OPINION 6

THE LEGACY OF TRULY

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WORLD 8

NEPAL IMPOSES PARTIAL

LOCKDOWN IN KATHMANDU

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DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR

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KOHLI LONE RANGER IN SA MATCH

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NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY JANUARY 12, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3

Tall OBC leader Maurya quits Yogi Cabinet, BJP

4 BJP MLAs too resign, all set to join Akhilesh

In a major setback for the ruling BJP in Uttar Pradesh, State Cabinet Minister for Labour, Employment, and Coordination Swami Prasad Maurya resigned from the Yogi Adityanath Cabinet along with four party MLAs here on Tuesday.

They are all set to join the Samajwadi Party Maurya, a tall OBC leader

representing the numerically dominant Kushwahas, had joined the BJP in 2017 after quitting the BSP, where he was second to Mayawati. "I am now resigning from

the UP Cabinet in the wake of severe discrimination and neglect of the poor, farmers, marginalised, unemployed in the State," Maurya said in his resignation letter to Governor Anandi Ben Patel, which was released to the Press.

He further said in his letter, "I tried my best to work for the welfare of people in UP despite ideological differences with the BJP.

Maurya's exit, days ahead of seven-phase State election, starting February 10, spells trouble for the BIP which seeks to appeal to all other backward classes and therefore exercise began to control the damage.

Sources claim that senior BJP leaders are in touch with Maurya.

Maurya has so far denied he has joined the Samajwadi Party. "I will let you know about my future plans within a

The Government on Tuesday

 ■ extended till March 15 the

deadline for corporates to file

Income Tax returns for the fis-

audit report and transfer pricing audit report for 2020-21 fis-

cal too has been extended till

given to corporates for filing

the income tax return for 2020.

21 fiscal. The original deadline

for filing ITR for corporates was October 31, and those

with transfer pricing transac-

Direct Taxes (CBDT) in a state-

The Central Board of

tions was November 30.

The deadline to file tax

This is the third extension

cal ending March 2021.

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

February 15.

ITR filing deadline for

corporates till Mar 15



Former UP Minister Swami Prasad Maurya joins the Samajwadi Party in the presence of the party chief Akhilesh Yadav in Lucknow on Tuesday

day or two," he said.

But by evening, SP president Akhilesh Yadav twitted a

picture of him with Maurya. Later he wrote, "Saamajik nyay kaa inqalab hoga, baaes me

badlav hoga (There will be a

revolution in the field, or social

justice and there will be change)."
Maurya's leaving BJP was

an indicator of crumbling of

rainbow coalition of back-

wards, upper caste and Dalits,

which the BIP had built assid-

uously in last many years. But

the message went that back-

wards were being neglected in

ment said that on consideration

of difficulties reported by the

taxpayers and other stake-

holders due to Covid and in

electronic filing of various

reports of audit, it has decided

to further extend the due dates

for filing of Income Tax

Returns and various reports of

audit for the Assessment Year

filing ITR for corporates is now

March 15, and the tax audit

report is February 15, 2022.

The last date for filing 2020-21 ITRs without penalty

for individual taxpayers ended on December 31, 2021, and

nearly 5.89 crore ITR was filed

by the due date.

The extended deadline for

2021-22 (2020-21 fiscal).

Continued on Page 2

Mayawati not to contest UP polls

the pioneer

Lucknow: Bahujan Samaj Party president Mayawati will not contest the upcoming Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls, party general secretary SC Misra said here on Tuesday.

Misra said he too will not contest the Assembly elections, which will be held in seven phases starting on February 10.

Since elections are being held in five States, including Punjab, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh, the BSP president will not contest the polls and help party candidates win, he said. Later, he said, "The decision of the party for now is that Mayawati ji and I will no fight Uttar Pradesh assembly elections. However, future decisions will be taken by Mayawati

Mayawati is neither a legislator nor an MP. Misra is a Rajya Sabha member.

NC will fight UP polls in ties with SP: Pawar

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

Nationalist Congress Party president Sharad Pawar said here on Tuesday that his party would contest the forthcoming Assembly polls in Uttar Pradesh, Goa and Manipur and indicated that in UP, the NCP would have an alliance

with the Samajwadi Party. Addressing a news conference here, Pawar said the NCP would contest the Assembly polls in alliance with the like-minded parties in three of the five States between

February and early "In Uttar Pradesh, we intend to be a part of the SPled alliance. In Goa, our talks are on with the Congress and the Trinamool Congress. In Manipur, we will have an alliance with the Congress,"

Pawar said. The NCP chief said he would attend a joint meeting of the like-minded party called by Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav at Lucknow on Wednesday. "In UP, the SP, NCP and smaller parties will form an alliance to contest the Assembly polls. I have discussed with the SP leaders the seats we would contest in Uttar

Pawar said the people wanted "change" in Uttar Pradesh and the public mood in that State was for showing the door to the BJP. "People want a change in UP. And there Continued on Page 2 | will be definitely parivartan in

Pradesh," he said.



UP," he said.

Slamming Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's statement that it was 80:20 situation in UP where "80 per cent people are with BJP and 20 per cent are against it", Pawar said it did not behoove well for the Chief Minister to seek division of the hurt the sentiments of the

minority community there. "People in UP there are not happy with the communal politics practised by the BJP. The BJP is trying to polarise the UP on communal lines ahead of the polls. I am confident that the voters there will give a befit-ting reply to this," the NCP

chief said. Alluding to the abrupt exit of UP Cabinet Minister Swami Prasad Maurya from the BJP to join the SP, Pawar said "this is just the beginning" and he anticipated 13 more MLA and other supporters would join the

SP in the coming days. 'The BJP can expect more jolts in the run-up to the Assembly polls there," he said.

Pawar said in Goa, NCP leader Praful Patel, Shiv Sena's Sanjay Raut are talking with local Congress leaders there.

Continued on Page 2

to follow work from home mode What is allowed in Delhi?

All private offices shut in Delhi,

National Capital sees 21,259 Covid cases. 10% spike from previous day

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

All private offices in Delhi will remain closed except those granted exemption, the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) said on Tuesday. The private offices, which were till now operating with 50 per cent workforce, have been asked to follow work from home (WFH) practice.

"DDMA directs that in the territory of NCT of Delhi (outside containment zones), the following additional activities shall also be prohibited/restricted with immediate effect till further orders: (i) All private offices shall be closed, except those which are falling under the "exempted category". The practice of work from home shall be followed. (ii) All restaurants and bars shall be closed. However, restaurants will be allowed only for home delivery/takeaway of food items," the DDMA notification read.

On Tuesday, Delhi reported 21,259 cases of coronavirus, a ten per cent increase from

airport, railway station will be allowed on the production of valid ID cards.

All private offices shall follow the work from home practice and will remain closed. Only offices under the "exempted category will be allowed to remain open All restaurants and bars will remain closed for dine-in However, restaurants will be allowed for home delivery or takeaway of food items

Movement of pregnant women and patients seeking medical/health services along with an attendee allowed Individuals going for Covid-19

testing or vaccination will be allowed to move with valid proof People going to/from the

Monday. The positivity rate stood at 25.65 per cent, the highest since May 5 last year. Delhi also reported 23 deaths, again the highest in the last eight months, according to health officials.

According to health officials, there are currently 74,881 active Covid patients in the city, the highest in nearly eight months. About 50,796 patients are in home isolation and the recovery rate stands at 93.70 per cent. As many as 12,161 patients were discharged in the past 24 hours. The number of containment zones is now 17,629. Nearly 83,000 tests were conducted in the last 24

allowed to travel with a valid proof of ticket Movement of electronic and

print media people on production of valid ID cards is allowed Students shall be allowed to appear in the examination hall on the production of valid admit

Movement of individuals for marriage-related gatherings up to 20 people Delhi Metro to operate with

100% capacity with no standing passengers. Movement of Government officials/officers and PSUs

ID cards. Officers/officials functioning in the offices of diplomats of various countries as well as persons holding any constitutional post

All private medical personnel

paramedical staff are allowed to

move with the production of valid

such as doctors, nurses, and

are allowed to move with valid ID Movement of person for the essential goods and services or "exempted category" shall be

allowed during night/weekend curfew with possession of e-pass

Molnupiravir not Lata Mangeshkar, to be included in tests +ve for Covid Covid treatment

New Delhi: The ICMR's National Task Force for Covid-19 has decided against including antiviral drug Molnupiravir in the Clinical Management Protocol for Covid-19 as of now, official sources said on Tuesday.

The experts of the task force cited safety concerns and argued that Molnupiravir was not of much benefit in Covid treatment to arrive at the decision in a meeting held on

Mumbai: Legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar has tested positive for Covid-19 with mild symptoms and is undergoing treatment at a city hospital here, her niece said on Tuesday.

The 92-year-old veteran, also known as the Nightingale of India, was admitted to the ICU of Breach Candy hospital in south Mumbai two days ago.

"She is mild COVID positive. Considering her age, doctors advised us that she should be in the ICU because she requires constant care," said Mageshkar's niece Rachna.

CAPSULE

INDIA'S OLDEST SLOTH BEAR GULABO DIES Bhonal: India's oldest sloth

bear, fondly named Gulabo, died at the age of 40 at the Van Vihar National Park and Zoo in Bhopal, an official said on

SAY NO TO SEX: HC

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Tuesday wondered and unmarried women can be differentiated and asserted that irrespective of their marital status every woman has the right to say 'no' to a non-consensual sexual act. The High Court said the rationale and the thrust is that a relationship cannot be put on different pedestal as a woman remains a

NARSINGHANAND **CHARGED IN 3 FIRS** New Delhi: The National

on Tuesday said that charge sheets have been filed in all the three FIRs registered against Dasna Devi temple priest Swami Yati Narsinghanand Saraswati in Uttar Pradesh for allegedly making derogatory remarks against Hindu women. social media

50% Europeans to get positive for Omicron in 2 mths: WHO

Sounding a dire warning, the World Health Organization has said that more than half the Europe's population will be infected with the Omicron variant of coronavirus in the

Speaking at a Press conference, WHO's Europe Director Hans Kluge said the region had recorded more than 7 million new cases in the first week of 2022. He said more than 1 per cent of the population was catching Covid-19 each week in 26 countries.

Kluge said the variant had been reported in 50 of the Europe region's 53 States and was becoming dominant in Western Europe. He said that at this rate, more than 50 per cent of the population in the region will be infected with Omicron in the next six to eight

"At this rate, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) forecasts that more than 50 per cent of the population in the region will be infected with Omicron in the next six to eight weeks," Kluge told reporters.



People wait in a line of vehicles at drive in Covid-19 test centre in Sarajevo, Bosnia, on Tuesday

According to the WHO, 26 of those countries reported that over one per cent of their populations were "catching Covid-19 each week" as of January 10, and that the region had seen over seven million new virus cases reported in the first week of 2022 alone.

Referencing data collected over the last few weeks, Kluge said the variant was confirmed

to be more transmissible and "the mutations it has enable it to adhere to human cells more easily, and it can infect even those who have been previously infected or vaccinated."

However, Kluge also stressed that "approved vaccines do continue to provide good protection against severe disease and death, including for Omicron."

Commission for Women (NCW) A purported video clip of the priest has been circulating on

Desi supersonic cruise missile successfully test-fired SC extends limitation date

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Tn a step towards maintaining Loperational readiness, India on Tuesday successfully testfired the indigenously designed and manufactured Brahmos supersonic cruise missile. It was a validation test of the naval variant of the missile jointly manufactured by Russia and India.

The missile was fired from a stealth guided-missile destroyer, officials said here. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) said the missile hit the designated target "precisely". "Advanced sea to sea vari-

ant of BrahMos Supersonic Cruise missile was tested from INS Visakhapatnam today. The missile hit the designated target ship precisely," the DRDO

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the successful

launch of the missile reconfirmed the robustness of the Indian Navy's "mission readi-

"The robustness of @indiannavy mission readiness is reconfirmed today after successful launch of the advanced version of BrahMos Missile from INS Vishakhapatnam today. I congratulate the wonderful team work of @indian-navy @DRDO_India & @BrahMosMissile," he tweeted. BrahMos Aerospace, the

first India-Russian joint venture, produces the supersonic cruise missile that can be launched from submarines, ships, aircraft, or land plat-BrahMos missile flies at a

speed of 2.8 Mach or almost three times the speed of sound. The Army and Navy have already inducted the highly versatile missile.

Given the effectiveness of



The advanced sea to sea variant of BrahMos Supersonic Cruise missile being tested from INS Visakhapatnam

the missile capable of hitting targets at a range of more than 350 kms, operational com-manders have deployed the Brahmos at various critical points along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) facing China. The DRDO also success-

fully flight tested the final deliverable configuration of Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) on Tuesday.

to prove the consistent perfor-

mance for the minimum range.

Continued on Page 2

The indigenously developed anti-tank missile is a low weight, fire and forget missile and is launched from a manportable launcher, integrated with thermal sight. The missile impacted the designated target and destroyed it. The final impact event was captured on camera and the test has validated the minimum range successfully. The present test was

> relaxation in the statutory time period has been given after

for filing cases to Feb 28 amid fresh Covid wave PNS NEW DELHI "taking into consideration the arguments advanced by learned

 $T^{\text{he Supreme Court has}}_{\text{restored its earlier order to}}$ extend the limitation period till February 28 for filing cases before judicial and quasi-judicial for ain view of the alarming surge in Covid-19 cases across the country.

A special bench comprising Chief Justice N V Ramana and Justices L Nageswara Rao and Surya Kant, which had agreed to extend the limitation period during the hearing, relaxed it in its order uploaded on the apex court website late Monday night.

The order said that the

counsel and the impact of the surge of the virus on public health and adversities faced by litigants in the prevailing conditions". The order also gave details of the statutory time periods which would now be available to the litigants for filing court cases. The application for extending time was filed by the

Advocate on Records Association. Attorney General KK Venugopal supported the plea and urged the bench to accept it saying the time extension of the limitation period had ended on October 2 last vear and can be extended after that date.

Virtual campaign adds | Priyanka slams Yogi new flavour to UP polls

The result date of 2022 UP The result date of 2022 of Assembly elections has suddenly become the fulcrum of the poll campaign blitz for every major political outfit in the poll-bound state.

Dus March' has become the buzzword around which leaders of most parties have launched their campaigns on digital and social media adding a new flavour to this edition of the State elections. Digital posters have some themes in common - all parties are claiming to form the government on that date and messages are being conveyed in a very cre-

A Samajwadi Party campaign reads: "Dus March, UP recharge (with Akhilesh's face dominating the poster)." Another SP digital poster says: "Dus March ko aa raha hoon, 300 unit free bijli laa raha hoon (I am coming on March

ity). Samajwadi Party spokesman IP Singh shared a digital poster on his twitter handle that reads: "Dus March, Yogi saaf (Yogi will be wiped out on March 10)."

On the other hand, the Bharatiya Janata Party digital poster says: "Dus March, phir Yogi-raaj (Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's rule again from March 10)." The poster depicts Yogi Adityanath among a large crowd. Another BJP poster reads: "Raaj tilak ki karo taiyaari, Dus March ko phir aa rahey hain bhagwadhaari (Prepare for coronation as the saffron-clad are returning on

Not to be left behind, the Congress' digital poster with a picture of party's national general secretary Priyanka Gandhi reads: "Dus March...hogi mahilaaon ki jeet, UP mein shuru hogi nai reet (women will win on March 10 and harbinger

The Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) shared a poster of its national president Jayant Chaudhary that reads: "10 March...taarikh tay ho gai hai...ku-shaasan ka hoga ant, su-shaasan lekar aayenge Jayant (Jayant will bring in good governance, the bad governance will end on March 10).

These digital posters are shared extensively by political parties, their leaders, cadres and supporters on the social

Congress leader Amarnath Agarwal explained, "We have no option but to rely on this digital campaign as the Election Commission of India has banned political rallies, public meetings, yatras and nukkad sabhas till January 15. It has also prohibited publicity through hoardings or wall writings and hence we are left with this mode of campaign-

for 80% vs 20% remark

A head of the UP assembly elections, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, on Tuesday, hit out at Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath for his '80 per cent versus 20 per cent' remark. She also urged the youth to make the elections about issues such as employment and education and not about casteism.

Attacking the chief minister over his remark, Priyanka Vadra on Tuesday claimed that it was an attempt to divert attention from the real issues of

"Making such remarks is cheating the youths of the state just to divert their attention from the main issues like providing jobs, education etc. The reality is that 68 out of 100 people have no work during the tenure of the Bharatiya Janata Party government," Priyanka Vadra alleged.

Appealing to youth to ignore Yogi Adityanath's claims,

Priyanka appealed to them to take into consideration issues like employment, education etc. instead of giving importance to those spreading hatred among different communities. .Earlier, Yogi Adityanath had called the elections in Uttar Pradesh an "80 versus 20 battle", in his recent comment on a religious divide. The BJP cited the number of votes in the ratio of Hindus and Muslims in UP, where assembly elections

will be held next month. On being asked about the Brahmin votes in UP, in his recent interview with a private news channel, Yogi said "The contest has moved much ahead... The fight is now 80 versus 20.'

He added, "Eighty per cent are those who are supporters of nationalism, good governance, and development. Such people will vote for the BJP and those who are against this and supporters of mafias and criminals, anti-farmer and village, such 15-20 people will take a differ-

fight, it is the lotus that will show the way," the chief minister said in his last interaction.

Meanwhile, Congress MLC Deepak Singh has criticised the BJP leader for violating the Covid protocol and has written a letter to the Election Commission of India, demanding immediate action.Singh attacked the BJP for "putting the lives of people at risk" amid the COVID-19 surge.
"On Monday (BJP in-charge of UP) Radha Mohan

Singh held an election meeting with all the office-bearers of the BJP including chief minister, deputy chief ministers, state president, leaders and ministers. On Tuesday, he tested positive for COVID-19. Leaders, who were present in the meeting, instead of isolating themselves, are engaged in public outreach and are putting the lives of people at risk," Singh claimed in the letter sent to the Election Commission on

IGP reviews security situation in Valley ahead of R-Day

Srinagar: Inspector General of Police Kashmir zone Vijay Kumar on Tuesday reviewed the general security situation in the valley ahead of the Republic Day celebrations later this month.

Kumar chaired a security review meeting at Police Control Room Kashmir through video conferencing with deputy inspectors general of the various ranges, Senior Superintendents of Police and other officers.

A police spokesman said the IGP was briefed by the officers about the overall security scenarios in their respective areas and the security measures being adopted to counter the challenges.

The IGP was also briefed about the security measures and preparations put in place in connection with upcoming Republic Day besides, the measures taken in view of the third COVID-19 wave.

The IGP discussed the initiatives taken for the maintenance of law and order besides anti-terrorist operations in the

Kumar also appreciated them for their commitment towards their duties and contribution in maintenance of law and order and in conducting successful anti-terror operations with no collateral

He emphasised upon them that such efforts and coordination with other forces working on ground should continue to ensure a peaceful atmosphere in the valley.

He directed the officers to make all necessary and required arrangements in connection with 26th January for ensuring peaceful celebrations of the event.Kumar also directed the officers to personally supervise the arrangements required in connection with the

Goa Min Govind Gaude to join BJP

I respect invitation extended by BJP to join them, says Min

Panaji: Goa Minister and Independent MLA Govind Gaude on Tuesday resigned from the membership of the Assembly and is set to join the

Gaude, an Independent MLA from Priol, has supported the BJP-led State Government since 2017 and was part of the state cabinets of late Manohar Parrikar and Pramod Sawant.

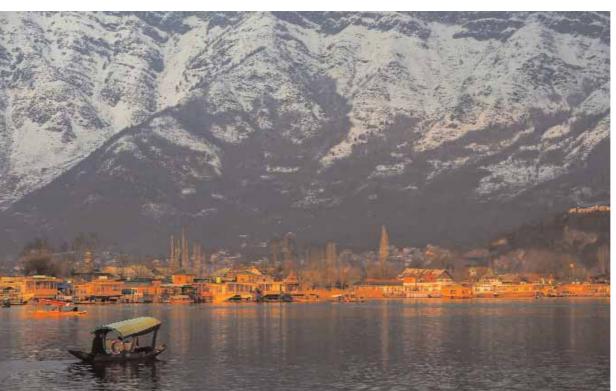
"I respect the invitation extended by the BJP to join them. I have been with them for the last five years and have worked closely with them," he

Gaude was the art and cul-

ture and tribal welfare minister of the coastal State.

"As an Independent, I have realised that there are certain difficulties. When you are in the political party, the organisation is there to back you. Manpower is very important," Gaude said, defending the

The legislator said he will be joining the BJP later in the day. "I have decided to join a political party. I have a personal interest because in my constituency, there is no support for any political party other than the BJP," he added. Last month, three sitting MLAs Ravi Naik (Congress), Jayesh Salgaonkar (Goa Forward Party) and Rohan Khaunte (Independent) joined the BJP ahead of the upcoming state Assembly elections, which will



be held on February 14. PTI | A boatman rows his shikara during sunset as snow covers the ranges, in background, after recent snowfall, at Dal Lake in Srinagar

ITR filing deadline for corporates till...

From Page 1

Nangia & Co LLP Partner Shailesh Kumar said considering the difficulty of taxpayers in light of the fresh surge of COVID cases in the country and also technical glitches being faced in filing Tax Audit Report and other compliances related to filing ITR, the extension of around one month granted by the government to taxpayers for filing their Tax Audit Report and extension of 15 days for cases covered by Transfer Pricing compliances is a welcome move and will grant relief to taxpayers.

AMRG & Associates

Senior Partner Rajat Mohan said the finance ministry has finally accepted the request to allow additional time for taxpayers and audit professionals to complete the tax filings and

it considers difficulties reported by the tax professionals due to COVID.

'This will come as a substantial relief for all the corporate taxpayers. However, no relief has been extended to salaried class individuals and MSME non-auditable non-corporate businesses," Mohan

Taxmann DGM Rahul Singh said it should be noted that no relief has been granted from the interest chargeable under section 234A if the tax liability exceeds Rs 1 lakh. Thus, if the self-assessment tax liability of the taxpayer exceeds Rs 1 lakh, he would be liable to pay interest under section 234A from the expiry of the original due dates.

From Page 1 There were rumours that many senior BJP legislators
might join the Samajwadi
Party. The list included
Maurya's name, but party leadership preferred to ignore that.
Incidentally, Maurya's
daughter Sanghamitra Maurya

BIP's Deputy Chief Minister

daughter Sanghamitra Maurya is BIP Lok Sabha member from Badaun. His son too con-

BJP's Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya appealed to him to reconsider his decision.

n Delhi to attend the BJP Parliamentary Board meeting on Tuesday said, "Respected Swami Prasad Maurya, for what reasons you have resigned, I do not know. But I appeal to you to sit and talk as such hasty decisions often prove to be wrong.

After Maurya resigned from the Yogi Ministry, three dissident BJP lawmakers and supporters of Maurya tendered their resignation from the

The MLAs, who have put on their papers are Brajesh Prajapati (Tindwari in Banda), in Kannauj), and Roshan Lal (Tilhar in Shahjahanpur), and Vinay

"We have sent our resignation in support of Maurya to party high command," Roshan Lal Verma told reporters here on Tuesday. Verma said Swami Prasad Maurya is their leader and

they will act per his order.

Incidentally, none of them have so far joined the SP as all of them are waiting for Swami Prasad Maurya. "If he joins the SP we will join with him," Verma said.

joined the BJP from BSP before the 2017 Assembly polls, are expected to join the SP now.

BJP MLA from Nanpara in Bahriach Madhuri Verma and Radha Krishna Sharma from Bilsi in Badaun have already

NC will...

From Page 1

'We are holding negotiations with the Congress and Shiv Sena to form an alliance of the Maha Vikas Aghad in Maharashtra," he said, adding that the NCP was also in talks

Pawar said in Manipur where the NCP has 4 MLAs, it would forge an alliance with the Congress and contest five seats. Replying to a question, Pawar surmised that the incumbent Congress will return to power

in Punjab. He, however, conceded that if the recent turn of events had anything to go by, even the Arvind Kejriwal-led AAP had become a serious contender in the polls in Punjab. Queried about grand Opposition alliance at the national level for the Lok Sabha polls, Pawar reiterated that the integral part of any such opposition front against the

"However, it is up to the Congress to decide whether to go it alone or join hands with likeminded parties in the Assembly polls," the NCP chief said.

