

## REDEFINING TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT & EMPOWERMENT TELANGANA LEADS BY EXAMPLE



### KUMARAM BHEEM ADIVASI BHAVAN

As a tribute to the Tribal freedom fighter Sri. Kumaram Bheem, the Telangana Government constructed a building named as Kumaram Bheem Adivasi Bhavan in one acre plot at Banjara Hills, Hyderabad with a cost of Rs.24.68 Crores

Under the exemplary leadership of Sri K. Chandrasekhar Rao, Hon'ble Chief Minister of the State of Telangana, a large number of pathbreaking and innovative schemes have been taken up for the economic development, welfare and empowerment of Scheduled Tribe (Adivasi & Banjara Community) in the State of Telangana since the formation of State on 2nd June, 2014. Some of the unique schemes of the State Government are :-

#### SCHEDULED TRIBE SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

- The State Government has enacted a Scheduled Tribe Special Development Fund (SDF) Act and a whopping outlay of Rs.75,450 Crores has been provided under SDF out of which Rs.47,258 Crores have been spent so far for the development and economic empowerment of the ST communities.

#### SELF-GOVERNANCE AND EMPOWERMENT OF STs

- 3,146 Tribal Gram Panchayats are in the State (almost 25% of the total Gram Panchayat's in the State). This dedicated focus ensures planned development in these Tribal Gram Panchayats.
- 27,682 elected representatives from the Tribal community includes 3,146 Tribal Sarpanches, 5 Mayors / Chairpersons and the remaining Ward Members / Counsellors and strengthening the good governance by the Tribal community.
- All the Tribal Gram Panchayats are provided with Gram Panchayat buildings
- Each of the Tribal Gram Panchayats are provided with a Tractor, Community Park, Modern Cremation Ground and a dumping yard thereby leading to overall development in these Tribal Gram Panchayats.

#### ST DEVELOPMENT - LEADING FROM THE FRONT

- 32 Girijan Athma Gaurava Bhavans(Adivasi, Girijana and Banjara) have been constructed by the State Government covering all ST dominated districts and constituencies

#### THREE PHASE CURRENT SUPPLY - ALL ST HABITATIONS

- Free power supply is ensured for all ST Households (up to 101 units) / ST Habitations
- Outstanding Electricity charges upto the year 2014 completely waived off
- Three Phase Electricity for all ST Habitations and Power is supplied free for Agriculture

#### ST EDUCATION EMPOWERMENT

- 808 Tribal Educational Institutions including 183 Tribal Gurukuls
- 918 ST students got admissions in IIT / NIT / Other professional courses



### SEVALAL BANJARA BHAVAN

As a tribute to the Tribal freedom fighter Sri. Sevalal Maharaj, the Telangana Government constructed a building named as Sevalal Banjara Bhavan in one acre plot at Banjara Hills, Hyderabad with a cost of Rs.24.43 Crores

- 237 ST students covered under the State Government's Ambedkar Overseas Vidya Nidhi @ Rs.20 lakhs per student

#### HEALTH CARE FOR STs

- A total of 2,28,089 ST mothers got benefitted with KCR KIT i.e., @ Rs.13,000/- per head and a health Kit
- To tackle malnutrition, "Giri Poshana Scheme" is implemented at all Tribal Anganwadi Centres

#### PRESERVING AND CELEBRATING THE TRIBAL PRIDE

- State celebrates the birth anniversaries of the Adivasi freedom fighter Kumram Bheem and Social Activist Sevalal Maharaj
- Sammakka & Saralamma Jatara is Asia's biggest Tribal Fair organized by Telangana Government
- Telangana Government also organizes Nagoba Jatara, Jangubai Jatara, Bourampur Jatara, Erukala Nancharamma Jatara, Gandhari Maisamma Jatara etc.,
- 2 Tribal museums - Kumaram Bheem at Jodeghat and Sammakka Saralamma museum at Medaram have been constructed by the state government with Rs.22.53 Crores.

#### ST FARMER'S EMPOWERMENT

- A total of Rs.7,354 Crores of Agriculture capital investment assistance is provided to 8,23,780 ST farmers @ Rs.10,000 per acre per annum under Rythu Bandhu scheme.
- All the ST farmers are insured for personal insurance to cover under Rythu Bima Scheme.

#### ASSURED SAFE AND PROTECTED DRINKING WATER FOR ALL ST HABITATIONS

- All the ST Habitations are covered with assured drinking water supply under "Mission Bhagiratha" Scheme

#### WELFARE SCHEMES FOR STs

- Rs.1,00,116/- for every ST girl under Kalyana Lakshmi Scheme towards her marriage. A total of 1,36,730 ST girls benefitted with a total outlay of Rs.1,127 Crores so far.
- A monthly pension of Rs.2016/- is given under Asara Pension to eligible STs covering 3,75,316 ST beneficiaries.

#### ACCESSIBILITY TO ST HABITATIONS

- To improve connectivity, 1682 Scheduled Tribes Habitations are connected with BT roads spending Rs.1276 Crores in 8 years
- Rs.1000 Crores allocated for road connectivity to 2090 hamlets this year
- Special provision of Rs.133 Crores for internal CC Roads in Tribal Habitations

#### INCREASING ST RESERVATION

- The State Government has passed a bill for increasing the ST reservation from the existing 6% to 10% and the bill is pending with Govt. of India for the Presidential assent
- 5% Reservation for STs while allocating Excise Shops

and the List goes on...

Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri K. Chandrasekhar Rao inaugurates KUMARAM BHEEM ADIVASI BHAVAN and SEVALAL BANJARA BHAVAN,  
Today at Hyderabad.



Telangana leads from the front



## OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION SATNA, DISTT-SATNA (M.P.)

NIT No. 12/SCDW/e-tendering/2022-23,

Satna, Dated 15/09/2022

### NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

Online tender through e-tendering is invited by Satna Municipal Corporation (SMC), Satna (M.P.) for the works of given in the table below.

S. No.	Tender No.	Name of the work	Probable amount of contact	Ernest Money Deposit (EMD) (In Rs.)	Cost of Bid Document (In Rupees)	Time of Completion
01	2022_UAD_222359_1	Design, Engineering, Procurement, Construction and Redevelopment of Dhawari Stadium with complete internal infrastructure & modern facilities and Maintenance of entire facility for a period (3) Three Years including 3 (Three) years Defect Liability Period at Satna, Madhya Pradesh, (IInd Call)	6,36,16,332/-	6,36,200/-	20,000/-	11 (Months including Rainy season)

1. Interested Bidder can view the NIT on website <http://www.mptenders.gov.in> and [www.mpurban.gov.in](http://www.mpurban.gov.in)  
 2. The Bid Document can be purchased only Online 17:30 of 16/09/2022 to 17:30 of 01/10/2022  
 3. Amendment to NIT, if any, would be published on website only, and not in Newspaper

Executive Engineer  
Municipal Corporation, Satna (M.P.)

## PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJNA

### NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

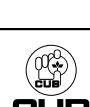
The Chief Engineer (S2) HPPWD Shimla on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna under World Bank Funded RRP-II, AF-G for each of the following works including their maintenance for five years from the eligible and approved contractors registered with HPPWD/CPWD/P&T/Railways/Other State Govt/Central Govt. Agencies. Non registered bidders may submit bid, however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.

Sr. No	Name of Distt.	Package No.	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (in lacs) Excluding 18%GST	Total cost (in lacs)	Period of completion (in lacs)	Bid Security	Const. cost	Maint. cost
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1.	Shimla	HP-09-682	Up-gradation of Sandasu to Khashdar road Km. 0/0 to 10/160 (SH-R.O.F.D., protection works, cross drainage works, GSB, G-II, G-III, DBM, BC, road furniture, dumping site ( Under ( Under PMGSY-III (Batch-I) (2022-23 Package No.HP-09-682)	995.34	55.47	1050.82	510	21.02	
2.		HP-09-684	Up-gradation of road from Badiyara to Nandla Km. 0/0 to 6/665 (SH-R.O.F.D., protection works, cross drainage works, GSB, G-II, G-III, DBM, BC, CC pavement road furniture, ( Under ( Under PMGSY-III (Batch-I) (2022-23 Package No.HP-09-684)	678.50	37.48	715.98	510	14.32	
3.		HP-09-683	Up-gradation of Badiyara to Dhamadhar link road from Km. 0/0 to 5/605 (SH-R.O.F.D., protection works, cross drainage works, GSB, G-II, G-III, DBM, BC, CC pavement and road furniture, ( Under PMGSY-III (Batch-I) (2022-23 Package No.HP-09-683)	523.35	30.60	553.95	510	11.08	

1. Date of release of invitation for bids through e-procurement 17-09-2022  
 2. Cost of bid from cost of Bid form (non-refundable) in shape of Demand draft in favour of Executive Engineer HPPWD Division Rohru.  
 3. Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission :- The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website [www.pmgstenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstenders.gov.in). The bidder is required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission the bids, the bidder is required to have valid digital signature certificate (DSC) from one the authorised certifying authorities (CA) Aspiring bidder who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website: [www.pmgstenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstenders.gov.in).  
 Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering bidders already processing the valid digital signature issued from authorised CA's can use the same in this tender.  
 \* Non registered bidders may submit bids: the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.  
 4. Submission of original documents: The bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved from and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provision of clause 4.4.B(a)(ii) ITB with Superintendent Engineer 14<sup>th</sup> circle HPPWD Rohru address and detail of office where to be submitted on a date of opening of technical qualification part of the bid either by registered post or by hand.  
 5. Last date/ Time for receipt of bid through e-tendering last date/time for receipt of bids through e-tendering on dated 15-10-2022 PM  
 6. The site for the work is available.  
 7. Only online submission of bids is permitted, therefore bids must be submitted online on website [www.pmgstenders.gov.in](http://www.pmgstenders.gov.in). The technical qualification part of the bids will be opened online at 11:00A.M. on 17 Oct, 2022 in the office of Superintendent Engineer 14<sup>th</sup> circle HPPWD Rohru by the authorized officers. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened online on the next working day at the same time.  
 8. The bidder is not required to quote his rate for routine maintenance. The rates to be paid for routine maintenance are indicated in the bill of quantities. Further, the payment for routine maintenance to the contractor shall be regulated based on his performance of maintenance activities.  
 9. All the required materials like Cement/Steel/Bitumen/Explosive etc shall be arranged by contractor at his own level.  
 10. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than ninety days after the deadline date for bid submission.  
 11. To qualify for a package of contract made up of this for which bids are invited in the same NIT, the bidder must demonstrate having experience and resources sufficient to meet the aggregate of the qualifying criteria for the individual contracts.  
 12. Contractors who are having two or more pending works above one crore cost where the stipulated period of the work is already over and pending is due to the fault of the contractor as per the report of PIU, their bids will not be technically evaluated.  
 13. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The Employer shall not be liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any update, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

