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INDIA OUTPERFORMS EMERGING  
MARKET PEERS IN APRIL-DEC 21

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BECOMES ATHLETE  
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# India headed for big recovery

Eco Survey pegs  
growth at 9.2% in  
2021-22, to reach  
pre-Covid level

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Despite the Covid-19's looming shadow over the global finances, India's economy is on the path of recovery and is well poised to reach the pre-pandemic level, according to the pre-Budget Economic Survey tabled by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Parliament on Monday.

The survey estimated the economy to grow by 8-8.5 per cent in the fiscal beginning April 1. As per the survey, the economy is well placed to meet the future challenges on the back of widespread vaccine coverage, supply-side reforms and easing of regulations.

The Economic Survey 2021-22 expects the economy to grow by 9.2 per cent during the current financial year, indicating a recovery to the pre-pandemic level.

The economy had contracted by 7.3 per cent in 2020-21 on account of the impact of the Covid pandemic and subsequent nationwide lockdowns to check the spread of coronavirus.

The rosy economic scenario painted by the survey revived the stock market sen-



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with MoS Finance Bhagwat Karad, Pankaj Chaudhary and the Budget team during a pre-Budget photo session, on the eve of presentation of Budget 2022-23 in Parliament, in New Delhi, on Monday

PTI

timents. Equity benchmarks notched up solid gains on Monday after a two-session sliding streak. A robust recovery in the rupee further boosted the market.

The 30-share BSE Sensex opened on a firm footing and kept its momentum throughout the session. It finally closed at 58,014.17, clocking a gain of 813.94 points or 1.42 per cent. Likewise, the broader NSE Nifty rallied 237.90 points or 1.39 per cent to end at 17,339.85.

"Overall, macro-economic stability indicators suggest that the Indian economy is well placed to take on the challenges of 2022-23. One of the reasons that the Indian economy is in a good position is its unique

response strategy," the survey said.

The Indian economy, as seen in quarterly estimates of GDP, has been staging a sustained recovery since the second half of 2020-21. Although the second wave of the pandemic in April-June 2021 was more severe from a health perspective, the economic impact was muted compared to the national lockdown of the previous year.

"Advance estimates suggest that GDP will record an expansion of 9.2 per cent in 2021-22. This implies that the level of real economic output will surpass the pre-Covid level of 2019-20," the survey said.

While the survey has flagged concern over "import-

8 core sector  
industries grew  
by 3.8 % in  
Dec 2021: Data

New Delhi: Production of eight infrastructure sectors expanded by 3.8 per cent in December 2021 against a 0.4 per cent contraction in the same month last year on better show by coal, cement and refinery products, according to the official data released on Monday.

Barring crude oil and steel, all sectors recorded positive growth in December 2021. The core sector industries had grown by 3.4 per cent in November 2021.

ed inflation", especially from elevated global energy prices, it expects private sector investment to pick as the financial system is in a good position to provide support necessary for speedy revival of the economy.

The survey said the fiscal support given to the economy as well as the health response caused the fiscal deficit and Government debt to rise in 2020-21. However, there has been a strong rebound in revenues in 2021-22 so far.

As per the survey, the Government has the fiscal capacity to maintain the support, and ramp up capital expenditure when required. The strong revival in revenues

13,327 kms of  
roads built in  
20-21: SURVEY

New Delhi: Terming infrastructure as the backbone for any economy, the Economic Survey on Monday said there has been a consistent increase in the construction of National Highways/roads since 2013-14, with 13,327 km road constructed in 2020-21 as compared to 10,237 kms in 2019-20.

The survey further said the extent and quality of infrastructure determine the ability of a country to utilise its comparative advantage.

also provides the Government with fiscal space to provide additional support as well, if necessary, it added.

Also, the banking system is well capitalised and the overhang of non performing assets (NPAs) seems to have structurally declined even allowing for some lagged impact of the pandemic.

Referring to the price situation in the country, the survey said "although the high WPI inflation is partly due to base effects that will even out, India does need to be wary of imported inflation, especially from elevated global energy prices".

# Women's empowerment top priority of Govt: Prez

'Abolition of teen  
talaq a major step  
for betterment of  
Muslim women'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI:

Asserting women's empowerment is one of the top priorities of the Government, President Ram Nath Kovind on Monday specifically spoke of the removal of retrograde "triple talaq" as he spoke of the self-reliance drive of "New India", including in the defence sector, and its resolve "to preserve, enrich and empower India's ancient heritage."

Delivering the customary address to the joint Session of Parliament on behalf of the Government, the President expressed confidence that the economic reforms coupled with the drive of self-reliance would help the country achieve higher future economic goals.

"India received \$48 billion in FDI in the first seven months of this fiscal; proof of investors' confidence in the country," he said.

Amid the thumping of desks by the MPs, Kovind announced that women's empowerment is the top priority of his Government.

"We're witnesses to the



President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrive at Parliament House on the first day of the Budget Session 2022, in New Delhi, on Monday. Union Minister Prahlad Joshi is also seen

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success of Ujjwala Yojana. Through Mudra Yojana, the entrepreneurship and skills of women have received a boost. With "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" many positive results have come to the fore," he further said.

The President said the abolition of "teen talaq", allowing Muslim women to Haj without the need to be accompanied by a male member, and drastic "reduction in the dropouts of Muslim girl students witnessed in their enrolment" were major steps by the Government for the betterment of Muslim women.

"Untill 2014, three crore Muslim students were given

scholarships; whereas since 2014, four crore students were awarded scholarships," he said pointing to Governments' programmes for the betterment of the minorities.

The President spoke of continuous momentum of economic reforms and drive for self-reliance in all sectors, including in the area of defence.

"Make in India is given importance in the defence sector, and by doing this, the Government is reducing the dependability on other countries for defence imports", he said saying 126 items have been removed from the import list.

# EC extends ban on rallies till Feb 11

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid improving vaccination status and declining graph of daily Covid-19 situation in the poll-bound States, the Election Commission (EC) on Monday extended the ban on roadshows, "padyatras", vehicle rallies and processions till February 11.

However, the poll panel permitted a maximum of 1,000 people who could attend physical public meetings and enhanced the number of people allowed in door-to-door campaigning from the present 10 to 20.

This EC decided this after Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sushil Chandra along with Election Commissioners Rajiv Kumar and Anup Chandra Pandey held another comprehensive review of the present Covid-19 situation in the poll-bound States of Goa, Manipur, Punjab, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh.

In a statement, the EC said that no roadshows, "padyatras", and cycle/bike/vehicle rallies and processions shall be allowed till February 11, 2022.

"The Commission has now decided to allow physical pub-

lic meetings of political parties or contesting candidates in designated open spaces with a maximum of 1000 persons (instead of existing 500 persons) or 50 per cent of the capacity of the ground or the prescribed limit set by State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA), whichever number is lesser, from February 1, 2022 for all phases," it said.

The Commission has also enhanced the limit for door-to-door campaigns and instead of 10 persons, now 20, excluding security personnel, will be allowed. The Commission has now granted relaxation for the political parties to the extent that indoor meetings of a maximum of 500 persons (instead of existing 300 persons) or 50 per cent of the capacity of the hall or the prescribed limit set by SDMA is allowed.

According to the EC, all the State Chief Secretaries informed the Commission about reports of Covid-19 infection either plateauing or tapering out as on date. They also said that the positivity rate is showing a decline with the number of hospitalisation cases registering a declining trend.

# BJP pits Union Min SP Baghel against Akhilesh in Karhal

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a surprise move, the BJP has fielded Union Minister of State SP Singh Baghel against Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav from the Karhal Assembly constituency in the upcoming Assembly elections. Baghel on Monday filed his nomination papers.

Baghel (61) is the Lok Sabha member from Agra and the Minister of State for Law and Justice in the Union Government.

"I am here to contest against Akhilesh and SP. I am here to get people justice and I am assuring people that I will free them from Gundas," Baghel said after filing his papers. He added Karhal and Jaswantnagar have got step-motherly treatment from the SP.

Karhal is an SP bastion and Jaswantnagar is represented by Akhilesh's uncle Shivalp Yadav. Baghel is an old confidant of Mulayam Singh Yadav. Baghel worked as a head constable in the Uttar Pradesh police and later worked as a personal security officer of Mulayam when he was Chief



Minister of UP in 1993-95 and later Defence Minister in HD Deve Gowda and Indra Kumar Gujaral Governments.

As Baghel developed political ambitions, the SP fielded him from Ferozaabad in the 2004 Lok Sabha elections. Later, he switched loyalty and joined the Bahujan Samaj Party, and was nominated to the Rajya Sabha. In 2017, he joined the BJP and was elected to Assembly from the Sikandarapur Assembly seat in Hathars district. In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, he was elected to Parliament from the Agra seat.

The Lok Sabha MP said he was fighting polls for development. "I have fought so many times against this family. Will defeat him (Akhilesh). His family has been defeated so many times."

## CAPSULE

### UDUPI GIRL'S COLLEGE NOT TO ALLOW HIJAB

**Mangaluru:** The Government girl's PU college in Udupi has categorically informed that students wearing 'hijab' (Islamic headscarf) will not be allowed inside classrooms.

### HINDU MAHASABHA MEN BOOKED

**Indore:** Activists of the Akhil Bhartiya Hindu Mahasabha were booked on Monday for raising slogans in support of Gandhiji's assassin Nathuram Godse.

### CONCERN OVER RISING PRICE OF COTTON

**Coimbatore:** With all fundamental factors changing it is time to be alert on purchase and inventories because the fall of the price of cotton would be sharp and quick, Indian Textpreneurs Federation (ITF) said on Monday.

# Mamata blocks Guv on her Twitter after 'gas chamber' barb

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

In an ugly turn in the already strained relationship between the Bengal Government and the Raj Bhavan, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said that she has blocked Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar on the Twitter because of his "unconstitutional" ways.

The Chief Minister's action comes a day after the Governor told the media that Bengal had become a "gas chamber of democracy."

"I apologise for it in advance. He (Jagdeep Dhankhar) tweets something



everyday abusing me or my officers. Says unconstitutional, unethical things. He instructs, not advises. Treats an elected Government like bonded labour. That's why I have blocked him from my Twitter account. I was getting irritated," Mamata on Monday said.

Centre bans MediaOne TV over security, HC stays order for 2 days

**Kochi:** The Union Government on Monday barred the telecast of Malayalam news channel MediaOne citing "security reasons", but the Kerala High Court stayed the implementation of the order for two days.

The Centre's move drew the ire of many with the Opposition Congress terming the move as "undemocratic". "The telecast of MediaOne channel has once again been disallowed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, citing security reasons. The Government has not been forthcoming with the details," Pramod Raman, the Editor of MediaOne, said in a statement here.

Daily infections  
decline to 3,329

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Even as the daily Covid-19 infections continued to dip in the State, the deaths due to the pandemic remained high with 18 more fatalities reported on Monday. With this, the total death toll mounted to 8,612.

Four deaths were reported

from Khordha district, three each from Ganjam and Jaipur, two from Jagatsinghpur, one each from Puri, Nayagarh, Keonjhar, Dhenkanal, Cuttack and Bhadrak. The State reported 3,329 Covid-19 positive cases in the 30 districts and the State pool, taking the total tally to 12,49,240. Among the newly-infected were 504 children in the age group of 0 to 18 years. In the

last 24 hours, 56,708 samples were tested and the test positivity rate (TPR) was 5.87 per cent.

The active cases stood at 47,210. Notably, the State had recorded 4,843 Covid cases on Sunday. Of the new cases, 1,934 were from quarantine and 1,395 were local contacts. Khordha district detected the highest 646 cases followed by Cuttack with 293, Sundargarh 237, Mayurbhanj 145,

Baleswar 141, Nuapada 129, Nayagarh 120, Sambalpur 115, Kalahandi 107, Jaipur 99, Nabarangpur 90, Angul 85, Jharsuguda 74, Kendrapada 73, Jagatsinghpur 70, Balangir and Deogarh 67, Gajapati 64, Dhenkanal 61, Koraput 59, Bhadrak 57, Puri 56, Boudh 49, Bargarh 46, Ganjam 44, Malkangiri 34 and Keonjhar 21. Besides, 136 cases were from State pool.

## Guidelines for Feb

# State relaxes night curfew by 1 hour

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The State Government on Monday released the Covid-19 unlock guidelines for the month of February.

As per a notification released by the Special Relief Commissioner (SRC), the curfew would continue in all urban areas. However, its timings have been relaxed by an hour. The curfew restrictions would come into force from 10 pm to 5 am from February 1 instead of the present 9 pm to 5 am. All shops, malls, markets, haats, cinema halls, swimming pools, entertainment complexes, theatres, auditoriums, assembly halls and similar places would remain open across the State from 5 am to 10 pm during February. During the curfew period, restric-



tions shall not apply to permissible activities and emergency services. Home delivery of food, groceries, vegetables, eggs, fish, meat, milk and other essential items by restaurants and Zomato, Swiggy, OPOLFED, OMFED, Chilika Fresh would continue without any restrictions.

The Government also allowed celebration of Saraswati Puja at educational institutions but with limited numbers of students.

# JE's 2.5-cr assets found

PNS ■ ANUGUL

The Vigilance police on Monday conducted raids on the properties of Biranchi Naryan Sahoo, Junior Engineer (JE) of Talcher block in Angul district, on the allegation of accumulation of disproportionate assets. During searches, a double-storied

and a single-storied building, a Hyundai I10 car, five two-wheelers, 261 grams of gold ornaments, 10 fixed deposit accounts in various banks with deposits worth Rs 46.25 lakh were unearthed so far. Sahoo and his family members were found to be in possession of assets worth about Rs 2.5 crore.

# Orissa HC gets 4 new judges



Lawyers elevated  
to Bench

PNS ■ CUTTACK

The Orissa High Court will get four new judges as the Supreme Court Collegium has approved a proposal for eleva-

tion of four advocates to the Bench. A decision in this regard was taken in a meeting of the collegium on January 29. The four lawyers are V Narasingh, Sanjay Kumar Mishra, Biraj Prasad Satapathy and Raman Murahari @ M.S. Raman.



# State reminds Centre on PMAY-G demand

## Urges for 1.84L houses for Fani-hit families

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

On the beginning day of the Budget Session of Parliament on Monday, the State Government reminded the Centre about its demand for sanction of houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G).

Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Minister Pratap Jena wrote a letter to Union Minister of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj

Giriraj Singh on this issue reminding Singh about the demands raised by himself and Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik through letters and during meetings. He urged Singh to take necessary steps to synchronise the data of 6.65 lakh households in the State-owned Rural Housing Portal with the Awaas+. Jena also demanded sanction of 1.84 lakh Special PMAY (G) houses as promised during May 2019 to Odisha in the aftermath of cyclone Fani and open of the Awaas+ window for some time to incorporate names of eligible left-out families.

While the genuine demand of Odisha has not been paid heed to

by the Ministry of Rural Development so far, synchronisation of data from the Karnataka State Government MIS into Awaas+ was allowed on January 13, 2022, Jena pointed out. "Ignoring the repeated requests from the State will not support the cause of Odisha and it will further deprive lakhs of tribal beneficiaries living in the Scheduled areas of the State and deserving poor people belonging to KBK region and western parts of the State. I would request your august office to rectify this injustice being meted out to the State of Odisha and its people," Jena told Singh in the letter. In December, the Chief Minister had

written a letter to Prime Minister Modi demanding 14.84 lakh housing units under PMAY-G.

The Ministry has allowed identification of eligible left-out families through Awaas+ by March 7, 2019. However, the State could identify only 35,000 families within this stipulated period because of pre-occupation of Government machinery in preparatory work for general elections-2019, network connectivity issues and LWE violence in some pockets. The PM had promised to allot 5 lakh PMAY-G (special) houses to Fani-affected families during his visit in May 2019, Jena pointed out.

## State prepares Fiscal Strategy Report

### Eye on Union Budget

**TATHYA ■ BHUBANESWAR**

While the State Government is busy finalising the Fiscal Strategy Report indicating the assumptions for revenue and expenditure projections in the medium term and the outlook for the State economy and finances, senior officials are keeping their eyes on the forthcoming Union Budget to be presented on February 1.

Union Minister Finance, Nirmala Sitharaman will present Annual Budget on the day in the Parliament and after the presentation of the Budget, senior officials will take note of it and will revise the estimates looking at the allocations in the Union Budget, senior officials said. Principal Secretary Finance Vishal Dev, leading the Team Finance for pre Budget consultation with the Departments of the Government, said the consultation is in the final stage. With Central Budget presented in the Parliament, fine-tuning of the proposed State Annual Budget for 2022-23 will be done, he told. In fact, the Odisha Government has presented its 'Wish List' to the Union Government during pre Budget consultation with the Union Minister Finance recently. Now it has to be seen how much the Union Government has accommodated in the Union

Budget, an official said. While the State Government is setting strategic priorities for the next five years, the State economy is gradually recovering from the contraction in the fiscal year ended March, 2021. The severe second wave of Covid-19 pandemic has affected the manufacturing and service sector recovery in the State. The State has been fighting the pandemic since March, 2020 with objective of saving the life and livelihood of the people. The priorities of the State Government in the medium-term still remains to achieve Sustainable Development Goals through faster reduction of poverty, increasing farmers' income by crop diversification and direct benefit transfer, providing piped drinking water to all, making available quality affordable healthcare facilities, enabling quality education and skill development and providing quality physical infrastructure for improving economic activities.

The State Government is in mission mode to empower women in every sphere of economic activities, modernise the health facilities at PHC level and build world class tertiary healthcare facility in the State, and provide IT enabled platforms in primary education institutes at the village level, so that the State could achieve an inclusive growth.

## 100-cr fraud: EOW arrests private firm MD

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Crime Branch on Sunday arrested Amrita Kindo, managing director of Diya Diary Agro Processor Private Limited, in connection with a fraud of Rs 100 crore.

Kindo has been booked under Sections 406, 420, 467, 468, 471 and 120-B of IPC, Kindo was arrested based on a written complaint filed by Annapurna Finance Pvt Ltd located at Khandagiri. Earlier, the finance company alleged that one Deepak Kindo, MD of Sambandh Finserve Pvt Ltd (Chandaka Industrial Estate) had fraudulently availed a loan of Rs 5 crore on the basis of forged documents. Preliminary investigations revealed that the companies of both complainant and accused are registered with RBI as NBFC-MFI. During 2020, Kindo's company had approached the finance company for a loan of Rs 5 crore for carrying on financial activities effectively by giving loans to different

Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and Joint Liability Groups. "However, after availing the loan, the Sambandh Finserve violated the terms and conditions and misappropriated the amount without making repayment. It has also been ascertained the accused company had furnished forged documents to avail the loan," the EOW said in a release. During the course of investigation, it was revealed that Kindo's company had also raised funds of over Rs 100 crore from different investors and lenders like DCB Bank, SIDBI, BOPA PTE Ltd. (a Singapore-based company) and DIA Vikash Capital Pvt Ltd and misappropriated the same by diverting the amounts to their sister concerns during the period 2015 to 2020. It has also been ascertained that the Diya Diary Agro Processor is a sister concern of Sambandh Finserve. From the period between 2017 and 2020, out of the loans availed by the accused company, an amount of Rs 22.72 crore was diverted to the accounts of Diya Diary Agro Processor and misappropriated, the EOW added.

## In city Youth ends life over love affair

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

A youth on Monday committed suicide at Nandan Vihar here over alleged betrayal by his girlfriend. Police have recovered a suicide note from the spot. Soumya Ranjan Panigrahi was found hanging from a ceiling fan in his bedroom in the morning. In a handwritten note found from the spot, it

was mentioned that the reason of his suicide was his girlfriend's infidelity. Source said the youth took the extreme step after coming to know that he was being cheated by his beloved since a year. He also mentioned his girlfriend's and her current partner's names in the suicide note. Soumya Ranjan's family claimed that he was under severe depression after being cheated by the girl.

# Tata Steel to buy NINL for Rs 12,100 crore

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

The Alternative Mechanism comprising Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways; Nirmala Sitharaman, Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs and Piyush Goel, Union Commerce & Industry Minister, which is empowered by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), approved the highest bid of Tata Steel Long Products Limited for 93.71% of shares of joint venture partners of four CPSEs and two Odisha State PSEs at a bid enterprise value of Rs 12,100 crore.

The Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd (NINL) is a joint venture of four CPSEs, namely, MMTC, NMDC, BHEL, MECON and two Odisha

Government PSUs, namely, OMC and IPICOL. The NINL has an integrated steel plant with a capacity of 1.1 MT at Kalinganagar. The company has been running in huge losses and the plant is closed since March 30, 2020. The company has huge debt and liabilities exceeding Rs 6,600 crore as on March 31, 2021, including huge overdue of promoters (Rs 4,116 crore), banks (Rs 1,741 crore), other creditors and employees. The company has a negative net worth of Rs 3,487 crore and accumulated losses of Rs 4,228 crore as of March 31, 2021. The Government of India does not hold any equity in the company. However, on the request of the boards of selling shareholder PSEs and on concurrence by the Odisha Gov-

ernment, the CCEA 'in-principle' approved a strategic disinvestment of NINL on January 8, 2020 and authorised the Department of Disinvestment & Public Asset Management (DIPAM) to undertake the transaction.

The transaction was made through an open-market, competitive bidding process towards the enterprise value of the company, comprising the liabilities of the company as on March 31, 2021 and the 93.71% equity of the company held by the six selling PSE shareholders. The Expressions of Interest (EoIs) were invited on January 25, 2021. Three bids were received by the due date, December 23, 2021. The Reserve Price was subsequently recommended by the IMG

after detailed examinations of the valuation reports prepared by the TA and the AV, and was approved by the CGD at Rs 5,616.97 crore.

Thereafter, the financial bids were opened for the following qualified bidders: Consortium of Jindal Steel & Power Limited and Nalwa Steel and Power Ltd, JSW Steel Limited and Tata Steel Long Products Limited (TSLP). The TSLP emerged as H-1 bidder. A LoI is being issued to TSLP inviting it to sign the SPA. At this stage, 10% of the bid amount shall be paid by it into the Escrow account.

This is the first instance of privatisation of a public-sector steel manufacturing enterprise in India, which the Odisha Government actively supported.

## Lingaraj property sold illegally : BJP

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

The BJP on Monday alleged that the property of Lord Lingaraj in Bhubaneswar is being sold at throw-away prices by the State Government. BJP general secretary Lekhashri Samantsinghar stated that Revenue, Endowment and General Administration Departments and Bhubaneswar Development Authority officials are involved in the illegal activities. The Master Plan is being changed and the lands which cannot be disposed of are being sold to land mafias, said Samantsinghar. She demanded stringent action against the officials who are involved in producing fake documents and claiming



that the lands do not belong to Lord Lingaraj. Besides, the Government should clarify on this immediately, she said. Notably, the district administration had stopped constructions on a patch of land near the Biju Patnaik International Airport, where constructions were carried out by the wife of a mining contractor. The BJP said the aforesaid land is Lingaraj Temple property which has been recorded in private persons' names illegally.

# ‘Won’t tolerate bid to malign Gandhi, glorify Godse’

**PNS ■ SAMBALPUR**

People from different walks of life on Sunday gathered in front of the office of Collector, Sambalpur, to give a strong message to those who want to humiliate Gandhiji and tarnish his image.

"The nation would never tolerate any humiliation to the father of the nation (Rastrapitanka Apaman-Sahiba Nahi Hindustan)," warned speakers on the Martyr's Day (Death Anniversary of Gandhiji) here on Sunday. It needs to be mentioned here that a section of the people having a clear

link with a particular party and an organization, are busy in making false propaganda against Mahatma Gandhi with false and fabricated stories. But ultimately they would be discarded by the people as not only Indians but also whole of the world know well Gandhi, said Saroj, a social activists and fighting for the cause of poor and downtrodden. "When their Guli (bullet) couldn't kill Gandhi, how their Gali (scolding/insult) could kill him," warned Siba Nanda. Any attempt to glorify Godse at the cost of Gandhi would not be successful, he made it clear. Other speakers present includ-

ing Prof Santosh Dash, Mahesh Sayta, Ashok Pradhan and Bibhu Patnaik put a question on those who want to tweak history through falsehood. "Gandhi is not an individual, rather he is an institution. He showed the strength of 'non-violence' to the whole of the world. Such a person can't be eliminated by false propaganda," they said.

Gandhiji is not only named as Rastrapita (father of the nation) by Subash Chandra Bose, but the whole world has accepted him in this name. Hence, any attempt to glorify Godse, the killer of Gandhiji will not work, they said.

## Ban 'Gandhinku Kahinki Marili' Cine Critics' Assn urges Govt

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

The Orissa Cine Critics' Association on Sunday took strong exception to the film 'Mu Gandhinku Kahinki Marili' currently streaming in OTT platform and demanded complete ban on the film. The association urged the Union Government to take immediate action against the produc-

ers and the platform. Also it demanded to initiate legal action against the director of the film. In a statement association president senior journalist Pradosh Patnaik, general secretary Dillip Hali and treasurer Rabindra Biswal said allowing these uncensored films in unregulated platforms against father of nation Mahatma Gandhi is deeply deplorable. "It would jeopardise and destroy our rich social ethics and culture; these things should be immediately stopped," said a statement.

## Interview of the week

# Elections cannot be postponed despite pandemic



Little does one know that here is a scholar extraordinary from India who has made many of his counterparts appear as Lilliputians before his gargantuan intellectual heights whether at home or abroad. It was always a case of Veni, Vidi and Vici for Dr Kailash Chandra Mishra at whenever and whichever Punditocracy he has harangued. A Professor Emeritus, a management guru, a trendsetter scientist, an Indologist, a sensitive observant of national and international scenarios, a psephologist, Dr Mishra in an interview to The Pioneer spoke to Sugyan Choudhury on the many questions concerning the upcoming panchayat elections and the pandemic in Odisha.

Why is there so much debate about the Local Self-Government Elections now?

The Preamble of the Constitution envisages India to be democratic not only politically but also socially and economically. India is a representative democracy where people can exercise their sovereignty through franchise at all three levels of democracy, Parliament, State Legislature and Local Self-Government. The democratic character of India is evident through the periodic elections based on universal adult franchise, rule of law, independence of judiciary, etc. Elections are the legitimate right of the citizens. Covid-19 is prevalent for the last two years and still not abated. Elections cannot be postponed indefinitely; and, hence, no other alternative than conducting it is the only way in the Constitutional systems. The observance of the election code of conduct and Covid protocols is the duties of citizens in such pandemics. However, elections with their campaigns do enhance the spread of the pandemic. The only formula is to follow the protocols strictly.

