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Air India lands up in Tatas' hands

Your arrival was much awaited, Tata Group tweets and asserts 'committed to making it a world-class airline'

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

After 70 years, the Tata Group on Thursday officially took over the Air India, Air India Express and Air India SATS. The Government transferred 100 per cent shares to Tata's wholly-owned subsidiary Talace Pvt Ltd shortly after Tata Sons chairman Natarajan Chandrasekaran called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The Government also transferred the management control of the company to the new owners. This completed the process of the Government selling the debt-ridden airline to the Tata Group company. "Your arrival was much awaited," tweeted the Tata Group soon after the handover.

Expressing his happiness over the development, Chandrasekaran said Tata Group was delighted to have Air India back and was committed to making it a world-class airline. Ratan N Tata joined Chandrasekaran in expressing his "thankful recognition" to the Government and its various departments for the successful completion of this important transaction.

Later Chandrasekaran reached out to employees of Air



Air India CMD Vikram Dev Dutt welcomes Tata Sons Chairman Natarajan Chandrasekaran on his arrival at Air India office in New Delhi on Thursday

PTI

AI will boom and help civil aviation sector grow: Scindia

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Air India will boom under the wing of the new owners and the airline will pave the way for a thriving and robust civil aviation sector in India, Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said after the carrier was handed over to Tata Sons on Thursday. "It is indeed noteworthy that the disinvestment process of @airindiain has been brought to a successful conclusion in a time-bound

manner," Scindia said on Twitter.

This proves the central government's ability, and the resolve to carry out disinvestment effectively in non-strategic sectors in the future, he noted.

"Best wishes to the new owners. I am confident that the airline will bloom under their wings, and pave the way for a thriving and robust civil aviation industry in India," he mentioned.

Covid cases stabilising; Omicron BA.2 in India

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The prevalence of Omicron sub-lineage BA.2 is gradually increasing in India, but there are indications of a plateau in the number of cases, with just the top 10 States contributing to 77 per cent of total active cases in the country.

Sujeet Kumar Singh, Director, National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), said at a media briefing here that "Omicron sub-variant BA.2 is more prevalent in comparison to the BA.1 variant in India now. However, the BA.3 sub-variant has not been detected in India yet."

"The percentage of the highly transmissible Omicron variant increased rapidly in December and January and the prevalence of the Omicron subvariant called BA.2 is increasing in our community," the NCDC director said.

"Earlier, the BA.1 variant was dominant among the samples collected from the travellers. Now in community settings, we have found that the BA.2 sub-variant is gradually increasing," he said.

Talking about increasing cases of Omicron, Singh said that out of the total genome sequencing reports received so far, increasing cases of Omicron have been found in the month of January.

Of the total reports received, 1,292 Omicron cases



were found in December last year, whereas the number of Delta cases was over 17,000, he said.

In January so far, 9,672 Omicron cases have been found against 4,779 Delta cases, which includes 3,201 AYC variants and 1,578 Delta variants, Singh said. Mainly three States — Maharashtra, Odisha, and West Bengal — have reported the Delta variant on the basis of genome sequencing, said Singh, adding that it does not mean that only the Omicron variant is being reported everywhere.

Talking about Covid fatalities, he said that those unvaccinated and people with comorbidities are in the high-risk group. "Around 64 per cent of those who died in Delhi were from the unvaccinated group with a major comorbid population," he added.

ICMR chief Balram

Bhargava said that vaccines have remained beneficial for India. "Vaccine reduces deaths considerably in the vaccinated population compared to the unvaccinated individuals. Around 95 per cent of the adult population in the country have received the first vaccine dose, while 74 per cent have been fully vaccinated," said Bhargava, as he urged the States lagging behind in vaccination to ramp up the drive.

Recently, the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG) too had in its bulletin cautioned that Omicron is now in community transmission in India and has become dominant in multiple metros, where new cases have been rising exponentially. BA.2 lineage is in a substantial fraction in India and S gene dropout based screening is thus likely to give high false negatives."

Modi raises Af, pitches for regional connectivity at Central Asian summit

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday expressed concern on the development in Afghanistan and stressed on creating an "ambitious road map" for "regional connectivity and integration". The PM was hosting the first India-Central Asian countries summit.

The virtual event was attended by Presidents of Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan.

All of them greeted Modi on the just concluded Republic Day as India entered the 75th anniversary of its Independence.

Stating that the diplomatic relations between India and Central Asian countries have "completed 30 fruitful years", the Prime Minister expressed his concern about the developments in Afghanistan and called for greater interaction between India and the Central Asia countries.

The Prime Minister said "regional integration connectivity and integration" is important and there is a need to "make an ambitious road map to have regional connectivity and integration".



"India has deep relations with all of the Central Asian countries. Kazakhstan has become an important partner in India's energy security. I express my condolences at the recent loss of lives in Kazakhstan," Modi said as he welcomed Central Asian heads of states in his opening address.

He said India and Central Asian nations share the same concerns and goals with regard to regional security.

"We are all concerned about the developments in Afghanistan. In this context too, mutual cooperation among us has become more important for regional security and stability," he said.

Modi said the summit has three key objectives. The first one is to make it clear that mutual cooperation between India and Central Asia is necessary for regional security

and prosperity. "I want to make it clear that Central Asia is central to India's vision of an integrated and stable neighbourhood," he said.

"The second objective of today's meeting is to give an effective structure to our cooperation, which will pave the way for the establishment of a platform for regular interaction among all stakeholders," Modi said.

He said the third objective of the summit is to prepare an ambitious road map for our cooperation, which will enable them to adopt an integrated approach for regional connectivity and cooperation.

The Presidents of the Central Asian countries in their address pointed to the age-old ties with India and its "unique civilisation".

Modi had paid historic visits to all Central Asian countries in 2015. Following this, there has been continuous high-level dialogue at bilateral and multilateral forums.

The first India-Central Asia Summit, the Ministry of External Affairs had said, is a reflection of the country's growing engagement with the Central Asian countries, which are a part of India's "extended neighbourhood".

Delhi lifts Covid curbs on mkts, cinemas, eateries can run at 50%

Night curfew to continue; call on reopening schools in next DDMA meeting

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) on Thursday decided to remove the weekend curfew and odd-even rule for shops and malls in the national Capital. The night curfew, however, will remain in place. The authority also decided that weddings can be held with 200 people or 50 per cent capacity of the venue.

According to Delhi Government sources, cinema halls, bars and restaurants can also operate at 50 per cent capacity. Delhi Government offices will also operate with 50 per cent capacity.

A decision on the reopening of schools will be taken up in the next DDMA meeting. Thursday's decision on easing of curbs in the national Capital will be implemented after a formal order is issued to give them effect.

According to sources, experts in the meeting sug-



gested reopening of schools in a phased manner. In the first phase, schools from classes 9-12 should be reopened, then classes 5-8 in the second phase, and classes 3-4 in the third phase.

Delhi's Covid-19 positivity rate has dipped below ten (9.56) per cent. A total of 4,291 cases were reported in the last 24 hours from 44,903 tests. As many as 34 deaths were also registered.

The DDMA's meeting was attended by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, Deputy CM Manish Sisodia, NITI Aayog member Dr VK Paul, Health Minister Satyendar Jain, DG ICMR Balram Bhargava and several top officials. Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal, who is the chairman of the DDMA,

chaired the meeting.

The Delhi Government has been trying for the reopening of schools. Hundreds of parents have joined "#BACK-TOSCHOOL" campaign and written to DCPCR division. Delhi Education Minister announced on Wednesday that he will recommend the DDMA for reopening of schools in Delhi as education and mental health of students were being hampered due to the curbs. Delhi schools have been closed since December 28.

BJP leaders in Delhi also called upon Lieutenant Governor Bajjal last Tuesday demanding that the weekend and night curfew should be withdrawn, while odd-even restrictions should also be lifted.

PLA hands over missing Arunachal boy to Indian Army

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China on Thursday handed over the missing Arunachal Pradesh teenager to the Indian Army. The 17-year-old boy was now undergoing medical examination. He returned home after nine days.

Miram Taron was reported missing on Tuesday last week. One version claimed he was abducted by the PLA while sources in the Defence establishment here said the boy had lost his way in the jungles.

Announcing the boy's release, Law and Justice Minister Kiren Rijiju, who also hails from Arunachal Pradesh, said, "The Chinese PLA has handed over the young boy from Arunachal Pradesh, Miram Taron, to the Indian Army. Due procedures are being followed, including the medical examination."

He said the youth was handed over to India at Wacha-Damai interaction point in Arunachal Pradesh and thanked the Indian Army for pursuing the case "meticulously with the PLA and safe-

ly securing our young boy."

The youth will return to his family after the completion of formalities in collaboration with the Army, police, health, and local officials, sources said here, adding all the Covid protocols have also been followed. The boy hails from Jido village in the Upper Siang district and was reported missing from Shiyung La in the Indian territory's Bishing Area.

India and China on Wednesday had talked to each other on the hotline regarding the teenager and it was indicated he will be released soon after the weather improves.

A day after he went missing, the Indian Army contacted the PLA and the Chinese informed a few days later the boy was in their custody. Giving an update on Wednesday, Rijiju had said China indicated the release of the 17-year-old boy and will soon share the date and time.

He had said, "Hotline exchanged on Republic Day by Indian Army with Chinese PLA. PLA responded positively indicating handing over of our national and suggested a place of release."

Delhi HC expunges judge's 'publicity' remarks against Juhi Chawla in 5G case

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Thursday expunged remarks made in an order against actress Juhi Chawla that she had filed the lawsuit challenging setting up of 5G wireless networks in the country, citing health hazards, for gaining publicity.

A bench of Justices Vipin Sanghi and Jasmeet Singh also reduced the costs imposed on Chawla from ₹20 Lakh to ₹2 lakh, saying that she did not take up the 5G issue in a "frivolous and casual manner".

The court said part amount of the costs will be retained since some of the applications filed in the suit were indeed



completely meritless.

The division bench allowed Chawla's appeal and set aside the single judge's June 4, 2021 order by which the suit filed by the actress-environmentalist and two others was dismissed with the observations that it was "defective", "abuse of process of law" and filed for "gaining publicity".

Continued on Page 2

Channi or Sidhu to lead polls, party workers will pick: Rahul

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Caught in deep political waters following rift regarding captainship, Punjab Congress' top leaders — Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi and State party president Navjot Singh Sidhu — on Thursday exhorted party's national vice-president Rahul Gandhi to give the stranded ship a thrust by announcing the Chief Ministerial candidate's name in a run-up to February 20 elections.

Rahul, who gave a major push to the party's poll campaign in Punjab with his visit and also addressing a virtual rally, left it on the party work-



ers to decide.

In a clear cut departure from the party's previous stand to contest polls under "collective leadership", Rahul Gandhi made it clear that the Congress would soon announce the name of the leader "who will lead the party in Punjab polls".

"The question here is who will lead the party in Punjab...the media calls this CM candidate...Both Sidhu ji and Channi ji told me in the car that in Punjab, the big question is who will lead Congress in Punjab...It is clear that two persons cannot lead, it has to be any one. Both also assured me...and I am happy...that whoever leads, the other person would support and back him fully," said Rahul.

"Though we don't do it (announcing CM face) normally. But if the workers want, Punjab wants...We will decide on it...and for that, we will ask the party workers..."

Continued on Page 2

5 dead in Bihar after consuming intoxicant

PTI ■ PATNA

Five people died on Friday at a village in dry Bihar after consuming what the district administration called "a white chemical" though the locals alleged it was liquor.

All deaths have been reported from Ansar village in Dumrao subdivision of Buxar district.

Eight people fell ill within hours of consuming an intoxicant late on Thursday, said District Magistrate, Buxar, Aman Samir.

"Five died while three others are suffering bouts of vomiting. The boxes from which they had gulped down the

white chemical are being sent for examination to ascertain the substance," the District Magistrate told reporters after visiting the site.

Residents of the village, however, claimed that the deceased and their surviving friends hand drank concocted "daru" (liquor) from bottles of homeopathic medicine which they drank to get high, and not any white substance.

Sale and consumption of liquor is completely banned in Bihar since April, 2016. It is a punishable act in the State. The State has, however, seen more than 50 hooch deaths in half a dozen districts since November last year.

CAPSULE

PADMA FOR AZAD A POLITICAL DECISION NOT ON MERIT: CONG

Bengaluru: Senior Congress leader M Veerappa Moily said on Thursday the Narendra Modi Government's decision to confer Padma Bhushan on Ghulam Nabi Azad was a political one and not based on merit. He said the former Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister should not accept the award if he thinks that it harms the interest of the Congress party.

246 MILITANTS SURRENDER: HIMANTA

Guwahati: A total of 246 militants of United Gorkha People's Organisation (UGPO) and Tiwa Liberation Army (TLA) formally surrendered before Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma here on Thursday.

9000 applications received for petrol subsidy scheme

Govt faced pandemic with high spirits: Banna

PNS ■ Jamshedpur

Health Minister Banna Gupta has said that 9000 people have applied for petrol subsidy schemes in the district alone. About 10 beneficiaries of the petrol subsidy scheme have given acceptance letters symbolically. Gupta was addressing 73rd Republic Day function at Gopal Maidan on Wednesday. He said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Hemant Soren, the State Government is trying to speed up the development works. Even in a global pandemic like Corona, this challenge was faced with boldness. We, who follow the principle of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, stand in the happiness and sorrow of every person. Every successful effort is being made to make the state prosperous and advanced. The Minister said that the Government formed under the leadership of Chief Minister Hemant Soren has been enthralled by the expectations



and trust of many people. Every possible effort is being made by the government for progress. Prior to this, Gupta unfurled the flag and took the salute of the parade. Along with this, the police officers and jawans who have performed better in the maintenance of law and order and civil defense volunteers were awarded a citation in the re-

spective office. Gupta, in his address, while saluting the brave fighters of the country, extended heartfelt greetings and best wishes to the people of the state and the district on Republic Day. He said that the country celebrates Independence Day on 15th August, but we got constitutional freedom on 26th January 1950. This country is

a country of heroes, of Sufis, saints and great men. The heroes of this country have given so many sacrifices and sacrifices to make the country free and republic. He said that it is the duty of every Indian to make an effort to realize the India which was envisioned by the heroes of the country. 26 January is a very important day for our country. Republic means government by the people, for the people. For the Republic Day we are celebrating, the great freedom fighters of India have sacrificed their lives with laughter and fired bullets on their chest. In the independence of the country, the brave great men of Jharkhand also made sacrifices while participating. The Health Minister said that with the worldwide crisis, the government faced this challenge with high spirits. During the pandemic every person was provided every possible help. Every successful effort is being made to make the state prosperous and advanced. The government has tried to improve the economic condition of the laborers by connecting them with new schemes.

Maoists blow up tracks on Howrah- New Delhi route

PNS ■ GIRIDIH/DHANBAD

Rebels of banned CPI (Maoist) outfit blew up tracks on Howrah-New Delhi route in between Chichaki and Karmabandh stations of Dhanbad Railway division during the 24 hour bandh call to protest against the arrest of their top leader Prashant Bose. Movement of tracks remained suspended for around six hours and were restored at 6.30AM, according to Rajesh Kumar, Chief Public Relations Officer of East Central Railways. The incident took place near pole no 34/16 and 333/16 at 00.34 hours on Thursday during which six sleepers of both up and down tracks were damaged. The incident was reported by gangman to headquarters as well as local stations that led to immediate halting of train movement on tracks. The Maoists also left posters denouncing the arrest of



their top leader and alleged attempt of the government to kill them in jail. Senior division commandant of RPF Hemant Kumar and Giridih SP Amit Renu besides other Senior police and railway officials reached the spot after which repairs of tracks were taken up by the engineering wings of the railways and then movement of trains were restored. According to Kumar some keys and six sleepers of

down tracks were damaged and ghose were repaired by the engineering wing of the railways. Several trains including Ganga Damodar express, Dikchabhoomi express, Howrah Jodhpur, Hatia - Is-lampur express, Howrah - Indor express, besides Howrah and Sealdah bound Rajdhani express trains had to be halted at different stations for safety reasons for over six to seven hours.

NTPC CMHQ celebrates 73rd Republic Day with fervour



PNS ■ Ranchi

The 73rd Republic Day was celebrated at NTPC, CMHQ, Ranchi on January 26, 2022 with great pride and patriotic fervour. The programme was organized by following COVID protocols & guidelines. This year it is special as the celebrations for the Republic Day started from January 23, marking Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's 125th birth anniversary, under the aegis of 75th Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. Chief Guest of the event, Partha Mazumder, Regional Executive Director (RED), Coal Mining unfurled the tri-colour flag to mark the celebrations. He stated that, NTPC, country's largest and responsible power company, has ensured its best effort to meet the power requirement of the country while continuing to fight the pandemic, so that essential services like hospitals get the power supply and economic activities go on. Shri Partha Mazumder further briefed that as part of the thermal generation business, NTPC Coal Mining is playing a significant role to support our core business of power

generation by supplying quality fuel at a competitive price to its power stations. RED (Coal Mining) while sharing some of the key achievements of Coal Mining Projects and Coal Mining Headquarters, congratulated all for achieving total Coal production of 10.7 MMT till date which is 106 per cent w.r.t pro-rata target of 10.17 MMT and against the last year's production of 8.15 MMT during the same period. However, he advised his coal mining teammates not to be complacent because the Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Power, GoI, have given enhanced target of coal production from Pakri-Barwadih and Dulanga for this FY. Moreover, Coal production from Chatti-Bariatu & Kerandari has to be started in 2022 and from Badam in 2023. Shri Mazumder urged all employees of CMHQ to put their best effort and to extend their support to its fullest to the coal mining projects so that these targets are achieved. He also congratulated the Talaipalli team for achieving the Safety Award from DGMS. He appreciated Team SSC (C&M) CMHQ for procurement of a

total of about Rs 50 Crores through Govt E-Procurement (GEM) portal, out of which Rs. 28 Crs. was done in the current Financial Year. He also mentioned that one consultant of global repute has been engaged for exploring and identifying prospective coal block acquisition across the globe. He said that efforts are being taken for construction of Loading bulb and associated Railway track for evacuation of coal from Chatti-Bariatu & Kerandari coal blocks etc. in association with JRIDCL, GoI which will be cost effective for NTPC. RED (Coal Mining) reiterated that digitalization and automation are the key drivers for improving business efficiency, speed, transparency, and efficacy. In this regard he mentioned about some key digitalization initiatives taken by CMHQ like, implementation of e-Safety management plan which was praised by High Level Expert Committee on safety of Ministry of Coal, start of digitalization of Statutory documents of CMHQ & all coal mining projects and establishment of Mining Operational Efficiency Improvement Cell at CMHQ. Initiatives are also being taken for implementation of e-Suraksha App in coal mining. For encouraging the children & family members of CMHQ employees who have demonstrated their exemplary work in various fields, merit certificates have been given by RED (Coal Mining) on this occasion. RED (Coal mining) has also expressed his sincere gratitude to all corona warriors i.e Doctors, Nurses, Paramedical staff, Security personnel and associates of coal mining region for their excellent teamwork during covid time and he also thanked all stakeholders for providing unstinted support.

BJP MLA starts 72 hour-long dharna to protest poor power and water supply

Pankaj Kumar ■ Dhanbad

BJP MLA Raj Sinha started his 72 hour dharna to protest poor power and water supply in Dhanbad. Sinha sat on dharna along with host of BJP leaders of district at Randhir Verma Square to protest long hours of power cut by the Jharkhand Biji Vitran Nigam Limited (JBVNL) in Dhanbad despite the fact that monthly revenue collection from consumers happens to be satisfactory compared to other districts. The JBVNL cuts power

in-between 12 to 14 hours in a day. Talking to media Sinha said, domestic consumers are direct customers of JBVNL not DVC. They do not know from where the nigam purchases power and supplies to them as they paid rent and tariff to JBVNL. If JBVNL is not in condition to maintain supply from DVC must take appropriate action to get it from other sources, he said. The long hours of power cuts have also adversely affected water supply in the city area, he added. Complaint to CM

for ameliorating the condition has yielded no positive results, said Sinha. The MLA has got full support from his party. local MP PN SINGH besides party legislators of Apama Sengupta. District president CS Singh, vice president Sanjay Jha, Milton besides a host of leaders from frontal organizations were seen sitting in dharna with Raj. Speakers criticised the Hemant Soren led UPA government for neglecting Dhanbad despite the fact that it is one of the highest revenue paying districts of state.