(Rajeshwar Singh Jaswal)  
Superintendent Engineer  
14<sup>th</sup> circle HPPWD Rohru  
Tel 017812400877@email-hp-h2@nic.in  
For Chief Engineer HPPWD  
Nigam Vihar Shimla-1712002

HP / 4/62/22-23  
HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPAK  
Serving Customers with a Smile



**CITY UNION BANK LIMITED**  
Credit Recovery and Management Department  
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001, E-Mail id : crmd@cityunionbank.in, Ph : 0435-243222, Fax : 0435-2431746

### POSSESSION NOTICE (Immovable Properties)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of City Union Bank Ltd., having its Administrative Office at No-24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001 and one of the Branch Offices at C-53, Ground Floor, Shashi Garden, New Delhi, Mayur Vihar Branch under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) & (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 10-05-2021 calling upon the borrowers No.1 Mr. Viva Associates, At No.57B, Poket-B, Mayur Vihar Phase-2, Delhi - 110091, No.2 Mr. R. Vivek, S/o. U. Ramasubramonian, At No.57B, Poket-B, Mayur Vihar Phase-2, Delhi - 110091, No.3 Mr. Vaibhav Ramasubramonian, S/o. U. Ramasubramonian, At No.57B, Poket-B, Mayur Vihar Phase-2, Delhi - 110091, No.4 Mr. U. Ramasubramonian, S/o. S. Umamaheswaran, At No.57B, Poket-B, Mayur Vihar Phase-2, Delhi - 110091 to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice being Rs.1,30,93,977/- (Rupees One Crore Thirty Lakh Ninety Three Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy Seven only) within 60 days from the date of the said Notice with subsequent interest thereon from 20-10-2021 with monthly rests.

The borrowers above named having failed to repay the amount despite the receipt of the above referred statutory notice, NOTICE is hereby given to the borrowers above named and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the Properties described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 14th day of September 2022.

The borrowers above named particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of City Union Bank Ltd. for an amount of Rs.1,38,51,033/- (Rupees One Crore Thirty Eight Lakh Fifty One Thousand and Thirty Three only) and interest thereon from

06-09-2022 till the repayment of entire dues.

The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Note : 1) That our 355-New Delhi-Mayur Vihar Branch has also extended Financial Assistance (CUB OSL SPECIAL-BR : 501812080078457) dated 16-03-2021 requested by No.1 of you represented by Nos. 2 & 3 of you as Partner for which Nos. 2 & 3 of you stand as Co-obligants and Nos. 4 & 5 of you stand as Guarantor's for the facility for a total amount of Rs. 25,00,00/- at a ROI of 13.50%. The same has been also classified as NPA on 31-07-2021 and the outstanding balance as on 05-09-2022 is Rs. 30,21,382/- plus further interest and penal interest of 2.00% with monthly rests to be charged from 06-09-2022 till the date of realization.

2) That our 355-New Delhi-Mayur Vihar Branch has also extended Financial Assistance (CUB OSL SPECIAL-BR : 501812080078457) dated 16-03-2021 requested by No.1 of you represented by Nos. 2 & 3 of you as Partner for which Nos. 2 & 3 of you stand as Co-obligants and Nos. 4 & 5 of you stand as Guarantor's for the facility for a total amount of Rs. 25,00,00/- at a ROI of 13.50%. The same has been also classified as NPA on 31-07-2021 and the outstanding balance as on 05-09-2022 is Rs. 30,21,382/- plus further interest and penal interest of 2.00% with monthly rests to be charged from 06-09-2022 till the date of realization.

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank

Schedule - A :

Property - 1 : (Property Owned by Mr. U. Ramasubramonian.

S/o. S. Umamaheswaran & Mrs. Meena Kumari, W/o. U. Subramonian)

Entire Ground Floor, (Covered Area admeasuring 91.23 Sq. Mts.) without Roof rights of Plot No.6/13, Sector-6, (T.H.A.), Residential Colony, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, Boundaries : North : Plot No.6/14, South : 2.4 d set back, East : Road 10.70 mts. wide, West : Plot No.6/2/62.

Property - 2 : (Property Owned by Mr. U. Ramasubramonian.

S/o. S. Umamaheswaran & Mrs. Meena Kumari, W/o. U. Subramonian)

Entire First Floor, (Covered Area admeasuring 91.23 Sq. Mts.) without Roof rights of Plot No.6/13, Sector-6, (T.H.A.), Residential Colony, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, Boundaries : North : Plot No.6/14, South : 2.4 d set back, East : Road 10.70 mts. wide, West : Plot No.6/2/62.

Property - 3 : (Property Owned by Mr. U. Ramasubramonian.

S/o. S. Umamaheswaran & Mrs. Meena Kumari, W/o. U. Subramonian)

Entire First Floor, (Covered Area admeasuring 91.23 Sq. Mts.) without Roof rights of Plot No.6/13, Sector-6, (T.H.A.), Residential Colony, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, Boundaries : North : Plot No.6/14, South : 2.4 d set back, East : Road 10.70 mts. wide, West : Plot No.6/2/62.

Authorised Officer

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, CIN - L65110TN1904PLC001287, Telephone No. 0435-2431746, Website : www.cityunionbank.com

## NORTHERN RAILWAY

### 1st Corrigendum

Subject - 1st Corrigendum to tender notice No. 128-W/269/O.E.T/NIT. No.20 (A.B) 22-23/WE which is scheduled to be opened on Dt: 13.09.2022. In continuation to this office letter no. 128-W/269/O.E.T/NIT. No.20 (A.B) 22-23/WE dated 13.09.2022. There are some changes made in tender 'completion of work' due to typographical error of the following tender. The detail of tender is given below.

Field Name	Existing Value	Modified Value
Name of Work (A)	Improvement of canteen, Examination Hall & provision of furniture at DRM office New Delhi under ADEN/E-I.	Improvement of canteen, Examination Hall & provision of furniture at DRM office New Delhi under ADEN/E-I.
Completion period of work	12 Months	04 Months
Other terms and condition will remain same.	No. 128-W/269/O.E.T/NIT. No.21 (A.B) 22-23/WE Date: 16.09.2022	2430/2022
		Serving Customers With A Smile

## NORTHERN RAILWAY

### TENDER NOTICE

Dy.CSTE/C/PS/NDLS, Northern Railway, New Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender (Single Packet System) for the following work:-

1. Name of work & Place	S&T work in c/w addition & alteration in Electronic Interlocking of Chipliyan Bujur for the provision of 4th line work between Chipliyan Bujur-Dadri of North Central Railway
2. Completion period	06 months from the date of issue of LOA
3. Approx. Cost	Rs. 1.90 Cr
4. Earnest Money amount	Rs. 2,44,800/- (Rs. Two Lakh Forty Four Thousand Eight Hundred Only)
5. Sale/availability of tender document on web site or	Tender documents will be available on IREPS website i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> from 17.09.2022 to 10.10.2022 upto 11.30 hrs.
6. Last date/Time of upload of tenders	Tender documents can be uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS website w.e.f. 26.09.2022 to 10.10.2022 upto 11.30 hours.
7. Date of opening of tender	Tender will be opened on 10.10.2022 at 11.30 hours



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Karmanye vadhi karaste Ma Phaleshu Kadachana I  
Ma Karmaphalaheturbhurma Te Sangostvakarmani II  
कर्मणे वद्धिकारस्ते मा फलेषु कदचन | मा कर्मफलहेतुर्भुमा ते संगोऽप्तवकर्मणी ॥

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
Heartfelt birthday wishes to our  
**PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI JI**  
Your leadership in building a NewIndia has been  
an inspiration to all of us. Pray for your long and healthy life  
as we all work together towards achieving this vision.



**K.N CHAKRAPANI**  
BJP Leader & President - Chakrapani Foundation (R)  
AC - 152, Bytarayanapura, Bangalore North, Karnataka.  
Mob: 9845394166

## IN BRIEF



### Sewa Pakhwara to mark PM Modi's birthday

NEW DELHI  
The Bharatiya Janata Party is planning to go big with celebrations to mark Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday on Saturday, with all district-level offices of the party being asked to organise a "Sewa Pakhwara" or service camp for the next 16 days (till October 2), which will include activities such as blood donation drives.

NEWS ▶ PAGE 10

### ACB arrests Amanatullah for 'illegal' hirings

NEW DELHI  
The ACB on Friday arrested AAP Okhla MLA and Delhi Waqf Board chairman Amanatullah Khan in connection with a complaint alleging illegal appointments and unauthorised renting out of Waqf properties in the city. A senior ACB official said Mr. Khan was accused of illegally appointing 32 persons in various capacities and paying their salaries for the last two to three years, leading to an accumulated loss of ₹3 crore to the State exchequer.

CITY ▶ PAGE 3

## At SCO meet, Modi and Sharif spar over transit trade access

PM flags energy, food crises due to COVID-19 and war

SUHASINI HAIDAR  
SAMARKAND



**Clear stance:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi attending an SCO meeting at Samarkand in Uzbekistan on Friday. ■ REUTERS

Delhi assumes the chair of the SCO and hosts the summit in mid-2023.

"SCO has an important role in developing reliable, resilient and diversified supply chains. For this, better connectivity is necessary, but along with that, it is also important that we give each other full transit rights," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday, referring to the refusal by Pakistan to give India transit trade access by land to Afghanistan and Central Asia.

Mr. Modi was speaking at the summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of State here.

In a speech that was otherwise free from references to India's regional issues on terrorism with Pakistan and on territorial sovereignty with China, Mr. Modi called for greater cooperation in the Eurasian region and pointed to the "unprecedented" energy and food crisis arising from the twin issues of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ukraine conflict.

He also focused on the initiatives on manufacturing that India is willing to pilot in the next year, when New

stood next to the Chinese President during one of the photo ops for the SCO and observer and dialogue partners.

Later, all the leaders attended a lunch together hosted by Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, which was closed to media.

Speaking at the meet, Mr. Xi congratulated India for taking over the chair of the grouping and promised "China's support" to India in hosting the event next year. Both Mr. Xi and Mr. Sharif referred to the issue of terrorism, and the need to collectively fight the "menace" and "monster".

While Mr. Modi did not exchange words with Mr. Sharif or Mr. Xi at the publicly broadcast sessions, he

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

Putin says he understands India's worries

SUHASINI HAIDAR  
SAMARKAND

Russia understands India's "concerns" over its war in Ukraine, Russian President Vladimir Putin told Prime Minister Narendra Modi, promising to try and end the nine-month-old conflict.

