

OPINION 6
THE HISTORY OF THE
ASSAM PROBLEM

WORLD 8
AFGHANISTAN, MYANMAR
WILL NOT ADDRESS UNGA

MONEY 9
GOVT TO BORROW ₹5L CR
TO FUND REVENUE GAP

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**MOEEN ALI
RETIRES FROM
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12 SPORT**

SC slams arbitrary change in NEET speciality syllabus

Authorities can't treat doctors as footballs, tell us justification: SC

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a stinging snub to the Centre, the Supreme Court on Monday warned that it may pass strictures if it is not satisfied with justification for the last-minute changes to the NEET Super Speciality Examination 2021 syllabus. The court also asked the Centre not to treat "young doctors as football in the game of power"

Asserting that it will not allow these young doctors to be placed in the hands of some insensitive bureaucrats, the court asked the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), National Medical Commission (NMC) and National Board of Examination (NBE) to "put their house in order".

The court was hearing a plea from 41 postgraduate doctors who have challenged the last-minute changes made to the syllabus after the notification for examination was



issued.

A bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and BV Nagarathna asked Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the Centre, to hold a meeting with the other two authorities within a week.

"Better come with some strong reasons, and if we are not satisfied, we will pass strictures," it said.

"Don't treat these young doctors as footballs in the game of power. Hold the meeting and put your house in order. We will not allow the lives of these young doctors to



be placed in the hands of some insensitive bureaucrats," it added.

In their plea, the doctors pointed out as per the prevailing pattern of examination, 60 per cent marks are given on questions from super speciality courses while 40 per cent on

questions from other courses. "But as per the notification issued on August 31 for modifying the pattern of examination, 100 per cent marks will now be given on questions from general medicines," they said.

Senior advocate Shyam Divan, who represented the doctors, said that there is urgency in the matter and they have filed a written submission also in the matter.

Advocate Gaurav Sharma, appearing for NMC, said he would like to file reply in the matter and sought adjournment of one week.

Kisan Bharat Bandh: Road, railway traffic grinds to halt

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/CHANDIGARH/ LUCKNOW/KOLKATA

The Bharat Bandh call given by farmers on Monday to demand scrapping of three controversial farm laws affected normal life as the farmers blocked highways and disrupted railway traffic at many places across the country.

The 10-hour bandh called by farmers' body Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) hit normal life in Punjab and Haryana as 50 trains were cancelled, highways and key roads blocked. Flow of traffic at Delhi's borders with Uttar Pradesh and Haryana was affected, but shops and businesses remained open.

The impact of bandh was felt the most around Delhi, Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh and also in large pockets of Kerala, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Odisha. The massive jams that prevented the cross border movement of commuters as well as trucks carrying essentials. The blockade was lifted at 4 pm.

Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) leader Rakesh Tikait said, "Our Bharat Bandh was successful. We had the full support of farmers...We can't seal down everything as we have to facilitate the movement



Farmers block the railway tracks during their 'Bharat Bandh' against Central Government's three farm reform laws, at Devi Dass Pura on the outskirts of Amritsar on Monday

of people. We are ready for talks with the Government but no discussions are happening."

The SKM termed it's an historic bandh as there was an unprecedented response from every part of the country. "Crores of farmers came together in a show of unity and solidarity," it said.

The Delhi-NCR region, including the satellite towns of Gurgaon, Ghaziabad and Noida, was particularly hit as cross-border movement was badly hit.

IMPACT OF CHAKKA JAM

- About 50 trains cancelled
- In Delhi, markets remained open but business activities were largely unaffected, though massive traffic snarls were witnessed in border areas due to road blockades
- The bandh hit normal life in Punjab and Haryana as protesters blocked highways and squatted on railway tracks at many places in the two northern States
- Normal life was affected in Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu
- The bandh failed to evoke any response in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, while it had lukewarm response in Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh

Covid-19: Nearly 1.80 lakh get vaccinated in State

ACTIVE CASELOAD DOWN TO 79

PNS ■ RANCHI

Jharkhand on Monday vaccinated close to 1.80 lakh residents against Covid-19, taking the total count of such residents who have received at least one dose of the vaccine above 1.34 crore, which is more than 50 per cent of the total vaccine beneficiaries in the state, figures compiled by the health department highlighted.

As per provisional figures released by the National Health Mission (NHM), the state on Monday administered the first dose of vaccine to as many as 1,14,058 residents, while the second jab was administered to at least 63,858 beneficiaries. Nearly 1.30 lakh beneficiaries inoculated on the day fell in the age bracket of 18 years to 44 years.

More than 23,000 residents were vaccinated in Ranchi on the day, the highest among the 24 districts in Jharkhand, while almost 20,000 beneficiaries got vaccinated in East Singhbhum.

Dhanbad administered vaccines against Covid-19 to 18,000-odd beneficiaries on the day. As per government data, at least 1751 session sites remained operation across the state on Monday.

According to a press communique from the health department, as many as 1,34,63,533 Jharkhand residents have received the first dose of vaccine against Covid-19 and 39,95,884 of them have also received the booster dose.

Meanwhile, at least five Covid recoveries against four fresh cases of coronavirus infection brought the active caseload of Covid-19 down to 79, a separate bulletin from NHM stated.

Ranchi reported two of the four Covid cases on the day, while Bokaro and Khunti reported one case each. The remaining 20 districts in Jharkhand did not report fresh cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection on Monday. As per government data, at least 11 of 24 districts in the state did not have active cases of Covid-19 on Monday.

Jharkhand on Monday tested swab samples of as many



A medic administers Covid-19 vaccine dose to a beneficiary during the vaccination drive, in Ranchi on Monday

Photo I Vinay Murmu

as 41,796 residents and 0.01 per cent of them were found infected by the deadly virus. So far, over 3.48 lakh residents have tested positive for Covid-19 in Jharkhand and 98.50 per cent of them have recovered, while 1.47 per cent of them could not survive.

As per NHM data, the state has so far reported 5133 Covid casualties but no fresh fatalities were reported in the past fortnight, indicating that the virus was gradually losing its strength in Jharkhand, health officials said.

TAC to prepare proposal for Sarna Code

11 POINTS DISCUSSED IN SECOND MEETING CHAIRED BY CM

PNS ■ RANCHI

The Tribal Advisory Council of the State today decided to prepare a proposal on various facets of Sarna Religious Code and send it to the President of India through the Governor of the State. It was also decided that a delegation of the TAC led by Chief Minister Hemant Soren will meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi in this regard.

The second meeting of the Jharkhand Tribal Consultative Council (TAC) was held under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Monday at the Secretariat. A number of issues were discussed extensively in the meeting. Champai Soren, Minister-cum-Vice-Chairman, Welfare of Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes, Minorities and Backward Classes Department was also present on the occasion.

In the meeting, the CM said that the TAC is an important unit for the all-round development of the tribal com-

munity of the State. He said that the TAC discusses all the important issues of the tribal sections like economic, social, educational and other development issues related to the community. TAC is working to connect the links on how to maximize the upliftment and development of the tribal community. The State government is committed for the betterment of the tribal communities.

With the objective of promoting entrepreneurship among the people of the tribal community in the State, the committee recommended to provide facilities as per the facilities provided in levy and taxes etc by the Government of India to the tribal states under Schedule 05 of the Constitution in North Eastern states of the country which are covered under Schedule 6 of the Constitution.

A sub-committee was also constituted under the chairmanship of MLA Prof. Stephen Marandi. MLAs Deepak Biruwa, Bandhu Tirkey, Bhushan Tirkey and Chandra Linda will be members in this sub-committee. This sub-committee will submit a report to TAC and also advise the TAC in the matters of loans includ-



Chief Minister Hemant Soren alongwith Minister-cum-Vice-Chairman of TAC Champai Soren and others during the second meeting of Tribal Advisory Council in Ranchi on Monday

PNS

ing agricultural loans, home loans and education loans to the people of the Scheduled Tribes community in an accessible manner through banks, in consultation with various banks, to improve the rules for providing loans and to provide loans to the Scheduled Tribes in the State and will do a thorough study of the past and present land acquisitions held.

It was also agreed in the meeting that an action plan would be prepared after considering wide publicity about the brave martyrs and the top leaders of the Jharkhand movement and including them in the curriculum of schools.

The CM directed the Home, Prisons Department to make strict laws and monitor

them continuously to check human trafficking. All the members of TAC expressed concern about human trafficking and stressed on strict action should be taken against the culprits.

It was informed in the meeting that a high level committee has been constituted under the leadership of the CM regarding the atrocities being committed against the people of the Scheduled Tribes community. Through this committee, all types of atrocities and exploitation related cases are reviewed and recommended for action.

It was informed in the meeting that a Tribal University is being established in Jamshedpur with the aim of

saving and developing tribal language-culture-knowledge etc. Soon the university will be run by making an Act.

In the meeting, the CM said that the government is committed to issue maximum caste certificates to the tribal community in the State. In the meeting, it was agreed on the proposal to issue caste certificates only once in a lifetime to the people of the tribal community. In view of the difficulties being faced by the people of the Scheduled Tribe community in making the caste certificate, it was decided to issue the caste certificate once in a lifetime.

State Chief Secretary Sukhdev Singh, Additional Chief Secretary KK Khandelwal, Additional Chief Secretary L.Khiyangre, Principal Secretary Rajiv Arun Ekka, Principal Secretary Vandana Dadel, Principal Secretary Avinash Kumar, Principal Secretary Ajay Kumar Singh, Principal Secretary Rajesh Sharma, Secretary KK Soan, Secretary Amitabh Kaushal, Secretary Aradhana Patnaik, Secretary Rahul Sharma and other officials of the concerned department were present in the meeting.

Covid caused biggest fall in life expectancy since WWII: Oxford

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Covid-19 has caused the biggest decrease in life expectancy in 2020 by a huge amount — the largest since the Second World War — according to an Oxford study. The paper was published in the *International Journal of Epidemiology*.

"Life expectancy in 2020 was slashed by more than six months compared to 2019 in 22 of the 29 countries that were analysed. Of the 29 sampled countries, 27 belonged to Europe, while the other two were Chile and the United States," the study said.

The results highlight a large impact that is directly attributable to Covid-19. "This shows how devastating a shock it has been for many countries," Dr Ridhi Kashyap, co-lead



author of published paper, said.

Highlighting the urgency of more research on Covid-19, she called for the publication and availability of further information and data to better understand the worldwide impacts of the coronavirus.

She also urged the Governments of other coun-

tries, especially low-income and middle-income countries, to make available their data on Covid-19 mortality rates.

The study also shows that due to Covid-19 life expectancy of men dropped by a greater margin than that of women in most of the sample countries.

HC stays order asking Delhi Govt to deliver on promise of rent for poor

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Monday stayed its Single Bench order that had directed the AAP Government to formulate a policy to implement Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's announcement that if a poor tenant was unable to pay rent during the Covid-19 pandemic, the State Government would pay it.

A bench of Chief Justice DN Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh issued notice on the Delhi Government's appeal against the order passed by Justice Pratibha M Singh.

The order came as a big relief to the Kejriwal Government since Justice Pratibha Singh had also held that a Chief Minister's promise

to citizens is enforceable.

However the HC said, "There is a prima case in favour of the appellant (Delhi Govt). Balance of convenience is in favour of the appellant and irreparable loss shall be caused. We stay the operation, implementation, and execution of the order of the single judge till the next date of hearing." Next hearing is on November 29.

Delhi Government's senior counsel Manish Vashisht claimed that in the backdrop of the outbreak of the pandemic, a "fervent appeal" was made by the Chief Minister to the public at large not to coerce the tenants into paying rent, however, the same was "found" to be "a sort of a promise" by the single judge.

Panchjanya dubs Amazon 'East India Company 2.0'

E-commerce firm highlights positive impact on small traders in India; Cong raps RSS

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Hours after RSS mouthpiece weekly magazine *Panchjanya* attacked Amazon as "East India Company 2.0" and labelled it a "threat to indigenous entrepreneurship", the e-commerce giant highlighted its "positive impact on small businesses, including sellers, artisans, and delivery and logistics partners".

"During the pandemic three lakh new sellers joined us



of which 75,000 were local neighbourhood shops (dukaans) from 450+ cities (selling) furniture, stationery, consumer electronics, beauty products, mobile phones, garments, medical products..." a statement by the company said.

The Congress, which had earlier attacked Amazon,

found an opportunity to slam the RSS saying whatever the Sangh says was irrelevant as it did not say anything in national interest, but in the interest of the ruling BJP. Congress spokesperson Pawan Khara said the allegations of bribery against the US e-commerce giant are serious and cannot be ignored. "The issue of Amazon is a serious one and it merits everybody's attention," he said.

Raising the issue of a bribery scandal being probed by e-commerce giant Amazon, the grand old party last week had alleged that the company's representatives had paid huge bribes for presence in India during 2018-20.

The article has, however, been backed by the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT).

Fighting Covid-19: Team to keep an eye on Durga Puja

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

With fresh guidelines on Durga Puja in place, the focus of this year's Durga Puja will be on preventive measures.

The administration has asked puja committees to keep celebrations simple. The weapons needed to beat COVID-19—sanitisers, thermal guns and medicines will be in place at the 350 puja committees that are part of the celebration.

"It is safety first for all the Durga Puja committees in the city. We have decided to constitute a committee that will visit all the puja pandals to check whether safety guidelines are being followed or not. The main objective of puja this year will be to make people alert and conscious about the deadly virus," said a senior functionary of Jamshedpur Kendriya Durga Puja Samiti.

He further added that all puja committees are focussed on avoiding overcrowding and following all health and safety norms.

Durga Puja, observed in the Hindu calendar month of Ashvin, is much more than a festival that features exhaustive decorative pandals, performing arts, revelry and processions. The festival marks the triumph of good over evil — battle of Goddess Durga with Mahishasura and her emerging victory. The steel city is reveling in the spirit of Durga Puja and with each passing day, people are becoming more enthusiastic and lively.

Besides its religious and socio-cultural significance, Durga puja is also a time of economic boost for several lakh people. COVID, over the



past few months, had left the economy to a grinding halt. However, the shopkeepers are now pinning hopes on the revival of the economy.

"The business is slowly picking up in the city. With the onset of the festive season and signing of bonus agreements, big brands have gone all the way to woo the customers. From consumer electronics to apparels makers almost all the major players have come up with attractive offers," said a member of Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

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S. No.	Name of work	Amount put to tender to Tender	EMD Amount	Tender Fees	Date of release of tender in procurement solution	Last ate/time of receipt of tender through procurement solution
1.	Providing and laying 250 mm dia DWCHDPE pipe in 22 1/2 No. Gall in Rajeev Gandhi Nagar in Mustafabad AC- 69 under NE-II Tender ID No. 2021_DJB_208831_I	26,31,551.00	EMD Exempted	5.00	25.09.2021	07.10.2021 upto 02.30 P.M.

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झुमरी तिलैया, जिला-कोडरमा

Email – jhumritilaiymunicipalcouncil@gmail.com



आम-सूचना

विभागीय निर्देशानुसार “स्वच्छ भारत मिशन” अंतर्गत शहरी क्षेत्रों में स्वच्छ वातावरण तैयार करने एवं स्वच्छता बनाए रखने के लिए समाज के सभी वर्गों की भागीदारी आवश्यक है। उक्त लक्ष्य की प्राप्ति हेतु यह आवश्यक है कि सभी की सहभागिता सुनिश्चित की जाय। इसी क्रम में आवासन एवं शहरी कार्य मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार एवं निदेशक, राज्य शहरी विकास अभिकरण, नगर विकास एवं आवास विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार द्वारा देश की स्वाधीनता का 75वें वर्ष मनाने हेतु “आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव” के तहत नगर परिषद झुमरी तिलैया में “स्वच्छ भारत मिशन” शहरी के अंतर्गत चिन्हित कार्यक्रमों/ गतिविधियों का आयोजन किया जाना है। जिसका आयोजन दिनांक 27.09.2021 से निर्धारित किया गया है, जो निम्नवत् है :-

1. 27-28 सितंबर 2021 – कचरा अलग करो अमृत दिवस एवं Felicitation of best performing RWAs, SDAs, Mohalla Association and other residential associations.

2. 29-30 सितंबर 2021 – सार्वजनिक शौचालय सफाई जन भागीदारी अमृत उत्सव

3. 01 अक्टूबर 2021 – कूड़ा करकट उद्यमियों का अभिनंदन, वेस्ट टू आर्ट प्रदर्शनी और बर्तन भंडार

4. 02-03 अक्टूबर 2021 – सफाई मित्र अमृत सम्मान समारोह एवं Digital displays at public places for sensitizing citizens about the journey of waste.

अतः आप शहरवासियों से अनुरोध है कि नगर परिषद झुमरी तिलैया शहर को स्वच्छ रखने हेतु निकाय का सहयोग करें एवं इस कार्यक्रमों/ गतिविधियों में जन भागीदारी सुनिश्चित करने का प्रयास करें।

प्रशासक

झुमरी तिलैया नगर परिषद्

PR.NO.253974 Urban Development(21-22):D

कार्यालय, श्रम, नियोजन, प्रशिक्षण एवं कौशल विकास विभाग, जिला नियोजनालय, सिमडेगा

अतिअल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

अतिअल्पकालीन निविदा संख्या – 01/2021-22

1. विज्ञापनदाता का नाम एवं पता : जिला नियोजन पदाधिकारी, सिमडेगा।

2. परिमाण विपत्र बिक्री की तिथि : दिनांक – 30-09-2021 से दिनांक 01-10-2021 को 3.00 बजे अपराहन तक।

3. निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय : 04.10.2021 को 3.00 बजे अपराहन तक

4. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : 04.10.2021 को 3.30 बजे अपराहन में

5. परिमाण विपत्र बिक्री का स्थान : जिला नियोजन पदाधिकारी, सिमडेगा।

6. निविदा प्राप्ति का स्थान : जिला नियोजन कार्यालय, सिमडेगा।

7. कार्य का विवरण :

क्र० सं०	कार्य का नाम	प्रखण्ड	प्राक्कलित राशि (लाख में)	अग्रधन राशि (लाख में)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रुपया में)	कार्यदेय की तिथि से कार्य समाप्ति की सीमा
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	ग्राम-गुझारिया, पंचायत-बासेन, प्रखण्ड-करैसई अन्तर्गत Multipurpose Hall निर्माण।	करैसई	20.70982	0.41500	5000.00	3 माह

8. निविदा की शर्तें www.jharkhand.gov.in में एवं कार्यालय के सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

जिला नियोजन पदाधिकारी, सिमडेगा

PR 253945(Labour Employment and Training)21-22'D



कार्यालय, नगर पंचायत, लातेहार

जिला- लातेहार

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या – 03 / 2021-22



(2nd Call)

अति अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

नगर पंचायत, लातेहार को जलापूर्ति तथा साफ-सफाई मद अन्तर्गत प्राप्त आवंटन से व्यय के उपरान्त बची राशि कुल मो० 1041744.00 (दस लाख एकतालीस हजार सात सौ चौवालीस) रुपये की राशि से चापानल सामाग्रीयों के क्रय हेतु निर्माता अथवा अधिकृत विक्रेताओं से दिनांक 04.10.2021 के 2.30 बजे अपराहन तक ही इच्छुक निविदादाताओं से मुहरबंद निविदा आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं, जो नगर पंचायत, लातेहार के कार्यालय में जमा किया जा सकता है। साथ ही चापानल सामाग्रीयों के निविदा दिनांक 04.10.2021 को अपराहन 3.30 बजे निविदादाता या उनके द्वारा प्राधिकृत व्यक्ति के समक्ष नगर पंचायत, लातेहार के निविदा समिति (Procurement Committee) द्वारा खोला जायेगा। क्रय किये जाने वाले चापानल सामाग्रीयों की सूची नगर पंचायत, लातेहार के कार्यालय से कार्य दिवस में दिनांक 01.10.2021 तक प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। तथा निविदा हेतु निर्धारित नियम एवं शर्त कार्यालय अवधि में कार्यालय सूचना पट्ट/कार्यालय से सम्पर्क कर देखा जा सकता है, या लातेहार जिला के वेबसाईड www.latehar.nic.in पर देखा या डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। ज्ञातव्य हो कि इस कार्यालय के ज्ञापक 1424 दिनांक 22.09.2021 द्वारा निर्गत निविदा प्रारूप को इस हद तक संशोधित समझा जाय, शेष सभी नियम एवं शर्तें पूर्वतः होगी।

कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, नगर पंचायत, लातेहार

PR 253927 Urban Development(21-22)D

Maoist involved in planting landmines arrested in Garhwa



NITYANAND DUBEY ■ GARHWA

Bhandariya Police on Sunday allegedly involved in planting landmines to blow up police vehicles. Maoist Angad Turi hailing from Parswar village under Bhandariya police station of the district was absconding for the past 14 years.

