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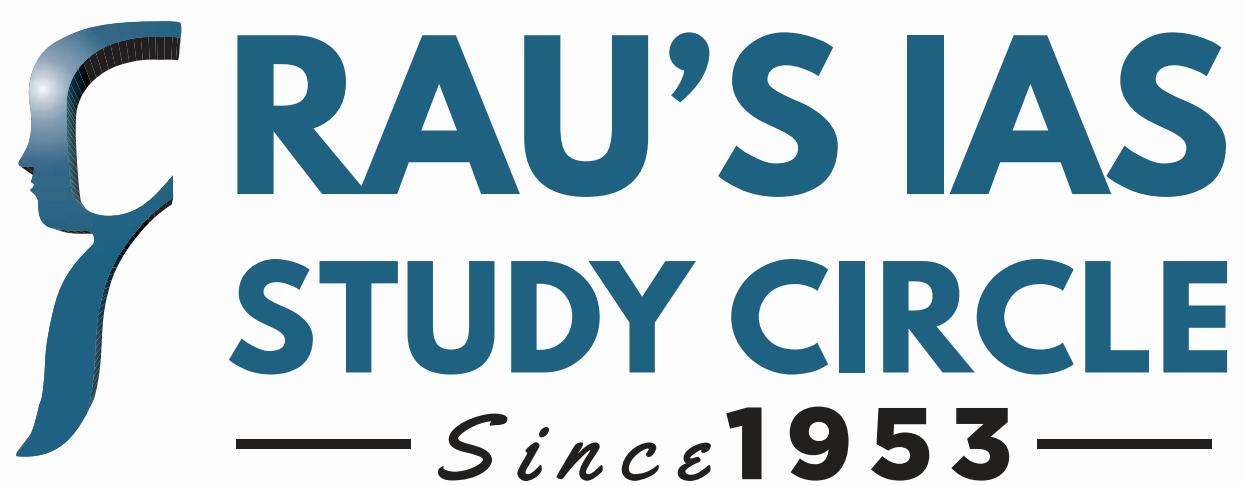
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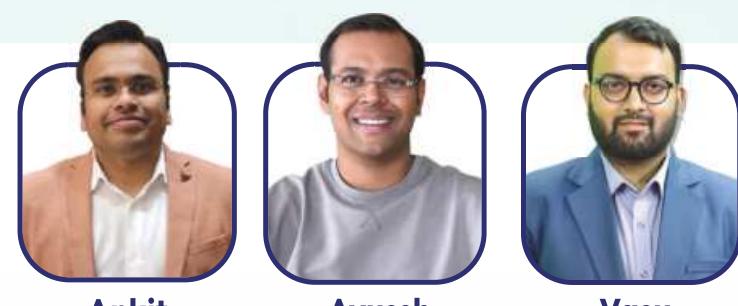
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OSCAR NOMINATIONS
India bags entries for song, 2 documentaries
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Dead turtles wash ashore along coast
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TROUBLE IN LADAKH
India loses access to 26 Patrol Points to PLA
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DATA POINT: TAMIL NADU
Share of women eating green veggies declines
Number of anaemic women may increase
OPINION » PAGE 7

DAZZLING DUO
Gill and Rohit set up India's clean sweep
SPORT » PAGE 15

Lack of consultation over setting up of inquiry panel upsets protesting wrestlers

The Hindu Bureau
GURUGRAM

A day after Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur announced the setting up of a five-member Oversight Committee to investigate sexual harassment charges against Wrestling Federation of India president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, the wrestlers, who led the protests on Tuesday expressed disappointment over the setting up of the committee without consulting them.

The three prominent wrestlers – Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat and Sakshi Malik – in similarly worded tweets said it was sad that they were not even consulted before the setting up of the committee. “We were assured that we would be consulted,” they tweeted in Hindi, tagging Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minis-

We were assured that we would be consulted before the Oversight Committee was formed. It is very sad that we were not even consulted before the formation of this committee. @narendramodi @AmitShah @ianuragthakur SAKSHI MALIK



ter Amit Shah and Mr. Thakur.

Mr. Punia told *The Hindu* over phone that the charges against the WFI president were a sensitive matter and they had certain “suggestions” to make before the setting up of the committee. He, however, added that they had no objections to the members in the committee.

The wrestlers would take up the matter with the Sports Minister, said Mr. Punia, adding that the findings of the committee would not be acceptable to

them if their suggestions were not considered. The Olympic medallist, however, refused to make the “suggestions” public.

Headed by Olympic medallist boxer M.C. Mary Kom, the committee comprises Olympic medallist wrestler Yogeshwar Dutt, well-known shuttler Trupti Murgunde, former Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) CEO Commander Rajesh Rajagopalan and former Executive Director (Team) of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) Radhika Seeman.

SC wrong in revealing sensitive reports: Rijiju

Collegium putting IB, RAW reports in public domain a matter of grave concern, says Law Minister, adding that government commenting on issues such as NJAC does not lower dignity of judiciary

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Amid the running battle between the Executive and the Judiciary over judicial appointments, Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju on Tuesday said it was a matter of “grave concern” that the Supreme Court Collegium put certain portions of sensitive reports of the Intelligence Bureau (IB) and the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) in public domain.

Intelligence agency officials, who work in a secret manner, will “think twice” in future if their reports are made public, Mr. Rijiju told presspersons.

He was responding to questions on the Collegium resolutions that contained portions of the IB



Kiren Rijiju speaking at the award function for E-Courts projects of the Department of Justice and the Ministry of Law and Justice. ANI

and RAW reports regarding some advocates who were recommended for appointment as High Court judges. “Putting the sensitive or secret reports of RAW and IB in public domain is a matter of grave concern on which I will react at an appropriate time,” he said.

On being asked if he would “sensitise” Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chan-

drachud to it, he said, “The honourable Chief Justice and I meet so often. We are always in touch. He is the head of the Judiciary and I am the bridge between the government and the judiciary so we have to work together. You cannot work in isolation.”

He stressed that matters of appointments were an administrative matter, and

IN BRIEF

AAP, BJP again stall mayoral poll

NEW DELHI
Another bout of ruckus marred the meeting of the newly elected Municipal Corporation of Delhi, which was adjourned again without electing a Mayor, prompting AAP councillors to hold a protest at the House on Tuesday. » Page 2

Youths defy ban, screen BBC film

NEW DELHI
Youth organisations in New Delhi and Kerala on Tuesday screened the first episode of BBC’s “India: The Modi Question” to lodge protest against the Centre’s move to ban it. » Page 4

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OPPORTUNITIES » PAGES 4 & 5

AI fined again for two incidents on Dec. flight

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation levied a fine of ₹10 lakh on Air India for its failure to report two incidents on a flight from Paris to Delhi in December,

where a drunk passenger urinated on a seat and another smoked inside a lavatory. This is the second penalty in five days.

The fine is “for not reporting the incident to DGCA and delaying in referring the matter to its In-

ternal Committee, which is a violation of applicable DGCA Civil Aviation Requirements,” it said.

On December 6, on an Air India flight from Paris to New Delhi, one passenger was caught smoking in the lavatory.

Another passenger allegedly relieved himself on a seat which was briefly vacant because its woman occupant had gone to the toilet.

AIR INDIA'S RESPONSE
» PAGE 12

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Delhi High Court notifies rules for live-streaming proceedings

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has notified the rules for live-streaming of its proceedings and that of all the subordinate courts in the Capital.

As per the rules, live-streaming will not be allowed in cases such as matrimonial matters, cases of child adoption and child custody, cases concerning sexual offences, matters involving abuse of children etc.

Framed by the High Court with the approval of Lieutenant-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena, the rules

aim to "imbue greater transparency, inclusivity, and foster access to justice".

The 'Live Streaming and Recording of Court Proceedings Rules of the High Court of Delhi, 2022' came into effect on January 13, when it was published in the *Gazette of India*.

Live-streaming of proceedings is already under way in the High Courts of Gujarat, Orissa, Karnataka, Jharkhand, Patna and Madhya Pradesh, as well as the Supreme Court of India.

According to the rules, no person or entity (including print and electronic media, and social media platforms) other than an

authorised person or entity can record, share or disseminate live-streamed proceedings or archival data.

"The use of authorised recordings in their original form may be permitted by the court, inter-alia to disseminate news and for training, academic and educational purposes. Authorised recordings handed over for the aforesaid purposes shall not be further edited or processed," the rules clarified.

"Such recordings will not be used for commercial, promotional purposes or advertising in any form," they also state.

Vendor mowed down by car: man behind wheel arrested

Samridhi Tewari
NEW DELHI

The police on Tuesday said the son of a city businessman has been arrested for allegedly mowing down a vegetable vendor with his car on Sunday in south Delhi's Munirka. It was earlier reported that the victim was an ice-cream vendor, but the police have confirmed that Basu Dev Shau, 58, was a vegetable seller and was returning home when the accident took place.

Shivang, 30, who was behind the wheel, fled the spot after stopping his car for a moment, the police added. The victim lay bleeding on the road when the police reached the spot. An ice-cream vendor had spotted the victim and informed them.

The police had initially detained Shivang's father, a resident of Rajkot, and their driver as well. However, during preliminary interrogation it was found that the accused was travelling with his friends from Vasant Vihar towards IIT-Delhi when his car hit the vendor, an officer said. A case under IPC Sections 279 (rash driving) and 304A (death by negligence) has been registered.

Meanwhile, the victim's daughter told *The Hindu* that the family of the accused have reached out to them and offered compensation. "We don't need compensation from people whose son killed my father. We need justice and safer roads," said Manisha, 28.

AAP, BJP tug of war stalls mayoral elections again

MCD House adjourned, AAP says the BJP was looking for an excuse to disrupt the meeting; hooting, misbehaviour led to 'environment not suitable' to hold Mayor's election: presiding officer

Muneef Khan
NEW DELHI

Another bout of ruckus marred the meeting of the newly elected Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), which was adjourned again without electing a Mayor, prompting AAP councillors to hold a sit-in at the House till late in the evening on Tuesday.

The House meeting was reconvened weeks after the first session on January 6 was adjourned amid chaos following AAP's protest over presiding officer Satya Sharma's decision to first administer the oath to the nominated persons (aldermen). The first House meeting sees all councillors being administered the oath, following which the election to the office of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are held.

On Tuesday, despite initial murmurs of protests over Ms. Sharma's – a BJP



Back to square one: AAP councillors and MLAs shouting slogans at the Civic Centre on Tuesday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

councillor appointed by the L-G to preside over the meeting – decision to first administer the oath to the aldermen, the oath-taking process was completed without hiccups. However, just as the process to hold the Mayor's election began, a heated argument broke out between the BJP and AAP councillors, said Ms. Sharma. She then adjourned the House till the

they did not want a Mayor to be elected. We are sitting in the House till the mayoral polls are held," said AAP councillor Mukesh Goel. The AAP councillors, however, left the House later in the evening.

Ms. Sharma told *The Hindu* that despite multiple appeals to "maintain peace", the meeting saw frequent hooting, sloganising, use of foul language and instances of misbehaviour, leading to an "environment that was not suitable" to hold the polls.

AAP councillors and senior leaders, including the 13 MLAs and three Raja Sabha members who vote in the mayoral polls, remained seated while senior AAP leader Durgesh Pathak went on to conduct a headcount, and said the party has the lead to win the mayoral polls. "It's an insult to the people that the House was adjourned without any concrete reason," said Mr. Pathak.

next date. Both AAP and BJP councillors said they did not indulge in any activity to disrupt the proceedings.

Repeat performance
"Although the presiding officer again administered the oath to the aldermen first, we maintained peace in the House. The BJP was looking for an excuse to disrupt the meeting since

AAP, BJP blame each other for adjournment

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Both AAP and the BJP blamed each other for derailing the proceedings of the second meeting of the MCD House.

While AAP charged the BJP with running away from the mayoral elections, the BJP said AAP disrupted the polls as it was aware of its "internal divisions".

Leaders of the two parties also claimed that members of the rival party abused and assaulted their women councillors.

"First, they were running away from the MCD elections, and now, after losing the polls, they are running away from the mayoral elections," said Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia while addressing a press conference after the House was adjourned.

"If you believe in democracy, let the mayoral elections happen," Mr. Sisodia said in a message to the BJP.

While AAP councillors were sitting peacefully, he added, councillors of the BJP created a ruckus, fol-

lowing which the pro tem Speaker adjourned the House.

In response, BJP MP Manoj Tiwari accused AAP leaders of misbehaving with members of his party.

Premeditated stir

"AAP councillors remained silent till the swearing-in. But they started creating a ruckus just before the mayoral elections were to take place," Mr. Tiwari added.

Delhi BJP general secretary Harsh Malhotra also charged AAP's councillors with using "abusive lan-

guage and misbehaving" with BJP's female councillors, including its mayoral candidate Rekha Gupta.

He also accused AAP members of assaulting BJP councillor Sandeep Kapoor.

AAP MP Sanjay Singh

said, "What is the meaning of people's mandate in a

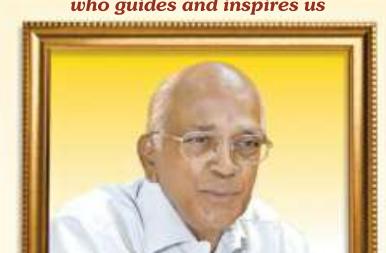
democracy if the BJP can get away with something like this?" He accused the BJP councillors of assaulting AAP's women councillors in the presence of Union Minister Meenakshi Lekhi and former Minister Harsh Vardhan," he said.

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'Redevelop Signature View Apartments'

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

L-G V.K. Saxena has ordered the DDA to redevelop the "structurally damaged" Signature View Apartments in north Delhi's Mukherjee Nagar and rehabilitate its residents in the meantime, Raj Niwas officials said on Tuesday.

'Aftab killed his live-in partner for meeting a man through dating app'

Police say Poonawalla killed Shraddha in a fit of rage; chargesheet of over 6,600 pages is based on nearly 180 testimonies, circumstantial and digital evidence; hearing scheduled for February 7

Mehul Malpani
Samridhi Tewari

NEW DELHI

Delhi Police on Tuesday filed a 6,629-page chargesheet before the Saket court in the national capital against Aftab Armin Poonawalla (28, at the time of the incident). They said that Aftab killed his live-in partner Shraddha Walkar, 27, in a fit of rage as he was unhappy with her for meeting a man through a dating app.

Aftab's judicial custody has been extended till February 7, when the court is expected to take cognizance of the chargesheet. The chargesheet was filed before Metropolitan Magistrate Aviral Shukla during a hearing where Aftab was produced through video-conferencing. In the hearing, Aftab told the court that he wanted to change his lawyer.

Aftab is accused of strangulating Shraddha, chopping her body into pieces, storing them in a fridge and, over three months, dumping them at various spots in Delhi and Gurugram.

The police have booked Aftab under Sections 302



Nailed: According to the chargesheet, around 16-17 body parts, including Shraddha's hair, jaw, bones, and pelvis, recovered by the police had matched the DNA collected from her father. FILE PHOTO

(murder) and 201 (destruction of evidence) of the Indian Penal Code.

A senior police officer said that Shraddha had gone to see a 27-year-old man in Gurugram she had met through a dating app.

A senior police officer said that the murder took place around 2.30 p.m. on May 18, 2022. "In a couple of hours, he had realised the gravity of what he had done. So, he started chopping her body and washing the house," the officer added. He was arrested on November 12.

The officer added that around 16-17 body parts, including Shraddha's hair, jaw, bones, and pelvis, recovered by the police had matched the DNA collected from her father Vikas Walkar.

The chargesheet has nearly 180 testimonies from witnesses, including their friends, family members, colleagues and neighbours. It also includes screenshots of Shraddha's chats with her former boss and friends, in which she complained of being in an abusive relationship and of

injuries she had suffered during fights with Aftab.

Thorough investigation
Addressing a press conference, Joint Commissioner of Police (Southern Range) Meenu Chaudhary said nine teams were formed and a Special Investigation Team (SIT) was constituted to investigate the case.

Ms. Chaudhary added that the police put Aftab through various tests, including narco-analysis and lie-detector, and "results of all the tests are in line with our investigation".

L-G, CM meet even as the bitter feud over control of bureaucracy continues

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Lieutenant-Governor V.K. Saxena met at Raj Niwas on Tuesday, where the latter hosted the traditional 'At Home' ceremony. Their meeting comes against the backdrop of a bitter feud over the control of bureaucracy in the Capital. The last time they met (January 13), Mr. Kejriwal and Mr. Saxena had accused each other of "cooking up" stories.

Several other dignitaries, including Delhi government Ministers, MPs, MLAs, representatives of foreign missions and leaders of political parties, also attended the event.

Meanwhile, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia accused the L-G of issuing



Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal meeting Lieutenant-Governor V.K. Saxena at Raj Niwas on Tuesday. TWITTER/@LTGOVDELHI

ing prosecution sanctions bypassing the AAP government. "The L-G and the Chief Secretary have created a situation wherein people accused of committing serious crimes against the State might go scot-free," Mr. Sisodia said. He added that in the last few months, the Chief Secretary sent files seeking prosecution

sanctions directly to the L-G, bypassing the Minister concerned.

"The L-G gave his approvals in these cases, although he is not the approving authority. So, his sanctions are invalid. When the accused raise this point in the courts, they will be released," the Deputy CM said.

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Aleida Guevara says cost of U.S. blockade very high for Cubans

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Aleida Guevara, daughter of late Cuban revolutionary Ernesto 'Che' Guevara, on Tuesday said that the U.S. blockade on Cuba is "criminal and inhumane", and sought global support to fight it.

Citing an example, Ms. Guevara said no company was ready to sell life-saving medicines for a five-year-old in Cuba due to the blockade, even though Cuba and its people had the money to buy them.

"So, the cost of the blockade is very high for the people of Cuba. We are fighting against this blockade because it is criminal and inhumane."

CPI(M) general secre-



Aleida Guevara at an event in Delhi. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

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बरकतउल्ला विश्वविद्यालय, भोपाल को रूपा से प्राप्त अनुदान से भोक्तिकी विभाग के अधिकारी Three Port Glove Box क्रय की खुली ई-निविदा जेम पर क्रमांक: GEM/2023/B/295574 भोपाल दिनांक 06.01.2023 जारी की गई है। इस निविदा को आमंत्रण जेम पर प्रस्तुत करने की अंतिम दिनांक 28.01.2023 समय साथ 3-00 बजे है। मप्र. भारत/108315/2023

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Specialization: Communication, Economics, Finance and Accounting, Humanities and Social Sciences, Information Systems, Marketing Management, Operations Management and Quantitative Techniques, Organizational Behaviour and Human Resource Management, Strategic Management.

Last date for submission of the online application form is **February 28, 2023**. For detailed information, please visit www.iimidr.ac.in

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from firms/contractors registered with for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened / downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidauthorityonline.com & <https://etender.up.nic.in>. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/ amendments & corrigendum etc. (A).

S.N.	Job No./Work Name	Amount
1	39/D(H)/DD(H)-I/2022-23, M/o RSP (Sub Head Vertical Garden) sector- 15, 16, 18 metro station Pillars and Kalandi Kunji Bridge both side Noida.	Cost Rs. 74.17 Lacs
2	57/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2022-23 M/o Park (C/o rain water harvesting recharge structure in soft area of different parks in Sectors-2 to 10) Noida.	Cost Rs. 46.21 Lacs
3	59/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2022-23, D/o RSP with two year maintenance Village Bahilolpur underpass.	Cost Rs. 79.94 Lacs
4	60/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2022-23, D/o Park with two year maintenance in J-Block sector-63.	Cost Rs. 61.72 Lacs
5	62/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2022-23, M/o All Parks division-1st (Subhead Submersible Boring).	Cost Rs. 37.72 Lacs
6	20/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2022-23, M/o Park (Repairing of rain water harvesting in different parks) sector- 33, 34, 35, 37, 39, 40, 41, 44, 49, 53, 104, 107 and sector-10) Noida.	Cost Rs. 38.92 Lacs
7	39/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2022-23, M/o Green Belt (C/o Gazebo Hut in different Green Belt) in Sector-117.	Cost Rs. 38.56 Lacs
8	45/D(H)/DD(H)-II/2022-23, D/o Green Belt in sector-112 with two year maintenance.	Cost Rs. 71.30 Lacs
9	13/D(H)/DD(H)-III/2022-23, M/o All Parks and green belt division-IIId (Subhead Submersible Boring & Re-Boring).	Cost Rs. 69.88 Lacs

Which can be uploaded by date 07.02.2023 upto 5.00 PM Pre-qualification shall be opened/ downloaded on date 08.02.2023 at 11.00 AM.

