

WORLD 6
VOLCANIC ASH CLOUD
CLOSES LA PALMA AIRPORT**MONEY 7**
CENTRE TO SOON ANNOUNCE
NEW COOPERATIVE POLICY: SHAH**SPORT 8**
OSTRAVA OPEN: SANIA
MIRZA IN DOUBLES FINAL**DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL**
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UN must ensure nations don't exploit Af: Modi

Ocean laws should not be abused, shun terror as state policy, says PM

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday targeted Pakistan and China in his address to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) by saying that Afghanistan should not be used by some countries for terrorism and that Ocean laws be used and not abused as he sought the world body to increase its relevance and effectiveness on issues like terrorism and proxy-war.

The Prime Minister addressed the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly at New York as the first speaker among the world leaders gathered there.

While attacking Pakistan without naming it, the Prime Minister sought to contrast the neighbouring country's "regressive thinking" of using "terrorism as a political tool" with India's scientific and progressive advancement that is not only helping it but also the world at large.

He said when Indian students in the 75th year of country's independence are readying up to send 75 satellites in space, the other side is going backwards and resorting to terrorism.

"Countries with regressive thinking that are using terrorism as a political tool need to understand that terrorism is an equally big threat for them. It has to be ensured that Afghanistan isn't used to spread terrorism or launch terror attacks..." said Modi, in a warning to Pakistan.

The Prime Minister who virtually took the UN body to task for not being pro-active said, "This needs to be ensured that the land of Afghanistan is not to be used for terrorism and the delicate situation of Afghanistan is not used as a tool by some country".

The Prime Minister in his speech delivered in Hindi interspersed with a "Sanskrit slok" of "Chanakya", the ancient Indian political scientist, and a quote of nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore in Bengali to convey to the UN that it needs to take timely and effective steps to counter threats emanating from terrorism and regressive ideologies.

Focussing on Afghanistan, the Prime Minister referred to "Afghan women, children and minorities" saying "they need help" and "we will have to share responsibility".



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly at United Nations headquarters in New York on Saturday

AP

Modi said the entire world should use science-based rationale and progressive thinking as a medium of development.

Without mentioning Chinese attempt to monopolise the South China Sea and use its muscle to regulate it in its favour, the PM said ocean resources be used and not abused" and that they are lifetime and belong to one and all.

"Our oceans are also our shared heritage. That is why we

have to keep in mind that we use our ocean resources, not abuse them. Our seas are a lifeline to international trading. We need to protect them from expansion and exclusion. World communities must unitedly raise their voice to strengthen rule-based world order," said Modi.

He spoke about "rule-based navigation" and urged the members of the UN body "to speak in one voice" about maritime security.

'Arsonist' in 'firefighter' guise, India retorts to Pakistan's slur

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Pakistan and India sparred at the United Nations General Assembly in New York with terror, Jammu & Kashmir, and human rights figuring in the centre of an acerbic blame game.

While Pakistan called the Modi Government a "fascist" and responsible for unleashing Islamophobia in the region, India said its neighbour is an "arsonist" disguising itself as a "firefighter", and nurtures terrorists in its backyard.

Exercising its right of reply to Khan's statements at the United Nations session, India said Pakistan has an established history and policy of harbouring, aiding and actively supporting terrorists.

"Pakistan holds the ignoble record of hosting the largest



First Secretary Sneha Dubey

number of terrorists proscribed by the UNSC (United Nations Security Council). Osama Bin Laden got shelter in Pakistan. Even today, Pakistan leadership glorify him as "martyr", First Secretary Sneha Dubey said on Friday.

The entire world has suffered because Pakistan nurtures terrorists in its backyard, she said.

"Regrettably, this is not the first time the leader of Pakistan has misused platforms provided by the UN to propagate false and malicious propaganda against my country, and seeking in vain to divert the world's attention from the sad state of his country where terrorists enjoy free pass while the lives of ordinary people, especially those belong-

ing to the minority communities, are turned upside down," she added.

This strong retort came following Prime Minister Imran Khan's "virtual" address, where he had raised the issue of abrogation of Article 370 in 2019 giving special status to Jammu & Kashmir as well as the death of separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani.

Labelling the Modi Government as fascist, Khan also said, "It is unfortunate, very unfortunate, that the world's approach to violations of human rights lacks even-handedness, and even is selective. Geopolitical considerations, or corporate interests, commercial interests often compel major powers to overlook the transgressions of their affiliated countries."

Quad vows to save Indo-Pacific region from China's coercion

India, US, Japan, Oz talk about combating terrorism in Af

PNS/AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI/WASHINGTON

Faced with growing assertiveness by China in the Indo-Pacific region, India, US, Japan and Australia resolved to resist any "coercion" and work together for ensuring peace and prosperity in the region and the world as a whole.

The four nations forming the Quad grouping also agreed to coordinate their policies towards Afghanistan and further deepen counter-terrorism and humanitarian co-operation in the months ahead in accordance with a UN Security Council resolution.

"We reaffirm that Afghan territory should not be used to threaten or attack any country or to shelter or train terrorists, or to plan or to finance terrorist acts, and reiterate the importance of combating terrorism in Afghanistan.

"We denounce the use of terrorist proxies and emphasised the importance of deny-



This handout photograph released by Press Information Bureau shows, from left, Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, US President Joe Biden and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison at the White House in Washington

PIB

ing any logistical, financial or military support to terrorist groups which could be used to launch or plan terror attacks, including cross-border attacks. We stand together in support of Afghan nationals, and call on the Taliban to provide safe passage to any person wishing to leave Afghanistan, and to ensure that the human rights of all Afghans, including women, children, and minorities are respected," the joint statement released after the summit said.

This was major outcome of first in person summit between the Quad countries comprising India, US, Japan and Australia in Washington on Friday. The heads of state of these countries including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, President Joe Biden, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga held talks for more than two hours.

The summit was hosted by Biden.

Biden reiterates support for India's permanent UNSC berth, NSG entry

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden has reiterated America's support for India's permanent membership on a reformed United Nations Security Council and its entry into the Nuclear Suppliers Group during his first in-person bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

President Biden, in his talks with Prime Minister Modi, applauded India's "strong leadership" during its UN Security Council Presidency in August 2021.

"In this context, President Biden also reiterated US support for India's permanent membership on a reformed UN Security Council and for other countries who are important champions of multilateral cooperation and aspire to permanent seats on the UN Security Council," it said.

President Biden's support provides a big boost to India's push for the reform of the powerful UN organ as India has been at the forefront of efforts at the United Nations to push for an urgent long-pending reform of the Security Council, emphasising that it rightly deserves a place at the UN high table as a permanent member.



Chief Minister Hemant Soren inspects construction work of new Jharkhand Bhawan in New Delhi on Saturday

Pioneer photo

CAPSULE

RIGHTS ACTIVIST KAMLA BHASIN PASSES AWAY

New Delhi: Eminent women's rights activist, poet and author Kamla Bhasin passed away on Saturday after a battle with cancer. She was 75.

MAJOR RESHUFFLE IN DELHI POLICE

New Delhi: In a major reshuffle in the Delhi Police, Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal on Saturday transferred 40 senior officers, including 11 Special Commissioners and 28 DCPs and additional DCPs, an official order said. The development came a day after a shootout took place inside a courtroom in Rohini court which left three people, including gangster Jitender Gogi, dead, triggering criticism over the security lapse.

DELHI REGISTERS 27 NEW CASES IN A DAY

New Delhi: The national Capital registered zero death due to Covid-19 and 27 infections in a day with a case positivity rate of 0.04 per cent, according to data shared by the city health department on Saturday.

Covid-19: Active caseload rises again in State

Nearly 1.30 lakh get vaccinated

PNS ■ RANCHI

Jharkhand on Saturday reported a spike in the count of active cases of Covid-19 for the second day in a row as fresh cases of coronavirus infection outnumbered Covid recoveries, taking the active caseload above 80, figures compiled by the health department highlighted.

As per a bulletin released by the National Health Mission (NHM), at least 15 fresh Covid cases against only five Covid recoveries took the active caseload to 82 in Jharkhand on Saturday, while Ranchi also witnessed a spike in the active caseload as it reported at least nine fresh cases of coronavirus infection against three Covid recoveries.

Jharkhand on Saturday vaccinated close to 1.30 lakh residents against Covid-19 as at least 1529 session sites remained operational across the state on the day, a separate



Beneficiaries receive Covid-19 vaccine at a vaccination centre in Ranchi on Saturday

Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

report from NHM stated.

As per this report, as many as 78,291 residents were administered the first dose of vaccine against Covid-19 on Saturday, while at least 50,927 beneficiaries received the booster dose of vaccine. More than 90,000 beneficiaries vaccinated on the day fell in the age bracket of 18 years to 44 years.

Ranchi vaccinated close to

20,000 residents on the day, the highest among the 24 districts in Jharkhand. On the other hand, East Singhbhum administered vaccines to at least 18,000 beneficiaries and about 10,000 beneficiaries were vaccinated in Dhanbad.

According to the health department, the state has so far vaccinated 99 per cent of healthcare workers and front-

line workers, while 50 per cent of residents in the age bracket of 18 years to 44 years have received at least one dose of the vaccine. At least 57 per cent of eligible beneficiaries in the age bracket of 45 years to 59 years have been at least partially-vaccinated, while 58 per cent of senior citizens in the state have received at least one jab.

Jamtara reported three fresh Covid cases on Saturday, while Khunti, Hazaribag and East Singhbhum reported one case each, the NHM bulletin stated. As per NHM data, at least 11 of 24 districts did not have active cases of Covid-19, while Ranchi accounted for half of the active cases in Jharkhand.

The State on Saturday tested swab samples of at least 49,041 residents and 0.03 per cent of them were found infected by the deadly virus. As per Government data, over 3.48 lakh residents have tested positive for Covid-19 in Jharkhand so far and 98.50 per cent of them have recovered, while 1.47 per cent of patients could not survive.

CM to participate in MHA's review meeting on LWE issues

Soren to raise matter of development of naxal affected areas

PNS ■ RANCHI

Chief Minister Hemant Soren will attend a review meeting on 'Left Wing Extremism and related issues on both security and development' to be held in New Delhi on Sunday.

Union Home Minister, Amit Shah is scheduled to chair the meeting with Union Ministers, Chief Ministers of the Maoist-affected States and senior officials of Central & State Governments. During the meeting, Chief Minister Hemant Soren will be raising issues such as the Centre's contribution to the development of tribal areas in the State as well as request for extension of the Special Central Assistance fund for LWE affected districts in the State.

In his address, the CM may raise issues related to the fund cut by the Central gov-



Chief Minister Hemant Soren

ernment, given to states for the systematic development and filling the critical infrastructure gaps in the Left Wing affected districts. Recently, the Central government has cut down the SCA (Special Central Assistance) fund of the eight districts of Jharkhand. Earlier this was given to 16 LWE affected districts of the State.

Apart from this, the CM will also present the records related to action against Left Wing Extremist Organizations and crucial steps being taken by the state government to curb Naxal activities in the state. The State government has also

decided to seek the Centre's contribution towards building necessary infrastructure facilities in tribal areas across the State, which includes construction of roads, assistance for Kasturba Balika Vidyalaya and comprehensive internet and mobile-telecom facility.

Also, Issues related to increasing the minimum daily wage of MGNREGA workers and bring it to par with other states will be part of his address. In addition, he will raise his concern on the required revision in pension schemes run by the Government of India under the ambit of social security, which is very critical for the people living in LWE affected districts.

Soren will also propose a revision in the conditions for the allotment of Eklayva Vidyalaya in tribal areas, which can open doors to sanction more Eklayva Vidyalaya in the state. Additionally, he will also put light on the development of Digital Infrastructure in different panchayats of Jharkhand.

'People asking me if I am from Haryana is a compliment'

ASHI SINGH who plays a lead role in the show Meet, speaks with SHALINI SAKSENA about the challenges of the character and how she got the Haryanvi accent correct

■ How did you come on board for this show?
I auditioned two months before I got selected. I really liked the character when I auditioned but I had no expectations that I would be selected.

■ What is the best part about playing Meet?
The best thing is that I get to do so much and I get to do so many new things which I haven't done before as Ashi. I still don't do those things as Ashi but Meet is quite different in that way. I get to do a lot of new experiments and get to learn a lot.

■ Despite negativity around her— from her grandmother— what keeps her motivated?
Here I relate to Meet a little bit because in my real life also I try to focus on positive aspects and ignore negativity. So, when I am playing Meet, it is like let grandma say whatever she wants to, I will be happy. I practice that a lot in my real life too. My friends, my whole street loves me so much and the memories I have with my parents, I spend my time cherishing them rather than Dadi. Of course I get hurt by what Dadi does but there are other things which Meet can focus on and move on.

■ What were the challenges to play Meet and get the Haryanvi accent correct?
I can give you a list of challenges. There were a lot! First of all, practicing riding a bike and body language were tough. Each and every scene that I am doing like climbing on a window or anything which involves some kind of stunt has been very challenging for me because I am not that adventurous in my real life nor have I done anything of that sort before. If I am scared of doing something, I cannot express that because my character is not that. I have never played cricket in my life, never ever held a cricket bat because I used to hate it. And if I talk about getting the Haryanvi accent, I am still not sure about my ability to speak it properly. Whenever I listen to my voice talking in Haryanvi, I never like it. But few people from Haryana asked me if I am from Haryana and that was like a huge compliment, which means I have achieved it. I have worked hard though.

The glamour industry has always attracted me even as a child. I always wanted to be an actor and destiny worked in my favour. My parents asked me to stop pursuing it but I didn't quit

■ I believe the track will lead to you— Meet marrying Meet. What happens next. Can you give us a sneak peek?
Yes that was the story. After that, it is like the guy doesn't love the girl. There are a lot of responsibilities on the girl after she gets married. Before she had only one family to take care of but now she has so much on her plate. You will for sure get to see some family drama but it would be in Meet's style. It would be different. Meet is not an innocent girl who would keep quiet if someone says something to her. She speaks back too and she has her own way to do things. You will see all that drama in Meet's way and it is a great story ahead.

■ How did you end up in acting?
I don't remember really liking anything else apart from acting and dancing. The glamour industry has always attracted me since I was very small. I always wanted to be an actress and stars

worked in my favour. I came to Mumbai for schooling, later my parents pushed me to do an acting course. But they also asked me to stop and I could not stop because they triggered my childhood wish and it was quite tough to lose all that. So, I just started giving auditions and stars worked in my favour.

■ You have done a fre music videos. How has this experience been? How much fun has it been?
It has been a good experience. In fact the shooting for music videos is a one day or two days shoot. I really like to meet people, I like to go out.

When I do music videos, I meet a lot of new people. It is not like shooting for daily soap where you meet the same set of people everyday, which is also a blessing in itself because they become your family. Only drawback is that you don't get to meet new people. While doing music videos, you go out, you explore more and you get to learn new things. So, it is like a life experience. Moreover, working for a music video you can experiment on yourself which you cannot always do in terms of your looks and character.

■ How much do you relate to Meet?
There are things where I do not relate to Meet at all. Meet is very different from me, whatever she does I never did or do that in real life. But yes, we think alike and I relate to her in that aspect a lot. I have realised that it is Ashi's character which I have given to Meet in terms of thinking positively.



BUDDY - ONLINE PUPPET THEATRE

A charming story of friendship between a lonely old man and a stray puppy dog. Told with String Puppets and Shadow Puppets. A lonely, friendless old man lives alone in a house. One day he meets a stray puppy dog in the garden where he goes for his regular morning walk. Every morning the puppy dog

teases him and makes him uncomfortable. There develops a grudging friendship between them. One day a dog-catcher catches the dog, takes him away, and puts him in a cage. As usual the old man comes to the garden but the dog is nowhere to be seen. What ensues is the story of their separation, search for each other, and joyful reunion. This is a story that makes you smile and sigh. And shows you the wonder of puppet theatre.

What: Theatre and Arts
Where: Online
When: September 26, 2021
Time: 5 pm



SET
Delhi loves Kayan and warpcore loves Kayan so we had to have her behind the decks again for an encore. This time at the lovely Nehru Place SOCIAL, Sunday vibes, and yes this one is for everyone — it's ticketed so feel free to join in on the mayhem. We have the warpcore disco king N*hilate opening for her and the awesome M3LD warming up the vibe. We share doing some cool production and there is going to be a sick sound system so that y'all can feel the bass. See you on Sunday because it's funday yaaa!

What: Music
Where: Nehru Place Social, Delhi
When: September 26 and September 27, 2021
Time: 8 pm and 1 am

TELLY TALE

'LOVE FREELY, SPREAD PEACE AND DREAM CRAZY'

Gulfam Khan says her character, Nalini Batra, in the show Ziddi Dil Maane Na is tailor-made. "I like my character. I am a very friendly person by nature. I love feeding people and I like people around me. Also, I truly and strongly believe in love, so this character is tailor-made for me or I was chosen for this character. Whatever you say, the universe has worked its magic," she said.

She is getting positive response for the show as well as for her character. "After a long time, I'm doing a show that involves youngsters and matters of the heart. Hence, it is a heartfelt warmth I feel," said the Laado 2 actress.

Ziddi is Sudhir and Seema Sharma's brainchild. "Sudhir and Seema of Sunshine are wonderful human beings. They are good producers no doubt, they are very creative no doubt but above all, they are gems. They are the kind of people you want to be friends with hence, I'm very glad that I got an opportunity to not only work with them but also know



them," said Gulfam. On how she was chosen for the show, she shared, "I got a call from

the casting department stating that they were interested in auditioning me for a character for the show. They gave me a brief about the show and it sounded interesting hence, I gave the audition and within a couple of days I got confirmation regarding the same." She is also bonding with her co-actors. "I had worked with Kunal Karan 20 years ago in a show called Remix, so I feel a bond with him. I have a very strong bond with Shaleen. He is a very warm, sensible, and a nice guy though he does not go about mingling, laughing too much or chatting up. He is very close to my heart. I get along with Diljot too. She is wonderful, she is talented, pleasant, kind and a lot of things that I like in a person. I get along with all the youngsters. They all are wonderful. It's a wonderful cast. I get along with the elders too," she said.

She finds everything about this show interesting. "It's quite adventurous given the physical activity that all the youngsters do," she said.

SALIM DIWAN ON HIS FATHER



Salim. There is also a multi-specialty hospital and research centre in Jhunjhunu in his dad's name. "We have a good team in our foundation members who are dedicated to serve the society's well-being. Dr. Salaudeen Chopdar Foundation served the best in corona time and Government of Rajasthan rewarded on August 15," he said.

Salim said, "He used to teach me the meaning of life, the value of people, time everything which I am having with me right now is all achieved with having him besides with me. He was more of a teacher to me than father who always taught something or the other which helped me to be a successful man. He was a very loving and caring father to me and always was a guide for me to choose the right path."

He always stood by me and supported me in my choices, also guided me where to step up and step back," said the Aliya Basu Gayab Hai actor. "My father is always alive in me. I'll always be in debt to him for all the learnings he gave me," he added.