What precipitates the issue elections amid pandemic?

The negative effect of elections conducted amid the pandemic was well-established in Kerala. This effect of enhancing spread was found only minimal for Local Self-Government elections but devastating for legislative elections. Conduct of elections in stages and organising campaigns limiting to the local area, visiting voters by small groups of party workers and avoiding large

gatherings, both following Covid protocols, had a demonstrable positive effect against the potential of pandemic spread. With the election commissions taking a firm stand and political parties conforming to the required norms, the conduct of elections anywhere is possible even in pandemic times. In non-democratic countries, the situation is not different in Covid cases though they may be aptly fabricating statistics to mislead the world that no elections lead to no pandemics.

Is the concern bigger than pandemic in LSG elections?

More than a quarter of century has elapsed since the Constitution was amended to make urban and rural local bodies a self-contained third tier of governance. It is common knowledge that there is inadequate devolution of powers to them. An entirely-different facet is the way these local bodies function; the manner in which their representatives are elected beset with controversies and marred by violence and charges of arbitrary delimitation and reservation of wards. It is a democratic expectation that State Election Commissioner is independent to conduct such elections in difficult times. The States appoint senior bureaucrats from among their favourites to this office of Election Commissioner leading to charges of being partisan. Exercises such as delimiting wards, rotating the wards reservations and fixing dates for the elections become mired in controversy. The Opposition believes that the exercise is being done with the ruling party's interest in mind. By invoking its power under Article 142 of the Constitution, the Supreme Court has asked all SECs who are under the direct control of the respective State Governments to step down from their posts. In practice, most States appoint retired bureaucrats as SECs. Whether the apex court's decision would have a bearing on those who are no more serving State Governments is a partial remedy. The character strength is yet to be under large public scrutiny. These are much bigger concern coupled with expenses in the elections, distribution of booties and fringe walking in election code of conduct are bigger concerns than pandemics. The Supreme Court has boosted the power of the office of

election commissioner by holding that it is open to the SECs to countermand any infractions of the law made by a State Government in the course of preparing for local body polls.

What is the global response to issues surrounding pandemic-time elections?

The pandemic is causing an unprecedented disruption in elections worldwide. Regardless of whether countries are holding or delaying elections, the decisions are having a major impact on the political fortunes of incumbents and challengers as well as on voter participation. To ensure the credibility of electoral processes while maintaining public health, some governments are testing or expanding new systems such as proxy voting and mail balloting while political parties and civil society organisations are conceiving new ways to engage voters. In fact, worldwide, there was staggering of voting dates to avoid pro-cyclic synchronisation of elections. Elections were avoided in pandemic peak months like April 2020 and elections were held in July 2020, January 2021 and September 2021 to take advantage of receding waves. Despite these efforts, low voter turnout, unequal campaign conditions and limited watchdog observation threaten to cast a shadow on the legitimacy of elections. The unfolding political consequences of these widespread disruptions and new innovations are enormous. But Indian LSG election process is devoid of such innovations conducive to observe pandemic protocols. France had a very bad legal dispute when the Government wanted to delay LSG elections to avoid pandemic peaks. Whichever way Governments decide to act, they are bound to face criticism and they decide in their best interest as political leaders are not saints with equanimity.

In many countries that have held elections since the corona outbreak, voter turnout on has been severely depressed. France implemented social distancing and hand sanitising measures for its March 15 first-round municipal elections in 2021 and voter turnout still dropped 18 percentage points to its lowest-ever participation rate for municipal polls. Deeply concerned about the implications of low voter turnout, the French Government allowed voters to vote by proxy for the second round of elections. In the United States, 34 States have authorised mail balloting either through absentee voting mechanisms or universal vote-by-mail systems. But even with these changes, voter turnout has been less than or equivalent to that in past primaries. Experts say innovations might not have enhanced voting percentages but saved the day for democracy and preserved the pandemic protocol.



# S'garh MCH MBBS admission from 2022-23

Dean, Principal (I/C), Super appointed

MALAY RAY ■ SUNDARGARH

A medical college and hospital (MCH) at Sundargarh is going to be reality, which will be managed by the State Government. Prof (Dr) Daitari Routray, Professor, Anaesthesiology, SCB Medical College and Hospital, Cuttack has been assigned the charge of Dean and Principal (I/c) of Government

Medical College and Hospital, Sundargarh and Prof (Dr) Pankaj Parida, Professor, Transfusion Medicine, SCB MCH, has been assigned the charge of Superintendent (I/C) of the MCH.

The MCH at Shankara will be functional from 2022-23 academic year. The State Government is taking steps to start MBBS admissions for 100 seats and 500 bed hospital, said an order of the State Health and Family Welfare Department. The department has appointed the District Medical Officer (medical services) and Superintendent of

Sundargarh District Headquarters Hospital (DHH) Dr PK Sahu as the Additional Superintendent-cum-nodal officer of the MCH. Earlier on June 25, the department had authorized the Director of Medical Education and Training (DMET) to file an application with the National Medical Commission for establishment of the MCH from academic year 2022-23.

Notably, the NTPC had announced MCH in Sundargarh in 2010. Three years later, the State Government and NTPC had signed an MoU in December 2013. As per

the agreement, NTPC was to set up the MCH infrastructure and the Government was to run it. After Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik laid its foundation in 2014, the MCH was supposed to operate from 2016-17 academic session, but the project got delayed and after completion of its infrastructure in 2020, the same was used as a Covid hospital. In November, 2020, the then Chief Secretary Asit Tirpathy had moved the second AIIMS proposal to the Centre stating that the MCH, built at a cost of Rs 418 crore, has provisions for 500 beds and 100 MBBS seats.

In April, 2021, a nine-member team from AIIMS had visited the facility but there was no further response from the Central Government about AIIMS second campus at Sundargarh. State Health and Family Welfare Minister Naba Kishore Das, had also written to the Centre in which he had requested to establish the second AIIMS at Sundargarh by using the same infrastructure. After not getting any response from the Centre regarding setting up of AIIMS at Sundargarh, the State Government had started the process to run the MCH.

## Shreya heads for being 1st Indian K-pop artist

PNS ■ JHARSUGUDA

Bringing laurels to Odisha and the nation, 18-year-old Shreya Lenka from Jharsuguda is on the verge of becoming the first Indian K-pop artist as she is competing at that international level to achieve the feat.

Shreya and Gabriela Dalcin of Brazil are the two finalists of the competition, whose winner will become the fifth member of 'Blackswan', famous South Korean K-pop girl group formed by music label DR Music.

Both started their training in South Korea in December 2021 and were introduced on DR Music's



Instagram profile. The training includes basic practice schedules along with learning Korean language. The audition began in June 2021 but was later put on hold due to the pandemic situation. Over 4,000 aspirants had applied for the audition. Only 23 contestants, including Shreya, qualified for the second round. Shreya also emerged successful in the second round to reserve a seat in the Top 4. The final round is currently being held in South Korea.

Daughter of Abinash and Priya Lenka, Shreya is also a trained classical dancer. She has won several regional and national dance competitions.

## In Puri 4 trawlers seized; 32 crews detained

PNS ■ PURI

The Coast Guard during a routine patrolling on Monday seized four trawlers and detained 32 crews in this connection near the Devi river mouth under Astaranga block in Puri district. The vessels were seized on the charges of illegally entering the restricted zone. During interrogation, it was ascertained that while three trawlers were from the Paradip area, one belonged to Baleswar district. The detained crews were being quizzed why they had trespassed into the restricted



zone. Sources said that during patrolling by Coast Guard and Forest Department officials, a total of 20 trawlers were fishing in the sea. But four of them had entered into the restricted zone, following which forest officials were informed and the vessels seized. Further investigations were on.

## Fraudster dupes landless villagers of lakhs

On plea of providing land patta

PNS ■ BALEWSWAR

A group of poor and landless villagers have alleged that they were deceived by a local fraudster who had taken money from them assuring them to provide pattas, posing as a tehsil staff. They alleged that Sanjay Das, a resident of Kherang village under Basta police station, duped them of lakhs of rupees in the pretext of giving land patta of Bhoodan kism in Anderi, Saratha, Belda and Ragavpur villages. According to the complainants, they were landless and residing on the Anabadi lands for generations. Das stated that he worked

in Sadar tehsil office and would provide them with Bhoodan land pattas. He took money from them ranging from Rs 18,000 to Rs 22,000 per family about two years ago. Recently, he had provided them with the land records. However, when they went to the tehsil office to fetch caste certificates for the education of their wards, they found that the documents were forged. After learning that they were issued with counterfeit land certificates, when they approached Das, the latter avoided them. The aggrieved villagers also alleged that although they had lodged an FIR against Das in Baleswar police station about two weeks ago, yet no action was initiated against the accused.

## 5-point charter Gen Insurance staffs picket before offices

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The General Insurance Employees All India Joint Forum observed one-day strike on Saturday pressing for their 5-point charter of demands. All four General Insurance Companies operating in Odisha and all over India were closed. The employees were picketing in front of their respective offices. In Bhubaneswar, GOIAIA Oriental Unit national president Shyam Sundar Mohapatra, president OICOA Odisha Unit SK Majhi, GOIAIA Odisha Unit president G Khan, Hemant Mishra, Anil Biswal, Ramesh Chandra Nayak,



Kabi Chandra Das and others led the stir. The demands included immediate wage revision settlement, 30% family pension of last

basic at par with bank employees and pension to all those who have joined after 1.04.2010 under Pension Scheme 1995.

# PRI members' spouses in fray to retain posts



As sitting ones can't contest this time for some reason or other

RAJESH BEHERA ■ KENDRAPADA

Many sitting Sarpanches and Members, Panchayat Samiti (MPS) and their family members in Kendrapada have fielded nominations for various posts for the upcoming PRI polls. This shows how strong the lure of power is.

If sources are to be believed, one Anuja Kumar Mohanty, who is the sitting Sarpanch of Palasudha GP

under Garadapur block, has fielded his wife, Soubhagini Mohanty. Similarly, the sitting MPS of Palasudha GP, Suryakanta Khuntia, also fielded his wife, Minati Khuntia, to contest the poll for the MPS post as he could not do it this time with the MPS post remaining reserved for women in the GP. In Tendakuda GP, sitting Sarpanch is Malaya Basini Mohanty. But this time her husband, Rabindranath Mohanty, is contesting the election for the Sarpanch post. Sita Sundari Mallick, the sitting sarpanch of Kutturanga GP, too has the same story. In her place, her husband Narottam Mallick will contest for the post this time as he has already filed the nomination papers.



Swagatika Jena (45) is contesting for the first time for sarpanch post from Kansar panchayat of Kendrapada block. Her husband Pradyumna (50) had been elected as Kansar sarpanch twice in a row. But this time, he chose to field his wife as the post is reserved for women. Similarly, Subhadra Rout (50), who filed her nomination paper recently to contest from Chakoda GP for sarpanch post. Her husband is the sitting Sarpanch of the GP. The scene is the same in Gulanagar panchayat where Namita Swain (30) is in the race for the sarpanch post in place of her husband Pitabas Behera, a former sarpanch, following the post remained reserved this time for

women. Political observers say these examples are just a tip of the iceberg as there are scores of such cases where the families enjoying political power are trying hard to retain the same. The reason behind the trend is less of social service than looting the public money since panchayats are provided lots of money under various schemes, Ganesh Samal, a political observer of the district, said.

Many sitting PRI members who could not contest polls themselves or their family members could not do so for some reason or the other are fielding their proxies this time, stated Abu Obeda, a local political observer.

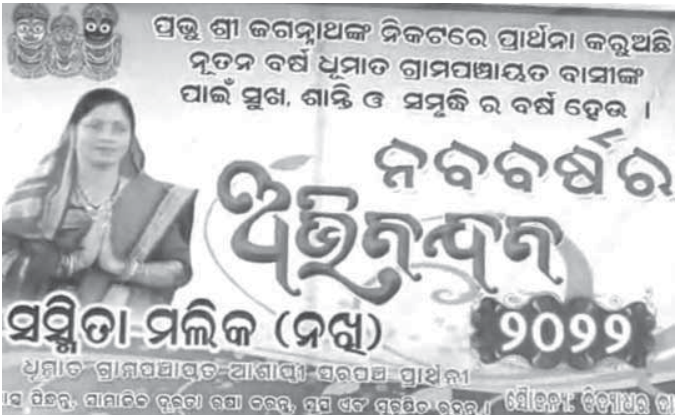
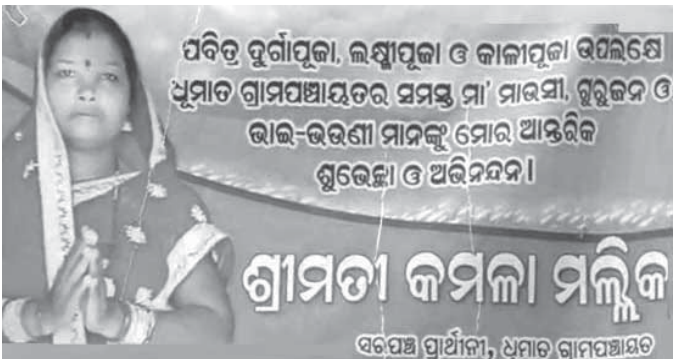
## Sautans pitted against each other for Sarpanch post

Mudslinging between them makes campaigning funny

RAJESH BEHERA ■ KENDRAPADA

People here are enjoying campaigning by two women candidates pitted against each other for Sarpanch post who are married to one man though one of them is now estranged. The pitched battle is underway at Dhumat Gram panchayat under Kendrapada block.

If sources are to be believed, Sasmita Mallick and her co-wife (sautan) have filed nomination papers for the post of Sarpanch and have started campaigning against each other. Though there are other contestants too, but the voters of the GP are enjoying the poll verbal duel as part of their campaigning for the coming polls of the two women. According to sources, one Akshaya Mallick, a resident of Dhumat panchayat, had a love marriage with Sasmita. Later, however, due to family feud, Akshaya and Sasmita had separated with each other and now their divorce case is sub-judice at a local court. Meanwhile, Akshaya tied knots with Kamala. With an aim to serve



the people of her Gram panchayat, Sasmita, who is presently working as an ASHA, filed nomination papers, she said. The post is reserved for SC (Women) in Dhumat GP. Kamala too jumped into the poll process by filing nomination paper, encouraged by her husband. "Being an ASHA worker, I have been serving the people of my area for last 13 years; so getting their

support and encouragement I have fielded by candidature," told Sasmita. Meanwhile, the duo has been trying hard to collect the support of the voters and at times they are found engaged in mudslinging, which makes their campaigning quite interesting. "An interesting battle between the duo 'Sautans' is underway in our gram panchayat for the sarpanch post.



# At 37km/day, 30% jump in road construction despite Covid in 20-21

SIGNIFICANT UPTURN IN ROAD CONSTRUCTION IN 2020-21 WAS DUE TO INCREASE IN PUBLIC EXPENDITURE BY 29.5% AS COMPARED TO PREVIOUS YEAR, SAYS ECONOMIC SURVEY

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

In major boost to the road and highway infrastructure, the country saw road building work of 37 km per day in last fiscal when the nation was still recovering from the losses incurred due to Covid pandemic.

Terming infrastructure as the backbone for any economy, the Economic Survey tabled in the Parliament on Monday said there has been a consistent increase in the construction of National Highways/roads since 2013-14, with 13,327 kms constructed in 2020-21 as compared to 10,237 kms in 2019-20 which comes to per 28 km per day.

"Infrastructure is the backbone for any economy. There has been a consistent increase in the construction of National Highways/roads since 2013-14 with 13,327 kms of roads constructed in 2020-21 as compared to 10,237 kms in 2019-20, indicating an increase of 30.2 per cent over the previous year," the economic survey

said.

According to the Survey, the significant upturn in road construction in 2020-21 was due to the increase in public expenditure by 29.5 per cent as compared to the previous year -- a reflection of the impetus given by the government to a critical sector that generates employment and supports infrastructure during a pandemic year.

The Survey further said the extent and quality of infrastructure determines the ability of a country to utilise its comparative advantage and enables cost competitiveness.

It said in 2021-22 (till September), 3,824 kms of road network was constructed.

It also noted that road infrastructure is widely recognised as a potent means of socio-economic integration and is vital for the economic development of the country.

The pre-Budget Economic Survey said the road network of the country consists of National Highways (NH), state highways (SH), district, rural and urban roads as well as project roads, comprising over 63.71 lakh kms as on March 31, 2019, which is the second-largest network in the world after the United States with 66.45 lakh kms of roads.

Several initiatives such as the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) and National Monetisation Plan (NMP), among others, have been taken to propel the infrastructure investment, it added.

## Enrolment of rural kids in 6-14 years declined in 2020-21: Survey

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the Indian education system and there has been a decline in the enrolment of rural children in the age group of 6-14 years in schools, according to the Economic Survey 2021-22.

It also said that the shift towards online education during the pandemic led to the increased digital divide between the haves and have-nots.

Due to the limitation of non-availability of official data, the survey was based on alternate sources of smaller studies by the government and citizen-led non-government agencies like the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER).

"...ASER (Rural) report also found that during the pandemic, children (age 6-14 years) not currently enrolled in schools' increased from 2.5 per cent in 2018 to 4.6 per cent in 2021," said the survey tabled in Parliament on Monday by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

While the enrolment decline was relatively large among the younger age group (7-10 years), the drop in enrol-

**Shift towards online education during pandemic led to the increased digital divide between the haves and have-nots**

ment for younger boys was higher than girls, it said, adding that "the drop in enrolment happened in 2020, although it has remained stable in 2021".

The ASER report also found that during the pandemic, children in rural areas have moved out of private to government schools in all age groups. This was because of the shutdown of low-cost private schools, financial distress of parents, free facilities in government schools, and families migrating back to the village.

Disproportionately high fees in private schools could also be stimulating this shift, it added. "If the trend holds, public schools need to be equipped with additional support, in terms of teacher-pupil ratio, classroom space and teaching-learning materials to absorb students migrating from private schools and from urban to rural areas," it said.

Moreover, with schools and educational institutions

shifting towards online learning during the pandemic, the existing digital divide in the country "exacerbated" the equity in access to education, it added.

Children from poorer sections faced issues such as non-availability of smartphones, non-availability of a phone for children to use and network or connectivity issues.

Access to education, school dropouts and learning gaps, especially for children from marginalised communities, have always remained major challenges in education.

"Although the availability of smartphones has increased from 36.5 per cent in 2018 to 67.6 per cent in 2021, students in lower grade found it difficult to do online activities compared to higher-grade students. Non-availability of smart-phones, non-availability of a phone for the child to use, and network or connectivity issues were the challenges faced by children," it said.

"The pandemic has had a significant impact on the education system affecting lakhs of schools and colleges across India," the survey noted.

The survey said data from the Ministry of Education is only available up to 2019-20, hence the impact of the pandemic on enrolment and dropout rates during pandemic years 2020 and 2021 could not be assessed through comprehensive official data while acknowledging the data limitations.

The government has taken steps to minimise the adverse impact of the pandemic on the education system to address the concerns raised through private studies undertaken during the pandemic period.

## Agriculture least hit sector by Covid

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Maintaining that despite the COVID-19 pandemic, which has impacted almost all sectors in the last two year, agriculture was the least hit, the Economic Survey 2021-22 projected that the agriculture sector will grow by 3.9 percent in 21-22 after growing 3.6 per cent in the last year.

The Economic Survey report tabled in the Parliament on Monday said that the average monthly income per agricultural household in the country stood at Rs 10,218 in 2019 as against Rs 6,426 in 2014 while suggesting to give priority to crop diversification, horticulture, allied farm sectors, alternative fertilisers like Nano urea and "higher access to institutional credit to farmers and greater participation of the private corporate sector".

The Economic Survey also pitched for increasing agricultural research and development (R&D) and organic farming, besides use of new technologies like drones. "The share of the agriculture and allied sector in total Gross Value Added (GVA)

of the economy has settled at around 18 per cent in the long term states the Survey. In the year 2021-22 it is 18.8 per cent and in the year 2020-21 it was 20.2 per cent. This has become possible due to good monsoon and various government measures to enhance credit availability, improve investments, create market facilities, promote infrastructure development in the agriculture sector and increase provision of quality inputs to the sector, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said presenting the survey.

According to the Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) report 2021, the average monthly income per agricultural household, as per paid out expenses approach, works out to be Rs 10,218, compared to Rs 6,426 as per the last SAS Report of 2014.

With increasing fragmentation of holdings, the Survey said there is also a need to improve productivity of small and marginal farmers through development and implementation of small holding farm technologies. However, crop diversification can be used as a

tool to promote sustainable agriculture, reduction in import dependence and higher incomes for the farmers.

While the government has adopted the use of minimum support price (MSP) as a signal to encourage crop diversification, there is also a need for coordinated action from the state governments to facilitate the shift to high value and less water consuming crops to enable realisation of the objective of doubling farmers' income in a sustainable way, it added.

The agriculture credit flow for the year 2020-21 was Rs 15,75,398 crore against the target of Rs 15,00,000 crore for the year. The agriculture credit flow target for 2021-22 has been fixed at Rs 16,50,000 crore and till 30th September, 2021 against this target a sum of Rs 7,36,589.05 crore has been disbursed.

The report said that the government's fertiliser subsidy touched Rs 85,300 crore in the first nine months of the ongoing fiscal year and domestic fertiliser production reached 28.5 million tonnes during April-December period of 2021-22.

## Economic Survey predicts imported inflation a risk

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As the economy has been

relatively unscathed from the third wave of the virus and is projected to grow over 8.85 per cent for next fiscal, the Economic Survey 2021-22 has flagged imported inflation as a risk owing to high global energy prices. The Survey has also suggested the government to develop strategies to incentivise tomato and onion production during the lean season to check price rise. According to the survey, India's Consumer Price Index inflation stood at 5.6 percent in December 2021,

which is within the targeted tolerance band. Wholesale price inflation (WPI), however, has been running in double-digits.

"The inflation in 'fuel and power' group of WPI was above 20 percent reflecting higher international petroleum prices. Although the high WPI inflation is partly due to base effects that will even out, India does need to be wary of imported inflation, especially from elevated global energy prices," the survey flagged.

Whereas factors such as surge in energy, food, non-food commodities, and input prices, supply constraints, disruption

of global supply chains across the globe stoked global inflation during the year, on the domestic front, the average headline CPI inflation in India moderated to 5.2 per cent during April-December 2021-22. The domestic inflation has been down from 6.6 per cent as against the corresponding period a year ago. "Proactive measures were taken to contain the price rise in pulses and edible oils that reported high inflation reflecting the impact of imported inflation in these commodities. Notably, the edible oil prices peaked to over Rs 180-Rs 200 per litre during the year.

## CBI arrests Punjab roadways director on bribe charges

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI on Monday arrested the Director (an IAS Officer) of Punjab Roadways, Chandigarh for demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs two lakh from the complainant.

A case was registered against Paramjit Singh of Punjab Roadways, Chandigarh on a complaint. It was alleged that the complainant was due for promotion to the rank of General Manager, for which departmental promotion committee (DPC) was constituted in January, 2022. The accused officer was of the said DPC, the agency said in a statement.

"It was further alleged that the accused officer demanded a bribe of Rs five lakh from the complainant for recommending his name to Principal

Secretary, Transport, Government of Punjab, for promotion to the rank of General Manager," the CBI said. It was also alleged that the bribe was negotiated and the accused agreed to accept Rs two lakh from the complainant. The accused officer allegedly threatened the complainant to bear the consequences in case the said bribe amount was not paid to him, it further said.

The CBI laid a trap and caught the said Director while demanding and accepting the bribe amount of Rs two lakh.

The searches conducted against the accused in Chandigarh and Mohali led to recovery of cash of Rs 30 lakh.

The accused will be produced before the Competent Court at Chandigarh on Tuesday.

## PM urges MPs to make Budget Session fruitful

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Accepting that frequent elections affect Parliament sessions and debates, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday urged all MPs to make the "very important Budget session" fruitful and successful. Addressing the media ahead of the start of the Budget Session, Modi said that in today's global situation, there are a lot of opportunities for India and asserted that a confidence is being instilled in the world for India for its economic progress, vaccination programme and Made in India vaccines.

The Prime Minister asked the MPs to make the important session a success.

"It's true that polls affect sessions and debates. But I

request all MPs that elections will go on but Budget Session draws a blueprint for an entire year and therefore, it is very important. The more fruitful we make this session, the better opportunity there would be in the coming year to take the country to new economic heights," the Prime Minister said.

Modi also called for discussions with an open-mind to help take the country on the path to development swiftly.

The session comes ahead of assembly polls in five states -- Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Manipur, Uttarakhand, Goa with most of the key leaders of the political parties engaged in hectic campaigning which would continue through the first part of the Budget Session and thereafter.

## No legislative business in 1st part of Budget Session: Govt to Naidu

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

With the Budget Session beginning, the Centre on Monday conveyed to Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu that there will be no Government's legislative business during the first part of Budget session which will break on February 11.

In a meeting of floor leaders conducted on a virtual mode, Naidu explained the importance of the session amidst the pandemic and thus time available for proceedings will be very limited.

Naidu appealed to all sections for cooperation for a productive Budget session and several leaders stressed on the need for disruption free session. 15 leaders of different parties spoke in the meeting after

Naidu's opening remarks.

When Naidu sought to know the Government's legislative agenda for the session, Leader of the House in Rajya Sabha Piyush Goyal stated that in the given time frame, there would be no legislative proposals during the first part of this session.

Many of the leaders echoed the same sense of priorities for the first part of this Budget session and called for a disruption free Budget session.

BJD Leader Prasanna Acharya urged all parties and members of respective parties not to disrupt Zero Hour and Question Hour since Chairman Naidu has been endeavouring to give opportunities to as many Members as possible there by enabling wider participation of Members of Rajya Sabha. Disruptions deny a large

number of Members such opportunities of participation, he said.

Chairman Naidu noted that with only 23 hours available for taking up other items of business, it looks that there is little scope of taking up other items of business during the first part of Budget session and appealed to all leaders to keep this time horizon in mind while deciding on the agenda for the House.