From Page 1

All the mission objectives were met. The missile has miniaturised infrared imaging seeker and advanced avionics for onboard control and guidance. The missile performance has been proven for the maxi-

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh congratulated the DRDO for the consistent performance of the anti-tank missile and said this is an important step towards Atmanirbhar Bharat in advanced technology-based defence system development.

Restoration of Submerssible type temporary hume pipe causeway on Rajia River in Rupnarayanpur-Jamtara-Govindpur road(via THE PIONEER () Pokhariya more) (km 46.54) for the

Year 2021-22 प्राक्कलित राशि **रू**० 169.98870 लाख (एक करोड उनहत्तर लाख अंठानबे हजार आढ सौ सत्तर रूपये) 03 (तीन) महीना कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि ई-निविदा प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि 25.01.2022 के दोपहर 12:00 बजे तक एंव समय र्ड-निविदा का वेबसाईट पर प्रकाशन 12.01.2022 के अपराहन 4:30 बजे से की तिथि एंव समय ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले कार्यपालक अभियता, पथ प्रमंडल, जामताडा। ई—प्रोक्यूरमेंट अधिकारी का संपर्क 07992269247 नं0 / मोबाईल नं0 - ई–प्रोक्युरमेंट सेल का संपर्क सहायत 0651-2401010

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय

पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमंडल, जामताड़ा

अतिअल्पकालीन ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट सूचना सं0-07 / 2021-22

(2nd Call)

ई-निविदा प्रसंग-RCD/JAMTARA/43 /21-22 दिनांक 10.01.2022

प्राक्कलित राशि घट–बढ़ सकती हैं। निविदा संबंधी अन्य जानकारी http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता PR 261511(Road)21-22*D पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमंडल, जामताङा

Ref No. 613

I, Mohd Aslam, S/o. Abdul Razzaq Resident of 63/1, 4th

CHANGE OF NAME

floor, Gali No.20, Zakir Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi-110025 have declared that My wife's Name is wrongly mentioned in My Passport No K7015443 as Jamsheeda Begum, and her correct and actual Name is Rashida Begum for all future purposes. PD(9134)A

Bhopal Municipal Corporation

Swachh Bharat Mission (Civil) IInd Floor, Kushabhau Thakre Inter-State Bus Terminal (ISBT) Campus

Ambedkar Marg, Near Chetak Bridge, Bhopal (M.P.) Date 11.01.2022

Online bids for the following works are invited from registered contractors and firms of repute fulfilling registration criteria:-							
S. NO	TENDER ID	NAME OF WORK	EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT	COST OF BID DOCUMENT			
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BJP leader arrested in Agra for gang-raping, blackmailing girl

In a shocking case, a Bharatiya Janata Party leader, Lal Singh, who is also block pramukh of Bah in Khurja, was arrested by the Agra police allegedly for gang-raping a girl and later threatening her with dire consequences.

The cops are now making efforts to arrest the other accused also who are allegedly absconding after learning that a case has been registered against them.

Singh was sent to jail on The victim was allegedly gang-raped in a hotel in Agra.

According to the complaint filed by the victim, she had received a call from an unknown number two months ago and the caller insisted on becoming her friend. He introduced himself as block pramukh Lal Singh and assured her a job as an ASHA worker. He called her to Agra on December 21 and took her to a farm house, where he along with his two friends, Jitendra and Dev, gang-raped her. When the woman raised an

alarm and said that she would file a police complaint against them, Singh threatened her with dire consequences.

The girl alleged that they recorded a video of the rape and threatened to make it viral if she did not cooperate with them. The victim girl told the police that the block chief threatened her when she tried to file a complaint of rape in the farm house. She said that the BJP leader asked her to come and meet him in Agra and when she refused, he sent her objectionable videos and threatened to make them public if she did not contact him.

On Sunday, Lal Singh and two of his accomplices took her to a hotel near Vishal Megamart on Fatehabad road and gang-raped her. She also disclosed that the accused were taking her to some other place on a car and when she objected, she was thrown out of the vehicle in which she was injured.

However, when the police asked the victim girl for information about the hotel, she could not tell anything so the police took her to Fatehabad

road and in the night in search of the hotel. The cops got success as they reached Hotel Amar Yatri Niwas. The victim claimed that it was same hotel where she was gang-raped and later thrown out of the car after giving her life threats.

The cops subsequently checked the visitors' register and found a room booked in Lal Singh's name. The CCTV footage of the hotel also confirmed that Lal Singh and his accomplice were carrying the

Circle Officer of Sadar Rajiv Kumar said that many evidence had been found in the investigation. He said the police had come to know about the conversation of both in the call details. Because of this, the mobile of Lal Singh was also

The statement of the victim girl has been recorded. The girl has spoken about threats to her of making her obscene video viral. The video will be extracted from the mobile of the accused. For this the help of Forensic Science Laboratory will be taken.

Order allocating more seats to women struck down by HC

TN Govt issues notification allowing more than 50% seats

Chennai: The Madras High Court on Tuesday struck down a notification of the Tamil Nadu government, which allocated more than 50 per cent of seats to women in the upcoming election to Chennai city local body.

The first bench of Acting Chief Justice M N Bhandari and Justice P D Audikesavalu set aside the notification issued in 2019, while allowing a PIL petition from R Parthiban.

Finding prima facie that the notification violated the fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution, the bench set aside the same and directed the State Election Commission (SEC) to restrict reservation of seats to women in the urban local bodies to 50 per cent only. According to the petitioner, 105 of the 200 seats in the Greater Chennai Corporation had been allocated to women. It amounted to discrimination against men.

The phrase 'not less than 50 per cent' should not be construed to mean reservation for women can be provided even beyond that quantum. The 2019 notification reserved16 seats for SC/STs and 89 to women in the 'general' category. Of the total 200 seats, 105

seats had been reserved for women both in SC and general category. As per the 50 per cent reservation for women policy, only 84 seats should have been allotted in general category. In violation of this norm, more seats had been allocated to women, thereby discriminating men, petitioner's senior counsel added. PTI

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No lockdown: Kejriwal says ready to deal with any Covid situation

A midst surge in coronavirus cases in the national capital, Chief Minister of Delhi Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday visited Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan hospital and took stock of preparations.

Kejriwal also said lockdown would not be imposed in Delhi as his Government is fully prepared to deal with any

ongoing fight against Corona, I personally visited LNJP Hospital today and took stock of preparations; arrangements for beds, medicines, and oxygen are well in place," he added Delhi government can prepare 10 to 11 thousand ICU beds as the situation demands; fully prepared to add 37 thousand normal beds too.

Notably, according to CM

patients admitted to LNJP, only six came treatment, while 130 came for other diseases and were also found to be Corona infected during the tests. "People came mostly for Corona treatment during the April wave, but the number of such people this time is very low," Kejriwal said, "situation forcing us to impose restric-tions; if restrictions are



imposed, employment is hampered; if restrictions are not imposed, then people's lives and health are jeopardized. "I want to reassure the people of Delhi that we will remove the restrictions as soon as possible and try to impose the bare minimum of curbs.'

During his visit to LNJP and interaction with doctors there, Kejriwal said that he came to the hospital to take Delhi that has never turned away a pregnant lady. There

"In my opinion, is the best hospital in the country, having treated the highest number of patients successfully yet. More than 22,000 patients have returned home after receiving treatment at this facility. As a matter of fact, this is the only hospital in New

deliveries here. There are excellent arrangements for Covid patients who require gynaecological care. Neonatal care is also fully arranged for, so the newborn children of Covid-affected mothers are also properly taken care of.

The cases of deliveries are

referred here from all around

Delhi and the surrounding areas. Many of the instances

Talking about ICUs, he added, "We are fully prepared. We have the ability to extend up to 37 thousand beds if necessary. Our 37000-bed capacity has yet to be utilised. If necessary, we may prepare 10000-11000 ICUs in Delhi by preparing 37000 beds. However, there isn't much of a need for that

One held for selling SIMs without papers in G'gram

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

□he Chief Minister's flying I squad has arrested a man for allegedly selling activated mobile SIMs to foreign nationals and others without required documents from Sector-51 of Gurugram, the police said on Tuesday.

The accused was identified as Ravinder Singh alias Sameer (38) a native of Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh who was cur-

rently residing in village
Wazirabad of Gurugram.
According to the CM flying squad salutes, they received
credible information that a man standing in front of Artemis Hospital, in Sector-51 was selling activated mobile SIM cards to foreign nationals and other people for just Rs 600 to 800 without required docu-

Following this the team led by Inderjeet Singh Yadav DSP, CM flying squad conduct a raid



in front of the hospital on Monday and nabbed the accused and found the activated SIM cards, inactivated SIM and documents from his pos-

Police seized 14 activated SIM cards of Vodafone, 20 mobiles, 52 inactivated SIM, one motorcycle and Rs 18,500.

The accused disclosed before the police that with the help of his companions identi-fied as Zamir and Lalit he used to activate the SIM on unknown persons and later sell them to foreigners and others residing in guest houses and

hotels and charge rupees in cash or via online transfer.

"The accused was involved in this illegal work since 2018. During the remand period, we will ascertain that how many SIMs he has sold to whom and from where he gets these SIMs," Yadav said.

A case under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code has been registered against the accused at Sector-53 police station in Gurugram.

for Covid patients in home isolation



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Govt to start online yoga classes

he Delhi Government from ■ Wednesday will start online yoga and meditation classes for Covid-19 patients in home isolation, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said on Tuesday.

While addressing a virtual press conference, Kejriwal informed that under the initiative, each COVID patient will be sent a link to register for virtual yoga classes. From Wednesday,

trained instructors will conduct hour-long classes in the morning and evening, he said.

"The Delhi Government is starting a new initiative under 'Delhi ki Yogshaala' for the speedy recovery of all the Covid patients under home isolation. Yoga boosts immunity... We will send them a link today and classes to begin from tomorrow in different batches," CM Kejriwal said. Yoga classes will be conducted from 6 am to 11 am and

4 pm to 7 pm. "Patients can register at any time. However, not more than 15 patients will be allowed in one batch so that the Yoga instructor could focus on each patient and the participants can interact with their instructor individually," Kejriwal added.

Stressing that yoga can help boost immunity, Kejriwal said the Delhi government has made arrangements to conduct online classes for up to 40,000 patients in home isolation.

ED new HQ in Lutyens' Zone ready, waiting for inauguration

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) will now have a posh new headquarters in Delhi's Lutyens' zone, which is now ready to be occupied by the probe agency. The inauguration of the

new building can take place in the second week of January, may be on January 14, however, as of now there is no official confirmation.

According to sources, Prime Minister Narendra Modi can inaugurate the newly con-structed building. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will also participate in the inauguration ceremony.

The ED is currently running its office from the fifth and sixth floor of Khan Market's Lok Nayak Bhawan. from this building.

Apart from this, the ED has two more offices in Delhi. One is at Jam Nagar, near India Gate where recently Bollywood Actress Aishwarya Rai was questioned. This office is called Intelligence Unit of the ED. Here former finance minister P. Chidambaram and his son Karti Chidambaram were also quizzed.

The second office of the

and two Joint Directors of the ED operate from here.

the ED has been constructed began three years ago which ing will be the most modern, equipped with all the facilities.

Now all the three offices of

front of Delhi's famous Ramlila

Ground. Here Bollywood actress Jacqueline Fernandez was quizzed several times. The MTNL building office is known as Delhi Zone office and looks after highly sensitive matter. One Special Director

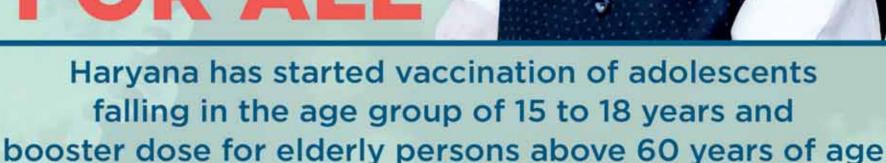
The new headquarters of on Vidut Lane which is close to Janpath. The construction has completed now. This building will be

the ED will merge and will start functioning from newly constructed headquarters. It will save the time of the agencies as to rush to the other building for work. Former ED director Karnail Singh had written to Directorate of Revenue Intelligent (DRI) that the department needs a new headquarters. After his retirement, ED director Sanjay Kumar Mishra laid the foundation stone of the building. The Covid crisis delayed the construction, otherwise it would have been completed much



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ED is at MTNL Building in earlier. Umar Khalid's counsel not arguing on the basis of law, says prosecution

New Delhi: Responding to the submissions of Umar Khalid's counsel's bail plea in the Delhi riots case, the prosecution on Tuesday said "it is very unfortunate that the plea was referred by web series including 'Family Man' and movie 'Trial of Chicago 7', and did not make arguments on the basis of

During the hearing of Khalid's bail application, Special Public Prosecutor (SPP) Amit Prasad told Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat of Karkardooma Court, that on 17 points of Khalid's counsel, first argument was that he wants his plea to be decided by making reference to the web

"People have died. You want media hype and to make headlines," he said.

He also argued that there is a clear criminal conspiracy carried out in secrecy, adding there is a continuation after the crime and clear attempt to cover up. The SPP told the court that conspiracy has to be proved taking into account circumstantial evidence and that the riots were not a spontaneous burst of violence.



On the argument of Umar Khalid's counsel who had said that the Investigating Officer was communal, the SPP pointed out that the first conviction in the riots cases was a person from the Hindu community, and thus it proves that it was not biased against Khalid -- a

He was referring to a case in which, it was alleged that on February 25, 2020, a mob of rioters, numbering around 150 to 200, attacked a 73-year-old Muslim woman's house when her family was not present at the house and looted all the domestic articles.

The first convict in the case · Dinesh Yadav of Bhagirathi Vihar in Gokulpuri in Delhi

was arrested on June 8, 2020. Khalid has been booked for offences under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in connection with the northeast Delhi riots that broke out in

Rahul returns from foreign tour, reviews poll plan

Facing criticism due to his absence from intense election campaigns due to his fortnight-long visit abroad, former Congress president Rahul Gandhi returned to the country on Monday morning and on Tuesday conducted election-related meetings to review the party's election strategy in Goa, Uttarakhand and Manipur, which go to polls next month along with crucial Uttar Pradesh and Punjab.

AICC sources said Rahul held meetings with senior leaders KC Venugopal and P Chidambaram and reviewed the party's preparations and strategy for polls in Goa and other States. He will review the poll strategy for Punjab and UP during the next couple of days.



The grand old party is fighting to wrest power from the BJP in Uttarakahand, Manipur and also eyeing a good number in Uttar Pradesh, while confident to retain power in Punjab. The party's central election committee will also meet soon to finalise the candidates for the assembly elections in the five states while it has already announced some candidates for Goa while it announced the Manifesto and

Rahul had left for abroad during the year end only to return last night after a lot of resentment brewed within the party soon after the dates of the assembly elections were announced by Election Commission on Saturday last.

As per his original scheduled, AICC sources said that Rahul was to return by this weekend and in between his visit also cost the party the launch of Punjab campaign from Moga which was rescheduled for January 15 and then cancelled as his return was to be delayed.

Congress, which has a tieup with the Goa Forward Party, also eyeing an alliance with other Opposition parties in the state to ensure its victory. The Trinamool Congress, a number of Congress leaders, had also indicated that all Opposition forces should unite against the BJP particularly in the poll bound Goa where the Congress has put in high

Rahul Gandhi is understood to have discussed the possibility of an alliance with Mamata Banerjee's party in Goa and amid the buzz that the meeting between Rahul and Venugopal discussed the possible tie-up, senior party leader Dinesh R Gundu Rao said, "No alliance or talks with the Trinamool Congress is happening. Despite efforts by the TMC, the Congress has made it clear that the whole approach and attempt of the TMC - right from Day One - in Goa has been negative and aimed at

attacking the Congress, instead

Venugopal on his part after the meeting tweeted that his party is "confident - we will put Goa back on the path to progress soon".

TMC is one of the fresh entrants in the coastal state where, among other contenders, Arvind Kejriwal's AAP is also trying to win big in the state elections. Mamata who had gone vocal against the Congress a couple of months ago has already tied up with the Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party (MGP) of Sudhin Dhavalikar, a party that the BJP had dumped in 2019, to fight the polls.

In the last assembly polls Congress had emerged as the single largest party by winning 17 seats in the 40-member house but BJP managed to

the Punjab Congress Manifesto Committee and Campaign Committee with not very long time ago rebel leader Pratap Singh Bajwa as chairman of the manifesto committee with a total of 19 members including Dr Amar Singh as the convener and Manpreet Badal as the co-chairman. At the same time, Lok Sabha MP Sunil Jakhar has been made the chairman of the campaign committee.

It includes a total of 25 leaders in which 21 have been made members. Another Lok Sabha MP Ravneet Singh has been made the convener and Amarpreet Singh Lalli as cochairman. Voting for all 117 seats in Punjab will be held on February 14 while the counting of votes will take place on March 10 with all the five

BJP discusses candidates' list for UP phases 1 & 2, decision by weekend

A midst claims of victory in Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls, rival political parties are hurrying with the finalisation of list of candidates.

The ruling BJP on Tuesday discussed names for the first and second phase which may be released by the middle of this month.

The first phase polling, less than a month away, will be in 58 Assembly constituencies, spread over 11 districts on February 10. In the second phase, voting will be held in 55 Assembly seats across nine districts on February 14.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath here attended the BJP meeting to speed-up candidates selection as Covid19 has put further campaigning pressure on the contestants, restricting their campaign in the big state.

UP BJP President

Swatantra Dev Singh also attended the meeting besides several other leaders with its national president J P Nadda, who has been infected by coronavirus, attending it virtually.

Besides, the names given by the state unit, names gathered by the central leadership through different surveys were also reviewed as well.

With the filing of nomination for the first phase of the seven-phase UP polls set to begin from January 14, the party's Cental Election Committee (CEC) is likely to meet later this week to finalise the names of candidates, the sources said.

After Tuesday's meeting, CEC is expected to be convened convened on January 13, and the names of the candidates will be confirmed at this

The announcement of names for first- phse list is expected to come by February 15 to February 16, according to



UP tops list with 767 unrecognised political parties

 $M^{\mathrm{ushrooming}}$ of unrecognised political parties may spoil the game plan of regisspoil the game pian of registered political parties in the Assembly polls in five States beginning February 10.

As many as 889 unrecognised political parties registered with the Election Commission (EC) in the five States — Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur.

With 767 unrecognised political parties , Uttar Pradesh is the top in the list, followed by 66 in Punjab, 37 in Uttarakhand, 10 in Goa and

BJP slams Cong

over Bhandari's

claims against

PNS NEW DELHI

nine in Manipur. In India, a total of 2,858 political parties registered with the poll body. Of them, 2,796 or 97.83 per cent of registered political parties are unrecognized parties. Interestingly, the majority of them have not filed their audit reports to the EC so far.

According to the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), the annual audit reports of 10.69 percent or 82 out of 767 parties of Utar Pradesh, 9.09 per cent or 6 out of 66 parties of Punjab and 5.41 per cent or 2 parties of 37 parties of Uttarakhand are available in the public domain.

unrecognised parties, 270 have submitted their audit or contribution report for the year 2019-20. Of the 270, audit details of 40 parties are not available in the public domain. Interestingly, there are some parties in this list which spent more than their income.

The Jan Raajya Party of UP declared the highest income of Rs 338.01 lakhs while the total expenditure declared by the party was Rs 332.16 lakhs in 2019-20.

Anarakshit Samaj Party and Apna Dal (Soneylal) of UP declared the second (Rs 157.68 income (Rs 76.05 lakhs) during this period.

Either newly registered parties or those which have not secured enough percentage of votes in Assembly or General Elections to become a state party or those which have never contested in elections since being registered are considered unrecognised parties.
The number of registered

unrecognised political parties has increased more than twice in the last 10 years.

From 1112 parties in 2010, the number has spiked to 2,301 in 2019 and now in 2021, the

number of such parties increases disproportionately during the year of Parliamentary elections especially. Between 2018 and 2019, it increased by over 9.8% while between 2013 and 2014, it increased by 18 per

The poll body has earlier proposed to the Law Ministry that it should be empowered to act in cases where a political party may not have contested elections for years but may be enjoying income-tax exemption on donations, The last time the EC made a move in

notice as they had not contested any elections for a while. Of these, there are seven national-level parties, over 50

state parties and the remaining are unrecognised. It is estimated that not more than 400-500 parties contest polls.

To be counted as a recognised, a political party should have got a minimum percentage of valid votes or certain number of seats in the state legislative assembly, or the Lok Sabha, during the last

India backs Beijing Winter Olympics New Delhi," said an expert on good neighbourly relations

Thales arms firm

harging with a direct link between arm's dealer Sanjay Bhandari and Sonia, Rahul, Priyanka Gandhi and Robert Vadra, the BJP on Tuesday accused the 'Gandhi family of facilitating commissions in the fighter jet upgradation deal in 2011.

"Kahin bhi bhrastachar hai Congress ka taar hai," quipped BJP spokesperson Gaurav

Quoting media reports, the BJP spokesperson said Bhandari, a close friend of suit in London.

In this lawsuit, Bhandari himself has admitted that in 2011, he and a Thales company, which works to upgrade fighter aircraft, had an agreement and Rs 170 crore bribe was to be received and out of this Rs 75 crore he has got it, said BJP leader.

Bhatia said according to Bhandari, he has yet not received the "commission" of Rs 90 to 95 crores.

BJP leader asked Sonia, Rahul and Priyanka to "break their silence" on the

BJP spokesperson said that, all these people know that under the BJP Government whatever defense deals were done under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi there was a deal between the Government and the Government.

The culture of commission was made during the time of Congress, he alleged.

Bhandari, who is wanted in India for violating the Official Secrets Act, is currently seeking asylum in the United

Higher educational institutions have potential to nurture Indian innovation: Union Min

PNS NEW DELHI

Minister of State for Education, Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, said on Tuesday our higher educational institutions have enormous potential to serve as enablers in the Indian innovation and start-up ecosystem and thus the vision of "ÁatmaNirbhar Bharat" can be achieved by supportive ecosystem and dedication and efforts of our innovators and entrepreneurs.

'Îndia of tomorrow should merge the best of our tradition with the best of the modern global outlook. Our country has one of the largest higher third largest start-up ecosystem in the world. We strive to be a knowledge-based economy and this is not possible without Innovative sprit and ers under the ambassador pro-Entrepreneurship within our educational institutions," he

Singh was addressing an e-symposium on "Building Innovation Ecosystem In Educational Institutes". The Minister urged the education-

al institutions in India to shift their mind-set and create an environment that supports high-quality research, innovation, and entrepreneurship leading to commercialization and technology transfer.

He congratulated the 75 start-ups who were identified by the Ministry of Education as part of the Ázadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebration. "The start-ups received funding sup-port up to Rs 10 lakhs each and moreover mentoring and incu-bation support will also be provided in collaboration with partnering agencies," he said. K Sanjay Murthy, Secretary,

Department of Higher currently we have 2500 Innovation Cell and an additional 5000 Cell will be added in the future. " 50,000 teachgram are being trained which will bring huge transformation in the education sector. This is a culture of innovation and these type of events motivate the youth to come forward and showcase new ideas and capabilities, " Murthy said.

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ndia has decided not to boycott Beijing Winter Olympics diplomatically in line with the Government's neighbourhood first policy.

The decision comes despite a host of NGOs (non-governmental organisations) pressing the Centre to boycott the Beijing Olympics. Mostly, the NGOs linked to Tibetan cause or those backing the Tibetan issue were opposed to New Delhi backing Beijing on the

The diplomatic corps was also said to be aligned with the NGOs backing opposition to the sporting extravaganza being held in Beijing in February this year.

However, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, post-consultations with National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, took the bold decision to not oppose the Winter Olympics being hosted by China at the diplomatic level despite backing opposition to the Beijing Olympics by the

external affairs ministry, top sources said here on Tuesday.

Observers here said the decision is premised on treating neighbours differently which is the core of New Delhi's geostrategic positioning based on neighbourhood first

policy.
"If Government of India had taken the move to oppose the Beijing Olympics and effectively added up to the embarrassment of China, New Delhi would have created an avenue to invite embarrassment to

China who did not wish to be quoted. China is already facing

opposition to the prestigious sporting event by the US and European Union over statesponsored atrocities against Üyghurs in Xinjiang province and Tibetans in Tibet. However, Russia has backed the Beijing Winter Olympics beginning February 4.

