

OPINION 6
DON'T COMPROMISE
ON MILITARY MUSCLE**WORLD 9**
RUSSIA RATCHETS UP BATTLE FOR
CONTROL OF EASTERN UKRAINE**AVENUES 10**
NEW WAY AHEAD
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the pioneer

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DC TO
FACE PBKS
IN IPL
12 SPORTNSA slapped on 5
over Jahangirpuri

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A day after Union Home Minister Amit Shah called for strict action against rioters, the Delhi Police on Tuesday slapped National Security Act (NSA) on five accused, identified as Ansar, Salim Chikna, Imam Sheikh, alias Sonu, Dilshad, and Aheed, arrested in connection with the violence that erupted when a Hanuman Janmotsav procession was passing through Jahangirpuri on April 16.

Ansar is said to be the mastermind behind the communal violence, said sources.

Sonu, whose video of opening fire during the clashes was doing rounds on social media since April 17, has been arrested. Sonu was in a blue kurta in the video.

On interrogation, Sonu admitted that he opened fire from his pistol near Kushal Chowk during the violence.

Meanwhile, the police arrested Ghulam Rasool, alias Gulli, who allegedly supplied Sonu with an illegal firearm.

The Crime Branch of Delhi Police has intensified the investigation and the teams are conducting searches in the area. Over 500 cops and six companies of additional force have been deployed in the area.

Continued on Page 2

Anti-encroachment
drive in riot-hit areas
today, tomorrow

New Delhi: Days after riots in Jahangirpuri during a Hanuman Janmotsav procession, a special encroachment removal drive has been planned to be carried out against illegal construction in the area on April 20 and 21, a letter issued by the office of the Assistant Commissioner, North Delhi Municipal Corporation said on Tuesday.



Ansar, mastermind behind the communal violence in Jahangirpuri, being produced in Delhi's Rohini Court on Sunday

BJP, AAP trade barbs over
mastermind's political link

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP and the AAP traded barbs over the political affiliation of main accused Mohammad Ansar of the Jahangirpuri riots.

A day after Delhi BJP leaders claimed links between Ansar and the AAP, Kalkaji MLA from the AAP Atishi Marlena on Tuesday alleged that the 35-year-old Ansar has been a BJP leader.

She shared pictures on

Twitter showing Ansar campaigning for Sangeeta Bajaj in Jahangirpuri. Bajaj was the BJP's MCD candidate from North Jahangirpuri in 2017.

Ansar was arrested on April 17 by the Delhi Police, which said that he, along with his four-five aides, started the ruckus, which acted as a trigger point for clashes between the two communities in which eight police personnel and a local resident were injured.

Continued on Page 2

Delhi Covid cases
rise, but +vity dips

DDMA may make mask mandatory

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi's Covid-19 positivity rate dropped to 4.42 per cent after touching 7.72 per cent on Monday, but the number of cases rose to 671, the highest in more than two months.

The rise in cases is attributed to increase in testing. The Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) in its meeting on Wednesday may propose wearing face masks mandatory for entry to public spaces and bringing back fines to ensure compliance.

Sources said the DDMA meeting is likely to discuss the mandatory use of face masks and hybrid modes of offline and online teaching for schoolchildren as well. Health Department officials believe the mask rule should be tightened in crowded public places, especially in indoor settings in order to contain the infections.



A health worker administers Covid-19 vaccine to a girl at a dispensary in New Delhi on Tuesday

As per the Delhi Government Health Department's data, on April 11, the positivity rate stood at 2.70 per cent which jumped to 3.95 per cent on April 15 followed by 5.33 per cent on April 16, 7.72 per cent on April 18, and 4.42 per cent on April 19.

Continued on Page 2

Sonia in top gear to
revive Cong for 2024PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

After a long time, the Congress is showing signs of urgency in dealing with a series of electoral setbacks. Party chief Sonia Gandhi on Tuesday held another round of meeting with top party leaders and election strategist Prashant Kishor to prepare the roadmap for the revival of the party for

the 2024 Lok Sabha polls and forthcoming Assembly polls.

It was the third meeting of Sonia with Kishor that lasted for five hours, said top leaders. Sources said Kishor, a former JD(U) leader, is making simultaneous efforts to revive the Congress as well as the UPA that ruled for 10 years before Narendra Modi wrested power in 2014.

Continued on Page 2

WHO's 1st traditional
medicine centre in GujPIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

In a move that recognises India's contribution and potential of Indian traditional medicine in the global market, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, along with World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus, on Tuesday performed the groundbreaking ceremony for the first-of-its-

kind WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM) in Jamnagar, Gujarat.

The GCTM will be the first and only global outpost centre for traditional medicine across the world.

It will emerge as an international hub of global wellness, Modi said, adding that, "India takes this partnership as a huge responsibility for serving the entire humanity."

Continued on Page 2

CAPSULE

SALEM SENTENCE WON'T
EXCEED 25 YRS: GOVT

New Delhi: The Government is bound by the assurance given by then Deputy Prime Minister LK Advani to the Portugal Government that the maximum sentence handed out to gangster Abu Salem will not exceed 25 years, the Union Home Secretary has told the Supreme Court.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
PREZ TO VISIT INDIA

New Delhi: Russia's war against Ukraine as well as cooperation in the Indo-Pacific will feature in the discussions European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen will have with Indian leaders during her visit to New Delhi next week, the EU said on Tuesday.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Director-General of the World Health Organization Tedros Ghebreyesus and Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth at the foundation stone laying ceremony of WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine in Jamnagar on Tuesday

PTI

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Vitamin K	Vitamin K is beneficial for blood circulation. Its deficiency causes low bone density.
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Multi-layered security in place ahead of PM’s Red Fort speech

Modi to address nation on Guru Tegh Bahadur’s 400th Parkash Purab



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s address to the nation on the 400th Parkash Purab of Sikh guru Tegh Bahadur on April 21, a multi-layered security ring, comprising over 1,000 Delhi Police personnel and forces from various agencies, will be put in place at the Red Fort.

Sources said that more than 100 CCTV cameras have already been installed inside the Red Fort premises, includ-

ing the spot from where the PM Modi will address the nation. Modi will also release a commemorative coin and postage stamp on the occasion. According to officials, the security ring, including NSG snipers, SWAT commandos, kite catchers, canine units and sharpshooters on high-rise buildings, would be deployed at the Mughal-era fort, and adherence to social distancing norms will be mandatory amid the rising Covid cases in the capital.

"We have made adequate security arrangements. We are working in-coordination with multiple security agencies to ensure all arrangements are in place even from the anti-sabotage view."The historic monument has been completely secured with multi-layered security arrangements that we usually have during Independence Day. We also need to be extra vigilant because of the tense situation in violence-hit Jahangirpuri," said a senior police officer.

The footage from the CCTV cameras will be monitored round-the-clock in police control rooms situated in and around the Red Fort area, he said. Officials said agencies have been extra vigilant and have stepped up the security near the historic monument in the wake of clash during a Hanuman Jayanti procession in the city’s Jahangirpuri area on Saturday in which nine policemen and a civilian were

injured. Since then, intensive patrolling is being carried out, Central Armed Police Forces have been already deployed in the sensitive areas of north Delhi -- Chandni Mahal, Hauz Qazi and the market areas -- as a preventive measure to ensure no untoward incident takes places, officials added. "Our teams and the special branch unit of the Delhi Police will also have their own teams keeping a strict vigil. The all women SWAT team of the force, like always, will be part of the security arrangements along with deployment of PCR. "PRAKHAR' vans will also be deployed for intensive patrolling in and around the area according to the programme schedule," the officer said.According to the Union Culture and Tourism Ministry, four hundred 'ragis' (Sikh musicians) will perform in a 'Shabad Kirtan' to mark the auspicious occasion, the ministry said.

Pawar’s house attack: ‘Lawyer blew up ₹2 cr of striking MSRTC staff’

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Rooting for fresh police custody of lawyer Gunratan Sadavarte who is the key accused in the case involving the attack on NCP chief Sharad Pawar’s Mumbai residence early this month, the prosecution on Tuesday told a city court that Sadavarte had blown up Rs 2 crore collected from 95,000 striking employees of the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) even while claiming that he was fight their case free of cost.

Special Public Prosecutor Pradip Gharat made a disclosure to this effect while making a forceful plea for fresh custody of Sadavarte who is currently in judicial custody, during the hearing of an application of the fresh police custody of the accused. The arguments on the police application seeking a fresh custody of Sadavarte will continue on Wednesday.

Among other things, Gharat told the court that the police had – during the search



of Sadavarte’s home --seized a currency note counting machine, some three dozen incriminating documents and a green register detailing the manner in which the money would be collected from MSRTC’s 250 bus depots in the state.

The Special Public Prosecutor informed the court that the police investigations had revealed that Sadavarte had allegedly investing the collected money collected from the MSRTC employees in buying prime properties in Parel and Byculla, while he had bought a high-end car worth around

Rs. 23 lakhs. Gharat said that around Rs. 85 lakh was counted on the currency counting machine, while an online bank payment was made to a Kerala dealer for the luxury vehicle which was delivered recently. Seeking fresh police custody of Sadavarte, the Special Public Prosecutor told the court that the accused purchased the two Mumbai properties in the past few months. “We would like to investigate the source of funds used for the purchase of two prime properties in Mumbai”.

Gharat said that while the police wanted to ascertain how the money collected from the MSRTC employees was actually utilised or diverted for purposes other than the specified tasks. “We have a strong reason to believe that at least one property mentions the name of the entire Sadavarte family,” Gharat told the police.

It may be recalled that Sadavarte and 115 employees were arrested from Mumbai, Pune and Nagpur, after the attack on the residence of NCP

President Sharad Pawar on April 8. Some “100 to 125” striking employees had landed at Pawar’s residence at around 3 pm on April 8, one past the security barricades erected in front of Pawar’s residence and raised slogans against the NCP chief and raised vociferous slogans against the NCP chief. Some of the protesters had tried to barge into the NCP chief’s residence. Some of the protesters even hurled footwear at Pawar’s residence.

The section of the MSRTC employees that staged a flash protest in front of Pawar was ‘venting’ its anger against the NCP chief’s ‘failure’ to resolve their demand that the employees be included in the state government’s pay rolls. The MSRTC employees -- have been on an indefinite agitation since October 28 last year.

The incident had come a day after the Bombay High Court extended the deadline for the agitating MSRTC employees till April 22 to resume duty without any fear of administrative action.

Follow Covid norms, G’gram health dept tells schools

PNS ■ GURUGRAM

Gurugram health department on Tuesday issued an advisory for schools in view of a spike in COVID-19 cases in Gurugram.

The advisory urges adherence to physical distancing, wearing of masks and thermal scanning.

"As in the month of April, we are again seeing Covid surge. Daily we are approaching nearly 200 cases on daily cases. On Monday District Gurugram witnessed 198 cases. Positivity is also increased in District from 1.62% in the month of March to 5.97% on Monday. Covid positive cases are also being reported in chil-

dren. Nearly 15% of cases are being reported in children on daily basis. So surveillance in schools is of utmost importance to us," the advisory said.

According to the advisory, mandatory mask-wearing is again being implemented in Gurugram. To ensure all school children and staff wear proper masks all the time, staff should be appropriately stationed to ensure thermal scanning, physical distancing and wearing of masks.

"A close circuit camera should be considered to monitor compliance with physical distance norms and the wearing of masks on school premises," the advisory said.

"No symptomatic child

should be allowed in school. Effective disinfection of classes and surfaces must be ensured on daily basis. If a child comes positive, ensure that child is isolated for 7 days at home and testing of suspected close contacts be done," it added.

Meanwhile, the state health department is conducting more than 3,000 tests per day in the district. The department has also installed 8-10 covid resting camps in different locations of the district.

The officials also informed that the department has conducted 18,98,405 tests per million population in the Gurugram district so far, which is the highest in testing.

DDC conducts 3rd EV forum to facilitate construction dialogue

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Dialogue and Development Commission (DDC) of Delhi, in collaboration with RMI India, organised the third Delhi Electric Vehicle (EV) Forum on Tuesday to facilitate constructive dialogue and discussions between the government and various stakeholders of the EV ecosystem.

A roadmap for achieving 100 per cent electrification of last mile delivery service fleets in Delhi by 2030 was also proposed by DDC Delhi, in partnership with RMI and RMI India, along with insights from the implementation of the Deliver Electric Delhi pilot

project initiated in June 2019.

The Delhi EV Forum is a platform hosted by DDC Delhi, Delhi Government’s premier thinktank, for continuous engagement and consultation with a broad set of stakeholders so that their insights and suggestions, through a series of quarterly meetings, can be included in informing the implementation of the state EV Policy.In his keynote address, Delhi Transport Department including Kailash Gahlot said, "Under the leadership of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, we are fulfilling our promises by achieving key milestones in promoting EV mobility and charging infrastructure. Stakeholder consultations have

always been a key aspect of all our policies and Delhi’s EV Policy is a classic example of what can be achieved when the government and other stakeholders collaborate and dream together."

The Vice Chairperson of DDC Delhi, Jasmine Shah said that the roadmap, developed in partnership with RMI India, will enable Delhi’s sure-footed embark on the path of accelerating adoption of EVs for delivery fleets. The 'Delivery Electric Delhi' pilot operationalised collaborative policy implementation through continuous engagement with the entire EV community, who are committed to deploying electric vehicles at scale in city.

Govt checked 1,900 sites, issued 21 notices in anti-open burning drive

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In its Anti-Open burning campaign to fight the rising pollution levels in the national Capital, the Delhi’s government has inspected over 1900 sites and issued 21 notices and challans to the violators across the city.

Delhi Environment Minister, Gopal Rai said that inspection of 1,915 garbage burning and landfill sites have been inspected by the teams under the anti open burning campaign and 21 notices and challans have been issued to violators."The campaign will continue in Delhi until May 12. During this time, 500 teams from ten departments have been deployed as part of the cam-

paign. They are responsible for taking immediate actions to monitor and prevent open burning incidences in Delhi. Also, MCD has been given instructions to take all necessary actions to control fire accidents at the landfill site," said Rai.

"The DPCC will also start running special drives for industrial units from April 20 onwards. Wherever environmental rules or norms are broken, necessary actions will be taken. In addition, all 1,607 registered industrial units in Delhi have been converted to PNG, and if any industrial unit is found to be breaking environmental regulations, the concerned agency will take necessary and strict actions against them," said Rai.

BJP, AAP trade barbs over political link of rioter...

From Page 1 "The main accused in the Jahangirpuri riots — Ansar — is a BJP leader. He played a major role in getting BJP’s candidate Sangeeta Bajaj to contest and plays an active role in the BJP. It is clear that the BJP is behind the Jahangirpuri riots and it should apologise to the people of Delhi. BJP is a party of hooligans," Atishi said in a tweet. In her Hindi tweet, Atishi said, "It is clear that the BJP is behind the violence in Jahangirpuri,

BJP must apologize to the people of Delhi."

This comes after the BJP alleged that the key accused had links with the AAP. "The mastermind of the attack... Ansar has been found to be an AAP worker. There is evidence of this in the form of photos. Tahir Hussain, who was the mastermind of the 2020 Delhi riots, was also an AAP councillor. Is AAP running a riot factory?" alleged BJP MP, Manoj Tiwari.According to police, incidents of stone-pelting and arson were reported during the clashes and some vehicles were also torched.

THE PIONEER

CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Pawan Kumar R/o 8A/78, West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi have changed my name from Pawan Kumar to Pawan Kumar Agarwal for further

Sonia in top gear...

From Page 1 There is speculation that the poll strategist may join the Congress soon after the return of Rahul Gandhi from abroad.

Senior Congress leaders like Kamal Nath, AK Antony, Digvijaya Singh, Mukul Wasnik, KC Venugopal, Jairam Ramesh, Ambika Soni and Randeep Surjewala attended the Tuesday meeting at 10 Janpath. The Congress leaders are believed to have posed questions to Kishor about the presentation he made for the revival of the party.

Sources said more meetings could take place during the next couple of days where Chief Ministers of Congress-ruled States are likely to be present. The Congress is simultaneously preparing for a three-day Chintan Shivir from May 13 at Udaipur in Rajasthan. The meeting has been convened to evolve the party’s strategy for its overhaul and revival in the wake of a series of electoral defeats.

On Saturday, Kishor presented a detailed roadmap for the 2024 elections before Sonia and the party’s top leaders, including Rahul. Sonia and Rahul have personally made efforts to reach out to the group of dissenting leaders like Ghulam Nabi Azad, Kapil

Sibal, Anand Sharm, and others who have demanded an urgent organisational overhaul.

While there are mixed reactions to the idea of Kishor being taken into the party fold, senior Congress leader and a former Union Minister M Veerappa Moily advocated that the poll strategist be inducted into the party now. According to Moily, the party is trying to involve Kishor even about a couple of months ago but the matter was "again delayed".

The former Union Minister said it is "quite heartening" to see that the Gandhis have taken up the initiative to involve Kishor to come out with a strategy for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the party’s revival plan and the strategy for the Assembly elections in Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Mizoram, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh and Telangana in 2022-23.

Moily also pitched for a "UPA-III", claiming that almost all regional parties are geared up to fight against the BJP and feel strongly that the Congress should again emerge as a strong force to bind the nationalistic forces. Moily said he met Kishor on March 25 and discussed with him his involvement in the Congress for working out a strategy for Assembly elections of 2023 and also the Lok Sabha polls in 2024. Noting that the news about the involvement of Kishor resurfaced again last Saturday, he said it came as a "long-awaited validation" for him personally and also to the rank and file of the party. Moily said he has earlier recommended to Gandhi that Kishor be inducted into the party.

Moily was among the 23 leaders who had written to Sonia for large-scale organisational reforms. He had later distanced himself from the group (G-23).

Delhi Covid cases...

From Page 1 Last week, Delhi recorded a total of 2,606 positive Covid cases against 67,360 tests conducted during the period while the average positive rate was 4.79 per cent, it showed.

On April 11, 5,079 Covid tests were conducted of which 137 came out positive while on April 18, 6,492 tests were conducted and over 501 people tested positive, according to the data provided by the Delhi Government. The national Capital registered two deaths due to Covid during this period.The positive rate surged during the April 11-18 week, barring April 17 when it dropped to 4.21 per cent from

5.33 per cent the previous day. Doctors said the cases are expected to surge in the coming days. However, they said the current trends are not worrying as most of the cases are mild and due to the Omicron XE variant."The variant has more transmissibility but is causing mild infection. It is causing upper respiratory infection and not lower respiratory infection," said Dr Jugal Kishore, head of community Medicine, Safdurjung hospital.

The Delhi Government recently relaxed Covid restrictions and made masks voluntary last month as cases declined. On April 1, the positivity rate in Delhi was 0.5 per

cent. However, there was a surge in Covid cases from the second week of April. Dr. Kishore said the relaxation of curbs had little impact on the current surge."People coming out in large numbers might have also led to this increase in cases. But the major reason for the surge, I feel, is the highly transmissible variant," said Kishore.Ahead of the DDMA meeting, the Chamber of Trade and Industry (CTI) has appealed to the Government authorities not to impose coronavirus restrictions merely on the basis of the positivity rate. The traders’ body in a letter to the DDMA also requested it to make it mandatory to wear

masks in public if the situation demands.The request from the traders’ body comes a day before a crucial meeting of the DDMA where it is likely to discuss the mandatory use of face masks and hybrid mode of offline and online teaching for school children, in view of the rising number of infections in past many days.In a letter written to the DDMA, the CTI said coronavirus is completely under control in Delhi at present and there is no need to impose more strictness in right now. CTI Chairman Brijesh Goyal said the news of increasing coronavirus cases in the Capital has created an atmosphere of fear among the traders.

WHO’s 1st traditional medicine centre...

From Page 1 Expressing happiness at the venue of the WHO Centre, he said, "Jamnagar’s contributions towards wellness will get a global identity with WHO’s Global Centre for Traditional Medicine.

"More than five decades ago, the world’s first Ayurvedic University was established in Jamnagar. The city has a quality Ayurvedic institute in the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda."

He also emphasised that staying disease-free may be an important part of

life but the ultimate goal has to be wellness. The importance of wellness, said the Prime Minister, was keenly felt during the pandemic period. "The world is looking for a new dimension of health care delivery today. I am happy that by giving the slogan 'One planet our health' WHO has promoted the Indian vision of 'One Earth, One Health'."

The Prime Minister said, 'India’s traditional medicine system is not limited to treatment. It is a holistic science of life. Ayurveda goes beyond just healing and treatment.

"Ayurveda is taken as the knowledge of life and it has been deemed as the fifth Veda".

Modi said good health is directly related to a balanced diet.