FULL REPORT ▶ PAGE 9

Jaish chief in Afghanistan, says Bilawal

SUHASINI HAIDAR  
SAMARKAND

Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto said Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar was "in Afghanistan", a statement that contradicts a statement by the Taliban regime that placed Azhar in Pakistan.

FULL REPORT ▶ PAGE 9

## Ex-President named suspect in Sri Lanka Easter attacks

Sirisena asked to appear in Colombo court in October

MEERA SRINIVASAN  
COLOMBO

A Sri Lankan court on Friday named former President Maithripala Sirisena a suspect in a case pertaining to the 2019 Easter terror bombings, and directed him to appear in court in October.



Maithripala Sirisena

victims of the gruesome serial blasts – that killed about 280 people and left hundreds injured – have been demanding justice.

In March, the Archbishop

of Colombo, Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith, told the UN Human Rights Council that the incident was a "grand political plot".

**Lack of progress**  
Six months after the attacks, former President Gotabaya Rajapaksa ran for presidency promising national security, and won with a thumping majority.

Members of the Catholic Church and Cardinal Ranjith backed Mr. Gotabaya in the 2019 election, but later voiced disappointment over the lack of progress in the investigations.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

## HC asks Kerala to care for dog-bite victims

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
KOCHI

The Kerala High Court on Friday directed the State government to provide effective and free medical treatment to dog-bite victims until concrete measures were put in place of the local authority concerned, if need be, by trans-

quillising them under veterinary supervision.

It directed the government to take steps to identify rabid stray dogs and remove them to a place of isolation within the limits of the local authority concerned, if need be, by tran-

The directive by a Bench comprising Justices Jayasankar

Nambiar and P. Gopinath came at a special sitting on the issue of stray dogs turning violent in the State and biting people at will, and reports that suggest that some of them would be affected with rabies.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

## RAS-2018 में 650+ Selections

# Springboard ACADEMY

# RAS Online Offline

## Foundation 13 सितम्बर से बैच प्रारम्भ

Exclusive Live Batch Direct Live from Classroom



## RAS 2021 Interview | IAS Batch Start | RAS Pre Test Series

6 सितम्बर से बैच शुरू सायं 3 बजे

Springboard ACADEMY | Gopalpura Bypass, Jaipur | Ph.: 9636977490, 0141-3555948 | सिरपाड़ा एकड़ाम के IAS, RAS हेतु प्राप्तित करता है नोट्स असेट्स | The Notes Hub 7610010054, 7300134518

## + 'Unconstitutional govt. lost two projects'

Maharashtra missed out on 1.7 lakh jobs, says Shiv Sena leader Aaditya Thackeray

ABHINAV DESHPANDE  
MUMBAI

Shiv Sena leader Aaditya Thackeray has termed the Eknath Shinde-Devendra Fadnavis government unconstitutional and incompetent, and blamed it for the State losing the \$20 billion Vedanta-Foxconn semiconductor unit to Gujarat.

In an exclusive conversation with *The Hindu* on Friday, Mr. Thackeray said Chief Minister Shinde was busy going on cultural tours while Industries Minister Uday Samant was busy pleasing the CM. "They aren't interested in infrastructure works, sustainable development or bringing projects for jobs," he said.

It was "very clear" that the government was caught unawares despite the high-power committee (HPC)

meeting and the package being offered, he said. "It's sad that we have an unconstitutional arrangement that's only indulging in dirty politics and hasn't realised that it has lost out on 1.7 lakh jobs with two projects (Vedanta-Foxconn and Bulk Drug Park) going away to other States."

**MVA role**  
Responding to the charge that the previous Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government didn't pursue the project meticulously and opposed other mega projects that could have benefited the State, Mr. Thackeray said: "If we didn't do so, how did Vedanta issue the Letter of Interest and how did it come to a stage of HPC? Had we not pursued it, it would have fizzled out long back. The duty of the government is to

explain how it lost out on the project, not justify and represent another State and blame us."

Asked why the previous MVA government couldn't finalise the deal during its two-and-a-half-year term in power, he pointed out that the talks formally began only in January after the Centre's subsidy proposal in December 2021 for semiconductor chip production.

Mr. Thackeray said "I have nothing to say" on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's assurance to Mr. Shinde about getting a similar project or even a better one. "We are focused on the current loss due to the incompetence of the CM and Industries Minister," he said, pointing out that there are several unknowns – if it would be bigger than the semiconductor

unit, how many jobs would be created, when the project would begin, etc.

**Project in Nagpur**  
Apart from Vedanta-Foxconn, the government lost out on the Bulk Drug Park, which would have created another 70,000 jobs, he said, and hoped the government would wake up and chase Airbus-Tata for [the military aircraft production unit] Nagpur.

Reacting sharply to the Vedanta Resources Limited (VRL) chairman Anil Agarwal's tweets about investing in new projects in Maharashtra, Mr. Thackeray said, "It's unfortunate that they (VRL) were made to tweet to justify the failure of the Maharashtra Chief Minister."

RELATED REPORT ▶ PAGE 8

## Kedarnath temple to get a 'golden' makeover

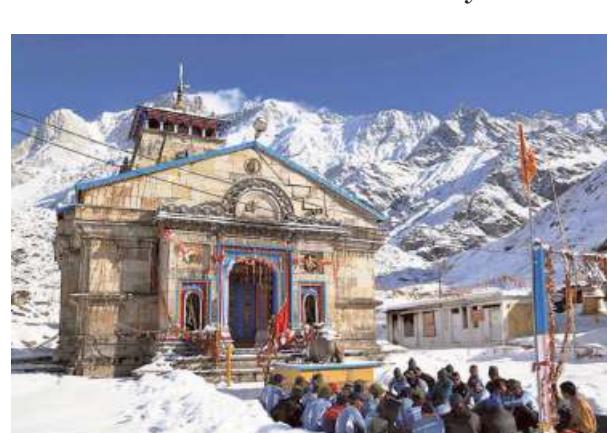
Gold plating of sanctum sanctorum to be funded by Mumbai diamond merchant

ISHITA MISHRA  
NEW DELHI

A Mumbai-based businessman will fund the facelift of Kedarnath temple's sanctum sanctorum, which will now be gold-plated. Currently the sanctum sanctorum of one of the famous Char Dham temples is covered with 230 kilograms of silver.

Ajendra Ajay, chairman of the Badrinath-Kedarnath temple committee, told *The Hindu* that the firm which has done the gold plating of sanctums of the Kashi Vishwanath and many temples in south India has been given the task of replacing the silver inside Kedarnath temple's sanctum with gold plating. The silver plating of the temple was done in 2017.

**Work begins**  
"We have already started removing silver from the sanctum of the temple. Then the



**Renewed sheen:** The sanctum sanctorum of the Kedarnath temple is currently covered in 230 kg of silver. ■ PTI

copper plates will be placed on the walls and four pillars inside the sanctum. This will be done to take measurements. Once the measurements are done, they will replace the silver with gold plating," Mr. Ajay added.

The gold plating will be done on walls, pillars and on the shed (*chakra*) above the deity.

The work inside the temple began earlier this week

Badrinath-Kedarnath temple committee members said the secret donor is a diamond merchant who has not shared what would be the amount of gold he would be donating.

**Dream project**  
"His permission was approved last month and we still don't know what amount of gold would go in the task. Around 230 kg silver has been removed from the walls of the sanctum," the chairman said.

Renovation of the 8th century Kedarnath temple, which was at the epicentre of the disaster in 2013, is one of the dream projects of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Over ₹200 crore has already been collectively spent by the Uttarakhand and Central governments on the project that has been going on for a decade now.

**Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir**  
**JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT**  
**OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PHE MECHANICAL RURAL DIVISION,**  
**SRINAGAR, KASHMIR.**  
**Corrigendum- IV**

For the E-NIT No. PHE/MRD/TS/60 of 08/2022 DT:- 02/08/2022 issued vide this office No:- PHE/MRD /TS/1693-1704DT:- 02/08/2022 and published vide No: 2022\_PHE\_182226\_1 is hereby extended due to nil response, closing and opening dates as under:

S.NO.	Description	Date	Time
1.	Closing date	22-09-2022	05:00PM
2.	Bid opening date	23-09-2022	11:45AM

Note: All other terms and conditions as laid down in the tender document shall remain same.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,  
PHE Mechanical Rural Division,  
Srinagar.

DIPK-10038/22

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**CORRIGENDUM & NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION**

**CORRIGENDUM:** Notice for e-Auction for leasing of parcel space of 69 SLRs compartments published in various English & Hindi newspapers on 06.08.2022, 13.08.2022 & 27.08.2022 and where e-Auction was scheduled to be held on 30.09.2022 to 01.10.2022 is hereby WITHDRAWN due to administrative /technical reasons.

**NOTICE**

Further, Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/Freight, Delhi Division, Northern Railway, in terms of Railway Board letter no. 2022/TC/FCM/1004 dated 13.06.2022, invites bids through e-Auction ([www.reps.gov.in](http://www.reps.gov.in)) for leasing of parcel space of SLR compartments in following trains originating from Delhi division for a period of two years as per schedule given below:

- 12284 (F1), 12310 (F1), 12394 (F1), 12424 (F1), 12782 (F1), 12986 (F1), 14021 (F1 & R1), 15280 (F1) - 30.09.2022 at 11:30 am.
- 12505 (F1) 12584 (F1), 13258 (F1), 14018 (F1), 14152 (F1), 14553 (F1 & R1) 15128 (F1), 22401 (F1), 22414 (F1) - 06.10.2022 at 11:30 am.
- 12265 (F1, F2 & R1), 12302 (F1), 12428 (F1), 12562 (F1), 13414 (F1), 14014 (F1), 22418 (F2 & R1) - 07.10.2022 at 11:30 am.
- 12013 (F1), 12015 (F1), 12031 (F1), 12459 (F1), 12497 (F1), 12958 (F1), 14212 (F1), 20506 (F1), 20840 (F1), 22210 (F1) - 10.10.2022 at 11:30 am.
- 12060 (F1), 12286 (F1), 14164 (F1, F2 & R1), 14681 (F1), 15116 (F1 & F2), 20938 (F1 & R1) 11.10.2022 at 11:30 am.
- 12190 (F1), 12406 (F1), 12566 (F1), 12618 (F1), 14004 (F1), 14006 (F1), 14033 (F1), 22463 (F1), 22485 (F1) - 12.10.2022 at 11:30 am.
- 12448 (F1), 14035 (F1, F2 & R1), 14507 (F1, F2 & R1), 22168 (F1, F2 & R1) - 13.10.2022 at 11:30 am.
- 12036 (F1), 12066 (F1), 12754 (F1), 14731 (F1 & R1), 20452 (F1), 20473 (F1 & R1), 22479 (F1), 22986 (F1) - 14.10.2022 at 11:30 am.
- 12457 (F1, F2 & R1), 12963 (F1), 19338 (F1), 20914 (F1, F2 & R1), 20946 (F1), 22654 (F1) - 17.10.2022 at 11:30 am.
- 12036 (F1), 12481 (F1, F2 & R1), 12646 (F1, F2 & R1), 22482 (F1, F2 & R1) - 19.10.2022 at 11:30 am.
- 12005 (F1), 12011 (F1), 12029 (F1), 12040 (F1), 12045 (F1), 12214 (F1), 12463 (F1), 20958 (F1), 22472 (F1, F2 & R1) - 20.10.2022 at 11:30 am.