The Atal Behari Vajpayee government that had wholesomely emphasized the impor-

would have also taken a similar decision, another expert

Amid the already strained ties between New Delhi and Beijing following the aggressive Galwan incident in May 2020 and subsequent anti-India propaganda warfare being orchestrated by China, the latest move could lead to an opportunity for resetting the ties between the two Asian giants, the sources added.

India sees slight decline in fresh Covid cases

Tndia on Tuesday registered **1**1,68,063 new Covid-19 cases and 277 related deaths even as the country's active count mounted to 8,21,446, data from the Union Ministry of Health showed. The daily positivity rate stood at 10.64 per cent. The Omicron tally, meanwhile, has reached 4,461, with Maharashtra reporting the highest number of cases (1,247), followed by Rajasthan

Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya interacted with 120 health experts from across the country through video conferencing and discussed the current Čovid-19 situation. The Minister listened to their suggestions and gave related instructions. In a tweet, Mandaviya said, we will work together to fight against Corona.

Cases in the country are

alarming rise in daily Covid-19 cases. The state recorded 9,066 new Covid-19 cases, 2064 recoveries, and 19 deaths in the last 24 hours. The test positivity rate in Kerala rose to 14 per cent from 5 per cent over the last week.

Kerala also reported 296 deaths which took the total fatalities in the state over the 50,000 mark to 50,053, according to a government release. Maharashtra's Mumbai reported 11,647 new Covid-19 cases and two deaths, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation said in a health bulletin. The active cases in the city rose to 1,00,523. On Meanwhile, Dharavi on

Tuesday witnessed a sharp decline in newly reported Covid-19 cases while Delhi has reported 21,259 fresh Covid-19 cases and 23 deaths, as the positivity rate climbed to 25.65 per cent. A total of 19,166 cases and 17 deaths were recorded in the national capital on Monday.

An official from the Ministry said that 9.68 lakh people from three priority groups - the elderly with comorbidities, healthcare workers, and frontline workers — were administered the third dose across the country on the first day of the rollout.



'Molnupiravir should not be given to people of reproductive age

New Delhi: Dr NK Arora, Chairman of Covid-19 Working Group of NTAGI, on Tuesday said that Molnupiravir, an anti-viral Covid-19 pill, should not be given to people of the reproductive age.

He added that the drug can be given to senior citizens, particularly those with comorbidities, to reduce the chance of hospitalisation and severe illness.

He also stated that irrational use of the pill can be dangerous.

Dr Balram Bhargava, ICMR Chief has already expressed his reservation about the drug efficacy saying that World Health Organisation and the U.K. have not included it for treatment. Bhargava said last week that Covid antiviral drug Molnupiravir has major safety concerns and has not been included in the national protocol for treatment of coronavirus. PNS

Necessary arrangements being made for Budget session: OM Birla Birla visited the Covid testthe pandemic and keep track of

PNS NEW DELHI

mid a growing number of A mid a growing number of Covid cases in the country, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Tuesday said necessary arrangements for the upcom-Budget session of Parliament are being made to enable members of Parliament perform their constitutional responsibilities.

He also asserted that the "situation is under control" and all steps are being taken to mitigate the impact of the According to a statement issued by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, Birla inspected the Parliament House complex during the day to take stock of the country.

the health safety related measures and other preparations put in place in light of the recent spike in Covid cases in Sources said 65 employees of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat, 200 of the Lok Sabha

Secretariat and 133 of allied

services tested positive for

ing facility set up in Parliament House Annexe for the MPs, officers and staff of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha secretariats and reviewed the preparations there.

Reviewing the testing and medical facilities at the Parliament House complex, Birla directed the officials to immediately address any requirements of members and officials that were felt necessary. He also directed officials concerned to put in place all prepositive cases. Speaking to doctors at the

medical centre, Birla took stock of facilities available and directed that all additional resources may be made available on pri-

Birla said he has directed officials to take special care of MPs above the age of 60 years and attend to their requirements in a proactive manner. Though the dates have not yet been announced, the Budget Session usually begins at the end of January.

Breastfeeding reduces mothers' risk of heart disease and stroke

develop coronary heart disease; 12% less likely to suffer strokes;

cardiovascular disease. Despite recommendations to breastfeed by organizations including the WHO and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), both of which recommend babies are breastfed exclusively through at least six

and 17% less likely to die from

Commenting on the study outcome, Dr Arun Gupta, a pediatrician working to improve breastfeeding in India said that benefits of breastfeeding for infants and mothers are already well known. "Mothers should be made aware about these benefits so that they know it is beneficial to both of them." He said that to encourage

breastfeeding, his organization Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India(BPNi) recently joined hands with Association of Healthcare Providers of India (AHPI) to launch 'National Accreditation Center for Breastfeeding The tag will be given to

only those maternity hospitals

Covid-19 between January 4 and 8 during regular tests. cautionary measures to check

PNS NEW DELHI

¬he health benefits of breast-The health benefits are well feeding for babies are well known. In fact, breastfeeding also has been linked to maternal health benefits, including lower risk for Type 2 diabetes, ovarian cancer and breast can-

Now, a meta-analysis published in Journal of the American Heart Association (JAHA), an open access, peerreviewed journal of the American Heart Association study has said that women who breastfed were less likely to develop heart disease or a stroke, or die from cardiovascular disease than women who did not breastfeed.

The review included health records for nearly 1.2 million women (average age 25 at first birth) and analyzed the relationship between breastfeeding and the mother's individual cardiovascular risk.

The special issue, JAHA Spotlight on Pregnancy and Its Impact on Maternal and Offspring Cardiovascular Health, includes about a dozen research articles exploring various cardiovascular considerations during pregnancy for mother and child.

"Previous studies have investigated the association between breastfeeding and the risk of cardiovascular disease in



the mother; however, the find- strength of the association and, ings were inconsistent on the specifically, the relationship

between different durations of for instance, on how long breastfeeding and cardiovascular disease risk. 'Therefore, it was impor-

tant to systematically review the available literature and mathematically combine all of the evidence on this topic," said senior author Peter Willeit, professor of clinical epidemiology at the Medical University of Innsbruck in Innsbruck, Austria.

Researchers reviewed health information from eight studies conducted between 1986 and 2009 in Australia, China, Norway, Japan and the US and one multinational

We collected information,

women had breastfed during their lifetime, the number of births, age at first birth and whether women had a heart attack or a stroke later in life or not," said first author Lena Tschiderer, a postdoctoral researcher at the Medical University of Innsbruck. The review found that

compared to women who never breastfed, women who reported breastfeeding during their lifetime had a 11% decreased risk of developing cardiovascular disease. Also, over an average follow-up period of 10 years, women who breastfed at some time in their life were 14% less likely to

months of age, only 1 in 4 infants receives only breastmilk for the first six months of life.

Friendly Hospitals'.

which are found to provide the best environment to mothers and newborn babies, said Dr

'Cong is BJP's collaborator' | SP elated at revolt in UP BJP

TMC mouthpiece claims Cong helped BJP win CMC at AAP's cost

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

The Trinamool Congress has once again attacked the Congress for its "duplicity" alleging the tri-colour party upset the Aam Admi Party's apple cart to enable the BJP to take control of the Chandigarh Municipal Corporation.

TMC mouthpiece 'Jago Bangla' in its editorial alleged that the Congress acted as BJP's collaborator and helped it occupy the CMC at the cost of AAP which had won 14 seats against the BJP's 12.

"The AAP got 14 seats and BJP and Congress got 12 and 8 seats respectively. The Akalis got one ... in that case the Congress councilors decided not to take part in the election process... and finally the BJP and the AAP were tied at 14 votes each with one of the eight Congress councilors coming out to vote ... it is clear thatCongress and Akali councilor voted for the BJP which forcibly occupied the Board by how will they explain the BJP's getting one vote of AAP cancelled ... this proves that the Congress is acting as the BJP's collaborator ... the Congress will have to decide whether it is on the side of the BJP or secularism," the TMCmouthpiece

The TMC paper's editorial comes amid reports that it could enter into some kind of adjustment with Nationalist Congress Party, and even the Congress apart from the local parties in the coastal State. In fact sources in the TMC said that talks were on with NCP chief Sharad Pawar for seat adjustments.

When asked to comment the party's stand senior Trinamool MP Sukhendu Shekhar Roy said "Congress has become irrelevant in India and so it is trying to survive by holding the hands of the BJP ... there is no difference between them in so far as doing dirty politics is concerned ... or else victory in Chandigarh."

Another party Shantanu Sen said that the TMC and its leader Mamata Banerjee was coming up as the automatic choice of the people as "the Congress has failed to hold ground in many States where the voters had reposed faith in it ... Goa is one such example ... despite the people voting in its favour the party could not hold its ground and the BJP wrested power from it ... The Congress will continue to go down in the

coming days." Tuesday's attack on the Congress comes a few months after the TMC mouthpiece called the Congress a party that had gone into the deep-freezer and that a time had come when the TMC would take its place.

The Congress promptly reacted to the TMC leader's remarks with PradeshCongress president and party's Lok Sabha Leader Adhere Chowdhury attacking Chief Minister

Mamata Banerjee for "starting the tradition of political horsetrading in Bengal which was absent in the State."
Wondering "who pur-

chased the Congress leaders in Bengal ... who threatened them into joining their ranks ... who purchased the entire Congress MLAs in Meghalaya . Mamata Banerjee has to give

a lot of explanations .. and now the BJP being the party with no difference is doing the same other States ... even the leaders of the other oppositionparties look at the Trinamool with suspicion ... so the Congress is sticking to its principles and it will surely emerge victorious and the TMC and the BJP will soon be exposed." Meanwhile, in an apparent

attempt launch itself in a big way the TMC has decided celebrate the Swami Vivekananda's birth anniversary --- National Youth Day --- in a big way in Haryana, party sources in

Sent locks to State chief to close BJP headquarters after poll results: IP Singh

Minister quitting the State Government and three BJP MLAs following him, the Samajwadi Party on Tuesday said it has sent some locks to the State BJP chief to help him down his party headquarters' shutter after

the poll results are out. SP national spokesperson I P Singh, who had quit the BJP in 2019, said he has sent the locks to UP BJP chief Swatantra Dev Singh and two other party leaders, including Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, so that they can go home after locking their offices in the BJP headquarters after the March 10 result.

"I have sent a lock to the (UP) BJP headquarters as a gift to Swatantra Dev Singh. Return home after March 10. Now, there is no wave but a storm of the SP blowing (in the state)," the SP leader said in a tweet in Hindi.

In another tweet, he said, There are three locks with this lock which can be used by Swatantra Dev Singh, BJP general secretary (organisation)

People consider Samajwadi Party as alternative to BJP, says Akhilesh

Lucknow: Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yaday on Tuesday said the state's people consider his party as an alternative to the BJP and in this assembly polls, they will wipe out the saffron party.

He also alleged that the BJP has betrayed farmers and youths, while prices of diesel, petrol and fertilisers have increased manifold during its regime."The people of the state consider Samajwadi Party (SP) as an alternative to the BJP and this time, they will wipe it out in the

Sunil Bansal, and Yogi (Adityanath) ji to be used by them according to their convenience," I P Singh said in another tweet.

In a jolt to the BJP in pollbound Uttar Pradesh on Tuesday, OBC leader Swami Prasad Maurya, who held the assembly polls and form the SP's government," Yadav said while addressing party workers at the SP's headquarters here. According to a party statement, he also promised that if voted to power, the SP will provide 300 units free electricity, free laptops to the youth and make arrangements

for free irrigation for farmers. "The party is moving forward taking all sections along and has formed alliances with regional parties", the former Chief

portfolio **Employment and Coordination** ministry in the UP government, resigned from the state Cabinet with two other MLAs to following him. Maurya, who is expected to join the Samajwadi Party, said he

resigned from the Yogi

Adityanath Cabinet "due to the attitude of gross neglect" towards Dalits, backwards, farmers, unemployed youths and small traders.

BJP Tindwari MLA Brajesh Prajapati, Tilhar MLA Roshan Lal Varma and Bilhaur legisla-

tor Bhagwati Sagar too have announced that they are leaving the party in support of Maurya. Singh appeared elated over some important state leaders

either joining the Samajwadi Party or forging pre-poll alliance with it. "Omprakash Rajbhar ji, Jayant Chaudhary ji, Rajmata Krishna Patel ji, Sanjay Chauhan

ji and now Swami Prasad Maurya ji are with Samajwadi Party," he said, expressing delight over the development in the rival BJP camp.
I P Singh added on Twitter

that he has placed an order for many more locks for the BJP leaders to help them close their offices after March 10 when he said the SP will get a landslide victory in the election. PTI

Guwahati HC asks State Govt to file detailed affidavit on police encounters

People killed in encounters were not criminals: PIL

Guwahati: The Gauhati High Court on Tuesday asked the Assam Government to file a detailed affidavit on the police encounters that have been taking place since BJP returned to power in the state in May 2021.

Hearing a public interest litigation filed by advocate Arif Md Yeasin Jwadder, a High Court Bench comprising Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia and Justice Soumitra Saikia asked Assam Advocate General Devajit Lon Saikia to submit the detailed affidavit related to the encounters.

"The Home and Political Department will prepare and file the affidavit," the Advocate General told PTI.

The High Court has fixed January 25 for the next hearing of the case.According to Jwadder, the Court asked the Principal Secretary(Home) or Additional Secretary (Home) to file the detailed affidavit on the alleged fake encounters.

Noted rights activist Indira Jaising argued in the case on

Jwadder claimed that Saikia informed the Court that magisterial probes were being conducted about the encounters, but Jaising countered that no

such information is available. Jaising urged the Court to direct the state to upload the FIRs on their website if the cases have been registered.

Earlier on January 3, the Gauhati High Court had asked the Assam government to furnish all case details of the

Besides the Assam Government, Assam Police DGP, state Law and Justice Department, National Human Rights Commission and Assam Human Rights Commission have been named as respondents in the petition.

Jwadder in his petition sought an enquiry by an independent agency like CBI, SIT or police teams from other states under the supervision of the Court.

The petitioner also sought a judicial enquiry by a sitting Judge of Gauhati High Court and monetary compensation to the victims' family after due verification. Iwadder claimed in the PIL that more than 80 "fake" encounters between Assam Police and the alleged accused had taken place since May 2021, when Chief Minister Himanta

resulted in 28 deaths and more than 48 injuries.

The people killed or injured were not dreaded criminals and the modus operandi of police has been the same in all the encounters, the PIL claimed.

The petition doubted the police statement published in newspapers which said that the force had to retaliate and kill or injure the accused in selfdefence as they had tried to snatch service revolvers of the police personnel. The injured or dead per-

sons were not militants and were not trained to use pistols and it cannot be the case that all the accused could snatch a service revolver from a trained police officer. Earlier, the petitioner had

filed a complaint on the alleged "fake" encounters with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) against the Assam Police over the series of encounters that have taken place since May

The NHRC in November $2021\ transferred$ the case to the Assam Human Rights Commission (AHRC), which had also taken suo motu cognisance of the alleged fake encounters and asked for a report from the Assam

T N RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

in the State, the daily Covid-19 cases rose from

33,470 on Monday to 34,424 cases on Tuesday,

taking the total number of cases recorded from 69,53,514 cases to 69,87,938 cases. As

many as 22 Covid-19 deaths were reported

cases -- from 13,648 on Monday to 11,647

cases on Tuesday. With Tuesday's fresh cases,

the total Covid-19 cases in Mumbai rose from

taking the total number of new Covid-19 vari-

ant cases to 1281 cases. All the 34 cases were

charged from the hospitals across the state

after full recovery, the total number of peo-

ple discharged from the hospitals since the

second week of March 2020 increased from

66,02,103 to 66,21,070. The recovery rate in

the state dropped from 94.95 per cent to 94.75

increased from 2,06,046 to 2,221,477. The

fatality rate in the state dropped from 2.03 per

accounts for a maximum of 1,00.523 active

cases, while there are 52,031 active cases in

Thane. There are 28,201 active cases in Pune,

followed by Raigad (9174), Palghar (8047), Nashik (5344), Nagpur (4147), Satara (1731), Ahmednagar (1685) and Aurangabad (1141)

ous laboratories across the state so far,

69,87,938 have tested positive (9.85 per cent)

quarantine while 3032 people are in institu-

for COVID-19 until Tuesday.

tional quarantine.

Of the 7,0928,954 samples sent to vari-

Currently, 14,64,987 people are in home

The number of "active cases" in the state

Of the total recorded cases, Mumbai

The State recorded 34 cases of Omicron,

As 18,967 Covid-19 patients were dis-

from various parts of the State.

reported by BJ Medical College.

9,28, 220 to 9,39, 867.

cent to 2.02 per cent.

Tuesday.



Sand artist Sudarsan Pattnaik creates a sand sculpture wishing legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar a speedy recovery from Covid-19, at Puri beach, on Tuesday

Gangasagar Mela will be a super-spreader: Experts

Kolkata: Health experts warned once again that allowing the Gangasagar Mela, a religious gathering in Sagar islands, at a time when the country is in the throes of a third Covid-19 wave could turn out to be a super -spreader 'incident.

Experts warned that the Mela, akin to the Kumbh Mela held at Haridwar and Prayag among other places, which is slated to attract several lakhs of people could transform into a hot source of transmission of the coronavirus".

"It (Gangasagar Mela) will definitely be a super-spreader. There is no doubt of that. Lakhs of people will congregate and we fear there will be vio-

the transmissibility of the This Mela will definitely be

lation of Covid-19 safety pro-

tocol. "This will definitely boost

a hot source of transmission (of the coronavirus). The number of daily cases will be much more than what we are seeing now," Dr Anima Halder principal of State -run Infectious Diseases and Beliaghata General (ID&BG) Hospital In the last seven days, the

state has witnessed a massive surge in Covid-19 infections with the positivity rate shooting to 37 per cent. West Bengal reported over 24,287 infections on Sunday, the highest since the pandemic began. PTI

Govt making bid to scuttle padyatra: Cong

Ramanagara: Fearing political gain for the Congress from the 'padayatra', the ruling BJP is making "frustrated attempts" to scuttle it, former Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on Tuesday, as their march demanding implementation of the Mekedatu project across the Cauvery river, entered its third

Asserting that they will go ahead with the padayatra as

Opposition in the state Assembly, who rejoined the march today after recovering from fever, accused the BJP government of colluding with neighbouring Tamil Nadu, in delaying the implementation of Mekedatu project, and there by were betraying the people of the state.

FIRs have been registered against nearly 30 Congress leaders including

president D K Shivakumar, Bengaluru Rural MP D K Suresh, Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, among others for taking part in padayatra, defying COVID-19 curbs and prohibitory orders.

"They have booked cases against 30 of us and they may book more cases. We will not fear cases, if they feel they can scare us by filing cases, we can

COVID BULLETIN

Maha shows no let-up in Covid cases

foolish government...We will fight it legally," Siddaramaiah Speaking to reporters here,

he questioned why cases have not been booked against BJP leaders like MLAs Subhash Guttedar, M P Renukacharya, Union Minister Shobha Karandlaje and others, who took part in events gathering large number of people, in violation of COVID rules.

Basavaraj Bommai and Ministers too had recently attended swearing-in of newly elected MLCs at Vidhana Souydha's banquet hall, where 3,000-4,000 people were present, and no case was booked, Siddaramaiah alleged that the BJP government's intention is very clear, which is to scuttle Congress' padayatra."They don't want this march to be successful, they don't want

SFI protests activist's killing, boycott of classes declared

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Schools and colleges across Kerala Fremained shut on Tuesday as activists of the CPI(M) controlled SFI had declared boycott of classes to protest against the murder of Dheeraj, an engineering college student in Idukki on Monday. The student community in the college bade a tearful farewell to Dheeraj as his body was taken by ambulance to Thaliparamba in Kannur for final

Dheeraj was allegedly murdered by Congress workers outside the campus even as the students were electing their representatives for the academic year. Nikhil Pylee, a Congress leader who was arrested by Idukki Police reportedly told the investigating team that it was he who stabbed Dheeraj which resulted in the death of the student.

Interestingly, the election held on Monday and boycott of classes witnessed on Tuesday were in violation of a Kerala High Court verdict of February 2020 which had banned strikes, satyagrahas, demonstrations and party based elections in campuses.

"Learning is the fundamental right of students. Campuses are places for creating dialogues and discussions. They should not become venue of protests," the Kerala High Court had ruled while disposing a series of petitions filed by more than 20 college managements challenging the legality and constitutionality of

c a m p u s politics. Zacharia Stephen, president, St Thomas Group of Educational Institutions, Pathanamthitta, who was one of the petitioners, told The Pioneer that the February 26, 2020 verdict is valid for all educational institutions in the State. "Justice P B

Suresh Kumar has made it clear that campuses should never be used for political activities including agitations and demonstrations. What they have done today was a blatant violation of law and a contempt of court," said Stephen. He also said that there was a 2017 order by Kerala High Court that has made politics and protests in college cam-Sreesailam Unnikrishnan, assis-

tant professor, Guruvayurappan cy. There is an agenda to establish Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have

Hundreds of young lives have been snuffed out in campus politics in the State during the last two decades. The most gruesome of it were the 1996 murder of Anu, Kim and Sujith, students in D B College Parumala who were stoned to death by SFI and DYFI activists because the formers were bold enough to work for a rival political outfit, reminisced Unnikrishnan who was a student those days.

and DYFI activists to attack him at

puses illegal activities.

College, Kozhikode, said there was no room for party based politics and elections in campuses. "The decision of the Kerala Government not to shut down educational institutions despite the onslaught of Covid-19 and omicron smacks of a conspirathe command and superiority of SFI over colleges and schools," said Unnikrishnan. He said states like opted for on-line classes which prevented a lot of casualties in those

Meanwhile Maharajas College, Ernakulam, closed indefinitely, following group clashes between students belonging to KSU and the SFI All Congress leaders, cutting across group lines, assembled behind KPCC chief K Sudhakaran on Tuesday following attempts by SFI

Daily infections rise from 33K to 34K, 24 deaths, 34 Omicron cases reported in 24 hours Maharashtra witnessed an increase of 954 Covid-19 infections during the last 24 hours, even as a total of 34 omicron cases were recorded in various parts of the state on With no let up in the pandemic situation

Meanwhile, the following is the break-up Mumbai witnessed a drop of 2001 daily of a total 1281 Omicron cases recorded in the state so far, Mumbai: 606, PMC-276, Pimpri-Chinchwad—69, Sangli -59, Nagpur -51, Thane -48,, Pune rural --40, Kolhapur and Panvel -18 each, Osmanabad -11, Navi Mumbai and Satara -10 Covid each, Amarvati -9, Kalyan Dombivli -7, Buldhana and Vasai-Virar- 6 each, Bhiwandi-Nizampur and Akola-5 each, Nanded, Ulhasnagar, Aurangabad, Mira-Bhayandar and Gondia -3 each, Ahmednagar, Gadchiroli, Latur,

> Of the total cases 499 patients have been discharged after a negative RT-PCR test.

Raigad—one each.

Nandurbar and Solapur—2 each and Jalna and

In a related development, the authorities said the total number of passengers who arrived at Mumbai, Pune and Nagpur airports since December 1 was 2,63,562 (39,111 from At-risk countries and rest 224451 are from other countries), while passengers whose RT-PC tests have been done are 76995 (39,111 are from highrisk countries and 37,884 are from other coun-

Similarly, RT-PCR positive and samples sent for genomic sequencing was 1037 (484 are from at-risk countries and 553 are from other Additionally, field surveillance of all

international passengers who have arrived since 1st November is underway.

"Through airport and field surveillance, 4,092 samples have been sent for genomic sequencing. The results of 80 are awaited so far," the daily health bulletin said.

Death toll crossed 50K mark in Kerala, says Health Min

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Situation has turned alarming in Kerala by Tuesday as the death toll till date due to Covid-19 crossed the 50,000 mark. A release by Health Minister Veena George said that by Tuesday evening number of persons who succumbed to the pandemic shot up to

The last 24 hours saw the department of health diagnosing 9,066 new cases of Covid-19 out of 63, 898 samples tested. "Situation is really grave and we should have some drastic action to prevent the transmission of the pandemic," said Dr Rajiv Pillai, veteran medical practitioner specializing in con-

tagious diseases.

