

OPINION 6 WONDROUS WAYS OF THE ELEPHANT

WORLD 8 BIDEN: RUSSIAN THREAT TO INVADU UKRAINE STILL 'VERY HIGH'

MONEY 9 SENSEX, NIFTY EXTEND LOSSES TO 3RD DAY AS GLOBAL CUES WEIGH

DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA Late City Vol.19 Issue 48 \*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

BHOPAL, SATURDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹1.50

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## 38 awarded death in 2008 Ahmedabad serial blasts

11 sentenced to life imprisonment, 28 acquitted; 56 had died in blasts

PNS ■ AHMEDABAD

Thirty-eight out of 49 accused of 2008 Ahmedabad serial blasts were awarded death sentence by a special court here on Friday whereas 11 others were sentenced to life imprisonment.

A series of 21 blasts that rocked the city on July 26, 2008, claimed 56 lives and left over 200 injured. The court had acquitted 28 others in the case on February 8.

In its voluminous judgment running into nearly 7,000 pages, the court termed this as the rarest of rare crime. These 38 people were convicted under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 302 (murder) and 120B (criminal conspiracy) and provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). Eleven others were held guilty for criminal conspiracy and under various sections of the UAPA, he said.

The court imposed a fine of ₹2.85 lakh on 48 convicts and of ₹2.88 lakh on another one. It also awarded compensation



sation of ₹1 lakh to the kin of those who died in the blasts, ₹50,000 to those who were seriously injured, and ₹25,000 to those who received minor injuries.

Those who were awarded death sentences include Safdar Nagori, Qayumuddin Kapadiya, Zahid Shaikh, Qumaruddin Nagori, and Shamsuddin Sheikh. All the convicts were present for the hearing via video conference from eight different jails — Sabarmati Central jail in Ahmedabad, Tihar in Delhi, Bhopal, Gaya, Bengaluru, Kerala, and Mumbai.

"I can say that this is the case in which the highest number of convicts were awarded death sentence. Earlier, in one

bicycles, in cars and other places, killing 56 people.

As many as 29 live bombs were also found in Surat in the next couple of days though none of them exploded. The trial was conducted after the court merged 20 FIRs of Ahmedabad and 15 FIRs of Surat.

The State Government had transferred the investigation to the Ahmedabad crime branch, under the supervision of then JCP Ashish Bhatia, who is now serving as the Gujarat DGP.

A total of nine different judges presided over the case, starting with Bela Trivedi, in whose court charges were framed against the accused on February 15, 2010. Justice Trivedi is now the judge of the Supreme Court. Special judge AR Patel, who handed over the judgment, started hearing the case from June 14, 2017.

The police had claimed that members of the IM, a radicalised faction of the banned Students Islamic Movement of India (SIMI), were behind the blasts.

The IM planned the blasts as revenge for the 2002 post-Godhra riots in Gujarat in which over a thousand persons, most of them from the Muslim community, had died, the investigators have said.

## Refund fine, restore seized properties of anti-CAA protesters, SC tells UP Govt

Withdrawn 274 notices, says UP Govt, seeks nod for recovery of damages to public and private properties

PNS ■ PREETAM SRIVASTAVA NEW DELHI/LUCKNOW



The Supreme Court on Friday directed the Uttar Pradesh Government to refund the fine and restore the attached properties of the alleged anti-CAA protesters for causing damage to public and private assets in December 2019.

Termining it as a case of "unjust enrichment", the court said the State can recover the damages under the new law, once it is established before the claims tribunal that public and properties were damaged.

The UP Government told the top court that it has withdrawn 274 recovery notices and subsequent proceedings initiated against anti-CAA protesters in 2019 for property damages. The State Government asked permission from the SC to issue new notices based on the new law for recovery of damages to public and private property.

The region, known for dominance of the Yadav community, was once a stronghold of the Samajwadi Party but significant share of votes of Yadav community went with the BJP in 2017. The BJP won 49 out of 59 seats while the SP only had to settle for 9. The Congress got one while the BSP drew a blank from here. Even the Yadav stronghold, which includes Firozabad, Kasganj, Etah, Mainpuri, Farrukhabad, Kannauj and Aurriya did not vote for the SP

which got only six seats in these districts.

The challenge before the BJP is to retain the inroads it had made in this region during 2017 Assembly polls and 2019 Lok Sabha elections, while the SP is fighting for reclaiming the lost territory. Polling in the third phase will be held on February 20 on 59 seats spread across 16 districts.

These include five districts from western UP — Firozabad, Mainpuri, Etah, Kasganj and Hathras. Six districts of the Avadh region, namely Kanpur, Kanpur Dehat, Aurriya, Kannauj, Etawah and Farrukhabad, will go to polls along with five districts from Bundelkhand region: Jhansi, Jalaun, Lalitpur, Hamirpur and Mahoba.

### CAPSULE

**IEDs WERE PREPARED FOR BLASTS ACROSS CITY: DELHI TOP COP**  
New Delhi: IEDs found in a Seemapuri house on Thursday and at the Ghazipur market last month were prepared with the intention of carrying out blasts at public places across the city, according to Delhi Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana.

**BIHAR TO MAKE DEITIES OWNER OF TEMPLE**  
Patna: The Bihar Government has begun the process to make deities owners of the temple land instead of priests, Law Minister Pramod Kumar said on Friday.

**AI TO OPERATE 3 FLIGHTS TO UKRAINE**  
New Delhi: Air India on Friday said it will operate three flights to Ukraine next week. The flights will be operated on February 22, 24 and 26.

## Campaigning ends for crucial phase for BJP, SP

The campaigning for the third phase of UP Assembly polls ended on Friday. The electoral battle for the 18th UP Assembly becomes increasingly crucial for the BJP and the Samajwadi Party.

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## Modi meets Sikh leaders, details work done by Govt for community

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ahead of voting in Punjab Assembly elections on Sunday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosted a number of prominent Sikh representatives at his residence on Friday and detailed the works done by his Government for the community.

Thirty-eight prominent Sikh representatives met the Prime Minister at his residence and felicitated him for declaring December 26 as "veer baal divas" in the memory of the four sons of the Sikh 10th guru, Guru Govind Singh, and creating Kartarpur Sahib corridor to visit the birthplace of the founder of the Sikh religion Guru Gobind Singh. Modi was presented with a "Kripan" and a shawl.

According to a Press statement from the Sikh representatives who attended the meet-



ing, Modi said in his childhood he was greatly influenced by the lives of the Sikh gurus and "used to mention sahabjades deeds in his public speeches".

"I am grateful that I could do something in the memory of Guru Gobind Singh's brave sons," he said.

Modi was also quoted as saying in his childhood he

## 'Elgar accused tried to create unrest, topple Modi Govt', court denies bail

Mumbai: A special court here has denied bail to three persons accused in the Elgar Parishad-Maoist links case, saying that the material on record suggests that the trio and members of the CPI(Maoist) hatched a "serious conspiracy" to create unrest in the country and to overthrow the Modi Government.

A letter placed on record prima facie speaks that the CPI (Maoist) was bent upon ending the "Modi-raj" and that they were also thinking of another incident like the death of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi, by targeting the road shows of PM Narendra Modi, the court said.

The three accused, Sagar Gorkhe, Ramesh Gaichor and Jyoti Jagtap, members of the Kabir Kala Manch, were denied bail by the special court judge DE Kothalikar on Monday.

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## Vyapam to be renamed now as 'Karmchhari Chayan Mandal'

Years after it tarnished the image of the State government post-exposure of a massive admission and recruitment exam scam in 2013, Vyapam which was earlier renamed to Professional Examination Board, will now be rechristened as 'Karmchhari Chayan Mandal' or Employees' Recruitment Board. The decision was made by MP cabinet on Friday.

Vyapam was Hindi name that translated to English as 'Professional Examination Board'. After the scam was unearthed, only Vyapam name was in circulation.

We have decided to rename Vyapam as Karmchhari Chayan Mandal and it will work under the governance of the General Administration Department, Home Minister Narottam Mishra told the media after the cabinet meeting in Bhopal.

In the past, the MP Professional Examination Board known for its Hindi acronym Vyapam was renamed as Professional Examination Board. Sources claimed that the Shivraj government which drew nationwide criticism over the Vyapam scam in the past had prepared the

renaming proposal several times in the past.

Thousands including Vyapam officers, data analysts, and computer operators apart from then Technical Education Minister Laxmikant Sharma, middlemen, imposters, and students who fraudulently made others appear in exams, were named in the scam probe which is underway under CBI supervision. In 2021, Sharma had died after testing positive for Covid19.

Starting from pre-medical exams, the anomalies had spanned to other recruitment tests and pre-admission exams of police, forest guards and several others. On the lines of Bollywood flick -Munnabhai MBBS, the middlemen used to make imposters sit in place of original candidates in the exam in lieu of huge sums. The Vyapam staffers also used to taper OMR sheets to help chosen few students clear the exams.

Initially, the special task force was handed over the probe of the scam but in 2015, chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan had recommended a CBI probe into the scam. The probe is still underway in the matter.

## Hijab not an essential religious practice of Islam, K'taka tells HC

Bengaluru: The Karnataka Government on Friday contended before the Karnataka High Court that the hijab is not an essential religious practice of Islam and preventing its use did not violate Article 25 of the Indian Constitution, which guarantees religious freedom.

State's Advocate General Prabhuling Navadgi told the full bench of the High Court comprising Justice Awasthi, Justice JM Khazi and Justice Krishna M Dixit that the practice of wearing hijab should also pass the test of constitutional morality as interpreted in various Supreme Court judgments, including the Sabrimala case.

"We have taken a stand that wearing Hijab is not an essential religious part of Islam," Navadgi told the HC bench.

AG Navadgi also rejected the charge of the girls, who challenged the Karnataka Government's order on

# Cabinet approves to declare proposed 906 KM Narmada expressway as Narmada Pragati Path

**STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL**

The State cabinet has approved to rename the proposed Narmada Expressway as Narmada Pragati Path in Madhya Pradesh. Along with this, sanction was given to the proposal of construction of feeder routes to connect the category, width and major areas of the routes in different sections according to the alignment proposal of Narmada Expressway in the state and in-principle approval was given to authorise the Public Works Department to obtain approval in coordination with the Government of India.

was given to authorise the Department of Industrial Policy and Investment Promotion to implement an action plan for the development works of industrial areas on the Narmada Pragati Path for the purpose of financing and investment promotion.

The alignment of the proposed Narmada Expressway starting from Kabir Chabutra (Amarkantak) to Dindori-Jabalpur-Obedullaganj-Budhni-Nasrullaganj-Sandalpur-Karnawad-Indore-Dhar-Sardarpur-Jhabua (MP/Gujarat border) is proposed, with a total length of about 906 km. According to the proposal, Kabir Chabutra to

Dindori 76 km 2 lane, Dindori to Jabalpur 155 km 2 lane, Jabalpur Bypass Greenfield 18 km 4 lane, Jabalpur to Obedullaganj 269 km 4 lane, Obedullaganj to Budhni 32 km 4 lane, Budhni-Rehti-Nasrullaganj 53 km 2 lanes, Nasrullaganj to Sandalpur 35 km proposed 4 lanes, Sandalpur to Karnawad 60 km 4 lanes, Karnawad to Indore 33 km 4 lanes and Indore-Dhar-Jhabua-MP/Gujarat border 175 km 4 lanes were approved.

In-principle approval was given to the proposal to connect major areas in the alignment of Narmada Pragati Path include as National Highway from Shahdol to Sagar Tola (27 km

before Amarkantak) 67 km 2 lanes, Rewa to Jabalpur 212 km 4 lanes, Bhopal to Obedullaganj 30 km 4 lanes, Harda to Sandalpur 29 km 4 lanes, Hoshangabad to Budni 6 km 4 lanes, Khandwa to Indore 125 km 4 lanes, Khargone to Khalghat (Indore) 52 km 2 lanes, Barwani to Thikri (Indore) 53 km 2 lanes, Dewas to Indore 25 km 6 lanes and as a state route Harsud to Harda 45 km 4 lane, Ratlam to Labad (Indore) 90 km 4 lane and Ujjain to Indore 45 km 4 lane.

Madhya Pradesh Road Development Corporation

The cabinet approved the collection of consumer fee for five years through a contracting

agency on 17 previously constructed roads under Madhya Pradesh Road Development Corporation. Toll rates have been fixed on these 17 routes according to per kilometer per trip. Approval has been given to fix toll rates on light commercial vehicles at Rs 1.4704, trucks at Rs 3.6501 and multi axle trucks at Rs 7.2830.

The above rates at each toll plaza will be increased every year on the basis of Wholesale Price Index and will be rounded off to the nearest five rupees. This increase will be made effective from September 1 at the rate of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) announced by the Government of India.



