

WORLD 5

TAIWAN PREZ QUILTS AS PARTY
LEADER AFTER POLL DEFEAT

MONEY 6

FASTEST 5G ROLLOUT
IN INDIA: NOKIA

SPORT 8

INDIAN BATTING NEEDS FRESH
APPROACH TO SAVE SERIES

NEW DELHI, SUNDAY NOVEMBER 27, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹4



sunday pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com

World looking at mother
of democracy India: PMJudiciary taking
many steps to
ensure timely
justice: ModiPIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said the Constitution is a commitment, pledge, and belief that has made India the “Mother of Democracy” and maintained that the judiciary is taking many steps to ensure timely justice.

Speaking at the Constitution Day celebrations in the Supreme Court, Modi said the entire world is looking at India which is witnessing rapid development and economic growth.

“We the People in the Preamble of the Constitution is a commitment, pledge and belief that has made India the Mother of Democracy,” said the Prime Minister. He also stated, “Laws are being made easier and accessible for the common citizens and the judiciary is taking many steps to ensure timely justice.”

Modi launched new initiatives under the e-court project, which provides services to lit-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Chief Justice of India Justice DY Chandrachud at the launch of the new initiatives under e-court project, during the Constitution Day celebrations in the Supreme Court, in New Delhi on Saturday. Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju is also seen

igants, lawyers and the judiciary through information and communication technology-enabled courts. The initiatives launched by Modi included “virtual justice clock,” “JustIS” mobile app 2.0, digital court and “S3Waas”.

“We the people’ in the Preamble is a call, an oath and a trust,” Modi said, adding that “in the modern time, the Constitution has embraced all the cultural and moral emotions of the nation”.

He said, “Identity of India as the mother of democracy needs to be further strength-

ened”. Since 2015, Constitution Day is being celebrated on November 26 to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of India by the Constituent Assembly in 1949.

The Prime Minister also noted the importance of the Constitution Day in the year of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsava. He paid tributes to Babasaheb Dr BR Ambedkar and all the members of the Constituent Assembly.

Remembering the dark day in the history of India when the country is celebrating the momentous occasion of

Constitution day, the Prime Minister recalled that on November 26, India faced the biggest terrorist attack in its history by the enemies of humanity. Modi paid his tributes to the ones who lost their lives in the dastardly Mumbai attacks.

Crediting the Constitution for the success, the Prime Minister referred to the first three words of the Preamble, ‘We the People,’ saying, “This spirit of the constitution is the spirit of India, that has been the mother of democracy in the world.”

Continued on Page 2

ED attaches 40%
share of Unitech
project in NoidaPIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached 40 per cent share of a hotel project (1,40,000 Sq Ft FSI Space) within the upscale Commercial Centre, Garden’s Galleria, Noida in connection with a money laundering case against the real estate major Unitech and its promoters.

The attached asset worth ₹65.32 crore was owned by Unitech’s Ranchero Services Limited, Cyprus, which is a Benami overseas company of Unitech promoters.

An investigation by ED revealed that Unitech Group had invested the “Proceeds of Crime” to the tune of USD 8 million through a Benami company Ranchero Services Limited, Cyprus, into Unitech Hotels Private Limited in 2007-2008, the agency said in a statement.

“Investigation revealed that Ranchero Services Limited, Cyprus, is owned by Unitech promoters and was being managed through an overseas trust on their behalf,” the ED said in its statement.

During the investigation, the ED arrested five Unitech promoters/directors Sanjay Chandra, Ajay Chandra, Ramesh Chandra, Preeti



Chandra, and Rajesh Malik.

Till now, the ED has filed two prosecution complaints or chargesheets and the PMLA court has taken their cognizance.

The agency has attached domestic and overseas assets worth ₹1,132.55 crore through 16 provisional attachment orders, including the current one.

The attachments include assets of Carnoustie Group, Shivalik Group, Trikar Group besides the properties of the shell, Benami, and personal companies of Chandras, and others.

Total proceeds of crime worth over ₹6,500 crore have been detected till now in this case. Further investigation is in process, the agency added.

India’s cashew king
latest among many
to shut biz in KeralaPIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
KOCHI

The political turmoil and industrial unrest haunting Kerala have hastened the exit of many industrial groups, both big and small, from the State. The latest to join the bandwagon of entrepreneurs leaving the State for good is Beta Group, owned by J Rajmohan Pillai, which is into the production of packaged food products like Nut King.

The year 2021 has seen the exit of more than a dozen major units from the State as the proprietors downed the shutters and left for the oil-rich West Asian countries.

The Beta Group hailing from the family of late K Janardhanan Pillai, labelled as India’s cashew king has shut down all its cashew processing factories numbering around 100 and is moving to little-known Guinea-Bissau, a West African country.

“We will set up Guinea-Bissau’s largest cashew processing and export unit which will provide jobs to at least 2,000 people in the near future itself.”

“The agreement signed between Beta Group and the Guinea-Bissau Government mandates that the Group would invest \$100 million over the next five years,” Dr



Rajmohan Pillai with Prime Minister of Guinea Bissau Nuno Gomes Nabiam

Rajmohan Pillai, chairman, Beta Group, told *The Pioneer* over telephone from Bissau.

The Beta Group’s decision to shift its operation to the African country comes at a time when entrepreneurs are leaving the State en masse fearing the high handed attitude of trade union leaders who have become a law unto themselves.

Though Dr Pillai described the decision to shift Beta Group was in response to the irresistible invitation from the Guinea-Bissau Government led by Prime Minister Nuno Gomes Nambam, corporate leaders in Kerala said on condition of anonymity that situation in God’s Own Country was not conducive for investment or expansion.

“When trade union leaders call the shots on issues like who should be included in the list of workers and who should be kept away, it is a signal to the entrepreneurs to move out,” said a senior corporate honcho.

Continued on Page 2

Pro-Pak slogan
in Bharat Jodo
doctored video
maker booked

PTI ■ RAIPUR

The Chhattisgarh Police have registered a case against a man for posting a doctored video on social media of pro-Pakistani slogans being raised during the Congress “Bharat Jodo Yatra”, an official said on Saturday.

A member of the Congress legal cell lodged a complaint in Raipur on Friday, following which an FIR was registered against the man, who hails from neighbouring Madhya Pradesh, said police. In his complaint, a member of the Congress legal cell alleged that the accused had posted a doctored video of the yatra on his Twitter handle, in which pro-Pakistan slogans were raised.

An offence has been registered under section 504 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of peace) and other relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and a probe has been launched, the official said.

UCC, 1L Govt jobs,
₹10K cr for agri infra
in BJP’s Guj pledge

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Uniform Civil Code, one lakh Government jobs for women, ₹10,000 crore for Agri-marketing infra, blue economy industries corridor, and financial assistance to EWS/OBC students are among the main points of the BJP Gujarat manifesto released on Saturday by party’s national president JP Nadda and Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel.

The manifesto called the “Sankalp Patra” also promised free education to girls from pre-primary to post-graduate level. In the manifesto released at Gandhinagar, the BJP also promised 1 litre of edible oil four times a year and 1 kg subsidised chana per month at subsidised rates through the PDS system to the people of Gujarat.

Setting up an anti-radicalisation cell is another promise of the BJP.

Continued on Page 2



Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, BJP national president JP Nadda and State party chief CR Patil during release of the party manifesto for Gujarat polls, in Gandhinagar, on Saturday

2 IRB jawans on
poll duty shot by
colleague in Guj

Porbandar: Two jawans of the IRB were killed and two others were injured after their colleague opened fire over some issue in a village near Porbandar in Gujarat on Saturday evening, officials said.

Detailed report on P2

Veteran actor
Vikram Gokhale
passes away

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Veteran actor and thespian Vikram Gokhale — known for his stellar performances in films like Mazrahi film “Natsamrat” and films like “Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam”, “Bhool Bhulaiyaa”, “Agneepath” and “Khuda Gawah” — died at the Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital in Pune on Saturday.

He was 77 and is survived by his wife and two daughters. A versatile actor who acted in films, dramas and television serials in both Hindi and Marathi languages, Gokhale had acted in more than eighty films, more two dozen television serials and innumerable plays in a career lasting for nearly five decades.

Gokhale had been admitted to the Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital in Pune earlier this week. His condition had deteriorated during the last few days and he was on ventilator support. At one stage, a rumour had spread that he had passed away, a news report that his family members denied.

Detailed report on P2

Arabs burying hatchet at World Cup!

AP ■ DOHA

For a brief moment after Saudi Arabia’s Salem Aldawsari fired a ball from just inside the penalty box into the back of the net to seal a World Cup win against Argentina, Arabs across the divided West Asia found something to celebrate.

Such Arab unity is hard to come by and fleeting when it arrives. But Qatar’s hosting of the World Cup has provided a moment where many in the Arab world have rallied by Doha and the Saudi team’s win. “All Arabic countries are celebrating because one Arab team won,” said 27-year-old Saudi Rakan Yousef after Arab fans congratulated him in Doha, Qatar, on the Green Falcons’ win.

“Even the emir of Qatar attended our match. ... There’s this feeling now that we are all brothers. That’s why I’m speechless.”

The Arab world’s division



Saudi Arabia players and their head coach Herve Renard applaud fans at the end of the World Cup soccer match against Poland, at the Education City Stadium in Al Rayyan, Qatar, on Saturday. Poland beat Saudis 2-0

start even with the Arabic language. Spoken Arabic changes regionally, with the Berber-infused Arabic of North Africa, the rapid-fire Egyptian heard in movies and television comedies, the soft Levantine drawl and the guttural dialect of the Gulf Arabs.

Religion is another differentiator — there are Muslims, both Sunni and Shia with sub-groups within, and minority Christians, Druze, Baha’i and others. Different views on religion and regional rivalries bleed into conflicts, such as the ongoing war in Yemen. Oha

But despite an attempt by al-Qaida to stir up extremists, the month-long World Cup in energy-rich Qatar so far has seen unity among the Gulf Arab nations. Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi, the heads of state in two countries that only some two years ago had boycotted Qatar, attended the tournament’s opening match.

Dubai’s ruler, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, called Qatar’s hosting of the tournament “a milestone for all Arabs” and also attended the opening. That feeling was shared by others as well.

“We are proud to be here for the first World Cup in an Arabic country,” Morocco coach Walid Regragui said. Jordan’s Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi similarly praised Qatar while dismissing the criticisms of journalists — and by extension, rights groups.

Continued on Page 2

"In this policy, the investment risk in the investment portfolio is borne by the policyholder"

Sabse Pehle
Life InsuranceA Smart Investment Today,
for a Secured Future Tomorrow.LIC's New
Pension Plus

Plan No.: 867

UIN: 512L347V01

(A Unit Linked, Non-Participating,
Individual Pension Plan)Also
Available
Online

Plan your own pension with LIC's New Pension Plus

- Age Eligibility: 25-75 years
- Flexible Premium Payment
- Guaranteed Additions
- Deferred Annuity
- Market Linked Payout
- Partial Withdrawals

Download
LIC Mobile App 'LIC Customer'Visit: [licindia.in](#)

Call Centre Services (022) 6827 6827

Follow us: [f](#) [y](#) [t](#) [i](#) LIC India Forever | IRDAI Regn No.: 512 |

Beware of spurious phone calls and fictitious / fraudulent offers. IRDAI is not involved in activities like selling insurance policies, announcing bonus or investment of premiums. Public receiving such phone calls are requested to lodge a police complaint. For more details on risk factors, terms and conditions, please read sales brochure carefully before concluding a sale.



Har Pal Aapke Saath

China holds 1st meet with 19 nations in Indian Ocean Region without India

PTI ■ BEIJING

China held a meeting this week with 19 countries from the Indian Ocean Region in which India was conspicuously absent.

The China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), an organisation connected with the Chinese Foreign Ministry held a meeting of the China-Indian Ocean Region Forum on Development Cooperation on November 21, in which 19 countries took part, according to a press release issued by the organisation.

The meeting was held in a hybrid manner under the theme of "Shared Development: Theory and Practice from the Perspective of the Blue Economy" in Kunming, Yunnan Province, it said.

Representatives of 19 countries, including Indonesia, Pakistan, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal, Afghanistan, Iran, Oman, South Africa, Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, Seychelles, Madagascar, Mauritius, Djibouti, Australia and representatives of 3

international organisations were present, it said.

India was reportedly not invited, according to informed sources here.

Last year, China held a meeting with some South Asian countries on COVID-19 vaccine cooperation without the participation of India.

CIDCA is headed by Luo Zhaohui, the former Vice Foreign Minister and Ambassador to India.

According to the official website of the organisation, he is the Secretary of the CPC (the ruling Communist Party of China) Leadership Group of CIDCA.

CIDCA's official website said the aims of the organisation is to formulate strategic guidelines, plans and policies for foreign aid, coordinate and offer advice on major foreign aid issues, advance the country's reforms in matters involving foreign aid, and identify major programmes, supervise and evaluate their implementation.

During his tour of Sri Lanka in January this year, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi proposed to establish a "forum on the development



of Indian Ocean Island Countries."

When asked whether the CIDCA meeting is the same that is proposed by Wang, the Chinese Foreign Ministry here has clarified to the media that the November 21 meeting was not part of it.

At the November 21 meeting, China has proposed to establish a marine disaster prevention and mitigation cooperation mechanism between China and countries in the Indian Ocean region, the CIDCA press release said.

China is ready to provide necessary financial, material, and technical support to countries in need, it said.

China is vying for influence in the strategic Indian Ocean region with substantial investments in ports and infrastructure investments in



several countries, including Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

While China has established a full-fledged naval base in Djibouti, its first outside the country, Beijing has acquired the Hambantota port in Sri Lanka on a 99-year lease besides building the port at Pakistan's Gwadar in the Arabian Sea opposite India's western coast besides infrastructure investments in the Maldives.

The Chinese forum apparently is aimed at countering India's strong influence in the Indian Ocean region where India-backed organisations like the Indian Ocean Rim Association, (IORA), which has a membership of 23 countries have taken strong roots.

China is a dialogue partner in the IORA formed in 1997.

2 IRB jawans killed in firing by colleague in Guj; 2 injured

PTI ■ PORBANDAR

Two jawans of the Indian Reserve Battalion (IRB) were killed and two others were injured after their colleague opened fire over some issue in a village near Porbandar in Gujarat on Saturday evening, officials said.

These jawans belong to a IRB battalion from Manipur. They were sent here by the Election Commission ahead of the next month's Gujarat Assembly elections, said Porbandar Collector and District Election Officer, AM Sharma. Voting in the Porbandar district will be held on December 1 in the first phase. They were staying inside a cyclone centre in Tukda Gosa village, about 25 km from Porbandar.

"A jawan opened fire from his assault rifle on his colleagues over some unknown issue on Saturday evening. While two jawans died on the spot, two others were injured. They were shifted to a hospital in Jamnagar. One of them received a bullet injury in his stomach and the other was hit on his leg," Sharma said, adding that further investigation will be carried out by the police.

Elderly priest burnt by miscreants dies during treatment in Raj hospital, family stages protest

PTI ■ JAIPUR

An elderly priest, who after being burnt by a group of miscreants was undergoing treatment at a hospital in Udaipur, succumbed to his injuries on Saturday, police said.

The family of the deceased refused to perform his final rites and staged a protest in front of the Deogarh SDM office in Rajsamand, demanding government jobs for the next of kin of the victim.

The demonstration was later joined by Rajsamand MP Diya Kumari along with other BJP leaders and locals with the body kept inside an ambulance.

Police said efforts were being made to pacify the family members.

Navratan Prajapad (72) and his wife sustained burn injuries when a group of around 10 people allegedly hurled a petrol bomb at him in the Rajsamand district last Sunday, they said.

According to police, the attack took place in the Heera ki Basti area where Prajapad was having dinner in a small accommodation he shares with his wife and son.

The wife sustained injuries while trying to put out the flames. Their son was unhurt.

"The priest died during treatment at the hospital in Udaipur today. His wife is also being treated in the same hospital," SHO Devgarh (Rajsamand) Pratap Singh said.

Prajapad had received nearly 80 per cent burn injuries, while his wife Jamna suffered 35 per cent injury.

A total of seven accused have been arrested in connection with the incident so far, the SHO said.

Some locals wanted to replace Prajapad as the priest of the Devnarayan temple. A civil court case regarding the temple land dispute was also going on in Rajsamand, they said.

Before the incident, Navratan had approached the police a few times. He had also given complaints to the Superintendent of Police (SP) and collector against the accused.

