No GH- 03 Sector Techzone- IV Greater Noida/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021/ Rs. 15,54,697/-	Delhi/ Ncr
20.	Abdul Rehman/ Tajwar/ LBND000003095513	Flat No B-1903, 18th Floor, JM Florence, Plot No DV GH 09 C, Sector Techzone 4, Greater Noida/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021/ Rs. 20,57,951/-	Delhi/ Ncr
21.	Mahesh/ Meenakshi/ LBDEL00002353152	Flat No 2, Ground Floor Pocket 1 Block B 12 Sector 34 Dda Rohini Delhi Delhi/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021/ Rs. 11,32,246/-	Delhi/ Ncr
22.	Amit Bhatia/ Neha Bhatia/ LBDEL00002380104	Flat No 09, Second Floor DDA LIG, Block- A3, Pocket - 2, Sector- 34, Rohini Delhi/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021/ Rs. 12,39,279/-	Delhi/ Ncr
23.	Pankaj Chawla/ Kewal Kishan Chawla/ LBDEL00001196310	Flat No- A- 4C/157, Flat No- A- 4C/157 Pankha Road, Janakpuri, Delhi/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021/ Rs. 4,26,398/-	Delhi/ Ncr
24.	Sanjeev Arora/ Meeta Arora/ LBDEL00001940143	Flat No 239, 3rd F Loor, Block-A, Pocket-C, Lok Nayak Puram/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021/ Rs. 5,52,538/-	Delhi/ Ncr
25.	Mohit Khanna/ Rohit Khanna/ LBDEL00002071616/ LBDEL00002077000	Flat No- C- 1001, 10th Floor, Tower- C, Pristine Avenue, Plot No 3F, Gaur City- 2, Sector 16C, Greater Noida, West Noida/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021/ Rs. 8,39,479/-	Delhi/ Ncr

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

# China slams Quad ahead of 1st in-person summit in US, says it will find no support

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM**  
**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, PWD**  
**NAGAON & HOJAI ROAD CIRCLE, NAGAON**

No. SE/NRC/TB/NIT/12/2021-22/14

**PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The Superintending Engineer, PWD, Nagaon & Hojai Road Circle, Nagaon on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites bid from Assam PWD registered contractors for 1 (One) no. of work under SOPD (G) for the year 2021-22 in Hojai District of Assam (Hojai LAC) amounting to Rs.599.83 Lakhs (approx.).Details may be seen at website <http://assamtenders.gov.in> and also at the office of the undersigned during office hours.

**Note:-** The work order will be issued after receiving of the Administrative Approval from Govt., otherwise the tender will be treated as cancelled.

sd/-  
Superintending Engineer, PWD

**Nagaon & Hojai Road Circle, Nagaon**

Janasanyog/CF/1481/21

## SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED



**Arshad**

**Name:** Arshad, **Gender:** Male, **Age:** 14 years, **Height:** 5'2", **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Long, **Build:** Medium  
**Identification:** Mentally unstable and cut mark on chin,  
**Wearing:** Red colour t-shirt, blue colour lower and barefooted.  
If anyone has any information regarding this kidnapped boy,  
kindly inform SHO/Civil Lines, Delhi.  
E-mail : c/cbci.gov.in  
Ph. No. 011-24368638, 24368641  
Fax : 011-24368639  
DP/1504/N/2021  
P.S. Civil Lines, Delhi.  
Ph. No. 011-23815444, 23810633

## SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSON



**SHO : P.S. Subzi Mandi, Delhi**  
**Tel. No. 011-23827354,**  
**23823161, 8750870126**

# Taliban's relationship with world to be defined by actions: Blinken

**WESTERN RAILWAYS**  
**SUPPLY OF TRACK MATERIAL**

Advertisement Tender Notice No. WTR/ N-0017/CS/2021/1 dated 17.09.2021 for Supply of E-Procurement mode only are invited by Chief Engineer (Track Supply), Western Railway, Office, Old Building, 1st Floor, Churchgate, Mumbai-400 020 for the following material:

**Short Description:** Manufacture and supply of 1 in 12 Tumble sleeper sets to be RDSDO Drg.No.T-4218 to suit 60 kg UIC/Indian specification No. T-45 (Fourth Revision/ March-2021) as amended from time to time up to the date of opening of tenders for pre-stressed concrete duty sleepers (Pre-tensioned) duly certified by the Wagon/road vehicles.

**Quantity:** 509 sets **Earnest Money:** Rs. 10 Lakhs

**(Approximately):** ₹.26,72,75,900/- On time closing of E-tender: 11.30 hrs. On 28.10.2021 **Date of Opening:** 28.10.2021

**Note:** For detailed tender conditions / Corrigendum if any please visit [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) and [www.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in)

Like us on [facebook.com/WesternRail](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRail)

## PUBLIC NOTICE

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

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE  
ENGINEER YANTRIK KHAND U.P.  
JAL NIGAM, (RURAL ), MEERUT

**Letter No. 681/Nivda/53**  
**Date 16-09-2021**  
**SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE**  
E-bids are invited on the behalf of Chairman, U.P. Jal Nigam for "Construction of 02 nos. New T.W. in Saharanpur City Distt. Saharanpur" from eligible, reputed and experience bidders.  
Details bid document will be available from **26.09.2021** at 15:00 P.M. on Uttar Pradesh Government's e-procurement portal <https://etender.up.nic.in> and may be submitted online upto **01.10.2021** at 12:00 Noon. E-tenders will be opened at 15:30 Noon on **01.10.2021** in this office.  
E-tender cost is Rs. 5,000+18% GST.

# Taliban new diktat: All girls to solemnise marriage after attaining age of 20 years

# North Korea proposes talks if South Korea lifts 'hostility'

Kim Jong Un's powerful sister says North Korea is willing to resume talks with South Korea if it doesn't provoke the North with hostile policies and double standards.

Kim Yo Jong made the comments Friday in response to South Korean President Moon Jae-in's renewed calls for a declaration to end the 1950-53 Korean War this week.

She says an end-of-the-war declaration can be adopted when the Koreans lift hostile policies and unfair double standards and biased views toward each other.

# Ghana Prez slams European countries not recognising India-made Covishield

**United Nations:** Ghana has termed as "unfortunate" the development in "some countries in Europe" of not recognising the Covishield vaccine manufactured in India for travellers, saying the use of vaccines as a tool for immigration control will be a "truly retrogressive step." On Wednesday, the UK government added Covishield, the India-manufactured Oxford/AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine, to an updated international travel advisory.

Indian travellers vaccinated with two doses of Covishield will still have to undergo 10 days of quarantine in the UK even as the vaccine has been approved under the revised British guidelines for travel, according to UK officials. **PTI**



# DoT seeks TRAI's views ahead of 5G auction

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Telecom Department has approached TRAI seeking its recommendations on pricing, quantum and other modalities pertaining to radiowaves in multiple bands as it prepares the groundwork for holding 5G spectrum auction in the coming months.