He was involved in planting landmines to blow up the police vehicle and robbing weapons of police on Bhandariya - Bargarh road near Shalo forest on 6 May, 2007. Police had registered an FIR against Angad and others including his associates under sections of 307, 353,341,120B, 3/4 Explosive Substances Act and 17 CL Act .

Garhwa SP Anjani Kumar Jha said that arrested Angad was involved in planting a landmine on Bhandariya Bargarh road and was absconding for 14 years from the police.

Acting on the directive of Garhwa SP Anjani Kumar Jha, a police team led by thana in-charge Laxmikant raided a house on Sunday and arrested him.

"The police unearthed the landmine planted on the road with the help of a sniffer dog. It was defused by calling an anti-landmine squad from Ranchi," said thana in-charge Laxmikant and adding "if the police could not unearthed landmine on time, then the police would have to suffer a great loss." Police sent Angad to judicial custody on Monday.

हजारीबाग नगर निगम, हजारीबाग।

आम सूचना

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि नगर निगम के अधिन मटवारी मार्केट, टाउन हॉल मार्केट एवं सभी मार्केट में स्थित बारामदा (Passage) एवं पार्किंग स्थल पर अवैध रूप से अतिक्रमण कर व्यवसाय किया जा रहा है एवं बिना अनुज्ञप्ति के होर्डिंग/ बैनर लगाया हो तो स्वयं हटा लें, अन्यथा नगर निगम प्रशासन के द्वारा हटाते हुए उनका सामान जब्त कर लिया जायेगा। इसके लिए वे स्वयं जिम्मेवार होंगे।

सहायक नगर आयुक्त नगर निगम, हजारीबाग

PR 253962 (Urban Development and Housing) 21-22 (D)

कार्यालय जिला परिषद, हजारीबाग

निविदा सूचना

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि पूर्व में विज्ञापित निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या :-18/ 2021-22 PR. No. 253553 District (21-22)_D के सहपठित ज्ञापक 850 दिनांक 20.09.2021 द्वारा निकाले गए निविदा को अपरिहार्य कारणवश निविदा स्थगित किया जाता है।

जिला अभियंता, जिला परिषद्, हजारीबाग।

PR.NO.253960 District(21-22):D

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।

1. वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि :- 28.09.2021

2. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :- 05.10.2021 अपराहन 5.00 बजे तक।

3. कार्यपालक अभियंता, 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 :- 08.10.2021 को अपराहन 3.00 बजे तक।

4. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 09.10.2021 अपराहन 02.00 बजे।

निविदा की अन्य शर्तें यथावत् रहेंगी।

कार्यपालक अभियंता

ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल पलामू।

PR 253954 Rural Development (21-22)D

कार्यालय जिला परिषद, हजारीबाग

निविदा सूचना

एतद् द्वारा सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि जिला परिषद, हजारीबाग के क्षेत्राधिकार अन्तर्गत बरही प्रखण्ड में बरही तालाब, थाना न० 72 खाता सं० 82 प्लॉट न० 1305, तथा खाता न० 82 प्लॉट न० 1306 में अवस्थित केवल तालाब की बन्दोबस्ती वर्ष 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 (तीन वर्ष) के लिए दिनांक 06 / 10 / 2021 को 1.30 बजे अपराहन में उप विकास आयुक्त-सह-मुख्य कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, जिला परिषद, हजारीबाग कार्यालय में अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा या प्राधिकृत पदाधिकारी द्वारा बन्दोबस्ती खुली डाक द्वारा की जायेगी। जो व्यक्ति निलामी में भाग लेना चाहते हैं, निम्नलिखित शर्तों का अनुपालन करते हुए निर्धारित तिथि, समय एवं स्थान पर उपस्थित होकर भाग ले सकतें हैं। नियम एवं शर्तें तथा अन्य जानकारी कार्यालय के सूचना पट्ट अथवा Web Site- www.hazaribag.nic.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

उप विकास आयुक्त –सह-मुख्य कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी जिला परिषद, हजारीबाग

PR 253959 District (21-22)_D

Miscreants snatch over ₹7.76 lakh from petrol pump staff in Deoghar

SURESH NIKHAR ■ BERMO

Throwing an open challenge to police, unidentified robbers decamped with Rs 7.76 lakh, snatching it from the staff of a Bharat petroleum pump on Sarath-Palajori main road near power house on Monday.

The loot took place at around 11am this morning while two employees of Bharat Petroleum pump were on their way to State Bank of India (SBI), Palajori branch to deposit a sum of Rs 7.76 lakh.

After travelling around 1/2 kilometer from the petrol pump carrying the cash in a bag, the duo were chased by at least 3 looters on two bikes on Sarath-Palajori main road for a few minutes.

After intercepting the duo by keeping their bikes before them, the looters threw chilli powder into their eyes and drove away towards Chitra snatching the cash bag.

Police rushed to the spot after getting information on the loot and detained the staff duo for questioning.

SCCI: New president promises to accelerate industrial growth in Kolhan



PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Vijay Anand Moonka has taken over as the new president of Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce and Industries (SCCI), the apex body of traders in Kolhan. At the 71st Annual General Meeting held at Chamber Bhawan, Bistupur on Monday afternoon, the new executive committee took over.

On the occasion, the outgoing chamber president Ashok Bhalotia, general secretary Bharat Vasani and vice-presidents of all the four wings of Trade and Commerce informed all the members about the work done during their tenure of two years.

Following this, the election committee announced the new executive committee of the chamber, in which all 11 office bearers and 30 executive members have been elected unopposed.

The new executive will be effective from 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2023. In the new executive committee of Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Vijay Anand Moonka has been made president, Manav Kedia as general secretary and Kishor Golcha as treasurer. Apart from this, Mukesh Mittal, Nitesh Dhoot, Mahesh Sonthalia, Kishore Golcha and Anil Modi

are included in the post of vice-president, while Bharat Makani, Piyush Chaudhary, Sanwarmal Sharma have been appointed the secretary.

Addressing the gathering, Vijay Anand Moonka said that the development of trade and industry in Kolhan would be his first priority. He said that every year crores of rupees are being diverted from Jharkhand to other states in the field of education and medicine. The Chamber will raise the demand that its proper arrangement should be made in Jharkhand itself so that the young talented do not have to migrate to other states for higher studies.

"It is also a matter of concern that there is no DVC power supply in Kolhan, due to which expensive electricity increases the cost of production. Many entrepreneurs are forced to migrate their business to other districts. The new team will try to get DVC's electricity to the industries of Kolhan as well.

At the same time, he said that tourism can become a big industry here, within 50 km radius of Kolhan, there are many such tourism spots which can take the form of industry, their initiative will be to implement the suggestions given earlier through the government.

S. E. RAILWAY TENDER

Tender Notice No. : DRMENGGRNC-56-58-2021, Dated : 24.09.2021. E-Tenders are invited by Divisional Railway Manager / Engg / Ranchi, for and on behalf of the President of India for the following works. SI.No.; Notice No.; Name of Work; Tender Value are as follows:- 1; DRMENGGRNC-56-2021; Misc. Bridge Zonal work for the period ending up to 30.09.2023 under the jurisdiction of ADEN Muri; ₹ 99.66,659.26. 2; DRMENGGRNC-57-2021; Misc. Bridge Zonal work for the period ending up to 30.09.2023 under the jurisdiction of ADEN Ranchi; ₹ 1,50,91,439.02. 3; DRMENGGRNC-58-2021; Supply of 20000 cum 50mm gauge hard stone machine crushed track ballast at Rly. wagon/hoppers and unloading the same in Ranchi Division; ₹ 3,28,26,200.00. Tender Closing Date & Time : 18.10.2021 at 15.00 hrs. Tenderers can visit the website www.treps.gov.in for online tendering. PR-324

कार्यालय जिला दण्डाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त, पलामू (पंचायत शाखा)

Phone No. 06562-224077,224033 E-mail - ddc-pal@nic.in

15वें वित्त आयोग अनुदान अन्तर्गत कनीय अभियंता एवं लेखा लिपिक-सह-कम्प्यूटर ऑपरेटर के पद से संबंधित सूचना।

15वें वित्त आयोग अनुदान अन्तर्गत पलामू जिले में कनीय अभियंता एवं लेखा लिपिक-सह- कम्प्यूटर ऑपरेटर के पद पर सेवा प्राप्त करने हेतु विज्ञापन संख्या 178 दिनांक 13.03.2021 के आलोक में दिनांक 05.09.2021 को विषय ज्ञान परीक्षा का आयोजन किया गया तथा लेखा लिपिक-सह- कम्प्यूटर ऑपरेटर के पद हेतु अभ्यर्थियों का दिनांक 14.09.2021 एवं 15.09.2021 को टंकण गति जाँच परीक्षा (हिन्दी एवं अंग्रेजी क्रमशः 25 एवं 30 शब्द प्रति मिनट) का आयोजन किया गया।

विषय ज्ञान परीक्षा एवं टंकण गति जाँच परीक्षा के पश्चात उक्त दोनों पदों का अंतिम मेधा सूची/प्रतीक्षा/अयोग्य/अनुत्तीर्ण अभ्यर्थियों की सूची पलामू जिले के अधिकारिक वेबसाईट www.palamu.nic.in पर Upload कर दिया गया है।

ह० /- जिला पंचायत राज पदाधिकारी, पलामू।

PR.NO.253928 District(21-22):D

समाहरणालय, गढ़वा (जिला भू-अर्जन शाखा)

आम सूचना

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि NH-75 गढ़वा बाईपास निर्माण योजना अंतर्गत कुल 14 ग्रामों- लापो, मेढ़नाखुर्द, पीपरा, पतरिया, मुरका, हुर, झुरा, अँचला नावाडिह, डुमरो, नारायणपुर, नावाडिह, करमडिह उर्फ करमाही, कल्याणपुर, छतरपुर का भूमि अधिग्रहण से संबंधित भारत के राजपत्र संख्या 6373 (अ) दिनांक 27 दिसंबर, 2018 से प्रकाशन उपरांत इसे प्रभात खबर एवं The Telegraph में दिनांक 08.01.2019 को प्रकाशित किया गया था।

उक्त ग्राम के संबंधित रैयतों को सूचित करना है कि परियोजना को जल्द ही शुरुआत करने का निर्णय लिया गया है।

अतः जिन्होंने भूमि तथा उसपर अवस्थित परिसंपत्तियों का भुगतान ले लिया हो ऐसी स्थिति में फसल लगाने अथवा किसी भी तरह का निर्माण कार्य को न किया जाय और भुगतान किये हुए भू-खंडों को जल्द से जल्द खाली कर दिया जाय नहीं तो संवेदक द्वारा इस कार्य को किया जायेगा ऐसी स्थिति में हुए नुकसान के लिए आप स्वयं जिम्मेवार होंगे।

जिला भू-अर्जन पदाधिकारी –सह- सक्षम पदाधिकारी, गढ़वा

PR 253982 District (21-22)_D

झारखण्ड सरकार श्रम, नियोजन, प्रशिक्षण एवं कौशल विकास विभाग औद्योगिक प्रशिक्षण संस्थान, राँची।

आवश्यक सूचना

सूचना संख्या:-49राँची, दिनांक:-27 / 09 / 2021

निदेशालय पत्रांक:-1095, दिनांक:-22 / 09 / 2021 एवं DGT पत्रांक:-DGT-44(1)2021-AP, दिनांक:-26 / 08 / 2021 के आलोक में सूचित किया जाता है कि RDSDE झारखण्ड द्वारा औद्योगिक प्रशिक्षण संस्थान, राँची परिसर स्थित संयुक्त प्रशिक्षण भवन में दिनांक:-04 / 10 / 2021 को अप्रेन्टिसशिप मेला आयोजित किया जा रहा है।

अतः सभी इच्छुक आई०टी०आई० उर्त्तीण प्रशिक्षणार्थी दिये गये लिंक के माध्यम से <https://forms.gle/ybfcQaxkAnChY3KTA> अपनी प्रविष्टि दर्ज करते हुए अपने सभी शैक्षणिक प्रमाण पत्रों एवं फोटोग्राफ के साथ ससमय पूर्वहन 09:00 बजे उपरोक्त वर्गित स्थल पर आयोजित अप्रेन्टिसशिप मेला में भाग लेना सुनिश्चित करें।

उपरोक्त संदर्भ में राँची जिला अन्तर्गत अवस्थित सभी औद्योगिक ईकाईयों से अनुरोध है कि दिये गये लिंक के माध्यम से <https://forms.gle/LAWGMZFybiNTMhDy8> अपनी प्रविष्टि दर्ज करते हुए उक्त आयोजित मेला में भाग लेने की कृपा करें।

Sd/- प्राचार्य

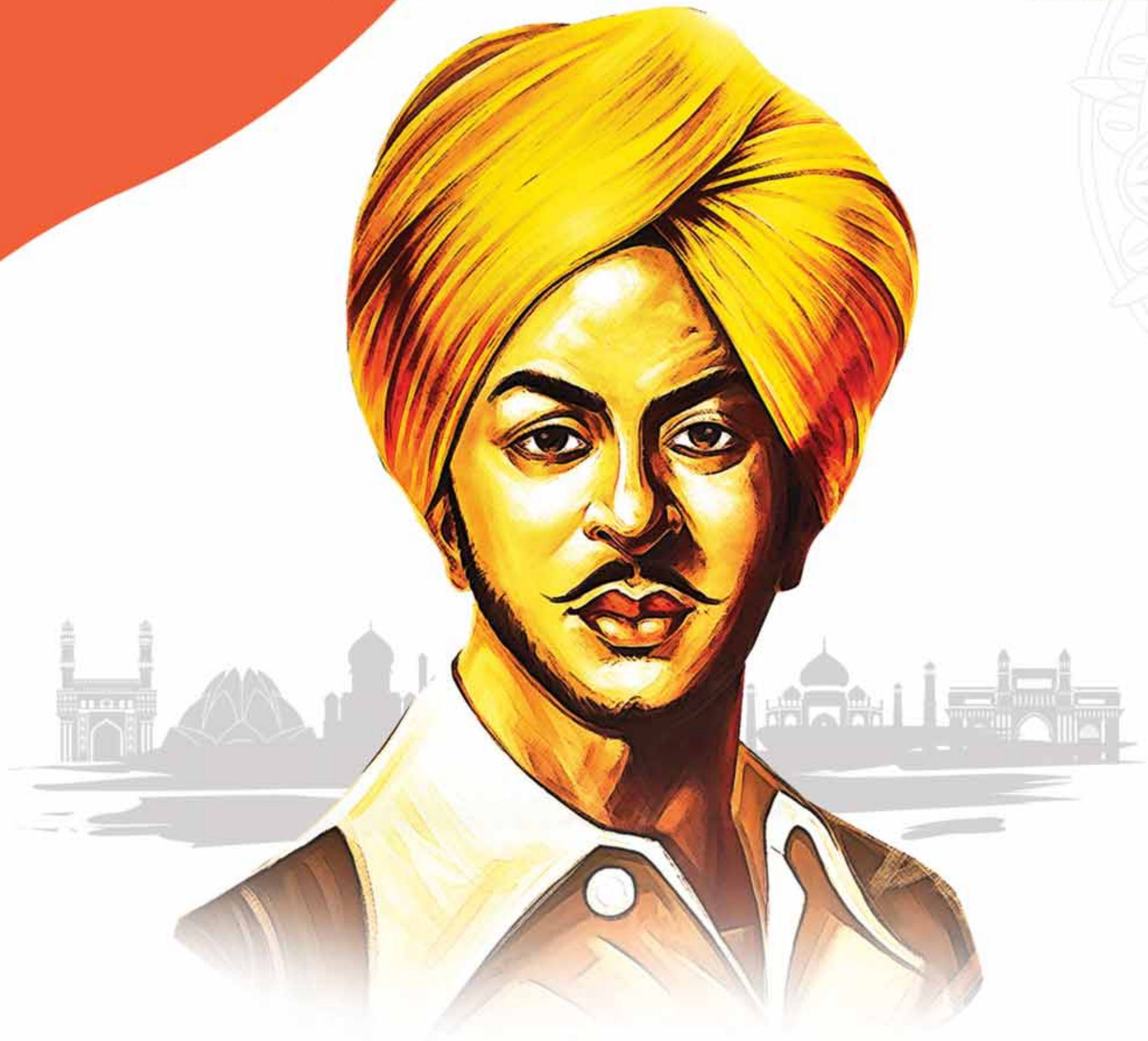
औद्योगिक प्रशिक्षण संस्थान, राँची।

PR 253986 Labour Employment and Training(21-22)D

Contact Person No.- 8210010441/7992479696

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On the occasion of the birth anniversary of
Amar Shaheed Sardar Bhagat Singh Ji,

'DESHBHAKTI CURRICULUM' IN DELHI'S SCHOOLS FROM TODAY



**NOW EVERY CHILD WILL LEARN
PATRIOTISM. NOW EVERY CHILD WILL
BECOME A TRUE PATRIOT**

-Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi



Mixed response to Bharat Bandh in Jharkhand

PNS ■ RANCHI

The Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM), an umbrella body of over 40 farmer unions, called for a 'Bharat Bandh' on Monday to mark one year of the passage of the Centre's three farm laws witnessed mixed response in State, with vehicular movement disrupted at several parts of State as supporters of the Bharat Bandh blocked roads and highways. In the State Capital, there was not much response as shops, government offices and banks functioned as usual.

However, in coal belt districts, the impact of Bharat bandh was visible. In Ramgarh, protesters blocked the Ranchi-Patna Highway and Ramgarh-

Bokaro Highway for some time disrupting traffic.

Coal production at various mines of the Central Coalfields Limited remained normal, but dispatch via road was affected due to blockades.

In Jharkhand the bandh call was supported by ruling parties including JMM, Congress and RJD along with Left parties. The supporters of JMM, CPI, RJD and Congress workers, blocked highways at different parts of State leading to congestion on the highways.