(B)

S.N.	Job No./Work Name	Amount

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Armed robbers attack Telugu students in Chicago, 1 dead

Tharun Boda
VIJAYAWADA

Three students from India, who had landed in Chicago in the U.S. state of Illinois a few days ago, were attacked by armed robbers in Chicago. One of the two who received critical injuries died while undergoing treatment.

The trio – N. Devasish, 23, and K. Sai Charan, 22, of Hyderabad in Telangana and Lakshman from Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh – reached Chicago on January 13 to pursue Master's programme at Governors State University, Chicago, according to reports.

On January 22 evening (local time), the three, who were at a parking lot, were reportedly confronted by two armed Afro-Americans. Even as they complied with the robbers and gave them everything they had, the robbers opened fire at them. While Lakshman managed to escape unhurt, Devasish and Sai Charan received critical injuries in the torso, according to the reports.

Representatives of the Telugu Association of North America (TANA) reached out to the students and have extended necessary support. "Devasish breathed his last while undergoing treatment. Lakshman was with us and we are taking care of him. We visited Sai Charan in the hospital and his condition is stable," Hemma C. Kanuru, a senior member and representative of the Telugu Association of North America, told *The Hindu* over phone.

Youth outfits defy 'ban' to hold public screenings of documentary on Modi

Screening prevented by JNU authorities; electricity cut off and students view documentary on personal devices in pitch darkness; stone pelting reported; Kerala witnesses tense stand-offs between the BJP and rival party workers

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Youth organisations affiliated to the Opposition parties and student outfits on Tuesday screened the first episode of BBC's "India: The Modi Question" across Kerala to lodge protest against the Centre's recent move to ban it on social media. A similar attempt at Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) was prevented by the authorities leading to group viewings on personal devices.



JNU students watch the film on a laptop after authorities cut power to the campus to prevent the screening. JAIDEEP DEO BHANU

was going on in pitch darkness as the electricity had been cut off at most parts, especially outside the venue: Teflas, the Jawaharlal Nehru University Students Union (JNUSU) office. As the screening could not take place, the union shared the link of the documentary and the students, who had gathered in large numbers, viewed it together on their phones.

"You can shut one screen down but you cannot stop the thousands that light up instead," said JNUSU president Aishe Ghosh while addressing the gathering. The students turned up despite an advisory from the university administration that such an "unauthorised activity" might disturb peace and harmony of the campus.

Ms. Ghosh said the union decided to go ahead with the screening as its task was to "strengthen democracy" and it would continue to do so. Referring to a Prime Minister's Office tweet dated April 18, 2018, – that said "I want this Government to be criticised. Criticism makes de-

mocracy strong: PM @narendramodi", – Ms. Ghosh said "I think the JNU administration missed the tweet by our PM tweeted some years back. Just reminding. We take his words quite seriously."

"If the ABVP [Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad] or the administration had a problem with our protest screening of the documentary that the Centre is trying to hide, they could have carried out a parallel programme. That is the culture of dissent that we have on campus," she said.

Reacting to the Left-backed JNUSU's plan for screening the documentary, the ABVP said supporting a "British-constructed narrative" was coherent with the "colonial mindset of British sepoys". "Many in Opposi-

tion as well as so-called student organisations are indeed British stooges, spreading propaganda-driven BBC documentary in Indian educational institutions," it said.

The Students' Federation of India (SFI), in a statement, said its Central Executive Committee had decided to screen the documentary in all States to reveal the "real face" of the Modi government. "Though the authorities gave permission to the ABVP to screen 'Kashmir Files' which is a propaganda movie of RSS-BJP politics, Central universities/institutions are giving orders to cancel the screening of this documentary. The Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has also issued directions to block the first episode of

the BBC documentary. The SFI condemns this autocratic step of the Central government," it said.

Tension in Kerala

In Kerala, political temperatures escalated over the public screenings of the documentary by the student and youth organisations owing allegiance to the CPI(M) and the Congress in defiance of the "Central ban". It led to tense stand-offs between the BJP and rival party workers. The police used water cannons to disperse BJP workers who attempted to disrupt a public screening at Poojappura grounds in Thiruvananthapuram, while in Kochi, they prevented the BJP workers from storming the screening venues at Maharaja's and Government Law College.

The BJP workers held a march to the Police Commissioner's office in Kozhikode, demanding a ban on the screenings. In Kannur university too, students screened the documentary. The brewing political tension prompted the police to deploy in strength to prevent any violence.

The screenings drew condemnation from the BJP leadership. Union Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muraleedharan urged Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan to ban them saying they were aimed at "turning Kerala into a strife-torn State".

Mass mortality of Olive Ridley turtles in A.P. raises concerns

T. Appala Naidu
SAKHINETIPALLI



Sad end: Carcass of Olive Ridley turtle on the coastline of Konaseema district in Andhra Pradesh. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

ONGC facilities."

In 2021, Mr. Venkatipathiraja waged a legal battle against the marine and groundwater pollution in the Konaseema region in the National Green Tribunal.

"The waste water from the aqua ponds is also being released into the sea and it is suspected to be one of the reasons for the mortality of turtles," Mr. Venkatipathiraja told *The Hindu*.

Responding on the issue, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema District Forest Officer M.V. Prasada Rao said, "We have launched a probe into the mortality of Olive Ridley turtles in our district. A report is expected to be prepared on the reasons for the mortality."

On the other hand, the Forest Department has set up rookeries at Vakalatippa, S. Yanam, Gacchakaya-lapura and Sacramento Island. By January 24, as many as 2,352 eggs have been collected for conservation and safe breeding at the four rookeries.

THE HINDU OPPORTUNITIES

GENERAL

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Discipline	Designation	Tentative No. of Posts	Educational Qualification Requirement	Percentage of Marks
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Electrical	Jr. Field Engineer	35	Full time Diploma in Electrical Engineering	
Mechanical	Jr. Field Engineer	20	Full time Diploma in Mechanical Engineering	
HR	Jr. Field Officer	10	Graduate with one/two year Full time Post Graduate Degree/Diploma in Personnel Management/ Social Works/ Labor Welfare/ Business Management/ Office Management/ Public Administration	
F&A	Jr. Field Officer	10	Inter-CA or Inter-ICWA-CMA (Simple Pass) or full time M. Com	
TOTAL		105		

*Upper age limit is 30 years as on closing date of advertisement.

Note: (i) Number of posts shown above are tentative and can be changed at the discretion of management as per requirement.

(ii) For detailed advertisement and applying for above posts please visit SJVN website www.sjvn.nic.in

Important Dates

Commencement of Online Registration for submitting applications 23.01.2023 (10:00 AM)

Closing date for submitting applications through website 12.02.2023 (11:59 PM)

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24.01.2023

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Phase	Schedule	Date of Recruitment	Last Date to Apply	Joining Date
Phase I	Schedule - I	26th February 2023	12th February 2023	13th March 2023
Phase II	Schedule - II	19th March 2023	3rd March 2023	6th April 2023
Phase III	Schedule - III	16th April 2023	1st April 2023	6th May 2023
Phase IV	Schedule - IV a	14th May 2023	28th April 2023	27th June 2023
	Schedule - IV b	11th June 2023	27th May 2023	

Phase	Schedule	Date of Recruitment	Last Date to Apply	Joining Date
Phase V	Schedule - V a	16th July 2023	1st July 2023	2nd September 2023
	Schedule - V b	13th August 2023	28th July 2023	
Phase VI	Schedule - VI a	8th October 2023	23rd September 2023	2nd December 2023
	Schedule - VI b	5th November 2023	20th October 2023	
	Schedule - VI c	19th November 2023	4th November 2023	

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A chance for peace

India should engage Pakistan if it comes forward to normalise relations

In the eternally rough road of India-Pakistan ties, any offer of talks, like the one made by Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif last week, is cause for equal measure of excitement and cynicism. His words, in an interview to a UAE channel, that Pakistan "had learnt a lesson from three wars" with India and wants to "live in peace with India provided we are able to resolve our genuine problems" including "burning points like Kashmir" were seen in New Delhi more as him clutching at straws, at a time when his country is in turmoil. Politically, Mr. Sharif has to face elections later this year, and continues to be challenged by the opposition led by former leader Imran Khan. Economically, Pakistan is in imminent danger of a debt default, and is being held together by assurances of support from the UAE, Saudi Arabia and China, as well as hopes that its IMF bailout package will come through with the adoption of more austerity measures. Pakistan also faces a growing terror threat from its Afghan border, where despite having a friendly regime in control, there are clashes particularly with Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan fighters. Even so, Mr. Sharif's peaceable words, coming a month after a crossing of swords at the UN, indicate that there is an understanding that India is not responsible for Pakistan's current state of affairs, and an engagement of some sort would benefit the government there. The Ministry of External Affairs response, that India wants "normal neighbourly relations with Pakistan" provided there is a conducive atmosphere devoid of "terrorism, hostility or violence" suggests that Delhi continues to hold its position, but does not wish to snub Mr. Sharif's offer either.

There is more to the timing of Mr. Sharif's words; as India prepares to host the SCO summit this summer, invitations are going out to ensure participation by Pakistan for the major meetings, and a more cordial relationship will ensure a smoother ride. India's G-20 presidency, and its desire to promote the concerns of the Global South amidst the Ukraine war, would also benefit from peace in the neighbourhood. It remains to be seen whether Mr. Sharif's words were only made for effect, or with a genuine desire to push for talks. If they are indeed followed up by Islamabad, either through the acceptance of the SCO invite, or with a proposal to restore mission strengths in both capitals that have not had Ambassadors since 2019, it is hoped New Delhi would reciprocate. At a time when the government is advising Russia and Ukraine for "dialogue and diplomacy" and is seeking to engage the Taliban out of "pragmatism", it would seem contradictory to refuse such a chance for enhancing regional stability, especially during a year when India's role as a statesman is being highlighted.

Quick exit

India needs to give quality exposure to its young hockey players

India's campaign in its second consecutive hockey World Cup at home had a dream start when local boy Amit Rohidas scored a brilliant goal in front of a packed house and the host beat Spain 2-0 at the spectacular new Birsa Munda Stadium in hockey hub Rourkela. Ten days later, the euphoria burst like a bubble as sixth-ranked India crumbled under pressure against 11th-placed New Zealand and lost the cross-over match via penalty shoot-outs to leave the capacity crowd at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar disheartened. Now India, which finished inside the top-eight in the three previous World Cups it hosted, will play for the ninth to 16th places. The premature exit of India – which had 13 players from the Tokyo Olympics and 14 from the 2018 World Cup (where it reached the quarterfinals) – proved to be a shocker especially as the team entered the World Cup as an Olympic medallist for the first time in over four decades. The post-mortem has begun and questions are being asked about a few past performers being left out of the squad. Even though picking players was a prerogative of those who were tasked with it, some flaws were glaringly obvious.

Poor penalty corner conversion (five out of 26, primarily due to an off-colour drag-flicker and captain Harmanpreet Singh), a porous defensive structure, forwards' below-par showing (four field goals in as many matches), losing ball possession in crucial moments and the overall lack of consistency in maintaining the intensity prevented the Graham Reid-coached side from achieving its potential. Nine goals from 94 circle entries and 49 shots on the goals was a telling statistic on India's woes. Key midfielder Hardik Singh being ruled out due to an injury in the pool stage and ace goalkeeper P.R. Sreejesh getting hurt during the shoot-out against New Zealand were big blows. Some experienced hands not getting a chance during the shoot-outs might have hampered India's prospects too. India needs to do a reality check and address the issues quickly ahead of the Asian Games, which is an Olympic qualifying event, this year and the Paris Olympics in 2024. Even though India's 48-year-old wait for a World Cup medal has become longer, Hockey India president and former India captain Dilip Tirkey, who has underlined the areas of concern, needs to take corrective steps to put the team back on track. Executing plans such as reviving the Hockey India League to give quality exposure to young Indian players and identifying a big pool of drag-flickers will contribute in lifting the standard of hockey.

The new and dark interpretations of 'We the People'

The raging controversy over the very meaning of 'We the People', after the speech made by the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Jagdeep Dhankar at the 83rd all India conference of presiding officers in Jaipur, Rajasthan, on January 11, needs a closer look. With its particular reference to the judiciary, Mr. Dhankar's speech was of the view that 'We the People' essentially gives primacy to elected members of Parliament and the State legislatures.

The Speaker of Lok Sabha supported Mr. Dhankar's view that the separation of powers (as enshrined in the Constitution) gives this primacy. Expatiating on this theme, Mr. Dhankar implied that the separation of powers does not equate the three pillars of democracy: Parliament, judiciary and the executive. In his view (although he did not explicitly say this), as the judiciary and the executive are appointed and not elected directly by the people, they are inferior.

Let us first sort out the meaning of 'We the People'. The Constitution does not define 'people'. Its concern is about citizens and not any group or a particular institution. There are people in the judiciary, in the executive and in most other constitutional institutions. There are also those in the military, the police, public enterprise and the vast private enterprise. They are all people no less.

To identify representatives in the legislature to be the sole representatives of the people is a travesty. Apart from being enshrined in the Constitution, the theory of a separation of powers is basic to any democratic society, more than the letter of the Constitution. It is a case of staggering irony that over seven decades after Independence, the Indian nation is being subject to a re-education of what the essence of democracy is, from a person who as Governor, caused innumerable problems for the elected government of West Bengal.

Democracy in the U.S. and the U.K. Since the issue of primacy of Parliament along with the judiciary and the executive came into the discussion, let us look at two countries with which Indians are familiar. In the United States, the President has the power to appoint judges, although this should be endorsed by Congress. But the President is directly elected by the people and has prerogatives in several issues which do not apply to a parliamentary democracy. The



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Prime Minister-in-cabinet does not have the powers of the U.S. President. And hence the possibility of a judicial review to check the suitability or otherwise of the candidates nominated.

In the case of the United Kingdom, it is run by time-honoured conventions and laws passed by the House of Commons. It does not have a written Constitution which gives judicial review. But strong conventions are in place in spite of the primacy of Parliament. Conventions in the United Kingdom have an inviolable tradition. Laws can be changed, violated and repealed. Even in Parliament, the Speaker of the House of Commons is elected, but becomes a non-party man, choosing when to retire from office.

In India too, the first two Speakers, G.V. Mavalankar and M. Ananthasayam Ayyangar and later Neelam Sanjiva Reddy resigned from the ruling party to give the entire Parliament a sense of impartiality in ensuring a proper place for minority parties. The point is that in the United Kingdom, the House of Commons retains the Speaker if he continues to hold office. This, alas, does not happen in India, in spite of the first two Speakers of the Lok Sabha having tried to set a convention. This lack of convention has drastically affected the running of Parliament. The reluctance to honour conventions made our laws and Constitution strive for greater specificity, often leading to quibbling in language and meaning.

Onslaught on institutions

Democracies cannot be run only by the laws passed in representative Assemblies. They need conventions. B.R. Ambedkar realised that Orientals cannot be trusted with conventions. Unless conventions are solidified into constituent laws and bound by strong threads, institutions may even be destroyed, endangering the very purpose of a Constitution protecting the citizen. Indeed, there is a price to be paid converting conventions into law and B.R. Ambedkar knew it. Today's onslaught on the judiciary is aimed at a powerful constitutional authority which is, by and large, refusing to deviate from its constitutional responsibilities. The fate of the Election Commission of India, independent investigating agencies and the civil service and police are a classic example of a dereliction of constitutional and other legal responsibilities.

The basic structure of the Indian Constitution,

as recognised by the Supreme Court of India, is to be protected by it, in spite of any over-reach by the legislature. We can take the case of the executive in relation to government. Mr. Dhankar, when he was Governor and his ruling party appointed colleagues, over-rode State legislatures with impunity, by not approving Bills or delaying them causing them to lapse into nullity. Where is the power of the people as represented by the legislature?

There is a virtual war in the country now between elected governments in States and the Governors appointed by the Centre, which has brought into focus the question whether we need the institution of Governors in the first place. The Constitution does not intend Governors to be subordinates to the central government or even as detractors of the legitimacy of States. The dangerous portent now is that the Centre consciously feels that it is superior to the States and their Governors are its proxies. This goes against the very dignity of the people of a State as inferior to a higher power outside their State, the constitutional validity of which rightly needs the judiciary as the final judge.

The dangers ahead

In other words, the separation of powers acceptable to the Centre is not applied to the States, where an appointed Governor can defy not only the legislature but also the elected government. Apparently, members of the ruling party members are pushing for greater centralisation not only within constitutional institutions at the Centre but also in States which are ruled by parties other than the national ruling party.

When there is a ruling party determined to dominate States both explicitly and in stealth, there will be strife and conflict endangering the very process of governance. Instead of chipping away at a Constitution framed by the best minds of the Independence movement generation, it will be more honest (*sic*) to go for a Constituent Assembly and seek a more totalitarian state – far from the ideals of democracy enshrined in the Constitution. If the people of India accept such devastating change, so be it. The determination with which the ruling party is approaching the majority in the country will only usher in divisive conflicts between religions, States and regions. Sadly, India will be just another Russia, China or Turkey.

Working hand in hand to showcase India

Today is National Tourism Day (January 25) and the Ministry of Railways, in partnership with the Ministry of Tourism, is launching its Jagannath Yatra train package, an eight-day tour that begins in from Delhi, traverses Kashi, Baidyanath Dham, Jagannath Puri, Bhubaneshwar and Konark, and ends at the Vishnupad temple in Gaya. All this is linked to using Bharat Gaurav Trains (or theme-based tourist circuit trains) to highlight India's rich cultural heritage and history. The example given above is one of many cases of a Government of India ministry other than the Tourism Ministry taking the initiative to showcase India's rich heritage using a 'whole of government' approach.

Campaigns so far The government of India has always felt that the promotion of India's tourism will only be effective when different Ministries at the Union level and States work in cohesion by combining their domain expertise. Over the last eight years, the Ministry of Tourism has prioritised the task of inter-ministerial cooperation and coordination, breaking down silos and working together effectively with other Ministries. Today, the Ministry of Tourism coordinates its work effectively with over 20 central government Ministries in the promotion and the development of tourism in the country. In October 2022, the Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Home Affairs organised the National Conference on Tourist Police (to develop tourist specific policing), aimed at working with the police and sensitising them on addressing the needs of foreign and domestic tourists.

In partnership with the Ministry of Education, the Tourism Ministry has begun establishing



G. Kishan Reddy

is the Union Minister of Tourism, Culture and DoNER. He represents the Secunderabad parliamentary constituency

'Yuva Tourism' clubs to nurture young ambassadors of Indian tourism. In another instance, the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is aiming to make India an attractive cruise tourism destination using state-of-the-art infrastructure. India's middle class is now prioritising some of their discretionary spending on new experiences such as cruises. In partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs, tourism officers have been placed in 20 Indian missions in countries that contribute to some of the highest foreign tourist arrivals in India. Their role includes facilitating and providing inputs for country-specific sensibilities and having them reflected in tourism products. Similarly, with the Ministry of Roadways and the Petroleum Ministry, steps are being taken to ensure that highways and fuel stations have clean sanitation infrastructure. The Ministry of Tourism is also funding several commercial flight routes in partnership with the Ministry of Civil Aviation, making them viable.