Republic Day celebrated with fervour at BSL

RAHUL SHARMA ■ Bokaro

On the occasion of Republic Day this year grand celebrations were organized by Bokaro Steel Plant at CISF Parade Ground. The Director-in-Charge of BSL, Amarendra Prakash was the chief guest at the function. Executive Director and Chief General Manager of BSL, Deputy Inspector General (CISF) Saugata Rai, other senior officers of BSL and CISF and other dignitaries were present in the function. DIC Prakash hoisted the national flag at the parade ground and inspected the parade and took the salute. The CISF and BSL security department personnel participated in the



parade. In his address, DIC Prakash wished everyone a Happy Republic Day and highlighted the achievements and future plans of BSL, Jharkhand Group of Mines and Collieries Group. Discussing the contribution of

each section of the society in the progress of BSL, he wished for the bright future of Bokaro Steel through collective efforts. He also discussed the efforts being made for roads, maintenance of houses, drainage system and better

lighting this year in BSL Township. During the Republic Day celebrations, the Director-in-Charge also awarded 63 personnel of CISF, BSL's Security Department and Fire Services Department for their excellent service. The team was honored with the Dr BR Ambedkar Award. An attractive presentation by the Dog Squad of CISF was also presented at the function and was appreciated by all. At the end mementoes were given to the parade commander and the performing teams. Apart from the main program of Republic Day, DIC Prakash and senior officers also paid their respects at the Martyrs Memorial in CISF Parade Ground Complex.

DVC among the top 10 in power generation: Dutta

PNS ■ Bokaro

National flag was unfurled amidst various cultural functions on the occasion of Republic Day. The day was observed with great patriotism across the Bokaro district. Many colourful events were organised at schools, offices, clubs and other places, including the district administrative office, JAP, BIADA, Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL), DVC, Vedanta-Electrosteel Steels Limited (ESL), BCCL and CCL's units on the eve of this great national festival. Chief Engineer and Project Head of CTPS, Ajay Kumar Dutta, unfurled the national flag at the football ground. Speaking on occasion, Dutta said that Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) ranked among the top ten among the cen-

tral sector in power production nationally. We all are really proud of this group. He said we are working vigorously in the rural areas under corporate social responsibility (CSR). "It is the responsibility of all of us to develop Chandrapura as an ideal town," said Dutta. Beside others, Chief Engineer Sunil Kumar Pandey, Deputy General Manager Sushil Kumar Mishra, Deputy Chief Engineer SK Sharma, N, P Mandal, Sanjay Kumar, Kamta Prasad, Deputy General Manager Finance Rakesh Ranjan, Additional Director Dilip Kumar, PK Jha, AK Chandrashekar, Ajay Kumar Singh, Raj Kumar Chaudhary, Ravindra Kumar, Anil Kumar Singh, Akshay Kumar including others were present there.

Maoists put up posters in Giridih

SURESH NIKHAR ■ BERMO

High alert has been sounded in naxal infested Dumari and Madhuban areas of Giridih district in Jharkhand after suspected Maoist rebels on January 26 pasted dozens of posters at different villages under Madhuban and Dumari police station area of Giridih district. After the arrest of top Maoist leader Prashant Bose along with his wife Sheela Marandi, the Maoists have been protesting by pasting posters and putting banners in different areas of Madhuban and Dumari area in Giridih district here on Wednesday night. During the Jharkhand and Bihar bandh, the Naxalites



blew up the railway tracks near Chichaki Railway station on the Howrah-Mugalsarai rail route. The Naxalites have announced a Bihar-Jharkhand bandh on January 27 in protest against the arrest of their top leaders. To make the bandh successful, Maoists have pasted posters in Madhuban and Dumri

areas in the foothills of Parasnath in the border of Giridih district, said sources. SDPO Manoj Kumar said that at some places the Naxalites had pasted posters while all posters had been removed after taking prompt action on the information. Search operations are going on in other areas.

Adhunik Power to make villagers digital literate

PNS ■ Jamshedpur

Adhunik Power & Natural Resources Limited is geared up to make digital literacy to the villagers of nearby villages and simultaneously organic farming. The announcement was made on the day of 73rd Republic Day celebration at the company premises here on Wednesday. The company management announced that they are very much keen and geared-up for the good health of villagers and upliftment of peripheral villages. Before this announcement, Prakash Tiwari, director, Adhunik Power & Natural



Resources Limited hoisted the national flag amidst employees at the Padampur Plant site. Flag hoisting followed by national anthem and spectacular parade which was performed by company security guards. "We all are here for the growth of the company but

we cannot ignore the growth of villages too, so the company is fully geared up to help villages and villagers. We are also expecting the same support from the villagers too," said Mr. Tiwari in his address. He added that, however, the company is getting good support from local villagers but the company is looking for more support from them. The power generation company has also felicitated employees who excelled in their respective fields. Later on, guest of honour, Rakesh Gupta, COO of the company thanked the gathering for a joyful republic day celebration.

Tata Steel and Jharkhand Badminton Association join hands

Mohan Ahuja Stadium to undergo makeover

PNS ■ Jamshedpur

Amidst growing popularity of the racquet sport in the city with every household taking up badminton either as a hobby or profession, Tata Steel and Jharkhand Badminton Association (JBA) have come together to jointly promote badminton to a greater height in the state. Tata Steel Sports Division Badminton Development & Advisory Committee has been formed to take forward the initiative. The committee will work for the development of badminton as a sport at Tata Steel's Badminton Training Center and Mohan Ahuja Badminton Stadium. This also includes providing the



best-in-class infrastructure for training and organising district, state, national and international badminton tournaments. Badminton is by some estimates, the most widely played sport in the world after soccer. Its popularity in the city has grown manifold. Addressing a press meet at JRD Tata

sports complex, Chanakya Chaudhary, vice president, corporate services, Tata Steel said: "Sports is a way of life at Tata Steel and our partnership with JBA is yet another step that demonstrates this. Besides other benefits, the budding players will not only get the best infrastructure but also the best coaches." He said that a committee has been formed to explore possibilities to develop Mohan Ahuja Badminton Stadium as a world class facility. "We want to develop such a facility so that people of all ages can play the game and take it forward," said the vice president. While extending his heartfelt gratitude to Tata Steel, Prabhakar Rao, secretary of JBA said: "This is a historic moment for all of us today as

we enter into this partnership. Mohan Ahuja Stadium is being handed over to Tata Steel for building a state-of-the-art badminton facility. JBA along with Tata Steel will do whatever is best for keen sports lovers of Jamshedpur." Farzan Heerjee, chief protocol and sports, Tata Steel and chairman of the Tata Steel Sports Division Badminton Development & Advisory Committee said: "The past is behind us and together we will progress towards the betterment of badminton." Tata Steel and JBA have come together to mutually work out an amicable solution for the greater benefit of the sport of badminton and make the state of Jharkhand a cradle for creating world class badminton players. In this regard, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between Tata Steel and the Jharkhand Badminton Association on January 26, 2022.

ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट सेल अधीक्षण अभियंता का कार्यालय भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन अंचल, हजारीबाग					
अति अल्पकालीन ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट नोटिस					
ई-टेंडर रेफरेंस नं०- BCD/BCHZB/DHANBAD/13/2021-22			दिनांक:- 25.01.2022		
क्रम०	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रु०)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि	बिड प्राप्ति के लिए अंतिम तिथि/समय	वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि
1	Construction of Dining Hall, BIO Lab, CHE Lab, PHY Lab, (G+1) Laying of Paver Block & Const. of Parking Shed at UPS +2 Kolakusamba, Dhanbad	Rs.94,24,938/-	07 (Seven) Month		ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट सेल,
2	Repair of 4 Nos. Old Building, Construction of Assembly Platform, Main Gate, Laying of Concertina Wire, Parking Shed, Hand Wash Unit, Laying of Paver Block, Recharge Pit, Ramp Work, Boys Toilet and Staff Toilet & Septic Tank at Putki High School, Dhanbad	Rs.72,64,691/-	06 (Six) Month	07.02.2022 12.30 अपराह्न तक	अधीक्षण अभियंता का कार्यालय, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन अंचल हजारीबाग।
3	Construction of Library, Hall, and 2 Class Room (G+ 1) at L N V M High School, Dhanbad	Rs.69,06,400/-			

ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट सेल का हेल्पलाइन संख्या 06546 222640
• किसी भी प्रकार का बदलाव <http://Jharkhandtenders.gov.in> पर देखा जा सकता है।
• अथ किसी भी प्रकार की सूचना <http://Jharkhandtenders.gov.in> पर देखा जा सकता है।
note: UCAN Registration is mandatory for the bidders.
नोबल पब्लिशिंग, ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट सेल
अधीक्षण अभियंता का कार्यालय
भवन अंचल, हजारीबाग
PR 262480 Building (21-22)_D

INBRIEF

SAIL Units celebrate R- Day with gaiety

SAIL Ranchi Units celebrated Republic Day with Nationalistic Fervour and Traditional Gaiety. Flag was hoisted at MTI by Dr. Kamakshi Raman, ED (HRD) and at Ispat Bhawan by N. Banerjee, ED (RDCIS) amidst presence of their employees. At SAIL Employees SC/ST Welfare Association (SEWA), the flag was hoisted by Ganesh Vid-yarthi. This year 16 of SAIL Ranchi employees completed their Glorious 25 years of Service. They were Shalabh Shrama, MR Mishra, AVY Chenulu, KP Jayakumar, Raju Jaiswal, Manish Kumar, T. Prasad and Tilak Raj from Center for Engineering and Technology (CET); Shri Rajiv Verma from Safety; Dr. Sushant Rath, Rishi Kumar, Ra-jeev Singh, Deepak Kumar, Manish Kumar and Suyanti Devi from RDCIS; and Jitendra Hembram from MTI.

IWCS Ranchi celebrates R-Day

Under the chairmanship of President of Inner Wheel Club Swarnrekha Ranchi District 325, Neeta Narayan, and Secretary Mala Srivas-tava, Republic Day was celebrated on 26 Janu-ary following Covid-19 protocol. This Republic Day was celebrated in a special way with very special people. The club felicitated transgenders and welcomed them with a pink bouquet. Sumira, Neha, Sonam, Muskan hoisted the national flag on the members' request. Sumira was the chief guest and Neha, Sonam, Muskan were guests. The club gave text book and Samsung tablet to Sumira and tried to empower them so that they can do their studies well. The members have promised her to help her regarding her education in future also. The trans-gender sisters were overjoyed. Tears were shedding while she was giving her speech. It was a very emotional mo-ment for all the attendees. To make the celebrations unique and historic, club members worked hard. Poonam Sakhuja conducted the programme very well Rinku per-formed Saraswati Vandana and Neeta Shekhar recited poetry in honour of transgenders, while club's CCC Deepa Chauhan, Soma Bhaduri entertained them by reciting pa-triotic love songs. Nupur Sheshank gave the welcome ad-dress and Mala Srivastava gave the speech on the occasion of Republic Day.



SBPS Celebrates the 73rd Republic Day

The 73rd Republic Day was celebrated on 26th January with all its solemnity and grandeur at Sarala Birla Public School, Ranchi. The day commenced with the hoisting of national flag in the presence of Prof. (Dr.) Gopal Pathak, Vice Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) Vijay Kumar Singh, Registrar, Sarala Birla University and other dignitaries followed by the National anthem. Students participated in the virtual assembly and various cultural programmes including dance, song and speech, thus remembering our patriots who paved the way for a better tomorrow by bringing the Constitution of India into effect. The students as well as the teachers sung the National song 'Vande Mataram' filled with reverence and pride in their hearts for the nation.

SCS student wins at the regional level spelling bee

SCS student Ishaan Kumar has emerged as the 2nd RUNNER-UP (Group 3) in the "EASTERN REGION" at the Regional Championship at the India Spelling Bee Regional finale. The All India Spelling Bee for school children was held in the online mode, last year, due to the pan-demic . The Spelling Bee is an English language contest held annually for students of class1 – class 9 from more than 20 states in India. Ishan has made the school, city and state proud, and we wish him all the best. The other winners at the school level are Aarjaneya Dwivedi, Chai-tanya, Sonit Sandilya and Anurag Anand. The prize dis-tribution ceremony was held in the school premises and the prizes were given away by Principal, Samita Sinha in presence of the invited parents of the winners.

Ranchi Rail Division celebrates R-Day

On the occasion of 73rd Republic Day, the national flag was hoisted by Ranchi Divisional Railway Manager, Pradeep Gupta at Durga Puja ground. On this occasion, SERWO Chief, Priyamvada Gupta and other members of SERWO were present. After the flag hoisting, Gupta inspected the parade and in his address said that for the last two years, the whole world and their Country have been badly affected due to the infection of the global pandemic COVID-19. The infection of coronavirus is once again spreading very fast, so I urge all of you to follow all the instructions issued by the Government to protect yourself and your family from this infection. The safety of all of us is in our own hands, so apply mask properly, follow social distance and follow other protocols to protect against coronavirus, he added.

73rd Republic Day Celebrated at XISS

Xavier Institute of Social Service (XISS), Ranchi, cele-brated the 73rd Republic Day on the campus on Wednesday. The ceremony was graced by Dr Joseph Marianus Kujur, Director, XISS along with Dr Pradeep Kerketta, Assistant Director, XISS, faculty and staff members, and students. During the event, 3 Institu-tional Scholarships namely Fr. Michael Van den Bo-gaert SJ Memorial Scholarship for meritorious students of SC/ST category (First rank-Rs 50,000, Second rank-Rs 40,000), Fr. Michael Albert Windey SJ Memorial Scholarship for meritorious students on the whole open to all category (First rank-Rs 30,000, Second rank-Rs 20,000) and Fr. Louis Francken SJ Memorial Schol-arship (First rank-Rs 30,000, Second rank-Rs 20,000) for overall performance of all categories of students were also awarded to 31 students.

DPS Bokaro celebrates R-Day

Delhi Public School Bokaro celebrated the 73rd Re-public Day with great passion and patriotism. The Prin-cipal, DPS Bokaro, A. S. Gangwar unfurled the national flag and extended his warm greetings of the Republic Day to all the teachers, students and staff members of the school. Addressing the gathering, Gangwar said that it is a day when India's constitution came into force on January 26, 1950. So it is a day to revisit the wis-dom of the Constitution, to reiterate our pledge of Unity in Diversity, and to develop respect for all Indians. "On this vital occasion let us pledge to uphold the golden heritage of our country and reaffirm our allegiance to the Indian constitution as we resolve to safeguard the pride of our motherland", he stated.

AUJ hosts Quote Writing Competition

With the aim of inculcating the spirit of patriotism among the youngsters, Amity Institute of English Studies and Research (AIESR) of Amity University, Jharkhand (AUJ) hosted a Quote Writing Competition on the eve of 73rd Republic Day on Tuesday. The en-tries included quotes in English and Hindi with na-tionwide participation of around 60 students from various schools, colleges, and universities. Odisha from Fakir Mohan University, Balasore, Odisha bagged the first position in English Quote Writing Competition followed by Ayush Gurung from St. Xavier's College, Ranchi and Priya Das from Govern-ment Women's Polytechnic, Jamshedpur in the sec-ond position. Devashree Narayan from AUJ and Kumar Shivam from Jharkhand Raksha Shakti Uni-versity clinched the third position here.

73RD REPUBLIC DAY CM unfurls national flag in Dumka

‘Govt committed to secure rights of people, equal opportunities for everyone’

PNS ■ Ranchi

Chief Minister Hemant Soren hoisted the na-tional flag at the 73rd Re-public Day celebrations held in Dumka and inspected the attractive parade and saluted the flag. On this occasion, the CM paid tributes to the Father of the Nation Ma-hatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawa-harlal Nehru, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, and great personalities of Jharkhand, Bhagwan Birsa Munda, Tilka Manjhi, Veer Shaheed Sido-Kanhu, Chand- Bhairav, Phoolo-Jhano, Veer Budhu Bhagat, Jatra Tana Bhagat, Nilambar Pitambar, Sheikh Bhikhari, Pandey Ganpat Rai and Sha-heed Vishwanath Shahdev. He extended his greetings and best wishes to the secu-rity forces personnel and the people of the State on Re-public Day. The CM said that according to the provisions of the Con-stitution, the government is working fast towards ensur-ing all round development of the State and maximum welfare of the people. He said that in a democratic system, the rights of the peo-ple can be secured and



Chief Minister Hemant Soren salutes the national flag to mark the 73rd Republic Day at Police Line in Dumka on Wednesday.

everyone should get equal rights and opportunities for development, this is a spe-cial priority of the govern-ment. He said that the government has made con-tinuous efforts for develop-ment in many areas in a short span of time. With the cooperation of all people, the government is working towards providing clean, transparent and sensitive ad-ministration. "All of us to-gether should create an atmosphere of stability, peace and harmony in the State and with our creativity and positive energy, give speed and height to the max-imum progress and progress of the State," said the CM. He further said that the gov-ernment is sensitive towards education in the State, sev-eral model schools are being developed in the State and scholarship schemes have also been started for stu-dents to get higher educa-tion in other countries. He

said that recruitment processes have been expedit-ed in the State and even in the private sector 75 per cent reservation for locals has been ensured. The CM, counting the achievements and works of the government in last two years referred to the new schemes and projects launched by the govern-ment. These include bonus on paddy procurement, in-creasing Mandays under MGNREGA, empower-ment of rural women through various schemes, new irrigation projects, road projects across the State, Universal pension scheme, new Industry pol-icy, Sona-Sobran Dhoti Saree scheme, Insurance scheme for scribes, Sarkaar Aapke Dwar programme, reservation for Jharkhand revolutionaries, Petrol subsidy scheme for ration card holders among others.

Guv outlines schemes and initiatives of Govt

PNS ■ Ranchi

Jharkhand Governor Ramesh Bais has said that the Jharkhand government won ap-preciation for the ded-ication with which it tackled the crisis emerging out of the Covid 19 pandemic and the way a new variant of the virus has posed a threat the gov-ernment is prepared to tackle challenges. Bais said this during his Republic Day ad-dress at Morabadi ground on Wednesday where he hoisted the national flag and re-ceived the guard of the owner also. Elaborate arrangements were made for the Republic Day ceremony under the Covid protocols. The Governor high-lighted achievements and initiatives of the state government in the past two years and said that the He-mant Soren government is committed to provide em-ployment to youths. He said that the year 2021 was de-clared as recruitment year, and necessary changes were made in the recruitment by-laws and the process of re-cruitment has been started. He informed that the gov-ernment started a 1000 days nutrition programme for people covering all sections of society to improve their health. The government has



Governor Ramesh Bais salutes the national flag to mark the 73rd Republic Day at Morhabadi ground in Ranchi on Wednesday.

also launched multi-prong programmes to improve the quality of education. In the first phase, the government has identified around 4500 schools to be developed on the line of state of art schools. The Governor also talked about recently enacted legis-lation against mob lynching in Jharkhand and said that the government is committed to safeguarding life and limb of people. He said that law and order is the special priority of the government and action is taken against mafias and criminal ele-

BJP targets Govt of ‘financial mismanagement’

PNS ■ Ranchi

Describing the JMM/ Congress government as the worst government in the country, state BJP pres-ident and Rajya Sabha MP Deepak Prakash today said that the present government came to power by making false promises to people and even today the coalition government is misleading people. Addressing a press conference in the state of-fice, Prakash said that the al-liance government is misleading people by repeat-edly making false allega-

tions against the Centre. This government has been making false allegations of tax transfer and grant-in-aid on the Center, while the truth is different. The BJP MP reading out figures said that between 2009 and 2014, the UPA government trans-ferred Rs 35,998 crore to Jharkhand and gave grants-in-aid of Rs 21,069 crore. In contrast, between 2014 and 2019, under the NDA gov-ernment, Rs 89,648 crore was transferred to Jharkhand as tax collection while Rs 44,641 crore grant-in-aid was provided to the state.

Women Doctors’ Wing, IMA delegation thanks DGP for arrest in Dr Nilima abduction case

Demands return of extortion money, deployment of nodal DSP

PNS ■ Ranchi

A delegation of Women Doctors’ Wing, IMA, Jharkhand, Secretary IMA Jharkhand, Dr Pradeep Singh and IMA Ranchi head, Dr Shambhu Singh on Friday met Director General of Police (DGP) Neeraj Sinha to express grateful-ness and also thanked him for his cooperation in the ar-rest of the kidnapper, who had kidnapped and de-manded ransom from tribal doctor posted in Chandwa, Latehar, Dr Nilima. The women doctors, Dr Beauty Banerjee, Dr Rashmi Prasad, Dr Tanushree Chakraborty, Dr Anupama Singh, who were part of the



Jharkhand IMA secretary Dr. Pradeep Singh, Ranchi IMA President Dr. Shambhu Singh, Women Doctors Wing Chairpersons Dr. Bharti Kashyap and other doctors outside the DGP office at Jharkhand Police HQ, in Ranchi on Thursday.

delegation, told the DGP that the women doctors working in remote areas of the State are working in a very fearful condition. Chairperson of Women Doctors’ Wing, IMA, Jhark-hand, Dr Bharti Kashyap said that the medical com-munity is feeling relieved by

the arrest of the kidnapper of Dr Neelima Kumari, a fe-male doctor posted in Chandwa of Latehar district. Jharkhand IMA Secretary, Dr Pradeep Singh and IMA Ranchi head, Dr Shambhu Singh said that this incident with a Government lady doctor at the time of COVID

is very shameful and all the doctors of the State are frightened by the incident. Maheshwar Singh Munda, brother of Dr Neelima, who came from Hyderabad, who is an engineer by profession, said that his entire family was in shock due to the death of his father a month ago and now the whole fam-ily suffered a second blow due to the kidnapping of his sister. "We are happy with the arrest of the kidnapper. Women Doctors’ Wing IMA Jharkhand has taken this matter very seriously, for which I am very thankful," he added. Sinha told the IMA delega-tion that he already has a personal view on this inci-dent. The criminal involved in this incident has also been arrested by the police and the police are trying to get the ransom money back, he added.