The SP had instructed the SHO of Devgarh police station to take action, but the then SHO Shaitan Singh forwarded the matter to the local chowky, following which no concrete action was taken in the matter.

29 cows found dead in closed container in UP

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

As many as 29 cows were found dead in a closed container stranded near the national highway in Mathura district, police said.

The police found the stranded container in which 29 cows were found dead while one cow was found alive. Mathura Circle Officer, Refinery, Harshita Singh, said the driver of the container was absconding.

"We received information that a closed container was standing near the national highway in Mathura district. Twenty-nine cows were found dead in the container while one cow was found alive. The driver is absconding. A case has been registered," the CO said, adding that investigation was underway.

Meanwhile, a 33-year-old man died when a motorcycle on which he was riding pillion collided with a vehicle in Sultanpur district, police said on Saturday.

Narendra Verma and another man were returning after attending a wedding on Friday night and were going to meet their relative, an officer said.

Veteran actor & thespian Gokhale no more

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Veteran actor and thespian Vikram Gokhale — known for his stellar performances in films like Marathi film "Natsamrat" and films like 'Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam', 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa', 'Agneepath' and 'Khuda Gawa' — died at the Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital in Pune on Saturday.

He was 77 and is survived by his wife and two daughters.

A versatile actor who acted in films, dramas and television serials in both Hindi and Marathi languages, Gokhale had acted in more than eighty films, more two dozen television serials and innumerable plays in a career lasting for nearly five decades.

Gokhale had been admitted to the Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital in Pune earlier this week. His condition had deteriorated during the last few days. He was on ventilator support for a few days. At one stage, a rumour had spread that he had passed away, a news report that his family members denied.

However, he breathed his last at 1.45 pm at Pune's Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital on Saturday.

Gokhale was cremated at an electric crematorium at the Vaikunth crematorium at Pune on Saturday evening. Hundreds of fans, well-wishers and prominent personalities from various walks of life turned out for his funeral.

Gokhale, who had earned the reputation of being one

finest actors in the country, was the great grandson of Durgabai Kamat who was the first female actor on Indian screen, grandson of first-ever female child actress Kamlabai Gokhale and son of Marathi theatre and film actor Chandrakant Gokhale.

Having made his film debut in 1971 with Amitabh Bachchan's Parwana, Gokhale received a National Award for Best Actor for his acting skills in Marathi film Anumati.

Gokhale, who featured in both Hindi and Marathi films, including Amitabh Bachchan's iconic Agneepath and Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam, starring Salman Khan, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan and Ajay Devgn. He also starred in films like Mission Mangal, Hichki,

Aiyaari, Bang Bang!, De Dana Dan and Bhool Bhulaiyaa, among many others.

Gokhale is remembered for a memorable scene in film 'Natsamrat' (2016) on death bed.

Directed by Mahesh Manjrekar, he co-starred with Nana Patekar in the lead role, the film 'Natsamrat' dealt with the tragic life of a stage actor who refuses to let go of his past fame. He played the role of Rambhau, a friend of Nana Patekar's character, who is confined to his bed.

In an iconic scene from the film, Gokhale and Nana re-enact a scene from the Mahabharata in what is to be Rambhau's (Gokhale's) final performance, from his deathbed. Though Nana performed brilliantly in this



film, Gokhale stole the hearts of audiences.

He also acted in popular television shows like Ghar Aaja Pardesi, Alpviaraam, Jaana Na Dil Se Door, Sanjeevni and Indradhanush. Gokhale made his debut as a director in Marathi film Aaghaat in 2010.

Gokhale retired from stage activities in February 2016,

following a throat ailment. He, however, continued to act in films.

Gokhale, who ran a real estate firm called Sujata Farms in Pune, was also a social activist. His family's charitable foundation provides financial support for disabled soldiers, Children of lepers, and education of orphan children.

Arabs burying...

From Page 1

"Qatar did a tremendous job organizing a World Cup. ... Qatar never claimed it was perfect," Safadi said.

"We have differences in opinion, we have differences in views but that should not take away from the fact that Qatar has really put together a World Cup that is unique in every sense of the word."

But the biggest surprise came two days later as Saudi Arabia stunned Argentina by winning their opener in the tournament, with Aldawsari doing a cartwheel and a flip. Qatar's ruling emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, attended the match and wore a Saudi flag around his shoulders.

One veteran Saudi sports journalist, Majed al-Tuwaijri, even wept on air after the match.

"This is the most beautiful and important moment in my life and my 30-year media career," he said, his voice choking up. "I find myself failing to express myself because of the complexity of my feelings toward this great historical victory." Saudi Arabia's King Salman declared on Wednesday a public holiday to commemorate the win. In the kingdom and outside of it, people cheered and waved the country's green and white flag to celebrate.

The Saudi flag itself carries two images that show its complicated place in the wider Arab world. It bears a white sword and the Arabic inscription of the shahada, a Muslim declaration of faith: "There is no god but Allah; Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah."

GOVERNMENT OF UTTARAKHAND

Office of Superintending Engineer, Research Circle

Irrigation Research Institute Roorkee-247667

E-mail: uttarkhandwr@gmail.com. Website: www.iriroorkee.res.in

e-Tender Notice No.: 03/SE(R)/e-Tender/2022-23, Dated 26-11-2022

Superintending Engineer, Research Circle, Irrigation Research Institute, Roorkee on behalf of "Governor of Uttarakhand" invites the proposals to provide the consulting Services for "Invitation of online Expression of Interest for engaging Consulting Services for the Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Comprehensive Geological Investigations and Preparation of Drainage Plan for the Sustainable Safety of Joshimath Town. Chamoli. Uttarakhand."

Key Dates

Date of Issue/Calling	26.11.2022
Date of Online uploading/Publishing	26.11.2022, 17:00 hours
Date of Online downloading of EoI	26.11.2022, 17:00 hours
Date of Start of submission of EoI	05.12.2022, 15:00 hours
Last Date and Time of submission of EoI	12.12.2022, 15:00 hours
Date and Time of Opening of EoI(s)	12.12.2022, 15:30 hours

For further details please log on to www.uktenders.gov.in

Superintending Engineer

Research Circle

Irrigation Research Institute. Roorkee

Latter No. 3237/Res.Div/Joshimath

Drainage/EOI Dated 26.11.22

कार्यालय नगर पालिका परिषद, दतिया जिला दतिया (म.प्र.)

क्रमांक निर्माण /तकनीकी/2022/3607

दिनांक 21.11.2022

॥ तृतीय निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना ॥

एतद् द्वारा लो.नि.वि. में केन्द्रीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली के अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत टेकेदारों से अधोलिखित विवरण अनुसार नगरीय प्रशासन एवं विकास विभाग के दिनांक 10.05.2012 से प्रभावशील ISSR से कम अथवा अधिक प्रतिशत दर पर ऑनलाईन पद्धति से आमंत्रित की जाती है।

टेण्डर क्रं	कार्य का नाम एवं विवरण	अनु. प्रा. राशि (लाख)	अमानत राशि (रुपये)	निविदा प्रपत्र की राशि (रुपये)	समयावधि
2021_UAD_233706	लरायटा क्षेत्र में सी.सी. रोड व नाली निर्माण कार्य।	176.96	88500	12500	6 माह

नोट :-

1. इच्छुक एवं पात्र निविदादाता विस्तृत निविदा एवं अन्य समस्त जानकारी <https://www.mptenders.gov.in> में विभाग का नाम: नगरीय प्रशासन एवं विकास विभाग पर देखी जा सकती है।

2. ऑनलाईन निविदा दिनांक 22.11.2022 समय 10:30 बजे से दिनांक 06.12.2022 समय 17:30 बजे तक ऑनलाईन भुगतान कर प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

3. ऑनलाईन बिड दिनांक 22.11.2022 समय 10:30 बजे से दिनांक 06.12.2022 समय 17:30 बजे तक जमा की जा सकती है।

4. ऑनलाईन प्राप्त निविदाओं को दिनांक 06.12.2022 समय 17:30 बजे खोली जावेगी।

5. PWD Registration, PAN Number, GST Number, Payment Slip, Rs. 100 Affidavit आदि ऑनलाईन जमा करना अनिवार्य है। अन्यथा टेण्डर निरस्त माना जावेगा।

6. निविदा को स्वीकार/अस्वीकार का अधिकार मुख्य नगर पालिका अधिकारी के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा।

7. निविदा में किये जाने वाले संभावित संशोधन की सूचना समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित नहीं किये जावेगें, संशोधन ऑनलाईन वेबसाइट पर देखे जावें।

श्रीमति शान्ती प्रशान्त ढेंगुला

अध्यक्ष

नगर पालिका परिषद दतिया

श्री अनिल कुमार दुबे

मुख्य नगर पालिका अधिकारी

नगर पालिका परिषद दतिया

World looking at...

Independence Day speech, the Prime Minister said it is the manifestation of the spirit of the constitution. Terming the Amrit Kaal as 'Kartavya Kaal', the Prime Minister emphasised that in the Azadi Ka Amrit Kaal when the nation is completing 75 years of Independence, and as we embark on the journey for the next 25 years of development, the mantra of duty towards the nation is first and foremost.

"The Azadi Ka Amrit Kaal is the time for duty towards the country. Be it people or institutions, our responsibilities are our first priority", the Prime Minister remarked.

He underlined that by following one's 'kartavya path' the country can attain new heights of development. The Prime Minister informed that in a week's time, India is going to attain the G20 Presidency, and stressed the need to promote the prestige and reputation of India in the world as a team. "It is our collective responsibility", he added, "The identity of India as the mother of democracy needs to be further strengthened."

Underling the youth-centric spirit, the Prime Minister said the constitution is known for its openness, being futuristic and its modern vision. He acknowledged the role and contribution of youth power in all aspects of India's growth story. Stressing the need to increase awareness about the Constitution of India among the youth for a better understanding of topics like Equality and Empowerment, the Prime Minister recalled the time "when our constitution was drafted and the circumstances that stood before the country".

"What happened in the

debates of the Constituent Assembly at that time, our youth should be aware of all these topics", he pointed out. He further added that this will increase their interest in the constitution. The Prime Minister pointed out that India had 15 women members in the Constituent Assembly and referred to women like Dakshayani Velayudhan among them who came out of an underprivileged society to reach there.

The Prime Minister lamented that the contributions of women like Dakshaini Velayudhan are rarely discussed, and informed that she made important interventions on many subjects related to Dalits and labourers.

Modi gave examples of Durgabai Deshmukh, Hansa Mehta and Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, and other women members who also made significant contributions to issues related to women. "When our youth will get to know these facts, they will find the answers to their questions", he continued, "It will build loyalty towards the constitution which will strengthen our democracy, our constitution, and the future of the country."

Chief Justice of India, Dr DY Chandrachud, Union Minister for Law and Justice, Kiren Rijju, Justices of Supreme Court of India, Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Justice S Abdul Nazeer, Union Minister of State for Law and Justice, Prof. S P Baghel, Attorney General of India, R Venkataramani, Solicitor General of India, Tushar Mehta and President of Supreme Court Bar Association, Vikas Singh were those present on occasion among others.

India's cashew king latest among many to shut biz...

From Page 1

The cashew processing units employing more than two lakh workers have gone bust following the resistance by trade unions in introducing automation systems. "There are no worthwhile profits from this sector. Since it is a labor-intensive industry, we were able to give jobs to thousands," said Dr Pillai.

Cashew and coir industries, the main livelihood of lakhs in the southern district of Kerala have been shifted to other States because of the apathy of policymakers to change with the times.

The Vizhinjam trans-shipment container port near the capital city of Thiruvananthapuram has been held back as the Archdiocese of Latin Christians and fishermen have declared war against the project owned and executed by the

Adani Group.

Leaders of the agitation charge that the livelihood of thousands of fishermen would be affected if the Port was allowed to come up at Vizhinjam. Though Dr Pillai was not willing to criticise the State Government, he pointed out that investors and entrepreneurs set up business units based on the industrial policies of the Government. "If you take stock of the number of industries that were set up in the State since 2016, the result would be disappointing. Other than a few start-up units, nobody is willing to invest in Kerala," he said.

Nuno Gomes Nabiam, Prime Minister of Guinea Bissau, in his social media note has expressed his happiness to welcome old friend Rajmohan Pillai to the country which has 2.23 lakh hectares of cashew farms.

UCC, 1L Govt jobs, ₹10K cr...

From Page 1

Besides, the manifesto promised to implement the Gujarat Recovery of Damages of Public and Private Properties Act.

The Act aims to recover damages done to public and private properties by anti-social elements during riots, violent protests, and unrest.

"We always do what we say and it is our specialty that we also do what we have not said (in the manifesto)," Nadda said at the launch.

The party said it will also launch Gujarat Olympics Mission and create world-class sports infrastructure with an aim to host the Olympic Games in 2036, as per the manifesto. The manifesto also mentioned converting 20,000 government schools into schools of excellence with a budget of Rs 10,000 crore in the next 5 years.

Gujarat will have elections in two phases on December 1 and 5. The counting of votes will take place on December 8. Gujarat is the fourth state

where the BJP has spoken about implementing the UCC. Earlier, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, and Karnataka had promised the UCC. In the manifesto, the BJP has assured to make Gujarat number one in the country in civil aviation, modernise the State police force, and bring Rs 5 lakh crore of foreign investment in the next five years.

It has promised that the amount of medical insurance coverage under the Ayushman Bharat scheme would be doubled from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 10 lakh. Another highlight of the BJP manifesto is on tribal development. For the all-around socio-economic development of tribals in Gujarat, BJP said it will spend RS 1 lakh crore under the 'Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana 2.0'.

Amid the debate on the need to do away with "revadi" culture, both the BJP and Congress as well as AAP have tried to outscore each other in promising doles to the voters. The Congress has

promised 10 lakh jobs in Government and semi-Government departments, free medical treatment of up to Rs 10 lakh, LPG cylinder at Rs 500, 300 units of free electricity every month, unemployment allowance of Rs 3,000 per month, Rs 2,000 pension to divyangs, widows, senior citizens, and needy women, and waiver of loans of up to Rs 3 lakh of all fishermen.

The AAP has also promised free water to farmers, Rs 3,000 unemployment allowance, and a waiver of electricity bills.

Nadda said his party will also set up two Sea Food Parks (one each in South Gujarat and Saurashtra), build India's first Blue Economy Industrial Corridor and strengthen fishing-related infrastructure (jetties, cold supply chain, and mechanisation of boats) if voted back to power, said the BJP chief. The BJP has been ruling Gujarat for last 27 years and is currently locked in a keen triangular contest with the Congress and the AAP.

Jain’s plea for special food in jail dismissed

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A Special Court on Saturday dismissed the plea moved by jailed Delhi minister and AAP leader Satyendar Jain seeking direction to provide food as per his religious beliefs during his judicial custody. Special Judge Vikas Dhull said on Saturday dismissed the petition for special food during judicial custody.

Dismissing Jain’s plea, the court noted that fruits and vegetables were being provided to Jain by the jail staff, without there being any order of DG Prison or any authority, which was in violation of Delhi Prison Rules.

Observing that the State cannot provide special privileges to anyone in the country, Special Judge Vikas Dhull said the billing details brought on record by Tihar Jail administration establishes that no fruits and vegetables were purchased by him from the jail canteen from August 20 till October 10, except on one occasion.

“Hence, this court prima facie believes that the fruits/vegetables were being provided without there being any order of DG Prison or any authority, to the applicant in violation of the DPR 2018, by the staff of Tihar Jail no.7, where the applicant was lodged.

The providing of fruits and vegetables to the applicant was in violation of Article 14 of the Constitution of India, 1950 as State is bound to treat all the prisoners equally and there can be no discrimination on the basis of caste, creed, sex, religion status etc.

Article 14 of the Constitution of India, 1950 provides for Equality before



Law, which basically means that all persons should be treated equally no matter whether they are poor or rich, male or female, upper caste or lower caste,” said the judge.

The court said its observation regarding the preferential treatment is fortified by the fact that DG (Prisons) and around 26 officials of Tihar Jail no.7 were recently transferred and Superintendent, Jail No.7 was suspended.

The same prima facie shows that Tihar Jail officials of jail no.7 “were providing preferential treatment to the applicant by providing fruits and vegetables, being Minister of Government of Delhi, in violation of DPR 2018,” the court said.