The last round of spectrum auction, held in March this year, had raked-in winning bids of over ₹ 77,800 crore for 855.6 MHz of spectrum. When contacted, TRAI Secretary V Raghunandan confirmed that TRAI has indeed received a reference from Department of Telecom (DoT) on 5G spectrum but declined to divulge

exact contents of the communication. The regulator is currently examining the reference made by DoT, he said. The reference is with regard to multiple bands and Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) will seek additional information, if needed. “We will try our best to meet the expectations,” Raghunandan said when asked about the possible timelines for concluding the entire consultation process, including holding open house discussions (a standard practice followed by the regulator), and finalising its views. According to sources, DoT’s reference seeks views of TAI on base price, quantum and all other modalities for spectrum across multiple

bands. These include bands such as 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz bands as also 3,300-3,600 MHz bands (that were not put up for auctions in the last round), and millimetre-wave band (that is 24.25-28.5 GHz). Recommendations have been sought on reserve price, block size, band plan, and quantum of spectrum to be auctioned, the sources said adding that the reference was received early last week. It is pertinent to mention that Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw recently said the 5G spectrum auctions will “most probably” be held in February 2022, and the Govt may even try for a January timeline.

# Sensex conquers Mt 60K as investors keep the faith

**Mumbai:** The BSE Sensex made history on Friday by reaching the 60,000-mark for the first time ever as investors continued to accumulate banking, finance and auto stocks despite lacklustre global cues and concerns over frothy valuations. The 30-share benchmark rose 163.11 points or 0.27 per cent to its lifetime closing high of 60,048.47. Intra-day, it touched an all-time peak of 60,333. Similarly, the NSE Nifty advanced 30.25 points or 0.17 per cent to close at a record 17,853.20. It soared to a lifetime high of 17,947.65 during the day.

It took a little over 31 years for the Sensex to traverse from 1,000 points to the historic 60,000 level.

The benchmark index was at 1,000 points back on July 25, 1990 and took nearly 25 years before it touched the 30,000 level on March 4, 2015. The Sensex has climbed from the 30,000 level to 60,000 in a little over six years, reflecting the overall bullishness in the market. The last 10,000 points have come at a record pace, with the Sensex reaching the 50,000-level only in January this year. “Sensex reaching 60,000 today is an indicator of India’s growth potential, as well as the way India is emerging as a world leader during Covid period in addition to worldwide monetary expansion and relaxed fiscal policies adopted by world powers,” said Ashishkumar Chauhan, MD and CEO, BSE.

# Economy on sustained path of revival: FM

PTI ■ CHANDIGARH

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said the Indian economy is on a sustained path of revival and cited rise in GST collections and direct taxes to support her assertion.

She further said that the confidence in the Indian stock market is growing as retail and small investors are keenly investing money in the share market.

She was addressing the media here.

“I can see very clearly signs of revival and good signs of revival. Otherwise my revenue collection would not be where it is, both the GST and direct taxation,” said Sitharaman while replying to a question on whether the econ-

omy has come back on track and has picked up pre-pandemic speed.

She said the half-yearly target has already been achieved in direct taxes.

“And GST’s collections on an average per month is somewhere in the range of Rs 1.11 lakh crore and Rs 1.12 lakh crore. Probably it can safely be said it will be somewhere in the range of Rs 1.15 lakh crore per month,” she disclosed.

“These are not small indicators, these are not some sporadic indicators. They clearly show that the economy is on a sustained path of revival,” she said.

To a question on the stock market, she said the market has its own understanding of what it deals with the companies.

# NBCC secures biggest ever overseas project

With the signing of loan agreement between Fahi Dhirirulhun Corporation Limited (FDC) & Exim Bank of India on September 23, 2021, NBCC has been entrusted with the task of constructing 2000 Social Housing Units in Hulhumalé under Buyer’s Credit.

It is worth highlighting that this prestigious project is the biggest ever overseas work secured by NBCC.

The 2000 social housing units will compose of 1400 numbers of 3-BHK & 600 numbers of 2-BHK flats respectively which is to be built at a total project cost of USD 130 million in 900 days.

The project sprawls over 7.2 acres of land area across 7 plots.

# FinMin notifies procedure to issue duty credit for goods exported under RoDTEP

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Finance Ministry has notified the procedure to issue duty credit for goods exported under the tax refund scheme Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP).

The rates for 8,555 products - such as marine, agriculture, leather, gems and jewellery - were announced under the RoDTEP scheme in August this year.

The value of goods for calculation of duty credit to be allowed under the scheme will be the declared export FOB (Freight On Board) value or up to 1.5 times the market price of that item, whichever is less, a notification of the department

of revenue said.

The duty credit will be issued in lieu of remission of any duty or tax or levy, chargeable on any material used in the manufacture or processing of goods meant for exports, and where such tax is not exempted, remitted or credited under any other scheme, it added.

“The Central Government hereby notifies the manner to issue duty credit for goods exported under the Scheme for Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products...Subject to such conditions and restrictions as specified,” the notification said.

The Government has set aside ₹12,454 crore for refunds under the scheme for the current fiscal.

# Rural demand expected to get ₹10,700-cr boost from bumper crops: Report

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Rural demand is expected to get around ₹ 11,000-crore boost from the record kharif harvest along with the marginal hike in minimum support price, according to a report by Care Ratings.

The Agriculture Ministry projects a good crop in the first advance estimates for the kharif season at over 150 million tonnes. Along with that, the Government had also earlier increased the minimum support price (MSP) of all kharif crops by 1-5 per cent with tur, urad, groundnut, jowar and

bajra getting the upper end of these new prices. The normal monsoons will also aid the farmers. The advance estimates show that while the overall production of crops would be higher this year, there would be shortfalls in some of them like oilseeds, cotton and some of the coarse cereals whose area under cultivation shrank. The Agriculture Ministry on Tuesday released the first advance estimates of production of major kharif crops for 2021-22, with the total food grain production estimated to reach a new high of 150.50 million tonnes (mt).

# Gehlot reviews preparations of REET-2021

**Jaipur:** Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has said that all candidates appearing in Rajasthan Eligibility Exam for Teachers (REET) 2021 will be provided the facility of free travel.

He directed to make arrangements for a sufficient number of private buses apart from roadways buses and provide free travel facility to all the candidates.

He said that Government employees found involved in paper leak, allowing dummy candidates to appear in the exam and incidents of cheating during recruitment exams will be terminated.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
"It is to inform to the public at large that my client Mr. Shriram Saini S/o Sh. Nathan Singh Saini, who is the owner of Plot area measuring 45 Sq. Yards out of Kharsa No. 399 situated in Kharioli Pargana Tehsil & Distt. Meerut (U.P.) hereinafter referred to as "the said properties", having acquired the same vide Sale Deed dated 15.03.2017 executed by Mr. Kishan Kumar S/o Sh. Deepchand in favour of Mr. Shriram Saini has lost one prior Original registered Sale Deed dated 16.09.2014 executed by Mr. Anoop Chand S/o Mr. Mohan Lal as attorney Mr. Tara Chand in favour of Mr. Harish S/o Balbir Singh, in respect of above-mentioned property (Doc. No. 11539 SR-II Meerut). This original sale deed has been lost and is not traceable to Mr. Shriram Saini. That Mr. Shriram Saini has also lodged a FIR before the police for the lost of the document, as he wants to mortgage the above-mentioned property to Vastu Housing Finance, Meerut. If anybody receive the same should return the same dated to the below mentioned address. Further, any Person having any type of claim/right/title/interest over the said property may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lien etc. Any use of the above-mentioned document will be considered illegal."