Tourism policy

However, it is not just enough if there is a pledge to work together as this needs to be formalised through structures and institutions. The new draft National Tourism Policy 2022 aims to do just this. The policy has been formulated after situational analysis including the impact of COVID-19 and taking into account future projections for the tourism sector with a vision for India@100. One of the ideas includes an institutional structure that can take concurrent and coordinated action across the Union, State and local government levels in partnership with industry. It is this 'whole of government' approach that has equipped India with the ability

to host the G-20 presidency – 20 countries, 11 special invitee countries, and nearly one lakh delegates will participate in 200 meetings at over 50 locations. Every delegate or visitor who is in India to attend the G-20 summit will return as a brand ambassador and spread the word on India's rich cultural, spiritual and natural heritage. In May 2022, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Copenhagen, Denmark, he urged the Indian diaspora to inspire at least five of their non-Indian friends to visit India.

A journey of discovery

Moving ahead on this, the Ministry of Tourism declaration of "Visit India Year 2023" aims to promote various tourism products and destinations to increase India's share in the global tourism market. Data show that domestic tourism has recovered to pre-pandemic levels, even exceeding it in some cases. This is evident in a record 1.84 crore domestic tourists visiting Jammu and Kashmir in 2022. Similarly, foreign tourist arrivals are expected to reach pre-pandemic levels.

Travelling to India is not just a tourism experience. It is an avenue to find oneself. India has always been a popular destination for travellers exploring spiritual enlightenment and self-discovery. For centuries many great foreign travellers have visited India and shared their experiences in the form of memoirs, travelogues, poetry and books, as Megasthenes, Hiuen-Tsang, Marco Polo, and Fa-Hien have shown. India is a tourist destination to rekindle one's inner self. As the birthplace to four major world religions, i.e., Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism and Jainism, India can truly claim to be the world's spiritual beacon. This is at the core of the Visit India Year 2023.

Travelling to India is not just a tourism experience but also an avenue to find oneself, a theme which the Ministry of Tourism is working on in coordination with other Ministries

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Documentary on 2002

A media house with considerable credibility and which enjoys a viewership that runs into millions now has a documentary on the subject of one of the most terrible riots the nation has witnessed. Many of today's youth were not even born at the time of the riots and all information they have now is based on opinions. Despite the higher judiciary upholding the Special Investigation Team's (SIT) clean chit to the then Gujarat Chief Minister, today's tech-savvy youth are bound to make attempts to gain access to the content. I wish the government counters the "propaganda narrative" of the BBC's documentary

with counter facts and evidence rather than imposing an outright ban. Attempts need to be made to foster people's trust in each other and enable healing after deep trauma.

Archana Padmanabhan, Kochi, Kerala

While the knee-jerk reaction of the government in banning the said documentary may appear excessive, one is at a loss to understand how the BBC arrogates itself the moral high ground and comments on other countries' affairs especially after the British have the blood of millions on their hands. Right from Jallianwala Bagh to Churchill diverting food grains to Europe, thereby

causing the Great Bengal famine, the list is long and horrific. As for its claim on fair play, I have yet to see a western reporter report from the Russian side of the border on the Ukraine war.

Padmanabha Upadhyaya, Bengaluru

Minister on judges

All of us may be on the same page with Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju when he said that the judges did not have to contest elections (Inside pages, January 24). At the same time, one hopes that the Minister will agree that as far as the elected representatives are concerned, victory in the elections does not entitle them to (have) a 'blank

cheque'. If the judges are being judged by people, so too are the politicians. Let us make things abundantly clear. It all boils down to the plain fact that the judiciary is not accountable to the executive or politicians, but is there to uphold the rule of the law and ensure justice. It is time the Centre stops sitting on the recommendations for judicial appointments, and also sheds its intransigence and the illusion that it is the lord of all its surveys.

C.G. Kuriakose, Kothamangalam, Kerala

The Minister's remarks are childish. Comparing judges with politicians is wrong. Any Tom, Dick, and Harry may become a politician,

contest elections without any qualification, and become an MLA or an MP and Minister. But one cannot become a lawyer or a judge without the required qualifications. Judges do not face polls because there is no necessity. As for criticism, people do not spare even the courts if the judgment is found to be unfair, as in the case of Bilkis Bano. After being elected, we have seen politicians betraying the trust of those who voted for them by hopping from one party to the other for money and power. What the government wants in this case is to have the judiciary under its control.

D. Sethuraman, Chennai

At Bhubaneswar

Indian hockey fans have been left deeply disappointed ('Sport' page, "India tumbles out after a dramatic shootout against New Zealand", January 23). The match against New Zealand was a case of ample goal-scoring opportunities for India but the forwards lacking the required finishing skills.

Gregory Fernandes, Mumbai

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Developing schools without barriers

Ma'am, may I please go to the toilet?" or "Can I go play outside?" are usually innocuous requests by most schoolchildren. But for children with disability/disabilities (CWD), these are difficult tasks, due to the higher care needed to complete the actions. These actions become tougher in schools which do not have accessible spaces and guiding infrastructure to get there safely.

A UNESCO 2019 report mentioned that CWD comprise 1.7% of the total child population in India (Census 2011). As they are faced with physical, institutional, socioeconomic and communication barriers from an early age, more than 70% of five-year-olds with disabilities in India have never attended any educational institution, the report said. Many CWD also tend to drop out of school as they grow older.

To motivate all children to meaningfully participate in all indoor and outdoor activities without barriers or limitations, the school ecosystem has to be made safe, accessible, and reliable.

Barriers to accessibility
Several barriers impede the participation of CWD in accessing educational opportunities such as inaccessible school buses; inaccessible facilities in schools (drinking water facilities, canteens and toilets); and inappropriate infrastructure in classrooms (uncomfortable seating, slippery flooring and low illumination). Misinformed attitudes and perceptions among parents, teachers, staff, and communities further influences the child's emotional development.

The lack of teaching and learning practices that integrate inclusive technologies and digital equipment to engage the child, such as assistive devices, are additional challenges. At training programmes conducted by UN-Habitat India and IIT Kharagpur recently, school teachers and special educators

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Developing inclusive and accessible schools will help challenge perceptions about children with disabilities and actualise the zero-rejection policy in schools

said that accessible infrastructure within schools, such as ramps or tactile paths, are either in deficit or have not been constructed utilising suitable materials. School management authorities added that if such provisions are maintained regularly and adequate funding is provided for the construction of new infrastructure, we would have accessible places. The cooperation, involvement, and sensitisation of parents and caregivers, teachers, school management authorities, and the local government departments are required so that all these barriers are actively addressed.

Article 21A of the Constitution and the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 outline the fundamental right to education and the right to have free and compulsory education for children aged 6-14 years. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, which adopted a 'zero rejection policy', emphasises that "every child with special needs, irrespective of the kind, category and degree of disability, is provided meaningful and quality education". India ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Aligning with this commitment, the government launched the Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan) in 2015. An important pillar of this campaign is accessibility to built environment. The government has also been supportive of the principle of Leave No One Behind (LNOB), which is the central, transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Anchored under the Mainstreaming LNOB project by UN-Habitat, pilot training programmes on enhancing accessibility and inclusion were implemented in two schools in Delhi with support from IIT Kharagpur and the Department of Social Welfare, Delhi government.

Through interactive training sessions and simulation exercises that encourage empathy-building,

more than 400 participants, including children, school faculty and staff, were informed about different types of disabilities among children and the specific barriers experienced in different infrastructure zones of a school. After the simulation exercises, children said they will make more efforts to assist their classmates whenever they can. Various good practices, guidelines, and standards for making buildings, campuses, and infrastructure safe, accessible, and inclusive were also showcased. Even if any combination of these accessibility features is added or adapted in schools, it can go a long way in creating inclusive spaces.

Towards inclusivity
Developing inclusive and accessible schools will not only challenge perceptions about CWD, and the associated discrimination, but also help in actualising the zero-rejection policy in schools.

A multi-pronged participatory approach towards providing an enabling environment for the empowerment of future citizens is needed to ensure that stakeholders in the school ecosystem collectively work towards promoting accessibility and inclusion in schools. This includes awareness and sensitisation programmes for children, parents, and caregivers; training trainers for upskilling of school faculty and special educators and providing access to updated teaching toolkits and materials; technical training for local government departments; and a co-learning platform for knowledge-sharing between all.

Additionally, five principles – equitability, usability and durability, affordability, cultural adaptability, and aesthetic appeal – should be embedded from the planning to implementation to evaluation stages of providing infrastructure services in schools.

With the realisation of such an approach, removing the barriers to accessibility will be an uphill, but not insurmountable, battle.

In TN, share of women who eat green veggies declines drastically

Given the drop in consumption of dark green, leafy vegetables, the share of anaemic women may increase in Tamil Nadu

DATA POINT

Rebecca Rose Varghese & Vignesh Radhakrishnan

In 2019-21, only 10.6% of women in Tamil Nadu consumed dark green, leafy vegetables daily – the lowest share among all the States. In fact, the lowest shares of women consuming such vegetables are seen in the southern States, except Karnataka.

However, Tamil Nadu stands out for three other reasons. First, just five years ago, the share of women who ate dark green, leafy vegetables was 59.6% in the State.

This means there has been a drastic drop of 49% points since then.

The second biggest drop is seen in Assam – a decline of 19.8% points. Second, while only 10.6% of women consumed such vegetables daily, 42.5% of men in Tamil Nadu consumed them daily in 2019-21 – a difference of 31.9% points, the highest among all the States considered.

Among the major States, Kerala follows with a difference of around 13% points, with men consuming more. Third, while the share of men who consumed green vegetables in Tamil Nadu also came down in 2019-21 compared to 2015-16, the decline (of 23.4% points) pales in comparison to the decline in the share of women (49% points). Yet, the decline among men was the sharpest, along with Assam, when compared to other States. Therefore, Tamil Nadu stands out as the lowest share of women consumed dark green, leafy vegetables; the share of such women recorded the most drastic drop in the last five years; the gender inequality in consumption was the highest among all the States; and the decline among men was the sharpest in the State along with Assam.

These conclusions are based on the National Family Health Surveys 4 and 5. The NFHS says green, leafy vegetables are a rich source of iron, folic acid, vitamin C, caro-

tene, riboflavin, and calcium. Previous surveys said, "States with the highest levels of anaemia among women are the same States that have the lowest regular consumption of green, leafy vegetables among women." Given the drastic drop in vegetable consumption among women in Tamil Nadu in 2019-21, the share of anaemic women in the State may increase.

The comparison between genders should be read with caution as the male sample size is much lower than the number of female respondents in the NFHS. However, as this difference in sample size exists across all the States, the above conclusions hold true.

Chart 1 shows the share of women who consumed dark green, leafy vegetables daily across various States and regions in 2019-21. Except Karnataka, the southern States are at the bottom of the list, followed by the western States. While the northern and north-eastern States are middling, the eastern and central States stand out with a high share of women consuming such vegetables daily.

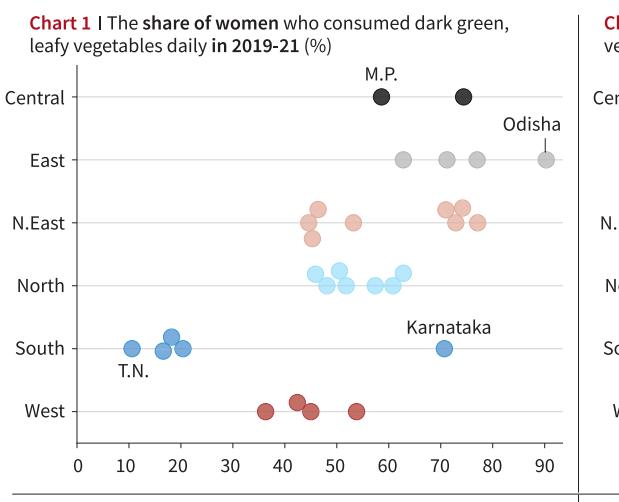
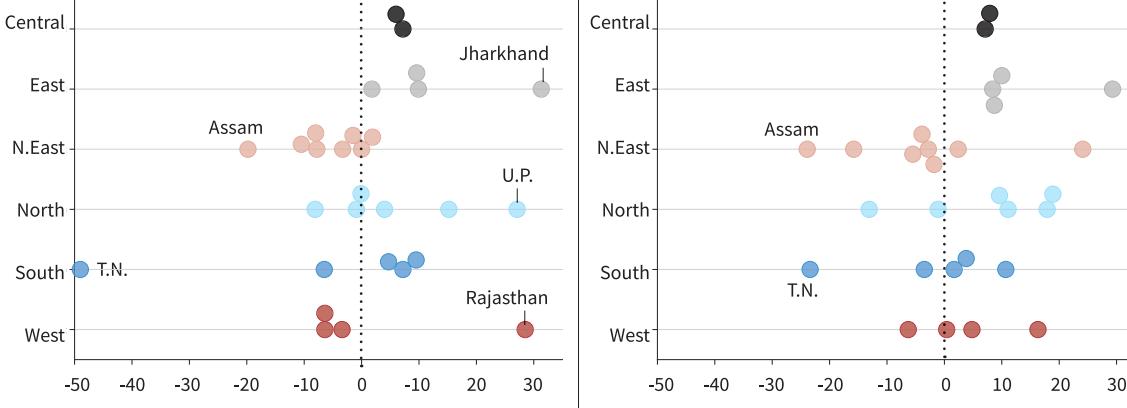
Chart 2 shows the change in the share of women who consumed such vegetables daily in 2019-21 compared to 2015-16. States to the right of the zero mark recorded an increase and vice-versa. With a decline of 49% points, Tamil Nadu stands out, followed by Assam. Except Karnataka, which already had a high share, the share increased in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala among the southern States.

Chart 3 shows the share of men who consumed dark green, leafy vegetables daily across various States and regions in 2019-21. There is no drastic difference between the southern States and others among men, though the south and west lag behind the others, and the east dominates.

Chart 4 shows the change in the share of men who consumed such vegetables daily in 2019-21 compared to 2015-16. Tamil Nadu and Assam recorded the biggest decline.

Not going green

The charts are based on data collated from National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-21) and NFHS-4 (2015-16). Each circle in the graphs represents a State. Delhi and other U.T.s except Jammu and Kashmir were not considered for analysis

**Chart 1** | The share of women who consumed dark green, leafy vegetables daily in 2019-21 (%)**Chart 2** | The change in the share of women who consumed vegetables daily in 2019-21 compared to 2015-16 (% points)**Chart 4** | The change in the share of men who consumed such vegetables daily in 2019-21 compared to 2015-16 (% points)

When foes unite against a common foe

The Sunni groups in Kerala are coming together against the Mujahid movement

STATE OF PLAY

Abdul Latheef Naha
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In the wake of the 10th State conference of the Kerala Nadavathul Mujahideen (KNM) held in Kozhikode, the two prominent Sunni groups that constitute two-thirds of the Muslim community in Kerala have become friends after warring for some time. Although the Mujahid movement in Kerala has splintered in the last two decades, the show of strength of the KNM has pushed the Sunni groups led by Syed Jiffri Muthukoya Thangal of the EK Sunni faction and Kanthapuram A.P. Aboobacker Musliar of the AP Sunni faction towards a new friendship.

Ever since the Samastha Kerala Jem-iyyathul Ulama, with its headquarters in Chelari, split into two in the late 1980s, the AP faction has been at the forefront of taking on Mujahid ideals. The AP faction, which upholds Kerala's traditional, orthodox Islamic customs, has thrived because of its organisational and leadership strengths in the last three decades. Although it was criticised for being "too orthodox and non-progressive," and for buttressing the Communist Party of India (Marxist) because of its stand-off with the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML), the Sunni group has become a force to reckon with today. Its leader Mr. Aboobacker Musliar, who is known to the world as Sheikh Abubakr Ahmad, is today the most recognised and most respected Islamic leader from Kerala. The 'Grand Mufti of India' is one of his titles.

No Muslim leader, dead or alive, in recent memory in Kerala has been pilloried for



years on end the way Mr. Aboobacker Musliar has been. Apart from the Mujahid groups, with whom he always crossed swords, Mr. Aboobacker Musliar was also constantly baited by most leaders of the EK Sunni faction from 1989 onwards. Mr. Aboobacker Musliar and his followers remained the EK Sunni group's bête noir until Syed Jiffri Muthukoya Thangal became the president of the Samastha Kerala Jamiyyathul Ulama (EK faction) in 2016. Mr. Jiffri Thangal's assertive leadership and orthodoxy stand apparently endeared him to the rival AP faction.

Text & Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Toll collection through FASTag increases this fiscal, says NHAI

46 In percentage, the increase in toll collection through FASTag on NH fee plazas to ₹50,855 crore in 2022, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) informed. Toll collection in 2021 was ₹34,778 crore. The average daily toll collection by FASTag in December 2022 was ₹134.44 crore. The single-day highest collection of ₹144.19 crore was on December 24, 2022. PTI

Nine movies from India receive awards at the ISFFI in Bhopal

94 The number of films screened at the International Science Film Festival of India (ISFFI), organised as a part of the India International Science Festival (IISF) at Bhopal. At the film festival 61 Indian and 33 foreign films were screened. Nine Indian movies received awards in various categories; the highest number of awards received by a country. PTI

Ganjam becomes top district to provide 100 days of employment

63,449 The number of households provided with 100 days of employment in Ganjam district, Odisha, becoming the top district to provide the same to rural households under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) till January 22 this fiscal. PTI

A decrease in VC investments in Indian startups in 2022

38 In percentage, the decrease in venture capital (VC) investments in Indian startups in 2022 as economic uncertainty and market volatility affect fundraising and investment activities, according to GlobalData. A total of 1,726 VC funding deals worth \$20.9 billion were announced in India in 2022 compared to 1,715 deals worth \$33.8 billion in 2021. PTI

A unique Holocaust exhibition to be held in Germany

16 The number of objects, chosen from more than 50,000 items to be presented at the exhibition, Sixteen Objects, at parliament in Berlin, Germany before the country marks the 78th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp on January 27, 1945. The exhibit items represent Germany's 16 States. AP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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What ails the Ken-Betwa river link project?

Why is the government keen on implementing the project? What are the issues in the clearances given to the river link project? Will they hold legally? What has the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) recommended? An environmentalist perspective:

EXPLAINER

Manoj Misra

The story so far: On January 18, the Steering Committee of the Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP) held its third meeting in New Delhi. It was chaired by the Secretary of the Department of Water Resources, in the Ministry of Jal Shakti, who reiterated that the KBLP was a "flagship" project of the national government and that it "is critical for the water security and socio-economic development of Bundelkhand region". In December 2021, the Union Cabinet approved KBLP at a total cost of ₹44,605 crore. In this project, the national and the Madhya Pradesh governments will link the Ken river with the Betwa river so that the latter can water the Bundelkhand region in Uttar Pradesh.

What is the Ken-Betwa link? The link will be in the form of a canal that will be fed by the new Daudhan Dam on the Ken, to be built within the Panna Tiger Reserve. The national government has said that the dam will generate 103MW of hydroelectric power. The linking canal will flow through Chhatarpur, Tikamgarh and Jhansi districts, with the project expected to irrigate 6.3 lakh hectares of land every year.

However, hydrological and ecological experts aren't convinced, mainly because the government's plan is based on a 'surplus and deficit' model that they have said has little basis in science. They are also concerned that the project will endanger the water security of Panna. In 2018, environmentalist Ravi Chopra called the idea "nonsense"; in 2021, conservation biologist Raghu Chundawat said that thanks to KBLP, "Bundelkhand will suffer for decades to come".

What clearances has the KBLP received?

India enacted the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 at a critical juncture, when its wildlife was in peril. The key provisions of the Act (Sections 18 and 35) relate to setting aside areas of significance to wildlife as 'sanctuaries' and 'national parks'. Sections 29 and 35(6) restrict human activities within them without prior approval.