In Santhal Pargana districts, the stronghold of JMM markets remained closed in Dumka, while bandh supporters blocked roads in several areas. In Sahibganj the other



JPCCL leaders and workers protest during their 'Bharat Bandh' against the Central Government's three agriculture reforms laws, in Ranchi on Monday

Ratan Lal | Pioneer

district of Santhal Pargana, commercial establishments

remained closed, while agitators blocked the National

5.1 per cent of 13—15-year-old children consume tobacco in State

STATE COMMITTED TO CHECK TOBACCO USE, SAYS MINISTER

PNS ■ RANCHI

At least 5.1 per cent children in the age bracket of 13 years to 15 years in Jharkhand consume tobacco in some form or the other, Health Minister Banna Gupta said on Monday, quoting data from the Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) 2021.

In a bid to discourage the use of tobacco products by minors, a bill has also been introduced in the Jharkhand Assembly to increase the minimum age for tobacco consumption or any involvement of a person in tobacco related trade to 21 years from 18 years, the Minister said.

"Our Government is committed to discourage the use of tobacco by minors and we are running holistic campaigns across the state for the same," said Gupta.

Addressing a workshop organised by the State Tobacco Control Cell of National Health Mission (NHM) in Ranchi, Gupta claimed that many tobacco companies were gradually also trying to attract minor girls towards tobacco use, and the government was relentlessly working towards



Health Minister Banna Gupta along with officials releases Survey report on Tobacco control at RCH Namkum, in Ranchi on Monday

Photo | Ratan Lal

thwarting their plans.

"We are coming up with stricter laws related to tobacco use by minors and also discouraging the use of tobacco products by adults in the state by various means," said Gupta, adding that sensitization to spread awareness about the health hazards of tobacco consumption was still the most effective measure that any government could take.

The percentage of children in the age bracket of 13 years to 15 years addicted to tobacco in India was 8.5 per cent, higher than that in Jharkhand. However, as per data shared by the minister, the total percentage of population addicted to tobacco in Jharkhand was higher than the national average.

"The percentage of tobacco users in Jharkhand has

dropped from 50.1 per cent to 38.9 per cent, but it was still higher than the national average of 28.6 per cent," said Gupta.

In a bid to check the use of tobacco, the Jharkhand government has prohibited the sale of tobacco products within 100 meter radius of schools, government offices, hospitals and courts. Besides, any person found selling tobacco products to minors will face imprisonment of up to seven years and pay Rs.1 lakh fine.

The government has also decided to take an undertaking from newly-recruited government employees, stating that they do not consume tobacco products. Besides, the government is planning to make tobacco-use related rules for private institutions and offices too, the minister said.

RMC Board meeting witnessed ruckus

OFFICIALS BOYCOTT MEETING ALLEGING FOUL WORDS BY MAYOR

PNS ■ RANCHI

Due to the ongoing dispute between Mayor Asha Lakra and the Ranchi Municipal Corporation Officers, the board meeting of the Municipal Corporation called on Monday could not take place. Before the start of the meeting, the officials said that they are hurt by the way the Mayor has used objectionable words for the officials. Therefore, until the Mayor withdraws her words, the proceedings of the meeting will not be allowed. Along with this, some Councillors also came down in favour of the Officers and started a ruckus.

After this the Officials boycotted the meeting and left the conference room. The Mayor said that the tongue may have slipped during the conversation, so I withdrew my words. Along with this, she appealed to the officials to start the meeting but the officials did not agree, she added.

After this, most of the councillors along with the Mayor sat on a Dharna at the gate itself alleging arbitrariness of the officials. The Mayor said that in this way the Officials will not be allowed to

Highway-80.

Congress party has termed the bandh call as successful. State Congress president Rajesh Thakur said that the Bharat Bandh in Jharkhand was successful as all sections of society supported the bandh call. Thakur said that in support of the bandh call, Congress workers along with JMM, RJD, Left parties and Trinamool Congress workers hit the road enforcing bandh peacefully.

Thakur said that Congress party supported the "peaceful Bharat Bandh" saying that the party demands that the due process of discussion with the farmers should be initiated because they are sitting on the borders of Delhi for more than

nine months. The Congress also demands that these three black laws, which were imposed without any consultation, should be taken back.

However, Opposition BJP termed the Bharat Bandh as a flop show. State BJP unit president Deepak Prakash said that the bandh was a big failure. He said, "Leaving aside Punjab, Haryana and Delhi the bandh had no impact. In Jharkhand that in Jharkhand Congress, JMM, Left parties supporters were seen enforcing bandh, but no farmers were in the bandh call. He said, "Farmers, youths, remaining away from bandh indicated that they support the reform policies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi."



RMC Mayor Asha Lakra, Dy Mayor Sanjeev Vijaywargiya, Municipal Commissioner Mukesh Kumar along with others during the board meeting in Ranchi on Monday

PNS

do arbitrariness. Councillors supporting the Mayor said that the Officers are behaving in an autocratic way. Therefore, the Urban Development Secretary and the Urban Development Minister will have to intervene in the affairs of the Municipal Corporation. In the meeting of the Council, the agenda related to extension of contract period of Assistant Engineer, Shiv Shankar Kumar has been added under Minute No-09. It has been said that Kumar is working as Assistant Engineer in RMC. "His contractual appointment has been done after issuing information through advertisement and after interview. His contract period is expiring on 11.3. 2021. Therefore it is proposed to extend the contract period of Shiv Shankar Kumar for One year with effect from 12.3. 2021" she added.

The Mayor said that the contract period of Assistant

Engineer Kumar has ended on March, 11, 2021. In this regard, the Municipal Commissioner should have given a proposal related to extension of contract period in the month of February even before the expiry of the contract period, she added.

"From the month of February till now, many meetings of the RMC and Standing Committee were held, in which why this proposal was not brought? Now after 6 months what is the justification for bringing this proposal in the council meeting? By whose orders, Assistant Engineer Kumar continued to work in RMC for 6 months, after the expiry of the contract period on March 11, 2021, by whose order he is being paid the salary till now. Are the officials of the Civic body not responsible for this negligence," said Lakra.

Union Minister talks about qualities of good governance

DR. RAJKUMAR RANJAN SINGH SPEAKS AT IIM LECTURE SERIES

PNS ■ RANCHI

The Atal Bihari Vajpayee Centre for Leadership, Policy, and Governance, IIM Ranchi, conducted its 3rd anniversary lecture with Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh Minister of State for Education and External Affairs at IIM Ranchi on September 27, 2021, as the distinguished speaker in the event.

Singh, presented his lecture titled "Reforms for Good Governance", where he spoke how 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha

Bharat (One India, Great India)' and words like 'reform, perform and transform, provide insights about the concept of 'good governance. He discussed some of these positive developments in promoting good governance for India.

Singh said, "There are eight major qualities of good governance. It is democratic, consensus-driven, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective, and efficient, as well as equitable and inclusive, and it adheres to the rule of law."

He further said that the father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi also emphasized "suraaj" which essentially means good governance. "Right to Information and E-Governance are two key efforts that have recently been launched in India in order to empower the ordi-



Director, IIM Ranchi Prof. Shailendra Singh, during 3rd Anniversary Lecture organised by the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Centre for Leadership, Policy, and Governance, IIM Ranchi, in Ranchi on Monday

PNS

nary man and ensure good governance," he added further.

In the end he concluded that the country's good governance will flourish if every Indian citizen ignites the flame of patriotism by sticking to

truth, peace, and nonviolence as methods of perceiving the India of our dreams. Every attendee should swear at this event that the moral ideals that guide our lives would never be swayed by money or

muscle strength. "We must allow our moral strength to triumph over our physical strength. As responsible citizens of the country, it is our primary responsibility to continue to vote for honest and upright citizens who can serve as effective administrators and reformers to bring constructive change to our country," Singh said.

Prof. Shailendra Singh, Director, IIM Ranchi graced the occasion. He said students and alumni of IIM Ranchi are making a significant impact all over the world and in the domain of management. He said that ABVCLPG, A Centre of Excellence at IIM Ranchi has done good work for budding public administrators in the fields of leadership, policy and governance.

Prof. Aditya Shankar Mishra highlighted the importance of good governance by quoting Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and its mission to work for the country and its development. Prof. Angshuman Hazarika coordinated the Question and Answer session and vote of thanks. A token of appreciation was presented at the end to the distinguished speaker.

The ninth Indian Institute of Management was established at Ranchi in 2009. This year the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ranchi has invited applications for five-year Integrated Programme in Management (IPM). Students who have cleared class 12, regardless of their subjects or streams, can apply for the programme.

Lahiri Mahasaya — householder Yogi venerated all over the world

RENUKA RANE

September 26 marks the Mahasamadhi Divas of Sri Sri Lahiri Mahasaya (1828—1895), a peerless saint of India, credited with the revival and dissemination of the ancient science of Kriya Yoga—a divinely ordained technique of liberation.

Revered as Yogavatar, an incarnation of yoga, Lahiri Mahasaya is the ideal yogi-householder who exemplified that communion with God is dependent on inner rather than outer renunciation. A disciple of Mahavatar Babaji, Guru to Sri Yukteswar, Yogiraj Lahiri Mahasaya demystified the long-lost teachings of the sacred Kriya, hitherto privy only to the spiritually evolved, and made it available to house-holders.

Born as Shyama Charan Lahiri in a pious family in Ghurni, Bengal, he lived a modest life as an accountant, and was father to two sons and three daughters. It was at the age of thirty-three that he first encountered his Guru, the

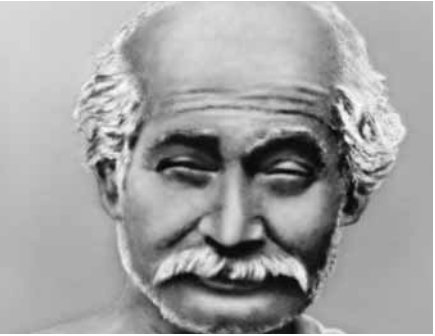


Image credits: Self-Realisation Fellowship/Yogoda Satsanga Society of India



deathless Mahavatar Babaji near Ranikhet in the Himalayan foothills and was initiated by him into Kriya Yoga. Their meeting was, in fact, a reunion – proof of the eternal bond between the guru and disciple that spans many lifetimes. Babaji then sent him forth with a special dispensation to bestow Kriya Yoga on all sincere seekers.

A spiritual renaissance soon began from his humble abode in Varanasi where Lahiri Mahasaya gave Kriya initiation to scores of followers, regardless of caste or creed. To quote

an excerpt from the Autobiography of a Yogi, "Just as the fragrance of flowers cannot be suppressed, so Lahiri Mahasaya, quietly living as an ideal householder, could not hide his innate glory. Slowly, from every part of India, the devotee-bees sought the divine nectar of the liberated master."

Visitors would often find Lahiri Mahasaya seated in the lotus posture, in a state of transcendental calm exhibiting breathlessness, cessation of pulse, and an enveloping aura of peace. Amongst his disciples were eminent saints, members

of royalty, other influential persons, and also the parents of Sri Sri Paramahansa Yogananda. As the story goes, when Yogananda was but a babe in his mother's arms, he was blessed by Lahiri Mahasaya who foretold, "Little mother, thy son will be a yogi. As a spiritual engine, he will carry many souls to God's kingdom." And so it was.

Although Lahiri Mahasaya preferred partial seclusion and refused to have any organization centered on him or his teachings, he did predict that his life story would be published

fifty years after his passing.

"About fifty years after my passing," he had said, "an account of my life will be written because of a deep interest in yoga that will arise in the West. The message of yoga will encircle the globe. It will aid in establishing the brotherhood of man: a unity based on humanity's direct perception of the One Father."

This came true in 1946, with the publication of Paramahansa Yogananda's Autobiography of a Yogi, wherein a detailed account of Lahiri Mahasaya's life was published for the first time in English language. Through this book, which is celebrating 75 years of continuous publication as a perennial bestseller, millions were introduced to the sublime life of this Yogavatar and to his teaching of Kriya Yoga. Under the tutelage of Sri Yukteswar, Yogananda had blossomed into a God-realized master who raised the spiritual stature of his disciples. He founded the Yogoda Satsanga Society of India and the Self-Realization Fellowship in the

United States to spread the message of India's philosophy of yoga worldwide. Yogananda's modern-day spiritual classic evoked great interest in Kriya Yoga in the West and intrigued readers who sought to know more about the Kriya technique which enables one to consciously control life processes and become one with Spirit.

"Reflect that someday you will suddenly have to leave everything in this world—so make the acquaintanceship of God now," are the immortal words of Lahiri Mahasaya who promised that, "I am ever with those who practice Kriya Yoga." Lahiri Mahasaya's legacy is in tune with our modern times where divine union depends on self-effort and not on dogmatic beliefs. His harmoniously balanced life in which he fulfilled all family, business, social, and spiritual obligations, serves as a guide for truth seekers to this day.

For more details on Kriya Yoga and teachings of Sri Sri Paramahansa Yogananda, please visit: www.ysofindia.org

INBRIEF

ECR HOLDS STREET PLAYS FOR CLEANLINESS

As per the instructions of Railway Board, East Central Railway is celebrating Swachhta Pakhwada from 16th September to 30th September. In this sequence, street play was organized today on Monday at Headquarters, Hajipur with the aim of creating awareness about cleanliness.

In this sequence, while successfully staging street play by Scouts and Guides, Sonpur Unit, its usefulness and benefits were made aware in the context of cleanliness. It may be noted that under the 'Swachh Rail Swachh Bharat' mission, 'Swachhta Pakhwada' is being organized by the Indian Railways with the aim of making cleanliness a mass movement. In this episode, "Swachhta Pakhwada" is being organized in East Central Railway Headquarters and in all the five divisions.



CMPDI CMD VISITS RI-V, BILASPUR

Binay Dayal, CMD, CMPDI & Director (T), CIL visited CMPDI, RI-V, Bilaspur. On this occasion, Dayal inaugurated the newly deployed Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) and recommended utilising this new technology in sorting mine production related issues. He also inaugurated the Seismic Data Processing and Interpretation Centre at RI-V and took a review of the workings and utility of the PARADIGM software procured by CMPDI. Dayal along with I.D. Narayan, RD, RI-V and all GMs/HoDs planted saplings at RI-V as part of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" celebrations. He also applauded the overall anticipation and commitment of entire RI-V team for betterment of the company and overall development in future. Dayal also visited the residential complex/colony of Regional Institute-V of CMPDI, Bilaspur during his stay at SECL. During this he inspected the colony, he expressed satisfaction over the condition of the colony and directed officials to create a conducive environment to upkeep the same.



COMPETITIONS ON AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOSTAV HELD

As part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations, CMPDI's RI-II, Dhanbad organised Speech and Quiz Competitions at upgraded High School, Karmatand ' under the guidance of Shri Rajiv Kumar Sinha, RD,RI-II. On the occasion, children presented their ideas and expressed themselves about contributions of the freedom fighters, freedom movement of India. Thereafter, an objective Quiz Competition related to the country's freedom movement was organized. In this also all the children participated enthusiastically and completed it within the stipulated time. Children were rewarded as per their performance. Through these programs children will inspire and fulfill their obligations honestly towards the country

AMBA PRASAD IS PATRON OF LIONS CLUB

Seeing the work being done in the field of social service of Lions Club of Hazaribagh Roaring and on the request of the members, Bargaon MLA Amba Prasad took membership as a patron member of the club. Prasad while expressing happiness on joining the membership said that I am very happy with the work being done by the Lions Club for the Birhor tribal society. The work of awareness in the field of water conservation and health is also commendable. Today it is a pleasure to be associated with Roaring's family. Club President Rajiv Anand welcomed the honorable MLA to the club by giving a pin.



VACCINATION CAMP FOR RICKSHAW PULLERS HELD

The Rising Charitable Society (RCS) on Sunday organised a vaccination camp especially for the rickshaw pullers at Rajendra Park in Dhanbad. Over 270 persons took Corona vaccine during the day long camp informed Manoranjan Singh member of RCS- cum- vaccination in-charge. Our focus was to get the poor and needy persons thus we targeted rickshaw pullers mainly, said Manoranjan. All those who took the vaccine were also provided lunch packets by the RCS.Dhanbad MLA Raj Sinha inaugurated this camp. Talking to the media Sinha hailed the initiative of the RCS and assured his support in constructive programmes of the RCS.

TATA STEEL FIRST TO JOIN THE SEA CARGO CHARTER

In line with its sustainability objectives and initiatives on reduction of Scope 3 greenhouse gas emission in ocean trade, Tata Steel joined the Sea Cargo Charter (SCC) on September 3. Tata Steel becomes the first steel



producing signatory of the Sea Cargo Charter. The company is the 24th organisation to join the association working to reduce environmental impacts of global seaborne cargo. Peeyush Gupta, vice president, supply chain, Tata Steel, said: "As a leader in the steel industry which continuously sets benchmarks in sustainable operations, it is imperative that we look at Scope 3 emissions with similar accuracy. With our seaborne global volume in excess of 40 million tonnes per annum, this is a decisive step in the direction to measure correctly and mitigate efficiently & innovatively."

"RASHTRIYA POSHAN MAAH" AT PAS BOKARO

The Pentecostal Assembly School organized an awareness program on 'Rashtriya Poshan Maah'. The students of grade VII participated in this program. All the students were made aware of the nutritious diet, personal hygiene, habit of washing hands, cleanliness, immunization and growth monitoring through Power point presentation. Students were encouraged to share a nutritious meal with underprivileged people. Nutrition e-quiz was also conducted which added more excitement to the students. Principal, Dr. Karuna Prasad appreciated all the students for working diligently in this event.

IWCS DISTRIBUTES UMBRELLAS, CLOTH BAGS



Innerwheel Club of Swarnrekha Ranchi District – 325 under the aegis of President Neeta Narayan, umbrellas were distributed to poor elderly people in Morhabadi market by the hands of Chief Guest PDC Poonam Prakash. Everyone has to save nature and not use plastic. Working on this message, the club distributed cloth bags to all the passers-by in the market. Also on this occasion the club's CCC Deepa Chauhan Treasurer Sandhya Prakash, Joint Editor Archana Trivedi, Sangeeta Sinha, Shalini Sinha, Supriya Thakur and Anita Jaiswal were present.

Opp helps Bharat Bandh in Kerala

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Monday’s Bharat Bandh held under the auspices of the Opposition political parties turned out to be a big success in Kerala with all Government and private establishments downing shutters and vehicles remaining off the roads. The dawn to dusk bundh was to express solidarity with the farmers across the country who are protesting against the three agricultural reforms bills enacted by the Union Government. The farmers who have been waging relentless agitation against the Union Government feel that the bills would destroy their agricultural operations and deny them the right to have minimum support price.

Since the bundh was held on Monday, Government employees could enjoy an

extended weekend. “Had it been held on Tuesday or on Wednesday, it would have upset the rhythm of our life,” said Sujit Thannikkal of Ernakulam, an entrepreneur.

The weekend that began on Saturday night went up to late Monday night in the State. The CPI(M)-led LDF and the Congress-led UDF had declared their support to the Bundh which gave the shut-down an official seal. All KSRTC and private buses along with taxis and auto rickshaws stayed off the road throughout the State.

But the State saw seven persons losing their lives in different road accidents during the bundh hours sensing the message that roads in Kerala are not safe even on a bundh day. Leaders of the CPI(M) and the Congress thanked the people of the State for their coop-

eration in making the shut down a success.