Govt holds pre-Budget dialogue for Budget 2022-23

PNS ■ Ranchi

The Government of Jhark-hand organized Budget Goshti (Pre Budget dialogue) under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Thursday to invite sug-gestions from different stake-holders for formulation of Budget 2022-23. Principal Secretary, Finance Depart-ment, Government of Jhark-hand welcomed the participants, presented a pen picture of Budget and ex-plaind how the Government is trying to make the budget more inclusive. After ‘Hamar Apan Budget App and online consultation, today’s ‘Budget Goshti’, he said was the third measure towards this. Experts from various fields expressed their views on nine key thematic areas including Agriculture and Irrigation, Health, Education, Informa-tion Technology, Infrastruc-ture, Power, Welfare, Employment and Labour & Resource Mobilization. Prof. Amarendu Nandy, from IIM, Ranchi, which is the Knowledge Partner for the programme, in his address set

the context for the thematic Areas of the workshop. Prem Shankar, PRADAN, G. K. Nair, CGM, NABARD, Prof. Ashok Vishandass, IIPA & Former Chairman CACP and Prof. Nilanjan Banik, Mahindra University, Hyder-abad gave their inputs on Agriculture and Irrigation sector. The suggestion fo-cused on key areas like Pro-motion of Horticulture, Organic Farming potential in the State, Strengthening of Agriculture Marketing Infra-structure, Solar based lift ir-rigation projects, promoting agriculture produce process-ing etc. Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Rani Chil-dren Hospital; Dr. Anant, XISS; Prof. Rattan Chand, Sr. Consultant, World Bank and Dr. Manisha Priyam from NIEPA, Delhi gave their in-puts for upgrading Health and Education facilities in the State. The experts discussed their views for expanding the scope of Ayushman Bharat Yojna, improving man-power availability and infrastructure in health and education sector, establishment of new medical colleges, increasing budget al-



Chief Minister Hemant Soren, Finance Minister Rameshwar Oraon, Chief Secretary Sukhdev Singh, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Rajiv Arun Ekka, Secretary to Chief Minister Vinay Kumar Choubey and others during the Pre Budget Dialogue programme in Ranchi on Thursday.

location in health and edu-cation sector, establishment of Institutions for promotion of tribal and regional languages etc. People from across the state also gave their suggestions through the digital platform for Budget 2022-23 through Hamar Apan Budget Portal. Letter of appreciation was given to the selected represen-tatives for providing their ap-

preciable suggestion to the Government of Jharkhand on the State Budget for the fiscal year 2022 – 23. Shruti Suman, Bokaro, Haldar Ma-hato, Ramgarh, Subhojit Kumar Patar, East Singb-hum and Anand Raj presented their expectations, from Budget 2022-23. Their views focused on addressing mal-nutrition, promoting solar power plants, student credit

card, waste-management and other grassroots level issues. Johnson Topno, PHIA Foun-dation, Ranchi, Prof. Prabal Sen, XLRI, Jamshedpur, Prof. Himanshu, JNU, Delhi and representatives from Industry Association discussed ways for improving the Welfare, Employment and Labour sector. Prof. Shantanu Gupta, XLRI, Jamshedpur and Prof. Charan Singh from IIM Ben-galuru discussed Resource Mobilization. Valuable inputs were given by S.P Tucker, Prof. M. Govind Rao, Prof. Jean Dreze and Prof. Abhijit Sen. Chief Secretary, Sukhdev Singh, expressed that the State is facing challenges in increasing Resource Mobi-lization due to constraints which are beyond State’s con-trol. He shared that there needs to be balance between the Social Security Schemes and Infrastructure Develop-ment schemes. Finance Minister, Rameshwar Oraon expressed that the vi-sion of the government is re-flected in the budget. The government is committed to the welfare of the poor and

marginalized and the budget process reflects the same. Ap-preciating the views of the participants, he shared that the suggestions shall be incor-porated in the short term and long term plans of the govern-ment. Apart from focusing on the expenditure on key and focused areas, the govern-ment is also committed to-wards additional revenue mobilization despite the con-straints from the Central Gov-ernment. CM Hemant Soren said that Jharkhand has huge wealth of natural resources but limited economic resources, COVID-19 global pandemic has af-fected the poor, migrant labors, farmers and marginal-ized section the most. Under these circumstances, budget formulation is a challenging process. The government is committed to convert these challenges into opportunities and work for the holistic de-velopment of the state. The CM thanked the participants for sharing their valuable sug-gestions assuring that all sug-gestions will be carefully considered while preparing the Budget 2022-23.

CCL, CMPDI celebrate R-Day with zeal

PNS ■ Ranchi

The 73rd Republic Day was celebrated with pride and zeal at Central Coal-fields Limited (CCL) and Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI) headquarter in Ranchi. CCL, Chairman cum managing Di-rector (CMD), PM Prasad hoisted the National Flag on the premises of the conven-tion centre and wished every-body on the occasion while CMD, CMPDI, Manoj Kumar unfurled the National Flag and addressed the gathering. On this occasion, CCL CVO SK Sinha, GMs and HoDs from headquarters, representatives of trade unions, employees and other stakeholders of the company attended the ceremony. Prasad took the guard of ho-nour and stated that every In-dian Citizen should be indebted to the makers of our Constitution and the martyred freedom fighters. It is because of their sacrifices that we can celebrate this day. He further added that everybody should



work collectively to con-tribute in Country’s develop-ment. The CMD stated that COVID-19 pandemic still rattles the world. He appealed to everybody to get vac-cinated and follow the social distancing norms, use sanitiz-ers and wear masks. He said that over Two Lakh Sixteen thousand people have been inoculated in the nine centers of the company across five districts of Jharkhand. He fur-ther informed that the com-pany has established “PSA Oxygen Plant” in Central Hospital Gandhinagar, Central Hospital Ramgarh and CHC Tandwa. He also praised the Doctors and med-ical team of the CCL hospi-tals for their services to the community.

246 militants surrendered, says Assam CM

Two Barak Valley outfits to lay down arms in Feb: Himanta

Guwahati: A total of 246 militants of United Gorkha People's Organisation (UGPO) and Tiwa Liberation Army (TLA) formally surrendered before Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma here on Thursday. Welcoming the 169 UGPO and 77 TLA insurgents into the mainstream, Sarma said that two more Bru-Reang militant outfits in Barak Valley will lay down arms in February. Speaking at a formal arms-laying ceremony, the chief min-

ister said that ULFA (Independent) and Kamtapur Liberation Organisation (KLO) will then be the only remaining active insurgent groups in the state. "Two Bru-Reang groups in the Barak Valley will surrender in the coming days. We will try to settle them by February," he said. A senior police officer, who is involved in the surrender process of the militants, told PTI that the chief minister referred to the Bru Revolutionary Army Union (BRAU) and United Democratic Liberation Front (UDLF). The UGPO and TLA militants deposited 277 firearms of various types, 720 cartridges and grenades in front of Sarma. **PTI**

TMC to make IAS Rules issue in Budget session

Likely to move resolution in RS seeking removal of Bengal Gov

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The Trinamool Congress is going to raise a host of 'contentious issues' in parliament in the upcoming Budget Session, inside sources said quoting Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. The Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has directed her MPs to raise the issue of proposed amendment of Indian Administrative Services (cadres) rules in Parliament, the party sources on Thursday said. Banerjee who on Thursday had called a meeting of TMC MPs ahead of the Budget Session is known to have chalked out a battle plan for her MPs guiding them on how to raise various issues including "the most contentious" issue related to the mandatory dep-

utation of IAS officers in Delhi. Claiming that proposed amendment of the IAS Cadre Rules, 1954 would disturb the federal structure of the country compelling the State Governments to release the bureaucrats once they are asked to do so by the Centre, Banerjee earlier said that the proposed amendment is "against spirit of cooperative federalism and that it upsets harmonious arrangement between Centre and States in the matter of posting of IAS and IPS officers." In her letter written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the issue, Banerjee earlier said, "I express my strong reservations to the approach followed by the Central Government in proposing such an amendment to the Cadre Rules which unilaterally mandates the State Government to make such a number of officers available for deputations prescribed under (the) central deputation reserve." Apart from the IAS issue the TMC is also likely to raise other issues regarding "some Bills sent by the State and have



been lying pending with the Centre," sources said. Besides, the party is also likely to move a resolution in Rajya Sabha seeking withdrawal of Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar who has not been in good terms with the Chief Minister. The two sides have been at loggerheads ever since the Governor assumed office in 2019. The Chief Minister is personally likely to take up the issue and start a movement demanding the Governor's removal from Bengal, sources said. With the Governor often

raising issues like increasing violence, lack of model political culture, alleged politicization of bureaucracy and disregard for the gubernatorial chair the Bengal ruling outfit have often accused Dhankhar of converting the Raj Bhavan into a BJP party office. One such war of words ensued on Thursday when Bengal Opposition Leader Suwendu Adhikari attacked the Chief Minister for subverting the dignity of her chair ... she has been conducting herself in most undignified manner. He earlier said how during the Republic Day Parade in Kolkata

she broke the protocol by not proceeding to receive the Governor who was the Chief Guest. "Outrageous protocol violation by CM... She did not receive Hon'ble Governor at Republic Day function. But he showed grace by walking together and greeting her on this special National day. Her conduct left much to be desired and goes against the propriety and culture of WB", Adhikari said adding "the office of the Chief Minister has been disgraced like never before." Adhikari staged a short dharna at a Vikas Bhavan that houses Education Ministry demanding early opening of the educational institutions. "The TMC Government has opened bars, liquor shops, malls and even allowed weddings with 200 people but has kept the educational institutions closed ... this is because they do not want educated people in Bengal as after getting education they will want jobs which the Government cannot create," Adhikari said.

Padma Award for Azad not on merit: Cong

Bengaluru: Senior Congress leader M Veerappa Moily said on Thursday the Narendra Modi Government's decision to confer Padma Bhushan on Ghulam Nabi Azad was a political one and not based on merit. He said the former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister should not accept the award if he thinks that it harms the interest of the Congress party. "Narendra Modi took a political decision," Moily told PTI here. "They have taken a decision politically; not weighing on any merit or otherwise. Now, it's for him (Azad) to take a decision (on whether to accept or decline the award). The former Union Minister, who was among the Congress group of 23 leaders who wrote to the party chief Sonia Gandhi in 2020 seeking internal reforms, said Azad should think whether it's in the interest of the party or not before accepting it. **PTI**

Kerala HC acquits ultras in Kozhikode twin blast case

Court quashes life sentence in blast that shook Kozhikode in March 2006

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

A Division Bench of the Kerala High Court on

Thursday acquitted two alleged extremists of all charges in connection with the twin blast cases that shook Kozhikode city on 3rd March 2006. Judges Vinod K Chandran and AA Ziyad Rehman quashed the life sentences slapped on Thadiyantevida Nazeer and Shafaz by the NIA special court and set them free. The twin blast cases which was investigated by the Kerala

Police was transferred to the National Investigating Agency in 2009 which arrested Nazeer and Shafaz along with other accused persons. The prosecution charge was that the accused resorted to the twin blasts following the denial of bail to the persons who were arrested for the 2003 Maradu massacre in which eight Hindu fishermen were slaughtered by a group of per-

sons. While allowing the appeal filed by Nazeer and Shafaz questioning the trial court verdict, the High Court came down heavily on the NIA for its lopsided investigation. "The case has been set up by the prosecution merely on surmises and conjectures, which the Trial Court swallowed without further ado and throwing to the winds the funda-

Twin blast case was transferred to the National Investigating Agency in 2009 which arrested Nazeer and Shafaz along with other accused persons

mental principles of criminal jurisprudence. It is pointed out that the charge under the Explosive Substances Act could not have been levelled, since

the Act provides a consent of the District Magistrate, from the year 2001 onwards, which has not been obtained," said the judges. The NIA came under scathing attack by the Division Bench. "The investigating agency has carried out no investigation and has put words into the mouth of the accused, recorded them as disclosure statements, which is the only

basis of the conviction. The conduct of the Court below is seriously assailed for having not considered the objections raised by the defence, in the course of chief-examination regarding the admissibility of the confessions; which are quite a few in number," they said. The Division Bench also pointed out that the seventh accused turned approver and

the NIA's allegations were based on his statement. "The only evidence before Court was that of the approver and the lack of identification demolishes the prosecution case. There were four persons in the dock and each should have been identified separately by pointing them out from the dock by their position, dress or stand-out features," said the judges.

All Cong corporators join NCP ahead of Malegaon civic polls

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In a political coup of sorts pulled off by the Sharad Pawar-led Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) ahead of the Malegaon Municipal Corporation (MMC) elections, all the 28 Congress corporators – including current Mayor Tahera Shaikh Rashid – on Thursday defected to the NCP, thus causing an earthquake in the State Congress. In a development that that diminished the Congress in the Muslim-dominated town in north Maharashtra but also brought about strains in the NCP and Congress which are constituents in the Shiv Sena-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), the 28 Congress corporators joined the Sharad Pawar-led party in the presence of Deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar, state party president Jayant Patil, senior minister Chhagan Bhujbal and Minority Affairs Minister Nawab Malik. At a function held at the state party quarters in south Mumbai, Malegaon Mayor Tahera Shaikh, her husband, former MLA and current cor-

porator Rashid Shaikh and 26 corporators entered the NCP, taking the NCP's strength from the 20 corporators to 48 corporators. Hitherto, the Congress and NCP were ruling the MMC as an alliance. Informed sources said that Thursday's mass-defection was an off-shoot of the resignation tendered by Rashid Shaikh as the Malegaon Congress president last year. Though the State Congress had thought that the crisis triggered by Shaikh's resignation had blown over, his wife and MMC Mayor Tahera Shaikh dropped the bombshell on the Sonia Gandhi-led party and led the entire team of disgruntled party corporators into the NCP. Though jolted to the core, Maharashtra Congress president Nana Patole sought to underplay the development, by saying this kind of defections did happen in politics and that some people from the NCP would soon be joining his party. "Some persons from Congress have joined the NCP. Similarly, a few people from NCP will also be joining us. But, I am not revealing details

now. We may be in alliance in MVA, but this is after all politics," Patole said. With the defection of the 28 Congress corporators to the NCP, the political arithmetic has vastly changed in the powerloom town of Malegaon in general and the MMC in particular in the run-up the local civic body polls scheduled to be held next month. Prior to the defection of the 28 Congress corporators to the NCP, the party-wise break-up in the MMC was as follows: Congress 28, NCP 20, Shiv Sena 12, BJP 9, AIMIM 7 and JD(S) 7. But, post- en masse defection of corporators from Congress to the Congress, the Sharad Pawar-led party's strength has gone to 48, while the Congress reduced to zero. Earlier, welcoming 28 Congress corporators to his party fold, deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar recalled that Rashid Shaikh, who was elected to the State Assembly in 1999, was taking along with him all sections of the society in Malegaon. "Our party president Sharad Pawar has believed and practised inclusiveness in politics.

‘Panchayati Raj laws need amendments’

Kerala Ex-Panchayati Raj Secy seeks to strengthen local govt system

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

India's Panchayath Raj laws need urgent amendments and reforms to make the local government system more effective and strong, according to S M Vijayanand, Chairman, Kerala's Finance Commission. Vijayanand, former chief secretary to Government of Kerala who is the longest serving Panchayath Raj Secretary in the State, wanted the system of 50 per cent reservation of local government seats for women and scheduled caste/scheduled tribe should be reformed at the earliest. Interactions with those who get elected to the local government bodies under these categories revealed the truth that they were not at all interested in taking up major works in their wards. This is because the reservation of the ward from where they get elected would become general ward in the subsequent election and the chances of them getting re-elected become bleak. A member should get minimum tenure of two terms to undertake major initiatives," Vijayanand told a congregation of senior lawyers, judges,

Panchayat raj members in a seminar held to mark the conclusion of the ninth and last workshop organized by CG3 (Connecting Governed, Governing and Governance), an initiative launched to empower local body members to take up causes for their electorate. The veteran IAS officer, who is rated as one of the master brains in the country in the system of decentralisation of power reiterated that those in power dare to bring in anti-people measures because of the failure of Grama Sabhas and Ward Committees which he described as the Basic Units of The Republic. "What former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi dreamt was transferring power to people. He had visualised Grama Sabhas and Ward Committees as institutions which were as important as legislatures and parliament. If these Grama Sabhas and Ward Committees do not succeed, the concept of decentralisation too fail," said Vijayanand. While exhorting the local body members to reject populism, he said they could play a major role in eliminating cor-

ruption. "Always bear in mind the fact that local self governments are part of federalism. The Panchayath Raj institutions should have the power and right to tax," he said. According to Vijayanand, Kerala would not have experienced the deluge and landslides it suffered since 2018 had the local self governments made use of their power and freedom effectively. "The massive floods and landslides in the State were fall out of the failure to implement the recommendations of the Madhav Gadgil Committee that was constituted to preserve the sanctity of the Western Ghats, the water tower of South India. Massive deforestation and quarrying had almost robbed the Ghats of its rain forests. The Local Self bodies in Kerala which had the power to accept the recommendations of Madhav Gadgil Committee in totality failed to do so because of the intervention of vested interests. Had these local bodies put their foot down, the State administration would not have been able to over rule them," he said.

Kylasanadha Pillay, senior advocate, Supreme Court, who conceived the concept of CG3 disclosed that LAMP (Legal Awareness and Motivation Programme), a mission to take legal awareness to schools and students have found takers from Kayamkulam in Kerala to Nepal. "Though the workshop for Panchayath members has concluded, we are launching the next step of CG3. The members of urban local bodies would be trained in taking up the causes of the people," said Dr Pillay. The Kerala Institute of Local Administration under the Kerala Government has extended a hand of cooperation and collaboration with the CG3 and this is expected to turn a new page in the history of local governance in the State.

Jammu-Srinagar highway closed for 2nd day after fresh landslide

Jammu: The Jammu-Srinagar national highway was closed for vehicular traffic for the second consecutive day on Thursday due to a landslide in Ramban district, sources said. The 270-km-long stretch, the only all-weather road linking Kashmir with the rest of the country, was blocked by a landslide in the Panthiyal area in Ramban, they said. As a result, hundreds of vehicles are stranded at different points on the highway, they added. Men and machinery have been deployed to clear the area for the traffic, the sources said. The highway was closed on Wednesday after a landslide in the Duggi area of the district. **PTI**

ABVP seeks resumption of classes in all edu institutions, holds demonstration in Kolkata



Kolkata: Activists of the ABVP on Thursday staged a demonstration outside the main campus of the Calcutta University demanding that schools, colleges and universities be reopened in the interest of students. Saptarshi Sarkar, the national secretary of the right-wing students' organisation, told PTI that its activists had gathered near the main gate of Calcutta University's college street campus to hold a peaceful demonstration, but the police forced them to vacate the spot. "The area was suddenly cordoned off by the police. Out activists did not get into any confrontation and left the spot. A woman member of the outfit was, however, injured in the melee," Sarkar said. Sarkar said the demonstrators demanded resumption

of classes in schools, colleges and universities, given the fact that the COVID-19 situation was showing signs of improvement and "everything else from malls to restaurants and bars are in operation". Describing the state government's 'Paray Sikshalay' initiative as a "farce", he said normal classes should resume at the earliest as "students had been suffering for about two years". Under the 'Paray Sikshalay' project, the state government has decided to hold classes in the open for pre-primary and primary students of state-run schools. A Kolkata Police officer said around 50 ABVP activists, who had assembled before the CU main gate around 2 pm, were dispersed without the use of any force. **PTI**



Shankaracharya Swami Narendranand Saraswati, Akhara Parishad General Secretary Hari Giri Maharaj pose for photographs after offering prayers on the banks of Ganga river, during the ongoing Magh Mela festival in Prayagraj on Thursday

BJP bent upon making youth sell pakoras: Mayawati on Rly job aspirants' violence

Lucknow: Amidst continuing unrest among railway job aspirants in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, BSP chief Mayawati on Thursday accused the BJP of having a narrow mindset of making the youth sell "pakoras". "There has been a huge uproar in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar over UPTNT and now over Railways' RRB-NTPC results, this is a proof of the failure of the governments. Beating up poor and unemployed youths for protesting, and playing with their future is totally unjustified," she said in a tweet in Hindi. "Due to the wrong policies

of the government, poverty and unemployment have reached the peak. Government jobs and reservation facility in them have become secondary. In such a situation, it is unjust to not have the examination even for small government jobs for years. BJP should change its narrow mindset of making the youth sell 'pakoras' (snacks)," she added. Mayawati was apparently referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's comments during an interview to a TV news channel in 2018 that selling pakoras is also a form of employment and can be seen in the light of "job creation".