He explained that our ancestors considered diet as half of the treatment and our medical systems are replete with dietary advice. The Prime Minister said it is a matter of immense pride for India that 2023 has been chosen as the International Year of Millets by the United Nations. He said this step will prove to be beneficial for humanity.

NSA slapped on 5...

From Page 1 The police are equipped with 80 teargas gun water cannons units.

The police was also deployed in the sensitive areas for rooftop surveillance.All senior officers have been instructed to be at the spot to avoid any untoward incident, said police. Three days after the clashes, some grocery shops were opened during the day and local residents were also seen on the roads, with normally return-

ing to the area. The situation has improved from the previous day’s, according to locals.

However, the road in front of the mosque in C block where the procession was allegedly attacked remained closed and the entire area has been cordoned off with barricades put up by the police. The police has also pitched tents near the barricades and the area has been divided into five sectors to efficiently secure in case of any emergency.

1 killed, 12 hurt...

From Page 1 The demonstration went late into the night.

On Tuesday, the protesters blocked the railway track at Rambukkana.

When they were asked to clear the rail line, they hurled stones at security personnel, police said.

Police Spokesperson Nihal Thaldawa said police issued warnings to the protestors to leave the area. However, the

protestors attempted to set fire to a fuel bowser, as well as a three-wheeler causing damaging to property. Thaldawa was quoted as saying by News 1st channel.

Thaldawa said that the police had opened fire after initially using tear gas to disperse the crowd and bring the situation under control.

One person was killed and 12 others injured in the firing, police said.

Centre notifies MCD Amendment Act

Unifies 3 civic bodies; Centre will also appoint a special officer to oversee the functions of the corporation
STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Ministry of Law and Justice on Tuesday notified the Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Act, 2022, which unifies Delhi's East, South and North Delhi Municipal Corporations into one entity - to be called the Municipal Corporation of Delhi after President Ram Nath Kovind gave his assent to the law, which also gave some clarity about how the new wards will be carved out.

After the notification, the Centre will also appoint a special officer to oversee the functions of the corporation. A committee will also soon be set up to transfer all the liabilities, employees, and revenue sources of the SDMC, EDMC and NDMC to the MCD.

"It shall come into force on such a date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint...Provided that different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act and any reference in any such provision to the commencement of this Act shall be construed as a reference to the coming into force of that provision," said the notification.

Government and civic officials, privy to the development, clarified that with the President's assent the Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2022, has now become an Act



but a notification for the unification of the three civic bodies and other processes like delimitation exercise, appointment of special officer will be issued separately by the Ministry of Home Affairs. An expert on civic matters and former chairman of the MCD Works Committee, Jagdish Mangai, said that after this the Centre will appoint a delimitation commission to carry out demarcation of wards followed by reservation and rotation of seats.

Experts highlighted that given the current scenario, civic polls are unlikely to take place before early next year due to a planned delimitation exercise. They added that if delimitation is carried out based on a fresh census then the election may be delayed by more than a year.

Officials also added that the reduction in the number of wards from 272 to 250 in the proposed unified MCD is also likely to affect the composition of several Assembly segments in the national Capital.

The Centre's notification, which is meant to inform the public about the Act receiving the President's assent, indicated a fresh census will be carried out to redraw the wards in Delhi. Delhi currently has 272 wards.

Under the unified MCD,

the city will have a maximum of 250 wards, meaning it could be lower than that as well.

"Upon the completion of each census after the establishment of the Corporation, the number of seats shall be on the basis of the population of Delhi as ascertained at that census and shall be determined by the Central Government by notification in the Official Gazette and the number of seats to be reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes shall, as nearly as may be, bear the same ratio to the total number of seats as the population of Scheduled Castes bears to the total population of Delhi," the notification by the Ministry of Law and Justice said.

It added the seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes may be allotted by rotation to different wards in a manner prescribed by the Centre.

The law for the merger appears to give greater authority to the Centre. It specifies the word "Government" will be replaced with "Central Government" in at least 11 sections of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957.

These pertain to naming or resizing any zone or ward, listing out the obligatory functions of MCD, rules on declaration of assets of councillors, the appointment and pay scale of the commissioner, approvals for loans, and action against any councillor or MCD official.

The new Act says the commissioner shall exercise powers and discharge functions on "building regulations" under the Centre's general superintendence and direction.

'Jahangirpuri Hindus, Muslims living in amity for decades'

April 16 clashes part of some Sangh affiliates' agenda to use festivals to create communal disharmony: Left parties' report
STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The violence that broke out in Delhi's Jahangirpuri on April 16 is part of some Sangh affiliates' agenda to use religious occasions to create communal disharmony, the Left parties said in a fact-finding report released on Tuesday.

Based on its interaction with the people of the affected area in northwest Delhi, the team said Hindus and Muslims have been living there "together for decades" and claimed that those who participated in the violence on Saturday were outsiders. bThe report noted that the violence broke out when a Hanuman Jayanti procession led by Bajrang Dal activists, who were armed with pistols and swords, reached the road in front of a mosque. "Why wasn't it stopped then? Why were they allowed to raise slogans outside the mosque at a time when the Roza had ended and a crowd of Muslims was expected?" the report asked, holding the Delhi Police responsible for the clashes between two communities. The fact-finding team comprised the CPI(M), the CPI, CPI-ML and Forward



Security personnel patrol in the violence-hit Jahangirpuri area in New Delhi on Tuesday

Ranjan Dimri

Bloc leaders.

"They said that a group of 150-200 men were roaming the streets in a procession with DJ and loud noise and carrying weapons since the afternoon. The locals said that they saw people in the procession brandishing pistols and swords. This can be verified through television footage as well.

"They also said that people were shouting forceful and provocative slogans. The team was told that this procession was not organised by locals, but by the youth wing of the Bajrang Dal. The people said that they were outsiders," the report stated. It claimed that

when the violence broke out, the procession was on its third round of the locality.

"If the local Muslims had conspired to attack the procession as has been alleged by BJP leaders, the attack would have happened earlier," the report said. Holding the Delhi Police responsible for the violence, it asked why an armed procession was allowed to gather in front of a mosque. "They said locals gathered in large numbers amidst fears that the procession would enter the mosque," the report said.

It noted that while vehicles were burnt, female residents of the area who opposed raids at

their houses were "manhandled" by police personnel. The report stated that the locals said the stone pelting began from both ends. They also told the team on the condition of anonymity that some members of the minority community "even brought weapons later".

The team members went to the police station and alleged that they found Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta and MP Hans Raj Hans addressing a press conference on the police station premises in the presence of police officials.

"It is also to be noted that the BJP has openly praised the role of the police. In this con-

nection, the one-sided arrests by the police of mainly members of the minority community, even though video evidence is available of the provocative behaviour and aggressive actions of the processionists, is totally unjust and motivated," the report said.

The team also found that among the people living in the locality, there has never been any communal clash and Hindus and Muslims have been living there together for decades. The report said it is "shocking" that the BJP should describe people living in the area as "illegal" or Rohingya refugees.

Jahangirpuri limps back to normalcy under heavy security

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Over 500 police personnel and six companies of additional forces have been deployed in violence-hit Jahangirpuri in northwest Delhi. Meanwhile, the situation still remained tense as an uneasy calm prevailed in the violence-hit area on Tuesday.

The shops in the area were seen closed in the morning but some shops, mostly grocery shops, were opened during the day and local residents were also seen on the roads, with normalcy returning to the area.

However, the road in front of the mosque in C block, where the procession was allegedly attacked, remained closed and the entire area has been cordoned off with barricades by the police. Police have also pitched tents near the barricades and the area has been divided into five sectors to efficiently secure it in case of any emergency. The Crime Branch has also intensified the investi-



Security personnel keep vigil as students come out of a school in Jahangirpuri in New Delhi on Tuesday

RANJAN DIMRI/PIONEER

gation and the teams are conducting searches in the area. Police said that over 500 police personnel and six companies of additional forces have been deployed in the area round-the-clock and a total of 80 tear gas guns and water cannons have been deployed. Drones are also being used in the sensitive areas for rooftop surveillance, police said. All senior officers have been instructed to be at the spot to avoid any untoward incident, said police.

Clashes broke out between

two communities during a Hanuman Jayanti procession in Jahangirpuri on Saturday, in which eight police personnel and a local resident got injured. According to police, there was stone-pelting and arson during the clashes and some vehicles were also torched. On Monday, Delhi Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana had said that the presence of police personnel in sensitive areas, including Jahangirpuri, will continue till the situation becomes normal.

Heatwave grips national Capital as temp reaches 42.6 degrees C

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

As the 'Heatwave' again swept the national capital, the Delhi witnessed the maximum temperature of 42.6 degrees Celsius on Tuesday, which was six notches warmer for this season. However, the minimum temperature in the city settled at 23.7 degree Celsius, which was two notches above than the normal temperature for this time of the year.

According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD) scientist RK Jenamani, the April 11th and 19th were recorded as the two warmest days of this season in Delhi-NCR. Lodhi Road, Safdarjung,

and Palam airport had a maximum temperature of 42.6°C on both dates. The relative humidity recorded at the Safdarjung observatory, in the morning at 8:30 A.M was 31 per cent and 17 per cent in the evening at 5:30 P.M. The weather stations at Ridge, Ayanagar, Mungeshpur, Najafgarh, Pitampura and Palam recorded maximum temperatures of 43.9 degrees Celsius, 43.9 degrees Celsius, 44.4 degrees Celsius, 44 degrees Celsius, 44.3 degrees Celsius and 42.6 degrees Celsius, respectively, stated the IMD data.

The IMD predicted that the heatwave spell in isolated pockets likely over parts of Northwest, Central and East

India 19th April and likely to further abate thereafter.

"Thunderstorm accompanied by lightning and gusty winds very likely to continue over Western Himalayan Region and adjoining plains is likely to expand towards central and east India from 20th April till 21st April," said IMD. The IMD further predicted that the heavy rainfall spell likely to continue over Assam-Meghalaya during next five days.

"The power demand in the national capital this year is making new records everyday as the city witnessed the demand of 5735 MW which is the highest in the month of April, till the date," BSES said.

NCR commuters suffer as auto-taxi strike called by drivers enters second day

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The people of the Delhi National Capital Region (NCR) still on Tuesday gone through a lot of trouble to commute to their respective location on time, as the strike called by drivers associated with the ride-hailing apps such as Uber and Ola demanding subsidy on compressed natural gas (CNG) prices and revision of fare rates entered its second day.

Meanwhile, the auto-rickshaw and yellow-black taxi unions, which were also a part of the strike on Monday, decided to postpone their stir bring-

ing much-needed relief to Delhiites.

Several commuters have to face the difficulties, due to non-availability of rides and surge pricing, as the app-based cabs remained off the roads.

According to a commuter, Nilesh Kumar, "I am trying to book a cab for my office in Noida Film City from Mayur Vihar but the fare is high due to the strike. I usually pay around Rs 300, but today the estimated fare is around Rs 700."

However, the impact of the strike was minimized on Tuesday as auto-rickshaws and yellow-black taxis resumed services. Another commuter,

Deepika Chaudhary said, "I tried booking a cab but the waiting period was about 15-20 minutes and that too on higher rates. Since autos were plying today, so I decided to take an auto to Lajpat Nagar from AIIMS."

Ravi Rathore, president of Sarvodaya Driver Welfare Association Delhi, which represents drivers attached to app-based cab aggregators, said a decision on whether to continue the strike or postpone it will be taken in the evening.

Cab drivers also staged a protest at Jantar Mantar to press for

demands.

"Ola, Uber cabs are not plying on the roads today. Our protest at Jantar Mantar has started. A call on the future course of action will taken in the evening," Rathore.

Rathore said apart from the subsidy on CNG the government should also consider revision of fares.

"It has become tough for auto and cab drivers to survive after hike in fuel prices. Fares of app-based cabs have not been revised for a long time in the city. Seeing the steep rise in CNG prices, the government should increase fares," Rathore demanded.

High Court expresses displeasure over management of Rohini Ashram

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court Tuesday expressed its displeasure over the management of a north Delhi-based ashram housing several women who were alleged to be living in "animal-like conditions" and said that its management should be taken over by the Delhi government.

A bench headed by Acting Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi asked the ashram — Adhyatmik Vidhyalaya, Rohini — to show cause as to why it should not be taken over by the Delhi government and directed that DCP concerned to ensure that its inmates are "not taken out and removed" before

the matter is heard by it again on April 21.

The bench, also comprising Justice Navin Chawla, noted that the person who set up the ashram has been charge-sheeted by the CBI and is presently absconding and observed that it was difficult to accept that the inmates were living there of their free will.

"We find it difficult to accept that the inmates of the institution are in their full senses and the claim that they are in the institution of their own free will and they are not under the coercion and undue influence, stated that court which was hearing a plea by the parents of one of the inmates seeking to meet her.

Senior advocate Menaka Guruswamy, appearing for the petitioner, relied on a report submitted to the court in a related case to state that over 100 inmates were living in the ashram in "animal-like condition" behind metal doors and several were under the influence of drugs.

"What kind of an ashram is this? ... Sheer nonsense.. Something like this is happening in broad daylight in a city like Delhi. We are going to direct the government to take over the institution," said the court.

"We are prima facie of the view that the respondent no. 6 institute should be taken over by the Health Department of

the GNCTD for its management and running. We, therefore, put respondent no 6 to notice. To show cause why it should not direct takeover of the institution by GNCTD," the court ordered.

Lawyer Sravan Kumar, also appearing for the petitioners' daughter, stated that the inmates themselves were running and managing the ashram. The court directed that the present case be listed on April 21 along with another petition concerning the affairs of the ashram.

In the meantime, the court directed that the petitioners be allowed to meet their daughter and asked the DCP concerned to ensure their protection.

'Respond on PIL on nixing DTC buses from schools'

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday sought response from the Delhi Government on a public interest litigation against the withdrawal of DTC bus services from schools. A bench headed by Justice Acting Vipin Sanghi issued notice to the city government and Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) on the petition by social activist Baba Alexander and asked the respondents to place on record the material which led to the decision and noted that private schools had been using DTC buses for decades as means of transport for students.

The bench, also comprising Justice Navin Chawla, further observed that the parents as well as the students were suf-

fering due to the withdrawal of the DTC buses and that the decision is also leading to more traffic on the roads.

Delhi government lawyer Sameer Vashisht stated that only private schools were using DTC buses for their students and the arrangement was contractual in nature. He informed the court that more buses were needed for the public and the private schools were free to use other private carriages for transporting their students.

"You can't take advantage of Covid situation. Schools are also transporting children...Children are also public. Nobody is saying that you do it for free. You produce your record to justify your decision," the court stated.

Naresh Kumar appointed Chief Secy of Delhi

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In a major bureaucratic reshuffle, senior IAS officer Naresh Kumar has been appointed as the Chief Secretary of Delhi. Kumar, a 1987-batch AGMUT cadre officer, has been transferred to Delhi from Arunachal Pradesh where he was holding the post of Chief Secretary.

"Consequent upon voluntary retirement of Vijay Dev, IAS (AGMUT:1987), Naresh Kumar IAS (AGMUT:1987) is hereby appointed as Chief Secretary of the GNCTD with effect from April 21 or with effect from the date of joining, whichever is earlier," said the order issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Kumar had earlier held the posts of Chairman of the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) and Managing Director of the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC).

Delhi Chief Secretary Vijay Dev will retire voluntarily on April 20. The order comes hours after President Ram Nath Kovind gave his nod to the Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill 2022.

Dev was appointed as the Chief Secretary of Delhi in November 2018 and was to superannuate in March 2023. He will take over as the State Election Commissioner for Delhi and Chandigarh on April 21, reports suggest.

Probe into security breach by military officials begins

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The security agencies on Tuesday initiated a probe into the cyber security breach by some military officials through social media, including WhatsApp. Possibility of sensitive information reaching enemy countries in the neighbourhood is not ruled out.

Giving details here, sources said the military officials under the scanner were part of some WhatsApp groups comprising civilians and veterans. It is feared some Pakistanis and Chinese besides other inimical interests were also part of the groups under the garb of civilians.

It was also pointed out that serving military officials are not allowed to join social media groups where civilians and even veterans are mem-



bers.

The alleged leakage of sensitive information was detected by the intelligence agencies and a probe was immediately initiated, they said adding investigations were still in the preliminary stages. They also did not rule out an espionage ring actively involved in this episode detected some days ago.

They also said acts of infringements to existing orders especially involving

counter intelligence matters by serving officers are dealt with strictly as they are subject to the Officials Secrets Act.

It was also mentioned that the most stringent and rigid possible punitive action will be ordered against the officials who will be found guilty in the ongoing investigations.

Officials also said given the sensitive nature of the probe, it was requested to avoid speculations about the breach or details of the personnel involved as it could hamper the investigations.

All serving officers are time and again instructed about the dangers involved with social media groups and barred from using them. Moreover, special instructions are in place regarding the use of smart phones and officers and other personnel cannot use while deployed in operations like on warships or in the field.

Indian, foreign varsities to offer joint dual degrees soon

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Indian and foreign higher education institutions may soon be able to offer joint or dual degrees and twinning programmes with the University Grants Commission (UGC) approving the regulations for these programmes on Tuesday. The decision was taken at a meeting of the higher education regulator on Tuesday.

"Any Indian institution accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) with a minimum score of 3.01 or in the top 100 in the university category of the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) or an Institution of Eminence can collaborate with any foreign institution in the top 500 of the Times Higher Education or QS World University ranking, without seeking any prior

approval from the UGC," UGC Chairman M Jagadeesh Kumar said at a press conference.

A twinning programme is an educational arrangement between local universities or pathway providers with partner institutions abroad. The arrangement allows students to pursue their education in their homeland for a certain time period. "The students will have to earn more than 30 per cent credits from the foreign institution under the programme. However, the regulations shall not be applicable to programmes offered online and in the open and distance learning mode," he added.

Last week, the Commission decided to allow students to



pursue two full-time degree programmes in physical mode simultaneously either at the same university or from different universities of India. The decision was announced keeping in view the provisions of new National Education Policy (NEP) which states to allow students to acquire multiple skills. Earlier, the UGC regulations restrained students from pursuing two full-time programme. They could only pursue one full-time degree along with online/short-term/diploma courses.

IN BRIEF

GO FIRST STOPS SRINAGAR-SHARJAH FLIGHT



New Delhi: Go First on Tuesday said it has stopped operating Srinagar-Sharjah flight from March 27 as it does not have the requisite bilateral rights. Airlines need bilateral rights — which are granted under air services agreement signed between the two countries — to operate scheduled international passenger flights. Home Minister Amit Shah had inaugurated Go First's Srinagar-Sharjah flight on October 23 last year, connecting Jammu and Kashmir with the United Arab Emirates after around 11 years.

MIAL ASKS AIR INDIA TO VACATE ITS LAND

New Delhi: Mumbai airport operator MIAL has asked Air India to vacate its land that also includes four staff colonies of the airline where around 1,600 families reside, sources said on Tuesday. Air India has been using approximately 7,50,000 square metres of area around the Mumbai airport for decades at concessionary rates, the sources said.

LET ULTRA DESIGNATED AS TERRORIST BY CENTRE

New Delhi: Terror group Lashkar-e-Tayyeba's (LeT) member Sheikh Sajad alias Sajjad Gul, who was responsible for the killing of journalist Shujaat Bukhari in Srinagar in 2018 and is absconding, was designated as a terrorist by the Centre on Tuesday.

3.5L PARTICIPATED IN 464 AYUSHMAN BHARAT

New Delhi: More than 3.5 lakh people participated in the 464 Ayushman Bharat block-level health melas organised on April 18, while over 64,000 ABHA health IDs were created and 17,000 PMJAY golden cards issued, in addition to the thousands of screenings conducted for hypertension and diabetes.

'ORDERS WITHOUT REASONED JUDGEMENT MUST STOP'

New Delhi: The practice of pronouncing final orders without a reasoned judgement has to be "stopped and discouraged", the Supreme Court said on Tuesday, and set aside the acquittal verdict of the Allahabad High Court in a murder case and ordered the hearing afresh.

MODI TO ADDRESS NATION FROM RED FORT TO MARK 400TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF GURU TEGH BAHADUR

New Delhi: When Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the nation from the Red Fort on Thursday at 9.30 pm to mark the 400th birth anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur, he will be the first PM to deliver a speech from the monument after sunset. Modi's address will be from the lawns of the Red Fort and not its ramparts, from where a PM does on Independence Day. Red Fort has been chosen as it was from here that Mughal ruler Aurangzeb had given orders for the execution of Guru Tegh Bahadur, the ninth Sikh Guru, in 1675.

No Covid cases reported in paramilitary forces in 24 hrs

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

From a peak of nearly 9,000 active cases of Covid-19 in the paramilitary ranks, the forces have now been almost free from the virus except just three positive cases in the CRPF.