Government doctors who are specialized in treating diseases like bird flu, swine flu and dengue are unanimous in their view that schools and colleges should be shut down immediately to prevent the young generation from ending up as victims of this fast spreading disease, the impacts about which were yet to be studies. "Students are vulnerable to end up as super carriers. I am more worried about the complaints made by youth that they suffer from

memory loss after the attack of Covid-19. We are yet to ascertain whether it is temporary or permanent," said a senior doctor in Government General

Hospital in Ernakulam. But K Sivankutty, Kerala Minister for education told reporters that there was no situation that warranted the closure of schools and colleges in the State as everything was under control. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan is leaving for United States on Wednesday morning for advanced treatment for an ailment which has been tormenting him for



Pilgrims stand in a queue outside a vaccination centre before receiving a dose of Covid-19 vaccine, during a vaccination drive at a transit camp for Gangasagar Mela pilgrims, in Kolkata, on Tuesday

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PAPER WITH PASSION

Knotty affair

Women must have the right to not consent to any abuse, not just sexual, within marriage

he Delhi High Court is at present hearing several petitions filed way back in 2018 seeking to criminalise sex without consent in marriage as 'marital rape'. Section 375 of the Indian Penal Code deals with rape. The colonial-era provision has an Exception 2 that says sexual intercourse by a man with his wife, the wife not being under 15 years of age, is not rape. There is a longstanding demand to criminalise all marital rape but the Union Government says that doing away with Exception 2 could destroy the institution of marriage. The Delhi High Court made some introductory remarks during Monday's hearing on the petitions. They are thought-provoking. One, the protection husbands get under Exception 2 may have to do with a "qualitative difference" between marital and non-marital relationships. Here goes the explanation: In a marriage, unlike in a live-in relationship, a spouse has an 'expectation' and 'to an extent a legal right' to sexual relations with the partner. If it (sex) is denied, it can lead to civil consequences and can also lead to divorce. Two, where a couple is unmarried and the man insists on having sex, it becomes a matter of



force because he is not exercising any right legally due to him. However, in marriage, the man exercises what he believes to be the conjugal right. Three, even though there is no compromise with a woman's right to sexual and bodily integrity, and the husband has no business to compel, (but) "the court can't ignore what happens when we knock it (Exception 2) off".

The entire controversy springs from the assumption that marriage gives conjugal rights to the husband. Sex is not the determining factor of a relationship between a man and a woman, whether

through marriage or an informal relationship. A woman's right to dignity and bodily autonomy and the right of choice are far superior, and tangible, to any supposed right the husband may assume that his relationship with the woman gives him. Just as the relationship dries up if the partners are drained of mutual trust and affection, sex between them depends on the consent of both partners and definitely of the woman. The age of the wife does not matter at all because the woman's dignity and choice, not her age, are important. What follows is, any social sanction that belittles and ignores the woman's right of choice and consent in matters of sex, harms, not just the woman's rights but all relationships — formal or otherwise. We must remind ourselves — to help us look at the big picture — that women are often dehumanised in marriage for dowry, for failure to give birth to a son, for not respecting her in-laws and many more such "sins". Should they also be the victims in the most intimate of relationships with their 'legal' partners? Women should necessarily have the right to not consent to any abuse, not just sexual, within marriage.

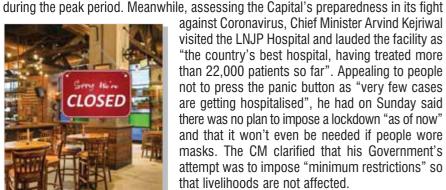


A boatman rows his shikara during sunset at the Dal Lake, in Srinagar

Scary

The third wave may peak in Delhi and Mumbai later this week, say experts

elying our hopes and prayers, experts now say that COVID-19's third wave may peak in Delhi and Mumbai, which are already in the severe grip of the virus and its mutants, in four-five days' time. The peak could cover the entire nation by January end and the country could see four to eight lakh cases every day. According to IIT Kanpur professor Manindra Agrawal, who is also the lead of the Governmentbacked Sutra Model that tracks and mathematically predicts the spread of the virus, Delhi will witness 50,000 to 60,000 daily cases as compared to 30,000 in Mumbai



against Coronavirus, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal visited the LNJP Hospital and lauded the facility as "the country's best hospital, having treated more than 22,000 patients so far". Appealing to people not to press the panic button as "very few cases are getting hospitalised", he had on Sunday said there was no plan to impose a lockdown "as of now" and that it won't even be needed if people wore masks. The CM clarified that his Government's attempt was to impose "minimum restrictions" so that livelihoods are not affected.

However, the city's problems seem to be far from over: it recorded 21,259 new COVID cases with a positivity rate of 25.65 per cent on Tuesday. The AAP Government is facing resentment from hoteliers and restaurateurs as well, who'd better be kept on its right side since, following ordering the closure of restaurants/bars and allowing only takeaway facility, most people ordering food indoors will rely on the hotel and delivery staff by a big measure. The Government had earlier hastily announced certain restrictions, including operating Metro trains and buses at 50 per cent seating capacity, which led to serpentine queues outside the stations. As there was a simultaneous spurt in Coronavirus cases, especially those caused by the lesser deadly but highly transmissible Omicron variant, the Government, in its wisdom, decided to shorten the waiting time (time spent in proximity of one another) in these queues and therefore allowed the buses/train coaches to again operate with full seating capacity. Now how does that help the cause of curbing the spread of the virus, is anybody's guess. Such knee-jerk reactions and

decisions are actually scaring the citizens, rather than motivating them in the fight

against the SARS-CoV-2 virus and its rapid mutations.

The legacy of truly martial Wellington -



Dotted with four unmissable landmarks — the Madras Regimental Centre, DSSC, Wellington Gymkhana Club and Stavka, it is steeped in rich history

ellington (in the Nilgiris, not New Zealand) derives its name from the famous Duke who earned his spurs in campaigns he fought in India. The place has four unmissable landmarks: Madras Regimental Centre (MRC), Defence Services Staff College (DSSC), Wellington Gymkhana Club (WGC) and Stavka. Here is a snapshot of each. The MRC is housed around

Wellington Barracks, renamed Srinagesh Barracks after the former Army chief and first Indian Colonel of the Regiment. The first military unit to occupy Wellington Barracks was the 74th Highlanders in 1860. The barracks design is unique, a blend of Napoleonic and Prussian styles. The tunnel entrance through the Assaye Gate leads to a quadrangle of barracks and virtually into an amphitheatre, giving the recruit the sense of a gladiator, walking into a vast space filled with sunshine. The work done to enhance the military splendour and the environment of MRC is breathtaking - courtesy cumulative efforts of Commandants, including incumbent Brig Rajeshwar Singh. 'Namaskaram' is the salu-

tation of the Thambi, owing its origin to the Madras Native Infantry which is the oldest infantry regiment of the Army though the Punjab Regiment claims a march ahead. The Thambi, the Madras Regiment, now recruits from Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and, of course, Tamil Nadu. Among its famous pre-Independence battles is the epic at Assaye during Second Anglo-Maratha War in September 1803. A number of Madras Native Infantry units fought fearlessly and, though outnumbered, Maj Gen Arthur Wellesley, the Duke of Wellington, spearheaded the victory. "Winning the Assaye battle was more difficult than Waterloo in 1915,"

post-Independence tally of battle and theatre honours is stag- after 20 years; such is the

PTI



gering. More than once, it has been adjudged the best marching contingent at the Republic Day parade. The pièce de résistance of MRC is its grand war museum, one of the best in the country. It is state-of-the-art and imaginatively laid out into nine hexagonal and two linear galleries covering every facet of Amar Thambi: From early history to the Hall of Fame. One can spend hours inside but do ask for the mobile Thambi encyclopaedia, Maj Navjot Dhaliwal, to enrich your tour.

Defence Services Staff College: 'To War With Wisdom', surrounded by symbolic owls, is the DSSC motto. It is a superbly laid out real estate, perfectly conducive to placing wellrounded heads on square shoulders. Tamilselvam, worlds apart from LTTE's political czar, manages the well-stocked Officers' Mess bar. It is here that a just arrived Air Force Gp Capt is greeted by an older Army Colonel Directing Staff with: "Haven't we met before?" Snort pause. The Madras Regiment's NDA, no?" guffawed the Gp Capt. They were meeting



RUSSIAN MEANS HIGH COMMAND. IS PERCHED ON A HILLSIDE AND IS THE RESIDENCE OF SAM AND SILLOO MANEKSHAW. WHO SETTLED THERE AFTER THE **GOVERNMENT'S** PROMISE TO MAKE SAM THE CDS/ MEMBER UPSC **NEVER**

magic of India's premier triservice academy. The DSSC is the second stage of jointness and integration before the third step into the ultimate institute of cross-learning, National Defence College, New Delhi. The aesthetic makeover of the college, coupled with transformational restructuring of the syllabus, makes it a truly unified institution. Majors and equiva-lent ranks in the other two services are equipped here to take up higher Command and Staff appointments. The DSSC imprimatur is a young officer's open sesame to higher rank and responsibility. All things being equal, the clincher is: "Has the officer done Staff College?'

Wellington Gymkhana Club: Built in 1863 for British civil and military officers, the idea of the meter gauge railway Mettupalayam gauge Ootacamund Wellington as one of its stops was born in the club's Gun Bar over cherry brandy between two wise owls. Tennis and squash courts, a croquet course and the chai-

as notorious for Hole in One as balls lost in crisscrossing streams. Little has changed in the geography and architecture of the Club except the Perch recently constructed to touch the fir and pine trees engulfing the club. In the 1960s, waiters used to address the clientele as 'Master'. Today, it's become 'saab'/Sir.

Stavka: Stavka, which in Russian means High Command, is perched on a hillside on the Kotagiri Road and is the residence of Sam and Silloo Manekshaw. Three km beyond Simp's Park, a high-gradient road on the right climbs up to it. Two Gorkha Gurung names are carved out on a rock below a temple near the gate constructed by them.

The 'beware of dogs' sign is misleading as the three canines along with three Gorkha housekeepers are extraordinarily friendly. Last month, a bear commandeered the Gurungs' rations, even opening their refrigerator to remove mango juice. They laughed: "Our rum is safe." On another occasion, a leopard was seated regally on the roof of the Gorkha outhouse. Even 'Aayo Gorkhali' did not help. The Manekshaws settled into Stavka after Government's promise to make Sam CDS/Member UPSC never materialised.

From the large verandah, peek is possible of the dome of DSSC which Sam commanded. An original Maruti 800 and a Sunbeam Talbott are functional. The Manekshaws' cellar has dried up with a rare bourbon bottle remaining. The Gorkhas keep the lawns and gardens manicured and Stavka spick and span as if Silloo and Sam were still around.

(The writer, a retired General, was Maior Commander, IPKF South, Sri Lanka, and founder member of the Defence Planning Staff lenging golf course trespassing the Staff College are in play. The Par 3 Fifth hole is of the Defence Staff. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO TH

CELEBRATING VIVEKANANDA'S LEGACY

Sir — Swami Vivekananda, one of India's greatest leaders and believers in youth power, whose birthday on January 12 (born 1863) is celebrated every year in India as National Youth Day, was an ardent disciple of Sri Ramakrishna Paramahamsa. He pushed for national integration in colonial India, and his most famous speech remains the one that he gave in Chicago in 1893. It was the Union Government's decision in 1984 to celebrate Swami Vivekananda's birthday every year as the National Youth Day, to encourage the nation's youth to become better persons and contribute to national development.

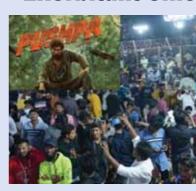
After the historic speech in Chicago, Vivekananda has become a major force in the revival of Hinduism in India, though to him, Hinduism is not a religion but a spiritual way of life. Is this 'lynchistan' India ready to accept his sane advice: "We must have friendship for all; we must be merciful towards those who are in misery; when people are happy, we ought to be happy; and to the wicked we must be indifferent?" It's heartening that PM Narendra Modi quotes Vivekananda all too frequently.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee | Faridabad

PROMISES OF FREEBIES AN IDIOCY Sir — The promises of freebies in the manifestoes of political parties while facing elections are common. As per a report, the commonly promised freebies have been listed as laptops/tablets, grinders/mixers, fans, gold coins, cash transfer, land, constructed houses, cash for unemployed youngsters and livestock. Of course, since a manifesto is a document of promises, these should be in respect of what the party will do if elected to power, not for announcing freebies and luring voters. Taxpayers' money should be utilised to provide free healthcare, continuous water and power supply, laying of good roads, construction of bridges and other

such purposes for public good. Akhilesh Yadav recently promised 300 units of free electricity to all households and laptops to youth and students if his party was voted to power. Several other

Exorbitant cinema ticket prices



sincere attempt to fix the MRP of cinema tickets in the State has stirred a hornet's nest. The Government seems to have taken up the issue without any homework. No doubt, cinema exhibitors fleece the public by fixing ticket prices whimsically for every new release. To check this extortion, the Government invoked the Cinematography Act to assert its powers to fix the cinema ticket prices and rates of items

parties have also been promising farm loan waiver, despite several leading experts and committees advising against it for several years now. The Supreme Court observed in 2018 that distribution of freebies of any kind undoubtedly influences people. Truly, such freebies and waiver of loans are draining the nation's economy. If the taxpayers' money is spent on freebies, the voice of taxpayers demanding tax concessions would also make a lot of sense.

KV Seetharamaiah | Bengaluru

A WELCOME MOVE BY THE SC Sir — While no proper action has been initiated by the BJP-ruled Uttarakhand as well as by the Union Government against people who made hate speeches, which sound sinisterly criminal while advocating genocide against the Muslim community at the Haridwar Dharam Sansad, and neither Prime Minister Narendra Modi nor Home Minister Amit Shah has come forward to admonish the culprits,

in the canteens therein. Accordingly, it issued the GO 35 fixing ticket rate slabs in theatres in urban, semi-urban, municipal and rural areas. It also asked theatre owners not to raise the prices of snacks and other items in their canteens/cafes.

This has upset the owners of about 1,000 theatres in the State and their main grouse is that it is unviable to run the show business at the rates fixed by the Government. At their numerous meetings with the Government, movie producers, directors and theatre owners discussed the issue and tried hard to tell the Government that they should have a free hand. It is a pity that the industry has been divided into camps for and against the Government's proposal. The Government could allow producers to fix the ticket prices if their movies are shot completely (except perhaps songs) in the State. It will generate income for the Government, besides creating jobs and giving a fillip to the film industry's development.

M Somasekhar Prasad | Hyderabad

it is laudable that the Supreme Court has agreed to hear urgently a case filed seeking arrest and trial of the venom spewers. The hate speeches tantamount to an open call for murder of an entire community, which should not be condoned at any cost by the organisations and authorities concerned.

On the other hand, the guilty should be handed out an exemplary punishment. It is an open secret that such rightwing elements carry on with their criminal acts against the minorities emboldened by the stony silence maintained by the powers that be, who conveniently overlook their duty to bring such criminals to book. One hopes that the apex court would render justice to the hapless Muslim community with a thorough inquiry made into the entire episode.

Tharcius S Fernando | Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneér@gmail.com

On the 12th, I would take part in the 25th National Youth Festival via video conferencing. I ask my young friends to join

> **Prime Minister** -Narendra Modi



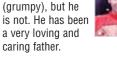
the programme

Under the extremist ideology of the BJP Modi Govt, all religious minorities in India have been

targeted with impunity by Hindutva groups.

—Imran Khan People think that

Pakistan Prime Minister



he is too khadoos





understand that in sports, sometimes things do not go the way you want them to ao.

> Indian cricketer -Virat Kohli

Let there be no lapses in our preparedness as we battle this surge of



Union Health Minister -Mansukh Mandaviya

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ISSUES OF TELANGANA BIFURCATION

Apart from new projects in AP, distribution of assets and liabilities is pending for 7 years



AMAR DEVULAPALLI

ndhra Pradesh is hopeful of getting a solution for the bifurcation issues pending for seven years at the January 12 meeting the Union Home Secretary has called with Chief Secretaries of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The pending deliberations started afresh after the meeting in in Tirupati last November at the Southern Zonal Conference presided over by Home Minister Amit Shah. Chief MinisterY.S.Jagan Mohan Reddy once again presented his case before Prime Minister Narendra Modi at his latest meeting in Delhi on January 3. Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla has convened the meeting with the Chief Secretariesthrough video conferencing in view of the Coronavirus pandemic to discuss on disputes regarding Schedule IX and X institutions as well as apportionment of Andhra Pradesh Bhavan in New Delhi between the two States among other pending issues. Though TDP Government headed by N.Chandrababu Naidu ruled the residual state



of Andhra Pradesh after the bifurcation in 2014, bifurcation issues were never resolved despite TDP being part of the Modi Government for quite a while. Moreover, Naidu played a spectator's role when the demand for Special Category Status (SCS) was raised. The Andhra CM also met his Telangana counterpart, K.Chandrasekhara Rao to discuss the pending inter-state issues. Reddy had extended a 'friendly hand' to Rao within days of becoming the Chief Minister by handing over all government buildings in Hyderabad including Secretariat and Legislative Assembly buildings to the Telangana state government. Chandrababu Naidu had refused to do that till 2019 even after shifting the AP administration to Amaravati in 2016. This is the first time after seven years since the bifurcation of united Andhra Pradesh into two states that the UnionGovernment is taking interest to find solutions to the pending issues. The Andhra CM submitted a detailed note to the PM that includes the chief issues. A key issue is the renewal of approvals of site clearances for the greenfield international airport at Bhogapuram that would help in development of Visakhapatnam and its surrounding areas. Another is setting up an Integrated Steel Plant in YSR Kadapa District. MECON, a Government of India undertaking, has not vet concluded the feasibility report. That needs to be expedited. The delay by the Telangana Government in releasing power dues to AP is another nigaling issue. An amount of ₹6.284 crore is receivable by Andhra Pradesh Generation Corporation Limited (APGENCO) from the Telangana State Distribution Utilities and Telangana. The DISCOMs have recognized the amount as payables but are vet to make the actual payment. At the Tirupati meeting, the Andhra CM had pointed out to the Centre: "There is a need for an action plan to resolve inter - state issues with specific timelines." Referring to the challenges of Andhra Pradesh, he explained how the State had 'lost significantly' on account of its bifurcation. "The per capita income in Telangana after bifurcation in 2015-16 was ?15,454 while in Andhra Pradesh it was only at? 8,979. This shows how the State has lost due to the bifurcation." Distribution of assets and liabilities of common institutions listed under Schedule IX, X of the bifurcation Act, mostly located in Hyderabad, are also pending with both states fighting cases in courts. There are 107 institutions listed under Schedule X, of which 97 are located in Telangana State, mostly in Hyderabad, it being the capital of undivided Andhra Pradesh. There are another 89 institutions listed under Schedule IX of the AP Reorganisation Act. Against this background the AP Government is hopeful that the Centre will find solutions to the major bifurcation issues that have been pending for all these years.

(The writer is Advisor, National Media and Inter State Affairs, Government of Andhra Pradesh. The views expressed are personal.)

Are libraries becoming irrelevant today?



'The very existence of libraries affords the best evidence that we may yet have hope for the future of man', said poet-essayist TS Eliot

ibraries are temples of knowledge, where innovative minds are created. Many reform movements across the globe have roots in libraries. Since the early 16th century India had a good number of libraries across the country. The Saraswathi Mahal library, started by Nayak Kings of Tanjavur as a Royal Library, was established in the 16th century and is considered as one of the oldest libraries not only in India but in of whole Asia. Encyclopaedia Britannica mentions this library as the "most remarkable library of India".

The beginning of the public library systems in India dates back as early as 1910. Sayaji Rao Gaekwad III, Maharaja of Baroda, pioneered the development of the Public Library System in India. It is mind-boggling to learn that even a century ago the Maharaja arranged the purchase of a photostat camera and a camera projector. He started Library Associations from Taluk level, organized 'Mitra Mandal' in town and village libraries, and organized regular library conferences. Mobile library service was organized to cater to the book need in

Library as a movement was started in 1972 with the establishment of Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF) by the Ministry of Culture. The year 1972 was declared as International Book Year with the slogan, Books For All. The library movement led to the establishment of libraries in the nook and corner of the country, with the support of State Governments, the Union Territory Administrations, and various NGOs. Since then, we have established many public libraries and also in our universities and research institutions.

Libraries are the storehouses of knowledge where one would find information about everything in a single room. There was a time when our researchers roamed across various reputed libraries and spend months on literature surveys. For the poor students, it offered access to some of the costliest text-books and journals. Before the advent of the internet researchers were hugely dependent on various abstracting services offered by libraries like CAB abstracts, for understanding the latest developments from their field of research. It was of course a tedious process.

visiting the library is a part of the academic culture that helps students to socialize with their peers in an engaging manner. Many libraries also organize special sessions with academic and literary figures, that help in the development of students. So, libraries not only help in academic development but also in social

development of human beings. Many libraries of the old generation were housed in multi-storied buildings as they had a huge collection of books and periodicals. With the establishment of British Council libraries in different



ONE PROBLEM

THAT IS NOTICED IN MOST LIBRARIES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR IS THE UNWELCOMING ATTITUDE OF LIBRARY STAFF. MANY STAFF MEMBERS HAVE AN APATHETIC ATTITUDE TOWARDS WORK. A GOOD LIBRARIAN IS **EQUIVALENT TO AN** ENCYCLOPAEDIA;



One problem that is noticed in most libraries in the public sector is the unwelcoming attitude of library staff. Many staff members have anapathetic attitude towards their work. A good librarian is equivalent to an encyclopaedia, he should be able to guide people from diverse background in selection of resources, but unfortunately that quality is missing from many. In some libraries managed in our national research centres, even students are not given access to refer books. The access is given only to members from the host institute, even though its resources are underutilized. Our national institutes spend lakhs of rupees for buying books and periodicals. Is it right to restrict our youngsters irom utilizing the resources fund-

ed by public money? In this era, only people having genuine interest will step into a library. So, the government should make it a policy for free entry and utilization of resources in all libraries set up using public money, of course, lending of books can be restricted to members holding membership cards. In the era where we question the paywall procedure in scholarly journals, it is

be made places of free knowledge dissemination.

In the post-Covidera people's interest in visiting libraries is diminishing. The new generation is more oriented to digital reading and the role of libraries as a knowledge provider is diminishing. Have libraries become obsolete in the new world order? Should we dismantle all our present-day libraries? These are the questions

that often ring across society.
All these libraries are treasure houses that house rare collections. For example, the National Science Library (NSL) maintained by CSIR since 1963 is one of its kind in the country that specifically caters to the needs of science aspirants. The library houses over 2,51,000 printed collections of S&T documents which include monographs, bound volumes of journals, reports, theses/dissertations, standards, and patents, etc. The NSL's collection policy is to build resources with an emphasis on high-end R&D reference sources, Indian S&T publications, foreign language dictionaries, library and information science, information & communication technology, computer science, conference proceedings, technical reports, and other sources relevant

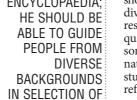
to S&1 community of the country Many such libraries are spread across the country and we need to preserve our huge knowledge resources for the future. Some of the materials available in these libraries are rare masterpieces. Libraries speak about the culture that is prevailing in the society through its resources, books or newspapers, or periodicals published during the time, which in the long run will hold archival value also. If someone is interested in

RAHUL GANDHI

studying the evolution of printing technology, the best way is to go through the shelves in a good library. It would be inappropriate to dismantle our heritage that would be evident only through the publications of a particular period.

With changing times, of course, we need to build digital resources catering to the needs of the current community. The National Mission on Libraries (NML) was launched by the President of India on February 3, 2014. As part of this, the Ministry of Culture has decided to set up the National Virtual Library of India (NVLI) for putting information on the entire Indian cultural heritage in the digital web world. Similarly, during the Covid-19 lockdown, IIT Kharagpur has started a National Digital Library of India (NDLI) platform sponsored by the Ministry of Education, catering to the needs of the student

Digital formats have their share of disadvantages. Instead of dismantling the conventional libraries, they should be allowed to operate in a hybrid mode having digital virtual facilities alongside print based collection. The silent ambient atmosphere prevalent in our libraries is ideal for a person immersed in books. enhances creativity in human beings. It is the duty of every member associated with libraries in India to initiate steps to kindle reading habits among youngsters. Scientific research has shown that reading print books helps in the development of cognitive skills of children. We need children who are enlightened to lead our country in the future and one of the ways to attain enlightenment is through reading.