**Important notes:**

1. For more information, requirement and various aspects regarding these e-Auctions, interested bidders are advised to visit [https://www.reps.gov.in/html/helpdesk/learning\\_centre.html](https://www.reps.gov.in/html/helpdesk/learning_centre.html) (e-Auction leasing section).
2. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): 5% of the total contractual bid value to be deposited online during the auction. EMD of the successful bidder will be retained as Security Deposit.
3. Railway Administration reserves the full and absolute rights to short terminate these contracts at any point of time and/or for taking any decision regarding the discontinuation/continuation of these contracts with modified/additional terms and conditions depending upon the continuation/discontinuation of these trains or commencement of new train services.

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**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL IRRIGATION DIVISION, BARAMULLA**  
**EMAIL : midbaramulla@gmail.com**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

e-NIT No. 35MIDB/2582-81OF 2022-23 Dated:13/09/2022

For and on behalf of Government of JK UT, Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division, invites tenders on item rate basis, by tendering mode for the following items of work from the reputed Original Equipment manufacturers or their Authorized contractors/fabricators/firms having relevant experience. The bidding process shall be completed online in two covers viz Cover 1st Tender fee and Earnest Money details, Deposit, fulfillment of prequalification criteria, technical specifications and acceptance to terms and conditions of the tender, Cover 2nd - Financial Bid in the prescribed BOQ.

S. No	Particulars of the work	Name of Division	Estimated Cost (In Rs. Lacs)	Cost of document/tender fee (In Rs.)	Earnest money (In Rs.)	Validity of Rates
1	UP-GRADATION OF LIFT IRRIGATION SCHEME CONFORMA AT IFP IRRIGATION SCHEME GONIPORA UNDER PRI (Submersible Pump)	Mechanical Irrigation Division, Baramulla	11.50	1000.00	23000.00/-	120 days
<b>Position of funds: Area Dev. Funds- (PRI GRANTS)</b>						
AAA: Accorded Vide Order No: 330/DDCK of 2022 Dated:10-09-2022						
<b>Key/critical Dates:</b>						
Date of Hosting In Website/ Publish date 13/09/2022 (1600hrs)						
Document download/sale start date	14/09/2022 (1600 Hrs.)			Bid submission start date	04/10/2022 (1600 Hrs.)	
Bid opening date	05/10/2022 (1400 Hrs)					

1. Bid documents shall be assessed at and downloaded from the websites [www.jkashmirmnic.com](http://www.jkashmirmnic.com) / <http://jktders.gov.in>.  
2. The Bids shall be deposited on the website <http://jktders.gov.in>.  
3. The technical bidding process will be online <http://jktders.gov.in>.  
4. The Technical bids received shall be opened & evaluated online in the office of the Executive Engineer, MID, Baramulla Kashmir I&FC Dept. on the date given above.  
5. The financial bids of the qualifying bidders shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer, MID, Baramulla subsequently.  
6. Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 5&6 of the table payable at Baramulla.  
a. Bid Security to be pledged in favour of Executive Engineer, MID, Baramulla. Bid Security will have to be in form of CDR / FDR of any scheduled Bid and shall have to be valid for one year or more after last date of receipt of Bid.  
b. The cost of downloaded tender documents should be in form of DD/Treasury challan/GR in favour of Executive Engineer MID, Baramulla.  
7. The hard copies of tender document in shape of DD/GRT/R, Earnest money in shape of CDR / FDR must be delivered to the office of the Executive Engineer, MID, Baramulla necessarily before opening of Cover 2nd Le Financial Cover.  
8. Only the OEM/firms authorized by OEM having sound experience can quote for the tender in similar type of job can participate in the tendering process. The original pump characteristic curve for the quoted pump duly sealed and signed is to be uploaded with the tender without which the tender shall be rejected right away without any prior intimation.  
9. The bid for the work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder tender withdraws his bid before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the said earnest money shall be forfeited.  
10. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website <http://jktders.gov.in>.  
11. Queries by email if any should be made at [midbaramulla@gmail.com](mailto:midbaramulla@gmail.com).  
12. As the work falls under PRI Grants the work is to be completed in all respects during current financial year if the spill over of the work happens to next financial year department shall not be held responsible as the funds would not be available during next financial year. Firms have to take into consideration all the aspects and complete the work necessarily during current financial year only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer  
Mechanical Irrigation Division  
Baramulla

DIPK/ 10000/22

**THE HINDU**

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**Before the rush:** A view of the Arts Faculty at DU on Friday. • SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

ams," the NTA said. DU said it will prepare its programme-specific merit list based on normalised scores.

The students will have a clear picture of their admission chance only by October 10. Priyansh Gupta, a student, said, "It's a first for all of us as there are no cut-offs or old data to fall back on. I can't gauge my results and I really don't know where I am standing right now."

For Debosmita De, an applicant, the results were not encouraging due to the sheer number of people who got 100 percentile.

"There is so much competition now. My results were average, I don't think I hold a chance of getting into a central university," she said. For some students who had done well in their CBSE examination, the CUET scores were a disappointment. "I am not satisfied with my percentile in CUET. I have scored above 90 all through my school life and I scored 98.2% in Class XII. It's of no use now. I am aiming for Economics (Hons) at Shri Ram College for Commerce or Hansraj College but I am not sure if I will get these colleges," said Khushi Jindal.

## AUD launches admission portal; starts new courses

85% seats reserved for Delhi students

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
NEW DELHI

graduate courses are MA in criminology and MA in comparative literature.

Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD) has launched its admission portal for undergraduate and postgraduate courses and will use CUET scores to admit students, Vice-Chancellor Anu Singh Lather said on Friday.

The university has 19 undergraduate and 27 postgraduate courses on offer with an intake of 1,123 and 1,399 students, respectively. The last date for submitting the admission form is October 12.

Ms. Lather said AUD has this year launched two new undergraduate courses and two new postgraduate courses. The undergraduate courses are a BA(Hons) in political science and BBA in innovation, entrepreneurship and venture development (BBA-IEV). The post-

graduate courses are MA in criminology and MA in comparative literature.

AUD has 85% of its seats reserved for students who have completed their schooling in Delhi. It will also conduct admission through its sports and co-curricular activities for admission to various programmes.

The scorecard of a candidate mentions subject-wise percentile scores and normalised scores.

"The normalised scores were calculated from the raw scores of each candidate using the equipercentile method for parity across sessions in which they gave their ex-

## MCD's new landfills will ruin people's health: CM Kejriwal's allegations baseless, says BJP

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
NEW DELHI

**Timings**

DELHI		
SATURDAY, SEP. 17		
RISE 06:07	SET 18:24	
RISE 23:01	SET 12:42	
SUNDAY, SEP. 18		
RISE 06:08	SET 18:23	
RISE 23:49	SET 13:37	
MONDAY, SEP. 19		
RISE 06:08	SET 18:22	
RISE 00:00	SET 14:28	

**Delhi Weather**

	max	min
Delhi City	26	22
Safdarjung	26	22
Palam	27	23

**Delhi Pilm Today**

33°C The weather will be warm and humid. Night will be comfortable. Short spell of light rain and thunder shower is likely at few places.

**Delhi Pilm Tomorrow**

34°C A mostly dry weather to prevail. Day will be warm and humid. Night will be comfortable.

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# ACB arrests Amanatullah for 'illegal' hirings, renting out Waqf properties

Irregularities caused ₹3 crore loss to exchequer, says anti-graft body; AAP cries foul

**STAFF REPORTER**  
NEW DELHI

The Anti-Corruption Branch (ACB) on Friday arrested AAP Okhla MLA and Delhi Waqf Board chairman Amanatullah Khan in connection with a complaint alleging illegal appointments and unauthorised renting out of Waqf properties in the city.

A senior ACB official said Mr. Khan was accused of illegally appointing 32 persons in various capacities and paying their salaries for the last two to three years, leading to an accumulated loss of ₹3 crore to the State exchequer.

"The illegal renting out of Waqf properties is also being investigated in addition to illegal appointments – 22 of which were made from the Okhla area on a single day – on his [Mr. Khan's] direc-



AAP legislator Amanatullah Khan arrives at the ACB office in Delhi on Friday. ■ SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

tions," the official said.

**Illegal arms recovered**

The ACB said it recovered ₹24 lakh in cash and two illegal weapons from four locations connected to the AAP MLA.

Two FIRs have been registered by the ACB in South East district pertaining to the recovery of illegal weapons.

The anti-graft body added that it got another criminal case registered against Mr. Khan after his relatives allegedly attacked its officials during the raids on his premises.

According to a communication released by the ACB, it had summoned Mr. Khan in a case pertaining to alleged financial misappropriation

and other irregularities in the functioning of the Delhi Waqf Board. On the ACB summons, Mr. Khan alleged that it had been issued because the Delhi Waqf Board had constructed a new headquarters.

Reacting to the arrest of Mr. Khan, the Aam Aadmi Party said: "AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan has been arrested in a baseless and false case. Nothing incriminating was found from his home or office during the raids. This is a new ploy to incriminate an MLA and defame AAP."

Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta, meanwhile, demanded the dismissal of Mr. Khan as the charges against him ranged from corruption in the purchase of vehicles to renting out Waqf Board properties apart from illegal appointments.

'3 killed every day in road crashes'

40% of the victims were pedestrians, states traffic police report

**ARNABJIT SUR**  
SAMRIDHI TEWARI  
NEW DELHI

An average of three persons were killed every day in the Capital in road accidents over the last two years, states Delhi Traffic Police's Delhi Road Crash Report 2021.

The majority of the victims in road crashes last year were pedestrians – 504 dead (40%) and 1,536 injured. The figures were similar in 2020 when 505 pedestrians were killed and 1,241 were injured on the road.

The police data also showed an increase in the number of total road crash victims – 1,239 persons were killed in 2021, while 1,196 died in 2020.