All the other paramilitary forces like the Border Security Force, Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), National Security Guard (NSG) and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) do not have any active case of Covid-19 as on date.

In all, as many as 111,069 paramilitary personnel have contracted the Covid-19 disease till now, including 356 deaths due to the deadly viral infection. A total of 110,712

patients have recovered from the infectious disease.

During the last 24 hours, not a single case of coronavirus infection has been reported in the paramilitary rank, according to official data.

As on February 21, the total active case load stood at 200 as against a peak of nearly 9,000 cases in January.

As on January 18, Covid-19 active cases had swelled over 58 times in just three weeks in the paramilitary ranks, from a meager 148 cases on December 28 to 8,671 cases. During that period, two deaths were recorded, taking the toll due to Covid-19 to 350 in the forces' ranks.

The combined tally of Covid-19 cases in the paramilitary ranks had crossed the one lakh mark with a tally of 1,00,210 cases as on January 18. The CISF topped the list

with 2,764 active Covid-19 cases followed by 2,747 cases in the CRPF and 1,330 cases in the Border Security Force (BSF).

The SSB had 1,018 active cases followed by 586 cases in ITBP, 149 cases in NDRF and 77 cases in NSG.

The CRPF tops the list of Covid-related casualties with 136 deaths till now followed by 91 fatalities in BSF and 83 loss of lives in CISF. While the SSB lost 24 personnel due to Covid-19, the ITBP suffered 19 casualties followed by two deaths in NDRF and one casualty in NSG.

As many as 33,232 CRPF personnel were infected with Covid-19 followed by 28,430 in BSF, 28,306 in CISF, 12,038 cases in SSB, 7,095 in ITBP, 1,254 cases in NDRF and 716 patients in NSG.

Centre's insurance scheme for Covid health workers fighting virus extended by 180 days

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Government's insurance scheme for health workers fighting Covid-19 has been extended for another period of 180 days.

The Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (PMGKP): Insurance scheme for Healthcare Workers Fighting Covid-19 has been extended for a further period of 180 days from 19th April, 2022. It has been decided to extend the policy so as to continue to provide the safety net to the dependents of health workers who are deputed to

take care of Covid-19 patients," the Government said in an order here.

The Union Health Ministry has written a letter to this effect to Additional Chief Secretaries (Health)/Principal Secretaries (Health)/Secretaries (Health) of all States/UTs for giving wide publicity amongst the health workers in their respective States/UTs.

The PMGKP was launched on March 30, 2020 to provide comprehensive personal accident cover of Rs 50 Lakh to 22.12 lakh healthcare providers, including community health workers and private health

workers, who may have been in direct contact and care of Covid-19 patients and may be at risk.

Further, on account of the unprecedented situation, private hospital staff/retired/volunteer/local urban bodies/contract/daily wage/ad-hoc/out-sourced staff requisitioned by states/central hospitals/autonomous hospitals of central/states/UTs, AIIMS and Institute of National Importance (INI)/hospitals of Central Ministries specifically drafted for care of COVID-19 patients are also covered under the PMGKP, the Government said.

Delhi-Dehradun Expressway: SC reconstitutes expert body

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday reconstituted an expert committee formed by the National Green Tribunal to oversee the compensatory afforestation and other mitigation measures for the Delhi-Dehradun expressway by including some additional members and replacing its chairperson.

The new six-lane highway will reduce the travel time from 6.5 hours to just 2.5 hours as per the plan of the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) and would have a 12-kilometer elevated road to protect the wildlife and forests.

A bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and Aniruddha Bose directed that the chairperson of the expert commit-

tee will be CP Goyal, Director-General of Forests in the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

The NGT had directed the chief secretary of the Uttarakhand government to head the expert panel.

The bench said that the replacement of the chairperson should not be seen as an expression of lack of confidence on the part of the Uttarakhand chief secretary and was only recasting the committee to ensure a broad understanding is facilitated in the implementation of the work. The top court also included Anil Prakash Joshi, founder of Himalayan Environmental Studies and Conservation Organisation (HESCO), and environmentalist Vijay Dhasmana as additional members of the oversight committee.

India, European body to discuss alliance, trade

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India and the European Commission will hold wide-ranging discussions including strategic alliance and trade commerce during talks here on April 24-25 between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and European Commission President Ursula Von Der Leyen. India in the last few weeks has hosted several high profile leaders in the backdrop of the ongoing Ukraine conflict. In fact, European Commission President's visit comes two days after British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's summit with Modi here on April 22. It will be his first visit to India as the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

Giving details of the European Commission Premier's itinerary, the ministry of external affairs said here on Tuesday this will be her first visit to India in the capacity.

During her visit, she will hold bilateral talks with the Prime Minister. She will also meet President Ram Nath Kovind and other dignitaries. The President of the European Commission has been invited as the Chief Guest for this year's edition of Raisina Dialogue and will address the inaugural session on April 25.

India and the European Union share a vibrant Strategic Partnership which has been witnessing strong growth with wider and deeper co-operation in Political and Strategic, Trade and Commerce, Climate and Sustainability, Digital and Technology aspects as well as people-to-people ties.

The India-European Union(EU) Leaders' Meeting in May 2021 set new milestones with the decision to resume trade talks and the launch of India-EU Connectivity Partnership. The forthcoming visit of the President of the European

Commission will be an opportunity to review progress and further intensify the multifaceted partnership with the EU.

As regards the British Prime Minister's visit, the ministry said last week he will be accorded a ceremonial welcome at Rashtrapati Bhavan and will hold bilateral consultations with the Prime Minister on April 22. Besides official engagements in New Delhi, Johnson will also visit Gujarat on April 21.

India and the United Kingdom enjoy a long and historical relationship which was elevated to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership during the India-UK Virtual Summit in 2021.

The two Prime Ministers will review implementation of the Roadmap 2030 and set their vision for further intensifying cooperation across the full spectrum of bilateral ties. They will also exchange views on regional and global issues of mutual interest.

3,280 lakh tonnes food grain production target for 2022-23

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Agriculture on Tuesday set a target of total food grain production of 3,280 lakh tonnes in 2022-23 as compared to expected production of 3,160 lakh tonnes during the current year. The target is 3.8 per cent higher compared to previous year's output.

At a National Conference on Agriculture for Kharif Campaign 2022-23 on Tuesday to review the progress of the rabi (winter) season and plan for the Kharif (summer) crops , the government set a target for production of pulses and pulses have been fixed at 295.5 and 413.4 lakh tonnes in 2022-23. The target for Nutri-cereals production has to be increased from 115.3 lakh tonnes in 2021-22 to 205.0 lakh tonnes in 2022-23.

As per the second advance

estimate of the agriculture ministry, foodgrains production is estimated to be a record of 3160 lakh tones in ongoing 2021-22 crop year ending June.

Addressing the conference, Agriculture Commissioner A K Singh said the forecast of normal monsoon this year augurs well for the sowing of kharif crops like rice. "We have kept the target of a record 328 million tonnes of foodgrains for the 2022-23 crop year," he said.

Of the total foodgrains production, a production target of 163.15 million tonnes has been set for the kharif season and 164.85 million tonnes for the rabi season. For the kharif season, rice production target has been kept at 112 million tonnes, maize at 23.10 million tonnes, pulses at 10.55 million tonnes, and oilseeds at 26.89 million tonnes.

Barring soyabean, Singh said there was surplus seed

availability to meet the requirement of the upcoming kharif season. Speaking at the occasion, Manoj Ahuja, Secretary (Agriculture and Farmers Welfare), said that the country is maintaining an increasing trend in food grain production since 2015-16.

"Total food grain production has increased by 25% in the last 6 years from 251.54 to 316.01 million tonnes. Oilseeds have followed the same trend and have shown a growth of 42% from 25.25 million tonnes in 2015-16 to 37.15 million tonnes in 2021-22. India's exports of agricultural products have grown by 19.92% during 2021-22 to touch \$50.21 billion (Rs 376575 crore).The commodities like wheat, other cereals, rice (other than Basmati), soya meal, raw cotton, fresh vegetables, and processed vegetables etc have registered most positive growths," Ahuja said.

Office Of Executive Engineer, Maintenance Division
Uttarakhand Jal Sansthan
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Phone No/Fax: 0135-2671940, E-mail - eemdujs@rediffmail.com

Letter No. 204/E-Tender Notice/2022-23 Date: 18.04.2022

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING CORRIGENDUM

इस कार्यालय पत्रांक सं. 114/E-Tender Notice/2022-23 Date 08.04.2022 से जल जीवन मिशन के कार्य हेतु आमंत्रित ई-निविदाओं को निम्नानुसार संशोधित किया जाता है।

The tender time schedule (Key Dates) is as follows:-

S. No.	Description	Time Schedule (Key Dates)
1	Bid Submission: End date	02.05.2022 upto 17:00 Hrs
2	Offline Submission of Documents (Cost of bidding Document, Bid Security, Original affidavits and all supporting Document in support of qualification).	02.05.2022 upto 17:00 Hrs
3	Date of Bid Opening	03.05.2022 at 11:00 Hrs
4	Date of Financial Bid Opening	To be intimated later

शेष नियम एवं शर्तें निविदा के अनुसार यथावत रहेंगे।

“जल संचय-जीवन संचय” **Executive Engineer**

M.P. MADHYA KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN COMPANY LIMITED
(Govt. of M.P. Undertaking)
Nishtha Parisar, Bijalee Nagar, Govindpura, Bhopal-23
Phone No.0755-2602033-36, Fax : 2589821, 2586636

Ref:- MD/MK/04/Abgd.NIT/141

Date : 18.04.2022

TENDER NOTICE

MPMKVVCL, Bhopal, invites following bid from Service Provider through e-tendering.

Tender specification Number	Particulars	Aproximate Tender value (Rs. Cr)	Tender Fee including GST (in Rs.)	Date of Pre-Bid meeting	Date of opening of tender
MD/ MK/04/ 774	Appointment of Service Provider Agency to supply Outsourced Manpower for different Operation and Maintenance works in O&M Circle, Bhopal MPMKVCL, Bhopal	21.37	11800.00	27.04.2022 03:30 PM	06.05.2022 12:00 PM

Other details are available on Company website “<https://portal.mpcz.in>” & “<https://mptenders.gov.in>”
M.P. Madhyam/104483/2022 **CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (PROC.)**

Coast Guard tests operational readiness to deal with pollution

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) is testing and reviewing its operational readiness to deal with pollution in the maritime domain during a two-day exercise starting on Tuesday off the Mormugao harbour, Goa. Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar inaugurated the 8th edition of two-day National Level Pollution Response Exercise, 'NATPOL-

REX-VIII.'

The event is being attended by more than 85 participants from 50 agencies, including 29 observers from 22 friendly foreign countries and international organisations and two Coast Guard ships from Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. More than 30 aircraft and ships of various agencies including the Coast Guard, IAF and the Navy also participated in it.

The marine spill preparedness exercise was inaugurated by the Defence Secretary in the presence of Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences M Ravichandran, Director General ICG VS Pathania and Director General South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) M Masumur Rahman.

Senior officials from Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, National Disaster Response Force, India Meteorological Department, Indian Navy and State Pollution Control Board, Goa were also present on the occasion, the defence ministry said here on Tuesday. The objective of NAT-

POLREX-VIII is to enhance the preparedness and response capability of all the stakeholders in combating marine spills. It aims at validating the procedures and guidelines as contained in the National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOSDCP) at the national and regional levels under the aegis of SACEP MoU to which India is a member state.

During the exercise, 13 ships and 10 aircraft from ICG, one C-131 aircraft from the Indian Air Force, two ships from SACEP member states viz. Sri Lanka and Bangladesh and one Offshore Supply vessel (OSV) from Oil and Natural Gas Commission(ONGC), assets from Shipping Corporation of India and tugs from Mormugao Port Trust demonstrated containment cum marine spill recovery by side sweeping arms, deployment of booms and skimmers and streaming of single ship operated containment cum recovery system. The participants also practised firefighting drill, rescue operation, and demonstration of surface and air oil spill dispersant systems.



Visiting Indian Parliamentary delegation led by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla with President of Vietnam Nguyen Xuan Phuc at the Presidential Palace on Tuesday

Prez OK's Criminal Procedure Bill empowering police to obtain biological samples of convicts

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

President Ram Nath Kovind has given assent to the Criminal Procedure (Identification) Bill, which empowers police to obtain physical and biological samples of convicts and those accused of crimes. The Act, which replaces the Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920, was passed

by Lok Sabha on April 4 and Rajya Sabha on April 6.

Apart from providing legal sanction to police to obtain physical and biological samples of convicts and detainees for investigation in criminal matters, Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act 2022 also empowers a Magistrate to order measurements or photographs of a person to be taken to aid

the investigation of an offence. In case of acquittal or discharge of the person, all material must be destroyed.

The Act explained the types of data that may be collected, people from whom such data may be collected and the authority that can authorise such collection. It also provides for the data to be stored in a central database.

Modi to kick-start development projects to make J&K ‘powerful’

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

To make the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir self-reliant in the power sector, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is all set to lay the foundation stone of 850 MW Ratle Power Project and 540 MW Kwar Hydro Project on the river Chenab during his day-long visit to Jammu on April 24. Nine years ago, a similar ceremony was organised in Kishtwar on June 25, 2013 where former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh and United Progressive Alliance chief Sonia Gandhi had also laid the foundation for the 850 megawatts (MW) GVK Ratle hydroelectric power project.

However, the work on the project was suspended shortly after differences surfaced between the then Government of Jammu & Kashmir and the company to which the contract of the project had been awarded. In September 2015, the construction company formally walked out of the project citing several reasons.

After a long gap of six years, the Union Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave its approval for the

investment of Rs.5281.94 crore in the project by a new Joint Venture Company (JVC) to be incorporated between National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) and Jammu & Kashmir State Power Development Corporation Ltd (JKSPDC) with equity contribution of 51 per cent and 49 per cent respectively.

The construction activities of the project are expected to generate direct and indirect employment to around 4000 persons and will contribute in overall socio-economic development of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Further, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir will be benefitted by getting free power worth Rs. 5289 crore and through levy of Water Usage Charges worth Rs.9581 crore from Ratle Hydro Electric Project, during project life cycle of 40 years.

During his visit the Prime Minister is also going to kick-start several other major infrastructure projects ahead of the formal announcement of the Assembly polls.

The three member Delimitation Commission headed by Justice (Retd)



Ranjana Prakash Desai is expected to submit her report in the last week of April 2022 following which the election commission of India may announce the election schedule. The elections are most likely to take place only after the culmination of the Amarnath pilgrimage. Briefing media persons in Jammu, Lt-Gov Manoj Sinha Tuesday said, “On the occasion of the National Panchayati Raj Day, the Prime Minister will lead J&K into a new era of development. Ground breaking ceremony of Rs 38,082 crore Industrial Development proposals will be held in the presence of eminent industrialists of the

country and abroad”. He will lay the foundation stone of five Expressways, besides dedicating the Banihal-Qazigund tunnel to the common people ensuring hassle free travel on the National Highway. More than four lakh direct-indirect employment opportunities would be generated in different sectors, Lt-Gov Manoj Sinha said. As many as 100 Jan Aushadhi Kendras will also be dedicated to the public and award money will be distributed to all the Panchayats of the country with just one click by the Prime Minister.

Around one lakh people are expected to participate in this mega event, he added.

Bengal’s 6th global business summit to begin today

PM unlikely to attend mega industry meet

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is unlikely to attend Wednesday’s inaugural session of the sixth Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS), the State Government’s yearly marquee event to attract investment. The two-day BGBS aimed at attracting investment will start in Kolkata from Wednesday. Though there was no statement from the Government quarters, speculation about the unlikelihood of Modi attending the programme became rife with his name not figuring in the list of invitees.

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had invited the Prime Minister during her visit to Delhi in November 2021. She personally disclosed about her invitation to the Prime Minister saying Modi had accepted the invite.

Notwithstanding, sources said his presence in the sum-

mit was uncertain as he had prescheduled programmes in Gujarat on April 18 to 20. “We still expect his presence ... let us see whether he comes,” said an official refusing to comment on why his name would not figure in the list of invites.

According to sources this year’s mega show would witness large contingents of business delegations coming from many countries including the United Kingdom and Russia, the two countries which are standing on opposite poles regarding the Ukrainian conflict. According to Government sources “we are likely to witness the biggest-ever UK delegation of 49 senior figures in attendance.” An official release from the British Deputy High Commission said that the “British Deputy High Commission and British Council Kolkata will bring the biggest-ever UK delegation to the BGBS.”

The Chief Minister earlier said that earlier this week that businessmen and industrialists from 14 nations will attend the summit this time.

Apart from the foreign delegations who’s who from the Indian industry were likely to



attend the programme. According to officials, top industrialists like Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani were likely to attend the programme. Incidentally BGBS 2019 --- the last one organized by the State Government before things were discontinued on account of corona pandemic --- had attracted participation of over 4000 delegates including 450 international delegates from 35 Countries. State Government sources said that the main focus of the business meet would be agri-business, mining, IT-ITES, and Tourism. The

BGBS is being held amid complaints of a massive draught in industrial investment in Bengal ever since the new Trinamool Congress Government assumed power in 2011. Opposition parties have often complained that criminalization of politics, law and order problems and the TMC’s anti-industry movement during Singur-Nandigram days that forced industry captains Tatas to leave Bengal is one of the main reasons why the industrialists have been avoiding Bengal despite signing investment proposals worth thousands of crores.

Athawale slams MNS’ call to remove mosque loudspeakers

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Debunking MNS chief Raj Thackeray’s controversial call for removal of loudspeakers from mosques, Union Minister of State for Social Justice president Ramdas Athawale, whose Republican Party of India (A) is a constituent of the BJP-led NDA at the Centre, on Tuesday asked Raj not to create rift between the religions and posing a challenge to the Constitution.

Talking to media persons in Nagpur, Athawale said: “We are opposed to the stand taken by the MNS chief. My advice to Raj not to create rift between the religions by demanding the removal of loudspeakers from the mosques and in the process posing a challenge to the Constitution framed by late Babasaheb Ambedkar. Even the BJP does not support the MNS’ demand for removal of loudspeakers from mosques.”

“The BJP may be in favour of the installation of loudspeakers at temples. But, given



Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s Sabka saat, sabka vikas philosophy, the BJP will never root for removal of loudspeakers from loudspeakers,” he said.

Athawale said that the MNS chief has been changing his political stands from time to time. “His party flag has many colours. He has now taken an extreme position by demanding the removal of loudspeakers from mosques. But, he is not going to gain anything politically through his stand

over removal of loudspeakers from mosques,” the RPI (A) president said.

“Even when late Sena chief Bal Thackeray was alive, he had not taken such an extreme political stand as taken by nephew Raj Thackeray. It is not proper to take a stand against such people who have been converted to Islam by being Hindus in the past. No one should demand removal of loudspeakers from mosques. If some people (BJP) want to install loudspeakers on temples,

the Maharashtra government should permit them to do so,” Athawale said.

Replying to a question, Athawale advised Raj not to speak out of turn and create controversies. “Raj has been enjoying security for a long time. There is no need for the Centre to provide additional security to him. The responsibility of providing security to any political leader lies with the state government. That being the case, my advice to the MNS chief not to speak out of turn and rake up unnecessary controversies.”

It may be recalled that Raj had on Sunday exhorted the “Hindu brothers” across the country to prepare themselves to give a “fitting reply” to the Muslims – in the form of playing Hanuman Chalisa in front of mosques five times a day—if the loudspeakers are not removed from the mosques by May 3.

Talking to media persons in Pune, the MNS chief had said: “Playing of Azan through loudspeakers from mosques is

more a social issue than a religious issue. It is not just Hindus but people from all sections of the society get disturbed by the playing of azan through loudspeakers”

“I appeal to all the Hindu brothers across the country to give a fitting reply if the loudspeakers are not removed from mosques by May 3. We do not want any kind of riots in the country, but they (mosque management) should remove loudspeakers peacefully from the mosques. Otherwise, we will play Hanuman Chalisa in front of mosques five times a day,” Raj had said.

Meanwhile, asked if he expected the Shiv Sena-led MVA government to fall in Maharashtra, Athawale said: “I do not think that this government should be toppled nor would it fall. The government will fall if the Shiv Sena reunites with the BJP or when the NCP aligns with the BJP. But, if the government falls on its own weight, we’re prepared to form a new government in Maharashtra.”

PFI leader killed by RSS men for revenge: Kerala Police

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Ramesh, Arumugham and Saravanan, who were arrested in connection with last Friday’s murder of Zubair, the PFI leader, were RSS activists, according to Vijay Sakhare, ADGP (Law and Order), who is heading the investigation.