Stating that Rajya Sabha loses an hour per each sitting due to staggered sitting of both Houses, Naidu said: "The Budget session provides guidance to help the national economy recover from the impact of covid pandemic over the last two years which continues with the third wave. I earnestly appeal to all the leaders to enable a productive Budget

session by urging members of respective parties so as to make meaningful contributions for economic recovery and all round development at this hour of challenge".

Chairman Naidu informed that meeting of the Business Advisory Committee of Rajya Sabha will be held on Tuesday to allocate time for discussion on Motion of Thanks to President and Union Budget.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Prahlaad Joshi and Leader of Opposition in the upper house Mallikarjun Kharge could not attend the meeting done virtually but the government was represented by Piyush Goyal.

## SC directs Punjab Police not arrest Majithia till Feb 23

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday directed Punjab Police to not arrest SAD leader Bikram Singh Majithia till February 23 in a drugs case so he can undertake electioneering in the state. A bench comprising Chief Justices N V Ramana and Justices A S Bopanna and Hima Kohli, however, directed Majithia to surrender before a trial court after the Punjab assembly polls scheduled on February 20.

The apex court also directed the trial court to hear and expeditiously decide Majithia's regular bail plea after his surrender in the case. The pre-arrest bail plea of Majithia, who was booked under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act on December 20 last year, was dismissed by the Punjab and Haryana High Court on January 24. An appeal has been filed in the apex court.

## 23,500 FIRs filed in five poll bound States

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

As many as 23,500 First Information Reports (FIR) have been filed in the five poll bound states. And of the 25,365 complaints received on the poll body's c-VIGIL app, 22,257 were found to be correct so far. Of them, over 17,000 cases were filed for violation of excise act while more than 650 cases were lodged for violation of the model code of conduct and over 260 cases were for violation of COVID protocols or guidelines.

As per the Election Commission's data, 2910 people have been put on notice under the Code of Criminal Procedure (CRPC) in Uttar Pradesh. As many as 25365 complaints were registered on c-VIGIL till January 31 and 22,257 were found to be correct which is 88 per cent. "Between January 9 and 30 more than 23,500 FIRs have been filed across these five states under various sections of Indian Penal Code. Of them, close to 17000 FIRs were filed in cases of violations under the Excise Act and NDPS act which accounts for almost 70 per cent of the total cases filed," sources said.

"A little over than 4600 complaints pertain to various sections of IPC and Arms Act," sources added. In a latest, the Election Commission has issued a notice to the Bulandshahr Sadar BJP candidate for alleged violation of COVID health guidelines after a video showed him dancing with a large number of his supporters.

The citizens have been empowered through technological tools like c-VIGIL app to report any cases of violation of MCC or attempts to bribe or intimidate voters. The election machinery of the five states have been taking various stringent actions, wherever required, to ensure that level playing field is maintained.

According to details provided by the Chief Electoral Officer of Uttar Pradesh, the poll authorities have seized over 8.48 lakh litres of liquor worth Rs 21.65 crore and 7559 kg drugs including ganja and heroine worth Rs 26.59 crore so far. The authorities have also recovered Rs 24.28 crore since the imposition of the MCC. A total 576 FIRs were registered in the state for the violation of MCC.

As many as 8.03 lakh arms seized and 566 cases have been registered under the Arms Act.

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## CBI seeks sanction from Uttar Pradesh Govt to investigate role of 3 babus in UPPCL PF scam

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has sought sanction from the Uttar Pradesh government to investigate the role of three senior bureaucrats in connection with alleged irregularities in the investment of over Rs 4,300 crore of provident fund of Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (UPPCL) employees in scam-tainted DHFL and other housing finance companies.

The agency has sought the permission of the State government under Section 17 (A) of the amended Prevention of Corruption Act which provides for seeking prior sanction from the competent government before initiating any investigation against a government officer, official sources said.

The three IAS officers in the dock are Sanjay Agarwal,

Aparna U and Alok Kumar. While Agarwal and Kumar are both 1984-batch IAS officers from the Uttar Pradesh cadre and the duo had held the post of UPPCL Chairman, Aparna U, a 2001-batch IAS, was the Managing Director of the power utility, they said.

Presently, Agarwal is holding charge of Secretary, Agriculture and Kumar is Secretary, Power at the Centre. Aparna U is posted as Principal Secretary in the State.

During the investigation of UPPCL PF scam, the CBI has found that over Rs 4,323 crore of savings of UPPCL employees under provident fund were allegedly invested in DHFL and other housing finance companies, the sources said.

The CBI probe has also revealed that out of the total investment, Rs 3,245 crore was

allegedly invested in DHFL and other such companies.

According to allegations in the case taken over by the CBI from the State police, it was alleged that a total of Rs 4,122.70 crore was invested in DHFL, out of which Rs 2,267.90 crore are still outstanding.

The CBI took over the investigation into the scam on March 5 last year after taking over the FIR registered by the Hazratganj police station in Lucknow.

The UPPCL officials allegedly also conspired to get the provident funds deposited in schemes of DHFL circumventing the rules which did not encourage such investments, they said.

Pravin Kumar Gupta, former Secretary of the UP State Power Sector Employees' Trust and Sudhanshu Dwivedi, for-

mer Director, Finance, of UPPCL, have been named as accused for criminal breach of trust, cheating and forgery.

Provident funds of the UPPCL employees were being invested in fixed deposits of public sector banks till October 2016. On a proposal of Gupta and former UPPCL managing director AP Mishra, the investment of funds started in PNB housing in December 2016 and subsequently to DHFL and other such housing finance companies.

The Dewan Housing Finance Corporation (DHFL) is facing multiple probes by different investing agencies after a report suggested that the company, through layers of shell companies, allegedly siphoned off Rs 31,000 crore out of the total bank loan of Rs 97,000 crore.

Since its launch, there have been more than 10,000 successful teleconsultations on SeHAT, with a strong team of 2,000 plus doctors onboard. The feedback from the environment has been extremely heart-warming.

# BJP to go solo in TN urban civic polls

AIADMK spurns demand; BJP says alliance still intact

**Chennai:** The Tamil Nadu BJP on Monday announced it would contest on its own the urban civic polls slated to be held on February 19 and asserted that its alliance with the AIADMK remained intact. The Saffron party was prompted to take the decision after the Dravidian ally did not come forward to meet its aspirations. State BJP president K Annamalai said the AIADMK leadership came forward to allot 10 per cent of seats for the urban civic polls, and naturally his party had wanted more and a list of seats desired was also given to them.

The AIADMK, given its compulsions, could not accommodate the BJP as regards the number of seats it desired to contest and this scenario and the aspirations of cadres to contest in more segments was conveyed to the national leadership and a decision was taken

to face urban civic polls alone, he said.

Addressing a press conference at party headquarters, 'Kamallalayam', here, Annamalai said in order to strengthen the party at grass-roots level and to reach out to the people on a slew of Centre's welfare schemes including the Smart Cities Mission, local polls are an opportunity.

Also, the party wanted to fulfill the aspirations of its cadres by giving them tickets to contest local polls, he said.

"We have, hence, decided to contest the 2022 urban civic polls on our own. We are going to field candidates everywhere across Tamil Nadu," Annamalai said amid applause from party office-bearers.

It is the decision of the party leadership to listen to the voice of the grassroots level worker and hence the decision, he said, adding the move to contest alone would help party's growth. Firming up seat sharing with the AIADMK for local body polls is a difficult task considering several practical difficulties at the local level, he said.

Expressing confidence that the BJP would emerge victori-

ous in a large number of seats, Annamalai said that his party's alliance with the AIADMK, the principal opposition party in Tamil Nadu, continued to be intact. The alliance with AIADMK would continue for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls as well, he said.

Asked if the BJP legislator Nainar Nagendran's recent 'AIADMK does not have spine' jibe had a bearing on the Dravidian party's stand on seats, Annamalai apologetically said that sometimes the remarks of leaders turn out to be 'contradictory.'

However, regret for Nagendran's remark was immediately conveyed by the MLA and others to the AIADMK leadership and both the parties did not magnify the issue, he said. "Everyone has forgotten that."

Nagendran had days ago said that he could not see a 'courageous AIADMK' in the Assembly that could speak with spine and manliness. Whether or not the AIADMK is part of the alliance is immaterial, he had said.

Annamalai said the question before the BJP is only about moving on to the next level for

party's growth by contesting in more number of seats, beyond the 10 per cent threshold offered by the AIADMK.

"We have no regrets as regards the AIADMK leadership," he said and praised AIADMK top leaders O Panneerselvam and K Palaniswami for leading their party through their excellent leadership qualities despite challenges.

The BJP leader said: "The cadres of both the parties work together. We are duty bound to convey our thankfulness to them (AIADMK leadership and workers)".

"Our common enemy is the DMK and particularly the DMK regime," he said when asked if the AIADMK had deliberately taken a tough stand on seat allocation to ease the BJP out of the alliance it lead. The BJP would bat for good governance in local bodies and seek a chance to serve the people through its nominees with a clean track record.

The BJP's primary task is to go door to door and explain to the people the false assurances made by the DMK ahead of the Assembly election last year.

Targeting DMK president

and Chief Minister M K Stalin for accusing his party of communal politics, Annamalai asked the CM to pose a question to himself on his allegation.

The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court has now ordered a CBI probe into the death of 17-year old girl, Lavanya. Whether this move of the court, after considering arguments of all sides, is to secure justice or not is something Stalin has to answer, the BJP leader said. Allegedly, Lavanya, a student of a school in Thanjavur district and a hostel inmate was coerced by some to convert to Christianity.

She died by suicide days ago. However, the school management had rejected the allegation. The TN BJP chief said the DMK decides the 'kind of politics', it should take forward and his party is geared up to take on the ruling party and give it back. T

He BJP, as part of the AIADMK alliance, had contested 9.1 per cent seats in rural civic polls held last year. Out of the 9 districts that went for polls, an agreement could be reached for 8 districts and the BJP contested polls alone in Kallakurichi district. *PTI*

# Schools, colleges to reopen in West Bengal from Feb 3

PNS ■ KOLKATA

Declaring further relaxation is pandemic norms, Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday announced the reopening of schools and colleges from February 3.

Schools --- from class 8 to 12 --- and Colleges in the State would open from February 3 the Chief Minister told in a press conference adding decisions to order some more relaxations had also been taken in various sectors including aviation.

The Government had yet not decided on the opening of the primary classes, she said adding classes 5-7 would be taught under a Government scheme Paray Shikkhalaya whereby assemblies of students would get their lessons in neighbourhood clusters.

"We cannot close schools indefinitely... as corona cases have decreased we have decided to open schools, colleges and universities on the basis of discussions with the education



Students celebrate with colours after the Government announced reopening of schools and colleges for classes eighth and above in Kolkata on Monday *PTI*

department. Schools and colleges will be opened from February 3. Because Saraswati Puja is on February 5 students will be able to take part in it in their schools and other educational institutions..." the Chief Minister said.

The Government and private offices, bars, restaurants and cinema halls can hence forward work with 75 per cent attendance, she said adding the

State was witnessing a reduction in daily corona cases. Airtservice between Kolkata and all other cities --- except Bangalore --- would resume she said.

As per the State health department's most recent Covid-19 bulletin, West Bengal has 31,562 active cases of infection. The recovery rate for novel corona virus patients in the State stands at 97.38 per cent, while the fatality rate is 1.03 per cent.

# Kerala HC directs MEA to decide on woman's plea seeking legal aid to son jailed in UAE

‘Give her online hearing before final decision’

**Kochi:** The Kerala High Court has directed the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to take a decision within three months on the representation by a woman seeking release of her son from a UAE prison where he is serving a 10-year jail term, since 2015, for allegedly spying for the Indian Government.

Justice P V Kunhikrishnan directed the ministry to consider the woman's representation made in June 11 last year, "as expeditiously as possible, at any rate within a period of three months from the date of receipt of a copy of the judgment".

The court in its order also directed the MEA to give an online hearing to her before taking a final decision and with these directions disposed of the woman's plea seeking legal aid for him in UAE and to bring him back to India.

The woman's son, Shihani Meera Sahib Jamal Mohammed, was awarded a 10-year jail term in August 2015 and the sentence was

upheld by the Abu Dhabi Federal Court of Appeal, the central government had informed the court in December last year.

It had also told the court that the mother, Shahubanath Beevi, may have to wait till 2025 to see her son as he would be released in September 2025 and then deported back to India.

Giving details of the steps taken by it, the Centre had told the high court that the Indian Embassy in UAE had requested the local authorities to consider the case sympathetically and pardon the sentence of Mohammed, but they declined to grant any such relief as it is a case related to the West Asian country's national security.

As there was nothing more the Embassy could do, it had updated the same on the MADAD portal and recommended that it be closed, the Centre had said.

The central government

had also told the court that the emails sent to the Embassy for filing a mercy petition on behalf of Mohammed have been forwarded to the local authorities concerned for their sympathetic consideration.

The submissions by the Centre were made in a statement filed in the court in response to Shahubanath Beevi's plea, filed through advocate Jose Abraham, seeking legal support for her son.

The woman had claimed that her son has been subjected to "severe torture and harassment" and he did not get any kind of support from the Indian Embassy there or the central government.

The woman, in her plea, had also claimed that according to the judgements passed by the UAE courts in the matter, her son was "acting for the Indian Embassy officials in UAE".

The woman had alleged that her son was not even provided proper legal aid to defend himself in the courts there. *PTI*

# Hijab banned in Udupi govt college

**Mangaluru:** The government girl's PU college in Udupi has categorically informed that students wearing 'hijab' (Islamic headscarf) will not be allowed inside classrooms.

The decision of the authorities was announced on Monday by Udupi MLA and college development authority president K Raghupati Bhat, after a meeting with four of the five stu-

dents who have been protesting against the decision of the college authorities by boycotting classes. Bhat said it is not possible to allow students to wear hijab inside classrooms where only uniforms are allowed. The parents of the girls have also been informed of the decision. They said they will take a decision after speaking to the male members of their families.

He said from Tuesday, students will not be permitted to create any chaos or confusion on the college campus. Representatives of organisations and media persons also will not be allowed inside the campus.

The steps have been taken as the college was receiving complaints from parents of other students at a time examinations are nearing, Bhat said.

# NCC cadets can play major role in reversing drug menace in J&K: L-G

**Jammu:** The National Cadet Corps (NCC) can play a major role in reversing the drug menace in Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Monday.

Interacting with the contingents of NCC cadets from Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh that participated at the Republic Day Parade in New Delhi, Sinha lauded them for their services, particularly especially during the trying times of COVID-19. "NCC cadets are icons of discipline and leadership with unwavering commitment in nation-building," Sinha said.

As the largest uniformed youth organisation in the world, Sinha said, the NCC can create a culture of fighting substance abuse. "NCC cadets can also play a major role in reversing the drug menace in Jammu and Kashmir through cadet peer-led intervention," the lieutenant governor said.

"Our efforts will not only motivate the youth from the villages to join the armed forces but will also inculcate the values of fraternity, discipline, national unity and selfless services among them," he said. *PTI*

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

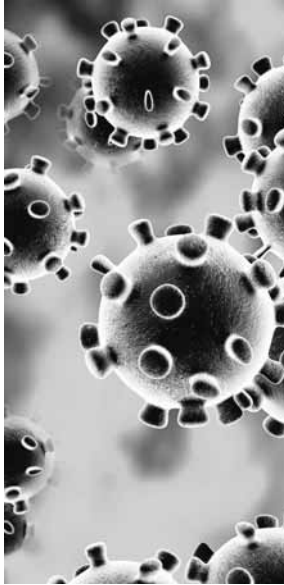
# Maha daily cases drop to 15K, Mumbai logs 1K alone

In a big relief to the health authorities, the daily Covid-19 infections came down to 15,140 on Monday as against 22,444 cases recorded on Sunday, even as the daily cases in Mumbai went down below 1,000 to touch a figure of 960. On a day when 91 fresh omicron cases were reported in the state, the daily infections dropped by 7304 cases on Monday. With the fresh infections, the total number of Covid-19 cases in the state rose from 77,05,969 cases to 77,21,109.

With 39 fresh deaths, the total number of deaths registered in the state since the outbreak of Covid-19 in the state in March 2020 went up from 1,42,572 to 1,42,611 cases.

Mumbai, where the daily infections have been dropping steadily for more than eight days, witnessed a drop in the number of cases from 1,160 to 960. With the latest cases, the total number of cases in Mumbai mounted from 10,45,630 cases to 10,46,590.

As 35,453 Covid-19



patients were discharged from the hospitals across the state after full recovery, the total number of people discharged from the hospitals since the second week of March 2020 increased from 73,31,806 cases to 73,68,259. The recovery rate in the state rose from 95.14 per cent to 95.42 per cent.

The number of "active

cases" in the state dropped from 2,27,711 cases to 2,07,350 cases. The fatality rate in the state stood static at 1.85 per cent.

The active cases in Pune dropped from 69,511 cases on Sunday to 62,365 on Monday.

The active cases in Mumbai dropped from 10,797 to 9,900, while the active cases in the neighbouring Thane came down from 16,974 cases on Sunday to 9,900 on Monday. Nagpur accounted for 24,600 cases, followed by Nashik (15,549), Ahmednagar (9,588) Aurangabad (6,348), Satara (5,556) and Raigad (5,164).

Of the 7,46,29,449 samples sent to various laboratories across the state so far, 77,21,109 have tested positive (10.35 per cent) for COVID-19 until Sunday.

Currently, 11,74,825 people are in home quarantine while 2,79,8 people are in institutional quarantine.

Meanwhile, as many as 91 fresh Omicron cases were recorded in Maharashtra, taking the total number of the new Covid-19 variant cases to 3,221.

## COVID BULLETIN



Students pray before the start of a class at a school after authorities allowed schools to reopen for 1st to 9th standard, in Bengaluru on Monday *PTI*

# Sharad Pawar tests -ve

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Seven days after he had disclosed that he had tested positive for Covid-19, NCP chief (NCP) Sharad Pawar announced on Monday that he had recovered from the pandemic. "My Covid-19 RT-PCR is Negative today. I am grateful to my Doctors, Friends, Colleagues and Well wishers for all the prayers and wishes for my speedy recovery," Pawar tweeted.

It may be recalled that on January 24, Pawar had gone into home quarantine after testing positive for Covid-19. He had also gone onto cancel all his programmes for the following seven days. The NCP chief spokesperson Nawab Malik had announced that if Pawar tested negative, he would re-schedule all his cancelled programmes. Among others, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had called Pawar on January 24 to enquire about his health. "Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji called to enquire about my health. I am thankful for his concern and good wishes," the NCP had tweeted.

# BULLI BAI APP CASE

## Mumbai court remands prime accused in judicial custody

**Mumbai:** A court here on Monday remanded Neeraj Bishnoi, the prime accused in the Bulli Bai app case wherein photos of some Muslim women were posted online for auction, to judicial custody for two weeks.

Bishnoi, the alleged creator of the mobile application, was arrested earlier this month by the Delhi Police in a similar case. Mumbai Police later took his custody for investigating the Bulli Bai app case.

A Metropolitan Magistrate's court in Mumbai on Monday remanded Bishnoi to judicial custody.

With this, all the six persons, being interrogated by the Cyber Cell of the Mumbai Police in connection with the hate app case, are in judicial custody.

Police had earlier arrested Vishal Jha, Mayank Rawat, Shweta Singh, Neeraj Singh and Omkareshwar Thakur. *PTI*





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PAPER WITH PASSION

## Say justice!

The idea of live-streaming proceedings of higher courts comes with a host of riders, too

Justice DY Chandrachud of the Supreme Court has again underlined the need for video streaming of court proceedings. People will get the opportunity to see justice in action. The judges and lawyers will be under scrutiny. The exercise will help both sides to better understand each other's concerns. Five High Courts already record court proceedings in India, making them available on YouTube or court websites for viewing. Last June, the e-Committee of the Supreme Court announced draft rules for live streaming and recording of court proceedings. Justice Chandrachud's articulation should help launch a debate on the issue. In India, the TV screen is largely a source of mass entertainment, whether in the form of skits, serials, cinema or even news. Court proceedings cannot be watched with the same attitude. They show us how the process of justice is negotiated without bias or prejudice, day in and day out, in millions of cases in 25 High Courts and the Supreme Court. Some argue that opening up court proceedings is a calculated risk. The clinching argument, however, is that watching justice being done can help us understand how an independent judiciary interprets laws and protects the Constitution. Having said that, we can presume Justice Chandrachud must have given serious thought to the complications live court proceedings can lead to in the Indian context. The biggest is the possibility of the hearing in a sensitive case polarising the viewership.



One can imagine the implications of live streaming in cases like Nirbhaya, Sabarimala or Ayodhya. A majority of such cases are sensitive. Or, they could be industrial, property or marital disputes where the parties can, and will, demand privacy. Cases about espionage and national security will naturally be exempt. So, the percentage of cases related to national, societal, religious or other contemporary issues open for video streaming will be small. Given our linguistic, regional and sub-national diversity, there will be myriad restrictions and exceptions. These will render the whole exercise insipid at least in the initial years. Evidentiary hearings are equally complex. They involve eye-witness testimony and, therefore, protecting the identity of the witness becomes paramount. On the other hand, the biggest positive of video streaming will be the reluctance to pursue the "tareekh pe tareekh" approach under the constant public glare. Tactics to prolong trials or grandstanding before the cameras will not be remunerative for their practitioners. Watching the court proceedings will make people aware of judicial processes and less fearful of the judges and lawyers. The availability of recordings will do away with the risk of misinterpretation of the oral observations of judges and testimonies of witnesses. At the same time, the fact that their words and actions are being watched will influence attitudes and attitudes of the officers of the law. Cameras capture the judges, too.

### PICTALK



Tourists visit the snow-covered Solangnala in Manali

PTI

## Uphill task

The FM walks a tightrope as she presents the Union Budget for 2022-23 today

Today, when Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman rises to present the Union Budget for 2022-23, she would need to work really hard to overcome several challenges. The Government's economic planning has been the weakest chink in its armour. Despite several initiatives, it has failed to boost growth and offset the COVID-19 losses. In fact, its policy decisions worsened the situation as it unduly pressured banks which led to the collapse of several banks and strained the economy. The demand despite cash incentives remains low and the manufacturing and service sectors are in dire need of a kickstart. The Union Budget is an annual accounting process as also the Government's policy initiative for course correction. So the Budget, one expects, should not only make the economy sustainable but also prepare a roadmap for growth and development. The Union Budget will have to factor in rising prices in global oil and metal markets and volatility in global financial markets as the US tightens its monetary policy. It is general consensus that the Finance Minister will have to focus on infra and investment to revive the economy. This could generate demand and ensure greater employment. But, in the given scenario, it is easier said than done.

Financing infrastructure has been lacklustre. In her FY22 Budget, the Minister laid out her National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) and an associated National Monetisation Programme (NMP). Of the ₹88,000 crore targeted for FY22, nothing seems to have been actually utilised. Then, the Union Budget will have to persuade the industry to increase private investment. Gross capital formation has declined from 34.2 per cent of GDP in 2014 to 29.2 per cent of GDP in 2020. Both public and private investments have declined in the previous years. Credit growth has remained stuck at below 10 per cent. The Budget must increase private sector investment, which would need a huge dose of incentives. Budget measures must encourage consumption to drive growth. In the last two Budgets, stimulus measures were expected to do some of that but the results have not been satisfactory. In this scenario, what she can do is give incentives. The challenge here is picking the right ones: One could be a better and more effective rationalisation of the tax structure. Another policy measure could be to revive the PPP model but, for that to happen, she will have to do some out-of-the-box thinking.

# Postcards from our future to India's future

In Dec-Jan, nearly one crore postcards were sent by schoolchildren to the Prime Minister, outlining their vision for India@2047

When you acknowledge uncertainty, yet through an exploratory and creative process you think up various possibilities, even project and predict the likelihood of an unknown future, you are 'future thinking'. You may speculate that students of a school education system, which is sometimes targeted for being based on rote-learning, cannot possibly be expected to look past the present and offer views on an unfamiliar future or an unseen past. Well, our nation's children just proved all such assumptions wrong.

At an event to mark the 75th year of Independence — in a joint initiative of three departments: School Education, Posts and Culture — children from across the length and breadth of the country, studying in grades 4 to 12, were encouraged to write postcards to the PM on two themes — "Unsung heroes of our freedom struggle", and "My vision for India in 2047".

It is estimated today that almost 50 crore postcards are written annually in India. Of these, over one crore postcards were sent by children to a single address in December-January — that of the Prime Minister! This overwhelming response by children was warmly acknowledged by the PM in *Mann Ki Baat* when he carefully read out some of the postcards and discussed their essence.

I am attempting here to similarly mention the highlights of what the PM called as children's *Mann Ki Baat*. Unsung heroes have been discussed by children with a great deal of pride in their contribution and sacrifice for our freedom. "Matangini Hajra, an Indian revolutionary, took part in the Civil Disobedience Movement and was arrested for challenging the Salt Act. Though she did not receive formal education, she was an inspiration to many women to participate in the freedom struggle," writes a child. Another says that we are slowly forgetting our heroes such as Tara Rani, Tirot Singh, Durgabai Deshmukh; therefore, we must dedicate one day of the nation



every year to remember these "Gumnaam nayaks". A student has dedicated her entire postcard to Captain Lakshmi Sahgal of the Azad Hind Fauj. Many children have written about Durgabai Deshmukh, Birsu Munda, Pingali Venkayya, Nani Bala Devi, Kunwar Pratap Singh Barhath, Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya, Madanlal Dhingra, Munidev Tyagi, Vishwanath Das, Bhikaji Cama and Hiraji Gomaji Patil.

A student has elaborated the role of Bhima Bai Holkar and mentioned that she defines the true definition of: "One may die for an idea, but that idea after the death will incarnate itself in a thousand lives."

Quite a few children have written about child heroes, too, such as about the "Bal balidaan" by Nayak Shirish Kumar of Maharashtra and the heroic Kanaklata Barua, also known as Birbala, who was shot dead at the age of 17 when she hoisted the National Flag at the local police station.