SAVITA'S NAMKEEN SHOP AND LAABH

Sony SAB's thought-provoking show Shubh Laabh – Aapkey Ghar talks about a self-transformative journey as it takes a step forward by paving the way for the viewers to find a balance between devotion and spirituality in their daily lives. In the upcoming episodes, the audience will witness Savita (Geetanjali Tikekar) attempting different ways to save their namkeen shop, Sukh Sagar.

Every year, a business tycoon organises a food charity for the poor, this opportunity has a scope of bringing in new business and some much needed extra money for Savita. Her determination and conviction helps her bag the contract this year. Despite facing various obstacles during the process, she finds her way through and secures the order. The entire Toshniwal family excitedly starts with their preparation. While the arrangements are being made, at each step, every family member deals with a different vikaar residing within themselves. It will be interesting for our viewers to watch how Savita will face the multiple vikaar's - krodh, moh, lalach, irshya, aalasya, abhimaan, kaam emerging from her family members and will this



order bring a new ray of hope in her life.

Will Savita succeed in saving Sukh Sagar? Will this new order solve all her problems?

Geetanjali Tikekar, essaying the role of Savita, said, "Playing Savita and being a part of a show like Shubh Laabh remains to be a surreal experience for me. Savita has bagged a great opportunity, and she puts her best foot forward and gives whatever it takes to fulfil this order. While facing issues due to her family members' bad habits and sins, will she be able to deliver this task ethically or will she succumb to her own vikaar too? Fans will have to wait and watch."

KUMKUM BHAGYA'S POOJA BANERJEE ON SUCCESSFUL MARRIAGE

Zee TV's popular fiction show, Kumkum Bhagya has been an audience favourite courtesy its intriguing plot and the authentic portrayal of relatable characters like Abhi (Shabbir Ahluwalia), Pragya (Sriti Jha), Rhea (Pooja Banerjee), Aaliya (Reyhna Pandit), Tanu (Leena Jumanji), Ranbir (Krishna Kaul) and Prachi (Mugdha Chapekar). Abhi – Pragya's contract marriage drama had kept everyone hooked over the last few weeks and now, the competition and drama between Rhea and Prachi has kept viewers at the edge of their seats. All the actors have been working round the clock to keep their audience entertained during this festive season. In fact, at times actors don't get to spend time with their family even during special occasions and how understanding parents and partners truly help them balance their work and personal life balance.

Pooja Banerjee aka Rhea also opened up about her personal life and mentioned how she and her husband, Sandeep Sejwal understand and respect each other and their respective careers, which helps them maintain a strong and healthy marriage, without any issues. The actress also reveals the key to a



successful marriage between two working individuals, while speaking about Sandeep and her relationship.

As Pooja Banerjee reveals, "Trust, love and attraction - all of these things come secondary, but if there is friendship between a couple, then they tend to share and understand everything about each other. I know Sandeep since I was in fourth standard. In fact,

we were friends for the longest period of time, after which we realised we can be life partners. Ever since I know him and we started dating, my mantra was very simple - honesty and sincerity. We don't put each other down and he never puts me in any embarrassing situation. It is same from my side too. He does not judge me too, and vice versa. The best part is that we give

ample of space to each other to grow and learn by ourselves in our careers. He never forces his views onto me and neither do I. Having said all this, I feel it is very important to give each other time as well because nowadays couples don't give each other time. So, Sandeep and I plan our schedules such that we have time for each other. Due to my tedious shooting hours, we are on different sleep cycles, but he understands me so well and does the smallest of things to help me live my life to the fullest and I help him with his. As I have been a swimmer for 14 years, I understand the fatigue he might be going through as an athlete due to his daily routine and I try to help him feel better and do my bit wherever I can. We respect each other's careers, and we support each other in our own way every day and I feel that is the key to a successful marriage."

While Pooja Banerjee is facing her off-screen relationship with her husband, her on-screen character - Rhea is planning some evil tactic to come between Prachi and Ranbir. What is she planning next? Will she be able to create a rift between Prachi and Ranbir? Or is Prachi and Ranbir's connection stronger?

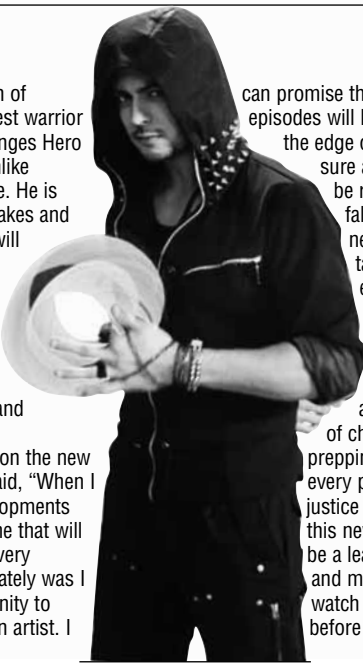
VEER'S FATE LIES ON THE THREE SINS

Sony SAB's beloved Hero is set to take a new avatar. Our very own Hero aka Veer is faced with the biggest challenge in the show so far. This involves not just saving the world but saving himself from turning to his darker side and becoming evil. The upcoming episodes will shock the viewers with Veer (Abhishek Nigam) slowly falling prey to Shukracharya's (Ajay Gehi) biggest scheme against Veer. It will be interesting for the viewers to watch how Hero will withstand the effects of halahal, the mystical negative energy which is slowly taking him over while pushing him towards committing the three ultimate sins. This time the battle is fiercer as Veer is losing control over all his actions and is on a crossroad struggling to stand by his morals and conduct.

Abhishek Nigam, talking about this new development in the show, said, "I think this new phase in Veer's life will take the viewers on an adventurous and edgy ride as Hero is slowly unravelling his darker side. With

Shukracharya's ultimate plan of turning Veer into his strongest warrior is coming to play, the challenges Hero will be now facing will be unlike anything he has faced before. He is unaware of these three mistakes and while the effects of halahal will force him to commit these sins, it will be exciting for our viewers to watch if Hero is able to combat this effect or not. Once these sins are committed, Hero will fall into his darker side and turn evil."

Sharing his excitement on the new phase of his character, he said, "When I learned about the new developments on the show and the storyline that will follow, I was surprised and very excited. My thought immediately was I had found a perfect opportunity to show a new side of me as an artist. I



can promise that the upcoming episodes will keep the audience on the edge of their seats, and I am sure all Hero supporters will be rooting for Hero to not fall into darkness, and this new exciting storyline will take the fun and excitement quotient of the show up a notch".

Abhishek Nigam, talking about his preparations, said, "I am undergoing a series of changes and have been prepping as I want to explore every possible route to do justice to the character and this new journey of him. It will be a learning curve for me, and my fans will be able to watch me in a never seen before avatar."

CM led delegation to meet Amit Shah on caste-based census, Sarana code

PNS ■ RANCHI

An 11 member delegation from Jharkhand headed by chief minister Hemant Soren will meet union home minister Amit Shah on Sunday to place the demand for the caste based census besides inclusion of Sarana in the religion code.

Jharkhand BJP which had

refused to be the part of this delegation will now join the delegation. Jharkhand BJP president and Rajya Sabha MP Deepak Prakash will represent the BJP in the delegation. Prakash left for Delhi on Saturday in a service flight.

The JMM had criticised the BJP when Prakash had officially announced that the BJP will stay away from any such

delegation headed by the chief minister and the Government.

Source said that the meeting is scheduled at 4 pm at the residence of the Union Home Minister.

Other than Chief Minister and BJP president, Jharkhand Congress president Rajesh Thakur, State Minister Alamgir Alam, MLA and Ajsu party president Sudesh Mahato, min-

ister and RJD MLA Satyanand Bhokta, MLA Vinod singh of CPI(ML), Bhuvneshwar Mehta of CPI, Suresh Munda of CPM, MLA Arup Chatterjee from Marxist community centre and MLA Kamlesh singh of NCP will be the part of the delegation.

An all-party delegation is seen as a move to put pressure on the centre to accept the

growing demand of caste based census.

But the Centre told the Supreme Court that as a matter of policy the caste-wise enumeration in the Census has been given up from 1951 onwards. Hence, the castes other than SCs and STs have not been counted in any of the Census since 1951 till this date.

The Centre had pointed out that there are a number of states and union territories where there is a complex structure of Other Backward Classes (OBCs). In some states, orphans and destitutes are also declared as OBC. There are instances in some of the states where Scheduled Caste converted to Christianity have too been listed as OBC.

The Centre informed there are 2,479 OBCs across the country. But the number of OBC as per the state and union territory is around 3150. In such a situation there will be a risk that thousands of people will be excluded from OBC as it will be difficult to classify and identify such complexities.



Chief Minister Hemant Soren | Pioneer photo

INBRIEF

WATER CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

Water Conservation Fortnight was started by Lions Club of Hazaribagh Roaring to conserve rain water. The programme was started from Ichak, Vishnugarh, Tati,



Jharia, Barkagaon and Daru block. The program was started in Ichak block with an awareness workshop by Lion Rajiv Anand. The construction of trench for rain water conservation was started by Lion Mohammad Ali in Bakasura Panchayat of Vishnugarh block by making the villagers aware and working by himself. Hazaribagh Roaring is running a special campaign for rain water conservation. In the above program, especially in five blocks, the work of rain water conservation is being done by forming cluster teams. The club is requesting people to join the programme.

2 Jharkhandis among top 10 rank holders in UPSC

All India Topper studied in Bokaro

PNS ■ RANCHI/DHANBAD/ BOKARO/JAMSHEDPUR

At least two Jharkhandis, both from Dhanbad, have made their way to the list of top 10 rank holders in the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) exams, the result of which was declared on Friday, while several others have cleared UPSC, one of the most prestigious exams in India for selection of IAS, IFS and IPS officers.

Yash Jaluka, an alumnus of Delhi Public School, in Bokaro bagged the fourth rank in India and topped the state in the UPSC, while Dr Apala Mishra from Dhanbad bagged the ninth rank in the country. Several other aspirants from Bokaro have cleared the exams. Shubham Khandelwal bagged the 133rd rank, Ritvik Srivastava 155th rank in the exams.

Yash is sure about getting Indian Administrative or Indian Foreign Services while Shubham and Ritvik are sure to get either IAS or IPS as per vacancies of this year. Yash, from Jharia in Dhanbad com-



pleted his B.Com and Masters from Delhi University. His family is presently settled in Budbil, Odisha. His father Manoj Jaluka, is a businessman and his mother Shobha Jaluka is a homemaker.

“This was my first attempt at this exam. My time in DPS was incredibly helpful in shaping my thinking, while also teaching me the importance of hard work. It was also my first experience of a wider academic environment as it had students from various parts of Eastern



Utkarsh Kumar 55th rank holder celebrates with family members after Union Public Service Commission declared (UPSC) civil services results 2020, in Hazaribag on Saturday | Pioneer photo

India and beyond, which gave me very valuable lessons and friendships,” said Yash, talking about his school days.

“To all students reading this, I would like to tell that no matter what field you choose to pursue, civil services or beyond, do it with a sense of service towards others,” he added.

Shubham Kumar

Khandelwal from Katras completed his schooling from Delhi Public school Bokaro Steel City. He pursued his B.Tech (Mechanical) from IIT. His father is a businessman and mother is a homemaker. Ritvik Srivastava is from Bokaro. After completing his schooling from Delhi Public School Bokaro Steel City, he did

Electrical engineering from IIT Kanpur. During this time, he published some of his research papers as well. Ritvik's father Rajiv Srivastava, is a CGM in Bokaro Steel Plant and his mother Sunita Srivastava is a homemaker.

Utkarsh Kumar, a resident of Girjanagar at Suresh Colony in Hazaribag got 55th rank in

the exam. Utkarsh's father Mahesh Kumar is an engineer. Utkarsh's mother is a teacher in the district school.

The National Association of Civil Servants (NACS) helped at least 25 candidates from Bihar and Jharkhand, including all India topper Shubham Kumar, crack the prestigious exams, a press communique from this organisation run by civil servants stated on Saturday.

Shubham, originally from Bihar, passed class 12 from Chinmaya Vidyalaya in Bokaro back in 2014.

Basuki Nath Jha, an active member associated with NACS and a resident of Ranchi, who is himself an officer of the Indian Revenue Service, said that this organization, established in 2014 by just eight officers of the Civil Services has helped several young boys and girls from Jharkhand pursue their dream of becoming an IAS officer.

This time more than 60 candidates participated in the Interview Guidance Programme of NACS conducted for the interview of Civil Services Examination, out of which more than 25 candidates have passed the IAS exam.

3-day FJCCI election begins today



FJCCI President Praveen Jain Chhabra addresses people during Federation of Jharkhand Chamber of Commerce & Industries (FJCCI) Annual General meeting at Chamber Bhawan in Ranchi on Saturday | Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

PNS ■ RANCHI

Jharkhand's biggest trade body; Federation of Jharkhand Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FJCCI) is all set for a three days long election process starting from Sunday where 3480 members will elect 21 candidates out of 35 in the fray.

Elected 21 candidates who form the executive panel, will thereafter choose seven office bearers from themselves who would run the Chamber for next one year. The election will be held on September 26, 27 and 28.

The office bearers consist

of the president, two vice presidents, one general secretary, two joint secretaries and a treasurer.

They will choose the successor of Praveen Jain Chhabra who is the present president of the Chamber.

Last year the election could not take place due to Covid 19 pandemic and a group of office bearers, nominated by the trading community, is at the helm of affairs at present.

Hectic backroom management was going on by the stakeholders namely Dheeraj Taneja, Dr Abhishek Ramadin, Kishore Mantri and others who are mobilising support.

Election of the chamber could not be held last year because of the pandemic and a group of office bearers, nominated by the trading community, is at the helm of affairs at present.

On the first of the polling as many as 1000 member voters have been invited to cast their votes.

The Chamber will ensure that election is conducted under strict protocol of Covid-19. District administration too has been informed to ensure traffic on the Mahatma Gandhi road where the chamber building is situated which is also the venue of polling.

9 Divyang youths of State bag skill awards by Centre



Divyang youth from various districts with their certificates after receiving Hunarbaaz Awards by Rural Development officials on the occasion of 'Azaadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' in Ranchi on Saturday | Pioneer photo

DDU-GKY's Hunarbaaz Puraskar Samman programme organised by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India was organised on the occasion of Amrit Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The Ministry awarded Hunarbaaz Puraskar to selected 66 youths from 12 states of the country. Nine youths from rural areas of Jharkhand were honoured in this award function organised online.

Nine youths of the State, who have been employed for more than one year by taking training under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU GKY) in the State were honoured with the Hunarbaaz Award of DDUGKY. All these youth are handicapped but even this obstacle could not become a hindrance in their way and they are earning good income by joining employment through skill training.

In this award function organised online, Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India NN Sinha encouraged the youth selected for the award. Kulwanti Bada of Garhwa, Sunita Tudu and Shabnam Khatun of Hazaribagh, Savitri Kumari of

Dumka, Asha Tuti of Khunti, Abodh Mahatha and Tejiya Kumari of Bokaro, Pinky Kumari of Dhanbad, Neha Rekha Kumari of Ranchi were honoured on Saturday with the Hunarbaaz Award.

All these youths are associated with strong employment today by getting skill training under DDU GKY run by Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society. After training, for the last one year, these youths are now associated with employment in different cities. After the online felicitation programme, the youth present were felicitated by the Moment, Citation and Memento provided by the Ministry of Rural Development at the State Office of JSLPS at Hehal.

In the Hunarbaaz Award programme organised by the Government of India, the Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, NN Sinha, while praising the honoured disabled youth, saluted their spirit. He said that Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana is dedicated to the poor, backward and handicapped people. He told that the dedication towards the work of Divyang brothers and sisters is taking them to

great heights in every field today. He asked the PIAs of the DDUGKY project to work for linking maximum number of differently-abled people with skill training and employment.

Sunita Tudu of Dadi block of Hazaribagh shared her success story at Hunarbaaz Award programme. Sunita is earning well today by taking training in Apparel Sector. In front of the Union Rural Development Secretary and representatives of all the states, Sunita told that the training of DDU GKY changed her life.

On the other hand, Kulwanti Bada of Garhwa district, who is working in Shahi Exports in Bangalore, said that today she is financially prosperous and this was possible only through skill training.

Nancy Sahay, CEO, Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society, congratulated the awardees and said that continuous efforts are being made to connect more and more rural youth with employment through free training of DDU GKY.

JSLPS COO Bishnu Charan Parida, Programme Manager Akhileshwar Mishra and PIA officials were also present.

Govt-run insurance campaign achieves 25L coverage in a month

Govt of India praises Jharkhand Model, encourages other States to work on similar lines

PNS ■ RANCHI

Efforts made by Chief Minister Hemant Soren to empower the villagers are now paying off. More than 13,000 women engaged in liquor manufacturing and sales have been given the opportunity to lead a dignified life through Phoolo Jhano Ashirwad Abhiyan. Besides that, the rural population of Jharkhand is now being covered under various government life Insurance

schemes.

Due to the efforts of the Chief Minister, within a month, more than 25 lakh beneficiaries have been covered under different insurance schemes. Now, the government aims to cover additional 30 lakh new people under the scheme. Impressed by the Jharkhand model of the 'Get Insured Campaign', the central government has advised other states to work in this direction.

As per the directions of the Chief Minister, 7 August 2021 onwards the Rural Development Department has started the campaign to cover Sakhi Mandal Didis under various Insurance schemes on a

priority basis . Social security for the members of Sakhi Mandal is being ensured through this campaign. So far, 25 lakh women have been insured through the campaign. This campaign is being run to protect the Didis of Sakhi Mandal from future risks, especially the risks associated with novel Coronavirus. Members of the Sakhi Mandal groups and their family members are being encouraged to get Life Insurance, Accident Insurance and Health Insurance.

The awareness campaign is being conducted through various IEC materials like leaflets, audio-visual material and radio. In the campaign, 1,600



Rural Development Department Secretary Dr. Manish Ranjan

Bank Sakhis, 16,500 rural women activists and 1,800 Financial Literacy Trainers are playing a leading role. 4,600 SHG members are working at the Gram Panchayat level to

process the insurance work through special camps and door-to-door campaigns. Officials of JSLPS are working in coordination with the banks for the timely completion of insurance registration and insurance claim. So far, a total claim amount of Rs 3.30 Crore has been received by 165 Sakhi Mandal Didis. The Rural Development Department aims to cover 100 per cent of the SHG members under the insurance scheme.

“Our dedicated campaign to cover maximum people of the State under the insurance scheme has played an important role in ensuring social security rights. As per the

instructions of the Chief Minister, the women members of Sakhi Mandal and their family members are being insured. The campaign is still progressing and it will run until we achieve 100 per cent coverage of SHG Didis. These insurance schemes will work as a protective shield for thousands of families in times of trouble, especially during times like these when we are facing a global pandemic. For any family affected by the pandemic or any fatal condition, insurance cover comes for immediate help and financial help,” said Dr Manish Ranjan, Secretary, Rural Development Department.

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Tata Steel Adventure Foundation is pleased to announce the successful completion of two mountaineering and trekking expeditions for outdoor enthusiasts.

Aim of the expedition was to step out of the comfort zone, test the limits, collaborate, reach the challenging summits and explore the pristine nature in Leh region. Team faced bad weather, string winds, challenges of high altitude, snow conditions on the way to twin peak challenge.