Prasoon Lal, Advocate  
SG Associates  
Basement C 78 Sector 2 Noida  
0120-4554882, 7011172764

**CHANGE OF NAME**  
I, **Indu Mehta**, D/o Dilbagh Singh, R/o A-802, Olive Crescent Apartments, Plot GH-12, Sector 47, Gurgaon - 122001, herby declare that, since birth I have been known as Ishminder Sabharwal and all my documents, including the mark sheets, carries my name as Ishminder Sabharwal. Subsequently, I have changed my name from Ishminder Sabharwal to **Indu Mehta** vide affidavit no. 51AA 491635 sworn before the Notary Public, Gurgaon. Now I am known as **Indu Mehta** for all purposes.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This is to inform to all concern that Mrs Uma Saigal w/o Mr Jiwan Parkash Saigal R/o L-59, Sector-25, Noida was the joint owner of Flat no. L-59, Sector-25, Noida. Mrs. Uma Saigal expired on 29/01/2014, during her life time she was executed a WILL in favor of Mr Jiwan Parkash Saigal and same is registered with SR-III, Noida, (UP) in Book no.3, Vol. no. 238, Page 391-400, Document no. 718, on dated 23/04/2011. So it is publicly notified that the said flat is going to be transferred in favour of Mr. Jiwan Parkash Saigal on the basis of registered WILL. If anyone has any objection he/she may file his/her objection along with sufficient proof within 30 days from this notice in the Group Housing Department of Noida authority. **JIVAN PARKASH SAIGAL**

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  

<b>Name of work and its location</b>	30-Elect-05-T-2021-22-E3 Electrical work in connection with renovation of 3rd floor of Rail Bhawan including setting up of war room, meeting room, visitor lounge, VC room and other offices.
<b>Approx cost of the works</b>	Rs. 94.23 lacs
<b>Address of the office</b>	Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.
<b>Earnest Money</b>	Rs. 00.00
<b>Date &amp; time of submission of tender</b>	18.10.2021, 12.00 Hrs.
<b>Opening of tender</b>	18.10.2021, 12.00 Hrs.
<b>Website &amp; notice board</b>	<a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

**Serving Customers with a Smile**

**Sr. No.**  
**Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number**  
**Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession**  
**Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)**  
**Name of Branch**

**राष्ट्रीय फैशन प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, गांधीनगर**  
(स्वतंत्र संस्थान, भारत सरकार द्वारा स्थापित एक निर्यात अभियान, 2006 के द्वारा एक सार्वजनिक निष्ठा)  
**National Institute of Fashion Technology, Gandhinagar**  
A Statutory body under the NIFT Act 2006 established by Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India)  
घ-0 मार्ग, गांधीनगर - 382007 / GHA Road, Gandhinagar-382007 (Gujarat)  
दूरभाष / Tel. 079-232 65000/ 232 65002 / 23265003 वेबसाइट: [www.nift.ac.in.gandhinagar](http://www.nift.ac.in.gandhinagar)

**अनुबंध के आधार पर मर्ती**  
**RECRUITMENT ON CONTRACT BASIS**  
निम्नालिखित पदों के लिए इच्छुक उम्मीदवारों से 3 साल के दीर्घकालिक अनुबंध के आधार पर आवेदन आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं। Applications are invited from interested candidates for the following posts on 3 years Long Term Contract basis.  

क्रम / Sr. No.	पदों का नाम / Name of the Post	Gandhinagar/ गांधीनगर	सुरत/ सुरत
1	सहायक (लेखा) / Assistant (Accounts)	02	01
2	सहायक (प्रशासन) / Assistant (Admin.)	01	—
3	मशीन मैकेनिक / Machine Mechanic	01	—
4	आशु लिपिक ग्रेड-III / Steno Grade- III	01	—
5	नर्स / Nurse	01	—
6	कनिष्ठ सहायक / Junior Assistant	08	—
7	पुस्तकालय सहायक / Library Assistant	01	—
8	लेब सहायक / Lab Assistant	07	01

पदों का विवरण, पात्रता, आवेदन शुल्क, आदि से सम्बंधित निर्देश के लिए, कृपया <https://nift.ac.in/gandhinagar/careers> देखें।  
For details of posts, eligibility, application fee, instructions etc., please visit <https://nift.ac.in/gandhinagar/careers>  
**आवेदन जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि : 18.10.2021**  
**Last date of submission of application is: 18.10.2021**

**Joint Director**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mr. Rahusuddin owner of 29.16 sq. yds. & Mrs. Mahroon Nisha owner of 105 sq. yds. both became the owners of Plot area measuring 134.16 sq. yds., out of Kharsa No. 1806M, situated at Mohalla Mandi Pikhrua, Pargana Dasna, Tehsil Chhailana, Distt. Hapur, vide Sale Deed dated 01.09.2020 Registration No. 4905, & sale deed dated 01.09.2020, Registration No. 4906. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner want to take a loan against the said property from Fullerton India Credit company Ltd. If anybody has any objection/s to upon the ownership of Mr. Rahusuddin & Mrs. Mahroon Nisha in respect of the said property its Sale /Mortgage, and any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present. **Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants)** 200, 2nd Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, N. Delhi-15 Ph. 011-4111327-38. [kumarassociatesadvocates@gmail.com](mailto:kumarassociatesadvocates@gmail.com)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
It is hereby brought to the notice of the public at large, Original Sale Deed registered on 18.11.1991 as Document No. 9480 for land measuring 2 Bigha 19 Biswa 1 and 9/11 Biswas (0.7472 Hectare) falling under Kharsa No.1204, situated in the revenue estate of village Kashi Tehsil and District, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh has been lost.

Anyone in public as large may claims in writing to the undersigned along with documentary evidence in support of the said claim.

**Sushil Kumar Singh (Advocate)**  
**F-10, LGF, Jangpura Ext.**  
**New Delhi-110014**

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  

<b>Name of work and its location</b>	30-Elect-05-T-2021-22-E3 Electrical work in connection with renovation of 3rd floor of Rail Bhawan including setting up of war room, meeting room, visitor lounge, VC room and other offices.
<b>Approx cost of the works</b>	Rs. 94.23 lacs
<b>Address of the office</b>	Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.
<b>Earnest Money</b>	Rs. 00.00
<b>Date &amp; time of submission of tender</b>	18.10.2021, 12.00 Hrs.
<b>Opening of tender</b>	18.10.2021, 12.00 Hrs.
<b>Website &amp; notice board</b>	<a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

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**SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE**  
**ICICI Bank**  
**Branch Office:** ICICI Bank Ltd, Landmark Building, 4th Floor, 228A, AJC Bose Road, Kolkata 700020  
CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, [www.icicibank.com](http://www.icicibank.com)

**Whereas**  
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.  
As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below- mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Ranju Seth/ Gaurav Seth/ U 93A Pitam Pura Saraswati Vihar Delhi 110034/ LBJMR000004758496	Flat No C/1, 3rd Floor KCS Complex Situated At Girls School Road, Municipal Holding No.- 0100000003000A1, Jugsalai Mouza- Jugsalai New Khata No.- 95, New Plot No.- 10, A To L, P.S. Jugsalai Thana No 1161 Ward No 4, D.S.R.O.- Jamshedpur District - East Singhbhum Jharkhand Jamshedpur Admeasuring An Area Of Super Built Up Area 1660 Sq.ft. And Undivided Share Of Land Measuring 100 Sq.ft./ Date Of Symbolic Possession 22.09.2021	23.06.2021 Rs. 52,60,874/-	Delhi and Jamshedpur