The court also noted that as per the prison rules, there was no order to the effect of providing Jain with fruits or vegetables on account of his religious fast by Tihar Jail Administration.

“The stoppage of dry fruits, being provided to the applicant on the advice of Medical Officer Incharge, Jail No.7, has been rightly done so and no interference is required to be made in this regard,” the judge said.

ED files chargesheet in liquor scam

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A day after the CBI filed a chargesheet in the Delhi excise policy scam, the Enforcement Directorate on Saturday filed its first Prosecution Complaint (chargesheet) before a court here in connection with the money laundering case naming liquor businessman Sameer Mahandru as one of the accused.

Besides liquor company Indospirits’ promoter Mahandru, the prosecution complaint has also listed two other persons as accused under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), officials said.

The 3,000-page prosecution complaint contains statements of the accused along with annexures, they said.

The agency has so far undertaken 169 search operations in this case, filed after taking cognisance of the CBI FIR in the excise policy scam which was registered on the recommendation of the Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena.

The CBI enquiry was recommended on the findings of the Delhi chief secretary’s report filed in July showing prima facie violations of the GNCTD Act 1991, Transaction of Business Rules (ToBR)-1993, Delhi Excise Act-2009, and Delhi Excise Rules-2010.

A total of five persons have been arrested by the ED in this case till now. Mahendru was arrested by the ED on September 27 following his questioning.

On Friday, the CBI had filed its first charge sheet against seven accused, including two arrested businessmen and two excise officials in the Delhi Excise policy scam case relating to corruption and criminal conspiracy.

Besides the two arrested businessmen—Vijay Nair and Abhishek Boinpally, those named in the CBI chargesheet are Arun R Pillai, Mootha Gautham, Sameer Mahendru



(promoter of liquor company Indospirits), then Deputy Commissioner, Excise Kuldeep Singh and then Assistant Commissioner, Excise Narender Singh.

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, named in the CBI FIR as the prime accused, does not figure in the first CBI charge sheet but the agency is likely to name him in a supplementary chargesheet at a later date, officials had said.

The accused have been charged under Indian Penal Code (IPC) section 120-B (criminal conspiracy) and provisions of bribery under the Prevention of Corruption Act,

“Further investigation is continuing to investigate the role of FIR named accused and other persons on various allegations including conspiracies with other licensees, money trails, cartelization and larger conspiracies in the formulation and implementation of the Excise Policy,” the CBI had said in a statement.

A case was registered on August 17 against Sisodia and others including then Commissioner (Excise), then Deputy Commissioner (Excise), then Assistant Commissioner (Excise), 10 liquor licensees, their associates and unknown others on a reference from the Union Home Ministry related to alleged irregularities in framing and implementation of the excise policy.

CM: Modi asked CBI, ED to find proof against Sisodia; personally monitoring case

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Taking a dig at the Prime Minister, Chief Minister Arvind claimed that his sources had told him that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was personally monitoring the case and had even met the CBI and ED directors, asking them to find evidence against Sisodia.

With his deputy Manish Sisodia’s name not finding a mention in the CBI charge sheet in the excise policy case, Kejriwal further claimed he and the AAP are “hardcore honest”.

“After CBI, the ED gives clean chit to Manish Sisodia. Should not PM Modi apologise to the country for implicating Sisodia, the man who made India famous in the world through the education revolution in a false case.

“It is a matter of great pride for me that even all the conspiracies no one has been able to prove their allegations against me,” Kejriwal added.

Later defending the Satyendra Jain amid VIP treatment in Tihar jail, Kejriwal tweeted that false allegations

were being against his party’s leaders and nothing was found.

In a tweet, the AAP chief wrote in Hindi, “MCD polls in two sentences - Ten videos by the BJP and 10 development works done by Kejriwal. On December 4, public will give the reply.”

“Today I can say, Arvind Kejriwal is hardcore honest and the AAP is hardcore honest. I challenge BJP to tell if any of its party leaders is hardcore honest,” the AAP supremo said while addressing a press conference .

He added, “My sources said, that Pradhan Mantri (PM) was personally monitoring the case and he used to meet the CBI and ED chiefs, directing them to do anything to find evidence against Sisodia.

“Today, we can proudly say before the country that Kejriwal kattar imandar hai aur humari party kattar imandar hai (Kejriwal and his party are honest).”

Kejriwal said, “It is being said that an additional supplementary chargesheet may be filed in the case.



People suffering from Kejriwal’s graft, reelect BJP in MCD: Anurag



Min stages road shows to drum up support for BJP candidates

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting and Sports & Youth Affairs Anurag Thakur on Saturday accused Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal of presiding over a corrupt regime and appealed to the people of Delhi to reelect the BJP in the upcoming MCD polls.

Thakur staged road shows and held public meetings to mobilise support for the BJP candidates in Ward No. 70 Shastri Nagar, 69 Kamla Nagar, and 141 Rajendra Nagar.

Thakur said the people of Delhi are suffering from Kejriwal’s corruption and they are going to elect BJP with a full majority in MCD.

“Arvind Kejriwal has given a highly corrupt model of governance in Delhi. He has made such false claims which can never be achieved. That is why every Delhiite is sad. For the

first time, we have seen a government working this shamelessly. The government whose health minister is enjoying massage in jail and still not resigning shows that they are not only corrupt but also shameless.

The way the people of Delhi want freedom from pollution, in the same way they also want to get rid of Kejriwal’s government,” Thakur said.

Thakur said the MCD under BJP expanded parks in Delhi, installed open gyms in them, and did everything possible for the development of Delhi. “ We gave opportunity to 60 lakh people of unauthorized colonies in Delhi.

Height has been increased to 17.5 meters from 15 meters. House tax has been waived for houses of 50 metres also. We did the work of providing houses to the poor wherever there were slums.

People’s participation in the public relations of the BJP is telling that people are going to bring the BJP to the MCD once again.” Alleging that Kejriwal government is mired in corruption, Thakur said toilets were shown as schools in records and instead of expanding education it expanded liquor contracts.

Ex-Cong MLA Asif held for misbehaving with police official

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Former Congress legislator Asif Khan, whose daughter is contesting the Delhi civic polls, was arrested early on Saturday for allegedly misbehaving with a police officer and manhandling him. According to police, Asif along with two people — Minhaz (28) and Saabir (38) have been detained. Asif, a two-time MLA and councillor, was campaigning in favour of his daughter Areeba Khan in the ensuing municipal corporation elections.

Khan was using a loud hailer in a gathering when a police officer confronted him about the same. He allegedly misbehaved with the officer and manhandled him. An FIR was registered at the Shaheen Bagh police station against Asif Khan and others under sections 186 and 353 of the IPC for manhandling and misbehaving with a sub-inspector of Delhi Police. Police said

that the incident occurred when Khan and his supporters, who gathered near a mosque at Shaheen Bagh, were asked by the officer not to do so without permission of the EC.

Esha Pandey, DCP (Southeast), said, “ During patrolling in the area, our constable noticed a gathering of 20-30 people in front of Tayyab Masjid and went there with staff. Khan, who’s the father of MCD poll candidate Ariba Khan, was addressing the crowd using a loud hailer. Sub-inspector Akshay had asked him whether he had permission from Election Commission for using the hailer. Khan got aggressive and started misbehaving with him. He also used abusive language, criminal force and manhandled SI Akshay.” In a video, Khan’s daughter, Ariba Khan, alleged that around 50-60 police personnel entered their house forcibly in Shaheen Bagh and dragged away the former MLA.

Jain’s 3rd video out from Tihar



New Delhi: Amid a series of videos of jailed Delhi Minister Satyendar Jain’s “VIP treatment” in prison, a fresh video footage from Tihar Jail emerged on Saturday.

In the purported video, Jain is seen sitting on his bed and suspended jail superintendent Ajit Kumar is seated on a nearby chair while having a conversation.

This is the third video clip to surface since row over leaked videos from the jail cell began last week. In the new clip, Jain is seen lying on his bed inside cell and speaking with some identified persons around him; one of them is seen sitting on

a chair.

Soon after the men leave the cell and another man, dressed in shirt and trousers, enters and takes the seat on the chair. It can be seen that Jain in his cell has access to various amenities like a television set. Jain was seen interacting with now suspended jail superintendent Ajit Kumar.

The purported video of Jain meeting jail superintendent was shared on social media by some BJP leaders. The new CCTV footage came after Tihar Jail Superintendent was suspended for allegedly providing special treatment to jailed Jain. SR

AAP’s 18% candidates facing criminal charges

BJP given tickets to maximum number of crorepati candidates, reveals election watchdog

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The ruling BJP has given tickets to the maximum number of crorepatis candidates while the AAP has given tickets to 18 per cent candidates facing criminal charges, for the upcoming MCD polls.

The Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) has analysed the self-sworn affidavits of 1,336 candidates out of 1,349 who are contesting the MCD polls to be held on December 4 which shows that the ruling BJP has given ticket to 162 candidates who are crorepatis while 148 contesting candidates are crorepati.

The 107 candidates are from Congress who are crorepati or declared assets valued more than one crore. The average of assets per candidate contesting in this election is Rs 2.27 crore, up from Rs 1.61 crore in 2017. The average assets per candidate for BJP



is Rs 4.04 crore. For AAP candidates, it is Rs 3.74 crore and for Congress it is Rs 1.98 crore. This time, 556 (42%) candidates are crorepatis.

In 2017 MCD polls, there were 697 (30 per cent) crorepati candidates, the report said. “The role of money power in our elections is evident from the fact that all major political parties give tickets to wealthy candidates,” the report said.

BJP’s Ram Dev Sharma, who is contesting from the 79-Ballimaran ward, has declared total assets worth over Rs 66 crore. Nandini Sharma, who is representing the party from 149-Malviya Nagar ward, has declared assets over Rs 49.84 crore, while Jitender Bansala,

AAP nominee from 248-Karawal Nagar, has showed assets worth over Rs 48.27 crore in their affidavits. Similarly, the AAP has fielded the maximum 45 candidates with criminal records in municipal elections this year while the BJP has 27 such candidates.

The AAP has pitched 250 candidates, out of which 248 self sworn-affidavits were analysed by the ADR and 18 per cent of them i.e., 45 have criminal records, the report said.

Moreover, at least eight per cent of the AAP candidates have serious criminal cases against them, the ADR report said adding in the 2017 polls, 173 (7%) out of 2,315 candidates had declared criminal cases against themselves. It also said that 76 (6 per cent) candidates have declared serious criminal cases against themselves. This number was

116 in 2017. Meanwhile, the BJP, which has also pitched 250 candidates, has 27 candidates (11 per cent) with criminal records and the Congress has fielded 25 such candidates.

“45 (18 per cent) out of 248 candidates analysed from AAP, 27 (11 per cent) out of 249 candidates analysed from BJP and 25 (10 per cent) out of 245 candidates analysed from INC have declared criminal cases against themselves in their affidavits,” the report mentioned.

“Among major parties, 19 (8 per cent) out of 248 candidates analysed from AAP, 14 (6 per cent) out of 249 candidates analysed from BJP and 12 (5 per cent) out of 245 candidates analysed from INC have declared serious criminal cases against themselves in their affidavits,” the report added. Only one candidate has declared cases related to murder (IPC Section-302) against himself in the affidavit, the report noted.

STATE ELECTION COMMISSION - DELHI
MCD GENERAL ELECTION - 2022

अपनी शान के लिए, लोकतंत्र के मान के लिए मतदान जरूर कीजिए!

लोकतंत्र का सम्मान करें हम
आओ मतदान करें हम

4 **POLLING DATE**
DEC, SUNDAY

SC order to pay imams salaries violation of Constitution: CLC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Information Commission has said the 1993 Supreme Court order allowing remuneration to imams in mosques was in "violation of the Constitution" and besides setting a "wrong precedent", has become a point of unnecessary political slugging and social disharmony.

Information Commissioner Uday Mahurkar, while hearing an RTI application filed by an activist demanding details of salaries to imams by the Delhi government and the Delhi Waqf Board, also observed that the order violated constitutional provisions that say "taxpayers money will not be used to favour any particular religion".

The Supreme Court in 1993 on a petition from the All India Imam Organisation had directed the waqf board to

give remuneration to imams in mosques managed by it.

He has directed that a copy of his order be sent to the Union law minister with suitable action to ensure enforcement of provisions of articles 25 to 28 of the Constitution in letter and spirit to keep all religions on par in terms of monthly remuneration to priests of different religions at the cost of the public exchequer -- both central and states -- and also other matters.

"Further with regard to the judgment by the Supreme Court in the case between the 'All India Imam Organisation and ... Vs Union Of India And Ors' on 13 May, 1993, that opened the doors to special financial benefits from public treasury to only imams and muezzeens in mosques, the commission observes that the highest court of the country in passing this order acted in violation of the provisions of the



Constitution, particularly Article 27, which says tax payers money will not be used to favour any particular religion," Mahurkar said.

"The commission notes that the said judgment sets a wrong precedent in the country and has become a point of unnecessary political slugfest and also social disharmony in the society," the information commissioner said.

He also directed the Delhi Waqf Board to pay a compensation of Rs 25,000 to RTI

activist Subhash Agrawal for the loss of time and resources in chasing the response to his application. The activist was not being able to get a satisfactory response to his application.

"It is necessary to go into the history when it comes to giving special religious benefits to the Muslim community by the State. A religious (Islamic) nation Pakistan was born out of the demand of a section of Indian Muslims for partition of India along religious lines.

Despite Pakistan choosing to be a religious (Islamic) nation, India chose a Constitution guaranteeing equal rights to all religions," Mahurkar said.

"It is necessary to note here that it was the policy of giving special benefits to the Muslim community before 1947 that played a key role in encouraging pan-Islamic and fissiparous tendencies in a section of Muslims, ultimately leading to the nation's partition," he said.

So giving remuneration to imams and others only in mosques, amounts to "not just betraying the Hindu community and members of other non-Muslim minority religions, but also encouraging pan-Islamist tendencies amongst a section of Indian Muslims which are already visible", the information commissioner said.

Steps such as giving special religious benefits to the Muslim

community only like the one taken up in the present matter, in fact, severely affects inter-faith harmony as they invite contempt for the Muslims as a whole from a section of ultra nationalist population, Mahurkar said.

He said the Delhi Waqf Board (DWB) gets an annual grant of around Rs 62 crore from the Delhi government while its own monthly income from independent sources is just around Rs 30 lakh.

"So the monthly honorarium of Rs 18,000 and Rs 16,000 being given to the imams and muezzeens of DWB mosques in Delhi is being paid by the Delhi government virtually from the taxpayer's money which in turn is in sharp contrast with the example quoted by the appellant in which the priest of a Hindu temple is getting a paltry Rs 2,000 per month from the trust controlling the said temple," he said.

Mahurkar said those who justify such steps in the name of protection to religious minorities raise a question that if a particular religious minority has a right to protection, the majority community too has a right to protection in a multi-religious country where it is incumbent that the rights of the members of all religions are protected equally in the interest of inter-faith harmony and unity of the nation.

He said Delhi Waqf Board initially denied salaries to imams but later in a revised reply said it is only an honorarium, not a salary.

"The commission observes that there was a clear attempt to hide the information in the initial period by a play of words which showed complete lack of transparency on the part of the respondent authorities in a case which in turn affects the provisions of the Constitution, and also social harmony and

uniform applicability of laws for all religions in keeping with the constitutional direction that citizens of all religions be treated equally," he said.

Mahurkar directed the Delhi Waqf Board and the office of the Delhi Chief Minister to provide responses to the RTI application of Agrawal.

The orders of the commission, the highest body to decide appeals and complaints under the RTI Act, are often challenged in high courts through writ petitions.

The government through an amendment in the RTI Act had diluted perks, salaries and tenure of information commissioners from being on par with central election commissioners or to that of bureaucrats serving at their pay scale. The fixed tenure of five years given to an information Commissioner in the RTI Act was also reduced to three years.

BSF shoots down Pak drone in Amritsar

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Border Security Force (BSF) on Saturday shot down a drone coming from Pakistan along the frontier in the Amritsar Sector.

At about 7.45 pm on Saturday, the BSF troops deployed at the border heard the buzzing sound of a suspected drone entering from Pakistan into the Indian side in Daoke village under Amritsar.

"As per drill, the troops tried to intercept the suspected drone by firing. Bullet hit the Drone due to which it fell down on the ground. The whole area was cordoned off and police as well as concerned sister agencies were informed," the BSF said in a statement.