Diversion or stopping or enhancement of the flow of water into or outside wildlife sanctuaries/parks is taboo unless doing so is deemed to be necessary to improve and better manage wildlife within a sanctuary or a national park. And in the case of the Panna Tiger Reserve, the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) of the Supreme Court has found such diversion to not be necessary to improve and better manage wildlife in the park.

Additionally, downstream of the national park lies the Ken Gharial Sanctuary, created to protect the critically endangered Gangetic gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*). The destructive impact of the proposed dam on the flow of water into and outside of this sanctuary should be immediately clear. The CEC is quite firm in its report that "the Standing Committee of the NBWL has not considered the impact of the project on the downstream gharial sanctuary".

The CEC submitted this report to the Supreme Court on August 30, 2019, and the matter remains *sub judice*. The project is also reportedly still to receive full forest clearance. A challenge to its environmental approval is also pending before the National Green Tribunal, presumably because the tribunal believes the project must first secure forest clearance. Due diligence and



Still waters: A boy plays in the Betwa river near Jhansi. MONICA TIWARI

expert scrutiny during the project-approval stage are cornerstones of sound environmental governance. Therefore, it was a big shock when, following Cabinet approval, the national government announced the implementation of the KBLP in the 2022-2023 Union budget. It further stated that ₹1,400 crore would be allocated for the project in that financial year.

What about its legality?

There are significant legal problems with the approval granted to the KBLP. The CEC has stated that the, "approval by the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife to the Ken-Betwa link Project has not been proved to be necessary for the improvement and better management of the wildlife therein as provided in Section 35(6) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972..".

This categorical observation was made

vis-à-vis plans to create a high reservoir-dam on the Ken river in the Panna National Park and Tiger Reserve for the KBLP. It concurred with the applicants' prayer at the apex Court; that the wildlife approval given by the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) at its meeting on August 23, 2016, was *ultra vires*.

The Indian government catalysed this approval despite an expert body created by the Standing Committee of the NBWL itself saying that "an independent hydrological study of river Ken is necessary" and that "no developmental project should destroy the ecology of remnant fragile ecosystems and an important tiger habitat in the country".

How will Panna's tigers be affected? The Panna tiger reserve lost all of its tigers by 2009, requiring a remarkable effort

spanning almost a decade to reintroduce them. Panna is an exceptional tiger habitat because of its deep gorges, which will be drowned if a new dam is built. An illegal approval granted by a national board will bring to naught all the good, hard work of the past. The government is also developing a larger 'Panna Tiger Landscape', but this is not the concession many believe it to be. This landscape should be created in any case for Panna's tigers. Such landscape-level action is also required around most wildlife areas in light of a new global target to protect 30% of global terrestrial and marine areas by 2030, finalised at the COP15 biodiversity conference in December 2022. The question therefore is – why should such plans be designed and deployed only because the heart of a tiger reserve is to be drowned and the park irreversibly fragmented?

In fact, there may not even be enough water in the Ken, a non-perennial river, to meet the projected needs of the Betwa – forget the needs of the Bundelkhand region. This is why the NBWL expert body mandated an "independent" hydrological investigation of the Ken. Older reports by State agencies had thrown up different, and hence unreliable, projections. Such an independent investigation remains pending. Independent experts have also said that it will be more economical and faster if the governments restored Bunderlkhanda's erstwhile Chandel-period lakes and ponds and if they replicated the successful field-pond schemes on priority. The region is already blessed with adequate annual rainfall.

Against this background, rushing the KBLP sans due diligence – both technical and legal – will intensify water conflicts between Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh; dash locals' longstanding expectations of irrigation and drinking water; and cost a decade's labour and funds. Ahead of the forthcoming 2023-2024 Union budget, one hopes that we won't be saddled with a textbook loss-loss project.

Manoj Misra is a former member of the Indian Forest Service and has been convener of the Yamuna Jiye Abhiyaan (Campaign for a Living Yamuna) since 2007.

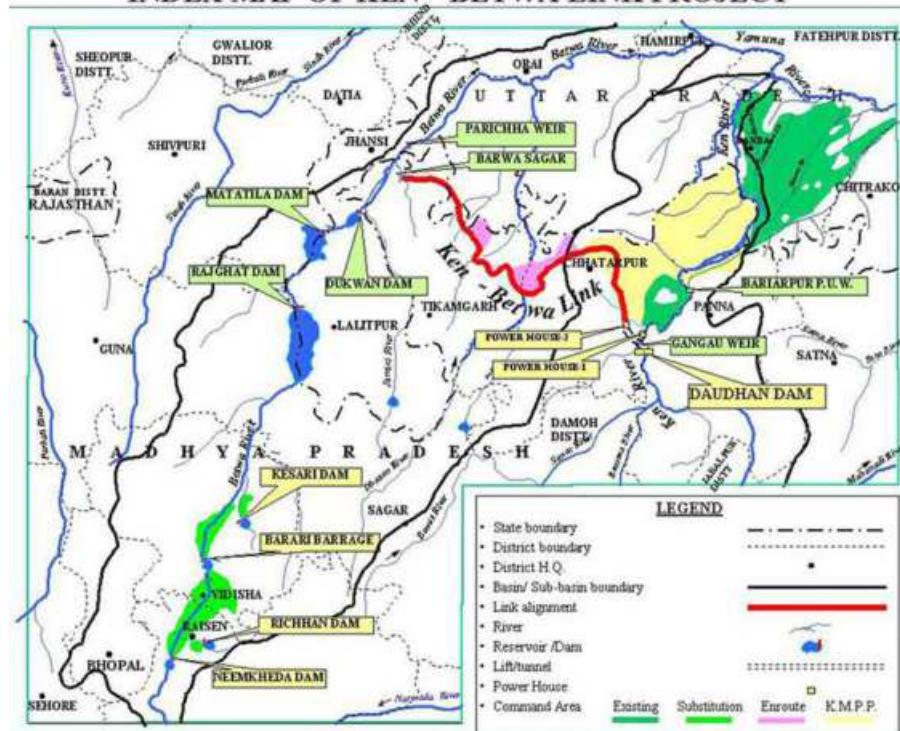
THE GIST

On January 18, the Steering Committee of the Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP) held its third meeting in New Delhi. The Secretary of the Department of Water Resources, in the Ministry of Jal Shakti, reiterated that the KBLP was a "flagship" project of the national government and that it "is critical for the water security and socio-economic development of Bundelkhand region".

The link will be in the form of a canal that will be fed by the new Daudhan Dam on the Ken, to be built within the Panna Tiger Reserve. The national government has said that the dam will generate 103MW of hydroelectric power.

Diversion or stopping or enhancement of the flow of water into or outside wildlife sanctuaries/parks is taboo unless doing so is deemed to be necessary to improve and better manage wildlife within a sanctuary or a national park. And in the case of the Panna Tiger Reserve, the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) of the Supreme Court has found such diversion to not be necessary to improve and better manage wildlife in the park.

INDEX MAP OF KEN – BETWA LINK PROJECT



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BIBLIOGRAPHY



A rich history: A laser show at the Ram Ki Paudi on the eve of Deepotsav in 2022. SANDEEP SAXENA

Ayodhya, a city of paramount belief, steeped in folklore, mythology and faith

Long before the Ram Janmabhoomi issue brought the place into the limelight, the glory of the ancient city of Ayodhya emanated from the fact that it was coveted by rulers, exalted by believers and embraced by history

Ziya Us Salam

It is unfortunate that Ayodhya has come to occupy space in public discourse only with the Babri Masjid-Ram Janmabhoomi conflict. Historically, the city of Ayodhya, literally meaning, 'to fight', goes much deeper than many of the more celebrated cities of India. Often respected as a sacred city for Hindus, the city also has an indelible association with Buddhism. And according to Sufi lore, even with Islam.

It is claimed that in Ayodhya lies the grave of Hazrat Sheeth (or Seth), son of Adam, believed to be the first man on earth. Also in Ayodhya is the grave of Hazrat Ayub (Prophet Job to Christians) and innumerable Sufis, including Shah Ibrahim.

Historian Irfan Habib wrote in 'Medieval Ayodhya (Awadh), Down to the Mughal Occupation', "The importance of these tombs lies in the fact that they were represented as those of the two prophets already in the sixteenth century. Emperor Akbar's minister Abul Fazl's *Ain-i-Akbari*, written in 1595, contains the following passage in its notice of Awadh or Ayodhya: 'Near this city two large graves have been made, six and seven yards (gaz) in length. The common people believe them to be the resting places of the prophets Shis (Seth) and Ayyub (Job) and legendary tales are related about them'. For such legends as this to develop normally takes much time, and these graves must therefore have already existed long before Abul Fazl wrote in 1595."

Larger than life

The claims about prophets' graves are likely to be legends, but the crucible of

history is not exactly the strong point of Ayodhya. It is a city which lives, breathes and emits belief. Indeed, Ayodhya's story is one of folklore, mythology and faith. Ayodhya, in Valmiki's Ramayana, is a city with palaces, mansions, wide streets and everything plentiful.

On the same lines, we have a booklet, *The Blood-Soaked History of Shri Ram's Birthplace* by Ranjana Sarvesh where the author paints a fanciful picture of Lord Ram's city, stating, "Mountain-like palaces adorned the site, which also had leisure homes for women, the beauty of which was so enthralling that it seemed this city is the city of god. The royal palace was of golden colour and heaps of gems could be found lying everywhere."

It is left to the dispassionate reasoning of author Valay Singh in *Ayodhya: City of Faith, City of Discord*, to separate faith from fact. Singh writes, "It would be simpler to imagine Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh as the lively source of the propagation of the Ramayana, where temples and monasteries have churned out priests, stocked libraries and trained reciters so that they spread the Ramayana to the ends of the world. Ayodhya, either abandoned or ignored for most of known history, has not been as fortunate as the Ramayana story, which was propagated by bards, traders and kings. While towns like Shravasti, Banaras and Pataliputra boast a rich and long history of kingdoms, Ayodhya's glory emanates from being the city of Ram on paper. It was a paper-capital, a paper-city, an abstraction to most who heard the story."

Historian Romila Thapar alluded to the region in her popular book, *A History of Early India*. Writing about the expansion of population, first from Indus Valley, then from Doab (roughly western Uttar

Pradesh), she wrote, "From staying close to the banks of rivers, some settlements moved into the interior where they cleared land for cultivation...The small settlements linked to Ochre Colour pottery were more frequent to the upper Doab. The painted Grey Ware settlements had a wider distribution."

Noted archaeologist H.D. Sankalia, quoted by Singh in his book, talked of Ayodhya in *The Ramayana in Historical Perspective*, wherein he wrote, "Whatever be the nature of the first or earliest Ayodhya, a village or a city, its description, as it appears in the Critical Edition of the Ramayana, is of a well laid-out city with arterial roads – a rajmarg or a patha, fortification all round...There were checkposts, parks and gardens, besides drinking houses, houses for recreation. There were shops or bazaars, where all sorts of things could be had, and the godown stacked with paddy." The description reminds one about the well laid out cities of the Indus Valley Civilisation where roads are said to have intersected each other at right angles, there was a public granary and well-planned houses.

What's in a name?

Was Ayodhya always known by this name? Well, it was probably called Saket, the city that Lord Ram set out for; Jain and Buddhist texts too refer to it. Nobody knows when and how Saket became Ayodhya, or even if Ayodhya became Saket, except that history books talk of Ajatshatru, the Magadhan king who annexed Saket before the Mauryas.

Singh gives us the details, "Around the fifth-century BCE, in the kingdom of Kosala, lay a busy town at the intersection of two major routes, one going from

Sravasti in the north to Pratishthana in the south, and the other going to Taxila in the west from Rajgraha in the east. This town was Saket and its king was Prasenjit, who ruled from the capital Sravasti, about 80 kilometres from Saket. Prasenjit is also known as the king of Kosala which is now acknowledged to be yet another name for Ayodhya."

Ayodhya is said to be the capital of the Ikshvaku's Kosala kingdom in the Ramayana. Yet again, facts and faith, history and mythology merge in Ayodhya. Along with Saket, Kosala, Ayodhya, add to the mix the medieval Faizabad district and you have the picture of a place coveted by rulers, exalted by believers and embraced by history.

Away from the deemed exploits of Prasenjit was the alleged pillage and plunder of Sunga king, Pusyamitra, the successor of the Mauryas. Thapar wrote, "Buddhist sources claim that he persecuted the Buddhists and destroyed their monasteries and places of worship, especially those which had been built by Ashoka." This is likely an exaggeration. Not so the association of Nawab Asad-ud-Daulah during whose time Hanumangarhi was built. Be that as it may, Ayodhya's greatest claim to immortality comes from faith.

If Munshi Jagannath Lal Khushtar's Urdu Ramayana called Khushtar Ramayana begins with the words, 'Bismillah ir Rehman ir Rahim', Brij Narain Chakbast describes Ram's departure from Ayodhya in poignant words, "Rukhsat hua woh baap se lekar khuda ka naam/Raah-e-wafa ki manzil-e-awwal hui tamam (He took leave of his father taking the name of God/And thus the first stage of the path of loyalty was crossed)." Belief remains paramount.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Considered one of the most important modernist 20th-century authors, Virginia Woolf was born on January 25. Here is a quiz on the English writer

Sindhu Nagaraj**QUESTION 1**

This is a book publishing imprint of Penguin Random House that was founded as an independent company by British authors Leonard Woolf and Virginia Woolf. What is the name of the publishing house?

QUESTION 2

Considered one of Woolf's best-known novels, this book details a day in the life of the protagonist, a fictional upper-class woman in post-First World War England. The book describes the woman's preparations for a party she will host in the evening and the ensuing party. Name the book and the protagonist.

QUESTION 3

This play written by Edward Albee examines the structure of the marriage of an American middle-aged academic couple, Martha and George. Name the play.

QUESTION 4

This test is a measure of the representation of women in film and, by extension, in fiction in general. The test is named after an American cartoonist in whose 1985 comic strip the test first appeared. He credits the idea to the writings of Virginia Woolf. What is the name of the test?

QUESTION 5

This is an extended essay by Woolf, based on two lectures she delivered in 1928. In the essay, Woolf uses metaphors to explore social injustices and comments on women's lack of free expression. Identify the essay.



This poster is of the Oscar-winning 2002 film, adapted from a book written by Michael Cunningham. The book concerns three generations of women affected by one of Woolf's novels. Name the film.

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz:

1. This Emmy-winning host has interviewed every U.S. President since Gerald Ford. **Ans: Larry King**
2. In a full circle moment, this guest who came on the season premier of the *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*, appeared to send off the beloved talk show host. **Ans: Jennifer Aniston**
3. An episode of this show which was critical of Prime Minister Narendra Modi was blocked in India by Hotstar. **Ans: Last week tonight with John Oliver**
4. This person replaced David Letterman as the host of the *The Late Show* on CBS. **Ans: Stephen Colbert**

5. The common link between Oprah Winfrey, Kelly Clarkson, Wendy Williams, Natalie Morales and Whoopi Goldberg. **Ans: They are all hosts of daytime talk shows**

Visual: In 2011, the then U.S. President Barack Obama described him as "host of the best late night show on TBS". **Ans: Conan O'Brien**

Early Birds: Raashi. P| Bhanu Priya Ashok| Princi Rajawat| Anamika Kashyap| Nitin K. Teotia



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

"A reader wants to know whether the word 'weightage' exists in English."

"The word 'weightage' is not recorded in any English dictionary. But it is extensively used in India. We say 'You might give weightage for his previous experience when you fix his pay'. Native speakers use either 'weight' or 'weighting' in such a context."

You must give weight for his experience.

You must give weighting for his experience.

The allowance that is given to offset higher cost of living in a place like London is called 'weighting allowance'.

He is paid a weighting allowance of £600 as he works in London.

"Mr. P. Krishnamurthy of Palamaner wants to know the meaning of the word 'powwow'."

"'Powwow' is used informally to mean 'a meeting for discussion'.

Let's have a powwow on the subject next week.

It is also used as a verb.

They powwowed for long. Nothing came of it.

'Powwow' rhymes with 'how now'.

The stress is on 'pow'."

"Mr. R. Sampath of Trichy wants to know why 'sanction' which means 'to grant something' is used in a different sense in 'Sanctions will be applied against South Africa'."

"The word 'sanction' is from Latin 'sanctio' which means 'to make sacred, holy'. A sanction was originally a formal church decree. Later it came to mean 'official permission, authoritative ratification, approval'. It has several other meanings also. When it is used in the plural, 'sanctions' mean 'a coercive measure taken by several nations against a nation violating international norms of conduct'. Economic and sometimes military measures are taken to make the offending nation change its policy."

"Mr. Mahadeva Prasad of Kollegal wants to know the pronunciation and use of 'chaos' and 'bias'."

"'Chaos' is pronounced 'keios'. 'Cha' rhymes with 'pay' and 'day', 'os' rhymes with 'boss'. 'Bias' rhymes with 'pious'. 'Chaos' means 'a state of complete disorder and confusion'.

There was utter chaos at the meeting.

There was chaos when the lights failed.

'Bias' means 'a tendency to be in favour of or against something'. You can have a bias towards something or against something.

He has a bias towards the working classes.

He has a bias towards vocational education.

He has a bias against women.

'Bias' refers to an individual's inclination; it is not based on any reason. A man without bias is an impartial person. He judges things on their merit."

Word of the day

Indelible:

cannot be removed or erased (used as an adjective)

Synonyms: unerasable

Usage: The curry fell on my white shirt. It will now leave an indelible stain there

Pronunciation: bit.ly/indeliblepro**International Phonetic Alphabet:** /ɪn'delɪbl/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to letters@thehindu.co.in with the subject 'Text & Context'

'India lost access to 26 of 65 Patrol Points'

Indian Army's play-safe approach is creating 'informal' buffer zones and restricting the movement of graziers along the China border, says paper submitted at annual police meet; the recent disengagement agreements resulted in the loss of pasture lands at Gogra hills, and Kakjung areas

Dinakar Peri
Vijaita Singh

NEW DELHI

India has lost access to 26 out of 65 Patrolling Points (PP) in eastern Ladakh, according to one of the research papers submitted at last week's annual police meet in Delhi, accessed by *The Hindu*.

The "play-safe" approach of the Indian Army that restricts the movement of the district administration and local people in forward areas has turned areas that were once accessible into informal "buffer" zones, the paper said. It added that to avoid consternation with the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) that has placed high-resolution cameras at vantage points, the Army restricts the movement of graziers by installing check-posts and deploying personnel in disguise. The recent disengagement agreements at PP 15 and 16 resulted in the loss of pasture lands in the

Gogra hills, North Bank of Pangong Tso, and Kakjung areas.

The paper did not come up for discussion at the annual Director General of Police (DGP) Conference organised by the Intelligence Bureau (IB) that was held from January 20 to 22 and attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. It was among 15 research papers submitted by police officers across the country on the subject "Security issues pertaining to unfenced land border".

The Hindu reported on December 22, 2022 that there are at least 30 PP in eastern Ladakh along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) that are not being patrolled any more by Indian troops.

These points were regularly patrolled before April-May 2020 when China started amassing troops close to the LAC in eastern Ladakh. Twenty Indian soldiers were killed in clashes with the PLA on



Close watch: The patrolling points have been safeguarded earlier by the ITBP and over the last few years by the Army. FILE PHOTO

June 15, 2020; at least four Chinese soldiers were also killed.