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

**Date : September 24, 2021**  
**Place: Delhi/ NCR**

**Authorized Officer**  
**ICICI Bank Limited**

**DHFL**  
National Office: HDIL Towers, B-wing, 6th Floor, Anant Kanekar Marg, Station Road, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051.  
Branch Office: Dhiraj Baug, Building "A" Ground & 1st Floor, Beside Axis Bank, Opp. Monalisa Building, Agra Road, Hari Niwas Circle, Naupada, Thane (West) 400602.  
**DEMAND NOTICES**

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

Name of the Borrower(s) / Guarantors(s) / Loan Code	Demand Notice Date and Amount With NPA date	PROPERTY ADDRESS
(LC No. 00002138 of Noida Branch) Sudhish Noida (Borrower) Anita. (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 ₹ 704677/- (₹ Seven lakh Four Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Seven) NPA/ 09-02-2021)	Kharsa No-1141, Mohalla Noor Nagar Near S.d Public School, Ghaziabad Gautambudh Nagar Uttar Pradesh - 201301
(LC No.00002639 of Noida Branch) Yashpal (Borrower) Reeta Kaloria (Co Borrower 1) Kudos Comprehensive Education Society (Co Borrower 2) Dushyant Kumar (Guarantor 1)/Neht Sharma (Guarantor 2)	28-06-2021 ₹ 18069000/- (₹ One Crore Eighty lakh Sixty Nine Thousand ) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	P.No- 2357-T4A, Kh.No-217 Shivaji Market Narela Narela mandi Narela New Delhi Delhi - 110040
(LC No. 00003055 of Noida Branch) Ravinder Singh (Borrower) Kripa Sidhu (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 ₹ 1448653/- (₹ Fourteen lakh Forty Eight Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Three) NPA/ 12-05-2021)	Plot No-876, Flat No-022 2nd Floor, Shalimar Garden Extn-I, Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh - 201001
(LC No. 00002103 of Noida 1 Rajendra Place Branch) Inshad Ahmed (Borrower) Shamim Bang (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 ₹ 682498/- (₹ Sixty Eight lakh Twenty Four Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Four) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	Plot No-525, Gali No-99, Kharsa No-6162 Mookan Nagar, Karawal Nagar Nr- Maavi Hospital New Delhi - 110094
(LC No. 00000867 of Cannughta Place Branch) Mukesh (Borrower) Manju (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 ₹ 1498334/- (₹ Fourteen lakh Ninety Eight Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Four) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	Plot No. F-49, 3rd Floor, Back Side With Roof, Kh.No.7/12, Vill. Matiala Gali No. 10, Block-f, Om Vihar Extn, Uttam Nagar Delhi New Delhi - 110059
(LC No. 00001028 of Cannughta Place Branch) Monika Gupta (Borrower) James Michael (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 ₹ 2031110/- (₹ Twenty lakh Thirty One Thousand One Hundred Ten) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	Flat No. A- 3, 2nd Floor Lhs Portion Part Of Kharsa No. 820/3 & 823 Extended Lal Dora Abadi Village Buran, Delhi New Delhi - 110084
(LC No. 00000820 of Raj Nagar Branch) Sanjeev Singh (Borrower) Naresh Kumar Singh (Co Borrower 1) Rajni Devi (Co Borrower 2)	28-06-2021 ₹ 1432983/- (₹ Fourteen lakh Thirty Two Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Three) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	A-8/27, First Floor Rana Pratap Bagh Delhi New Delhi - 110007
(LC No. 00001171 of Raj Nagar Branch) Rajesh Sharma (Borrower) Meena Sharma (Co Borrower 1) Prakash Kumar (Co Borrower 2)	28-06-2021 ₹ 1154055/- (₹ Eleven lakh Fifty Four Thousand Fifty Five) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	Property No. 789-A/1, 2nd Floor Gali No. 7, Govind Park Sakai In New Delhi Delhi - 110019
(LC No. 00001742 of Raj Nagar Branch) Karan Arora (Borrower) Deepika (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 ₹ 2312562/- (₹ Twenty Three lakh Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Two) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	Flat No-s-1, Second Floor Front Side Plot No-10, Block-b-9,dif Ankur Vihar, Ghaziabad U.p.-201102 Uttar Pradesh - 201009
(LC No. 00042156 of Delhi - Safdurganj Branch) Suresh Kumar Jain (Borrower) Sudha Jain (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 ₹ 2782694/- (₹ Twenty Seven lakh Eighty Two Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Seven) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	Flat No 3 B, First Floor Pitampura Village Pitampura Delhi New Delhi - 110034
(LC No. 00042885 of Delhi - Safdurganj Branch) Dinesh Yadav (Borrower) Rajesh Kumar (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 ₹ 2571857/- (₹ Twenty Five lakh Seventy One Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Seven) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	House No-d-07, Second Floor Kharsa No-579 Block-d Mohan Garden Uttam Nagar New Delhi - 110059
(LC No. 00042906 of Delhi - Safdurganj Branch) Yogesh Kumar Chauhan (Borrower) Madhu Chauhan (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 ₹ 1840197/- (₹ Eighteen lakh Forty Thousand One Hundred Ninety Seven) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	753 C 3rd Floor Rear Portion Gali No 7 Old Plot No 212 Kharsa No 600/92 Govind Puri Kalkaji New Delhi - 110019
(LC No. 00043843 of Delhi - Safdurganj Branch) Ajay Kumar Rai (Borrower) Abha Rai (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 ₹ 1931914/- (₹ Nineteen lakh Thirty One Thousand Nine Hundred Fourteen) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	Flat No-3, Upper Ground-Floor, Rear Lhs Plot No.308, Gyan Khand-1, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh - 201010
(LC No. 00044051 of Delhi - Safdurganj Branch) Vinod Shukla (Borrower) Dablu Devi (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 ₹ 2006401/- (₹ Twenty lakh Six Thousand Four Hundred One) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	1635 B6 rns, Second, Floor,khata No-3/90, Kh.No73,gali No-14 & 15 Govindpur Kalkaji South Delhi New Delhi - 110019
(LC No. 00044320 of Gurgaon - Sohna Road Branch) Priya Sharma (Borrower) Rajnish Sharma (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 ₹ 2444850/- (₹ Twenty Four lakh Forty Four Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	P.No.15816, T.F Back Side With Roof Kh.No.362,Vill.Nawada, R.k Block, Mohan Garden Uttam Nagar, New Delhi - 110059
(LC No. 00043481 of Gurgaon - Sohna Road Branch) Upender Sharma (Borrower) Maan Singh (Co Borrower 1) Kalpana Sharma (Co Borrower 2)	28-06-2021 ₹ 2592919/- (₹ Twenty Five lakh Ninety Two Thousand Nine Hundred Nineteen) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	Property No-iv957-958, (old No.375-367) Nali No-2 & 3, 2nd Floor Front Portion Bholia Nath Nagar, Shahdara Delhi New Delhi - 110032
(LC No. 00043624 of Gurgaon - Sohna Road Branch) Rajesh Sharma (Borrower) Sunil Sharma (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 ₹ 1646847/- (₹ Sixteen lakh Forty Six Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Seven) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	Flat No A 2 603 6th Floor Tower A2 Solera Sector-107 Gurgaon Haryana - 122001
(LC No. 00004320 of Gurgaon - Sohna Road Branch) Paragesh Mishra (Borrower) Binia Mishra (Co Borrower 1) Amresh Kumar Mishra (Co Borrower 2)	28-06-2021 ₹ 1963742/- (₹ Nineteen lakh Sixty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Two) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	Flat No. A, Fback Side Rhs Portion Kharsa No. 364,extended Lal Dora Abadi Village- Bijwasan Delhi New Delhi - 110061
(LC No. 00041679 of Delhi - Pitampura Branch) Mohd Sabir Ansari (Borrower) Noori Begam (Co Borrower 1)	28-06-2021 ₹ 1163836/- (₹ Eleven lakh Sixty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Six) NPA/ (12-05-2021)	RZH-299-A, Second Floor Rear Side Gali No. 10A, Raj Nagar-II, Palam Colony, New Delhi - 110002
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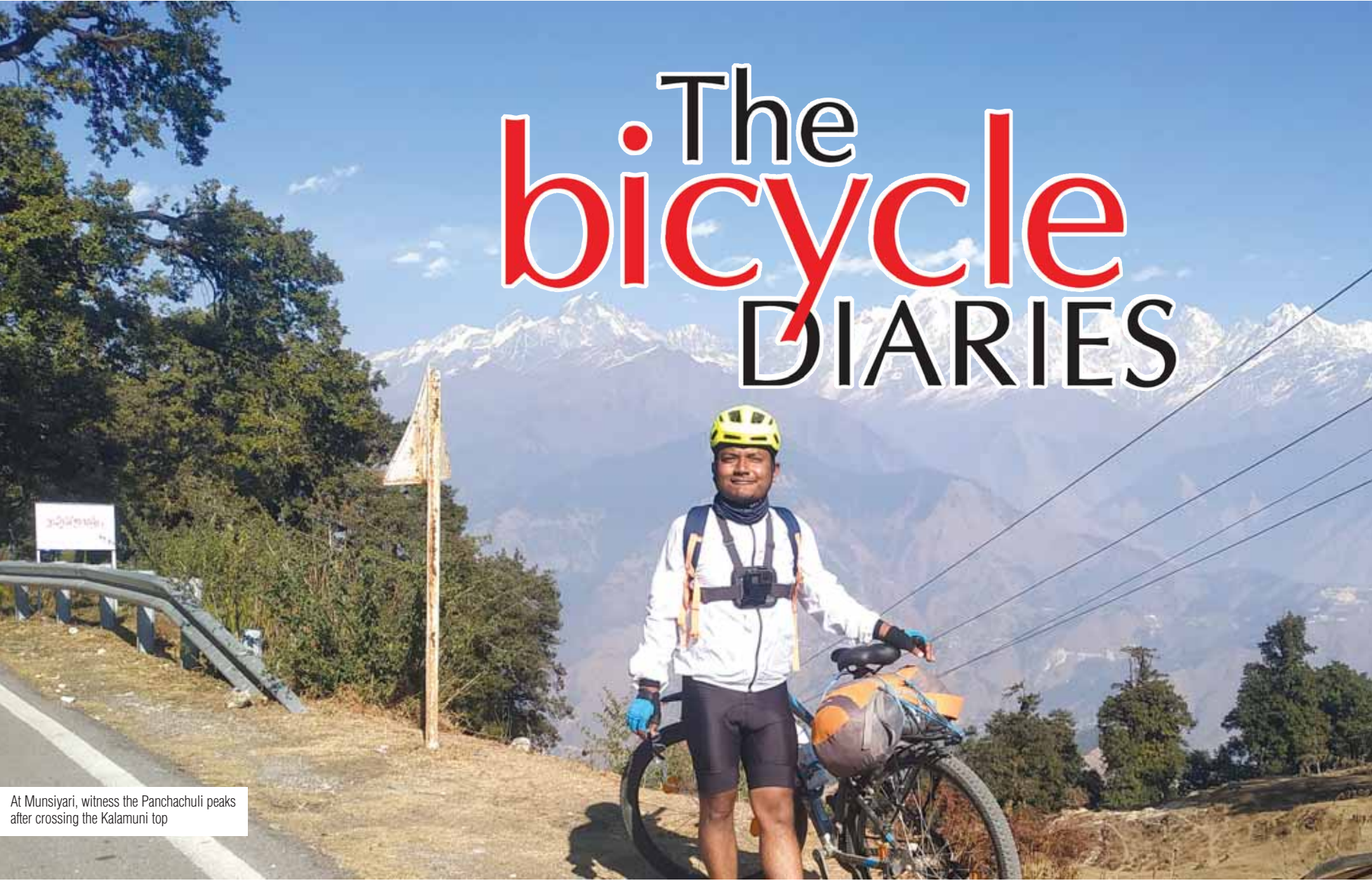