During the initial searches, the BSF party recovered one quadcopter DJI Matrice 300 RTK (Chinese drone) in partially damaged condition lying in the farming field ahead of border fencing near Daoke village.



"Alert troops of BSF were once again able to capture a drone and foiled smuggling attempt," the paramilitary said.

Before the latest incident, Punjab has witnessed 215 flights this year. In Jammu, about 22 drone flights have been noticed.

The BSF detected about 79 drone flights along the India-Pakistan international border in 2020 which jumped to 109 last year and more than doubled this year with 267 sightings.

BSF Director General Pankaj Kumar Singh has been

record saying the paramilitary has been "bombed" by the onslaught of drone flights from across the Pakistan border on the western front, and instances of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) or drones bringing drugs, arms and ammunition more than doubled in 2022 in contrast to the previous year.

To tackle the menace, the BSF has established a state-of-the-art drone forensics laboratory at a camp here to study the flight patterns and take remedial measures. Earlier, the DG had said the results of the drone forensics lab have been encouraging

Will walk on road for unity till every word of Constitution upheld: Rahul

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Leading the Bharat Jodo Yatra, former Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Saturday asserted he will walk on the road to unity till every word of it is upheld. The day is being observed as Constitution Day to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of India by the Constituent Assembly in 1949.

"I will walk that road long enough until every word of our Constitution is upheld, and every citizen stands protected by fairness and justice," Rahul Gandhi said on Twitter.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said the Constitution is a means of living and its spirit remains the same always, while party leader Kharge recalled the words of Babasaheb Ambedkar to say, "The Constitution is not just a document of lawyers, but it is a means of living and its spirit remains the same always."

"We remember the valuable contribution of all the

great leaders of the Constituent Assembly. Best wishes to all the citizens of the country on Constitution Day," the Congress chief said in a tweet message.

November 26 is observed as Constitution Day since 2015. Earlier, the day was observed as Law Day. Congress chief spokesperson Jairam said the Sangh Parivar and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) ignored or misused the Constitution but are now indulging in the "gimmick" of celebrating Constitution Day.

Since 2015, November 26 is observed as Constitution Day to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution by the Constituent Assembly in 1949. Earlier, the day was observed as Law Day.

"The (Rashtriya Swayamsevak) Sangh and BJP have absolutely no faith in the Constitution," said Ramesh amid his party's Bharat Jodo Yatra which was passing through Manihar in Madhya Pradesh's Khargone district.

"These people, who ignore

and misuse the Constitution, are today involved in the gimmick of celebrating Constitution Day," said Ramesh, Congress's media head. The ideology to which Prime Minister Narendra Modi belongs played no role in the framing of the Constitution, he said. "After Independence, the Sangh and Hindu Mahasabha were against the Constitution," he claimed.



Rahul interacts with ragpicker

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ BHOPAL/NEW DELHI

Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi on Saturday interacted with a woman ragpicker as his Bharat Jodo Yatra passed through a town in Khargone district of Madhya Pradesh during which she told him about the issues she and her family faced, including lack of basic amenities such as electricity and water.

Congress general secretary

in-charge of Uttar Pradesh Priyanka Gandhi along with her husband Robert Vadra and son Raihan, who were scheduled to participate for two days in the Yatra, continued even on third day on Saturday.

The yatra reached Mhow, the birthplace of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar in the evening.

After an overnight halt, the yatra began from Mortakka in Khandwa district in the morning. When it was passing through Barwaha town in

Khargone, Rahul Gandhi met 45-year-old ragpicker Shannu and her family members, who were part of the crowd standing along the road.

"We are poor and make a living through ragpicking at various places. We live in a hut, which doesn't even have electricity and water," she told Rahul Gandhi during their interaction. The woman and her family members said that their voice was not being heard.

Cong welcomes EC action in K'taka over voter-fraud charges

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/BENGALURU

The Congress on Saturday welcomed the Election Commission's (EC) action in Karnataka over the voter-fraud charges made by it and said to maintain the sanctity of democracy and free-and-fair elections, the poll panel's probe has to cover all 28 constituencies in and around Bengaluru and not just three.

Congress general secretary in-charge of Karnataka Randeep Surjewala also demanded an FIR against Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and the chief commissioner of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), who is the electoral officer of the constituencies where voters' data was allegedly collected by a private firm and additions and deletions were made in the electoral rolls.

"The Congress welcomes the swift action by ECI on our complaint of 'VoteFraud' in Karnataka, but for maintaining the sanctity of democracy, ECI cannot confine its inquiry/action to just three assembly seats of Bengaluru," Surjewala wrote on Twitter.

He alleged that the "kingpin" of the "voter fraud", who is responsible for the denial of

the "right to vote" to Kannadigas is none other than Bommai and also hit out at the BBMP chief commissioner.

"FIR must be lodged by ECI against them for a fair enquiry to take place," The Congress leader said.

He alleged that Chilume Trust and Chilume Enterprises were authorised by the Bommai government to collect voters' data for all 28 Assembly constituencies in and around Bengaluru.

"They have illegally collected voter personal data and uploaded it to a private app. Any fair enquiry in VoteFraud by ECI has to cover all 28 assemblies," Surjewala said in a series of tweets.

The Rajya Sabha MP said Chilume hired nearly 10,000 employees, sub-contracted the data collection work to multiple agencies and the voters' data was "illegally stolen".

"Crores were pumped in. Where did the money come from? Who funded this illegal operation? ECI has to enquire the brazen hijacking of democracy," the Congress leader said.

Surjewala alleged that new revelations disclose that Chilume's "fat cat", Ravikumar, had also received payments from the BJP-led Centre in the bank accounts of innocent vil-



lagers and withdrawn the same, indicating a huge money-laundering racket and the duping of the exchequer.

"ECI should investigate and ask ED/IT to investigate," he said.

"Lastly, all the above is imperative for retaining the very sanctity of democracy, for the Bommai government's sinister plan to corrupt the electoral process has been caught red handed.

"Onus is on ECI and each one of us to defend democracy and every Kannadiga's right to vote," the Congress general secretary said.

The EC ordered the suspension of two additional district electoral officers on Friday and directed for a review of the deletions and additions in the voter lists of three Assembly seats in Karnataka.

This followed allegations of "electoral fraud" in the state by

the Congress.

The poll watchdog also directed the chief electoral officer of the southern state to share a list of all deletions and additions effected in the electoral rolls of the Shivajinagar, Chickpet, and Mahadevapura Assembly seats after January 1, 2022, with all the recognised political parties so as to enable them to file claims and objections.

The commission issued directions to immediately suspend additional district election officers S Rangappa (in charge of the Shivajinagar and Chickpet constituencies) and K Srinivas (in charge of the Mahadevapura constituency).

The poll panel also ordered a departmental inquiry against them. The Karnataka Assembly polls are slated next year and the Congress is seeking to wrest power from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the state.

Prez Murmu, Shah, Rajnath pay homage to 26/11 Mumbai terror attack victims

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

President Droupadi Murmu, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Saturday paid homage to the victims of 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks in 2008.

President Murmu said in a tweet message, "We share the enduring pain of their loved ones and families. Nation pays homage to the security personnel who fought valiantly and made supreme sacrifice in the line of duty."

External affairs minister S Jaishankar paid tribute by sharing a nearly two-minute long video, highlighting his statements from last month's memorial event by the UN Security Council held at Mumbai's Taj Hotel's lobby. The hotel was one of the sites targeted by the terrorists in 2008.

"Terrorism threatens humanity. Today, on 26/11, the world joins India in remembering its victims. Those who planned and oversaw this attack must be brought to justice. We owe this to every victim of terrorism around the world," Jaishankar tweeted along with the video.

India is working with sev-



eral countries whose citizens had lost their lives in the 2008 Mumbai Terror Attack, said External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, adding that it will make sure that real perpetrators do not escape.

"It's an occasion where the entire country remembers it. I want to underline how strongly we feel about it and determined we are to complete the process of justice," Jaishankar said.

"Today is the anniversary of the 26/11 terror attack in Mumbai. Even after so many years, the people who planned and oversaw it have not been punished. They have not been brought to justice. This is something which we give utmost importance to," the External Affairs Minister added.

Defence minister Rajnath Singh said he "salutes the memory of all those who lost their lives in this incident". "My heartfelt tributes to the

security personnel who sacrificed their lives while fighting this attack. This country has not forgotten the incident of 26/11, nor will it ever forget," his tweet read.

Union home minister Amit Shah also paid his "heartfelt tributes to those who lost their lives in the 26/11 Mumbai attacks". "I...remember and salute our brave security personnel who made the supreme sacrifice fighting the terrorists. Today gives a message to the whole world to fight unitedly against terrorism," he tweeted.

The 2008 Mumbai attacks lasted for four days till November 29. Over 150 people were killed during these attacks, which included civilians as well as police personnel, and even foreign citizens. More than 300 people were wounded in the attacks.

As many as 10 members of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) sneaked into Mumbai via the Arabian Sea and carried out coordinated attacks in multiple locations across the financial capital of India. Besides Taj Hotel, the Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, the Leopold Cafe, the Nariman House and the Oberoi Trident were other places where the attacks took place.

US scientists develop mRNA-based vaccine against all types of influenza

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Scientists from the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania in the US have developed an mRNA-based vaccine against all 20 known subtypes of influenza virus, which provided broad protection from otherwise lethal flu strains in initial tests.

This may serve as a general preventative measure against future flu pandemics in the

near future, according to the researchers.

The "multivalent" vaccine, described in a paper published in Science, uses the same messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA) technology employed in the Pfizer and Moderna SARS-CoV-2 vaccines.

This mRNA technology that enabled those Covid-19 vaccines was pioneered at Penn.

Tests in animal models showed that the vaccine dramatically reduced signs of ill-

ness and protected from death, even when the animals were exposed to flu strains different from those used in making the vaccine.

"The idea here is to have a vaccine that will give people a baseline level of immune memory to diverse flu strains so that there will be far less disease and death when the next flu pandemic occurs," said study senior author Scott Hensley, a professor of Microbiology at the Perelman School of Medicine.

Influenza viruses periodically cause pandemics with enormous death tolls. The best known of these was the 1918-19 "Spanish flu" pandemic, which killed at least tens of millions of people worldwide.

Flu viruses can circulate in birds, pigs, and other animals, and pandemics can start when one of these strains jumps to humans and acquires mutations that adapt it better for spreading among humans.

Current flu vaccines are merely "seasonal" vaccines that

protect against recently circulating strains, but would not be expected to protect against new, pandemic strains, said researchers. "It would be comparable to first-generation SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccines, which were targeted to the original Wuhan strain of the coronavirus," Hensley said.

"Against later variants such as Omicron, these original vaccines did not fully block viral infections, but they continue to provide durable protection against severe disease and

death," he added.

The experimental vaccine, when injected and taken up by the cells of recipients, starts producing copies of a key flu virus protein for all 20 influenza subtypes.

"For a conventional vaccine, immunizing against all these subtypes would be a major challenge, but with mRNA technology, it's relatively easy," said Hensley, who along with his colleagues are currently designing human clinical trials.



Ukraine works to restore water, power after Russian strikes



AP ■ KYIV

Ukrainian authorities endeavoured on Saturday to restore electricity and water services after recent pummelling by Russian military strikes that vastly damaged infrastructure, with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy saying millions have seen their power restored since blackouts swept the war-battered country days earlier.

Skirmishes continued in the east and residents from the southern city of Kherson headed north and west to flee after punishing, deadly bombardments by Russian forces in recent days. The strikes have been seen as attempts at Russian retribution against Ukraine's beleaguered but defiant people after Ukrainian troops over two weeks ago liberated the city that

had been in Russian hands for many months. "The key task of today, as well as other days of this week, is energy," Zelenskyy said in his nightly televised address late on Friday. "From Wednesday to today we have managed to halve the number of people whose electricity is cut off, to stabilize the system."

He said, however, that blackouts continued in most regions, including Kyiv, the capital. "In total, more than 6 million subscribers are affected. On Wednesday evening, almost 12 million subscribers were cut off," Zelenskyy added.

He allowed himself a rare show of pique about how Kyiv authorities were faring, alluding to "many complaints" with the rollouts of "points of invincibility" — public centers where residents can stock up on food,

water, battery power and other essentials — in capital. "Please pay attention: Kyiv residents need more protection," he said. "As of this evening, 600,000 subscribers have been disconnected in the city."

Many Kyiv residents were without electricity for more than 20 or even 30 hours. "I expect quality work from mayor's office," he said, alluding to administration of Mayor Vitali Klitschko.

The president and the mayor have sporadically sparred since Zelenskyy took office in 2019. Zelenskyy has accused Klitschko and officials around him of corruption, while Klitschko contends the president's office has put him under political pressure. Early Saturday, the Kyiv municipal administration said water connections had

been restored throughout city, but that about 130,000 residents remain without electricity.

City authorities said on Saturday morning that all power, water, heating and communication services would be restored within 24 hours. The scramble to restore power came as Belgian Prime Minister Alexander De Croo met on Saturday with Zelenskyy in Kyiv.

De Croo tweeted that Belgium was "releasing new humanitarian and military aid" but gave no immediate details. Meanwhile, Ukrainians were marking the 90th anniversary of the start of the "Holodomor," or Great Famine, that killed more than 3 million people over two years as the Soviet government under Josef Stalin confiscated food and grain supplies and

deported many Ukrainians.

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz marked the commemoration by drawing parallels with the impact of the war on Ukraine — a key supplier of wheat, barley, sunflower oil and other foodstuffs — on world markets.

Exports from Ukraine have resumed under a UN-brokered deal but have still been far short of pre-war levels, driving up global prices.

"Today, we stand united in stating that hunger must never again be used as a weapon," Scholz said in a video message. "That is why we cannot tolerate what we are witnessing: The worst global food crisis in years with abhorrent consequences for millions of people — from Afghanistan to Madagascar, from Sahel to Horn of Africa."

Ruling alliance maintains lead in Nepal elections

PTI ■ KATHMANDU

Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba's Nepali Congress-led ruling coalition on Saturday maintained its lead in Nepal's parliamentary elections, winning 77 seats out of the 148 declared.

In the 275-member House of Representatives, 165 seats will be elected

through direct voting, while the remaining 110 will be elected through a proportional electoral system. A party or a coalition needs 138 seats to win a clear majority in the House.

The Nepali Congress (NC) has won 48 seats alone under the direct voting system. Its allies — CPN-Maoist Centre and CPN-Unified Socialist have won 16 and 10 seats. The Lokatantrik Samajwadi and Rastriya Janamorchha have bagged two and one seats respectively.

They all are part of ruling alliance. The Opposition alliance led by former premier K P Sharma Oli-led CPN-UML has bagged 46 seats. The CPN-UML has won 38 seats.

The CPN-UML partners - the Rastriya Prajatantra Party and Janata Samajwadi Party - have won five and three seats respectively. The newly-formed Rastriya Swatantra Party has won 7 seats. Nagarik Unmukti Party, Nepal Workers and Peasants Party and Janamat Party have received 3, 1 and 1 seats respectively.

Independent and others have received 13 seats. Elections to House of Representatives (HoR) and seven provincial assemblies were held on Sunday. The counting of votes started on Monday.

Lanka Tamil parties to press for autonomy in new Constitution

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's Tamil minority parties who had an intra-party discussion following president Ranil Wickremesinghe's invitation to talks have agreed to put forward a three-point formula, including their push for federalism, a Tamil National Alliance (TNA) source said on Saturday.

The island nation's all Tamil political parties based in the East and the North on Friday met at the residence of 89-year-old TNA leader Rajavaroatham Sampanthan to push for federalism ahead of Wickremesinghe's proposed all-party meeting next month to address the long-held demand for political autonomy for the minority community in the country. The formula decided in the intra-party meeting on Friday includes



the proposal to hold the stalled provincial council elections, including devolution to the Tamil regions in formulating a brand new Constitution, and put a stop to what they call the grabbing of lands belonging to the Tamils by the State.

"The parties will meet again before meeting the president," the TNA source said on condition of anonymity. Wickremesinghe on Wednesday invited all political parties for talks aimed at ending the Tamil ethnic issue by February 4 next year— Sri Lanka's 75th anniversary of independence from Britain.

Taiwan President resigns as party leader after poll defeat

AP ■ TAIPEI (TAIWAN)

Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen has resigned ahead of the ruling Democratic Progressive Party following local election losses suffered by her party.