To be able to imagine the country 25 years hence is no mean task. We adults sometimes find it difficult to visualise that, but these children have shown a clear vision for India@2047. An eighth-grade student foresees India as "fully



TO BE ABLE TO IMAGINE THE COUNTRY 25 YEARS HENCE IS NO MEAN TASK. WE ADULTS SOMETIMES FIND IT DIFFICULT TO VISUALISE THAT, BUT THESE CHILDREN HAVE SHOWN A CLEAR VISION FOR INDIA@2047

literate, harmonious and self-sufficient". He says: "My vision for India is full of nature and heritage. Humanity and love prevail everywhere. My country will be the best place to live in — heaven on earth." A child studying in fifth grade poignantly envisions an India "free from poverty, unemployment, corruption, pollution, ill-health, terrorism, gender discrimination and food shortage".

Many children have expressed that they are greatly influenced by the 'Make in India' initiative. A girl child from ninth grade writes: "The Make in India symbol has lightened a proud fire within my heart. I want to roar out to all of India's sons to come back and work for her." Says a primary school student: "We will witness a country so powerful, yet so united." Views of a class seven student: "In 2047, my country should be using only eco-friendly products; farmers should use much more technology and women should be respected everywhere." A girl child writes: "Our country has to become one of the largest economies in the world, which is food-sufficient and a carbon-free, eco-friendly and plastic-free nation." Children have also written about an

India that will regain its legacy of music and dance.

Then there are children who have let their scientific temperament and imagination really flow. Children have written about developing high capabilities for space, an eminent position in the field of astronomy, Chandrayaan-2 and a research base on the moon, and transforming Mars to make it habitable for humans. Quite a few children have written about achieving 100 per cent literacy and becoming the most literate country in the world. A child hopes that "yoga, ayurveda and agriculture shall become part of the school curriculum". Many have visualised an India where women will be safe and "equal to men", and a clean and green country "where every citizen throws garbage only in dustbins".

Children have also written about a country where every drop of water shall be used judiciously. The manner in which we learn from our past and the choices that we make today will create the future of our dreams. These children have convinced us that our future is indeed in safe hands.

(The writer is the Secretary, Ministry of Education, Government of India. The views expressed are personal.)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### SELF-MEDICATION IS NOT THE KEY

Sir — The ever-increasing threat of superbugs like anti-microbial drug AMR will not just take away about 10 million precious lives by 2050 but also deprive nations 3.8 per cent of the G.D.P. According to a report in 2017 entitled *Drug Resistance Infection: A Threat to Our Economic Future*, every year 7 lakh people will die of AMR if timely intervention in health and sanitation is not done. It is also true that Indians hold the dubious distinction of self-medication at the drop of a hat. We often get carried away by instant benefits.

Taken in excess, it can even ruin our health, which is also corroborated by recent findings. Its use and misuse, often without doctor's consultation, casts an ugly shadow on the health of a nation as a whole. More research on anti-biotic resistance needs to be carried out. Unless we take preventive steps, we run the risk of endangering our lives. We must be more thoughtful of their role in life-saving antibiotics where they are needed and minimising their use where they are not necessary in order to improve human health benefits.

Vijay Singh Adhikari | Nainital

### LEAVE THE CHOICE TO IAS OFFICERS

Sir — The proposed changes to the IAS (Cadre) rules say the Centre shall decide the matter in case of any disagreement. The IAS regulations provide for Central Deputation Reserve (CDR) not exceeding 40 per cent of the Sanctioned Duty Post (SDP) of a cadre/joint cadre. The changes deals with Rule 6(1) concerning with Central deputation. The reason for this move is the non-availability of sufficient number of officers, which further affects Government functioning. Strong opposition has come from a few States as they see "politics" in the Centre's move. Only a handful of states has welcomed this move.

There is a feeling that the insertions in the cadre rules are unilateral as these make it mandatory on the State to necessarily nominate officers for Central deputation but whether to take officers

## Rafa Nadal = Tennis history



Rafa Nadal has created tennis history. And what a match it was in the Australia Open final against Daniil Medvedev! Nadal was sweating buckets, down two sets but he roaringly came back at Medvedev to win the last three sets to lift his record-breaking 21st Grand Slam title, which no men's player in history has done until today. We have seen a few comebacks

but at 35, after being on crutches just a few months ago when he almost felt his career was over, coming back from two sets to love-down in a marathon Grand Slam Final that lasted five hours and 24 minutes to win the Australian Open after 13 years; it has to be one of the greatest comebacks ever in tennis history.

His victory was even more remarkable considering Nadal flew to Australia with just two matches under his belt in the second half of 2021 because he was sidelined with a chronic foot injury. He also had a bout of COVID-19. Medvedev, aiming to be the first man in the Open era to win his second Grand Slam at the very next major, made Nadal go the distance and win from two-sets down. It was just the fourth time Nadal has rallied from two sets down to win a best-of-five match, and the first since a fourth-round victory in 2007 at Wimbledon. It was indeed a historic victory against all odds.

Calicut Krishnan Mani | Calicut

or not is left to the Centre. The IAS officers see it as an ego tussle between the Centre and the States. They argue that since they belong to the All India Services, it should be their choice where to work. Many of them don't opt for Central deputation because they see better career growth in their respective States. Therefore, this decision must be their personal choice and the Centre as well as the States have no right to make them obliged to this decision.

Ishita Patidar | Ujjain

### DON'T IGNORE CONGRESS IN UP

Sir — It's with reference to the editorial 'Battle ground' (January 31). It has been said that in the upcoming Assembly election in Uttar Pradesh, there is a direct fight between BJP, led by Yogi Adityanath, and the SP, led by Akhilesh Yadav. But the ground reality is that the Congress, led by Priyanka Gandhi-Vadra, has a strong influence over voters at the grassroots. If no single party

gets majority, in the possible scenario of a hung Assembly, the Congress with 60-70 seats will be the kingmaker in propping up the UP Government led by the BJP or SP.

The fact is that the Congress is the dark horse in deciding the future of Uttar Pradesh and its people and there is a possibility that the SP may ask for outside support or alliance with the Congress to keep the BJP out of power by taking the example of the Maharashtra Government where the Shiv Sena-NCP-Congress have an alliance and formed the Uddhav Thackeray-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) Government. They are in power for the last two years and working efficiently. Because of this, the Congress cannot be written off in the UP elections and it may turn out to be the key factor in the coming days.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## SOUNDBITE

It appears the Modi Govt has misled Parliament, the SC and lied to people of India (on Pegasus).

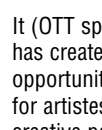


Congress leader — Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury



The picture on Ukraine's border with Russia is increasingly concerning.

British Prime Minister — Boris Johnson



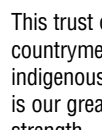
It (OTT space) has created many opportunities for artists, creative people and executives.

Hollywood actor — Dwayne Johnson



It's been a very emotional night. I can't think much, I can't remember a lot of moments of the match.

Australian Open winner — Rafael Nadal



This trust of our countrymen on the indigenous vaccine is our great strength.

Prime Minister — Narendra Modi



## FIRST COLUMN

## BUDGET EXPECTATIONS OF DESIGN EDU SECTOR

The Government's 'Make in India' initiative needs a 'Design in India' push



SANJAY GUPTA

The pandemic-induced online and hybrid modes of education have stressed out higher education institutions financially, more so the students in tier 2 and tier 3 cities. Institutions offering education in the creative domain have struggled to create the required pedagogical infrastructure and in bridging the digital divide. A major expectation of these institutions, therefore, is redressal of this financial stress. Government support is required to create vital infrastructure and to finance the costs of additional training and skills development, as well as Ed-tech platforms. Given the disruption induced by technology (4th Industrial Revolution), any move to stimulate overall economic activity and create employment will have to involve design. The government's 'Make-in-India' initiative needs to be coupled with a 'Design-in-India' push so people can create new products, devise business processes, and think about new ways of service delivery for society. This is a must so that



we can build a more "skilled" and "employable" India because the fact remains that the design industry is today one of the major employers as all industry verticals are augmenting their design & innovation capacities. However, the importance of the design industry and education and its contribution to the GDP and nation building is hardly recognized. For this to happen, the Government needs to change its mindset and that of the populace. It can make a beginning by incorporating more creative learning into the secondary education curriculum and setting up a creative think-tank that challenges policy and re-writes the rules. Opening a role in the Cabinet for the creative industries would give a fillip to the sector. In South Korea they have formed a Ministry for Future, Sciences and Creativity. This underlines the important role that design plays there in transforming science into culture. I think in India too we need a similar initiative that can bring together science, technology and creativity; and create a cross-cutting strategy that enables gaming, the visual art industry, the industrial design sector, the music sector, the communication sector, and the creative-industrial areas that emerge from their hybridisation to be integrated into the consolidation of technological research with economic development. Design also opens the door to Research and Development, particularly for MSMEs which with their limited resources cannot include R&D in their business models. Investing in creative skills right from the primary education sector to higher education and professional training will result in widespread innovation. The value of design skills cannot be overemphasized in fuelling economic growth. This can be done by the government backing design education and making it affordable. Any serious effort to create employment opportunities needs to encourage creativity along with emphasis on the sciences. Look how a Metaverse is being imagined and created, opening a completely new universe of opportunities for game designers, producers, storytellers, data providers, analysts, spatial mappers, public health and safety experts besides teachers, coaches and leaders. The art and design world of the future would be making full use of present and future, augmented and virtual reality technologies. The education for this emerging new age also needs to be current with the demand. The government mission should be to make design, creativity and innovation as important to the school curriculum as math and English, strengthen higher education institutions in the field of design so that in the coming two decades we produce a whole new generation of home-grown companies and unicorns; and we are able to produce as many creative directors as financial directors. The Government, as it finalises the Union Budget, will do well to remember that the designers of today are the innovators and entrepreneurs of tomorrow.

(The writer is Vice-Chancellor, World University of Design. The views expressed are personal.)

# Income inequalities: Tackle the root cause



UTTAM GUPTA

Irrespective of the nature of business and sector affiliation, they are structured to result in concentration of income in the hands of owners

According to the Oxfam report, "Inequality Kills", released ahead of the World Economic Forum's Davos Agenda early this month, the collective wealth of India's 100 richest people in 2021 hit a record high of ₹5700,000 crore (\$775 billion) while the number of Indian billionaires grew from 102 to 142. During the pandemic, the wealth of these billionaires increased from ₹2300,000 crore (\$313 billion) in March 2020 to ₹5300,000 crore (\$719 billion) in November 2021.

At the same time, the income of 84 percent of households declined and the share of the bottom half of the population in national wealth was a mere six percent. More than 46 million Indians are estimated to have fallen into extreme poverty in 2020, nearly half of the global new poor.

Lest one gets a sense that glaring inequalities have arisen only because of the pandemic, the fact remains they existed even before.

A report 'Time to Care' Oxfam ahead of the 50th Annual Meeting of the WEF during in January 2020 said 'India's richest one percent hold more than four-times the wealth held by 953 million people who make up for the bottom 70 percent of the population. Further, the combined total wealth of 63 Indian billionaires is higher than the total Union Budget of India for the fiscal year 2018-19.

The income of persons is inextricably linked to a country's GDP. The inequalities in income can arise under two scenarios: (i) Rising GDP -- income of majority of the population increases at a much slower pace than the increase in income of one percent sitting on top of the pyramid. (ii) Declining GDP -- income of the former declines at a much faster pace than decrease in income of the latter.

While the second scenario comes up once in a blue moon, the first is pretty normal. To get a sense of what would be happening, let us consider this. If GDP increases by a rupee, an overwhelming share say 80 paise goes to the top one percent whereas the bottom 70 percent gets six paise (remaining 14 paise go to people in the 71-99 percent range). With this highly skewed distribution, even if GDP increases by ₹10, the top one percent will get away with ₹8 while the bottom 70 percent would be left with a meager 60 paise.

The protagonists of high growth would make us believe that everything is honky dory, but the fact remains that its benefits are appropriated mostly by a few persons at the top even as majority of those at the bottom of pyramid get very little.

This is something intrinsic to the way businesses are planned and orchestrated. It all starts with the government offering a policy environment in which investors are offered an opportunity to earn an attractive rate of return on investment. What should be that attractive rate, this is not normally defined (though in certain sectors like power, fertilizers, it guarantees a



THERE IS NEED FOR A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN THE WAY OUR INDUSTRIALISTS DO BUSINESSES AND POLITICIANS AND BUREAUCRATS CONDUCT THEMSELVES. WHILE THE FORMER NEED TO SHED THEIR OVERZEALOUSNESS FOR PROFITS, CHARGE LESS FROM CONSUMERS, DISTRIBUTE MORE TO WORKERS AND PAY MORE TAXES, THE LATTER MUST ENSURE THAT EVERY RUPEE IS SPENT FOR THE WELFARE AND EMPOWERMENT OF THE POOR

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



minimum return); so any level howsoever, high can fall within the scope of 'attractiveness'.

A number of big businesses enjoy pricing power. For instance, those operating in metals such as copper, zinc, aluminum or in hydrocarbons like oil and gas enjoy natural monopoly. Leveraging this, they charge high prices making windfall gains. This also applies to private banks who enjoy margins of 3-4 per cent yielding mammoth profits. There are companies in the IT and IT-enabled sector which use their intellectual prowess to post huge profit year-after-year.

Enterprises in the chemical, petrochemicals, pharmaceutical and agrochemicals sectors have hugely benefited from a protective policy environment with high tariff on imports as well as licensing and registration requirements. They make money at the expense of millions of consumers including farmers.

The owners/promoters of these businesses also leave no stone unturned in ensuring that their tax liability is kept at bare minimum. The government is also more than willing to help them in their zeal to maximize profits (look at the steep reduction in corporate tax rate to 15 per cent for new enterprises and to 22 per cent for existing entities given in September 2019).

Most of these being capital-intensive and skill-intensive industries, the employees benefiting from profit sharing are minuscule

in the country's workforce of over 500 million. On the other hand, labor intensive sectors such as textiles, apparels, footwear, food service, and hospitality provide jobs including to un-skilled workers on a large scale. But it is unlikely that these workers get a good share in the pie.

Over 60 million small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are privately owned businesses also open large enterprises when it comes to distributing the proceeds of wealth generation. Their owners spend the least on payment to workers thereby boosting their earnings.

The other important job provider is agriculture. Here, mostly farmer is the owner as well as cultivator/worker. Tens of millions of them are at the mercy of a handful of traders. The latter buy crops from the former at throwaway price (MSP notified by GOI remains mostly on paper) and sell to the consumer at high price.

There is yet another class of rich which feeds itself on misuse of public resources. This includes corrupt bureaucrats, politicians and middlemen, who amass wealth disproportionate to their known sources of income by siphoning off funds from welfare schemes, diversion of loans taken from public sector banks (PSBs) to shell companies of which they are the ultimate beneficiaries etc.

Briefly put, irrespective of the nature of business, big or small, or sector affiliation like agriculture, industry, services or trade, all are

structured to result in concentration of income in the hands of their owners or those who wield power and influence. The working class especially in the SMEs as also millions of farmers and landless farm workers are at the receiving end.

Even the benefit of tax concessions to corporate and SMEs end up filling pockets of the top few. At another level, numerous welfare schemes (free food, free gas connection, subsidized fertilizer) run by them barely help the majority of the poor survive.

There is need for a fundamental change in the way our industrialists do businesses and politicians and bureaucrats conduct themselves. While, the former need to shed their overzealousness for profits, charge less from consumers, distribute more to workers and pay more taxes, the latter must ensure that every rupee is spent for the welfare and empowerment of the poor.

A group of more than 100 billionaires — branding itself as "Patriotic Millionaires" — has issued a plea to political and business leaders attending the WEF (2022) to make us pay more tax (presumably, it includes Indian billionaires). This is laughable; first, they create systems leading to self-aggrandizement at the cost of a vast majority and then pretend they care for the latter.

Will these self-proclaimed patriots pledge not to fleece the vast majority of the poor in the first place?

## POINT COUNTERPOINT

INVITE THOSE 700 PLUS FARMER FAMILIES WHICH YOU HAVE DESTROYED, NOT ME. I'M NOT A COIN, WON'T FLIP. — RASHTRIYA LOK DAL CHIEF JAYANT CHAUDHARY



JAYANT (CHAUDHARY) HAS FORGOTTEN HOW MANY TIMES HIS FATHER CHANGED PARTIES. KIDS NEED TO BE FORGIVEN. — UNION MINISTER DHARMENDRA PRADHAN

# Nation honours biotech industry, COVID vaccine makers

The biotech industry is looking for a 'booster' dose in the form of a Research-Linked Incentive scheme in the Union Budget



NARAYANAN SURESH

India's fledgling biotechnology has started the year 2022 on a very happy note with the nation honouring three of its vaccine stalwarts with the prestigious Padma Bhushan award, announced on the eve of our 73rd Republic Day. I am doubly happy because these pioneers are also esteemed members of ABLE (Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises).

Dr Cyrus Poonawalla founded Serum Institute in 1961 and it is already the world's largest vaccine manufacturer. And co-founded by Dr Krishna Ella and Suchitra Ella in 1996, Bharat Biotech International is another home-grown, global-level vaccine manufacturer. Between them, these two ABLE members have delivered more than 1.5 billion

doses of COVID vaccines to the country and many more millions to the global community. What is even remarkable is that of the 10 billion doses of Covid-19 vaccines administered globally, almost 20 per cent have come from India. Serum Institute produces in one month in Pune what AstraZeneca's 24 other global manufacturing sites do in three months. That is the dominance of India's vaccine manufacturing prowess.

Even more important is the government regulator's decision to allow sale of Covishield (Serum Institute) and Covaxin (Bharat Biotech) in the open market. So far there were restrictions on access to these vaccines except through the hospital network. Now that the country is producing more



than 30 million doses of these two vaccines every month, this decision, even with many conditions attached, should increase access to the vaccines that many people want to take as booster doses. The industry also looks forward to quick emergency use approval of home-made Covid-19 vaccines to more age groups of children. It is very important that our children get back to their school as early as possible and resume their normal lives after two years.

While the nation has started taking booster doses of Covid-19 vaccines as a 'precautionary dose', the biotech industry itself is looking for a Booster dose in the form of a Research-Linked Incentive (RLI) scheme in the forthcoming Union Budget on February 1, 2022. The industry has been making a strong case of such an RLI scheme on the lines of the PLI (Production Linked Incentive) in operation for a wide range of manufacturing industrial sectors. This is very important because, as the COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated, the country's innovative biotechnology industry should be incentivized to make large scale investments in research, development and biological manufacturing. This alone can help the nation

face the next pandemic with confidence and will be just an extension of the Atmanirbhar (self-reliance initiative) to prepare India for all future health emergencies.

Why is this important at this stage? Explained ABLE's non-executive chairperson Dr Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw: "The business activities of the pharmaceutical and biotech industry are composed of several elements: research and development (R&D), regulatory submission and launch, manufacturing sales and marketing (S&M), return on investment and reinvestment. To maintain sustainable growth, pharmaceutical companies must increase income (i.e., total sales) through a continuous pipeline of novel drugs and optimize expenditures (e.g.,

R&D, manufacturing, S&M) through increased productivity. The development of IND is patient centric based on safety and efficacy of clinical trials which have long gestation periods coupled with high risk of investment to meet positive outcomes and regulatory approval of a new drug which has been steadily compounding over the last few years."

As an industry we are hopeful that Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will respond to the pleas of the sector made to her at a special meeting in July 2021 in Bengaluru.

In 2022, the biotechnology industry is looking forward to another set of regulatory reforms long pending in the form of the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill 2021. The

original Act, enacted in 2002, had several clauses that were detrimental to increased innovations in the biotech sector relying on use of India's vast reserves of biological resources. The Narendra Modi government has listened to the desperate appeals from the industry and incorporated a wide range of suggestions to the Bill and presented it to Parliament in December. The Bill is being studied by a Joint Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr Sanjay Jaiswal, MP, and has sought industry and other stakeholder suggestions to the various amendments already incorporated in the Bill. The biotech industry is optimistic that the much-awaited amendments to this important legislation will finally become a reality in 2022.



# Russia, US to square off at UN Security Council over Ukraine

AP ■ UNITED NATIONS

The United States and Russia are squaring off at U.N. Security Council over Ukraine, with Washington calling Moscow's actions a threat to international peace and security, while a Kremlin envoy ridiculed Monday's meeting as a "PR stunt." The session kicks off more high-level diplomacy this week, although talks between U.S. and Russia have so far failed to ease tensions in crisis. Russia has massed an estimated 100,000 troops near Ukraine's borders, stoking fears in West of

an invasion. Russia denies it intends to launch an attack but demanded that NATO promise never to allow Ukraine to join alliance, halt deployment of NATO weapons near Russian borders, and roll back its forces from Eastern Europe. NATO and U.S. call those demands impossible. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken didn't make any visible progress in easing tensions at their meeting in Geneva earlier this month. They are expected to speak by phone Tuesday, according to Russian Foreign Ministry.

U.S. President Joe Biden warned Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in a phone call Thursday that there is a "distinct possibility" Russia could begin an incursion in February, but Ukrainian leader sought to play down war fears, saying Western alarm over an imminent invasion has prompted many investors in country's financial markets to cash out. Zelenskyy said Friday that "we aren't seeing any escalation bigger than before," and charged that Russian buildup could be an attempt by Moscow to exert "psychological pressure" and sow panic.

# Japan starts mass Covid-19 boosters as omicron cases soar

AP ■ TOKYO

Tokyo has launched a mass inoculation drive for COVID-19 booster shots at a temporary center operated by the military as Japan tries to speed up delayed third jabs to counter surging infections. Japan began administering booster shots to medical workers in December, but has only provided such inoculations to 2.7 per cent of the population after delaying a decision to cut the interval between the first two coronavirus shots and a booster to six months from the initial eight. Demand for the shots is intense: Online reservations that

started on Friday resulted in all slots for about 4,300 doses to be given at the center this week being filled within 9 minutes. The center is providing the vaccine made by Moderna, Inc.

On a smaller scale, people 65 and older can get booster shots elsewhere. The center run by the Self-Defense Force in downtown Tokyo reopened Monday after closing down in late November.

It will be vaccinating about 720 people aged 18 or older per day this week, ramping up to more than 2,000 a day next month. Another military-run center will begin booster shots next week in Osaka. The omicron variant has been spreading quickly, pushing new reported infections to much higher than earlier waves of coronavirus. Tokyo reported 15,895 new cases Sunday, a new high for a Sunday.

# UAE intercepts Yemen missile as Israeli prez visits

AP ■ DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

The United Arab Emirates intercepted a ballistic missile fired by Yemen's Houthis rebels early Monday as the Israeli president, Isaac Herzog, was visiting the country, authorities said, the third such attack in as many weeks. The attack only fuels ongoing tensions in the wider Persian Gulf, which has seen a series of attacks as Iran's nuclear deal with world powers unravels and Yemen's yearslong war rages on.

As negotiators in Vienna now attempt to revive accord and Emirati-backed forces press on Iran-backed Houthis, the rebels are launching their longest-range attacks yet — a major challenge for Emirates, which advertises itself to international businesses as a safe corner of an otherwise-dangerous neighborhood.

The UAE's state-run WAM news agency reported Monday's interception, saying "the attack did not result in any losses, as the remnants of ballistic missile fell outside populated areas."

# Pakistani police widen manhunt a day after priest's killing

AP ■ PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN

Pakistani police widened their manhunt Monday for two unidentified assailants who shot and killed a Christian priest and wounded another the previous day in the country's northwest. Father William Siraj, 75, was killed while on his way home after celebrating Sunday Mass in the city of Peshawar, the capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, which borders Afghanistan. One of his traveling companions, Father Naem Patrick, was wounded while a third priest was unharmed in the attack.

The attackers fled the scene. No group has claimed responsibility for the killing. Hina Jilani, chairperson of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, on Monday condemned the killing. In a statement, she said the commission sees attack "as a blatant assault not only on Pakistan's Christian community but on all religious minorities whose right to life and security of person remains under constant threat."

# N Korea confirms test of missile capable of striking Guam

AP ■ SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

North Korea confirmed Monday it test-launched an intermediate-range ballistic missile capable of reaching U.S. territory of Guam, the North's most significant weapon launch in years, as Washington plans steps to show its commitment to its Asian allies. Sunday's launch could be a prelude to bigger provocations by North Korea such as nuclear and long-range missile tests that pose a direct threat to U.S. mainland, as North tries to further pressure Biden administration to win sanction relief or international recognition as a legitimate nuclear state. The official Korean Central News Agency said purpose of the test was verifying overall accuracy of Hwasong-12 missile that is being deployed in its military.

# African Union suspends Burkina Faso after coup last week

OUAGADOUGOU, Burkina Faso: The African Union has suspended Burkina Faso until constitutional order is restored in the West African country, the organization announced in a tweet on Monday. The suspension of Burkina Faso comes a week after mutinous soldiers ousted democratically elected President Roch Marc Christian Kabore in a coup, citing his inability to stem jihadi violence.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is informed at large, that M/s. Harsh Vardh W/o Mr. Gishu Jaiswal, R/o B-78/1, East of Kailash, New Delhi -110065, as the owner of DDA MIG Flat No.B-78/1, Ground Floor, East of Kailash, New Delhi, and that the said property is being offered to State Bank of India for creating a mortgage. If any person has any objection with respect to the same or has any interest whatsoever in the said property, may submit their objections before Advocate Mr. Shalabh Gupta vide E-Mail adv.shalabh.gupta@gmail.com or vide telephone No. +91-9717215434, with supporting documents within 7 days from the date of this publication.

Shalabh Gupta, Advocate  
Enr.No. D/600/2013

## PARADIP PORT TRUST

### e-TENDER CALL NOTICE

Name of the work "Hiring of 03 nos. heavy duty truck mounted mechanical Road Sweeping Machine to clean the roads of PPT for a period of three (03) years and extendable by two more years upon satisfactory performance." Estimated Cost: Rs. 4,02,84,000/- . Last date & time of submission of bid: dt.27.02.2022 up to 17:15 Hrs. Refer our website for details <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>.  
PPT/PR/14521-22 Date 31.01.2022  
Executive Engineer,  
Work shop division-II

### FORM NO.5

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL  
600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow-226007  
(Ares of Jurisdiction-Part of Uttar Pradesh) Summons for filing & Appearance by Publication  
O.A.No. 833/2022  
Date: 04/01/2022  
Summons to defendant under Section 19(3), of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)  
Original Application No. 833 of 2021

ICICI Bank Ltd. ...Applicant  
Versus  
MR. RAMVIR SINGH & OTHERS  
...Defendant  
To,  
1. MR. RAMVIR SINGH S/O RAM KHLADI,  
IND-101, Parsvanath Platinum, Sec-Tau Swam Nagari, Greater Noida-201306  
Also At:-  
H.No. 51/11, G/P-12, Ixami nagar near Jodha Bai Chhatri Agra-282001  
Also At:-  
Apartment No. GDI-024-2301, Sector 133, Garden Isles, Jaypee Greens, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Noida-201301  
3. M/S JAYEED INFRA TECH LTD. Registered Office:- Sec128, Noida City, U.P.-201304

In the above noted application, you are required to file in Paper Book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/ duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on 28/02/2022 at 10.30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decide in your absence.