**V O G U E**

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TRAVEL BUG



At Munsiyari, witness the Panchachuli peaks after crossing the Kalamuni top



INDRANIL ROY relies on his luck, stamina and two wheels to embark on a journey that makes him rethink the purpose of being at a place at a given time

On a chilly evening, sitting by the fire-place and sipping on my artisanal martini, I wondered if a bicycle ride covering some of the breathtaking landscapes of Kumaon would be too arduous. Although, I had a fair idea about the terrain and elevation, I had no clue of what awaited me in the next few days. I'd often heard that sometimes the worst brings out the best ... but I actually lived through it. After spending almost nine months locked up in Delhi, I had to get out of the city as, more than the pandemic it was the extreme emotional turmoil that threatened to throw me off keel. I decided to move to the hills and fortunately found a very serene and peaceful cottage on the outskirts of Almora, close to Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary, and decided to spend at least a month there.

Uttarakhand is divided into two main regions — Kumaon and Garhwal — and Almora, the heart of the latter, is of great cultural and historical value. My days there were quiet and extremely peaceful. While I worked, I also explored some villages and faraway temples where tourists had never set foot. In the midst of all this I started riding my bicycle for the first time in the hills, which is absolutely different from doing it in the plains. Initially, I was extremely sceptical of whether I would be able to ride even 10 km in a day, due to the extreme steep climbs and winding roads, but within less than a week I was covering 60+ km which made me confident.

With my improved stamina, I made up my mind to do a long cycling trip covering two pristine destinations — Chaukori and Munsiyari. I was eagerly looking forward to what seemed to be an ethereal experience as the locals, who I had got acquainted with, had raved about the routes. Next, came the logistics and I was lucky to find a bike shop in the local market which fitted a carrier rack on my vehicle. Since pannier bags, which are recommended for bike journeys, weren't available I settled for a regular backpack.



Day 1 [almora to chaukori]

The day I started my journey happened to be one of the coldest that I had experienced so far. I left my cottage at around 8 am after having a light breakfast. Pro tip: Eat light and easy to digest food during long distance cycling.

During the first leg of my journey, till Chaukori which is 110 km from Almora, I was sceptical whether I'd be able to cover it in a day given the terrain and high altitude. A mixed terrain of uphill and downhill for the first 10 km was followed by an uphill ride of 10-15 km, which left me extremely sweaty. After Dhaulchima, it was completely downhill till Seraghat for the next 25 km. But while cycling became easier, another problem cropped up. Till then, I'd been wearing a regular cycling jersey along with a wind-cheater but while going downhill I started shivering and had to slip into a heavy padded jacket.