Meanwhile, the railways had on Wednesday suspended its Non Technical Popular Categories (NTPC) and Level 1 exams after candidates went on a rampage in some states alleging irregularities in the process, whilst minister Ashwini Vaishnaw urged them not to destroy public property and assured redressal of their grievances. On Tuesday, the railways had issued a general notice, warning its job aspirants that those found involved in vandalism and unlawful activities while protesting would be barred from ever getting recruited in the railways. **PTI**

Biting cold in Gulmarg as mercury dips in Valley

Summer capital Srinagar records minus 1.3 degrees temp

Srinagar: The minimum temperature across Kashmir plunged below the freezing point with the tourist resorts of

Gulmarg and Pahalgam reeling under extreme cold, officials said here on Thursday. Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 1.3 degrees Celsius – down from 1.3 degrees Celsius the previous night, they said. Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 10 degrees Celsius – slightly up from minus 10.4

degrees Celsius the previous night. Pahalgam, which also serves as the base camp for the annual Amarnath yatra, recorded a low of minus 10.9 degrees Celsius – down from the previous night's minus 5.6 degrees Celsius, they said. The officials said Qazigund recorded a minimum of minus 0.2 degrees Celsius, while the

nearly south Kashmir town of Kokernag recorded a low of minus 4.3 degrees Celsius. The minimum temperature in Kupwara in north Kashmir settled at a low of minus 3.4 degrees Celsius. Kashmir valley is currently under the grip of the 40-day harshest winter period known as 'Chilla-i-Kalan' which began

on December 21 last year. 'Chilla-i-Kalan' is a period when a cold wave grips the region and the temperature drops considerably leading to the freezing of water bodies including the famous Dal Lake here as well as the water supply lines in several parts of the valley. The chances of snowfall are

the most frequent and maximum during this period and most areas, especially in the higher reaches, receive heavy to very heavy snowfall. The 'Chilla-i-Kalan' will end on January 31, but the cold wave continues even after that in Kashmir with a 20-day-long 'Chillai-Khurd' (small cold) and a 10-day-long 'Chillai-Bachha' (baby cold). **PTI**

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PAPER WITH PASSION

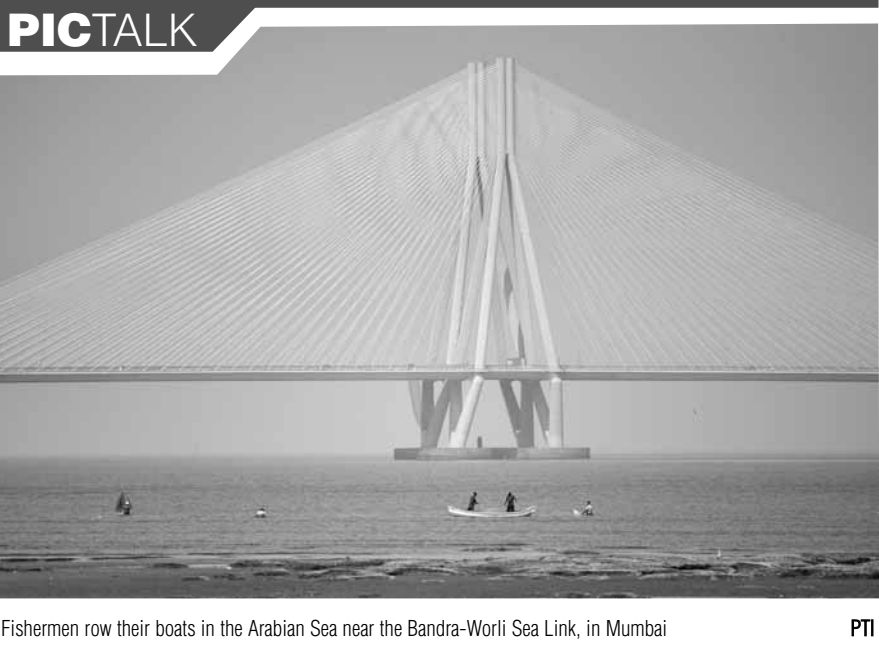
Scalping hair

India exports hair but there's more moolah if it turns to the hair products industry

Human hair can cause hair-raising problems and the Indian Government is waking up to the reality. If India has a commodity that can never become scarce, grows for free, and has the most of it in the world, it is human hair. Yet, India gets no benefit from this asset because it is not the leader of the hair products industry. It is merely an exporter. Between April-November last, hair exports stood at \$144.26 million. The pandemic lowered these to \$15.28 million in 2020-21. Exports are also hurt by rampant smuggling. Smugglers hire people to collect raw hair and illegally move it in bulk to some East Asian countries. The allegation is the hair is processed there and sent across to China, which makes wigs and hairpieces and exports them for a tidy profit. Hair products manufacturers and the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence could not end smuggling despite best efforts. It is estimated that around 16,000 tonne of human hair are smuggled even now. Finally, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade stepped in this week and placed human hair in the restricted export category. That should help genuine exporters. However, it is time the industry shifted from exporting hair to exporting hair products. There is some talk of improving value addition in export products from India, like wigs and hairpieces, to increase foreign exchange earnings. It has to turn into reality now.

India raises huge quantities — 80 per cent — of the best quality of human hair in the world. All of it is donated, at places of worship. The Tirumala temple is the biggest source in the country. If hair export is banned, India's exports of hair products can touch \$3 billion annually and go up to \$6 billion in a few years. Importantly, stopping exports can bring back around 8.6 lakh jobs lost over the last few years and open up new jobs as well. It is not difficult for India to become the leader in the hair industry. But with it

comes the responsibility that Indian hair collectors, aggregators, product manufacturers and exporters are unaware of. For instance, the collection of hair from non-temple areas like salons and the villages is not organised at all. Planned collection can earn regular employment for rag-pickers. It can reduce the clogging of hair in pipes and sewers — the biggest contributor to rising plumbing costs. India should have expertise in synthetic hair materials and products to be able to compete with countries that lack natural hair. That the production of polymers, used to make synthetic hair products, leads to several environmental problems is another complication on the way. Indian manufacturers need to speed up research into a key area — the life cycle of hair products. At present, the products have a short life and are deemed disposable. If these are designed for a circular economy where they can be recycled, reconditioned and remanufactured, they can help reduce the demand for hair.



Fishermen row their boats in the Arabian Sea near the Bandra-Worli Sea Link, in Mumbai

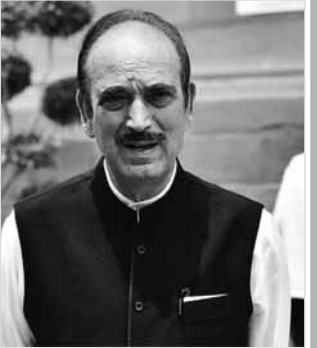
PTI

Missing focus

Rather than taking a jibe at Azad, the Congress will do well to get ready for Assembly polls

The announcement of the Padma Bhushan for senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad has set the cat among the pigeons in the 'grand old party'. While several party members — especially those belonging to the so-called G23 — have congratulated him for being named for the prestigious award, there understandably is a section that is miffed with the Kashmiri leader for accepting the honour. The prominent Congress leaders from among the G23 who supported Azad include Kapil Sibal and Shashi Tharoor, with Sibal even calling it "ironic that the Congress doesn't need his services when the nation recognises his contributions", but the party's chief whip in the Rajya Sabha Jairam Ramesh took a swipe at Azad, hinting that the latter should have refused to accept the honour. Even though the reasons for the upset section's grouse are not being explained openly, it is being speculated that these leaders are not happy with Azad as he has accepted the award from the BJP-led Government. Now, to put matters in the right perspective, even though the honour may have been bestowed upon Azad during the BJP-led Government's rule at the Centre, it can by no stretch of imagination be counted as coming from the Bharatiya Janata Party.

It has simply been announced by the Government of India, by the President who is the executive head of the sovereign Republic. However, the upset colleagues refuse to subscribe to this view and, in this context, are even citing the "example set by" former West Bengal Chief Minister and CPM leader Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, who has since refused to accept the award. Now Bhattacharjee's reasons and circumstances could be totally different from Azad's who has been for a long time now sidelined within the party and practically forced into oblivion. Had the Congress been treating him fairly, even of late, there was a possibility that the Kashmiri leader might have considered the wishes of the party old guard and high command. But now that he has been left to his own devices, there is no justification in trying to vilify him, especially for something which isn't even his own doing. It's time that the Congress, which is already in a visible state of decline across the country, had a relook at its priorities and kept its focus on Assembly election in the five States that are going to polls within days from now.



Why Buddhadeb said no to Padma Bhushan



PRAFULL GORADIA

It could have been an opportunity to re-enter the mainstream of politics; in India, there is increasing space for politicians of quality

It is a pity that Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, West Bengal's former Chief Minister, has refused to accept the Padma Bhushan he was offered this Republic Day by the President of India. The offer was not from the Bharatiya Janata Party Government or the Prime Minister. Even his refusal was confused; no one informed him or any member of his family, said Buddhadeb, as if that was the reason for declining the honour. The late Jyoti Basu had declined the opportunity of becoming a coalition Prime Minister when Deve Gowda had to resign as the PM. Later, he described it as "a historical blunder". The immediate reason given then was his party, the CPM, did not permit him to accept the post. While one might not question the genuineness of these persons in not accepting the honour/executive post, their refusals certainly do say something.

With the demise of Marxism as an ideology the world over, these could be the little opportunities to re-enter the mainstream of politics, at the Centre or in States. Why not seize them like floral bouquets? Is there something inherently different about communists? It is true that in Eastern Europe, some of them have managed to creep into the mainstream. However, in Europe, politics has swung towards the Right, especially because of a wave of migrants from Africa and Arabia, more so from Syria. In India, the Left is vacant without any prejudicial obstruction as in Europe. In fact, in our country there has been increasing space for politicians of quality; the Congress continues its decline, which increasingly looks terminal, while no replacement for it as a national Opposition has come up. The communists cannot, it appears, see this widening gap.

Is this because the communists are essentially trade union leaders and not politicians? When their trade unions weaken, they sink with their cadres. In the free world, Margaret Thatcher blew the whistle and best the Left could do in



response to her uncompromising right-wing way of rule was to bring forth Tony Blair, but with the novel label of New Labour, which shunned Leftism during its 10 years in power. The Soviet Union collapsed and scattered into 16 Republics with the advent of the 1990s. The French and Italian communist parties went virtually out of existence just a little earlier.

Nor did Leftism revive in the rest of Europe after 1991. China learnt its lesson from the Soviet Union and converted itself into a pseudo-capitalist system. The Beijing experiment is a novel one with the Communist Party of China owning the armed forces and controlling, with shares, many or most of China's mega enterprises. This was done perhaps with the objective of thwarting any revolt against the regime. Citizens there aren't allowed to set up a political party to compete for votes. But isn't this a new version of fascism?

Can it last? If so, for how long? After all, the CPC members are not blood relations, and they cannot remain beholden forever. Nevertheless, the Chinese experiment is unique and has been studied by experts, although one must add that it



IN INDIA, THE LEFT IS VACANT WITHOUT ANY PREJUDICIAL OBSTRUCTION. THE CONGRESS CONTINUES ITS DECLINE, WHICH INCREASINGLY LOOKS TERMINAL, WHILE NO REPLACEMENT FOR IT AS A NATIONAL OPPOSITION HAS COME UP

is a work in progress.

Until the 18th century, religion, particularly Christianity, provided the governing ideologies through monarchs. The French Revolution shook up this ideological duality and gave birth to a kind of pseudo-nationalism. To prevent nationalism being used or misused by capitalists, the communists supported by the industrial classes became the antidote to the Soviet Union in the lead. The spectre of communism spreading throughout the continent and engulfing European civilisation was very real, and it was in order to prevent such an eventuality that fascism was born. It first came into being in Italy under Benito Mussolini and was soon adopted by Adolf Hitler in Germany with all its consequences, particularly WWII. Today, both communism and fascism have virtually expired. Some former communists believe that they lost because of their lack of democratic functioning within the party. There can be no denying that parties that spawned and brought this ideology to power acquired dictatorial authority over their respective countries. The result was that the fascist leadership did not obtain any regular feedback

nor authentic information about how people felt, or where their country was headed. Third, people in the world outside also did not come to know as to what was happening in a particular communist country.

Regimes did not change often; it was only when a revolutionary cataclysm took place that everyone, inside and outside the country, became aware of what had been wrong. By the time they did become aware, they found that it was too late; they were swept away by the tide of change. It needs no reiteration that communism as an ideology has no future anywhere in the world. Places like China and North Korea have to use the State's brute muscle to remain in power. For any political future in free countries, former communists have to jettison their hidebound mindset and embrace a democratic way of functioning, beginning with their own parties.

But given the inherent contradiction between democracy and communism, this does not look like materialising.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LEAVE GHULAM NABI AZAD ALONE

Sir —Those who believe in the adage, "Coming events cast their shadow earlier" were already perking their ears when the Prime Minister got emotional and broke down during Ghulam Nabi Azad's farewell function in February last year due to his long association with the latter. Now, several people, including some of Azad's colleagues, are casting aspersions on him upon being conferred the prestigious Padma Bhushan, though some expressed happiness and extended their greetings. Among the G-23 members, Anand Sharma heaped praise on his friend being awarded the country's third highest honour but Kapil Sibal's tweet, "Congratulations bhajiyan; ironic that Congress does not need his services when the nation recognises his contributions to the public service", carried a sarcastic touch.

Jairam Ramesh came up with the phrase "Ghulam, not Azad" (enslaved, not free) and simultaneously referred to former West Bengal Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee who refused to accept the honour. Film star-turned-politician Raj Babbar, however, felicitated Ghulam Nabi Azad, calling him an elder brother whose immaculate public life and commitment to Gandhian ideals have always been an inspiration. The Congress leadership, meanwhile, has maintained a studied silence. All these scenarios have made public the ideological fissures continuing unabated among the grand old party members.

Azhar A Khan | Rampur

DON'T LET THE GUARD DOWN

Sir —On the one hand, the spirit of people has been just amazing and an example is the way people have been venturing out in large numbers to celebrate festivals and functions. On the other hand, most people have been turning a blind eye to the current COVID status, especially in the wake of the Omicron variant, by not wearing masks. Ignoring such serious yet simple protocols as wearing masks, these people pose a great threat to society. Incidentally, I see numerous

Arunachal teen returns home



It's heartening to know that the People's Liberation Army (PLA) has handed over 17-year-old Miram Taron from Zido, in Upper Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh, to the Indian Army. The matter of Miram's kidnapping was first reported by BJP MP Tapir Gao, though the PLA had denied the kidnapping allegation. Instead, it claimed that he "illegally entered Chinese territory... and then was routinely questioned... and given humanitarian assistance". Kudos to our Army for pursuing the case meticulously with the PLA and safely securing our Miram back home. This is not the first such incident. In March 2020, a 21-year-old was kidnapped by the PLA from the Asaphila area in the same district and was returned after two weeks.

On September 3, 2020, five youth of Tagin community, engaged as porters for the Indian Army, were captured by the PLA on the McMahon line and returned home after 10 days. The reason for this type of dispute with China and why our citizens are continuously harassed is that Upper Siang district shares the boundary with China. People from Arunachal Pradesh often go into the interiors for hunting and inadvertently cross the border. To stop it permanently, some barbed wire barricade on the border with China or other method should be resorted to. Who knows it may create a major problem for both the nations one day?

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee | Faridabad

people venturing out for their daily needs without wearing masks. Sticking to my own mask, I have been advising to wear masks to many people in my native areas in Tamil Nadu.

As for the Omicron threat, it depends on us to keep away these fears. Even though vaccination has been a big hit worldwide, people should come out only after wearing masks. Plus, the Government and all media houses should come forward to churn out daily local feeds about important Corona protocols with a strong message and celebrity voice/word of advice. After all, countries have to look into their economic needs like agriculture activities and industrial operations. For this, the international community must come out of the COVID loop soon.

P Senthil Saravana Durai | Mumbai

KICKING UP A CONTROVERSY

Sir — This refers to three different issues, with the common agenda to defame Prime Minister Modi, that are hitting the head-

lines in media during the last three days. I would like to repudiate these one by one. The first issue pertains to withdrawal of "Abide with me" from the Beating Retreat ceremony. The Scottish-origin tune has been replaced by Lata Mangeshkar's popular "Ae mere watan ke logo".

The second controversy which should be laid to rest is the shifting of Amar Jawan Jyoti to the National War Memorial. The eternal flame at India Gate has still not been extinguished. The third dissent is the refusal to accept the Padma Vibhushan bestowed on former West Bengal Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee and its acceptance by Ghulam Nabi Azad, with castigation of the latter by his party colleagues. The corollary of all these uncalled-for situations is that since all this has been done by the Modi dispensation, it is not acceptable to those who hate him ad nauseum.

Sagar Singh | Muzaffarnagar

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUNDBITE

It's our sacred national duty to follow the precautions suggested by our scientists and experts.



President — Ram Nath Kovind



The Afghan girls must return to schools, women to work. Our religion allows it.

Afghan ex-President — Hamid Karzai

I feel proud when I watch a patriotic film... Films have the power to evoke that emotion.



Actor — Rakul Preet Singh



Setbacks normally are part of life when you are in sports. But not these kinds.

Indian women's football coach — Thomas Dennerby

I know nothing about this award (Padma). If they've decided to offer it to me, I refuse to accept it.




West Bengal ex-CM — Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee

FIRST COLUMN


PRE-POLL GUARANTEES
FILL UP's HORIZON

Freebies do represent unfulfilled aspirations and needs of society



VIRENDRA SINGH RAWAT

With the election fever in Uttar Pradesh gaining momentum, pre-poll promises of freebies by major political parties are filling the horizon of the poll-bound state. Samajwadi Party (SP) has taken the lead in promising doles. Congress and comparatively new entrant Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) have zealously spiced up the freebie pot as well. These freebies pertain to free electricity, unemployment dole, pension for targetted sections, crop loan waiver, free two-wheelers for girls, etc. Considering there are about 28 million power consumers in UP, of which the domestic connections comprise 24 million, the promise of free power by competing political parties has created the maximum buzz in the media and the public alike. Taking a leaf from its gainful experience in Delhi, where it the ruling party, AAP has announced to provide 300 units of free electricity to domestic consumers if voted to power. It also promised to waive off out-




standing power bills and give free power to farmers if it formed the UP Government. Besides, Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia had also announced to provide ₹5,000 unemployment dole per annum to the beneficiaries. Not to be left behind in the pre-poll math, SP president Akhilesh Yadav also announced to provide free power up to 300 units to all households. Yadav promised ₹25 lakh ex-gratia to the kin of the farmers who died during the recent protest against the central farm laws. Meanwhile, Congress has promised to give smartphones and electric two-wheelers to girls if the grand old party forms the next UP Government after more than three decades of political wilderness in the State. Moreover, the party has talked about increasing pension for widows and senior citizens, increasing honorarium for ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activist) and Anganwadi workers, free bus travel for women, three free gas cylinders a year, etc.

Interestingly, Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) has promised to double the ex gratia payment under PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana from ₹6,000 to ₹12,000 if it forms the next Government. Meanwhile, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is yet to release its official poll manifesto, which the party calls 'Sankalp Patra'. The party had gained immensely from its pre-poll promise of crop loans waiver in the run-up to the 2017 UP elections. After coming to power, the BJP government of Yogi Adityanath, in its first cabinet meeting on April 4, 2017, had approved to waive crop loans worth almost ₹36,000 crore, projected to benefit 8.6 million small and marginal farmers. The flagship crop loan waiver scheme was hailed as a game changer for the party. In its recent Supplementary Budget of nearly ₹8,500 crore for 2021-22, the Yogi Government allocated about ₹4,000 crore for the bottom of the pyramid sections, viz., unorganised workers, including farm labourers, sharecroppers, and street vendors to be distributed as social security payment or doles. Besides, ₹670 crore was allocated for senior citizens and farmers' pension schemes, wherein their payout was increased from ₹500 to ₹1,000 a month. This is estimated to benefit more than 5.6 million elderly persons in the state. The financial grant to the differently-abled was doubled and the honorarium of shikshamitras hiked by ₹2,000 a month. Freebies do represent the unfulfilled aspirations and needs of the society, while on the other, they cast a taint on the tendency of pre-poll allurements to gain advantage at the hustings. A discerning voter is expected to make an informed choice before casting his/her vote to keep the Indian democracy healthy and vibrant beyond the narrow boundary of pre-poll guarantees.