But cynics were quick to find fault with the Kerala Government’s support to the Bharat Bundh. September 27 was the World Tourism Day and the Kerala Government had launched an advertisement campaign in all newspapers in the State about the sound tourism practiced in the State. “In this ad on World Tourism Day, Kerala tourism minister Mohammed Riyaz says the world has started to ‘travel worry-free’ & that our centres are ‘safe’. His party is conducting a State hartal today! Are people ‘safe’ because they sit at home? - Can they ‘travel worry-free’ today?,” asked Sreejith Panickar, political commentator in his social media site.

The strongest condemnation of the frequent Bharat

Bundh calls by political parties was made by G Vijaya Raghavan, former chief executive officer of Techno Park.

1. Whom is the protest against? The answer is of course the central Govt.

2. Has this strike affected the working of the PMO or the offices of any union minister or Secretary to Govt of India. The answer is a big No.

3. Then who is the one who is impacted by the Bandh or Hartal? The common man of course and they have no means to protect themselves and are forced to stay away from work and they get no wage and a day’s income is lost.

It is high time we changed our methods of protest. A protest is successful and makes an impact only when it affects the person or group of persons against whom the protest is targeted at,” said Vijayaraghavan.

Protect identities in POSH cases: HC

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court has issued fresh guidelines relating to the Sexual Harassment of Women at the Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 (“the POSH Act”) and Sexual Harassment of Women at the Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Rules, 2013, prohibiting publication of names and addresses of the people involved and mandating that all hearings be held in the judges’ chamber or in Camera.

“It is imperative, therefore,

to protect the identities of the parties from disclosure, even accidental disclosure, in these proceedings. This is in the interest of both sides. There appear to be no established guidelines so far in such matters,” Justice G.S. Patel of the high court noted, as he prefaced his order, imposing restrictions for hearing, dealing, and reporting on cases pertaining to the POSH Act and POSH Rules.

The order came during the course of a hearing of a POSH case involving a major blue-chip company and its woman staffer who was represented by advo-

cate Abha Singh.

“This order, setting out a working protocol for future orders, hearings and case file management, is a first endeavour in that direction. These are only initial guidelines, and will necessarily be subject to revision or modification as needed,” the Judge ruled, in his order passed on September 24.

Among other things, the guidelines have stated: “In the order sheets, the names of the parties will not be mentioned. The orders will read “A v B”, “P vs D” etc. In the body of the order, the parties will not be

referred to by their names but only as Plaintiff, Defendant No.1 etc” The HC has restricted all from mentioning the names of the parties in the case, their Personally Identifiable Information (PII) such as email ids, mobile or telephone numbers, addresses etc.

No witness’ names will be mentioned, nor will their addresses be noted. (d) Orders/judgments on merits will not be uploaded. Because this order sets out general guidelines and does not address the merits, it is permitted to be uploaded.

Hardeep Singh Puri launches ‘Swachchh Survekshan 2022’

New Delhi: Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Monday launched the ‘Swachchh Survekshan 2022’, the seventh edition of the annual cleanliness survey under which district rankings have been introduced for the first time.

In a statement, the ministry said that this year’s survey will create a level playing field for smaller cities by introducing two population categories -- under 15,000 and between 15,000-25,000. The scope of the survey has been expanded to now cover 100 per cent wards for sampling as compared to 40 per cent in previous years, according to the HUA Ministry.

Speaking at the event, Puri said that the Swachh Bharat Mission is an important and transformative programme of the country which has achieved success due to involvement of all stakeholders at the grassroot level. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the catalyst for converting the vision of Mahatma Gandhi into reality by leading from the front and converting it into a peoples’ movement. The road to success was not easy but today we have not only achieved ODF but also succeeded in solid waste management," the statement quoted him as saying.

He said SBM 2.0 and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0 will be launched by the Prime Minister on October 1. The ministry said that in order to seamlessly carry out this ambitious exercise, ‘Swachh Survekshan 2022’ will see more than twice the number of assessors deployed last year for on-field assessment.

PNS

Didi is face against Modi: Deb after becoming TMC RS MP

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Batting strongly for her new political boss Mamata Banerjee, Trinamool Congress leader Sushmita Deb on Monday said that the Bengal Chief Minister was fast emerging as the face of the Opposition against the BJP led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Deb who was on Monday elected uncontested to Rajya Sabha from Bengal said an anti-BJP force is being formed all over the country... People want an alternative to BJP. Mamata Banerjee is at the forefront of the leadership needed to build that strength. It cannot be denied in any way.

When asked to comment on “deflating steam” of the Congress Party the senior leader from Assam who recently left the Congress to join the TMC said, “Why the Congress is in its situation today is a matter of debate. But people are relying on Mamata Banerjee as an alternative force,” adding I will do whatever my party and my leader Mamata Banerjee wants me to do, Dropping sufficient hints that

she was going to be her new party’s charge-de-affairs for the North East Deb the daughter of late Union Minister and Silchar Congress leader Santosh Mohan Deb said “I never thought I would do politics in Assam and I will be elected as an MP from Bengal ... In Parliament, I will have to talk about Assam as well as Bengal ... voice should also be raised for the whole of Northeast India including Tripura.”

Speaking about the BJP Government’s alleged “fascist ways” she said “Modi government does not give importance to the opposition in the parliament. Parliamentary customs do not mean. No bill goes to the standing committee, no debate is allowed. I will protest against such behavior of theirs. I will fight shoulder to shoulder with other Trinamool MPs in the Rajya Sabha.”

One of the Young Turks of the Congress Party, Deb had kept from making any statement on or against the Congress Party which could be the main stumbling block in the path of Mamata Banerjee’s Delhi dreams.

ED raids home of ex-Sena MP Anandrao Adsul, son

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials on Monday raided the residence of former Shiv Sena MP Anandrao Adsul and his son Abhijit Adsul in connection with a complaint of alleged scam worth ₹980 crore in the City Cooperative Bank Ltd, here.

As part of an on-going bitter political battle between them and Adsuls, independent MLA from Badnera, Ravi Rana, the husband of ex-actress and independent MP from Amravati, Navnit Kaur-Rana had lodged a complaint against Anandrao and his son Abhijit with the ED.

Acting on Ranas’ complaint, ED had summoned Adsuls for questioning on Monday.

In their complaint, Ranas have accused the Adsuls of alleged misappropriation of the City Cooperative Bank Ltd. ’s depositors’ funds to the tune of ₹900-crore. However, Anandrao and his son Abhijit have vehemently denied the charge.

A former five-time MP from Amravati and Buldhana Lok Sabha seats, Anandrao Adsul is the chairman, while his son Abhijit is a director in the

Mumbai-based bank.

After the IT department descended on their residence at Kandivli in north Mumbai, Anandrao became indisposed and was rushed to a nearby hospital.

After ED had issued first summons to him in connection with the complaint, Anandrao had appeared before the instigating agency and recorded his statement. “Later on my father lodged a complaint with the NM Marg police in connection with the alleged fraud in the bank,” Abhijit said

On his part, Anandrao has gone on record saying: “How could there be a fraud of 980 crore in a bank that has a turn-over of ₹800 crore? After I came to know there was fraud in the bank, I had complained to the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Mumbai Police. An inquiry is going on in the case”.

Ravi Rana’s allegation is that Anandrao, who is the chairman of the bank, had illegally diverted the money deposited in the bank by the account holders in his real estate business and as a result, the bank went into liquidation. He has alleged that Anandrao and his son had indulged in a massive scam in the bank.

China defends visa curbs against stranded Indians

Says it’s ‘appropriate’ to combat Covid

Beijing: China on Monday defended its visa curbs which have prevented thousands of stranded Indians from returning to Beijing, saying they are "appropriate" to control the spread of Covid-19 and do not target India alone, but are applied to even Chinese citizens coming back from overseas.

Responding to questions on Indian ambassador to Beijing Vikram Misri’s criticism of China’s prolonged stringent travel restrictions, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying also ruled out the easing of the curbs in the near future. Misri, in his address to the Track-II Dialogue on China-India Relations last week, expressed “disappointment” over China’s reluctance to permit the return of thousands of stranded Indian students, employees and their families due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

He described China’s restrictions as an "unscientific approach" to a purely humanitarian issue. Asked for her reaction, Hua told a media briefing here that the measures were taken for the safety and wellbeing of the people.

“China’s measures are appropriate and also I would like to say that China applies quarantine measures to all inbound travellers. China is willing to have good arrangements on the bilateral travel of personnel,” she said.

PTI

Maha RS bypolls: Rajani may be elected unopposed

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Congress’ former MP and CAICC general secretary Rajani Patil on Monday appeared poised to get elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha in the elections scheduled for October 4 after the Opposition BJP responded to the ruling party’s call and withdrew its candidate Sanjay Upadhyay keeping in view with the political traditions followed in the state

The BJP’s decision to withdraw its candidate from RS poll fray came four days after

State Congress president Nana Patole and senior state Congress minister Balasaheb Thorat met former chief minister and current leader of the Opposition Devendra Fadnavis at the latter’s Mumbai residence and requested him to ensure the election of their party candidate Rajani Patil unopposed.

Announcing the withdrawal of his party’s candidate

from the RS by-poll fray, Maharashtra BJP president Chandrakant Patil said: “Keeping in view the request made by the Congress leaders and tradition followed in the elections held after the death of a sitting member, we withdrew our candidate Sanjay Upadhyay from the RS poll fray”.

The October 4 by-election to one RS seat from Maharashtra has been necessitated by the untimely demise of sitting Congress member Rajeev Satav who died because of Covid-19 complications on May 16 this year.

On its part, the BJP had earlier said that in the first place it would not have fielded a candidate if the Congress were to put up a candidate from Satav’s family member and that the ruling party had instead nominated a former MP for the seat.

The Congress high command has chosen Rajani Patil, who is a Gandhi-Nehru family loyalist, as the party candi-

date for the RS by-polls, ahead of Rajeev’s widow Pradnya Satav, who had lobbied with the party leadership for nomination, veteran party leader Sushilkumar Shinde, party general secretary Mukul Wasnik himself, former Rajasthan state in charge Avinash Pande, former MP Rajiv Shukla and former union minister Milind Deora.

Sixty-two-year-old Rajanitai – as she is known in the state political circles -- is currently the All India Congress Committee (AICC) in-charge for Jammu and Kashmir. She was elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha in 2013. In 1996, Patil had won the Beed Lok Sabha seat in Maharashtra for the Congress. She had replaced AICC general secretary and former Maharashtra chief minister Shushil Kumar Shinde as the in-charge for Himachal in September, 2018 Patil enjoys close rapport with the Gandhi

family, especially party president Sonia Gandhi.

After the state Congress leaders Patole and Thorat met Fadnavis and requested the latter to withdraw his party’s candidate to ensure the election of Rajani Patil unopposed, there was intense speculation in the media that the BJP had reportedly offered to support to the Congress candidate on a condition that in lieu of its support, the MVA Government withdraw the suspension of 12 of its MLAs who were acted against when they “abused” and “misbehaved” with the presiding officer inside and outside the State Assembly in July this year.

It may be recalled that on July 5, as many as 12 BJP MLAs were suspended from the Maharashtra Assembly on Monday for a period of one year “abusing” and “misbehaving” with the presiding officer inside and outside the House.



A farmer works in a paddy field during harvest season, at Kangan area of Ganderbal District of Central Kashmir on Monday PTI

Two minors gangraped, blackmailed in Kannauj

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

In a sensational incident reported from Kannauj, two girls were allegedly held hostage and gangraped in a cyber cafe when they went there to get some documents photocopied.

Police said on Monday that four men took the two girl students hostage at the cyber cafe on September 13 and gang-raped them and one of the accused also recorded the act. The accused also extorted ₹10,000 from the girls by threatening to circulate the video.

Superintendent of Police Prashant Verma said a case was registered at Sadar Kotwali on Sunday against six people, including a woman, based on the complaint of one of the girls.

The 17-year-old student in her complaint said she had gone to the cyber cafe along with her friend at noon on September 13 when four people, who were already present there, raped them.

One of the accused also made a video of the act and handed it over to his brother-in-law who extorted ₹10,000 by threatening to make it viral, police said.

The girl said she and her friend stole money from their houses to give it to the accused, the police said. It was the missing money which alerted their family members after which the incident came to light, they said.

The girls were sent to the district hospital for medical examination.

Police were raiding all possible

places, the SP said, adding in the initial investigation, the police found signs of prostitution from the cyber cafe.

The victim had said that after the incident, the wife of one of the accused made her phone calls, pressurising her into prostitution and some neighbours had also spoken about presence of young girls there, the SP said, adding that efforts were on to nab the accused.

Meanwhile, in a brutal killing, the body of a youth was found in the Dadiyamau area of Fatehpur Kotwali in Barabanki district on Monday morning.

The victim was brutally beaten by some blunt object and the accused escaped after the youth succumbed to his injuries.

On Monday morning, the body of the youth was found lying on the side of the road covered in blood. The police reached after getting the information and started investigating the case by sending the body for post-mortem.

According to the police, the victim, Ajay Kumar Verma (35) son of Ramchandra of village Dadiyamau of Kotwali area, had left the house on Sunday evening after taking Rs 500 from his father.

When he did not return home till late in the night, the family members and villagers started searching for him. On Monday morning, the body of Ajay Verma was found lying in a pool of blood on the Nandanakala Dadiyagau contact road. There were injury marks on the head of the deceased.

Steepest fall in new Covid cases in UP

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

In a big success towards eradicating the deadly coronavirus, Uttar Pradesh witnessed the steepest decline in the number of fresh cases on Monday with only seven new infections being reported, making it the lowest single-day tally. In sharp contrast to other states like Kerala, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, UP, the most populous state of the country, has significantly lesser cases and has been largely successful in harnessing the raging disease. When other States are witnessing a surge of fresh Covid-19 cases (daily cases ranging from 20,000-2,000), Uttar Pradesh has restricted the daily-case count to below 50 for 47 days in a row. The downward trend has continued for the 11th-consecutive week.

UP to begin ethanol production from cane from October

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh will commence production of ethanol directly from sugarcane from the next cane crushing season commencing from October. Ethanol used for blending with petrol will be produced at the public sector undertaking Pipraich sugar mill at Gorakhpur and Balrampur sugar mill. The UP government had decided in October last year to produce ethanol directly from sugarcane and a pilot project was started at the Pipraich sugar mill.

UP is the top producer of the ethanol in India and more use of the commodity for blending with petrol will help the industry to earn more revenue and clear the payment of the farmers. There are 53 distilleries producing ethanol and annual installed capacity is 158.44 crore litre. In the financial year 2016-17, UP produced 42.70 crore litres of ethanol which increased to 99.31 crore litre in 2020-21. UP has 72 distilleries which include 25 standalone and 47 attached with the sugar mills. Sugar Industry Minister Suresh Rana said in a press conference on Monday that the hike in State advisory price of sugarcane for the next crushing season 2021-22 would fetch an additional over ₹4,000 crore to the farmers. He said the sugar mills had cleared 100 per cent payment of the 2019-20 and over 85 per cent of the last season (2020-21) had been cleared by the industry. He said against the demand of ₹33,014 crore, the sugar mills had so far paid ₹28,015 crore to the farmers for the 2020-21 season.

He said during the 10-year rule of the Bahujan Samaj Party and Samajwadi Party from 2007 to 2017, sugar mills made total payment of ₹1,47 lakh crore to the farmers while the during the four years of Yogi Adityanath government, the payment made from 2017 to 2021 was ₹1,44 lakh crore till September 21 this year.

“The focus of the Bharatiya Janata Party government in the last four years was on ensuring payment to the farmers, reviving the closed sugar mills and introducing the latest technology in the industry,” the Minister said.



Visitors at Hawa Mahal on World Tourism Day in Jaipur on Monday

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PAPER WITH PASSION

Inhumane

Dalits in India live in a sorry state, whether it is spoken about or not

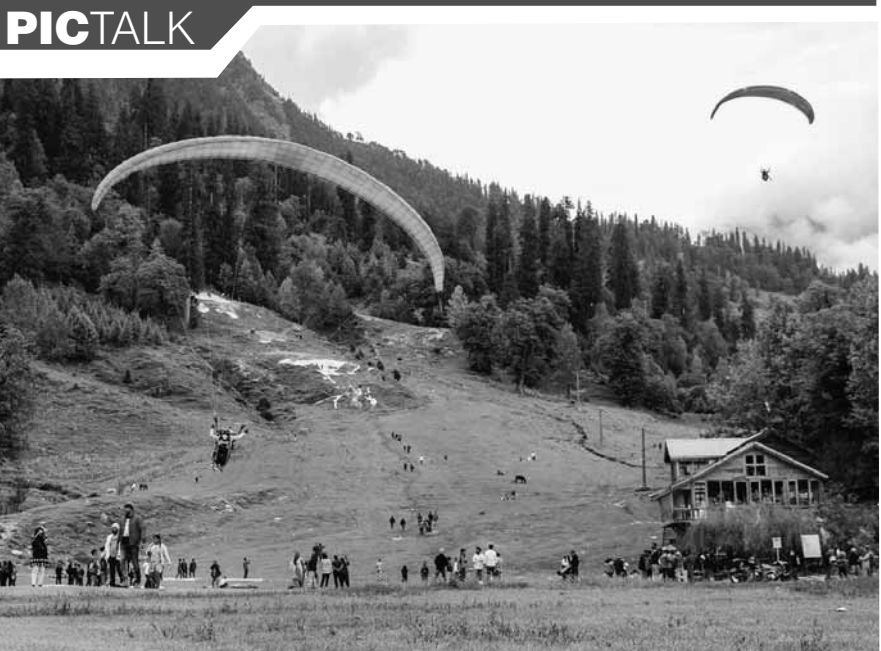
In the 21st century, while India plans to reach the Moon and Mars, Dalits cannot afford to go a hundred yards riding a horse. In a country that the Government wants to make self-reliant as a way out of its economic morass, Dalits dare not make themselves “*aatma nirbhar*”. What is a more unnerving aspect of our ultra-modern society is the inglorious fact that the Government authorities are, as we speak, formally searching for hamlets and villages where untouchability is still practised with two hoots to the law. The search follows two quick incidents of untouchability reported from the Koppal district of Karnataka within a fortnight. In the first instance, a Dalit family was fined ₹25,000 by upper caste village elders because their three-year-old child entered a temple. Dalits are banned from entering the temple in that village. In the second incident, a Dalit youth was asked to pay ₹11,000 for entering a temple in another village.



The fine would be used to purify the temple, the upper caste villagers told him. These incidents are not new. They happen dime a dozen in most Indian States. Dalits have no right to worship, believe, celebrate or cremate their dead on public property because the upper castes treat all public property as fief and the Dalits have none in their names.