By afternoon I reached Seraghat, a small hamlet by the river Saryu, and from hereon there was no mobile phone network. When I reached the second

bridge on the Seraghat Berinag road, it was 4:30 pm and Chaukori was another 30 km uphill. By 6 pm it was pitch dark but I'd no option but to keep moving as I'd booked my stay in Chaukori. Fortunately, I was carrying a powerful headlight which showed the way but the unknown terrains and forests enroute made me slightly scared. I kept pushing myself and halted at a small dhaba close to Berinag where everyone warned me that the last stretch till Chaukori passed through a dense jungle and leopards were known to venture out on the road at this hour. I was beginning to feel elated, as my GPS screen indicated that I'd covered 99.5 km and only nine more were to go when the headlight battery gave up. It's often said that when you're determined and passionate no force on earth can stop you. And sure enough, a good Samaritan showed up and guided me with the help of his SUV headlights for the next few kilometres till Udiyari bend. A group of locals gave me a lift till my resort four km away. I reached my destination for the day at 11 pm that night. The temperature was sub zero, around -5°C.



Day 2 [Chaukori]

The next morning, to my delight, was bright and sunny and I decided to rest and explore the surroundings. Chaukori has a splendid view of the Panchachuli peaks which are mentioned in the epic, Mahabharata. After such a long ride it's recommend that you do a small low pace one to help your muscles recover and I did the same.

Day 3 [chaukori to Quiti]

I begun my ride towards Munsiyari, 96 km away, which I thought of covering in a day's time but destiny had something else in store. From Chaukori to Thal is a picturesque descent, till the banks of the Ramganga river, where one can witness the peaks of Panchachuli. Since the day was going to be tough, I'd picked up bananas which are great for instant energy and endurance.

By late afternoon, I was close to Quiti, a fairly large village around 44 km from Munsiyari, when suddenly the chain of my bicycle broke. My simple itinerary was about to take an unexpected turn. Luckily, Quiti did have a bike repair shop where the chain was fixed. I'd covered no more than five-six km when the chain broke again. I realised it was best to call it a day and find a permanent solution. A pick up truck dropped me back to the same shop where, I learnt that, it could take up to three days for a new chain to be brought from Haldwani. But thankfully the stars were still aligned in my favour and I found a very calm and serene resort run by Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam beside the Birthi waterfall. Still there was no mobile network but I wasn't panicking. I guess the city boy within me had vanished. With sub zero temperatures, it was just wise to have a hot shower, piping hot dinner and retire for the day.

Day 4 [birthi waterfall]

I had decided to go on a trek with a young guide, named Puran Rautela, who arrived right on time. After a sumptuous breakfast, of alu puri and an omelette, we left for Birthi falls. We had planned to reach the uppermost part of the waterfall where apparently tourists never venture. The pathway to the top was so steep and narrow that I could place only one foot at a time. It took us close to an hour to reach the spot which was absolutely worth it as every turn offered a brilliant view of the vast open valley.

I was surprised to find some cows and calves stuck there and learnt that it's a common practice to drive away commercially unviable cattle to die. Having made up my mind to save those gentle souls, I connected with a fairly influential woman running an animal shelter in Almora and we planned a rescue mission. I paid the villagers to drive the cattle towards the nearby village and from there the District Magistrate

arranged for them being sent to a cow shelter in Pithoragarh.

Deep within a realisation took root that this must be the reason why my chain broke twice forcing me to stay in a place for two days where I had no plans to even halt. Meanwhile, Puran arranged the bicycle chain from Haldwani and invited me to a hearty meal at his house and we spent two joyful days together.

Day 5 [Quiti to Munsiyari]



It was time to head towards my destination, Munsiyari, tucked away in the farthest corner of Pithoragarh district. I wanted to experience how difficult it was to cover this on my bike since the locals insisted that it is tough climb. They certainly weren't wrong. There are 14 steep bends one has to climb to reach the Kalamuni top and the roads are extremely dilapidated. One has to have extreme mental strength to conquer these roads. I was absolutely exhausted by the time I reached the top where there's a temple and two-three shops offering basic food and beverages to the passer-by. From hereon it's a descent till Munsiyari and the roads are in extreme bad condition. Pro tip: If you plan to go biking on these roads, wearing a good pair of gloves is of utmost importance as, your hands can go numb while navigating through the numerous potholes and large craters. I reached the small hamlet of Munsiyari by early afternoon and checked into a homestay, recommended by a filmmaker friend from Nainital, run by an expert mountaineer. I realised that I had seen the best views of the peaks before reaching Munsiyari so make as many stops as you can to soak in the beauty and might of the Himalayas. There's not much to do in Munsiyari but there are some nearby treks, the most famous one being Khaliya Top. I stayed there for another day before leaving for Almora from a different route. I was raring to go on another cycling trip soon.



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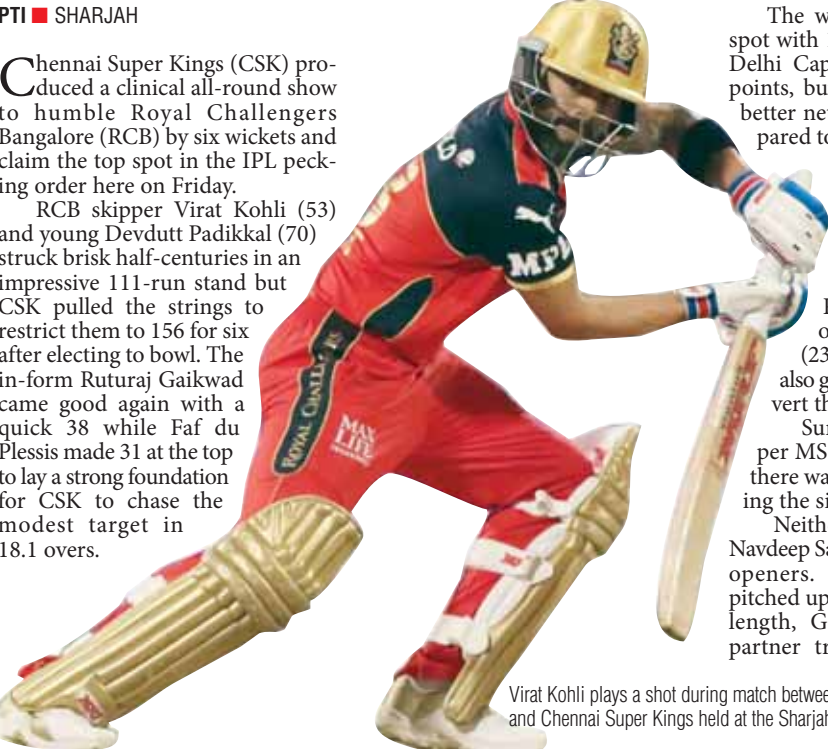


# CSK humble RCB with all-round show

PTI ■ SHARJAH

Chennai Super Kings (CSK) produced a clinical all-round show to humble Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) by six wickets and claim the top spot in the IPL pecking order here on Friday.

RCB skipper Virat Kohli (53) and young Devdutt Padikkal (70) struck brisk half-centuries in an impressive 111-run stand but CSK pulled the strings to restrict them to 156 for six after electing to bowl. The in-form Ruturaj Gaikwad came good again with a quick 38 while Faf du Plessis made 31 at the top to lay a strong foundation for CSK to chase the modest target in 18.1 overs.



Virat Kohli plays a shot during match between Royal Challengers Bangalore and Chennai Super Kings held at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium BCCI

The win took CSK to the top spot with 14 points. They overtook Delhi Capitals, who also have 14 points, but the yellow brigade has better net run-rate of 1.185, compared to 0.613 of the Delhi team.