Twin Peak Challenge – two 6,000-meter peaks in single expedition. Sham Valley Trek was led by Bachendri Pal

TSAF had kept limited slots and small batch size to ensure all safety protocols are followed and minimize Covid risk.

The goal of the Twin Peak Challenge Expedition was to climb two 6000m peaks, Kang Yatze II (6270m) & Dzo Jonga (6240m) in Leh region.

This expedition was open for all and consisted of Tata Steel employees and individuals from the community. The team travelled to Leh and then proceeded by road to Chilling which was the starting point of the trek.

The team was led by experienced and certified TSAF

instructors Asmita Dorjee, Dharmendra Singh, Rathu Mahato and Sushanto Mahato.

The expedition lasted for 15 days, a total of 8 participants along with 4 TSAF instructors made it a team of 12 out of which 7 participants were able to summit the first peak (Kang Yatze II) and 10 of them were able to summit the second peak (Dzo Jonga). Arun Pratap Singh, Anurag Maloo, Vishal Kullu, Pankaj Kumar Sharma, Rahul Raj Singh climbed the Kang Yatze II peak.

Arun Pratap Singh, Anurag Maloo, Vishal Kullu, Alok Kumar, Niti Gupta, Pallavi Mariyam climbed Dzo Jonga. All TSAF instructors and 3 members climbed both the summit in a twin peak expedition. This was the first of a kind expedition organised by TSAF.

Sham Valley trek was organised for the beginners. A 13-member team was led by Ms. Bachendri Pal along with TSAF instructors N S Panwar, Mohan Rawat, Poonam Rana (Everester), and Randeb. Maximum altitude reached during the trek was 12,850 ft. Team had great experiences, especially the inspirational stories from Pal and other TSAF team members.

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tender Notice No. SG-664-11-
Tele-2021-22, Dhanbad, Date-23.09.2021
E-Tender is invited on behalf of the President of India for the under mentioned work.
1. Name of the work: Implementation of Integration of Data Logger with COA at major Terminal Stations at KQR and SNDT of Dhanbad division with Control Office at Dhanbad. **2. Approx. Cost of work:** Rs. 20,86,313/-01 **3. Earnest Money:** NIL.
4. Date & time for closing of tender: 14.10.2021 (12:00 hrs.). **5. Any E-Tenders** which is sent by Post / Courier / FAX or self, Manual proposals although the letter is on firms letter pad or received in time will not be accepted. The above E-Tenders, E-Tendering document alongwith full information is available on website i.e. <http://www.irps.gov.in>
Note: Tenderers are requested to visit the website <http://www.irps.gov.in> in atleast 10 days before last date of closing for latest corrigendum/ corrections etc. in response to this E-tender.

By D.S.T.E.
East Central Railway, Dhanbad

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE
DRM(Electrical)/TRD/ECR/ Dhanbad for and behalf of the President of India invites e-tender for execution of the work indicated as under: **E-Tender No. TRD/OT/05/MHDA/ YD2/2021-22**
1. Name of work with location and completion of work: Upgradation of mahadaiya yard due to doubling work and connectivity to PRL siding at Gortl Block-B (Under deposit terms for 2 lines only including shunting neck and connecting with PRL siding). (Completion period (06) six Months) **2. Approx cost of the work:** Rs.66.45.038.811/-(Cost of e-tender from-Nil). **3. Earnest Money to be deposited:** Nil. **4. Date & Time for submission of closing and opening of E-tender:** Closing of E-Tender On 18.10.2021 at 11:00 hrs., Opening of E-Tender On 18.10.2021 at 11:30hrs.
5. Website particulars: Website: www.irps.gov.in. Manual tender offer note accepted under e-tender.
Div. Railway Manager (Elect)/TRD
East Central Railway, Dhanbad
PR/068/DHN/ETRO/7/21-22/32

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
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By D.S.T.E.
East Central Railway, Dhanbad

HOW ADP HAS ADDRESSED REGIONAL DISPARITY

AMITABH KANT

Nagaland's Kiphire is one of the most remote districts of India, located in a challenging hilly terrain. Most people in the district are engaged in agriculture and related activities, with kholar or kidney beans being a popular choice. Recognising the potential of kholar cultivation in improving the livelihoods of the locals, a packaging facility for the same was set up in 2019 through the Aspirational Districts Programme. The facility was an instant hit with the farmers. Since then, kholar cultivation has taken off in a big way and Kiphire's kidney beans are now being sold across the country on the TribesIndia.com portal of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Similar success stories abound across the 112 districts that are a part of the

Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP), launched by the Prime Minister in 2018. Since its inception, ADP has consistently worked towards boosting growth and development of some of the most backward and remote districts of India. Earlier this year, UNDP lauded the programme as 'a very successful model of local area development' that 'should serve as a best practice for several other countries where regional disparities in development status persist for many reasons'. In 2020, the Institute of Competitiveness too recognized the far-reaching impact of the programme on the most underdeveloped pockets of India. Since the inception of the programme, significant improvement in health, nutrition, education and infrastructure has been noted, along

with positive social and economic impact. According to Round 5, Phase 1, of the National Family Health Survey, in critical care areas—such as antenatal care, institutional deliveries, child immunization, use of family planning methods—the aspirational districts have shown relatively faster improvement. Similarly, in basic infrastructure provision, access to electricity, cleaner fuel and sanitation, the districts have moved relatively faster. The programme has been able to achieve these results by tracking and ranking the performance of the districts on 49 key performance indicators (KPIs) across five sectors: health and nutrition, education, agriculture and water resources, basic infrastructure, financial inclusion and skill development. ADP's focus on improving

governance in these districts has not only improved the delivery of government services but also given rise to dynamic and innovative efforts led by the districts themselves. The design of ADP recognizes two important realities. First, that lack of funding is not the sole or even the predominant cause of backwardness as due to poor governance funds available under existing schemes (both central and state) are not effectively utilized. And second, the prolonged historical neglect of these districts has created a vicious cycle of low motivation among district officials. Breaking this cycle through the infusion of data-driven governance is in fact the key to unlocking the potential of these districts. During its three years of implementation, the programme has provided the right institu-

tional framework to push substantial improvement across a multitude of sectors through its core principles of convergence (between central and state schemes), collaboration (between centre, state, district and development partners) and competition (between the districts). Through ADP, the government is using technology to not only streamline coordination but also channelise efforts in a targeted manner. ADP's Champions of Change platform, developed by NITI Aayog, supports the district administration with self-service analytics tools, which aids them in analysing data and developing targeted local area plans. The platform ensures that the districts are constantly competing with each other in order to improve their position in the programme's delta rankings. Competition ensures that new ideas to

improve service delivery are constantly being explored. While several schemes have tried to address regional disparities over the years, there has been very little convergence between them. By measuring the districts on the 49 KPIs, ADP leaves them with the discretion to streamline and channel the schemes that can best enable them to achieve outcomes. In this way, development efforts go beyond the scope of individual schemes and are viewed through the prism of the results they are intended to bring. This convergence of central, state, and district-level efforts is one of the founding principles of ADP. The programme has brought together NGOs/civil society organisations and district administration to work in collaboration with each other, as opposed to duplicating

efforts or working in silos. This has ensured that sarkar, samaaj and bazaar all work towards achieving the same objectives by leveraging their respective assets. Over the years, the districts have been able to benefit from each other through the circulation and replication of best practices. Certain practices innovated and adopted by one district have been replicated by others. The programme allows such inspiration to flow across districts, along with the necessary flexibility to mutate the practices as per local requirements. The Aspirational Districts Programme is highly cognizant of the differences across states and even districts and provides a suitable mechanism to allow for those differences. In fact, the programme intends to deepen this vision by encour-

aging districts to replicate this model at the block level. We hope that taking the model further will provide deeper insights into the challenges faced by a district and how to overcome them. ADP is a shining example of cooperative-competitive federalism. The recognition and recommendations from international organisations about ADP's template and successes validate our efforts immensely. In fact, it is only fitting that a model to address regional disparities should come from one of the most diverse countries in the world, and we are committed to evolving the programme to one of the best instruments of equalising development. The writer is CEO, NITI Aayog. Views expressed are personal

EMPLOYERS GET CONFUSED OVER LABOUR CODES

OM PRAKASH SHARMA



The Labour Code on social security 2020, introduced in Lok Sabha on Dec' 2019 to replace the 13 labour Laws into a single code related to social security including the Employees Provident Fund Act 1952, Maternity Act 1961, ESIC Act 1948 and others. The OSH Code (Occupational, Safety and Health) has been implemented into the provisions of minimum wages and payment of wages to cover employees in both the organised and unorganised sectors. Introduced with an aim to simplify labour Laws compliance for employers, enhance social security for employees significantly and provide ease of doing business in India and the Central Government is ready to push ahead with different Labour reforms. Presently employers are getting confused over labour codes

due to extension of the said code, the next date to be effective from 1st Oct'21 but still not notify by Official Gazette for commencement of this code. However, the Corporates and agency need to understand the various statutory compliance process, the applicability of provisions, benefits and other implications related to the code and be ready to adopt them.

The writer is General Manager-HR & Admin, Vihann Networks Ltd, Ranchi

Farewell given to CGM IC Mines

RAHUL SHARMA ■ BOKARO

The Chief General Manager-in-charge of SAIL Jharkhand Group of Mines, DK Burman, who is retiring on September 30, was given farewell in a ceremony organized in the conference room of Director-in-Charge of BSL. On this occasion, Director-in-Charge of BSL, Amarendu Prakash, Executive Director of BSL, senior officers of Jharkhand Group of Mines and other senior officers were present. During the ceremony, important achievements related to the service of Burman were remembered. The Director-in-Charge presented him a memento and everyone wished him all the best for his future life.

Cong to fight for Bhojpuri and Maghi languages: Thakur

PANKAJ KUMAR ■ DHANBAD

The Congress will fight for Bhojpuri, Maghi and Angika languages for declaring them a second state language, said newly appointed State congress chief Rajesh Thakur. Replying to media persons here Thakur said, "Congress is in government and would request chief minister Hemant Soren to consider the stand of Congress on languages issue". The Government will have to reconsider its stand if lakhs of people who speak these languages in Jharkhand thus need justice, Thakur said. Thakur was here in town to attend a facilitation function organised by the district committee over his appointment as state president of the party. Minister for Health Banna Gupta and Agriculture minister Badal too were present during the felicitation function. Hundreds of congress leaders and workers gave a rousing welcome cutting across the factionalism in party to the newly appointed state president.

History being created by BSL team in the field of production

PNS ■ BOKARO

The basic resolution given by Amarendu Prakash, Director-in-Charge of Bokaro Steel Plant at the beginning of the financial year 2020-21, every month a better month, BSL personnel are making the call true. With the collective effort of the personnel, a new benchmark of excellence is being set one after the other in the field of production almost every month, which is continuing. In this episode of records, this time the team of SMS-New has set a new record by casting 22 heats continuously by single DVM tundish. Earlier, Team SMS-New had set a new record by casting 18 heats continuously. Sharing information COC BSL MK Dhan said the team of SMS-NEW led by CGM (SMS-1) MR Gupta, GM (SMS-1) A Jamiyar, GM (SMS-1) SK Jha, GM (SMS-1) A Mundu, GM (SMS-1) AGM (SMS-1) under the guidance of MK Haldar, GM (SMS-1) B Dutta, GM (SMS-1) VC Reddy, SK Chidar, Manager (SMS-1) Shashi Bhushan Siddharth, and Deputy Manager (SMS-1) Santosh Kumar's team has achieved this success by improving the tundish life through continuous concerted efforts by increasing the casting speed and controlling super heat. It is noteworthy that the first slab from SMS-New was cast on 27 January 2021. With the introduction of new technology equipped slab casters in SMS-New of BSL, steel production is now being done on 100 per cent slab route, which is more energy efficient and better in quality standards.

GGPS Chas to hold Volleyball promotion workshop on grassroots level

PNS ■ BOKARO

Aiming to promote Volleyball at the grassroots level in Jharkhand, Guru Gobind Singh Public School, Chas in Bokaro district is all set to hold a three-day workshop from September 27 to 29 at its campus. WG Morgan's first State-level Volleyball workshop will be organised in association with Jharkhand State Volleyball Association (JSVA) and Mongia Steel, informed Uma Shankar Singh, Principal cum Convener and Venue Director, and Jaydeep Sarkar, Secretary JSVA. "This workshop is going to be conducted first time in Jharkhand which would provide basic and important sports skills along with ability of its participants and sports persons," said Jaydeep. "We are work for the

ground-level development of Volleyball. Our aim is to promote the game through nurturing the huge pool of future champions in the most prospective and organised tangible sectors," added Jaydeep. The inaugural session of the workshop is scheduled to be graced by Dr Gunwant Sing Mongia, Chairman Mongia Steel as Chief Guest, while Tarsem Singh, President Guru Gobind Singh Educational Society, would be the Guest of honour. Besides, Uma Shankar Singh, Jaydeep Sarkar, Dr. SN Rai, Gyan Singh, Rakesh Singh, Rajesh Kumar Singh, Hridayanand, including others, would be the resource persons of the workshop. Physical education teachers and Coaches from around 50 schools across the Jharkhand will participate in the workshop.

2 NSS members of Hazaribag honoured by President of India

PNS ■ RANCHI

Dr Sarita Singh, programme Officer of NSS (National Service Scheme) of St. Columba's College, Hazaribagh and Anamika Gope, a volunteer, have brought laurels to the State with their philanthropic work. On Friday, President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, honoured the volunteers of NSS by

presenting the National Service Scheme Award for the year 2019-20 at a function through digital medium. In this, Dr Sarita Singh, programme officer of NSS (National Service Scheme) of St. Columba's College, Hazaribagh and volunteer Anamika Gope have been honoured with th award. Dr. Sarita Singh was honoured for successful organisa-

tion of awareness campaign in Hazaribagh area for social services, cleanliness campaign, against child marriage including distribution of clothes among poor and needy people and for helping handicapped people and volunteer Anamika Gope was honoured for education to poor students This special honour was received from the hands of the President



for ensuring active participation in giving, promoting digital literacy including organizing health awareness camps

and blood donation camps. Today, the entire Hazaribagh is feeling proud of this great achievement of both of them and the city is feeling proud of this achievement of both of them by hoisting the flag of Hazaribagh in the field of service across the country. This honour is inspiring for others working in the field of social service with a sense of service.

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION DEOGHAR

Notice inviting Tender NIT (RFP) No. 35/2021-22
Memo No. Tenders are invited on behalf of Municipal Commissioner, Deoghar Municipal Corporation, through AWWBI recognized NGOs/Animal Welfare Organizations for the Animal Birth Control Programme. Tender documents along with approved terms and conditions are available at official website of Tendering i.e. www.udhd.jharkhand.gov.in from the eligible firms/NGOs as per Detail given below:-
Date:

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Bid Document Fee (Rs.) In form of DD (Non Refundable)	EMD in form of DD	Tender Download/ Submission Start Date	Technical Bid Opening Last Date	Time Limit
1.	Tender for the award of contract for conducting Animal Birth Control of stray dogs in Municipal Corporation, Deoghar.	1000/-	25000/-	27.09.2021 at 10.00 A.M.	26.10.2021 at 02.00 P.M.	26.10.2021 at 3.00 P.M.

For obtaining necessary information regarding offline Payment of Tender Document, E-Service & EMD Fee, the Bidders can download the tender documents from the Portal: www.udhd.jharkhand.gov.in
NOTE:
1- If the tenders are cancelled or recalled on any grounds, the tender document fees will not be refunded to the Bidder.
2- Cost of Tender Document shall be deposited by Demand Draft of any Schedule Bank in Favour of Chief Executive Officer, Deoghar Municipal Corporation, Deoghar Payable at Deoghar
3- Earnest Money shall be deposited in the shape of Demand Draft of any Schedule Bank in favour of Chief Executive Officer, Deoghar Municipal Corporation, Deoghar.

sd/-
Municipal Commissioner
Deoghar Municipal Corporation, Deoghar
PR.NO.253917 Deoghar(21-22):D



Government of Jharkhand
Jharkhand Rural Health Mission Society
Department of Health, Medical Education & Family Welfare Namkum, Ranchi.
Phone No: 0651-2261000, 2261856 & 2261002 Mail ID: nrhmjharkhand3@gmail.com
(Please view details at www.jrhms.jharkhand.gov.in)

VACANCY NOTICE
Advt No. - 01-JRHMS-(DDF)/2021 Last date of application: 16/10/2021
Applications are invited for filling up the post of Deputy Director (Finance) in Jharkhand Rural Health Mission Society under Department of Health, Medical Education & Family Welfare, Govt. of Jharkhand on deputation basis/ contractual appointment. Eligibility criteria, scale of pay, essential qualification, experience etc. and duties/responsibility attached to the post are as under:

S. Vacant No./Position	Eligibility/Basic Qualification	Pay Scale (in Rs.)
	Office under the Central Government including officer of the organized Accounts Services of AG & State Finance & Account Services. a) i) Holding analogous post on regular basis in the parent cadre/departement in the scale 15,600-39.100 (PF 3 + Grade Pay 6000), or ii) With five years Regular services rendered after appointment there to on a regular basis in the scale of Pay Band – 3- 15600- 39100 with grade pay of 5400/- or equivalent in the parent cadre/departement; or iii) With six years regular service rendered after appointment there to on a regular basis in the scale of PB-2, 9300-34800 with grade pay of 4800/- b) Possessing the following desirable qualification; i) Bachelor's degree in commerce or economics or statistics from a recognized university. ii) Five years experience in finance, accounts and audit matters in a supervisory capacity in a Govt. Office/ Public body of repute. iii) MBA/CA/CWA from any recognized university/institution. Retired Government Officer of the rank of Controller Finance & Accounts/Deputy Controller Finance and Accounts in any Government Organization.	As per State Govt. norms
1. Deputy Director (Finance) (01 UR)		

General information and instructions:
• Application which has not been forwarded by the employer (Except retired govt. officers) or those received without requisite certificate and necessary documents will not be entertained.
• Detail terms & conditions mentioned above can be seen at www.jrhms.jharkhand.gov.in.
Mission Director
PR 253900 Jharkhand Rural Health Mission Society(21-22)#D National Health Mission, Jharkhand

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कार्यालय ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, पलामू

शुद्धि - पत्र

इस प्रमण्डल अन्तर्गत इस कार्यालय से आमंत्रित निविदा सूचना संख्या- **EE/RDSD/PALAMAU-03/2021-22** (जिसका P.R.संख्या 253707 है) से प्रकाशित निविदा सूचना की तिथियों में अपरिहार्य कारणवश निम्नवत् संशोधन किया जाता है।

- कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, पलामू के प्रतिनिधि द्वारा पुलिस अधीक्षक के कार्यालय परिसर में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रधन की राशि एवं शपथ पत्र की मूल प्रति जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय :- **04. 10. 2021** को अपराह्न 3.00 बजे तक।
- निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय **05.10.2021** अपराह्न **02.00** बजे। निविदा की अन्य शर्तें यथावत् रहेंगी।

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, पलामू।
PR.NO.253914 Rural Development(21-22):D

उपायुक्त-सह- जिला दण्डाधिकारी का कार्यालय, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा (जिला निर्वाचन शाखा)