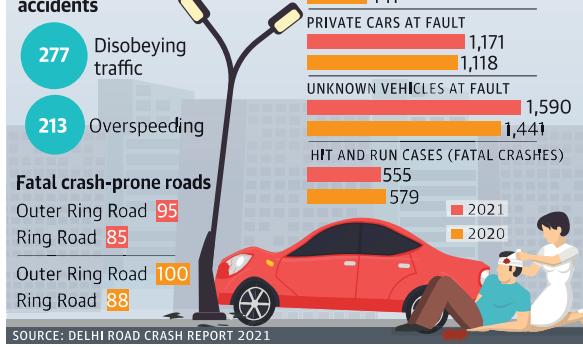
Traffic police officers said overspeeding is one of the main factors leading to the high number of fatal accidents, particularly on the National Highways and other major arterial roads.

Motorcyclists occupied

**RISKY RIDE**

Over 90% of road crash victims in the last two years were males. Here's how the numbers stack up:

**Causes of road accidents**



SOURCE: DELHI ROAD CRASH REPORT 2021

the second spot on the list of crash victims with 472 deaths in 2021 and 441 fatalities in 2020.

Special CP Traffic (Zone 2) S. S. Yadav said not wearing helmets was one of the major reasons for the deaths of motorcyclists. "A road safety initiative for two-wheeler

riders can be started at the State level. Free-to-use helmets can also be provided at important junctions and metro stations with a use-and-return policy.

Motorcyclists occupied

## Two youth die in building collapse

**STAFF REPORTER**  
NEW DELHI

Two youth were killed and seven sustained injuries after a building collapsed in north-east Delhi's Johripur Extension on Friday morning, a senior police officer said. The officer added that after receiving a PCR call about the collapse, at 11:50 a.m., a police team reached the spot and carried out the rescue operation along with personnel of Delhi Disaster Management Authority and Delhi Fire Service.

"The labourers were working on the roof of the first floor of the house," DCP (North East) Sanjay Kumar Sain said. The deceased were identified as Harshit, 17, and Mukesh, 20. A senior MCD official said the building, which collapsed during its renovation, was almost 20 years old. "The roof of the first floor collapsed as construction material was piled on it," he added.

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### BHOPAL OFFLINE BATCH

Evening Batch  
**8<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2022**  
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**PSIR**  
by **Piyush Chaubey Sir**  
**15<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2022**  
(11:30 AM to 2:00 PM)

**Geography**  
by **Alok Ranjan Sir**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Nov, 2022**  
(3:00 PM to 5:30 PM)

**Anthropology**  
by **Sudhir Kumar Sir**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Nov, 2022**  
(3:00 PM to 5:30 PM)

**Sociology**  
by **Raj Rai Sir**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Nov, 2022**  
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## HC asks channel, anchor to respond to activist's plea

Shehla Rashid complained that she was 'vilified and slandered' in news programme

### STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Friday asked the News Broadcasters and Digital Standards Authority (NBDSA), a news channel and a TV news anchor to respond to activist Shehla Rashid's plea seeking an apology for airing a news programme insinuating her involvement in anti-national activities.

Justice Yashwant Varma issued notices to NBDSA, News Broadcasters and Digital Association (NBDA), Zee News and its former anchor Sudhir Chaudhary on the petition by Ms. Rashid, a former JNU students' union leader. The High Court has posted the case for further hearing on February 23, 2023.

Ms. Rashid had complained to NBDSA in respect of a programme aired on November 30, 2020, titled "DNA" hosted by Mr. Chaudhary. In her complaint, Ms. Rashid detailed the gross violation of the code of ethics in the broadcast programme as she was "vilified and slandered to the extent of alleging to have links with terrorists - solely on the basis of statements by her estranged father without taking or airing her version of the story".

Ms. Rashid, in her petition filed through advocate Prasanna S., has challenged a March 31, 2022, decision of NBDSA which despite observing that the broadcast pro-

gramme had caused prejudice to her and "having noticed the clear and manifest violation of the code of ethics", refused to direct Zee News to air an apology.

### 'Unequivocal apology'

Ms. Rashid has sought for a modification of NBDSA's order to the extent of directing Zee News and Mr. Chaudhary to issue "an unambiguous and unequivocal apology" to her and to broadcast the same during prime-time to mitigate the damage and prejudice caused to her dignity and reputation.

Ms. Rashid said the broadcast programme covered the interview of her father, Abdul Rashid Shora, against whom

there existed a restraint order of November 17, 2020, for an ongoing case of domestic violence against her and her mother and sister.

In the present case, the Respondent No. 3-4 (Zee News and Mr. Chaudhary) have abused the privilege extended to them by airing a one-sided, accusatory and defamatory broadcast... thereby making wild, baseless and unfounded allegations against the petitioner insinuating and asserting her involvement in anti-national activities, allegedly threatening her father and siphoning crowds from among other allegations, without taking or airing her version in respect of the allegations," the plea said.

# Will solve all problems of cashew workers, says Rahul

Cong. leader, on Bharat Jodo Yatra, assures them that UDF will fight for their rights

### STAFF REPORTER

KOLLAM

Cashew sector, a traditional industry of Kerala, is facing an unprecedented crisis and the grievances of the labourers will be presented in the upcoming parliamentary session, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has said.

Interacting with representatives of the industry at Neendakara in Kollam on Friday, Mr. Gandhi said all their problems will be solved if the United Democratic Front (UDF) comes to power in Kerala. He was in Kollam district on the day as part of the ongoing Bharat Jodo Yatra.

While most factories have downed shutters due to the crisis, some workers said their wages have not been revised during the last seven years. They also pointed out that many cashew workers are not receiving any benefits, including EPF pension and ESI



**Moving ahead:** The Bharat Jodo Yatra led by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi entering Kollam on Friday. ■ C. SURESHKUMAR

privileges.

"Let alone treatment, ESI hospitals are not even providing medicines. Since our working days are very less, we hardly receive any benefits," said Kanchanavalli, a cashew worker.

Sindhu, who works in a factory at Perinadu, said she is worried that the cashew industry may also collapse like the coir sector.

"In the present condition, the industry will not survive perhaps more than a year. Steps should be taken to increase the number of working days, providing us an opportunity to earn our livelihood," she said.

Observing that their de-

mands were fair, Mr. Gandhi assured cashew workers that their problems would be raised in the next session of Lok Sabha.

The UDF will stand with the labourers and fight for their rights in Parliament and the Kerala Assembly, Mr. Gandhi said.

### 'Will intensify stir'

"Till the demands are met, we will intensify agitations inside both the Houses and outside them," the Congress leader added.

Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee president K. Sudhakaran; Leader of the Opposition V.D. Sathesan; All India Congress Committee General Secretary K.C. Venugopal, MP; Ramesh Chemmihala, MLA; KPCC working president Kodikunil Suresh, MP; N.K. Premachandran, MP, and P.C. Vishnunath, MLA, were among those present on the occasion.

## Two shooters of Lawrence Bishnoi gang arrested

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA CHANDIGARH

The Punjab Police's Anti-Gangster Task Force on Friday arrested two main shooters of a gang involved in the killing of Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala.

Mandeep Singh, alias Toofan, of Batala and Manpreet Singh, alias Mani Rayya, of Amritsar were wanted by the State police for the last few years in various cases of murder, dacoity, extortion, drugs and arms trafficking.

DGP Gaurav Yadav said they were arrested from Amritsar.

They were main shooters of the Jaggu Bhagwanpuria-Lawrence Bishnoi gang, who were not only wanted in the sensational murder case of gangster Rana Kandovalia but had also planned several times to kill Moosewala in the past, Mr. Yadav said.

Mr. Yadav said the police recovered four sophisticated weapons, including one .30 calibre Chinese pistol, .45 calibre pistol Taurus USA and one .357 calibre magnum revolver and 36 live cartridges.

Three capitals Bill to be tabled soon, hints A.P. Minister

### STAFF REPORTER

GUNTUR

Andhra Pradesh Minister for Industries, Skill Development and Information Technology G. Amarnath has dropped broad hints that a Bill on three capitals will be tabled in the Assembly soon and that the State government would start functioning from Visakhapatnam from the coming academic year.

The government sources, however, are tight-lipped about the exact time of the introduction of the Bill during the monsoon session.

The Minister's comments comes a day after Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy tabled in the Assembly for developing Visakhapatnam as the executive capital during a short discussion on decentralisation. Mr. Reddy said on Thursday that the State government cannot complete basic infrastructure even after spending enough money in Amaravati. "Even if I spend another ₹30,000-₹40,000 crore on this region with no basic infrastructure, I would never be able to provide even basic facilities," Mr. Reddy said.

The buzz around the shifting of capital to Visakhapatnam gained momentum during the monsoon session.

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1. Nature of Work : Building Work  
2. No of Work : 2 Nos  
3. Tender Cost : Rs.10000.00 (On-Line)  
4. Class of Contractor : A Class & Special Class  
5. Available of Bid document : From 10.00 AM of Dt.20.09.2022 to 05.00 PM of Dt.06.10.2022 up to 5.00 PM  
6. Date of opening of Bid : Dt 07.10.2022 at 11.30 AM  
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### PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE THIRD ADDITIONAL MUNISIFF & RENT CONTROLLER, ERNAKULAM  
Present : Sri. Adyakrishnan. B.,  
I Additional Munisiff

In charge of III ADDITIONAL MUNISIFF & RENT CONTROLLER  
Tuesday, the 28th day of June, 2022/7th Ashada, 1944  
O.S. No.1310/2020

Plaintiff:-

IAF International Astrology Federation, A Company incorporated under Companies Act, 2013, Represented by its Director, Mr. Pradeep Kumar, aged 38 years, S/o. Umnikrishnan Nair, 65/2496-A 2591, 2nd Floor, Infinity Metro, Kaloor, Kochi-682017

Adv. Sri. R. Vinod, M.S. Letha,  
Sree Rengini. K.S. & Aswin Venugopal.

Defendants:-

1. Arun Kumar Chaturvedi, aged 30 years, Jai Shri Ram, Media Prabhar, Mourave Road, Ohamal Gang, Ludmow, Uttar Pradesh, Pin-226 301.  
2. Pankaj Kumar Trivedi, aged 37 years, Chairman, Rashtriya Jyothish Evam Rudraksha Anusandhan Sansthan, 3/38, Rajinikanth, Sharda Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, Pin-226 002.  
3. Rashtriya Jyothish Evam Rudraksha Anusandhan Sansthan, A Trust represented by its Chairman, Mr. Acharya Pankaj Kumar Trivedi, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, Pin-226 002.

Ex parte.

This suit was filed before this court on 22.12.2020 under Section 26 & Order VII Rule 1 of the Code of Civil Procedure, for declaration and injunction.

The cause of action for the suit arose on 19.09.2020 and thereafter at Emakulam Village which is within the jurisdiction of this court.