Students search their roll-number for their seat arrangement as they appear in the high school examinations of Madhya Pradesh Board of Secondary Education, in Bhopal on Friday. Pioneer photo

## New education policy to ensure all round development: Yadav

**PNS ■ UJJAIN**

New education policy will ensure all round development along with education and skill enhancement of students said Higher Education Minister Mohan Yadav, online induction program of the first year of graduation completed.

Higher Education Minister Mohan Yadav said that the new education policy implemented in the state would ensure all round development of students along with education and skill enhancement. With the inclusion of employable subjects in the courses, students will no longer have to wander for employment after completing their studies.

Yadav was addressing the



virtual induction program organized for 4.94 lakh students of first year graduates of government and private colleges.

Minister Yadav said that with the introduction of vocational courses in the new education policy, students can choose the course according to their interest. In addition, they

can hone their skills by taking up internship and apprenticeship options.

He said that the main objective of vocational education is not only to impart academic knowledge of trades or technical training to the students, it is essential education with broad objectives, which enhances the skills of the youth and makes them mature according to the employment opportunities.

In the program, students of 1339 colleges of the state were connected through virtual medium through NIC center.

On this occasion, Commissioner Higher Education Sonali Wayangankar discussed with the principals of the colleges and also answered the questions of the students.

## CM pays homage to Swami Ramkrishna Paramhans

**Bhopal:** Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan paid homage to Swami Ramkrishna Paramhans on his anniversary. Chouhan paid floral tributes by garlanding his photo in the auditorium at his residence office.

Swami Ramkrishna Paramhans was a great saint, spiritual master and thinker. He emphasised the unity of all religions. As a result of spiritual practice, he came to the conclusion that all the religions of the world are true and there is no difference in them. They are just different means of reaching to God.

A nurturer of human values, Ramkrishna Paramhans was born on February 18, 1836 in Kamarpukur village in the Bengal state. Swami Ramkrishna Paramhans passed away on August 16, 1886.

## Police nab miscreant wanted in rape, from Mubarakpur square

**STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL**

The Gandhi Nagar police arrested a 24-year-old miscreant from Mubarakpur square who was wanted in a case of rape, accused was carrying a reward of Rs 5000.

Police team rushed to the spot after receiving information about miscreant identified as Shafeeq Khan was arrested from Mubarakpur square.

The accused was booked under section 376,376 (2) (N) and 506 of the IPC and remained absconding after the incident.

Police said that the accused was arrested while he was on trying to escape.

## 42 kgs of Cannabis recovered

**STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL**

Kolar police have arrested two drug peddlers carrying drugs weighing 42 kg of Cannabis at Gol Jod square in a car on Thursday; action was taken after receiving information that drug peddler would bring massive quantity of drug in a car which was hidden in gas fuel tank.

Police received information that Cannabis was carried illegally in car bearing registration number MP04HC0223.

A police reached rushed to the spot and tracked the car and when it was checked Cannabis was found in the gas fuel tank.

The police seized over 42 kg of Cannabis which was brought from the forests of Muddinguda in Telangana.

The drug peddlers were identified as Dinesh Thakur (41) and Shubham Thakur (20) of Nayapura Sodalpur Raisen.

On searching the car, 20 packets wrapped in colored tape were found inside the tank of gas kit in the trunk of the car. The total weight of drugs recovered was around 42 kg.

The details of procurement and were he scheduled to sell the drugs.

After the initial investigation police have registered a case under sections 8 and 20 of the NDPS Act. The crime record of the accused would be investigated. The local connection of drug peddlers would be investigated in the further investigation.

Dinesh Thakur was booked for illegal transporting of drugs by Malkangiri Odisha police.



Students appear in the class 10th Board examinations conducted by Madhya Pradesh Board of Secondary Education in Bhopal on Friday. Pioneer photo

## On suggestitons of readers new books to be added at SVL on Saturday

**STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL**

The collection of books suggested by the members in Swami Vivekananda Library will be released on Sunday. Hindi and English books have been included in this collection.

A total of 20 books in this collection will be put on display. Swami Vivekananda Library. Manager Yatish Bhatele said that most of the new titles Hindi and English have also been included in the books suggested by the members. Collection members who are members of the library can suggest their favorite book by writing the name of Register Books or can also suggest it over email. If the

book is not available at the book supplier, then the library also buys it online. The collection of books suggested by the members will be displayed on Sunday. The library adds new books/ DVDs/ magazine collections to its members every week.

The collection includes books like Lata didi author Harish Bhimani, Lata Sur-Gatha Author Yatindra Mishra, Ako bako author Divya Prakash Dubey, Pregnancy and Child Care Guide Author Abrar Multani, Alipura Author Gyan Chaturvedi, Race for Tomorrow Author Simon, The Eastern Gate Author Sudip Chakraborty, Curing Airborne Allergies Author William C., Yoga for Sports Author B. Of. Yes.

Iyengar, The Saraswati Civilization Author G D Bakshi, Resolved Author Bun-Ki Moon and more.

Yatish Bhatele told that Swami Vivekananda Library has started a new facility for the members. If any book is not in the library's collection to the library members, then one can suggest that book. It will be the endeavor of the library to include the suggested book by the library members. That's when the members' book is included in the library's collection. So the book which the member has suggested, the information about that book is given to the members by phone or email. Members can reserve these and the issue will happen to the members next Saturday.

## Urdu Academy's 'Talash-e-Jauhar' in Indore on Saturday

**STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL**

As part of the Amrit Mahotsav of Azadi, "Talaash-e-Jauhar: Lecture and Workshop" will be organized on Saturday at 10 AM at Hotel The Eden, South Tukoganj, Indore.

While sharing information about the programme, Nusrat Mehdi said that the Urdu Academy has once again started the "Talaash-e-Juhar" programme to give a platform to the new creators of the state.

She further informed that this time, coordinators have been made from every district of the state to search for creators from cities, towns, and villages, through which the search for new creators is going on. Under this process, in the first phase, about 300 poetic compositions were received through district coordinators.

A committee was formed for the selection of creators through compositions, by which about 220 new composers have been

**This time, coordinators have been made from every district of to search for creators from cities, towns, and villages**

selected for the next phase. In the next phase the selected creators are being invited for Philbadhi Shayari Muqabla (instantaneous poetry competition).

Besides, on spot writing competition for the select writers from all the districts will be held. The selected writers will also be honored for the best original writing.

On this occasion, dialogues and poetry will be presented by senior poets for the guidance of poets, senior poets will include Rashid Shadani, Ishrat Wahid, Isaac Asr, Nasir Indori, Anwar Sadiqui and Yusuf Mansoori.

## 15 employees oriented courses soon

**STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL**

The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) of the state will start 15 most job-oriented courses from the coming session in colleges having 'A' and 'A+' grade. Along with this, vocational courses will also be prepared as per the requirement of local industries. Higher Education Minister Mohan Yadav said this during the review of departmental activities on Friday.

Yadav said that in the new National Education Policy, the youths have been given freedom to choose subjects of interest other than the traditional subjects. Continuous work is being done for quality education in the state. He said that subjects like industry and tourism would also be added in the distance learning centres set up by Bhoj University. The Higher Education Minister said that the students would be prepared according to the demand of the industry and tourism sector.

## V Anuradha Singh to perform at Kala Bhavan

**STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL**

Anuradha Singh, a noted Kathak maestro of the city will be showcasing her panache before the audience on Saturday. She will give a performance at Pnadit Kartikram Smriti Samaroh at Kala Bhavan.

To give a tribute to Pandit Kartikram, as many as five Kathak performances by various dancers will be held at the programme. The event is organised by Vrinda Kathak Kendra, Bhopal.

Anuradha is noted Kathak dancer from Bhopal. She is better known for her innovation and improvisation in traditional Kathak technique. Experimenting with

classical Sufi Kathak, she has evolved a refined, sophisticated style in pure classical form, based on fast speeds, swift turns, mind thrilling footwork, delicacy of movements and impressive expressions.

Rhythmic understanding, ability to extemporize with speedy rhythms and preserving pure Kathak classical style are some of her qualities.

With enchanting stage presence she has earned acclamation for intense and sensitive dance presentations. She has performed solo Kathak internationally in addition to more than 45 prestigious Government organized festivals in India and has also given across the world.



A team of Excise department officials conduct a raid at a liquor shop at GTB complex in Bhopal on Friday. Pioneer photo

## Indore police recover missing girl within six hours with hectic efforts

**PNS ■ INDORE**

Police station Tukoganj found the missing minor girl with tireless efforts and handed it over to the family members within just 06 hours.

Taking seriously the cases of missing and kidnapping of minor boys and girls in Indore city,

instructions have been given by the CP Indore Nagar Harinarayanchari Mishra to take action on priority.

In continuation of the above instructions, ACP Manish Kapuria and Deputy Commissioner of Police Zone-3 Indore under the guidance of Dharmendra Singh Bhadauria, Addl DCP Zone-3

Indore Rajesh Raghuvanshi and Assistant Commissioner of Police Harish Motwani take action as per the guidelines.

The missing minor girl was found by the police team led by T I Tukoganj Kamlesh Sharma tirelessly within just 6 hours and handed over to the family members.

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# CBI files supplementary charge-sheet against 160 accused in Vyapam scam

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The Central Bureau of Investigation has filed Supplementary Charge-Sheet against 160 accused including the then Controller, Vyapam, Bhopal; the then Director Medical Education (DME); the then Joint Director in the Office of DME; 16 Officials including Chairman of private Medical Colleges at Bhopal, Indore; 56 Beneficiary Candidates; 46 Solver Candidates; Impersonators; 30 Guardians of the Beneficiary Candidates; 09 Middlemen/Racketeers in the Court of Special Judge, Vyapam Cases, Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) in a case related to PMT-2013 Examination conducted by

Vyapam. CBI had registered the instant case on 21.08.2015 on the Orders dated 9th July, 2015 of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed in Writ Petition Civil No.417/2015 along with various other petitions and taken over the investigation of the case earlier registered at Police Station Rajinder Nagar, Indore vide FIR No.539 of 2013 related to irregularities in Pre-Medical Test (PMT)-2013 conducted by MP Professional Examination Board (Vyapam). 02 persons were arrested on 06.07.2013 from Indore by the local police. As the case had wider ramifications, its investigation was transferred from Police Station Rajendra Nagar,

Indore to Crime Branch, Indore and later, in August, 2013, to STF, Bhopal. It was alleged that racketeers and several others were operating from different cities of Madhya Pradesh i.e Bhopal, Indore, Ujjain, Shahdol, Ratlam & Sagar. These racketeers were allegedly involved in arranging for beneficiary candidates and solvers in the PMT Examination. The pairing of respective Solver and Beneficiary Candidates was being done by the racketeers. It was further alleged that the racketeers, thereafter, were getting the roll numbers of these Solver - Beneficiary Candidates manipulated through Vyapam officials,

such that a Beneficiary candidate was seated right behind his Solver candidate, thus enabling the Beneficiary to cheat and copy the answers from Solver Candidates. The MP Police had filed 12 Charge-Sheets against the accused and kept the investigation open against the remaining accused. After conducting investigation, CBI filed a Charge-Sheet in the instant case against 490 accused on 31.10.2017 in the Court of Special Judge, Vyapam Cases, Bhopal. Further investigation was kept open. CBI conducted further investigation against the remaining accused on various allegations including manipulations in assigning

favourable Roll Numbers to the beneficiary candidates & solvers, conspiracy with middlemen/racketeers; conspiracy with 03 private Medical Colleges of Madhya Pradesh; and other co-accused who facilitated illegal admissions to otherwise ineligible students/candidates in the said private Medical Colleges of Madhya Pradesh; Involvement in illegal vacation of State Quota seats of MBBS & subsequent illegal admissions to otherwise ineligible students/candidates by said private Medical Colleges of MP etc. After thorough investigation, supplementary chargesheet was filed against 160 accused.



Young Brahmin students take part in a sacred thread ceremony, at Ramanand Ashram, situated at Gufa Mandir, in Bhopal on Friday. Pioneer photo



Chairman of National Child Rights Protection Commission Priyanka Kanungo called on Madhya Pradesh Governor Mangubhai Patel in Bhopal on Friday. Pioneer photo

## 888 new cases detected in MP

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The COVID-19 tally in Madhya Pradesh reached 10,32,477 on Friday with the detection of 888 cases, while the deaths of two patients in the last 24 hours took the toll to 10,711, an official said. The positivity rate stood at 1.4 per cent, down from 1.8 per cent on Thursday, he said. So far, 10,12,060 people have been discharged post recovery, including 2,715 during the day, leaving the state with an active tally of 9,706, the official said. Bhopal and Indore, the two worst coronavirus-hit cities of Madhya Pradesh, registered 182 and 100 cases, respectively, during the past 24 hours, he said.