—:: अति अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना::—

एतद् द्वारा सभी निविदादाताओं को सूचित किया जाता है कि चक्रधरपुर एवं चाईबासा नगरपालिका (आम/उप) निर्वाचन, 2021 के निमित्त बैनर/पलेक्स आदि की आपूर्ति हेतु दिनांक-06/10/2021 को 12:30 बजे अपराह्न तक मुहर बंद अति अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निम्नलिखित तिथि के पर्याप्त प्राप्त निविदा स्वीकार्य नहीं होंगी। निविदा की सामग्री की सूची एवं शर्तें निम्न प्रकार होंगी।

क्रमांक	सामग्रियों की सूची	दर अंकित करने की ईकाई का विवरण
1	2	3
1	बैनर/पलेक्स	(प्रति स्क्वायर फीट)

निविदा दिनांक-06/10/2021 के 3:30 बजे अपराह्न अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में निविदादाताओं की उपस्थिति में खोली जाएगी।

निविदादाता निविदा प्रस्तुत करने हेतु सामग्री की सूची जिला निर्वाचन कार्यालय से प्राप्त कर सकते हैं या सामग्री की सूचना जिला के Website-[http:// www.chaibasa.nic.in](http://www.chaibasa.nic.in) से भी डाउनलोड की जा सकती है।

उप निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी, (नगरपालिका)
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा
PR 253899 West Singhbhum(21-22).D पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कार्यालय ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल,कोडरमा।

प्रेस विज्ञापित

एतद् द्वारा संवेदक मेसर्स सिमन्स कन्स्ट्रक्शन कॉर्पोरेशन, हाऊस नं०-59, रोड नं०-11, हिलव्यू कॉलोनी, डिमना, जमशेदपुर को सूचित किया जाता है कि आपके द्वारा इस प्रमण्डलान्तर्गत क्रियायित प्रधानमंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना 1. कोआवर से विष्णुपुर पथ एवं बंगाखलार से कस्तीकुण्ड पथ का कार्य में आपके द्वारा जमा अग्रधन राशि B.G. सं० 087GT0218108001 की वैधता समाप्त हो चुकी है। आपको इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 84 दिनांक 04.02.2021 एवं पत्रांक 405 दिनांक 24.07. 2021 के द्वारा B.G. के नवीनीकरण अथवा नये B.G. समर्पित करने हेतु लिखा गया है। लेकिन आपके द्वारा इस संदर्भ में अब तक कोई पहल नहीं की गई है। अंतिम बार आपको सूचित किया जाता है कि दिनांक 30.09.2021 तक B.G. नवीनीकरण अथवा नया B.G. इस कार्यालय को समर्पित करें। अन्यथा आपके निबंधन को डिबार सूची में डालने के लिए अग्रेत कार्रवाई कर दी जायेगी।

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता,
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल,
कोडरमा।
PR 253877 (Rural Work Department) 21-22 (D)

5-Day ATAL FDP on Strategic Performance Management concludes at XISS

Ranchi: Xavier Institute of Social Service (XISS), Ranchi and its Human Resource Management (HRM) Programme organised a Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on 'Strategic Performance Management' in collaboration with All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) under its AICTE Training & Learning (ATAL) Academy, New Delhi which concluded on Saturday. The programme included various noted speakers from industry as well as academia.

Mamta Rani Agarwal, Adviser-1, ATAL Academy in her valedictory address to the participants said, "The pandemic has heightened and accelerated the re-skilling emergency that we are facing both in the corporate world and in academics. Learning itself is a skill and structured learning is a long term driver of career success. Each of us should become intentional learners to grow and drive a sustainable mindset."

On the concluding day of the FDP, Dr Kamakshi Raman, Executive Director, MTL, SAIL, Ranchi while shedding light on the Role HR Professionals in of Performance Management stressed on the importance of ensuring effective linkages between employee performance and organisational priorities. Earlier in his keynote address, Dr Joseph Marianus Kujur SJ, Director, XISS had expressed his gratitude to AICTE-ATAL for helping facul-

ty members from all over the country in improving their efficiency and delivery. AICTE has been successful in bringing structural changes to technical education by fostering research and innovation and many have benefitted from it. The goal of the FDP is to sync theory to practical application, solve the quality crisis in business, ensuring accountability, and promoting long term growth through strategic performance management, he had stated.

The technical sessions for the day were concluded by Dr Ramakant Agrawal, HoR, HRM, XISS, with a brief and feedback sessions. The informative 5-day long ATAL FDP came to an end with a vote of thanks from Dr Pradeep Kerketta SJ, Assistant Director, XISS. The FDP was coordinated by Prof Shyamal Gomes, XISS along with participation from faculty of XISS and participants from across the country.

On Day 1, Prof Mary Bodra, Associate Professor, HRM XISS, highlighted the importance Strategic Performance Management within the current environment of change. Dr Shyamal Gomes, Professor, HRM XISS, and Coordinator ATAL-FDP emphasized how performance management refocuses our efforts away from being busy toward being effective and shifts our focus on achieving results for customers both inside and outside the

organisation. On Day 2, Prof Mary Sheila Bodra, Associate Professor, HRM Programme, discussed that the modern appraisal practices have seen a remarkable shift towards compatibility with organizational context. Prof Kumar Mohit Spring, Associate Professor, HRM Programme, XISS stressed on the inclusion of constructive feedback in order to promote motivation and how to adjust performance in order to get the desired organizational standards. On Day 3, conducting a session on Performance Managing in Stress Situations, Imdad Ali, Chief HRM, Tata Steel Kalinganagar, spoke about performance management during the pandemic, a previously inexperienced challenge for modern day managers. Dr Ratna Sinha, VP HRM, Tata Metaliks enlightened the audience with Performance Managing Systems in the environment of Digitisation of HR. "Vulnerability is very important to not be complacent being at senior positions," she emphasised. On Day 4, Speaking about the linkage between performance management and reward system, Sanjay Dua, Founder, DUA's Knowledge Potli, suggested various measures such as giving importance to role clarity, supporting ease of conversion of the awards into cash, and defining the frequency as well criteria for the awards. PNS

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कार्यालय ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, सिमडेगा

प्रेस विज्ञापित

एतद् द्वारा मे० कपिल देव सिंह, इन्फ्रा प्रोजेक्ट प्राईवेट लिमिटेड, कुमारबाग रोड, असरण्डे चौक, रॉली (पथ निर्माण विभाग का निबंधन सं० 02051100210) को सूचित किया जाता है कि इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 457 दिनांक 11.05.2019, पत्रांक 518 दिनांक 07.06.2019, पत्रांक 550 दिनांक 13. 06.2019, पत्रांक 87 दिनांक 25.01.2020, पत्रांक 98 दिनांक 27.01.2020, पत्रांक 891 दिनांक 22.09.2020, पत्रांक 33 दिनांक 12.01.2021, पत्रांक 625 दिनांक 07.08.2021 एवं प्रेस विज्ञापित सं० 694 दिनांक 01.09.2021 के द्वारा आपको अंतिम मौका देते हुए सिमडेगा जिला के जलडेगा प्रखण्ड में टोनिया पंचायत में टोनिया से बानो जाने वाले पथ में देवदनी पर पुल निर्माण (एकरारनामा सं० 08F2/2017-18 दिनांक 16.05.2017) कार्य को पूर्ण करने हेतु Work programme की मांग की गई थी परन्तु उनके द्वारा कोई अभिक्रिया नहीं ली गई। अन्ततः इस प्रेस विज्ञापित के माध्यम से पुनः अंतिम मौका देते हुए सूचित करना है कि आप उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य को पूर्ण होने संबंधी विस्तृत Work programme व्यक्तिगत हलफनामा (Affidavit) के साथ स्वयं अथवा प्राधिकृत व्यक्ति द्वारा ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, सिमडेगा में हस्तगत करना सुनिश्चित करेंगे। अन्यथा बाध्य होकर योजना का अंतिम मापी लेते हुए आपके एकरारनामा को विखंडित करने की कार्रवाई की जाएगी।

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल
सिमडेगा
PR 253891 Rural Development (21-22)_D

Gangster's 'blue collar' man caught, jailed in Daltonganj

DALTONGANJ: A 'blue collar' man wearing a common man's face but his fingers in all the criminal pies' was caught by a two member team of senior police officers in Palamu. SP Palamu Chandan Kumar Sinha at his press conference today first pointed his two IPS officers K Vijay Shankar and Kapil Choudhury who as Sinha said 'got this blue collar man Shakti Singh who has no criminal case until he was caught as his manoeuvring was for a veteran gangster Dabloo Singh.' Sinha even described himself as a great lucky man to have these two officers Shankar and Kapil said people who work for criminals or gangsters by proxy there is a death knell for them now in Palamu.

PNS

Rajnath calls for united fight against terrorism



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

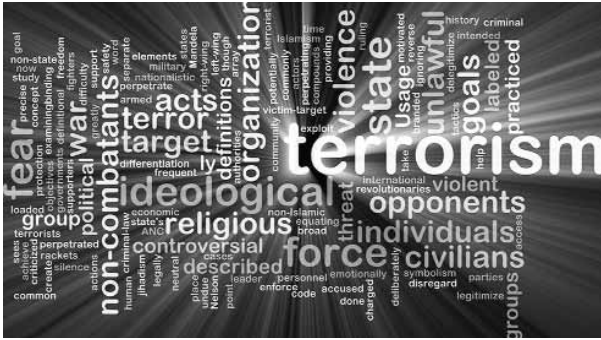
Cautioning against terrorism and citing the precedence of violent radical forces trying to gain legitimacy, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday said the need of the hour for responsible nations is to jointly fight the scourge of terrorism.

In this backdrop, Singh called for proactive synergy among the Armed forces in future military strategies and responses to safeguard the interests of the nation.

The defence minister said the bold approach of the Government on issues like border disputes and cross-border terrorism has made India stronger in the recent past and it has now assumed a greater global role and responsibility.

Making these observations in his address at the National Defence College(NDC) here, Rajnath said the world is witness the destabilising effects of terror and the especially dangerous precedence of violent radical forces attempting to gain legitimacy by creating new normal.

He said, now there is widespread realisation amongst responsible nations to come together against the menace of



terrorism.

Sharing his views on the situation in Afghanistan, Rajnath said the developments have highlighted the reality of our times. “The only certainty about evolving geopolitics is its uncertainty. Changes in state boundaries may not be as frequent today. However, the fast-transforming structure of states and the influence that external powers can have on it is clearly evident,” he said.

The minister emphasised on the need to draw lessons from the situation in Afghanistan, far beyond the immediate reverberations being felt in the region and beyond.

“When these events are viewed, it is tempting to believe that terrorism, fear, medieval thoughts and actions, discrimination drawn on the basis of gender, practices that are seeped in inequality and dogmatic thought, can sweep aside the wishes of the people, plural ideas and inclusive structures.

Nothing can be farther

from reality. And human history is a great teacher in this regard. Injustice, however powerful, cannot and will not defeat the collective power of the goodness that is inherent to human existence. This sentiment is evident from an increasing number of world capitals which have lent their voice in favour of liberalism, inclusivity and respect for international norms of governance and behaviour,” said Rajnath.

He reiterated that India is a peace-loving nation, but will give a befitting reply to anyone who threatens its integrity and sovereignty. “Threats to internal and external security will no longer be tolerated. Our actions in Balakot and Galwan are clear signals to all aggressors,” he said.

The NDC is the highest seat of strategic learning of the country. The prestigious and much sought-after international course at this college provides a trans-disciplinary and comprehensive approach to all aspects of national secu-

HM to hold meet with CMs of 10 naxal-hit States

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah will review the security situation in Naxal affected areas with Chief Ministers of 10 States on Sunday. Those who have been invited for the day-long physical meeting are the chief ministers of Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Odisha, Bihar, West Bengal, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Kerala.

Majority of the Chief Ministers are attending the review meeting while some States are represented by their Home Ministers, said MHA officials.

The Union Home Minister will review with the CMs the security situation and ongoing operations against the Maoists in the 10 Naxal-hit States.

Another agenda of the meeting is a review of the development works like construction of roads, bridges, schools and health centres being carried out in the Naxal-affected areas.

The top officials from Union Transport and Highways Ministry and



Telecom Ministry will also appraise on the development works in these areas. According to the Union Home Ministry data, Maoist violence has reduced considerably in the country and the menace is prevalent now in just about 45 districts.

However, a total of 90 districts in the country are considered Maoist-affected and are covered under the Security Related Expenditure Scheme of the ministry. Naxal violence, also called Left Wing Extremism (LWE), was reported in 61 districts in 2019 and only about 45 districts in 2020.

About 380 security personnel, 1,000 civilians and 900 Naxals have been killed in different instances of violence in LWE-affected areas from 2015 till 2020.

A total of about 4,200 Naxals have also surrendered during the same period, according to the data.

city and strategy.

Each course comprises of experienced one star rank and equivalent officers from the Armed Forces, Civil Services and also officers from friend-

ly foreign countries. The one-year course enables the officers to qualify for an M Phil degree in Defence and Strategic Studies from the University of Madras.

Govt committed to strengthening cooperative system: Shah

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Days after creating the Union Ministry of Cooperation, its Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said the Centre will soon come out with a new cooperative policy and work in tandem with States to strengthen the cooperative movement to ensure that they play a crucial role in making India a USD 5 trillion economy.

Addressing the ‘National Cooperative Conference’, Shah said, “This is the 75th year of India’s independence, therefore, as a part of the Amrut Mahotsava, we will begin drafting the new cooperative policy.”

The existing National Policy on Cooperatives was introduced by the then NDA Government in March 2002.

The National Cooperative Conference is the biggest event since the formation of the Ministry of Cooperation on July 6 2021. It was organised by various cooperative organisations, including the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), National Cooperative Federation of India, Amul, Sahakar Bharti, NAFED and KRIBHCO.

Sharing plans of his Ministry, Shah also announced that the Centre will soon amend the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 to facilitate the functioning of the multi-state cooperative societies.

Observing that 63,000



Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) are not sufficient to cater the needs of six lakh villages, Shah said, “We will set a target to establish a PACS in every second village in the coming five years. To increase the number of PACS from 65,000 to 3 lakh, the Ministry of Cooperation will prepare a proper legal framework that will be advisory in nature. We will send it to the State Governments. States can make changes in their laws.”

Shah also sought to dispel apprehensions about the creation of the Ministry of Cooperation.

He said, “Many people say that this is a state subject. I don’t want to get into the Centre-state fight, a legal answer can be given easily. I only want to say that the Ministry of Cooperation, formed under the leadership of Modi ji, is not to fight with anyone but to cooperate with all the states.

“Therefore, there is no need to think whether it is a state subject or a central subject. We can help everyone; we will also help the states. we will

Shah also sought to dispel apprehensions about the creation of the Ministry of Cooperation

take everyone along and will take the movement forward,” he said. Shah, who is also the Union Home Minister, also announced that the number of primary agriculture cooperative societies (PACS) will be increased to 3 lakh in the next five years. Shah said that today there is a need to set up a National Cooperative University.

He also said that cooperatives make an important contribution to the country’s development and the cooperative movement has to be taken forward by imbuing the spirit of cooperation in work

The path of development of crores of farmers, the deprived, the Backward, Dalits, the poor, the neglected and women can only take place through cooperation, said the Minister.

ED freezes ₹700 crore shares of KSBL

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Saturday said it has frozen shares worth ₹700 crore of Karvy Stock Broking Limited (KSBL) CMD C Parthasarathy and others as part of a money laundering investigation against the firm and its promoters.

Parthasarathy is currently lodged in the Chanchalguda jail of Hyderabad after being arrested by the Telangana Police last month.

On September 22, the ED had conducted searches at six locations in Hyderabad and on various premises of Karvy group of companies, connected entities and the residential premises of C Parthasarathy, the agency said in a statement.

“Several incriminating evidences in the form of property documents, personal diaries, electronic devices, email dumps, etc have been seized and are being analysed,” it said.

“It is reliably learnt that C Parthasarathy is trying to off-load his shares in the group companies through private deals and thus, in order to preserve the proceeds of crime till further investigation, ED has



issued a freezing order on September 24 and the estimated value of these shares has been arrived at ₹700 crore as per the valuation for the year 2019-20,” it said.

These shares of the Karvy group are being held “directly and indirectly” by CMD Comandur Parthasarathy, his sons Rajat Parthasarathy and Adhiraj Parthasarathy, and their entities.

The ED case, filed under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), is based on a Telangana Police FIR alleging KSBL had “illegally pledged the securities of its clients and taken a loan of Rs 329 crore and diverted the same.”

“Another FIR has been registered by central crime station of Hyderabad Police for defrauding IndusInd Bank to the tune of ₹137 crore and one more FIR has been registered

by Cyberabad Police authorities for defrauding ICICI Bank to the tune of ₹562.5 crore,” it said.

The ED has clubbed all these FIRs as part of its probe and has also recorded the statement of C Parthasarathy in jail.

KSBL under the leadership of C Parthasarathy had committed “gross irregularities” and all the illegally taken loans have become NPA, the agency said.

The total loan proceeds taken from multiple banks using the same modus operandi is around ₹2,873 crore, it said, adding that the NSE and SEBI are also investigating the affairs of KSBL.

Prima facie, the ED said, a net amount of ₹1,096 crore was transferred by KSBL to its group company—Karvy Realty (India) Ltd—between April 1, 2016 and October 19, 2019, it added.

Cong extends support to ‘Bharat Bandh’ call by farmers’ unions

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Saturday extended support to the “Bharat Bandh” call given by farmer unions against the Centre’s three agri laws and demanded that discussions be initiated with the protesters.

Congress spokesperson Gourav Vallabh said the Congress and all its workers will support the “peaceful Bharat Bandh on September 27, called by farmer unions and farmers”.

“We demand that the due process of discussion with the farmers should be initiated because they are sitting on the borders of Delhi for last more than nine months. We demand that these three black laws, which were imposed without any consultation, should be taken back,” he said at AICC Press conference.

The Congress leader also demanded that the MSP should be given as a legal right to every farmer “as they do not want only ‘jumlas’ (rhetoric)” and referred to Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s promise to double the farmers’ income by 2022.

Extension of limitation period to file cases ends on Oct 2: SC

IANs ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has ordered the extension granted in connection with the limitation period to file cases in courts, in the backdrop of Covid pandemic situation, to end on October 2, 2021.

A bench headed by Chief Justice N.V. Ramana and comprising justices L. Nageswara Rao and Surya Kant said: “In computing the period of limitation for any suit, appeal, application or proceeding, the period from March 15, 2020 to October 2, 2021, shall stand excluded. Consequently, the balance period of limitation remaining as on March 15, 2021, if any, shall become available with effect from October 3, 2021”.

The bench added that in cases where the limitation would have expired during the period from March 15, 2020 to October 2, 2021, notwithstanding the actual balance period of limitation remaining, all persons shall have a limitation period of 90 days from October 3, 2021. It further added that in the event the actual balance period of limitation remaining, with effect from October 3, 2021, is greater than 90 days, that longer period shall apply.



BJP president JP Nadda and other party leaders offer tribute to Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay on his birth anniversary Agency

IMD warns of low-pressure systems in Bay of Bengal

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After what has been an unusually active period of activity in the Bay of Bengal—which saw the formation of as many as six low-pressure systems since the end of August 2021—the India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Saturday warned that a low-pressure system in the Bay of Bengal, which intensified as a deep depression, will turn into Cyclone Gulab (named by Pakistan) by Sunday evening.