### VALUATION

Total Valuation: ₹1,500.00

Court fee payable: ₹60.00

Court fee paid: ₹60.00

Legal Benefit Fund payable: ₹100.00

Legal Benefit Fund paid: ₹100.00

This suit having come up for hearing before me on 28.06.2022. Proof affidavit filed. Plaintiff examined as PW1. Documents marked as exhibits A1 to A9. Defendants already set apart. On a perusal of plaint averments, Proof affidavit and documents filed the claim of the plaintiff remains unchallenged and undisputed and the court on the same day doth order and decree as follows:-

### DECREE

The suit is declared as follows:-

1. It is declared that the plaintiff company is an independent organization registered under the provisions of company act 2013, having absolutely no connection with the institution of the defendants No.1 and 2 and that the plaintiff company is not a subsidiary institution of the 3rd defendant.

2. The defendants, their men and agents are restrained by a decree of permanent injunction from making any claim over the title and ownership of the plaintiff company in any manner and also from making communication through social media/visual media or any other media contending that the plaintiff company is a subsidiary institution of the 3rd defendant and under the control and management of the defendants No.1 and 2.

3. The plaintiff is entitled to get the costs of the suit.

Given under my hand and seal of this court, on this the 28th day of June 2022.

Yadukrishnan. B

I Additional Munisiff

III Addl. Munsiff/Rent Controller (I/C)

### TENDERS

For Sale/eAuction: Transit Damaged Plyboard - 592 Pcs Lying At Plot No. B-43, Industrial Area Phase - 3 , S.A. Nagar, Mohali Punjab. Last Date For Inspection & EMD Deposit -23.09.2022 & Date Of E-auction- 24.09.2022 (3 PM). Auctioneer: Meenakshi Gupta-9265170414 / M. F. Islam - 99110 03339 (Insurance Claim Material Will Be Sold On As Is Where Is'. Whatever There Is' And No Complaint Basis).

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

PLOT NO. 5, 4th FLOOR, GATE NO. 1, NEW DELHI

Notice is hereby given to the public at Large that Smt. Nani Bhan Wib Late, Sh. A.K. Bhan, permanent resident of S-422, Greater Kailash, Part-I, New Delhi, Date of Birth 1930, residing at 2, Brianwood Lane, Media PA 19063, U.S.A. (herein after referred as "Proposed Seller") that he is desirous of conveying absolute and exclusive ownership along with unencumbered, peaceful and physical possession of a certain plot of land consisting of boundaries with all on sides bearing No. S-426, measuring 556 Sq. Yards situated in the residential colony known as Greater Kailash, Part-I, New Delhi, Pin-110048, bounded on the East by Service Lane, West by Pahar Ganj, South by Sector No. 422, North by Sector No. 422, (hereinafter referred as "The Plot"). The proposed seller is proposing to execute and register the ownership title documents in his name in favour of the proposed buyer. AND IT IS FURTHER NOTIFIED to the general public at large that all the person(s) having or claiming interest in the said plot or any part thereof by way of sale, exchange, mortgaging, lease, gift, inheritance, share, possession, assignment, pre-emption or encumbrance of whatever nature shall be bound to inform the proposed seller to the undersigned Mr. Sunil Chaudhary (Advocate) in writing at the address mentioned below any such claim(s) according to the law of the land. The proposed seller reserves the right to withdraw the notice at any time if he is not satisfied with the response received from the proposed buyer. The proposed seller is not liable for any loss or damage suffered by the proposed buyer due to any reason whatsoever.

Sunil Chaudhary (Advocate)

Office at: E-389A, Greater Kailash, Part-I, New Delhi-110048

Mobile No.: +91-9811066688, Fax LineNo.: 011-43575154

E-mail: sunil@ohnimaylawchambers.com

Vikram Yadav son of late Ramkumar Yadav, R.R. R-121/88, Gali No.4-6, Aadiha Card No. 25791461704 declare that my name has been wrongly mentioned as "Vikram Singh" in my 10th CBSE certificate No.-002854503. Vikram Singh and Vikram Yadav are one and the same person, name for all future purposes, therefore the name be amended accordingly.

CM YK

IN BRIEF



Former Gujarat CM meets Telangana CM KCR

HYDERABAD  
Former Chief Minister of Gujarat Shankersinh Vaghela met Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao here on Friday. During the five-hour meet, Mr. Vaghela expressed his support to Mr. Rao's role in national politics.

4 die due to asphyxiation in abandoned well in A.P.

BANTUMILLI  
Three labourers and the house owner died after reportedly inhaling some poisonous gas when they went into an abandoned well to clean it, in Bantumilli village of Krishna district in Andhra Pradesh. According to residents, all the four entered the well one after the other and died of asphyxiation.

## Kerala HC slams PWD for potholed roads

In the wake of a two-wheeler rider's death, court asks engineer to explain the delay in road repairs

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
KOCHE

Slamming the Public Works Department (PWD) and the State government for the shoddy upkeep of roads, the Kerala High Court on Friday asked how many more people must die in accidents caused by potholes.

The court observed this orally in the wake of a two-wheeler rider getting killed on Wednesday on the ill-maintained Aluva-Perumbavoor-Munnar Road. The rider fell into a pothole on August 20 and succumbed to injuries in a hospital on Wednesday.

**Collectors responsible?**  
He is the latest victim of potholed roads in the State. Questioning the efficiency of the department's engineers, Justice Devan Ramachandran wondered why engineers had been posted in the department.

People dying or suffering injuries due to inaction of



**Pathetic state:** Vehicles trying to navigate a potholed stretch in Kochi. The Kerala High Court has slammed the PWD for the shoddy upkeep of roads. ■ THULASI KAKKAT

engineers cannot be condemned, he said.

On the 'apathy' of engineers who mostly travel in

official vehicles, he directed the engineer concerned to present himself before the court on Monday to give rea-

son, if any, for the delay in repairing the corridor.

He also spoke of summoning the District Collectors concerned to the court, if roads in Kerala continued to remain ill-maintained, since they too were responsible to ensure safe roads. He further demanded that the Ernakulam District Collector submit a report on the plight of the road as had been directed.

He said people dying because of bad roads, at a time when governments were speaking of development, was shocking. "It appears that we are living in the 18th century," the judge said.

Responding to the counsel for the government saying that the son of the accident victim had hinted at the deceased having had low blood sugar, the judge said the victim must not be further demeaned.

## Integration Day rallies held across Telangana

Hyderabad state was merged with the Indian Union on September 17, 1948

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD

Celebrations of the 75th year of the merger of Hyderabad State with the Indian Union, being organised by the Telangana government, commenced with processions and motorbike rallies in all 119 Assembly Constituencies on Friday.

In Hyderabad, Ministers Mohammad Mahamood Ali and T. Srinivas Yadav, Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar, Mayor G. Vijayalaxmi, Khairatabad MLA D. Nagender, Collector Amoy Kumar and Municipal Commissioner D.S. Lokesh Kumar participated in a 'samaikyata' rally taken out from NTR Marg Imax to People's Plaza.

Corporators, officials, students and general public al-



Students and civic body workers participating in a rally on the eve of Telangana Integration Day. ■ G. RAMAKRISHNA

so participated in the rally. Speaking at the culmination of the rally, Mr. Srinivas Yadav said the State became independent on September 17, 1948 and that was the reason

of the cultural event of Ganesh idol installation and immersion.

Mr. Mahamood Ali said unlike the other areas of the country, the erstwhile Hyderabad State which also included the present parts of Karnataka and Maharashtra became independent with large number of people who fought for it laying down their lives. The last Nizam had merged the Hyderabad State with Indian Union in spite of a section led by Qasim Rizvi opposing it by sending Rizvi to jail.

The Chief Secretary said the day was being celebrated as national integration day. He cautioned people against forces trying to disturb communal harmony and peace even after peaceful conduct

## Take action against Bajrang Dal activists'

They 'stopped' interfaith wedding

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
HASSAN

The interfaith couple, whose wedding was stopped allegedly by Bajrang Dal activists in Karnataka, have demanded that the police take stern action against those who interfered in their marriage.

Chaitra and Jaffar, who appeared before the media in Chikkamagaluru on Friday, said that they have been in love for the last three years and decided to get married as their families had agreed.

On September 14, Chaitra and Jaffar of Lakshimpura went to the sub-registrar in Chikkamagaluru. A group of Bajrang Dal activists

stopped their wedding and took Jaffar out of the office. The accused allegedly assaulted Jaffar and termed their alliance 'love jihad'.

Following police intervention, Chaitra was put in a women's rehabilitation centre and Jaffar filed a complaint against those who stopped the marriage.

The police arrested the accused Shama, Guru, Prasad, and Parthibha. However, they have been released on bail.

Chaitra told the media that the police had kept her in the rehabilitation centre for her safety. "Our families have agreed to our marriage and we will get married soon," she said.

## Jammu celebrates Dogra king's holiday, son Karan 'delighted'

Hari Singh great educationist: L-G

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
JAMMU

Amidst street celebrations in Jammu, senior Congress leader Karan Singh, son of late Maharaja Hari Singh, on Friday said he was delighted by the announcement of the J&K Lieutenant Governor to declare the birth anniversary of the Dogra king a holiday in the Union Territory (UT).

"I'm delighted. It happened after a lot of effort. I congratulate the young generation of Jammu that carried forward the efforts. They did it together, nobody opposed," Mr. Singh said.

Mr. Singh said his two sons, Ajatshatru and Vikramaditya, had also passed a resolution to declare the birth anniversary of the last Maharaja of the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir a holiday in the erstwhile J&K Assembly. He also thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the announcement.

Meanwhile, Mr. Karan Singh said he has no contact with the Congress leadership. "I am in Congress but there is no contact. Nobody asks me anything. I do my own work. My relations with the party are almost zero now," he added.

A Raj Bhavan spokesman on Thursday said the J&K administration has decided to declare the Dogra Maharaja's anniversary a public holiday. "A notification in this regard will be issued soon," the spokesman said.

Describing the king as "a great educationist, progressive thinker, social reformer and a towering man of ideas and ideals", L-G Manoj Sinha said, "the decision was taken after considering the contribution of the Maharaja and India in 1947."



Celebrations in Jammu after announcement of a public holiday on Maharaja Hari Singh's birthday. ■ PTI

sentiments of people. It's a tribute to the role the Maharaja played and services he rendered to Jammu and Kashmir."

Several organisations, including the BJP, organised street celebrations in Jammu on the occasion. "I don't have words to express my feelings. The decision reflects Dogra unity, which is praiseworthy. We forced the administration to declare September 23 a holiday," a Dogra member, while participating in the celebrations, said in Jammu city.