Registrar Debts Recovery Tribunal Lucknow

For Pioneers Agro Extracts Limited  
Jagat Mohan Agarwal  
DIN: 00750120

## PUBLIC NOTICE

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

The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Vijay Jindal, Lata Jindal, B-92, Vivek Vihar, Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00001041502	Flat No. S-2, Lig, 2nd Floor, Plot No. 6/39 Vaishali, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad	18/12/2021 Rs.4,93,575/-	04/09/2021
2.	Parshu Ram Singh, Neetu Singh, P-251 Hig Duplex, Pratap Vihar, Ghaziabad A/c No:- LBDEL00001198235	H.No. P-251, Hig Duplex, Pratap Vihar, Ghaziabad	18/12/2021 Rs. 11,43,454.96/-	04/09/2021
3.	Atul Rajpali, Atal Rajpali, B-320 2nd Floor G D Colony Mayur Vihar, PH- III, Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00000259731	Flat No 312, 12th Floor Block A, Golf View Apartment, Sushant Golf City Sector-I, Pocket- D, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	17/12/2021 Rs. 98,46,224/-	09/09/2021
4.	Yogesh Kumar Sharma, Parul Dhawan, C-2 Sf Eldeco Residency Garden Sec P-1, Greater Noida, Noida, A/c No:- Lbdel00002089897	Unit No- Carnation-02, Block- Carnation, Eldeco Residency Greens, Plot No-12, Pocket- B, Sector- PI, Greater Noida	09/12/2021 Rs. 10,35,006/-	09/09/2021
5.	Nikhil Mehta, Shivanjali Mehta, 26/77 West Patel Nagar, Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00002112015	304 and 305 3rd Floor, Tulsiani Grace Civil Lines, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh	17/12/2021Rs. 1,02,24,348/-	09/09/2021
6.	Madan Mohan Dhawan, Bimla Dhawan, C P 181 Block C P, East Pitampura, Delhi, Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00002368180	Flat No 801, 8th Floor, Tower A3, Avalon Regal Court Alwar Bypass Road Village, Banbeerpur Tehsil Tijara Dist Alwar, Bhiwadi	18/12/2021 Rs. 9,70,299/-	04/09/2021
7.	Anita Negi, Om Prakash, Brijesh Kumar, WZ 1390 10 Nangal Raya, Pankha Road Delhi, Road Delhi, Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00002371119	Flat No 822, 2nd Floor, Pocket-B, Janta Flat, Sector-16B, Dwarka, Delhi	18/12/2021 Rs. 4,98,761/-	04/09/2021
8.	Neetu Gupta, Ashu Gupta,atin Kumar, H No 109 Bangur Avenue, Block D, Part 02 South Dum Lake, Town North 24 Block D Part 02, South Dum Lake Town North 24, Calcutta A/c No:- LBDEL00002371563	Flat No 55 Lig, 3rd Floor, Block-F3, Sector G2, Pocket 2, Narela, Delhi	18/12/2021 Rs. 9,99,147/-	04/09/2021
9.	Vikas Kumar, Mahender Singh Thakran, Pkt 1 Sec 28, Rohini, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002944420	Dda Lig, Flat No.342, Ground Floor, Pocket Gh 01, Sector 28, Rohini, Delhi	09/12/2021 Rs. 14,31,570.8/-	04/09/2021
10.	Vikas Kumar, Mahender Singh Thakran, Pkt 1 Sec 28, Rohini, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002945267	Dda Lig, Flat No.342, Ground Floor, Pocket Gh 01, Sector 28, Rohini, Delhi	09/12/2021 Rs. 8,01,609.4/-	04/09/2021
11.	Akriti Kapoor, Ashok Kapoor, A/2/115, Safdarjung Enclave New, New Delhi, Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00002967362	Flat No- 1701, 17th Floor, Tower R, Today Regal Residency GH-01 Sector- 135, Noida	18/12/2021 Rs. 9,16,450/-	04/09/2021
12.	Virender Kumar Gogia, Rushil Gogia, Suman Gogia, 1 Rani Malviga Nagar Haus Khas, Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00003339111	Plot No-D/111, Block-D, First Floor Panchsheel Enclave, Delhi In The Layout Plan of Masjid Moth Residential Scheme	17/12/2021 Rs. 2,75,75,070/-	30/09/2020
13.	Mirza Mdmustafa Abbas, Urooj Qamar, F-6 Flat No-6268, Alok Vihar-2 Sec-50, Noida, A/c No:- LBDEL00004867685	101 1st Floor, Block C, Sethi Group Max Royal, Plot No GH 02B, Sector 76, Gautam Buddha Nagar	09/12/2021 Rs. 8,13,882/-	04/09/2021
14.	Akhilesh Kapoor, Tact India Pvt Ltd, Neeru Kapoor, Tact India Pvt Ltd, 51 Harton Electronic City Sec 8 Udyog Vihar, Haryana, Gurgaon A/c No:- LBDEL0000489451	Flat No.1004, 10th Floor, Blk A Sispal Vihar, Sector 49, Sohna Road, Gurgaon 122001	17/12/2021 Rs. 1,33,50,347.9/-	30/09/2021
15.	Vijay Kumar, Neetu Verma, Ram Kishore, Flat No.302 The Elephant Head Cghs Ltd, Plot No- 41, Sector 10 Dwarka Phase 1 District Court Complex, Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00005172263	Flat No 302 Third Floor, Plot No.41, The Elephant Head Cghs Ltd Sector- 10 Dwarka Phase-1, Delhi,	17/12/2021 Rs. 79,25,255/-	04/09/2021
16.	Akhilesh Kapoor, Tact India Pvt Ltd, Neeru Kapoor, Tact India Pvt Ltd, 51 Harton Electronic City Sec 8 Udyog Vihar, Haryana, Gurgaon A/c No:- LBDEL00005371925	Flat No 1004, 10th Floor, Blk A Sispal Vihar, Sector 49, Sohna Road, Gurgaon 122001	17/12/2021 Rs. 23,82,899/-	30/09/2021
17.	Yogesh Kumar Sharma, Parul Dhawan, C-2 SF Eldeco Residency Garden Sec P-1, Greater Noida, Noida, A/c No:- LBDEL00005509429	Unit No- Carnation-02, Block- Carnation, Eldeco Residency Greens, Plot No-12, Pocket- B, Sector- PI, Greater Noida	09/12/2021 Rs. 20,25,378/-	09/09/2021
18.	Sabreena, Lalit Mendiratta, H No-305, Sector 8, Faridabad, Faridabad A/c No:- LBFDB00004555384	Flat No.1202, 12th Floor, Happy Homes Grand- Tower 2, Sector-85, Faridabad	18/12/2021 Rs.16,12,362/-	04/09/2021
19.	Sonu Kumar, Preeti, M C F-638/9 Gali No.59, Sanjay Colony Sector, Faridabad, Faridabad A/c No:- LBFDB00005075313	Habitat 78 A/7/201, 2nd Floor, Tower A7, Village Faridpur, Sector 78, Faridabad	04/09/2021 Rs.13,90,391/-	04/09/2021
20.	Khusbu Mehta, Shyam Lal Mehta, H No E- 530/5, Dabua Colony, Faridabad, Faridabad 121001, Faridabad A/c No:- LBFDB00005148504	Flat No C1204, Floor 12, Mehak Jeevan, Sector C, Village Morta Parganajalabad Tehsil and Ghaziabad	18/12/2021 Rs. 25,00,627/-	04/09/2021
21.	Jitendra Sharma, Shashi Sharma, Flat No 403, Antrix Green, Kaushambi, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, A/c No:- LBGHZ00003623550	Flat No.403, 4th Floor, Antriksh Greens, Kaushmbi, Ghaziabad	09/12/2021 Rs.49,23,974/-	04/09/2021
22.	Jitendra Sharma, Shashi Sharma, Flat No.403, Antrix Green, Kaushambi, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, A/c No:- LBGHZ00003623552	Flat No.403, 4th Floor, Antriksh Greens, Kaushmbi, Ghaziabad	09/12/2021 Rs.19,05,374/-	04/09/2021
23.	Samarth Sharma, Sunil Kumar, Ec- 215 Maya Enclave Near Hari Nagar, Delhi A/c No:- LBGUR00002544474	602 Block A, Golf View Apartment, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	17/12/2021 Rs.69,21,743/-	09/09/2021
24.	Goutam Bag, Sutapa Bag, 69 BPMB, Sarani Bhadrakali LP 17/12 Hooghly, West Bengal, Hooghly A/c No:- LBGUR00002084337	4A- 309, Block A, Golf View Apartment, Sushant Golf City, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	17/12/2021 Rs.97,42,001/-	09/09/2021
25.	Somnath Dey, Debarati Dey, Florence B 106 Grand Omaxe Sector- 93 B Noida, Uttar Pradesh, Noida A/c No:- LBGUR00002084338	3A 601, Golf View Apartment Sushant Golf City, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	17/12/2021 Rs.86,79,602/-	09-09/2021
26.	Manish Garg, Aarti Garg, H No-5/57 Chiranjeev Vihar Sec-5 Police Station Kavi Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, Ghaziabad A/c No:- LBGUR00002109497	3A 102 Tower I, Golf View Apartment, Sector-I Pocket-D Sushant Golf City Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	17/12/2021 Rs. 78,83,656/-	09-09/2021
27.	Binod Kumar Singh, Bina Singh, House No. A-90 Palam Vihar, Haryana, Gurgaon A/c No:- LBGUR00002134627	Shop No-FG 05 Tulsiani Grace, Ground Floor Plot No- M-33/25/1 Civil Station Civil Lianes Situated Allahabad Uttar Pradesh	17/12/2021 Rs. 1,55,70,635/-	09-09/2021
28.	Akhilesh Kapoor,tact India Pvt Ltd, Neeru Kapoor, Tact India Pvt Ltd, 51 Harton Electronic City Sect 8 Udyog Vihar, Haryana,gurgaon A/c No:-LBGUR00003272139	Flat No AG-0257, Unitech Alder Grove Nirvana Country-2 Sector-71 and 72, Gurgaon, Haryana	17/12/2021 Rs. 1,45,45,106/-	30/09/2021
29.	Parvesh Kumar, Raster Kumar, H.No-204 Sec-16, Dwarka Kakrola Village, South West Delhi, South West Delhi, Delhi A/c No:- LBGUR00004181792	Flat No 10-001, Ground Floor, The Millenia- Tower 10, Sector 37D, Gurgaon	18/12/2021 Rs. 16,57,695/-	04/09/2021
30.	Nidhi, Amandeep Singh, Plot No-60 Pratap, Nagar, Hari Nagar, Delhi A/c No:- LBGUR00004863378	Flat No-T5 506, 5th Floor, Arawali Homes-Tower 5, Village Kaika, Sector-4, Sohna, Gurgaon	18/12/2021 Rs.7,94,094/-	04/09/2021
31.	Naina, Sonia Pahuja, House No.226/21 Gali No.15, 484 Baldev Nagar, Gurgaon A/c No:- LBGUR00005304939	Flat No.2225, Flat No 1114 Floor 11 Oxirich Sanskriti Phase 2, Tower H, Village Thadateh Tijara, Bhiwadi	18/12/2021 Rs. 19,95,016/-	04/09/2021
32.	Dinesh Kapoor, Asstotech Electronics Private Limited & K & K Health Care Private Limited & Saru Kapoor, C/10 Block- Cpreet Vihar, Delhi A/c No:- LBNOD00001685505	Plot No C 10, 2nd Floor Back Side, Third Floor Front Side Preet Vihar, Delhi	17/12/2021 Rs. 53,31,846/-	30/09/2021
33.	Dinesh Kapoor, Asstotech Electronics Private Limited & K & K Health Care Private Limited & Saru Kapoor, C/10 Block- Cpreet Vihar, Delhi A/c No:- LBNOD00001977583	Plot No C 10, 2nd Floor Preet Vihar, Delhi	17/12/2021 Rs. 61,05,166/-	30/09/2021
34.	Dinesh Kapoor, Asstotech Electronics Private Limited & K & K Health Care Private Limited & Saru Kapoor, C/10 Block- Cpreet Vihar, Delhi A/c No:- LBNOD00001978439	Plot No C 10, 2nd Floor Preet Vihar, Delhi	17/12/2021 Rs. 1,43,694/-	30/09/2021
35.	Rajesh Kumar Singh, Namrata Singh, Plot No-80 Balaji Enclave, Near Naven Sabji, Mandi, G T Road Dadri G B Nagar, Noida A/c No:- LBNOD00002029716	4D-007, Ground Floor, Tower-4, Plot No-4, Chrosia Estate Green View-2, Sahakari Awas Samiti, Sector- PI, Noida	18/12/2021 Rs. 3,90,155/-	04/09/2021
36.	Sheikh Mohd Sheeraz, Insha Khan, M-1403 Plumeria Garden Estate, Sector- Omicron-3 Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, Noida A/c No:- LBNOD00002095148	Flat No 3A 609 9th Floor, Tower-6 Golf View Apartment, Sector-I Pocket D Sushant Golf City Sultanpur Road Village-Pargana Bijnoor, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	17/12/2021 Rs. 61,30,599/-	31/08/2021
37.	Ashish Rajkumar Gupta, Jai Prakash Tiwari, Tower 12 GH 7, Crossing Republic Nh 24, Uttar Pradesh, Ghaziabad A/c No:- LBNOD00002099852	3A 113, 3rd Floor Tower Big Sky Golf View Apartment, Sector-1 Pocket-D Sushant Golf City Sultanpur Road, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	17/12/2021 Rs. 74,74,050/-	09/09/2021
38.	Sanjay Malik, Rita Malik, B- Block- 17/C Rajat, Vihar Noida, Noida A/c No:- LBNOD000002100629	17/C, Block- Brajat Vihar, Noida	18/12/2021 Rs. 4,51,846/-	04/09/2021
39.	Mirza Mdmustafa Abbas, Urooj Qamar, F-6 Flat No- 6268, Alok Vihar-2 Sec-50, Noida, A/c No:- LBNOD00002160432	101 1st Floor, Block C, Sethi Group Max Royal, Plot No, GH 02B, Sector 76, Gautam Buddha Nagar	09/12/2021 Rs. 28,76,760/-	04/09/2021
40.	Upender Tiwari,gayatri Tiwari, 224-B Shakti, Khandi, Ghaziabad, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad A/c No:- LBNOD00002317867	Flat No 1/223B, Shakti Khand-1, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad	18/12/2021 Rs.14,36,837.5/-	04/09/2021
41.	Khalid Bin Yusuf Khan, Yasmeen Khalid, 10 Syed Colony Yusuf Villa, New Sir Syed Nagar, Aligarh, Aligarh A/c No:- LBNOD00002892971	Flat No 808 B, 8th Floor, Block F, Ace Platinum, Plot No 12/1, Sector Zeta 1, Greater Noida, Noida	18/12/2021 Rs. 18,79,545/-	04/09/2021
42.	Manu Bhatnagar, Madhu Bala & Ratika Bhatnagar, JM Orchid A 403, Tower A, Sector 76, Noida A/c No:- LBNOD00003491468	Flat No 805 8th Floor, Tower D3, Neo Town, Plot No GH 03, Sector Tehzoniv Greater Noida, Noida	18/12/2021 Rs. 25,45,178/-	04/09/2021

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date : February 01, 2022

Place: Delhi/ NCR

Authorized Officer

ICICI Bank Limited

## Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that the certificate(s) for 250 Equity Shares under Folio No. AD0455, Certificate No(s) 268 having Distinctive Nos. 60814386-315 The Bombay Burmah Trading Corporation Ltd. standing in the name(s) of Anil Kumar Varma R/o B-46, Near Ram Mandir, Vivek Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi-05 has/have been lost or mislaid and the undersigned has/have applied to the company to issue duplicate Certificate(s) for the aforesaid shares. Any person who has a claim in respect of the said shares should lodge such claim with the company at its Registered office 9, Wallace Street, Fort, Mumbai-400001 within 21 days from this date else the company will proceed to issue duplicate Certificate(s).

## कार्यालय नगर निगम मुद्राया समर्पक सूचना

सर निगम मुद्राया के कर्न कर (विशेष) के मुद्राया जारी और, बी.न. 52C26U1P20 प्ला 181, 1F, Vijay Ratan Vihar Apartment Block-I, Sector 15-2, Gurgaon में उपेंद्र मालोत्रा नाम रॉन है उपेंद्र मालोत्रा की मूल तिथि 12.07.2017 के फलत जो कि इस मूल की वसूली कर 25334 दिनांक 04-02-2008 से मालि था के दो ग्रांमी Haman Malhotra & Harkaran Malhotra ने अवेलेन किया है कि मुद्राया जारी और बी.न.52C26U1P20 प्ला 181, 1F, Vijay Ratan Vihar Apartment Block-I, Sector 15-2, Gurgaon में Legal Her Certificate No. 9080000042456 से जारी मालि है। मालिवा जारी के नाम रॉन बी नारे कर इस मालिवा मुद्राया जारी और बी.न.52C26U1P20 प्ला 181, 1F, Vijay Ratan Vihar Apartment Block-I, Sector 15-2, Gurgaon के नाम रॉन करे जो कि मालि बी नारे कर के दो ग्रांमी मालोत्रा नाम रॉन है उपेंद्र मालोत्रा का मे खंडित से के 30 दिन के (एक मास) के अन्दर-अपर अपना सारा अवेलेनसिटी के कर्न कर मे सक्ता है। मालिवा सक्ता से के अवेलेन से के प्रत्येक सक्ता से के अपार पर खानदार कर दिख करे। निम्न अवेलेन नी हो। मुद्राया रो मालि सक्ता कर-2169/16.01.2022 प्र.क्रमांक ZTO-1/IMCG/2022/2164 बीन करण अवेलेन-11 मालिवा जारी करे प्र.क्रमांक दिनांक-16.01.2022

## FORM NO.5

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL  
600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow-226007  
(Ares of Jurisdiction- Part of Uttar Pradesh)  
Summons for filing & Appearance by Publication  
O.A.No. 602/2020  
Date 03/01/2022  
(Summons to defendant under section 19 (3) of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)  
Original Application No. 602 of 2020  
ICICI BANK LTD. ...Applicant  
Versus  
MR. JAI PRAKASH SINGH RATHORE & OTHER  
...Defendants

To,  
1. MR. JAI PRAKASH SINGH RATHORE,  
Flat No. C- 19, 19th Floor Tower-10, Ryn Plot No. Gh-06a, Sector-Chi-V, Yamuna Expressway, Greater Noida-201307  
Also At: H.No. 6 1st Floor, Back Portion Block 21 S Sec 31 32 Spring Field Colony, Faridabad-121003  
2. MRS. POONAM RATHORE  
Flat No. C- 19, 19th Floor Tower-10, Ryn Plot No. Gh-06a, Sector-Chi-V, Yamuna Expressway, Greater Noida-201307  
Also At: H.No. 6 1st Floor, Back Portion Block 21 S Sec 31 32 Spring Field Colony, Faridabad-121003  
3. M/S PRIMROSE INFRATECH PVT. LTD.  
Registered Office: Flat No.- 251, B 1st Floor Bank Vihar, Jasola, Delhi 110025

In the above noted application, you are required to file in Paper Book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on 04/04/2022 at 10.30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decide in your absence.

Registrar Debts Recovery Tribunal Lucknow

For Pioneers Agro Extracts Limited  
Jagat Mohan Agarwal  
DIN: 00750120

## FORM NO.5

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL  
600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow-226007  
(Ares of Jurisdiction- Part of Uttar Pradesh)  
Summons for filing & Appearance by Publication  
O.A.No. 870/2022  
Date: 28/01/2022  
(Summons to defendant under section 19 (3) of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)  
Original Application No. 58 of 2020  
ICICI Bank Ltd. ...Applicant  
Versus  
MR. RAJIV KANODIA & OTHERS  
...Defendant  
To,  
1. MR. RAJ



ECONOMIC SURVEY

# India outperforms emerging market peers in April-Dec 21'

**New Delhi:** Indian markets have outperformed other emerging market peers in April-December 2021 on account of good corporate earnings, sharp rise in vaccination and opening up of business establishments across the country, the Economic Survey 2021-22 said on Monday.

"The benchmark stock market indices in India – Sensex and Nifty-50 – increased by 17.7 per cent and 18.1 per cent, respectively, during April-December 2021,"

the survey said.

Driven by good corporate earnings, sharp rise in COVID-19 vaccination and opening up of business establishment across the country, Sensex and Nifty scaled up to touch their peak in October last year, it added.

Among the select developed markets, S&P 500 index and NASDAQ Composite index recorded strong gains and rose by 20.0 per cent and 18.1 per cent, respectively, the survey said.

## Use of GeM portal has resulted in substantial reduction in prices

**New Delhi:** The Government has benefited from the launch of public procurement portal GeM as it has helped in reducing the cost of goods being purchased by ministries and departments by up to 56 per cent in certain cases, Economic Survey said on Monday.

The Government e-Market (GeM) portal was launched on August 9, 2016, for online purchases of goods and services by all the Central Government ministries and departments.

According to the Survey, anecdotal evidence suggests that prior to the launch of GeM, Government procurement prices were much higher than the prices prevailing in the market and there were constant complaints about inefficiency and rent seeking.

"The use of this e-marketplace has resulted in a substantial reduction in prices in comparison to the rates used earlier, with average prices falling by at least 15-20 per cent, up to 56 per cent," it said.

Citing certain examples, it said the offer price of Parker Jotter Standard Ball Pen at GeM platform was ₹200, as against ₹207 on Amazon website.

## Scope and challenges for dairy entrepreneurs

**New Delhi:** The scope of further growth in dairy business is tremendous in India as milk in its many forms is part of stable diet of most of the people. Moreover, milk and milk products remain the major of protein for vegetarian people. However, before starting dairy business, people need to consider a few important points like location that is closer to target customers to cut cost on transportation, sourcing good quality milk, a market survey to ensure, said Sanjay Bhattacharji, founder & director, Teplu Digital Learning.

### 2,500 BSES employees get Booster Dose in special camps

New Delhi: BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL) and BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL) have started a drive to administer booster (precautionary) doses to the eligible employees. Within a few days itself, over 2,500 (and counting) employees have received the booster dose. Additionally, BSES is also holding camps to administer vaccines to the children of employees.

**Ashnoor Textile Mills Ltd.**  
Regd. Office : Behrampur Road, Village Khandas, District Gurugram, Haryana-122001  
E-mail: atml\_delli@yahoo.com  
Phone: 91 0124 4809566  
CIN: 117226DL1884PLC033384

**NOTICE**  
This information is hereby given, pursuant to Regulation 23 read with Regulation 47 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Monday, February 7, 2022, inter-alia, to consider and approve Unaudited Financial Results of the company for the 3rd Quarter ended December 31, 2021.

This information is also available on Company's website at [www.ashnoortext.com](http://www.ashnoortext.com) and also on the website of BSE, i.e. [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com).  
By the order of Board  
Sd/-  
Suneel Gupta  
Managing Director  
DIN-00052084

**FORM NO. 5**  
**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL**  
**600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow-226007**  
**(Ares of Jurisdiction-Part of Uttar Pradesh)**  
Summons for filing & Appearance by Publication  
**O.A. No. 307/2020**  
**Date: 03/01/2022**

Summons to defendant under Section 19(3), of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)

**O.A. NO.307 of 2020**  
ICICI Bank Ltd. ...Applicant  
**Versus**  
MR. SURJEET SINGH & OTHERS ...Defendant

To,  
**1. MR. SURJEET SINGH,**  
H NO-C-73 GROUND FLOOR, CHANDER NAGAR GHAZIABAD-201011, UP

**Also At:** FLAT NO.1603, 16TH FLOOR, TOWER- AQUA AND TERRAGAYATRI LIFE PLOT No. GH-01F, SECTOR-16, GREATER NOIDA, NOIDA-201307  
**2. MRS. POONAM RATHORE**  
Flat No.- C- 19, 19th Floor Tower-10, Ryne Plot No. Gh-06a, Sector-Chi-V, Yamuna Expressway, Greater Noida-201307  
**Also At:** Flat No.1603, 16th Floor Tower- AQUA AND TERRAGAYATRI LIFE Plot No. GH- 01, FSECTOR- 16, GREATER NOIDA NOIDA-201307

**Also At:** FLAT NO. A1503, 15TH FLOOR, TOWER- AQUA AND TERRAGAYATRI LIFE PLOT No. GH-01F, SECTOR-16, GREATER NOIDA, NOIDA-201307.  
**3. GAYATRI INFRA PLANNER PVT. LTD.**  
**Registered Office:**  
PLOT NO.1F, SEC.16 GREATER NOIDA  
**Corporate Office:**  
121, 1st FLOOR, SECTOR-2 NOIDA-201301

In the above noted application, you are required to file reply in paper book form in Two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/ duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on **04/04/2022 at 10:30 A.M.** failing which the application shall be heard and decide in your absence

**Registrar**  
**Debts Recovery Tribunal**  
**Lucknow**

## Sensex races to 58k-mark ahead of Budget; IT, bank stocks spurt

Investors' wealth jumps over ₹3.33 lakh cr as markets rally

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmarks notched up solid gains on Monday after a two-session sliding streak as healthy growth projections in the Economic Survey and supportive global cues enthused investors.

A robust recovery in the rupee further bolstered sentiment, traders said.