“Ramesh was a close friend of Senjith, the RSS leader who was hacked by the PFI activists last November at Palakkadu. Senjith had told Ramesh that Zubair was scheming to murder the former. Ramesh confided during the interrogation that Senjith had told him that if he was murdered, it could be only by Zubair,” Sakhare told the media on Tuesday.

He also disclosed that the trio had come close to murdering Zubair thrice in the past but the arrival of police had made them to call off the “mission”. “It was out of affection for one’s friend that made Ramesh to resort to this gruesome act,”



said the ADGP.

Zubair was murdered last Friday at Elappulli in Palakkadu while he was coming out of the mosque after the weekly namaz prayer. The next day the PFI retaliated by murdering S K Srinivasan, an RSS leader in the district. Sakhare said that efforts were on to nab the murderers of Srinivasan. Meanwhile Kodiyeri Balakrishnan, Kerala Secretary of the CPI(M) said at Thiruvananthapuram that the BJP and the RSS were on a mission to polarize the Indian society on communal lines.

“The recent riots witnessed

in nine States across the country as part of Ram Navami and the murder of the PFI worker in Kerala were part of this big operation.

“The Sangh Parivar wants to divide the nation communally to ensure their success in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls,” said Balakrishnan.

The CPI(M) leader blamed the UDF for providing tacit support to the PFI and the RSS to create riots across the State. “The Congress has kept silence over the murders that are happening across the State,” alleged Balakrishnan.

Nadda asks Rajasthan leaders to galvanise party before polls

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

BJP President J P Nadda on Tuesday asked party’s Rajasthan leaders to “together” galvanize the state organization before the assembly polls due next year and put an end to “factionalism”.

The party president who had this month visited Sawai Madhopur in eastern Rajasthan and interacted with local leaders took stock of party’s poll preparations here at his residence with key leaders from the state.

According to sources, the meeting that lasted over three and half hours analyzed the feedback given by the party

general secretary (organization) B L Santosh during his tour of the state.

The BJP president gave “directions” to the state leaders on stepping-up of party programmes from state to the booth levels and sought them to speak in one voice.

The meeting was attended by senior leaders of the party including former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje, State President Satish Punia, Union “Jal mantri” Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, former state Minister Rajendra Rathore, Union Minister for Parliamentary Minister and meeting that lasted over three and half hours analyzed the feedback given by the party

The two-time Chief Minister Raje’s faction has been demanding her to be again nominated as party’s CM face which is being strongly opposed by the Punia and Sekhawati group.

Asked about the CM face in Rajasthan’s 2023 assembly polls, Arun Singh recently skirted the question saying “BJP’s parliamentary board decides such issues”.

Nadda is understood to have told the leaders to step-up contact programmes in the segments where BJP has not fare well in the last poll.

Senior BJP leader and union home minister Amit Shah is to visit next month Durgapur and Banswara, the

tribal belt in the Southern Rajasthan where BJP could not win many seats in 2018 assembly elections.

A meeting of the BJP Scheduled Tribe Morcha was addressed by Nadda during his visit to Sawai Madhopur in the first week of April.

Union Environment and forest minister Bhupendra Yadav has also made a two-day tour of Jaisalmer district in the state.

The party is planning a region-wise political stir against the Congress-led Gehlot Government including on the issue of corruption, law and order and the ‘rising’ crimes against women crimes in the state.

Muslims in SP fret over chief’s silence on issues vital to them

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The growing resentment among Muslim leaders of the Samajwadi Party against Akhilesh Yadav over his silence on issues concerning the interests of the minority community has the party worried about its prospects in the bypolls at Azamgarh and Rampur Lok Sabha seats.

SP chief Akhilesh Yadav vacated the Azamgarh seat after his election to UP assembly from Karhal while Azam Khan left Rampur seat following his victory in the assembly elections from Rampur.

The SP poll strategists are of the opinion that the growing impression about alienation of Muslims from the party will

directly impact its electoral prospects as both the Lok Sabha seats have a sizeable Muslim population.

They said that with the growing Hindu identity, the Samajwadi Party may not find it easy to retain the two seats which have been its strongholds because both the constituencies have a sizeable Muslim presence.

Trouble is brewing in the SP since the outburst of Azam Khan’s media incharge Fasaht Khan Shanu against Akhilesh Yadav. The situation was aggravated by the demolition of the petrol pump of SP MLA Shazil Islam in Bareilly.

SP MP from Sambhal Shafiqur Rahman Burg had also criticised the party chief for maintaining silence over the

issues concerning Muslims.

Earlier this month, Fasaht Khan had said that Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath was right when he said Akhilesh did not want Azam Khan to be out of jail.

Azam Khan has been upset over the fact that Akhilesh did not visit him in Sitapur jail except once. He has been lodged there since February 2020.

Fasaht Khan had claimed that on the indication of Azam Khan, Muslims, not only in Rampur but also in several districts, voted for the SP but the SP national president did not side with them when they needed him. Neither Azam Khan nor his son Abdullah Azam, contradicted the statement of Fasaht Khan. SP leader from Sultanpur

Salman Javed Raean recently tendered his resignation from the party in protest against the alleged apathy of its leadership towards the Muslim community. In a letter to the party leadership, Raean had flagged the guarded silence by SP chief Akhilesh Yadav. He stated that Azam Khan was sent to jail along with his family while Kairana MLA Nahid Hasan has also been languishing in jail and SP MLA from Bhojipura in Bareilly district Shahzil Islam was booked for hate speech and his petrol pump was demolished. The SP leader from Sultanpur added that if a “coward leader” could not raise the voice in support of his party men, how could he be expected to raise people’s issues.

Silver Rail project would be a disaster: Ex-Rly chief engineer

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

The Semi High Speed Silver Line Rail Project of the Government of Kerala which proposes to connect Kasaragod with Thiruvananthapuram in less than four hours suffered a major setback on Tuesday as the former Chief Engineer of Indian Railways Alope Kumar Verma described it as an environmental and ecological disaster. Addressing media persons at Kochi on Tuesday, Verma who had conducted the Feasibility study of the project said that the consequences of implementing this rail line would be disastrous and irreversible for an ecologically fragile State like

Kerala. “Though the Detailed Project Report states that the rail line would cost Rs 68,000 crore, it can never be completed even by spending three or four times of that money. It will take a minimum of 25 years to complete this project and would put the State to economic ruins,” said Verma.

He also said that the DPR which has been presented to the authorities was not a DPR at all. “It is a crazy report and has no authenticity in it. It has been found that 93 per cent of the land proposed to be acquired for the project is fragile and cannot withstand the impact of such trains,” said Verma.

K Sudhakaran, the KPCC President, while addressing the

media on Tuesday evening said that the Congress would further intensify the agitation against the project. “Our slogan is Save Kerala and dump K-Rail. If the authorities continue laying survey stones as part of the land acquisition, we will pull down and throw such survey stones in backwaters and the sea,” said Sudhakaran. He said that even hardcore CPI(M) members were against the project. “The women who staged demonstrations against the Rail project told me that though they were from the CPI(M), they were against this rail line. The State administration which is enthusiastic in acquiring the land for the rail is still silent about the compensation package,” said Sudhakaran.

Meerut boy decapitated for bid to protect sister from molestation

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A 14-year-old boy was beheaded for raising objection to sexual advances on his sister in Sival Khas area of Jani Khurd in Meerut on Friday. Police managed to arrest two accused on Monday.

As per reports, Nadeem and Farman, alias Faizal, of Sival Khas were in the habit of molesting Anas’s elder sister of the same locality. Anas had opposed them many times. A week ago, the miscreants molested the girl standing outside her home after which Anas protested. The duo later whipped out pistols and handed out life threats before hasti-

ly retreating.

Fed up with the molestation, the girl’s father Anees sent her and his son Anas to a kin’s house in Muradnagar. The next day the miscreants reached Anees’s house and on not finding her asked Anas’s elder brother Kaif about the girl. When he refused to divulge her whereabouts, the accused assaulted Kaif and left.

Later, the accused forcibly took Anas to Rashid’s farm on Sival Khanpur Marg on Friday night and severely beat him up and asked for his sister’s phone number. When the victim refused, one grabbed him from behind while the other slit his

throat with a sharp knife. They later dumped his head nearby and the torso about a mile away.

When Anas went missing last Friday, his father Anees lodged a case suspecting the hand of Nadeem and Faizal. After the recovery of the body, the police searched for the accused Nadeem and dropped the net on them on Monday. During quizzing, they broke down and confessed to the killing. On their information, the police recovered Anas’s head from a field near the original scene of crime. Police registered a murder case against them and sent them to jail.

Dalit teen assaulted, made to lick feet; 8 arrested

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Eight persons were arrested after a Dalit teenager was seen in a video being assaulted, humiliated and made to lick the feet of one of them in Rae Bareilly. The incident took place on April 10 but the video went viral on social media on Sunday after which an FIR was lodged on the complaint by the class X boy. In his complaint, the teen said that one of the youths came to his Jagatpur house on April 10 and later took him to a place near Ramlila Maidan on a bike.


He was later taken to a secluded garden on Salon Road where they were joined

by seven others. The group later assaulted and humiliated him without any reasons. After severely assaulting the victim, the attackers left the place while the victim was rescued by some locals. A video of the youth being beaten and being forced to lick the feet of one of the accused was recorded and shared on social media. The attackers could be heard threatening and using casteist slurs while assaulting the boy. As the video went viral, the victim along with his mother reached Kotwali police station and lodged a complaint. An FIR under relevant sections was registered and all eight accused were arrested and sent to jail.

FIRST COLUMN


REMEMBERING AMBEDKAR’S VISION

Democracy was his pivot but his fears are not unfounded



KSHITIJ GOYAL

On the occasion of the centenary of his birth, BR Ambedkar, stands taller than ever for how he envisioned modern India. That the Indian society is growing as the country aspires to become an economic superpower is not unexpected. In such times of fixation on economic growth, the state has an intrinsic onus to ensure economic growth and social development go hand in hand. On November 26, 1948, B.R. Ambedkar, in his last speech to the Constituent Assembly, presaged the menaces that could impact constitutional democracy of independent India. His fear of India losing the democratic framework was at the heart of his rousing speech. In the last seven decades, these ominous signs have often been overlooked. Ambedkar’s fears are not unfounded. After millennia of existence, betrayal of the state cannot



be dismissed as an impossibility or a hallmark of only one group. Ambedkar backs this up by claiming that India has lost its freedom on several occasions, not just because of foreign invaders but also because of “the dishonesty and treachery of certain of her own people”. We have seen historic protests and deadly skirmishes between the state and citizens in the last few days. We have seen serious debate on the Constitution across the country in recent months, particularly in the context of CAA, NRC, and NPR, and even significant movements with the slogan “Save Constitution - Save Nation,” drawing the Constitution of India into public discussion. So, it is critical that we place Ambedkar’s comments in context. A few months back, a petition was filed by Fr. Swamy challenging Section 43D (5) of the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (‘UAPA’), pointing out that it was an intractable condition for bail. He did not live long enough to appreciate the case being decided.

If this is the “best of efforts” the Court can muster to defend the life of a crippled 84-year-old, the only reliance we can place on the system is blind faith - the kind of Ambedkar forewarned us about. We can discuss executive overreach and the misuse of the UAPA. But put that aside for the time being. Ambedkar was highly influenced by women’s emancipation and civil liberties movements in the west. Ambedkar was an active member of the imperial government on the issue of women’s rights even before independence. Despite the presence of women in the Constituent Assembly, the questions of gender did not turn up in the Hindu Code Bill until they reached Ambedkar for his comments. And for the first time, the Hindu Code included the right of inheritance to daughters, the right of women to divorce, and the right of widows to equal property rights. Concurrently, the regressive language revolving around caste-specific rules was also obliterated. Later, the Bill twirled into a string of Acts, including the Hindu Marriage Act 1955, and forms the legislative substratum of women’s claims to shared property even today. Under the colonial regime, even as a legislator, Ambedkar was one of the first activists to advocate for working women’s rights. He argued that “It is in the country’s best interests for the mother to obtain some rest during the pre-natal time.” The responsibility lies on the government to bear some of the burden of her maternity as the people’s interest is the government’s primary responsibility. As a direct consequence, basic rights for factory and mine workers and protections for children, women, and working mothers were passed as early as 1938. His influence also spurred the enactment of other pro-women legislation, such as the Equal Remuneration Act of 1976 and the Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961, which established equal pay for women and criminalised dowry respectively.

(The writer is a B.A., LL. B (Hons.) student at National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bangalore. The views expressed are personal.)

GDP: Pricing the unpriced

A measure created to evaluate a nation’s wartime production capabilities has obvious drawbacks when it is used in peacetime



BKP SINHA

Since World War II, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has been widely used as an indicator of a country’s economic health and prosperity. It has been hailed as the most powerful statistical figure in human history.

The modern concept of GDP was first introduced by Simon Kuznets, an American economist and statistician, to measure the impact of the Great Depression. It enabled governments to monitor the overall well-being or growth of their nation, provided policymakers with insight on how to improve it and also became increasingly useful in estimating the cost of waging the Second World War. To the contrary, Keynes rejected Kuznets’ version, because he included government revenue in the National Income (NI) calculation but not government spending. In Keynes’ view, if government procurement during wartimes were not considered as demand in calculating NI, GDP would fall despite economic growth. His method of calculating GDP, including Government spending into a country’s income, which was driven by wartime necessities, soon found acceptance around the world even after the war was over. It continues to this day.

However, a measure created to evaluate a nation’s wartime production capabilities have obvious drawbacks when used in peacetime. How does GDP fall short? Is GDP a reliable and accurate measure of growth?

GDP does not reflect many important indicators of quality of life, including, health, education, equality of opportunity, sustainability, environmental condition etc. No matter how much environmental damage an economy sustains because of more manufacturing, it leads to a higher GDP. Furthermore, taking down an acre of trees to build a strip mall creates jobs, help our economy, increase our tax base but it costs us a lot to clean up the water that was degraded due to the removal of those trees, yet, these costs does not appear anywhere. As a result, GDP indicates that India is on the growth path, even though Delhi’s winters are more polluted than ever before and Bengaluru’s lakes are more prone to fire.

It is ironic that tropical countries, where not only their income, but also the productive potential of their land, river, and biodiversity determine employment revenues and foreign exchange, are compelled to rely on a national accounting system that nearly ignores their principal assets. Sadly, due to this race of predatory growth, they are at the brink of extinction.

Hence, GDP deviated from the path envisioned by its architects and its long-term misapplication has kept large parts of the world in poverty, while contributing to global warming and biodiversity loss. This approach concretise the false dichotomy between economy and environment, which leads policymakers to prioritize economic growth and eschew the environment, which could be as significant as other factors of production.

In the national accounting system, natural resources are not treated in the same way as other assets. For example: Natural resources depletion or degradation are not considered as capital consumption; similarly, increase in their stocks are not regarded as capital formation. Hence, it lends credence to the idea that rapid growth can be accomplished and sustained by exploiting natural reserve forest, wetlands and biodiversity. However, the result may be illusionary income gains at the expense of permanent loss in wealth and productive capacity.

Today, ecological resilience is declining and functional diversity of ecosystem is gradually disappearing, which is quite evident from the irreversible changes in agriculture, forests, fisheries and grasslands management. Furthermore, an ecological connection is disrupted by human induced fragmentation, which is important for a well-functioning ecosystem, biodiversity, species movement and natural processes that sustain life on earth. Though, there are many solutions to address these problems, such as construction of over bridges, connecting lanes to provide passage for animals and reproductive structures of plants (pollen grains), but these are ignored due to the costs involved.

Recent years have seen an increase in tree-planting projects, however many countries like India are planting monoculture plantation under the name of forests. We can only prevent climate change by restoring earth’s ecosystems to their former state, so understanding the difference between plantations and restoration is imperative.

Clearly, this negligence towards nature implies three kinds of failure: (1) Information failure, which signifies an underappreciation of the economic value of natural resources and poor understanding or awareness of the inherent benefits of these resources. (2) Market failure, in which economic activities degrade or damage the environment without compensating for the direct and consequential costs and it also occur when there is no mechanism for attributing appropriate values to the public goods provided by natural resources, such as - flood protection, water purification and recharging, biodiversity conservation etc. (3) Intervention failure, when Government programmes, policies and expenditure cause environmental degradation either directly or indirectly.

Hence, it is important to remember that, intervention that leads to positive outcomes in the short-run can have negative consequences in the long-run.

We need to move beyond the confines of GDP. We need greener accounting measures like satellite account, a framework that link environmental statistics with national statistics.

This framework will help us to combine the data on water, minerals, energy, timber, fish, soil, pollution and waste under a single measurement system. We can maintain different kinds of accounting heads like stocks of natural resources, thematic account, flow of material and energy, ecosystem account etc. These accounts will help to record the data of the changes in the stocks of renewable or selected finite resources, ecosystem condition and its services in both physical and monetary terms. It also helps in quantifying the ways in which various economic sectors are dependent on natural resources as well as the ways in which different economic activities affect the environment. These data will be useful in analyzing the monetary values of natural capitals, their physical quantities and the qualitative aspects that don’t have a market value.

Though, we have considerable amount of data on soil nutrients, water quality of river and groundwater, biodiversity, etc. but they’re scattered in shapes of various studies. These data need to be consolidated and updated in frequent intervals. Satellite technology, artificial intelligence, and widespread digitization should make this task much easier now.

Hence, using this framework we will be able to measure the ecosystem contribution in monetary terms and find sustainable patterns of consumption and production and helps in assessing specific policies and projects, budget allocation, cost-benefit analysis, etc. However, coordination and collaboration are essential for the compilation of the accounts and their mainstreaming in the decision-making process. Furthermore, to ensure judicious use of natural resources, more complex intervention policies involving price, tax and subsidies must be developed by a multidisciplinary team and necessary funds should be allocated to the ministry of the environment and statistics. Much research needs to be done for better understanding of institutional and individual behaviour and our understanding of how society works, particularly in relation to the environment.

This article does not propose changes in national accounting system, but to create a satellite account showing natural capital depreciation and net national product. The aim is to initiate a discussion in parliament and other academic and media circles to create the much-needed awareness and not be mesmerized by galloping increase of GDP but create a sobering thought on this issue.

MUCH RESEARCH IS NEEDED FOR BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF INSTITUTIONAL AND INDIVIDUAL BEHAVIOUR AND OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HOW SOCIETY WORKS, PARTICULARLY IN RELATION TO ENVIRONMENT. THIS ARTICLE DOES NOT PROPOSE CHANGES IN NATIONAL ACCOUNTING SYSTEM, BUT TO CREATE A SATELLITE ACCOUNT SHOWING NATURAL CAPITAL DEPRECIATION & NET NATIONAL PRODUCT

(The writer is a former IFS officer. The views expressed are personal.)

POINT COUNTERPOINT

THE JAHANGIRPURI VIOLENCE IS THE RESULT OF THE AAP GOVT AIDING ILLEGAL STAY OF ROHINGYA AND BANGLADESHI IMMIGRANTS. — DELHI BJP PRESIDENT ADESH GUPTA



THE CAPITAL'S LAW AND ORDER SITUATION IS NOT GOOD. ASK THE HOME MINISTER WHY HE'S NOT IMPROVING IT. — DELHI HEALTH MINISTER SATYENDAR JAIN



Prashant Kishor: Can he be an asset for Congress?

How would the G-23 react to his induction not merely as an adviser but decision-maker is the other question

Will the poll strategist, Prashant Kishor, be an asset or a liability if he joins the Congress party? It is a million-dollar question as Kishor waits for the Gandhis to announce his induction.

This speculation arose after Kishor had a four-hour meeting with the Congress top brass, including the Gandhis, on Saturday in which he had presented a road map for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. Kishor discussed the big picture, why Congress has not done well, what ails the Congress in states where it has almost disappeared, and revealed his road map.

The meeting held at Congress chief Sonia Gandhi’s 10 Janpath residence came after the poll rout of the party in the recent five state Assembly polls. The Congress leadership has been grappling with repeated election defeats in the last two general elections and some state assembly elections and is desperate to clutch any straw.

Congress is not only facing desertions after the electoral defeats but also has an internal conflict between the old guard and the new generation. Dismayed at the leadership crisis, twenty-three leaders, including some former chief ministers and Union ministers, have demanded organizational restructure and party polls since last August.

The fact that the Gandhis reached out to Kishor — after his attempt last year to join the Congress fell through — shows that the family is looking for outside help. After the meeting, it was clear that he would be joining the Congress soon. However,

where the party is insignificant.

In a recent interview with NDTV, he said: “If you take Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra, Tamil Nadu and Kerala — roughly 200 [Lok Sabha] seats — even at their popularity, the BJP has been able to win only 50-odd seats. In the remaining 350 seats, the BJP is sweeping everything.”