## Medi-Caps seminar on Indore Smart City

PNS ■ INDORE

Innovative and Incubation Centre of Medi-Caps University organized anseminar on "Interactive Session on Initiatives of Indore Smart City". The speaker was Rishav Gupta, the CEO of Smart City, Indore. Rishav Gupta is a graduate in Electrical Engineering from IIT Delhi and an IAS of 2014 batch. As CEO of Smart city Indore, he is spearheading initiatives for carbon credits-being the first city in Asia to earn from Carbon credits; building sludge treatment plants; doing GIS mapping of the city for

efficient delivery of services and redevelopment of several heritage structures. He is also in-charge of Smart Seed Incubation Centre which is envisaged as the future startup capital for central India. The event was organized to create the awareness amongst the faculty members about the internship opportunities available at the project of Smart City at Indore and how students of different domain can work together with faculty members and contribute towards solution to a number of problems faced during the project. At the start of his talk, Rishav Gupta explained the functions and requirement of an Incubation Centre. Being in-charge of

Seed Incubator, he explained its working. He also explained, what is a Startup and why is important for Higher Education Institute to prepare students for launching startups. He urged faculty members to prepare students to take-up internship or mini-projects in the ongoing Smart City project work and suggested various fields for engineering domains like-traffic and power plant controlling, data analytics by using python, decision making with AI and ML, design of electric vehicles and charging stations etc. He also explained the concept of smart city and that of carbon credit and its importance. He explained the various problems in

converting existing city into a smart city like- shifting of locality, destroying encroachments, shifting of sewage and water supply lines, electricity poles, and underground telephone cables without or with minor damages. The session was quite interactive. Registrar Dr. Ankur Saxena, Deans and HODs of different faculties participated. At the beginning, Prof (Dr.) Dilip Kumar Patnaik, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor welcomed the speaker with a sapling and at the end presented a memento as a token of gratitude. Prof(Dr.) D.K. Panda, Hon'ble Pro-Vice Chancellor offered Vote of Thanks. Prof. Preeti Yadav (Member, MIIC) moderated the event.

## State Cabinet approves start-up policy, MP to be self-dependent with new enterprises

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Madhya Pradesh has now become a state that formulates and implements its own start-up policy. In line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of expanding manufacturing product start-ups, the start-up policy has been implemented by incorporating the resources of Madhya Pradesh in the policy. The new start-up policy was approved in the meeting of the Cabinet held under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Friday. Secretary MSME and Commissioner Industries P. Narhari informed that the MP Start-up Policy and Implementation Plan 2022 cum process and guidelines has been approved by the Cabinet for the promotion of start-ups and innovations in the state. Provision has been made in the policy, for financial, non-financial facilities and assistance and facilitation to start-ups and incubators. Narhari said that the key provisions of the policy include investment assistance, programme planning assistance, lease rental assistance, assistance for expansion, patent assistance etc. to start-ups and incubators for the development of the start-up ecosystem. According to the vision of the Prime Minister in the policy, for increasing the number of product based start-ups, special facilities like employment generation and skill development assistance, exemption in electricity duty and concession in rates etc. will be provided to them. The new policy also includes additional 20 percent set up by women and special programmes to inculcate the spirit of innovation and start-up among students from school, college level. Entrepreneurship development has been actively



included in the academic curriculum, to encourage internships to attract students towards entrepreneurship. Along with efforts to solve the socio-economic problems of the state through the innovation challenge program in the policy, a special incentive assistance of Rs one crore will be given to selected start-ups and innovators. Apart from this, there is a provision to set up a separate start-up center in Bhopal with a team of experts like finance and project management, marketing and legal matters for facilitation of start-ups and providing assistance under policy. The policy also includes achieving high growth rate in Government of India recognized start-ups, special focus for development of start-ups in agriculture and food sector, setting up of new incubation centers and capacity building in existing incubation centres. Provision for cooperation in marketing and branding of start-ups to establish them at international and national level has also been included in the policy. In order to make the policy effective, Madhya Pradesh Venture Finance Limited and Madhya Pradesh Venture Finance Trustee Limited have been merged with Madhya Pradesh Laghu Udyog Nigam, so that a specific Venture Capital Fund can be created for funding support to start-ups in future. He said that a robust online portal

would be developed for start-ups, which would act as a contact bridge for all concerned stakeholders. The portal will be integrated with the start-up portal of the Government of India. Priority will be given to providing benefits of facilities through the portal. In order to encourage start-ups and innovation and to provide necessary technical and guidance support, they will get necessary support and participation from national and state level technical and management institutions/universities and other academic institutions. Under the Ease of Doing Business, there will also be a system of post-facto approval for the necessary permissions for start-ups and incubators, and approvals. According to the provision in the Madhya Pradesh Public Service Guarantee Act, 2010, valid approval will also be given. Exemption from the conditions and criteria related to experience and turnover will be given to the start-up enterprises participating in government tender up to Rs one crore. In addition, security fund, earnest money will be exempted in all the tenders. To overcome the lack of cash liquidity in the start-ups, corporations, boards and major departments of the state government will also be linked to the TREDIS Platform Trade Receivable Discounting System authorized by the Reserve Bank of India as far as possible.

## Married woman of Jaipur sexually assaulted in Bhopal

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A 30-year-old Jaipur based married woman was sexually assaulted by a miscreant at Nazeerabad area on Thursday; victim as raped in front of her son by the accused. A case of sexual assault was registered after victim lodged complaint with the police after she faced atrocity. According to the police, the victim was sexually assaulted by the accused Naval Singh, who is local residing in the same area. In her complaint, the victim told the police that she came for ritual of her son at her in-laws house and while her husband was in Jaipur. The victim was alone at house with her son

when the accused came and sexually assaulted her. On Wednesday she came to Bhopal for 'mundan' of her son in Nazeerabad area. She was alone with her son when the accused came and sexually assaulted. The accused threatened her of killing her son and sexually assaulted her. The police have registered a case under sections 376 and 506 of the IPC and have started further investigation. After the complaint was lodged the accused went absconding and is still absconding. During the investigation, police found that the victim married and her husband used to work in Jaipur and the family started to live in Jaipur.

## Shivraj gives unique message of environment protection plantation

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

For environmental protection, 365 days ago i.e. a year ago, Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan had taken a pledge on February 19 on Narmada Jayanti, to plant a sapling every day and ever since every morning Chouhan starts his day with planting a sapling. Wherever he may be, whether in Bhopal or Delhi, or in any division, district, tehsil or village, not a single day has he missed planting a sapling and this series has completed one year on Friday. Chouhan not only plants saplings, but also takes full care of them. He says, "All the plants I have planted so far are like my children and family members." The Chief Minister

resolve to plant saplings every day was not only a message of environmental protection for the people of the state, but it was also a successful attempt to mobilize public participation for the environment, which is also becoming fruitful today. Impressed by this resolution of the Chief Minister, the atmosphere that was created for plantation in the state inspired people from urban and rural areas to join along with many institutions. Chouhan has also adopted innovation in plantation work. Now it is his endeavor to ensure that while planting saplings every day, eminent personalities from all walks of life, environmentalists, social organizations, public representatives, students and volunteers should also accompany him. With this unique

initiative, the people of the state have also started taking interest in plantation. Fully committed to his resolve, Chief Minister Chouhan never fails to mention about planting saplings during his address in public programmes. In every event/programme he urges people - "Every citizen must plant a sapling on the occasion of his family's / auspicious programmes if not every day. By doing so, you can give a big gift to the coming generations." Chouhan has also been saying that in the troubles we have faced during the Corona period last year, shortage of oxygen has been one of the important aspects. Trees and plants not only give us free natural oxygen, but also save the world from global warming.

## Asia's largest CNG plant will start in Indore on Saturday

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Indore city has maintained its highest position in the field of cleanliness. Now the unimaginable idea of making energy from waste has been given shape in Indore. In order to realize Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's concept of Waste-to-Wealth and to innovate in the field of sanitation, Municipal Corporation, Indore has set up a Bio-CNG Plant of 550 MT per day capacity for wet waste disposal. This plant is the largest and the first plant of Bio-CNG from organic waste in the entire Asia continent, which is a matter of pride not only for Indore but for the state as well as for the country. This Bio-CNG is located at Devguradiya Trenching Ground in the city. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will dedicate the plant. Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan will also attend the programme. Bio CNG Plant is based on the PPP model. While on the one hand, Municipal Corporation, Indore will not bear any financial burden on the establishment of this plant, on the other hand, the agency setting up the plant, I&ESL, New Delhi will pay a premium of Rs. 2.5 crore per annum to the Municipal Corporation, Indore. In this

plant, 550 MT of wet waste (domestic organic waste) will be treated daily, which will generate 17 thousand 500 kg of Bio-CNG. Gas and 100 tonnes of high quality organic compost will be produced. Out of the Bio-CNG produced from this plant, 50 percent gas will be available to Municipal Corporation, Indore for the use of public transport buses. The remaining 50 percent gas can be sold to various industries and commercial consumers. The decision to set up this plant in Indore has been taken since the waste segregation of Indore city is of good quality. Before the decision to set up the plant, the said company got the wet - waste tested by taking more than 200 samples in the last one year. Based on the test results, it was revealed that only 0.5 to 0.9 percent of the rejects are there in the wet - waste, which was found to be of high quality as compared to other European countries. After a source based segregation process, it is necessary to pre-process it to produce bio gas from organic waste. For this, state-of-the-art equipment is required in the plant. Since the organic waste collected from Indore city has very less amount of inorganic material, yet this waste has to go through the processing. For this, state-of-

the-art and automatic equipment has been installed inside the plant. After receiving the organic waste in a bunker, it is transported to the processing equipment with the help of a grab crane. Inorganic and fibrous substances from the organic waste are separated by a large screen. Recycled water is mixed in appropriate proportion in the organic solid waste, which produces slurries of appropriate quality. In the separation hammer mill, the inorganic material is separated by self-propelled method, the control of which is computerized. Organic waste undergoes decomposition process for about 25 days in the absence of oxygen. This process is called biomethanation process, in which micro-organisms contribute a lot. These micro-organisms complete the process of biological decomposition at a controlled temperature. Bio gas is produced in the form of energy in this process. State-of-the-art CSTR, digester tanks based on mesophilic technology were manufactured at this plant set up in Indore city. A heat exchanger for temperature control and center mixer to maintain slurry uniformity have been installed in these tanks, which have been imported from European countries.

## Two married women marry each other in Bhopal

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Two married women from Himachal Pradesh's Shimla and another from Madhya Pradesh capital Bhopal became friends on Facebook. After some time, they fell in love and despite being married an having children, they got married. The women came in contact with each other on Facebook last month, the police said. They became friends, and the woman from Shimla came to Bhopal to meet her friend. Their friendship turned into love, and both of them got married in Ghaziabad, police added. The Shimla woman has two children, while the one in Bhopal has a child. The woman living in Bhopal was living separately, while the woman living in Shimla had left her husband, who had filed a missing report in the city. Few organisations came to know about the incident of a missing woman and they contacted the police. Shimla police came to know that the missing woman started living in Bhopal's Nishatpura. The woman's husband also came to Bhopal from Shimla.

The Shimla based woman came to Bhopal and married Bhopal's woman. Police say they cannot be barred from living together. Counselling of both the women was done by the officials of the Urja desk at Govindpura police station in Bhopal. Urja Desks were set up in 700 police stations across Madhya Pradesh to check the crime against women. During counselling, it came to light that both the women were living together without any pressure and of their own will. They had been living with each other for the past 45 days. Senior police official Vineet Kapoor said that both the women are adults and there is no pressure on them. "They became friends on Facebook. They decided to live together. After counselling the woman from Shimla agreed to live with her husband. Nobody committed any offence and hence we decided to not file any case against the Bhopal-based woman," he said.







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PAPER WITH PASSION

## Meaningful apology

### Atrocities on former colonies deserve at least heartfelt regret, like the Dutch PM offered

The Netherlands Prime Minister, Mark Rutte, on Thursday apologised to Indonesia for unprecedented violence the Dutch used during the former's War of Independence between 1945 and 1949. He said his Government accepted the findings of a historical review that described Dutch violence as systematic, excessive and unethical as the country tried to regain control of its former colony after World War II. Nearly one lakh Indonesians were possibly killed in the violence while the original figure of official Dutch historians was between 1,500 and 5,100. Earlier, in March 2020, King Willem-Alexander of The Netherlands also apologised for his country's violence against its former colony of Indonesia. He also formally recognised Indonesia's independence date in his first State visit to Jakarta. The first Dutch apology for its 350-year colonial rule came in 2013 when a Dutch ambassador expressed remorse. This is not the first apology for colonial excesses. It will not be the last. There were post-colonial cases of violence, too, the worst-ever being the Jewish Holocaust and the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Massacres and genocide in Africa continued till recently. The initiators of the Iraq war do not still see any reason to apologise. Violence is a policy for the colonial power. Structural violence is integrated into the functioning of any aggressive power. It takes years, even centuries, for attitudes to change, for former empires which were proud of their expansionist policies to suddenly seek forgiveness from their former subjects.