Tsai offered her resignation on Saturday evening, a tradition after a major loss, in a short speech in which she also thanked supporters. She said she will shoulder the responsibility as she had hand-picked candidates in Saturday's elections.

Voters in Taiwan overwhelmingly chose the opposition Nationalist party in several major races across the self-ruled island in an election Saturday in which lingering concerns about threats from China took a backseat to more local issues. Chiang Wan-an, the Nationalist party's mayoral candidate, won the closely watched seat in capital Taipei.

"I will let the world see Taipei's greatness," he said in his victory speech on Saturday night. Other Nationalist party candidates also won mayoral seats in Taoyuan, Taichung and New Taipei city.

Not all votes had been formally counted by



the time of his speech, but Chiang and the other candidates' numerical lead allowed them to declare victory. Kao Hung-an, a candidate in the relatively new Taiwan People's Party, won the mayoral seat in Hsinchu, a city home to many of Taiwan's semi-conductor companies. Taiwanese were picking their mayors, city council members and other local leaders in all 13 counties and in nine cities.

New state voter fraud units finding few cases from midterms in US

Washington: State-level law enforcement units created after 2020 presidential election to investigate voter fraud are looking into scattered complaints more than two weeks after midterms but have provided no indication of systemic problems. That's just what election experts had expected and led critics to suggest that new units were

more about politics than rooting out widespread abuses. Most election-related fraud cases already are investigated and prosecuted at the local level.

Florida, Georgia and Virginia created special state-level units after the 2020 election, all pushed by Republican governors, attorneys general or legislatures. (AP)

3 criminals waiting to target me again: Imran

Rawalpindi: Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan on Saturday alleged that "three criminals", who were behind the failed assassination attempt on him early this month, are waiting to target him again.

Addressing a mega rally of his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party here in this garrison city, which houses headquarters of powerful army, Khan said he

had a close encounter with death and had seen bullets flying overhead during attack on him.

In his first in-person address to party workers after failed assassination bid on his life, Khan alleged that "three criminals" — who he claimed were behind the attack on him — are waiting to take a shot at him again. (PTI)



Iran leader praises force tasked with quashing protests

Baghdad: Iran's supreme leader praised paramilitary volunteers tasked with quashing dissent on Saturday in a televised address as dozens of eye doctors warned that a rising number of demonstrators have been blinded by security forces during anti-government protests. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei addressed members of the Basij, the volunteer para-

military wing of the elite Revolutionary Guard, and reiterated unsupported claims that protesters demonstrating countrywide are "tools" of the U.S. And its "mercenaries." "(The) Basij should not forget that the main clash is with global arrogance, or the U.S.," Khamenei said in address marking Basij week in Iran. (AP)



Activists from Lebanese NGO Aabad and sex abuse survivors chant slogans during a protest against sexual harassment, rape and domestic violence, in front of parliament building in Beirut: downtown Beirut, Lebanon on Saturday. The activists are protesting a Lebanese law that allows a rapist to get away with his crime if he marries the survivor. The law, in place since late 1940s. The Arabic banner, center, reads: "I am a disgrace, I should die so my family can retain their honor." AP/PTI Photo

UN wildlife summit ends with protection for 500 species

AP ■ PANAMA CITY

An international conference on trade in endangered species ended Friday in Panama, with protections established for over 500 species.

The measures were approved by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, known by its initials as CITES.

The conference agreed to tighten trade regulations on sharks targeted by the fin trade and tiny frogs with translucent skin. Global shark populations are declining, with annual deaths due to fisheries reaching about 100 million. The sharks are sought mostly for their fins, which are used in shark fin soup, a popular delicacy in China and elsewhere in Asia.

Covid-19 cases in China soar to record high amid stirrs over curbs

Beijing: China witnessed a record number of coronavirus cases for the third consecutive day on Saturday, with infections surpassing 35,000 despite large-scale lockdowns under the stringent Zero-COVID policy, triggering rare protests and clashes with the police.

China on Saturday reported over 34,900 cases, mostly that of the Omicron variant of the coronavirus, as officials went about imposing lockdowns, shutting people in their flats to cut the transmission chain.

China has reported six deaths — four in Beijing, one in Henan and another in Sichuan — this month, its first fatalities from the virus in six months. China's social media as well as Twitter postings by some of the Chinese showed videos of public protests from various places



with people clashing with police and health officials in hazmat suits. A large protest was witnessed in Urumqi, the capital of Xinjiang province, where 10 people were killed and nine injured in a fire two days ago at an apartment block that was sealed as part of the COVID lockdown.

Beijing continues to bear brunt of lockdown as cases hit a record high of over 2,600.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER PMGSY (JKRRDA) JAMMU. NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS E-NIT No:-CEJ/PMGSY/724 OF 2022-23 Dated:-21/11/2022											
Chief Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Jammu on behalf of The Government of Jammu & Kashmir, invites e-tenders on %age Above/Excess (+) OR %age Below/ Less (-) basis(i.e. on Percentage-Rate Basis) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K.U.T.Govt, CPWD, Railways or equivalent and other State/U.T.Govts up to 1700 Hrs.On 03-12-2022 for each of the following works including their maintenance for five years from the date of completion on OMMAAS.											
S.No.	Name of the Work/Package No.	Name of the PIU	Constt. Part (Rs. In Lacs)	Maintn. Part (Rs. In Lacs)	Total (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of Documents (Rs. In Lacs)	Big Security (EMD) @2% of total cost Rounded to the nearest thousand (Rs. In Lacs)	Time Allowed for completion	Call of tender	Time and date of opening of technical bids	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Upgradation of Road from MRL19-Rudwan to Kandral, Package No. JK21-3003, PMGSY-III, Batch-I of 2022-23, Block - Ramgarh, District Samba, Length-3.500 Kms Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST - Rs. 276.17Lacs.	Jammu	276.17	33.14	309.31	0.06	6.19	09 Months	2nd	06-12-2022 1100 Hrs.	Any registered contractor with State/U.T. PWD/CPWD/ Railways or equivalent qualifying eligibility criteria as provided in the Standard Bidding Documents can tender for the works
2	Upgradation of Road from MRL-15-KotheyMahasian to ShahpurBrahmana via Khojipur, Package No. JK05-3013, PMGSY-III, Batch-I of 2022-23Block -Bishnah, District Jammu. Length 3.350Kms Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST - Rs. 319.77Lacs.	Jammu	319.77	38.37	358.14	0.06	7.16	09 Months	2nd	06-12-2022 1100 Hrs.	Any registered contractor with State/U.T. PWD/CPWD/ Railways or equivalent qualifying eligibility criteria as provided in the Standard Bidding Documents can tender for the works
3	Upgradation of Road from T01-Chhan Khatriyan To ChakDiyalla Via Jharjhartha Package No - JK07-3004, PMGSY-III, Batch-I of 2022-23, Block- Hiranagar, District Kathua, Length-8.800 Kms (Using Waste Plastic) Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST = Rs.691.34Lacs.	Kathua	691.34	82.96	774.30	0.06	15.49	11 Months	2nd		
4	Upgradation of road from T03 Shewa Bridge to Khankoot Via Mahala, Package No JK04-3007, PMGSY-III, Batch-I of 2022-23, Block Gundana, District Doda Length 14.220 Kms(Using Waste Plastic) Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST = Rs. 1700.81 Lacs.	Doda	1700.81	204.10	1904.91	0.06	38.10	18 Months	2nd		
5	Up-Gradaation of road from MRL01-Narayana Hospital Kakrial To DomailKataraRoad ViaKandiyyar , Package No. JK20-3003, PMGSY-III, Batch-I of 2022-23, Block- Panthal, District Reasi, Length: 5.750 Kms (Using Lime Stabilization /Waste Plastic) Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST = Rs. 704.55Lacs.	Udhampur	704.55	84.55	789.10	0.06	15.78	11 Months	2nd		
6	Up-Gradaation of road from MRL02- Chowki to Katwalt Via Majua, Package No. JK14-3006, PMGSY-III, Batch-I of 2022-23, Block Ghordil, Distt. Udhampur Length: 7.700 Kms(Using Waste Plastic). Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST = Rs. 752.39Lacs.	Udhampur	752.39	90.29	842.68	0.06	16.85	12 Months	2nd	06-12-2022 1100 Hrs.	Any registered contractor with State/U.T. PWD/CPWD/ Railways or equivalent qualifying eligibility criteria as provided in the Standard Bidding Documents can tender for the works
7	Up-Gradaation of road from MRL01 Shivgali to Basantgarh , Package No. JK14-3009, PMGSY-III, Batch-I of 2022-23, Block- Dudu , Distt. Udhampur Length: 9.375 Kms(Using Waste Plastic) Adv. Cost excluding maintenance but inclusive of GST = Rs. 1495.56 Lacs	Ramnagar	1495.56	179.47	1675.03	0.06	33.50	17 Months	2nd		
1.(a) The Bidding document can be downloaded from the website http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in from 1655 Hrs on 23-11-2022 to 03-12-2022 upto 1700Hrs. (b) The Bids shall be deposited ONLINE ONLY in electronic format on the website http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in from 1000 Hrs on 25-11-2022 to 1700 Hrs. on 03-12-2022. (c) Pre bid meeting will be held on 24-11-2022 at 1200 Hrs. (d) Technical Qualification Part of Bids will be opened online at 1100 Hrs on 06-12-2022. 2. The date and time of opening of Financial Bids shall be notified on Web Site http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in. 3. For Complete information refer to the bidding document. 4. For further details kindly visit our website https://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in.											
No.-CEJ/PMGSY/24187-24260 Dated:-21-11-2022 DIP/J-12124/22											
											Sd/- Chief Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Jammu For and on behalf of The Government of Jammu and Kashmir

‘Broking houses lauding financial gains of SBI’

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Chairman of the country's biggest lender State Bank of India (SBI) Dinesh Khara on Saturday asserted that analysts and broking houses are praising the financial performance of the bank which reported its highest profits recently.

For the first time, SBI registered the highest-ever profits recorded by any corporate house, Khara said.

"In the recent quarterly results, the bank's profits are the highest ever. SBI crossed the highest ever profits recorded by any corporate and analysts and broking houses are praising this," he said.

In the second quarter of the current financial year, the



net profit of the lender stood at Rs 13,265 crore, higher by 74 per cent compared to the previous similar period.

Naming broking houses, he said, "Motilal Oswal Securities had stated SBI is in a cruising mood. ICICI Securities said that SBI is firing on all cylinders".

Khara said that SBI is a "proxy to the Indian economy. This is so as the bank gets the patronage of 47 crore customers and is practically a banker to every household".

With India already becoming the fifth largest economy, he said perhaps by 2027, the country would be the third largest in terms of the size of the economy.

But, Khara also said that there is a need for improvement in customer service as there are many options available today.

The SBI chairman said that customer expectations are changing and the bank needs to solicit and walk up to their doorsteps.

"We have improved customer service, but have miles to go. Banking has now become a knowledge sector. We need to package offers what the customers are looking for," he stated.

During the peak of the pandemic, SBI had rendered continuous service to the customers, he said, adding that there had also been a shift in their behaviour in going to the digital mode.

"SBI has invested in technology, and the bank's app YONO had helped in generating business and offering services in a frictionless manner," he added.

Khara said that there is a need for punctuality in opening up the branches of the bank as well.

Adani arm seeks licence to expand power distribution in Mumbai

PTI ■ MUMBAI

An Adani Group company has sought licence for expanding its power distribution business into more areas of Mumbai, including the country's largest container port JNPT. In an advertisement published in several newspapers in the city on Saturday, Adani Electricity Navi Mumbai (AENM) said it has approached the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (MERC) for a distribution licence in some pockets of the Mumbai Metropolitan Region along with its listed parent Adani Transmission.

The company is aiming to get licence to distribute power in areas exclusively served by the state-owned Mahadiscom in Mumbai's suburbs Mulund and Bhandup, and also Thane district, Navi Mumbai, Panvel, Kharghar, Talaja and Uran.

The group, whose assets include the Adani Ports busi-



ness, is also vying to distribute power to the country's largest container port JNPT located near Navi Mumbai. The parallel distribution licence application is the first such move by any player under the Electricity Act 2003. The application has been admitted by the MERC on Friday, following which the public notice has been issued.

It said the Adani group will serve over 5 lakh consumers by the end of five years from grant of licence.

The public notice said Adani Transmission owns over 99 per cent equity in AENM,

while the listed company's nominees including Pranav Adani own a marginal holding.

Power industry veterans Anil Kumar Sardana, Rohit Soni and Mehul Rupera are directors of AENM.

Adani Electricity has been distributing power in Mumbai for over four years and competes with Tata Power in the business. The company, which entered the fray after an over Rs 18,000-crore acquisition of the beleaguered Anil Ambani Group's Reliance Energy, has not been able to increase its market share in the areas it serves.

GST Council to meet virtually on Dec 17



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The 48th meeting of the GST Council, chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, will be held on December 17.

"The 48th Meeting of the GST Council will be held on 17th December, 2022 by video conference," the GST Council said in a tweet. The meeting would discuss two reports of a panel of state finance ministers on levy of GST on casinos, online gaming and horse racing and the other on setting up of GST Appellate Tribunal.

Besides, a report of the officers' panel on decriminalisation of certain provisions of the GST law too is likely to be taken up for discussion.

Square Yards forays into biz of facilitating fractional ownership of real estate to investors

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Proptech firm Square Yards has entered into the business of facilitating investors in having fractional ownership of rent-yielding real estate assets and earn 14-18 per cent annual return on their capital.

PropsAMC, the asset management services and data intelligence arm of Square Yards, has launched fractional ownership real estate investment platform backed by pro-

prietary data and analytical capabilities, the company said in a statement.

Square Yards, which is mainly into brokerage service of properties and home loans, is targeting to build USD 1 billion worth of AUM (Assets Under Management) of fractional ownership properties over the next three years.

The minimum ticket size to participate will be Rs 25 lakh. Most of its products will not have any lock-in for investors.

The platform will enable investors in having fractional ownership of leased and pre-leased commercial assets including warehouses, holiday homes and schools. It will also explore opportunities with high coupon pay-outs on secured assets in residential space. It will target cities like Mumbai, Thane, Pune, Bengaluru, Gurugram, Noida, Chennai and Goa.

Many startups and financial services firms, including startup hBits and MYRE Capital, have entered into the business of enabling fractional ownership.

"India's commercial real estate market has for long been dominated by high net-worth individuals and institutions. Fractional investing aims to break this status quo by mak-



ing commercial property investing affordable for the average Indian," said Tanuj Shori, Founder and CEO, Square Yards.

With Square Yards' fractional ownership real estate investment programme, he said, investors can build a diversified portfolio at a lower acquisition cost.

"With rental yields of 7-9 per cent per annum, enhancement of yield by rent appreciation of 4-5 per cent and finally the capital appreciation of 5-8 per cent every three years, fractional investment is the reigning instrument of good faith at present to perform at 14-18 per cent per annum," Shori said.

Surjewala demands adequate supply of urea for farmers in Rajasthan

PTI ■ JAIPUR

Senior Congress leader and Rajya Sabha MP from Rajasthan Randeep Surjewala has demanded from the Union minister for chemical and fertilizers Mansukh Mandaviya to ensure adequate supply of urea for the farmers in the state.

Surjewala wrote a letter to Mandaviya saying that Rajasthan was allocated 4.50 lakh metric tonnes of urea by the central government for October in the Rabi season 2022-23 but only 2.89 lakh metric tonnes of urea was made available by the ministry of fertilizers.

Similarly, in November also, against the allocation of 4.50 lakh metric tonnes, only



1.20 lakh metric tonnes of urea has been supplied by the central government till November 10, 2022, he said.

Surjewala said that the farmers were upset for advance sowing of rabi crops due to good rainfall this year but this has been adversely affected by the shortage of fertilizers in several districts of the state.

"I have been told that the

government of Rajasthan has already informed you about this crisis by writing a letter, but till now no solution has been found to this problem," he said.

The Congress leader said that the sowing of mustard and gram is going on at present in Rajasthan and the average area of these two crops is likely to be 38 lakh hectares and 22 lakh hectares respectively, for which a minimum of 6 lakh metric tonnes of urea will be required in November.

He said that if the availability of fertilizers in sufficient quantities is not ensured in time then there will be a deep crisis in agriculture and farming and requested to ensure the availability of fertilizers as soon as possible.