Congress circles are agog at the news of the new entry. There is a divided opinion among the senior leadership. They cannot digest that the Gandhis are toying with outsourcing the political leadership. Since the beginning, a large section of Congress leaders opposed the idea of Kishor’s entry at a level just below the Gandhis. The discontent may intensify with his induction when it is already grappling with the rebellious attitudes of the G-23 group.

While the rebels are looking at the pros and cons of Kishor’s entry, not as a mere adviser but as a decision-maker, they also fear his commitment to party ideology. This section feels that the party would better hire him as a consultant. They think that he should have no role in deciding alliances, candidates, seats, etc, which should be left to the political leadership.

Kishor’s negotiations with Congress are not new. Following the West Bengal Assembly polls last year, where his client, Trinamool Congress scored a thumping victory, he had a series of discussions with the Gandhis, but they fell through.

A former health strategist, he moved into the rough and tumble of politics in 2014 and helped Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his campaign. He has come a long way since then and is known as a poll strategist with a magic wand. He worked with many regional satraps, including Mamata Banerjee, and helped them defeat the BJP. He had a disastrous debut with the Janata Dal (United), where he was vice-president. His brief political stint did not last long and he parted ways with the then party chief Nitish Kumar.

Kishor charges a very high fee from his clients (political parties) and suggests the makeover of the leaders, campaigns, alliances, etc. His critics say that he always takes the winning party as his clients, but he failed in the case of Congress in UP. The irony is that he has never fought an election.

In a BBC interview, Kishore claimed that he rarely watches news on TV and doesn’t read newspapers. He doesn’t write emails or take notes, and he hasn’t used a laptop in a decade. The only gadget he uses is his phone.

We have to wait and see how the cadres would react to the induction of Kishor because he has previously provoked murmurs of discontent wherever he went.



KALYANI SHANKAR

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

Russia ratchets up battle for control of eastern Ukraine

AP ■ KYIV

Russia ratcheted up its battle for control of Ukraine's eastern industrial heartland, intensifying assaults on cities and towns along a front hundreds of miles long in what officials on both sides described as a new phase of the war.

After a Russian push to the capital failed to overrun the city, the Kremlin declared that its main goal was the capture of the eastern Donbas region.

If successful, that offensive would give President Vladimir Putin a vital piece of Ukraine and a badly needed victory that he could present to the Russian people amid the war's mounting casualties and the economic hardship caused by the West's sanctions. In recent weeks, Russian forces that withdrew from Kyiv have regrouped in preparation for an all-out offensive in the Donbas, where Moscow-backed separatists have been fighting Ukrainian forces for the past eight years and have declared two independent republics that have been recognised by Russia.

While Ukraine's president and other officials said the offensive had started, observers noted that it was just the begin-



ning of a new massive onslaught.

Ukraine's military said early Tuesday that a "new phase of war" began a day earlier when "the occupiers made an attempt to break through our defenses along nearly the entire frontline," Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said in an interview that this operation is starting now.

In what appeared to be an intensification of attacks, Russian Defense Ministry

spokesman Maj. Gen. Igor Konashenkov said that air-launched missiles destroyed 13 Ukrainian troop and weapons locations while the air force struck 60 other Ukrainian military facilities, including missile warhead storage depots.

Russian artillery hit 1,260 Ukrainian military facilities and 1,214 troops concentrations over the last 24 hours. The claims could not be independently verified.

The Pentagon cast the stepped-up campaign as "shap-

ing operations" setting the stage for a broader offensive in the mostly Russian-speaking Donbas region.

The United States believes that Russian forces are "continuing to set the conditions for what they believe will be eventual success on the ground by putting in more forces, putting in more enablers, putting in more command and control capability for operations yet to come," Pentagon press secretary John Kirby said Monday.

The assaults began that

Chechen leader certain of Mariupol fall soon

AP ■ MOSCOW

The Kremlin-backed leader of Chechnya says he is certain that the Russian forces will uproot the last remaining pocket of Ukrainian resistance in the key port of Mariupol within hours.

Ramzan Kadyrov said on a messaging app channel that the Russian troops will "finish off"

the Ukrainian defenders of Mariupol on Tuesday and take full control of the giant Azovstal steel mill, the last remaining Ukrainian stronghold in the city. Ukrainian troops have defended the strategic port on the Sea of Azov for seven weeks despite the Russian blockade and relentless barrage that flattened most of the city. The Azovstal plant, which cov-

ers the territory of about 11 square kilometers (over 4 square miles), offered Ukrainian defenders a strong fighting position thanks to its sprawling network of underground tunnels and depots.

Kadyrov, whose forces have taken part in the fighting in Mariupol, has repeatedly made blustery comments about the city's inevitable fall.

to Luhansk Gov. Serhiy Haidai. The breakthrough in Kreminna takes the Russians one small step closer to their apparent goal of encircling Ukrainian troops in the region by advancing on them from the north and south and squeezing them against territory held by Moscow's troops to the east.

Oleksiy Danilov, secretary of Ukraine's national security council, said that the defensive line had held elsewhere.

The capture of Kreminna also takes the Russians closer to the city of Sloviansk, whose

day along a boomerang-shaped front that stretches more than 300 miles (480 kilometers) from northeastern Ukraine to the country's southeast.

Russia said it struck several areas with missiles, including the northeastern city of Kharkiv as well as areas around Zaporizhzhia and Dnipro west of the Donbas. Five civilians were killed in a barrage on Kharkiv, Gov. Oleh Synyehubov said Tuesday.

Moscow's troops seized control of one town in the Donbas on Monday, according

loss by the Russia-backed separatists represented a humiliating setback for Moscow in the early stages of the separatist conflict in 2014. Key to the campaign to take the east is the capture of Mariupol, a port city in the region that the Russians have besieged since the early days of the war.

Shelling continued there and Russia issued a fresh ultimatum Tuesday to the Ukrainian troops holed up there to surrender, saying those who come out will "keep their lives."

West pushing Ukraine to fight on, says Russia

AP ■ MOSCOW

Russia's defense minister has accused the US and other Western nations of supplying Ukraine with weapons so that it continues fighting "until the last Ukrainian."

Sergei Shoigu said Tuesday at a meeting with the top military brass that Washington and its allies are doing all they can to drag out Russia's "special military operation" in Ukraine.

He noted that "the growing supplies of foreign weapons clearly signal their intention to provoke the Kyiv regime to keep fighting until the last Ukrainian." Shoigu said that the Russian military has "consistently implemented the plan to fully liberate the Donetsk and Luhansk people's republics."

Moscow-backed separatists have been fighting Ukrainian forces for eight years in the mostly Russian-speaking region eastern industrial heartland, Donbas.

Rajapaksa proposes to curb presidential powers amid anti-Govt stir

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's embattled Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa on Tuesday proposed to restore the 19th amendment to the Constitution to curb presidential powers and empower Parliament as protests intensified in the island nation against his government over its handling of the economy.

Addressing parliament on the first day after the traditional Sinhala and Tamil New Year, Prime Minister Rajapaksa said it is important that a solution to the multiple crises is found on a solid economic, political and social foundation.

"I believe a constitutional change must take place. As a start, I believe implementing the 19th Amendment with necessary and timely changes is the best short term solution for the current situation in the country," said Premier Rajapaksa.

"It is my belief that 19A has to be revived with certain



amendments as a short term solution," he told the House.

The 19A adopted in 2015 pruned presidential powers by empowering Parliament above the executive president. However, the 19A was scrapped after his brother Gotabaya Rajapaksa won the November 2019 presidential election.

"With the blessings of the president, we must walk towards broader constitutional reform in the future," said the prime minister. Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana told the House

that a special meeting was held yesterday to arrive at short and long term solutions from within parliament to address the current political crisis.

"A number of party leaders called for the drafting of a new Constitution as a long term measure and the strengthening of Parliament by bringing in the twenty-first amendment to the Constitution as a short term mechanism," Abeywardana said.

Supporting the prime minister, ex-premier and United National Party leader Ranil Wickremesinghe, whose government carried out the 19th amendment, said, "I am happy."

Lanka requests IMF for rapid financial aid amidst current economic crisis

PTI ■ WASHINGTON/ COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's Finance Minister Ali Sabry has met IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva in Washington and made a request for a Rapid Financing Instrument (RFI) amidst the unprecedented economic crisis in the island nation, a media report said on Tuesday.

The RFI, which is available to all member countries of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), provides rapid and low-access financial assistance to member countries facing an urgent balance of payments (BoP) need, without the need to have a full-fledged programme in place.

In another setback for Sri Lanka, global rating agency Moody's on Monday, downgraded Sri Lanka's ratings after the crisis-hit government in Colombo suspended external public debt repayments, which will lead to a series of defaults. Sri

Lanka, which is on the brink of bankruptcy, is grappling with an unprecedented economic turmoil, the worst since its independence from Britain in 1948.

Finance Minister Sabry is in the US for the annual spring meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. He met IMF Managing Director Georgieva on Monday at the IMF headquarters here, News First Sri Lanka reported. The IMF has commended the steps already taken by the Finance Minister to mitigate the present financial situation in Sri Lanka, it said.

The IMF has also assured their fullest support to Sri Lanka and a positive response has also been received to expedite the process to strengthen the support extended towards Sri Lanka, the report said.

Finance Minister Sabry made a request for an RFI with the IMF. The IMF informed Sabry that India had also made

representations on behalf of Sri Lanka for an RFI, it said.

It had been communicated that the IMF will consider the special request made despite it being outside of the standard circumstances for the issuance of an RFI, the report said.

Rating agency Moody's Investors Service downgraded the Government of Sri Lanka's long-term foreign-currency issuer and senior unsecured debt ratings to Ca from Caa2. The outlook is stable.

Given the low level of foreign exchange reserves, compounded by the rise in the balance of payment pressures with higher fuel and food prices and the slow recovery in tourism and foreign direct investment inflows, Moody's assesses that private sector creditor losses stemming from the eventual debt restructuring are likely to be material and exceed the limited levels of loss consistent with the previous Caa2 rating, the report said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mrs. Balkish is the owner of Residential Plot of land measuring 254.49 sq. yds. out of Kharsa No. 805, situated in the abadi of Village Mavkalan, Tehsil - Khekda, Distt. - Bagpat. "Said property" by virtue of Sale Deed dated 21.08.2021, duly registered as Document No. 2657, in Book No. I, Volume No. 2586, on Pages 29-66, on dated 25.08.2021, (SRO - Khekda, Bagpat). All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner wants to mortgage the said property to our client Fullerton India Credit Company Limited. If anybody has any objection/s upon the said property, and its ownership / its Title / Mortgage, etc. the kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants)
206, 1st Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Mori Nagar, N. Delhi-15
Ph. 011-4111297-58. kumarsocietiesadvocates@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known that My Client Smt. Monika Rani Budhiraja, W/o Shri Kishan Lal Budhiraja & Shri Kishan Lal Budhiraja, S/o Lt. Sh. Narsingh Das Budhiraja, Both R/o H. No.252/K, Gali No.8, Mani Ram Mandir Road, Bholanath Nagar, Delhi110032, severed all connections and relations with Sh. Dony Budhiraja & Smt. Silky i.e. son & daughter-in-law of my clients for their conduct, malicious activities, abuse and disobedience. My client shall not be liable for any acts, deeds, or things done by Sh. Dony Budhiraja & Smt. Silky and they shall not inherit any right in the movable and/or immovable properties of my clients.

(Arun Kumar) Advocate
Ch. No. E-504, K&K Courts, Delhi-32.

कार्यालय आयुक्त

आदिम जाति तथा अनुसूचित जाति विकास

ब्लॉक, 4 डी, भूतल, इन्द्रावती भवन, नवा रामपुर, अटल नगर (छठग0)

Website- tribal.cg.gov.in फ़ोन -2263708, Fax- 2262558 Email-ctdjc@nic.in

क्रमांक /121/प्रयास/2022 /422 अटल नगर, नवा रामपुर, दिनांक 19/04/2022

विषय - ई प्रोक्तोरेट वेब पोर्टल पर निविदा क्रमांक-95144 की तिथि में वृद्धि करने बावत् (शुद्धि पत्र कक्षा 11वीं /12वीं)।

शुद्धि पत्र (Corrigendum)

रव. राजीव गांधी, बाल गविथा सुरक्षा प्रयास बालक एवं कन्या आवासीय विद्यालयों जिला रामपुर, दुर्ग, बिलासपुर, सरगुजा, बस्तर, काकेर, कोरवा तथा जशपुर में अध्यापन एवं कोषिग हेतु फेल्लनी की व्यवस्था हेतु <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> पर पूर्व में "रुचि की अभियन्ता" (वर्ष 2022-23) निविदा क्रमांक-94934 (9वीं /10वीं) एवं निविदा क्रमांक-95144 (कक्षा 11वीं /12वीं) प्रकाशित की गई थी। अपरिहार्य कारणों से अन्तिम तिथि में निम्नानुसार वृद्धि की जाती है :-

1. निर्धारित प्रपत्र में प्रस्ताव ऑनलाईन प्रेषित करने की अन्तिम तिथि - 25/04/2022 राय 05.30 बजे

2. प्राप प्रस्ताव को समिति के सम्मक्ष खोला जाना एवं तकनीकी मूल्यांकन - 26/04/2022 राय 3.00 बजे

टीप - निम्नलिखित संबंधी अन्य किसी प्रकार की सूचना विभाग की वेबसाईट tribal.cg.gov.in पर प्राप की जा सकेगी। शेष शर्तें यथावत रहेगी।

हस्ता /—
(श्री गति शम्मी आदिनी)
आयुक्त
आदिम जाति तथा अनुसूचित जाति विकास अटल नगर, रायपुर, छत्तीसगढ़

R.O. No- 90382/4
R.O. Date-19/04/2022

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking) Corporate Identity No. U40109UR2001SGC025867/2358
Victoria Cross Vijeta Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun - 248001
Telephone - (0135) 2763672-76, Fax - (0135) 2760289, Website: www.uktenders.gov.in

E-TENDER NOTICE (NIT)

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd., Dehradun invites e-tender for supply/work of following as detailed below:-

Sl. No.	Tender Specification No.	Name of Item/work	Tender Quantity	Estimate cost (₹)	Average Yearly Turn Over of Preceding Three Financial year (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)	Cost of tender document including GST (₹)	Last Date & time of online request for Tender and submission of tender in online & off line mode	Date of opening of Part-I of tender in online & off line mode
1	CCP-II/2/ 2022-2023	33KV Polymer Pin Insulator	15000 Nos.	55.650 LAKH	1.500 CRORE	1.113 LAKH	5900	17.05.2022 upto 17:00 Hrs.	18.05.2022 at 15:30 Hrs.
2	CCP-II/3/ 2022-2023	Engagement of Energy Auditor to carry out the energy audit for FY 2020-2021		1.500 LAKH	4.500 LAKH	0.060 LAKH	295	04.05.2022 upto 17:00 Hrs.	05.05.2022 at 15:30 Hrs.

For further details, please visit our website www.uktenders.gov.in
No.- 135/EE(cm)/UPCLA-2 Date :- 19/04/2022

**Superintending Engineer,
Corporate (Contract & Procurement-II)**

SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION. Use L.E.D Bulb Save Electricity. (Toll Free No. 1912)
"Pay Electricity bill online 24x7 from www.upcl.org" (For information on Electricity Theft, Informer may report to Toll Free No. 1800 1804185 / Fax No. 0135-2760911)

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. NIT/11/22/18, Dated 06.04.2022

On behalf of the President of India, The Sr. Divisional Materials Manager / South East Central Railway, Bilaspur division invites e-tender for the following items:-

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Due Date	Due Time	Tender Cost (Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)
1	11225073A	06.05.2022	10:30	00	443370.00

Description 1:- Supply, Erection, testing and commissioning of 30/42MVA, 132/27KV, 50 Hz, Single Phase, ONAN/ONAF Traction Power Transformer with on Load Tap Changer at KRBA TSS. RDSO Specification No. - TI/SPC/PSI/TRNPWR/3201 or latest. Make RDSO/approved vendors.
Tenderer please visit IREPS website at <https://www.ireps.gov.in>
Note: In controversial condition English text version will be considered certified.

**Sr. Divl. Materials Manager
S.E.C. Railway/Bilaspur**

CPR/10/09

Letter no. 628 /Nivida-Anubandh/Ranikhet / 58 Dated: 19-04-2022

E-Tender Notice

1.Name of the work:- CONSTRUCTION OF GOVERNMENT INTER COLLEGE MAIN BUILDING AT MACHOD, DISTT-ALMORA

2. Estimated Cost:- Rs. 198.98 Lakh

3. Period of Completion:- 8 Month

4.Date and Time of availability of Bid documents in the portal:- 19-04-2022 (17.00 hrs)

5. Online Bid submission: End date :- 09-05-2022 (17.00 hrs)

6. Date & Time of Technical bid Opening :- 11-05-2022 (11.00hrs)

7. Name and Address of the Officer inviting bid:- General Manager (Kumaon), Nirman Wing, Uttarakhand Pey Jal Nigam, Haldwani.

8. Pre-bid meeting details (if required) Date & Place:- 21-04-2022 (11.00 hrs) Project Manager Construction Unit Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam, Ranikhet.

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

GENERAL MANAGER

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER, CONSTRUCTION WING, UTTARAKHAND PEYJAL NIGAM
E-32, JUDGE FARM, HALDWANI, DISTT.- NAINITAL(263139)

Letter no. 627 /Nivida-Anubandh/Ranikhet / 57 Dated: 19-04-2022

E-Tender Notice

1.Name of the work:- CONSTRUCTION OF PROPOSED BUILDING FOR G.I.C.VAJYULA, DISTT.-BAGESHWAR.

2. Estimated Cost:- Rs. 188.94 Lakh

3. Period of Completion:- 12 Month

4.Date and Time of availability of Bid documents in the portal:- 19-04-2022 (15.00 hrs)

5. Online Bid submission: End date :- 09-05-2022 (17.00 hrs)

6. Date & Time of Technical bid Opening :- 11-05-2022 (11.00hrs)

7. Name and Address of the Officer inviting bid:- General Manager (Kumaon), Nirman Wing, Uttarakhand Pey Jal Nigam, Haldwani.

8. Pre-bid meeting details (if required) Date & Place:- 21-04-2022 (11.00 hrs) Project Manager Construction Unit Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam, Ranikhet.

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

GENERAL MANAGER

Letter no. 629 /Nivida-Anubandh/Ranikhet / 59 Dated: 19-04-2022

E-Tender Notice

1.Name of the work:- CONSTRUCTION OF GOVERNMENT INTER COLLEGE MAIN BUILDING AT Painsiya, DISTT-ALMORA

2. Estimated Cost:- Rs. 198.98 Lakh

3. Period of Completion:- 8 Month

4.Date and Time of availability of Bid documents in the portal:- 19-04-2022 (17.00 hrs)

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GENERAL MANAGER

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER, CONSTRUCTION WING, UTTARAKHAND PEYJAL NIGAM
E-32, JUDGE FARM, HALDWANI, DISTT.- NAINITAL(263139)

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GENERAL MANAGER

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our Client Mr. Pankaj Dwivedi is in process of recording to Mutate his name in respect of Flat No. I-101, Tower-I, KDP Grand Savanna, Raj Nagar Ext., Ghaziabad. The said flat was purchased by Mr. Pankaj Dwivedi & Mr. Mihlesh Dwivedi (Mihlesh Sunder Dwivedi) from M/s K.D.P. Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. Mr. Mihlesh Dwivedi (Mihlesh Sunder Dwivedi) died on 05.11.2015. The other legal heirs have issued the NOC in favour of Mr. Pankaj Dwivedi. Any person having any right or interest by way of agreement, sale, contract, or otherwise upon the said property are hereby required to give notice of the same to the undersigned on below mentioned address within 15 days from the date of publication hereof together with copies of all documents on the basis of which claims are made, failing which any such right, title, interest, or claim, if any, will be deemed to have been waived and not binding on our Client.

Rakesh Kumar Advocate, S-209, Nipun Plaza, Plot No. 2, Sector-1, Vaishali, Ghaziabad. Mob. No. 7836878764

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's 34-member Cabinet - a mix of experience and fresh blood - was sworn in on Tuesday after several days of delay, with Senate Chairman Sadiq Sanjrani administering the oath to new ministers after President Arif Alvi once again excused himself from the ceremony. The ceremony was scheduled to be held on Monday, but President Alvi

Shanghai reports seven more Covid deaths as virus situation remains grim

PTI ■ BEIJING

Shanghai reported seven more deaths due to Covid-19 as the Chinese financial hub grapples with a record outbreak, taking the total death toll in the country to 4,648 with over 21,400 new cases, most of them from the city.