However, what is startling is the Koppal administration telling the media that untouchability is still practised in 25-30 villages in that district. The very admission of such a fact is violative of the Constitution but all that the administration and the

police are willing to do is search for those villages. Obviously, they are not going to find them because nobody will admit to practising untouchability. What is scary is the routinisation of the Indian, casteist social order, immune to the Constitution, even as the society claims to embrace modernity. The Dalit is so untouchable s/he can get killed for touching an animal. A youth was hacked to death in Gujarat in 2018 because he rode a horse. In 2019, a Dalit groom’s family was socially boycotted because he sat on a horse, again in Gujarat. In 2020, a Dalit youth found out being an army jawan does not make him immune to upper caste taunts as he was forced down from his horse, also in Gujarat. After dozens of similar cases were reported in Uttar Pradesh, a Dalit groom in Meerut managed to reach the bride’s home on his horse because of police protection. The only consolation for the poor Dalits is that even prosperous Dalits suffer the same insults. Young Dalits get a taste of the discrimination quite early, during mid-day meals in schools. Whom can Dalits turn to seek equality as human beings in everyday life and not be beaten or killed for wearing new clothes or walking on a paved street or drinking water from a public tap?



Tourists paragliding at Solang Valley, near Manali

PTI

High time

It’s time to take a leaf out of Kerala’s book to take steps to nurture our next generation

Come November 1 and schools and colleges in Kerala would reopen after a 21-month hiatus caused by COVID-19. November 1 assumes significance as it was on this day in 1956 that the State came into existence following the merger of Travancore, Kochi and Malabar. This is the longest ever closedown seen in the educational sector of the State known more for its militant trade unionism and student agitation.



The LDF Government, led by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, has been doubly cautious about announcing the lifting of lockdown in schools and colleges because of the ‘once bitten twice shy’ syndrome experienced by the State. Vijayan had declared on May 8, 2020, that Kerala had become COVID-free, thanks to the State’s well-functioning health sector. However, within weeks, the pandemic returned with renewed potency and caused devastating havoc by claiming nearly 25,000 lives. This time round, the State administration is leaving no stone unturned to ensure student safety. The bio-bubble scheme under the

Government’s consideration envisages three offline classes and an equal number of online classes for each batch of students. Only those parents who are confident of the cleanliness of the schools need send their wards for physical classes. The rest could continue with the on-line sessions which are in vogue now.

Another Government initiative is the de-addiction centres planned across the State to ensure that students do not fall to drugs. Narcotics smugglers are out in the open across the State and schools and colleges are on their target. Since the lockdown was slapped in the State, another social evil in the name of online games has hit Kerala. This has resulted in suicides by students and parents, who were left in financial distress. Vijayan said that all police inspectors have been instructed to establish close rapport with head masters and parent teachers’ associations to save students from drug pushers and online gaming operators. The State also saw some students resorting to the extreme measure of suicide because of mental agony arising out of the absence of peer company. The partial opening of schools is expected to go a long way in resolving the issue while the students have to be trained to face the changed lifestyle as they emerge from COVID-19. Life will not be the same anywhere in India and Gen-Next should be warned about the ground reality. This step should be replicated across India.

The history of the Assam problem



PRAFULL GORADIA

The tale of illegal migrants into Assam is old, told by all observers but swept under the carpet by the Congress and its Muslim supporters

What happened in Darrang district a few days ago, where by two alleged infiltrators were killed, was sad but reflected the historic agony of the Assamese people. Under the Government of India Act of 1935, provincial governments were formed by political parties. Soon enough, a Sir Mohammed Saadulla of the Muslim League became the Premier. In the 1937 elections, the League led by MA Jinnah was disappointed with its meagre winnings in UP, the largest province. Talk of a distinctly separate Muslim holy land began in seriousness.

The idea was first concretely mooted by the poet Iqbal who presided over the 1930 League session at Allahabad. A few years later, Cambridge University scholar Chaudhry Rehmat Ali worked out a theoretical note and innovated the name Pakistan, the land of the devout. Jinnah’s idea was that five provinces should form the holy land including Assam, Bengal, North-West Frontier, Punjab and Sindh. Balochistan came in later. From the Muslim majority angle, Assam appeared touch and go to Jinnah although the Hindu impression was that they had a clear majority. Premier Saadulla got down to the business of facilitating as many east Bengali Muslims to come across and settle in Assam. A whispering campaign was started that the Adivasis were not really Hindus but worshipped animals or were Christian. There was thus a race to somehow prove that there were more Muslims in Assam than Hindus.

In the course of a discussion at Shillong in 1945, Viceroy Lord Wavell noted in his diary that while the reason for the encouragement of this migration was officially justified as being to grow more food, the real object was to increase Mohammadans (as recorded by BK Nehru in his book *Nice Guys Finish Second*). The tale of illegal migrants into Assam is an old one told by all observers but swept under the carpet by the Congress and its Muslim supporters. Other distinguished Muslims like Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and late Pakistan PM Zulfikar Ali Bhutto,



who openly expressed the view that without Assam, the economy of East Pakistan could not be complete.

The entire episode is heart rending for those who care for Assam. The writer has often visited the state and seen all its tea growing sub-districts. He was there for some ten days during the 1983 elections, which were boycotted by those who loved Assam. In many of the assembly constituencies, the voting was pathetically low although the Hiteswar Saikia Government had ensured perfect law and order. Most of the electoral officers in the heartland constituencies and the booths therein were manned by men flown in from other States. Nevertheless, for five days, the Assamese districts seemed as dead as graveyards.

Quoting from the *Hindustan Standard*, a well patronized Kolkata daily of those days, Rajendra Prasad in his book *India Divided*, stated: “It is sad but by no means improbable that in another 30 years Sibsagar district will be the only part of Assam in which an Assamese will find himself at home.”

The Census Report of 1941 completes the story with a short but significant sentence, quoted: “The most noticeable rise in the Muslim population



A WHISPERING CAMPAIGN WAS STARTED THAT THE ADIVASIS WERE NOT REALLY HINDUS BUT WORSHIPPED ANIMALS OR WERE CHRISTIAN. THERE WAS THUS A RACE TO SOMEHOW PROVE THAT THERE WERE MORE MUSLIMS IN ASSAM THAN HINDUS

is in Assam and once again represents migration from Mymensingh and east Bengal generally.” This policy of colonisation of Assam by the Muslims of Bengal was continued under the joint auspices of the Muslim League ministries of Sir Saadullah in Assam and Sir Nazimuddin in Bengal, as the following Bengal Government communique published in the press, in the last week of October 1944, shows. It goes on to quote the Census Report of 1941: “The Government of Assam in their resolution dated the 21st June 1940 prohibited settlement of land with persons coming from outside the province after the 1st January, 1938 — The Bengal Legislative Council went on to appeal to the Governor to ask for the Viceroy’s intervention in Assam.

Dr Prasad quoted a retired SP Desai (ICS) writing in *Hindustan Standard* of December 1944: “Every day, new bamboo sheds and temporary huts are springing up in the reserves. I found that the immigrants absolutely ignore the local officers.” The few Nepali graziers and Assamese Pamasus finding no protection from anywhere give ‘*dohai*’ in the name of the King Emperor. Verily, the cup of humiliation for the Assamese was full.

Thus the Indira Gandhi

Government in collaboration with Assam CM Hiteswar Saikia suppressed the people of Assam and their sentiments. They continued to protest and agitate but to no avail. As if to rub salt on their wounds, the Central Government passed the pernicious Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act in 1983. Hereby, in Assam the onus of proving that a particular person is an infiltrator rested with his complainant or the Government of Assam, not on the suspect. The Foreigners Act of 1946, whereby the onus of proving his bona fides is on the suspect, continued to apply to all other States in India. The only exception made was Assam to help out the illegal migrants. When travelling from Guwahati to Shillong, one does not spontaneously realise when one has crossed from Assam to Meghalaya. Yet in the latter State, the Central law was the old 1946 Act! Such was the discrimination against the Assamese people.

(This is part of an ongoing series on India making multi-dimensional advancement across States and nations.)

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FARMERS’ BHARAT BANDH

Sir — It is uncharitable to say that the Bharat Bandh called by farmer unions has caused ‘disruption’, ‘inconvenience’ and ‘hardships’ for the public when it is a life-and-death struggle for them. It is important that we keep a sense of proportion. The do-or-die spirit with which the farmers are protesting reveals their deep disquiet over the three farm laws enacted to pave the way for the dismantling of the MSP system, takeover of the agriculture sector by big corporate houses and the eventual loss of agricultural land. It is futile to try and trivialise the farm protests and show them in a negative light, given the rightness of their cause and the mass support for them.

The support extended by the Opposition parties to the ongoing protests is not ‘pandering’ to the farmers when elections in several States are around the corner. To say that the farmers are ‘egged on’ by the Opposition is an insult to the integrity of both the farmers and the Opposition. The ruling party can easily outsmart the Opposition by repealing the three farm laws. The attempt to pit the protesting farmers against ‘common citizens’ is eminently avoidable. Farmers are a part of social organisms; they are ordinary, decent, hard working people for anyone to speak ill of them or attempt to trash their reputation.

G David Milton | Maruthancode

ABOLISH MISUSED EXEMPTIONS

Sir — The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) should widen the scope of Form 26AS of Income Tax Act by auto-inclusion of allowable deductions like investment in Public Provident Fund, LIC policies, Government securities, mutual funds etc. Insurance companies should be directed to compulsorily put PAN number and Aadhar number on policies. The outdated Income Tax Act, 1961, with so many amendments should be replaced by an altogether new and simplified Act as repeatedly assured by the Government.

Our political parties are rich enough to spend heavily for their political purposes which regrettably also includes costly

Seven years in orbit



It’s truly delightful and a matter of pride to know that India’s Mars orbiter has completed seven years in its orbit, well beyond its designed mission life of six months. The Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM), also called Mangalyaan, was the maiden interplanetary mission of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). It was launched in November 2013 and the probe was successfully inserted into Martian orbit in September, 2014 in its first attempt. The successful survival of the Mangalyaan during all these years has enabled the ISRO to continuously mon-

itor the spacecraft and its scientific instruments giving the scientists enough time to analyse and study the strengths and the glitches so that these could be made useful in future space missions. The longevity of the MOM has raised the confidence of ISRO scientists.

Mangalyaan’s success in the red planet’s orbit is sure to be an impetus in ISRO’s ambitious space exploring plans like - launching its own space station, the Chandrayaan mission, Aditya L1, the mission to explore the Sun’s corona and so on. The biggest advantage is that other nations have begun to keenly observe our low cost space technology. While the developed countries spend billions on space missions, India has been able to do the same on a low budget but precisely and flawlessly. It stands testimony to our accomplishment in space exploration that many nations rely on ISRO for launching their satellites into space using our rockets.

M Pradyu | Kanpur

super-luxury stay of MLAs in costly five-starred resorts and hotels for immoral ways of toppling or saving Governments. Tax-exemptions in respect of political parties are also heavily misused by an ever-increasing number of registered political parties with most of them not having contested any election. Considering massive misuse of tax-free agricultural income by super rich celebrities and heavy spending on ongoing farmers-agitation, agricultural income should also be taxed by having a basic exemption-limit of ₹5 lakh with various deductible investments or spending clubbed together for maximum rupees two lakhs.

Subhash Chandra Agrawal | Delhi

THE CYCLONE NAMED ‘GULAB’

Sir — The cyclonic storm ‘Gulab’ is likely to move nearly westwards and cross north Andhra Pradesh-south Odisha coasts between Kalingapatnam and Gopalpur around Sunday evening, the Cyclone Warning Division revealed. The Odisha Government has already mobilised men

and machinery and launched an evacuation drive in seven identified districts in the southern parts of the State.

Over the next three days, the sea condition will be rough to severe and fishermen in Odisha, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh have been asked to not venture into east-central and adjoining northeast Bay of Bengal. It is understandable to issue a cyclone warning by raising the red flag in coastal areas of these two States.

A visual storm warning signage is permanently hoisted at the mast of ports to alert ships of the weather condition in the ports they approach, that is the common practice. While certain countries hoist flags, India uses distinct signs for day and night. Day signals are a combination of cylinders and cones, while night signals are red and white lamps. Deep depression intensifies and it is indeed a dangerous signal for the coastal areas.

MR Jayanthi | Mumbai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUND BITE

The farmers’ non-violent ‘*satyagraha*’ is intact today but the exploitive Government doesn’t like it and that is why Bharat is ‘bandh’.



—Congress leader
Rahul Gandhi

Now is the time to eliminate nuclear weapons from our world and usher in a new era of dialogue, trust and peace for all people.



—UN Secretary-General
Antonio Guterres

Gaining 20 kg in six months and losing it all within six months that too in my thirties messed up many things in my body.



—Actor
Kangana Ranaut

It is difficult. You have been playing Test cricket for five months and suddenly you have to come and play white-ball cricket.



—Chennai Super Kings batter
Ravindra Jadeja

Elections are close and I welcome all kinds of tourism so that all my Goan brothers and sisters have access to a new business in Goa.



—Goa Chief Minister
Pramod Sawant

FIRST COLUMN

CHILD ADVERSITY AND CHRONIC PAIN

It is necessary to understand what links early life adversity to poor adult health



TIM HALE

There is a widely held belief that our health is largely preordained by the genes we inherit from our parents. Indeed, this lottery of inheritance plays an instrumental role in some health outcomes. Early onset diabetes is an example of an inherited disease which, although debilitating, is relatively uncommon with only three new cases per 100,000 children in India. Late onset diabetes is much more common afflicting 12 per cent in urban populations and, like most predominant diseases, lacks a clear pattern of inheritance. The evidence suggests a greater role for nurture (environment) rather than nature (genes) in maintaining well being. That is good news because we can improve the environment. Chronic pain (pain that lasts longer than three months) is another debilitating con-



dition that lacks clear genetic origins. It is much more common than all forms of diabetes, estimated to affect approximately 20 per cent of adults in India. A report this year reveals that pain of the lower back and extremities afflicted 83 per cent of an adult population in rural Gadchiroli in Maharashtra in a period of one year, leading to 11 lost workdays per study participant.

In addition to unquantifiable personal suffering, the estimated economic costs of lost work and medication are staggering; each person with pain lost 4.9 per cent of the annual per capita regional income. Even a small reduction in the prevalence of chronic pain would be exceptionally beneficial. Unfortunately, pain treatment options have limited efficacy and for many recurring chronic pain becomes a way of life. However, not all adults living in similar circumstances are vulnerable to chronic pain. Some are remarkably resilient. If this is not because of genetics, then why are some vulnerable and others resilient? The answer may lie in exposure to childhood adversity. Adverse childhood experiences include physical or emotional abuse, neglect and domestic violence. The World Health Organisation describes adverse childhood experiences as the most common and intense childhood stressors. Many of us experience at least one and children exposed to several adverse events are likely to have more frequent and severe health problems later in life, including chronic pain. Furthermore, childhood adversity is emerging as a leading contributor to health disparities, disproportionately affecting the poorest in society. There is a strong relationship between exposure to childhood adversities and social deprivation. However, there is a lack of screening for exposure to childhood adversity, which might otherwise enable targeted health interventions. Reasons for this include inconsistent screening methods and poor understanding of factors that may contribute to vulnerabilities following exposure. The Consortium Against Pain Inequality (CAPE), led by the University of Dundee, seeks to overcome these deficiencies in understanding. CAPE will develop a comprehensive tool for screening exposure and establish mechanisms linking early life adversity to chronic pain in adulthood. By understanding what links early life adversity to poor adult health, we hope to address pain inequality by identifying those at greatest risk and providing tailored interventions. By raising awareness of the long-term impact of childhood adversity we will promote efforts to improve childhood and adult well being.

(The writer is Professor of Anaesthesia and Principal Investigator of the Consortium Against Pain Inequalities at the University of Dundee, UK. The views expressed are personal.)

Banks' bailout — Make it transparent

The proposed 'bad bank' scheme by the Government is merely an attempt at using taxpayers' money for bailing out NPA-afflicted banks

In the Union Budget for 2021-22, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had proposed setting up of a bad bank. Crafted as National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL), it will bundle up all the non-performing assets (NPAs) of banks and sell them to investors such as private equity funds, alternative investment funds (AIFs) and so on, by putting a turnaround plan in place. On September 16, 2021, she announced the broad contours of the action plan.

Under it, the NARCL will purchase NPAs from banks under 15:85 structure, wherein it will pay up to 15 per cent of the agreed or discounted value of the loans in cash and issue Security Receipts (SRs) for the rest. The Government will provide sovereign guarantee - valid for a period of 5 years - for the SRs issued by NARCL. The guarantee would be invoked to cover the loss being the difference between the realized value (resolution/liquidation) and face value of SRs. A provision of ₹30,600 crore has been made for this purpose.

The Indian Banks' Association (IBA) has already started the process with incorporation of the NARCL and applied to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for a license as an Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC) with a capital base of ₹6,000-crore. The public sector banks (PSBs) will have 51 per cent ownership in the NARCL. The remaining shareholding will vest in 16 entities including private banks and non-bank finance companies.

The NARCL is intended to resolve stressed loan assets above ₹500 crore each amounting to about ₹200,000 crore. In phase I, it will take over fully provisioned assets of about ₹90,000 crore while the remaining assets would be transferred in phase II.

High NPAs have been haunting the Modi Government ever since it took charge in 2014. In 2016, it enacted the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), an overarching law that gives lenders and banks the power to drag defaulting borrowers to a judicial authority. It also amended the Banking Regulation Act giving RBI powers to force banks to act within strict timelines.

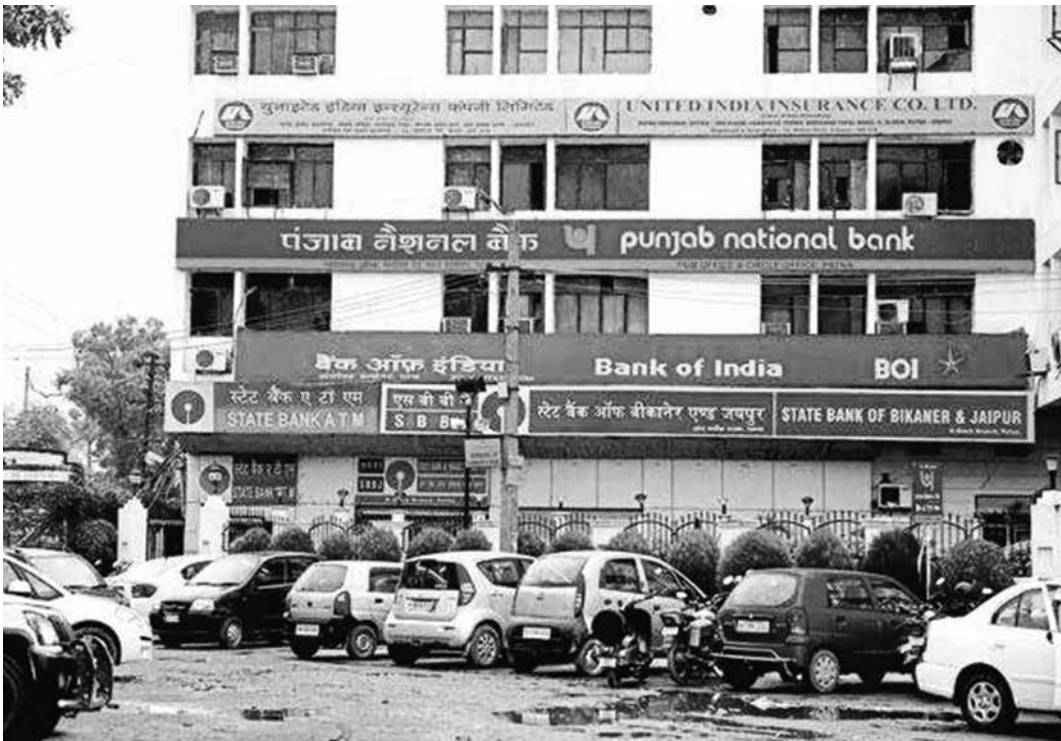
As per RBI circular dated February 12, 2018, for accounts with aggregate exposure of over ₹2,000 crore, as soon as there was a default in the account with any lender, all lenders - singly or jointly - shall initiate steps to cure the default by preparing a resolution plan. The plan had to be readied within 6 months from the default date. If not, proceedings under IBC would be initiated by referring the case to National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) which would get six months to resolve.