While it was the second consecutive win for CSK, the RCB now have lost both the games post the league's resumption. Gaikwad and Du Plessis added 71 runs in 8.2 overs and later Moeen Ali (23) and Ambati Rayudu (32) also got starts but could not convert those into big knocks.

Suresh Raina (17) and skipper MS Dhoni (11) ensured that there was no twist in the tale, taking the side past the finish line.

Neither Mohammed Siraj nor Navdeep Saini could trouble the CSK openers. Whether the ball was pitched up, short or bowled at good length, Gaikwad and his Protea partner treated them with equal

disdain.

Gaikwad punched the ball hard and even reverse swept with ease before Kohli pulled off a stunning low catch off wrist-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal.

Realising that spinners may turn the game around, Kohli handed the ball to off-spinner Glenn Maxwell and the Australian responded with the wicket of du Plessis, who was guilty of playing a loose shot.

However, Rayudu and Moeen did not show any respect to the slow bowlers. They worked the ball around to keep the scoreboard moving and also got the big shots.

Earlier, Kohli and Padikkal went hammer and tongs after being asked to take first strike but once the partnership was broken by Dwayne Bravo, RCB lost the momentum.

RCB managed only 45 runs in the remaining 6.4 overs after being in a position from where they could have pushed for a score in the vicinity of 200.

Bravo's bowling made a huge difference to the conclusion of the RCB innings as he conceded only 24



MS Dhoni and Suresh Raina of CSK celebrate victory during match between Royal Challengers Bangalore and Chennai Super Kings held at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium BCCI

runs in his four overs and also added the wickets of Glenn Maxwell (11) and Harshal Patel (3).

CSK had no dearth of quality bowlers with Deepak Chahar and Josh Hazlewood opening the attack but Bangalore openers — Kohli and Padikkal — went about striking the

ball cleanly.

Kohli began with consecutive boundaries off Chahar but took a bit of time to find his rhythm. The skipper lofted the same bowler for a massive six on the on-side while Padikkal was fluent with his well-timed shots on the off-side.

	TEAM	PLD	NET RR	PTS
1	CSK	9	+1.185	14
2	DC	9	+0.613	14
3	RCB	9	-0.720	10
4	KKR	9	+0.363	8
5	RR	8	-0.154	8
6	MI	9	-0.310	8
7	PBKS	9	-0.345	6
8	SRH	8	-0.689	2

## Time running out for Mumbai Indians to qualify for play-offs

Abu Dhabi: In IPL 2020, Mumbai Indians were a force to reckon with on their way to grabbing their fifth IPL title in the UAE. A year later, Rohit Sharma and Co find themselves on a tricky pitch. Mumbai were fourth on the points table of IPL 2021 when the season was halted in May due to the second wave of Covid-19 breaching through bio-bubbles. Their return to the UAE, a place with happy memories, was expected to elevate them higher on the table.

But six days into the tournament in the UAE, Mumbai have been far from convincing. They have slipped to losses in consecutive matches, first to Chennai Super Kings and then to Kolkata Knight Riders. The defeats mean that Mumbai are currently sitting at sixth place in the points table of IPL 2021 with just four wins out of nine matches.

On Thursday against Kolkata, Mumbai's problems were exposed yet again. Their explosive middle-order, something which has played a big role in their success, has been off-colour.

IANS

# Australia beat India by 5 wickets in last-ball thriller

IANS ■ MACKAY

Australia mounted a brilliant chase of India's 274/7 and rode on an unbeaten century by opener Beth Mooney (125\*) to win the second ODI by five wickets in a dramatic last-ball thriller. Chasing 275 to beat India in the second ODI at the Harrup Park and extend their 25-match win streak, Australia rode a superb century by Mooney, promoted to open the innings in place of an injured Rachael Haynes, and an equally vital contribution from allrounder Tahlia McGrath (74) to recover from a precarious 52/4 to reach 275/5 in 50 overs and take an unbeatable 2-0 lead in the three-match series. Australia thus extended their winning streak in women's ODI cricket to 26.

Australia got off to a poor start in their chase of India's highest ODI total as Jhulan Goswami castled Alyssa Healy for a duck in the third ball of the innings with an inswinger.

A splendid running catch from Rajeshwari Gayakwad brought an end to captain Meg



Lanning's innings (6) — Meghna Singh, who bagged her first international wicket, getting rewarded for some brilliant bowling in her first two overs.

With the hosts still needing 223 runs at that point, India looked on its way to levelling the series 1-1 but Beth Mooney and Tahlia got together to pull off the rescue act. Mixing caution with aggression, the two brought up their respective fifties and brought their team back into the game. The 126-

run stand came to an end after Tahlia (74) failed to put away a poor short ball on the legs and found Yastika at short fine. Beth continued to keep the scoreboard ticking and brought up her second ODI century.

The equation came down to 13 runs off the last over and Jhulan, the most experienced bowler in the Indian camp, was trusted to defend it. Though she did not concede a boundary, good running between the wickets coupled with a few

extras brought it down to three off the last ball.

Jhulan bowled a full toss that went straight to the hands of the square leg and sparked celebrations from the Indian team. Upon review, the third umpire decided that the ball was above waist height and called it a no-ball. Needing two runs off the last ball, Nicola Carey (39\*) hit it to long-on and completed a double to keep Australia's win streak alive.



## Sourav Ganguly has played a huge role in my batting: Venkatesh Iyer

IANS ■ DUBAI

Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) batsman Venkatesh Iyer may have made millions of fans and followers across the globe with his entertaining style of batting in the last two matches -- against Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) and Mumbai Indians (MI) -- but the Indore-born 26-year-old is himself a huge fan of Sourav Ganguly and has modelled his game and technique on the lines of the former India skipper.

Picking up from where he had left off against RCB, where he had clobbered an unbeaten 41 off 27 deliveries to guide KKR to a nine-wicket win with 10 overs remaining, Iyer scored his maiden IPL century and guided his side to a 7-wicket victory against MI on Thursday evening.

In a post-match show, Iyer said that he always had the desire to play for KKR only because Sourav Ganguly was its "captain initially".

"KKR was the first franchise that I wanted to be a part of only because dada (Sourav Ganguly) was the captain initially, so I really wanted to get into KKR first and got picked. That was a dreamy moment for me, to be honest," said Iyer. "I am a huge fan of dada.

Dada has millions of fans across the globe and I'm one of them and dada has played a huge role in my batting. Indirectly, I used to bat right-handed when I was very young but I wanted exactly to replicate dada? looking at him, the way he hit sixes, the way he batted, the way he bowled. I think, he has played a huge role unknowingly in my life. I'm really grateful for that," Iyer said.

Iyer has been a revelation in Dubai with even his skipper Eoin Morgan singling him out for praise and Iyer says that the opportunity he got was all because of a positive attitude he kept during lockdown.

"When you are under lockdown, I think I was really waiting for my opportunity? was very positive that I would get my chance and every activity that I did was directed towards how I was going to play in the match. Whatever practice I did? I think it's paying dividends."

A great Rajinikanth fan, Iyer says his life's biggest moment would be when he meets the legendary actor. "My life's biggest moment would be when I meet him. I've seen each and every Rajini-starrer film. I remember I was in Indore and especially went to Chennai, bought a ticket at a local theatre to watch his match."

## Jayawardene to join Sri Lanka as consultant during T20 World Cup

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lankan batting great Mahela Jayawardene Shas been roped in as the consultant of the country's national team for the first round of the upcoming T20 World Cup in UAE and Oman.