Seven new deaths from Covid-19 were reported on Monday in Shanghai in addition to the three a day earlier, the first in the recent outbreak, taking the total death toll in the country due to coron-

avirus since it emerged in Wuhan in 2019 to 4,648, according to figures released by China's National Health Commission on Tuesday.

The late surge of Omicron variant of the coronavirus in China continues unabated as the country has reported 3,297 locally-transmitted confirmed

Covid-19 cases, of which 3,084 were in Shanghai.

Apart from Shanghai, 18 other provincial-level regions on the mainland saw new local Covid-19 cases, including 88 in the northeastern province of Jilin, the Commission report said.

Shanghai also reported 17,332 locally-transmitted asymptomatic infections of the Covid-19 out of a total of 18,187 local asymptomatic carriers newly identified on the mainland, it said.

Currently, China has 30,384 people undergoing treatment for Covid-19.

Meanwhile, as the Omicron continued to spread, China's health minister Ma Xiaowei on Monday pledged the toughest measures yet to prevent a major outbreak of Covid-19, ruling out any relaxations ahead of this year's 20th Communist Party Congress.

Won't be any fertiliser crisis in kharif season, says Govt

New Delhi: The Government on Tuesday asserted that there will not be any fertiliser shortage in the upcoming kharif sowing season and said it will soon announce the subsidy rate for non-urea soil nutrients for the current fiscal.

Addressing a conference on preparedness for the kharif sowing operation that commences with the onset of the southwest monsoon from June, Fertiliser Secretary RK Chaturvedi highlighted the steps taken by the government to ensure sufficient availability of fertilisers at an affordable price to the farmers.

"We have made both short and long term arrangements with global suppliers for import of fertilisers. There will not be any shortage of fertilisers during the kharif season," he said.

As against the total estimated fertiliser requirement of 354.34 lakh tonne during the



2022 kharif season, availability would be 485.59 lakh tonne, including 104.72 lakh tonne of imported fertiliser and 254.79 lakh tonne domestically manufactured soil nutrients, he said.

Availability of urea is esti-

mated to be at 256.22 lakh tonne in the kharif season this year, higher than the requirement of 179 lakh tonne.

Similarly, the availability of Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) is estimated to be 81.42 lakh tonne, against the require-

ment of 58.82 lakh tonne.

In the case of Muriate of Potash (MoP) on which India is 100 per cent dependent on imports, the secretary said availability would be 29.03 lakh tonne in the kharif season compared to the requirement of 19.81 lakh tonne.

The availability of NPK fertiliser is pegged at 77.87 lakh tonne over the requirement of 63.71 lakh tonne, while the availability of Single super-phosphate (SSP) is estimated to be at 41 lakh tonne against the requirement of 33 lakh tonne in the said period, Chaturvedi added. According to the secretary, the country is estimated to import about 104.72 lakh tonne of fertilisers -- which includes 40 lakh tonne of urea, 29 lakh tonne of DAP, 23.18 lakh tonne of MoP and 13.22 lakh tonne of SSP -- to meet the demand during the upcoming kharif season. **PTI**

CIL raises coal supply to power units, coordinating with Govt to build up stocks

New Delhi: The country's largest coal producer and supplier CIL on Tuesday said it has upped its supplies by 14.2 per cent to coal-based electricity generating plants in the first half of the current month, but soaring power demand due to hotter-than-normal summer seems to have dwarfed the upsurge in supplies.

Coal India (CIL) said that it is coordinating with the ministries of coal, power and railways to build up stocks at power plants in a synergic effort, in the wake of a decline in coal stocks at power plants.

"Amid the spiraling power generation, CIL raised its supplies to thermal power stations by 14.2 per cent during the first half of April 22 compared to the same period last April," the maharatna company said.

CIL's supplies have hit 1.6 million tonnes (MT) per day during this period, against 1.43 MT in the similar period of April FY'21.

The PSU had ramped up its production to 26.4 MT during the first half of April, reg-

istering Y-o-Y growth of 27 per cent.

"The company is heading for its highest April production ever. Output expansion in volume terms was 5.7 MT," it said.

The company's supplies are on the up so far. The pressure would ease if the import-led coal-based power plants meet their requisite imports set for the year, it added.

To tide over the intense demand, CIL has made available additional 8.75 MT of coal to state and central gencons for lifting through rail-cum-road (RCR) mode, till May 31. Of this, 3.25 MT is the unlifted quantity of the earlier round of RCR offer and 5.5 MT is the new offer. However, the escalating power demand driven up by the post pandemic economic buoyancy and hotter-than-normal summer seem to dwarf the upsurge in supplies, the PSU said. Mercury levels have soared above 41 degrees centigrade in Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.

The Ministry of Earth

Sciences has categorised heat-wave status in these northern states. Maximum departure from normal temperature is ranging from 4.8 degrees to 6.2 degrees.

The country's total power generation was 9.5 per cent higher, at an average of 4.53 billion units (BU), till April 15 over the same period last year.

The increase was 400 million units per day, against the average generation of 4.13 BU for the comparative period. "Coal-fired power generation climbed to an average of 3.5 BU per day in April 22 fortnight, 9.4 per cent more over last April's average of 3.2 BU for the same period," it said.

The uptick of 300 million units generated per day includes imported coal as well. The bulk though was fueled by CIL's supplies.

Sequentially, the coal-based generation growth of this period is higher by 5.4 per cent compared to the average of 3.32 BU of the whole month of March. **PTI**

Over 8.25 lakh jobs created under PMEGP in FY22: Govt

New Delhi: The government on Tuesday said 1.03 lakh new manufacturing and service units were set up under its flagship scheme PMEGP along with creation of over 8.25 lakh jobs in the last financial year.

"As compared to the previous year, 2020-21, the number of units and employment created under PMEGP has gone up by 39 per cent each, while the margin money distribution (subsidy) has also witnessed a jump of 36 per cent in FY 2021-22," the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises said in a statement.

According to the ministry, this is for the first time since the launch of the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) Scheme in 2008, that Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has established over one lakh new units in a financial year. **PTI**

SBI, BoB, others hike lending rates by up to 0.1%; EMLs to go up

New Delhi: EMLs for home, car and personal loans are set to go up for existing borrowers, with State Bank of India (SBI) and other major lenders including Bank of Baroda (BoB), Axis Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank increasing their benchmark lending rates by up to 0.10 per cent.

The lending rate hike by these banks -- which comes after a gap of around three years -- is likely to be followed by others, which will push up the Equated Monthly Installments (EMIs) for different categories of loans to consumers.

The country's largest lender SBI has revised its marginal cost of funding based lending rate (MCLR) by 0.10 per cent across tenors. The bank revised the lending rate



from 7 per cent to 7.10 per cent for the one-year tenure.

The revised MCLR is effective from April 15, as per information posted on SBI's website.

The overnight, one-month and three-month MCLR also rose by 10 basis points (bps) to 6.75 per cent, whereas the six-month MCLR increased to 7.05 per cent.

The two-year MCLR increased by 0.1 per cent to 7.30

per cent, and the three-year MCLR rose to 7.40 per cent, as per SBI's new rate chart.

Bank of Baroda (BoB), Axis Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank have also hiked the benchmark one-year MCLR -- against which most of the consumer loans are priced -- by 0.05 per cent each.

State-owned BoB's new MCLR for one year tenure stands at 7.35 per cent with effect from April 12, 2022.

Markets succumb to fag-end sell-off, extend losing streak to 5th day

Mumbai: Equity indices tripped in the last half-an-hour of trade on Tuesday to notch up losses for the fifth consecutive session as finance and IT counters continued to bear the brunt of heavy selling amid negative global cues.

Russia ramping up its offensive in Ukraine, coupled with unabated foreign fund outflows, a depreciating rupee and inflationary concerns sapped investor confidence, traders said.

The 30-share BSE Sensex opened modestly higher and weathered bouts of volatility to trade in the positive territory, but succumbed to a sudden burst of selling towards the fag-end to close 703.59 points or 1.23 per cent lower at 56,463.15.

On similar lines, the broader NSE Nifty declined 215 points or 1.25 per cent to set-

tle at 16,958.65.

The Sensex has now lost a hefty 2,984.03 points in five sessions, while the Nifty has shed 825.70 points.

HDFC and HDFC Bank were the biggest losers in the Sensex pack in Tuesday's session, tumbling 5.50 per cent and 3.73 per cent, respectively.

Infosys, ITC, Tech Mahindra, HCL Technologies, HUL and Nestle India were among the other prominent laggards.

Only four counters managed to log gains -- Reliance Industries, ICICI Bank, SBI and Bajaj Finance, climbing up to 3.71 per cent.

"Bears attacked the market, especially in the last hour. HDFC twins along with Infosys remained key laggards for the second consecutive day, dragging the market sharply. The

market remained resilient throughout the day but then there was a sudden sell-off in the last hour and we can say that there could be large FII's selling post 2:30 PM.

Investor wealth erodes by over ₹8 lakh cr as markets falter

New Delhi: Investors have become poorer by over Rs 8 lakh crore in five days of market fall, with equity indices weighed by widespread selling amid bearish global cues.

Falling for the fifth straight session, the Sensex finished 703.59 points or 1.23 per cent lower at 56,463.15 on Tuesday. **PTI**

Infosys shares continue to decline, tank nearly 4%

New Delhi: Shares of Infosys continued to decline on Tuesday and further tumbled nearly 4 per cent after the company's March quarter earnings report came in below expectations.

The stock declined 3.55 per cent to settle at Rs 1,563.95 apiece on the BSE. During the day, it tanked 4.38 per cent to Rs 1,550.40.

On the NSE, it dipped 3.66 per cent to settle at Rs 1,562 apiece.

In traded volume terms, 9.83 lakh shares were traded on the BSE and over 1.70 crore shares on the NSE during the day. Earlier on Monday, the company's shares had tanked over 7 per cent.

"Infosys results came worse-than-expected with rising attrition and weakening margins even though growth prospects appear bright," V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services, said on Monday. **PTI**

Rupee falls 22 paise to close at 76.51 against US dollar

Mumbai: The rupee fell 22 paise to close at 76.51 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday, tracking a strong American currency in the overseas market and significant foreign fund outflows.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 76.34 against the American currency and settled at 76.51, down 22 paise from the previous close.

During the session, the rupee witnessed an intra-day high of 76.25 and a low of 76.53 against the American currency.

On Monday, the rupee had ended 10 paise lower at 76.29 against the US dollar.

According to Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities, the rupee depreciated following foreign fund outflows from domestic equities. "Global investors rushed towards safe-haven currencies taking cues of higher global bond yields.

"Surging commodity prices, hawkish central bank

and geopolitical worries stalled global growth recoveries," Iyer said. A stronger dollar index, foreign fund outflows and higher crude oil prices could push USD/INR towards 76.70 while the central bank's dollar supply may limit the upside, he said, adding that the pair is expected to hold support around the psychological level of 76. The rupee depreciated for the fourth straight day, during which it has lost 38 paise against the American currency.

The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.02 per cent higher at 100.79.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures fell 1.18 per cent to USD 111.82 per barrel. On the domestic equity market front, the 30-share Sensex ended 703.59 points or 1.23 per cent lower at 56,463.15 points, while the broader NSE Nifty plunged 215.00 points or 1.25 per cent to 16,958.65 points. **PTI**

Jio tops 4G download speed chart, Vi leads in upload speed in March: TRAI data

New Delhi: Reliance Jio retained its top position with the highest average data download speed among 4G service providers in March at 21.1 megabit per second, according to latest data published by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

Vodafone Idea (VIL) and Bharti Airtel recorded a minor decline in speed at 17.9 megabit per second (mbps) and 13.7 mbps, but in the last six months both the firms have been able to reduce the gap with Jio's 4G download speed.

Jio's average 4G download speed increased by about 2.5 per

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Apartment No. 28A-609 on 6th floor Tower 3 in Complex River Heights at Noor Nagar, Raj Nagar Extn., Ghaziabad (U.P.) (hereinafter called the said property) was mortgaged with Our Client Axis Bank Ltd., Indirapuram Branch, Ghaziabad (U.P.) and one Sale Deed dated 26.06.2010 Executed by Carol Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. in favour of M/s. Agarwal and Vinay Agarwal Document No. 5197 (hereinafter referred to as the "Document") forming part of chain documents relating to the said property, was deposited with our Client for availing loan. At this stage it is found that Last 3 pages in Original of the said document have been misplaced. Any person(s)/institution coming into possession or in possession of the aforesaid pages of the Document/s and/or any person(s) who is/are having knowledge of the whereabouts of the Document, are hereby requested to intimate the undersigned, about the same within 15 days from the date hereof. Public Institutions are warned not to deal with the Document and any person receiving or dealing with the said Document would do so at their own risk and responsibility (including criminal liability).

Vishal Diwan (Advocate)
For Diwan and Company, Advocates and Solicitors
House No. 2 (UGF), NRI Complex, N. Delhi-110 58. 9818395959

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to all concern that Late Shri Sukhbir S/o Late Shri Hardutt R/o Village Barola, Sector 49, Noida, Distt. G.B. Nagar U.P. who is the original allottee of Residential Plot No.131, Block-C, Sector-44, Noida (UP) has executed a will in favour of Late Shri Subhash Kumar S/o Late Shri Kishan Chand R/o 111R, Model Town, Jalandhar-144001, Punjab, & Vaneet Kumar Kalra S/o Shri Ravinder Kumar R/o 77, Jyoti Nagar Extn. Cool Road, Jalandhar City, Punjab which is registered. That Shri Subhash Kumar S/o Late Shri Kishan Chand was also expired & all the legal heirs of Late Shri Subhash Kumar has no objection if the share of Shri Subhash Kumar may be transfer in favour his nephew Shri Vaneet Kumar Kalra S/o Shri Ravinder Kumar. So it is informed to all concern that the said Residential Plot No.131, Block-C, Sector-44, Noida (UP) is going to be transferred in favour of Shri Vaneet Kumar Kalra S/o Shri Ravinder Kumar R/o 77, Jyoti Nagar Extn. Cool Road, Jalandhar City, Punjab if anyone has/have any objection he/she may file his/her objection alongwith the sufficient proof in the Housing Department of the Noida Authority within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. Vaneet Kumar Kalra

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is to inform the Public at large that property being Flat No. 401, 4th Floor Tower 3, Plot No. GH-01/A, Sec 107 Lotus 300, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar - 201301 was registered in the name of Mr. Budh Singh Sethia & Mr. Sharad Sethia.

As Mr. Budh Singh Sethia expired on 16th March, 2018 & Mr. Sharad Sethia expired on 19th October, 2020, leaving behind Ms. Prem Lata Sethia W/o Late Budh Singh Sethia R/o H. No. 279, Sector-15A, Noida, Uttar Pradesh - 201301 and Ms. Priyanka Sethia W/o Late Mr. Sharad Sethia R/o Plot No. GH-01/A, Flat No. 401, Tower 3, 4th Floor Sec 107 Lotus 300, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar-201301 intends to apply for the transfer/endorsement of above said property in their favour being the legal heirs.

If any person is having any objection against the transfer/endorsement of said property, he/she can submit objections in writing to the Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority along with supporting documents within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, otherwise the Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority may accord permission to transfer/endorse of the said property as per its policy and may not entertain subsequent claim, if any.

Prem Lata Sethia & Priyanka Sethia
Legal heirs
On Behalf Of Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority

PUBLIC NOTICE

Indoor Medical Records of the patients admitted during period of 01.04.2018 to 31.03.2019 (Financial Year 2018-19) are scheduled to be disposed of as per hospital policy.

Any patient requiring his/her Medical Records may approach the undersigned within 7 days failing which the records will be disposed of without further notice.

Medical Record Office
Kailash Hospital & Heart Institute
H-33, Sector 27 Noida

Public Notice

General public is hereby informed that my clients Ranjit Kaur, Bakshish Singh and Mankiran Kaur, R/o. House no. E-7, 2nd Floor, Saraswat Garden, New Delhi- 110015, have severed all their relations/ties with Shri Jitender Singh due to his unlawful use of our names in various contracts and agreements without their consent and against there will. My clients are not responsible for any action taken by him without their consent. Hence, whosoever deals with him will be responsible and liable at his own risk.

Ateet Kumar Ajmani (Advocate)
2214, 3rd Floor, Channa Complex, Hardyan Singh Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
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The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, hence the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : April 20, 2022
Place: Delhi/ NCR
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE

Indoor Medical Records of the patients admitted during period of 22/03/2016 to 31/03/2019 financial year (2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018 and 2018-2019) are scheduled to be disposed of as per hospital policy.

Any patient requiring his/her Medical Records may approach the undersigned within 7 days failing which the records will be disposed of without further notice.

Medical Record Office
Kailash Hospital Plot No. 203,
Wazidpur G.T. Road NH-91, Khurja

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notify to the Public That Mr. Jasjit Singh Makol S/o. Shri. Manjit Singh Makol, R/o. House No. 119, Sector -36/A, Chandigarh 160036 R/o.who are present owner of Flat No. 05261, Tower -5, on 26th Floor, in ATS One Hamlet, Plot No. GH-01, Sector-104, Noida- 201304, Dst. Gautam budh Nagar U.P.have lost original, Terms & Conditions for Allotment (Booklet) & Anneure 2 of Provisional Allotment Letter, Regarding Flat No. 05261, Tower -5, on 26th Floor. if the above said original Terms & Conditions for Allotment (Booklet) & Anneure 2 of Provisional Allotment Letter, are found please contact Mr. Jasjit Singh Makol S/o. Shri. Manjit Singh Makol R/o. House No. 119, Sector -36/A, Chandigarh 160036, and ATS Tower, Plot No-16, Sector-135, Noida (U.P.)

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Tender No. 558-Sig-16-Tele-AMC-584		Dated: 18.04.2022
Name of work with its location	Comprehensive AMC of Computers and accessories of administration, S&T and CRS office for two years.	
App. Cost of the work (₹)	₹ 598734.72/- only	
Tender document Fee (₹)	Rs. 0 (Zero) only.	
Earnest Money Deposit(₹)	₹ 12000 only	
Address of the office	Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-C, Northern Railway, 3rd Floor, Annexe-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055.	
Date & Time for upload the tender / closing of tender	Tender uploading / closing date & time- 11.05.2022 up to 15.00 hrs.	
Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc.	See the Northern Railway website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice board at S&T branch, 3rd Floor, DRM office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055	
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE		860/22

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Vipin Kumar/ Krishna Devi A/c No:- 103705000646	Property No-1396/29, Plot No-245-R, Model Town Rohtak Haryana 18-Apr-2022	13-Jun-2021 Rs. 67,01,439/-	Rohtak Haryana

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

Date : April 20, 2022
Place: Delhi/ NCR
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

Design is a discipline that is fundamentally practiced and process-based. It cannot be taught and learnt within the confines of a classroom or limited to the pages of a textbook. Essentially experimental and exploratory in nature, it needs a hands-on approach along with ample curiosity, critical thinking and the constant willingness to learn, unlearn and relearn with changing times and circumstances. When it comes to design education, what is often imperative is an integrated pedagogical approach to learning, one that mirrors the working of the real world.

Needless to say, it is vital that students are not taught in silos by compartmentalising skills, concepts and knowledge which later need to be merged and applied to real life situations. Considering how closely design impacts and, in turn, is impacted by its surrounding environment and the socio-cultural landscape, it is not surprising that the COVID-19 pandemic greatly affected the way we perceive, teach and implement design in our day to day lives.

The pandemic that gripped the world forced us to rethink the ways in which we define education. It required a reworking of traditional concepts and age-old methodologies of imparting knowledge. Despite the undoubted catastrophe that ensued, there has been a silver lining that we may have perhaps overlooked. The uprooting of educational notions that were set in stone, provided the discipline of design with a fertile terrain to flourish.

On the surface, the challenges were numerous as teaching and learning methods that we had long been accustomed to had to be adapted to the present times. However, underneath the many hurdles, what also came to the fore was various and varied ways in which we can learn to make the best of the situation we had been presented with. Virtual classes meant that students and teachers were now able to interact from anywhere across the globe. Geographical boundaries were no longer a factor. It also ushered in a new sense of flexibility and fluidity. Classrooms were no longer defined to a fixed physical location. Instead it meant that teaching and learning could take place anywhere and at any given time. Online teaching paved the way for a model of education where both students and teachers broke out of predefined roles and took initiatives to experiment, explore and engage with one another. This invariably provided the space for the growth of an entrepreneurial mindset and a problem-solving and practical outlook to life in general.