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

Texas crisis exposes
Pakistan's tentacles

There are no US-Nato forces in Afghanistan and rogue elements have the entire country to themselves to train Pak-backed militants, suicide bombers




NANDINI SINGH

“

PAKISTAN HAS BEEN DISOWNING TERRORISTS OF PAK ORIGIN WHENEVER THEY ARE ARRESTED IN OTHER COUNTRIES BUT NOT SO IN THE CASE OF AAFIA. IN AUGUST 2009, PAKISTANI PRIME MINISTER YUSUF RAZA GILANI MET WITH SIDDIQUI'S SISTER AT HIS RESIDENCE AND ASSURED HER THAT PAKISTAN WOULD SEEK HER RELEASE FROM THE US

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



Shakil Afridi, a Pakistani doctor accused of helping the Americans confirm the identity of Osama bin Laden, in advance of the raid where he was killed.

Earlier, the Pakistan embassy in the US hired a three-person defence team to supplement Al Qaida terrorist Aafia's two existing public defenders during her trial. The Pakistani government paid \$2 million for the services of three lawyers to assist in the defense of Siddiqui during the trial. This is a curious case, where a Government has so openly come out to support an Al Qaeda terrorist exposing its own nefarious designs, how Pakistan harbours Al Qaeda militants and uses them too, all the while giving false assurances to the Americans that it is helping them to finish Al Qaeda, which is very much active and calling shots more after lying low for some time until the Taliban consolidated its takeover of Afghanistan in 2021.

Terror groups carried out a number of attacks to take revenge for Aafia's imprisonment, which again exposes whether it is Al Qaeda, Taliban or Tehreek e Taliban Pakistan or Haqqani network or JeM; they all are one when it comes to jihad or targeting foreign nationals or people of other religions. They join forces with covert support from Pakistani establishment to target whom they brand as an 'enemy of Islam.' According to a video released by Hakimullah Mehsud, head of the Tehreek e Taliban Pakistan (TTP) at the time, the 2009 Camp Chapman attack in Afghanistan that killed seven CIA officers was partly in revenge for Aafia's imprisonment. The 2010 Times Square car-bombing attempt

occurred one day after Mehsud released another video promising to avenge Siddiqui. The perpetrator of the attempt was Faisal Shahzad, a recently naturalized Pakistan-born citizen who had contacts with Jaish-e-Muhammad and Hakimullah Mehsud.

The Taliban threatened to execute US soldier Bowe Bergdahl, whom they had captured in 2009 in retaliation for Lady Al Qaeda - Siddiqui's conviction. Bergdahl was later released in 2014 in exchange for five Guantanamo Bay detainees. In September 2010, the Taliban kidnapped Linda Norgrove, a Scottish aid worker in Afghanistan, and Taliban commanders insisted Norgrove would be handed over only in exchange for Siddiqui. But later Norgrove was accidentally killed. In July 2011, then-deputy of the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan, Waliur Rehman, announced that they wanted to swap Siddiqui for two Swiss citizens abducted in Balochistan. The Swiss couple escaped in March 2012.

In December 2011, al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri demanded the release of Siddiqui in exchange for Warren Weinstein, an American aid worker kidnapped in Pakistan in August 2011. Weinstein was accidentally killed in a drone strike in January 2015.


Al Qaeda, Taliban, TTP and a host of other affiliated outfits have been kidnapping Americans, Europeans to make an exchange offer for Siddiqui's release and the recent hostage taking in a Texas synagogue is just another incident in the long series of events for several years. Given Pakistan's insistence on release of Siddiqui, now questions are being raised whether

all the kidnappings, hostage takings for Siddiqui was at the behest of Pakistan or whether Pakistan gave a tacit approval for the same? Pakistan's role in these terror activities has become more and more suspect.


Pakistan has been disowning terrorists of Pak origin whenever they are arrested in other countries but not so in the case of Aafia. In August 2009, Pakistani Prime Minister Yusuf Raza Gilani met with Siddiqui's sister at his residence and assured her that Pakistan would seek her release from the US. In 2010, President Asif Ali Zardari requested Richard Holbrooke, US Special Envoy to Afghanistan and Pakistan, that the U.S. considers repatriating Siddiqui to Pakistan under the Pakistan-US Prisoner Exchange Agreement. Siddiqui, who had links to al Qaeda and the banned jihadi group Jaish-e-Muhammad has received support not only from Islamic terror groups but Pakistan Government too and this in itself is a clear sign of hobnobbing between jihadists and Pakistan.

The latest hostage crisis at a Texas synagogue and number of similar incidents in Af-Pak demanding release of Lady Al Qaeda must be taken as a warning; the threat of Al Qaeda remains imminent, Taliban takeover of Afghanistan would only worsen it. Now there are no US-Nato forces in the region to check these rogue elements and they have the entire Afghanistan to themselves to train militants and suicide bombers backed by Pakistan government and ISI; this is a dangerous scenario and the sooner the world takes note the better.

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PRIYANKA GANDHI

Sardar Patel's rationale for a permanent civil service

Principles of new public management are needed to make administration facilitatory, rather than regulatory, to private enterprise and capital

Good Governance is necessary for development and citizen's satisfaction. One of the indicators used by the World Bank to measure Governance is its Effectiveness, measured in terms of the quality of the civil service and the degree of its independence from political pressures, the quality of policy formulation and implementation, and the credibility of the government's commitment to such policies. India has improved its Percentile Rank in Governance Effectiveness, but remains low (66.8), much below Denmark and Norway (98), Australia (93.8), New Zealand (93) and even a single-party ruled country like China (72.6). Did our founding fathers err in their vision for the Civil Service?



RAKESH SARWAL



MRINALI DUDI

(Sarwal is Additional Secretary, NITI. Dudi is an intern at NITI. The views expressed are personal.)

As early as October, 1945, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel had a resolution adopted at conference of Congress Chief Ministers authorising the setting up of two all-India services, the IAS and the IPS, to succeed the ICS (Indian Civil Service). Despite oppositions, Sardar Patel stood his ground for varied reasons - avoid an administrative gap and to retain the steel frame for a diverse republic as India.

A permanent civil servant is not bound to any political party or leader; its autonomous nature makes it stand unique and therefore work independently for the welfare of society hence, is also accountable to the Constitution of India on which they take oath of allegiance. Patel's public acknowledgment of the patriotism and dedication

of public servants and his expression of trust in them, gave them the self-assurance without which they could not have given their best.

The services need to shed the colonial legacy that makes officers act as the rulers rather than as public servants. Rapid Assessment System (RAS) in which a generic technology-enabled platform is used for seeking real-time citizen feedback on public services have been tried in many countries with success.

A lack of articulated and consistent goals, mismatch

between authority and accountability which loosens the scope for fixing responsibility, duplication of roles, absence of a system of strong incentives or disincentives, in-adequate delegation or excessive discretion - all these bring slack in the system. Lean, accountable, empowered work teams with clear responsibilities are likely to deliver better results, as in the case of Elections, Census or disaster relief.

Interference by or collusion with politicians can come in the way of delivery of services as per rules. Sometimes, cases of transfer and posting receive greater attention than those of public policy. Tenures of officers are one indicator of the flux in the dynamic systems of governance. For example, tenures of Chief Medical Officers range from eight months to three

years across the States. While political engagement and participation in governance is essential for ensuring accountability, transparency and garnering citizen's perceptions, the bounds and norms of acceptable conduct are social constructs built over time.

The New Public Management (NPM) in the UK, Australia, New Zealand, Scandinavian countries represented an attempt to make the public sector more businesslike and in order to increase the performance of government, private sector management principles borrowed. It seeks to borrow from the private sector principles of flexibility, transparency, minimum Government, de-bureaucratisation, decentralisation and market orientation. The main principle of NPM is to empha-

size economy, efficiency, and effectiveness by downplaying the importance of regulation. It is not surprising that these countries score high on governance effectiveness index.

Today's government is trying to inject more specialists into the bureaucracy through lateral hires at the level of Director and Joint Secretary. Globally, countries like US, Belgium, UK, Australia have in fact institutionalized this practice as a part of their system. Debates around lateral hires have centered around perceived lack of rigour in the selection procedure. It is feared that due to the pressure of a fixed term contract, the lateral hires might not express or put forward their views freely and in an unbiased manner.

There is no doubt that India's permanent civil service

needs reform. This is vital to the country's progress and development. While the country needs talent and expertise to man specialized assignment, Patel's ideals of permanent, unbiased, independent administrators who can work for the betterment of country with a loyalty towards the people and commitment to rule of law should be kept alive. The ideas of the Constitution makers need to be imbibed in the process of lateral hires. In addition, principles of new public management need to be mainstreamed by amending our regulations to make the administration facilitatory, rather than regulatory to private enterprise and capital. This way the administration will be strengthened and made more relevant to current requirements.

US response on Ukraine offers little optimism: Russia

AP ■ MOSCOW

The U.S. rejection of Russia's main demands to resolve the crisis over Ukraine left little ground for optimism, the Kremlin said Thursday, while adding that dialogue was still possible.

Tensions have soared in recent weeks, as the United States and its NATO allies expressed concern that a buildup of about 100,000 Russian troops near Ukraine signaled that Moscow planned to invade its ex-Soviet neighbor. Russia denies having any such designs — and has laid out a series of demands it says will improve security in Europe.

But as expected, the U.S. and the Western alliance firmly rejected any concessions on Moscow's main points Wednesday, refusing to permanently ban Ukraine from joining NATO and saying allied deployments of troops and military equipment in Eastern Europe are nonnegotiable.

The U.S. did outline areas in which some of Russia's concerns might be addressed, possibly offering a path to de-escalation. "There is no change, there will be no change," U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said, repeating the warning that any Russian incursion into Ukraine would be met with massive consequences and severe economic costs. All eyes are now on President Vladimir Putin, who will decide how Russia will respond amid fears that Europe could again be plunged into war.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters that response from the U.S. — and a similar one from NATO — left "little ground for optimism." At same time, he added that "there always are prospects for continuing a dialogue, it's in interests of both us and Americans." Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov noted that U.S. response contained some elements that could lead to "the start of a serious talk on secondary issues" but emphasized that "the document con-

tains no positive response on the main issue." Those are the Russian demands for the non-expansion of NATO and the non-deployment of weapons that may threaten Russia.

Lavrov told reporters that top officials will now submit their proposals to Putin, who has the American response, and Peskov said the Russian reaction would come soon.

The evasive official comments reflect the fact that it's Putin who will single-handedly determine Russia's next moves. The Russian leader has warned that he would order unspecified "military-technical measures" if the West refuses to heed the demands.

Peskov added that Putin and U.S. President Joe Biden will decide whether they need to have another conversation following two calls last month. While the diplomacy sputters on, so, too, do maneuvers that have escalated tensions.

Russia has launched a series of military drills: Motorized infantry and artillery units in southwestern Russia practiced firing live ammunition, warplanes in Kaliningrad on Baltic Sea performed bombing runs, dozens of warships sailed for training exercises in the Black Sea and the Arctic, and Russian fighter jets and paratroopers arrived in Belarus for joint war games.

Meanwhile, NATO said it was bolstering its deterrence in the Baltic Sea region, and the U.S. ordered 8,500 troops on higher alert for potential deployment to Europe.

Amid the tensions, thousands of Ukrainians expressed their resolve to stand up to the Russian pressure under the hashtag #UkrainiansWillResist on Twitter and Facebook. "No one will force Ukrainians to accept the Kremlin ultimatum," wrote Andrii Levus, who initiated the online campaign.

Beyond the fears of a Russian invasion in Ukraine, there also has been speculation that Moscow's response could include military deployments to the Western Hemisphere.

While a senior Russian diplomat recently pointedly refused to rule out such deployments to Cuba and Venezuela, a top Putin associate expressed skepticism Thursday at that prospect.

"Cuba and Venezuela are aiming to come out of isolation and restore normal relations with the U.S. to a certain extent, so there can't be any talk about setting up a base there as happened during the Soviet times," Dmitry Medvedev, a deputy head of Russia's Security Council, said in an interview with Russian media.

While he charged that the West is using Ukraine as a way to contain Russia, he somberly acknowledged that a Russia-NATO conflict "would be the most dramatic and simply catastrophic scenario, and I hope it will never happen."

As concerns rise about a possible Russian invasion, another conflict still simmers in Ukraine. In 2014, following the ouster of a Kremlin-friendly president in Kyiv, Moscow annexed Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula and threw its weight behind a separatist insurgency in the country's eastern industrial heartland.

Fighting between Ukrainian forces and Russia-backed rebels has killed over 14,000 people, and efforts to reach a settlement have stalled.

Ukrainian and Russian envoys and others sat down in Paris on Wednesday to discuss a resolution to that conflict, but Medvedev said that Moscow sees no point in talking to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy — and suggested that only a change in leader would defuse tensions.

He expressed hope that the Ukrainians would eventually become "weary of that bedlam and elect the leadership that would pursue policies ... aimed at normal economic relations with Russia." That comment follows a British claim that the Kremlin is seeking to replace Ukraine's government with a pro-Moscow administration — an allegation Russia denied.

US rejects Russia's 'bar Ukraine from NATO' demand as talks see new life

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE ■ WASHINGTON

The United States on Wednesday rejected Russia's key demand to bar Ukraine from NATO and said it believed Moscow was ready to invade but offered what it called a new "diplomatic path" out of the crisis.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken said he would speak again in the coming days to Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, whom he met Friday in Geneva, as a separate initiative by France brought a promise by Moscow at least to keep talking to Ukraine's government.

One month after Russia put forward sweeping security proposals, having sent tens of thousands of troops to Ukraine's border, the United States delivered a reply in coordination with NATO allies and said it was ready for any eventuality.

"It sets out a serious diplomatic path forward should Russia choose it," Blinken told reporters of the US response, which he said would remain confidential.

He renewed an offer on "reciprocal" measures to address mutual security concerns including reductions of missiles in Europe and transparency on military drills and Western aid to Ukraine.

But he made clear that the United States would not budge on Russia's core demand that Ukraine never be allowed to join NATO, the US-backed military alliance.

"From our perspective, I can't be more clear — NATO's door is open, remains open, and that is our commitment," Blinken said. Russia, which has a complicated historical relationship with Ukraine, has fueled an insurgency in former Soviet republic's east that has killed more than 13,000 people since 2014. Russia that year also seized Crimea after the overthrow of a government in Kyiv that had resisted efforts to

move closer to Europe. The United States has warned of severe and swift consequences if Russia invades, including possible personal sanctions on President Vladimir Putin, and NATO has put 8,500 troops on standby.

"While we are hoping for and working for a good solution -- de-escalation -- we are also prepared for the worst," NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said.

Blinken's deputy Wendy Sherman, who led a previous round of talks with Russia, said Putin seemed ready to invade despite the US warnings.

"I have no idea whether he's made the ultimate decision, but we certainly see every indication that he is going to use military force sometime perhaps (between) now and the middle of February," Sherman told a forum.

She said Putin may be waiting so as not to overshadow February 4 start of Winter Olympics in Beijing, which Russian leader will attend amid a diplomatic boycott by United States and several of its allies.

French-led talks

In another bid to defuse tensions, senior Russian and Ukrainian officials met for eight hours in Paris with representatives of France and Germany. Dmitry Kozak, the Kremlin deputy chief of staff, said talks were "not simple" but that another round would take place in two weeks in Berlin.

France said after so-called Normandy Format talks that envoys committed to a fragile July 2020 ceasefire in eastern Ukraine between government forces and pro-Moscow separatists.

"We need a supplementary pause. We hope that this process will have results in two weeks," Kozak said. An aide to French President Emmanuel Macron also called talks "difficult," but told reporters, "In current circumstances, we received a good signal."

World remembers Holocaust as antisemitism rises in pandemic

AP ■ BRUSSELS

Holocaust survivors and politicians warned about the resurgence of antisemitism and Holocaust denial as the world remembered Nazi atrocities and commemorated the 77th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp on Thursday.

"I have lived in New York for 75 years, but I still remember well the terrible time of horror and hatred," survivor Inge Auerbacher, 87, told the German parliament.

"Unfortunately, this cancer has reawakened and hatred of Jews is commonplace again in many countries in the world, including Germany."

Commemorations are taking place amid a rise of antisemitism that gained traction during lockdowns as the pandemic exacerbated hatred online. "This sickness must be healed as quickly as possible," Auerbacher said. German parliament speaker Baerbel Bas noted that the coronavirus

pandemic has acted "like an accelerant" to already burgeoning antisemitism. "Antisemitism is here - it isn't just on the extreme fringe, not just among the eternally incorrigible and a few antisemitic trolls on the net," she said. "It is a problem of our society - all of society."

The UN General Assembly adopted a resolution in November 2005 establishing the annual commemoration, and chose Jan 27 - the day that Auschwitz-Birkenau was liberated by Soviet troops in 1945.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, many International Holocaust Remembrance Day events were being held online this year again. A small ceremony, however, was to take place at the site of the former Auschwitz death camp, where World War II Nazi German forces killed 1.1 million people in occupied Poland. The memorial site was closed earlier in the pandemic but reopened in June. In all, about 6 million European Jews and

millions of other people were killed by the Nazis and their collaborators during the Holocaust. Some 1.5 million were children. "Our country bears a special responsibility - the genocide against European Jews is a German crime," Bas told a special parliamentary session in Berlin attended by country's leaders. "But at same time it is a past that is everyone's business -- not just Germans, not just Jews." Israel's parliamentary speaker, Mickey Levy, broke down in tears at Germany's Bundestag while reciting Jewish mourner's prayer from a prayer book that belonged to a German Jewish boy who celebrated his bar mitzvah on eve of Kristallnacht.

Levy said Israel and Germany experienced "an exceptional journey on way to reconciliation and establishing relations and brave friendship between us". Auerbacher recalled being nearly hit by a stone thrown by Nazi thugs during the anti-Jewish pogrom of November 1938.

France to organise event focused on Indo-Pacific under its EU presidency

New Delhi: France on Thursday announced that under its presidency of Council of European Union, it will host a ministerial meeting focused on Indo-Pacific -- Paris Forum -- on February 22. French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian announced this during an online discussion and extended an invite to External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, who also took part in the event titled "The French Presidency: EU-India Partnership in Indo-Pacific". Le Drian said it will be first time that in EU council presidency there will be an event focussed on relations between EU and Indo-Pacific. This Indo-Pacific meeting will be held on February 22 and High Representative of EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell Fontelles will be in Paris for it, he said. Le Drian hoped for Jaishankar and other partners to partici-

pate in event and contribute to peace and stability in region. "What I wish is for this Paris Forum to allow for concretisation of the principles we share with respect to rule of law, harmonious relations and post-Covid recovery," he said. Le Drian said security and defence, connectivity and digital issues and global challenges will be on the agenda of the Indo-Pacific ministerial meeting in Paris. The French foreign minister asserted that India plays a key role in the Indo-Pacific.

In his remarks, Jaishankar said the French aircraft flying at the finale of the Republic Day parade was a visible example of the strategic ties between India and France. Asserting that France has an Indo-Pacific resident presence, Jaishankar called for strengthening the India-France partnership and said that focusing it on the Indo-Pacific is timely." PTI

German archbishop pushes reform after criticism over abuse

Berlin: The archbishop of Munich said Thursday that Catholic church needs deep reform to overcome "disaster" of sexual abuse and made clear that he intends to stay in his job, after a report faulting him and predecessors including retired Pope Benedict XVI for their handling of abuse allegations and cases in Germany. Cardinal Reinhard Marx last year offered to resign over church's abuse scandal, an extraordinary gesture at time which was rejected swiftly by Pope Francis. Marx, a prominent reformist ally of pontiff, was faulted over his handling of two cases in report commissioned by his archdiocese from a Munich law firm. He told a news conference a week after report's release that he will look over those cases "to learn from them." Marx said he hadn't renewed his resignation offer. "In current situation, that struck me as just disappearing," he said. AP

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SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one lady Namely **Renu W/o Santosh Kumar R/o H.No. C-24, Gali No.22, S.B.S. Colony, Karawal Nagar, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped from her House, since 30.12.2021. In this regard, a case **DD No 50-A dated 2.01.2022 has been registered at P.S. Karawal Nagar Delhi**. The description of the missing / kidnapped lady are as under.

Age: about 40 years, **Height:** 5'2", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Build:** Medium, **Wearing:** Yellow Colour Blouse & Saree, and chappal in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the kidnapped/missing lady then please inform P.S.Karawal Nagar Delhi at following Tel No./ e-mail: **cic@cbi.gov.in** and Website: **http://cbi.nic.in**, providing clue about the person.