The 30-share BSE Sensex opened on a firm footing and kept its momentum throughout the session. It finally closed at 58,014.17, clocking a gain of 813.94 points or 1.42 per cent.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
To be known to all that my client, **Daulat Ram S/o Sh. Mukam Chand allottee of DDA Flat No.80-C/-2B, on Second Floor, Pankha Road Resdli Scheme, Janak Puri, New Delhi,** have applied for issue of certified copies of the documents of the aforesaid flat from DDA. The all original documents i.e. Demand Cum allotment Letter, Possession Letter, NOC (water & Electricity) and Site Possession, of the above said flat have been lost. An E.L.R./NCR No.18158/2022 dated 06/01/2022 to this effect has been lodged in Police Station. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest, having any objection or bound in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above Address/Phone No. 9811142219 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property, can personally inform or write to Deputy Director (IAB) Housing or Director (H), D Block, 3rd floor, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
We Sandeep Puri S/o K K Puri and Renu Puri W/o Sandeep Puri R/o 29, Pkt-27, Sector-24, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have disowned our Son Dinesh Puri from all our movable/immovable properties and severed all our relations both legal & social with him due to his disrespectful behavior. Any person dealing with Dinesh Puri shall be doing so at his/her own risk.

**FORM NO.5**  
**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL**  
**600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow-226007**  
**(Ares of Jurisdiction-Part of Uttar Pradesh)**  
Summons for filing & Appearance by Publication  
**O.A.No. 860/2020**  
**Date: 28/01/2022**

Summons to defendant under section 19 (3) of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)

**O.A. NO.307 of 2020**  
ICICI Bank Ltd. ...Applicant  
**Versus**  
MR. SURJEET SINGH & OTHERS ...Defendants

To,  
**MS. SEEMA SUKHJIA & OTHERS**  
...Defendants

**1. MS SEEMA SUKHJIA**  
R/O LA -053 Ridgewood Estate D.L.F.Phase -4 Gurgaon 122002  
**Also At:**  
R/O APT No. 0802,8th, Floor, Tower A-2 Unitech Residence, Sec-117, Noida 201301  
**2. MR. ASHUTOSH NIRWAN**  
R/O Flat No. 202, S S Pavilion Silpa Park, Kondapur Hydrabad 500032, A.P  
**Also At:**  
R/O APT No. 0802,8th, Floor, Tower A-2 Unitech Residence, Sec-117, Noida 201301

**3. MS.SARITA**  
R/O LA -053 Ridgewood Estate D.L.F.Phase -4 Gurgaon 122002, **Also At:**  
R/O APT No. 0802,8th, Floor, Tower A-2 Unitech Residence, Sec-117, Noida 201301  
**4. M/S UNITECH HEIGHTS LTD**  
**Registered Office**  
R/O 6, Community Centre Saket New Delhi 110017  
**Corporate Office**  
Ugcc Pavilion Sec 96 Express Way (Near Amity Managmant School), Noida 201305, U.P.

In the above noted application, you are required to file in Paper Book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/ duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on **20/04/2022 at 10:30 A.M.** failing which the application shall be heard and decide in your absence.

**Registrar**  
**Debts Recovery Tribunal**  
**Lucknow**

## PM Gati Shakti to have multiplier effect on the lives of people: Min

**New Delhi:** The multi-modal connectivity envisaged under "PM Gati Shakti" will be achieved if the Centre and all the 36 States and Union Territories work together.

"Gati Shakti is not a scheme, but it is an initiative, a foundation. But it will not be an exaggeration if I say that it is a 'brahmastra'," Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said at an event on Monday. It is a "brahmastra" (powerful weapon) that will take India to the destination that the coun-

try's forefathers dreamt about, he added.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched "PM Gati Shakti - National Master Plan" on August 15 last year to develop multi-modal connectivity through integrated planning and coordinated implementation of infrastructure connectivity projects. A total of 16 Union Ministries, including the railways and the roadways Ministries, have been brought under the plan. Approximately 12-13 per cent of the coun-



**Shabbo**

**SEARCH FOR MISSING**

General public is here by informed that this lady (depicted in the photo) namely: **Shabbo D/o Babu Khan R/o H.No. F-113, Vijay Vihar, Ph-I, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since **07.12.2021**. In this regard DD No. **126A** dated **07.12.2021** has been lodged at **PS. Vijay Vihar, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the lady but no clue has come to light so far.

Her physical description is as under:-  
**Sex: Female, Age: 26 years, Height: 4'6" ft., Complexion: Fair, Built: Medium, Wearing: Black Colour Suit & Salwar and Red Colour slipper in feet.**

Any person is having information or clue about this missing/kidnapped lady may kindly inform to the following:- **SHO**

**Website:**<http://cbi.nic.in> **P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi**  
**E-mail:** [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) **Ph. No.: 011-27511294**  
**Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641** **Mob. No.-8750870329**  
**Fax No.: 011-24368639** **DP/1265/RD/2022**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This is to notify the public at large that our client, Mr. Qasidullah Salehi, S/o Inayadullah, National of Afghanistan & presently residing at F-47, Third Floor, Lajpat Nagar-2, New Delhi-110024, through this public notice disown & renounce all his relations with his daughter Shabnam Salehi. It is further notified that she shall have no legal right, title, interest, right of inheritance etc on any of the moveable & immovable properties of our clients. Our client also serves all social ties with her. They shall not be responsible for any act and/or omission of any nature, whatsoever, committed by her and further he shall have no personal, social or moral relation with her in future. Any person dealing with her shall be doing so at his/her own risks, to which, our clients shall not be responsible in any manner. Any other person related to her also, shall to be disowned by our clients from his all moveable and immovable assets.  
**Rohit Yadav (Advocate)**  
For RVT Law Associates  
Ch.No. 402, Civil Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This is to notify the public at large that our clients, Sh. Rajesh Chhabra & his Wife Smt. Anju Chhabra S/o House No. 10915, Gali No.20, Pratap Nagar, Andhra Meghal, Delhi-110007, through this public notice disown & renounce all their relation with their Son Vabhav Chhabra @ Sahil @ Nona. It is further notified that he shall have no legal right, title, interest, right of inheritance etc on any of the moveable & immovable properties of our clients. Our clients also serves all social ties with him. They shall not be responsible for any act and/or omission of any nature, whatsoever, committed by him and further they shall have no personal, social or moral relation with him in future. Any person dealing with him shall be doing so at his/her own risks, to which, our clients shall not be responsible in any manner. Any other person related to him also, shall to be disowned by our clients from their all moveable and immovable assets.  
**Rohit Yadav (Advocate)**  
For RVT Law Associates  
Ch.No. 402, Civil Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

**FORM NO.5**  
**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL**  
**600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow-226007**  
**(Ares of Jurisdiction-Part of Uttar Pradesh)** Summons for filing & Appearance by Publication  
**O.A. No. 868/2021**  
**Date: 28/01/2022**

Summons to defendant under Section 19(3) of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)

**Original Application No. 868 of 2021**  
ICICI Bank Ltd. ...Applicant  
**Versus**  
MRS SHARAN GOPAL & ORS ...Defendant

To,  
**1. MRS SHARAN GOPAL W/o ANIRBAN MUKHERJEE**  
R/o Flat no. 752 Navsandan Vihar Apartment, Plot no. 4 Sector 22 Dwarka, New Delhi-110075  
**Also At:-** C-152 Kendriya Vihar, Sector 5, Gurugram, Haryana-122000.  
**Also At:-** B2-302 Victory Ace, Plot No. GH-02, Sector 143, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301  
**2. ANIRBAN MUKHERJEE S/O ASHISH MUKHERJEE,**  
Ro Flat No. 752 Navsandan Vihar Apartment, Plot no. 4 Sector 22 Dwarka, New Delhi- 110075  
**Also at:**  
488 DDA SFS Flat Pocket I, Phase I, Sector 22 Dwarka, New Delhi-110075

**3. DREAM PROCON PRIVATE LIMITED.**  
**Registered Office:**  
702-704, D Mall, Netaji Subhash Place, Pitampur New Delhi-110034.  
**Corporate Office at:**  
D1, Sector-3, Noida, Uttar Pradesh- 201301

In the above noted application, you are required to file in Paper Book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/ duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on **29/04/2022 at 10:30 A.M.** failing which the application shall be heard and decide in your absence.

**Registrar**  
**Debts Recovery Tribunal**  
**Lucknow**

**FORM NO.5**  
**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL**  
**600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow-226007**  
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**Original Application No. 867 of 2021**  
ICICI Bank Ltd. ...Applicant  
**Versus**  
MANISH SEHGAL & ORS ...Defendant

To,  
**1. MANISH SEHGAL S/o SURINDER KUMAR SEHGAL**  
R/o F-20 Pocket, Sheikh Sarai Ph-I, New Delhi-122001  
**Also At:-**  
Flat No. KGT-1-201, Jaypee Greens, Knight Court, Sector 128,131, Noida 201301, Uttar Pradesh.  
**2. POOJA SEHGAL W/o MAHISH SEHGAL,**  
R/o F-20 Pocket, Sheikh Sarai Ph-I, New Delhi-122001  
**Also at:-**  
Flat No. KGT-1-201 , Jaypee Greens, Knight Court, Sector 128,131, Noida 201301, Uttar Pradesh.  
**3. MADHU AGARWAL W/O ANIL KUMAR AGARWAL.**  
R/o H. No. 32, Sector-15A, Noida, U.P.-201301.  
**Also at:-**  
Flat No. KGT-1-201, Jaypee Greens, Knight Court, Sector 128,131, Noida 201301, Uttar Pradesh.

In the above noted application, you are required to file in Paper Book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly the authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on **29/04/2022 at 10:30 A.M.** failing which the application shall be heard and decide in your absence.

**Registrar**  
**Debts Recovery Tribunal**  
**Lucknow**

## More people opting for ₹1,000/month pension under Atal Pension Yojana

**New Delhi:** More people are now opting for pension amount of ₹1,000 per month, under the government-run Atal Pension Yojana (APY), and the scheme is gaining popularity among youngsters, according to the Economic Survey 2021-22.

APY, the flagship social security scheme of the Government, was launched on May 9, 2015, to provide old-age income security particularly to the citizens in the unorganised sectors.

PTI

## India's fleet strength increased to 1,463 vessels in 2021

**New Delhi:** India's fleet strength increased to 1,463 vessels with gross tonnage (GT) of 13,011,000 as of December 31, 2021, according to the Economic Survey.

At the end of 2019, the country had 1,429 vessels and 12,746,000 of GT, the Survey for 2021-22 said. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday tabled in Parliament the Economic Survey that details the state of the economy ahead of the Government's Budget for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2022.

PTI

ICICI Bank

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

The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Rohit Kochhar, C- 70 Sector 41, Noida, Noida, A/c No:- LBDEL00000363857	B-122, Ff - 112, Ljpat Nagar, New Delhi, Delhi	09/12/2021 Rs.2,97,899/-	07/07/2021
2.	Rohit Kochhar, - C- 70 Sector 41, Noida, Noida, A/c No:- LBDEL00000525688	B-122, Ff- 112, Ljpat Nagar, New Delhi, Delhi	09/12/2021 Rs.3,61,491/-	07/07/2021
3.	Praveen Kumar Sharma, Rekha Sharma, 361 Gautam Nagar, Ghaziabad, A/c No:- LBDEL00000701684	House No B-426, Patel Nagar, Sector-7 Ghaziabad Ghaziabad	09/12/2021 Rs.1,88,895.24/-	04/09/2021
4.	Surender Kumar, Madan Lal Aggarwal, H No-613, D: D, Faridabad, A/c No:- LBDEL00001198455	Plot No. 613, Sector- 37 Urban Estate Faridabad	18/12/2021 Rs.6,85,795.67/-	09/09/2021
5.	Subhash Chand Sharma, Ajay Sharma, L-206A, Lajpat Nagar, D: D, Ghaziabad, Shahibabad, A/c No:-LBDEL00001408206	Flat No. B-6 (SF Rear LHS), Plot No. D-508 Lajpat Nagar, Sec-4 Sahibabad Ghaziabad	18/12/2021 Rs.4,65,092.64/-	09/09/2021
6.	Silkey Malhotra, Tarun Malhotra, Flat No-759, LIG Flats, Sf, Block- Gh, 5 & 7 Paschim Vihar, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00001632170	Flat No-759, LIG Flats, Flat No-759, LIG Flats Sf, Block- Gh 5 & 7 Paschim Vihar Delhi	09/12/2021 Rs.5,19,258/-	09/09/2021
7.	Silkey Malhotra, Tarun Malhotra, Flat No-759, LIG Flats, Sf, Block- Gh, 5 & 7 Paschim Vihar, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00001645545	Flat No-759, LIG Flats, Flat No-759, LIG Flats Sf, Block- Gh 5 & 7 Paschim Vihar Delhi	09/12/2021 Rs.2,17,160/-	09/09/2021
8.	Sanjay Brahmi, Aradhana Brahmi, A-42 Gujrawala Town, Part-1 1st Floor, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00001822909	Plot No- 370, B 2nd Floor, With Out Roof Right, Block-B, Bharaula, Manjlis Park Colony Gali No-4 Delhi	09/12/2021 Rs.10,71,699.1/-	31/08/2021
9.	Sanjay Brahmi, Aradhana Brahmi, A-42 Gujrawala Town, Part-1 1st Floor, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00001828305	Plot No- 370, B 2nd Floor, With Out Roof Right, Block-B, Bharaula, Manjlis Park Colony Gali No-4 Delhi	09/12/2021 Rs.3,68,750.3/-	31/08/2021
10.	Kiran Udyog, Sanjay Kumar Jain & Vivek Kumar Jain & Arvind Kumar Jain & Rajiv Kumar Jain, Plot No-7, Block-27-B, D: D, New Delhi, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002021890	Plot No-7, Block-27-B, New Rohtak Road, New Delhi Delhi	06/12/2021 Rs.3,32,21,938/-	09/09/2021
11.	Sunil Kumar, Taruna Dangl, 12/10 3rd Floor, D:D, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002041578	Flat No-411-C, 11th Floor, Golf View Apartments, Tower- Luxuria, Sector-I, Pocket-D, Sushant Golf City, Lucknow	06/12/2021 Rs.1,07,56,540/-	09/09/2021
12.	Neeraj Chadha, Bhawna Chadha, F 39 3rd Floor, Plot, No-45A Kh No-88/19 Gali No 5, Vijay Vihar II Rohini Sec 4, Delhi, Vill Rithala A/c No:- LBDEL00002087250	Unit No 005, Ground Floor, Block F, Delhi 99 Near Koyal Enclave Opp Avas Vikas Bhopura Tila More Road, Village Bhameta Hajipur, Tehsil Loni, Ghaziabad	09/12/2021 Rs.14,09,856/-	09/08/2021
13.	Neeraj Chadha, Bhawna Chadha, F 39 3rd Floor, Plot, No-45A Kh No-88/19 Gali No 5, Vijay Vihar II Rohini Sec 4, Delhi, Vill Rithala A/c No:- LBDEL0000216865	Unit No 005, Ground Floor, Block F, Delhi 99 Near Koyal Enclave Opp Avas Vikas Bhopura Tila More Road, Village Bhameta Hajipur, Tehsil Loni, Ghaziabad	09/12/2021 Rs.1,26,585/-	09/08/2021
14.	Rakhi Gupta, Nakul Gupta, Shanti Niwas 06, Under Hill Road, D:D, Delhi, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002341706	Flat No 102 1st Floor, Teak The Greens Sy No 33 35/3 35/4 174 224184/5 189 of Karpur Village Bidargere Village Kasaba Anekal Taluk Bangalore	18/12/2021 Rs.23,40,537/-	01/07/2021
15.	Rakhi Gupta, Nakul Gupta, Veleno INC, Shanti Niwas 6 Under Hill Road Civil, D:D, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002341713	Flat No 202 2nd Floor, Teak The Greens Sy No 33 35/3 35/4 174 224 184/5 189 of Karpurvillage Bidargere Village Kasabaanekal Taluk, Bangalore	18/12/2021 Rs.23,48,962/-	01/07/2021
16.	Sanjay Brahmi, Aradhana Brahmi, A-42 Gujrawala Town, Part-1 1st Floor, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002437990	Plot No- 370, B 2nd Floor, With Out Roof Right, Block-B, Bharaula, Manjlis Park Colony Gali No-4 Delhi	09/12/2021 Rs.8,08,633/-	31/08/2021
17.	Amit Kumar Singh, Sonam Singh, 803, D:D, New Delhi, Noida, A/c No:- LBDEL00002873272	Flat No 1402, 14th Floor Tower-3 Plot No Gh-03 Organic Ghar Nh-24 Village Shahpur Bhameta Shahpur Bhameta Ghaziabad	18/12/2021 Rs.10,87,729/-	08/09/2021
18.	Reena Mishra, Subhash Mishra, J 118/13 Saurabh Vihar, Near Durga Mandir, Badarpur Jaitpur South Delhi, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00003162100	Plot No 48 A, Gf Block D Edenburge City I Faridabad	09/12/2021 Rs.24,95,861/-	04/09/2021
19.	Reena Mishra, Subhash Mishra, J 118/13 Saurabh Vihar, Near Durga Mandir, Badarpur Jaitpur South Delhi, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00003167121	Plot No 48 A, Gf Block D Edenburge City I Faridabad	09/12/2021 Rs.1,92,499.5/-	04/09/2021
20.	Rokhsana, Mohd Shahid, H No 21 Gali No 3, Near Laxmi Book Deepo Aaram Park, Sastri Nagar Delhi, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00003437467	Plot No 34, Block-B, Sector-6, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar	24/11/2021 Rs.76,35,644/-	05/07/2021
21.	Rokhsana, Mohd Shahid, H No 21 Gali No 3, Near Laxmi Book Deepo Aaram Park, Sastri Nagar Delhi, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00003513231	Plot No 34, Block-B, Sector-6, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar	24/11/2021 Rs.20,55,785/-	05/07/2021
22.	Jaspal Singh Marwah, Balwinder Kaur Marwah, Flat No-109, Sarojini Nagar Market New Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00003835149	H No 82, Ground Floor Front Portion Gali No 3 Krishna Nagar Near Safdarjung Enclave Delhi	09/12/2021 Rs.84,60,821/-	04/09/2021
23.	Sonia Shrivastava, Anshuman Samaiyar, Flatno B 1 1st Floor, Surat, D:D, Opp Jailboard Office, New Delhi, Delhi, Opp Jailboard Office, A/c No:- LBDEL00004007120	Flat No B 1402, 14th Floor Trident Embassy Plot No- Gh-05B Sector-1 Greater Noida Noida	18/12/2021 Rs.1,68,626/-	31/01/2021
24.	Madhur Mongia, Shalini Mongia, E-4/44 Sector-11, D:D, Delhi, Delhi, New Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00004895766	Prop No- 44, Second Floor Block-E Pocket-4 Sector-11 Rohini Sector-11 Rohini Delhi	18/12/2021 Rs.73,42,569.48/-	27/09/2021
25.	Dushyant Kumar Tokas, Anju Tokas, H No. F-124 Mohammad Pur Village, South West Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00004923521	DDA Shop No S 2, Bhikaji Cama Place District Centre DDA Market Delhi	09/12/2021 Rs.12,55,823/-	04/09/2021
26.	Dushyant Kumar Tokas, Anju Tokas, H No. F-124 Mohammad Pur Village, South West Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi, A/c No:-LBDEL00004923529	DDA Shop No S 2, Bhikaji Cama Place District Centre DDA Market Delhi	09/12/2021 Rs.10,21,719/-	04/09/2021
27.	Jaspal Singh Marwah, Balwinder Kaur Marwah, Flat No-109, Sarojini Nagar Market New Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00005109368	H No 82, Ground Floor Front Portion Gali No 3 Krishna Nagar Near Safdarjung Enclave Delhi	09/12/2021 Rs.3,19,181/-	04/09/2021
28.	Jaspal Singh Marwah, Balwinder Kaur Marwah, Flat No-109, Sarojini Nagar Market New Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00005133801	H No 82, Ground Floor Front Portion Gali No 3 Krishna Nagar Near Safdarjung Enclave Delhi	09/12/2021 Rs.3,58,253/-	04/09/2021
29.	Sunil Ahuja, Suman Ahuja, D 118 Ajay Enclave, New Delhi West Delhi, Tilak Nagar, Delhi, Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00005307170	Property No D-118 Ajay Enclave 2nd Floor, Tilak Nagar, Delhi	18/12/2021 Rs.21,11,563/-	06/07/2021
30.	Sunil Ahuja, Suman Ahuja, D 118 Ajay Enclave, New Delhi West Delhi, Tilak Nagar, Delhi, Delhi A/c No:- LBDEL00005312643	Property No D-118 Ajay Enclave 2nd Floor, Tilak Nagar, Delhi	18/12/2021 Rs.92,970/-	06/07/2021
31.	Rajnikant G, Suman Sharma, A 63 Town Ship Vidynt Nagar, Up Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida, Ghaziabad, A/c No:- LBDEL00005341987	Flat No S 59, 2nd Floor, Plot No LS 01, Sector Beta 1 Beta Plaza Shops, Greater Noida, Noida	09/12/2021 Rs.2,99,459/-	04/08/2021
32.	Rokhsana, Mohd Shahid, H No 21 Gali No 3, Near Laxmi Book Deepo Aaram Park, Sastri Nagar Delhi, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00005362242	Plot No 34, Block-B, Sector-6, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar	24/11/2021 Rs.19,08,239/-	05/07/2021
33.	Saurabh Sharma, Anita Sharma, H No- 469-F Housingh, D:D, Sec-21D, Faridabad, Shivram Mandir, A/c No:- LBFDB00004920510	Plot No-4824, Second Floor Sector-49 Indraprastha Extension At Ownership No-12 At Ownership No-12 Tp Scheme No-3 (Part- I) Faridabad	18/12/2021 Rs.44,16,480/-	27/09/2021
34.	Poonam Kumari, Uday Shankar Prasad, 323 Ews Flat, D:D, Faridabad, A/c No:- LBFDB00004935920	Ews Flat, No-324, Third Floor, Suraj Kund, Faridabad	18/12/2021 Rs.11,41,656.3/-	06/07/2021
35.	Atul Kumar Jain, Vijay Jain, H No 102/4, D:D, Near V.K. Public School, Meerut, A/c No:- LBGHZ00001425567	H. No- 102/4, Khasra No 4766, Phool Bagh Colony, Suraj Kund Road, Meerut	18/12/2021 Rs.3,83,681/-	11/06/2021
36.	Gaurav Agrawal, Mamta Agrawal, Po Box 1758 Doha Qatar, Qatar, A/c No:- LBGHZ00002421357	Flat No 1505, 15th Floor Tower O, Ajnara Le Garden Plot No Gh 02, Sector 16 Greater Noida	09/12/2021 Rs.34,52,963/-	30/09/2021
37.	Gaurav Agrawal, Mamta Agrawal, Po Box 1758 Doha Qatar, Qatar, A/c No:- LBGHZ00002433201	Flat No 1505, 15th Floor Tower O, Ajnara Le Garden Plot No Gh 02, Sector 16 Greater Noida	09/12/2021 Rs.3,88,144.1/-	30/09/2021
38.	Gaurav Agrawal, Mamta Agrawal, F 232 II Nd Floor, Mangal Bazar, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi, A/c No:- LBGHZ00002892455	Flat No 1815, 18th Floor Tower Om Mahagun Mantra 1 Riddhi Plot No Gh 01B, Sec-10 Greater Noida	09/12/2021 Rs.2,37,862/-	30/09/2021
39.	Rajnikant G, Suman Sharma, A 63 Town Ship Vidynt Nagar, Up Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida, Ghaziabad, A/c No:- LBGHZ00004082559	Flat No S 59, 2nd Floor, Plot No Ls 01, Sector Beta 1 Beta Plaza Shops, Greater Noida, Noida	09/12/2021 Rs.14,00,618/-	04/08/2021
40.	Sachin Jain, Praduman Kumar Jain, House No 340 Mukund Nagar, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, A/c No:- LBGHZ00004400455	Plot No R-2/179, Raj Nagar Ghaziabad Ghaziabad	09/12/2021 Rs.47,72,266/-	04/09/2021
41.	Pankur Tyagi, Abhishek Tyagi, Suman Lata Tyagi, A-54 A Nand Gram, P/o Mariam Nagar, Ghaziabad, A/c No:- LBGHZ00004960883	House No-54 A, Ground Floor, Block-A, Nandini Kunj, Ghaziabad	18/12/2021 Rs.16,49,572/-	06/07/2021
42.	Shashank Garg, Sarvesh Garg, Flat No 1443, 14th Floor, Majestic Tower Mahagun Mascot Gh-05, Sector 11 Dundaheera, Ghaziabad, Crossing Republic A/c No:- LBGHZ000055044534	Toonz Retail India Pvt Ltd, Shop No 165, FF Gp Mall Plot No A2, Sector 38 A, Noida, Noida	09/12/2021 Rs.14,81,151/-	04/08/2021
43.	Pankur Tyagi, Abhishek Tyagi, Suman Lata Tyagi, A-54 A Nand Gram, P/o Mariam Nagar, Ghaziabad, A/c No:- LBGHZ000055337379	House No-54 A, Ground Floor, Block-A, Nandini Kunj, Ghaziabad	18/12/2021 Rs.3,47,976/-	06/07/2021
44.	Shashank Garg, Kumud Garg, Sarvesh Garg, Kumud Garg, Flat No 1443, 14th Floor, Majestic Tower Mahagun Mascot Gh-05, Sector 11 Dundaheera, Ghaziabad, Crossing Republic A/c No:- LBGHZ00005377445	Toonz Retail India Pvt Ltd, Shop No 165, FF Gp Mall Plot No A2, Sector 38 A, Noida, Noida	09/12/2021 Rs.3,08,601/-	04/08/2021
45.	Sachin Jain, Praduman Kumar Jain, House No 340 Mukund Nagar, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, A/c No:- LBGHZ00005519428	Plot No R-2/179, Raj Nagar Ghaziabad Ghaziabad	09/12/2021 Rs.19,90,312/-	04/09/2021

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date : February 01, 2022

Place: Delhi/ NCR

AUTHORIZED OFFICER

ICICI Bank Limited




DOCYARD

DR GAURI AGARWAL

Founder & Director

SEEDS OF INNOCENCE AND GENESTRINGS DIAGNOSTIC



## Reduce the risk of birth defect



In the past two years, COVID-19 has caused a major disruption in the healthcare system and stands to be a matter of concern for oncology services in India. According to a recent study, India could witness 98,650-1,31,500 excess cancer-related deaths in the next five years. As the number of cancer cases rise, people are also concerned about the impact of cancer on their fertility. However, it is important to understand how it is possible to fulfil your dreams of becoming parents even after being diagnosed with Cancer.