Blended learning and hybrid education has become the new way ahead. This could not provide for a better platform for ushering changes within the field of design education. The advancements in technology, the varied online tools and software and the newfound approach to edu-



NEW WAY AHEAD POST PANDEMIC

Considering how closely design impacts and, in turn, is impacted by its surrounding environment and the socio-cultural landscape, it is not surprising that the COVID-19 pandemic greatly affected the way we perceive, teach and implement design in our day to day lives, says DR JITIN CHADHA

cation has enabled the discipline of design to thrive. Today the focus is largely on experimenting, problem solving and creating for a sustainable, ethical and technology driven world — principles that have always governed the field of design.

The pandemic meant that students were exposed to an education of a unique kind, one that cajole them to think beyond what they had been familiar with up until now in order to design solutions for the new kinds of problems and challenges that the current world presented them with.

Design has, since the beginning of time, offered diverse avenues to alter and better understand the way in which we perceive not only education

Blended and hybrid models of teaching and learning, technological boom and newfound focus on experimentation bodes well for the coming times. It promises a new generation of designers that are not only self-aware, ethical, curious and analytical in their approach but Also are unafraid to take risks, persevere and create novel solutions for a better and brighter tomorrow

but the very world we inhabit. It provides an opportunity for a learning environment that encourages students to find answers through logical thinking, practical reasoning and asking the right questions. This enabled a complete paradigm shift

that has allowed for what can be called a technological breakthrough across various fields. This evolution of the virtual space has monumentally complemented the development and growth of design education.

While there is still a long way to

go and a great deal to achieve, the COVID-19 pandemic has equipped the youth of today with the skills and aptitude they require to tackle any challenges that future times may throw their way. These blended and hybrid models of teaching and learning, this technological boom and this newfound focus on experimentation bodes well for the coming times for it promises a new generation of designers that are not only self-aware, ethical, curious and analytical in their approach but also at the same time unafraid to take risks, to persevere and to create novel solutions for a better and brighter tomorrow.

The wrier is Director of Indian Institute of Art and Design(IIAD)

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Real education should consist of drawing the goodness and the best out of our own students.

— Cesar Chavez

DEGREE COURSES AT IMS

The Institute of Management Studies (IMS) Offered Degree Programmes affiliated to CCS University Meerut Invites application for different courses for its 2022 batch. IMS Noida offered Under Graduate and Post Graduate Programmes in Business Management, Law, Mass Communication, and Information Technology.

How to Apply: Applicants seeking admission are required to fill a separate application form for the same. Applicants can collect the application form from the institute by paying Rs.1050/- (cash) for UG courses & Rs.1450/- (cash) for the PGDM program. It can also be obtained by post, online or demand draft facility of Rs.1050/- for UG courses & Rs.1450/- for PGDM in favor of IMS- NOIDA payable at Noida / Delhi Noida / Delhi.

Admission Process: Applications for Academic Year



2022 are open to applicants who have passed or will appear for the qualifying examinations under the higher secondary (10+2) from any recognized Board of Education such as AISSE/IB/ICSE, or equivalents.

All eligible candidates will have to undergo Entrance Exam Campus at Noida comprising a written test and personal interview. All qualifying candidates will be required to carry their portfolios. Admission is based on the marks obtained in the qualifying examination and the performance in written Tests and Personal Interviews.

Check out: <http://imsnoida.com/> <http://imsnoida.in>

Inauguration of residential premises for faculties in VIT Bhopal

PNS ■ BHOPAL

The Founder and Chancellor of VIT Group of Institutions Dr G Viswanathan inaugurated the residential facility in VIT Bhopal Campus. In a ceremony the Vice President, Shri Sankar Viswanathan and Trustee Ramani Balasundaram performed puja and initiated the house warming ceremony. Chancellor distributed the keys to the first set of residents of their respective flats. He said that we are committed towards the establishment of a beautiful, safe and well laid

out campus. Away from the hustle bustle of the city, VIT Bhopal offers a peaceful and modern lifestyle to the faculties and their families. He added that it contributes to our commitment of providing a good learning and living environment within the campus. Students' frequent and informal contact with faculties enhances their holistic development.

VIT Bhopal University is a technical institution which is known for its future ready programmes and innovative teaching learning methods of CALTech.



Making workplace an aspirational environment

In the post-pandemic world, managing employee lifecycles in a remote, geo-distributed workplace has become important for a healthy workplace environment. Many organisations are now going through the hybrid model of office and working remotely, says GANESH NAIK

A drastic shift in workplace culture is underway in the wake of COVID-19. With the move to remote and hybrid working. This is the time for organisations to re-evaluate their priorities and build work environments where employees can feel safe, motivated, inspired and productive, even if they're working from home, sometimes in the office or on the frontline.

Before we can effectively manage employee performance issues, we must uncover whether our employees are facing difficulties that prevent them from performing. Most common challenges faced by employees are one of these key areas which inevitably result in poor work performance. Employees of all levels will face challenges in the workplace. Every organization and its workplace is made up of different management styles, personality types and personal goals, sometimes leading to workplace conflict.

Delivering a great employee experience and aspirational workplace environment can be a challenging endeavour. The responsibility to maintain the aspirational environment does not only rely on the people on the management team but is instead shared across the organisation. The main thing

is that the organisation needs to go beyond and arrange mere engagement activities to create a place where people would not just need to work but they genuinely want to work. There are many challenges that we need to overcome and are numerous ways to enhance employee experience:

Workplace Environment Problem: A challenging workplace environment will impact and often impair the performance of the employees. When the workplace is devoid of appreciation, competent management or the provision of necessary resources, the quality of the employee experience deteriorates. If the employees do not have the proper tools and resources to perform their job, the inevitable result will be a poor work product. In the same way, in an environment with poor management, job performance will naturally drop. The management who fails to treat employees with respect or not bother about whether an employee's needs are being met or not will make an employee unhappy and that leads to a least productive employee. The lack of appreciation will also impact an employee's productivity.

So, to solve this problem, we need to examine the workplace environment and identify the fac-

tors that may be contributing to the employees' inability to successfully perform. Does the organization need to understand whether employees are provided with the tools they need to be successful? Do the managers have the necessary skills to lead the workforce? Is appreciation part of the workplace culture? These factors play a determinant role to decide an employee's level of productivity and resulting job performance. Change the negative aspects of the environment by providing resources, recognizing the efforts of the employees and removing other obstacles to performance.

Good Technology: Lack of modern technological support will make the employees frustrated and unhappy. The modern, efficient and state-of-the-art technology can help the employees to maximize their efficiency. The organization needs to invest in tools that can help to streamline communication between employees and improve the company culture.

Motivation Problem: The Lack of motivation at a workplace creates a thought process in the mind of the employee that he doesn't care about his actions. This leads to the actively disengaged employee openly demonstrating their unhappiness and disregard through their

actions, words and attitude. They end up undermining the productivity of others by constantly declaring their unhappiness and other reasons why they are so displeased with their job. This is a huge distraction to the productivity levels of the workforce and can easily infect the workplace culture. To overcome this challenge, we need to coach and counsel these individuals and hold them accountable for their performance as well as how they are negatively impacting the workplace. This will allow the organization to get them to see the error of their ways and reach a positive level of engagement by demonstrating to them that they have to face consequences.

Physical Workplace: An aspirational and safe work environment is an essential determinant of the overall experience of the employees. So, the organisations must set up a modern office space with all amenities like eateries and recreation rooms that give an employee the chance to unwind and get back to the task with a refreshed mind.

Skills/Knowledge Problem: One of the most important and most contributing factors to an employee being successful at the workplace is whether they have received adequate training to do

what they have been hired to do. If employees are doing their jobs and tasks without the proper training that leads to mistakes and only increases over time if not addressed. With the increase in the number of mistakes, the frustration level of the employee will also increase, who will begin to feel inadequate and unsupported for falling short on their objectives. Then, these underperforming employees will either begin to hide their mistakes to keep from exposing their inadequacies or simply check out. In either case, it's costing the organization time and money in errors and lost productivity. To solve this challenge, it is very important to have a training strategy. The organisation should organise proper training at the inception of the employment relationship as well as throughout the life cycle of employment. The training sessions will ensure that the employee can perform their job and also continues to evolve and improve upon their skills. A properly trained employee by the organisation is a competent and confident employee who can successfully perform their responsibilities.

The writer is Chief Human Resources Officer of eBikeGo

Teaching is an art

Exemplary teachers know their craft and never stop learning. They are curious, confident and do not need a textbook to teach their students. Most teachers stay abreast of the subject and transmit their love of knowledge to their students.

When a coach considers and practices teaching as a passion and not just as a profession, he or she becomes successful. The mentor's passion for teaching and command on the subject generates an interest and moves the students. At the same time, it's the relationship that the student shares with the teacher that plays a crucial role in the child's future.

However, every guru is different. Maria Montessori was different from Chanakya; Confucius from Swami Vivekananda; Aristotle differed from Dronacharya. The commonality between all was probably the art of conveying the message, communication and empathy.

So, what makes an effective mentor in a classroom environment, and generates students' interest?

Communicate extremely well

For the students to be able to approach a subject in a more enjoyable way it is essential to make them realise how a particular subject will be applicable in real life.

Appreciated teachers listen

Reading between lines while listening, and pointing out anxieties that students may possess is essential in creating bonds.

Adapt and collaborate

Constantly evolving and accommodating teaching styles based on different students is an important feature. Also, as a teacher it is essential to have an open mind and learn from students and other teachers.

Showcase empathy and engage



Ritu Rahul Rathod
Creative Writing & Communications Coach, Founder- Moonlight Musings

It is imperative to be observant and empathetic with students and recognise the backgrounds that they come from. Once the children get comfortable with that teacher, they can soak in the knowledge that is imparted. They want to listen to the teacher.

Teaching needs patience

A teacher's patience is always tested. Patience is one of the most important virtues to possess to create a calm, enjoyable environment to learn. If classroom behaviour is managed, learning happens automatically.

Great educators and lifelong learners

Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at 20 or 80. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. — Henry Ford

A teacher needs to remain young and fresh in the mind, and change with time to impart to learning.

Teaching styles can either foster or inhibit learning. To create the perfect environment for learning a teacher must possess a 'non-teaching' pedagogical style.

Finally, providing regular feedback and support to ensure student success is important. This will make students feel that they are a valued part of the learning community.

Education D-Eminence 2022, Season 1

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

International education Conference Education D-Eminence 2022 Season 1 was organised in the National Capital. The event concluded with powerful discussions on Indian education, skill development and many more topics. The event was organised by On Sky Global, where renowned educationists, principals and teachers were also honoured

for their excellent work in the field of education. Indian politician and former National Vice President of BJP Shri Shyam Jaju; Vice President NDMC Satish Upadhyay;

Vedic & Celebrity Astrologer Dr Acharya Vinod Kumar Jha along with many dignitaries including Dr Sandeep Marwah, Vinay Choudhary, Spokesperson BJP Delhi (Youth) attended the event

and shared their ideas. All the guests were welcomed by the organizers Dr Varun Gupta and Dr Nareesh Malhotra.

Appreciating this programme, Shyam Jaju said, "Government is doing its work for promoting education and such events are necessary to make this mission successful."

Satish Upadhyay also supported such events aiming to highlight the impor-

ance of education and skill development.

Expressing his happiness on the occasion Dr Varun Gupta said, "This unique event is an opportunity to meet and network with the who's who of the education, skill development and corporate sectors. This platform is to enhance the brand awareness and explore international business opportunities with foreign delegates."

Performing for a good cause - NINAAD

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Tagore International School, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi, with partnership with Shooob Group, will organise a cultural event — Ninaad, on April 23, 2022. Ninaad is a fund-raising event for the acid attack survivors. Our school strongly believes in equality. With this thought, along with Tagoreans, special students will join hands and will make Ninaad a more colorful, vibrant & memorable event.



Team Awaam will also organise a Nukkad Natak performance based on the theme of Acid Attack. From quick remedies to lessen the impact of acid on bare skin to the Government provisions for acid attack sur-

vivors . Written and Directed by Uma Chopra and performed by the students of Team Awaam this play will raise awareness on acid attacks.

The special students will perform a traditional act, India's one of the most popular & prestigious dance style — Bhangra. Their performance will be nothing but, graceful, synchronised, energetic and alluring.

As the name of our campaign suggests- Flawless flaws, we believe that every person, a

boy or a girl, a dancer or a chef, a singer or a specially abled, all are flawless in their own way.

We live in a country where still some people differentiate between people on the basis of their gender, caste, creed, colour, background, physical appearance, etc. But, as young generation of the 21st century, Tagoreans and the special children have become an asset to the nation. They believe in the fact that everyone's beautiful, everyone is capable of pursuing and achieving something.



LOOKING INTO FUTURE

Real estate sectors such as hospitality, retail and commercial have grown significantly over the past few years while keeping a close eye on the public’s expanding infrastructural requirements. TANYA PANDEY tells us more

The architecture and real-estate industries develop structures that benefit the end-user greatly. Land, buildings, upgrades, planning and designing residential and non-residential structures, also creating places are all part of the real estate and architectural business. This globally recognised industry is the second highest employment generator in India. As the sustainable building industry grows, green buildings are figuring effectively to drive the construction industry.

Investments

In recent times, the architecture and real estate industry has observed an increase in the growth of offices and residential areas. As per research, even amidst the pandemic, investors in India showed a great interest in institutional investments raising the estimated interest rate to increase by 4 per cent. The rise in interest rates is likely to attract the attention of potential investors in the future.

In terms of investments shown in the private estate industry, India managed to double the investment compared to the year 2020, estimated at a 2.9 billion in only about

the first half of the year 2021, this growth of investments observed in the year 2021 increases the probability rate for the future investments by the year 2025.

In the past two years, the growth of exports done by the social-economic zones (SEZs) has grown by 13.6 per cent in the year 2021 compared to 2019 to 7.96 lakh crore rupees (113 billion dollars).

To make the market more relatable and open to smaller bidders and investors, the SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India) decreased the minimum application value of real estate from 50,000 rupees to up to 15,000 rupees. In 2021, India stood at 3.3 billion US dollars between January and September. The number of home sales increased by 113 per cent year over year and completed 62,800 units in the third quarter of 2021.

Cities like Mumbai, Delhi, and Bengaluru gained 77 per cent of total investments by the 3rd quarter of 2021, discerning this growth in investments, the flexible space stock market of India is likely to expand the current 36.5 mil-



Tanya Pandey
Design Manager at Archohm

As the sustainable building industry grows, green buildings are figuring effectively to drive the construction industry

lion sq ft by at least 15 per cent YoY (year over year) in the upcoming three years.

Growth & market size

The real estate and architecture industry recorded about 1.72 bil-

lion dollars (₹12,000 crore) in the year 2019 and it is estimated to grow by about 65,000 crores by the year 2040. By 2030, India's real estate and architectural business are predicted to have grown from \$200 billion in 2021 to \$1 trillion in 2030, accounting for almost 13 per cent of the country's GDP.

Real estate sectors such as hospitality, retail and commercial have also grown significantly over the past few years while keeping a close eye on the public's expanding infrastructural requirements. India has collected up to US \$29 billion through raised funds; however as per research, Indian firms are expected to raise ₹3.5 trillion through just real estate investments and infrastructure in 2022.

As per estimation, the demand for real estate and architecture data centers by 2025 is likely to increase by 15-18 million sq ft. In 2020, third-party logistics (3PL) accounted for about 34 per cent followed by the e-commerce sector which accounted for 26 per cent where as office space leases accounted for 9 per cent.

The private equity investments observed in the fourth quarter of

2021 gained about 71 per cent of the share through office segments whereas the retail sector accounted for 15 per cent of the share and the warehouses as well as the residential sector gained about 7 per cent each.

Future forecast

The SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India) has approved the REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust), giving the industry a new platform. The growth of the business is beneficial since it encourages investors to participate in the Indian real estate market. As per estimation, the opportunity given by the SEBI will give the Indian real estate and architectural industry to grow by about ₹1.25 trillion in the upcoming years. The future of the architecture and real estate industry is promising as it is up for future challenges by being prepared for the changes. The architectural industry has updated itself with every changing consumer base and globalisation shift. The influx of foreign direct investment (FDI) into the architectural and real estate industry is boosting the industry's openness.

‘Reskilling and upskilling with time is important’

In 2022, the number of professionals looking to upskill has increased from a number that had already been steep- to touch a whopping 79 per cent, including freshers, says MAYANK SINGH

The world is wading through the rapidly shifting office structure, and as we slowly make our way back to in-office structures, we bring in change and a new perspective. One of the biggest developments that have been noticed in the Indian masses has been the rise in wanting to keep learning and bring in new skills to our jobs. As change is constant, the new Indian office goer has realised that they need to keep changing to match the ever-evolving needs at work.

Major companies have been shifting to new trends that have required constant updates, especially during the pandemic which has pushed people to upskill and reskill to stand out. In 2020, the LinkedIn Workforce Confidence Index indicated that 63 per cent of Indian professionals were looking to upskill in terms of communication, career advancement, and industry knowledge.

In 2022 however, the number of professionals looking to upskill has increased from a number that had already been steep- to touch a whopping 79 per cent, including freshers. Hyderabad, Delhi, and Mumbai showed the highest record of people wanting to dive back into learning and upgrading skills, but smaller cities like Mysore, Nagpur, and Ernakulam are growing at an accelerated pace in terms of demand for upskilling courses.

Current professionals with long years of work experience have also expressed an interest in exploring the world of data science and advanced technology. Approximately 43 per cent of people expressed interest in AI, analytics, and machine learning irrespective of what path they were on professionally.

Attitudes are shifting, and women are upskilling

Traditionally, learning has been connected to physical classes, but the pandemic caused a seismic shift in how learning is accessed. With online learning providing a massive portal to those who might not have been able to attend classes in traditional settings, women have now been able to attend classes more readily through online modes.

Accessibility has shifted in the last few years, which has allowed women to get more access to upskilling courses. On a global scale, women constitute 23 per cent of the upskilling crowd, but in India, women make up 27 per cent of the crowd.

India has been the poster child for growth in urban women's will to upskill

in the last two years. Coursera's Global Skill Report 2021 displayed a massive rise in the number of women signing up for upskilling courses. In 2018-19, Indian women represented 28 per cent of the ones signing up for courses, and in 2021, that number jumped to 35 per cent in a matter of months. Several women showed particular interest in STEM, too. This is an indicator of how women in India have been catapulting their way towards growth in all spheres, namely education, and work.

ONLINE EDUCATION FOR UPSKILLING

The job market gap has been widening with the employable population being increasingly able and pushing competition forward. This has pushed several professionals to look for courses that will help them stand out in the sea of resumes available. Intellipaat, one of the world's largest online education platforms saw a 200 per cent rise in the students signing up for upskilling courses.

Several professionals who had opted for AI and cloud reported that they saw a potential 50 per cent hike in their salary. There has also been a large number of recruiters who have been looking to upskill people through these online courses too. This has empowered students to explore borderless career and education options, as we now see people from all parts of the country apply to Tier 1 city jobs, or even try their luck internationally.

HELPING ELEVATE

While several people have been flocking to private companies for upskilling, the centre has also been developing plans to upskill India. In 2020, the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) launched the Future Skills PRIME Beta Platform to promote remote and self-paced learning.

In line with the courses that the modern professional has been taking, and the shift in the workforce, the courses presented by this program were AI, the Internet of Things (IoT), robotic process automation, cloud computing, additive manufacture/3D printing, blockchain, etc. The courses have been developed with the expected 38 per cent rise in professionals in emerging technology

The writer is the Co-Founder & CEO of Campus 365

Grasping the attitude of an attorney does not begin or end with getting selected in one of the best law schools or putting on the appropriate attire for the job. Becoming a lawyer is a type of art in its own right, and mastering it necessitates putting on an act – an act that is perpetually in motion, both inside and outside of your professional life, and thus becomes an extension of your personality. What you do or want to accomplish in the courtroom not only results in a favourable end, but it also improves the skill set that leads to such a possibility.

Thinking like a lawyer

offers you more room to describe yourself, reason, fight, and measure the impact of your words on a linguistic scale, granting you an advantage in interactions with family and friends. If you aim to be a lawyer someday, and you're one of those people who can construct a precise analysis of an incident in a matter of seconds, and use team reasoning and logic to solve complicated problems, then you're on the right track.

A lawyer's skill set can also be put to the test in any profession in order to unlock rewarding opportunities. Enthusiasm is the key that unlocks the desire to master a

MIND IT

specific talent, but it must be combined with a harmonious balance of time, patience, and practice. If the aforementioned factors are not taken into account, a sense of pretentiousness pervades one's activities, revealing the individual.

If you want to see yourself dressed as a lawyer, here are a few things you should do first:

Be a player of words: You'll need to learn how to hold a discussion using only

words that are the gist of whole phrases. Keep it simple, straightforward and relevant. Drag in some grammar and whirl off some vocabulary that impresses and creates an impression.