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No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162
Date: 24/01/2022. The following e-Tenders can be accessed under the link www.ireps.gov.in. Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link www.ireps.gov.in → **login** → **E-Tender Stories/Supply**. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dr.CMM/HQ/CLW/Chittaranjan, 0341-2525594 or SMM/CON/HQ, 0341-2535631. **Office Address:** Office of the PCMM /CLW/Chittaranjan. **Sl. No. Tender No. Brief Description of Item; Qty; Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees); Tender Closing Date & Time (IST) :** [1]- **63204213** Set of Stator and Rotor Stamping for Traction Motor Type 6FRA-6068. One set consisting of 05 items; **595.00** Set; **2000000.00**; **21/02/2022 at 11:00 AM**; [2]- **75224128** Set of Fabricated Items for WAP-7 with Hotel Load Converter; **72.00** Set; **0.00**; **14/02/2022 at 11:00 AM**; [3]- **75213872.A**; Set of Inter Lock Assy. for Cab doors for WAG-9HC/WAP-7; WAP-5 as per Spec. No. CLW/MS/3/111 Alt-6 and Drg. No. 1209-09-133-021 Alt-2 [01 set consisting of 02 No. RH and 02 Nos. LH] as per set details attached; **323.00** Set; **253300.00**; **21/02/2022 at 11:00**; [4]- **75213878B**; Set of Miscellaneous Hardware Items (Electrical) for WAG-9HC/ WAP-7/WAP-5 locos as per Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/187, Alt-M [Each set consist of 31 items as per pdf annexure]; **460.00** Set; **60280.00**; **21/02/2022 at 11:00**. **PRS-311** PCMM/CLW/CRJ **Like us on: www.facebook.com/clwrailways**

WHO staff complaint, email allege racism and abuse in Asia

AP ■ GENEVA

Current and former staffers have accused top director of World Health Organization in Western Pacific of racist, unethical and abusive behaviour that has undermined UN health agency's efforts to curb coronavirus pandemic.

The allegations were laid out in an internal complaint filed in October and again in an email last week, sent by unidentified "concerned WHO staff" to senior leadership and the executive board and obtained by the Associated Press. Two of authors said more than 30 staffers were involved in writing it, and that it reflected experiences of more than 50 people. The internal complaint and email describe a "toxic atmosphere" with "a culture of systemic bullying and public ridiculing" at WHO's Western Pacific headquarters in Manila, led by Dr. Takeshi Kasai, director of a vast region

that includes China and his home country of Japan. The AP also has obtained recorded snippets of meetings where Kasai is heard making derogatory remarks about his staff based on nationality. Eleven former or current WHO staffers who worked for Kasai told AP he frequently used racist language. Staffers, who did not identify themselves to WHO "for fear of retaliation," said in the email that Kasai's authoritarian style has led to departure of more than 55 key staff in past year and a half, most of whom have not been replaced.

This resulted in a lack of understanding and involvement with member countries that "significantly contributed" to a surge of cases in many countries in region, they said. However, other WHO staffers pointed out that spikes in COVID cases were due to numerous reasons, including countries' own resources and timing of their national efforts.

North Korea fires 2 suspected missiles in 6th launch in 2022

AP ■ SEOUL

North Korea on Thursday fired two suspected ballistic missiles into the sea in its sixth round of weapons launches this month, South Korea's military said. Experts say North Korea's unusually fast pace in testing activity underscores an intent to pressure the Biden administration over long-stalled negotiations aimed at exchanging a release of crippling U.S.-led sanctions against the North and the North's denuclearization steps. The renewed pressure comes as the pandemic further shakes the North's economy, which was already battered by crippling U.S.-led sanctions over its nuclear weapons program and decades of mismanagement by its own government. South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the weapons, which were likely short-range, were launched five minutes apart

from an eastern coastal area and flew 190 kilometers (118 miles) on an apogee of 20 kilometers (12.4 miles) before landing at sea. Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, who described North Korea's repeated missile firings as "extremely regrettable," but said there has so far been no reports of damage to vessel and aircraft around the Japanese coast. The North also last week issued a veiled threat to resume the testing of nuclear explosives and long-range missiles targeting the American homeland, which leader Kim Jong Un suspended in 2018 while initiating diplomacy with the United States. Kim's high-stakes summitry with then-President Donald Trump derailed in 2019 after the Americans rejected North Korea's demands for major sanctions relief in exchange for a partial surrender of its nuclear capabilities.

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ICICI Bank

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

Whereas A housing loan facility was granted pursuant to a loan agreement entered into between ICICI Bank Limited ("Secured Creditor, which term shall include its successors and assigns) and the borrower & co-borrower, mentioned below ("Borrower(s)", which term shall include his/ its/ their respective successors, assigns, heirs). The undersigned being the authorized officer of the Secured Creditor ("Authorized Officer") under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, ("Rules") has issued demand notices under Section 13(2) of the Act calling upon the borrowers / co borrowers mentioned below to repay the amount payable pursuant to the loan agreement and as specifically mentioned in the said respective demand notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notices.

The borrowers / co-borrower, having failed and neglected to repay the amount as claimed in the said demand notices, a notice is hereby given to the borrowers / co-borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13 (4) of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Rules. The details including date of symbolic possession of the properties are as mentioned below

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Manish Jain/ Kohnoor Jewel Studio/ Madhu Jain/ Rupal Jain/ LBDEL0001587524	D - 81, Second Floor, Veer Nagar, Near Rana Pratap Bagh Jain Colony, New Delhi, Delhi/ January 24, 2022	June 19, 2021/ Rs. 33,06,793/-	Delhi/ Ncr
2.	Abdul Karim Wani/ M/s Gulam Ahamad Wani/ Mahbooba Akhtar/ LBDEL00001654457	Plot No- R-8, First Floor, Block- R, South Extension Part- 2, Delhi/ January 25, 2022	July 02, 2021/ Rs. 74,27,377/-	Delhi/ Ncr

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

Date : January 28, 2022
Place: Delhi/NCR

Authorized Officer
Secured Creditor

कार्यालय संयुक्त संचालक एवं अधीक्षक छत्तीसगढ़ आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान (सिम्स चिकित्सालय) बिलासपुर छगग

FAX(0)-07752-224200, PHONE(0)-07752-230030

क्रमांक 268 /ओगं०/सं.सं.अधि./सिम्स चिकि./2022 बिलासपुर, दिनांक 24/01/2022

लोकल परचेस एवं पेशनरों हेतु तृतीय निविदा 2021--22

निविदा कार्य का नाम	सिम्स चिकित्सालय, बिलासपुर (छ.ग.) में उपचारार्थ सौजन्य, पेशनरों, लोकल परचेस (L.P.) एवं मुख्य सजी विशेष स्वास्थ्य सहायता योजना की औषधी एवं चिकित्सा सामग्री की अपातकालिन स्थिति में उक्ताल पुर्रि के लिए सिम्स चिकित्सालय के समीप जो की सड़क मार्ग से सिम्स चिकित्सालय के मुख्य द्वार से 500 मीटर के दायरे में स्थित हो ऐसे स्थानीय विलर दवा विक्रेताओं से निविदा आमंत्रित किया जाता है।
निविदा प्राप्त मुख्य	रुपये 2000.00 (दो हजार मात्र) का demand Draft वापसी योग्य नहीं। जो की संयुक्त संचालक एवं अधीक्षक (Joint Director Cum Superintendent, CIMS Hospital Bilaspur C.G.) सिम्स चिकित्सालय बिलासपुर (छ.ग.) के पक्ष में देय हो।
निविदा प्राप्त फायदा करने की अंतिम तिथि, समय एवं स्थान	09/02/2022 संघ्य 5.00 बजे तक। संविधि साखा सिम्स, चिकित्सालय बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)।
निविदा कार्य जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	28/02/2022 दोपहर 3.00 बजे तक।
निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	28/02/2022 संघ्य 4.00 बजे के बाद।
निविदा जमा एवं खोलने के हेतु निर्धारित स्थान	कार्यालय संयुक्त संचालक एवं अधीक्षक, सिम्स चिकित्सालय, बिलासपुर में कार्यालयीन दिवस एवं अवधि में।

उपरोक्तानुसार इच्छुक निविदाकारों से निविदा आमंत्रित किया जाता है।

हस्ता/-

R.O.No - 67192/4 संयुक्त संचालक एवं अधीक्षक
R.O. Date - 27/01/2022 सिम्स चिकित्सालय बिलासपुर (छगग)

UN chief urges major Afghan aid increase, unfreezing assets

AP ■ UNITED NATIONS

The U.N. Chief urged nations Tuesday to greatly boost humanitarian aid for millions of Afghans living in "a frozen hell" and release nearly \$9 billion in frozen assets to pull Afghanistan's economy back from brink of a collapse that could set off a mass exodus of people fleeing country. "Time is of essence," Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told Security Council. "Without action, lives will be lost, and despair and extremism will grow." Guterres said liquidity must be urgently restored to Afghan economy. He said that means freeing up country's frozen currency reserves, re-engaging with its Central Bank and finding othr ways to inject money, including allowing



A nurse checks the weight of a child in the makeshift clinic organized by World Vision at a settlement near Herat, Afghanistan, on Dec. 16, 2021 (AP Photo/Mstyslav Chernov, File)

international funds to pay salaries of doctors, teachers, sanitation workers, electricians and other civil servants.China and Russia reiterated their calls for unfreezing Afghan assets, while U.S. Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield said Biden administration is examining "various options to ease liquidity crunch.

Iran state TV shows dissidents' images after apparent hack

AP ■ DUBAI

Channels of Iran's state television broadcast images Thursday showing the leaders of an exiled dissident group and a graphic demanding the country's supreme leader be killed, an incident state TV later described as a hack. The graphics showed the leaders of the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq and the name of an account on two social media platforms, which claimed to be a group of hackers who broadcast the message praising the dissidents. The MEK, now largely based in Albania, did not immediately answer telephone calls from The Associated Press. The incident marked a serious breach for Iranian state TV, which is controlled by hard-liners in the country.

Tata to get loans from SBI-led consortium for AI

New Delhi: A consortium of lenders led by State Bank of India (SBI) will soon provide loans to Tata Group for the operations of Air India as well as to retire the airline's high cost borrowings.

After nearly 70 years, Tata Group on Thursday regained ownership of Air India. With the completion of the deal, the group will own 100 per cent stake in Air India, Air India Express and a 50 per cent shareholding in AISATS.

Bankers said the SBI-led consortium has agreed to grant both term loans and working capital loans depending on the airline's requirements.

All large lenders, including Punjab National Bank, Bank of Baroda, and Union Bank of India, are part of the consortium, they added.

"Many banks have agreed for refinancing of Air India debt to Tatas and the process has begun," one of the bankers said. Existing lenders who do not wish to participate in refinancing of debt to Tatas will get



their money repaid through the refinanced amount, the banker said.

Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) is among the entities that had given loans earlier to loss-making Air India. Now, the IPO-bound LIC has decided not to extend more loans to the airline and will not participate in the current funding round led by the SBI, the bankers said.

Talace Private Limited -- a subsidiary of the Tata Group's holding company Tata Sons -- on October 8, 2021, won the bid to acquire debt-ridden Air India. It had offered Rs 18,000 crore, including cash of Rs

2,700 crore which has now been paid to the government. The term loans to Talace will help in retiring the high cost borrowings of Air India, the bankers said.

The amount of loans likely to be extended by the consortium could not be immediately ascertained.

"The strategic disinvestment transaction of Air India successfully concluded today with transfer of 100 per cent shares of Air India to M/s talace Pvt Ltd along with management control," DIPAM Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey said in a tweet on Thursday.

PTI

Sensex sinks 581 pts as hawkish Fed roils global markets

Mumbai: Equity benchmark Sensex tumbled 581 points on Thursday, in tandem with a global selloff after the US Federal Reserve signalled policy tightening from March.

A depreciating rupee and persistent foreign fund outflows further weighed on sentiment, traders said.

The 30-share BSE index ended 581.21 points or 1.00 per cent lower at 57,276.94. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty plunged 167.80 points or 0.97 per cent to 17,110.15.

HCL Tech was the top loser in the Sensex pack, skidding 4.17 per cent, followed by Tech Mahindra, Dr Reddy's, Wipro, TCS, Titan and Infosys. On the other hand, Axis Bank, SBI, Maruti, Kotak Bank, Sun Pharma and IndusInd Bank were among the gainers, climbing as much as 2.81 per cent.

The Federal Reserve left policy rates unchanged on Wednesday, but chairman

Jerome Powell said the US central bank is likely to raise interest rates in March and end its massive bond buying program to combat surging inflation. Investors fear foreign capital outflows from emerging markets like India after rate hikes in the US.

"As the Fed left key interest rates near zero, its hawkish commentary quickly washed away gains in global markets, leading to a gap down opening in indices back home.

"As FPIs continued to book profits from Indian equities, value stocks made a comeback with the PSU Bank Index rallying over 5 per cent in afternoon trade today, well supported by auto stocks to stage a smart recovery. As IT and pharma stocks witnessed profit taking, textile stocks were sought after in the broader market on the back of earnings," said S Ranganathan, Head of Research at LKP Securities.

PTI

20 years later: India's CPSE privatisation off to 'Maharaja' start

New Delhi: After a hiatus of nearly two decades, the Government's programme to privatise state-owned firms restarted with the handing over of debt-laden national carrier Air India to the Tata Group.

With the new owner shelling out Rs 18,000 crore for the buyout of the 'Maharaja', this would be the highest-ever amount garnered through privatisation, and is even more than the cumulative sum mopped up through strategic sales from 1999-00 to 2003-04.

The Government had in October last year inked the share purchase agreement with the Tata Group for sale of national carrier Air India for Rs 18,000 crore.

Tatas would pay Rs 2,700 crore cash and take over Rs 15,300 crore of the airline's debt. The deal also includes sale of Air India Express and ground handling arm AISATS.

The government had garnered roughly over Rs 5,000 crore during that five-year period by privatising 10 CPSEs. Besides, three hotel properties of Hotel Corporation of India and 18 of ITDC were also sold off by way of slump sale.

Here is a timeline of strategic sale of central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) to private entities between 1999-00 to 2003-04: 1999-00 - Modern Food Industries Ltd -- Rs 105 crore; 2000-01 - BALCO, Lagan Jute Machinery Co Ltd -- Rs 554 crore; 2001-02 - VSNL, Computer Maintenance Corporation (CMC), Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd (HTL), Paradeep Phosphate Ltd (PTL), some hotel properties of HCI and ITDC -- Rs 2,089 crore; 2002-03 - Hindustan Zinc Ltd (HZL), Indian Petrochemicals Corporation (IPCL), some ITDC hotel properties -- Rs 2,335 crore; 2003-04 - HZL (second tranche), Jessop & Co -- Rs 342 crore.

PTI

Gold plunges ₹563; silver declines ₹1,186

New Delhi: Gold in the national capital on Thursday plunged Rs 563 to Rs 48,215 per 10 grams amid weak international precious metal prices, according to HDEC Securities.

In the previous trade, the precious settled at Rs 48,778 per 10 gram.

Silver also tumbled Rs 1,186 to Rs 62,792 per kg from Rs 63,978 per kg in the previous trade. In the international market, gold was trading lower at USD 1,810 per ounce.

PTI

Sebi amends rules; to send notices, summons via instant messaging services

New Delhi: Sebi will now be sending show cause notices and summons to alleged offenders of securities market rules through instant messaging services, a move that will make the process faster.

At present, the regulator sends such documents through either registered post, courier or electronic mail. Also, Sebi has tweaked norms pertaining to powers of investigating authority for seeking information and documents in respect

of any transaction in securities markets, which are under investigation.

To effect these, the regulator has amended Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices (PFUTP) norms relating to securities market, according to a notification issued on Tuesday. Summons or notices issued by Sebi under PFUTP norms will be served on the person by delivering or tendering it to that person or his duly authorised agent.

PTI

Sebi strengthens MF norms; winding up of schemes only after majority unitholders' consent

New Delhi: In a move aimed to further safeguard the interest of mutual fund investors, Sebi has made it mandatory for trustees of mutual funds to obtain the consent of unitholders when majority of trustees decide to wind up a scheme.

Under the new norms, mutual fund trustees will be required to obtain the consent of the unitholders when the majority of the trustees decide to wind up a scheme or prematurely redeem the units of a close-ended scheme.

The trustees will have to obtain consent of unitholders by simple majority of the unitholders present and voting on the basis of one vote per unit held and publish the results of voting within 45 days of the publication of notice of circumstances leading to winding up, Sebi said in a notification issued on Tuesday.

In case the trustees fail to obtain the consent, Sebi said the scheme would be open for business activities from the second business day after publication of results of voting.

Amending mutual fund norms, Sebi said the trustees will give notice within one day, disclosing the circumstances leading to the winding

up of the scheme to the regulator and in two daily newspapers having circulation all over India as well as a vernacular newspaper circulating at the place where the mutual fund is formed.

The decision to amend the regulations came after the Supreme Court in July held that the trustees are required to seek consent of majority unit-holders for closing mutual fund schemes after publishing notice disclosing reasons for their decision to wind up schemes.

The Supreme Court's decision came in the case pertaining to winding-up of Franklin Templeton Mutual Fund's six debt schemes. The fund house shut its six debt mutual fund schemes on April 23, 2020, citing redemption pressures and lack of liquidity in the bond market. The schemes - Franklin India Low Duration Fund, Franklin India Dynamic Accrual Fund, Franklin India Credit Risk Fund, Franklin India Short Term Income Plan, Franklin India Ultra Short Bond Fund, and Franklin India Income Opportunities Fund - together had an estimated more than Rs 25,000 crore as assets under management.

PTI



Arun Joshi AD-PR with colleague on the auspicious occasion of Republic Day, at a State-level function at Savai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur

Pioneer photo

POS biz grew to \$4 bn annualised transaction value, deployed over 1.25 lakh machines: BharatPe

New Delhi: BharatPe, a fintech company for merchants, on Thursday said it has witnessed 200 per cent growth in annualised transaction value to USD 4 billion (about Rs 30,078 crore) from its POS business over the last 12 months. The Point of Sale (POS) business - BharatSwipe - now contributes about 25 per cent to the overall payments Transaction Processed Value (TPV) of the company, a statement said.

BharatPe has ramped up the reach of its POS business by 25X to over 250 cities in the last 12 months and since the launch

in the second half of 2020, company has deployed more than 1.25L BharatSwipe machines across offline shops, it added.

"The growth can be attributed to the expansion of the company's POS business in non-metro cities, with more than 50 per cent of BharatSwipe machines being deployed in tier II/tier III towns and cities since 2021. BharatSwipe has been universally adopted by small merchants and retailers across categories including grocery, food and beverage, electronics and durables, among others," it said.

PTI

Oil nears \$90; petrol, diesel price freeze enters record 83rd day

New Delhi: With the forthcoming high stake assembly elections in states like Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, the freeze on petrol and diesel prices is now the longest ever even as international oil prices climbed to USD 90 per barrel for the first time in seven years.

Brent - the key global oil benchmark - soared to USD 90.02 per barrel on Thursday amid tensions between Ukraine and Russia, the world's second-largest oil producer that have fanned fears of energy supply disruptions to Europe.

Analysts expected weaker Omicron impact to keep prices elevated. But domestic fuel prices - which are directly linked to international oil prices - have not been revised for 83 days now, beating the 82-day hiatus of 2020.

Petrol costs Rs 95.41 a litre in Delhi and diesel is priced at Rs 86.67 - the same as it did after accounting for the excise duty cut and a reduction in VAT rate by the Delhi government.

PTI

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to General Public that the property documents viz. Site Possession Slip and Allotment cum Demand Letter qua property bearing No. 89-C DDA Flats, Gubali Bagh, Delhi-110007, issued by Delhi Development Authority in the name of Smt. Geeta Devi W/o Sh. OP Rohitagi & D/o Bagwati Devi have been lost. Smt. Geeta Devi had lodge complaint with PS Crime Branch Delhi vide LR No. 55315/2022 dated 19.01.2022 at around 14.34 hrs. If any person(s) who finds the above said documents are requested to contact either the undersigned or Mr. Dinesh Kumar S/o Sh. OP Rohitagi having mobile 9811160345 and return the same at the address mentioned herein above.