Ikk Jutt Jammu head Ankur Sharma also welcomed the move. "Maharaja's legacy and stature is collective responsibility of the nation in general and people of Jammu in particular," Mr. Sharma said. The L-G's administration has brought changes to the official holiday calendar of the Union Territory since the erstwhile State was downgraded to a Union Territory (UT). It decided to drop National Conference (NC) founder Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah's birthday as a holiday. Both the Maharaja and Abdullah supported the Instrument of Accession with India in 1947.

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## Eat and learn

Tamil Nadu's breakfast scheme is a good model for other States to follow

Sometimes the ability of a government to find resources for a good scheme is only limited by its intent. The Tamil Nadu government's launch of the free breakfast scheme for schoolchildren is an instance of a policy initiative with far-reaching consequences for school education and public health. As Chief Minister M.K. Stalin himself said at the launch of the scheme, provision of free breakfast is not a freebie, but the foremost duty of a government to ensure no child goes hungry. Mr. Stalin framed his words and deeds from the promontory of the progressive Dravidian model, which promises inclusive growth for all segments of the population. A key element is the welfare of children, which explains Tamil Nadu's early emphasis on feeding children in schools. The importance of a daily breakfast as the most important meal of the day is widely acknowledged. Multiple studies across the globe indicate that eating breakfast regularly confers positive outcomes on students, affecting their ability to focus, learn and retain information positively. School performance improves, as do behaviour and cognition, but a regular breakfast also takes care of diet quality, micronutrient sufficiency, anaemia and height and weight issues in children, and is even believed to sculpt BMI scores for the future. The government has targeted providing schoolchildren an average of 293 calories and an average protein input of 9.85 gm per day. The mid-day meal that is already being provided to students in schools comes up to an average of 553 calories and 18 gm of protein, giving every student who takes the food supplied in school about 846 cal and nearly 28 gm of protein a day. The Centre's midday meal guidelines prescribe between 450-700 cals per child per day, and a protein intake of 12-20 gm per day.

While the proposed menu for the Tamil Nadu government's breakfast scheme will take care of hunger, the calorific, energy and micronutrient requirements of the children, with a diet rich in local preparations and vegetables, it also has to provide adequate attention to taste and quality parameters. The government, rich with its experience of dealing with the mid-day meal scheme over several decades, must avoid the errors of omission and commission – including pilferage, poor quality of food, delays in sanctioning funds, and caste-related disruptions – that have been hurdles in its path earlier. Other State governments would also do well to be inspired by Tamil Nadu, which has allowed its intent to triumph over the state of its finances, finding money to fund this very crucial aspect of nation building – ensuring the growth and development of children.

## The oppressor's wrong

Nothing can really scandalise a court peopled by judges of integrity

"Who breaks a butterfly upon a wheel?" asked Alexander Pope, wondering if strong means were needed to beat a petty adversary. The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court has taken a sledgehammer to deal with YouTuber and blogger 'Savukku' A. Shankar, and sentenced him to a six-month jail term for some Tweets targeting the judiciary. As political commentary goes, his style of presenting his views is indeed quite trenchant. With a know-it-all air, he goes about giving purported background material, insinuating deals and designs behind developments, often without substantiation. It is no surprise then that he got into trouble. In his defence in the *suo motu* contempt proceedings, Mr. Shankar said his comments were aimed at questioning the under-representation of Dalits in the judiciary, and the excess representation to Brahmins, and that taken as a whole, his comments were aimed at improving the system. The court would have none of it, and deemed his comments contumacious. It noted that he expressed no regret or repentance, but affirmed that he would continue to speak about the judiciary after his release even if sent to prison. Even though Mr. Shankar made a personal insinuation against Justice Swaminathan, what really counted was his sweeping charge against the entire judiciary. This could have been dealt with by the Principal Bench in Chennai as the allegation was general in nature, but, unfortunately, it was posted before a Bench headed by Justice Swaminathan, who was the judge aggrieved by the earlier Tweet.

The purported logic behind courts retaining the power to punish for contempt is to save the institution from scurrilous attack so that the public does not lose its faith and trust in the judiciary. However, recent experience, as well as public criticism by former judges and legal luminaries, shows that the principal source of public disenchantment with the judiciary is the conduct of courts and judges. In 2018, four judges of the Supreme Court publicly accused the Chief Justice of India of misusing his power as Master of the Roster to influence the outcome of cases. Can there be anything more scandalising to the judiciary? Former judges and lawyers routinely pen articles questioning the commitment of the apex court to issues of personal liberty and even hint at complicity and craveness before the executive. Is there any point in going after laymen voicing their disenchantment with judicial wrongdoing? Criminal contempt is usually closed either by the court's tolerance or the contemnor's remorse, but, regrettably, neither happened in this case. If the court viewing any display of magnanimity as a sign of weakness is the 'oppressor's wrong', the defendant refusing to express regret is the 'proud man's contumely'. In truth, any conviction for criminal contempt is unwarranted, for nothing can really scandalise a court peopled by judges of integrity or save the image of a compromised institution comprising tainted individuals.

# The consequences of declining fertility are many

A below replacement level fertility rate would mean a smaller dividend window than expected



SANTOSH KUMAR DASH & SIDHARTH R.

below the replacement level for the first time to 2.0 in 2021, according to the latest National Family Health Survey (NFHS). The rate has dipped 10% in just five years.

At the time of Independence, India's fertility rate was six per woman, and it had taken 25 years to reach five, with the government launching the first ever family planning programme in the world in 1952. India's fertility further declined to four in the 1990s when Kerala became the first State in India to have a fertility rate below replacement level; slowly, other States followed suit. As reported by the NFHS 2021, only five States have a fertility rate above the replacement rate: Bihar (3), Meghalaya (2.9), Uttar Pradesh (2.4), Jharkhand (2.3), and Manipur (2.2). The steady dip in fertility rates has been explained as an effect of increased use of contraception, more years of average schooling, better health care, and an increase in the mean marriage age of women.

### Many economic implications

Countries in the earlier stages of demographic transition find positive effects of lower fertility on income as a major portion of the workforce moves to modern sectors of the economy with fertility dipping. Lower fertility rates can be viewed as both a cause and consequence of economic development. Lower fertility impacts women's education positively, which in turn lowers the fertility of the next generations. With better infrastructure development, better health care, and education, fertility drops and income rises. The spiral of lower fertility leads to a window of time when the ratio of the working-age population is higher than that of the dependent age groups. This high proportion of people in the workforce boosts income and investment, given the higher level of saving due to lower



S.R. RAGHUNATHAN

dependence.

The falling fertility rate will also lead to lower pressure on land, water and other resources and would also contribute to achieving environmental goals. After the window where a country reaps the benefits of the demographic dividend, the huge working age population moves to old age, supported by fewer workers.

Japan was the first country to experience the implications of falling fertility rates. The increasing dependency ratio has led to near zero GDP growth since the 1990s, and the country is facing fiscal challenges to meet rising social security costs. Other Asian countries such as South Korea are now reporting lower fertility than Japan which is now optimistic about having managed the lower fertility without moving to an utter demographic collapse.

A fall in fertility rate beyond replacement level would have a negative effect on the proportion of the working population, which in turn will affect output in an economy. A rise in education and independence among women would enhance their labour participation, which could arrest the fall in labour participation up to a limit. An influx of immigrants from countries with higher population growth could also play a positive part.

The impact of fertility drop on productivity is also highly debated. While a higher level of education and technological advancement in areas including artificial intelligence could increase the

productivity of the lower working age population, a paper, "The End of Economic Growth? Unintended Consequences of a Declining Population" by Stanford economist Charles Jones argues that falling fertility could diminish the creative capacity of humankind. He points to the need for ideas in technological advancement and productivity boost, which even artificial intelligence is still not capable of.

Countries across the globe are experimenting with policies to boost fertility. Germany found success in boosting births through liberal labour laws, allowing more parental leave and benefits. Denmark offers state-funded IVF for women below 40 years, and Hungary recently nationalised IVF clinics. Poland gives monthly cash payments to parents having more than two children, whereas Russia makes a one-time payment to parents when their second child is born. Russia also reinstated the Soviet-era 'Mother Heroine' title, who bore and raised more than 10 children amounting to almost a one-time payment of ₹13 lakh.

Countries across the globe have increased the life expectancy and productivity of older citizens. Reforms in the labour market to induce more flexibility in the labour market would encourage working women to have more children and non-working mothers to enter the labour market.

Countries across the globe are experimenting with policies to boost fertility. Germany found success in boosting births through liberal labour laws, allowing more parental leave and benefits. Denmark offers state-funded IVF for women below 40 years, and Hungary recently nationalised IVF clinics. Poland gives monthly cash payments to parents having more than two children, whereas Russia makes a one-time payment to parents when their second child is born. Russia also reinstated the Soviet-era 'Mother Heroine' title, who bore and raised more than 10 children amounting to almost a one-time payment of ₹13 lakh.

**In perspective**

Though the benefits of demographic dividend are being reaped, a below replacement level fertility rate would mean a smaller dividend window than expected. Although India's working-age population will continue to grow for many more decades, it would need to keep an eye on fertility dips. Liberal labour reforms, encouraging higher female labour force participation rate, and a higher focus on nutrition and health would ensure sustained labour supply and output despite lower fertility. India, like other countries in the globe, would need to be equipped to aid the patter of more tiny feet sooner or later.

*Santosh Kumar Dash is an Assistant Professor at the Gullati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT), Tiruvananthapuram. Sidharth R. is a postgraduate student in Economics at the University of Kerala*

## Remember Periyar with a pledge to embrace dissent

With majoritarianism on the rise, the iconoclast's ideas on debate and rationality of thought are more relevant than ever



K. KANIMOZHI

has the right to refute any opinion. But no one has the right to prevent its expression."

Periyar is often referred to as an iconoclast, for the rebellious nature of his ideas and the vigour with which he acted. His vision for the future was a part of all his actions. He did not merely aim at the eradication of social evils; he also wanted to put an end to activities that do not collectively raise standards of society. The radical nature of his ideas drew constant opposition.

Here, I would also want to debate some of the concepts propounded by Periyar. It is good that we refer to Periyar as an iconoclast and not an icon, because he would have dismantled that notion of an all-powerful icon himself.

He was one of the pioneering voices against the Kula Kalvi Thittam introduced by the then Chief Minister C. Rajagopalachari. It was not just a political statement; Periyar felt that it would encourage divisions based on caste that might cause irreparable damage to the social fabric. Kula Kalvi Thittam proposed to impose on schoolchildren a method of education, wherein students would learn their family's profession as part of the school curriculum. The proposal led to an uproar in the State led by voices such as Periyar and C.N. Annadurai. It was withdrawn and a message was sent to the wider



THE HINDU PHOTO ARCHIVES

world that Tamil Nadu stood united when it comes to caste oppression-related issues.