According to a statement in parliament by Minister of State for Finance Bhagwat K Karad, PSBs alone have



THE NON-PERFORMING ASSETS HAVE BEEN HAUNTING THE MODI GOVERNMENT SINCE 2014. IN 2016, IT ENACTED THE INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY CODE (IBC) THAT ENABLES LENDERS AND BANKS TO DRAG DEFAULTING BORROWERS TO A JUDICIAL AUTHORITY. IT ALSO AMENDED THE BANKING REGULATION ACT, GIVING THE RBI THE POWERS TO FORCE BANKS TO ACT WITHIN STRICT TIMELINES

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



recovered over ₹500,000 crore. The NPAs ought to have gone down by this much but the decline is only about ₹200,000 crore and the difference of ₹300,000 crore is due to fresh slippages. This figure excludes the Covid period — March 1, 2020 to March 24, 2021 — during which banks were not allowed to recognize bad loans. On their inclusion, we could get back to March 31, 2018 level.

Much lower yield than expected from the IBC mechanism has a lot to do with a revised RBI circular dated June 7, 2019 — issued under Supreme Court orders - which took away powers from the banking regulator and gave too much of flexibility to the latter in working out the resolution plan. Effectively, it rendered the IBC process dysfunctional.

Now, the Government wants the 'bad bank' do the trick. Look at the first lot of ₹90,000 crore. These loans being in default for over 3 years, the banks have already made a full provision and captured in the profit and loss figures. There is no compulsion on them to recover this money. They will not object to NARCL paying a very low price.

However, what prevents other asset reconstruction companies (ARCs) from bidding for a higher price. Indeed, the proposed mechanism requires NARCL to go for the "Swiss Challenge" auction wherein other ARCs will be invited to better the offer made by it.

However, in the present case, this will not work as the bank would play safe by giving asset to NARCL whose SRs enjoy sovereign guarantee.

As for the remaining ₹110,000 crore for which a lower provision has been made and the chances of recovery are better, the bank could have reason to offer lower discount on the face value. This is provided transfer happens fast. If, this is delayed and default period increases even exceeding three years, the fate of these loans too will be no different from those in the first lot.

In short, the entire bad loan book on offer (read: ₹200,000 crore) would be available to the 'bad bank' at heavy discount to the face value. What if this is fixed at say 18 per cent?

In absolute terms, this works out to ₹36,000 crore. Of this, NARCL pays 15 per cent or ₹5400 crore in cash to the banks and for the balance ₹30,600 crore, it will issue SRs. To redeem them, the former must realize at least ₹30,600 crore from selling the NPAs to investors. If, the NARCL doesn't realize even one rupee, then also it need not worry as SRs valued up to ₹30,600 crore being guaranteed by the Union Government, the latter will pay for it in full.

Short of jargon and high-sounding phraseology, the proposed 'bad bank' is merely an attempt to use tax payers' money

for bailing out NPAs afflicted banks. Put simply, of the ₹200,000 crore, the Union Government will give ₹30,600 crore by way of sovereign guarantee and the rest (sans a tiny sum of ₹5400 crore) as direct budgetary support.

The Government should stop taking recourse to disingenuous methods. Instead of following a circuitous route, making things non-transparent, setting up new institutions, adding to administrative and overhead costs and so on, it should candidly accept the dire need to inject that much capital in to the banks and give it from the Budget. During the last four years, it gave them ₹300,000 crore to deal with their NPAs; it can give a further ₹200,000 crore.

At the same time, to recover bad loans and stem their proliferation, first, it should revitalise the IBC mechanism by restoring the February 12, 2018 circular and strengthening the NCLT; secondly, expeditious disposal of challenges to NCLT orders in High Courts and SC; thirdly, stepping up 'tracking' and 'surveillance' within banks for early detection of bad loans including frauds (at present, it takes years for them to report) and lastly, stem corruption and nepotism.

Sans these harsh steps, the tide of NPAs will not stop forcing the Government to repeatedly bail them out.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

THE BJP DID NOT LET DIDI ATTEND THE ROME PEACE MEETING AS SHE IS MORE POPULAR THAN MODI. —TMC GENERAL SECRETARY ABHISHEK BANERJEE



NO POLITICAL LEADER IN THE COUNTRY, LET ALONE DIDI, MATCHES PM MODI. ABHISHEK SHOULD WAIT FOR 2024. —BJP LEADER SUVENDU ADHIKARI

US corp pledge elusive; bad bank is expensive

Economic development is a complex matter. The Government alone cannot make it happen but needs the involvement of all – businesses and the public

The visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the US has tried to kindle hopes in an economy that needs investment but the American companies have not yet given any firm commitment to him. He held meetings with five global CEOs for potential investments.

India has taken many steps to bring in reforms through an asset reconstruction construction company (ARC) or the bad bank, lower interest rates, networked businesses and chain of roads. Companies like Qualcomm have investments in wireless modem, digital media networking, dairy transportation and defence. Now Modi has suggested to them to invest in hi-tech sectors and



SHIVAJI SARKAR

(The writer is a senior journalist. The views expressed are personal.)

in measures to strengthen innovation ecosystem. General Atomics, which opened its first office in India in 2018, is making significant contributions to deepen India-US defence and security cooperation. It is working with both governments to provide India with the latest defence systems.

Investments in real estate too are always lucrative. Blackstone has so far invested \$15 billion in real estate, private equity, real estate, education, fashion, packaging and housing finance. It would continue to do so as per the assurance of its CEO Stephen Schwarzman.

Blackstone Real Estate Fund is said to be the largest owner of commercial real estate in India. The company



played a key role in launching India's first real estate investment trust (REIT) along with its partner Embassy Group in 2019 and has since then launched two REITs in the country.

The Quad is a symbolic multilateral body. It provides a platform to seek cooperation from like-minded countries on issues like ensuring respect for territorial integrity, sovereignty and peaceful resolution of disputes. Quad leaders agreed to scale up collective

strategic cooperation.

There may be gains in the future. As of now, there are only expectations amid not-a-so-good domestic economic situation. The country's non-performing assets have increased. Steps like taming inflation, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Act, Real Estate Regulatory Act, and GST did not add to the desired growth. These have shaken the system and market confidence. The rules are more stringent and do not help the people. The foreign investors though keen to invest may also have apprehensions, which the scrapping of the retrospective taxation may partially help resolve.

Corporate tax rates were cut but it ignored the pivot the individual. His taxes peaked during 2019. It hit the basic

capacity of the individual to ride through a crisis like the COVID-19 pandemic situation. At 42 per cent plus various cesses, India has the highest tax rates. The gestures by foreign countries would not be enough to bring that confidence back. It would be welcome even now to cut the income tax rates. It would boost the individual's capabilities and benefit the whole economy as the individual consumes more.

The lower interest rate is playing havoc along with tax deductions on deposit hedging against inflation that interest accrual does. It affects the developmental process. To accelerate development, the interest rates must be lowered. Economic development is a complex matter. The govern-

ment on its own cannot make it happen. It needs the involvement of all — businesses and the public in their various spheres of activity. The country needs to ponder how the entire system is revamped.

The new ARC or the bad bank with the limited government guarantee will remove ₹22.14 lakh crore (\$30 billion) of NPAs from the system. Since now it will be now under one entity resolution would be easier, it is being said. Bad bank is not all virtue.

The world experience with bad banks is that they have excessive and hidden fees, bouncing cheques, expensive debits, big banking errors and failure to honour promises. It can create a new kind of market in dealing with stressed loans but there

are apprehensions that asset buyers may resort to harsh unethical methods.

In a difficult situation, new methods are inevitably tried out but it has to be remembered that all Euro-US models of capital market should not be copied as the financial literacy is poor here. Moreover, Indian society is far more complex and heterogeneous. A complicated system may not be a proper solution. Hiving off bad assets may be practical but settling or reselling those for realization of dues is not easy and would have many complications as each of the cases are different. True, the nation will chart out its course. Setting the new course is not easy and none as of now has a clear idea how it would function.

Afghanistan, Myanmar will not address UNGA

United Nations: Afghanistan and Myanmar "withdrew" their participation from the General Debate of the high-level 76th session of the UN General Assembly, a spokesperson for the President of the 193-member world body said.

According to the latest list of speakers for the last day of the General Debate on Monday, Afghanistan and Myanmar are not listed to address the session, even as previous provisional speakers' lists had the countries' diplomats listed to speak at the General Debate.

When asked why Afghanistan and Myanmar are not listed as speakers for the final day of the General Debate, Monica Grayley, Spokesperson to the President of the 76th session of the UN General Assembly Abdullah Shahid, confirmed to PTI that: "we have received information that the Member State withdrew its participation in the General Debate

which was scheduled for today".

Grayley said Myanmar withdrew its participation "some time back and Afghanistan over the weekend, when we heard of it".

On Friday, spokesperson for the Secretary-General, Stephane Dujarric had said that "as for now, the Afghanistan representative inscribed on the list for Monday is H.E. Mr. Ghulam M. Isaccai," the Permanent Representative.

Last week, the Taliban had written to UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres nominating their spokesman Suhail Shaheen as Afghanistan's ambassador to the UN and had asked to participate in the high-level

76th session of the UN General Assembly.

Following the coup in Myanmar, its military rulers have said the country's Ambassador at UN Kyaw Moe

Tun has been dismissed and they want Aung Thurein to replace him.

Given that the current dispensation in both Myanmar and Afghanistan nominated their own envoys to the UN, while the Permanent Representatives of the toppled Governments continued to be stationed here, the decision of who represents the two countries at the United Nations fell to the UN Credentials Committee.

On September 20, on the eve of the commencement of the high-level UN General Debate, the Secretary-General had received a communication with the letterhead "Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs" dated September 20, 2021, signed by "Ameer Khan Muttaqi" as "Minister of Foreign Affairs", requesting to participate in the "76th session of the UN General Assembly on September 21-27 2021". **PTI**

Important to incentivise Taliban so that they fulfil promises: Pak PM

Islamabad: Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has said it is important to incentivise the Taliban so that the new rulers of Afghanistan fulfil the promises they made after they seized power in Kabul last month.

The Taliban are yet to get international recognition. The heavily armed group have promised an inclusive government, a more moderate form of Islamic rule than that of their previous regime from 1996 to 2001, including respecting women's rights. However, their recent moves indicate that they are returning to their repressive policies, particularly toward women.

According to an official statement, Khan in an article published in US-based The Washington Post newspaper on Monday said the world desired an inclusive Afghan government, respect for the rights, and commitments that Afghan soil shall never again be used for ter-

rorism.

"Taliban leaders will have greater reason and ability to stick to their promises if they are assured of the consistent humanitarian and development assistance they need to run the government effectively," he said.

Khan said providing incentives would also give the outside world additional leverage to continue persuading the Taliban to honour their commitments.

"If we do this right, we could achieve what the Doha peace process aimed at all along: an Afghanistan that is no longer a threat to the world, where Afghans can finally dream of peace after four decades of conflict," he said.

The Prime Minister said abandoning Afghanistan as tried before would lead to a meltdown. "Chaos, mass migration and a revived of international terrorism will be natural corollaries. Avoiding this must surely be our global imperative," he said. **PTI**

Prosecutor seeks to resume ICC probe in Af

The Hague: The chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court sought urgent clearance on Monday from the court's judges to resume investigations of war crimes and crimes against humanity in Afghanistan, saying that under the country's new Taliban rulers "there is no longer the prospect of genuine and effective domestic investigations" in the country.

Judges at the global court authorised an investigation by Prosecutor Karim Khan's predecessor, Fatou Bensouda, in March last year. The probe covers offences allegedly committed by Afghan Government forces, the Taliban, American troops and US foreign intelligence operatives dating back to 2002.

The decision to investigate Americans led to the Trump administration slapping sanctions on Bensouda, who left office over the summer at the end of her nine-year term. **AP**

Social Democrats narrowly beat Merkel's bloc in German vote

AP ■ BERLIN

Germany's center-left Social Democrats won the biggest share of the vote in a national election Sunday, narrowly beating outgoing Chancellor Angela Merkel's center-right Union bloc in a closely fought race that will determine who succeeds the long-time leader at the helm of Europe's biggest economy.

The Social Democrats' candidate Olaf Scholz, the outgoing vice chancellor and finance minister who pulled his party out of a years-long slump, said the outcome was "a very clear mandate to ensure now that we put together a good, pragmatic Government for Germany."

Despite getting its worst-ever result in a federal contest, the Union bloc said it too would reach out to smaller parties to discuss forming a government, while Merkel stays on in a caretaker role until a successor is sworn in.

Election officials said early Monday that a count of all 299 constituencies showed the Social Democrats received 25.9% of the vote, ahead of 24.1% for the Union bloc. No winning party in a German national election had previously taken less than 31% of the vote.

Armin Laschet, the governor of North Rhine-Westphalia state who outmaneuvered a more popular rival to secure the nomination of Merkel's Union bloc, had struggled to motivate the party's base and suffered a series of missteps.

"Of course, this is a loss of votes that isn't pretty," Laschet said of results that looked set to undercut by some measure the Union's previous worst showing of 31% in 1949. But he added that with Merkel departing after 16 years in power, "no one had an incumbent bonus in this election."

Laschet told supporters that "we will do everything we can to form a government under the Union's leadership, because Germany now needs a coalition for the future that modernizes our country."

Some countries are hyping 'China threat': Beijing on Quad summit

Beijing: China on Monday slammed the Quad grouping, saying some countries are forming "exclusive cliques" and "hying" the "China threat" and the move is doomed to fail.

The Quad leaders at their first-in-person summit in Washington on September 25 pledged to ensure a "free and open" Indo-Pacific, which is also "inclusive and resilient", as they noted that the strategically vital region, witnessing China's growing military manoeuvring, is a bedrock of their shared security and prosperity.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, his Australian counterpart Scott Morrison, Japanese premier Yoshihide Suga and US President

Joe Biden described the summit as an opportunity to refocus themselves and the world on the Indo-Pacific and on their vision for what they hope to achieve.

Asked for her reaction at a media briefing here, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said that China took note of the Quad summit and is "closely following the situation".

"For some time, a handful of countries have been obsessed with attacking China by citing the rules-based order. They hype up the 'China threat'," she said.

"Facts have shown that China is an advocate of world peace, provider of public goods and

China's development is important to international development. Coercion and undermining of international order can by no means be pinned on to China," she said.

China, she said, upholds the UN centred international order and rules-based international law. "We don't think that the rules can be defined by a few countries. What the US wants is the rules where it can wantonly interfere with other countries without paying any price. It is the rule under which the US can bully in any manner and other countries bow to its hegemony which is against the trends of the times and aspirations of the people," she said. **PTI**

Iran, Saudi sides continue tension-easing talks in Baghdad

Baghdad: Representatives from Iran and Saudi Arabia have held a new round of talks in Baghdad, two Iraqi officials said Monday, in the first such meeting between the regional foes since a new president was sworn in in Tehran.

The meeting held last week discussed "pending issues between the two countries according to a previously agreed on roadmap, including diplomatic representation between the two countries," according to one Iraqi official.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to give official statements, said the meeting was not on a ministerial level, but described the talks as positive.

Iraq has recently played the role of mediator between the two regional foes whose rivalry has often played out to deadly consequences in Iraq and elsewhere in the region.

Multiple rounds of discussions have been held in Baghdad since the first direct talks between Riyadh and Tehran took place in early April.

Saudi Arabia has sought talks with Iran as the kingdom tries to end its years-long war in Yemen against Iran-backed Houthi rebels, having lost an unflinching supporter in President Joe Biden's predecessor, Donald Trump.

Iran, meanwhile, appears to have calculated that a gradual detente with Saudi Arabia, a longtime US ally, will work in its favour during renewed nuclear talks with Washington and world powers.

Last month, Baghdad hosted a regional conference that brought together Arab heads of state and senior officials including the foreign ministers of Iran and Saudi Arabia. The meeting, meant to ease Mideast tensions, cemented Baghdad's new role as mediator. **AP**

2 women, political opposites, vying in race for Japan PM


Tokyo: The inclusion of two women among the four candidates vying to become the next prime minister seems like a big step forward for Japan's notoriously sexist politics. But their fate is in the hands of a conservative, mostly male governing party — and the leading female candidate has been criticized by observers for her right-wing gender policies.

Sanae Takaichi and Seiko Noda are the first women in 13 years seeking the leadership of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party in an election Wednesday.

The winner is certain to become the next prime minister because of a parliamentary majority held by the LDP and its coalition partner.

While both are LDP members, they are political opposites in many ways. The ultra-conservative Takaichi advocates a kind of paternalistic nationalism and a stronger military, while the liberal-leaning, pacifist Noda supports women's advancement and sexual diversity. **AP**

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CORRIGENDUM-II

Subject: "Hydrogen Fuel cell based DPRS with regenerative braking system 1200 KW DEMU"

S. No.	As per tender document, Corrigendum-I	To be read as
1.	2nd Pre bid conference-To be held at IROAF office on 29.09.2021 at 11.30 hrs	2nd Pre bid conference-To be held at Northern Railway Head Qtrs office, Mechanical, Baroda House, EAGLE Conference Room No. 146A on 29.10.2021 at 11.30 hrs
2.	Date and time of opening of tender 25.11.2021 at 11.30 hrs	Date and time of opening of tender 27.12.2021 at 11.30 hrs at Northern Railway Head Qtrs office, Mechanical, Baroda House, EAGLE Conference Room No. 146A

Please visit website of Indian Railway –<https://www.irps.gov.in>


Contact Person:
Chief Administrative Officer/Projects/IRR
Northern Railway Head Quarter
Baroda House, New Delhi-110001
Email: caopnr@gmail.com
Mob. No. 9717630418
Tender No. IROAF/FUEL CELL/DEMU/P1/2021 Dt. 27.07.2021 Date: 27.09.2021

2180/2021

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POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule 8(1)]

Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (For Immovable Properties)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of the Indian Overseas Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice as detailed herein in below calling upon the borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the **Borrowers/Mortgagors/Guarantors** and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on mentioned Date.

The **Borrowers/Mortgagors/Guarantors** in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charges of the **Indian Overseas Bank** for the amounts and interest thereon mentioned against account herein below.

The **Borrowers/Mortgagors/Guarantors** attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to them, to redeem the secured assets.