**Cancer and fertility**  
Cancer treatments may affect your fertility in many ways. The uterus and ovaries are highly vulnerable to disruptions caused by surgery, chemotherapy, and radiotherapy. Also, treatment modalities for gynaecological cancers can have an anatomical or functional impact on a woman's reproductive organs. Furthermore, cancer treatment is often a lengthy process that impairs patients' sexual function and mental health. Mental conditions such as anxiety, depression, and diminished quality of life are important aspects of ongoing and post treatment symptoms that directly influences their fertility as well. The fact that cancer treatment can lead to infertility is another potential distress for cancer survivors.  
Infertility in cancer patients can occur for a variety of reasons. The patient's age and developmental stage, such as before or after puberty, before or after menopause, and so on, can influence whether or not conceiving is possible. Similarly, the type and extent of surgery, the type of treatment (radiation therapy, chemotherapy, hormone therapy, targeted therapy, immunotherapy, stem cell transplant), and the treatment dose can all affect the fertility of both men and women undergoing cancer treatment.

Treatments like Chemotherapy and radiation treatment for cancer have been said to cause damage to the testes and interfere with sperm production and testosterone secretion in men, as well as damage oocytes (eggs), cause ovarian failure and early menopause in women.

**Natural conception after cancer**  
Women who were fertile before treatment may experience a natural recovery post completing the cancer treatment. They are capable of maintaining or restoring normal hormonal cycles, and producing mature eggs that can be fertilised and implanted into the uterus, resulting in conceiving naturally. Before attempting to conceive, the doctors usually advise waiting anywhere between 6 months to 24 months. Waiting for six months may reduce the risk of birth defects that can be caused by the eggs damaged by chemotherapy or other treatments. The 24 months period is based on the fact that the risk of cancer recurrence is usually highest in the first two years following treatment.

While for men, there are no hard and fast rules as to how long they should wait after cancer treatment, however most doctors recommend waiting two to five years. Chemotherapy and radiation therapy can harm sperm, and thus the two precautionary years help in replacing the sperm. As a result, conception becomes easy.

**Prevention is always better than cure: Freezing the eggs before cancer treatment**

The number of young women with cancer who choose to freeze their eggs before starting cancer treatment is on the rise, thanks to increased awareness. Seeds of Innocence has seen a 15 per cent increase in the number of female cancer patients under the age of 35 who have chosen to freeze their eggs in the last year. Also, in the past few years we have also witnessed many successful cases where the decision of freezing the eggs or freezing the sperm before the cancer treatment has worked as a boon for the couple. Regardless of marriage, egg/sperm freezing is a reliable option. The eggs can be frozen for up to ten years, during which time she can have them thawed and fertilised whenever she wants. It's best if you talk about preserving your fertility before you have cancer surgery or start treatment.

**If infertility develops as a result of cancer, consider IVF**  
In case of completing the cancer treatment, IVF is a safe method to become pregnant for cancer survivors. In vitro fertilisation is effective in women who have lost their fertility as a result of cancer treatment. Whereas, Donor eggs are an option for women who are unable to conceive with their own eggs. In this technique, embryos are transferred to the recipient to create a pregnancy. This process is supplemented with hormone replacement therapy until the placenta develops and can produce its hormones.  
Cryopreservation can help in conceiving soon after the cancer treatment and one does not have to wait for years to get pregnant safely.

## ROBOT TO RESCUE

Doctors at BLK-Max Super speciality Hospital saved the life of a 12-year-old Iraqi child born with congenital defect that caused both his kidneys and ureters to expand abnormally. This was carried out through minimally invasive robotic surgery.

The child's ureter were dilated to 5 cm and elongated to almost 75 cm. Owing to travel restrictions during the pandemic, the child's medical condition worsened and was in need of an urgent surgery. Doctors managed to save his right kidney and shortened

the length and re-constructed the ureter and removed the non-functional left kidney.

Dr Jayvender Pratap Singh Rana, Senior Consultant, Urology and Renal Transplantation, BLK Max Super Speciality Hospital said, "He underwent robotic surgery for left Nephro Ureterectomy. His ureters were much dilated and almost half of abdomen was filled dilated and enlarged coiled ureters.

This coiling led to backflow of urine from the bladder to the kidneys, causing their enlargement."

# Come back stronger

A fully active knee replacement surgery without ligament damage was recently performed in Delhi-NCR. DR SUJOY BHATTACHARJEE talks about the advantages of using robotic-assisted technology



This is the first time in the world that a patient's posterior cruciate ligament (PCL) has been successfully preserved in a fully active robot-assisted total knee replacement. The 63-year-old patient Jai Narayan, a retired train driver from Hathras in Uttar Pradesh, was suffering from pain and deformity in both the knees for the last 10 years due to osteoarthritis. He was able to walk on his own just a few hours after the surgery. Dr Sujoy Bhattacharjee, HOD & Director of the hospital's Centre for Robotic Joint Replacement, used CUVIS joints - A Fully Active Robot system with specially developed software to perform the feat.

"We are all very proud of this achievement, which has put Faridabad on the world medical map and proved the mettle of Indian doctors to the international community. We have applied to the Guinness Book of World Records to register this feat from this part of India. The breakthrough surgery is also a testimony to our unending efforts to make available the latest technology to our patients, as evidenced by the installation of North India's first 'Fully Active' Joint Replacement Robot for total knee replacement at Sarvodaya Hospital," Dr Rakesh Gupta, Chairman, Sarvodaya Healthcare says.

Cruciates refer to the two cross-shaped ligaments that exist at the front (anterior) and back (posterior) of the knee, connecting the

thigh bone with the shin bone. In conventional robotic-assisted TKR surgeries, both the ligaments have to be sacrificed, due to which the patient has to live with an unnatural feeling around the knee.

Dr Sujoy Bhattacharjee's breakthrough surgery at Sarvodaya Hospital, Faridabad, marks the first time in the world that a patient's posterior cruciate ligament (PCL) has been successfully retained in a fully active robotic-assisted TKR surgery. "Preserving one or both knee ligaments in total knee replacement is crucial as it gives a natural feel to the knee and helps stabilise the joint. Patients find their operated knee totally natural, making them forget that they are living with a knee transplant, a concept called the 'Forgotten Knee'. This has not been possible with conventional robotic surgeries for total knee replacement that are currently performed on patients," Dr Bhattacharjee says.

He adds that robot-assisted surgery has huge advantages over conventional methods. These include improved accuracy and precision of implant positioning, much less possibility of human errors or soft-tissue injuries, greater operative accuracy and reduced pain after surgery, ensuring early rehabilitation and mobilisation of patients. We have now gone one step ahead of the world with the capability to preserve the knee ligaments of the patient in such surgeries, which was not possible till now.



**The doctor uses the robot to select an artificial joint for the patient and insert it accurately. The fully active robot reviews the data and cuts the bone precisely with respect to the dimensions of the implant decided during the pre-surgery planning stage under the supervision of an experienced surgeon**



In preparation of the surgery, a non-contrast CT (NCCT) scan of the knees is conducted and the desired bone-cuts and implant size are decided. This information is fed into the robot before the actual surgery. During the surgery, the bone-cuts are conducted with great precision by the robot, minimising possibility of errors.

The patient Jai Narayan was delighted with the outcome of the surgery. "This feels like a second life to me," he says, adding that he is finally free of the terrible pain he used to suffer while trying to walk on his damaged knees due to osteoarthritis. He thanks the doctors from the bottom of his heart. He is already walking and will be able to get back to day-to-day activities within 1-2 weeks of the surgery and resume normal life in a month's time.

In knee replacement surgery, the arthritic portion of the knee is removed and replaced by an artificial joint that forms new surfaces of the knee joint. During Cuvix Joint Robot total knee replacement, the 3D images of the patient's joint are used by the doctor for pre-planning of the surgery personalised to the patient. The doctor uses the robot to select an artificial joint for the patient and insert it accurately. The "fully active" robot reviews the data and cuts the bone precisely with respect to the dimensions of the implant decided during the pre-surgery planning stage under the supervision of an experienced surgeon.

## Not just about handwashinhg

Handwashing with soap remains inaccessible for millions of homes and especially children, says POONAM SEWAK

Contaminated hands are often the first routes of many microbial infections. They are responsible for 80 per cent of infectious diseases - be it water-borne digestive tract or respiratory tract infections such as cold and the flu, diarrhoea and intestinal illnesses or common eye infections, caused by bacteria, viruses and germs. Hence, the two most important words of public health messaging have always been: soap, and water.

Some of the important moments of hand washing include after using the toilet or changing baby's nappies; before, during and after preparing food; before eating; after using a tissue or handkerchief; before and after attending to sick person or touching pets or animals; handling cash or coins or touching switches, door handles and even laptop. With the COVID-19

pandemic raging around the world, the importance of handwashing with soap is becoming more critical. The theme for Global Handwashing Day 2020: Hand hygiene for all, underlines the importance of handwashing during the COVID-19 pandemic as a method to prevent the rise and spread of the virus. Science explains how water-soap combination works. When people wash hands with soap and water for an optimum time of 20-30 seconds, water disrupts the hydrophilic (water-loving) portions of the envelope or molecular wall of pathogens, while soap takes care of damaging the hydrophobic (water-hating) portions of the same - thus inactivating pathogens.

Though WHO recommends alcohol-based hand sanitizers, they usually contain a mixture of alcohols such as ethanol, isopropyl alcohols, hydrogen perox-

ides in different combinations. Frequent use of these sanitizers may become toxic to human health and also is not friendly to the environment. There is enough evidence to suggest that hand-

washing with water and soap is more friendly to hands than sanitizers. Overexposure to hand sanitizers can make the skin become dry. It can also lead to eczema, a condition in which patches of skin become inflamed, itchy, cracked, and rough. Hence, hand washing with soap and water is a highly desirable, recommended, and effective strategy against infections. However, it is unfortunate that the most vulnerable communities in India are unable to use the simplest of methods to protect themselves and their loved ones. Providing additional water for hygiene becomes more challenging in this pandemic situation that

demands frequent hand washing with soap.

Unfortunately, India has nothing much to write home about in providing access to water. Also, the habit of using soaps among its population is rare.

Today, sensitization, awareness and education on the significance of washing hands, as well as the proper techniques to keep hands clean is being promoted aggressively by the government, NGOs and corporates for improved public health. Governments and development agencies collaborate to promote behaviour change and create a mass movement for 'Clean Hands Prevent Disease'. NGOs serving decentralised affordable safe water from their Water ATMs to the low-income communities stepped up their WASH education campaigns in the communities they served. The main focus has been on the method of

hand washing and the moments of hand washing.

However, addressing this issue needs a multi-dimensional approach. But it is not just a question of infrastructure alone. There are factors like culture, education and socioeconomic status involved. For instance, only about 50 per cent of the rural population use water and soap for handwashing, while this figure is 80 per cent in urban India. While slightly over 11 per cent of villagers do not use neither soap nor water, only 3 per cent of their urban counterparts have the matching behaviour.

Similarly, handwashing with soap and water is followed by only 40 per cent of households headed by the uneducated, compared to 85 per cent of households headed by people with at least 12 years of schooling.

The writer is Vice-president — Program & Partnerships, Safe Water Network

## Getting tested is a key



COVID-19 testing has played a crucial role in decreasing the spread of the virus. NEERAJ GUPTA tells us how molecular diagnostic

is a key to breaking the cycle of the virus

Before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the molecular diagnostic industry was seen as a support system to aid medical professionals in diagnosing illness so that the patient could receive good healthcare. Diagnostic testing labs were used to screen different ailments to provide timely, accurate and affordable results. But when the COVID arrived, all that began to change. Within weeks of the pandemic shutdowns, there was a tremendous demand for diagnostic infrastructure and testing kits. At that time, the diagnostic industry wasn't ready for that challenge due to logistics issues. But they met the challenge sooner to provide a timely method for screening coronavirus and shelling out results in a timely manner. ICMR and other Government authorities also played a crucial role in providing quick approvals to labs in a record-breaking time frame.

**Transformation in Molecular Diagnostic**  
The main objective of any containment strategy was to limit the spread of the virus. Testing, Tracing and Treating (TTT) became a central instrument for achieving this objective.

As the Government hurried to put in procedures, TTT became the most promising approach to stop the spread of the virus. Testing became the norm, in the beginning, to keep the pandemic under control and prevent it from spreading to other family members or individuals.

As this motto gained traction, consumers adapted to the new testing measures and procedures and became familiar with the new terms like RT-PCR testing, rapid antigen, and antibody testing.

Coronavirus quickly made it known that access to testing and screening expanded beyond the conventional environment like hospitals and diagnostic testing centers. So, to contain the impact of COVID, testing centers were deployed at various places like airports, railway stations, drive-through centers etc.

This demonstrates how the molecular diagnostic industry adapted to the challenges to provide quick service delivery.

As the third wave of COVID-19 is upon us, molecular diagnostic laboratories across the country have ramped up their testing facilities by installing more infrastructure, hiring and training more human resources to ensure smooth functioning. As consumers become more familiar with molecular diagnostic testing than ever before, they have also become accustomed to accessing the test at their convenient location on demand, like home sample collection, walk-in kiosks, and drive-throughs.

The writer is Founder & CEO, Genes2Me

## INBRIEF

### SRM MCH&RC's health card Valli ensures right to good health care

The SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Centre (SRM MCH&RC), Kattankulathur released the Valli Health Card and the 7th edition of Healthcare CSR Bulletin — Valli.

These were released by SRM MCH&RC's Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr Lt Col A Ravikumar. This initiative was undertaken by Puthiya Thalaimurai Foundation as part of its CSR activity.

About 15 people from Amphenol Omnicconnect India Pvt Ltd and 10 SRMIST's housekeeping staffs were among the first to receive this Valli Health Card. Card holders would get a 20 per cent discount on OP investigations at SRM MCH&RC, apart from the regular concessions that are in place.

Present on the occasion was retired Sub-Inspector S Murugan, SRM MCH&RC's Medical Superintendent Dr K Thangaraj, Dean (Dental) Dr Vivek, Dean (Occupational Therapy) Dr Ganapathy Sankar, SRMIST's Sports Advisor Nandhagopal, representatives from Amphenol Omnicconnect India Pvt Ltd and members of SRM Institute of Science and Technology.

Dr Lt Col A Ravikumar said, "This is good hope in these tiring times. This initiative from will help those unable to afford the proper medical attention the right to good health care."





Benares by Manu Parekh

# CONTEMPORARY ART AT PARIS

Embroidered tapestries display the brilliance of Indian artists, Manu and Madhvi Parekh, at Musee Rodin, says UMA NAIR

Musee Rodin opened its portals to the brilliance of compositional charisma of Indian contemporary art created as embroidered tapestries. The *Benares* vignette of Manu Parekh and the tribal folk motifs of Madhvi Parekh made for a stunning backdrop as Christian Dior models sashayed in monochromatic dulcet haute couture. And the entire scene was choreographed by creative director Maria Grazia Chiuri.

**Maria, Manu and Madhvi**

Ever since Chiuri took over the reins of Dior, she has been saluted for her work's feminist stances, always placing art at the centre of her message. Last week at Musee Rodin Paris, during the Dior Spring/Summer 2022 Haute Couture show, the work of artists Madhvi and Manu Parekh were honoured, with an incredible decor of their translated tapestries.

Amongst these magnificent monumental tapestries, two works that stood out were Manu Parekh's *Benares* which showed a setting sun in all its glory and Madhvi's 2006 work *Two Heads of a Black Queen* shown at her solo exhibition in Vadehras in 2007.

**Benares is older than history**

Manu's *Benares* is a heady delight. It embraces the silhouette of temples, lights and the fervour of the daily puja. Created in warm tones of buttercup yellow and smoky russet shades, this work is a quilt of rhythms and the deep resonance that invites the human gaze and celebrates spiritual fervour. Manu's *Benares* carries both an ecological as well as an elegiac echo because it harnesses the harmony of prayer with the paradox of mortality in a world where ritual and relic rub shoulders. This work has many shades to it not just of the *sandhya* but of the alchemy of twilight as you gaze at the mirroring of the setting sun. The piece scores the truth of the words of Mark Twain, the English author



Madhvi Parekh's 2006 work *Two Heads of a Black Queen*

and literature, who was enthralled by the legend and sanctity of the city and wrote, "Banaras is older than history, older than tradition, older even than legend and looks twice as old as all of them put together". **Madhvi's *Two Heads of a Black Queen***

Madhvi's *Two Heads of a Black Queen* belongs to collector and connoisseur Tripat Kalra who bought it from Vadehras in 2007 when they held her solo. Tripat says she bought the work because it had its own identity and seemed to go beyond dialogues and dimensions as it held both the past and the present.

Colour and contour are the two most dominant aspects of her work. In an interview years ago she had said: "As a child, from the rural parts of Gujarat, I have seen the most brilliant lights of nature. On my way back from school, the setting sun would set the whole world

around on fire and bathe it in shimmering golden light. Those colours have become an integral part of me and they come to me quite naturally. The dotted lines in my paintings give the impression of running stitches of embroidery I did as a child."

The position of the two faces against a sky blue backdrop, peppered with tiny elements, reflects she has had an instinctive feel for design and forms comes naturally to her. It reminds us of old folk art practices of decorative floor designs (*rangoli*), and wall decorations on huts. She represents the beauty and antiquity of the traditional art practices in humble villages and homes in Gujarat.

Running for a week, the monumental embroidered works served not just as a backdrop for the fashion show, but also stood alongside Rodin's sculptures creating a synergy of rare intensity. To

imagine Rodin's nymphs and half-gods meeting Indian temples, divinities and personifications symbolised in the embroidery is an experience of sublime proportions. In a quaint and curious way, we are also seeing the exploration of the male/female dichotomy and their inherent characteristics of complementarity. At Musee Rodin, Maria Gracias has affirmed the principles of savoir-faire and rare craftsmanship. In the melange of materials, metaphors and colour, the embroiderers' technique of the Chanakya School of Craft in Mumbai is highlighted and given a place of honour.

These two works bring on an entire spiritual dimension and an art immersion in the viewer's imagination, where the quaint, the curious and the familiar rub shoulders with the real, the imagined and the surreal.



## HINDUSTANI MUSIC - SAROD RECITAL

A sarod recital by Siddhartha Bhose from Kolkata, disciple of Pandit Partho Sarothry who will be accompanied by Asif Khan on the tabla. The artist will present Raga Maru Bihang in *teen taal*. It is available as a video recording of a concert for IIC online programmes.

**Where:** <https://youtu.be/K9OQubG9z5k>

## GEORGE ORWELL: A LIFE IN PICTURES

The film tells the life story of the British author, George Orwell.

Eric Arthur Blair (June 25, 1903 - January 21, 1950), better known by his pen name George Orwell, was a British author and journalist. His work is marked by keen intelligence and wit, a profound awareness of social injustice, an intense, revolutionary opposition to totalitarianism, a passion for clarity in language and a belief in democratic socialism. Considered perhaps the 20th century's best chronicler of English culture, Orwell wrote fiction, polemical journalism, literary criticism and poetry. He is best known for the dystopian novel *1984* (published in 1949) and the satirical novella *Animal Farm* (1945). They have together sold more copies than any two books by any other 20th century author. His *Homage to Catalonia* (1938), an account of his experiences as a volunteer on the Republican side during the Spanish Civil War, together with his numerous essays on politics, literature, language and culture, are widely acclaimed.

**Where:** <https://vimeo.com/307926180>



## HANDEL, THE CONQUERING HERO

Conductor Charles Hazlewood explores the glorious music of George Frideric Handel (1685-1759), who made his home in Britain and became a celebrity and national icon in the process.

Millions across the world heard Handel's 'Zadok the Priest' when Elizabeth II was crowned Queen at Westminster Abbey in 1953, but he was immensely popular in his own lifetime too, as his memorial in Westminster Abbey shows. World-renowned soloists Danielle de Niese and Ian Bostridge join Charles Hazlewood's ensemble, Army of Generals, in some of the best-loved music in our history.

The Foundling Hospital Museum and Handel's birthplace in Halle are two of the many places Charles visits to explore the stories behind this fascinating composer who has had such a profound influence on our cultural heritage.

**Where:** [https://youtu.be/O\\_sfqBKGTFE](https://youtu.be/O_sfqBKGTFE)



## A PORTRAIT: AMAR NATH SEHGAL

The film will be screened to mark the centenary year of the well-known modernist sculptor, painter and poet Amar Nath Sehgal.

The discussion followed by screening of a film will have conversation with Nuzhat Kazmi, professor & founder head, Department of Art History and Appreciation, Jamia Millia Islamia; Rajiv Mehrotra, filmmaker; and Rajan Sehgal in conversation. It will be moderated by Mandira Row.

(Collaboration: The Amar Nath Sehgal Private Collection)

**Registration link:** [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_SnV9B77ITXmIwHkbEUQWJg](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SnV9B77ITXmIwHkbEUQWJg)