Exercise the 3 P's: Prepare, plan, and predict are the three steps of a seasoned lawyer's cognitive process. Be arranged for different situations in which your adversary might come up with a question.

Get used to listening: Once you really

open up your ears, you may likely recognise that individuals are giving you indeed more data than you simply thought. Listening to your clients, witnesses, limiting coordinates, and the court can mean the difference between a case being won or lost. Magnificent lawyers gather all relevant information, analyse it, and devise a strategy.

Practice logical thinking: Lawyers try to win a modern case by demonstrating that its realities are identical to the truths in the historical case, and that the present case should be chosen in the same way as in the ancient case. Comparing and contrasting realities will help you determine which are

important to the outcome of the case.

Be a troubleshooter: Analytical ability enables one to assess problems, generate solutions, and solve the problem at hand. To design an analytical winning approach, use the material you have in mind, as well as select key elements that you believe bring strong logic to your arguments.

A lawyer - a master of words - cannot afford to destroy his reputation, so it is necessary to train your mind and polish your technique in such a way that you can pass without scratching your opponent.

The writer is Dr Sonu Sharma, Law Faculty, Shamskriti University



application form for the programme:
Application deadline: May 1, 2022

International Scholarships at Alvernia University, USA

The educational programme is open to support international students who want to pursue an undergraduate degree at Alvernia University.

Award: \$10,000

Course: Undergraduate

Level: Undergraduate

Supporting documents: International scholarship application

Statement of proposed study: This should be a separate document in which the student applicant outlines (in 300 words or less) why a scholarship should be given to them by Alvernia University and how their academic and personal interests can contribute to the community campus

Unofficial previous years grade report

One letter of recommendation

Admission requirements: Must have a previous year's degree certificate with outstanding academic achievement.

Language requirement: If English is not your first language or mother tongue, you should provide evidence of your English language proficiency

How to apply: First, applicants have to take admission at the university. After that, applicants have to submit the online

Presidents Scholarships for International Students at Hardin – Simmons University, USA

Scholarship awards will be presented based on the ACT/SAT/CLT scores and GPA of the students.

Awards: \$14,000

Course: Undergraduate

Level: Undergraduate

Supporting documents: The students are required to present the following documents to the university:

Statement of purpose

Transcripts of all secondary work

Admission requirements: The applicants are required to have a 3.25 GPA.

Language requirements: The students must submit scores of the following English language proficiency tests:

TOEFL IBT – 79

IELTS – 6.5

Duolingo – 95

How to apply: Students are required to make their admission applications on the designated university portal. Students that meet the scholarship criteria will be considered or the scholarship upon admission application.

Application deadline: Students are requested to submit their admission applications by June 1, 2022 to be admitted for the fall semester

IOS APP DEVELOPMENT AT QUANTUM IT

Location – Work From Home
Stipend – ₹8,000-15,000/Month
Link – internshala.com/i/274c62
Deadline – April 27, 2022

DATA ENTRY AT KAKCHHO

Location – Work From Home
Stipend – ₹5,000-7,000/Month
Link – internshala.com/i/ce5c56
Deadline – April 27, 2022

UI/UX DESIGN AT QUANTUM IT

Location – Work From Home
Stipend – ₹8,000-15,000/Month
Link – internshala.com/i/ca52a6
Deadline – April 27, 2022

FINANCE AT BEYONDSQUARE SOLUTIONS

Location – Work From Home
Stipend – ₹10,000-20,000/Month
Link – internshala.com/i/a12e52
Deadline – April 27, 2022

HUMAN RESOURCES (HR) AT MONSTER INDIA

Location – Work From Home
Stipend – ₹10,000-12,000/Month
Link – internshala.com/i/6de39c
Deadline – April 27, 2022

B2B SALES AT CLEEYK

Location – Work From Home
Stipend – ₹20,000/Month
Link – internshala.com/i/990ddc
Deadline – April 27, 2022

WEB DEVELOPMENT AT STUDY BADSHAH

Location – Delhi
Stipend – ₹10,000/Month
Link – internshala.com/i/a392bd
Deadline – April 27, 2022

INBRIEF

JKL'S TECHNO-CULTURAL FESTIVAL CONCLUDES

Curtains were brought down on JK LakshmiPat University's (JKLU) 10th edition of SABRANG, a three-day annual techno-cultural-management-design extravaganza. The fest saw the participation of more than 600 students, who showcased their

Ahuja, DJ Tejas, HPO and Audio Bat kept the student's momentum high with their gigs every evening of the festival. The event was attended by dignitaries such as Sai Krishna V, Principal and Scientist in Charge CSIR-CERI Pilani (Jaipur Centre) and JKLU's Vice Chancellor Dr (Prof) Dheeraj Sanghi.

"The three days were packed with knowledgeable and experiential fun activities. For every educational institution, student works so hard for their academics that they deserve a break once in a while. It's a proud and happy moment for all of us because of the fact that the event is solely organised by the students," says Dr (Prof) Dheeraj Sanghi, Vice Chancellor, JKLU.

SEMINAR ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

The Soroptimist International, a global organisation of service clubs for and by women, conducted a seminar which was graced by Sister B K

Shivani, who attended as a guest of honor. The large volume of members allows the organisation to spread the word about women

and how to empower them in various avenues of life. President Jaya Ahuja of Ahuja Furnitures' legacy heads the Delhi extension of Soroptimist.

AI AND MACHINE LEARNING IN BUSINESS

The Times Professional Learning (TPL), under its brand The Second Wind (TimesTSW) and Indian Institute of Management Bodh Gaya have announced the inaugural Executive Certificate Programme in Artificial Intelligence and

Machine Learning for Business. The 10-month programme developed for professionals, managers, and consultants includes introducing advanced AI & ML skills that will help them transition across data and business analyst roles.

CONSUL GENERAL OF CANADA VISITS LPU

The Consul General of Canada in Chandigarh Patrick Hebert paid a visit to Lovely Professional University (LPU), where he met Chancellor Ashok Mittal. During the meeting, joint academic and research possibilities between LPU and Canada were talked about. Several issues related with joint activities in relation to develop and strengthen relations between LPU and Canada, particularly on the

lines of education and business, were also discussed. The guest was informed that LPU is India's most internationalised campus where 3000+ international students from 50+ countries are pursuing programmes of their preferences, with globally benchmarked curricula. The Canadian diplomat, with over 25 years of experience also shared his strong interest

in international peace and security issues. On this occasion, various related issues were also mutually agreed upon including students and faculty exchange programmes. The Guest also had a campus tour and conversed with some of the Canada aspirant students too. LPU takes pride in establishing healthy relations with many Canadian institutions.

AWARENESS CAMP AND HEALTH SCREENING FOR STUDENTS

The Noida International University's (NIU) School of Allied Health Sciences recently organised a day-long awareness camp and health screening among school-going children at Oxford Green Public School, Mohammadabad Kheda, Greater Noida. The students of the University gathered in large number at the venue for conducting the health awareness

camp in a smooth manner. A general medical camp and health screening with special focus on assessment of obesity and malnutrition among school-going children was done during the event.

The campaign was carried out with a crucial aim of creating awareness among the school children and women on the safe health practices.

EXHIBITION OF STUDENT WORK

Pathways School Noida students hosted an Art exhibition titled "Living with Art" at Stainless Gallery. This group Show showcased artworks by the upcoming artists of Grade 9 to Grade 12. A public exhibition in a professional gallery provided a unique opportunity for young artists to take their own work seriously and to see themselves as professional artists. The art critical and

writer Suneet Chopra who was the chief guest congratulated the school for promoting art as a serious field of education. Historically, art has been pushed to the side in education when literacy and numeracy agendas become more important. However, at Pathways School Noida the school helps students to explore their passions by recognising the importance of creativity as a prime

principle and how art helps students develop strong academic, social, and emotional characteristics. The students created their work based on self-chosen themes, individual styles, ideas and a vivid amalgamation of skills presented through a variety of artworks exploring various media such as sculpture, installations and paintings using a variety of media — clay, acrylic, etc.



the pioneer

INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE 2022

12

He (Buttler) started a bit slow and after that, he just went off. The way he manoeuvres the ball, he is a classy batsman. Kudos to the way he batted.

— SHREYAS IYER

CAPTAIN FAFTASTIC



PTI ■ NAVI MUMBAI

Royal Challengers Bangalore rode on skipper Faf du Plessis' breezy 96 and Josh Hazlewood's brilliant bowling to inflict an 18-run defeat on Lucknow Super Giants in the IPL here on Tuesday.

The 37-year-old du Plessis roared back to form after a string of low scores with a 64-ball knock to help RCB post 181 for six after being sent into bat.

Pace spearhead Hazlewood (4/25) then picked two wickets upfront and two at the fag end as RCB restricted LSG to 163 for eight to register their fifth win of the season.

Both Hazlewood and du Plessis' brilliant individual performances, though, may be a bit overshadowed by the chatter around the two ball sequence leading to Marcus Stoinis' wicket in which a wide outside off wasn't called followed by him shuffling way too much in the next delivery and playing on.

Nevertheless, RCB are now second in the points table while LSG slumped to fourth. Opening the innings, du Plessis, who failed to put up a big score since his sensational 88 in RCB's first game of the season, anchored the innings to perfection and got out only on the penultimate ball of the final over.

Hazlewood rocked LSG's chase early

► points table

Po.	TEAM	M	W	L	NR	Pts	NRR
1.	GT	6	5	1	0	10	0.395
2.	RCB	7	5	2	0	10	0.251
3.	RR	6	4	2	0	8	0.380
4.	LSG	7	4	3	0	8	0.124
5.	SRH	6	4	2	0	8	-0.077
6.	KKR	7	3	4	0	6	0.160
7.	PBKS	6	3	3	0	6	0.109
8.	DC	5	2	3	0	4	0.219
9.	CSK	6	1	5	0	2	-0.638
10.	MI	6	0	6	0	0	-1.048

► boundary meter

4s 885

6s 473

on as he bowled a fine opening spell. Using the bounce and movement on offer, he accounted for the dangerous Quinton de Kock (3) and Manish Pandey (6) in quick time.

The Australian quick, who was consistent with his line and length, bowled a frugal spell, giving away just 25 runs.

LSG skipper KL Rahul made his way back to the dug out soon after Pandey as a delivery down the leg-side kissed his bat and RCB opted to review it. UltraEdge showed a spike and RCB got their massive breakthrough, thanks to the brilliant review.

While Krunal Pandya (42) was scoring runs at a good rate, he looked uncomfortable against Glenn Maxwell, and eventually fell to the Australian.

LSG weren't able to string substantial partnerships together. Deepak Hooda (13), Stoinis (24) and Ayush Badoni (13) were guilty of wasting their starts. Harshal Patel (2/47) picked up two wickets while Mohammed Siraj (1/31) and Maxwell (1/11) accounted for a batter each.

Covid-hit Delhi Capitals clash with Punjab Kings



PTI ■ MUMBAI

Delhi Capitals will need to put the COVID scare in their camp behind when they take on a hot and cold Punjab Kings in the Indian Premier League here on Wednesday. Australian all-rounder Mitchell Marsh had to be hospitalised after testing positive for COVID, taking the total count to four cases in the Capitals' camp.

Warner, Prithvi Shaw and skipper Pant headline a powerful DC line up against a Punjab unit that boasts of Shikhar Dhawan, in-form Liam Livingstone and Shahrul Khan. As both teams eye a return to winning ways, the batting unit that does well could be the difference.

Punjab could be bolstered by the return of regular skipper Mayank Agarwal, who missed the game against Sunrisers Hyderabad due to a toe injury.

A flamboyant Dhawan was in his elements against Mumbai Indians, but consistency has been an issue for the senior opener. The south-paw, who failed against SRH, will be looking to give the side a solid

MATCH SHIFTED TO MUMBAI FROM PUNE

Mumbai: The IPL match between COVID-hit Delhi Capitals and Punjab Kings was on Tuesday shifted to Mumbai from Pune following a virus outbreak in the Risabh Pant-led team.

In a statement on Tuesday, the BCCI said it has moved the game to Brabourne Stadium in Mumbai to ensure no COVID infection goes undetected in the bio-bubble.

Five members of Delhi Capitals, including one player in Mitchell Marsh have tested positive. Others down with the virus are physio Patrick Farhart, sports massage therapist Chetan Kumar, team doctor Abhijit Salvi and social media content team member Akash Mane.

"The Board of Control for Cricket in India on Tuesday announced a change of venue for Match No. 32 Delhi Capital versus Punjab Kings from MCA Stadium, Pune to Brabourne CCI scheduled on April 20th, 2022, to avoid any further inci-

dent due to any undetected case during a long-distance bus journey in a closed environment," said the BCCI in a statement.

Delhi Capitals will only be cleared to play the game after RTPCR tests on Wednesday morning. All the other players and support staff have returned negative in tests conducted on Tuesday.

"The COVID positive cases are under isolation and medical observation. They will be tested on Day 6 and 7 and subject to both the tests being negative they will be re-integrated into the Delhi Capitals bio-secure bubble.

"From April 16th onwards, the entire Delhi Capitals contingent has been put under a daily RT-PCR testing procedure. The 4th round of RT-PCR tests conducted on April 19th have returned negative.

"The Delhi Capitals contingent will undergo another round of RT-PCR testing on the morning of April 20th," the BCCI added.

PTI

and pacer Shardul Thakur, who has four wickets, can also pose questions to them along with speedster Khaleel Ahmed.

However, Muztafizar Rahman, who leaked 48 runs against RCB, needs to redeem himself.

The Punjab bowlers led by Kagiso Rabada have fared well. But the likes of Vaibhav Arora, Arshdeep Singh along with Rahul Chahar, who has nine wickets, would need to be on the money. Also equally crucial will be the role of pace-bowling all-rounder Odean Smith, who has not been at his best so far in the IPL.

Chahal showed why leg-spinners are considered match-winners in IPL: Malinga

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Rajasthan Royals bowling coach Lasith Malinga said Yuzvendra Chahal showed why leg-spinners are considered as match-winners in the IPL with a brilliant 17th over in which he recorded the first hat-trick of the season. Chahal (5/40 in 4 overs) removed Venkatesh Iyer off his first delivery in the 17th over and then Shreyas Iyer, Shivam Mavi and Pat Cummins off the fourth, fifth and sixth balls to completely turn the match on its head and hand RR a close seven-



run win over Kolkata Knight Riders on Monday night.

This was after Jos Buttler's 61-ball 103, his second ton of the season, helped Royals scored an imposing 217 for five.

"Chahal has more international experience. He is the most experience leg-spinner in the country and in this tournament. He showed how to control the skill. That's more important for him going forward to prove he is good enough to play any competitive cricket," Malinga said at the post-match press conference.

DK can play finisher's role for India in T20 WC: Gavaskar

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Impressed with the way Dinesh Karthik is making his bat talk in this year's IPL, the legendary Sunil Gavaskar reckons that the veteran keeper-batter can play the role of a finisher for the Indian team in the T20 World Cup later this year.

Karthik has been hitting the ball fluently for his new franchise Royal Challengers Bangalore this season.

The former Kolkata Knight Riders skipper has produced effective knocks of 32, 14, 44, 7, 34 and 66 with an astonishing strike-rate of 209.57. By remaining unbeaten in five of the six innings, he is averaging 197.00.

"He said he wants to be a part of the Indian Team for the T20 World Cup. So what I am saying is don't look at his age,



just look at what he's producing," Gavaskar told Star Sports.

Karthik's best this season came (66

not out from 34 balls) against Delhi Capitals in their last outing when he took on the experienced Mustafizur Rahman and Indian left-arm pacer Khaleel Ahmed with his fantastic strokeplay to power them to a match-winning 189/5.

RCB won the match by 16 runs and Karthik was adjudged Player-of-the-match.

"He's just changing the complexion of the game with his performance. He's doing it for his team. He's doing the job that you can expect him to do at number 6 or 7 at the (T20) World Cup (in October-November)," Gavaskar added.

A veteran of 26 Tests, 94 ODIs and 32 T20Is, the 36-year-old last played for India in the heartbreaking semifinal loss to New Zealand in the ICC World Cup in 2019.

El Shaarawy dents Napoli's title hopes

AP ■ NAPLES

Napoli's bid for a first Serie A title in 32 years suffered a massive setback on Monday as Stephan El Shaarawy's injury-time equaliser snatched a 1-1 draw for Roma.

Lorenzo Insigne's early penalty looked to have put third-placed Napoli on track to move within two points of league leaders AC Milan with five matches remaining, but El Shaarawy's late intervention left them four points behind.

Reigning champions Inter Milan are two points behind their city rivals in second place, but with a game in hand.

Luciano Spalletti's Napoli are hoping to lift a first Scudetto since the second Diego Maradona-inspired triumph in 1990, but this bad-tempered draw could prove decisive come the



REIGNING CHAMPIONS INTER MILAN ARE TWO POINTS BEHIND THEIR CITY RIVALS IN SECOND PLACE, BUT WITH A GAME IN HAND

end of the campaign.

The point was not much help to the top-four hopes of Jose Mourinho's Roma, who missed the chance to cut the gap to fourth-placed Juventus to three points.

It has been a potentially ruinous spell for Napoli, following a 3-2 home loss to Fiorentina last time out.

AP ■ BARCELONA

Barcelona's place in La Liga's top four looks much less secure after they suffered a surprise 1-0 defeat at home to relegation-battling Cadiz on Monday.

Lucas Perez's close-range finish early in the second half condemned Barca to a second consecutive defeat, on the back of their shock exit at the hands of Eintracht Frankfurt in the Europa League on Thursday.

Barcelona stayed second but are level on points with both Sevilla in third and Atletico Madrid in fourth while Real Betis in fifth are only three points behind.

Xavi Hernandez's team do have a game in



hand over the trio below them. But the loss means Barca have

won only one of their last four matches, that victory coming via

an injury-time winner against 19th-placed Levante.

Any hopes they had of making leaders Real Madrid feel uncomfortable are surely over, with Madrid 15 points clear at the top, having played a game more.

Cadiz climb out of the relegation zone to 16th, two points clear of the bottom three.

The defeat by Frankfurt on Thursday was a particularly bitter pill to swallow, given the Catalans effectively ceded their home advantage by allowing more than 20,000 away fans into Camp Nou.

Barcelona can ill-afford to miss out on Champions League qualification, with the club's debts at the start of the season amounting to more than a billion euros.

Novak aiming to be 'as ready' as possible for French Open

AP ■ BELGRADE

Novak Djokovic said that he is aiming to be "as ready as I can be" for the French Open as he prepares for just his third tournament of the season in Belgrade this week.

The world number one was deported from Australia ahead of the Australian Open in January over his Covid vaccination status, before also missing Indian Wells and the Miami Open in the United States.

In the Serbian star's absence, Rafael Nadal won a record 21st Grand Slam singles title in Melbourne, moving out of a tie with Djokovic and Roger Federer.

Djokovic will be hoping to match his great rival's tally at the French Open, which begins on May 22. "Roland Garros is the

Novak Djokovic will be hoping to match his great rival's tally at the French Open, which begins on May 22

quintessential clay-court tournament and I'm partly already there in my thoughts, in terms of preparation and everything I'm doing at the moment to get there as ready as I can be," Djokovic told reporters in Belgrade.

The 34-year-old also said he was planning to play in the Madrid Masters and the

Italian Open ahead of Roland Garros.

"My current plans include Madrid and Rome," he added.

"It depends, really, on my result here and the shape I'm in. We'll decide then."

Djokovic lost in his opening match of the Monte Carlo Masters last week to eventual runner-up Alejandro Davidovich Fokina, after a quarter-final exit in Dubai in February. "I was not fully ready for the tournament in Monte Carlo and I knew that before the tournament started," he said.

"However, I need match practice and this is the surface (clay) that requires a lot of time spent on the court during training sessions, and even more during matches.

"I hope to play more matches in Belgrade than in Monte Carlo."



Stimac names 41 probables for preparatory camp

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian men's national football team head coach Igor Stimac on Tuesday named 41 probables for a preparatory camp ahead of its AFC Asian Cup Final Round qualifiers in June.

The players and the support staff will assemble in Bellary on April 23 and will start training from the next day till May 8.

The team will then move to Kolkata to continue with the camp till the qualifiers.

According to a release issued by the All India Football Federation (AIFF), the players

from Mumbai City FC and ATK Mohun Bagan will join the camp after their respective club commitments.

India have been drawn alongside Hong Kong, Afghanistan, and Cambodia in Group D of the AFC Asian Cup China 2023 final round qualifiers.

The leg which will kick-off on June 8 will be played at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan in Kolkata. India play their first match against Cambodia on June 8.

The Blue Tigers had earlier played international friendlies against Bahrain and Belarus in March.