But it does happen eventually as massive exposure of violent, inhuman acts shocks the people of the past colonial powers. The retribution is complete not when the apology is made because an apology is a short passage of text. The retribution is complete when past powers grapple with changing attitudes and how to present "contested" heritage. Eventually, they will get it done

and their past will look not so glorified. Sovereign or collective national apologies provide public accountability. They atone for a painful period of a country's past. These apologies act as moral gatekeepers to prevent human rights abuses in the future. However, what about those cases where the apologies never come, or they do come but without meaning anything? The last apartheid President of South Africa, FW de Clerk, apologised in 1992 for the segregation policies. However, he refused to take responsibility for apartheid-period abuses like torture and assassinations. The half-hearted apology was forgotten the moment it was given. Only the US House of Representatives ever apologised for African slavery. The Americans never apologised for the nuclear bombings on Japan though an American President visited Hiroshima. A British Prime Minister visited Amritsar to publicly apologise for the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. The British apologised for the Irish Potato Famine but not for the Bengal Famine of 1943 in which three million Indians died of hunger as critical food supplies were diverted to the war theatre.



Russian ambassador Valery Kuzmin pays his respect at the WWII Soviet Heroes cemetery in Bucharest

## Third coming?

### The non-Congress, non-NDA parties are floating a new balloon to take on the BJP

There's a bit of new wine in an old bottle. A handful of Chief Ministers — including West Bengal's Mamata Banerjee, Tamil Nadu's MK Stalin, Telangana's KCR and Maharashtra's Uddhav Thackeray, among others — are trying to forge a political alternative to the BJP at the national level. They have even announced a conclave of their leaders soon, though the date and likely venue is not in public domain yet. What makes sense here is that with the virtual demise of the Congress at the national level, the Opposition space is wide open at the political platform. And, to be fair to these regional leaders, they have had their moments of glory in picking up a direct fight with the indomitable Narendra Modi-Amit Shah combine and emerged victorious after the bloodbath at the hustings. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has proved to be a tough bargain for the duo, even trying to take his party's footprint to Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and as far as to the smaller State of Goa; Mamata has bruised Modi in Bengal; Akhilesh is giving him a run for his money, and the results are still awaited; so the aura of his invincibility has lost some of the sheen that Modi arrived at the scene with in 2014.



With the BJP getting a firmer toehold and larger imprint in Telangana, too, sometime-on-sometime-off KCR has started fiercely guarding his turf and is therefore trying to help cobble up a union of smaller, like-minded parties opposed to the BJP and indifferent to the Congress' already waning influence. Ironically, the idea of an alternative germinated in the 1960s to counter the might of the Congress. But today the Congress is not even part of it. The fight is primarily between the satraps and the BJP. Since Modi's ascension to power at the Centre in 2014, the regional parties have been steadily ceding ground to the saffron colour. Of course, the BJP had had to sacrifice some of its longtime allies too, like the SAD in Punjab and the Shiv Sena in Maharashtra. But it has chosen to play the game of brinkmanship and spring back into the game after silently licking its wounds. How long, and to what effect, will it last is anybody's guess? Perhaps the results of this cycle of five Assembly polls will hold a clue to 2024.

# Wondrous ways of the elephant

### Elephants understand everything we say, provided it is put simply. They are in many ways more human than us; yet we treat them shabbily

This happened at the Addo National Elephant Park in South Africa in December 2010. A herd of elephants was out taking the air, and doing some foraging, when a baby elephant became a trifle adventurous. Breaking away on its own, exploring the land around, it slipped and fell into a small depression where it got stuck. Hearing his/her piteous cry, all the mama elephants rushed to the rescue. It was a difficult lift but they managed after a while with powerful pulls and pushes by their trunks. As the exhausted baby lay on its belly with four legs spread out in four directions, the mama elephants gathered all round rebuking him/her just as elderly relatives of a family would collectively berate a young boy or girl whose misguided quest for excitement had led to the jettisoning of discretion and trouble.



The event provided yet another reminder of the immensely strong mutual ties that bind elephants and how humane the latter are. Taking an elephant away from a herd and bringing him/her to a distant place to labour for a human master, causes him/her intense sorrow born of loneliness and haunting memories of old ties that have been severed.

This is particularly so because elephants have long memories that transcend species. They remember acts of kindness and the people behind them. The story of Lawrence Anthony, the Elephant Whisperer, who was a wildlife conservationist, environmentalist and best-selling author, and the herd of seven elephants he took into his reserve, Thula Thula in Zululand, South Africa, is well-known. The damage they had been causing to crops and villages, breaking out again and again from confinement, had enraged people who were determined to kill them. Requested to take them in by the authorities, Lawrence agreed as he knew they would otherwise die. Exceptionally clever behemoths, they posed a major problem for Lawrence.

He adopted the strategy of

arriving at the spot whenever they seemed getting ready to break through, and stood before them arguing and pleading with them not to leave, as certain death awaited them outside with groups of hunters and poachers were waiting with guns ready. Gradually, the elephants understood that he was a caring friend, and a deep bond grew between Anthony and them, so much so that a most remarkable thing happened when he died after a heart attack in March 2012. The herd, which now had 29 elephants, was at the other end of the reserve when tragedy struck. Yet, coming to know of the event — it remains unexplained how — they gathered in front of the house and stood silently — almost as if keeping vigil — for two days and then dispersing.

Many more such events can be cited. My grandmother, Punyalata Chakraborty, once narrated a story from the days when under the "Sunset Law", the Government confiscated and auctioned a land if revenue was not paid before sunset on a specified date. A zamindar,

in what was then East Bengal, found on arrival at the treasury that the sack containing the money for revenue payment had disappeared. A thorough search some distance down the road to the treasury drew a blank. He was in trouble; because it was too late to somehow put together the money and bring it over to the treasury. Facing disaster, he stood crying before his beloved elephant, stroking her trunk and saying that he would now have to part with her per force. The elephant listened and, perhaps getting a hang of what it was about, opened her mouth. The sack fell out! Of the various conjectures, the one that became a consensus was that the sack had fallen from her back, on which the zamindar and the mahout sat, somewhere down the road to the treasury. The zamindar did not notice it, but she did and had picked it up and had perhaps thought of carrying it all the way back home and drop it there before she had changed her mind seeing the zamindar's distress.

Did she understand what the zamindar was saying? One



HIRANMAY KARLEKAR



THIS IS PARTICULARLY SO BECAUSE ELEPHANTS HAVE LONG MEMORIES THAT TRANSCEND SPECIES. THEY REMEMBER ACTS OF KINDNESS AND THE PEOPLE BEHIND THEM

does not know. I was, however, an eyewitness to an incident in a South African game sanctuary some time ago. Travelling in a car, we had run into a herd of elephants that did not recognise the vehicle and were taken by surprise. As they glared suspiciously, the ranger accompanying us, a young woman by the name of Antia, began talking to the matriarch calmly in Afrikaans, as if she was explaining a matter to a fellow human being. The matriarch listened intently and led the herd away after Antia had finished.

Curious, I had Antia at the end of the drive as to what she had told the matriarch. She replied, "I just said, Mamma, you know us. We go about the sanctuary every day and never have we caused the slightest harm to you or your babies. So, please go your way. You have nothing to worry about." Then she added, "Elephants understand everything we say, provided it is put simply. They are in many ways more human than us. And, yet, we treat them so horribly."

(The author is Consulting Editor, The Pioneer. The views expressed are personal.)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### THE GLORY OF OUR DEMOCRACY

Sir — Speaking on how a democracy should function, Singapore PM Lee Hsien Loong is reported to have said that Nehru's India has become one where almost half the MPs in the Lok Sabha have criminal charges against them, including those of rape and murder. Though it is uncalled for, it is a bitter truth coming from a foreign dignitary. It is a fact. Many criminals ruling us is the order of the day. India, as the largest democracy in the world, should have barred criminals from becoming lawmakers in its 70 years of self-rule. The Vohra Committee report is simply lying around, gathering dust.

The Union Government is slack in barring criminals from contesting elections and becoming lawmakers. The same goes for the EC and the Supreme Court. But criminals have taken full control over Indian politics. Men, muscle and money power have a distinct say in elections but the EC and the apex court remain silent spectators. Indian politics has become dirty and corrupt because of criminals becoming lawmakers. People have lost faith in this Indian model of democracy. The lesser voter turnout in elections is a direct result of such developments. Two, it's not only Nehru's India but an India of many great leaders.

— Sravana Ramachandran | Chennai

### FOCUS ON THE JOB AT HAND, PARTIES

Sir — Since former Punjab CM Captain Amarinder Singh and the Congress leadership have parted ways, their noises are only about castigating each other prior to the Assembly election. It's high time that they concentrated seriously on the Assembly election, knocking on the door of the voters. The Captain's comments laughing away Bhagwant Mann as the AAP's chief ministerial candidate by differentiating between "comedy and the serious business of running a Government", however, fall on hard ground given that the people of Punjab have voted the actor to take on the political mantle.

Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's observation that the BJP finds Jawaharlal Nehru responsible for every

## It's not funny, dear Djoker!



Tennis great Novak Djokovic's pledge for #NoVaxStand and his denial to accept vaccines into his body are grabbing global attention. We all know that star players these days let out their personal issues to the world media: A few years back, Japanese player Osaka voiced out her hesitation to public speaking and to media interaction. And now the way Novak announced that he could skip more Grand Slam events and tournaments as a price for not taking the vaccine is not right.

There is absolutely nobody happy with his decision. He is a talented tennis player, and his resistance to COVID-19 vaccine is driving him away from his profession. His #NoVaxStand may be absolutely correct until the choices are under his personal control but, as a celebrated player, his #NoVaxStand is not appropriate to send out for the whole world.

His fans are upset for not seeing him on the court. Novak himself accepted that he was not against vaccination, but only wants to support the freedom to choose what we put into our body. I think that in such a pandemic situation, we can't be selfish to cater only to our freedom and personal choices; instead we must take vaccines for the safety of our own self and others. Novak, too, must let go of his stubbornness towards anti-COVID vaccines, and allow his fans to enjoy his matches in the upcoming tennis events.

— Kirti Wadhawan | Kanpur

problem in the country, despite being at the helm of affairs for seven years, stands justified. Singh also took to task the incumbent dispensation at the Centre for the fault lines in the country's foreign as well as economic policies in view of Chinese incursions on Indian soil on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) along the Ladakh border. After all, Punjab will on Sunday have the final call on which party deserves to lead the State. However, the din of speculation will end only on March 10.

— Azhar A Khan | Rampur

### STRONGER UNITED THAN DIVIDED

Sir — The COVID-19 pandemic will leave a lasting imprint on the global economy, causing permanent changes and imparting important lessons to the population. Virus screening is likely to become a routine of our life, just like security measures became ubiquitous after 9/11. It is important to invest in the infrastructure necessary to detect future viral outbreaks. This investment protects economies in case immunity to COVID-19 turns out to be

temporary. The pandemic crisis has accelerated the pace of digital transformation, with further expansion in e-commerce and increases in the pace of adoption of telemedicine, videoconferencing, online teaching, and fintech. Companies with international supply chains are dealing with shortages and bottlenecks.

We are likely to see many of these companies reshore some of their production. Unfortunately, this trend will not create many jobs because most of the production is likely to be automated. Governments will play a much bigger role after turning insurer and investor of sort of the last resort during the crisis. Public debt will balloon and create financial challenges around the world. The most important lesson from the COVID-19 pandemic is the importance of working together on problems that affect the entire human race. We are much stronger united than divided.

— Ankita Meena | Ujjain

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## SOUNDBITE

In Punjab, the NDA will form the Government. A new chapter of development will start.



Prime Minister — Narendra Modi

Europe is on the edge of a precipice. There's still time for President Putin to step back.



British Prime Minister — Boris Johnson

I believe we must cope in life. Eventually, what is meant for us will come to us.



Filmmaker — Aishwaryaa Rajinikanth

If you guys can keep quiet for a while, I think he (Virat Kohli) will be alright.