This will be the third cyclone of 2021 after Tauktae and Yaas that had formed in May this year. Odisha, West Bengal and coastal Andhra Pradesh have been put on high alert. The intensification of this system into a cyclonic storm is a highly unusual phenomenon, considering the temperature across the Bay of Bengal remains too low between the monsoon months of June to September to support cyclone formation.

Under the influence of Gulab and its remnant systems, In the wake of the approaching storm, the IMD has forecast light to moderate intensity (2.4mm to 644mm in 24-hours) over West Bengal, Odisha and coastal Andhra Pradesh on Saturday. On Sunday, the Met Office has warned of very heavy to extremely heavy rain (115.6mm to over 204.4mm in 24-hours) over south Odisha, north coastal Andhra Pradesh. Heavy rain is likely over Telangana, north interior Odisha, and Chhattisgarh. Due to rough sea conditions and intense winds, fishermen have been advised against venturing into the sea till Monday.

The National Crisis



Management Committee (NCMC) headed by Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba reviewed the preparedness to deal with a cyclonic storm developing in the Bay of Bengal and directed authorities to take all necessary measures. It is likely to affect districts of Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, and Ganjam and Gajapati in Odisha.

Gauba stressed that all preventive and precautionary measures should be taken by the concerned authorities of the State Governments and concerned agencies of the Centre, before the cyclonic storm makes landfall, as the aim should be to keep loss of lives to near zero and minimize damage to property and infrastructure.

The Cabinet Secretary assured the State Governments that all Central agencies are ready and will be available for assistance. The chief secretaries of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh apprised the NCMC of the preparatory measures being undertaken to protect the population in the expected path of the cyclonic storm as also measures being taken to ensure that there is minimal damage to infrastructure such as telecom and power in the aftermath of the storm.

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) director general S N Pradhan tweeted that the teams — 13 in Odisha and five in Andhra Pradesh — will be in place by Saturday night. The NDRF teams in Odisha will be deployed in Balasore, Ganjam, Gajapati, Rayagada, Koraput, Nayagarh and Malkangiri districts. In Andhra Pradesh, the teams will be deployed in Vishakhapatnam, Srikakulam, Yanam and Vizianagaram. An NDRF team usually has a strength of 47 personnel who are equipped with tree and pole cutters, communication gadgets, inflatable boats and basic medical aid to rescue affected people and to launch relief operations.

So far, two storms have formed in the season, first one being Cyclone Taukte which had formed in the Arabian Sea, between May 14 and 19, making a landfall at Diu. The other one was Cyclone Yaas that formed in the Bay of Bengal, around May 23 and 28, which had crossed the Odisha coast.

Like most recent storms that have crossed Indian coasts, this system, too, is rapidly intensifying. In less than 48 hours, it intensified from a low pressure (wind speed less than 34kms/hr) to a deep depression (wind speed 51 to 61kms/hr).

Children less severely impacted by Covid, recover fast, says WHO scientist

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

World Health Organisation (WHO) chief scientist Soumya Swaminathan on Saturday said children have been less severely impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and their chances of recovery are very good, even as she asserted that the Coronavirus is going to become the next respiratory virus.

She, however, said SARS-CoV2 virus may not disappear, but it is not going to cause the kind of impact and panic it caused over the last two years.

Participating in a virtual session on ‘Priorities after Pandemic; What Young India wants?’ - Indian Student Parliament, Swaminathan said the reason why people talk about children being susceptible is because vaccination programmes today in most countries are targeting people above the age of 18 and elderly as they are the most vulnerable.

“When you do that, you are left with younger, and younger people who are unvaccinated. And, therefore, when you have the virus circulating in the community, those people are basically the susceptible population,” she said in response to a question.

In many countries, it is seen that by vaccinating older people, the infection pattern shifts to younger people. “I want to assure you that children on the whole have been less severely impacted by this pandemic. Not that they don’t get infected. Yes, they do get infected as adults but they don’t get severely ill. Clearly, it is an age-related correlation with the severity,” she said.

“Even if they get infected, the chances are that they recover very well,” the WHO chief scientist said. Swaminathan added that many countries have third, fourth and fifth waves and hoped that India will not have a third wave.

Min bats for mandatory screening of infants for various ailments

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Concerned at the health status of nine crore Indians who are suffering from various hearing disabilities, Union Minister of State for Health Dr Bharati Pravin Pawar has batted for mandatory screening of infants for various ailments and disabilities.

“While we are celebrating ‘Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav’, we should visit our villages and see if we can help children in screening them for various ailments,” she said, adding that early diagnosis and prevention of disability have huge benefits and prevention is better than cure.

Addressing the International Week of Deaf People 2021 at the Central Health Education Bureau recently, Pawar noted that India has proved to the world that it is a country which can produce its own medicine and can administer 1-2 crore vaccines on a daily basis.

The Directorate General of



Health Services under the Union Health Ministry is commemorating the International Week of the Deaf People (IWDP) 2021 with the theme of “Celebrating Thriving Deaf Communities” through various activities including the involvement of stakeholders.

Underlining the need to revive the old fashion of infant care, Pawar suggested preparing a pocket-book with QR codes having information about early screening and diagnosis of children as well as various

help lines.

“This pocket book can be shared with ASHAs, Aanganwadi workers, and other hospital staff. She also emphasised on the need to create awareness about various government schemes like Ayushman Bharat so that people can get maximum benefits,” she said.

The International Week of the Deaf People (IWDP) is celebrated annually by the global Deaf Community during the last full week of September.

GLOBE TROTTER

8 DEAD IN SOMALIA AS AL-SHABAB CLAIMS BLAST

Mogadishu: A vehicle laden with explosives rammed into cars and trucks at a checkpoint leading to the entrance of the Presidential Palace in Somalia, killing at least eight people, police said on Saturday. The checkpoint is the one used by Somalia's president and Prime Minister on their way to and from the airport in Somalia's capital, Mogadishu.

US TO CELEBRATE OCT AS HINDU HERITAGE MONTH

Houston: Several US states, including Texas, Florida, New Jersey, Ohio and Massachusetts, have proclaimed October as the Hindu Heritage Month, noting that Hinduism has "contributed greatly" to America through its unique history and heritage.

ICELANDERS VOTE IN VOLATILE ELECTION

Reykjavik (Iceland): Icelanders were voting Saturday in a general election dominated by climate change, with an unprecedented number of political parties likely to win parliamentary seats. Polls suggest there won't be an outright winner, triggering complex negotiations.

EU WARNS RUSSIA OVER CYBERATTACKS

Brussels: The European Union on Friday warned Russia against allowing hackers to attack data bases or spread disinformation in some of the 27 member countries just as Germans were preparing to go the polls for weekend parliamentary elections.

Under Taliban, thriving Afghan music scene heads to silence

AP ■ KABUL

A seized power in Afghanistan, the music is going quiet. The last time the militant group ruled the country, in the late 1990s, it outright banned music.

So far this time, the government set up by the Taliban hasn't taken that step officially. But already, musicians are afraid a ban will come, and some Taliban fighters on the ground have started enforcing rules on their own, harassing musicians and music venues.

Many wedding halls are limiting music at their gatherings. Musicians are afraid to perform. At least one reported that Taliban fighters at one of the many checkpoints around the capital smashed his instrument. Drivers silence their radios whenever they see a Taliban checkpoint.

In the alleys of Kharabat, a neighbourhood in Kabul's Old City, families where music is a profession passed through generations are looking for ways to leave the country.

The profession was already hit hard by Afghanistan's foundering economy, along with the coronavirus pandemic, and some families now too fearful to work are selling off furniture to get by.



"The current situation is oppressive," said Muzafar Bakhsh, a 21-year-old who played in a wedding band. His family had just sold off part of its belongings at Kabul's new flea market, Chaman-e-Hozari.

"We keep selling them ... so we don't die of starvation," said Bakhsh, whose late grandfather was Ustad Rahim Bakhsh, a famous ustad — or maestro — of Afghan classical music.

Afghanistan has a strong musical tradition, influenced by Iranian and Indian classical music. It also has a thriving pop

music scene, adding electronic instruments and dance beats to more traditional rhythms. Both have flourished in the past 20 years.

Asked whether the Taliban government will ban music again, spokesman Bilal Karimi told *The Associated Press*, "Right now, it is under review and when a final decision is made, the Islamic Emirate will announce it."

But music venues are already feeling the pressure since the Taliban swept into Kabul on August 15.

Wedding halls are usually scene to large gatherings with

music and dancing, most often segregated between men's and women's sections.

At three halls visited by the AP, staff said the same thing. Taliban fighters often show up, and although so far they haven't objected to music, their presence is intimidating.

Musicians refuse to show up. In the male sections of weddings, the halls no longer have live music or DJs. In the women's section — where the Taliban fighters have less access — female DJs sometimes still play.

Some karaoke parlors have closed. Others still open face harassment. One parlour visited by the AP stopped karaoke but stayed open, serving water-pipes and playing recorded music.

Last week, Taliban fighters showed up, broke an accordion and tore down signs and stickers referring to music or karaoke. A few days later, they returned and told the customers to leave immediately.

Many musicians are applying for visas abroad.

In the family home of another ustad in Kharabat, everyone's go-bag is packed, ready to leave when they can. In one room, a group of musicians was gathered on a recent day, drinking tea and discussing the situation.

Roadside bomb hits Taliban car At least one person injured

AP ■ KABUL

A Taliban official says a roadside bomb has hit a Taliban car in the capital of eastern Nangarhar province wounding at least one person.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the bombing Saturday. The Islamic State group affiliate, which is headquartered in eastern Afghanistan, has said it was behind similar attacks in Jalalabad last week that killed 12 people.

Taliban spokesperson Mohammad Hanif said the person wounded in the attack is a municipal worker.

An official at Nangarhar provincial hospital said the bomb killed a Taliban militant and wounded seven others, including four civilians. He spoke on condition of anonymity as he was not allowed to speak to media.

The Taliban have battled with IS since its emergence in Afghanistan in 2014. The burgeoning IS affiliate has claimed responsibility for most recent attacks, including the horrific bombing outside the Kabul airport that killed 13 US service personnel and 169 Afghans during last month's chaotic evacuations.

Minister: Iran will return to nuclear talks 'very soon'



In this photo provided by the United Nations, United Nations General Assembly President Abdulla Shahid of Maldives, right, meets with Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian, during 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Thursday at UN headquarters

AP ■ UNITED NATIONS

Iran's new Foreign Minister said on Friday the country will return to nuclear negotiations "very soon," but accused the Biden administration of sending contradictory messages — saying it wants to rejoin the 2015 nuclear deal while slapping new sanctions on Tehran and not taking "an iota of positive action."

Hossain Amir Abdollah said the Government, which took power last month, believes that President Joe Biden "keeps carrying close to his heart the thick file of the Trump sanctions against Iran, even while seemingly pursuing negotiations."

Former President Donald Trump routinely denounced the nuclear accord as the "worst deal ever negotiated" and withdrew from the agreement in 2018 after an ill-fated attempt to bring the other parties — Britain, France, Russia, China, Germany and Iran — on board with additional restrictions. After withdrawing, Trump embarked on what he called a "maximum pressure campaign" against Iran, re-imposing all the US sanctions that had been eased under the deal and adding penalties.

In a media briefing on Iran's new foreign policy, Amir Abdollah was very skeptical about the Biden administration's real intentions, stressing that actions are more important than "empty but beautiful words" and so is "the commitment" and "behavior" of the United States toward Iran.

Iran's top diplomat sharply criticised additional sanctions imposed by the Biden administration, as well as its refusal to give a green light for Iran to access millions of dollars of its money frozen in South Korea and Japanese banks to buy Covid-19 vaccines and medicine, and suddenly asking Britain to stop payment of 42-year-old debts.

While "standing up new sanctions against Iran," he said, the United States can't keep speaking of returning to the nuclear deal, even holding bilateral talks with Iran, and criticizing Trump policies. This includes telling Iran — through diplomatic channels — that Biden wouldn't have ordered the US airstrike that Trump did in January 2020 which killed Iran's top general, Qassem Soleimani.

Recalling that Iranians have a long, rich history and ancient civilization behind them, Amir Abdollah said "the United States of America must speak with a civilised tone and tongue with the people of Iran, not the language of threats, of pressure and sanctions." The past 42 years, since the Iranian revolution, have "made clear the language of threats will not work against the great people of Iran."

Biden and his team have made a US return to the deal one of their top foreign policy priorities. The deal was one of President Barack Obama's signature achievements, one that aides now serving in the Biden administration had helped negotiate and that Trump tried to dismantle.

Haiti's leader: Migration won't end unless inequality does

AP ■ UNITED NATIONS

Amid an outcry over the US treatment of Haitian asylum-seekers, the beleaguered island country's embattled Prime Minister pointedly said that inequalities and conflict drive migration, but he stopped short of directly criticising Washington over the issue.

"We do not wish to challenge the right of a sovereign state to control the entry borders into its territory, or to send back to the country of origin those who enter a country illegally," Prime Minister Ariel Henry said in a video speech to the UN General Assembly's annual meeting of world leaders.

But "human beings, fathers and mothers who have children, are always going to flee poverty and conflict," he added. "Migration will continue as long as the planet has both wealthy areas, whilst most of the world's population lives in poverty, even extreme poverty, without any prospects of a better life."

Moreover, "we believe that many countries which are prosperous today have been built through successive waves of migrants and refugees," he added.

Ariel spoke as his country reels from its president's assassination, an earthquake and the migration crisis — all in the last three months. And Ariel's government is facing increasing turmoil with presidential and legislative elections set for November. 7.

Ariel came under scrutiny by Haiti's now-former chief prosecutor, who asked a judge this month to charge the Prime Minister in President President Jovenel Moise's July 7 assassination. The prosecutor said Henry spoke to a key suspect twice in the hours after the killing.

Henry — who says he is striving to bring the culprits to justice, fired the prosecutor and the justice minister last week. Another top official resigned, accusing the Prime Minister of trying to obstruct justice.

Bodies of 9 suspected migrants found in Panama

AP ■ PANAMA CITY

Nine bodies of suspected migrants have been found near a remote community in the Panamanian jungle close to the border with Colombia, local prosecutors said on Friday.

The bodies, including one child, were found near the Tuqueza and Canaan Membrillo rivers in the Emberá Wounaan indigenous region, according to the Darien province prosecutor's office.

Chief prosecutor Julio Vergara said he believes they may be immigrants because a Haitian woman told authorities that on the Tuqueza river heavy rains had produced high waters that had swept away about nine people, who had remained missing. The recovered bodies did not have identification documents, the office said in a statement. It added that so far this year, the bodies of 41 migrants had been found along rivers in the jungle spanning the dangerous Darien Gap that connects Colombia and Panama.

Huawei executive returns as China releases 2 Canadians

Shenzhen: An executive of Chinese global communications giant Huawei Technologies returned from Canada on Saturday night following a legal settlement that also saw the release of two Canadians held by China, potentially bringing closure to a nearly 3-year-long feud embroiling Ottawa, Beijing and Washington.

Meng Wanzhou, Huawei's chief financial officer and the daughter of the company's founder, arrived on Saturday evening aboard a chartered jet provided by flag carrier Air China in the southern technology hub of Shenzhen.

Her return, met with a flag-waving group of airline employees, was carried live on state TV, underscoring the degree to which Beijing has linked her case with Chinese nationalism and its rise as a global economic and political power. Wearing a red dress matching the color of China's flag, Meng thanked the ruling Communist Party and its leader Xi Jinping for supporting her through more than 1,000 days in house arrest in Vancouver, where she owns two multimillion dollar mansions. AP

Under China pressure, Taiwan Opposition choses new leader

AP ■ TAIPEI, TAIWAN

Taiwan's main Opposition Nationalist Party chose former leader Eric Chu as its new chairperson on Saturday in an election overshadowed by increasing pressure from neighbor China.

Four candidates, including incumbent chair Johnny Chiang, had competed for the leadership of the party that has advocated closer relations with Beijing. That means agreeing to Beijing's demand that it regard Taiwan as a part of China, something Taiwan's ruling Democratic Progressive Party has refused to do.

China has threatened to use force to bring Taiwan under its control and has increasingly mobilized military, diplomatic and economic pressure in an attempt to undermine the administration of President Tsai Ing-wen and sway opinion among the Taiwanese people, who strongly favor the status quo of de-facto independence. Mindful of public senti-

ments, the Nationalists have advocated a less acrimonious relationship with China, rather than direct moves toward unification between the sides, which are bound by close economic, linguistic and cultural ties.

Chu ran and lost in a landslide against Tsai in 2016, prior to which he had served as party chair and head of the region just outside the capital Taipei.

He may emerge as the party's candidate in the next presidential election in 2024, although that selection process has yet to begin. Tsai is constitutionally barred from running for a third term.

Under Chiang Kai-shek, the Nationalists rose to power in China during the 1920s and led the struggle against Japanese invaders until the end of World War II. Chiang relocated the government, still officially known as the Republic of China, to Taiwan in 1949 as Mao Zedong's Communists swept to power on mainland China.

Biden risks losing support from Democrats amid DC gridlock

AP ■ NEW YORK

President Joe Biden is losing support among critical groups in his political base as some of his core campaign promises falter, raising concerns among Democrats that the voters who put him in office may feel less enthusiastic about returning to the polls in next year's midterm elections.

In just the past week, the push to change the nation's immigration laws and create a path to citizenship for young

immigrants brought illegally to the country as children faced a serious setback on Capitol Hill. Bipartisan negotiations to overhaul policing collapsed and searing images of Haitian refugees being mistreated at the U.S.-Mexico border undermined Biden's pledge of humane treatment for those seeking to enter the United States.

Taken together, the developments threaten to disillusion African Americans, Latinos, young people and independents, all of whom played a

vital role in building a coalition that gave Democrats control of Congress and the White House last year. That's creating a sense of urgency to broker some type of agreement between the party's progressive and moderate wings to move forward with a \$3.5 trillion package that would fundamentally reshape the nation's social programs.

Failure to do so, party strategists warn, could devastate Democrats in the 2022 vote and raise questions about Biden's path to reelection if he decides to seek a second term.

Volcanic ash cloud closes La Palma airport

Madrid: The airport on the Spanish island of La Palma shut down on Saturday because of an ash cloud spewing out of a volcano that has been erupting for a week, and scientists said another volcanic vent opened up, exposing islanders to possible new dangers.

The intensity of the eruption that began Sept. 19 has increased in recent days, prompting the evacuation of three additional villages on the island, part of Spain's Canary Islands archipelago in the Atlantic Ocean off north-west Africa. Almost 7,000 people have been forced to abandon



don their homes. The recent volcanic eruption is the first since 1971 on La Palma, which has a population of 85,000. AP

Office of the Superintending Engineer 2nd Circle, Public Works Department, Nainital-263002 Phone/Fax: 05942-235728/ 232030 Email: sepwdnt1@rediffmail.com

Letter No. : 4377/ 41M 2/2020-21 Dated : 25/09/2021

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (E-Tendering)

Superintending Engineer, 2nd Circle, Public Works Department Nainital on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites item rate e-tender (two bid system). For the following work in the anticipation for sanction of work. For further details please log on to <https://www.uktenders.gov.in> from 07.10.2021

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Earnest Money (in Lakh Rs)	Cost of Tender	Validity of Tender	Time of Completion	Contractor's Category of Registration
1	Construction of Heliport work near Khurpatal in Vikaskhand Bhimtal, District Nainital under RCS (Udaan-2) Scheme. (Civil Work)	8.20	5000.00 + 18% GST	120 Days	8 Month	Category A/A+ for Building work in any state/ Govt. of India/ or Govt. undertaking.