The decision by Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) has been taken keeping in mind Jayawardene's tremendous track record with Mumbai Indians and his ready made inputs post Indian Premier League stint with most of the top international stars on same UAE tracks where T20 World

Cup will be played.

Additionally, Jayawardene will also act as a consultant and a mentor for the U-19 side after his stint with the senior squad in the build-up to the ICC U-19 World Cup in West Indies.

His tenure with the national side will last for a period of seven days between October 16-23 while his role with the Under 19 team will be for five months, the ICC said on Friday.

He will join up with the national side after the conclusion of the IPL, where he is currently doing duty as the head coach of Mumbai Indians.



## Struggling Barcelona held to draw again

AP ■ MADRID

Barcelona's ongoing crisis keeps getting worse, with the team unable to win on the field and the club's players, coach and president growing increasingly at odds.

Barcelona was held to a 0-0 draw by Cadiz in the Spanish league on Thursday, extending its winless streak to three matches and adding pressure on coach Ronald Koeman.

Koeman a day earlier surprisingly read from a prepared statement in the pre-match news conference and downplayed the team's chances of winning titles this season. Players didn't hide the fact they were not on the same page.

"I'm not wearing Barça's jersey to finish second or third," veteran defender Gerard Piqué said after the match.

## Satnam to try hand at pro-wrestling

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Basketball player Satnam Singh Bhamara, who became the first Indian to be drafted into an NBA team before being banned or doping, has decided to try his hand at wrestling by sealing a deal with a professional league in the USA.

The 25-year-old Singh, who created history when he was picked in the NBA draft by Dallas Mavericks in 2015, will begin his training to be a pro wrestler at the Atlanta-based Nightmare Factory, to compete in the All Elite Wrestling (AEW).

Singh follows in the footsteps of NBA legend Shaquille O'Neal, who squared off alongside Jade Cargill in a mixed tag team match against Cody Rhodes and Red Velvet on "A E W : Dynamite".

in March.

"While we've recently secured some of the hottest free agents on the planet, I'm also deeply committed to cultivating our own homegrown stars and the next generation of extraordinary professional wrestlers."

Tony Khan, CEO, GM and Head of Creative of AEW, said in a media release.

"In addition to Satnam's commanding 7'3" stature, I was impressed with his high level of athleticism and charisma. He's an exciting addition to our roster, and I'm looking forward to our fans getting to know Satnam's personality and watching his development."

Singh is currently serving a two-year ban by the National Anti-Doping Agency's (NADA) disciplinary panel for failing a dope test in 2019. His suspension is due to end on Nov 19.



## We created a brotherhood: Leander Paes on his successful partnership with Bhupathi

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Many years ago, Leander Paes acted on a whim when he asked Mahesh Bhupathi, "Would you like to win Wimbledon?" and the tennis star says what followed was a partnership that brought many trophies for India.

This "brotherhood" between the two Indian tennis icons, who were the first doubles team from the country to win at Wimbledon in 1999, is what the two tennis legends have revisited through ZEE5's non-fiction series "Break Point".

Paes said the audience will get to see a faithful representation of their journey through the series, directed by filmmaker couple Nitesh Tiwari and Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari.

"We created a brotherhood. And through 'Break Point', you get to see the journey of two young Indian boys and how we conquered the world of tennis, won Wimbledon and became number one in the world," Paes told PTI in an interview.

Once the poster boys for the sport in the country, nicknamed the "Indian Express", Paes and Bhupathi played together from 1994 to 2006

and reunited for their second stint from 2008 to 2011.

Besides the Wimbledon championship that they won in 1999, Paes and Bhupathi also won two French Open titles in 1999 and 2001.

Through "Break Point", Paes said he re-lived all the games that he and Bhupathi played together including the several Grand Slams and the Olympics, while also taking note of the ups and downs of their relationship, among other things.

"One of my favourite memories is when I was 16-year-old playing in Sri Lanka, and Mahesh was 15, playing at the same Asian championships. So when I saw him, I had an intuition that we could win Wimbledon together and we could be number one in the world."

"So I watched him play for about 15 minutes and when he came off the court he had a big smile on his face and I shook his hand. I said, 'I am Leander', and he said, 'I know and I have been following you'. And then I said, 'Thank you, but would you like to win Wimbledon?'" Paes said.

He recalled that Bhupathi was taken aback by what he said and started laughing.

Match: 36	IPL 2021	Sept 25
3:30 pm		
Delhi Capitals		
VS		
Rajasthan Royals		
Zayed Cricket Stadium, Abu Dhabi		
Delhi Capitals		
Total IPL matches played: 203		
Won: 93 Lost: 108		
Highest total: 231/4		
No Result: 2		
Rajasthan Royals		
Total IPL matches played: 169		
Won: 85 Lost: 82		
Highest total: 226/2		
No Result: 2		
Head-to-Head in IPL		
Matches played: 23		
DC Won: 11 RR Won: 12		
Highest total: 196/6		
Highest total: 201/6		
KDK SportsGraphics		

Match: 37	IPL 2021	Sept 25
7:30 pm		
Sunrisers Hyderabad		
VS		
Punjab Kings		
Sharjah Cricket Stadium, Sharjah		
Sunrisers Hyderabad		
Total IPL matches played: 132		
Won: 67 Lost: 65		
Highest total: 231/2		
Punjab Kings		
Total IPL matches played: 199		
Won: 91 Lost: 108		
Highest total: 232/2		
Head-to-Head in IPL		
Matches played: 17		
SRH won: 12 PBKS Won: 5		
Highest total: 212/6		
Highest total: 211/4		
KDK SportsGraphics		

## Indian women's football team to travel abroad

PTI ■ JAMSHEDPUR

The Indian women's football team will play multiple international friendlies, starting next week in the UAE, as part of its preparation for the 2022 AFC Asian Cup at home.

According to the itinerary unveiled by the All India Football Federation (AIFF), the women's team, which has been training in a camp in Jamshedpur for around a month, will play two friendlies against the United Arab Emirates and Tunisia.

The team will leave for the UAE on September 30.

The Indian Women's Team will then travel to Bahrain to play two more friendlies against Bahrain and Chinese Taipei.

That is likely to be followed by a brief stint in Sweden, where they are set to face two Damallsvenskan league teams, subject to permission to Indian citizens arriving in Sweden from relevant authorities.

"Besides the four matches against UAE, Tunisia, Chinese Taipei and Bahrain, we also have two confirmed matches against two Swedish premier league teams," Head Coach Thomas Dennerby said in a release issued by AIFF.

"We are in the process of sorting out the travel protocol to the country as entry of Indian citizens to Sweden is still not open yet.

"I appreciate the efforts of the AIFF in finding us teams willing to play matches against us under such circumstances," Dennerby said the quarantine rules in different countries in wake of COVID-19 has left India with very few options.

"We have been training in Jamshedpur for a month, in our quest to prepare for the AFC Women's Asian Cup India 2020 (January-February)," he said.

"Unfortunately, the current pandemic situation is tough and the reality is that there are different quarantine restrictions in different countries which kills many options for the Indian teams as entry for Indians in some countries is either still not yet open, or involves a major quarantine period."

Dennerby has already spoken about the importance of playing quality matches to get the girls match fit ahead of the big tournament, and he believes that the friendlies in UAE and Bahrain will help the team assess itself.