India captain — Rohit Sharma

The Congress is the only party that can take along people of all faiths, castes and beliefs.



Congress leader — Rahul Gandhi

**FIRST COLUMN**

**UKRAINE: THE INVASION NEVER COMES**

Only the Americans believe that it is coming



GWYNNE DYER

Since January 18 till date, The Americans have been saying that "every indication that (Russian President Vladimir Putin) is going to use military force sometime perhaps between now and the middle of February".

It's not clear whether any of these officials really believes these dire predictions, since there are other plausible reasons why they might utter them: to whip the European NATO allies into line, or simply to restore Joe Biden's reputation as a determined leader standing up for 'freedom' after his less than stellar performance in the Afghan debacle last August.

But even if the Americans really do believe what they are saying, the prospective victims of the 'imminent' Russian invasion, Ukraine's own leaders clearly do not.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, responding to a warning by NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg on 27 January that cur-



rent Russian troop movements could lead to a "fully-fledged Russian invasion," said: "I don't consider the situation now more tense than before."

"There is a feeling abroad that there is war here. That's not the case. I am not saying an escalation is not possible... (but) we don't need the panic." And Ukraine's foreign minister, Dmytro Kuleba, added on 2 February that the Russian troops near Ukraine's border are "insufficient for a large-scale military operation."

But how could all those expensive American (and British) intelligence agencies get things so wrong? Well, they got Iraq's alleged 'weapons of mass destruction' wrong in 2003, didn't they? In fact they cooked the evidence then to justify their masters' desire to invade Iraq. They're not above going back into the kitchen to serve their current masters' needs.

Or maybe they're just not very bright. Last week's story of an alleged Russian plot to shoot a "very graphic" fake video of a Ukrainian attack involving corpses, blast damage, Ukrainian military hardware including Turkish-made drones, and actors playing Russian-speaking mourners, all to 'justify' a Russian invasion of Ukraine, was beneath contempt.

Behind all this nonsense, however, there are real strategies at work. Putin's goal is to neutralise NATO's military presence near Russia's borders as much as possible, and at the least to neutralise Ukraine. Biden's is to rebuff the broader Russian aim at all costs, and protect Ukraine as much as possible without fighting a war. This gives both men a strong motive for exaggerating the threat of war, but none at all for fighting one.

It is already stated NATO policy not to fight for Ukraine, although it threatens sanctions if Russia invades. And while Moscow gains leverage from its unspoken threat to invade Ukraine, actually doing so would cripple Russia economically and might even end Putin's rule, because the Ukrainians would fight and the occupation would be a nightmare.

Knowing all this, the Ukrainians are relatively relaxed about the 'crisis'. Putin never overplays his hand in this sort of situation (consider Georgia 2006, Crimea and Donbas 2014, Syria 2015), so he'll eventually take whatever he can get in terms of concessions on NATO dispositions in Eastern Europe (if anything) and shut the crisis down.

And NATO only loses if it loses its nerve. It is not illegitimate for Eastern European countries that spent half a century under what amounted to a Soviet military occupation to seek reassurance by joining the rival alliance once they are free, especially since it does not create any significant military threat to their former overlords.

The younger George Bush made a big mistake by inviting Ukraine to join NATO in 2008, but the other members were never really going to let it in: too far east, too close to Moscow. Wait this 'crisis' out, and it will eventually go away.

(Gwynne Dyer's new book is 'The Shortest History of War'. The views expressed are personal.)

**The big leap forward for post-Covid recovery**

With investment not forthcoming from the corporates, it was imperative to raise investment, especially in the infrastructure sector



ASHWANI MAHAJAN

With a relatively comfortable position of the Union Government's exchequer, it was obvious for the middle class to expect some relief in personal income tax, farmers to get a hike in 'Kisan Samman Nidhi' and corporate sector to get even unwarranted relief in taxation. However, the Finance Minister belying all such hopes, retained status quo and decided not to go for populism and refused to fall into the arguments of corporate's mirage of investments. By now the government has fully realised that despite all efforts of luring corporates the necessary investment is not forthcoming from them, and the country cannot afford to wait for them any more. In view of the decline in economic activities during Covid, it was imperative to raise investment in the country, especially in the infrastructure sector, to take the economy on the path of fast mode recovery.

If we see budgets of the last two-three decades, the governments had been washing their hands off from capital expenditure. It seemed that perhaps the entire responsibility of capital investment was of the private sector. It was thought that foreign investment can make up for every shortcoming, be it investment, technology development, employment or export. But despite all the efforts for the last almost one decade, public as well as private capital investment has been on decline, as percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

However, there has been a change in the thinking of the government in the last few years and it has started investing capital in many sectors including infrastructure, with an ultra-huge target of infrastructure investment of Rs. 100 lakh crore in 5 years, including from private sector. Need was also felt to increase both public and private investment to revive the economy hit by Corona. Due to Corona, the government's finances were in doldrums, both due to dip in revenue and because of commitment for much higher expenditure on relief, health, including vaccination and also the stimulus package for the economy. It was not possible then, to raise funds for investment. But thanks to the 9.2 percent growth in the current fiscal year, there has been a significant increase in GST receipts as well as direct taxes. Taking full advantage of this fiscal space, capital expenditure (capex) was increased in the current financial year and in the coming year also a provision of Rs.7.50 lakh crore has been made, up by 35 percent compared to current fiscal, which is 19 percent of the budget. This is probably the highest ever Capex in the last 30 years.

In this situation, while avoiding populist policies, the Finance Minister has opted to provide sufficient allocation for 'PM Gati Shakti' Project, which aims at coordinated development of various types of infrastructure so that the country's work efficiency is increased and logistic cost for businesses be reduced. Provision has been



**DURING THE CORONA PERIOD, THE GOVERNMENT OUTLINED THE GOAL OF SELF-RELIANT INDIA, MODIFYING ITS OWN 'MAKE IN INDIA' POLICY ANNOUNCED EARLIER. PRODUCTION LINKED INCENTIVES SCHEME WAS LAUNCHED BY IDENTIFYING 14 SECTORS WHICH HAVE BEEN AFFECTED THE MOST DUE TO IMPORTS**

(The writer is Professor, Department of Economics, P.G.D.A.V. College (University of Delhi). The views expressed are personal.)



made for various types of infrastructure including digital infrastructure, infrastructure for education, drinking water and housing for the poor. We can definitely say that this budget is not a populist one and is futuristic with a focus on development for the next 25 years.

Since the years of Green Revolution, chemical farming was promoted in the country, due to which agricultural production did increase in the country, but at the same time, the cost of farming also increased and unwanted chemicals including pesticides entered our food plate. For some time, the emphasis of the government has been towards chemical-free farming. Provision has been made in this budget for promotion of natural farming, zero budget farming and organic farming, taking forward the goal of chemical-free farming. We have been going through excessive production of food grains and shortage of oilseeds, due to which the country's dependence on imported edible oils is very high. Provision has been made in the budget to rectify the same by encouraging production of oilseeds. Although the farmers' agitation is over, to improve the condition of the farmers, provision was needed to ensure remunerative price for their produce, which has got place in the budget.

In the era of globalization, protection had become a dirty word. Due to the obsession for globalization, tariffs were constantly reduced,

causing unprecedented increase in imports, especially from China. The manufacturing sector of the country was almost destroyed. Our API industry was finished due to the gimmicks adopted by China, the electronic industry almost died in its infancy, the chemical industry was also badly hit. How the small-scale industries suffered, is known to all. Country was imposing nearly 10 percent of average tariff, which was hardly one fourth of bound tariffs rates in WTO. Even before Corona, in his budget presented in February 2018, the former Finance Minister of the Modi government, Arun Jaitley, had announced hike in tariff from 10 percent to 20 percent, for protection of India's electronics and telecom industry. After that this prudent policy of protection continued. During the Corona period, the government outlined the goal of self-reliant India, modifying its own 'Make in India' policy announced earlier. Production Linked Incentives (PLI) scheme was launched by identifying 14 sectors which have been affected the most due to imports. Last month, a \$10 billion support was also announced to manufacture semiconductor in the country. All this happened for the protection and promotion of the industries of the country.

Continuing this policy in the present budget as well, the government has announced hike in tariffs. A special allocation of Rs 19,500 crore has also been made in the

budget to promote the production of solar energy equipment in the country.

Though, push for capital expenditure and protection and promotion of domestic industry is also likely to create employment, limited efforts towards promotion of small-scale industry is a cause of major concern in the budget. Promotion of self-employment in the country, should be the first priority for both central as well as state government. For this Entrepreneurship Development Programs (EDPs) can help. Further government can infuse more funds and seed capital for small businesses to motivate youth to start their own enterprises. Entrepreneurship Development Centre (EDCs) can also be established in each district of the country. In this regard enhanced lending to MSME sector by extending the guarantee cover for such loans is a welcome move.

Although, the budget has taxed the income from the virtual digital assets at the rate of 30 percent and gift of virtual digital asset will also be taxed at the hands of recipients, looking at the dangers of national security, the menace of money laundering and other related dangers emanating from the transactions in cryptos ban on private crypto currencies is the only solution. However, the announcement of the issue of Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) is a welcome move.

**POINTCOUNTERPOINT**

**WE SHALL LAUNCH A PORTAL FOR SUGGESTIONS ON CHANGE OF NAMES (OF CITIES, VILLAGES) ACROSS ASSAM. —CHIEF MINISTER HIMANTA BISWA SARMA**



**THE CM IS ATTEMPTING TO CHANGE HISTORY BY RENAMING PLACES. WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO ACCEPT HISTORY. —LEADER OF OPPOSITION DEBABRATA SAIKIA**

**Baghel a dark horse vs Akhilesh like Shubhendu?**

The BJP has sent key organisers, strategists and hundreds of workers to Karhal constituency

Amid shifting of majority votes, the next phases of polls in Central UP hold the key. The party winning the region reigns Lucknow.

The trends in the first two phases in UP and Uttarakhand turned curiouser. The minority votes are consolidating and majority votes are shifting. It gives jitters to contestants and is becoming a serious study for social scientists.

It is not easy to say if the trends would continue in the next phases. The split of majority votes finds echo in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Kalyanpur, Kanpur Dehat addresses. Modi called upon the "Hindus not to split their votes" deprecating Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee's move to divide majority votes in Goa. Whether it changes the



SHIVAJI SARKAR

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

perception in Central UP and leads to Hindutva consolidation or not is to be watched. The Samajwadi Party got 90 seats here in 2012 and a mere 12 in 2017. BJP also had a loss and windfall. In 2012, it got 10 seats that soared to whopping 90 of 118 seats in 2017.

The region spreads from Hardoi in the West, Lucknow, Kanpur - heart of the region - Farrukhabad, Kannauj, Etawah - the Yadav belt - to Bundelkhand. The region understands the pulse and the party that controls it reigns UP.

It also has the key seat of Karhal. It will decide whether Akhilesh Yadav would be in the UP Assembly and could lead the state or not. The intense contest forced SP to recall relaxing patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav to address a rally at



Karhal on February 16.

Now Akhilesh faces stiff resistance as BJP pits central minister Satya Pal Singh Baghel against him. The BJP has sent key organizers, strategists and hundreds of workers to the constituency. It is too prestigious for the party. High pitched contest is crucial if Baghel could emerge a dark horse like Shubhendu Adhikari who trounced Mamata Banerjee at Nandigram in Bengal.

Ayodhya is adjacent or almost a part of the region. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had considered contesting from there.

But Ramjanmabhoomitemple is not a great vote attractor. In the recent Zila (district) Panchayat elections BJP could get eight of 40 seats. The rest went to SP and allies. Yogi quietly shifted to Gorakhpur. Chief priest of Ramjanmabhoomi temple Mahant Satyendra Das says he told Adityanath to shift as there is commotion in Ayodhya for houses and shops being demolished due to infrastructure projects in the wake of the construction of the temple. Soaring real estate prices and manipulative land deals also are issues, party workers say.

This is an aspirational region. It contributes signifi-

cantly to agriculture but is poor on human development index. This makes the contest tough in these seats.

The region remembers Covid-19 bodies floating in the rivers, the difficult migrant labourers' trek, acute poverty and farmer problems. Akhilesh is contesting on the issue of an empathetic regime. The two major contenders have their strengths and weaknesses. Most sitting MLAs are proving a liability for the BJP.

While SP campaign is measured, sharp and avoids inciting passion, the BJP is aggressive, often raising threats from 'SP's goondas, Hijab and Hindu insecurity', an attempt to polarize. There are sections of the people who are heeding Yogi. But there are others who have decided to oppose him. There is

a palpable yearning for change in the regions.

A new social coalition is emerging. Majority community is aligning with unemployment, high prices and issues of junking of ten-year-old cars, stray cattle guzzling crops and many more.