Salami Slicing

The paper stated: "Presently, there are 65 PPs starting from the Karakoram pass to Chumur which are to be patrolled regularly by the ISFs (Indian Security Forces). Out of 65 PPs, our presence is lost in 26 PPs (i.e. PP no. 5-17, 24-32, 37, 51, 52, 62) due to restrictive or no patrolling by

the ISFs. Later on, China forces us to accept the fact that, as such areas have not seen the presence of ISFs or civilians for long, the Chinese were present in these areas. This leads to a shift in the border under the control of ISFs towards the Indian side and a buffer zone is created in all such pockets which ultimately leads to the loss of control over these areas by India. This tactic of PLA to grab land inch-by-inch is

known as Salami Slicing."

A defence source told *The Hindu* that the LAC in eastern Ladakh is dominated by physical patrolling or technical means and "there is no loss of territory due to disengagement in friction areas".

Avoiding provocation

"Some areas have been restricted for patrolling for both sides pending diplomatic resolution of disputes. No pasture lands have been lost. In disengaged areas, we have as many cameras and technical means as the PLA and hence dominate the area as much, if not more," the source said. The source added that graziers are encouraged and all facilities are being provided in conjunction with the civil administration.

The paper added that the Army has placed significant restrictions on the movement of civilians and graziers near the forward areas on the Indian side, indicating with their play-

safe strategy that they do not want to annoy the PLA by giving them the chance to raise objections on the areas being claimed as disputed.

The defence source added that PPs are benchmark locations mutually agreed upon by both India and China.

"Among the 65 PPs, some remain in contention and all efforts to resolve them are taken by stakeholders concerned [and] is under way....Recently, the PP 15 issue was mutually resolved. It must be understood that while PPs are sacrosanct, the perception of the LAC isn't. They are in vogue since 1996, based on the China Study Group guidelines. They have been patrolled earlier by the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and over the last few years by the Army. The delineation of the LAC is as such the role of Ministry of External Affairs and the Army has no role to play in this regard," the source said.

Mr. Ramachandran said there were plans to set up houseboats in the Ooty Lake and Boathouse and

T.N. plans helicopter service to the Nilgiris from Coimbatore

The Hindu Bureau
UDHAGAMANDALAM



We are holding talks with private companies

K. RAMACHANDRAN

T.N. Tourism Minister

the Pykara Lake during the upcoming tourist season. "We plan to set up the houseboats for tourists to have breakfast or lunch. As it gets too cold in the evening, groups of up to 30 tourists can rent the boats for birthday parties and other events," he added.

The Minister visited the photo exhibition organised at the Government Botanical Garden, the Minister, who is the Coonoor MLA, said that this year, the government planned to inaugurate helicopter services to Valparai and Yercaud. Companies had come up with the proposal, which was being considered.

"I had a conversation with the [Nilgiris] Collector, asking him whether there was any hurdle to the Coimbatore-Nilgiris helicopter trips. He said the project required permission, and it could be done," he said.

Mr. Ramachandran said

there were plans to set up houseboats in the Ooty Lake and Boathouse and

Purse seine fishing partially allowed outside T.N. waters

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday allowed purse seine fishing off the Tamil Nadu coast. "We have allowed this because we thought everybody should survive, that's all," Justice A.S. Bopanna, who headed the Bench, orally remarked after pronouncing the order.

The court has imposed stringent conditions to regulate the extent of purse seine fishing outside the 12-nautical-mile limit off Tamil Nadu.

For one, it would be allowed only twice a week, on Monday and Thursday, that too between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. the same day. One of the lawyers objected that the timings may vary owing to sea conditions and weather. The boats may return late.

"First of all, we are al-

lowing you to do this [purse seine fishing] on the basic principle of 'living and letting live'... Come back faster," the court said.

Only vessels registered under the marine fishing regulation law would be allowed to do purse seine fishing. Tracking devices should be installed in these boats. The court has also prescribed a colour code for them. The fishing crew need to mandatorily carry identity cards.

Tamil Nadu had vehemently objected to purse seine fishing, even beyond the 12 nautical mile border.

"The mouth of purse seine net is one hectare and it would drag out anything and everything from the bowels of the sea. I cannot go by the Centre's suggestion to police, monitor or manage purse seine fishing. The livelihood of small fishermen operating within the territorial waters would be

put at risk," the State, represented by senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi and advocate D. Kumaran, had argued.

The State had referred to a 1993 decision of the Supreme Court in *State of Kerala versus Joseph Antony*, which had upheld the ban on purse seine fishing beyond the territorial waters as it affected the livelihood of traditional fishermen.

It is prohibited by Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Puducherry, Odisha, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Andaman and Nicobar Islands in their respective territorial waters of up to 12 nautical miles. States like Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, West Bengal have not imposed any such ban.

The Union government had sought six months to prepare a uniform national plan for purse seine fishing.

"First of all, we are al-

India bags Oscar nominations for original song and 2 documentaries

Press Trust of India
LOS ANGELES

Naatu Naatu, the hit dance track from S.S. Rajamouli's blockbuster *RRR*, continued its winning march on Tuesday with a coveted nomination for the original song at the Oscars 2023 where Indian documentaries *All That Breathes* and *Elephant Whisperers* also got nods in the documentary feature and documentary short categories.

Surreal sci-fi film *Everything Everywhere All At Once* topped the Oscar nominations with 11, as Hollywood formally kicked off the race to the all-important Academy Awards. It was followed by German anti-war movie *All Quiet on the Western Front* and Irish black comedy *The Banshees of Inisherin*, which each received nine nominations from the Academy



Mighty tale: A still from the Oscar-nominated documentary *The Elephant Whisperers*. NETFLIX

of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

The award ceremony will be held on March 12.

The Last Film Show, India's official entry in the International Feature category, however, failed to make the cut for the final five, but there was much to celebrate as it is perhaps for the first time that three films from the country are

competing in different segments. *Naatu Naatu*, composed by M.M. Keeravani and choreographed by Prem Rakshith, will compete with *Applause (Tell It Like a Woman)*; *Hold My Hand (Top Gun: Maverick)*; *Lift Me Up (Black Panther: Wakanda Forever)* and *This Is a Life (Everything Everywhere All At Once)*.

All That Breathes, which

is competing for an Oscar alongside *All the Beauty and the Bloodshed*, *Fire of Love*, *A House Made of Splinters* and *Navalny*, has also emerged as one of the best documentaries this year. Set in Delhi, the documentary follows siblings Mohammad Saud and Nadeem Shehzad who have devoted their lives to rescuing and treating injured birds.

Tamil documentary *The Elephant Whisperers*, directed by Kartiki Gonvalas, tells the story about the unbreakable bond between two abandoned elephants and their caretakers.

It has been nominated in the Documentary Short Subject category at the Oscars where it will compete with *Hailout*, *How Do You Measure a Year?*, *The Martha Mitchell Effect* and *Stranger at the Gate*. (With inputs from AP)

PM discusses mental health stigma with children

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday discussed a range of issues, including mental health, with the children who won the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar, 2023.

In a freewheeling interaction with the 11 winners, Mr. Modi talked about the stigma surrounding mental health and the important role of family in tackling it.

He suggested that the awardees make a beginning by solving small problems, gradually build capacity and develop confidence to solve bigger problems later on in life.

He also discussed the benefits of playing chess, taking up art and culture as a career, research and innovation and spirituality.

We brought people together yet again through Bharat Jodo Yatra, says Rahul

Peerzada Ashiq
JAMMU

Describing the Bharat Jodo Yatra as a success against the narrative of hatred, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said here on Tuesday that violence brought no solution, but love and affection could do a lot.

He distanced himself from Congress leader Digvijaya Singh's statement, saying, "There was no need to seek proof from the armed forces who are doing exceptional work."

"We have been able to bring the people across the country together yet again through the yatra. There is no scope for hatred in the country as the Congress believes in spreading the message of love. Through the yatra we have largely been able to fight the disastrous narrative of hatred spread by the BJP in the country," Mr. Gandhi, who is touring Jammu, said.

Stating that the Congress's position on Article 370 was clear and already made public in its manifesto, Mr. Gandhi said the primary focus of the party remained on restoring



Statehood and Assembly in Jammu and Kashmir.

Tough times

"Jammu and Kashmir is going through a tough time. The BJP has created a chasm between Jammu and Kashmir. Jammu and Kashmir youth are suffering from depression and discomfort. We are here to listen to them and understand their issues," he said.

Replying to a question on the yatra turning into a political event, Mr. Gandhi added that there would surely be a bit of politics in his speeches. "When Kashmiri Pandits, farmers and unemployed youth would meet me during the yatra and hope that I will definitely raise their issues,

there would obviously be a problem for me if I don't talk about them," he said.

Mr. Gandhi said he did not hold an iota of hatred for anybody, including PM Narendra Modi.

On the controversial statement made by Mr. Digvijaya Singh on surgical strikes, Mr. Gandhi said he did not appreciate Mr. Singh's personal views.

"His views are outline views. We are absolutely clear that the armed forces do their job exceptionally well and they do not need to provide proof of that," Mr. Gandhi said.

Mr. Singh had on Monday questioned the Centre's surgical strikes inside Pakistan conducted in 2016 and sought proof. "Ours is a democratic party. We do not believe in coercive action. People are allowed to air their views, which may not necessarily be the view held by the central party. We are not a dictatorship and do not run on the principles of coercion."

On Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's criticism of the yatra and allegations that Mr. Gandhi was denting India's image out-

side the country through the yatra, the Congress leader said it seemed he was being dictated to say these things from elsewhere.

Meanwhile, actress Urmila Matondkar joined Mr. Gandhi's 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' in Jammu. Mr. Gandhi is likely to unfurl the Tricolour on January 26 in Banihal district.

BJP slams Digvijaya
In another development, BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh targeted Mr. Digvijaya Singh for his remarks and said he had the habit of speaking the Pakistan- ISI language in Jammu and Kashmir in their effort to demoralise the Indian security forces.

Mr. Chugh demanded that the Congress high command take disciplinary action against Mr. Singh. "If the Congress did not agree with Mr. Singh's statement then he should be immediately expelled from the party for his anti-national remarks," he said.

BJP State president Ravinder Raina also demanded an apology from Mr. Singh.

During the visit, officials said, both sides will sign several MoUs and discuss taking ties forward on strategic issues, defence, trade, agriculture and renewable energy.

The invitation to Mr. Sisi is also being seen as part of the government's push to engage the "Global South", and as a rekindling of the principles of non-alignment that have come back to the fore after the Russian war in Ukraine began in February last year. Mr. Sisi, who visited India twice before, is expected to return later this year for the G-20 summit, where India has invited Egypt as a special guest country.

"Even without coordination, Egypt and India have similar positions at the United Nations today. We have civilisational ties, and the way our thinking has developed – principles of non-intervention, respectful of sovereignty, no use of force – these are all pertinent even today, as we have seen recently in the Ukraine conflict," a senior Egyptian diplomat who served in India as Ambassador previously told *The Hindu*.

Former Indian Ambassador to Egypt Navdeep Singh Srivastava said the invitation to Mr. Sisi as the Republic Day chief guest was an "important gesture" by the Modi government at a time the world was "re-discovering multipolarity". He pointed out that in the wake of

Western sanctions against Russia and a ban on wheat exports in India, the Modi government had made an exception for Egypt.

"As the world's largest importer of wheat much of it from Ukraine and Russia, Egypt was in a uniquely vulnerable position, and India's assistance bridged what could have become a major gap in supply for them," he said. "The fact is in a world where the need for strategic autonomy is replacing many traditional alliances in the developing world, India and Egypt are finding more and more in common," he added.

India and Egypt were

co-founders of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) in 1961 along with Yugoslavia, Indonesia and Ghana. Ties between India and Egypt grew under Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and President Gamal Abdel Nasser. However, despite keeping up the high-level visits and keeping their commitment to NAM strong, bilateral ties between the two countries declined over time, especially as India's links with the Gulf countries grew stronger.

"I can tell you that the main principles, the founding principles of the non-aligned movement did not disappear. There might have been some global changes that pushed the NAM itself into the background, but it doesn't change our positions," the senior Egyptian diplomat engaged in preparations for Mr. Sisi visit to India, who did not want to be identified, said, pointing out that the "South-South cooperation" and the G-77 that India and Egypt are actively involved in, were products of the NAM movement.

"As the world's largest importer of wheat much of it from Ukraine and Russia, Egypt was in a uniquely vulnerable position, and India's assistance bridged what could have become a major gap in supply for them," he said. "The fact is in a world where the need for strategic autonomy is replacing many traditional alliances in the developing world, India and Egypt are finding more and more in common," he added.

India and Egypt were

MLAs reject poll boycott call by ENPO in Nagaland

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

A union of 20 legislators from six districts seeking to exit from Nagaland has rejected an election boycott call by the Eastern Nagaland People's Union (ENPO).

Citing step-motherly treatment, the ENPO had set the granting of 'Frontier Nagaland' as a precondition for the people in six districts – Kiphire, Longleng, Mon, Noklak, Shillong and Tuensang – to participate in the February 27 election to the Nagaland Assembly.

In a statement, the Eastern Nagaland Legislators' Union (ENLU) comprising Ministers, MLAs and advisers to various departments said its members resolved not to boycott the election.

Although the ENPO refrained from reacting to the announcement of polls in Nagaland, the Konyak Union said it would not budge from the decision to boycott the election.

Trinamool offers freebies in poll manifesto for Meghalaya

Party promises laptops for students, monthly allowance for unemployed youth and job creation; it also pledges to revoke the boundary deal signed last year between the State and Assam

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

From farm to university, the election manifesto of the Trinamool Congress for Meghalaya has come up with a range of promises, ahead of the Assembly election scheduled for February 27.

The manifesto, released by the party's national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee in Shillong on Tuesday, contains 10 pledges.

These include the generation of three lakh jobs over five years, a monthly allowance of ₹1,000 to every unemployed youth, one lakh laptops to higher secondary and college-going students, an annual financial assistance of ₹10,000 to farmers, direct benefit transfers of ₹1,200 annually to families of all government school children and a sports university.

The Trinamool pro-



Poll pitch: Party national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee releasing the manifesto in Shillong on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

mised to introduce a private member Bill in Parliament for the immediate recognition of Khasi and Garo languages through their inclusion in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. It also promised to revoke the boundary deal signed on March 29, 2022, between Meghalaya and Assam to settle disputes in six of the 12 sectors along their boundary.

Underlining the contribution of tourism to the State's economy, the Trina-

centres and community health centres and facilitate piped drinking water to all households.

Meghalaya has 6,459 villages and the Trinamool committed to connecting all of them with black-topped motorable roads and upgrading the major arterial roads to all-weather roads.

The Trinamool also promised effective and immediate implementation of the Meghalaya Residents Safety and Security Act (MRSSA) of 2016 to ensure a comprehensive registry of all legal tenants. If voted to power, the party will set up an expert committee to assess the current situation regarding the introduction of the Inner-Line Permit (ILP), and decide the way forward. Pressure groups in Meghalaya believe the MRSSA and the ILP based on a British-era regulation will help prevent the influx of "illegal migrants".

Court acquits 22 accused in post-Godhra riots case

Press Trust of India
GODHRA

A court in Halol town in Panchmahal district of Gujarat on Tuesday acquitted 22 persons accused of killing 17 members of a minority community, including two children, for want of evidence in a case stemming from the 2002 post-Godhra communal riots in the State.

The court of additional sessions judge Harsh Trivedi acquitted all the 22 accused, eight of whom died during the pendency of the case.

According to the prosecution, the victims were killed on February 28, 2002 in Delol village, and their bodies burnt with an intention to destroy evidence. Riots had broken out in different parts of the State a day after a coach of the Sabarmati Express was torched by a mob near Godhra town on February 27, killing 59 passengers, most of them *karsevaks* returning from Ayodhya.

Rijiju's ire contrasts with Centre's push for transparency

NEWS ANALYSIS

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju's criticism of the Supreme Court Collegium for publishing excerpts of "secret" Research & Analysis Wing (RAW) and Intelligence Bureau (IB) inputs on candidates under consideration sharply contrasts with the Centre's push for transparency in the judicial appointments process during the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) case eight years ago.

The NJAC judgment re-

ords how the government

lampooned the Collegium system for its secrecy while arguing that the NJAC would "bring about critically desirable transparency, commitment and participation of the ultimate stakeholders – the people". In fact, the October 2015 judgment saw the Constitution Bench acknowledge that "transparency is a vital factor in constitutional governance", but also cautioned the government that "transparency is not a one-way street".

During arguments in the NJAC case, the government had faulted the Collegium for being "extremely secretive" to the extent that "no one outside the Collegium or the Department of Justice is aware of the recommendations made by the Chief Justice of India for the appointment of a judge of the Supreme Court or the High Courts".

"Civil society has the right to know who is being

The 2015 NJAC order records how the Centre lampooned the Collegium system for its secrecy

considered for appointment," the Attorney-General had submitted.

Mr. Rijiju has also said that the government, not judges, are accountable to the people. The remark was made amid the ongoing acrimony initiated by the government over judicial appointments.

The counter Mr. Rijiju view can be found in the verdict of a nine-judge Supreme Court Bench in the 'Second Judges Case'. In October 1993, the court had called the government's pitch for primacy in judicial appointments on the ground that it, and not the judges, was accountable to the public an "easily explodable myth", a "bubble which punishes on a mere touch".

Justice J.S. Verma, had observed that "accountability of the executive to the people in the matter of appointments of superior judges has been assumed, and does not have any real basis". On the other hand, the CJI and the Chief Justices of the High Courts concerned have to face the consequence of an unsuitable appointment, the verdict had pointed out.



Watch our analysis | Centre vs SC on appointment of judges
bit.ly/3ZX9qiv

Expunge draft amendment to IT Rules, say EGI, INS

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Editors Guild of India (EGI), in a letter to Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw on Tuesday, has reiterated its request to expunge the draft amendment to IT Rules, 2021, which empowers the Press Information Bureau's fact-check unit, or any other agency authorised by the Centre, to get online platforms to take down the content adjudged by it as fake or false.

"Already multiple laws exist to deal with content that is found to be factually incorrect. This new procedure basically serves to make it easier to muzzle the free press," said the letter.

The Indian Newspaper Society (INS) also requested the Ministry to drop the draft amendment and hold consultations with stakeholders. The Society said the amendment would seriously impact the functioning of the Press in India. "By legislating to become a judge in its own cause, the government, through a proposed amendment to a set of rules which have otherwise also caused concern, is taking a step to effectively muzzle criticism and even fair comment," it said.

Following the objections, Union Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar said that the government would hold discussions with stakeholders next month before the proposal is implemented.

(With PTI inputs)

A.P., Bombay High Courts get three additional judges

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

An advocate and two judicial officers were appointed additional judges of the Bombay and Andhra Pradesh High Courts on Tuesday.

Ms. Gokhale has been a part of the legal team representing Lieutenant-Colonel Prasad Purohit, an accused in the 2008 Malegaon blasts, in the Supreme Court since 2017.

After doing her LL.B. from ILS (Indian Law Society), Pune, and LL.M. from Pune University, she practised as a trial court lawyer in Pune for six years.

Mr. Gokhale has been a part of the legal team representing Lieutenant-Colonel Prasad Purohit, an accused in the 2008 Malegaon blasts, in the Supreme Court since 2017.

Sharing the official notification on Twitter, Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju said, "Extending my best wishes to them."

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(With PTI inputs)

Executive Engineer (C), Postal Civil Division, Thiruvananthapuram invites on behalf of the President of India, online percentage rate tenders for the following works.

NIT No.37/EE-TVM/22-23. Name of work : Construction of Post Office Building at Varkala, Trivandrum, Kerala. Estimated Cost: Rs. 2,70,49,660/- (CIVIL: Rs. 2,58,55,948/- Elect: Rs.11,93,712/-) Earnest Money: Rs. 5,40,993/- Period of completion: 18 months.