IN SELECTION OF RESOURCES, BUT UNFORTUNATELY THAT QUALITY IS MISSING FROM MANY

(The writer is a science communicator and columnist. The views expressed are personal.)

imperative that our libraries should

THE SECURITY BREACH WAS CONSPIRED NOT JUST BY PUNJAB BUT DELHI CONGRESS AS WELL. RAHUL GANDHI SHOULD SPEAK UP. —PUNJAB BJP PRESIDENT **ASHWANI SHARMA**





WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING AT OUR BORDERS IS A MAJOR LAPSE OF NATIONAL SECURITY. WILL THE PM EVER TALK ABOUT IT? —CONGRESS LEADER

Assembly polls: Whom will Dame Luck favour?

The polls are a contest between Brand Modi and the entire Opposition, being held during the mid-term of the Prime Minister's second innings

The Election Commission has sounded the poll bugle for assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Punjab, Manipur, and Uttarakhand. BJP is ruling in four of the five States except for Punjab. In Goa and Manipur, though, Congress emerged as the single largest party in 2017 but BJP managed to form the government by dividing the

other parties Nearly 18.34 crore electors, out of which 8.55 crore are women electors, and 24.9 lakh first-time electors will participate in the five states, including Uttar Pradesh. Women and youth voters will have a bigger say in the poll results. Significantly, the voters will exercise their franchise amid a surging third



(The writer is a senior

expressed are personal.)

Why are these polls crucial? With a multi-cornered contests in almost all the poll-bound states, polls will indicate the direction for the future. It is significant that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is hoping for a hat trick in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. BJP is trying to retain Uttar Pradesh, which has 403 assembly seats. It also has 80 Lok Sabha seats. Whoever wins UP has a significant advantage in bidding for power in 2024.

COVID-19 wave.

Secondly, it is a contest between brand Modi and the entire opposition. It is also held during the mid-term for Modi's second innings. As the country copes with the continuing Covid-19, it will be a test for the prime min-



ister to ensure that his pop ularity is intact. He might have an advantage over a divided opposition.

Thirdly, BJP depends totally on Modi as the party has not developed any strong state leaders except in UP. The Prime Minister is its biggest poll mascot.

Fourthly, it will also be a test for the incumbent UP minister Adityanath. He is staking all to win the state again, where-

merely an MP and the party chose him after the elections. He has spent huge money on advertisements for propagating his achievements in the past few months. But historically, no one has won a second term since 1985 in the

Fifthly, it will be a fight for survival for all regional players like Akhilesh Yadav, Mayawati, Priyanka Gandhi, Jayant Chowdury. In UP, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav sees the fight as a real contest between SP and BJP. However, the opposition is at a disadvantage, because of the multi-cornered contest. Samajwadi Party and Bahujan Śamaj Party have fared poorly since

2014. BSP chief Mayawati

as in the 2017 polls, he was has been quietly working for her return. Priyanka Gandhi is the face of Congress but she is yet to prove her vote-catching capacity. After the death of RLD leader Ajit Singh, his son Jayant has not yet established himself.

In four states- Punjab, Manipur, Goa, Uttarakhand- there will be a direct contest between Congress and BJP. Any win for Congress would upset BJP's cart. The party should at least retain Punjab and grab Uttarakhand. Besides, two other regional parties, AAP and Trinamool, are also

testing their luck. Sixthly, political parties exploit caste, religion, development, and covid handling as issues in these polls. Caste has always been a factor in the since the MLAs form the

northern belt, as people cast votes for their caste. BJP will be touting the building of Ram Mandir in Ayodhya. On August 5, 2020, Prime Minister symbolically laid the foundation with a 40 kg silver brick for the Ram temple. For the voters who believe in religion, this is a big issue. Kashi Viswanath temple also had a facelift. BJP touted this as a golden chapter in the party's history.

Seventhly, the results will signal whether the regional parties are the real challenger to the surging BJP. In most states, particularly in UP, the regional parties are fighting

for their survival. Eighthly, the results might impact the upcoming presidential polls in June-July,

will also decide the fate of 680 Assembly seats in these five states and 19 Rajya Sabha Last but not the least, the

electoral college. These results

handling of Covid and the advent of the third wave would directly impact ruling BJP at the Centre and in BJPruled states. Inprevious assembly polls held in the first half of the year, the 'Netas' who addressed huge poll rallies were considered the super-spreaders. This time the Election Commission has banned physical rallies to check the spread of the pan-

On the whole, the polls would be a nail-biting event for all stakeholders. March 10 will reveal whom Dame Luck will favour.

Nepal imposes partial curb in Kathmandu Valley after Covid surge: Health ministry

Nepal on Tuesday imposed a partial lockdown across the Kathmandu Valley due to the recent surge in the coronavirus cases, the health ministry said.

Termed as smart lockdown, the Ministry of Health and Population said that under the new guidelines gathering of more than 25 people in public places have been banned and anyone violating it will have to face strict action.

"With the instruction of the Home Ministry local authorities of Kathmandu Valley have imposed a smart lockdown in the Kathmandu Valley without directly affecting public movement and economic activities.

The authorities have banned gathering of more than 25 people in public places to prevent and control the growing coronavirus infection in the valley," a statement from the health ministry said.

The decision on new COVID-19 curbs were taken during a meeting of the chief district officers of all the three districts -- Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur --in

The United Nations on Tuesday made what it

called a record USD 5 billion

appeal to help Afghanistan

and its neighbouring coun-

tries, warning half of the

country faces acute hunger,

millions of children are out of

school and farmers are strug-

gling against drought - even as

Afghanistan stabilises from

decades of conflict after the

Taliban takeover in August.

The appeal from the UN

Office for the Coordination

for Humanitarian Affairs and

refugee agency UNHCR

reflects the world body's bid to

help beleaguered civilians inside a country now run by

administrative reasons.

Janasanyog/CF/2817/21

रूपए प्रति नामांकन होगा।

की सूची का प्रकाशन किया जाएगा।

का प्रकाशन सांय 05 बजे।

मोबाइल नंबर 8448348933।

AP GENEVA

Tuesday afternoon.

Nepal is reporting a steady surge in cases for the past few weeks, with three districts of Kathmandu Valley recording the highest number of infections.On Tuesday, Kathmandu Valley recorded 1,286 new cases-980 in Kathmandu, 221 in Lalitpur and 85 in Bhaktapur, The Kathmandu Post newspaper reported.

Nepal, like many countries across the world, has started witnessing a surge in the number of coronavirus cases.

On Tuesday, Nepal confirmed 2,444 new cases of COVID-19 along with 313 recoveries and one death, according to the latest information from the health min-

There are currently 9,634 active cases of COVID-19 across the country. So far, 11,607 people have died of the viral infection in Nepal.

As part of the new orders, all gatherings, processions and other crowded activities have also been capped to a limited number of people. Similarly, schools will be closed till January 29 under the smart lockdown procedures.

UN seeks USD 5 billion for stabilising

a militant group that many

Western donor countries once

fought - and still oppose. The

US-led international coali-

tion left Afghanistan in chaot-

ic scenes as the Taliban over-

ran the country and swept

back to power over the sum-

ing "catastrophe" in Afghanistan and said 23 mil-

lion people need humanitar-

ian assistance - or more than

half of the country's popula-

tion. Up to a million children

under age 5 will face severe

and acute malnutrition if they

don't get assistance, it said.

"We need to get food to the

families where they live. We

Sd/-Mission Director

Kahilipara, Guwahati-19

दिनांक : 11 जनवरी 2022

SSA Acc

need to get seeds to the farm-

CANCELLATION OF NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Notice inviting e-tender vide No. SSA/IE/Hearing Aid/

577/2014/Pt/7725 Date: 03.12.2021 for assessment and

supply of aids & appliance is hereby cancelled due to

नोएडा मीडिया क्लब का संशोधित चुनाव कार्यक्रम

दिनांक 10 जनवरी 2022 प्रातः 9:30 के क्रम में नोएडा मीडिया क्लब की कार्यकारिणी हेतू

एक अध्यक्ष, एक उपाध्यक्ष, एक महासचिव, एक कोषाध्यक्ष और तीन कार्यकारिणी सदस्य पर्दों के लिए निर्वाचन के संशोधित कार्यक्रम की घोषणा निम्नलिखित की जाती है।

11 जनवरी 2022

मतदाता सूची पर प्राप्त आपत्तियों का निस्तारण 12 जनवरी को सांय 03 बजे तक। अन्य

12 जनवरी, 2022 नामांकन् प्राप्त करने का समय दिनांक 12 जनवरी 2022 को प्रातः 11 बजे से 13 जनवरी

2022 को सुबह 11 बजे तक चुनाव कार्यालय से प्राप्त कर सकते है। नामांकन फार्म का शुल्क

नामांकन 13 जनवरी 2022 को प्रातः 11 बजे से दोपहर 03 बजे तक नोएडा मीडिया क्लब के चुनाव अधिकारी कार्यालय में प्राप्त किया जाएगा। उसके उपरांत साथ 05 बजे उम्मीदवारों

14 जनवरी 2022

15 जनवरी 2022

15 जनवरी 2022 को नाम वापसी का समय सांय 03 बजे तक। वैध नामांकन पत्रों की सूची

मतगणनाः मतदान समाप्त करने के उपरांत मतगणना शुरू होगी। उसके उपरांत परिणाम

धाषत किया जाएगा। नोटः मतदान प्रक्रिया आम सभा के निर्णय के अनुसार बैलेट पेपर और ई बैलेट के माध्यम से कराया जाएगा, जो सदस्य ई बैलेट के माध्यम से मतदान करना चाहते हैं उन्हें 18 जनवरी को 01 बजे तक अधिकत मोबाइल नंबर पर वाट्सऐप के माध्यम से सूचित करना होगा,

आपत्तियों का निस्तारण 12 जनवरी 2022 को सांय 05 बजे तक।

14 जनवरी 2022 को सांय 03 बजे तक नामांकन पत्रों की जांच।

19 जनवरी 2022 बुधवार मतदानः 19 जनवरी 2022 को सुबह 09 बजे से साथ 04 बजे तक

No. SSA/IE/Hearing Aid/577/2014/Pt/8485 Date: 11.01.2022

OCHA warned of loom-

but still suffering Afghanistan

the Kathmandu Valley on 3rd Chinese city goes into lockdown ahead of Beijing Winter Olympics as Covid cases spiral

Winter Olympics as authorities effectively put Anyang under lockdown, the third city after Xian and Tianjin, confining over 20 million people to their homes to arrest the spread of the contagion.

Anyang, a city of 5.5 million population in the country's central Henan province, has upgraded its epidemic control measures.It is the third city to go under the lockdown after the tourist centre Xian and Tianjin port city, where a cluster of Omicron cases was detected in the last few days, denting China's zero coronavirus case policy.

As many as 84 coronavirus infections, all locally-transmitted, have been confirmed in Anyang since the first case was reported on Saturday, official reported media Tuesday. The Anyang city authority said that between midnight Monday to early

ers where they plow," said

Martin Griffiths, the head of

OCHA."We need to get health

services to the clinics in loca-

tions throughout the country,

and we need protection ser-

vices for all those people who

appeal for a single country for

humanitarian assistance, and

it is three times the amount

needed and actually

fundraised in 2021," he said.

The joint appeal seeks \$4.4 billion for OCHA and its

partners, plus another USD

623 million for the refugee

agency to help more than 6

million Afghans who have

fled abroad, or about 15 per-

cent of Afghanistan's total

population. Others continue

to trickle across the border, UNHCR said, while noting

that an estimated 175,000

have returned to country since

Taliban takeover. "The reality

is that people go back because

situation is more secure," said

Filippo Grandi, who heads UNCHR. "The conflict

between Taliban and the pre-

"This is the largest ever

want to return home.

Beijing: The COVID-19 cases spiralled in China ahead of the next month's Beijing infections. The municipal government in the confirmed local COVID-19 infections. The municipal government is government. ernment of Anyang issued orders on Monday to ban all vehicles from roads and required all residents to stay put while an epidemiological investigation was underway.

The increase in cases is taking place ahead of the Beijing Winter Olympics which will be held from February 4 to 20.

There is a sense of disquiet among the officials as the spurt of cases in different places sprouting up, notwithstanding the stringent coronavirus control measures. Meanwhile, the country's National Health Commission on Tuesday said that the Chinese mainland reported nearly 200 cases in different places, including 110 locally-transmitted ones. Of the new local cases, 87 reported in Henan, 13 in Shaanxi and 10 in Tianjin, the commission said adding that 82 new imported cases were reported in 11 provincial-level regions.

Justice Dept Creating

Washington: The Justice

Department is establishing a

specialised unit focused on

domestic terrorism, the depart-

ment's top national security

official told lawmakers Tuesday

as he described an "elevated"

threat from violent extremists

in the United States. Assistant

Attorney General Matthew

Olsen, testifying just days after

the nation observed the one-

year anniversary of the violent

number of FBI investigations

into suspected domestic violent

extremists has more than dou-

bled since the spring of 2020.

'We have seen a growing threat

from those who are motivated

by racial animus, as well as

those who ascribe to extremist

anti-government and anti-

authority ideologies," Olsen said.The department's National

Security Division, which Olsen

leads, has a counterterrorism

section. But Olsen told the

Senate Judiciary Committee

that he has decided to create a

specialised domestic terror-

ism unit "to augment our exist-

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL

HOSPITAL AND CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR

Telefax No.: 0194-2496089, Email Id:- xenmhchdk@yahoo.in

(Short Term)

GIST of E -NIT NO: MHCHD/TS /2021-22/272/e-tendering

Dated:-10-01-2022

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited from

registered/reputed/experienced firms with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and

Name of Work:- Providing and fitting of Aluminium Cables along with allied

items for Bypass System of 1000 LPM Oxygen Plant at Govt, Medical College

Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs) :- 2.31, Cost of T/Doc. (In rupees) :- 200, Time of

completion (in days) :- 05. AA Accorded Vide No: :- 668-JK(HME)of 2020

Dt:-07.09.2020, TS.NO :-MHCHD/TS/192 Dated 01/22, Earnest Money (in

1. The Tender document Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria,

specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract

and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website

2. The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site

other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned work:-

www.jktenders.gov.in from 10-01-2022 (18.00 hrs).

at the US Capitol, said the

insurrection

unit focused on

domestic terrorism

attempt to intimidate neighbours: White House **PTI** ■ WASHINGTON intimidate its neighbours. "We'll continue to stand with our part-

¬he US is concerned by L China's attempt to "intimidate" its neighbours, including India, as Washington believes that Beijing's behaviour in region and around world could be "destabilising", the White House has said, asserting that America will continue to stand with its partners.

The remarks of White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki came ahead of 14th round of military-level talks between India and China on 20-month row in eastern Ladakh.

Asked about China's aggressive behaviour on its border with India and if topic came during America's talks with China or Washington sending any message to Beijing on this, Psaki, during her daily news conference on Monday, said that US continues to closely monitor situation along the Índia-China border. "We continue to support dialogue and peaceful resolution of these border disputes," she said. 'We've been pretty clear how we view Beijing's behaviour in region and around world. We believe it can be destabilising. And we're concerned by People's Republic of China's attempt to

ners on that," Psaki asserted According to sources in security establishment in New Delhi, the 'Senior Highest Military Commander Level' talks between India and China will take place on January 12 at Chushul-Moldo meeting point, on the Chinese side of Line of Actual Control in eastern

India is looking forward to "constructive" dialogue with China to resolve issues in remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh, they said, adding that major focus of the talks will be on disengagement in the Hot Springs area.

The Indian side is expected to press for disengagement as soon as possible in all remaining friction points including resolution of issues in Depsang Bulge and Demchok. The 13th round of talks had taken place on October 10, 2021 and they ended in a stalemate. Both sides failed to make any headway in talks with Indian Army saying after dialogue that "constructive suggestions" made by it were neither agreeable to Chinese side nor it could provide any "forwardlooking" proposals.

Taliban free popular Afghan professor critical of government

AP KABUL

The Taliban have released a I popular university professor and outspoken critic of successive Afghan governments who was arrested over the weekend, a family member said Tuesday.Hasina Jalal, Faizullah Jalal's daughter, said her father was freed from Taliban custody. The group had accused him of "nonsense remarks on social media, which were provoking people against the government and playing with people's dignity".

Jalal had been detained Sunday by the Taliban's intelligenće arm. TOLO TV, Afghanistan's largest station on which Jalal was a frequent commentator, tweeted that Jalal was arrested "reportedly for making allegations against government departments, a security source said". After Jalal's detention, he received an outpouring of support on social media, with many users posting Jalal's photos. A small group of women protested in

The Taliban seized control of Afghanistan last August ahead of America's chaotic Aug 31 departure after nearly 20 years of war. The Islamic militant guerrillas-turned-rulers pre-

viously held power from 1996-2001. Afghanistan faces a major humanitarian crisis, with United Nations warning that 90% of country's 38 mil lion people are in dire need The arrest of a prominent political activist threatened to complicate humanitarian

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that Mrs. Durgesh (hereinafter referred to as the said Mortgagors/Borrowers) had Purchase the Property Bearing No. 175-B, area measuring 37.1/2 sq. vds. i.e. 314498 Sq. Mrs. Out of Masara No. 101.126 & 127, Situated at Village Bindapur Delhi state Delhi, Colony Anown as Vikas Vihar Block-0, Ultram Nagar. New Delhi. Hereinafter referred to "said property") from Mr. Ahand Kumar Vide Saie Deed dated 21.08.2020, sub-registrar-II Blanakpuri, as Document No. 1061, Volume No. 5454, Book no. 1, Page No. 132-141, no. 21.08.2020 and Now. Mrs. Durgesh have agreed to create mortgage in respect of the said property in favour of our clients DFC FIRST Bank Limited. Further, if any person, body, individual, institution having any claim, title, interest and/orobjection in respect of or against or relating to or touching upon said property or part of the property by way of sale, exchange, lease, lien, mortgage, charge, encumbrance, gift, trust, assement, maintenance, inhertance, testamentary deposition or otherwise or having in their custody any title, documents pertaining the said property shall communicate the same to the undersigned operty shall communicate the same to the undersigns at below mentioned address within 10 days from th publication of this notice with documentary evidence in support thereof, failing which all the claim, of such person shall be considered to have been waived and or abandoned Any objections raised after the completion of the 10 day shall not be binding upon the said property or my Client & in case anyone has any objection, the same may be raised within 10 days of this publication to Mr. Muneesh Dhawar / Mr. Sudhir Jain (Advocates), Law Veritas, Unit no 907 97 Floor GD-11 Llower, GB-08), Nebaij Subhash Place, Delhi-110034 or contact at 9066707172/9818228836 (M). ublication of this notice with documentary evidence

Public Notice

nis is to inform general public that Mrs. Ram Lal
rasad acquired the entire Property No. L-2/
Imeasuring 827.8/10 Sq. Vds., From DLF Housi
nd Construction Pyt Ltd. Vide conveyance Dee
sted 25.09.1958as Doc no. 4223,Mrs.Ram Lal and Construction Pvt Ltd. Vide conveyance Deed dated 25.09,1958as Doc no. 4223,Mrs Ram Lalli Prasad expired and as per Documents Shared with us and Information Provided to us, 5 he was Survived by Six Sons Namely 1. Mr. Rawi Kumar, 2. Mr. Shyam Kumar, 3. Rajesh Kumar, 4. Mr. Rakesh Kumar, 5. Mr. Kinshan Kumar and one Daughter Namely Mrs. Raj Kumar Dwivedi. Thereafter, Mrs. Raji Kumar Dwivedi. Relinquished Her Share in Property in favour of Her Brothers Vide Relinquishment Deed dated 31.03.1995 The above Mentioned Six Brothers entered into a Family Settlement dated. 12.12.2000 Regarding the Entire Property. Mrs. Raji Kumari Dwivedi expired and is Survived by only son Mr Ashutosh, Mr. Ravi Kumar Expired on OS.08.2017 and is survive by Mrs. Sukriti Kumar (Wife) and Mrs. Smrtit Kumar (Daughter) and Mr. Vinarnar Kumar (Son), Mrs. Machu Kumar Shori, Mr. Ravi Kumar Kumar Koni, Mrs. Machu Kumar Kumar Koni, Mrs. Meenakshi Sharma (Daughter), Mrs. Meenakshi Sharm Sharma executed GPA dated 13.10.2071, in flavour. Mrs. Madhu Kumarin respect of Rear Portion of Sa Property, Finally Legal heirs of Mrs. Ram Lalli Parsa Legal Heirs of Mr. Ravi Kumar and other Legal heirs Mr. Shyam Kumar executed Relinquishment Dee dated 24.12.2021 in favour of Mr. Manik Kumar respect of Pvt Flat Unit No. 2 (having Covered area. oateo 2.4.12.021 in Javour of un. Wahik Numar in respect of Pvf Flat Unit No. 2 (having Covered area of 1200 Sq. ft), Situted on Ground Floor towards the wall touching the Front Portion three Flats (towards East) Rear Portion of Plot No. 1.2A, area 400 Sq. yds. Hauz Khas Endave New Delhi-110016, duly Regd of Doc No. 10187, Vol No. 4292, Page No. 156-168, With SRO-VA Hauz Khas, In this Manner Mr. Manik Kumar is Mortgaging this Flat with Bajal Housing Finance Ltd. & In case anyone has any objection, the same may be raised within 7 days of this publication to Mr. Muneesh Dhawan/ Mr. Sudhir Jain (Advocates), Low Verlias, Juntin 0907, 9th Floor Ob-11. Tower (8-08), Netaji Subhash Place, Delhi 110034 or contact at 90667071772/9818228636 (M).

US concerned by China's | North Korea fires possible missile into sea amid stalled talks

AP SEOUL

North Korea on Tuesday fired what appeared to be a ballistic missile into its eastern sea, its second launch in a week, following leader Kim Jong Un's calls to expand its nuclear weapons program in defiance of international oppo-

The launches follow a series of weapons tests in 2021 that underscored how North Korea is continuing to expand its military capabilities during a self-imposed pandemic lockdown and deadlocked nuclear talks with the United States. South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said North Korea fired what likely was a ballistic missile from the area of its northern Jagang province.

It said the weapon flew 700 km (434 miles) at a maximum speed of around Mach 10 before landing in waters off its eastern coast.

It said the launch was a 'clear violation" of UN Security Council resolutions and demonstrated a more advanced capability than North Korea's previous launch last week. The North's state media described that launch as a successful test of a hypersonic missile, a type of weaponry it claimed to have first tested in September.

South Korean officials didn't provide a specific assessment of the missile type, but some experts said North Korea may have tested its purported hypersonic missile again in response to the South Korean military playing down its previous test. North Korea didn't immediately comment on Tuesday's test.Japan's Defence Ministry said the suspected ballistic missile landed outside the country's exclusive economic zone. Prime

officials were checking the safety of ships and aircraft around Japan, but there were no immediate reports of disruptions or "It is extremely regrettable

Minister Fumio Kishida said

that North Korea has continued to fire" missiles so soon after the UN Security Council discussed its response to the North's earlier launch, Kishida said.The Security Council held closeddoor consultations on Monday on last week's launch, but took no action.

Ahead of the talks, the US and five allies issued a statement urging North Korea to abandon its nuclear and ballistic missile programmes.

South Korea's presidential office said Tuesday's launch was discussed at an emergency National Security Council meeting, which expressed "strong regret" over North Korea's continuing tests and urged it to return to talks.

The US Indo-Pacific Command said the launch did not pose an "immediate threat to US personnel or territory, or to our allies" but underlined the destabilising impact of North Korea's weapons programmes.

The launch came six days after North Korea fired a ballistic missile into the sea in what it later described as a successful test of a hypersonic missile.Seoul's Defence Ministry said after that test that North Korea had exaggerated its capabilities and had tested a conventional ballistic missile South was capable of intercepting. The ministry said it doubts that North Korea has acquired the technologies needed for a hypersonic weapon.

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL 600/1, University Road, Near Lucknow- 226007 (Ares

of Jurisdiction-Part of Uttar Pradesh) Summons for filing & Appearance by Publication O.A.No. 436/2020

FORM NO.5

Date28/12/2021 (Summons to defendant under section 19(3) of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financia Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)

Original Application No. 436 of 2020
ICICI BANK LTD. ...Applicant Versus Mr. PRABHU NARAYAN

MISHRA & OTHER ...Defendant

E-1 Surya Vihar-II, Şehatpur Faridabad-121003 Also At: B-GF17, Ground Floor, Tower-B, Gardenia Gateway, Plot No.10 Sec-75 Noida Noida-201301.