But in the first two phases it is also observed that caste groups like Tyagis and some others were swept by the Modi and community sentiments, 'rashtravad' (nationalism), law and order, women's safety and free food dole.

The silent voters may give jitters to everyone. Amid euphoria there are fears too as minority voters consolidate. The political parties are apprehensive of BJP's influence over the official machinery.

Akhilesh Yadav, instead of

selecting only minority and Yadav candidates like in 2017, has a broader caste mix also including other OBCs, Jats, Thakurs, Brahmin, Saini, Shakyas, Kurmi, Gujar and other marginal castes. This constitutes about 44 percent of the total voters. He has been adventurous in pitting Thakur, Brahmin, Jat, Gujar and other candidates even in minority hotbeds in Saharanpur, Deoband and Amroha.

The bouquet, RLD leader SK Mukherjee says, is more practical than Yogi's 80-20 (percent) formula. He excludes 20 percent minorities. In lighter vein, he says that Yogi is attempting for 80 marks in an exam against Akhilesh's 100. But polls are more than arithmetic with emotions and creepy calculations.

Biden: Russian threat to invade Ukraine still 'very high'

Kyiv: Fears of a new war in Europe resurged Thursday as U.S. President Joe Biden warned that Russia could invade Ukraine within days, and violence spiked in a long-running standoff in eastern Ukraine that some worried could provide the spark for wider conflict.



People pass by an unexploded missile fired by pro-Russian separatists in Ukraine's east and taken to Kyiv as a reminder of war, in Kyiv, Ukraine, Friday, Feb. 18, 2022.

World dignitaries raced for solutions, but suspicions between East and West only seemed to grow, as NATO allies rejected Russian assertions it was pulling back troops from exercises that had fueled fears of an attack.

He told the diplomats that a sudden, seemingly violent event staged by Russia to justify invasion would kick it off. Blinken mentioned a "so-called terrorist bombing" inside Russia, a staged drone strike, "a fake, even a real attack ... using chemical weapons."

The assault would open with cyberattacks, along with missiles and bombs across Ukraine, he said. Blinken further, Blinken described the entry of Russian troops, advancing on Kyiv, a city of nearly 3 million, and other key targets.

Allies watch for Kremlin attempt to justify Ukraine invasion

Kyiv: The U.S. Issued some of its starkest, most detailed warnings yet about how a Russian invasion of Ukraine might unfold, and its Western allies went on high alert for any attempts by the Kremlin to create a false pretext for a new war in Europe.

to invade, but it has long considered Ukraine part of its sphere of influence and NATO's eastward expansion an existential threat. A key demand in this crisis is that NATO promise never to allow Ukraine to join.

"Every indication we have is they're prepared to go into Ukraine, attack Ukraine," Biden told reporters at the White House. He said the U.S. has "reason to believe" that Russia is "engaged in a false flag operation to have an excuse to go in," but he did not provide details.

Biden planned to speak by phone Friday with trans-Atlantic leaders about the Russian military buildup and continued efforts at deterrence and diplomacy.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken revealed some conclusions of U.S. Intelligence, part of a strategy designed to expose and pre-empt any invasion planning. The U.S. Has declined to reveal much of the evidence underlying its claims. Blinken told diplomats at the U.N. Security Council that a sudden, seemingly violent event staged by Russia to justify an invasion would kick off the assault.

US Senate approves resolution for Ukraine, warning Russia

Washington: The US Senate voted overwhelmingly Thursday to show unwavering support for an independent Ukraine and "condemn" Russian military aggression toward its neighbour as fresh fears emerged of a possible invasion that could spiral toward a European war.



Action in the Senate came after President Joe Biden said the US has "every indication" of a potential Russian attack on Ukraine in a matter of days. US officials have outlined stark scenarios of President Vladimir Putin's potential plans as Russian troops remain massed at the Ukraine border.

pendence and sovereignty," said Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, in introducing the measure with Democratic Senator Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire and others.

The resolution from the senators does not carry the force of law but puts the US legislative body on record with "unwavering United States support for a secure, democratic, and independent Ukraine" and "denounces the Russian military buildup" on Ukraine's border. The vote was unanimous, without objection or the formal roll call.

Senators have been racing all week to mount a response to rising tensions in the region, many eager to go even further by imposing devastating sanctions on Putin that would send shockwaves through the Russian economy.

"This Congress is united in its support of Ukrainian inde-

Ukraine has strong allies in the Senate, where there is broad support for sanctions on Russia as a powerful foreign policy tool to be used if Putin furthers his aggression toward Ukraine.

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER-II DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI
E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

R. C. No. 6/2019 Dated: 09.02.2022
EDELWEISS ASSET RECONSTRUCTION CO. LTD. V/S M/S. EVINIX INDUSTRIES LIMITED "ORDER."

As per my order dated 09.02.2022 the under mentioned property will be sold by public e-auction sale on 24.03.2022 in the said Recovery Certificate: The auction sale will be "online e-Auctioning" through website: www.auctiontiger.net

Table with columns: Sr. No., Description of the Property, Reserve Price (In Rs.), Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (In Rs)

- 1. The auction sale will be "online through e-auction" through website portal: www.auctiontiger.net.
2. The EMD shall be paid either through Demand Draft/Pay Order in favour of the "Recovery Officer-II, DRT-II, Delhi-A/C R.C. No. 6/2019" or through NEFT/RTGS to the following account - IDBI Bank...

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY Table with columns: Lot No., Description of the property to be sold, Revenue assessed upon the property or any part thereof, Details of any encumbrances to which the property is liable, Claims, if any, which have been put forward to the property...

Matter be listed on 28.02.2022 for filing affidavit of service of E-auction sale notice with proofs of service (including track results qua speed post and courier) and dasti, original proofs of publication in newspapers and wider publicity including website for the purpose of e-auction.

Sd/- (Dattatrej Bajpayee) Recovery Officer-II DRT-II, Delhi

Satellite photos give a bird's eye view of Ukraine crisis

Washington: Widely available commercial satellite imagery of Russian troop positions bracketing Ukraine provides a bird's-eye view of an international crisis as it unfolds. But the pictures, while dramatic, have limitations.

assembly areas, airfields, artillery positions and other activities on the Russian side of the Ukrainian border and in southern Belarus as well as on the Crimean Peninsula, which Russia seized from Ukraine in 2014.

High-resolution photos from commercial satellite companies like Maxar in recent days showed Russian troop within striking distances of Ukraine. But they could not provide conclusive information about net additions or subtractions of Russian forces or reveal when or whether an invasion of Ukraine would happen.

The images confirmed what U.S. and other Western officials have been saying: Russian forces are arrayed

within striking distances of Ukraine. But they could not provide conclusive information about net additions or subtractions of Russian forces or reveal when or whether an invasion of Ukraine would happen.

even day-old satellite photos might miss significant changes on the ground.

Russian forces are arrayed within striking distances of Ukraine. But they could not provide conclusive information about net additions or subtractions of Russian forces or reveal when or whether an invasion of Ukraine would happen.

Russia to stage massive nuclear drills amid Ukraine standoff

Moscow: The Russian military on Friday announced massive drills of its strategic nuclear forces, a stark reminder of the country's nuclear might amid Western fears that Moscow might be preparing to invade Ukraine.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Putin would observe the drills from the Defense Ministry's situation room and supervise the practice missile launches himself.

Russian President Vladimir Putin will personally oversee Saturday's exercise, which will involve multiple practice launches of intercontinental ballistic missiles and cruise missiles, the Defense Ministry said.

It's a major disappointment and it's a major flaw in trying to identify those communities that have been hit hardest by pollution," said Robert Bullard, a professor of urban planning and environmental policy at Texas Southern University in Houston and a member of the White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council.

Race excluded as WH rolls out climate justice screening tool

Washington: The Biden administration on Friday released a screening tool to help identify disadvantaged communities long plagued by environmental hazards, but it won't include race as a factor in deciding where to devote resources.

The decision was harshly challenged by members of the environmental justice community.

Administration officials told reporters that excluding race will make projects less likely to draw legal challenges and will be easier to defend, even as they acknowledged that race has been a major factor in terms of who experi-

ences environmental injustice. It's a major disappointment and it's a major flaw in trying to identify those communities that have been hit hardest by pollution," said Robert Bullard, a professor of urban planning and environmental policy at Texas Southern University in Houston and a member of the White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council.

Origo Commodities India Pvt Ltd PUBLIC NOTICE CORRECTION FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR Notice is hereby given to all the stakeholders that period mentioned in the financials of the Company for the quarter ended 31st December, 2021 published in the newspaper "PIONEER" English and Hindi (Delhi Edition) on Friday, 18th February, 2022 be read as follows:

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanhalli Hosur Main Road Bangalore- 560068 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.

FORMAT C-1 DECLARATION ABOUT CRIMINAL CASES Name and address of Candidate: S. Manpreet Singh Ayali R/O V.P.O Gorsian Kadar Baksh, Tehsil Jagraon, Distt. Ludhiana-142033. Name of Political Party: SHIROMANI AKALI DAL Name of Election: General Legislative Assembly Election Punjab -2022 \*Name of Constituency: 068-DAKHA. I, Manpreet Singh Ayali, a candidate for the above mentioned election, declare for public information the following details about my criminal antecedents:

Table with columns: Sl. No., Name of Court, Case No. and Date, Status of Cases, Section(s) of Acts concerned and brief description of offence(s)

Pak court directs Islamabad IG to file report on detained journalist's police torture allegation

Islamabad: The Islamabad High Court on Friday ordered the city police chief to file a report by February 21 on the allegation of police torture made by a senior media personality who was arrested recently.

the Islamabad High Court (IHC) of a petition filed by Baig's wife for the dismissal of terrorism and other charges brought against him.

Mohsin Baig was arrested on Wednesday from his house here by officials of police and Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) on the complaint of communication minister Murad Saad that he made "indecent" comments against him during a TV talk show.

the petitioner's lawyer said Baig was severely tortured by 15 people in the room of the Station House Officer (SHO). IHC Chief Justice Athar Minallah ordered the Inspector General (IG) of Islamabad to file a formal report of alleged torture by police personnel by February 21. He also ordered that legal access to Baig should not be blocked.

Baig told the media while being presented before a court after his arrest that he was subjected to physical torture by the police. The issue of torture again came up during a hearing by

However, the IHC dismissed the petition by saying that only Baig himself can file the petition to delete terrorism charges against him and also granted permission to Baig to file the petition.

Hundreds rescued from ferry fire near Greek island

Athens: A fire on an Italy-bound ferry in the Ionian Sea early Friday required rescuers to carry out an overnight evacuation of more than 280 people near the Greek island of Corfu, authorities said.

coast guard said. The rescued passengers were being transported to Corfu.

A crew member and two passengers were hospitalized with breathing difficulties. There were no initial reports of anyone missing, but a full check of passenger and crew member lists was expected to take several hours, the Greek

"This is a difficult operation and we must remain cautious. The final accounting of the people on board will take place on Corfu when everyone rescued is assembled there," Greek Deputy Minister for Shipping Costas Katsafotos told state-run ERT television.



Sensex, Nifty extend losses to 3rd day as global cues weigh

Equity indices surrendered mid-session gains to close lower for the third day in a row on Friday as participants remained cautious amid geopolitical uncertainties in eastern Europe. Persistent selling by foreign investors and expectations of policy tightening by global central banks kept sentiment muted, traders said.

lower by mainly Ultratech Cement, M&M, Infosys, Reliance Industries, Bajaj Finance and Nestle -- dropping as much as 1.88 per cent. In contrast, HDFC topped the gainers' chart with a jump of 1.25 per cent, followed by L&T, Axis Bank, SBI, Dr Reddy's, Kotak Bank and HDFC Bank. On the index, 17 shares closed in the negative zone. "Market opened low taking cues from yesterday's sell-off in Wall Street following the release of FOMC meeting minutes.

Rupee spurts by 40 paise to over 2-week high against US dollar

The rupee spurts by 40 paise, its biggest single-day gain in over three months, to settle at a more than two-week high of 74.66 against the US dollar on Friday on hopes of a diplomatic solution to the East-West standoff over Ukraine. A fall in crude oil prices also supported the local currency, analysts said.

Gold climbs Rs 77; silver jumps Rs 379

Gold prices rose by Rs 77 to Rs 50,037 per 10 grams in the national capital on Friday, according to HDFC Securities. In the previous trade, the yellow metal settled at Rs 49,960 per 10 grams. Silver zoomed by Rs 379 to Rs 63,869 per kg, from Rs 63,490 per kg in the previous

trade. "Spot gold prices for 24 carat gold at Delhi were up by Rs 77, reflecting overnight gains in COMEX gold prices," Tapan Patel, senior analyst (commodities) at HDFC Securities, said. In the international market, gold was trading 0.1 per cent lower at USD 1,896 per ounce and silver was flat at USD 23.94 per ounce.