Office of the Superintending Engineer 1st Circle, Public Works Department, Almora Phone/Fax: 05962-230295 Email: sepwdalm@rediffmail.com

Letter No. : 7449/ Nivida-01/2021 Dated : 24/09/2021

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (E-Tendering)

Short Term E-TENDER NOTICE

The superintending Engineer, 1st Circle, Public Works Department, Almora invites tender through E-Tendering (Two Bid System) in anticipation of Sanction on behalf of Honourable Governor of Uttarakhand for following works. All other information will be available from dated 05/10/2021 & onwards on website <http://www.uktenders.gov.in>

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Cost of Tender Form	Earnest Money (Rupee in lakh)	Validity of Tender	Time of Completion	Contractor's Category of Registration for tendering
1	Development of Existing Helipad to Heliport at Falsima - Tatrick Near District Head Quarter Almora Under RCS (Udan-2) Scheme.	5000.00 + 18% GST	4.25 Lakh	120 Days	6 Months	Category "A" & above in Building works

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

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

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken 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.	Mugis Uddin Ahmad/ Shamim Fatima/ LBAL100001535664	Plot Pertaining To Khasra No. 172/1/2, 172/1/3/1 & 174/2/1/1, Doodhpur Mafi, Pargana & Tehsil Koil, Aligarh Uttar Pradesh/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021 Rs. 9,45,730/-	Aligarh/ Gurgaon/ Delhi
2.	Mugis Uddin Ahmad/ Fija Khan/ LBAL100002422767/ LBAL100003111979	Plot Pertaining To Khasra No. 172/1/2, 172/1/3/1 & 174/2/1/1, Doodhpur Mafi, Pargana & Tehsil Koil, Aligarh Uttar Pradesh/ September 21, 2021	June 19, 2021 Rs. 31,44,476/-	Aligarh/ Gurgaon/ Delhi

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

Date : September 24, 2021 Place: Delhi/NCR

Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

OFFICE OF THE PROJECT MANAGER, CONSTRUCTION UNIT, UTTARAKHAND PEYJAL NIGAM

COLLECTORATE COMPOUND, RUDRAPUR, DISTT. UDHAM SINGH NAGAR

Ref no. 1296/Nivida/184 E-Tender Notice Date: 25.09.2021

1. Name of the work- CONSTRUCTION OF REMAINING WORKS OF GOVT. BAL SAMPREKSHAN GRIHAT RUDRAPUR (UDHAM SINGH NAGAR).

2. Estimated Cost - Rs. 74.68 Lakh

3. Period of Completion:- 04 Month

4. Date and Time of availability of Bid documents in the portal:- 25.09.2021 (17.00 hrs)

5. Last date/Time of receipt of bids in the portal:- 16.10.2021 (17.00 hrs)

6. Date & Time of Technical bid Opening :- 19.10.2021 (11.00 hrs)

7. Name and Address of the Officer inviting bid:- Er. A.K. Tyagi, Project Manager, Collectorate Compound, Rudrapur (Udham Singh Nagar).

8. Pre-bid meeting details (if required) Date & Place:- 04.10.2021 (11.00 hrs) Rudrapur

9. For further details, details of subsequent Amendment / correction documentation etc. may be obtained from the e-Procurement portal www.uktenders.gov.in Project Manager

JODHPUR BUS SERVICE LIMITED

Regd Office : Jodhpur Municipal Corporation Building Inside Polytechnic College, Gaurav Path, JODHPUR - 342001, RAJASTHAN, INDIA E-mail : jbsljodhpur@gmail.com CIM : U60210RJ2015SGC047304 I PAN : AACDCJ4850D

Ref No. JBSL - 2021-22/65 Date : 15.09.2021

ONLINE NOTICE INVITING BIDS

UBN DLB2122RFP0039

Jodhpur Bus Services Ltd. invites online unconditional bids under Single stage Two Envelope System through e-procurement portal <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> from eligible/experienced bidders as per criteria mentioned in bid document, for "Request for Proposal (RFP) for Operation, Maintenance and Revenue Collection of City Bus Services in Jodhpur City under JBSL." Bids are to be submitted digitally signed in electronic format only on website <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>. The bid document is available for downloading on website <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and www.mjnorth.raj.nic.in from 20.09.2021 at 6:00 P.M. and the last date and time of online submission of bid is 20.10.2021 upto 02:00 P.M.

Director JBSL & Commissioner Municipal Corporation Jodhpur North

GST REFUND

Aadhaar authentication mandatory for taxpayers



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government has made Aadhaar authentication of taxpayers mandatory for claiming GST refund.

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has amended GST rules bringing in various anti-evasion measures, including disbursal of GST refunds only in the bank account, which is linked with same PAN on which Goods and Services Tax (GST) registration has been

obtained.

The notification also states that from January 1, 2022, businesses who have defaulted in filing summary return and paying monthly GST will not be able to file GSTR-1 sales return of the succeeding month.

The notification follows the decisions taken at the meeting of the GST Council in Lucknow on September 17.

AMRG & Associates Senior Partner Rajat Mohan said, "To arrest tax evasion, the

government has made Aadhaar authentication for proprietor, partner, karta, Managing Director, whole time Director, and authorised signatory compulsory before filing an application for revocation of cancellation registration and refund application."

EY Tax Partner Abhishek Jain said with the objective of preventing revenue leakage, the government has made Aadhaar authentication mandatory for a taxpayer to be able to claim refunds.

"The move will help in reducing cases of fraudulent refunds as only the verified taxpayers will obtain the refunds now," Jain added.

With regard to taxpayers not bringing able to file their GSTR- 1 if they have not filed their GSTR-3B of the previous month,Jain said this is a well thought restriction and a necessary control check to eliminate the cases

where taxpayers although report their supply invoices in GSTR-1 (due to constant follow ups from recipients' side) but they do not submit their corresponding GSTR-3B return through which tax is actually paid to the government.

"Compliant taxpayers would appreciate this move as till now their input tax credit was also at risk in case vendors do not file their GSTR-3B even though such invoice is appearing in GSTR-2A," Jain added.

Currently, the law restricts filing of return for outward supplies or GSTR-1 in case a business fails to file GSTR-3B of preceding two months.

While businesses file GSTR-1 of a particular month by the 11th day of the subsequent month, GSTR-3B, through which businesses pay taxes, is filed in a staggered manner between 20th-24th day of the succeeding month.

CBIC extends re-export timeline for imported containers by 3 months

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

To address the problem of shortage of containers for exports, the tax department has decided to give three more months for the re-export of imported vessels lying at domestic ports, according to an official circular.

Currently, duty-free imports of containers are allowed with the condition of re-export in the next six months.

However, keeping containers beyond six months is considered as deemed import and thus import duty is levied,

a policy aimed at ensuring faster turnaround of containers.

To avoid such import duties, shipping lines export empty containers to evade duty payment on containers which are lying empty. However, such practices are aggravating the problem of shortage of containers for exports.

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on Saturday asked its field officers to give three months more time for the re-export of imported containers lying at domestic ports.

Govt to focus on digitisation of 98,000 agri cooperatives for digital lending

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government will focus on digitisation and modernisation of about 98,000 primary agriculture cooperatives (PACs) to ensure digital lending, said Devendra Kumar Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Cooperation, on Saturday.

He was speaking at the first 'Sehkarita Sammelan' or National Cooperative Conference here. In the Union Budget 2021, the government had announced setting up of Ministry of Cooperation. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has been given the additional charge of the ministry.

Kumar said the government will also take steps to popularise the cooperative movement and quality products manufactured by cooperatives in the international market.

The priority will be on "ease of doing business" in



cooperatives, the secretary said and added the cooperative manpower will be trained to bring professionalism.

He applauded the contribution of cooperative bodies like IFFCO, KRIBHCO, Amul in strengthening the cooperative movement and achieving milestones.

The conference at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium is being organised by cooperative bodies like, IFFCO, National Cooperative Federation of India, Amul, Sahakar Bharti, NAFED, and KRIBHCO.

Tourism sector heading for a comeback riding on large-scale vaccinations, new norms: Industry body

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

With the help of large-scale vaccination programmes and new norms rolling out, the tourism sector is inching its way back to recovery, and restart of tourism will help kick-start recovery and growth, the Confederation of Hospitality, Technology and Tourism Industry said on Saturday.

It is also essential that the benefits this will bring are enjoyed widely and fairly, the industry body said in a statement. "The travel sector, especially domestic travel, appears to be heading for a comeback. Indian travellers are looking for quick getaways through road trips, weekend breaks and staycations that offer local stay experiences," Airbnb India, Southeast Asia, Hong Kong and Taiwan General Manager, Amanpreet Bajaj said.

Travellers are also becoming increasingly aware of sustainable travel and are making environment-friendly choices when travelling, he added.

"The pandemic has helped promote environmental awareness amongst travellers and today, it's encouraging to see people actively seeking sustainable travel choices," MakeMyTrip Co-Founder & Group CEO Rajesh Magow said.

In a similar vein, EaseMyTrip CEO and Co-Founder Nishant Pitti said, "We have noticed that Indian travellers have started making more sustainable travel decisions as the pandemic has made everyone think about the kind of impact they are creating while travelling."

They are now more aware of their choices as they reevaluate their plans keeping sustainability in mind, he added.



SEARCH FOR MISSING



Name : Nazreen, **Husband's Name :** Kadir, **Age :** 22 years, **Height :** 5', **Face :** Round, **Complexion :** Shallow, **Built :** Medium, **Wearing :** Grey Colour Sarara and Chappal in feet.

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned at following phone numbers.

Website : <http://cbi.ni.in>
e-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax : 011-24368639
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641
Extn No. : 2101
DP/1040/NE/2021

General Public is hereby informed that a lady namely **Nazreen W/o Kadir R/o H.No. E-1/476, Nand Nagri, Delhi** has been missing from her house since 25.08.2021. In this regard a **DD No. 58-A**, dated **26.08.2021** has been lodged at PS, Nand Nagri, Delhi. The description of missing lady is as under:

SHO P.S., Nand Nagri, Delhi
Ph. : 011-22137761
8750870730

Centre to soon announce new cooperative policy: Amit Shah

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Asserting that cooperatives will also play a crucial role in making India a USD 5 trillion economy, Union Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said the Centre will soon come out with a new cooperative policy and work in tandem with states to strengthen the cooperative movement.

Shah, who is also the Union Home Minister, also announced that the number of primary agriculture cooperative societies (PACs) will be increased to 3 lakh in the next five years.

At present, there are about active 65,000 PACs.

Further, the Government is working on setting up cooperative common service centres,



national database besides a national cooperative university, he added.

Shah was speaking at the first Sehkarita Sammelan or National Cooperative Conference. The Ministry of Cooperation was formed in July this year.

Addressing the gathering comprising over 2,100 representatives of different cooperatives and nearly 6 crore online participants, Shah said some people wonder why the Centre created this new ministry as the cooperative is a state subject.

Shah said there could be a legal response to it, but he does not want to "get into this argument" to make it centre versus states.

Semiconductor shortage to further impact PV sales in Sep

FIANS ■ NEW DELHI

Semiconductor supply shortage is expected to further impact passenger vehicles (PVs) sale volumes in September.

Lately, a global supply chain shortage of semiconductors have badly impacted automobile production.

The electronic component is used in variety of functions which play a critical part in the production of internal combustion engines.

Besides, they are an integral part of all kinds of sensors and controls in any vehicle.

At present, these shortages have forced several OEMs to slow down production, thus, further extending the waiting periods of popular, feature-rich and high-end models.

According to India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) report, the semiconductor shortage will further impact PV volumes in September.

Furthermore, it said that '2W' volumes may remain tepid in September, although sequential recovery is expected to continue in 2HFY22, aided by demand coming from the reopening of educational institutes and offices.

INDIAN RAILWAYS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)
E-TENDER NO. 2021RSI8741TC

Director, Railways Stores (W), Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, Government of India invites e-tender for procurement of 1,45,532 Nos. Low Torque Grease Seal to RDSO Specification No. WD-63-Misc-2020 of Oct 2020 or latest amendments, if any for AAR Standard Upgraded Class 'E' (6" x 11") Cartridge Tapered Roller bearings used in freight stock.

2.0 The interested tenderers are advised to visit the website <http://lreps.gov.in> for details of the tender and submission of their e-bids.

3.0 No manual offers will be accepted against e-tender.

4.0 Tender will be closed at 15:00 hours on 28.10.2021.

Director, Railway Stores (W), Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, New Delhi. for and on behalf of the President of India.

2144/2021

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Reliance Infra to raise ₹750 crore

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Reliance Infrastructure on Saturday said its board has approved raising up to ₹750 crore by issuing foreign currency convertible bonds (FCCBs) on a private placement basis.

Reliance Infrastructure in a BSE filing also said that Sandeep Khosla has been appointed as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the company.

"We hereby inform you that the Board of Directors of the Company has authorised the issue of up to USD 100,000,000 unsecured foreign currency convertible bonds maturing in 2031 (FCCBs) with a coupon rate of 4.5 per cent on private placement basis.

"The FCCBs shall be convertible into equity shares of ₹10.00 each of the Company in accordance with the terms of the FCCBs, at a price of ₹111 (including a premium of ₹101) per equity share," it said.

The company will issue bonds within 30 days from the Issue closing date and the decision was taken by the board in a meeting on Saturday.

₹300cr undisclosed income detected by I-T at financing syndicates

FIANS ■ CHENNAI

The Income Tax (IT) Department has detected ₹300 crore of undisclosed income and seized ₹9 crore unaccounted cash during its search and seizure operation on two private syndicate financing groups here.

The IT officials carried out their search and seizure operation at 35 premises on 23.9.2021.

According to IT Department, the searches, so far, have resulted in the detection of undisclosed income of more than ₹300 crore. Unaccounted cash of ₹9 crore has been seized so far.

The evidence found in the premises of the financiers and their associates revealed that these groups have lent to various big corporate houses and businesses in Tamil Nadu, a substantial portion of which is in cash, the IT Department said on Saturday.

During the search, it was detected that they are charging high rate of interest, a part of which is not offered to tax.

Seaweed farming will help boost economy, reduce climate impact

FIANS ■ KOCHI

The Central Government is looking forward to developing a sustainable economy through highly prospective seaweed cultivation, said a top Central Government official, on Saturday.

Fisheries Union Secretary Jatindra Nath Swain said that at a time when climate change is increasingly posing a major threat to human life across the globe, cultivating seaweed, which is one of the natural methods to mitigate the global crisis, would help boost the economy and reduce the impact of climate crisis.

He said this while speaking at an interactive meeting with scientists of the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), here.

"The CMFRI should set up a seed bank of seaweeds to popularise the practice among the coastal region as it would be an additional livelihood option as seaweed farming will play a major role in the socio-economic upliftment of traditional fishermen during this difficult time", said Swain.

He further pointed out



that the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) has a special thrust for promotion of the seaweed farming.

And on the ambitious plan in the marine fisheries sector, he said that India is eying doubling the seafood export in the next five years.

"We are hopeful of achieving this target by exploring innovative ways to increase the production that will certainly upscale the country's per capita income. Technological development is crucial in this regard especially for areas such as seed production and other hatchery infrastructure for diversified mariculture activities," said Swain.

E-TENDERING PRESS NOTICE
The Executive Engineer, CD-I, Irrigation & Flood Control Department; GNCTD Opp. ESI Hospital, Basai Darapur Office Complex New Delhi- 110027 invites on behalf of the President of India, online percentage rate tender from approved and eligible contractors for the following works:-

1. NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/40 (ID No. 2021_IFC_208623_1) H.O.A:- 4217- Plan (MLALAD), **Name of Work:- Providing and fixing S.S. Dust bin and Blue & Green Plastic Dust bin at various locations in Bijwasan Constituency AC-36.** E.C. Rs. 39,99,582/- period of Completion 45 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 01.10.2021 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)
2. NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/41 (ID No. 2021_IFC_208824_1)H.O.A:- 4217-Plan (MLALAD), **Name of Work:- Providing and installation of 40 Nos. Automatic Boom Barrier at various locations in Vikas Puri Assembly Constituency.(AC-31).** E.C. Rs. 57,27,200/- period of Completion 60 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 01.10.2021 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)
3. NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/42 (ID No. 2021_IFC_208625_1) H.O.A:- 4217-Plan (MLALAD), **Name of Work:- Providing and installing of 50 Nos. electromechanical swing type barricade/Automatic boom barriers at various locations in Bijwasan Constituency AC-36.** E.C. Rs. 71,59,000/- period of Completion 45 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 01.10.2021 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)
4. NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/43 (ID No. 2021_IFC_208628_1) H.O.A:- 2217-Plan (MLALAD), **Name of Work:- Installation of Swings with Play Staion in the C5A, C2, A2 , A-1 and C-4 Block Janak Puri Assembly Constituency AC-30.** E.C. Rs. 69,27,130/- period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 01.10.2021 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)

Note :- 1) Details of above mentioned works & eligibility criteria can be seen and downloaded from the web site <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

2. Amendment(s)/ alteration(s) / corrigendum if any, will be available at website only.

sd/-
Executive Engineer
Civil Division-I
Irr. & Flood Control Deptt.,
Govt. of NCT of Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/0327/21-22



Office of the Superintending Engineer
3rd Circle, Public Works Department, Pithoragarh
Email: sepwdpth@rediffmail.com

Letter No. : 6304/984C-03/2021 **Dated : 25/09/2021**

National Competitive Bidding (E-tendering)

Short Term E-Tender Notice

The Superintending Engineer, 3rd Circle, Public Works Department Pithoragarh invites tender through E-Tendering (**Two Bid System**) on behalf of Hon'ble Governor of Uttarakhand for following works. All other information will be available from date 27/09/2021 & onwards on website <http://www.uktenders.gov.in>

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Earnest Money (in Lac)	Cost of Tender (in Rs.)	Validity of Tender	Period of Completion	Contractor's Category of Registration
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Renewal work with SBDC of pithoragarh Jhulaghat motor road in km 6,7,8,13 to 16 and 19 to 22 under Annual Maintenance (Length 11.00 km)	4.00	5000.00 + 18% GST	45 Days	6 Month	Category 'A' and above for Road works in any State Govt./ Govt. of India/Govt. Undertaking

Wildlife Board clears PMGSY road projects in border areas

FIANS ■ NEW DELHI

The National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) has given clearance for the completion of a road construction project under the Pradhan Mantri Grameen Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) from Kirchi to Seoj Dhar in Udhampur district of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. This development project will benefit 661 people living here.

A small cluster amid the hills surrounded by forests, including a wildlife sanctuary, Seoj Dhar has had no all-weather road and was included in the latest phase of the PMGSY.