Details as under:

Sl. No.	Name and Address of the Borrowers/Mortgagors/ Guarantors	Description of the Immovable Properties	Date of Demand Notice Date of Possession QIS Amount
Branch-Alliganj Branch, 35A Chandralok Colony, Kapoorthala, Alliganj, Lucknow, Email: iob1574@iob.in			
1.	Borrower: M/s Durex Engineers & Associates Prop Mr. Vinod Kansal S/o Mr.S.K.K. Kansal R/o- 9/32, Indira Nagar, Lucknow-226016	1. Residential property at House No. 9/32, Sector 9, Indira Nagar, Lucknow in the name of Guarantor/Mortgager Mrs. Meeta Kansal W/o- Vinod Kansal, admeasuring- 242.00 sq.mt, Boundaries as per sale deed No.3874/2000 dated 19.07.2000:-East- House No. 9/53, West-9.00 mt wide road, North- House No.9/31, South- House No.9/33 Total area-242.00 sq.mt, *** The above mentioned property is also mortgage in other loan account (Housing Loan) in the name of Mr.Vinod Kansal S/o S.K.K. Kansal and Mrs. Meeta Kansal W/o Vinod Kansal ***	10.05.2021 24.09.2021 Rs. 9,09,38,254/- + further interest at contractual rates & rests, charges etc.
2.	Guarantor: Mrs. Meeta Kansal W/o Mr. Vinod Kansal, R/o- 9/32, Indira Nagar, Lucknow-226016	2. Flat No.1402, 13th floor, Block 14, The Close North Nirvana Country, Sector 50, Gurgaon, Haryana in the name Guarantor/ Mortgager Mr. Vinod Kansal S/o S.K. Kansal and Mrs. Meeta Kansal W/o Mr. Vinod Kansal, admeasuring 3034 sqft i.e 281.86 sqmts, Boundaries as per Transfer Deed No.10745 dated 18.12.2018 (Earlier Deed no. before transfer deed in blood relation dated 26.05.2011):-East- Open, West- Open, North- Entrance, South- Open Total area-281.86 sq.mt	
3.	Mortgager: Mr. Vinod Kansal S/o Mr. S.K. Kansal, R/o- 9/32, Indira Nagar, Lucknow-226016	3. Land property situated at Plot No.573 Ka admeasuring 0.345 hectare, Plot No.573 Kha admeasuring ½ of 0.345 hectare and Plot No.568 admeasuring 12 Biswa 6 Biswani (0.156 hectare) situated at Village- Bahrauli, Tehsil- Fatehpur, District Barabanki, Boundaries as:-East- Minor Canal, West- Lucknow to Mahmoodabad Road, North- Property of Ram Naresh, South- Land Khasra No.569 Total area-67.35 sq.mt	
4.	Mortgager: Mrs. Meeta Kansal W/o Mr. Vinod Kansal, R/o- 9/32, Indira Nagar, Lucknow-226016	4. Residential property at House No. 9/32, Sector 9, Indira Nagar, Lucknow in the name of Guarantor/Mortgager Mrs. Meeta Kansal W/o- Vinod Kansal, admeasuring- 242.00 sq.mt, Boundaries as per sale deed No.3874/2000 dated 19.07.2000:-East- House No. 9/53, West-9.00 mt wide road, North- House No.9/31, South- House No.9/33 Total area-242.00 sq.mt, *** The above mentioned property is also mortgage in other loan account M/s Durex Engineers & Associates Prop Mr. Vinod Kansal S/o Mr.S.K. Kansal ***	19.05.2021 24.09.2021 Rs. 6,60,222.01 + further interest at contractual rates & rests, charges etc.

Date : 24.09.2021 Place : Lucknow Authorised Officer, Indian Overseas Bank

US officials: Biden aide to meet Saudi Crown Prince on Yemen

Washington: President Joe Biden's national security adviser Jake Sullivan is traveling to Saudi Arabia on Monday to meet with Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman as the US tries to press the kingdom to move toward a cease-fire in its yearslong war with Houthi rebels in Yemen.

Sullivan will be the highest-ranking Biden administration official to visit Saudi Arabia. Besides seeing the crown prince, often referred to by his initials, MBS, Sullivan is expected to meet with deputy defense minister Khalid bin Salman, a brother to the crown prince, according to two senior administration officials.

The officials were not authorized to comment publicly and spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The Biden White House has

largely steered clear of the crown prince since making public in February a CIA report that showed MBS likely approved the killing of Washington Post columnist and Saudi critic Jamal Khashoggi in a 2018 operation at the kingdom's consulate in Istanbul.

But the White House has resolved that bringing an end to perhaps the world's most complex conflict can't be done without engaging with the most senior Saudi officials face to face, one senior administration official said.

National Security Council spokesperson Emily Horne confirmed to The Associated Press that Sullivan was traveling to Riyadh on Monday and would also visit the United Arab Emirates, a Saudi ally in the war, but did not provide additional detail. **AP**

UK's Johnson finally agrees to meet Covid-bereaved group

London: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson will on Tuesday finally meet with members of the Covid-19 Bereaved Families for Justice campaigning group, who for more than a year have sharply criticized his handling of the coronavirus pandemic.

Johnson's Downing Street office confirmed Monday that the prime minister will hold a "private meeting" with members of the group.

At the meeting, the group said family members will tell the stories of how their loved ones caught the virus and reiterate their calls for a statutory inquiry into the pandemic to start soon.

The group, which has requested a meeting with Johnson on at least eight occasions, has asked for it to take place outside and that social distancing is observed — even though all restrictions on social contact have been lifted.

"It has been over a year since the prime minister first said he would meet us and in that time over 100,000 people across the country have lost their lives with Covid-19," said Jo Goodman, co-founder of the group.

"One of the hardest parts of the pandemic for us has been seeing new families join each week with the same pain and grief that we've experienced and distressingly similar stories to our own," she added.

The UK has recorded the world's eighth-highest virus-related death tolls with more than 136,000 deaths, according to figures compiled by Johns Hopkins University.

Johnson and his Conservative government have faced an array of criticisms from Covid-19 Bereaved Families for Justice since it was formed in May 2020, including delaying lockdowns, a too-lax travel policy and a shortage of crucial personal protective equipment.

Covid-19 Bereaved Families for Justice, which has around 4,000 members, have been calling for a public inquiry into the government's handling of the pandemic so lessons can be learned to limit future virus-related deaths. After months of deflecting calls, Johnson confirmed in May that a public inquiry will start to hear evidence next year. However, Covid-19 Bereaved Families for Justice thinks that's too late and that the delay could lead to many more people dying with the virus. **AP**

2 Canadians in prisoner swap freed for health reasons in China

Taipei: Two Canadians detained in late 2019 who were allowed to return to Canada in a prisoner swap were released on bail for health reasons, China's Foreign Ministry said Monday.

A Ministry spokesperson made the comment as Beijing sought to downplay the connection between their release and the return to China of a long-detained executive of Huawei Technologies.

Canadians Michael Spavor and Michael Kovrig were detained in December 2019, days after Huawei's chief financial officer, Meng Wanzhou, was arrested in Canada at the request of US authorities.

Many countries labelled China's action "hostage politics", while China accused Ottawa of arbitrary detention. The two Canadians were jailed for more than 1,000 days.

Meng fought the US demand for extradition from Canada. She landed in China on Saturday after reaching a deal with the US Justice Department that led to a prisoner swap. **AP**

UK suspends competition law to cut petrol station queues

PTI ■ LONDON

The UK Government on Monday temporarily suspended rules under its Competition Act to allow fuel companies to address a supply crisis, which has led to long queues at several petrol stations across the country.

Known as the Downstream Oil Protocol, the step will allow the government to work with fuel producers, suppliers, hauliers and retailers to ensure that disruption is minimised as far as possible.

The measure will make it easier for the fuel industry to share information so that they can more easily prioritise the delivery of fuel to the parts of the country and strategic locations that are most in need.

"We have long-standing contingency plans in place to work with industry so that fuel supplies can be maintained and deliveries can still be made in the event of a serious disruption," said UK Business Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng.




Veterinarians and caretakers in Copenhagen Zoological Garden pose with one of the four lion cubs, in Copenhagen on Monday

DOCYARD


DR PANKAJ N SURANGE

Managing Director and CEO

IPSC INDIA



Get rid of chronic pain



Chronic pain – defined as any persistent pain lasting more than three months – is rapidly emerging as a significant healthcare challenge in India that is going to extract a heavy toll on the social and health infrastructure of the country in the coming years. This was said by pain specialists of Interventional Pain and Spine Centre (IPSC), a chain of single-specialty centres offering state-of-the-art spine care and chronic pain management with less invasive techniques. More than 19% of Indian adult population today suffers from chronic pain of some kind, with prevalence being higher in females (25%). The prevalence increases steeply beyond the age of 65 years, according to a survey. This may be the tip of the iceberg as Indians usually understate their health issues and would rather not reveal their pain problems to others.

Chronic pain will take a huge social and economic toll in the next two decades with significant spending on surgical treatment and hospitalisation. It has a serious impact on work, with increasing loss of workdays associated with chronic pain, especially low back pain. It also interferes with one's social life, daily routine like walking or exercising, taking care of oneself and the family, and leading an independent lifestyle. Many patients start suffering from depression, anxiety and sleeping problems. Chronic pain does not occur in isolation. There are often a variety of mental and physical health problems behind it.

There has been a gradual rise in the number of older people in the society due to rising life expectancy. This is driving an increase in the incidence of chronic pain. The younger population too is getting affected, mainly due to leading a sedentary and physically inactive lifestyle. The commonest types of chronic pain faced by people include spinal pain, joint pain and migraine. Arthritis, degenerative conditions of the spine, and cancer are the most common contributors to chronic pain.

In the West, pain medicine has been a super-specialty for the last three to four decades. In India, it is only 15-20 years old. Several hospitals in the country now offer pain management as a separate discipline. Till five years ago, Western protocols were being used to manage Indian patients of chronic pain. However, now India-specific protocols have been developed for better outcomes.

For most cases of chronic pain, less invasive and target-specific interventions (called interventional pain management) are better alternatives compared to open surgical methods, as these involve less risk and trauma to patient. They are also much safer and don't require hospital admission.


Since most of these non-surgical procedures can be done in a day care setting, they cost almost half compared to conventional surgeries. Patients can go back home the same day. Early interventions not only relieve pain, but also reduce morbidity and improve quality of life. We currently have Indian protocols for all interventional procedures for pain management, which is a big step forward.

A 2018 survey of 20,000 patients of back pain from Indian metro cities estimated that 46% of Bengaluru's population in the younger age group suffers from spinal problems. This is among the highest incidence in the country. About 43% of patients neglect their pain for more than 7 weeks, leading to delayed treatment and increased risk of surgery.

With better understanding of chronic pain and technological advancement, pain physicians can now control chronic pain adequately and cure it in most cases. However, it is the responsibility of the doctors to treat acute stages of pain promptly to prevent patients from sliding into chronic pain.

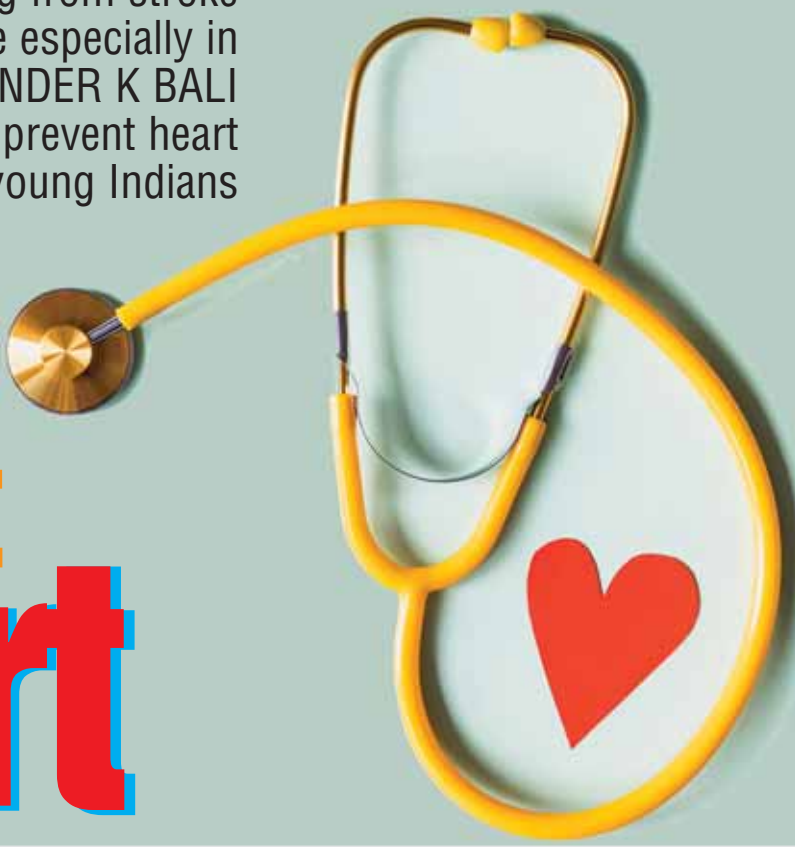
SUMMERCOOLER

RAISINS: Historically used as currency and awards, raisins are dried grapes with an ample number of benefits. It can reduce the risk of heart disease by maintaining blood pressure and blood sugar. The fiber in raisins lowers LDL (bad) cholesterol, which reduces strain on the heart. It is also a good source of potassium and treats ailments like food poisoning. Raisins are full of nutrients and can make for a great snack option. Although it does not have the water content of regular grapes which makes them less filling than whole fruit and it becomes easy to munch on. Sticking to small portions would work wonders as it would not add much calories to your diet.



According to the World Health Organisation, India accounts for one-fifth of the total deaths occurring from stroke and ischaemic heart disease especially in young adults. DR HARINDER K BALI shares some ways to prevent heart ailments in young Indians

Not so young at Heart



India accounts for one-fifth of the total deaths occurring from stroke and ischaemic heart disease especially in younger adults according to the World Health Organisation. Cardiovascular diseases affect Indians a decade earlier than their western counterparts and nearly 3 million people die of stroke and heart attack every year. The most unfortunate part is that forty per cent of those who suffering a heart attack are below the age of 55. The rising trend of smoking among young adults can be contributed to different factors like lack of sleep, diabetes, excessive stress, alcohol intake, drug abuse, unsafe and unnecessary supplements, over-exercise and slimming pills. With the incidences of heart disease deaths rising in India by 34% over the last 26 years, it is time to be aware of this serious issue and take necessary steps to reduce the burden of cardiovascular disease in the country.

Major Risk Factors:

Being informed about the risk factors can help people to manage their symptoms early and avoid the chances of a sudden heart attack. These are some of the significant risk factors that one should be aware of:

Smoking

India has the second-largest number of smokers in the world, second only to China. Reports state that 34.6 of adults in India are smokers and India is home to 12 per cent of the world's smokers. Smoking can increase heart rate, lead to irregular heart rhythm and tighten the arteries. This can make the heart work harder and eventually result in stroke or heart attack.

Obesity

The high burden of obesity in India is a major challenge to mitigate the growing incidences of cardiovascular diseases among the population. India has the highest number of overweight and obese children who, as adults, are likely to contribute further to a higher burden of cardiovascular disease morbidity and mortality. Obese people are more likely to suffer from high blood pressure which is one of the biggest causes of heart attacks.

Hypertension

A Harvard University study revealed that hypertension among young adults in India is higher than that of Central and Eastern Europe, the region that previously had the highest numbers for this group. Hypertension contributes to 10.8% of all deaths in India and it has been on a steep rise over the last three decades both in

urban and rural areas. Hypertension eventually escalates the risk of developing high blood pressure and diabetes.

Diabetes

There's been an exponential rise in the number of people diagnosed with type 2 diabetes over the last 30 years in India which has significantly contributed to the world burden as well. In India, people under the age of 25 are increasingly at risk of type-2 diabetes and life-threatening complications like heart diseases.

Ways to Prevent Heart Ailments in Young Indians

In the present society, young adults are under constant mental and physical stress from intense work demands, family issues, job security and much more. Increased periods of stress is often associated with high blood pressure and diabetes. The concerning fact is that young adults often fall prey to smoking and excessive alcohol consumption to deal with the overburdening stress. Lifestyle modifications are the key to reduce these risk and prevent premature heart attacks.

Young people must engage in regular periods of moderate to intense exercises like jogging, cycling, brisk walking, yoga, aerobics, weight training and swimming to prevent the onset of diabetes as well as keep blood pressure and weight in check. Also, one should stay away from excessive alcohol consumption and smoking.

A proper balanced diet is another requirement for healthy heart health. Instead of munching on junk foods, young people should look for healthy alternatives like fruits, juices, soya products and nuts. It is also equally important to avoid trans-fatty acids and include plenty of fresh, green vegetables in the diet rich in minerals and calcium. Apart from what is on the plate, it is also vital that proper attention is paid to the time of the meals. Late lunch and dinner is a strict no for those who wish to keep good care of their overall health.

It has been observed that if a person had a heart attack at a younger age, it increases the likelihood of another heart attack or stroke during the later stages of life. Spreading awareness about early detection and prevention is the most critical step in the successful prevention and management of this condition. Young adults should also get their cardiac evaluation done every year to stay safe and healthy.

The writer is Chairman, Cardiac Sciences, Paras Hospitals, Panchkula

The concerning fact is that young adults often fall prey to smoking and excessive alcohol consumption to deal with the increasing stress. Lifestyle modifications are the key to reduce these risks and prevent premature heart attacks. Young people must engage in regular periods of moderate to intense exercises and maintain a proper balanced diet

— DR HARINDER K BALI



Know reason for cardiac failure

According to the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), the annual number of deaths from cardiac diseases is 4.77 million. DR BB CHANANA shares how early diagnosis can be of great help

The term heart failure doesn't indicate that the heart has completely stopped working. In simple terms, heart failure is the heart's inability to pump enough to meet the body's need. The heart pumps the blood at a slower rate which increases the pressure on the heart.

Some common signs and symptoms of heart failure are shortness of breath, fatigue, dizziness, irregular heartbeat, nausea, bloating, swollen ankles and weakness during an activity. Generally, heart failure develops if a person has or had one or more conditions described below.

■ Coronary artery disease

is a disease in which the arteries supplying oxygen and blood to the heart get blocked and the heart receives insufficient oxygen. Plaque builds up due to cholesterol and fats on the walls of the arteries, causing them to narrow, this is known as atherosclerosis.

■ High blood pressure

is a major risk factor for causing heart failure. When the pressure in the arteries is high, it causes the heart to pump the blood harder than normal for

proper blood circulation. With time it becomes difficult to pump the blood and makes the heart muscles too weak to function.

■ Diabetes

causes abnormal blood sugar levels in the body. High sugar levels in the blood cause damage to the blood vessels and nerves. People with diabetes may develop other conditions like high blood pressure which increases the risk of heart failure.

■ Cardiomyopathy

is a condition in which the muscles of the heart make it difficult to pump blood. It may be a genetic condition in some cases or might develop due to blood pressure conditions or any other infection in the heart.

■ Abnormal heart valves

can be the result of infections, certain diseases or a birth defect. Due to improper functioning of the heart valves, the muscles of the heart have to work harder for the blood to keep circulating at normal rates. When the pressure on the heart increases, heart failure can occur.

■ Congenital heart defects

are the defects present from birth and can cause deformities in the development of the heart. If the

valves and the heart chambers aren't developed correctly, the healthier portions of the heart must work harder for it to function properly. With heart defects, the chances of heart failure increase.

■ Obesity

can make it difficult for the heart to pump blood properly. Obesity causes the buildup of fats and cholesterol inside the arteries, elevates blood pressure and increases the risk of diabetes, all of these are linked to heart failure. Besides this, the chances of developing cardiomyopathy increase.

These underlying conditions can cause the 'wear and tear' of the heart which leads to heart failure.