Price rise needed for survival of certain Coal India subsidiaries

Mining major Coal India has flagged an urgent need for price hike of the dry fuel, contending that without which, "certain subsidiaries" would find it "difficult to survive", company sources said on Friday.

It is also trying to bring stakeholders on board to build a consensus for hiking prices, they said. In an effort to tide over inflationary pressure, the miner will likely raise prices after the assembly elections in five states, including Uttar Pradesh, in March, the sources said. "Every day is critical for me. A price hike has become very urgent. For certain subsidiaries, survival depends on it," Coal India Chairman Pramod Agrawal is understood to have told investors on Thursday, they said. Agrawal, however, did not disclose the name of the subsidiaries.

CSB Bank gets RBI nod to appoint Pralay Mondal as Deputy MD

CSB Bank on Friday said the Reserve Bank has approved appointment of Pralay Mondal as the deputy managing director of the private sector lender for three years.

"Pralay Mondal has been appointed as Deputy Managing Director of CSB Bank post RBI's approval in terms of Section 35B of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. His tenure is for three years from February 17, 2022," CSB Bank said in a statement. His prior appointment

Co-promoter Gangwal resigns from IndiGo board

IndiGo's co-promoter Rakesh Gangwal on Friday resigned from the board of directors of parent company InterGlobe Aviation, stating that he will gradually reduce his equity stake in the airline over the next five years. Gangwal and his related entities own around 37 per cent stake in this company. Rahul Bhatia and his related entities own around 38 per cent in InterGlobe Aviation.

"I have been a long-term shareholder in the company for more than 15 years and it's only natural to someday think about diversifying one's holding," Gangwal said in his letter to the board members. "Accordingly, my current intention is to slowly reduce my equity stake in the company over the next five plus years," he added. At an extraordinary general meeting held on December 30, IndiGo shareholders had approved a special resolution to remove a clause from the company's Articles of Association (AoA) which gave its two promoters the power of right of first refusal when one of them wanted to sell his shares.

Sebi lifts restrictions on 10 entities in Zee Entertainment insider trading case

Markets regulator Sebi on Friday lifted restrictions imposed on ten entities, including individuals, in a matter pertaining to alleged insider trading in the scrip of Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd. They were alleged to have traded in the scrip of the firm while in possession of unpublished price sensitive information (UPSI) pertaining to audited financial results of ZEEEL for the quarter ended June 30, 2020. They allegedly violated Prohibition of Insider Trading norms. Consequently, the regulator had barred 15 entities from accessing securities market till further directions. The 15 entities are -- Bijal Shah, Gopal Ritolia, Jatin Chawla, Amit Bhanwarlal Jajoo, Manish Kumar Jajoo, Gomati Devi Ritolia, Daljit Gurucharan Chawla, Monika Lakhota, Pushpadevi Jajoo, Bhawaral Ramiwasi Jajoo, Bhawaral Jajoo HUF, Ritesh Kumar Kamalkishore Jajoo, Successor Partners, Yash Anil Jajoo and Vimla Somani.

Toro Finserve launches USD 1 bn healthcare fund

Healthcare industry veteran Kapil Khandelwal's Toro Finserve has announced the launch of its maiden healthcare fund with a USD 1 billion (about Rs 7,450 crore) commitment from investors, primarily hedge funds and healthcare industry players. Khandelwal, who launched the country's first quantum (alpha-based) hedge fund -- EquiNev-KIt Capital -- which he later sold to the England-based Coleman Group in 2018, said the digital healthcare impact fund will make most of its investments to accelerate adoption of digital healthcare.

Most of the funding commitments are from global hedge funds and from a few domestic healthcare industry players, Khandelwal told PTI on Friday, but refused to name them citing confidentiality. The first investment should be done over the next three-four months, he added. Khandelwal, who has over 30 years of experience in the healthcare industry, launched Toro Finserve in 2020. He was previously associated with KPMG in Bahrain as a partner, headed the global healthcare division at Wipro, and was the managing director of Cisco's healthcare business in the APAC and emerging markets.

Govt to launch doorstep distribution drive to deliver crop insurance policies to farmers

As the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) enters the seventh year of implementation with the upcoming Kharif season, the government on Friday said it will launch a doorstep distribution drive to deliver crop insurance policies to farmers. The doorstep campaign 'Meri Policy Mere Hath' aims to ensure all farmers are well aware and equipped with all information on their policies, land records, the process of claim and grievance redressal under the PMFBY, the Agriculture Ministry said. The doorstep campaign will be launched in all implementing states in the upcoming Kharif season, the ministry said in a statement. PMFBY, launched in February 2016, aims to provide financial support to farmers suffering crop loss/damage arising out of natural calamities. According to the ministry, over 36 crore farmer applications have been insured under the PMFBY, with over Rs 1,07,059 crores of claims have already been paid under the scheme as of February 4, this year. The crop insurance scheme has been able to provide financial assistance to the most vulnerable farmers as around 85 per cent of the farmers enrolled with the scheme are small and marginal farmers.

Table with 5 columns: Particulars, Quarter Ended (31.12.2021, 30.9.2021, 31.12.2020, 31.12.2021), Half Year Ended (31.12.2021, 31.12.2020), and Year Ended (2021, 2020). Rows include Total income from operations, Net Profit, Other comprehensive income, etc.

SBFC Finance Pvt. Ltd. PUBLIC NOTICE. This is to inform the Public that Auction of pledged Gold Ornaments will be conducted by SBFC Finance Pvt. Ltd. on 26th February 2022...

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER-II DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI. 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110001. SALE PROCLAMATION. R. C. No. 6/2019. EDELWEISS ASSET RECONSTRUCTION CO. LTD. V/S M/S. EVINIX INDUSTRIES LTD.

'The Founders': Book tells story behind making of tech giant PayPal

Mapping the trailblazing story of multinational digital-payments company PayPal, a new book sheds light on how a scrappy start-up turned into one of the most successful companies of all time, worth over USD 70 billion today. "The Founders", written by author Jimmy Soni, offers colourful anecdotes about perennially popular figures like Elon Musk and Peter Thiel with the gripping true story of how PayPal reimaged the digital age. It will hit the stands on February 24. Based on original research and rare interviews with Peter Thiel, Elon Musk and others,

the book, published by Atlantic Books, claims to contain 'juicy details not yet made public'. "Modern technology tales are usually told as stories of individual achievement-more 'genius' than 'scenius'.

NORTHERN RAILWAY OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE. The Sr. Divisional Engineer-I/V, Northern Railway, Delhi Division for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tender on prescribed form for the following work.

Notice inviting e-Tender. No. SSA/Esstt/Print/IE/MAHW/1518/2021/8986 Date: 18.02.2022. Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission (Samagra Shiksha), Kahilipara, Guwahati-19, Assam invites tender through e-Tendering process from reputed offset printing presses having Web Offset Machine/ Sheet Offset Machine for printing and supply of Module, Activity Book, Hand Book in Assamese Version.

PUBLIC NOTICE. To be known to all that I, Dr. Jalaja Raj W/o Mr. N. Pown Raj R/o Flat No.153, 2nd Floor, Pkt.3, Sec.23, Rohini, Rohini, Delhi has applied for conversion of the aforesaid flat from lease hold to free hold.

PUBLIC NOTICE. It is known to all men that the owner/allottee Anjali Aggarwal Sharma w/o Shri Vineet Kumar Sharma R/o Flat No. Vikram1402, Ghrparavesh Sector-77, Noida has given her General Power of Attorney to Mr. Parvinder Singh S/o Shri Daljit Singh R/o C-206, Prateek Wisteria, Sector-77, Noida, in respect of Flat No. Vikram 1402, Ghrparavesh Sector-77, Noida, and the above said GPA holder is transferring the above said flat in favour of Sumitavo Biswas S/o Shri Jagdishwar Biswas R/o 2149, Vasto Tower, Mahagan Bidmeer, Sector-78, Noida.

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Public Notice regarding the auction of pledged Gold Ornaments by SBFC Finance Pvt. Ltd. on 26th February 2022. Details of the items and terms of the auction are provided.

Table with 5 columns: Sr. No., Description of the Property, Reserve Price (In Rs.), Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (In Rs.). Contains details of property auctions including land and building situated at Kharsa No. 43, Sector 45, Mewla Maharajpur, Faridabad, Haryana.



Great musicians like Lataji, Begum Akhtar, Jagjit Singh and Rafi Saab were able to shape my understanding of the craft.  
 —Sanjay Leela Bhansali

**SHORTCIRCUITS**

**DIA MIRZA**

Marriage is about balance, harmony and communication. Right from the first moment that I met Vaibhav, there was a deep connection and trust between us and everything that followed was simple, easy and effortless. I truly feel at home with him because he sees me as I am and has no desire to alter me.



**DARSHAN JARIWALA**

Since the pandemic, the delivery mode of content and especially theatre has changed. Teleplays are a great way of archiving good theatre and this is a positive step that must be encouraged. Electronic media and storytelling through film, the small screen and via the web is the way forward.



**BHUMI PEDNEKAR**

Ever since I started as a Climate Warrior, my intent was to create as much awareness as possible around sustainability as a way of life and how climate change is going to impact all our lives. I wanted to reach out to as many people as possible.



**JAKE GYLLENHAAL**

At some point, it's important that when a star's supporters become unruly, we feel a responsibility to make them civil again and not allow cyberbullying. This involves deeper philosophical question. About how we have to take responsibility for what we do.

**KANYE WEST**

When I already had the house and the wife and the kids and the plaques... (I) would still have moments where I felt suicidal. I would still have moments where I'm addicted to Percocets (a pain reliever) and don't even realise it, you know what I'm saying?



**CELEB TALK**

**POLYGLOT PRIYAMANI**

The actor has stretched her boundaries to act in films from five different languages, says SAIMI SATTAR

While the heroes might have been grabbing eyeballs, Priyamani has the distinction of having acted in Telugu, Kannada, Tamil, Malayalam and Hindi films. The recipient of the National Film Award for Best Actress and three Filmfare Awards, she made her debut in the Telugu film *Evare Atagaadu* (2003). She gained widespread recognition for her role as village girl Muththazhagu in the Tamil romantic drama *Paruthiveeran* (2007). Her notable works include *Raam* (2009), *Raavan* (2010), *Raavanan* (2010), *Pranchiyettan & the Saint* (2010), *Chaarulatha* (2012) and *Idolle Ramayana* (2016). She will be seen in *Bhamakalapam* next. Excerpts from an interview:

**What made you take up Bhamakalapam?**  
 The reason why I took up *Bhamakalapam* was the way it was narrated. When Bharat Kamma, the director, narrated the story over Zoom, I really liked the way it was told. I had not played the character before and I felt it would be a good debut character for me to play and that too for an OTT platform.

**How do you approach any character? Do you take inspiration from people around you or listen to the director's version?**

I am more of a spontaneous actor. I did not do any homework for this role. I just went with my instinct. I do observe a lot of people on a day to day basis and how they observe a situation or how they are at home or how they manage their home and how they are at it. So, I observe that on a day to day basis. So, maybe, some of these reactions inspire me. More so, it is also, how the director envisions the character. Sometimes when I feel that the character needs to be toned down a little bit — be it the body language or the dialogues — I suggest it to the director and he also makes some suggestions. It is a give and take. And I was fortunate that Abhimanyu as a director was kind enough to incorporate my suggestions for the character.

**The big screen and OTT... what is the difference for actors?**

I wouldn't say there is much of a difference between the two per se. But one difference is the variety of characters that can be played in OTT, it is a lot different. And even the choice of roles is quite vast and different. It is also quite challenging.

**You do not have a background in the industry. How tough were the initial years?**

Fortunately for me, I wouldn't say it was very tough but I have had my fair share of ups and downs in the initial years. My first film was *Kangalal Kaidhu Sei* in Tamil. We started shooting in 2002 but it was released in 2003. Similarly, there was *Balu Mahendra's Adhu Oru Kana Kaalam* that we started in 2004 and by the time it was released it was the end of 2005. I did feel every time I chose to do a film, by the time it was released it took a year or a year and a half. There were times I was sitting at home and doing absolutely nothing or doing some modelling work. And once *Paruthiveeran* (2006) came and released... the rest as they say is history.