The only problem was that some stretches of the 31.05-km road, taking off at Kirchi village, were to pass through forest/wildlife areas.

"Forest/wildlife cannot be avoided as the alignment proposed is the only feasible vital connectivity to the villages," said the 'Justification letter for forest/wildlife and diversion' when the proposal was sent for clearance from the NBWL as nearly 7 hectare of Ramnagar Wildlife Sanctuary was needed for the road.

OSTRAVA OPEN: SANIA MIRZA IN DOUBLES FINAL

FIANS ■ OSTRAVA

Sania Mirza and her Chinese partner Zhang Shuai stormed into the women's doubles final at the Ostrava Open WTA tennis championship, beating Japan's Eri Hozumi and Makoto Ninomiya in straight sets on Saturday.

Sania-Zhang, seeded second here, defeated the Japanese pair 6-2, 7-5 in an hour and 20 minutes and await the winner of the other semi-final between Pola'd's Magda Linette and Bernarda Pera of the USA, the top seeds, and the American-Kiwi team of Kaitlyn Christian and Rina Routliffe.

Sania and Zhang had reached the semi-finals by beating Anna Danilina of Kazakhstan and Lidziya Marozava of Belarus 6-3, 2-6 10-6.

In the semi-final clash, Sania and Zhang opened up a 4-0 lead and though they were broken in the fifth game, the Indo-Chinese pair maintained their serve after that as they won the set 6-2. The

Indo-Chinese pair converted all three break points while saving two of the three on their serve. They managed to put in 72.7 per cent of their serves while their rivals could only manage 58.3 per cent.

The Japanese pair put up a better fight in the second set as they surged ahead by breaking the service of the Indo-Chinese pair in the fifth game.

However, Eri Hozumi and Makoto Ninomiya surrendered their lead in the 10th game. Sania Mirza and Zhang Shuai took off from there to wrap up the match in straight sets.

Sania will be playing her second final of the season. Earlier, she had lost in the title match at Cleveland Championships last month with American Christina Mchale of the USA.

Sania and Zhang converted two of the six break points they earned while their rivals could convert only one of the two they had. They put in 73.5 percent first serve and had an ace while their rivals served two double faults,



New-look Indian team ready for Sudirman Cup challenge

PTI ■ VANTAA

An Indian team which is a nice little blend of youth and experience, will have to punch above its weight in what's going to be an arduous challenge in the Sudirman Cup mixed team championships here on Sunday.

India have been drawn in Group A alongside defending champions China, three-time semi-finalists Thailand and hosts Finland in the BWF tournament, which comprises two singles and three doubles matches in a tie.

With many of its star shuttlers missing, India team will have task cut out when it starts campaign against Thailand in the prestigious World Mixed Team Championship. With double

Olympic medallist and reigning world champion P V Sindhu excusing herself following a hectic Olympic campaign and former world no 1 Saina Nehwal also giving it a miss, the onus will be on the young shoulders of Malvika Bansod and Aditi Bhatt in women's singles.

In men's doubles, world no 10 Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy too withdrew at the last moment after the former suffered from muscle pull (Abs) and was advised a week's rest. In their absence, young Dhruv Kapila and MR Arjun will have to deliver the goods in men's doubles.

India, however, do have plenty of experience in men's singles and women's doubles with B Sai Praneeth, Kidambi Srikanth and



the pair of Ashwini Ponnappa and N Sikki Reddy in the team.

First up for India will be

Thailand, who have reached the semifinals thrice — 2013, 2017 and 2019.

With 2013 World Champion Ratchanok Intanon withdrawing, the 17-member Thailand squad will be led by Asian Games (women's team) bronze medallist and world no 10 Pornpawee Chochuwong and world no 13 Busanan Ongbamrungphan in women's singles, while world no 18 Kantaphon Wangcharoen will be the top player in men's singles.

India will also have to get the better of World no 8 women's pair of Jongkolphan Kititharakul and Rawinda Prajongjai, world no 3 Dechapol Puavaranukroh and Sapsiree Taerattana Chai in mixed doubles among others.

After Thailand, India will

face China on September 27 and Finland on September 29.

China have won the title 11 times in the past, and has named a formidable team, including Olympic champion Chen Yufei and former All England champion Shi Yu Qi, for the event.

World no 21 men's doubles pair of He Ji Ting and Tan Qiang has also been named in the squad, which also comprises Lu Guang Zu, Li Shi Feng, He Bing Jiao, Guang Zhi Yi, Liu Cheng and Feng Yan Zhe. The third and final team in the group stage will be hosts Finland who have never never qualified for the knockout stage at the mixed team championships. The top two teams from each group progress to the knockout round (quarterfinals).

Young US team puts Europe in its biggest hole at Ryder Cup



Team USA's Xander Schauffele and Dustin Johnson fist bump during the opening session of the Ryder Cup, at Whistling Straits, in Sheboygan

AP ■ SHEBOGYAN

The Americans haven't opened with a lead this large in the Ryder Cup since Jack Nicklaus and Lee Trevino were playing, and before Tiger Woods was even born.

That didn't seem to be big enough to satisfy US captain Steve Stricker.

Dustin Johnson and Xander Schauffele each won two matches, Bryson DeChambeau smashed a drive that had everyone talking and the Americans were relentless Friday at Whistling Straits in losing only one match to build a 6-2 lead.

"It's a great start. We are happy with the start," Stricker said.

"But my message to the guys is tomorrow is a new day. Pretend today never happened, and let's keep our foot down and continue to play the golf that we know we can play."

Oh, how Europe would like to forget this day ever happened. Rory McIlroy never made it to the 16th hole in losing both his matches on the opening day for the first time. The lone bright spot was Jon Rahm, living up his No. 1 ranking by winning in foursomes with Sergio Garcia and keeping Europe in a tight fourballs match long enough for Tyrrell Hatton to birdie the last hole to at least salvage a half-point.

Europe has never trailed by four points after the first day since the Ryder Cup was expanded to include the continent in 1979, the modern era of these matches that Europe now dominates.

Go back to 1975 to find the last time the U.S. Had a four-point lead in the Ryder Cup. "No doubt, it was a tough day," European skipper Padraig Harrington said, attributing the difference to a putt here, there and pretty much everywhere.

"There's obviously still 20 points to

play for." Suddenly, though, there seems to be a sense of urgency. The Americans were delivering big moments and the big smiles, waving up hands to get the one-sided gallery to cheer even louder, cupping hands to their ears to urge them along.

They are looking for a fresh start after a quarter-century of losing, and its youngest team in history took a big step to creating their own memories.

"They fought hard every single shot out there, from what I saw," DeChambeau said after he and Scottie Scheffler earned a halve in fourballs.

"This is a great start, but the job's not over. We have two more days. A lot more golf. And we cannot lose our mindset to win."

The first point of the 43rd Ryder Cup, postponed one year by the pandemic, went to Europe and its new "Spanish Armada" of Rahm and Garcia.

The final match ended in a halve when Justin Thomas delivered a late eagle putt that allowed him and Patrick Cantlay to come all the way back from a 3-down deficit.

Through the morning chill, the mid-day warmth, a ferocious wind in the afternoon and even a little rain, the one constant was American red scores filling the boards across Whistling Straits.

"We can come back from 6-2," said McIlroy, trying to summon calm and confidence after losing both matches.

Europe will have to do it without him. McIlroy is not part of the foursomes lineup Saturday morning, the first time he has sat in a Ryder Cup.

Both captains stuck to their plans, and it only worked out for one of them.

Even with a 3-1 start in foursomes, Stricker broke up all his American teams as planned and still won the afternoon fourballs session with two wins and two draws.

Tiger Woods' text helps inspire US team

AP ■ SHEBOGYAN

Tiger Woods isn't at Whistling Straits, but several US players say he helped inspire them to a big lead in the first day of the Ryder Cup.

Woods sent a group text through captain Steve Stricker to American players, saying he was behind them in their battle to regain the cup.

"The gist of basically what he said was I'm cheering you guys on, I'm right there with you and go fight and make us proud," Tony Finau said.

RYDER CUP



Weather could force Russian GP qualifying session to be moved today

FIANS ■ SOCHI

Heavy rain at the Sochi Autodrom on Saturday has led to the cancellation of Free Practice 3 for the Russian Grand Prix — with doubts remaining over the possibility of holding qualifying on later on Saturday.

"Free Practice 3 had been due to start at 1200 local time. But with heavy rain, along with thunder and lightning, having hit Sochi on Saturday morning, the decision was made to cancel the third practice session," a statement on formula1.com said. "In the interest of safety [the decision has been taken] to modify the Official Programme by cancelling Free Practice Session 3 due to Force Majeure," ran the decision from the race stewards.

"For the purposes of the regulations and associated time limits, Free Practice Session 3 will be considered as having taken place, except where otherwise advised by the Race Director."

The Russian Grand Prix weekend has already been subject to alterations, with the first Formula 3 race moved to Friday evening -- where Norway's Dennis Hauger was crowned champion -- before bad weather led to an indefinite delay of Saturday morning's F2 race.

F1 qualifying is currently set to take place 1500 local time (5:30 IST) — but FIA Race Director Michael Masi touted the possibility of moving the session to Sunday morning if the weather persists, telling the media at the start of Saturday, "If qualifying isn't able to happen today, as we've seen a few times before in the past, then we will re-do a programme and hold qualifying on Sunday morning."

Canadian international Alphonso Davies set off on a counter-attack down the left wing and his cross took a kind deflection for Müller to dispatch the ball in off the right post from outside the penalty area.

Joshua Kimmich's second goal for Bayern in the 31st was similar, this time Leroy Sané providing the cross. Fürth's defenders allowed the Bayern players too much space — though not enough for Lewandowski.

The home team was given a lifeline in the 48th when Benjamin Pavard was sent off for a bad challenge on American midfielder

AP ■ BERLIN

For once, Robert Lewandowski didn't score. The Poland star's club-record scoring streak for Bayern Munich ended at 19 consecutive games on Friday when he failed to get a goal in his team's 3-1 win at last-placed Greuther Fürth in the Bundesliga.

Lewandowski, who hit the crossbar in the 40th minute, also missed out on equaling Gerd Müller's record of scoring in 16 Bundesliga games in a row. Lewandowski's 19-game run includes matches in the league, cup and Champions League going back to a 3-3 draw with Arminia Bielefeld on Feb. 15.

Fürth, which hadn't won any of its opening five Bundesliga games since promotion, made a reasonable start but was caught cold when Thomas Müller opened the scoring in the 10th minute.

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Fürth, which hadn't won any of its opening five Bundesliga games since promotion, made a reasonable start but was caught cold when Thomas Müller opened the scoring in the 10th minute.

"We were able to do that and if TW's watching, thanks for that text, brother, I think it helps us a lot." Several players talked about the text from Woods, who is recovering from serious injuries in a February car accident. The US went 6-2 on the opening day for its biggest first day margin since 1975.

"Tiger's not with us in person but I know he's watching and talking to Stricker a lot," Harris English said.

"We know he's got our backs, so that's really cool and we kind of used that energy today."

Xander Schauffele said the players were excited to hear that Woods was cheering hard for them from his home in Florida.

"We knew he was fist pumping from the couch," Schauffele said. "Whether he was on crutches or not he's as fired up as any back at home. So it's nice to have his support." Stricker said he got the text on Thursday and sent it out to the team on Friday. He said Woods wished players good luck and shared a few personal observations.

"He's a friend of a lot of these guys and these guys look up to

'Tokyo show changed our mentality, instilled self-belief'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian women's hockey team mid-fielder Neha Goyal says their inspirational performance at the Tokyo Olympics has changed the mentality of the side and instilled self-belief in players.

The team missed out on its first-ever Olympic medal but produced its best-ever show in the history of the quadrennial with a fourth place finish. "Our performance at the Tokyo Olympics has changed our mentality and given us the self-belief to compete with any team in the world. Our win over Australia in the quarterfinal brought about a shift in our mentality," the 24-year-old player said.

"Coming into that match, Australia had topped their pool by winning all their matches. Defeating them gave us a lot of confidence, which we will carry



with us going forward as we prepare to play more important tournaments in the future."

For Goyal, who made her Olympics debut in Tokyo, competing at the Games was a landmark moment of her career. "I was nervous before the occasion, but very excited. It has always been my dream to play in the

Durand Cup: Bengaluru FC overcome gritty Army Green to enter semis

FIANS ■ KOLKATA

Bengaluru FC (BFC) came from behind to beat Army Green 3-2 in the final quarter-final encounter of the 130th Durand Cup at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan (VYBK) on Saturday and set up a last-four clash with FC Goa on Wednesday. Wungngayam Muirang, Leon Augustine, and Nangyal Bhutia struck for BFC while Lallawmkima and Vubin T. V. struck for the Greens, both incidentally via penalties.

Army Green created pressure early on and were rewarded for that as Lallawmkima scored from the spot in the 9th

minute to give them the lead.

However, the Naushad Moosa-coached BFC did not take long to bounce back as Muirang scored the equalizer in the 20th minute, courtesy of a magical free-kick that curled into the back of the net, giving Green's keeper Sarath no chance whatsoever. Bengaluru played an attacking game post that and created quite a few chances but failed to convert any of them in the first half.

However, they did not take long to go ahead in the second session as Leon Augustine scored the second goal for his team just minutes after the restart.



India claim two silver medals in Archery World Championships

FIANS ■ YANKTON

India suffered another setback as its Archers had to settle for silver medals in Women's Compound Team and Compound Mixed Team competitions at the World Archery Championships here in South Dakota.

The Indian Women's Compound Team and the Mixed Team had reached the gold medal match and were up against Colombia in both finals. But both fell short in difficult windy conditions against opponents that were too strong and mastered the conditions better.

India had reached the final six times at the World Championships earlier but had failed to win the gold every time. They were aiming to claim their first World Championship title on Friday but their hopes were dashed by a strong performance by Colombia, who captured the gold medal for the first time after 2017.

In the Women's Compound Team, India comprising Jyoti Surekha Vennam, Muskan Kirar and Priya Gurjar lost to the Colombia team of Sara Lopez Alejandra Usquiano and Nora Valdez 229-224 and had to settle for the silver medal.

In the Compound Mixed Team final, the Indian team of Jyothi and Abhishek Verma lost to Colombia's Sara Lopez and Daniel Munoz 150-154. The Compound Women's Team final started as a close affair with both India and Colombia shooting 58 out of a possible 60 in the first end (set), the Indians shooting three 10s, one X,

and two 9s in six arrows while the Colombians came up with three 10sm two Xs and an 8.

A couple of 8s with two 9s and two Xs meant India could manage only 54 in the second end (set) and Colombia shot 55 to lead 113-112.

The Indians continued to struggle with the conditions and lost the third end 56-58, the gap widening to three points now (171-168). Their hopes of recovering ground in the fourth and final end (set) were thwarted by an 8 on the first arrow in this series. They shot two Xs, a 10, and two 9s in the remaining five arrows for 56 but the Colombians did not falter and shot 58 with three 10s, one X, and one 9 to win the gold medal, 229-224.

In the Compound Mixed Team final, Jyoti Surekha Vennam and Abhishek Verma got off to a good start as they took a one-point lead (39-38) after the first end, shooting three 10s and a 9 as compared to three 9s and a 10 by the Colombian pair of Sara Lopez and Daniel Munoz.

The Indians fell behind in the second end as they could manage only 36 (10, 8, 9, 9) as compared by a near-perfect 39 (10, 10, 10, 9) by the Colombians and trailed 75-77.

The Colombians managed a perfect 40 in the third end while the Indians could score only 36 (10, 9, 8, 9), the gap widening to six (111-117).

Jyothi and Abhishek tried their best in the fourth and final end and won it 39-27 but the gap was too wide to be bridged in one end and they had to settle for silver behind Colombia.



the pioneer agenda

I think everybody has the right to a private life
—Keira Knightley



FROM THE INSIDE

Attached to none

Renunciation is a critical part of the journey towards enlightenment. The way to look at it is what makes it different for all

2



4

Living in demanding mode

If you try to resolve you weaknesses, the indwelling potential will play out unhindered and help you live without stress

Active Parenting can help parents significantly in reducing stress, both for their children and for themselves, writes RAMG VALLATH, as he suggests strategies & age-appropriate techniques to tackle the challenges being faced by most

PANDEMIC: A TRIPLE-WHAMMY FOR PARENTS



The pandemic has delivered a triple-whammy to parents. First and foremost, the pandemic itself is an unprecedented, once-in-a-lifetime event. Even the best of scientists cannot predict where it is headed; who are safe, who are vulnerable; or what precautions — including vaccines — afford what level of protection. Secondly, children have been uprooted from their routines, confined inside the house, kept away from socialising and have even been forced by circumstances to become screen addicts. Parenting, which is a discovery process, even in normal circumstances, has become far tougher due to these added stress-es. Thirdly, parents themselves have been uprooted from their routines and forced to reduce social interactions. Many have lost their jobs and many have work hours that have eaten up into personal time in an unprecedented blending of work and personal life.

And now, their world is going to be shaken up yet again, with schools reopening. Routines being practiced over the last 18 months will need to be unlearned and new routines re-established, with the sword of Damocles of a possible new wave always hanging on their heads. This is when the principles of Active Parenting can come to the rescue of parents.

WHAT IS ACTIVE PARENTING?

While every child is unique and every family and circumstances unique, the underlying principles, framework and strategies of Active Parenting can substantially help in every situation, for every child and every parent. Active Parenting can help parents significantly in reducing stress — both for their children and for themselves. In fact, it can even help in converting these uncertainties into learning opportunities for children and bonding opportunities for the family. The three key principles of Active Parenting are as below.

- Inculcate the right attributes and qualities systematically and proactively instead of fire-fighting when issues pop up
- Be mindful that every opportunity can be utilised to build these attributes and qualities and proactively use every opportunity to do that
- Provide high support, while empowering children to take ownership and responsibility for their own lives

Based on the above principles, there are several strategies and age-appropriate techniques that a practitioner of Active Parenting can use to tackle each of the challenges that school reopening presents.

CHALLENGES POSED BY REOPENING OF SCHOOLS

- First let us list out the challenges to be tackled.
- Both parents and children may have fear of

Covid. Even though most schools are taking utmost care in putting in place strict guidelines for ensuring there is no Covid outbreak, in a school with many children, implementation is unlikely to be perfect. This could lead to anxiety and stress for both parents and children.

- For both children and parents, reopening means changing routines drastically. For children, it means having to get up earlier by sometimes as much as 60 to 90 minutes, getting ready, giving up on snacking any time they want, coming back from school feeling tired etc. For parents, it again means having to get up earlier to get children ready, ensuring breakfast/snack is ready on time, sometimes having to drop and pick up children from the school or bus stop etc. These can induce stress and also create conflict between parents and children.

- For children, school reopening will create academic stress. After perhaps 18 months, they are going back into a formal classroom. While most schools had organised for online classes, in is a less-than-perfect mode of learning and it is likely that the topics covered in the last eighteen months haven't been absorbed well enough. Even worse, surveys have shown that there is even some slippage of concepts learned before the pandemic. Many children will feel overwhelmed by the workload in the first few months as schools try to cover lost ground.
- Social stress is another problem that some children will need to deal with, especially the more introverted children. Children who have been subjected to bullying in the past and who have had a safe cocoon at home in these eighteen months will be suddenly confronted with the prospect of facing their tormentors again. There could also be children who are apprehensive of certain teachers who would dread the prospect of facing them face to face again.