Last date and time of submission of bid: 02.02.2023 upto 11.00 hrs. The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website <https://dpcivil.euniwizarden.com>

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OFFICE OF ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, WATER RESOURCES ZONE, UDAIPUR Near Akashvani, Chetak Circle, Udaipur (Rajasthan) 313001 Phone no. 0294-2414794 Email: -aceudaipur2019@gmail.com

No:- ACE/Actt/Dungarpur/F./2022-23/64 Dated:-10/01/2023

E-NIT No. 27/2022-23 Bids for the following work are invited from interested bidders upto 6:00 PM, dated 10-02-2023

S. No. Name Of Work Estimated Cost of Work (Rs. in lacs)

1 Planning, Design and Construction of Solar based Micro Irrigation Scheme at (i) Naya Gaon Farash Anicut Village Bhatwara Tehsil & District Dungarpur (ii) Mandviya, Modar-1, Modar-2 & Modar-3 Cluster Tehsil Biccchwara District Dungarpur, (iii) Hanguwala, Hajudungra, and Pipleda Cluster Tehsil & District Dungarpur (iv) Baladit Gameti Fala Cluster Tehsil & District Dungarpur and its O&M for a period of 8 years on Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) Single Responsibility Turnkey basis.

Other particulars of bid may be visited on the Procurement Portal <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in and www.water.rajasthan.gov.in

UBM:- NIB-WRD2223A0620 UBM:- WRD2223WLOB02510

DIPR/C/1160

Additional Chief Engineer Water Resources Zone, Udaipur

BJP terms Rahul Gandhi's stand on armed forces 'vacillating'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The BJP on Tuesday asked why it took so long for Congress leader Rahul Gandhi to express his respect for and trust in India's armed forces.

Mr. Gandhi distanced the party on Tuesday from statements made by senior

Congress leader Digvijaya Singh. Mr. Singh had said that there was no proof that surgical strikes in retaliation for the Uri and Pulwama attacks had taken place.

Former Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said the Congress had a habit of terming the "uncomfortable views" expressed by its

leaders as "their personal views".

He attacked Mr. Gandhi for what he termed the latter's "vacillating" stand on the armed forces, citing some of his previous remarks, including a recent comment in Dausa questioning the government's handling of the border stand-off with China.

TVS MOTOR COMPANY LIMITED

Regd office: "Chaitanya", No. 12, Khader Nawaz Khan Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai 600 006 Website: www.tvsmotor.com Telephone No. (044) 28332115 Fax No. (044) 28332113 Email: contactus@tvsmotor.com CIN:L35921TN1992PLC022845



STATEMENT OF STANDALONE & CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

(Rs. In Crores)

S. No	Particulars	Standalone		Consolidated			
		Quarter ended	Year ended	Quarter ended	Year ended		
		31.12.2022	31.12.2021	31.03.2022	31.12.2022	31.12.2021	31.03.2022
1	Total income from operations	6,551.91	5,712.16	20,809.50	8,075.06	6,606.22	24,388.18
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional items)	475.47	391.45	1,243.37	464.55	359.73	1,106.91
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional items)	475.47	391.45	1,213.21	463.84	359.28	1,066.79
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after exceptional items)	352.75	288.31	893.56	303.64	236.56	730.88
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income / (Loss) (after tax)]	368.56	288.80	829.25	378.48	251.67	733.77
6	Paid up Equity share capital (Face value of Re.1/- each)	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	-	-	4,774.53	-	-	4,351.94</td

IN BRIEF



Why revive oil palm crop on Andamans, asks SC panel

Oil palm plantations raised on the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the past have proven to be a total commercial failure, the Supreme Court-constituted Central Empowered Committee has said, questioning the need to revive the crop in the islands. The panel said any permission for diversion of forest land for red oil palm plantation "is bound to open flood gates in all the States for similar agricultural purposes on forest lands".^{PTI}

U.P. police book SP leader for remarks on Ramcharitmanas

Swami Prasad Maurya, Samajwadi Party (SP) leader and former Minister, was booked by the U.P. Police on Tuesday for his controversial remarks on the *Ramcharitmanas*. A First Information Report (FIR) was registered against Mr. Maurya at the Hazratganj police station in Lucknow under various sections of the IPC including Section 153 A.



Architect B.V. Doshi passes away

The Hindu Bureau

AHMEDABAD

Renowned architect and urban planner B.V. Doshi, who worked with international legends such as Le Corbusier and Louis Kahn in prestigious projects, passed away at the age of 95 on Tuesday.

Mr. Doshi was the first architect from India to be awarded the Pritzker Prize. He was also awarded the Royal Institute of British Architects' Royal Gold Medal in 2022. Earlier, he was also honoured with Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri by the Government of India.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his tributes called the noted architect as a "remarkable institution builder". The coming generations will get glimpses of his greatness by admiring his rich work across India, the PM added.

India, Pakistan came close to nuclear war: Pompeo in his book

Press Trust of India

WASHINGTON

Former U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has claimed that he was "awakened" to speak to his then Indian counterpart Sushma Swaraj who told him that Pakistan was preparing for a nuclear attack after the Balakot surgical strike in February 2019 and India is preparing its own escalatory response.

In his latest book *Never Give an Inch: Fighting for the America I Love* that hit the stores on Tuesday, Mr. Pompeo says the incident took place when he was in Hanoi for the U.S.-North Korea Summit on February 27-28 and his team worked overnight with India and Pakistan to avert this crisis.

"I do not think the world properly knows just how close the India-Pakistan rivalry came to spilling over into a nuclear conflagration in 2019. The truth is, I don't know precisely the answer either; I just know it was too close," he writes.

India's warplanes pounded a Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorist camp at Balakot in Pakistan in February 2019 in response to

the Pulwama terror attack that killed 40 CRPF jawans.

"In Hanoi, I was awakened to speak with my Indian counterpart. He [referring to Swaraj] believed the Pakistanis had begun to prepare their nuclear weapons for a strike. India, he informed me, was contemplating its own escalation. I asked him to do nothing and give us a minute to sort things out (sic)," Mr. Pompeo writes.

'Spoke to Army chief'
"I reached out to the actual leader of Pakistan, (Army chief) General (Qamar Javed) Bajwa. I told him what the Indians had told me. He said it wasn't true," Mr. Pompeo says.

"As one might expect, he believed the Indians were preparing their nuclear weapons for deployment. It took us a few hours – and remarkably good work by our teams in New Delhi and Islamabad – to convince each side that the other was not preparing for nuclear war," he writes.

India's warplanes pounded a Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorist camp at Balakot in Pakistan in February 2019 in response to

What if risk of commercial release of GM Mustard is irreversible, SC asks govt.

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the Centre what will happen if the risk of commercial release of the GM Mustard crop is "irreversible".

"What happens when the risk is irreversible," Justice B.V. Nagarathna, accompanying Justice Dinesh Maheshwari, asked Attorney-General R. Venkataramani, appearing for the government. The top law officer said the risks were known and the approval given would not be blanket, but subject to specific conditions which covers every scenario or aspect of risk. Justice Maheshwari said the court may add to these conditions.

Mr. Venkataramani said the conditions for release could not be a "straitjacket" and the government was open to modifications by the court. The Attorney-General said the petitioners had found fault with the environmental clearance of GM Mustard crop but had not challenged the adequacy or efficiency of the regulatory framework.

Response to DGCA

The airline and the employees' unions have appealed to the DGCA to review its 'harsh punishment'

What Air India says

- Crew acted in good faith, and didn't deem alleged perpetrator as risk to flight safety as he was "calm, co-operative and did not appear intoxicated to the crew"

- But incident should have been classified by the crew as unruly by taking the complaint at "face value". They have now been issued warning letters by the airline



What unions say

- Airline management and officers failed to report incident to the DGCA despite the pilot filing detailed reports "immediately" on landing
- Internal complaints committee report of the airline is full of "inaccuracies and inadequacies"

cident to it in accordance with the rules for the handling of unruly passengers.

The airline explained that it believed its pilot and cabin crew had acted in "good faith" and could not have identified the accused passenger as unruly since he was "calm, cooperative and did not appear intoxicated to the crew", nor had

the crew served him excessive alcohol.

Therefore, "in the judgment of the crew, the alleged perpetrator posed no risk to flight safety at any time". It adds that since there had been a mutual settlement between the accused and the woman passenger who levelled allegations against

him, and there were no eyewitnesses to the incident, to ask the crew to make a presumption of the accused's guilt would be "contrary to natural justice".

Staff against airline

However, a disagreement between the airline's management and its employees over the onus on reporting the incident to the DGCA and handing over the accused to the police is evident.

Air India blamed its crew for failing to classify the incident as unruly under the DGCA's rules by not taking the woman passenger's allegations at "face value", as well as its ground staff for not challenging the crew's assessment and not reporting the matter as an unruly incident. It said that this is why it has issued warning letters.

A separate joint letter from five of Air India's em-

ployees' unions, including those representing pilots, cabin crew, and a sixth union of national and international pilots, to the DGCA, appealed that the latter "withdraw the harsh punishment and suspension" of the commander.

The unions questioned the basis of the DGCA's decision when there were official reports and e-mails of the crew filed "immediately" after landing, and responses to the DGCA's show cause notice. The joint letter points a finger at the Air India management and its senior officers for failing to study reports, which they say the PIC filed immediately upon landing, and reporting the matter to the DGCA.

The unions also warned that by making an example of the pilot, the regulator was setting a dangerous precedent which would lead to an "anxious atmosphere" for pilots, crew and the travelling public.

In a first, EPFO to hold mass outreach programme on Friday

A. M. Jigeesh

NEW DELHI

the 27th of every month. "If 27 is a holiday, we will hold the programme on the next working day," the official added.

Among the preferred venues for the programme would be the District Collectorate, the District Industries Office and the State Labour Commissioner's Office, which are "decent, easily accessible, neat and clean". The EPFO has also instructed its offices to inform employers, trade unions and pensioners about the programme through advertisements.

Though the EPFO is yet to finalise the process to implement the Supreme Court order on higher PF pension, the issue is likely to be taken up during the programme. Several organisations of pensioners, employees and employers had asked the EPFO for further clarity on the process of implementing the order.

The programme will also function as a pension *adalat*. The EPFO had launched a monthly pension *adalat* in 2021 to address the complaints of pensioners. This *adalat* has now been merged with *Nidhi Aapke Nikat* 2.0.



Debate continues: Attorney-General R. Venkataramani says the petitioners did not challenge the adequacy or efficiency of the regulatory framework. REUTERS

At this, senior advocate Sanjay Parikh, for one of the petitioners, intervened to say that the rules had indeed been challenged. Mr. Parikh had earlier argued how the widespread use of herbicide-tolerant crops would encourage farmers to spray chemical weed-killers, leaving toxic chemical residue in large amounts on the crops.

'Not in India'
"The Supreme Court's own Technical Expert Committee (TEC) had said that these GM crops were not meant for agriculture in the Indian context," Mr. Parikh had argued.

Advocate Prashant Bhushan, for activist Aruna Rodrigues, had submitted that India had 5,477 varieties of mustard, which would be at risk.

He had argued that the regulatory system under the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) which cleared the environmental release of Dhara Mustard Hybrid-II (DMH-II), a genetically engineered variant of mustard, was "horrendous" and riddled with conflict of interest.

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BANGKOK

Fighting flares between junta and rebels in southern Myanmar



Fighting has flared in recent days between Myanmar junta forces and rebels opposed to their rule, officials and local people said on Tuesday, with reports that large numbers of civilians have fled the violence. Myanmar has been in turmoil since Aung San Suu Kyi's government was toppled in an Army coup two years ago.

ISTANBUL

Turkey condemns Koran protest in the Netherlands; summons envoy



Turkey's Foreign Ministry said on Tuesday it summoned the Dutch Ambassador over a demonstration targeting the Koran. Edwin Wagenveld, Dutch leader of the far-right Pegida movement, on Sunday tore pages of a copy of the Koran near the Dutch Parliament and stomped on the pages. The police did not intervene.

TEL AVIV

Israeli high-tech workers stage protest against judicial reform plan



Hundreds of Israeli high-tech workers protested against the government's judicial reform plan on Tuesday, claiming the measures will hurt the flourishing sector. PM Benjamin Netanyahu's government insists it is essential to correct an imbalance that has given judges too much power over elected officials.

WASHINGTON

Doomsday Clock to be updated against backdrop of Ukraine war



The "Doomsday Clock," which represents the judgment of science and security experts about the perils to human existence, is to be updated on Tuesday against the backdrop of the Ukraine war and other crises. The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists will announce at 10.00 a.m. local time whether the time of the clock will change.

IMF confirms India's finance assurances for Sri Lanka

"There has been good progress in debt restructuring talks this month with India already pledging financing assurances. We expect assurances from China and Japan soon," says Central Bank chief

Meera Srinivasan

COLOMBO

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has confirmed receiving India's written financing assurance in support of Sri Lanka's economic revival, Reuters news agency reported, while Sri Lanka has expressed hope of completing talks on debt restructuring in six months.

"We confirm that India has indicated to the IMF management that it is committed to deliver financing/debt relief consistent with restoring the sustainability of Sri Lanka's public debt under the prospective IMF-supported programme," a spokesperson of the Fund, who welcomed India's financial assurance for the crisis-hit country, was quoted as saying.

Meanwhile, speaking at an event in Colombo on Tuesday, Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka P. Nandalal Weerasinghe said: "There has been good progress this month with India already pledging financing assurances. We expect assurances from China and Japan soon."

Following last year's debilitating economic crash, Sri Lanka decided to seek IMF assistance and reached a staff-level agree-



Full support: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar during a recent meeting with Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe. AFP

ment in September 2022. Although the Ranil Wickremesinghe government said an IMF programme would likely kick in before the year ended, its negotiations with creditors dragged on for months.

On January 16, India became the island nation's first official creditor – China, Japan, and India are Sri Lanka's three largest bilateral creditors – to send written financing assurances to the IMF, "strongly supporting" Sri Lanka's debt restructuring plan.

Amid speculation over the top two creditors' moves, the Export-Import Bank of China wrote to the Sri Lankan Finance Ministry, offering a two-year moratorium on its debt in support of Sri Lanka's economic revival efforts, local media reports said.

However, the top Chinese bank's offer is not the same as a written assurance to the IMF that is necessary for the Fund's Board to approve the provisional package for Sri Lanka, a top source based in Colombo said. Beijing is yet to make any official remarks in this regard.

The IMF has noted that Sri Lanka is currently engaged with China and Ja-

pan to obtain them. "As soon as adequate assurances are obtained and remaining requirements are met, including by the Sri Lankan authorities, a Fund-supported programme for Sri Lanka can be presented to the IMF's Executive Board for approval that would unlock much-needed financing," its spokesperson has said.

Bilateral talks

According to a senior official familiar with the developments, both the IMF and the Sri Lankan government have agreed that none of the official lenders would take a haircut while giving Sri Lanka time to recover with an IMF programme.

"Once the IMF's Board approves the package, the countries will hold official bilateral negotiations, to work out the restructuring plan for their respective loans," the official told *The Hindu*, requesting anonymity, citing the sensitivity of ongoing negotiations.

However, private creditors, who hold the largest chunk of Sri Lanka's foreign debt, may have to take a haircut, the source added. Earlier this month, eminent economists from across the globe urged creditors to cancel Sri Lanka's debt.

China's offer
The Fund's provisional package of \$2.9 billion will

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Pakistan PM issues apology to nation over power outage

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday apologised to the nation for a major, day-long power outage that disrupted normal life and drew criticism from millions who were left without electricity amid the harsh winter weather.

The blackout engulfed schools, factories and shops, and many among 220 million people were without drinking water as pumps powered by electricity also failed to work. In key businesses and institutions, backup generators kicked in. "On behalf of my government, I would like to express my sincere regrets for the inconvenience our citizens suffered due to power outage yesterday," tweeted Mr. Sharif.

Biden calls for ban on assault weapons

my desk," Mr. Biden said.

A suspected gunman was in custody on Tuesday over the killing of seven people in a rural community in northern California, just two days after a mass shooting at a Lunar New Year celebration near Los Angeles.

Pakistan PM issues apology to nation over power outage**Associated Press**

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petitive, exclusionary, and unlawful means to eliminate or severely diminish any threat to its dominance over digital advertising technologies," the government said in its antitrust complaint.

The lawsuit is the second federal antitrust complaint filed against Google, alleging violations of antitrust law in how the

Several top-level officials in Ukraine resign amid corruption allegations

Agence France-Presse

KYIV

Kyiv on Tuesday announced the resignation of several officials, including regional Governors and Deputy Ministers, against the backdrop of the largest corruption allegations made in Ukraine since Russia invaded.

Ukraine has long suffered endemic corruption, including among the political elite, but efforts to stamp out graft have been overshadowed by Moscow's full-scale war that began in February. Kyiv's Western allies, who have allocated billions of dollars in financial and military support, have been pushing for anti-corruption reforms for years, sometimes as a precondition for aid.

Oleg Nemchinov, a senior government official, announced the departure of five regional Governors, whose territories have



Yevhen Shapovalov

seen fierce fighting, and four Deputy Ministers.

They include the heads of the central Dnipropetrovsk region, the north-eastern Sumy region, the southern Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions, as well as the region surrounding the capital Kyiv.

Mr. Nemchinov also announced the dismissal of a Deputy Defence Minister, two Deputy Ministers of development of communities and territories, and a

Deputy Minister of social policy.

The deputy head of the presidential administration Kyrylo Tymoshenko and deputy prosecutor general Oleksiy Symonenko were also among those who resigned.

Separately, the Defence Ministry had earlier announced the resignation of Deputy Minister Vyacheslav Shapovalov, who was in charge of the Army's logistical support, on the heels of accusations it was signing food contracts at inflated prices. Local media reports last week accused the Ministry of having signed a deal at prices "two to three times higher" than current rates for basic foodstuffs.

Baseless allegations'
In a statement, the Ministry insisted the accusations were "unfounded and baseless" but said Mr. Shapovalov's departure would

"preserve the trust of society and international partners".

Mr. Tymoshenko, who has worked with Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky since his election in 2019 and oversaw regional policy, also announced his resignation Tuesday.

He posted a photo of himself holding a handwritten resignation letter, thanking the president for the "opportunity to do good deeds every day and every minute". Mr. Tymoshenko was implicated in several scandals during his tenure, including in October last year when he was accused of using a car donated to Ukraine for humanitarian purposes.

The departure of Mr. Symonenko, a deputy prosecutor general, comes after media reports that he spent a holiday in Spain this winter, reportedly using a car belonging to a Ukrainian businessman.

Poland seeks German nod to send tanks

Agence France-Presse

WARSAW

consent to send Leopard 2 tanks to Ukraine," he said.

Poland announced earlier that it was ready to deliver 14 Leopard tanks to Kyiv within the framework of an international coalition of countries but was waiting for Berlin authorising the transfer.

After days of mounting

pressure, German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock on Sunday said Berlin would not stand in the way if Warsaw asked to send Leopard tanks.

"I am also calling on the German side to join our coalition of countries supporting Ukraine with Leopard 2 tanks," Mr. Blaszczyk said.

tweeted on Tuesday.

"It's our common cause because this is a matter of the security of all of Europe." The Polish Minister said last week that he had met his counterparts from 14 countries to discuss the formation of an international coalition to send tanks to Ukraine.