Pranay Trivedi (Advocate)
Ch. No. 636, Saket Courts, New Delhi

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Thursday, 3rd February, 2022, inter-alia, to consider and approve the Un-audited Financial Results Prov. of the Company for the quarter ended on 31st Dec., 2022. The information contained in this notice is also available on the Company's website www.cubical90.com as also on the website of the Stock Exchange viz. BSE Limited - www.bseindia.com

Sd/-
For Cubical Financial Services Limited
PLACE: NEW DELHI (Ashwani Kumar Gupta)
Date: 27-01-2022 Managing Director

PUBLIC NOTICE

To be known to all that I, Dr. USHA PRASAD am the owner of Flat No. 365/0N SECOND + THIRD FLOOR (DUPLICATE) WITH CAR GARAGE NO. 365, MANDAKINI ENCLAVE ALAKNANDA NEW DELHI- 110019, vide DDA's File No. F3473(81)/SES. My few original documents of the said Property viz. (1) Allocation Letter of the Flat (2) Possession Letter of the Flat (3) NOC for Electric & Water connection of the Flat (4) Demand/Allotment Letter of Car Garage and (5) Possession Slip of Car Garage have been misplaced. An Information Report of this effect has been lodge in Police Station Crime Branch, Delhi vide LR No. 67856/2022 on 24.01.2022. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above address/phone No. 9870504436 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one person namely **Tilak Raj, S/o Sh. Bharat Singh, R/o H. No. 142, Khanpur Village, New Delhi, Age: 46 years, Height: 5'8", Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Wearing: Unknown, has been missing since 29.11.2019 from P.S. Neb Sarai area, New Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 39A, dated 30.11.2019 has been logged at P.S. Neb Sarai, New Delhi.**

Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the person but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about him please inform undersigned.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/856/SD/2021

SHO
P.S. Neb Sarai, New Delhi.
Ph.: 011-29551326, 29551597

ICICI Bank

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

PUBLIC NOTICE
Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank hereby inform that all scheduled auctions, to be held for the period from **January 20, 2022 up to February 28, 2022** under recovery of dues as per court orders, stands postponed until further notice, due to unprecedented outbreak of Corona Virus (COVID-19). The list of auctions that are postponed are given hereunder:

Sr. No.	Case Details	Asset Details	Reserve Price	EMD	Scheduled Date & Time of Auction
1.	Ravinder Kumar (Borrower), LAROH00035177651	MARUTI UDYOG LTD WAGON R LXI Mfg Yr. -2016 Reg No. - HR46E5117	Rs. 80,000/-	25,000/-	January 28, 2022 - 11.00 AM Onwards
2.	Dinesh (Borrower), LAROH00034435594	HYUNDAI MOTORS LTD XcentMfg Yr. - 2016 Reg No. - HR46D0050	Rs. 80,000/-	25,000/-	January 28, 2022 - 11.00 AM Onwards

Date: January 28, 2022
Place: Delhi/NCR

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

ICICI Bank

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

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Ritika Soeny/ Jitendra Soeny/ LBDEL00005079693	Prop No 13/42-A, Second Floor, Without Roof Rights, Block-13 Tilak Nagar Delhi/ January 24, 2022	October 16, 2021 Rs. 37,53,082/-	Delhi/ NCR
2.	Ashish Dhingia/ Onkar Singh Dhingia/ LBDEL00001101022	Flat No. 302, Second Floor, Jahangir Puri, Delhi/ January 24, 2022	June 19, 2021 Rs. 1,86,353/-	Delhi/ NCR
3.	Jyoti Kumar/ Raman Kumar/ LBDEL00002400225	Flat No 33, Third Floor, Block C8, Pocket 3, Sector 34, Rohini, Delhi/ January 24, 2022	October 16, 2021 Rs. 11,05,059/-	Delhi/ NCR
4.	Kishan Lal/ Devender/ LBDEL00002389726	Flat No 42, First Floor DDA LIG, Block-C3, Pocket- 3, Sector-34, Rohini, Delhi/ January 24, 2022	October 16, 2021 Rs. 11,36,068/-	Delhi/ NCR
5.	Manjeet Kumar/ Shashi Yadav/ LBGUR00002364572	Flat No 52, Second Floor, Block E6, Pocket 3, Sector G8, Narela, Delhi/ January 24, 2022	October 16, 2021 Rs. 10,60,357/-	Delhi/ NCR
6.	Pankaj Jain/ Chander Sen Jain/ LBDEL00005207467	Flat No 6, 1st Floor, Pocket 2, Sector G2, Narela, Delhi/ January 24, 2022	October 16, 2021 Rs. 10,60,949/-	Delhi/ NCR
7.	Amit Kumar Mathur/ Supriya Mathur/ Sumit Kumar Malviya/ Vision India Ayurved (P) Ltd/ LBDEL00005201200/ LBDEL00002440117	Flat No 298, Type A, Block B, PKT 3, Bindapur, Delhi/ January 25, 2022	June 19, 2021 Rs. 21,91,881/-	Delhi/ NCR
8.	Anita Sharma/ Narender Sharma/ LBDEL00004972103	DDA Flat 25B, 1st Floor MIG Sheikh Sarai Phase-1 Delhi/ January 25, 2022	October 16, 2021 Rs. 1,33,76,709/-	Delhi/ NCR
9.	Dhiraj Kumar/ Wizmore Communication Pvt Ltd/ Ranjita Jha/ LBDEL00002379472	Flat No B53/II, First Floor DDA Mig Block-6, Narela Vihar Delhi/ January 25, 2022	October 16, 2021 Rs. 85,43,828/-	Delhi/ NCR

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

Date : January 28, 2022
Place: Delhi/ NCR

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

Piramal Capital & Housing Finance

Registered Office Address: Unit No.601, 6th Floor Piramal Armiti Building, Piramal Agastya Corporate Park, Kamani Junction, Opp Fire Station, LBS Marg, Kurla (West), Mumbai -400 070. CIN: L65910MH1984PLC032639. Website: www.piramalfinance.com
Branch Address: Dhiraj Baug, Building "A" Ground & 1st Floor, Beside Axis Bank, Opp. Monalisa Building, Agra Road, Hari Niwas Circle, Naupada, Thane (West) -400 602.

DEMAND NOTICE
Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The undersigned is the Authorized Officer of Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited (PCHFL) [formerly known as Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd.(DHFL)] under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorized Officer has issued Demand Notices under Section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s) (the "said Borrower(s)"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) to pay to PCHFL, within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or for realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to PCHFL by the said Borrower(s) respectively.

Name of the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount with NPA date	Description of secured asset (immovable property)
(LC No. 0000380 of Azadpur N S P Branch) Govinda Bagri (Borrower) Ravi Kumar (Co Borrower 1) Chet Ram (Co Borrower 2) (LC No. 00003049 of Noida Branch) Pankaj Sharma (Borrower) Kusum (Co Borrower 1) Devender Bhardwaj (Co Borrower 2) (LC No. 00043578 of Delhi - Safdijung Branch) Babita Mehta (Borrower) Amarjeet Singh (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00002254 of Rohini Branch) Nimral Singh (Borrower) Rachpal Kaur (Co Borrower 1) Balvinder Singh (Co Borrower 2) Rupinder Kaur (Guarantor 1) (LC No. 00001783 of Noida 1 Rajendra Place Branch) B D Builders Private Limited (Borrower) Dheeraj Malik (Co Borrower 1) Yudhir Singh Malik (Co Borrower 2) (LC No. 00043787 of Delhi - Safdijung Branch) Vivek Channana (Borrower) Kalawati Channana (Co Borrower 1) Om Prakash Channana (Co Borrower 2) Channana Plastics Pvt. Ltd (Guarantor 1) (LC No. 00002793 of Gurgaon Branch) Vijender Singh (Borrower) Gupreet Kaur (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00044000 of Delhi - Safdijung Branch) Vivek Channana (Borrower) Kalawati Channana (Co Borrower 1) Om Prakash Channana (Co Borrower 2) Channana Plastics Private Limited (Guarantor 1) Himani Channana (Guarantor 2) (LC No. 00004333 of Delhi Janakpuri Branch) Pramod Kumar Shrivastava (Borrower) Shobhit Kumar Shrivastava (Co Borrower 1) Usha Rani Shrivastava (Co Borrower 2) (LC No. 00002376 of Rohini Branch) Arney Buildtech Private Limited (Borrower) Virender Singh (Co Borrower 1) Meghna Thakur (Co Borrower 2) (LC No. 00041313 of Noida -sector 2 Branch) Sheel Kumari (Borrower) Satendra Kumar (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00001953 of Durgapur Branch) Raja Mitra (Borrower) Mousumi Mitra (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00042515 of Delhi - Safdijung Branch) Tapas Biswas (Borrower) Sona Biswas (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00000884 of Cannanught Place Branch) Gurmeet Singh (Borrower) Pramjit Kaur (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00004555 of Karkarduma Noida Branch) Manoj Sangwan (Borrower) Anu Rani (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00001749 of Netaji Subhash Place Branch) Rajiv (Borrower) Jyoti (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00000944 of Delhi Rajouri Garden Branch) Bala Bhatia (Borrower) Sanjay Kumar Bhatia (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00000956 of Delhi Rajouri Garden Branch) Harvinder Singh (Borrower) Harjeet Kaur (Co Borrower 1) Gurmeet Singh (Co Borrower 2) (LC No. 00000756 of Karkarduma Noida Branch) Dalvir Singh Rawat (Borrower) Manju Rawat (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00001061 of New Delhi-west Branch) Chetan Arora (Borrower) Pooja Arora (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00001988 of Noida 1 Rajendra Place Branch) Mansi (Borrower) Gaurav (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00004800 of New Delhi Branch) Manish Kumar Yadav (Borrower) Vikas Yadav (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00000357 of Dwarka Branch) Anun Kumar Singh (Borrower) Anu Kumari (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00002396 of Noida 1 Rajendra Place Branch) Raju (Borrower) Pinky (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00043598 of Gurgaon - Sohna Road Branch) Manav Bhatia (Borrower) Ramu (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00001286 of Delhi Rajouri Garden Branch) Khang Shong Vano Ravi (Borrower) Soni Khang Shong Vano (Co Borrower 1) K S V Ashok (Co Borrower 2) K S V Vandana (Guarantor 1) (LC No. 00005447 of Kamal Branch) Vivek Dhaka (Borrower) Indu Wo Vivek Dhaka (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00003652 of New Delhi Branch) Sikha Promoters Pvt Ltd (Borrower) H S Sikka (Co Borrower 1) Gurinder Singh Sikka (Co Borrower 2) Kusum Kaur (Guarantor 1) (LC No. 00005447 of Kamal Branch) Vivek Dhaka (Borrower) Indu Wo Vivek Dhaka (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00003652 of New Delhi Branch) Sikha Promoters Pvt Ltd (Borrower) H S Sikka (Co Borrower 1) Gurinder Singh Sikka (Co Borrower 2) Kusum Kaur (Guarantor 1) (LC No. 00005447 of Kamal Branch) Vivek Dhaka (Borrower) Indu Wo Vivek Dhaka (Co Borrower 1) (LC No. 00003652 of New Delhi Branch) Sikha Promoters Pvt Ltd (Borrower) H S Sikka (Co Borrower 1) Gurinder Singh Sikka (Co 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Courtesy: Abdul Sahid Khan,
head trainer at Lavazza India

INDIA LOOK TO AT LEAST FINISH ON PODIUM IN ASIA CUP

PTI ■ MUSCAT

Their title hopes already over, India would be desperate for at least a podium finish when they take on China in the third-fourth place play-off match of the women's Asia Cup hockey tournament here on Friday.

Lack of match practice due to the COVID-19 pandemic after a successful 2020, where they finished a historic fourth at the Tokyo Olympics, cost India dearly as they produced inconsistent performances in crucial matches to crash out of the title race.

After thrashing lowly Malaysia 9-0 in their opener, India suffered a 0-2 defeat against Asian Games champions Japan before thrashing Singapore 9-1 to qualify for the semifinals.

But in the semifinals, some sloppy defending and poor penalty corner conversions put paid to India's hopes as they were beaten 2-3 Korea, who set up a clash against Japan in the summit clash on Friday. The Indians controlled the game in the first two quarters to go into half time with a slender 1-0 lead.

But a determined Korea stunned the Indians in the 31st, 45th and 47th minutes before Lalremsemi reduced the margin

Some sloppy defending and poor penalty corner conversions put paid to India's hopes as they were beaten 2-3 Korea, who set up a clash against Japan in the summit clash on Friday. The Indians controlled the game in the first two quarters to go into half time with a slender 1-0 lead.



just six minutes from the hooter but in the end it proved to be too late.

After resolute defending in the first two quarters, the Indian defence

led by skipper and goalkeeper Savita conceded three soft goals to hand

over the match to Korea. And come Friday, the Savita-led

Indian defence, which also includes the experienced duo of Gurjit Kaur and Deep Grace Ekka, will have to be on their toes to finish on the podium.

While the Indian forwardline have enjoyed decent outings in the tournament so far with the likes of Vandana Katariya, Monika, Navnet Kaur and Lalremsemi finding the net on more than one occasion, it is the lack of co-ordination between the midfield and backline that put paid to India's hopes.

Penalty corner conversion is another key area where Indian need to improve by leaps and bounds.

Barring a hat-trick against Singapore, seasoned drag-flicker Gurjit Kaur and her partner Ekka looked off-colour from set pieces throughout the tournament.

Going by world rankings and recent head-to-head record, India definitely hold an edge over China in Friday's match.

While India are placed 10th in the world rankings, China are ranked 13th.

In their last three outings, India had defeated China twice -- 3-1 in the Asian Champions Trophy in 2018 in Donghae, Korea and 1-0 win in the last Asian Games -- before playing out a 0-0 draw in the Tokyo Olympic Test event in 2019.

Manjunath stuns 7th seed Cheam to storm into Odisha Open quarters

PTI ■ CUTTACK

Unseeded Mithun Manjunath stunned seventh seed June Wei Cheam of Malaysia in straight games to storm into the men singles quarterfinals of the Odisha Open here on Thursday. Manjunath took 40 minutes to outclass Cheam 21-11 21-18. He will next face Priyanshu Rajawat.

Third seeded Indian Subhankar Dey, who had beaten sixth seed Xiaodong Sheng of Canada on Wednesday, also eased into the last-eight with a 21-16 21-14 win over compatriot Rahul Yadav Chittaboina.

Kiran George also moved to the men's singles quarterfinal with an easy 21-12 21-13 win over compatriot Chirag Sen.



Subhankar will play George in the next round. Continuing her good run of form, young Indian shuttler Malvika Bansod got the better of compatriot and junior world no 1 Tasnim Mir in straight games to advance to the women's singles quarterfinals. Bansod took just over half an hour to dispatch 16-year-old Tasnim 21-13 21-15 in the women's singles pre-quarterfinals of the BWF Super 100 tournament.

The 20-year-old Bansod, who had lost to PV Sindhu in the final of the Syed Modi International last week before defeating her idol Saina Nehwal at the India Open earlier this month, will take on the winner of the clash between Tanya Hemanth and Vijetha Harish.

Fifth seed Ashmita Chaliha also booked a quarterfinal spot as she got the

better of compatriot Anupama Upadhyay 21-17 21-16. She will take on Rucha Sawant, who defeated Nikki Rapria to reach the final eight.

Chaliha will face Rhucha Sawant in the quarterfinals. Qualifier Unnati Hooda cruised past eighth seed Disha Gupta of USA 21-6 21-9 in just 20 minutes to set up a quarterfinal clash against Samiya Imad Farooqui.

In the mixed doubles event, the India pairing of Dhruv Rawat and Shikha Gautam lost 11-21 14-21 to the Sri Lankan duo of Sachin Dias and Thilini Hendahewa in the second round, while Ayush Makhija and Deeksha Choudhar handed Chirag Arora and Nish Rapria a 21-5 21-16 loss to move to the quarter-finals.

Hockey legend Charanjit Singh dies

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Captain of India's 1964 Tokyo Olympics gold medal-winning hockey team, Charanjit Singh, died on Thursday at his home in Una, Himachal Pradesh after suffering a cardiac arrest that followed prolonged age-related illnesses.

The former mid-fielder was 90 and would have turned a year older next month. He is survived by two sons and one daughter.

Charanjit suffered a stroke five years back and was paralysed since then.

"Dad was paralysed after suffering a stroke five years back. He used to walk with a stick but since the last couple of months, his health deteriorated and this morning he left us," his younger son V P Singh told PTI.

Besides captaining the Olympic gold-winning team in 1964, he was also a part of the silver-winning side in the 1960 edition of the Games. He was also a part of the 1962 Asian



Games silver-winning team. "His last rites will be performed today after my sister reaches Una from Delhi," V P Singh said. His wife died 12 years ago. While his elder son is a doctor in Canada, his younger son was next to him when he breathed his last.

His only daughter is married and based in New Delhi.

His last rites will be performed this evening in Una.

The two-time Olympian was a part of India's glorious days. A charismatic halfback, Charanjit had led the Indian team to a historic gold medal in 1964 Tokyo Olympics, beating Pakistan in the final and also featured in the Indian team that won silver in the 1960 Games in Rome.

Charanjit was an alumni of Col Brown Cambridge School, Dehradun and Punjab University. After his illustrious career in international hockey, he worked as the director of the physical education department in Himachal Pradesh University in Shimla.

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय,
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, बोकारो
ई-प्रोक्चुरमेंट सूचना

(एफ 2 फॉर्म ऑफ कॉन्ट्रैक्ट आधारित अति अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा)
ई-निविदा प्रसंग संख्या- RCD/BOKARO/91/F.Y. 2021-2022
दिनांक- 27.01.2022

1.	कार्य का नाम	पथ प्रमण्डल, बोकारो अन्तर्गत नरकी-गोमिया पथ (कुल लम्बाई 7.40 कि०मी०) का विशेष नगरमार्ग कार्य, वर्ष 2021-2022.
2.	प्राक्कलित राशि (रुपये में)	75,00,000/- (पिछहत्तर लाख) रुपये मात्र
3.	कार्य पूर्ण होने की अवधि	1(एक) माह।
4.	वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशन होने की तिथि एवं समय	03.02.2022, 12.00 बजे दोपहर।
5.	बिड प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	09.02.2022, 12.00 बजे दोपहर तक।
6.	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले कार्यालय का नाम एवं पता	कार्यालय, कार्यपालक अभियंता, पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, बोकारो
7.	प्रोक्चुरमेंट पदाधिकारी का सम्पर्क संख्या	06542-265599
8.	ई-प्रोक्चुरमेंट सेल का हेल्पलाइन संख्या	0651-2403007

विस्तृत ब्यौरा के लिए वेबसाइट <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> पर देखा जा सकता है।
कार्यपालक अभियंता,
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, बोकारो।
PR 262534 Road(21-22)D

Government of Jharkhand
Scheduled Tribe, Scheduled Caste, Minorities & Backward Class
Welfare Department

Notice
(P.R.No-249708)
Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Munda Overseas Scholarship Scheme

Applications for Higher Education in Masters/M.Phil in selected Universities/Institutes of United Kingdom of Great Britain and North Ireland, are being invited from the students belonging to Scheduled Tribe, for the Financial Year 2021-22 under "Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Munda Overseas Scholarship Scheme". A maximum of 10 selected students will get benefit under this scheme.
Last Date (Extended) of Application- 31.03.2022
Applications to be submitted to following e-mail id :- tw-com-jhr@nic.in
Instructions, (SOP) Application Form, Details of documents to be submitted by the applicants and other related information can be accessed from the link below :-
<https://www.jharkhand.gov.in/welfare>

PR 262492 Schedule Tribe, Schedule Caste, Minority and Backward Class Welfare Department(21-22).D Tribal Welfare Commissioner Jharkhand, Ranchi

JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY (JUIDCO) Ltd.
(A Government of Jharkhand Undertaking)
3rd Floor, Pragati Sadan , Kutchery Chowk, Ranchi – 834001 Ph. No – 0651-2225878, E-Mail Id. – juidcolimited@gmail.com
CIN:U45200JH2013SGC001752

Corrigendum-01

PR Ref.No: 261128NIT No.: JUIDCO/FOB Kanj Chowk/2945/437
Tender ID: 2022 UDD_55008_1
Name of the work: Construction of Foot Over Bridge and installation of Escalators near Kishoreganj Chowk in Ranchi City.

Sl. No.	Clause No./ Reference No.	As per Uploaded SBD	As per Corrigendum-01
1.	Pg.No:3 of uploaded SBD (Notice Inviting Tender)	6 Last Date & Time for submission of online bids	27.01.2022 at 17:00 Hrs.
		7 Last Date & Time of submission of EMD and Tender fee (Hard Copies)	28.01.2022 at 17:00 Hrs.
		8 Date & Time of bid opening	28.01.2022 at 17:30 Hrs.
6		Last Date & Time for submission of online bids	03.02.2022 at 17:00 Hrs.
		Last Date & Time of submission of EMD and Tender fee in form of Bank Guarantee/FDR and Tender Fee in form of Demand Draft of any Nationalized/Scheduled Bank (Hard Copies)	04.02.2022 at 17:00 Hrs.
8		Date & Time of bid opening	04.02.2022 at 17:30 Hrs.

Sd/- Project Director (Technical)
JUIDCO Limited, Ranchi.

PR.NO.262588 Urban Development and Housing(21-22):D

JHARKHAND MEDICAL & HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT & PROCUREMENT CORPORATION LTD.
MCH BUILDING, RCH CAMPUS, NAMKUM, RANCHI – 834010.
(CIN – U855100JH2013SGC001276)E-mail:jmhidpc2014@gmail.com

Tender Notice: JMC/NIT-22/Spectacles/04 Date:27.01.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(E-Procurement System)

VERY SHORT- RE-TENDER FOR SPECTACLES (3rd Call)

The Managing Director, Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Development & Procurement Corporation Ltd. (JMHIDPCL) hereby invites separate Technical and Commercial Bids (Two Cover System) through e-tender from the registered and eligible Manufacturers/ authorized dealer / distributor / stockist for RATE CONTRACT FOR SPECTACLES.