In children, these signs of stress could manifest in many ways. Reluctance to go to school, tantrums, unusual levels of obstinacy, subdued look, emotional meltdowns, headache, upset stomach etc. are few of the signs that parents can watch out for. On the other hand, stress can cause irritation, short-temper, frustration, and even anger in parents.

APPLYING ACTIVE PARENTING PRINCIPLES

With so much stress on themselves and on the children on various counts, the principles of Active Parenting can come to the rescue. First and foremost, parents need to extend unconditional support to their children by demonstrating deep love, compassion and trust. While it is understandable that parents, who are themselves under stress, might feel irritated, impatient and short-tempered when children show reluctance to go to school or otherwise act difficult, parents need to be understanding and empathetic.

In fact, they need to be proactive in bring-



IN CHILDREN, THESE SIGNS OF STRESS COULD MANIFEST IN MANY WAYS. RELUCTANCE TO GO TO SCHOOL, TANTRUMS, UNUSUAL LEVELS OF OBSTINACY, SUBDUED LOOK, EMOTIONAL MELTDOWNS, HEADACHE, UPSET STOMACH ETC. ARE FEW OF THE SIGNS THAT PARENTS CAN WATCH OUT FOR. ON THE OTHER HAND, STRESS CAN CAUSE IRRITATION, SHORT-TEMPER, FRUSTRATION, AND EVEN ANGER IN PARENTS



ing up the possibility of the above stress points and assure the children that they understand that there may be stress on them and that the parents are there to help them. What the child needs in a parent in a situation like this is a friend who they can share their apprehensions or worries with and not a pushy and aggressive master. To quote the famous model of the clinical psychologist, Diana Baumrind, parents need to be high on warmth and responsiveness during this turmoil.

BEFRIENDING

But the question remains — how can parents ensure that children share their apprehensions openly? This would depend a lot on the nature of the child. But one of the key strategies of Active Parenting — befriending — can help in unlocking some of the reluctance of children to share deeply personal stuff. The underlying principle is that children, like adults, feel more comfortable in sharing inner feelings when there is empathy and trust instead of judgment. For this, parents need to spend quality time with children. It will help if parents can share instances from their own childhood, when they faced stressful situations. This may give the confidence for children to open up their own fears.

Another technique would be to have a family team discussion: with each member sharing their own challenges and fears relating to the current situation. Then each member can share an action plan on what they intend to do to overcome the challenges. Finally, each member can request specific support from other members of the team. It can start with each of the parents sharing how the new routines could affect them and asking specific support from each other to help them cope with this. Then they could also ask for specific support from the children, such as 'taking responsibility for managing their own routine' or 'being patient when they come back home hungry, if their favourite food isn't available'. This could prompt the children to also share their challenges and expected support.

One of the aspects that can get addressed through the above 'team approach' is Covid appropriate behaviour. As someone who has been deeply involved with the pandemic response of a large philanthropic organisation, I would like to reassure the parents that there is very little chance of children catching a severe attack of Covid.

However, it is important to take all precaution and ensuring both children and parents follow Covid appropriate behaviour is critical. Parents need to impress upon children the importance of following the protocols such as masking, regular handwashing, and physical distancing. They need to spell these out and ensure children understand the reason behind these guidelines.

The children should know that their deviation from the protocols could affect the parents and other elders at home — if any — far worse than it would affect themselves. This is a great way to build a sense of responsibility. Let the children know that you trust them to adhere to the guidelines. Parents also need to role model Covid-appropriate behaviour when they themselves venture out.

RESPECT, TRUST AND EMPATHY

During this challenging transition period, the two traits that parents need to role-model are patience and empathy. With each other, as well as with kids. If the parents are biting each other's heads off at the drop of a hat, it would be unreasonable and impractical for them to expect a patient behaviour from their children. When children observe their parents facing stressful situations in a candid and humorous fashion, they are also likely to adopt the same behaviour. This includes unabashed apology from parents to each other and to the children when they lose their cool and making fun of their own such 'ridiculous' behaviour.

STORY-TELLING

Another key Active Parenting strategy that can come in handy in such situations is story-telling. There is no better way to inculcate the desired qualities (values and traits) in children than by telling them stories — of real life heroes and fictitious heroes who manifested the same qualities and succeeded because of them. Similarly, parents telling the children of times when they themselves demonstrated these qualities to their own advantage will also help in driving home the benefit of these qualities. Of course, it is important that these story-telling sessions do not appear to be sessions for the sake of building these qualities.

The primary purpose of stories should be entertainment as far as the child is concerned. The secondary and invisible purpose is inculcating the traits and values. The child should subconsciously absorb these deeper messages. In a stressful situation like this, the most desirable qualities to instil are self-discipline, sense of responsibility, ownership, sense of humour, respect, gratitude etc. remember that stories plant seeds in the mind and at the appropriate time, these seeds sprout.

Every crisis is an opportunity. If the above suggestions are embraced by parents wholeheartedly, they might find that this stressful situation was the best learning period for themselves and their children and that it offered a truly life-altering situation with family bonds becoming stronger than ever.

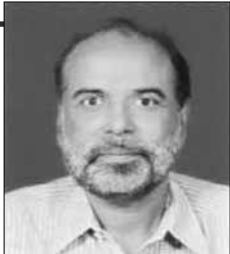
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OUTLOOK

Politics of caste census: From historical lenses

The current debate on the caste census gives an opportunity to the Indian state to be reminded about the core value of social justice enshrined in the Indian Constitution and its framework in order to assess the demands of caste census and its policies



SANJAY KUMAR

The census is not merely a head count. This gives an identity to one and all in the modern nation state. Not only this, the census broadly gives an opportunity to all communities as well as castes to assess the extent to which they have received their participation and share in the constitutional government institutions at the Central and State levels and in the development schemes and programmes in the present and past. This group identity also creates a measure for assessing the participation and share of the community vis-a-vis other groups, communities and castes through their enumeration in the census. This description of the salient features of the census in the Government documents and textbooks is rather value neutral.

At a deeper level, if we evaluate the census critically in history, this had been one of the factors for the identity politics, especially the caste-based representational politics since the inception of the enumeration of population of India in which political parties, social groups and the government remained the key players. The first all-India decennial census in the year of 1871 was based on the *varna* consisting of *jati* as the major indicator for classification of the enumerated data by the colonial administrators like Risley, Nesfield, Baines, etc. Subsequently, *jati* instead of *varna* remained one of the key indicators in the census of the years of 1881, 1891, 1901 till 1931 even while the nature and form of the classification of the enumerated data underwent change in multiple ways.

On the basis of the data and the impact of the enumeration, the colonial administrators deeply realised that reference to *jati* in the Indian society is central, and it is the root of the identity among different social groups. It is notable that Nicholas B Dirks, a Dutch scholar and the author of “*Castes of Mind: Colonialism and the Making of Modern India*”, beautifully articulated the impact and implications of the caste census during late 19th century. He showed that the emphasis of caste in the decennial census had given rise to increasing agitation over caste denomination and the assignment of social status among the caste groups. The colonial census might have reinscribed a Brahminical idea of caste but, ironically, in doing so it gave rise to competitive politics that began to make caste the basis of political mobilisation on a new scale.

The caste census eventually turned out to be the foundation for the architecture of governance and administration of the colonial state during late 19th and the beginning of the 20th century as well. The colonial state presented itself in a neutral role among the people but it manipulated the competitive politics of castes cleverly for consolidating its hold on the administration and governance.

Against this background, Dr BR Ambedkar, a great icon of social reform in the 20th century, presented the caste census in a new perspective in colonial India. He made it a base for social mobilisation and politics. But soon, he identified the limitations of the representational politics and framed the issues and questions in the broader framework of social justice. Subsequently, the social justice became the core

value of the Indian Constitution which was manifested in the enactment of the provision of reservation for SCs and STs in proportion to their share in population as per the caste census.

Enactment of the provision of reservation for SCs and STs gave rise to the new kind of politics of social justice for the other backward castes led by Ram Manohar Lohia in post-independence India. In the 60s and 70s, the slogan of SANSOPA firmly exhorting that the Backwards must attain Sixty out of Hundred (*sansopa ne baandhi ganth pichda pawe sau mein saath*) became the major slogan of the mobilisation of OBC politics. Though this slogan emerged from the commonsensical statistics, its grounding was provided directly or indirectly by the census data. Not only this, this remained a central factor in the confrontation and negotiation between the governments and the political parties, especially the socialist parties. As a result, provision of reservation for the OBCs in the Central Government jobs became a milestone as an outcome of the politics of social justice.

The contradictory role and purpose of the caste census in colonial and post-colonial India that comes to fore gives an insight that the headcount of *jati* in itself does not have a special meaning. Indeed, on one hand, the underlying objectives and politics of the caste census had been crucial in shaping the caste-based identity politics in a narrow sense. In contrast, on the other hand, this shaped the idea of social justice and the constitutional provisions of modern India as well.

In this context, it is worth reiterating that caste is a hierarchical social institution which is based on heredity and its ideology and values get reproduced from generation to generation in the society. Not only this, mere invocation of caste identity has remained a barrier in development and governance of post-independence India. As a fallout of this, most who first and foremost became victims are those who are situated at the margins of the horizontal base of all caste groups.

The current debate on the caste census gives an opportunity to the Indian state to be reminded about the core value of social justice enshrined in the Indian constitution and its framework, in order to assess the demands of caste census and its policies.

Simultaneously, all political parties have an opportunity to take forward the legacy of social justice in their voices and opinions for the caste census if they are truly committed to the cause of empowering all situated at the margins. Otherwise, its implication would be for raising of voices and opinions which would generate confrontation and competition within and across the castes. In this sense, the future of the politics of the caste census is likely to be entrapped in the past legacy which was constructed by the colonial state in the late 19th century.

(The writer is founder of Deshkal Societ, Delhi, and co-editor of book “Interrogating Development: Insights from the Margins”, OUP, New Delhi)



Promising future of Central Bank Digital Currencies

The digital currency has so far managed to emerge as one of the strongest flavours within the current financial market. What makes digital currencies different from all their predecessors are the tremendous new functionalities they promise to offer. It's the financial equivalent of the leap from postal service to email.

Money basically performs three functions. As a medium of exchange, it enables transactions that otherwise would require difficult bartering (as in trading chickens for a car).

As a unit of account, it allows one to know whether one has saved or not over the past year. And as a store of value, money enables current income to finance future purchases.

According to the IMF, the opportunity for Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDC) depends solely on its ability to improve upon these three core functions of money.

Interestingly, the idea of CBDC is gaining support from the financial establishments such as the Bank for International Settlements, known as the central bank of central banks. These financial gatekeepers are embracing CBDC because they can see that if they do not someone else will.

A recent survey by the Bank for International Settlements indicates that 86 per cent of the central banks are actively researching digital currencies. And almost 60 per cent of banks are in the testing phase.

According to some estimates, a fifth of the global population will be exposed to a central-bank digital currency within three years. By 2027, some \$24 trillion of assets around the world is expected to be in digital form.

Dollar & Changing Financial Landscape

Though the US dollar remains the world's dominant reserve currency, the downward trend in the global reserves of the US dollar to a 25-year record low of 59 per cent has managed to stump many.

Some cite a combination of



nations shifting away from the USD and the rising status of competing currencies like the euro, the Japanese yen, and the Chinese yuan as factors in the USD's slump. But others are of the opinion that the hegemony of the US dollar doesn't seem to be under any threat in the near future.

Russia and China have both stepped away from an uncertain and politically entangled US dollar in recent years, with the Central Bank of Russia (CBR) ditching over US\$101 billion in dollar-denominated reserves in early 2019. China on its part has loosened its grip on US government securities, with a reported 20 per cent decrease in these holdings over roughly seven years, according to US Treasury Department data.

Digital currency based on blockchain looks promising

Controversy about the benefits and drawbacks of CBDCs notwithstanding, governments around the world are increasingly exploring, researching, or testing the implementation of digital, programmable fiat. All eight central banks of the top currencies from the IMF report are either considering, researching, or actively developing a CBDC.

CBDCs based on transparency-enhancing blockchain are a promising way to achieve three objectives: liberating the payments' system from rentiers, guaranteeing unprece-

ded transparency regarding how much money is plucked from the money tree, and democratising access to the tree's fruit.

At the retail level, a CBDC would offer some obvious advantages. It would help the poor and others who are currently underserved by the banking system. It would also make it much easier for governments to administer social transfers like the household cash disbursements made during the pandemic. And a well-functioning international system of digital currencies would sharply reduce cross-border transaction costs.

However, in addition to various privacy concerns, CBDCs have complications of their own. One crucial question is where CBDC accounts would be held. If it is in the central bank, how will privacy for transactions be preserved? Equally unclear is what role would be left for private banks, which are currently the pre-dominant source of credit in most market economies. If banks no longer receive deposits, how will they issue loans?

For such an arrangement to function well, the CBDC would need to strike a difficult balance between anonymity (privacy) and control of the system. Otherwise, all the concerns regarding the government's unrestricted access to account holders' information

will start looking legitimate.

The viable alternative for the central bank is to allocate deposits to member banks, which would then continue to function as sources of credit. In this case, there would need to be strong fractional reserve requirements.

Regarding concerns about privacy, it is possible to anonymize central-bank accounts with digital tags that only an independent regulatory institution can trace to physical persons. After all, lest we forget, our current payments system (with the strict “KYC” rules) is managing well with illusionary privacy.

There are also complications at the international level. Would central banks be willing to accept payments in other central banks' CBDCs? Could countries retain control of their money supply once it has taken a digital form?

At present, it is very difficult to imagine a future scenario where the major central banks would be willing to underwrite the international financial system without a high degree of cooperation, coordination, and control.

The Road Ahead

These international questions are of particular importance for the United States because the dollar has served as an international reserve currency, a unit of account, and a means of payment for the past

CBDCs based on transparency-enhancing blockchain are a promising way to achieve three objectives: liberating the payment system from rentiers, guaranteeing unprecedented transparency regarding how much money is plucked from the money tree, and democratising access to the tree's fruit



PIYUSH KAMAL

75 years. For better or worse, the dollar's key role in the system has enabled the US to impose reasonably effective financial sanctions on countries such as Russia and Iran, and the US is in no mood to surrender this tool willingly.

No monetary system has ever functioned perfectly. But it is generally agreed that the current one has performed well over the past so many years, especially when compared to earlier systems such as the gold standard.

Although a CBDC could improve financial inclusion, most experts caution that it should not be inaugurated until there are assurances that credit allocation, payments systems, financial-stability safeguards, and other aspects of the new system would function at least as smoothly as they do under the current one. There is no doubt that the central bank digital currency will happen sooner rather than later. The question, then, is whether all the issues (both the identified and emerging ones) will be resolved before the transition is made.

(The writer is an economist, former IRS officer, and author of the upcoming book “The Current Perspective on Indian Economy”)

PERSPECTIVE

Abolishing retrospective tax law to boost economy

The Government had on August 5 scrapped the retrospective tax law by amending Finance Act 2012 and the IT Act 1961 which got presidential assent on August 13, 2021. It was amendment in Finance Act 2012 brought by the then Finance Minister which allowed the taxman to levy taxes claimed retrospectively on deals that were executed after 1962 that involved the transfer of shares in a foreign entity that has its assets in India. This archaic practice had pushed back India's taxation regime for corporates by 50 years and allowed authorities to slap capital gains levies wherever a company, with business assets in India, changed hands overseas.

Certainly, the new amendment by the Government of India will bridge the gap in international trade by providing a framework for resolving international arbitration cases that the Government has lost, namely Vodafone group plc and Cairn energy and 15 others. Needless to say that this amendment was a need of hour as focus point of India at the present time is to portray itself as an investment destination to investors across the world, which will eventually help India being depicted as country committed to abide by international treaties and laws.

The two big advantages of abolishing the retrospective tax are: boosting India's image among global investors (translating into increased FDI) and giving foreign firms a level-playing field vis-à-vis Indian corporate giants. In recent times, India's image took a big hit when energy explorer giant Cairn went ahead with seizing the Government of India's assets abroad and telecom giant Vodafone-Idea giving strong signals of winding up its India operation.

The Indian Government had slapped a tax demand of crores of rupees on Cairn and Vodafone. But both refused to pay taxes and chal-



lenged the decision of tax department and ultimately won the battle in the Permanent Court of Arbitration in Hague, Netherlands. The claim of Cairns was that the Government is violating the India-UK bilateral investment treaty. Considering all the facts, the international court ruled in favour of Cairns and awarded \$1.4 billion as damages, the Cairn then moved a French court which gave the order to freeze Indian assets in Paris to recover ₹8,897 crores. Definitely this stain on Indian taxing could be hazardous for development of long-term Indian economy. This sour episode tainted India's image like never before as it placed the country in the league of some disturbed economies whose assets are taken away for non-payment of arbitration award.

The Government's decision to discard the retrospective taxation law not only gave breather for Vodafone and Cairns, but also transformed India's image in global world. Along with repealing this tax and Supreme Court's recent verdict on honouring Singapore arbitrator decision that upheld US-based e-commerce company Amazon's plea against the ₹24,731-crore merger of Future Retail Ltd (FRL) with Reliance Retail might change things favourably for global companies.

Many in the corporate world have been silently claiming the Government is favouring handful homegrown com-

glomerates by tweaking laws that gave them undue benefits. India would very much want to shed this image, especially at a time when big businesses are looking beyond China to have a permanent base.

Overall, phasing out retrospective tax means restoring India's reputation as a fair and easy to predict regime which believe in putting an end to unnecessary and expensive litigation without spending crores in these never-ending legal tussles. The step will also promote cross-border merger and acquisition. Last but not least, the scrapping of such draconian law will be helpful in enhancing India's national ranking in World Bank Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) index under 50 (it is presently 63).

In total, 17 entities would be benefited from this change to whom tax demand of ₹1.10 lakh crores was made. The Government has proposed to refund the amount paid in litigation by companies without any interest thereon. The total amount involved for all cases is about ₹8,100 crore, of which about ₹7,900 crore is related to the Cairn dispute. The effectiveness of axing this tax law now depends on whether the entities who have obtained an award that comprises interest component will take up the offer.

The Government stand, prima facie, appears to cost huge loss to the State exchequer, but in the long run it will benefit in terms of attracting foreign investment and achieving the target of USD 5 trillion economy by 2025. Definitely it has enhanced credibility of India in international domain and depicted India's commitment to follow international law and conventions governing international behaviour. The Government move also conforms to and promotes international harmony provided in Directive Principle of State Policy of the Constitution of India.

The Government stand, prima facie, appears to cost huge loss to the State exchequer, but in the long run its benefit in terms of attracting foreign investment and achieving the target of USD 5 trillion economy by 2025 cannot be denied



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Lucky number 9
Lucky colour Red
Lucky day Tuesday

Lucky number 17
Lucky colour Silver
Lucky day Saturday

Lucky number 13
Lucky colour Rose Gold
Lucky day Tuesday

Lucky number 3
Lucky colour Peach
Lucky day Saturday

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Living in demanding mode

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