**Pellaina Kothalo (2006)... Did you think it would become so big? And what were the challenges that came in your way?**

I honestly did not think it would become so big but I was really happy that people loved the film. The combination of Jagapati Babu and myself. It was my first film in Telugu where I was playing the lead and the story was universal and the moment the director Madantod me the story I absolutely loved it and told him that I wanted to be a part of it. Then Jagapati

Babu called to say that he was excited for me to be a part. The only challenge I had to go through was learning Telugu. I started talking to people and that is how I picked it up. The film was the breeziest one that I have done. It was a fun film and even now I think a lot of people watch it, they tag me in social media posts and tell me that they have watched the film and loved it.

**How difficult is playing a real-life character as you did in Thirakkatha (2008)? Do you emulate the mannerisms? Or how do you go about it?**

The difficulty in *Thirakkatha* was after the ovarian cancer thing came up. The makeup took three hours. The makeup boy was in tears when the whole thing was done. A little bit of difficulty also cropped up when Ranjith (the director) wanted me to walk a little odd or a little differently. Moreover, the whole film was on my shoulders. After the narration, the first thing that I asked Ranjith sir was, 'Do you have the faith in me that I can do it? It is such a beautiful story. I don't know what faith you have in me that I can carry it.' He said, 'I have faith in you and only you can do it.' I am really thankful that he thought that I would be apt for the role. I did not emulate any mannerism. It was just

blind trust in Ranjith sir and I just followed his guidance.

**You have acted in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Hindi films. How do you get the nuances right? What is the difference in industries?**

I am one of the lucky ones to have acted in all five industries and I am still doing it. The nuances are just as per the director's wishes. I just go one step at a time. The difference is in the language, the crew, the co-stars, directors and the unit. Apart from that, the shooting process is very much the same in all the languages.

**Awards or popular acclaim. What would you choose?**

Why not both? Awards are a reward for your work and popular acclaim is equally important.

**Films from South India are making waves while earlier, the Hindi film industry held sway. What would you attribute the reasons to?**

I am glad that South India is being recognised and at this point, we should all be called Indian actors rather than Bollywood or South Indian actors. And yes, I am glad that South Indians are getting recognition in Bollywood whether it is the technicians or the artistes. Earlier, there were Sridevi, Rekha, Vyjayanthimala, Hema Malini all of them ruled Bollywood and then there was a dearth. So, better late than never.

**Do you think the audience will return to theatres or will OTT continue to hold sway?**

I hope that theatres go back to normal viewing. I feel that situation is slowly getting better. I hope that theatre viewing doesn't end because all of us work hard in making our films. The theatrical experience is completely different. You don't get the same feeling when you are watching it on OTT. During the pandemic, the OTT was booming but I hope that theatrical experience comes back to normal and people return to cinemas with 100 per cent capacity in all films and all languages.

**What makes you take up any project?**

Primarily the script and if my role is good. And if I am convinced that I can take up the project I do it. Else, I would not. I have maintained this and I will always continue to maintain this.



Actor Kangana Ranaut was in the capital for the promotion of her new reality show. *Lock Up*. Indian television producer, film producer and director, Ekta Kapoor, accompanied her to the Bangla Sahib Gurudwara  
 Picture: Pankaj Kumar

**AUTHOR SPEAK**

**Stories of time, geography and memory**

MAMANG DAI, Indian writer, poetess and journalist, pens down an honest account of the NEFA days in her latest book, *Escaping The Land*. By KHUSHBU KIRTI

The Padma Shri awardee, from Arunachal Pradesh, is one of the few modern Indian writers that have managed to add 'seminal' as a title in front of their names.

The writer dons multiple caps of achievement. She was the first woman from her state, then NEFA, to be selected for IAS, but decided to pursue journalism instead. Although she excelled in the field, she has never thought about how her life would have been if she had chosen the former career. We're glad she didn't! Or we wouldn't be blessed with such great stories and poetry.

Poetry and prose are her strong suit, but she defines poetry as "the real lifeline." The writer had also won the Sahitya Akademi Award for her novel *The Black Hill* in 2017.

Read on for excerpts from an exclusive interview with Dai about her latest creation, *Escaping the Land*.

**What inspired you to begin this book and this saga? Please give us an overview of the same.**

This book was always in the making, at the back of my mind, even when I was writing something else. A part of the book is a recollection of NEFA times based on first-hand accounts when Arunachal was the North East Frontier Agency (NEFA). Shillong was the capital and I can't imagine how our parents took all the trouble to ferry us back and forth from boarding school in Shillong to wherever my father was posted at the time.

For my brothers and me, childhood was a landscape of rivers, stones, sand, ferry ghats and walking — one posting was a six-day foot march through the dense jungle when we were cajoled, carried, from one camp to another until we

reached our destination — a small outpost, where it was a solid three months' winter break before making the return journey back to school. Much of this travelling was through the districts now linked by the country's longest rail-road Bogibeel bridge and the country's longest Dhola Sadiya bridge, the latter also known as Bhupen Hazarika Setu, linking Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

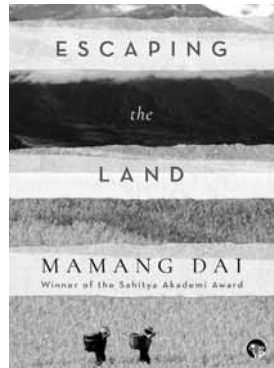
It was how it was then with the families of NEFA officers serving in the Indian Frontier Administrative Service.

The other portion of the book is more current, dealing with contemporary state politics with flashbacks inspired by real events. Viz: Achingmori, the era of political interpreters, the 1962 war, the constitutional and political changes, growth and attainment of statehood.

In fact, 2022 marks the closure of the erstwhile North East Frontier Agency and is the state's golden jubilee year of achieving Union Territory status under the brand-new name of Arunachal Pradesh — 'land of the dawn-lit mountains.'

**From Kojum-Koja to Arunachal Pradesh, talk to us about the journey covered in the book.**

About the story of the ancient civilisation of Kojum-Koja, this crept in because these references to



mythical times and different worlds like a land of fish and stars are parts of oral literature that is still chanted by traditional shaman priests invited to perform at special festivals.

**What is the significance of the title — Escaping the Land?**  
 It was the only title I could think of.

Midway, I thought maybe — NEFA Notebook, but somehow, 'EL' as it is labelled in my manuscripts, stuck. It's a way of looking at what we say about the grass being greener on the other side. There was a boom period when everyone who had money was looking to invest outside of the state, going into big business, housing schemes and buying apartments.

It's also about the desire to travel out from your hometown, to be somewhere else, even though, more often than not, it's just to come back full circle — that sort of thing.

**Is the objective behind writing this recording the history of your land and talking about the untold stories?**

Well, in the last 50 years, Arunachal has undergone tremendous changes. I can tell you Itanagar has changed overnight from a rather ragged place of unfinished buildings to a place full of Korean eateries, gyms and shopping malls. So writing is a record of sorts, of a feeling or a remembrance of where we came

from to get here.

For this book, I would say that there is still a great deal of nostalgia for the NEFA days. After all, it is the state's common foundation. I also feel there was an air of innocence about that time, of integrity and even romance, and I wanted to write about this based on my father's anecdotes, those of his colleagues and books and memoirs of some great pioneer officers like Nari K Rustomji, S Krishnatry, Indira Miri, to name a few.

Recently, a family in Assam was remembering how their father had gone off a long time ago, across the river, to serve as a school teacher in one of those unheard-of places in NEFA. They saw him on rare home visits, now and then, they told me, reminiscing. So, these are the stories of time, geography, memory.

Also, I feel the NEFA era and the Indo-China border war has little documentation/ record/ of the tribal peoples' voices — how it was, what did they hear, what happened in the villages, what about the atmosphere of utter pandemonium as everyone fled before an advancing the Chinese army and how does it impact us now.

**What is never lost is the original obsession that was a dream of love. Please elaborate on this for us.**

In the context of the book, I guess this line is for Lutor and Umsi. There is love for the land, love for its

people, love for each other, maybe lost, and found. In the end, I think everyone wants to find and feel, a return to love. This can be a feeling of anticipation — a sense of wonder and mystery that is equal to a state of being in love, that there is something bigger than us beyond our doubts and struggles. Hard to explain. The reader will have to find its meaning for themselves.

**I truly believe we need more female authors to write stories of women since they were either wiped out from the pages of history or their truths misconstrued by male voices. Care to weigh in?**

Yes, in the historical context, the stories of women have been lost or misconstrued, but we can find them again and make up our minds. There are well known and widely read women writers taking a look at the literature of different periods from biblical times to Greek drama, western classical literature and portrayals of women in the great epics the *Ramayana* and *Mahabharata*. Female authors are writing in every genre with great impact, so I think the job is getting done.

**How do you like to portray your female characters? For Maying seems to be a determined woman looking for herself by unravelling the stories of people around her.**

About portrayal of female characters: the female characters are like the women I know. There's love, loyalty, wit and endurance, intellect and vulnerability. Maying is determined because in the book she represents these qualities of women who are secure because they know who they are.





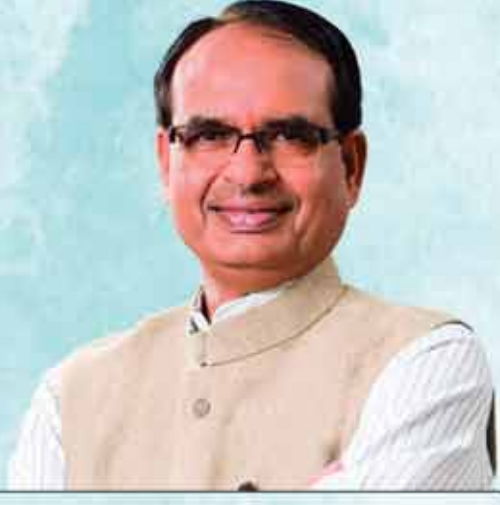
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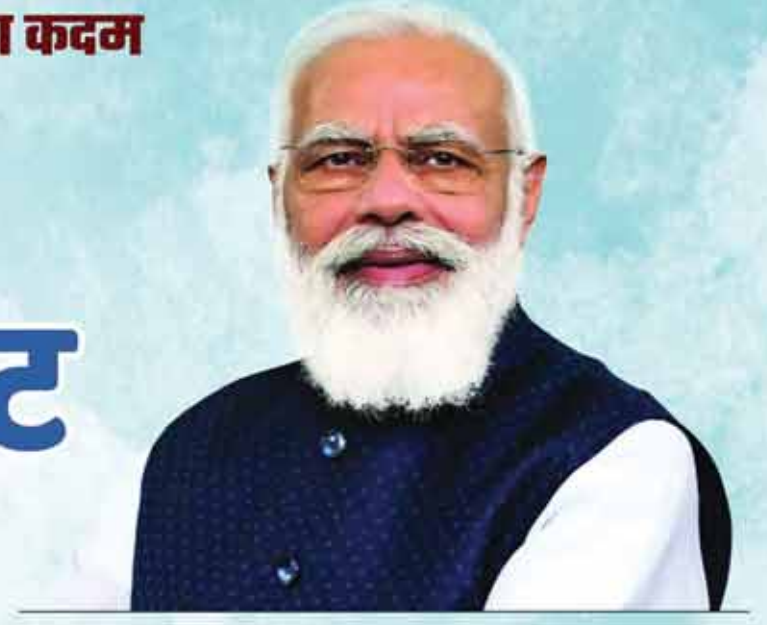
# गोबर-धन प्लांट

का

## लोकार्पण



शिवराज सिंह चौहान  
मुख्यमंत्री, मध्यप्रदेश



नरेन्द्र मोदी  
प्रधानमंत्री

- प्रतिदिन 550 टन गीले कचरे का प्रसंस्करण
- प्रति वर्ष 1,30,000 टन कार्बन उत्सर्जन में कमी
- किसानों को प्रतिदिन 100 टन जैविक खाद की उपलब्धता

- प्रति वर्ष ₹ 2.50 करोड़ की अतिरिक्त आय
- प्रतिदिन 17-18 टन सीएनजी का उत्पादन
- नागरिकों की सुविधा हेतु 400 सिटी बसों के लिए ईंधन की सुनिश्चितता

## नरेन्द्र मोदी

प्रधानमंत्री  
के द्वारा

19 फरवरी, 2022  
अपराह्न 1.00 बजे, इंदौर

### मंगुभाई पटेल

राज्यपाल  
मध्यप्रदेश

### शिवराज सिंह चौहान

मुख्यमंत्री  
मध्यप्रदेश

### हरदीप सिंह पुरी

केंद्रीय मंत्री, आवासन एवं  
शहरी कार्य मंत्रालय

### कौशल किशोर

राज्य मंत्री, आवासन एवं  
शहरी कार्य मंत्रालय

### ओ.पी.एस. भदौरिया

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मध्यप्रदेश शासन

की गरिमामयी उपस्थिति में



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