UJVN Limited
H.O. : "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com

Letter No: 864

E-TENDER NOTICE

Date: 26/11/2022

Office of the Executive Engineer PCM Dhalipur, Dehradun invites online bids from interested parties. Brief summary of the tender is given below:
E-Tender No- 25/EPCM/Dhalipur/2022-23
Name of work/Repair and Maintenance of Bund and other miscellaneous work at various location along power channel Dhalipur, Dehradun
Estimated value of Tender: Rs. 25,59,787.92 (excluding GST)
Date & Time of availability of bid document on website - From 17:00 Hrs. of 28.11.2022
Last Date & Time for submission of tender: Up to 15:00 Hrs. 20.12.2022
For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal - "http://uktenders.gov.in"
Executive Engineer (PCM)

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

MODI INDUSTRIES LIMITED

CIN - U15429UP1932PLC000469
Regd. Office : Modinagar - 201204. (U.P.) Tel : 01232- 243115, 9084786567
E-mail : modindustriestlimited@gmail.com Website : www.modindustries.net

NOTICE OF 88TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, BOOK CLOSURE AND REMOTE E-VOTING INFORMATION

NOTICE is hereby given that the 88th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the members of Modi Industries Limited will be held on Tuesday, the 20th December, 2022, at 04:00 P.M., at Auditorium, Dayawati Modi Public School, Modinagar-201204, District Ghaziabad (U.P.), to transact the Ordinary and Special Business, as set out in the Notice of AGM. The physical copy of the Notice of the Meeting, Annual Report for the financial year ended March 31, 2022 and remote e-voting details have been sent to all members individually at their registered addresses. The date of completion of dispatch of the notices to the shareholders is 26th November, 2022. These documents are also available on Company's website www.modindustries.net for download by the members and kept at the Registered Office of the Company for inspection by Members.
Notice is hereby given in compliance with the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 as amended that the Company is pleased to provide remote e-voting facility to its members for transacting all the business through National Securities Depository Ltd. (NSDL) through their portal www.evoting.nsdl.co.in to enable the members to cast their votes electronically. The remote e-voting period commences on **Saturday, the 17th December, 2022 (09:00 am) and ends on Monday, the 19th December, 2022 (05:00 pm)**. No e-voting shall be allowed beyond the said date and time. During this period members of the Company, holding shares, as on the cut-off date of 13th December, 2022, may cast their vote by remote e-voting. Any person, who acquires shares and becomes member of the Company after dispatch of the notice and holding shares as on the cut-off date i.e. 13th December, 2022, will be provided the notice through e-mail or by post after the cut-off date and such members may also obtain the login ID and password by sending a request at evoting@nsdl.co.in or RTA, MAS Services Limited. However, if the members are already registered with NSDL for remote e-voting then they can use their existing user ID and password for casting their vote. The remote e-voting module shall be disabled by NSDL for voting thereafter. Once the vote on a resolution is cast by the member, the member shall not be allowed to change it subsequently. The facility for voting through ballot paper shall be made available at the AGM and the members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting prior to the AGM may also attend the AGM but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again. The Company has appointed Shri Amar Nath Jaiswal, the Proprietor on behalf of M/s. A.N. Jaiswal & Co., (Membership No. ACS-19000 & CP No. 14629) of New Delhi as Scrutinizer to scrutinize the e-voting process in a fair and transparent manner.
In view of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, Ministry of Corporate Affairs dated May 5, 2020 read with General Circulars dated April 8, 2020 and April 13, 2020 (collectively referred to as "MCA Circulars"), have permitted the holding of AGM through Video Conferencing ("VC")/Other Audio Video Means ("OAVM"). The Company is providing this facility also to the shareholders to participate in the AGM from their homes. The detailed instructions for attending the AGM through VC/OAVM are provided in the AGM notice.
In case of any grievances connected to e-voting process, the members may please contact Ms. Pallavi Mhatre (Manager), NSDL, 4th Floor, 'A' Wing, Trade World, Kamla Mills Compound, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai 400013. Email evoting@nsdl.co.in, Tel 1800224430 and 18001020990.
The detailed procedure for remote e-voting are contained in the Notice of the AGM. If you require any additional information or have any enquiries, please contact to the under signed at above mentioned address.
NOTICE is also hereby given pursuant to Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013, Rule 10 of the Companies (Management & Administration) Rules, 2014 that the Register of the Members and Share Transfer Books of the Equity Shareholders of the Company will remain closed from Wednesday, the 14th December, 2022 to Tuesday, the 20th December, 2022 (both days inclusive) for the purpose of taking record of the shareholders at the Annual General Meeting.

For Modi Industries Limited,

Sd/-

Shobit Nehra
Company Secretary

Date: 26.11.2022

Place: Modinagar (U.P.) 201204

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform all concerned that my father Late Sh. Purshottam Das Mittal S/o Late Sh. Ramanand R/o A-181, First Floor, Shivalki, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017, who is the original allottee and owner of House bearing Plot No: 137, Block-D, Sector-47, NOIDA (U.P) expired on 04/04/2017. My father Late Sh. Purshottam Das Mittal had executed a Will in respect of above mentioned plot in my favour Sh. Sanjiv Kumar Mittal and the said Will was registered vide registration No. 276 in Book No. 3 Vol No.114 on page 151 to 155 in the office of Sub Registrar, SR V A Hazu Khas, New Delhi on 14/03/2017. So, it is publicly announced and informed to all concerned that the said House bearing Plot No: 137, Block-D, Sector-47, NOIDA (U.P) is to be mutated and transferred in my favour Sanjiv Kumar Mittal S/o Purshottam Das Mittal R/o A-181, First Floor, Shivalki, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017 through the above mentioned registered will. If anyone has/have any objection, he/she may file his/her objection along with sufficient proof to Residential Department of the Noida Authority, Sector-6, Noida within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.
SANJIV KUMAR MITTAL

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DIVISION, PULWAMA
email: xenpheapulwama@gmail.com

CORRIGENDUM

Subject:- Invitation of tenders for pipe line network, SSF, GSR and ancillary works under JJM - Extension of last date for bid submission thereof.
Reference:- This office e-NIT S. No. 19/PHEP/Fresh of 2022-23 published under No. PHEP/ 1602-12 dated. 25-06-2022 followed by Corrigendum No. PHEP/2134-44 Dated. 21-07-2022, No.PHEP/2722-32 dated. 24-08-2022 No. PHEP/3132-48 dated. 06-09-2022, No. PHEP/3504-14 Dated. 26-09-2022 and No PHEP/3448-57 Dated. 01-11-2022.
Due to administrative reasons the above-mentioned e-NIT along with tenders received for the same is hereby cancelled.
No.-PHEP/4307-17
Dated:- 25-11-2022
Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Jal Shakti (PHE) Division,
Pulwama
DIPK-14155/22

India going to record fastest 5G rollout in world: Nokia India exec

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India is going to record the fastest 5G rollout in the world and it is going to have the biggest success of the next -generation telecom service with the support of the government, a senior Nokia India official said.

While speaking at an event organised by the Foreign Correspondent Club on Friday evening, Nokia India Head of Marketing and Corporate Affairs, Amit Marwah, without naming China expressed concern over infiltration equipment in telecom sector from neighbouring countries. "We (India) are not late, we are at the right time. In the

rest of the country compared to other countries where the ecosystem has to develop. We have a 5G-ready ecosystem. We have 10 per cent of smart-phones in India which are 5G ready. India is going to witness the fastest rollout of 5G which will be at least three times faster than what we have seen in 4G," Marwah said.

The 5G services will progressively cover the entire country over the next couple of years -- Jio promises to do that by December 2023 and Bharti Airtel by March 2024.

Marwah said telecom manufacturing is becoming robust in India backed by the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme.

"We were part of PLI 1.0. We were one of the only companies that met and exceeded our target of PLI 1.0. We let go-off that scheme and let go-off the incentive of one year because PLI 2.0 was even more interesting. Volumes and scale in India are increasing so much that you have let go for one year. We re-applied for PLI f2.0 and today we are part of PLI 2.0 which means we are investing more, adding more lines and adding more products," he said.

The PLI scheme offers up to 20 times incentive on incremental sales of telecom gears made in India. The government has added additional incentives for designing prod-

ucts in India in the second version of the PLI scheme.

Marwah said that manufacturing is on a very positive note in India across the sectors but definitely in telecom.

"The only challenge right now is the availability of fabs which are semiconductors. 60-80 per cent of what we manufacture requires semiconductors. That is the area where we still need to work on. There is still some kind of infiltration of equipment in telecom from neighbouring countries which need to have a little more vigilance and kind of stopping at the customs," Marwah said.

Department of Telecom, Deputy Director General

(Policy) YGSC Kishore Babu said that the 5G adoption and applications are expected to be more diverse in India compared to other countries.

"However, most of the use cases across the world remind us we may have to innovate to meet most of the require-

ments in the coming months and years," Babu said.

Tech Mahindra, Chief Strategy Officer and Head of Growth, Jagdish Mitra said 5G is the biggest opportunity in technology so far, for India to bridge what we have typically referred to as Bharat and India.



(RBI) but the banking regulator had rejected its application.

The company had re-submitted the required documents in September 2021.

Paytm said PPSL has now received a letter from RBI in response to an application for the authorisation to provide PA services for online merchants.

As per the letter, PPSL is required to "Seek necessary approval for past downward investment from the company into PPSL, to comply with FDI Guidelines" and "not onboard new online merchants".

Paytm, in the regulatory filing, said it can resubmit

the PA application within 120 calendar days. The company will not onboard new online merchants till the time approvals remain pending.

PA services for online merchants. As per the letter, PPSL is required to "Seek necessary approval for past downward investment from the company into PPSL, to comply with FDI Guidelines" and "not onboard new online merchants".

Paytm further said there were no material observations from RBI and the move has no material impact on its business and revenues since the communication from the central bank is applicable only to onboarding of new online merchants.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY
KANKE, RANCHI-834006, JHARKHAND

ADMISSION TO THE POSTGRADUATE COURSES - 2023 SESSION

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for admission to the following postgraduate degree/diploma courses of Ranchi University commencing from May, 2023. An All India Entrance Examination will be conducted through ONLINE mode at the following cities of this Country (Mumbai, New Delhi, Kolkata, Guwahati, Chennai, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Bangalore & Ranchi).

GROUP A

1. Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology	: 4 seats (NO RESERVATION)
Duration	: 2 years
Qualification	: M.Phil. (Medical & Social Psychology)/ Clinical Psychology) from a University recognized by the UGC
2. M.Phil. in Clinical Psychology	: 21 seats (UR-09, EWS-01, OBC-06, SC-03, ST-02) (PwD-01)
Duration	: 2 years
Qualification	: M.A./M.Sc. in Psychology course from a University recognized by the UGC With minimum 55% marks for UR & EWS and 50% marks for SC, ST & OBC in aggregate.

GROUP B

3. M.Phil. in Psychiatric Social Work	: 15 seats (UR-06, EWS-01, OBC-05, SC-02, ST-01) (PwD-01)
Duration	: 2 years
Qualification	: Masters in Social Work course from University recognized by the UGC with minimum 55% Marks for UR & EWS and 50% marks for SC, ST and OBC in aggregate.

GROUP C

4. Diploma in Psychiatric Nursing	: 23 seats (UR-10, EWS-02, OBC-06, SC-03, ST-02) (PwD-01)
Duration	: One year
Qualification	: 'A' Grade Certificate or Diploma in General Nursing and Midwifery.

Group A & B: Selected candidates will get scholarship of Rs. 25,000/-per month.

Group C: Selected candidates will get scholarship of Rs. 2500/- per month.

The application form is to be submitted electronically ONLY on internet through CIP website: www.cipranchi.nic.in on or before December 31, 2022. Hard copy of the application form will not be entertained. Online Payment fee of Rs.1000/-** for Unreserved, EWS and Rs. 500/-** for OBC, PwD, SC and ST candidates. (**Transactional charges will be extra from the above-said fee structure via Debit Card, Credit Card, UPI Payment, Net Banking & Mobile Wallets.) Please note that the examination fee is non-refundable.

Online form will be available on our website (www.cipranchi.nic.in) from 01.12.2022. Online Examination will be held on 19.02.2023 and interview/practical would be held in person at CIP between 13th to 15th March, 2023. Session will commence from 01st May, 2023. Last date for joining the courses is May 31st, 2023.

Please visit www.cipranchi.nic.in for downloading the prospectus with requisite details before filling the ONLINE application form.

Director
Central Institute of Psychiatry

INDIAN BATTLING NEEDS FRESH APPROACH TO SAVE SERIES

PTI ■ HAMILTON

India would expect a better approach from skipper Shikhar Dhawan and young Shubman Gill in the Powerplay overs when the team clashes with New Zealand in the do-or-die second One-Day International here on Sunday.

The Seddon Park is a three-way open ground but is known for being one of the batting friendliest tracks in New Zealand where willow wielders would get value for their shots.

Dhawan (72 off 77) and Gill (50 off 65 balls) added 123 in their opening stand but on a small Eden Park ground, a score of 306 for 7 was at least 40 runs short of par score.

The bowlers could be taken to task for conceding those runs in just over 47 overs, the buck actually stops at the main batters since if it was not for Washington Sundar's brilliant cameo, India would not have touched the 300-run mark.

It was largely due to the safety-first approach of the Indian openers during the first 10 Powerplay over where the runs did not come at a desirable pace.

Moeen Ali in a recent interview to PTI spoke how in earlier times, teams followed Australian template in white ball cricket and now it is the English way that is being aped by the teams.

And that is where India is lagging behind as it could score only 40 runs in the first Powerplay overs in Auckland.

Sample another piece of statistic which will give an idea that the problem lies in the general outlook of Indian top-order batters across limited overs formats (not just Rohit Sharma, KL Rahul or Virat Kohli).

Dhawan hit 72 off 77 balls that had 13 fours. So effectively, he scored 52 runs in boundaries in 13 deliveries. He scored another 20 runs in 64 deliveries and out of which 44 were dot balls as he was unable to get going in the Powerplay.

As the skipper struggled, at the other end, Gill didn't do his overall averages any harm by stacking up another half-century, but the pace of his innings was also a debatable one.

His 50 was scored in 65 balls with three sixes and a boundary. This means 22 runs were scored from four deliveries. He scored



the remaining 28 runs from 61 deliveries.

The same approach of just building the foundation and leaving the heavy-lifting for the back-end has cost India a T20 World Cup but strangely even as personnel changed in ODIs for this series, the approach has remained archaic.

With so many players jostling for opening slots, it is imperative that the players score heavily so that the numbers can't be ignored when the new selectors prune the pool to around 20, at least three to four months before the 50-over marquee event.

While Dhawan will certainly open with Rohit in Bangladesh next month, there aren't any guarantees that Shubman will be able to retain his place in the playing XI as Rohit will comeback as an opener. KL Rahul might take Suryakumar Yadav's (rested for next series) middle-order slot.

Rishabh Pant has a way better ODI strike-rate and average compared to T20Is but the vice-captain of this series needs to be more consistent in order to keep the big gloves away from

Sanju Samson and Ishan Kishan, who are definitely close on his heels. As Virender Sehwag, few weeks earlier had said that Pant needs to decide first what will be his style of batsmanship.

At the moment, the marauder from Rourkee seems to be in a state of limbo: whether to attack or defend. Sooner he gets his bearing, better it will be for the ODI core team.

BOWLERS NEED TO FIND FULLER LENGTHS

At Eden Park which has short and weird dimensions, Indian pacers bowled way too short. They will need to find a way to counter Tom Latham and Kane Williamson, who have both been consistent against India over the years in this format.

While Umran Malik was impressive bowling northwards of 145 clicks, Arshdeep Singh despite his ability to get the swing struggled for pace and Shardul Thakur was generally erratic.

Toss will be an important factor as batting becomes easier at the Seddon Park as the evening wears on.

Akashdeep scores hat-trick but sloppy India lose 4-5 to Aus

AP ■ ADELAIDE

Akashdeep Singh's hat-trick went in vain as India conceded two late goals to lose 4-5 against Australia in the high-scoring first hockey Test of the five-match series here on Saturday.

Akashdeep Singh (10th, 27th, 59th) scored thrice while skipper Harmanpreet Singh (31st) converted a penalty corner for India.

Australia's goals were scored by Lachlan Sharp (5th), Nathan Ephraums (21st), Tom Craig (41st) and Blake Govers (57th, 60th) who found the back of the Indian net twice from penalty corners towards the fag end of the match.

The second match of the series will be played on Sunday.