E-mail ID: cebuildings_orissa@yahoo.co.in; cebuildings@rediffmail.com; Tel. - (0674)-2391523	
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA NIRMAN SOUDHA, UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR	
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)	
File No. B-IV-H-(HAD)-36/2021 Lr. No.-2825 / Bhubaneswar, the 21 st Jan. 2023	
Invitation For Bids - Bid Identification No.C.E.(B) - 48 - 2022-23	
1. The Chief Engineer (Buildings), Odisha, Bhubaneswar, on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE only, for Construction of Building works as detailed below :	
2. Nature of work	: Building works
3. No. of work	: 1 No.
4. Bid Cost	: ₹.10,000/- (each)
5. Class of Contractor	: Super Class
6. Availability of Bid Documents in the website	: From dt.03.02.2023 to 17:00 Hours of dt.17.02.2023.
7. Date of Opening of Bid	: Dt. 20.02.2023 at 11.30 AM
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: https://tendersodisha.gov.in . Any addendum/ corrigendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.	
Chief Engineer (Buildings), Odisha OIPR-34117/11/0107/2223	

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, MEGA LIFT, BHUBANESWAR. Plot No.A 8/2, Bhojnagar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, PIN-751022, E-Mail : cmplpwri@gmail.com	
Government of Odisha - "e" Procurement Notice	
Bid Identification No. 12ML/2022-23	
The Chief Engineer, Megalift on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites online tender through "E"-procurement for the works as detailed in the Annexure to this bid notice.	
ANNEXURE TO BID NOTICE	
Name of the work	Appointment of Third Party Inspection Agency(TPIA) for implementation of Mega Lift projects in Cluster No. XIX
Cost of Tender Paper	Rs. 10,000/-GST 18% (Non- Refundable)
EMD/Bid Security	Rs.2,52,044/-
Mode of payment of tender paper Cost & EMD	Online
Period of Completion	36(Thirty-Six) Calendar months
Availability of Bid document for sale and receipt through on-line	From dt.25.01.2023, 10.00 A.M, to dt.23.02.2023, up to 5.00 P.M
Last date / time of receipt of bid in the portal	23.02.2023 (5.00PM)
Date of Pre-bid Conference	06.02.2023, 11.00 AM
Date of opening of Techno-Commercial bid through online	On dt. 24.02.2023 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Chief Engineer, Megalift.
Class of Contractor	The bidder should be registered under the Companies Act, 1956
Digital Signature Certificate of Bidder	The Bidder must possess compatible digital signature certificate(DSC).
The detail tender call notice can also be seen in the DOWR web site - https://dowr.odisha.gov.in .	
Name & Address of the OIT	Chief Engineer, Megalift, Bhubaneswar, Bhoj Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751022 Ph.No-0674-2567252, Email ID: cmplpwri@gmail.com
Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement market place, https://tendersodisha.gov.in .	
Chief Engineer, Megalift, Bhubaneswar, OIPR-32301/11/0021/2223	

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice	
Tender No : RT 75/22/23/EP/HOP/KPD, JAL JEEVAN MISSION- 2021-22, Design, Construction, Commissioning and Maintenance of 111 GLSR at Mammapuram, 611 GLSR cum BPT at Thachamala Plantation and supplying, laying, testing, commissioning and maintenance of Clear Water Pumping Main, Clear Water Gravity Mains and distribution system with providing FHTCs - 7000Nos., supply and Erection of Centrifugal motor pump sets 2 Nos (discharge 18bps, Total head 149m), supply and fixing of mechanical flow meters and allied works including road restoration of PWD and LSGD roads. EMD : Rs. 500,000. Tender Fee : Rs. 16540. Last Date for submitting Tender : 07-02-2023 03:00 am, Phone : 04912544927, Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in , www.tenders.kerala.gov.in, Supervisor, PH Circle Palakkad KWA-JB-GL-6-1501-2022-23	

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION Karnataka State Health & Family Welfare Society Arogya Soudha, 1st Floor, Magadi road, Bengaluru-23. Phone No: 080-23113584, email id: pdrch-hws@karnataka.gov.in	
Notification No: JDM/Dialysis/03/2021-22 Date: 24/01/2023	
TENDER THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT "For Installation, Operations and Management of Haemodialysis Units in District and Taluk level Hospitals Under Public Private	

IN BRIEF



Toll collection via FASTag rose 46% to ₹50,855 cr. in '22: NHAI

Total toll collection through FASTag on fee plazas, including state highway toll plazas, increased 46% to ₹50,855 crore in 2022, NHAI said on Tuesday. Total toll collection through FASTag on fee plazas, including state highway toll plazas, in 2021 was ₹34,778 crore. The average daily toll collection through FASTag on NH fee plazas in December 2022 was ₹144.44 crore, and the single day highest collection touched ₹144.19 crore on December 24, 2022, the NHAI said.

Scrap windfall tax as it hurts oil, gas exploration: FICCI

The government should scrap the windfall profit tax on domestically-produced crude oil as the levy is adversely impacting the capex-intensive exploration of oil and gas, the industry said in its recommendation for the forthcoming annual Budget. The windfall tax, it said, was over and above the heavy burden of royalty (20% of oil price for onshore fields and 10% for offshore areas) and oil industry development (OID) cess (20% of oil price).

Bharti Airtel raises minimum monthly recharge price by 57%

Bharti Airtel has raised the price of minimum recharge for the 28-day mobile phone service plan by about 57% to ₹155 in eight circles, including Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh West. It has stopped minimum recharge plan of ₹99, under which it offered 200 megabyte of data and calls at the rate of ₹2.5 paise per second. According to sources closely engaged with the development, the company will roll out the same across India gradually.

TVS Motor Q3 net rises 22% to ₹353 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

TVS Motor Company's reported standalone net profit for the quarter ended December rose 22% to ₹353 crore from the year-earlier period.

Operating revenue grew by 15% to ₹6,545 crore. The sale of electric vehicles rose to 29,230 from 2,306 units, it said in a statement.

Total sales

The total sales of two- and three-wheelers remained almost same at 8.79 lakh units, while exports of two-wheelers contracted to

The board declared an interim dividend of ₹5 per share. The record date will be February 2

2.07 lakh units from 2.53 lakh units. The board declared an interim dividend of ₹5 per share.

During the quarter, TVSM had invested ₹150 crore in TVS Credit Services Ltd., and ₹91 crore in TVS Motor (Singapore) Pte Ltd. During August last year, it had acquired 48.27% stake in DriveX Mobility Pvt. Ltd., Coimbatore for ₹85 crore.

CG Power to invest ₹126 cr. in expanding capacity

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Murugappa group firm CG Power and Industrial Solutions Ltd., said it would enhance the manufacturing capacity of its power transformer and distribution transformer units at Malanpur and Bhopal at an investment of ₹126 crore.

The expansion would raise power transformer capacity from 17,000 MVA to 25,000 MVA; and from 6,900 MVA to 9,900 MVA for distribution transformers, the company said.

Granules Q3 net rises 23% on paracetamol

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Drugmaker Granules India on Tuesday reported consolidated net profit increased 23% for December quarter to ₹124.32 crore on the back of higher paracetamol API offtake.

Total income increased almost 15% to ₹1,147.07 crore. However, both net profit and total income were lower on a sequential basis. Revenue share from the U.S. also increased to 49.4% against 43.1%.

"Opportunities in paracetamol are likely to continue and our geography ex-

States' interest cost inches up as borrowing grows 8%: ICRA

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

After remaining stable for many weeks, the cost of borrowing for states increased by 5 basis points (bps) to 7.64% at Tuesday's auction when 15 of them raised ₹25,700 crore from the market.

The weighted average cut-off on state government loans rose 5 bps to 7.64% over the previous week, and the weighted average tenor rose to 13 years from 11 during the week, according to ICRA.

Indian economy critical for the world'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

India's economic fortunes are critical for the world, Aditya Birla Group chairman Kumar Mangalam Birla said on Tuesday.

"But more interestingly, India's rise is being welcomed by the world as it grows into a stabilising and non-disruptive growth engine," he wrote in a note.

As global corporations start to look at countries across Asia as part of China + 1 strategies, India is a clear choice.

"Supply chain repositioning is complex and

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	%CHANGE
Sensex	60,979	0.06
US Dollar	81.70	-0.40
Gold	57,217	0.66
Brent oil	87.65	-1.47

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter.	3442.00	5.65
Adani Ports	761.20	-7.85
Apollo Hosp.	4305.00	-30.45
Asian Paints	2810.60	26.15
Axis Bank	910.20	-22.50
Bajaj Auto	3686.50	62.95
Bajaj FinServ	1332.70	-0.05
Bajaj Finance	5855.05	-7.95
Bharti Airtel	775.65	2.95
BPCL	348.95	-0.65
Britannia Ind.	4396.05	58.20
Cipla	1062.15	-0.40
Coal India	227.60	-2.50
Divis Lab.	3356.05	-29.65
Dr Reddys Lab.	4252.75	-85.10
Eicher Motors	3226.55	23.20
Grimson Ind.	1603.20	-28.10
HCL Tech	1137.85	16.65
HFDC	2775.40	33.50
HFDC Bank	1695.50	22.40
HFDC Life	589.55	0.35
Hero MotoCorp	2771.90	-2.70
Hindalco	484.65	-9.95
Hind Unilever	2600.50	4.10
ICICI Bank	870.75	-0.95
IndusInd Bank	1212.30	7.60
Infosys	1551.90	3.90
ITC	338.95	1.20
JSW Steel	722.05	-11.90
Kotak Bank	1760.25	-23.50
L&T	2207.50	-26.00
M&M	1323.95	-4.55
Maruti Suzuki	8698.80	281.70
NestleIndia	19290.70	-76.40
NTPC	166.05	-0.80
ONGC	152.15	-0.20
PowerGrid Corp	220.95	-4.15
Reliance Ind.	2415.95	-14.35
SBI Life	1273.25	-22.15
State Bank	594.35	-6.10
Sun Pharma	1040.70	-8.60
Tata Consumer Product	740.90	-1.55
Tata Motors	422.15	13.75
Tata Steel	120.40	-1.60
TCS	3436.30	21.40
Tech Mahindra	1070.60	5.30
Titan	2370.75	6.05
UltraTech Cement	6809.70	-40.05
UPL	745.95	-3.50
Wipro	406.60	-0.40

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on January 24

	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	81.52	81.84
Euro	88.50	88.88
British Pound	100.36	100.79
Japanese Yen (100)	62.62	62.88
Chinese Yuan	12.02	12.07
Swiss Franc	88.24	88.59
Singapore Dollar	61.75	62.00
Canadian Dollar	60.97	61.23
Malaysian Ringgit	19.01	19.10
Australian Dollar	57.24	57.51

Source: Indian Bank

Services exports to cross FY23 goal of \$300 bn: Goyal

Commerce Minister says merchandise exports too seeing 'healthy growth' despite the world economy facing risk of recession, inflationary pressure and overstocking of various commodities

Press Trust of India
GANDHINAGAR

India's services exports are doing "extremely well" and going by the current trend, these outbound shipments would grow by about 20% this fiscal and cross the \$300-billion target despite global economic uncertainties, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said.

He said that on the merchandise front also, exports were so far registering healthy growth despite the world being under re-

Servicing trade

Minister Goyal says the current fiscal will be a satisfying year for exports given the gloom in the global environment

- India is likely to record 20% growth in services exports
- Services exports clocked \$235.81 billion in April-December 2022, compared with \$184.65 billion in the year-earlier period
- In 2021-22, these exports touched an all-time high of \$254 billion



target of \$300 billion this year. So all in all, it will be a very... satisfying year, given the global headwinds and the stress that is reported from almost every part of the world," he told reporters, adding that the government's structural reforms and steps such as 'Make in India' and 'Digital India' were yielding fruit.

As per official data, services exports in April-December rose to \$235.81 billion, from \$184.65 billion in the year-earlier period.

In FY22, these exports had touched an all-time high of \$254 billion.

India may peg FY24 nominal GDP growth at about 11%

Reuters

India is likely to peg its nominal gross domestic product (GDP) growth at about 11% in the Budget next week, marking a slowdown from its estimate for the current fiscal due to weak export prospects, two government officials said.

Nominal GDP growth – which includes inflation and is the benchmark used to estimate tax collections – could be pressured by suppressed external demand next year due to a likely U.S. recession, said the sources, who declined to be named. The Centre expects nominal growth of 15.4% for FY23.

Vistara to add 17 aircraft by 2024, eyes more long-haul flights'

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI



Vistara, the carrier set to be merged with the Air India Group by mid-2024, will take delivery of 17 more aircraft to reach a fleet size of 70. Some of the additional planes will help it add frequencies to its European destinations, with others enabling it to offer new long-haul routes, said CEO Vinod Kannan.

However, the airline's plans to add flights to the U.S. are now on hold because of the staggered delivery of Boeing 787-9s and as the route is "resource

consuming" and requires 2.5 to 3 aircraft for daily flights from India, Mr. Kannan told journalists during a press conference.

Boeing, which had halted deliveries of 787-9s following concerns aired by U.S. regulator Federal Aviation Administration, has now informed Vistara that it would deliver one Boeing 787-9 by "March or April" of 2023, and the remaining three by March 2024.

Vistara now has three 787s, deployed for flights to London, Frankfurt and Paris. Of the remaining 13 aircraft, 10 are A321s and three are A320 neos.

The original schedule included delivery of all 70 aircraft by the second quarter of 2023, which was delayed due to "slowdown and manufacturing issues as well as delays we had negotiated because of COVID," the CEO said.

Maruti net doubled to ₹2,351 crore in Q3

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Maruti Suzuki India on Tuesday reported a more than twofold jump in net profit to ₹2,351.3 crore for the third quarter ended December, on account of robust sales aided by enhanced product portfolio. Net sales rose to ₹27,849.2 crore (₹22,187.6 crore) year-on-year. The carmaker sold 4,65,911 vehicles (4,30,668 units) during the third quarter. The firm said the introduction of models such as Grand Vitara and a new version of Brezza helped it bolster market share in the high selling SUV segment.

Also, factors such as cost-reduction efforts and improved realisation aided margin improvement.

Shortage of electronic components impacted production by about 46,000 vehicles in Q3.

Sport**COMEBACK GOAL**

Kyrgios targets March return with knee surgery a 'great success'



Nick Kyrgios's knee surgery was a "great success" with the Australian targeting a return for the Indian Wells ATP Masters in March, his manager said on Tuesday. The 27-year-old went under the knife in Canberra on Monday after pulling out of the Australian Open on the eve of the tournament.

ONE STEP FURTHER

Sania & Bopanna enter semifinals after getting walkover



Sania Mirza and Rohan Bopanna rolled into the semifinals of the Australian Open mixed doubles after the duo was handed a walkover in their quarters clash on Tuesday. They were slated to face Jelena Ostapenko and David Vega Hernandez but advanced after their opponents decided to withdraw.

RECORD TALLY

Gill finishes with 360 runs, equals Babar's feat in 3-match ODI series



Shubman Gill equalled Babar Azam's record for most runs in a three-match ODI series. The Indian took his tally to 360 (208, 40 n.o., 112) when he smashed a century in the third match against New Zealand in Indore on Tuesday. In 2016, Babar scored 360 against West Indies, registering three hundreds in three matches.

SMASHING SUCCESS

Rohit-Gill pair registers highest opening stand against Kiwis in ODIs



Skipper Rohit Sharma and Shubman Gill's 212-run stand for the opening wicket in the third ODI against New Zealand in Indore on Tuesday eclipsed the record of 201 (unbroken) by Virender Sehwag and Gautam Gambhir in Hamilton in 2009. Rohit's 101 was his 30th ODI hundred while Gill (112) scored his fourth ODI century.

Dominant Belgium ends NZ's hopes, advances to semifinals

The Belgians had clearly done their homework and seemed to have learnt from India's mistakes against the same opponent in the crossover game; Boon and van Aubel score for the defending champion

HOCKEY WORLD CUP

Uthra Ganesan
BHUBANESWAR

Belgium booked a semifinal spot in style, ending New Zealand's dreams of a maiden last-four World Cup appearance with a 2-0 win in the second quarterfinal here on Tuesday.

The defending champion stayed in control for most of the game and, despite missing quite a few shots at the goal, never appeared to be struggling. The margin, in fact, could have been much bigger had Belgium not hit wide once too often.

At the other end, New Zealand managed just a couple of half-chances that never appeared dangerous. Belgium got its first shot in the second minute itself, but captain Felix Deneayer could not connect in front of the goal. Tom Boon hit a backhand wide after a few minutes as the Belgian forwards appeared



That's it: Anubel, centre, gestures to teammates after scoring the second goal for Belgium in a well-coordinated move. BISWARANJAN ROUT

in a hurry to score but missing their targets as a result. Boon finally put his team ahead, flicking in the first PC in the 11th minute.

Belgium doubled the lead immediately on resumption through a beautifully coordinated move that started with Nicolas de Kerpel putting Simon

Gougnard through, who passed it back to Florent Boon with a single touch on the run from near the backline and the latter deflecting it in.

The Black Sticks tried to fight back but the Belgians clearly had done their homework and learnt from India's mistakes against the

same opponent two days back. They did not allow New Zealand any space in the midfield, did not let up the pressure at 2-0 up, kept their foot on the pedal throughout, pressed hard with possession and nipped any counter-attacks early.

At the back, the Belgian

defence hardly allowed New Zealand entry into the circle, restricting it to the 25-yard line before launching counters. Their rivals, desperate to get one back, kept furrowing through both the flanks seeking space to at least create PCs but could only manage one in the whole game with the Belgian defenders always a step ahead to intercept.

The second half was comparatively more sedate but New Zealand barely got anywhere near the Belgian goal. All action was restricted to its own half and although no more goals were scored, it was Belgium all the way, which now takes on the winner of Netherlands and Korea in the semifinals.

Also playing on Wednesday will be England, looking to make its fourth straight semifinal appearance, against Germany.

The result:
Belgium 2 (Boon 11, van Aubel 16) bt New Zealand 0.

Wednesday's quarterfinals:
England vs Germany (4.30 p.m.), Netherlands vs Korea (7 p.m.).

Australia's seven-minute spell leaves Spain in a daze

Aashin Prasad
BHUBANESWAR

For a moment, it looked like the Aussies would be knocked out of the World Cup by the enterprising Spaniards. However, trailing 0-2 in the first half, Australia clicked into gear in a seven-minute period to win 4-3 and book a spot in the semifinals at the Kalinga Stadium here on Tuesday.

The Kookaburras were blunted in the first half by the Red Sticks' well-drilled defence as the latter swiftly cut down passes and closed down dribbling lanes inside the zone. The rattled Aussies began to misfire their penalty corners, too.

Though the Spaniards saw less of the ball, they were composed when they had possession and repeatedly targeted the Aussies' left flank. Not surprisingly, both their goals came from that wing. An onrushing Xavier Gispert collected the ball at the edge of the circle, weaved past a defender before emphatically firing a tomahawk into the bottom corner. Lachlan Sharp then failed to trap, allowing Marc Recasens to



Roaring back: Down 0-2, Australia turned the tables on Spain in spectacular fashion. BISWARANJAN ROUT

flick home past Andrew Charter.

Borja Lacalle failed to get a touch for a third, and at the other end, Australia immediately made Spain pay by scoring at the stroke of half-time. Matt Dawson fired in a pass into the circle, where an unmarked Flynn Ogilvie's fierce hit sounded the boards.

Despite conceding thrice, Charter helped Australia keep its nose in front. He produced three crucial saves, including a penalty stroke from Miralles. When the hooter went off, Australia heaved a sigh of relief and Spain was crestfallen.

The result: Australia 4 (Ogilvie 29, Zalewski 31, Hayward 32 & 33) bt Spain 3 (Gispert 19, Recasens 23, Miralles 40).

the right battery for penalty corners and scored off two successive dragficks.

A long video referral and a disallowed Australian goal check gave Spain time to regroup. And it responded with a penalty corner strike of its own through skipper Marc Miralles.

Despite conceding thrice, Charter helped Australia keep its nose in front. He produced three crucial saves, including a penalty stroke from Miralles. When the hooter went off, Australia heaved a sigh of relief and Spain was crestfallen.