■ Early diagnosis

can help in timely treatment for heart failure. A physical examination and electrocardiogram (ECG) testing can help in determining potential chances of heart failure. Some lifestyle changes that make an impact on heart health are avoiding high cholesterol food, getting good sleep, giving up smoking and limiting alcohol consumption.

■ Treatment

options for heart failure depend upon the severity

of your condition. From lifestyle habits to managing the pumping of the heart through angiotensin-converting-enzyme inhibitor (ACE) drugs, there are various treatment options available today. Patients with increased complications or delayed detection, advanced palliative care is the solution. Depending upon the rhythmic patterns, a doctor can also advise patients to undergo a cardiac resynchronization therapy defibrillator (CRT-D). CRT-D is a special device for heart failure patients. It functions like a pacemaker and implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (ICD) to treat heart rhythms. A CRT-D device delivers electrical impulses to the left and right ventricles, helping the heart to pump efficiently.

With technological advancements, come greater responsibility of educating people about them along with symptoms and preventive measures of dealing with heart failure.

The writer is Senior Interventional Cardiologist & HOD, Maharaja Agrasen Hospital, New Delhi

CONTRACEPTION DURING COVID



Contraception is an important component of reproductive health. DR LOVLEENA NADIR tells you how contraceptives can be helpful in preventing cases of unwanted pregnancy and miscarriage

Everyone has a right to access the quality and affordable contraceptive options. They can be helpful in preventing cases of unwanted pregnancy and miscarriage. They also play a role in preventing many sexually transmitted diseases. World Contraception Day is observed every year on 26th September.

Even during the pandemic, our focus has been to ensure availability of high quality contraceptive options to the people, thereby ensuring the right health of the mother and reducing the number of premature deaths.

Every person should choose the option of contraception according to his/her need and choice. In general, contraceptive options are divided into two categories, reversible and permanent. Awareness about fertility (calendar method, birth control app, withdrawal method), barrier method (condom, diaphragm, cervical cap, contraceptive sponge, spermicidal jelly), intrauterine device, hormonal pills, transdermal patch etc. fall under the reversible category. At the same time, sterilization in men and tubal ligation in women are kept in the permanent category of contraception.

In this time of the corona epidemic, counseling regarding contraception is a mandatory step. Now, while choosing long-term reversible contraception, such as intrauterine devices etc provisions related to the corona pandemic such as social distancing, wearing of masks etc. should be taken care of.

Permanent contraception procedures like bilateral tubal ligation are done at the time of cesarean section /normal delivery for those who opt for it. Advice is given on correct use of lactational amenorrhea (some patients do not have period at the time of breastfeeding). The option of user-controlled contraceptives is also given to lactating and non-lactating women. Postpartum contraception is advised to patients immediately after delivery before hospital discharge.

All methods of contraception are safe even in this time of pandemic. Due to limited movement in hospitals, user controlled reversible options should be adopted. Condoms, fertility awareness methods & lactational, amenorrhea methods (for exclusive breastfeeding mothers) are good contraceptive options for self-care.

Condoms also protect against sexually transmitted infections and are used correctly & consistently. If hospitalization is not possible due to restrictions on movement, do not be concerned about delays in the implant or removal of an intrauterine contraceptive device. There are no medical problems caused by delayed removal of IUDs or implants. There is no harm in contraceptive options even if a person is corona positive. However, the use of hormonal drugs etc. should be avoided. Instead of combined hormonal contraceptives, progesterone-only pills or non-hormonal methods may be used. After complete recovery, combined hormonal contraceptive options can be used.

The writer is Senior Consultant, OB-GYN at Rosewalk Hospital

INBRIEF

National Snakebite Awareness Summit

Public health experts, policymakers and administrators gathered at the maiden National Snakebite Awareness Summit, organised by the leading health awareness institution Integrated Health & Wellbeing (IHW) Council, have underlined the need to spread awareness on means to prevent attacks by snakes as well as gather adequate data to formulate the right and better ways to treat the cases at the primary health centres.

Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan, Governor of Telangana and Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry; Ms Vinita Srivastava, Advisor for Tribal Health Cell, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India; Mr. Vishwanath Swarup, COO, Bharat Serums & Vaccines Limited; Dr Priyanka Kadam, President, Founder, Snakebite Healing and Education Society along with others were the key speakers.

"There is an inadequacy of antivenom supply and we need expertise in administering antivenom – following the protocol is important but we may need protocols according to the region. Availability of dialysis facility and antivenoms are important as much as ambulance facility to take the affected person to the healthcare provider," says Soundararajan. She adds, "Walking in accumulated rainwater can be dangerous. We have seen a lot of cases where people dealing with snake carcasses were poisoned through the teeth of dead snakes."

'Ki hawaon si hoti hain ladkiyan,
Unhe behne me maza aata hai,
Unhe manzoor nahi unhe bewajah roka
jane.

(Girls are becoming like the wind,
They delight in frolicking freely
They cannot accept being stopped for
no reason.)

The chants of 'Azadi' wouldn't sound the same anymore. Ever. The weekend brought heartbreak as the news that Kamla Bhasin, the renowned women's rights activist, author and poet, had passed away at 75, or maybe finally found freedom from cancer. Even as the cry that she raised, as a part of the feminist movement, continues to reverberate as it is yet to find its logical conclusion.

Born in Shahidanwali village of Pakistan, Bhasin grew up in a rather progressive household. She rode bikes and played with boys. Having said that, Bhasin expressed sadness for all her female friends who were never allowed to play with boys or even outside, for that matter. The discrimination against men and women was ever since then embedded in her system and she wanted to change that. I can safely say that she did.

Activist Kavita Srivastava who thought Bhasin always celebrated life, no matter how great the adversity was, expressed, on Twitter, "This is a big setback for the women's movement in India and the South Asian region."

I will tell you just why this is such a huge setback. The seminal feminist is known for popularising and improvising the 'Azadi' slogan in India, and for her poems like *I'm A Girl, I Must Study*.

After studying sociology from Germany, she returned to work with the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation. She worked there for 25 years, during which she organised numerous campaigns and participated and led countless protests and movements, while reaching out to women across the country. Bhasin was the voice of change. She founded Sangat, a South Asian feminist network, and co-founded Jagori, a resource centre for women. Besides this, she was the coordinator, from South Asia, of the campaign One Billion Rising.

Her house, with ex-husband late Baljit Malik, a well-known journalist and social activist himself, was located on Bhagwan Das road in Delhi. It was a centre of umpteen social activities and initiatives, along with standing as a refuge for many activists.

One of my friends, who worked with her in the One Billion Rising campaign, shared his experience, "I've visited her home a few times, and it never felt like she's such a senior or has some illness. She was always energetic, encouraging, and instead, made us question our energy levels. She would do a lot of *masti-mazak* but also would create a serious and engaging environment to help us focus and get engrossed in our projects. Her life-journey was so traumatic and even while carrying all that, she was so stoic and dedicated towards her goal to empower women in India and worldwide. She came up with literature to help us, and her songs, and books will always remain inside me to power me up."

Even though Bhasin created a revolution while living, touching innumerable lives, she did not have it easy. A lesser mortal would not be able to put her head above water with the losses she experienced.

She lost her daughter Meeto Malik, a brilliant activist, social worker and alumni of Oxford University, to suicide in 2006. Meeto suffered from manic depression, like her father. "That's been the biggest tragedy of my life and I feel that if I didn't have this work, I would have perhaps collapsed," Bhasin had opened up in an interview. The same year, her marriage fell apart, too.

Jeet Malik or *Chottu*, her younger son, was six months old when they gave him a DPT vaccine. It had a reaction on him which destroyed almost all parts of his brain. He developed cerebral palsy and is dependent on caregivers. Even the best treatments and prayers could not reverse the effects. Even with this, Bhasin had decided to learn on every step



ONE WOMAN, MANY LIVES

With the demise of eminent activist and poet, KAMLA BHASIN, India lost a key icon of the feminist movement. KHUSHBU KIRTI pays a tribute to the pioneer who had been showing the world a new side of feminism since the 1970s

of the way, still traversing the path with her head held high. "I think *Chottu* has also added a lot to our personalities," she had admitted in a video.

Bhasin wrote over 30 books and about eight children's works. Besides some of her works like *Understanding Gender*, *What Is Patriarchy?*, *Exploring Masculinity*, and so on, she compiled rhymes in books like *Geela Chotu*, *Housework is Everyone's Work - Rhymes for Just and Happy Families*, and many more.

She often highlighted and emphatically shared her opinion on the double marginalisation that women face. "Amongst the poor, the women were poorer. On all indicators I saw, women were behind men. Patriarchy sits in our bodies... Look at our body language. We've been messed up by patriarchy. We can't stand straight, we can't stand without our *dupatta*, we can't show our breasts," she had expressed in one of the interviews. On an episode of *Satyameva Jayate* with Aamir Khan, Bhasin disclosed about the time she was sexually assaulted by men in her childhood.

In one of her books called *If Only Someone Broke The Silence*, she said she was always questioned why she, being an extroverted feminist, did not divulge about her sexual assault earlier. She wrote, "I lived with my family with six brothers and sisters... How come I didn't tell anybody about it? So when people ask now why women are speaking ten years later, I say it took me forty years to speak up. It's because of the women's movement that this is possible. Soon, this 10 will reduce to two, and one, and eventually young women will speak up on the same day and say, 'Stop'."

"I made a list of these thirteen fellows (attackers), and thought about what I'd do to them all the time. When I grew up and became strong, (I thought about) what I'd do to these fellows, and I still do not know the answer," she added.

I was fortunate to have a candid conversation with Kajri Akhtar, a successful filmmaker and producer from India, who had created a documentary on Kamla Bhasin's life called *Kamla Bhasin — A Woman, By Choice*. Kajri's mother, Tarkeshwari Negi, currently a professor at the University of Delhi, had worked in a feminist movement with Bhasin.

On asking her what it was like working with Bhasin, Kajri noted, "I grew up watching the absolutely inspiring woman that she was. I followed her ideology and even achieved



half of the life that she had created for herself would have been sufficient for me. The woman was bold and honest, the most open anybody can be. I was just out of college and I realised that there was no film around such a great person, and I realised it was high time someone did that. So my very first documentary was around her life, merely because I wanted to document it, to give a bit back to so much I had received. I remember she was so welcoming. Meeting her after college made me realise that the living legend was so real. She was extremely honest and vulnerable."

"At first, I did not want to name the documentary anything but later I came up with the name *A Woman, By Choice* because that was literally it. Kamla Bhasin was a woman who lived on her own terms and took pride in being a woman. Not once did she claim that she did something 'like a man', no. She embraced the fact that she was a woman and lived by it," Kajri concluded.

According to Bhasin, the biggest slogan that feminism rendered to the community was 'the personal is political'. She shared in the documentary, "It has various meanings and interpretations. For instance, when my children were born, I, like all mothers, went and looked for rhymes for children and found them either stupid or sexist. So, just playing around with these children, I started writing rhymes. I found that my feminism was coming out."

In one of her feminist rhymes called *Mama Dearest Mama*, she wrote,

*'Mama's back, Mama's back
She's brought me books and toys
She'll tell me lots of stories..
She'll teach me many new things..
She knows how rainbows form and
how cats see in the dark.
When mama comes from office
I want to shout hurray!..'*

She saw that her ex-partner was deeply involved in raising the children but she realised that he was an exception. This was because she garnered a lot of criticism for writing gender-neutral rhymes. Many fathers were unhappy with them for they faced the uncomfortable truth and answer to the age-old patriarchy.

I got a recent opportunity to speak with one of the writer's associates and well-wishers, Shanti ji.

"For me, Kamala *Didi* was everything. She never backed out, kept supporting us with all that she had in her. We were all in complete awe of her personality. I remember *Didi* would lead protests against violence, and would carry them as if every loss was personal to her. She felt deeply for every cause she stood up for. She has planted such seeds of humanity, feminism, and justice in the hearts of lakhs of people that I am certain these plants would be green till the end of the world. No storm or down-pouring would be able to shake the roots," the 80-year old shared in an emotional message.

Bhasin will, undoubtedly, always live in the hearts of the lives she touched with her heart-rending efforts and revolutionary work.

From countryside to the city

CHRISTY VARGHESE glimpses into artist RAJU BARAIYA's perspective against the backdrop of his solo show, *Social Gathering*



Last year, after the first lockdown, most of us were overwhelmed with the imagery of people walking back to their hometown in distant, rural areas, from the cities where they sought better living conditions. Odds are most of us, even though we were touched by the images and tried to help in some way or the other, forgot their plight. We have no qualms in admitting that we had forgotten all about it, until we witnessed the works on display at Raju Baraiya's latest solo show.

Based out of Baroda, Baraiya was awarded a three-month global art residency programme which he fulfilled at the Glenfiddich distillery in Scotland. He attended his show, titled *Social Gatherings*, to understand that his artworks are based on what emerges from the shift of coming to an urban setup from a rural background. During our conversation, he shared that the works on display were inspired by the incidents following the first lockdown and the widespread sensitisation on social distancing norms.

You can view *Social Gathering* at Gallery Art District XIII, F213A, Lado Sarai, New Delhi, till October 16, 2021. Provided below are excerpts from our interview:

◆**What is the underlying theme of your show, *Social Gathering*?**

My solo show, *Social Gathering*, is an exhibition of art works that play with the idea of masking and social distancing, with a mixed media on paperwork titled *Remind Me Of My Childhood* drawing parallels between the imageries of the circles in a game of hopscotch and the chalk-drawn ones that ensure social distancing in public spaces now. There are also acrylic paintings titled *Evening Tune* and *A Season Of Plastic* that use the motif of the Indian human body to transfer onto canvas what a regular everyday scene in a rural or semi-urban city would look like.

◆**Your work is a commentary on the current social situation; what led you to conceptualise the works on display at the *Social Gathering*?**

I was in Baroda when the first lockdown was announced due to Covid-19. In a few weeks, I felt very upset, nervous and worried looking at the images and news reports of migrants walking to their villages. While I kept thinking about them, I also decided to bring to life their circumstances, pain and struggle on canvas.

◆**Who would you say are your biggest influences?**

My art practice springs out of the shift from a strong rural background to an urban one. Villages, for me, are unique spaces holding their intrinsic character. These spaces demonstrate an inherent belief about 'what they are' in the 'way they are'. Although with easily available technologies and ever-spreading urban boundaries, there has been a gentle merging of the two for the sake of communication and advancement. This nevertheless does not deprive the rural of its rural character. One can easily find rural traits in people migrating to cities for various reasons. This rural character remains intrinsic and contradicts the urban. My inspiration comes from observing, correlating the rural, the urban and vice versa.

◆**Which current trends are you in-touch with, from the art fraternity?**

My work images are mostly driven by current social and political effects, which I observe in day to day life. We all know about today's contemporary art trends and its prevalence. I feel Baroda has great space for me to continue my art practice. In Baroda there are different regional

◆**What do you seek from your art?**

The continuous push and pull between the rural and urban makes me wonder and trigger the visual intrigue. The nature and complexities between the two spaces give me, innate sense of the vulnerability that I feel being in the city and being away from my native town becomes a matter of the question of my vulnerable existence and to further emphasized by the past year struggling to combat the Coronavirus. I find my effort of locating myself in my paintings as a very synonymous act. There is a constant struggle to redefine and relocate the self in the painting through marks, gestures and superimposing images.

◆**Do you explore different mediums?**

When I was at the Glenfiddich distillery in Scotland for three-month residency, I used different material for my works — including the stone slate (a fine-grained grey metamorphic rock slide split into smooth, flat piece) used for constructing roofs in most of the houses in the vicinity and the lid of whiskey drums, I like to work on the wooden surface.

During my regular art practice in the studio I always used canvas and paper. But Scotland was uncharted territory and everything was new for me so I got the chance to explore my medium in different environment. During the residency period we visited Glenfiddich and Balvenie distillery, that time Andy took us to a big godown of whiskey drums and I got very excited to use the drums surface for art work. During the residency period I used to go to Dufftown to buy some groceries and I often saw that most of Dufftown village house roofs were done with stone slate. That's how I explored different mediums.

◆**How did the Glenfiddich's Artist in Residence programme help you?**

The initiative, Glenfiddich Artists in Residence, was launched in 2002. It provides a unique and inspired platform for artists from around the world to showcase their talent and to gain international recognition. I got my first break in 2019 when I got the chance to participate in this programme and won the 'Emerging artist of the year 2019' award. Glenfiddich's Artists in Residence opened a new realm of possibilities and broadened my artistic horizon. During my three month residency, I got a chance to experiment with my art and was closely mentored by Andy Fairgrieve, the curator of the Glenfiddich Artists in Residence programme. I also got a chance to engage with artists from different countries and exchange creative ideas. I am grateful to Glenfiddich for giving me this life changing opportunity.

MUSIC AND DANCE RECITALS at IIC

After a long hiatus, the India International Centre presents a physical performance of dance and music.

The programme will be kickstarted by a Hindustani vocal recital by Dr Rita Dev from Delhi, disciple of Guru Dr Girija Devi. As a vocalist, her skill spans both the Banaras and Gwalior gharana of Hindustani classical music traditions. Dr Dev's repertoire includes both classical and semi classical genres. Right afterwards, there will be a Kathak recital by Sangita Chatterjee from Delhi, the disciple of Smt Vaswati Misra. She has imbibed within herself the essence of Kathak, its lyrical and sensuous movements, treasure of its scintillating rhythmic patterns and subtle abhinaya.
When: September 29, 6:30 pm
Where: CD Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC main building



ART-A-THON

The competition will provide a platform to children to create original artwork on the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi, those of peace, non-violence, empathy, and compassion, and share their ideas with the world.

Children are invited to submit their artwork to participate in this competition. Each participant will receive a certificate, and winners stand a chance to win prizes worth ₹1.5 lakhs. Names of the winners will be announced within seven days of the last date of the competition.
When: Last day to submit your artwork is October 2
Where: www.crejo.fun



ARTISTAGRAM 2021

Artistagram is an idea conceived by the Uchaan Foundation to bring together the curated collection of masterpieces from a vast array of artists, with distinct backgrounds and signatures, all under one roof. The annual showcase is an initiative to amalgamate the artists — contemporary and classic — providing them a platform to exhibit their varied forms of art and ideas.



Artistagram 2021 builds upon the new global reality ushered in by the COVID-19 pandemic. In this cultural metamorphosis, each work is a source of inspiration, truly built on the raw emotions of the artists, building perspective for the future. It also reflects the role art and artists play in the process of change.
When: October 1-4, 11 am-7:30 pm
Where: Visual Art Gallery, Indian Habitat Centre, New Delhi

THE PORCELAIN ROSE

Gallery Espace's virtual solo exhibition, The Porcelain Rose, will showcase a new body of work by artist Dr Paula Sengupta.

The exhibition includes drawings which speak of Paula's continuing engagement with chintz, digital photo prints and animation, a medium she works in for the first time. The works in "The Porcelain Rose" are a space of folly. All flora and fauna are juxtaposed with each other in unlikely and improbable combinations, in which they cannot possibly exist. As opposed to the forest that abides by the natural order, the works displayed are rife with illogic, unreason and contrariness.

Dr Sengupta is an artist, academic, art writer and curator resident in Kolkata.
When: Can be viewed online till October 24
Where: www.galleryespace.com





Wearing protective head gear, the Mexican breezed through the defense in the 61st minute before striking past goalkeeper Alex McCarthy.