Australia started on an attacking note and took the lead as early as in the fifth minute with Sharp slotting home past India custodian PR Sreejesh with his very first touch of the match.

The Indians responded within minutes with Amit Rohidas creating a great move from the left flank but his ball was intercepted inside the circle by the Australian defence.

Akashdeep equalised for India in the 11th minute after Hardik Singh made a wonderful interception to create the opportunity.

Six minutes into the second quarter, Australia restored their lead, courtesy poor defending from the Indians as they failed to clear a cross and Ephraums got a smart deflection to put the ball into the net.

Akashdeep once again came to India's



rescue and scored with a fierce reverse hit in the 27th minute to level the scores.

Just at the stroke of half-time, Australia got a penalty corner but India's second goalkeeper Krishan Bahadur Pathak was alert to avert the danger.

A minute after the change of ends, Harmanpreet gave India the lead for the first time in the match, scoring from a penalty corner. The Indians then secured back-to-back penalty corners but wasted both. In the 41st minute, the Kookaburras secured another penalty corner and Craig scored from a rebound after Sreejesh saved the initial drag-flick.

The home team continued to press hard and secured a handful of penalty corners but failed to cash in on the opportunities.

India were sloppy on the turf in the last five minutes of the game as Jarmanpreet Singh got an unnecessary green card, leaving his side a man down for the rest of the game.

Australia took full advantage of the situation and secured another penalty corner which was converted by Govers with a powerful flick.

But Akashdeep levelled the scores a minute from the final hooter, scoring from a goalmouth melee.

But poor defending from the Indians inside their own circle cost them as Australia earned two more penalty corners and Govers once again found the net with the second attempt to hand the home team a 1-0 lead in the series.

India lose bronze medal play-off to Spain

PTI ■ JERUSALEM

India lost 1-3 to Spain in the tie-break after the two-round bronze medal play-off ended in a tie at the FIDE World Team chess Championship here on Saturday. In both the rounds, the teams played out 2-2 draws. But Jaime Santos Latasa and David Anton Gujjarro defeated Vidit Santosh Gujrathi and Nihal Sarin respectively in the blitz tie-break to give Spain the advantage.

S L Narayanan drew with Alexei Shirov and Abhijeet Gupta held Miguel Santos Ruiz in the other games. This gave Spain victory by a 3-1 margin early on Saturday. In the first round, Gujrathi, playing with black, drew Santos Latasa while Sarin signed peace with Gujjarro in the last game of that match.

The two other games Narayanan vs Daniil Yuffa and Gupta against Santos Ruiz too ended in draws.

The pattern was repeated in the second round too as games on all the four boards involving the same players ended in draws.

Spain took the tie-break for a 4-2 victory and win its first-ever medal in a team competition. Meanwhile, China beat Uzbekistan 4-0, winning the two rounds by a similar 2.5-1.5 scoreline.



Australia beat Croatia 2-1 to reach Davis Cup final

AP ■ MALAGA (SPAIN)

Australia had to fight back twice to reach its first Davis Cup final in 19 years after beating Croatia 2-1. Lleyton Hewitt's team recovered from losing the first singles on Friday. Then the Australian doubles pair battled back from a set down in the decider.

Australia won its 28th and last title in 2003. It has finally got back to the final. "I am so proud. Australia has a really rich history in this competition," said Hewitt, who played a record 43 Davis Cup ties for Australia from 1999-2018.

"We have been fortunate to win it all on a number of occasions a long time ago. And I

know what it meant to me as a player to play a final, and I am glad these guys can play it."

Borna Coric put Croatia ahead by beating Thanasi Kokkinakis 6-4 6-3, but Alex de Minaur leveled after defeating Marin Cilic 6-2 6-2 to send it to the doubles.

Jordan Thompson and Max Purcell then secured the semifinal win against Nikola Mektic and Mate Pavic by 6-7 (3) 7-5 6-4. "This is what this team is about, that never-say-die attitude," De Minaur said.

Canada will face Italy on Saturday in the other semifinal.

In the opener, Kokkinakis struck 11 aces, but Coric was able to break him once in each set.

"On my serve, I felt like it was an ace or he put it back on my toes," Kokkinakis said.

Cilic, who was on the Croatia team that won the title in 2018, committed 10 double faults. That erratic serve helped De Minaur break Cilic four times and level his head-to-head record with the former US Open winner at two wins each.

Thompson and Purcell bettered the more experienced pair of Mektic and Pavic, both ranked in the top 10 in doubles. Thompson and Purcell combined for 13 aces, broke the Croats twice, and never dropped a service game to come back after losing the first-set tiebreaker. Two-time winner Croatia was the runner-up last year.

India clinch gold medals at Youth World Boxing Championships

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian boxers Vishwanath Suresh, Vanshaj and Devika Ghorpade lived up to their favourites tag, registering commanding victories to clinch gold medals at the IBA Youth Men's and Women's World Championships 2022 in La Nucia, Spain.

Chennai-born Vishwanath handed India their first gold at the prestigious championships after thrashing Ronel Suymom of Philippines without breaking a sweat in the men's 48kg final.

This came after Bhawna Sharma bagged a silver medal in the women's 48kg category, losing 0-5 loss against Uzbekistan's Gulsevar Ganieva in the opening match of the day. Ashish (54kg) was the other Indian to

finish with a silver medal. He went down 1-4 against Japanese pugilist Yuta Sakai in a thrilling final.

Devika, who hails from Pune, added a second gold to India's tally, beating England's Lauren Mackie in the women's 52kg final. Youth Asian champion Vanshaj wrapped up the day in style for India by winning ta third gold.

The confident Sonipat-based boxer made light work of Demur Kajaia of Georgia in the men's 63.5kg summit clash.

With 11 medals, India topped in the on-going edition of the event, followed by Uzbekistan (10), Ireland (7) and Kazakhstan (7).

This year's championships witnessed participation from



close to 600 boxers from 73 countries. India's eight medals in the women's section is also the highest for any country.

Having already won three gold medals, Ravina (63kg) and Kirti (+81kg) will look to add two more yellow metals to India's kitty when they fight in the women's final on the last day of the competition.

Ravina and Kirti will be up against Megan deCler of Netherlands and Ireland's Elizabeth D'Arcy respectively.

Besides three gold and two silver on the penultimate day, India's tally also includes four bronze medals coming from Tamanna (50kg), Kunjarani Devi Thongam (60kg), Muskan (75kg) and Lashu Yadav (70kg), who lost in the semifinals.

Government to establish dietary supplements testing labs: Sports Secretary

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

To prevent "inadvertent" use of prohibited substances by the athletes, the government will establish laboratories for testing dietary supplements, sports secretary Sujata Chaturvedi said on Saturday.

Many sports persons, after failing dope tests, have claimed that they ingested prohibited substances 'inadvertently' through dietary supplements.

Chaturvedi emphasised on having regulated testing facilities for the dietary supplements.

"We recently entered into an MoU with the National Forensic Science University, Ahmedabad and the Food Safety Standards

Authority of India, for a lab to help with the dietary supplement testing," Chaturvedi said at a function organised by FICCI.

"We are now heading towards a completely revamped national anti-doping programme housed in our National Anti-doping Agency," Chaturvedi said during the TURF2022 & India Sports Awards event.

In August, the Parliament passed the National Anti-Doping Bill which seeks to provide a statutory framework for the functioning of the National Anti-Doping Agency and the National Dope Testing Laboratory. Chaturvedi said the country's overall sports development has been on the right path

this year and that they are working on starting women's leagues in a big way.

"We've had archery, football and various other sports coming into these leagues. I can assure you it's going to be a huge deal in the coming years because we support inclusion in sports."

Legendary long jumper Anju Bobby George underlined the unique potential of sports in empowering women.

"Women in sports defy the perception that they are weak or incapable," she said.

"In many countries, it has been seen that sport can be a force to amplify human voice and tear down gender barriers and discrimination."

UP THRASH DEPLETED MUMBAI BY 8 WICKETS

PTI ■ AHMEDABAD

Uttar Pradesh took full advantage of an under-strength Mumbai side as they romped home by eight wickets in a lopsided pre-quarterfinal match of the Vijay Hazare Trophy here on Saturday.

UP bowlers, led by pacers Shivam Mavi (4/41) and Kartik Tyagi (2/43) and ably assisted by left-arm spinner Shiva Singh (2/43), restricted Mumbai to a below-par 220 all out on a fine batting pitch.

The chase was a cakewalk as keeper-opener Aryan Juyal (82 off 103 balls) anchored it with useful contributions from fellow opener Madhav Kaushik (46 off 75 balls) and skipper Karan Sharma (42 not out off 38 balls).

UP won the match with 26 balls to spare and will now face Maharashtra in the quarterfinal.

For Mumbai, missing out flamboyant opener Yashasvi

Jaiswal and the dangerous Sarfaraz Ahmed (both on India A tour of Bangladesh) due to national commitments did have its effect as neither Prithvi Shaw (10) nor skipper Ajinkya Rahane (26 off 39 balls) could make a difference on the big day.

While Shaw was cleaned up by Mavi as he tried to play across the line, Rahane loosely drove away from his body to a fuller 'fifth off-stump' line delivery from Tyagi. Mumbai were at one stage tottering at 94 for five after spinners Shiva and Shivam Sharma dismissed Arman Jaffer (32) and Suved Parkar (13) with arm balls.

Suved was gone trying to cut a delivery close to the stumps while Jaffer played to the wrong line and was out LBW.

However, Mumbai's crisis man Shams Mulani (51 off 70 balls) and keeper-batter Hardik Tamore (53 off 67 balls) added 103 runs for the sixth wicket

which helped the current Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 champions cross the 200-run mark.

But once Tamore was out trying to hit a second six off Shiva, the last five Mumbai wickets fell for a mere 23 runs with no resistance from the lower order. With no scoreboard pressure on them, UP openers Madhav and Aryan added 119 runs in 25 overs to set the tone. Aryan was more attacking with 10 boundaries while his partner had three fours and a six to his credit.

In fact, Priyam Garg (39 not out) and skipper Karan added 63 runs for the unbroken third wicket stand in just under 12 overs to knock off the required runs with minimum fuss.

Brief Scores:

Mumbai: 220 all out in 48.3 overs (Hardik Tamore 53, Shams Mulani 51, Shivam Mavi 4/41, Shiva Singh 2/43, Kartik Tyagi 2/43).



Uttar Pradesh: 221 for 2 in 45.4 overs (Aryan Juyal 82, Madhav Kaushik 46).

J&K KNOCK OUT KERALA, MAKE DREAM QUARTERFINALS

Jammu and Kashmir extended

their dream run in the Vijay Hazare Trophy to the quarterfinals as they knocked Kerala out from the tournament with a seven-wicket win, here on Saturday.

In-form Auqib Nabi led the show with his career-best haul

of 4/39, helping J&K skittle out Kerala for a paltry 174 in 47.4 overs after they opted to field in their first-ever Vijay Hazare Trophy knockout match.

In reply, J&K cantered home in 37.5 overs with Shubham Khajuria (76) and Qamran Iqbal

(51) setting up win with their 113-run opening stand in 21.4 overs.

In the form of his life, Khajuria smashed six sixes and five fours in his 61-ball knock, which was his fourth half-century on the trot this season.

However, he was run out for a second consecutive time as J&K lost three wickets for the addition of just 32 runs. But there was no scoreboard pressure and Henan Nazir and Fazil Rashid sealed their sixth win from seven matches this season.

J&K will now face group B toppers Assam in their quarter-final here on Monday.

The J&K pace trio of Nabi, Yudhvir Singh (2/16) and left-arm pacer Mujtaba Yousuf (1/37) accounted for seven batters as Kerala struggled to get going.

Opener Vinoop Maoharan top-scored for Kerala with a 81-ball 62 but Yudhvir dismissed

him to trigger the collapse in the 32nd over, before Nabi wreaked havoc with a dream spell.

With 12 wickets apiece from seven matches, Nabi and Yudhvir have done exceptionally well for J&K this season.

The Ajay Sharma-coached side had upset reigning Ranji champions Madhya Pradesh, chasing down a massive 343 with two wickets in hand.

They also defeated Baroda, Odisha and Nagaland with little fuss.

Their only defeat came against group D toppers Punjab as they finished second in the league stage.

Brief Scores

Kerala: 174 all out in 47.4 overs (Vinoop Manoharan 62, Sijomon Joseph 32; Auqib Nabi 4/39, Yudhvir Singh 2/16) lost to Jammu and Kashmir 175/3 in 37.5 overs (Shubham Khajuria 76, Qamran Iqbal 51; Sijomon Joseph 2/19) by seven wickets.

the pioneer agenda

I don't have a religion.
I believe in a God.
I don't know what it looks
like but it's MY god. My
own interpretation of the
supernatural
— Jennifer Aniston



CLIMATE CHANGE THE FAILED CoP27

Considering the past actions on the commitments of the developed world, this so-called deal arrived at CoP 27 is at best a face-saver document, writes Dr. VK BAHUGUNA

The Conference of Parties (CoP), better known as CoP27, organized by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) secretariat at Sharm El-Sheikh in Egypt ended on November 20 with the adoption of a declaration for the creation of a fund for providing compensation to the poor nations facing the vagaries of climate change and extreme weather conditions due to the past emissions of the rich nations. The negotiating teams and others are touting it as a historical deal, but that is a far-fetched claim.

This declaration at best is a face-saving deal for the consumption back home for people of these poor nations facing the wrath of climatic vagaries. The developed countries, however, have resisted these calls, fearing opening up a floodgate for compensation claims but ultimately agreed with no surety to adhere to their commitments.

On average, \$4000 was needed for one person for a week to attend the CoP. Understandably, many young activists could not attend the Conference due to a lack of funds, and few bothered to raise their voices.

However, the CoP opened with most heads of state and leaders heading the country delegations speaking with strong feelings on taking action for the survival of the human race and pleading forcefully against complacency. The UN secretary general António Guterres delivered one of his best speeches yet when he exhorted the world leaders that “We are on a highway to climate hell with our foot on the accelerator”. He asked the countries to “cooperate or perish”.

The CoP 27 came after the world had faced the Covid-19 pandemic which many scientists blame on the abuse of nature by humans, a fact clearly visible during the lockdown period when we all noticed clear Himalayan peaks from Delhi as the sky became clear and the wild elephants started roaming on urban roads they never visited before. After Covid-19, when the Russia-Ukraine war pushed the global oil and gas prices and the natural disasters world faced, it was expected that climate change would be taken seriously by the world community. But the negotiators from powerful countries did not change much as is evident from the deliberation at the end of CoP 27.

From the point of view of professional analysts considering the past actions on the commitments of the developed world, this

so-called deal is a vacuous statement at best. The deal stipulates that a mechanism will be established for the creation of funds for helping the least developed countries affected by the climatic vagaries like Maldives etc. The proposal includes mobilization of funds from private sources also. The document has clearly ruled out India getting any share of it rather it is expected to contribute in the fund. It does not fix any quota for the developed countries nor fixes a time frame for its implementation. The skepticism is arising because of the complete failure of the developed world led by the United States and European Union in meeting their previously agreed commitments of \$100 billion in support to the poor nations on the flimsy ground and specious arguments like accounting procedures and lack of funds.

The approach of the developed world all through in all CoPs is to blame India and China for being the biggest emitters conveniently forgetting the havoc they wrecked on nature during the past more than 150 years and more. In 2021, China accounted for the highest 25% (15 billion metric tonnes) of global CO2 emission followed by the USA accounting for 11% (5 billion Metric tonnes) of the global total. The European Union emits around 2.8 billion metric tonnes. India's emission in 2021 was 2.7 billion metric tonnes which is around 7.5 % of the global emissions. The per capita fossil CO2 emissions in 2021 were 1.3 tC per person per year for the globe and were 4.0 (USA), 2.2 (China), 1.7 (EU27), and 0.5 (India) tC per person per year for the four highest CO2 emitting countries.

India will surpass China in population in 2023, but it cannot be equated with China in funding for climate change considering the country's relatively low emissions. India's contribution to historical cumulative CO2 emissions is 3%, whereas the US. On the other hand, the EU contributed 25% and 17% respectively to total fossil CO2 emissions from 1850 to 2019. China contributed 13%, the Russian Federation 7%, and Indonesia and Brazil 1%.