Tsitsipas to face Khachanov in semis, Azarenka powers through

The day in numbers

0 For the first time since 2018, no American woman has reached the semifinals of the Australian Open

4 Tsitsipas is the fourth man in the Open era after Laver, Rafter and Agassi to stay unbeaten in his first six Grand Slam quarterfinals

35 Rybina has hit the most aces in women's singles in this edition

153 Azarenka's main draw victories at the Australian Open, pulling her level with Graf in the sixth spot (Open era)



COMPILATION BY NIHIT SACHDEVA

After Rohit and Gill power the Men in Blue to a mammoth total, Shardul takes over

NZ IN INDIA

Amol Karhadkar
INDORE

Rohit Sharma marked the 10th anniversary of his elevation as India's regular opener in the 50-over format with his first ODI hundred in three years. Shubman Gill continued his sizzling hot form to notch up yet another hundred. And Devon Conway joined the party later in the evening.

Still, it was a brilliant spell by Shardul Thakur that stood out in the expected run feast at the Holkar Stadium on Tuesday. Shardul's decisive spell in the middle overs resulted in India recording a 3-0 sweep with a 90-run win in the third ODI.

When Shardul was reintroduced into the attack after the 25th over, Conway was on fire. Yuzvendra Chahal, having replaced Mohammed Siraj (rested along with Mohammed Shami), was repeatedly despatched into the stands. Umran Malik's pace was not only comfortably negotiated, but witnessed a boundary spree too.

At 184 for two at the halfway stage, New Zealand was on course to overhaul the target of 386. Then came Shardul and sur-

prised Daryl Mitchell with a short ball that kissed the glove en route to wicket-keeper Ishan Kishan, who had earlier missed a stumping chance off the bowling of Chahal when Conway was on 58. Next up was a knuckle

ball that captain Tom Latham scooped to Hardik Pandya at mid-off. Though Glenn Phillips saved a hat-trick, he top-edged a cross-seam delivery in Shardul's next over to Kohli. Those 10 deliveries swung the game in India's

son, the pick of the Black Caps pace pack, no other bowler could contain the Indian openers. While Rohit preferred the aerial route, Gill found gaps at will on a lightning outfield.

Earlier in the day, Latham surprisingly opted to field first on a batting paradise. Barring Lockie Ferguson

Mitchell Santner c Kohli b Chahal 34 (29b, 3x4, 2x6), Lockie Ferguson c Rohit b Kuldeep 7 (12b), Jacob Duffy lbw b Chahal 0 (2b), Blair Tickner (not out) 0 (2b); Extras (b-2, lb-5, w-12): 19; Total (in 42.2 overs): 295.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-0 (Allen, 0.2), 2-106 (Nicholls, 14.5), 3-184 (Mitchell, 25.1), 4-184 (Latham, 25.2), 5-200 (Phillips, 27.4), 6-230 (Conway, 31.4), 7-269 (Bracewell, 36.1), 8-279 (Ferguson, 38.5), 9-280 (Duffy, 39.4).

INDIA BOWLING

Finn Allen b Hardik 0 (2b), Devon Conway c Rohit b Umran 138 (100b, 12x4, 8x6), Henry Nicholls lbw b Kuldeep 42 (40b, 3x4, 2x6), Daryl Mitchell c Ishan b Shardul 24 (31b, 2x4), Tom Latham c Hardik b Shardul 0 (1b), Glenn Phillips c Kohli b Shardul 5 (7b), Michael Bracewell st. Kishan b Kuldeep 26 (22b, 3x4, 1x6).

CHAMPIONS



Dominant display: India won the third ODI against New Zealand by 90 runs to sweep the series 3-0. R.V. MOORTHY

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Agence France-Presse
MELBOURNE

Stefanos Tsitsipas closed in on a first Grand Slam title by reaching the Australian Open semifinals on Tuesday in impressive fashion, as Victoria Azarenka also powered into the last four.

Tsitsipas was a 6-3, 7-6 (2), 6-4 winner over unseeded Jiri Lehecka of the Czech Republic and faces Karen Khachanov next.

The 24-year-old Tsitsipas is the highest remaining seed left at three. "It was a very difficult three-setter, one of the most diffi-

cult so far in the competition," said the Greek, who will become World No. 1 should he win the title. The other quarterfinal between Russia's Khachanov and Sebastian Korda had been warming up nicely until the American hurt his wrist. The 18th seed went through when Korda retired in the third set, down 7-6(5), 6-3, 3-0.

Novak Djokovic is still on the scene, with a quarterfinal against Russian fifth seed Andrey Rublev on Wednesday. The other quarterfinal is an all-American clash between Ben Shelton and Tommy Paul.

Azarenka is back in the last four in Melbourne for

THE RESULTS

Quarterfinals: Men: 18-Khachanov (Rus) bt 29-Korda (USA) 7-6(5), 6-3, 3-0, retd.; 3-Tsitsipas (Gre) bt Lehecka (Cze) 6-3, 7-6(2), 6-4.

Women: 22-Rybina (Kaz) bt 17-Ostapenko (Lat) 6-2, 6-4;

24-Azarenka (Blr) bt 3-Pegula (USA) 6-4, 6-1.

Finals: 18-Tsitsipas (Gre) bt 22-Khachanov (Rus) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

Other results: 18-Korda (USA) bt 24-Shelton (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 22-Azarenka (Blr) bt 24-Paul (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

Finals: 18-Tsitsipas (Gre) bt 22-Khachanov (Rus) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

Other results: 18-Korda (USA) bt 24-Shelton (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

Finals: 18-Tsitsipas (Gre) bt 22-Khachanov (Rus) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

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Rohit Rayudu's unbeaten knock takes Hyderabad to a comfortable position

The southpaw adds a crucial 132 runs for the fourth wicket with Chandan Sahani after the Delhi pacers test the hosts' batters in the morning

RANJI TROPHY

V.V. Subrahmanyam
HYDERABAD

Southpaw Rohit Rayudu crafted a responsible, unbeaten 90 (197b, 8x4, 1x6) and added a crucial 132 runs for the fourth wicket with Chandan Sahani to ensure Hyderabad finished the first day at a comfortable 247 for four against Delhi in the Ranji Trophy Elite Group-B match at the Rajiv Gandhi Stadium here on Tuesday.

Electing to bat, Hyderabad was off to a cautious start with captain and opener Tanmay Agarwal (23, 7lb, 3x4) and wicket-keeper-batter Rahul Radesh (41, 102b, 4x4) putting on 55 for the first wicket in 22.1 overs before the former edged one from pacer Pranshu Vijayran to Himmat Singh at second slip in the 23rd over.

It was a testing time for the Hyderabad batters in the morning session as the Delhi pace trio of Harshit Rana, Divij Mehra and Vijayran repeatedly beat the batters on the off-stump, but were unlucky not to get the breakthrough. Even Radesh looked out of sorts every time he faced the teas-



Putting his head down: Rohit Rayudu showed character to come up with a disciplined innings.
NAGARA GOPAL

ing line on off-stump.

At lunch, Hyderabad was sitting pretty at 81 for one in 34 overs, but in the third over after lunch Mehra struck twice – forcing Radesh and then K. Nitesh Reddy (0) to snick away-going deliveries to wicket-keeper Anuj Rawat – to reduce the home team to 90 for three.

Just when it looked like the Hyderabad batting would struggle again, Rayudu and the more aggres-

sive Chandan (67, 126b, 5x4, 3x6) came up with the century stand, displaying character and discipline to keep the Delhi bowlers at bay.

And as has been the case this season, Chandan, looking good for a big score, swung off-spinner Hrithik Shokeen straight to mid-wicket to give the visitors an opportunity to come back into the game after tea.

Rayudu was batting with

a lot of confidence though he often irritated the Delhi camp by constant stoppages, moving away from the crease when the bowlers had already started their run-ups.

The way Rayudu stepped out to loft spinner Lalit Yadav over long-on and then leaned into an elegant straight drive off Rana appears to be a good sign for the host.

The scores: Hyderabad — 1st

RANJI SCORES (ROUND SEVEN, DAY ONE)

Elite: Group-A: At Kolkata: Odisha 96/2 in 35 overs (Shantanu Mishra 41 batting) vs. Bengal; **Toss:** Bengal.

At Rohatak: Haryana 158/6 in 53 overs (Kapil Hooda 42 batting, Avneesh Sudha 5/45) vs. Uttarakhand; **Toss:** Uttarakhand.

At Nadaun: Himachal Pradesh (HP) 15 for no loss in 4.4 overs vs. Uttar Pradesh (UP); **Toss:** HP.

At Vadodara: Baroda 420/5 in 90 overs (Vishnu Solanki 161 batting, Ninad Rathva 143, Atish Sheth 61 batting) vs. Nagaland; **Toss:** Baroda.

Group-B: At Vizianagaram: Assam 113 in 37.5 overs (Madhav Rayudu 4/12) vs. Andhra 160/3 in 47 overs (Abhishek Reddy 75, Hanuma Vihari 80); **Toss:** Assam.

At Mumbai: Maharashtra 314/6 in 87 overs (Siddhesh Veer 48, Kedar Jadhav 128, Saurabh Nawale 56 batting) vs. Mumbai;

Toss: Mumbai.

At Hyderabad: Hyderabad 247/4 in 90 overs (Rahul Radesh 41, Rohit Rayudu 90 batting, Chandan Sahani 67) vs. Delhi; **Toss:** Hyderabad.

At Chennai: Tamil Nadu (TN) 183/4 in 90 overs (Sai Sudharshan 45, Baba Aparajith 45, Baba Indrajith 45 batting) vs.

Innings: Tanmay Agarwal c Himmat b Vijayan 23, Rahul Radesh c Rawat b Mehra 41, K. Rohit Rayudu (batting) 90, K. Nitesh Reddy c Rawat b Mehra 0, Chandan Sahani c Dhull b Shokeen 67, T. Santosh Goud (batting) 10; Extras: (b-5, lb-8,

Saurashtra; **Toss:** TN.

Group-C: At Jamshedpur: Jharkhand 164 in 64.2 overs (Krishnappa Gowtham 4/61) vs. Karnataka 80/2 in 27 overs; **Toss:** Jharkhand.

At Raipur: Chhattisgarh 273/4 in 88 overs (Anuj Tiwary 86, Shashank Chandrakar 101, Ashutosh Singh 55) vs. Goa; **Toss:** Chhattisgarh.

At Puducherry: Pondicherry 253/4 in 87 overs (Paras Dogra 117 batting, Arun Karthik 65 batting) vs. Kerala; **Toss:** Kerala.

At Jodhpur: Services 178 in 56.4 overs (Rahul Singh 70, Manav Suthar 4/56) vs. Rajasthan 58/2 in 21 overs; **Toss:** Rajasthan.

Group-D: At Indore: Tripura 239/6 in 82 overs (Bikram Kumar Das 61, Sridam Paul 72) vs. Madhya Pradesh (MP); **Toss:** MP.

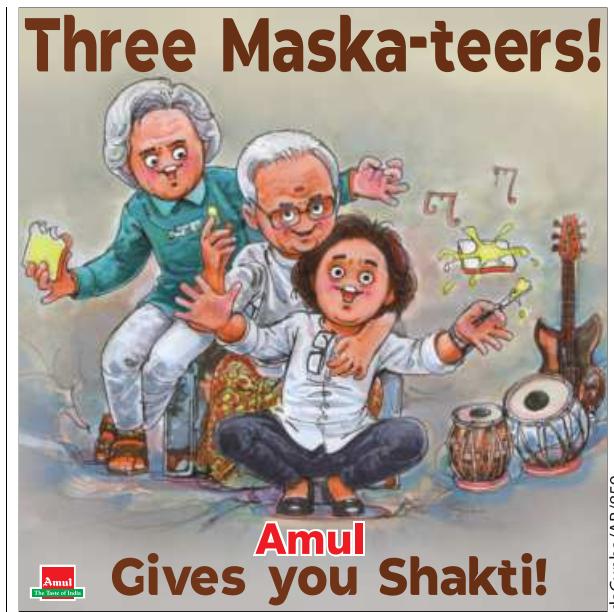
At Ahmedabad: Railways 372/5 in 89 overs (Shivam Chaudhary 83, Vivek Singh 97, Prathmesh Singh 96, Upendra Yadav 46 batting) vs. Gujarat; **Toss:** Railways.

At Mohali: Vidarbha 1 for no loss in 1 over vs. Punjab; **Toss:** Punjab.

At Chandigarh: Chandigarh 18 for no loss in 6 overs vs. Jammu & Kashmir (J&K); **Toss:** J&K.

w-1, nb-2) 16; Total (for four wkts. in 90 overs) 247.

Fall of wickets: 1-55, 2-90, 3-90, 4-222.
Delhi bowling: Rana 15-5-39-0, Mehra 19-0-38-2, Vijayan 15-2-34-1, Shokeen 23-4-71-1, Lalit 14-1-45-0, Badoni 4-1-7-0.



IN BRIEF



Smriti, Harmanpreet and bowlers help India beat WI

India defeated the West Indies by 56 runs to keep its slate clean in the women's T20I tri-series in East London on Monday. After Smriti Mandhana (74 not out) and skipper Harmanpreet Kaur (56 n.o.) powered the team to 167 for two, the bowlers restricted West Indies to 111 for four. Earlier, openers Yastika Bhatia and Smriti stitched together a 33-run partnership. Deepti Sharma took two for 29 for India.

The scores:
India 167/2 in 20 overs (Smriti Mandhana 74 n.o., Harmanpreet Kaur 56 n.o.) bt West Indies 111/4 in 20 overs (Shemaine Campbell 47, Hayley Matthews 34 n.o., Deepti Sharma 2/29).

Manu and Rhythm to take aim at two events at World Cups

SHOOTING

Kamesh Srinivasan
NEW DELHI

Manu Bhaker and Rhythm Sangwan found their way into both the air pistol and sports pistol entries for the two shooting World Cups in Cairo and Bhopal.

In the list of shooters announced by the National Rifle Association of India, on considering the scores of the national championship and the two selection trials, both Manu and Rhythm were streets ahead of the rest of the pack in the 25-metre sports pistol. They were joined by Esha Singh who was more than a point ahead of Abhidnya Patil in the averages.

In air pistol, however, it was national champion T.S. Divya who was on top, followed by Manu and Rhythm at a distance. Esha



Rhythm.



Manu.

Singh missed out as she was fourth, more than a point behind, in the averages.

With the World Cups not offering any Olympic quota places, it would only be a chance for the shooters to sharpen their efficiency in the global arena.

The team:

Men: Air rifle: Hriday Hazarika, Rudranksh Patil, Divyansh Singh Panwar.

Kane posts club record in Tottenham's victory



Swivel and score: Kane fires in Tottenham's winner past a maze of Fulham legs. GETTY IMAGES

Premier League

Associated Press

LONDON

Harry Kane became Tottenham's joint-leading scorer of all time by netting in a 1-0 win over Fulham that moved his team three points off the Premier League's top four on Monday.

Kane received a pass with his back to goal at the edge of the area, swiveled

and curled a shot into the bottom corner for his 266th goal for Tottenham, putting him level with the late Jimmy Greaves. The finish was classic Kane as he moved to 15 league goals for the season, and 199 in his career.

Tottenham stayed fifth but narrowed the gap to fourth-place Manchester United in the race for Champions League qualification.

The result: Premier League: Fulham 0 lost to Tottenham 1 (Kane 45+1).

Australia to leave for India on February 1

Ayan Acharya
KOLKATA

The Australian team is set to depart for India on February 1, after an optional preparatory camp in Sydney this weekend, ahead of the four-match Border-Gavaskar Test series.

Nagpur will host the first Test from February 9, while Delhi is slated to hold the second from February 17. Dharamsala will stage the third from March 1 and Ahmedabad the final Test from March 9.

India currently holds the Border-Gavaskar Trophy after winning 2-1 in the 2020-21 series.

These four Tests are also crucial for India's qualification for the World Test Championship final, which will be played at The Oval in London in June.

This will be the last Border-Gavaskar Trophy to be contested over four Tests. Between May 2023 and April 2027, India and Australia will play Test series comprising five matches for the first time since 1992.

The four Tests will be followed by three ODIs in Mumbai (March 17), Visakhapatnam (March 19) and Chennai (March 22).

Women's IPL teams to be auctioned today

The BCCI is all set to get richer by up to ₹4000 crore with some of the top business houses set to bid aggressively for the five Women's IPL (WIPL) teams that would be auctioned on Wednesday. According to market experts, the teams are expected to shell out in the "range of ₹500 to 600 crore" per team in the closed-bid auction.

More than 30 odd companies have bought the bid documents worth ₹5 lakh, including all the 10 men's IPL teams. Well-known corporate houses such as Adani group, Torrent group, Haldiram's Prabhuji, Capri Global, Kotak and Aditya Birla Group have also shown interest in buying a team.

The WIPL will be played in the month of March in Mumbai at a couple of venues.



Tamil Nadu boys thrash Rajasthan

Tamil Nadu thrashed Rajasthan 119-77 in a boys' match on the opening day of the second round at the 72nd Junior National Basketball Championships in Bengaluru on Tuesday. Host Karnataka didn't have such an easy time, but eventually edged Madhya Pradesh 71-68.

The results: Men: Tamil Nadu 119 (R. Venkatasubramanian 24, Sharan 23, B. Subin Vel 16, S. Vijay Kumar 15, S. Goutham 12) bt Rajasthan 77; Chhattisgarh 77 (Deepak 17, Muhammed Ibrahim Ali 15, Vaibhav Saini 15) bt Mizoram 75 (Emmanuel L. V. Awmpua 27, Moses Lalimuanzoo 20); Uttar Pradesh 81 (Kushal Singh 31, Harsh Dagar 27) bt Punjab 65 (Harmanjot Singh 27, Sahib 65); Karnataka 71 (N.M. Vishnu 25, Nihal V. Kamaji 12, Priyanshu 10) bt Madhya Pradesh 68 (Harsh Ahlawat 19, Sourab 17, Vikas Sharma 16, Bhagat Singh 10).

Women: Maharashtra 71 (Ananya 26, Mansi Yogesh Nirmalkar 15, Poorna Suresh 10) bt Kerala 61 (Ruth Anna Blessen 14, Ashlin Shiju 11, Liya SONY 10); Punjab 66 (Kavya Singla 27, Karanveer Kaur 13, Kanveer Kaur 13, Manmeet Kaur 11) bt Madhya Pradesh 48 (Kushi Pal Singh 23); Chhattisgarh 90 (Riya Pramod 31, D. Kirthi 21, D. Anisha 11) bt Uttar Pradesh 61 (Anvi Anand 19, Shimla Gupta 12, Vidya Yadav 12); Tamil Nadu 106 (K. Satya 26, A. Nitika 25, D. Sadhana Veronica 18, Deepthi 10) bt Chandigarh 42 (Ayushi Singh 12).

Ashwini & Tanisha combine advances

INDONESIA MASTERS

Press Trust of India
JAKARTA

Ashwini Ponnappa and Tanisha Crasto beat M.H. Haritha and Ashna Roy 21-10, 21-7 to enter the Indonesia Masters Super 500 badminton women's doubles second round here on Tuesday.

The results: Doubles:
First round: Women: Ashwini Ponnappa & Tanisha Crasto beat M.H. Haritha & Ashna Roy 21-10, 21-7; Jongkolpanit Kititharakul & Rawinda Prajpongjai (Tha) bt Shikha Gautam & Ashwini Bhat 21-12, 21-14.

Men: Tan Kian Meng & Tan Wee Kiong (Mas) bt Krishna Prasad & Vishnuvardhan Goud Panjala 21-17, 21-9.

He Ji Ting & Zhou Hao Dong bt K. Sai Pratheek and Ishaan Bhatnagar 21-11, 21-12.

India's Harmanpreet named skipper of the ICC Women's ODI squad

Press Trust of India

DUBAI

Three Indian cricketers – Smriti Mandhana, Harmanpreet Kaur, who was also named the captain, and pace bowler Renuka Singh – figure in the ICC Women's ODI Team of the Year announced on Tuesday.

India skipper Harmanpreet slammed two centuries and five half-centuries during the calendar year. Wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant, who is recovering from the injuries he sustained in a serious car crash two days before the new year, is the only Indian to be picked in the ICC men's Test team of 2022.

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