1. Mr. Prabhu Narayan Mishra

2. Mrs. Gouri Mishra E-1 Surya Vihar-II, Sehatpur, Faridabad-121003 Also At: B-GF17, Ground Floor, Tower-B, Gardenia Gateway, Plot No.10 Sec-75 Noida Noida-201301.

3. M/S FUTECH SHELTERS PRIVATE LIMITED. Registered Office at: R-19,3rd Floor, Main Shakar Pur Market, √ikas Marg, Delhi-110092. Corporate Office at: Plot No.9 Sec-75. Noida-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 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 14/03/2022 at 10.30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decide in your absence

Registrar Debts Recovery Tribunal Lucknov

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. 281/2020 Date: 05/01/2022

FORM NO.5

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.281 of 2020

_ra. ...Applicant

SUDHIR KUMAR SHEORAN & ORS ...Defendan ...Defendants

To, 1. SRI SUDHIR KUMAR SHEORAN H No.3 616.Sector- 3.

Vasundhara, Gaziabad 201012. Also At:

Flat No. 1601, 16th Floor, Tower T1, Unnati, The Aranya Heights, Plot No. GHO2, Sec-119 Gautam Budh Nagar Noida- 201307 2. Mrs. ANJU SHYAVRAN,

H No.3 616, Sector-3, Vasundhara, Gaziabad 201012.

Also At: Flat No. 1601, 16th Floor, Tower

T1. Unnati. The Aranya Heights Plot No. GH02, Sec-119 Gautam Budh Nagar Noida- 201307 HOLDINGS, LTD. Registered Office:

T-07, LL-02, Common Wealth Games Village, New Delhi-110092.

Corporate Office at B-117, Sector- 67, Noida, 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 the authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on 07/04/2021 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your

Registrar Debts Recovery Tribunal Lucknow

अध्यक्ष पद के लिए नामांकन शुल्क दस हजार रूपये, उपाध्यक्ष पद के लिए दस हजार रूपये, from 11--01-2022(10.00 hrs).to17-01-2022(14:00 hrs) in two (02) cover. महासंचिव के लिए साढ़े सात हजार रूपये, कोषाध्यक्ष के लिए पांच हजार रूपये और कार्यकारिणी सदस्य के लिए ढाई हजार रूपये होगा। नामांकन शुल्क की धनराशि वापस नही 3. The bids uploaded on the website up to due date and time will be opened on 17-01-2022(16.00 hrs) or any date convenient to the department in the office of Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar. हस्ताक्षर No. DIPK-16484/21

pnb punjab national bank

Vinay Kumar S/o Sh. Raghuvir Singh, 7. Sh. Raghuvir Singh (252/3A Khasra No. 1034 min, 1035 min, 1037 min. Property ID PUNB0242XRSI

Anantnag

Rupees):-4700

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

CIRCLE SASTRA, JALANDHAR (WEST), 2ND FLOOR 922, G. T. ROAD, JALANDHAR, (PUNJAB)

Sd/- Executive Engineer,

MHCHD, Srinagar

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical/symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Bank/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of its dues due to the Bank/ Secured Creditor from the respective properties. SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS

Name of the Branch Name of the Account INDUSTRIAL AREA, JALANDHAR Borrower(s): 1. M/s R S International, Plot No. 71, Leather Complex.

Shivlokpuri, Kankar Khera, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh).

Description of the immovable properties mortgaged / Owner's Name (Mortgagor of the property(ies)

Residential Plot no ½ A RTD No.6807 dated 28-05-2011 in the name of M/s Kanti Demand Notice Dt 11.10.2018

E) Dt. Of Demand Notice u/s 13(2) of SARFESI ACT 2002 F) Outstanding Amount as on G) Nature of Possession Symbolic/Physical/ Constructive

Lodge Private Limited through its Directors Mr Vinay Kumar and Raghuvir Singh Outstanding Amount as on 30.09.2018 is Rs. 4,81,91,668.69 Five Lacs Thirty Thousand Only) Rapurthala Road, Jalandhar, 2. M/s Kanti Lodge Pvt. Ltd., 46 Amrit Nagar situated at Mauza Rithani, Pargana, Old Merrut Delhi National Highway, Tehsil and New Delhi, 3. Smt. Poonam Viraliya W/o Sh. Vinay Kumar, 4. Sh. Khushal Distt. Merrut . Bounded as East-Ahata of others, West-rasta aam, North—Property of Hundred Sixty Eight And Sixty Nine Paise Only) plus further interest 8 (Rupees Four Crore Eighty One Lakh Ninty One Thousand Six Viraliya S/o Vinod Kumar, 5. Sh. Vinod kumar S/o Raghuvir Singh, 6. Sh. Others, South - Ahata of others, Land measuring 2365.38 Sq. meters bearing other charges until payment in full

Possession Date u/s 13(4) 24.12.2018. Physical Possession

A) Rs. 4,25,30,000 (Rupees Four Crore Twenty B) Rs. 43,00,000.00 (Rs. Forty Three Lac Only) C) Rs. 10,000.00 (Rs. Ten Thousand Only)

AUTHORISED OFFICER (PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK, SECURED CREDITOR)

A) Reserve Price (Rs. in Lacs)

B) EMD (last date of deposit NA)

Date/ Time of E-Auction 31.01.2022

02:00 PM

TERMS AND CONDITIONS The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions: 1). The properties are being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS". 2). The

particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation. 3). The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e auction platform provided at the Website https://www.mstcecommerce.com on 31.01.2022 as per time given above in column No. 6. 4) For detailed term and conditions of the sale, please refer www.ibapi.in, www.mstcecommerce.com STATUTORY 15 SALE NOTICE UNDER RULES OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

DATE: 11.01.2022

Sr. No.

PLACE: JALANDHAR

Covid third wave to impact securitisation, says Icra

FY22 volumes will fall below earlier estimates

ockdowns to contain the Lockdowns to contain the Lorentz of the third Covid wave hurt loan collections and new lending by non-banks, and will in turn impact securitisation volumes, a domestic rating agency said on Tuesday. The overall volumes of

securitisation - where a nonbank lender passes on future receivables against loans or a bunch of loans to another entity for upfront cash - will come at ₹ 1-1.1 lakh crore in FY22 as against the ₹1.2 lakh estimated earlier, Icra said in a Securitisation volumes

could thus be affected in the January-March quarter because the NBFCs (Non Bank Finance Companies) and HFCs (Housing Finance Companies) may curtail disbursements, especially to COVID-impacted sectors, and investors would

prefer to wait for the threat to subside, the agency said. Some states have already

started imposing restrictions though of a milder nature so far, Icra's group head for structured finance Abhishek Dafria said, adding the lockdowns not only impact the collection ability as staff members fall ill but also the income generating ability of the borrowers.

In the event that the severity of the COVID infections grows and results in higher hospitalisation rates, the state governments may impose stringent lockdowns to control the spread of the virus and investors will also wait for the threat to subside,

"Higher proportion of securitisation transactions are usually placed in March and thus we hope the spread of the virus would be contained sooner," Dafria noted.

2021. The demand for fuel,

most used in cars and two-

According to him, lower disbursements would also impact the growth of the securitisation market in FY23, he added.

Traditionally, securitisation through Direct Assignment (DA) transactions (bilateral assignment of pool of retail loans from one entity to another) has accounted for about two-third of total volumes, with Pass Through Certificate (PTC) transactions (loans are sold to an SPV which issues PTCs) accounting for the balance.

Due to the concerns around the COVID-related disruptions, preference for PTCs has increased (45 per cent share in Q3 volumes) since the credit enhancements in such structures would be able to absorb higher-thanexpected losses than may arise in the transaction, the agency

M-cap of BSE-listed companies at lifetime high of over ₹ 275.2 lakh cr

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $T^{\text{he market capitalisation of}}_{\text{the BSE-listed companies}}$ reached a fresh lifetime high of over ₹275.20 lakh crore on Tuesday, driven by a continuous rally in the equity market.

The 30-share BSE benchmark continued its winning run for the third consecutive session on Tuesday. It gained 221.26 points or 0.37 per cent to settle at 60,616.89 on Tuesday

In three days, the benchmark has gained 1,015.05

Helped by the optimism in equities, the market capitalisation of the BSE-listed companies reached Rs 2,75,20,698.50 crore on Tuesday. Investors' wealth also jumped Rs 4,05,806.62 crore in three days.

"Markets ended marginally higher in a volatile session, tracking mixed cues. Initially, weak global cues were weighing on the sentiments. However, resilience in the IT majors not only capped the downside but also helped the index to inch higher.

"As the day progressed, index majors from other sectors also contributed to the move," said Religare Broking Vice-President (Research) Ajit Mishra. In Tuesday's trade, HCL

Tech was the biggest gainer from the 30-share frontline companies pack, jumping 4.30 per cent, followed by HDFC, Tech Mahindra, TCS, Sun Pharma, RIL and SBI.

In the broader market, the mid-cap and small-cap indices gained up to 0.15 per cent.

Markets gains likely to be muted in 2022: Report

9% upside for **Nifty by Dec**

Dalal Street may not sustain the record run it had from the middle of 2020 as the new vear will see bouts of corrections leading to tepid gains given the many downside risks to a sustained rally, says a brokerage report.

Wall Street brokerage Bank of America Securities India expects the market gaining around 9 per cent from the present levels and the Nifty hovering around 19,100 by December. The brokerage does not offer a target for the benchmark index Sensex.

The market rally that began from June 2020 and lasted till October 2021 will not

Sensex, Nifty firm up gains for third session; IT, financial shares rally

hold this year and the return will be in high single-digit of say up to 9 per cent, Amish Shah, a research analyst at the brokerage, said and expects Nifty at 9,100 by December.

He also noted that despite high valuation -- the highest among EM (Emerging Market)
peers by around 28 per cent
and also the world stocks by around 22 per cent -- domestic equities continue to be attractive and is second only to Taiwan when it comes to

Shah sees rising COVID cases amidst the threat of newer variants hitting the world economy and stocks in 2022 along with central bank closing the liquidity tap faster than expected due to the spiralling inflation, stronger greenback putting pressure on the rupee and other factors.

According to him, at least

four rate hikes of 25 basis points are expected from June and rupee might touch 77 against the US dollar.

Besides, crude prices are likely to scale USD 120 level in the first half and then fall to an average of USD 85 a barrel, and that will be a recurring threat to a large rally this year, according to Shah.

Further, he pointed out that such short term events may lead to intermittent market corrections throughout the

However, the rising share of private sector investments with the government ending apex public sector monopolies to private and foreign capital will see the market holding ground as past experiences have proved that whichever government sector was opened up to the private sector none of them disappointed, he said.

India's fuel consumption shows almost no growth in December

India's fuel consumption $oldsymbol{1}$ showed flattish growth in December 2021 ahead of fresh restrictions kicking in to control the surge of a new variant of coronavirus that is likely to further dampen demand, according to official data released on Tuesday.

Total petroleum product consumption in December 2021 stood at 18.43 million tonnes, compared with 18.36 million tonnes in the same month last year. This after a rise in demand for transport fuel was negated by a fall in industrial fuel.

The consumption was 7.6 per cent higher month-onmonth but was still 2.7 per cent lower than pre-COVID-19 levels of 2019, according to the data released by the oil Petroleum ministry's Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC).

As the economy continued to rebound from the deep impact of the second wave, transport fuel demand rose in December

Diesel, the most used fuel in the country accounting for almost 40 per cent of all petroleum product consumption, rose 1.5 per cent lion tonnes and was near pre-COVID-19 demand of 7.387

Name of work

Earnest Money

Date and Time of

R.O. No. 66715/5

R.O. Dated: 11/01/2022

submission of tender

Petrol sales, which crossed the pre-COVID-19 level a few months ago, climbed four per cent to 2.81 million tonnes in December

wheelers, stood at 2.47 million tonnes in December Increased travel during the holiday season is said to jobs than men.

have contributed to the rise. With increased air travel, aviation turbine fuel (ATF) posted a 29 per cent growth in consumption to 5,52,000 tonnes but it was lower than 7,29,000 tonnes

Cooking gas LPG consumption fell almost two per cent to 2.4 million tonnes. This is largely because consumption in December 2020 was higher on the back of the free cylinders that the government gave to the poor to tide over the hardships of the pandemic. Yet, the demand in

December 2020 was higher than the pre-COVID-19 level as LPG sales in December 2019 was 2.35 million tonnes, the data showed. Consumption of naph-

tha, which is used as a fuel in industries, fell two per cent to 1.18 million tonnes, while cent. The sale of bitumen, used in road construction, was down 19 per cent to 6,95,000 tonnes.

Women are more employable in tech development jobs than men: Report

 $W^{ith \ the \ tech \ industry}_{opening \ up \ more \ job}$ opportunities in the wake of the ongoing pandemic, a report has shown that women are more employable in development

According to the BridgeLabz Tech Employability Quotient (BTEQ) test, which determines the likelihood of getting a development job in the tech industry, it has been found that the average score for women stands at 42 per cent against that of men at 39 per cent.

'While the tech industry is burgeoning with opportunities across different fields, there remains a significant issue of staff attrition. One of the variables in the gap is the underutilisation of women's talent. Whether women are starting their careers or joining after a career break, we've been working towards reducing the skill gap, instilling diversity in the workplace," BridgeLabz founder Narayan Mahadevan said.

The Tech-Employability 2021-22 report is based on a sample size of over 40,000 engineering graduates.

that highly educated and experienced women reach the midmanagement level and often take a break from their jobs.

TAKE NOTICE THAT at behest of our client, we are investigating title of Mr. Kanti Lal 8. Mrs. Monika Meena ("Borrower") for Portion of Ploty Property area measuring 32 sq. yds. (out of total area measuring 450 sq. yds.), Part of hasra No. 591, Stuated in the area of Village Nasirour, abadi known as Sadn Nagar, Palam Colony, New Delhi ("Said Property) who intends to buy the said property from Mrs. Bindu Sahu by availing a loan from our Client i.e. Fullerton Indla Home Finance Company Ltd. by creating a mortgage against said property. Any Person having any claims or rights in respect of the Said Property are/is hereby requested to make the same known in writing to the undersigned within a period of 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their share or daim, if any, with all supporting documents, falling which, it will be assumed that there are no claims or issues in respect of Said Property and the transaction, if any shall be completed without reference to the claims, if any, shall be completed without reference to the claims, if any, Said Property and the transaction, if any, Said Property and Property area.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client Shri Virendra Kumar Bhargava S/o Shri Dev Datt Bhargava, aged 63 ears & Smt. Pushpa Bhargaya R/o K-71 Main Vasant Kunj Road, Mahipalpur, Nev Delhi–110037 are mentally sound and ari in good health and declare "that their so nkur Bhargava and daughter in law Pink Sharma have fights come every day an keep on fighting with me and my wife over property. My daughter in law Pinki keeps threatening to implicate me and my wife in alse cases of dowry harassment and other related cases. For this reason, fror today 12-01-2022, I cease all my relation with my son Ankur Bhargava and his wife Pinki Sharma and evict them from all m movable and immovable properties. Afte today's date 12-01-2022, I and my wife and my other children will not have an elations with them and I, my wife and m other children will not not be responsible for any act done by them." By Advocate
Nitin Bharadwa
Dated: 12-01-2022 Reg No.-D597E/96 Vodafone Idea in lieu of dues liability

Janasanyog/CF/2814/21

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction

of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred

under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand

notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in genera

that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers

conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below

mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the

Description of

Physical Possession

Layout, Bangalore Karnataka Admeasuring an area of 2400 Sq Feet 06/01/2022

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else

the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per

property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Reena Verma/ Mukul Verma Plot No-20 and 21, Kambipura Skc, Ranbow

the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Karol Bagh, Delhi- 110005

Govt to get 35.8% stake in debt-ridden

Debt-ridden Vodafone Idea (VIL) has decided to opt for converting about ₹16,000 crore interest dues liability payable to the government into equity which will amount to around 35.8 per cent stake in the company, as per a regulatory filing of the telecom firm.

If the plan goes through, the government will become the biggest shareholder in the company which is reeling under a debt burden of

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

Divisional Engineer/MWS for Chief Workshop Manager, N.E. Railway, Mechanical workshop President of India invites Open Tender through online (E Tendering) for the following work SI. No.: 1, E-Tender Notice No & Name of work: 01-2022-01-01 out Zone No. 9 C area mechanical workshop & Store Depot, for Maintenance of all work of sheds etc. for P.E. 30.06.2022, Estimated Cost ₹ 63,00,000.00/-, Last date for submission of tender is 02.02.2022 and before 15.00 hrs. The Details of above tender are also available on Indian Railway

CPRO/Mech.-64 About any passenger amenity complete SMS on Mobile No. 09794845955 O NOT TRAVEL WITH INFLAMMABLE ARTICLE IN TRAIN

the date of receipt of the said notice.

Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number

LBDFI 00005243194

Date: January 12, 2022

opening of bid on 15.01.2022 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M. respectively.)

website www.ireps.gov.in.

Divisional Engineer/MWS Gorakhpur

..The board of directors, at its meeting held on 10th January 2022, has approved the conversion of the full amount of such interest related to spectrum auction instalments and AGR dues into equity. The Net Present Value (NPV) of this interest is expected to be about Rs 16,000 crore as per the company's best estimates, subject to confirmation by the DoT," Vodafone Idea said in a regulatory filing.

Notice Inviting Re- e-Tender

No. SSA/IE/Hearing Aid/577/2014/Pt/8486 Date: 11.01.2022 Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19, Assam (Samagra Shiksha Abhijan) invites re-tender through e-Tendering process from reputed Manufacturer of Hearing Aids/authorized dealer of the manufacturer for assessment and supply of aids and appliances for Children with special needs

To participate in the tender process through e-procurement document, bidder should have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) and have to register in the portal https://assamtenders.gov.in by

The Bidder who have downloaded the tender schedules containing the tender details, terms and conditions, from the website shall submit their tender on-line on the website https://assamtenders.gov.in, with proof of payment of non refundable tender processing fee of Rs. 5000/ (Rupees five thousand) only in the form of demand draft/Bankers Cheque drawn in favour of Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19, Assam, from any nationalized Bank and payable at Guwahati. The tender should be submitted on-line as per date and time of submission as per prescribed

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

Sd/-Mission Director SSA, Assam Kahilipara, Guwahati-19

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

Notice (Rs.)

June 25, 2021

1,09,73,040/-

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER/CD-I

ICICI Bank Limited

Delhi/

600/1, University Road, Near Lucknow-226007 (Ares of Jurisdiction- Part of Uttar Pradesh)

Summons for filing & Appearance by Publication O.A. No. 287/2020 Date: 05/01/2022

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 Recovery T Rules, 1993) O.A. NO.287 of 2020

.td. ...Applicant Versus ICICI Bank Ltd. VIJAY KISHORE & ORS ...Defendant

1. SRI VIJAY KISHOR E-162, 1st Floor, Sushant Lok PH II Sector-56, Gurgaon-122011. Also At:

Flat No. TC-1707, Unnati The Aranya Heights, Tower C, Sec-119,17th Floor, Plot No. GHO2, Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida

2. Mrs. SUNITA SINGH. E-162, 1st Floor, Sushant Lok PH II Sector-56, Gurgaon-122011 Also At:

Also At: Flat No. TC-1707, Unnati The Aranya Heights, Tower C, Sec-119,17th Floor, Plot No. GH02, Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida-201301

M/S UNNATI FORTUNE HOLDINGS, LTD. Registered Office: T-07,LL

02,Common Wealth Games Village, New Delhi-110092. Corporate Office at B-117, Sector-67, Noida, U.P.

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 of the summons, and appear before the Tribunal on 07/04/2022 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be which the application shall be heard and decided in your

Registrar Debts Recovery Tribunal Lucknow

C.G. Police Housing Corporation, Raipur H.Q. - Old PHQ, Civil Line, Raipur (CG) Phone No. 0771- 4020028 Tender No./93,94/CGPHC/Bldg/2022 TENDER NOTICE (2nd CALL)

Online Tenders are invited according to Key dates for (Group-A Supply, Construction and erection of Prefabricated Barracks (13 Nos) for Paramilitary Force of sandwich puff panels along with developmental works at Padergaon, Antagarh Block, District - Kanker & (Group-B) Construction of Road, digging & construction of bund and temporary koth at Padergaon, Antagarh Block, Distt. - Kanker Tender System No. - 90528 & 90530 which are available from 13.01.2022 (10:30) to 21.01.2022 (17:30pm) in CGPHC Portal https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in along with other details

Managing Director

NORTHERN RAILWAY Corrigendum No. 01

NIT No.: 230-TRS-GZB-2021-22-02 dt. 03.01.2022

Name of Work: 'Hiring of Truck model Tata-407 or similar vehicle like Mahindra Road king or canter or Ishar for 24 months'.

The above mentioned NIT No. 230-TRS-GZB-2021-22-02 dt. 03.01.2022

vas published on 04.01.2022 in the leading News paper, should be reated as postpone and the above tender will not open or No.: 230-TRS-GZB-2021-22-02 Dated: 10.01.2022

Serving Customers with a Smile

Cancellation of e-Tender Notice Date: 11/01/2022 or the work of "Repairing of boundary wall and maintenance beautification works of school building at Bhawani Inter Collage Ballupur, Dehradun" is hereby cancelled.

For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement porta "http://uktenders.gov.in" **Executive Enginee**

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY" (Civil-Maintenance)

FORM NO.5 FORM NO.5 DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL 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. 289/2020 Date: 05/01/2022

Summons to defendant under Section 19(3), of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financia Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993) O.A. NO.289 of 2020

Lid. ...Applicant
Versus ICICI Bank Ltd. Ravi Ratan Kumar Singh & ORS

1. SRI RAVI RATAN KUMAR SINGH E- 159 JALVAYU VIHAR POCKET- 4, GR NOIDA NOIDA-

Also At:-Flat No.2001, 20th Floor The Aranya Heights, Plot No. GH02, Sec 119, Tower T2, Noida-201303

Sec 119, Tower 12, IVOIGG 2. ROBINA KHUSHNOOD, Flat E-159 JALVAYU VIHAR POCKET- 4, GR NOIDA NOIDA 201308.

Flat No.2001, 20th Floor The Aranya Heights, Plot No. GH02, Sec 119, Tower T2, Noida-201303. M/S UNNATI FORTUNE

HOLDINGS. LTD. Registered Office: T-07,LL-02,Common Wealth

Games Village, New Delhi-110092. Corporate Office at B-117, Sector-67, Noida, U.P.

In the above noted application, you are required to file the in paper book form in Two sets along with

documents and affidavits (if any) personally or through your duly authorized agent or lega practitioner in this Tribunal, afte 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 07/04/2022 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence

Debts Recovery Tribunal Lucknow

राज्य न्यायालयिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला, रायपुर (छत्तीसगढ़) क्रमांक / रा.न्या.वि.प्र. / क्रय / M-146, 148, 150/2022

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-IV, Northern Railway, Delhi Division for and on behalf

Invitation of tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

Rs. 70,900.00

Supply of potable drinking water through tankers

at L-xings and colonies under ADEN/ROK. (NIT

Bidding Start date for work no. Up to 15:00 hrs.

on IREPS site i.e.

www.ireps.gov.in

on 21.01.2022 opening of e-Tender

of President of India invites E-Tender on prescribed form for the following work.

30-W-IV-21-22)

Approx. cost of work (1) Rs. 35,43,602.43

Website particulars, published e-tender

notice location etc. complete details of

tender can be seen and website where

and opening of tender at 15:00 hrs. on 04.02.2022

No. 128-W/260/Tender Notice/NIT 30/W-IV/21-22 Date: 10.01.2022

//Tender//

राज्य न्यायालयिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला, रायपुर के रसायन, बायोलॉजी एवं डीएनए शाखा हेतु निम्नांकित उपकरणों का क्रय किया जाना है, जिसके लिए निविदा आमंत्रित किया जाता है:-

S. No.	Name of Instrument	निविदा जारी करने की तिथि	निविदा फार्म प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि व समय सायं (5.00 बजे तक)	निविदा फार्म जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि व समय दोपहर (03.00 बजे तक)	निविदा खोलने की तिथि व समय सायं (04.00 बजे तक)
01	4° Cabinet	10-01-2022	31.01.2022	01.02.2022	01.02.2022
02	Trinocular Microscope	10-01-2022	08.02.2022	09.02.2022	09.02.2022
03	UV-Visible Spectrophotometer With Solid Samlper	11-01-2022	09.02.2022	10.02.2022	10.02.2022

विस्तृत विवरण राज्य न्यायालयिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला टिकरापारा, पुजारी पार्क के पास रायपुर (छ.ग.) पिन कोड-492001, दूरमाष (कार्यालय) 0771-4043342/4069791 कार्यालय के वेबसाईट <u>www.fsl.cg.nic.in</u> से आनलाईन आवेदन का विस्तृत जानकारी एवं निविदा फार्म प्राप्त (डाउनलोड) किया जा सकता है। निविदा फार्म प्राप्त करने के लिए संचालक, राज्य न्यायालयिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला रायपुर के नाम से प्रत्येक हेतु बैंक ड्राफ्ट रू. 1000/- (एक हजार रूपये मात्र) का किसी भी राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक से बनवाकर प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।

> राज्य न्यायालयिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला रायपुर (छ.ग.)