Thus there is no equity, justice or fairness in global climate change talks. The climate change negotiations, therefore, for most developing countries like India are proving a wastage of money and efforts as nothing concrete except our statements before the world leaders on our achievements on the Nationally Determined Targets on Paris agreement of 2015 and how much clean

INDIA WILL SURPASS CHINA IN POPULATION IN 2023, BUT IT CANNOT BE EQUATED WITH CHINA IN FUNDING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERING THE COUNTRY'S RELATIVELY LOW EMISSIONS. INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO HISTORICAL CUMULATIVE CO2 EMISSIONS IS 3%, WHEREAS THE US. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE EU CONTRIBUTED 25% AND 17% RESPECTIVELY TO TOTAL FOSSIL CO2 EMISSIONS FROM 1850 TO 2019. CHINA CONTRIBUTED 13%, THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION 7%, AND INDONESIA AND BRAZIL 1% EACH.

energy we are generating and how much trees we are planting and what is our road map for achieving net-zero emission by the year 2070. The agreement on the creation of funds to support the poor nation is just recognition by the developed world after protracted negotiations of their responsible for past emissions. Now, therefore, the issue should be taken up vigorously by the developing countries in all forums and India should launch diplomatic networking to safeguard its interests and the interests of the developing world for climate justice.

India and other developing countries in the CoP 27 meet had rightfully raised the issue of the gradual elimination of all kinds of fossil fuels. Thankfully, the developed world supported this, but the Russian and Saudi Arab vehement opposition blocked ti further progress. The Indian negotiators citing the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change had told the Egyptian CoP27 presidency that meeting the long-term goal of the Paris Agreement "requires phase down of all fossil fuels".

"Selective singling out of sources of emissions, for either labeling them more harmful or labeling them 'green and sustainable' even when they are sources of greenhouse gases has no basis in the best available science", they contended.

The developed world has been demanding phasing out the use of coal in power generation which India and other countries cannot agree. The developed world's hypocrisy is quite apparent on this as they have developed better alternatives for coal but on the issue of transfer of technology, they always duck the question. So neither they want to part with the technology nor they are willing to be liberal on funding the poor nations, yet they want to assume the leadership role in climate change dialogue. In a nutshell, the climate change talks regarding human welfare are proving bogus and a bore if we assess the progress since Kyoto Protocol was signed except a few successes obtained through Paris deal in 2015.

The global mean temperature will cross the 1.5°C limits in the current decade or next, and the 2°C mark during 2040–2060 as estimated by the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change in their sixth report. Lip service syndrome is best exemplified by the statement of Egypt's government and subsequent decisions taken in CoP 27. The

UN Secretary-General has commented that only the creation of a loss and damage fund is not a solution. The World Bank which is outside the purview of UNFCCC can pitch in effectively in tackling the fund position if the US and its European allies are genuinely committed to treating climate change as a top global priority and accepting their responsibility to do climate justice. This was also a reason why many countries were pitching for reforms in the World Bank, which is perceived as having failed to help with the climate crisis. What is the use of the World Bank funding poverty and water-related projects in poor countries when poor countries sink further into misery due to climate-related disasters?

In several areas, the temperature in India is already on the rise from 0.8 to even 1 degree Celsius. We have less time for negotiation and should strive for more time on action. Many experts feel that India should hold parallel climate change negotiations and lead the world. The country should formulate some common action programme so that developing nations and China look inwards and help each other with technology and other resources. Efforts must be made to avoid disasters as the one Pakistan witnessed recently which wiped away 13 % of the GDP. Back home the dreadful memory of the Chennai flood will haunt for years. We need to declare climate emergencies in each country and support a programme to meet the emergency.

In the Indian scenario, we need to declare water scarcity and its poor management, agricultural uncertainties, soil degradation, and natural forest and bio-diversity depletion as a climatic emergency and emphasize alternative fuels for our transport and energy sector. Unplanned waste disposal, poor investment in natural resources, and population control must be the focus area in the overall climate action plan. Already the success is excellent on solar power generation targets. However, on climate change, world leaders should remember one quote by Zimbabwean Philosopher Matshona Dhliwayo “Busy hands achieve more than idle tongues.” Let us junk these half-baked dreams being sold in diffused glib negotiations and focus on concrete doable actions.

(The Writer is a former Director-General in the ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change)

- Of the 188 episodes studied, 108 (57.4%) contained at least one incident of tobacco use.
- The total number of tobacco incidents in the selected series ranged from zero in *Bodyguard*, *Riverdale* and *13 Reasons Why* to 1652 in *The Marvellous Mrs Maisel*.
- The US-produced series like *The Marvellous Mrs Maisel* by Amazon and *Narcos* and *The Crown* by Netflix depicted a higher number of tobacco imagery when compared to Indian produced series like *Mirzapur* by Amazon and *Sacred Games* by Netflix.
- Four out of the 10 series studied showed tobacco brands through product placements across episodes, and all of these were foreign productions. The two series — *Sacred Games* and *Mirzapur* — produced in India, showed tobacco imagery, however they did not display the brand name of the products.
- Both foreign and Indian produced series depicting any tobacco incidents, did not comply with the tobacco-free film and TV Rules in India.

How to prevent humanity's surrender to AI

The arrival of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has dramatically changed our lives. Globalisation criss-crossing the globe has pushed human civilisation to new frontiers of change. And one of the most remarkable dynamics heralded by the forces of such globalisation is no other than the grand advancements in information and communication technologies leading to the invention of the AI and its tools. It is estimated that by the year 2030, the AI could add \$13 trillion to the global economic output. This could finally increase the world's GDP by 1.2 per cent each year. A new generation born in the Google Age is fully accustomed to AI driven tools even before the coming of the deadly Covid-19. It is hoped that the young generation would specifically contribute to the massive growth of the new AI economy.

The datafication of the world has indeed compelled all of us to surrender to AI. Experts say that big data management demands machines. Their storage, usage and distribution largely are possible only by the use of the AI tools. The very fact what machines can think was given by Alan Turing in 1950 in his seminal work called "Computing Machinery and Intelligence". This book indeed answered many critical questions some 70 years back about AI. In that book, he proposed the idea of "The Imitation Game" that gave the idea of machine thinking like man. Today what we call "Turing Test" has become a remarkable tool in the AI paradigm. Interestingly this directly focuses on the ability of the machines to predict and respond like a human. However, the origin of the AI lies in the "Mechanical Man" found in ancient Greece and Egypt. Until 1929, Japanese professor Makoto Nishimura's invented robot named "Gakutensoku" created waves around the world spreading the message that this machine can work like a human and sense like them. But the very word called the "Artificial Intelligence" was first coined in a conference organised in the



Dartmouth College in the US in 1956 only.

The irony is that many national governments such as the US have openly played a significant role in helping expand the big tech business. Starting from the Bush Administration's Global Internet Freedom Task Force (GIFTF) to Obama's International Strategy for Cyberspace: Prosperity, Security and Openness in a Networked World (ISCP-SONW), the big tech conglomerates and their subsidiaries have virtually occupied the new knowledge economy. The quintessential five — Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon and Microsoft (GAFAM) — have quietly pushed down the yesteryear's large business magnates from the top of the charts of global business. This has come through entirely different routes. These corporations, besides fast becoming economic and political entities,

have started redefining the socio-cultural ethos of the common people. Their social media platforms and other high tech have interwoven people in myriad forms all across the world.

What has baffled humanity today is shocking mechanics built in the AI machines and tools. Altogether they are gradually replacing the work and skills carried out by humans for generations. By 2030, almost 47 per cent of the jobs that face high risks of automation would be taken over by AI. Besides, some of the jobs that equally involve risks and demands perfection in top industries like health, mining, space, etc, would be performed by the machines. It seems the loss of man-controlled jobs would add woes to the economic plight of us.

The biggest ever debate and dialogue is centred on the loss of privacy with the AI machines. Our very basic rights are lost with these machines. Precisely, there is no such law

as of today that can prevent the damages caused by the use of AI. The complex data environment, algorithms and the models underlying the development of the AI operations help the public institutions and the private corporations to maintain data secrecy. This kind of an environment can quickly breed public distrust over the new AI-drawn environment.

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet specifically intervened and asked for a moratorium on the sale and use of AI last year. She warned of the dangers of unregulated AI tools. Further she highlighted that technology's decisions can change, define or damage human lives. A report released by the UN in this regard clearly highlights the risks of AI technologies. It also made it public that AI can serve as a force for good but if used irresponsibly, it can bring disaster to humanity. So the

UNHRC strongly appealed that the AI devices that do not conform to the international human rights law must be banned.

The GAFAM has been central to crafting both bilateral and multilateral free trade agreements to their maximum benefit. With the birth of the WTO in 1995 along with its most controversial agreement called the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), the private corporations have started surpassing the borders of the nation-states. Many of these companies have already grown so big that they can easily take over many of the countries in the world. In fact such a scenario is posing a potential threat to the survival of the once powerful nation-state. And the GAFAM kinds of groups are virtually occupying the socio-cultural spaces of many besides being large physical entities. And when they are entering into the AI market

unlike the other business houses, they have the advantage of their huge customer base. It is an added advantage for them, and this is continuously taking the global AI market to the common people.

Now the moot question here is: Are we all responsible for giving away human rights to the AI tools and machines? The cumbersome, erratic and expansive network of globalisation has given a fillip to the upcoming AI market. And we all have become a part of the same. So only blaming the big tech companies is not enough for now.

Above all, the machines invented or created by humans should not be allowed to take away the universal human rights. But alas! We all are inseparable from the digital media networks. We are into them. And AI machines have finally stolen our treasured past and promised future. The reason behind is our intense desire for a super comfortable,

efficient and hassle-free lifestyle. As we move on to the next epoch of human civilisation, we will be certainly detached from our fellow beings. Machines will be our companions. Life will be much faster than ever before.

Gone are the days when we had abundant time for other humans to share our hopes and despairs. With AI penetrating deep down our privacy, we have seriously lost our capacity to preserve and manoeuvre what have been known as purely our own. The 21st century's new "Data Nation" and the tech giants have grabbed our privacy. The only way to balance work and life is to hammer out concrete legal strategies (both at national and global levels) to make AI human friendly. Else humanity will soon surrender to AI.

(The writer is the Head of the Department of Arts and Humanities at Geeta University, Panipat)

What has baffled humanity today is shocking mechanics built in the AI machines and tools. Altogether they are gradually replacing the work and skills carried out by humans for generations. By 2030, almost 47 per cent of the jobs that face high risks of automation would be taken over by AI. The loss of man-controlled jobs would add woes to the economic plight



MAKHAN SAIKIA

PERSPECTIVE

26/11: A shared pain that binds India, Israel together

The 26/11 Mumbai attacks have forged a strong bond between India and Israel. Lauding the courage of India and the people of Mumbai, Israel has said that the enormous loss on that "horrible day" in November 2008 continues to be an emotional moment for a lot of Israelis who feel that the 26/11 terror strike "is a shared pain" that binds India and Israel together.

"I remember vividly the courage of India and of the people of Mumbai and there is not one minute in which we do not benefit from the strategic partnership that was forged between us, among other things, on that horrible day," Israeli foreign ministry's Director General, Alon Ushpiz, wrote on Twitter.

"Tomorrow (Saturday) marks 14 years since the bloody terrorist attack in Mumbai which targeted 5 locations including the Chabad House in which Rabbi Gavriel and Rivka Holtsberg, Rabbi Gavriel Taitelbaum, Mrs. Norma Rabinovich, Rabbi Ben Zion Kurman and Mrs. Yocheved Orpaz were murdered," Ushpiz, who has in the past served as Israel's Ambassador in India, wrote on Friday.

Israel's top diplomat also called India's Ambassador to Israel, Sanjeev Singla, to convey his "deepest condolences" for this enormous loss of innocent civilians that day, among them six Israelis.

"May the memory of the victims be a blessing," he said.

The 2008 Mumbai terror attacks continue to stir outrage in Israel, where commemora-

tive events are held on its anniversary to condemn the senseless killings and demand action against the Pakistan-based masterminds of the carnage.

With posters and banners depicting the brutality of the ghastly attacks, Indians in Israel held candlelight vigil since Friday evening on the 14th anniversary of the terror attacks that shook India. They called for the Pakistan-sponsored Lashkar-e-Tayyeba terrorists involved in the 26/11 Mumbai attacks to be brought to book.

The attacks, which drew widespread global condemnation, began on November 26 and lasted until November 29, 2008. A total of 166 people, including several foreign nationals, died and more than 300 were wounded.

Nine Pakistani terrorists were killed by the Indian security forces. Ajmal Kasab was the only terrorist who was captured alive. He was hanged four years later on November 21, 2012.

"The terrorists who killed women, children and innocents in such a frenzy should be identified and eliminated. The countries of the world should not only impose strict financial sanctions on the countries that provide shelter to the terrorists but also stop them in every way," Ravi Soma, President of the Israel-Telangana Association told PTI.

People from Telangana, living in Israel, organised an event in Ramat Gan (close to Tel Aviv) offering prayers for the innocent lives lost in the brutal attacks and lit candles in



their memory. They also referred to the loss of six Jewish lives in the attacks in which 166 people were killed, hinting at a deliberate attempt to break the strong bonds between India and Israel.

The 26/11 attack continues to be an emotional moment for a lot of Israelis who feel that the Mumbai terror strike "is a shared pain" that binds India

and Israel together.

The Indian Chaplaincy in the Holy Land, comprising mostly of the Malayalee Community in the region, also organised a remembrance ceremony attended by a large number of people from all over the country.

Adoration/Rosary ceremony, a Holy mass for the departed in the terrorist attack,

and special prayers was followed by a meeting with people holding lit candles and posters with slogans against terrorism, some Indian flags and also calls to end violence and promote peace. "Violence divides! Love unites!", said Rev. Pradeep, who heads the Indian Chaplaincy.

Condemning the Mumbai attacks, he said that he "prays

that such incidents will never occur again and people will live in peace and brotherhood".

Degel Menashe, an organisation representing the Bnei Menashe Jewish community that has connections with India's north-eastern states of Manipur and Mizoram, condemned the attacks and has planned a commemorative event on Saturday.

Members of the organisation held protest also in Churachandpur holding placards reading, "no to terrorism", "we stand by all the victims of 26/11 attacks", etc.

Indian students at all the leading institutions in Israel — Hebrew University, Tel Aviv University, Technion in Haifa, Ben-Gurion University in Beersheba, Ariel University in the West Bank and some other institutions — have also planned candlelight vigil to commemorate 26/11 on Saturday evening.

"Each drop of blood is a burning flame against terrorism. Each martyr of 26/11 is a light kindled against the darkness," Krupa Susan Verghese, a PhD student at Ariel University told PTI.

Ankit Chauhan, a post-doctoral fellow at Ben-Gurion University, said that the "gruesome terrorist attacks inflicted deep scars on every Indian's psyche that cannot be wiped". "Still some of the terrorists are roaming around freely on this earth who did this heinous act. Terrorism does not have any face and terrorists should be treated with no mercy. No mercy for terror anywhere in the world," he stressed.

Some of the students also lauded the efforts of the Indian security forces and the sacrifices made by them. "Today we once again remember our unsung brave hearts who lost their lives and we pay our sincere respect to the lost lives and their families," said Bhavana Velpula, a PhD student in medicine at Tel Aviv University.

"As Indian nationals stay-

ing abroad, we acknowledge and condemn this terrible incident. Gatherings for such a cause connect us to our country and its roots, uniting us together as one nation and together we raise our voice against terrorism coming in any form," she added.

Jewish outreach movement, Chabad, last year unveiled a plaque in the southern coastal city of Eilat in memory of the six Jewish victims of the Mumbai terror attacks. "To the memory and rise of souls of Rabbi Gavriel Noah and Rivka Holtsberg, who were martyred during the time of their holy mission in a terror attack at the Chabad house in Mumbai, India, from which the message of Torah was being spread all over the area," the plaque in Hebrew reads.

The Torah constitutes the first five books of the Hebrew Bible. "And for the four guests who stayed in the Chabad house at the time of the attack, and were also martyred: Rabbi Gavriel Taitelbaum, Mrs. Norma Rabinovich, Rabbi Ben Zion Kurman, Mrs. Yocheved Orpaz. May their souls be bound up in the bond of eternal life," the plaque in Hebrew reads.

Six Jews were among the 166 victims of the terror attack. All of them were killed at the Nariman House, popularly also known as the Chabad House. Israeli leaders and officials have also repeatedly called for the perpetrators of the horrendous crime to be "brought to justice".

(With inputs from PTI)