PUBLIC NOTICE				
		Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23, New Rohtak Road,Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005		
The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.				
Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Supriya Verma, Gaurav Karna E 39 2nd Floor, Sushant Lok Sector 37, Gurgaon, Haryana, 122001, Gurgaon, Haryana, Gurgaon A/c:- LBGUR00004132114 & LBGUR00004132130	Unit No.102 B, 1st Floor, Iris Tech Park Sector 48 Gurgaon Haryana	03/11/2021 Rs.815,067.84/- & Rs.679,4882.7/-	31/08/ 2021
2.	P V Usha, Vikrant Pratap Singh Omaxe Nri City Putting Greens, T4/502, Pari Chowk Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, Noida A/c:- LBNOD00001929865 & LBNOD00002012639	Unit No. Str 8-201, 2nd Floor, Star Court, Jaypee Greens, G. Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	03/11/2021 Rs.15,67,818/- & Rs.1,19,20,583/-	12/07/ 2021
3.	Naresh Kumar, Anju Saini H No- 637/21, Mandi Sainiyan, Near Sainiyan, Dharmshala Himachal Pradesh, Dharamsala A/c:-LBDEL00002137392	Flat No-3 A-600 Ground Floor Luxuria Tower Tower- 6 Sector-I Pocket- B Sushant Golf City Sultanpur Road, Kh No. 33, 35, 36, 44, 45, 46, 47, 65, 66, 22, 40, I Pocket D Lucknow Uttar Pradesh	01/11/2021 Rs. 74,35,475/-	04/08/ 2021
4.	Progen Sas Technologies India Privated Ltd, Sanjay Rawat, Sushil Kaushik 8th Floor 806, Pearlal Omaxe Tower, Netaji Subash Place, Pitampura, Netaji Subash Place, Delhi, Delhi A/c:- LBDEL00005232371	Plot No. 58, First Floor Without Roof West Shalimar Bagh Delhi	01/11/2021 Rs.2,07,86,058/-	31/08/ 2021
5.	Amit Chhabra, Savitri Chhabra Flat No. 1308, Tower 8 Rps Sawana, Sector 88 Khari Kalan 113, Faridabad, Haryana, 121002, Faridabad, Khari Kalan (113) A/c:- LBDEL00005161775	Shop No. B-7, Floridaa, Sector 82, Faridabad	03/11/2021 Rs.23,96,523.99/-	09/08/ 2021
6.	Anita Kumari, Rajesh Kumar J-815 J Block, Mangol Puri, Delhi, Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00002379926	Flat No. 15, Third Floor Dda Lig, Block-C18, Pocket- 2, Sector- 34, Rohini, Delhi	03/11/2021 Rs.10,98,977.2/-	04/08/ 2021
7.	Brij Nandan Singh, Bitto Devi C- 1124, Nandgram Ghaziabad, A/c:-LBDEL00000729883	Plot No. D-172, Swarn Jayanti Puram, Ghaziabad	03/11/2021 Rs.2,62,762/-	06/08/ 2021
8.	Ishwar Singh, Veena. Vpo Mohna, Kaithal, 136042, Kaithal, Haryana, 136042, Kaithal, A/c:- LBGUR00005164039	Plot No. 33, Plot Freinds Colony Pundri Khewat No. 1430 Jamabandi 2015-16 Village Pundari, Kaithal	03/11/2021 Rs.21,54,443/-	04/08/ 2021
9.	Puneet Jain, Veenu Jain E 162 Plot 8 Pocket 4 Jalvayu Vihar Rampur, Jagir Surajpur, Greater Noida, Noida, A/c:- LBNOD00002326406	Flat No. 312 A, 3rd Floor, Tower A, Plot No Gh 04, Sector 22, Ajnara Panorama Yamuna Expressway, Gautam Budh Nagar, Greater Noida, Noida	03/11/2021 Rs.16,05,944/-	31/08/ 2021
10.	Rajesh Taneja, Rinki Taneja E-212, Shastri Nagar, Ghaziabad Ghaziabad, A/c:- LBGUR00001914868	A-37, FMC- 035, Ferrous Megapolies City, Sector-70, Faridabad, Haryana	03/11/2021 Rs.20,98,272.99/-	09/08/ 2021
11.	Ramta Chowdhary, Kuldeep Raj 6- E Lal Nagar, Nr Ppr Market, Jalandhar, Punjab, Jalandhar, Pathankot, 145001A/c:- LBGUR00004483154	Flat No. 170/7, 1st Floor, Block No. 17, Zara Aavaas, Sector-104, Gurgaon	03/11/2021 Rs.15,94,443/-	09/08/ 2021
12.	Ravinder Kumar, Sarita Sharma H No Rz 97 Sainik Enclave, Part 2 Near Ever Green Bus Stand Jharoda Kalan, Jharoda Kalan New Delhi, Delhi, A/c:-LBDEL00002385356	Unit No. P Sf 08, 2nd Floor, Shops, Capital High Street, Bhiwadi	03/11/2021 Rs.10,33,479/-	04/08/ 2021
13.	Renu Chauhan, Dharmendra Singh Chauhan Flat No 901 Tower 10 , Exotica Dreamvilla Noida Extn, Greater Noida Up, Noida, A/c:- LBNOD00004323004	Flat No. 28228, Floor No. 28, Tower Axlewood, Plot No. Gh-04, Mahagun Mywoods, Phase III, Sector 16C, Greater Noida, Noida	03/11/2021 Rs.13,92,509/-	04/08/ 2021
14.	Rohit Chandel, Poonam. H No. 4070 1st Floor Sainik Colony, Sec- 49 Faridabad IP Ext-2, Faridabad, Faridabad, Faridabad 121001 A/c:- LBFDB00004907261	Flat No- R- 301, Happy Homes Exclusive- Tower R, Floor 3, Sector-86, Faridabad	03/11/2021 Rs.2,95,418.2/-	18/08/ 2021
15.	Rukhsar,, Zamiruddin. A 200 50/2 Ff, Flat No B 3, Devil Exin, Delhi, Deoli South Delhi A/c:- LBFDB00004142008	Plot No- 4821, Ground Floor, Sector- 49, IP Extn, Faridabad	03/11/2021 Rs.25,23,368/-	04/08/ 2021
16.	Sandeep Maurya, Monika Maurya, Neelam Maurya, 4440 Portofino Way Apt 203 West Palm Beach Florida, Beach, Florida. Florida, A/c:-LBNOD00002045500	Flat No. 1704, 17th Floor, Block- E Apex Athena, Plot No. Gh- 12A, Eco City, Sector- 75, Noida	03/11/2021 Rs.1,47,551/-	09/08/ 2021
17.	Santosh Kumar Mishra, Mishra Shalini A-1 206 Star Rameshwaram, Raj Nagar Extn, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, A/c: LBGHZ00004919305	Flat No. F 1002, 10th Floor, Star Rameshwaram- Tower F, Noor Nagar, Ghaziabad	03/11/2021 Rs.22,36,411/-	04/08/ 2021
18.	Sidharth Nath Tewari, A N Tewari H No-413 Sec-37 Noida Noida, A/c:-LBGUR00001971053	413 Sec-37, Type 5, Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida	03/11/2021 Rs.14,15,757/-	09/08/ 2021
19.	Soma Sunder Lakshmanan, Gowri Sunder House No- 223, Pkt-B, Kondali, Mayur Vihar Phase- 3, East, Delhi, A/c:- LBNOD00000885498	Flat- No.-223, Block-13, 3rd Floor, Sector-G, Konli Gharaina, Delhi	03/11/2021 Rs.2,33,068/-	30/08/ 2021
20.	Sonali Khatawkar, Sukhendu Basu K-73, Sector- 25, Jalvayu Vihar, Noida, A/c:- LBNOD00001201699	Flat No- K- 73, Jal Vayu Vihar, Sector 25, Noida	03/11/2021 Rs.9,54,423.62/-	06/08/ 2021
21.	Vandana Dwivedi, Anurag Dwivedi E-171 Panchvati, Apartment Plot No- B 9/9, Sec-62, Noida, Up Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00002394388	Flat No-1201, 12th Floor, Gardenia Glory, Tower A2, Sec 46, Noida	03/11/2021 Rs.2,72,750/-	31/01/ 2021
22.	Vikas Kumar Jain, Virendra Kumar Jain Aviat Networks, 1st Flr, Tower A, Bldg# 8, Dlf Cyber City, Dlf, Phase 2, Gurgaon, Haryana Gurgaon, A/c:- LBDEL00000847384	F No- 108, Plot No- 22, Aman Castle, Sec- 4, Ghaziabad	03/11/2021 Rs.10,09,206/-	06/08/ 2021
23.	Yatnesh Kumar Sharma Harendra Kumar Sharma, Mig Flats No-463 Pocket- C Sector-19, Divya Jyoti Apartment Rohini Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00002000653	Flat No 67, Firt Floor, Dda Lig, Block F, Pocket 6, Sector 15, Rohini, Delhi	03/11/2021 Rs.8,48,841/-	09/08/ 2021
24.	Rashmi Jain, Kamal Jain H No. 2636 Sector 7A, Faridabad Faridabad, A/c:- LBFDB00001107325	Flat No. 322 A, Block-d, Sector-11, Faridabad	23/10/2021 Rs.8,21,862.25/-	07/07/ 2021
25.	Vishwapriya Mukherjee, Sakhi Rani Mukherjee 47 A Ground Floor, Dhawalgiri- B-5, Sector-34 NR Church, Noida, A/c:- LBNOD00001691935	Flat- No- 47 A, Block-B- 5, Dhawal Giri Appt.,Sector-34, Noida	23/10/2021 Rs.14,91,260/-	12/07/ 2021
26.	Nikhil Seth, Kanchan Sethi D-99, 1st Floor Sec- 40 Noida Noida, A/c:- LBNOD00001921425	Apartment No-1502, 15th Floor Plot No- GH 003 lotus Boule Yard, Sector-100, Tower No-16, Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida	23/10/2021 Rs.14,87,226.41/-	31/07/ 2021
27.	Ruhi Malik, Dipak Singh Chaudhary F-14 Sec 36 G, Noida G B Nagar Ghaziabad, A/c:- LBNOD00003140200	Flat No. 1308, 13th Floor, Stellar Mi Citi Homes, Tower D, Plot No. Gh-7 A, Sec-o, Micron-III, Greater Noida, Noida	16/10/2021 Rs.15,85,162/-	06/07/ 2021
28.	Ashish Kumar, Ratan Devi 119 B Ff Super Mig Express, View Appt Sec- 93 Mig Flats, Grutam Budh Nagar, Noida, A/c:- LBNOD00004795639	Flat No. 1401, 14th Floor, Tower C, Project Name, Oasis Venetia Heights, Plot No Hra-12/ A Upside, Sector Surajpur Ste-C (EXT) Greater Noida, Noida	16/10/2021 Rs.18,38,685/-	06/07/ 2021
29.	Geeta,, Amit Kumar Rz B 1/ 25 Gali No. 6, Sharma Lane Raghunagar Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00002377971	Flat No. 48, 2nd Floor, Block F3, Pocket 3, Lig Sector G 8, Narela, Delhi	16/10/2021 Rs. 7,73,258/-	05/07/ 2021
30.	Heena Bhutani, Kamal Bhutani 57 A Z Block , Uttam Nagar Delhi Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00002335092	Flat No. 2304, 23rd Floor, Tower Ganga Mahagunmantra-II, Plot No. Gh-01 A, Sector-10, Greater Noida, Noida	16/10/2021 Rs.24,06,406/-	01/07/ 2021
31.	Praveen Kumar Shrivastav, Amita Shrivastav A 501 Park View Apts, E 10 Sector 61 Noida Noida, A/c:-LBNOD00003559609	Flat No. 002, Ground Floor, Tower G, Ace City, Plot No. GH-01, Sector -01 Greate Noida, Noida	16/10/2021 Rs.12,08,264/-	11/06/ 2021
32.	Amulya Kumar Nayak, Bidyut Prava Nayak Amulya Kumar Nayak P. No. 1/7 Flat, No. 206, Vaishnavi Kunj Sector- 2 Rajendra Nagar Sahibabad Ghaziabad-, Ghaziabad, A/c:-LBDEL00001173375	P. No.1/7, Flat No.206, Vaishnavi Kunj, Sector- 2, Rajendra Nagar, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad	16/10/2021 Rs.5,27,669/-	10/06/ 2021
33.	Anand Shekher Singh, Shivani Singh A5/4 Sector-71 Noida, A/c:- L3NOD00001738021	Flat No- 21, 2nd Floorblock- C-2, Sector- 71, Noida	16/10/2021 Rs.8,14,056.72/-	11/05/ 2021
34.	Deepak Kumar Agarwal, Lalita Agrawal 94 B Pocket- K, Sheikh Sarai- II New Delhi Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00002012413	Flat No. H- 364, 1st Floor, Residential Colony, Gavind Puram Sector-29 Ghaziabad	16/10/2021 Rs.18,67,817/-	11/05/ 2021
35.	Nitin Gupta, Anita, N 85, Gurgdwara Road, Mohan Garden Uttam Nagar, Delhi, Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00002379267	Flat No. 9, 2nd Floor, Sec 34, Pocket 2, Block D2, Rohini, Delhi	16/10/2021 Rs.11,10,988/-	07/06/ 2021
36.	Raj Singhanya, Seema Singhanya H- 57 B, First Floor, Kalkaji Extension, New Dli Delhi, A/c:- LBNOD00001789522	Flat No- CGA- 222, Dlf Capital Greens, Phase- I, Shivaji Marg, Plot No.15, Delhi	16/10/2021 Rs.13,48,796.9/-	31/05/ 2021
37.	Sameer Ahuja, Kiran Bhatia H. No-3, Pocket G-29, Sector-3 Rohini, Delhi, Delhi A/c:- LBDEL00001790764	H No. 35, 2nd + 3rd Floor, Pkt-3 Sec- 24, Rohini, Delhi	16/10/2021 Rs.16,23,675.01/-	03/05/ 2021
38.	Sumit Kumar Mishra, Sarita Shukla H No. C/67 S/3 Shalimar Garden, Ext 2 Block C Sahibad, Ghaziabad, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, A/c:- LBDEL00002094431	Flat No. 102,1st Floor, Tower D1, Bharat City Khasra No. 17 To 24, 34 to 71, 71 to 81, And 67 Village Nistauli Pargana Lonighaziabad	16/10/2021 Rs.20,33,278/-	11/05/ 2021
39.	Susheel Kumar, Suraksha Rani C- 385, C-Block, Gali No- 42, Mahavir Enclave Part-III Delhi, A/c:- LBDEL00001953102	Flat No- 904 Block- A- 4, Apartment- A Avalon Residency Bhiwadi, Distt- Alwar	16/10/2021 Rs.8,45,978.82/-	13/04/ 2021
40.	Shravika Kumari, Awnish Rathour Flat No- B4/ 304 E Bony Greens, Crescent Parc Shahapur Bahemta, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, A/c:- LBDEL00003122238 & LBDEL00003122240	Flat No. 304, 3rd Floor With Roof Right, Tower B4, Ebony Greens Crescent Park, Ghaziabad	16/10/2021 Rs.17,51,565.3/- & Rs.9,88,208.7/-	06/07/ 2021
41.	Shubham Sharma, Mohan Kumar D-1107 Galaxy Vega Greater, Noida Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, A/c:- LBGHZ00004936507 & LBGHZ00004920458	Flat No- Q- 560, 5th Floor, Gaur City Centre- Shops, Plot No. C1 Agh 01 at Gaur City, Sector 4, Greater Noida, Noida	16/10/2021 Rs.10,58,721.56/- & Rs.1,31,291/-	05/07/ 2021
42.	Pinku Kumar, Durga Kumari Flat No- 12080 Tower- 5 GH- 7, 12th Floor Crossings Republic Ghaziabad, A/c:- LBGHZ00003220924 & LBGHZ00003336776	Flat No. 603, 6th Floor, Raheja Maheshwara, Tower D, Sec-11 and 14, Sohna, Gurgaon	16/10/2021 Rs.18,57,354/- & Rs.3,35,240/-	31/07/ 2021
43.	Nidhi Solanki, Vikram Singh Flat No. 103 Tower A- 21, Haridwar Greens Roshnab Haridwar, A/c:- LBNOD00005232150 & LBNOD00005314717	Flat No. 102, 1st Floor Tower-17 Unitech Horizon Sector- PI- 2 Greater Noida Noida	10/11/2021 Rs.32,97,278.57/- & Rs.1,36,934/-	04/08/ 2021
44.	Amit Kumar Varshney, Bhumika Gupta C-10 402 Sandeep Vihar Awho Colony Bangalore, Kadugodi A/c:- LBNOD00005051356	Unit No. 1202, 12th Floor Tower A3 Shree Vardhman Gardenia Phase 2 Sector 10 Village Raipur Sonapat	10/11/2021 Rs. 46,26,050/-	04/08/ 2021
45.	Ashwani Sharma, Pooja A-02 / 1204, Srs Royal Hills Srs Royal Hills, Sector 87, Faridabad, A/c:- LBGUR00004742780	Flat No. 1802, 18th Floor, Tower- Ambrose, Sports Home, Sports City Plot No. Gh02 Adjoining Techzone 4 Greater Noida West Uttar Pradesh Noida	10/11/2021 Rs.34,08,621/-	04/08/ 2021
46.	Barunjit Singh, Jasleen Kaur CMC 2 503, Supertech Capetown, Sector-74, Gautam Budh Nagar Noida, Uttar Pradesh, 201301, Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar A/c:- LBNOD00005169626	Flat No 1404, 14th Floor Stellar One Tower H Plot No. Gh-09 Sector 1 Greater Noida West Noida	10/11/2021 Rs.28,31,842/-	04/08/ 2021
The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.				
Date : February 01, 2022		Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited		
Place: Delhi/NCR				



# FITNESS WOES KEEP HETMYER OUT

PTI ■ ST JOHN'S

The big-hitting Shimron Hetmyer remained unavailable due to fitness issues as the West Indies named a 16-member squad for the T20 series against India, keeping faith in the outfit that defeated England in a five-match home contest earlier this month.

The three T20Is against India will be played in Kolkata on February 16, 18 and 20, following a three-match ODI Series which will be held in Ahmedabad on February 6, 9 and 11. West Indies have already named the ODI squad under Pollard.

Eleven players feature in both the limited-overs squads -- Pollard, Fabian Allen, Darren Bravo, Jason Holder, Shai Hope, Akeal Hosein, Brandon King, Nicholas Pooran, Romario Shepherd, Odean Smith and Hayden Walsh Jr.

Hetmyer was left out of the squad on fitness grounds once again. Earlier this month, West Indies head coach Phil Simmons had expressed unhappiness at

**The 25-year-old swashbuckler failed a fitness test prior to the series against England and has still not been found upto it**

Hetmyer's attitude towards physical fitness.

The 25-year-old swashbuckler failed a fitness test prior to the series against England in Barbados and has still not been found upto it. Coach Phil Simmons had stated that it was "heart-wrenching" to see him continuously "letting down himself and his team-mates."

"The team has been doing well in the Betway T20I Series against England in Barbados and we decided to stick with the same group of players. They have demonstrated great skill and fight and we expect the same kind of performances on the tour of India," chief selector Desmond Haynes said while announcing the squad during the weekend.



All-rounder Odean Smith was also named in the squad despite a recent incident in which claims were made of him being "victimised" after being left out for the third T20I against England to make way for Rovman Powell.

The claims were made in a voice note sent to the media, the sender is not known yet.

Simmons and Cricket West Indies president Ricky Skerritt have termed the allegations "a malicious attack on the credibility of the West Indies captain, designed to sow division within our team".

West Indies put up an impressive showing against England, winning the five-match T20Is series 3-2.

West Indies T20I Squad: Kieron Pollard (captain), Nicholas Pooran (vice-captain), Fabian Allen, Darren Bravo, Roston Chase, Sheldon Cottrell, Dominic Drakes, Jason Holder, Shai Hope, Akeal Hosein, Brandon King, Rovman Powell, Romario Shepherd, Odean Smith, Kyle Mayers, Hayden Walsh Jr.



## Sreejesh wins World Games Athlete of the Year Award

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Veteran India hockey goalkeeper PR Sreejesh on Monday won the prestigious World Games Athlete of the Year for his 2021 performances, becoming only the second Indian to receive the accolade.

In 2020, Indian women's hockey captain Rani Rampal became the first Indian to win the honour for her performances in 2019.

Sreejsh beat competition from sport climber Alberto Ginés López of Spain and Italy's wushu player Michele Giordano for the award.

"I'm very honoured to win this award. First of all, a big thank you to

FIH for nominating me for this award, and secondly thanks to all the Indian hockey lovers around the world, who voted for me," Sreejesh said in a statement.

Sreejesh, a former India hockey captain and part of the Tokyo Olympics-bronze medal winning side, received 1,27,647 votes, whereas Lopez and Giordane accumulated 67,428 and 52,046 votes respectively.

Sreejesh was the only Indian nominated and was recommended by the International Hockey Federation (FIH).

In the FIH Stars Awards in October, Sreejesh was named the goalkeeper of the year for 2021.

# Afghanistan seek history against England

PTI ■ NORTH SOUND (ANTIGUA)

Their late arrival in the Caribbean had forced the ICC to rework the fixtures of their group matches but Afghanistan, with their magnificent run to the semifinals of U-19 World Cup, ensured the tweaking by the apex body was worth it, even if it meant rescheduling as many as four matches.

Accustomed to dealing with issues far removed from and bigger than cricket, the battle-hardened Afghanistan team will chase history on Tuesday, in a sport that has often been a soothing balm for the country's many battered souls.

Having punched above their weight, they now face England in the Super League semifinals of the U-19 showpiece at Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, an appropriate setting for those seeking inspiration for doing things in cricket which only the man after whom the venue is named could do in his heydays. Afghanistan will create history if they are able to beat fancied England, for they have never been to the final of the U-19 World Cup.



If their entry into the tournament was not bereft of drama, thanks to visa-related issues, no less dramatic was their march to the last-four stage. The odds were heavily stacked against them when they posted just 134 on board after Sri Lanka asked them to take first strike in their quarter-final match but Afghanistan pro-

duced a superb performance with the ball to bundle out the island nation for 130 in 46 overs at Coolidge Cricket Ground in Antigua. Before that, having obtained the necessary permission to travel to the West Indies, Afghanistan won all three matches in the group stage.

It is only the second time, the

first being the 2018 edition in New Zealand, that Afghanistan have made it to the Super League semifinals of the U-19 World Cup.

However, England will undoubtedly be their biggest challenge.

England are widely known for their batting depth in white-ball cricket and Jacob Bethell is one name that might be creating problems for the Afghanistan bowlers.

The batting all-rounder from Warwickshire displayed his prowess in England's quarterfinal win against South Africa at the same venue.

He smashed 88 off 42 balls at a strike-rate of 209.52, the highest for any Englishman in an innings of at least 50 runs in the U-19 World Cup.

Bethell, who was born in Barbados and idolises Sir Garfield Sobers, has scored 201 runs at an average of 50.25 and a strike-rate of 112.92 and hit two 50s in four innings so far.

England will be hoping he continues that form against Afghanistan, though they also have others capable of contributing to the team's cause.

# West Indies win T20 series, 4 wickets in 4 balls for Holder

AP ■ BRIDGETOWN (BARBADOS)

Pacer Jason Holder took four wickets in four balls to blow up the last over of England's run chase as West Indies won the fifth Twenty20 game by 17 runs to capture the series 3-2.

West Indies won the toss, chose to bat and scored 179-4 at the Kensington Oval. In reply, England was all out for 162 with one ball left after entering the final over at 160-6 and needing 20 runs to win.

In that last over, Holder first claimed the wicket of Chris Jordan (7) caught on the fence, immediately followed by the key dismissal of Sam Billings (41 runs off 28 balls) before golden ducks for Adil Rashid and Saqib Mahmood. mHolder joined an exclusive club when Mahmood's inside edge nicked leg stump. Lasith Malinga, Rashid Khan and Curtis Campher are the only other bowlers in men's cricket to take four-in-four in a T20 international. Holder did not get a chance to go for five wickets in five balls with no England batters left. The allrounder



finished with 5-27 from 2.5 overs.

James Vince top-scored for England with 55 off 35 but was one of left-arm spinner Akeal Hosein's four wickets after holing out. Hosein took 4-30 from four overs. Earlier, West Indies had been frustrated by England's spinners but captain Kieron Pollard (41 not out off 25) and Rovman Powell (35 not out off 17) shared an undefeated fifth-wicket stand of 74 in just over five overs

to give the hosts a reasonable target to set England.

The pair added a whopping 66 in the final 24 balls.

Rashid (2-17) leapfrogged Jordan as England men's leading T20 wicket-taker with 81 career wickets. Liam Livingstone collected identical figures as the pair and fellow spinner Moeen Ali yielded just 54 from their 10 overs, with England's quicks repeatedly targeted by West Indies.



## Ranji Trophy league phase set to be held from February 16 to March 5

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The league stage of the Ranji Trophy is set to be held from February 16 to March 5, as per a revised schedule prepared by the BCCI.

The BCCI was forced to postpone the premier domestic tournament due to rising COVID cases in the country. It was originally scheduled to start from January 13.

The likely venues for the 38-team event are Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Trivandrum, Cuttack, Chennai, Guwahati, Hyderabad and Rajkot.

The format has been tweaked and there will be eight groups of four teams each with the plate group comprising six teams.

No red ball cricket has taken place in India since the Ranji Trophy final in March 2020.

Domestic cricketers, who were compensated for cancellation of Ranji Trophy last season, had expressed elation when BCCI secretary Jay Shah announced last week that the red ball event will be held in two phases.

The knockouts will be held in June.

# Eriksen set for return after signing for Brentford

AP ■ LONDON

With a thumbs up to the camera, Christian Eriksen revealed his new team and planned return to playing — almost eight months after having a cardiac arrest on the field at the European Championship.

"I'm happy to announce that I've signed for Brentford Football Club," Eriksen said in Monday's social media video.

"I can't wait to get started."

It will be a remarkable playing comeback to the Premier League for the Denmark playmaker, who has said he was essentially dead for five minutes after collapsing in the opening Euro 2020 game against Finland.

The uplifting signing was an early announcement on the final day of the January transfer window in the Premier League. Signing with Brentford until the end of the season, Eriksen is returning to England where he played with Tottenham until joining Inter Milan two years ago and winning the Serie A title.

The west London club will feel like home. The 29-year-old Eriksen is being reunited with Thomas Frank, the Brentford manager who coached him when playing for Denmark's under-17s team. He will also be the ninth Dane in the club's



squad.

"We have taken an unbelievable opportunity to bring a world class player to Brentford," Frank said.

"He hasn't trained with a team for seven months but has done a lot of work on his own. He is fit but we will need to get him match fit and I am looking forward to seeing him work with the players and staff to get back towards his highest level."

Frank will be hoping Eriksen provides a further lift for a team impressing in its first-ever campaign in the Premier League, sitting eight points above the relegation zone with 15 games remaining.

"At his best, Christian has the ability to dictate games of football," Frank said.

"He can find the right passes and is a goal threat. He also has very, very good set piece delivery, both from corners and direct free kicks.

"He is a player you can find with the ball, and he will come up with a solution to the problem in front of him. Christian will also bring experience of top level football to the club."

Eriksen's contract with Inter Milan was terminated by mutual agreement in December since Italian regulations prevented him playing with the implantable cardioverter-defibrillator that was fitted. He was recently training to regain fitness at Ajax, the Dutch club where he began his career.

Brentford said it would "respect Christian's medical confidentiality" by not divulging further information beyond saying he only recently received coronavirus vaccines that allow him to comply with entry rules to Britain.

# Olympians worry as "Winter" disappears from Winter Games

AP ■ BEAVER CREEK (US)

Ski racers settling into the start gate for Alpine World Cup events in the Rocky Mountains in early December squinted through sunshine that carried the temperature toward 50 degrees and glanced down at a course covered with pristine — and manufactured — snow.

If they looked up and across the way, beyond the finish line, they saw adjacent hills that were brown and barren as can be, with nary a trace of powder or any indication that this was a setting for athletes who would be heading to the Beijing Olympics that begin Feb. 4.

It is a troubling reality and — given their own reliance on the production of snow, continent-hopping flights powered by diesel fuel and other environment-unfriendly offshoots of their careers — hard-to-reconcile push-and-pull for many of those who will be competing in Alpine skiing or freestyle skiing or snowboarding or Nordic combined events or other outdoor sports that helped put the disappearing "Winter" in Winter Games.

"Climate change is here. It's happening. We're living in it right now. It's not something that's going to be in the distant future. It's here. And you see it with the fires in California, floods in Europe, higher snow levels, shorter winters, longer summers, droughts.

"It runs the whole gamut.



Everywhere in the world is having some effect from it. And there's not really any turning back," said Travis Ganong, a 33-year-old from California going to China with the U.S. Ski team.

"Selfishly, I hope winters are here in the future," he said. "But it's not looking good." Global warming is altering, and endangering, his and other sports, perhaps permanently, and not just at the elite level. It affects folks who just want to ski or snowboard for fun and those who make a living from places offering such activities. And, well, everyone on the planet, of course, because this affects far more than sports, of course.

Just one example: In December, Colorado set a record that stood since the 1880s for most consecutive days without snow.

# All in all, a fitting way for Nadal to get No. 21

AP ■ MELBOURNE

When Grand Slam title No. 21 belonged to him, when the Australian Open final was over after 5 hours, 24 minutes of twists and turns and he somehow completed a comeback from two sets down, Rafael Nadal dropped his racket to the court, covered his face with his taped-up fingers, then shook his head and smiled.

"Just unforgettable," is how he described his 2-6, 6-7 (5), 6-4, 6-4, 7-5 victory over Daniil Medvedev, a result that seemed particularly unlikely when Nadal faced three break points midway through the third set.

Tapping his heart with his right

hand, Nadal added: "One of the most emotional matches of my tennis career, without a doubt. Means a lot to me."

This was, in various respects, a fitting way for Nadal to set himself apart, at least for the moment, from Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic: coming off a hiatus forced by a painful left foot, doubting his health and his form, worried about his future in tennis and, to cap it all off, climbing out of a huge hole — the match began Sunday night and concluded in the wee hours of Monday — with unrelenting play backed by unrelenting belief.

The last man to win an Australian Open final after dropping the first two sets was Roy Emerson,

57 years ago.

Medvedev's summation: "Unreal."

Nadal, a 35-year-old from Spain, is the first member of the Big Three — and, of course, the first man in the history of tennis — to surpass 20 major singles championships. His rivals each got a chance to do so first: Federer lost to Djokovic in the 2019 Wimbledon final; Djokovic lost to Medvedev in the 2021 U.S. Open final.

Now Nadal stands above both. It is the first time he's ever had more Grand Slam trophies than Federer, who is 40 and sat out the Australian Open while recovering from the latest in a series of knee operations. The No. 1-ranked



Djokovic, who is 34, also missed the hard-court tournament he has won a record nine times; he is not vaccinated against COVID-19 and was deported after an 11-day legal saga that began when his visa was canceled upon arrival in Australia.

And yet, when play began two weeks ago, no one seemed to give Nadal much of a chance to go all that far, let alone win the whole thing. The skeptics included Nadal himself. He was thrilled merely to be back in action after playing two matches in total over the last half of last season because of chronic foot pain. He went months without being able to practice. He essentially had zero idea how well he would be able to perform at Melbourne

Park. How well his strokes or his body could hold up over the course of five sets, if need be. Worst of all, how many more of these tournaments he'd have left.

And then, once into the final, Nadal found himself so far behind against a significantly younger (25) and higher-ranked (No. 2) opponent, someone who more recently had won a Grand Slam title and more recently had reached an Australian Open final (last year, losing to Djokovic).

This triumph came 13 years after Nadal's other Australian Open title and follows four runner-up finishes in 2012 (against Djokovic), 2014 (Stan Wawrinka), 2017 (Federer) and 2019 (Djokovic).