(संचालक महोदय द्वारा अनुमोदित) हेतु-संचालक

E-TENDERING PRESS NOTICE

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

- NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021 -22/54 (ID No. 2022_IFC_214171_1) H O. A 4515-Plan (RDB), Name of Work:- Construction of streets of Chauhan Mohalla at village Rangpuri in N.G. Block. E.C. Rs. 47,55,475/- period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid or 15.01.2022 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P. M. respectively.) NIT No. EE/CD-l/DB/NIT/2021-22/84 (ID No. 2022_IFC_214173_1) H.O.A:- 2711-Non Plan, Name of Work:- Construction of protection wall on the
- right bank of Najafgarh drain from RD 2882m to RD 3456m. E.C. Rs. 45,61,087/- period of Completion 120 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 15.01.2022 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M. respectively.) NIT No. EE/CD-l/DB/NIT/2021-22/86 (ID No. 2022_IFC_214175_1) H.O.A:- 2711-Non Plan, Name of Work:- Construction of protection wall on the left bank of Najafgarh drain from RD 14898m to RD 15333m. E.C. Rs. 40,65,012/- period of Completion 120 Days. (Date of submission &
- NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/87 (ID No. 2022_IFC_214179_1) H.O.A:- 2711-Non Plan, Name of Work:- Construction protection wall on the left bank of Najafgarh drain from RD 15333m to RD 15768m. E C. Rs. 40,65,012/- period of Completion 120 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 15.01.2022 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.) NIT No. EE/CD-l/DB/NIT/2021-22/90 (ID No. 2022_IFC_214177_1) H.O.A:- 2711-Non Plan, Name of Work:- Resurfacing of existing service road

between R.D 17905m (Chhawla Bridge) to R.D 20180m (Dhoolsiras Bridge) on right side road embankment of Najatgarh drain. E.C.

Rs. 57,15,897/- period of Completion 30 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 15.01.2022 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M. respectively.) Note:- 1) Details of above mentioned works & eligibility criteria can be seen and downloaded from the web site nttps://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in 2. Amendment(s) / alteration(s) / corrigendum if any, will be available at website only

DIP/Shabdarth/0567/21-22

Continuing its winning run for the third consecutive session, the BSE benchmark Sensex added another 221 points to revisit the 60,500-level on Tuesday, propped up by buying mainly in IT and finan-

After early hiccups, the 30-share benchmark remained poised throughout the session and went on to hit the day's high of 60,689.25. It finally ended 221.26 points or 0.37 per cent higher at 60,616.89.

Likewise, the NSE Nifty gained 52.45 points or 0.29 per cent to finish at 18,055.75.

HCL Tech topped the Sensex gainers' chart with a leap of 4.30 per cent, followed by HDFC, Tech Mahindra, TCS, RIL, Sun Pharma and SBI. On the other hand, Tata

Steel, Baiai Finance, ITC, Asian Paints, Kotak Bank, Dr Reddy's and IndusInd Bank were among the laggards, dropping

of a strong quarter amid concerns over rising cases, supply issue and inflationary pressure.

"Global market was on the edge as Fed meeting minutes

"Domestic benchmark

indices showcased a flattish

trend with positive bias as the market weighed the expectations Domestic inflation levels are also likely to be significant due to unfavourable base effect though food prices have declined during December," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geoiit Financial Services.

inflation and the awaited release

of US CPI inflation data.

The pandemic has cleared the way for a hybrid educational paradigm that combines digital and conventional teaching and learning methodologies, says SHALINI JOHN



OLD-SCHOOL

how teachers, students, and parents responded to new means of delivering education and will continue to practice digital learning tools and resources to evolve the educational system in the future.

In order to remain relevant, educational institutions have been modernising and implementing technology into teaching methods, techniques, and curriculum. The pandemic has cleared the way for a hybrid educational paradigm that combines digital and conventional teaching and learning methodologies. Innovative learning solutions and trends have been developed as a result of technological advancements in the education industry and will continue to develop

Education trends to be foreseen **♦**Power of narration and visuals

There has been a shift in attention patterns and it has a major impact on how instructors alter their lectures and keep students curious about what they're learning. Teachers must further enhance and add new

affecting students all over the world, India's education system evaluated must prepare a good narrative and visuals as when students have highly visual and interesting material, they have a strong potential for paying attention. Schools must continue to deliver knowledge with relevant illustrations and engaging conversation to keep students attention.

Personalised learning

In recent years, personalised learning has become increasingly popular. The notion that each student experiences and responds to learning differently is being taken into deep consideration. To establish a healthy student-teacher relationship, personalised learning prioritises student input and dynamic coaching. It seeks to tailor learning to each student's strengths and weaknesses, as well as their needs, talents, and interests. It encourages students' advancement so that each student can progress at his or her own pace. Personalised teaching-learning systems that make use of technology and creative instructional designs will continue to advance at a rapid pace. **♦**Assessment via AI

Assessment tools are designed to evaluate a student's practical knowledge of a subject rather than his or her theoretical knowledge. Students who use AI-powered online testing strategies to develop classes that will engage their students. The educators back. For each topic/subject, AI-



Shalini John (Head - IB), Aditya Birla World Academy

INNOVATIVE LEARNING SOLUTIONS AND TRENDS HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED AS A **RESULT OF TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS IN** THE EDUCATION INDUSTRY AND WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP

based systems provide vital data into the performance of students and the group. There is a risk of biases slinking in during the traditional manual evaluation of tests. The usage of online resources and procedures to assess the learner will eliminate the biases that come with manual eval-

♦Internet of things in educationThe Internet of Things has played a major role in helping teachers and school administrators create a better-coordinated structure for daily school activities. Both parents and students can track their children's development in real-time with the help of the internet. Through the school dashboard, they can easily check the status of pending assignments. Furthermore, teachers can construct their own polls so that students can seamlessly evaluate their teaching skills and techniques at the end of each lecture. Teachers are able to observe what areas students struggled with and what they can do to enhance their teaching approach as a result of this. **♦**Soft skills

Some of the most critical skills in the workplace include people management, problem-solving, critical thinking and creativity. Employers are scrutinizing professionals who can make difficult judgments and have leadership ability. A school is an institution where children are taught their first life lessons. They learn to take on barriers, tackle the obstacles and deal with failures. It is crucial that students understand more than mere academics. Schools must have the training to help students foster and develop in these soft skills spots in order to prepare children for their future. However, the concurrent move towards online learning poses a dilemma for many educators. These teachers will have to discover a strategy to balance the screen time in their classroom along with supporting students in collaborating face-to-face to inculcate soft skill development. Hybrid learning

Hybrid learning is a powerful blend of physical classroom practices and digital learning. Owing to technology and automation, schools are leveraging hybrid learning to upskill students. Due to this, students can take advantage of the flexibility presented by the hybrid learning system to upskill themselves and stay relevant. Hybrid has evolved as a relevant tool for practical learning and teaching in the current scenario. As a result, hybrid school concepts along with dynamic synchronous and asyn-chronous blended learning approaches will continue to evolve and be

QUOTE OF TI

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

— Cesar Chavez

UG AT BML MUNJAL UNIVERSITY

 $T_{ ext{University}}^{ ext{he} \ ext{BML} \ ext{Munjal}}^{ ext{Nunjal}}$ Group initiative, opens its undergraduate admissions for 2022, with a focus on looking beyond cut-off based admissions. The importance of sin-gle mark cut-offs is seeing a gradual decline at progressive universities, providing much-needed relief to students who have seen cut-offs as high as 100% last year. BMU is taking the lead to

move towards a holistic review process. The university's admission criteria doesn't judge a student's capabilities based on their school exam scores alone - but considers standardised test scores, interviews and other parameters depending on the choice of programme to consider the application.

The eligibility criteria for admission to undergraduate programmes will require suc-cessful completion of 10+2 or the equivalent as well as meeting university admissions criteria mentioned on the website www.bmu.edu.in



BSC HONS BIOCHEMISTRY & IMMUNOLOGY

The University of Strathclyde, Glasgow is inviting applications for its BSc Biochemistry & Immunology course starting in September 2022.

This joint Honours degree course combines biochemistry and immunology and is accredited by the Royal Society of Biology. Transfer to the MSci Biochemistry or Immunology may be possible at the end of Year 4, subject to performance.

Duration – 4 years **Eligibility**- 70-75% in all subjects taken at level XII and the same at level X..

Fee - £21,150 per academic year for international students.

Medical & Health Sciences programmes at SRMIST

PNS KATTANKULATHUR

Admissions are now open to Various programs for Medicine and Health Sciences programs at SRM Medical College Hospital & Research Centre (SRM MCH&RC), Kattankulathur.

Several UG and PG programs are available for students in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences that have the College of Pharmacy, College of Physiotherapy, College of Occupational Therapy, College of Nursing, School of Public Health, and allied courses at SRM MCH&RC.

The soft launch of application forms for Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences was held at the Institute's premises in the presence of



Director (Communications) Mr. R. Nandakummar, Dean (Medical) Dr. A. Sundaram, Dean (Dental) Dr. N. Vivek among others. Admissions to any of these

programs will be based on the national-level entrance examination - SRMJEEH (UG) and SRMJEEN (UG), Board examination marks, Department level examination conducted by the respective schools in SRM, and one-to-one interaction.

'Curate exciting content for kids'

The ground reality is that after-school learning, which follows its own strategy and timeline, has little resemblance to in-school learning. This confuses children, who ultimately become disinterested and fall behind their goals, says ARINDAM GHOSH

ndia has 250 million school-going children, and one-fourth of secondary school students attend tuition classes. Despite this, access to quality education remains a pressing problem. Innumerable reports have highlighted the vast achievement and opportunity gaps that plague the system; one such is by The World Bank stating that 54 per cent of Indian students suffer from 'learning poverty'. How can we improve the situation? While there are several reasons for learning poverty, what is needed urgently is a solution that is scalable, affordable, and helps every child achieve her grade-specific competencies. One way is through a synchronised and integrated in-school and after-school ecosystem scaled up by leveraging technol-

Recognising the inadequacy of school education, parents pin their hopes on tutors and coaching classes. Existing apps for tuition classes, largely driven by private enterprises, are often purposefully disconnected from the school system, making them insufficient in isolation. There needs to be a connection between these two sites to create a learning continuum. To improve the quality of classroom transactions, the methods of in-school education need reimagining; and after-school learning needs to evolve to supplement in-school learning through a personalised and curriculum-aligned approach. They should also function in tandem, with curated multi-sensory learning content available for self-learning along with necessary guidance, accessible anytime and anywhere, to achieve the learning goals.

Together, these elements can help in strengthening the link between in-school and after-

First, the role of the teacher as a mere transmitter of education needs reconsideration. She is not only the voice of the textbook but also a change agent, facilitator, and leader. Today, thanks to the internet, there is a wealth of resources available that can elevate the learning experience for kids anywhere. If classrooms became 'smart', teachers could access global resources made by experts and overhaul entire lessons by utilising modern tools of pedagogy, unlike what most Indian students, especially in rural towns, are used to or can imagine. However, a determining factor is robust training in digital pedagogy. A tech-savvy and digitally literate teacher can act as a mentor and guide by equipping students with tools to carry forward their learning journeys beyond school hours at their own pace, for a good grasp of the material.

The ground reality is that after-school learning, which follows its own strategy and timeline, has little resemblance to in-school learning. This confuses children, who ultimately become disinterested and fall behind their goals in both learning environments. Therefore, the second step requires an assessment of the current state of the learner versus the desired goals, to accurately improve grade-specific competencies. This can be done using technology, and accordingly, curated content can be used to plug any gaps, further scaffolded by support in the form of mentorship and guidance. With the



help of digital platforms for Personalised and Adaptive Learning, students can avail themselves of a unique path and experience best suited to their needs, positioning them to achieve their goals. After school hours, students need continuity in three ways: in accessing content, in receiving an injection of additional customised content, and in guidance, whether physical or virtual. This will create a feedback loop that gives the teacher student-specific feedback to recalibrate her teaching. However, most personalised learning solutions in the market are too expensive for those at the middle and bottom of the economic pyramid. While customisable learning has the potential to revolutionise education by lending flexibility, without it reaching the aspirational poor,

inequalities in Indian education can increase

Third, it is vital to create exciting, digitised, and curated content for kids that is accessible anytime and anywhere. Multimedia and multisensory content is proven to boost engagement, pique student interest, and can complement a textbook. Video-based content, virtual experiments, gamified content etc., will automatically spark engagement and retention. The stack of differentiated and digitised content should be aligned to the school curriculum and be readily available to students both inside and outside the classrooms to create a learning loop. We should aim at moving towards personalisation of the content to suit the learning style and level of the child and eventually move towards personalisation of cur-

The Digital India programme has helped thousands of Indians step into an internetpowered world, resulting in a faster uptake of smartphones that have now reached over 780 million people. The pandemic has facilitated phones being used for education as well. Aligning in-school and after-school education is one of the best-suited approaches to improving learning outcomes particularly among resource-poor students. India today requires an affordable and cohesive education system that leverages technologies to focus on the micro-details of each learner and have a macro-level scaling potential

The writers are Arindam Ghosh, Vice President and Head of Strategy, Schoolnet India Limited and Devika Rae Chandra, Research Associate, Schoolnet

Common entrance test for CUs

≺he current situation of the ongoing pandemic has not only created an ambiguous situation for the students but also for the institutions across India. While the families are worried about the spread of infection, students are muddled about the current change in the admission criteria at the undergraduate level in different universities. The pressure is mounting and with every passing day, the students are getting restless. Recently a major change was seen amid the law aspirants with the announcement to conduct CLAT twice a year in 2022. While it was announced that CLAT will conduct the exam for the academic session 2022 and 2023 in 2022 itself, the Government of India suggested a common exam for admissions to all the central universities.

It is anticipated that the CUCET will be conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA). Recently, Delhi University has also hinted to conduct the admission process for the Academic year 2022 through CUCET and based on class XII marks, or will conduct their separate exam DUCET.

Recently, the Vice Chancellor of Delhi University also informed that the concerned team is working on this new development and when the basic things are done, a committee would be formed which will be in charge of framing a process on the execution, and coordinate with NTA and Education ministry. Experts believe that it's a welcome decision of Delhi University and other universities to change the admission process as entrance exams are always a

better medium to assess the students' knowledge.

Though it is known that CUCET is not an entirely unfamiliar entrance test, the central universities have been conducting it until the last year for admissions. While the major difference would be that the earlier version of CUCET was conducted in the offline mode and now the proposal is to conduct the test as a Computer Based Test (CBT), which, with complete details of the exam, is expected to be revealed soon. The possible structure of CUCET would be a computer-based aptitude test to test the students on Verbal Ability, Logical and Analytical Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, and General Awareness. There will be a domain section also that may test the students on the subjective questions. The CUCET entrance test will be compulsory for the students who seek admission to all the

universities. The students should neither be sceptical about the paper nor about the process, instead believe that this change of conducting one exam is the change for good and will allow students to experience equal opportunity in the real sense. For this, students need to continuously strive towards honing their skills and understand the importance of aptitude building. The entrance exam like the CUCET will give not only an equal opportunity to all the students but also a chance to the universities to gauge the aptitude level of the students.

The writer is Ankit Kapoor, Co-founder &

Webinar on Rock Your LinkedIn Profile

PNS NEW DELHI

 $T^{\text{he Great Learning, one of }}_{\text{India's edtech companies}}$ for professional and higher education has announced that it will be conducting a masterclass on Rock Your LinkedIn Profile on January 13, 2022. The one-hour long live session is free of cost and can be attended by those who want to understand how to get the cover story right, how to write

tance of endorsements, and much more. The live session will be

conducted by Ms Sneha Bhattacharya, (Senior Account Director Marketing Solutions, LinkedIn), Ms Vandana Tewari (Lead Customer Success Manager, LinkedIn) and Mr. Nitin Verma (AGM - Marketing, Great Learning) who will talk and discuss about the tips on

a crisp summary, the importailoring each section and how to make one's LinkedIn profile stand out.

Great Learning offers comprehensive, industry-relevant programs across various cutting-edge Technology, Data and Business domains. Great Learning's programs are developed in collaboration with the world's foremost academic institutions like Stanford University, MIT, The University of Texas at Austin,

National University Singapore, IIT Madras, IIT Bombay, IIT Roorkee, IIIT-Delhi, Shiv Nadar University and Great Lakes Institute of Management and are constantly reimagined and revamped to address the dynamic needs of the

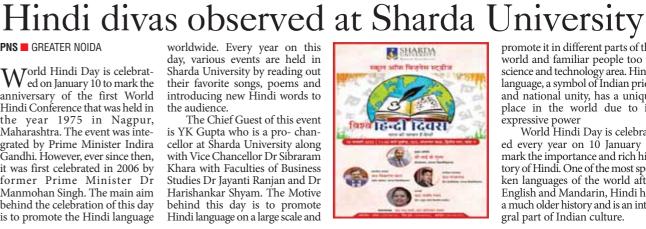
Register linkhttps://www.mygreatlearning.com/academy/learn-forfree/courses/rock-your-

PNS GREATER NOIDA

World Hindi Day is celebrated on January 10 to mark the anniversary of the first World Hindi Conference that was held in the year 1975 in Nagpur, Maharashtra. The event was integrated by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. However, ever since then, it was first celebrated in 2006 by former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh. The main aim behind the celebration of this day is to promote the Hindi language

worldwide. Every year on this day, various events are held in Sharda University by reading out their favorite songs, poems and introducing new Hindi words to

the audience. The Chief Guest of this event is YK Gupta who is a pro- chan-cellor at Sharda University along with Vice Chancellor Dr Sibraram Khara with Faculties of Business Studies Dr Jayanti Ranjan and Dr Harishankar Shyam. The Motive behind this day is to promote Hindi language on a large scale and



promote it in different parts of the world and familiar people too in science and technology area. Hindi language, a symbol of Indian pride and national unity, has a unique place in the world due to its expressive power
World Hindi Day is celebrat-

ed every year on 10 January to mark the importance and rich history of Hindi. One of the most spoken languages of the world after English and Mandarin, Hindi has a much older history and is an integral part of Indian culture.



If you're just starting to plan out the next four years of your post-secondary education, it's worth it to consult an expert in the international education industry says KARUNN KANDOI

Studying abroad is an exciting venture that opens many doors and allows an individual to acquire significant international exposure. It plays a critical role in a well-rounded education. Have you been planning to pursue your higher education abroad? If yes, then Canada should be your first choice. The country is so popular among Indian students that in 2019, Indian students accounted for more than a third of all study permits issued, and in 2020, the number rose to almost half, according to the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada.

Here are a few of the most popular courses for Indian students in Canada.

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math: The STEM, in any vertical, plays a crucial part in the world's economy. Canadian colleges offer several programs across various STEM disciplines. STEM programs like mathematics or computer science are quite popular amongst Indian students. As per the IRCC, for IT and computing studies in particular, Indian students accounted for 67.4 per cent of all new Canadian study permits issued in 2019 and

An engineering degree from Canada is strongly perceived internationally and has a high employability factor. These subjects are taught with hands-on practices by the best faculties in the world. It must be noted that universities in Canada are among the best globally and are accredited by the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET). Canadian institutions provide low-cost yet high-quality education and offer a ton of public and private scholarships for international students. Some of the courses that students can pursue are software or computer engineering, mechanical engineering and chemical engineering.

Business and finance: When it

comes to becoming a successful business leader and entrepreneur, it demands proper skills, innovation, as well as a strong execution strategy. Enrolling yourself in the right business school is, indeed, funda-

DUE TO CANADA'S HIGH STANDARD OF **MEDICAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM, MANY** INTERNATIONAL

STUDENTS

PREFER THE COUNTRY AS ONE OF THEIR **STUDY DESTINATIONS** mental to long-term career success.

It will help to develop an individuals' entrepreneurial skills and enable them to test their launch ideas. As far as international applicants are concerned, business management and finance courses are very popular. The MBA is among the most soughtafter programs in this particular field. After all, the line of management consulting, finance, and banking never goes out of style. There's also a lot of interest in this field from international students based in India.

Between the years 2017 and 2019, the number of Canadian study permits issued to Indian students for business, marketing, and management programmes grew by 256 per cent according to

Health and medicine: The pandemic wreaked havoc across the world, and the need and demand for healthcare workers in each and every country is rising rapidly. Job vacancies in the Canadian healthcare and social assistance industry hit nearly 1.1

lakh in June 2021. Attracting newcomers into these fields will be critical for Canada's long-term growth

Due to Canada's high standard of medical education curriculum, many international students prefer Canada as one of their study destinations. Healthcare verticals such as preventive drugs, human psychology, and managing illness are in higher demand as they help increase public safety during pan demics and disasters.

Employers are progressively searching for professionals who possess culturally-diverse abilities and cutting-edge skills. Indeed, studying abroad can be a lifechanging experience and has been proven to positively impact your career trajectory.

If you're just starting to plan out the next four years of your post-secondary education, it's worth it to consult an expert in the international education industry or speak to a previous student to learn about their experience.

The writer is Head of India Operations **ApplyBoard**

'Robotics has evolved and expanded'

With advancement in technology, scope of robotic engineering has increased manifold offering lucrative options, says DR ABHILASHA GAUR

Robotics is the engineering disci-pline dealing with the design, con-struction, and operation of robots. Robots were originally built to handle monotonous tasks but have since expanded well beyond their initial uses to perform tasks like fighting fires, cleaning homes and assisting with incredibly intricate surgeries. Each robot has a differing level of autonomy, ranging from human-controlled bots that carry out tasks that a human has full control over to fully-autonomous bots.

As technology progresses, so does the scope of robotics. These robots consist mainly of mechanical arms tasked with welding or screwing on certain parts of a car. Today, we're seeing an evolved and expanded definition of robotics that includes the development, creation and use of bots that explore the harshest conditions, robots that assist law-enforcement and even robots that assist in almost every facet of healthcare.

AI and robots are a powerful combination. Some of the applications where the teo can bring more optimisation are:

Agriculture and farming: With the food supply chain facing a crisis, courtesy of centuries of environmental abuse, over-farming, labor shortages, and population growth, it is threatening our most basic needs. AI and automation are believed to provide relief from the effects of an aging agricultural workforce. With the likes of autonomous drones, self-driving agricultural machines, etc., farmers can spend more time focusing on creating sustainable harvests and less time watching the path in front of them.

Autonomous flying: Autonomous flying uses computer vision technology for hovering in the air while avoiding obstacles and moving in a straight path. With the introduction of artificial intelligence, these flying machines are getting smarter. From aerial view monitoring to security surveillance, video recording, rescue missions, and more, drones and unmanned aerial vehicles are revolutionising and replacing many job roles. The application of computer vision in autonomous flying includes obstacle detection, collision avoidance, self-navigation, and object tracking. Manufacturing and production:

primary reason for the introduction of AI in the manufacturing industry is to cover for the lack of workforce, simplify the whole production process, and improve efficiency. Earlier, it used to take a whole team's effort to manage one task system. Now since bots have taken over, it has helped manufacturers boost production speed.

AI is helping the industry by making product decisions instant and smarter. This is an era of customized products, and AI is helping manufacturers gather useful customer data, which is used to make product-based decisions. Also, it has helped the companies to reduce the overall cost of production. AI and robotics is the future of

Sports analytics and activities: The sports industry is embracing artificial intelligence and robots to make games more exciting and fairer. AI is nelping players improve their fitness and help teams discover new talents. In some sports, robot referees are already a thing, while smart machines are assisting spectators in finding their seats at the stadium. Artificial intelligence is also helping clubs and teams come up with

COO. Electronic Sector Skill Council of India The evolution of the manufacturing and production industry is seen with the implementation of robotics and AI. The

strategies based on previous data.

s we step into the new year, Brainly, the online learning platform where over 350 Anillion students and parents go from questioning to understanding, conducted a survey to understand student's sentiments around the current learning environment after months of navigating the study-fromhome landscape.