The Blank tender documents with detailed conditions can be obtained through web site <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> and should be submitted through e-procurement system only.

1	Name of Work	RATE CONTRACT OF SPECTACLES FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS
2	Time of Completion	30 Days from the date of Purchase Order.
3	Date of Publication of Tenders on website	28.01.2022
4	Date / time for receipt of bids	07.02.2022 up to 3 P.M
5	Date of Technical Bid opening	08.02.2022 at 3 P.M
6	Application fee (Non-refundable)	Rs 5000.00 (Rupees Five thousand only)
7	EMD	Rs 50,000/- (Rupees fifty thousand only).
8	Contact no./ Helpline number of e-procurement Cell	7004871564, 9771500075

Note: The above dates may change due to abrupt declaration of holidays.
Detailed tender document can be seen and applied through website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> only, hard copies of Technical bid & Price bid will not be entertained except Tender fee & EMD.

PR 262577 (Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Dev & Procurement Corp Ltd) 21-22 (D)

Sd/-
Managing Director,
JMHIDPCL, Govt. of Jharkhand
Namkum, Ranchi

राज्यपाल सचिवालय, झारखण्ड, राँची

अतिअल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना

नव वर्ष 2022 के अवसर पर राजभवन / राज्यपाल सचिवालय, राँची के उपयोग के लिए राजभवन डायरी 2022 के मुद्रण हेतु अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।
निविदा सूचना भवन अवस्थित राज्यपाल सचिवालय, राँची के लेखा शाखा में दिनांक-04 / 02 / 2022 (शुक्रवार) अपराह्न 03:00 बजे तक स्वीकार की जायेगी एवं दिनांक-04 / 02 / 2022 (शुक्रवार) अपराह्न 04:00 बजे बजे राज्यपाल सचिवालय, राँची स्थित हॉल में निविदादाताओं/उनके प्रतिनिधियों के समक्ष खोली जाएगी। निविदादाता मुहरबंद लिफाफे में निविदा दर्ज करेंगे। निविदा की नियम एवं शर्तें राजभवन, राँची के वेबसाइट www.rajbhavanjharkhand.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।
(आराधना) उप सचिव
PR 262613 Governor(21-22).D

जिला खनन कार्यालय, चतरा
(e-mail-id - dmo-chatra@jharkhandmail.gov.in)

सूचना

JIMMS Portal का Vahan Portal के साथ integration संबंध में।
चतरा जिलान्तर्गत वृहत खनिज कोयला एवं लघु खनिज पत्थर के सभी खनन पट्टेधारी, डीलर अनुज्ञप्तिधारी, ट्रांसपोर्टरों एवं खनिज दुलाई के वाहन मालिकों को निर्देशित किया जाता है कि दिनांक 01.02.2022 के पूर्व खनन दुलाई में संलग्न सभी वाहनो का शर्त-प्रतिशत PIN Generation की कार्यवाई करना सुनिश्चित करें। निर्धारित समयावधि के अन्दर उक्त का अनुपालन नहीं होने की स्थिति में यदि खनिज परिवहन प्रभावित होता है, तो इसकी पूर्ण जवाबदेही आपकी होगी। पूर्व में भी इस संदर्भ में आप सभी को विभिन्न पत्रों के माध्यम से सूचित किया गया है।
जिला खनन पदाधिकारी, चतरा
PR622503 (Mines and Geology)21-22*D

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, जमशेदपुर

अति अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

निविदा सूचना सं०-10/-2021-22 दिनांक :- 27.01.2022

1. विज्ञापनदाता का नाम एवं पता : कार्यपालक अभियंता, पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, जमशेदपुर।
2. परिमाण विपत्र विक्री की तिथि : दिनांक 02.02.2022 एवं 03.02.2022 को 11.00 बजे से 15.00 बजे तक।
3. निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक 04.02.2022 को 11.00 बजे से 15.00 बजे तक।
4. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक 04.02.2022 को 15:30 बजे से।
5. परिमाणविपत्र विक्रीकारस्थल : (क) मुख्य अभियंता (या०) का कार्यालय, प०नि०वि०, झारखण्ड, पता-अभियंता हॉस्टल नं० 2, गोलचक्र, धुवाँ, राँची 834004।
(ख) अधीक्षक अभियंता का कार्यालय, प०नि०वि०, पथ अंचल, चाईबासा।
(ग) कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, प०नि०वि०, पथ प्रमण्डल, जमशेदपुर।
क्रमांक 5 के क्रम सं० 'क' से 'ग' में वर्णित कार्यालयों में।

6. निविदा प्राप्ति एवं खोलने का स्थान :
7. कार्य की विवरणी :-

क्र० सं०	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रु० लाख में)	अग्रघन की राशि (रु० में)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रु० में)	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
1	वित्तीय वर्ष 2021-2022 में गैर-योजना मद अंतर्गत जादूगोड़ा से सुन्दरनगर पथ (कुल लं० 19.075 कि.मी.) की साधारण मरम्मत कार्य।	30.00	60,000/-	5,000/-	35 दिन
2	वित्तीय वर्ष 2021-2022 में गैर-योजना मद अंतर्गत जशेदपुर से हाता पथ (कुल लं० 18.545 कि.मी.) की साधारण मरम्मत कार्य।	40.00	80,000/-	5,000/-	35 दिन

नोट :-1. निविदा की शर्तें सूचना पट्ट एवं परिमाण विपत्र/निविदा अभिलेख में देखा जा सकता है। कार्यालय में रजित विस्तृत प्राक्कलन पदकर ही निविदा में माग लें। 2. प्राक्कलित राशि, परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य एवं अग्रघन की राशि घट-बढ़ सकती है। अतः परिमाण विपत्र में अंकित राशि ही मान्य होगी। 3. निविदा में अग्रघन की राशि एवं सफल निविदादाता के साथ एकरानामा के समय अवशेष सेक्युरिटी मनी 5 वर्षीय रा०ग०पत्र या/अथवा भारतीय डाकघर/राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक का तीन एवं/अथवा पाँच वर्षीय सावधि जमा-रसीद ही मान्य होगा। 4. किसी भी परिस्थिति में अवधि विस्तार एवं अगले वित्तीय वर्ष के लिए स्पील ऑफ़र नहीं किया जायगा।
निर्दिष्ट-निवारण अवधि छः माह होगी।
कार्यपालक अभियंता,
पथ प्रमण्डल, जमशेदपुर
PR 262482 Road (21-22)_D Email-eercdjameshd-jhr@nic.in, Mob-7979945893



RAVI BISHNOI GETS MAIDEN CALL-UP FOR WINDIES SERIES

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Young leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi was on Wednesday rewarded with a maiden India call-up for the upcoming Twenty20 series against the West Indies, while senior wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav also returned to the white-ball setup after a knee surgery.

Skipper Rohit Sharma on the day cleared his fitness test and as reported by PTI on January 17, was back in-charge for the series that starts with ODIs in Ahmedabad from February 6.

Among senior players, Ravichandran Ashwin has been dropped from the white-ball team, while Washington Sundar, who missed the South Africa series due to COVID-19, was back in the squad. "Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammad Shami have been rested from the series,"

BCCI secretary Jay Shah was quoted as saying in a press release.

While Ashwin is believed to be

injured and out for six weeks, BCCI statement didn't mention his injury status so it can be concluded that even if he is fit, he wouldn't have been picked after an indifferent white-ball series in South Africa.

The other notable comeback has been Baroda batter Deepak Hooda, who had changed states and did wonderfully well for Rajasthan in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy as well as Vijay Hazare Trophy.

Hooda is being looked as a potential finisher in shorter formats and for now in the ODI team. He was part of the Nidahas Trophy squad in Sri Lanka four seasons back but didn't get a game.

"If you go and look at Hooda's performances in white-ball cricket this season, most of his runs have come when the team has been in trouble. That shows he can take pressure. The selectors would like to see more of M Shahrukh Khan, who is a good talent. There are a lot of matches and if he has a good IPL, who knows, he will

"Ravindra Jadeja is undergoing his final stage of recovery post his knee injury and will not be available for the ODIs and T20Is. Axar Patel will be available for the T20Is," Shah added

be right there," a BCCI source informed PTI on condition of anonymity.

However it is understood that Himachal Pradesh captain Rishi Dhawan wasn't in consideration as his bowling is friendly medium pace and can't be seen as a finisher in

white-ball cricket.

It is also learnt that vice-captain KL Rahul will be available from the second ODI onwards as he is set to miss the first 50-over game due to personal reasons.

"Ravindra Jadeja is undergoing his final stage of recovery post his knee injury and will not be available for the ODIs and T20Is. Axar Patel will be available for the T20Is," Shah added.

Bishnoi has been one of the finds of the Indian Premier League for the Punjab outfit and has been picked up by new franchise Lucknow Super Giants from the drafts for the next IPL. In 42 T20 games, he has 49 wickets at a great economy rate of 6.63. In 17 List A games, he has 24 wickets and an economy rate of 5.48.

He primarily bowls googlies which is his stock delivery and occasionally

bowls leg-breaks. With Kuldeep, Yuzvendra Chahal and Bishnoi, India is again going back to the trusted formula of wrist spin which gave

them lot of success between 2017 to 2019.

Bhuvneshwar Kumar has been dropped from the ODI squad but retained for the T20Is while former skipper Virat Kohli featured in both the teams.

It is understood that Kuldeep, who had lost his mojo in the Kohli-Ravi Shastri era, has been called back as the current team management and selectors feel that he has the X-factor to contribute to the team's cause.

He underwent a knee surgery in September last year.

Avesh Khan and Harshal Patel, who were part of the New Zealand T20 Internationals are predictably back as reported by PTI.

The six-match series against the West Indies will feature three ODIs starting in Ahmedabad from February 6, followed by as many T20 Internationals in Kolkata.

Due to COVID-19 protocols, the BCCI has curtailed the number of venues from six cities to two.

Roach returns to West Indies squad



PTI ■ ST JOHN'S (ANTIGUA)

Seasoned pacer Kemar Roach and Syoung all-rounder Nkrumah Bonner have been recalled to the West Indies ODI squad for the three-match series in India beginning February 6. Roach, who has not played any List A cricket since his last ODI in 2019, has made the return with West Indies great Desmond Haynes picking him in his first squad selection since taking over as lead selector. Six additions have been made to the squad, to be led by Kieron Pollard, that lost to Ireland at home. The ODIs against India will be played at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on

February 6, 9 and 11.

The T20Is will be played at Eden Gardens in Kolkata on February 16, 18 and 20 and the Caribbean squad for that is expected to be announced on Friday. Besides the experienced Roach, the 22-year-old Bonner, a middle-order batter whose last ODI appearance was exactly a year ago, and Brandon King, an opener, have been recalled to the squad.

The 27-year-old King's last one-day outing in national colours was back in 2020. Roach has so far played 92 ODIs with 124 wickets. Bonner made his ODI debut in Bangladesh a year ago and has so far played three matches, while King has appeared in four matches

in this format.

"Kemar Roach is one of our leading fast bowlers and we believe we need bowlers upfront to get early wicket, and Kemar, with an economy rate of five, is certainly good enough to play. "Over the last few years, Nkrumah Bonner's cricket has come on leaps and bounds and we believe he should be given an opportunity to play in the 50-over format," said Haynes in a statement."

The series will be part of the ICC ODI Super League and the West Indies will have the opportunity to win points to be one of the top seven teams, excluding hosts India, to gain automatic qualification for the 2023 World Cup.

Powell's 107 leads West Indies over England by 20 runs



AP ■ BRIDGETOWN (BARBADOS)

Rovman Powell hit 10 sixes among his 107 runs from 53 balls to lead West Indies to a 20-run victory over England and a 2-1 lead in the five-match Twenty20 series.

Powell, brought in for Odean Smith, formed the backbone of the home side's 224 for five, with Nicholas Pooran clubbing 70 off 43 deliveries. England finished at 202-9.

Tom Banton gave England hope of pulling off its third-highest chase ever with a 39-ball 73 but his dismissal left the tourists needing 96 from 45 deliveries before Phil Salt kept its flickering hopes alive.

Salt, one of three T20 debutants alongside George Garton and Harry Brook, brought the equation down to 36 in an over, playing the first two deliveries for six en route to a 22-ball 50 before being bowled.

England was captained by Moeen Ali because of a slight quad injury to Eoin Morgan.

The final two matches are on Saturday and Sunday, also in Bridgetown.

NZC moves all games against Indian women to Queenstown

PTI ■ AUCKLAND

The Indian women's team will play all its six upcoming matches against New Zealand in Queenstown as NZC on Thursday announced a revised schedule to reduce chances of a COVID-19 outbreak.

The Indian women's team, which is already in New Zealand, is now scheduled to play all five ODIs and a T20I, starting February 9 at John Davies Oval in Queenstown.

The bilateral series, which is key for India ahead of the World Cup in March-April, was earlier scheduled to begin with the one-off T20I at McLean Park in Napier followed by the first ODI at the same venue two days later.

The Saxton Oval in Nelson was to host the second and third ODIs on February 14 and 16, with the final two ODIs to be played in Queenstown on February 22 and 24.

Other changes in the schedule announced by NZC include the South Africa men's side remaining in Christchurch for the entire duration of its visit, playing both its scheduled Tests at



Hagley Oval rather than decamping to Wellington for the second match, as initially scheduled.

Australia's three T20s against the New Zealand men's side will now be hosted in Napier (subject to MIQ availability), and the Netherlands men's tour is set to be split between Mount Maunganui (one T20 and one ODI) and Hamilton (two ODIs). All matches have been kept on originally-scheduled days. The changes in the venues is aimed to cut down on domestic travel and the increased likelihood of exposure to the Omicron variant of COVID-19.

"These risk mitigations are based on avoiding known Covid-19 hotspots, and include limiting air travel, limiting accommodation transfers and, essentially, operating in safer environments," NZC chief executive David White said in a statement.

"We know the more domestic flights we have, and the more movement there is between hotels, the greater the chance of a match or even a series being put at risk," he added.

Tough road awaits Kuldeep, Harbhajan wants Team India to 'stick by'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

When Kuldeep Yadav had gone for a skier during a Kolkata Knight Riders practice session in the UAE last September, little did he know that within seconds his world would come crashing down with a twisted knee. Those present at the Dubai training facility were horrified seeing



his condition as he lay there writhing in pain, waiting to be stretchered

out. In a week's time, he underwent a major knee surgery in Mumbai, which cast doubts on how long it would take for him to get fit for competitive cricket. He visited Mathura with his family on Thursday to offer prayers on his comeback, for Kuldeep really needed some divine intervention to make his way back into

the Indian team.

Otherwise, all that he could have done was to wait at home to hear from the BCCI if it would hold the now-postponed Ranji Trophy, where he was supposed to lead Uttar Pradesh.

"It will be a very tough road ahead for Kuldeep. He hasn't had any proper domestic games under his belt and

it's not easy to make an international comeback just like that," one of India's greatest spinners, Harbhajan Singh, told PTI when asked about his expectations.

"He wasn't playing regularly before surgery and when you are making a comeback in white ball, the first thing that's at the back of your mind is 'I don't want to get hit'.

"So it's like striking a balance as you are naturally dealing with a lot of insecurities. It's a test of mental fortitude," said Harbhajan, who saw Kuldeep from close quarters at KKR nets.

But Kuldeep has the skills and the "Turbanator" expects that he can get a few early wickets and make it a different ball-game.

England first team to reach U-19 WC semifinals



PTI ■ NORTH SOUND

Jacob Bethell's blistering batting display helped England advance to the semi-finals of the ICC U-19 World Cup with a six-wicket win over South Africa here.

Bethell was one of the bowlers to restrict South Africa to 209 all out before hitting 88 to see England set up a clash with either Sri Lanka or Afghanistan.

South Africa endured a slow start having won the toss and chosen to bat, their first boundary came off the final ball of the fourth over, before Joshua Boyden dismissed Valentine Kitime off the next delivery.

Boyden would claim his 12th wicket of

the tournament to send the other opener Ethan-John Cunningham back to the hutch and reduce South Africa to 21 for two.

Dewald Brevis and Gerhardus Maree combined to steady the South African ship, adding 55 runs to the total before Bethell dismissed Maree.

Brevis remained a familiar stronghold for South Africa as he brought up his fourth fifty-plus score in a row eventually falling just short of a century on 97.

His dismissal brought about a batting collapse for South Africa as three wickets fell for one run as the batters went in search of boundaries, but only found the grateful hands of fielders with Rehan Ahmed

claiming figures of four for 48.

The final-wicket partnership of Matthew Boast and Asakhe Tsaka frustrated England adding 407 runs as South Africa ended on 209 all out.

Bethell came out all guns blazing in England's chase, hitting the fourth fastest half-century of U19 World Cup history, reaching fifty off just 20 balls, as the Young Lions went at over 10 an over.

George Thomas was a delighted onlooker at the non-striker's end only moving into double figures in the tenth over, before smacking a six to bring up England's hundred.

South Africa finally struck as Bethell went for one heavy too many but not before he had put on 88 from 42 deliveries to place England as overwhelming favourites.

That tag was backed up by good partnerships in the top order, before William Luxton came in at five to strike 47 from 41 balls and get England into the semi-finals with a six. Zimbabwe, West Indies win in the Plate competition.

Matthew Welch's 78 helped Zimbabwe set Scotland a tricky chase of 249 in their Plate quarterfinal.

Scotland were unable to build partnerships as they slumped to 140 all out to see Zimbabwe advance to meet Ireland. They will be joined in the semifinals by hosts West Indies who were too good for Papua New Guinea in a 169-run win. The West Indies will now face the United Arab Emirates, while Papua New Guinea are set to take on Uganda in the Plate play-offs.

NTPC Limited
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)
CORRIGENDUM
With reference to our advertisement no. CM/Ranchi:02/2022 published in the newspaper(s) on 24/01/2022, the upper age limit mentioned in the advertisement inadvertently as 65 years, may be read as 57 years for both the posts. Inconvenience caused is regretted.
Address
NTPC Coal Mining Headquarters
Gini Plaza, Opposite Chutia Police Station,
Ranchi - 834001, Jharkhand
Leading the Power Sector

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice
GeM Bid No. GEM/2022/B/1851803 Dated : 25/01/2022 For and on behalf of the President of India, E-Tenders on "Two Packet System" are invited from the Firms/Agencies/Contractors of repute having technical expertise and financial solvency for the following work:-
1) Name of work with its location and completion period: Hiring of One commercial AC SUV for ADRM(Intra) DHN for a period of two years. Completion period-02 years. ii) **Approx. Cost of the work:** Rs. 14,09,832.00 (Rupees Fourteen lakh nine thousand eight hundred thirty two) only. iii) **Earnest Money to be deposited:** Rs. 28,197.00 (Rupees Twenty eight thousand one hundred ninety seven) iv) **Date & time for closing of e-tender:** 16.00 hrs. on 15/02/2022 **Date & time for opening of e-tender:** 16.30 hrs. on 15/02/2022 v) **Website particulars:** <https://gem.gov.in> No manual tender will be accepted against e-tendering.
Divisional Railway Manager
E.C. Railway, Dhanbad
PR/001575/DHN/MECH/T/21-22/32

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
Tender Notice
Dhanbad, dt. 24.01.2022
E-Tenders are invited for execution of the following work by Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial), E.C. Railway, Dhanbad:-
Tender No. C-742-Parking-DHN-1-22
SI.No. 1. Name of the work with its location & completion period: Two wheeler parking stand in front of reservation office at Dhanbad Station for the period of three years. 2. **Reserve Price for three year (in Rs.):** Rs. 51,81,540/- 3. **Earnest Money:** Rs. 1,04,000/- 4. **Date & Time for closing and opening of Tender:** Date of closing of e-tender at 12.00 hours on 18.02.2022 Date of opening of e-tender after 12.30 hrs. on 18.02.2022. 5. **Website particulars:** <http://www.irops.gov.in>. No manual tender will be accepted against e-tendering. Tenderer have to pay levy of GST @18% & income tax as applicable in addition to offered rate by him. Railway Administration reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason what so ever.
Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial),
East Central Railway/Dhanbad.
PR/001570/DHN/COML/T/21-22/32

समस्त हज़ारीवारा समेत झारखण्ड वासियों को गणतंत्र दिवस की हादिक शुभकामनाएं
माननीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेंद्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में हमारा संकल्प क्षेत्र के आसिदी व्यक्ति तक पहुंचे योजनाओं का लाभ
मनीष जायसवाल
विचारक, भा.स. झारखण्ड