Collecting 1,751 responses in total, the survey maps several interesting trends from 2021 and projections for 2022. The top three trends highlighted by the survey

A majority of students would prefer self-tutoring through online

learning platforms

courses:₹36,000; For professional

http://www.b4s.in/a/ABCC1

Helpline: 011-430-92248 (Ext-

268); Email: adityabirlacapi-

How to apply: Apply online:

Application deadline: It is

An initiative of Reliance

Foundation to support 100 of

India's brightest students to cre-

ate tech for social good. Indian

nationals enrolled in first year of

full-time undergraduate or post-

graduate degree programme in

AI, Computer Sciences,

Mathematics & Computing and

Electrical and/or Electronics

ships: Applicants must have

secured a rank of 1-35,000 in the

JEE Main (Paper 1). For PG

scholarships: Applicants who

have secured a score of 550-1,000 in the GATE exam, OR appli-

cants who have not attempted GATE and have scored 7.5 or

above in their undergraduate

CGPA (or % normalised to

up to ₹4 lakh each for UG and

₹ 6 lakh each for PG students.

http://www.b4s.in/a/RFS5

Helpline: 7977100100 (Please

text 'hi' on WhatsApp).

February 14, 2022.

Rewards: Scholarships of

How to apply: Apply online:

Application deadline: It is

CGPA) can apply.

Eligibility: For UG scholar-

Engineering are eligible.

UG courses: ₹60,000.

tal@buddy4study.com

January 31, 2022.

After almost two academic years spent learning from home, students and teachers have both seen significant merit in using online learning platforms. The survey found that over 71 per cent of the students are comfortable with self-tutoring through online learning platforms. This highlights the role of online learning platforms in promoting independent learning among students.

The survey also revealed that more than half (56 per cent) of the students took private tuitions during the lockdown period Personalised, one-on-one learning is. therefore, considered an effective learning

Students were expecting schools to reopen in 2021

physical schools to reopen in 2021, almost 85 per cent of students responded in the affirmative. While Indian students have adapted to the COVID-19-induced online learning model, most of them were waiting eagerly to meet their peers and teachers face

MANTED

INTERNS!

As the partial reopening of schools was greenlit in the latter half of 2021, a chunk of the students attended physical schools. As that their performance was affected by the reopening of schools while 68 per cent saw a major difference in their teacher's teaching

method between 2020 and 2021. A previous survey also found that 82 per cent of the students were excited to return to brick-and-mortar schools. As India

looks at vaccinations for children over 15, 2022 may see more schools reopen their gates to students.

Indian students want the hybrid model of teaching to continue in 2022 Students have not just adapted to online

platforms but also thrived within this medium. This reflects in the survey results as over 78 per cent of the students claimed they performed well in 2021.

In a previous survey, the platform found that 77 per cent of students would continue to seek assistance from online learning platforms even after their schools reopened. This is further solidified as 71 per cent of

the students would like to continue learning through the hybrid model in 2022.

Speaking about the survey results, Rajesh Bysani, Chief Product Officer at Brainly, said: "Students are eager to join their peers and teachers in physical schools they have also developed a positive relationship with online learning methodologies. With students' academic performance displaying encouraging trends, the survey findings are aligned with our belief that hybrid learning, with the best of tech-led tools and personalised attention. will dominate the education landscape in 2022 and beyond.



University of Strathclyde has been awarded five prestigious British Council Scholarships for Women in STEM for female students from South Asia to pursue their Master's Degrees in the UK.

The fully funded scholarships are available for selected one-year Master's degrees in the areas of health and life science, climate change environment & risk reduction, energy transition and industry 4.0/digital transformation.

The scholarships are on offer for students applying to study at Strathclyde from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Each covers full tuition fees,

monthly stipends, a return economy class ticket and other costs. **Application deadline:** The last date to apply is March 31, 2022.

An initiative of **Aditya Birla** Capital Foundation to provide financial assistance and education support services to students who have lost their parent(s) due to COVID-19 to ensure conti-

nuity of their education. Eligibility: Open for students who have lost their parent(s) due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Applicants must be studying in Classes 1 to XII or UG (general or professional)

VIDEO MAKING/EDITING AT SQUADX

INNOVATIONS Location: Work From Home

Stipend: ₹8,000-₹10,000 per month Link: internshala.com/i/f8b2b4 Deadline: January 19, 2022

DIGITAL MARKETING AT KOLD PURE PRESS

Location: Work From Home Stipend: ₹5,000-₹10,000 per month Link: internshala.com/i/050599 Deadline: January 19, 2022

PHP DEVELOPMENT AT **NAVITUS EDUCATION**

Location: Work From Home Stipend: ₹11,000 per month

Link: internshala.com/i/4ee180 Deadline: January 19, 2022

DATA SCIENCE AT OPTALPHA Location: Delhi

Stipend: ₹6,000-₹11,000 per

Link - internshala.com/i/d9e67f Deadline - 19th January 2022

OPERATIONS AT CLICKAWAY CREATORS

Location: Delhi, Gurgaon Stipend: ₹6,000-₹10,000 per month Link: internshala.com/i/f61b82 Deadline: January 19, 2022

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (SALES) AT

SRESTA NATURAL BIOPRODUCTS Location: Chandigarh, Bangalore, Kolkata Stipend: ₹10,000-₹15,000 per month Link: internshala.com/i/eae221 Deadline: January 18, 2022

MARKETING AT BYJU'S THE LEARNING

Location: Ranchi, Jamshedpur Stipend: ₹20,000 per month Link: internshala.com/i/3d172d Deadline: January 25, 2022

CYBERSECURITY. AI & DEEP LEARNING COURSE

he Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, has signed an agreement with Times Professional Learning, to start PG Certificate Programme in Cybersecurity and PG Certificate Programme in Artificial Intelligence & Deep Learning. The programmes are

intended to provide career enhancement and skill upgradation for working professionals as

requirements of industry and the corporate world. The courses are also aligned with The National Education Policy 2020's directives to higher education institutes to play an active role

per the

not only in conducting research on disruptive technologies like Al but also create initial versions of instructional materials and courses including online

The PG programme in Cybersecurity is an eight months course and is intended to provide career enhancement and skill upgradation as per the requirements of fast-moving job roles like network security specialist, cyber security analyst cybersecurity architects, cyber security manager, and leading up to C-suite positions like Chief Information Security Officer. The demand for cybersecurity experts has doubled year amidst with rising global concerns of security breaches and rapid digitalisation across organisations and institutes.

IMPACT OF ALGORITHMIC TRADERS ON STOCKS

∎he Indian Institute of Technology Madras researchers are studying the impact of Algorithmic Traders

This research is the first-of-its-kind investigation on the impact of Algorithmic Traders' and Buy-side Algorithmic Traders

Proprietary

on the stock market.

trading on market quality and vice versa. It processes what happen when computer programs predict market order flow and take over the trading process.

HIGH-END SKILLS FOR DELHI SCHOOLS

he Camp K12 has announced its partnership with the Delhi Government to bring coding and high-end 21st century skills to Delhi Schools as part of the Government's Schools of Specialized Excellence which

seek to discover, foster, and nurture student ability, thereby enabling them to realise their full potential in specific domains.

The skills will provide an education focused around high end skills and entrepreneurship development that is relevant.

STRENGTHENING SCHOOLS WITH FINANCING OPTIONS

he Epheus Learning has signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Varthana Finance Private Ltd. Both companies share a common vision to democratise access to quality education and learning aids.

Under the strategic partnership, the two will use their respective networks to strengthen schools with financing options as well as a large catalog of education

offerings. Such financial support will empower schools to expand their infrastructure, invest in teacher training, and introduce new learning methods into their classrooms. Amit Kapoor, co-

founder, Eupheus Learning, said: "We've been committed to transforming education system. With this MoU, we are taking another step in the direction to support and empower schools with

a one-stop solution for their financial, operational and academic needs." **Eupheus Learning**

focuses on premium and affordable private schools with a reach of 20,000 schools, 6,300 user schools and 4.2 million students. Through this MoU, Varthana's 4,000plus school partners will get access to 21st century school OS and the largest catalog of educational offerings from Eupheus

SIMPLILEARN LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN #JOBGUARANTEED

implilearn has launched #JobGuaranteed. The campaign focuses on job guarantee programmes that assure a job upon course completion. The job guarantee offering focused in this campaign provides tangible and strong reasons for aspirants to select it to help them reach one's ambitions and career goals.

The two programmes launched thus far in Data Science and Full Stack Development include a 100% job guarantee within 180 days of completing them (conditions apply).

This integrated campaign will be launched across multiple digital platforms, and print media.

NEWAGE PG PROGRAMME AT PLAKSHA UNIVERSITY through a rigorous one-

he Plaksha University's Technology Leaders Program (TLP) is a newage PG programme, designed by a global community of CEOs, entrepreneurs and academicians, for a world that is being transformed by technology. It is delivered in partnership with University of

California, Berkeley. Every year 60 young individuals with high potential are selected. They go

year journey that helps develop them as leaders in technology and create the world we want to live in. It interweaves four

■ Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Core ■ Design Thinking and applications of data science

■Understanding Self

Entrepreneurial Challenge Lab and

Capstone project

and Leadership

product managers and technology leaders. Some students have chosen the path of founding start-ups, others have gone on to study in top institutes globally. To be eligible, an applicant must be a recent graduate, working professional or entrepreneur.

Two cohorts of 60 stu-

dents each have graduated

from this program, and are

working as data scientists,

Kohli lone ranger for India as South Africa gain upper hand

PTI ■ CAPE TOWN

ndia skipper Virat Kohli was a picture of patience and perseverance in his well-crafted 79 but South Africa gained the upper hand by bowling out the visitors for an underwhelming 223 on day one of the series-deciding third and final Test here on Tuesday.

Reaching 141 for four at tea, India looked good for a 250 plus first innings score before losing six wickets for 82 runs in the final session.

Kohli (79 off 201 balls), back to lead the side after missing the second Test due to a back spasm, worked extremely hard for his first half-century of the series but eventually ran out of partners.

Cheteshwar Pujara (43) was the other batter who came with up a substantial contribution. Lead South Africa pacer Kagiso

Rabada, playing his 50th Test, was the standout bowler of the day and ended with four wickets for 73 runs in 22 overs. Tall left-arm pacer Marco Jansen picked up three wickets.

India got the important wicket of South African skipper Dean Elgar (3) towards close of play with Jasprit Bumrah getting him caught at first slip.

At stumps, the hosts were 17 for one in eight overs with Aiden Markram (8) and night watchman Keshav Maharaj (6) in the middle.

Earlier, Rabada and Kohli were engaged in a fascinating battle throughout the day before the South African removed the opposition captain who was looking for boundaries towards the end of the innings

The hallmark of Kohli's special knock was how he dealt with balls in the off-stump channel, something he had struggled with heading into the



series-decider. What was remarkable was that he did not shy away from playing those glorious drives he is known for, he just picked the right balls to go for his strokes and did not play reck-

lessly around the off-stump.
Kohli, who took 15 balls to get off the mark, got going with an expansive cover drive off Jansen and got his second slowest fifty with a sublime straight drive. However, for the major part of his innings, Kohli was all grit and gumption as South African bowlers, especially Rabada, kept attacking the off-stump corridor in favourable conditions. The Indian lower-order failed

to contribute this time, leaving Kohli

stranded. Rishabh Pant (27) was the first to be dismissed in the final session as he tried to cut a ball too close to his body and ended up giving a simple catch to gully.

Jansen had Ashwin (2) caught behind by getting one to angle away and Shardul Thakur (12) was caught at short cover for spinner Keshav Maharaj's first wicket of the series.

In the afternoon session that yielded 66 runs, Pujara and Ajinkya Rahane (9 off 12 balls) were dismissed.

Kohli, who got off the mark with a delightful cover drive in the morning, hit another majestic one off Jansen in the afternoon besides a six he collect-

ed from a mis-timed pull off Rabada. Rabada breathed fire in his seven-

over spell but Kohli was able to see it off with required patience and disci-

Pujara once again showed positive intent but was undone by a beauty from Jansen that angled in from round the wicket and straightened just enough to take the outside edge.

Rahane, who has shown sublime touch all through the series but has not been able to convert the starts, was caught behind after Rabada got one to straighten from good length

India fought their way to 75 for two at lunch after losing their openers early.



Sindhu and Srikanth sail into 2nd round

Young Indian shuttler Ashmita Chaliha recorded the first upset of the India Open when she stunned fifth seed Evgeniya Kosetskaya while top seed PV Sindhu sailed into the women's singles second round of the tournament here on Tuesday.

Reigning world champion Loh Kean Yew was stretched to three games while home favourite Kidambi Srikanth registered a convincing win in their respective men's singles first round matches of the World Tour 500 tournament series event. Loh defeated Canada's Xiaodong Sheng 16-21, 21-4, 21-13 while Srikanth packed off former junior world No. 1 Siril Verma 21-17, 21-10 to advance to the second round.

Earlier in day, unseeded Chaliha took just 31 minutes to get the better of world number 28 Russian 24-22 21-16, while double Olympic medallist Sindhu cruised past compatriot Sri Krishna Priya Kudaravalli 21-5 21-16 in her opening round. However, it was curtains for Chirag Sen as he lost 8-21 7-21 to Soong Joo Ven of Malaysia in the men's singles

In her opener, Chaliha began strongly by employing her down-the-line smashes to open up an 11-5 lead.

However, the Indian made a lot of errors after the break and Kosetsyaka pounced on the opportunity to first level the score at 14-14 and then fight back from 16-19 to earn her first game point.

But the girl from Guwahati, who had lost to the Russian in their earlier contest back in 2019, managed to regroup and forced her opponent to make an unforced error and then saved two more game points before clinching the opener with a smash.

The second game followed a similar trajectory as Chaliha opened up an 11-4 lead, only for the Russian to close in to 19-16. However, the Indian was more in control this time around and kept her cool under pressure to finish off the match in 31 minutes.

"I haven't played a lot of matches in the last few years. So, I was nervous and that affected me midway in the opening game. But once I won the first game, I was more confident and so I was relaxed in the second game," Chaliha said after the

by an innings to tie series



AP CHRISTCHURCH

courageous century by Awicketkeeper Liton Das made Bangladesh a hard nut to broke through on Tuesday to win the second cricket Test by an innings and 117 runs to tie the two-match series.

Das batted almost onehanded for much of his innings after being struck on the glove. He weathered a barrage of short-pitched bowling from New Zealand to post his second Test century from only 106

Bangladesh rallied around his resilient example to force a match which many thought would be over quickly on Tuesday into the final session of the third day before the last

scheduled stumps.

Das finally was out for 102 and the end came swiftly afterwards with Bangladesh losing at Hagley Oval. When the ninth wicket fell the crowd began baying for the veteran batsman Ross Taylor who will retire from Test cricket after his 112th Test to be given a chance

When the light became too poor for the quicks to continue, captain Tom Latham bowed to the crowd's demand and Taylor's third ball of gentle off breaks brought a false shot from Ebadot Hossain who skied the ball to Latham. That brought the curtain down on Taylor's 15-year Test career in the most unusual fashion and

to the reverberating cheers of

Taylor had bowled only 16 overs in all of his previous Tests for two wickets, the last time eight years ago. But fate conspired to bring his career to an extraordinary end. First mobbed by his teammates and presented the match ball, he walked from the field through a honour guard formed by Bangladesh, providing one last rich memory of an outstanding

"We needed to win this game to stay in the series and I thought we played fantastical-

"Bangladesh put us under ressure at various times and that was probably a fair reflection of where the series was at.

"I wanted to finish with a win and the guys obviously gave that to me." It was significant that the final catch was taken by Latham as the New Zealand captain had an outsized influence on this match.

He scored 252, his second Test double century, in New Zealand's first innings of 521-6 declared, then took six catches as New Zealand bowled out Bangladesh for 126 and 278 after enforcing the follow-on.

New Zealand beats Bangladesh | Tata Group replaces Vivo as IPL title sponsors for 2 years

The hallmark

of Kohli's special

knock was how he

dealt with balls in the

off-stump channel,

something he had

series-decider. What

was remarkable was

that he did not shy

away from playing

those glorious drives

he is known for, he

just picked the right

balls to go for his

the off-stump.

strokes and did not

play recklessly around

struggled with

heading into the

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

One of India's largest business conglomerates, the Tata Group, will replace Chinese mobile manufacturer Vivo as the Indian Premier League's title sponsor for the next two years.

As per reliable sources, the Tatas will be paying around Rs 670 crore for two years of title sponsorship while Vivo will pay a total of Rs 454 crore for termination of contract which makes it a win-win situation for the BCCI as it is set to earn a whopping Rs 1124 crore for seasons 2022 and 2023 respectively. "Yes, Tata group is coming in as IPL title sponsor," IPL chairman Brijesh Patel confirmed the development to PTI. BCCI secretary Jay Shah welcomed the company in the new role.

sion for the BCCI IPL as the Tata Group a year in view of a public backlash and is the epitome of global Indian enterprise with an over 100 year old legacy and operations in more than 100 countries across six continents," Shah was quoted as saying in a media release. It is learnt that Tata Group

could remain title sponsors for the IPL's 2023 season too as that was the one year concession given to Vivo since it lost a season of sponsorship in 2020. Vivo had a deal of Rs 2200 crore for title sponsor-

ship rights initially from 2018-2022 but after the 2020 Galwan Valley military face-off between the Indian and Chinese Army soldiers, Dream11 replaced it in the IPL. However, Vivo was back as IPL tittle sponsor in 2021 even as

speculation raged that the company was looking to transfer the rights to a suitable bidder and the BCCI approved the move. It is learnt from reliable

sources in the BCCI that the Board would be earning Rs 547 crore in 2022 and Rs 577 crore in 2023.

As per information available, Vivo had committed Rs 996 crore for the two years' title sponsorship (2022 and 2023) with Rs 484 crore in The value shot up as the IPL

expanded to a 10-team event featuring 74 matches this year instead of the 60 which were in place with eight teams. So how does the break-up of Rs

1124 crore windfall work for BCCI? The Tatas will be paying Rs 670 crores at the rate of Rs 335 crore per

year. Of this, Rs 301 crore will be the Rights Fee and an additional Rs 34 crore would be the incremental fee (for

increase of 14 games).

But since Vivo decided to terminate the contract, it will have to pay the difference in both years -- Rs 183 crore for 2022 and Rs 211 crore for 2023.

In addition to that, Vivo will also have to pay 6 per cent assignment fee for both years which comes to Rs 29

Chris Morris retires from all forms of cricket



PTI ■ JOHANNESBURG South Africa all-rounder Chris Morris on Tuesday announced his retirement from all forms of cricket and is set to take up a coaching

role with domestic side Titans. The 34year-old cricketer made the announcement on social media. "Today I announce my retirement from all

forms of cricket! Thanks to all who have played a part in my journey whether it be big or small...it's been a fun ride! Delighted to be taking up a coaching role at @titanscricket #lifebeginsnow," Morris wrote on his Instagram page. A right-arm pacer and explosive batter, Morris made his Test debut as late as 2016 and featured in only four games in traditional format, making 173 runs and taking 12 wickets.

He represented South Africa in four Tests, 42 ODIs and 23 T20 Internationals, picking up 48 and 34 wickets respectively.

With the bat in hand, Morris scored 467 runs in ODIs and 133 in T20s respectively.

Open Qualifiers

PTI ■ MELBOURNE

omeback-man Bhambri impressed with his match sharpness and attacking net play as the Indian progressed to the second round of Australian Open qualifiers with a comfortable straight set win over Joao Domingues, here on Tuesday.

Bhambri, who returned to the Grand Slam stage after 2018 US Open due to knee injury, beat his 248th ranked Portuguese rival 6-4 6-2 in just 68 minutes.

The 29-year-old Indian's serve looked decent and he played smartly as he charged the net to keep the points

short. He struggled to rein in his

unforced errors in the beginning but earned his first breakpoint in the third game with a forehand winner after a long rally. Domigues served a double fault to hand the Indian first break of the

Bhambri served the next game at love with an ace to open up a 3-1 lead as

Domingues also tried to charge to the net but Bhambri's powerful strokes pushed him back.

Bhambri fought off two break points on his serve in the sixth game.

At deuce he pulled off a perfectly placed backhand slice and then dispatched up a half-volley for a 4-2 lead. After getting one more

break on account of his rival's unforced errors, Bhambri came out serving for the set but dropped the serve when his miscued overhead smash went out. He wasn't in the position

to play that shot but went for it, anticipating that lob would land in, behind him near the

alley.

The Indian claimed the set when he served again.

In the second set too, it was Bhambri who got the first break as he led 4-2. He then served out the match without any fuss. Ramkumar Ramanathan

and Ankita Raina will also play their first rounds later in

Djokovic back into swing in Australia despite visa concerns



AP MELBOURNE

¬ennis star Novak Djokovic held a practice session at Melbourne Park on Tuesday, his second day out of detention, focusing on his Australian Open title defense while still facing the prospect of deportation because he's not vaccinated for COVID-19. The top-ranked Djokovic hit the show courts within hours of winning a legal battle Monday against the cancellation of his visa, based on procedural grounds. He returned Tuesday afternoon for a closed practice, with doors locked and only his support team allowed into Rod Laver Arena.

Aerial images taken by Australian TV networks from a helicopter showed the ninetime Âustralian Open winner back at work, less than a week before the first Grand Slam tournament of the year is due to start. Video showed Djokovic hitting shots from behind the baseline, taking feedback from his coach, and stretching beside the court with a trainer on a sunny but mild summer afternoon. Soon after, organizers released the seedings for the Australian Open tournament, and Djokovic was listed at No. 1 for the men's singles draw.

that the unvaccinated Djokovic

relied on to fly into Melbourne.

While he's trying to make up time after spending four days confined to an immigration detention hotel, Djokovic is conscious he could again have his visa revoked. Immigration Minister Alex Hawke is considering exercising his power to deport the 34-year-old Serbian under separate legislation, assessing a medical exemption

Hosts India name 23-member squad for AFC Women's Asian Cup PTI NEW DELHI

Host nation India on Tuesday named its 23-member squad for the upcoming AFC Women's Asian Cup, including four youngsters from the team that finished runners-up in the U-19 SAFF Championships in Dhaka last month. While the All India

Football Federation (AIFF) has not named a captain yet, the experienced Ashalata Devi is likely to lead the side in the continental tournament, which will be held in three venues across Maharasthra from January 20 to February 6. There are no surprises in the

team announced on Tuesday as 27 players had been camping in Kochi since last month, out of which 23 had been picked.

The four players who had participated in the SAFF meet and are also part of this squad are Hemam Shilky Devi (defender), Mariyammal Balamurugan (forward), Sumati Kumari (forward) and Naorem Priyangka Devi (defender).

to the quadrennial showpiece in Australia and New Zealand, India will however miss the services of seasoned striker Bala India, ranked 55th in the world, Devi, who continues to recover must be among the top five from an ACL (anterior cruciate



last September. It can take a minimum of six months to fully recovery after the operation.

India is hosting the continent's highest competition for the first time since 1980 and at stake is a possible berth in the 2023 FIFA World Cup.
For automatic qualification

Chauhan (1), Maibam Linthoingambi Devi (23), wmiya Narayanasamy (19). DEFENDERS: Dalima Chhibber (17), Sweety Devi Ngangbam (2), Ritu Rani (21),

Shilky Devi (5), Sanju Yadav (8). the 12 participating nations. MIDFIELDERS: Yumnam Monday was the last date of reg-Kamala Devi (6), Anju Tamang (9), Karthika Angamuthu (20), istration

The final list of 23 registered Nongmeithem Ratanbala Devi players as follows: (7), Naorem Priyangka Devi (14), Indumathi Kathiresan GOALKEPEERS: Aditi FORWARDS: Manisha

Kalyan (16), Grace Dangmei (11), Pyari Xaxa (10), Renu (15), Sumati Kumari (22), Sandhiya Ranganathan (13), Mariyammal Loitongbam Ashalata Devi (4), Balamurugan (18).



Yuki Bhambri moves to 2nd round of Aussie