### Foundation of rationalism

Periyar's vision was about inclusive growth and freedom of individuals. He was an important ideologue of his day because of the clarity in his political stand. More importantly, he understood the evolution of political thought and was able to glide through time with this. He presented rationalism as a solid foundation for thinking along these lines. He said, "Wisdom lies in thinking. The spearhead of thinking is rationalism."

Periyar was way ahead of his time. All the reforms he shared with people could not be implemented at the time because of the searing discussions they led to. It took years for the ideas to take shape in a way that could be implemented.

One such reform measure he felt was needed to change the caste dynamic in society was

'Priesthood for all castes'. Has the opposition to such ideas been reduced in a way? Not really. But we shall continue to maintain a civil debate for the overall betterment of society, as Periyar said.

The struggle against the eradication of social evils takes several decades and Periyar with his idea of meaningful rebellion has guided me to play a part in this movement. It will be a guiding force for every student reading Periyar too. "Whomsoever I love and hate, my principle is the same. That is, the educated, the rich and the administrators should not suck the blood of the poor."

Periyar said, "Any opposition not based on rationalism or science or experience, will one day or other, reveal the fraud, selfishness, lies, and conspiracies." We can posit this with regard to the extreme-right activities we see happening across the country and sometimes abroad too.

Spaces for debate are shrinking all over the world. Majoritarianism and populism are not enabling sensible conversations in any public sphere. At such a time, Periyar stands as a stellar precedent, reminding us of a time when people with opposing ideas were invited to the stage for a debate. As a part of creating a society with social justice at its core, let us pledge to create open spaces for discussions in our communities. If need be, let us spearhead such activities on whatever scale. Only these spaces have the potential of creating a positive change at an ideological level.

*K. Kanimozi is a Member of Parliament (Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam)*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

### Breakfast, in school

The breakfast scheme launched by the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister for students of Classes I to V in government schools in the State is not only a novel one but also a first. The accompanying picture was a visual delight. The new scheme is without doubt a much-needed one. That many children attend classes each morning on a hungry stomach was thought-provoking. All efforts should be taken by the authorities to see that the quality of food is good and served under hygienic conditions.

SHALINI GERALD,  
Chennai

■ For very young students who may not be able to express their state of mind and attend class hungry, this is a

remarkable scheme that will help in their cognitive development. It is also imperative that the Tamil Nadu government monitors the scheme which will help it reap the long-term benefits.

CHALLAPALLI NEEHARIKA,  
Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

■ I am totally against freebies, but I staunchly support the breakfast scheme. A child cannot learn anything on an empty stomach. This scheme is sure to ensure the physical and mental well-being of children. Every right thinking person will extend his or her support for the laudable move.

SUBBIAH N.,  
Chennai

■ "You cannot make people learn. You can only provide the right conditions for

learning to happen." These words by Vince Gowmon are completely aligned with the breakfast scheme. It will not only help in nourishment but also increase enrolment.

RISHAV,  
Barnala, Punjab

■ A good breakfast will help a child have a good attention span, help him concentrate and make him happy – all important for learning in school. The Tamil Nadu government deserves praise.

K.M.K. MURTHY,  
Secunderabad

■ The Chief Minister needs to identify the reason for many children going hungry. It could, in many instances, be the result of the head of the family spending a large part of his earnings on liquor. Welfare measures such as free breakfast, free monetary

allowances or free bus rides are meaningless unless we get to the root of the problem and in turn, the need for such schemes.

V. SUBRAMANIAN,  
Chennai

■ A child who is well nourished would be able to climb the ladder to success quickly. The scheme is a boon for poor children. This is a timely and wonderful initiative.

LITTLE MERINTH AAMOSE A.,  
Thiruvananthapuram

■ Retiring... Roger A leading sports journalist, in 2016, described Roger Federer's game this way: 'Tennis is much less demanding physically – especially if you can play with the graceful, unmatched effortlessness of a Federer.' The grace with

which Federer played the game made it look so beautiful that watching tennis was less intense and more divine.

He ruled the court with such panache that you could never hate him. He set

milestones which have now been bettered, but there is no denying that he raised the level of tennis which motivated many players to do well. We might have seen the last of Roger Federer the player, but Federer's indelible mark on the game will live on.

SUBASH BALAKRISHNAN,  
Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

■ All good things have to come to an end. And so did Roger Federer's amazing tennis career. His long absence from tennis did give rise to speculation that the Swiss legend would hang his

To read more letters online, scan the QR code



R. SIVAKUMAR,  
Chennai

■ The tennis world may never again witness such a complete player as Roger Federer in future. Many became tennis fans only because of his grace and humane touch.

MANUEL JOSEPH,  
Muttom, Idukki, Kerala

■ My first introduction to Federer was in my school general knowledge book, in 2010. Even though I was never much into sports, I was drawn towards the game because of this great personality. Adieu Federer! MEDHA BARMA, Bengaluru

# Caught in a zero-COVID trap

China's strategy of lockdown and mass testing that made sense in a world without vaccines is now past its sell-by date. **Ananth Krishnan** reports on what the extreme measures and the expansion of state power have meant for the daily lives of residents

In pre-pandemic times, visitors to Shenzhen would often feel as if they were travelling in time to the future. China's technology hub is famed for being at the forefront of adopting new technologies that still remain on blueprints in the rest of the world, from futuristic buildings with sprawling indoor gardens that appear right out of a sci-fi movie, to the ubiquitous use of facial recognition technology for everything from riding subways to entering supermarkets.

Today, arriving in Shenzhen still feels like time travel – except now it is to the past. More precisely, it is to two years ago at the height of the pandemic, when lockdowns were part of the daily vocabulary globally and COVID-19 was seen as a deadly and life-threatening disease in a world without vaccines.

On an afternoon this June, a group of travellers arrived in Shenzhen in the Chinese mainland from Hong Kong. The journey, once a smooth, 20-minute train ride, now involves a gruelling 12-hour exercise at the border control point. This includes two deeply invasive nasal swabs that, for some travellers, even drew blood. The group was greeted by an army of Shenzhen health personnel dressed in full-white PPEs.

The 'Big Whites' or 'Da Bai', as the PPE-clad healthcare enforcers are known in China, have in the past two years become the faces of the country's stringent COVID-19 regulations. China is the only country that still follows a heavy-handed 'dynamic zero-COVID' policy, which calls for mass testing, lockdowns and quarantining of close contacts to eliminate outbreaks in the shortest possible time.

"Keep on your masks!" a Big White yelled at one arrival whose mask had slipped slightly below her nose. The group cleared immigration after downloading and scanning numerous Chinese 'health code' apps that are an indispensable internal travel passport in the country today. They were then sprayed with disinfectant, along with their luggage, before being whisked away on buses, with full police escort, to be confined in a room for a mandatory 22-day quarantine. And these were all vaccinated travellers who had also been tested no less than twice in just a few hours.

While the rest of the world has sought to move on to some form of post-pandemic normalcy, China remains firmly in the grip of a harsh zero-COVID policy. China is where the pandemic began, and it appears increasingly likely that this is where the last chapter of the pandemic will end.

## Endless lockdowns

On September 14, World Health Organization (WHO) director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus noted that the number of weekly reported deaths from COVID-19 in the second week of September was the lowest since March 2020. "We have never been in a better position to end the pandemic," he said. "We're not there yet, but the end is in sight."

In China, however, there appears to be no end in sight to measures that were first imposed in Wuhan – at a time when the idea of a lockdown was still unheard of in the rest of the world – and remain a part of life for a third straight year.

Within China, through 2020 and 2021, the zero-COVID strategy was by most accounts widely popular as it ensured a degree of normal life while the rest of the world was dealing with waves of deaths and lockdowns. By the summer of 2020, China had in fact largely emerged from the pandemic's first wave quicker than most nations, with its stringent lockdowns and bans on international travel paying dividends. Outside of Wuhan and Hubei province, no cities faced mass deaths. Across China, schools remained open, and with the world closed off, domestic tourism boomed. So did manufacturing, with China's exports reaching a record high during those two years while factories in much of the world were hit by COVID-19 restrictions. Zero-COVID certainly saved hundreds of thousands of lives in 2020 and 2021, a point that the government uses to justify continuing the approach.

Yet, that has become an argument increasingly difficult to make. Confronted with more transmissible variants, the 'test and trace' bedrock of zero-COVID has struggled. The number of cities in China under lockdown now is the highest since the early days of the pandemic. Moreover, a strategy that made sense in a world without vaccines looks increasingly past its sell-by date as the rest of the world opens. If zero-COVID gave China an advantage in the first year of the pandemic, it has now left China struggling.

## Harsher measures, mounting costs

As of early September, the Chinese magazine *Caixin* reported, 33 cities and an



The police work with railway authorities to check nucleic acid test reports and travel codes of passengers in Shenyang, Liaoning province. (Below): Passengers at the Hankou railway station in Wuhan. ■ GETTY IMAGES



death toll seen in the West (a fact highlighted ad nauseam by state media). Yet, three years into the pandemic, there are signs of public acceptance waning as more cities come under restrictions. Generally supportive attitudes to zero-COVID change overnight when one's own town is in lockdown. As Shanghai's residents faced two months of lockdown, thousands took to social media to ask what the point of the measures was when few severe cases had been reported officially.

## No exit strategy

If China were to open tomorrow, its healthcare system would certainly be overrun and likely face a near-collapse (as India's did during the second wave). This is the argument from Chinese officials in justifying the current approach.

It is also the argument used right at the top. As more questions began to be raised about China's approach in sticking to zero-COVID, President Xi Jinping, during a symbolic visit to Wuhan in end June, mounted a robust defence of the measures, saying they "must be upheld daily life."

As variants began to spread more easily, the measures to tackle them became harsher. Shanghai was placed under a brutal lockdown of two months, with most residents not allowed to step out of their homes and many complaining of food shortages.

When an earthquake in early September struck Sichuan province, which was dealing with an outbreak, residents rushed to leave their apartment blocks to find Big Whites barring their exits.

When parts of Beijing came under lockdown in May, cancer hospitals stopped taking patients for treatment. "As long as it's not COVID that you die from, it seemed they did not care," the daughter of one of the patients told *The Hindu*.

In Yining in western Xinjiang, which has been under a harsh lockdown since early August, thousands of residents took to social media to complain of acute food and medicine shortages. Most of the posts were deleted, while state media responded with a campaign to show an efficiently managed city. One Yining resident posted that his young child had died in lockdown without access to medical treatment.

Meanwhile, economic costs are mounting. Currently, planning internal travel within China is a fraught exercise, as each city has its own health code app and internal quarantine rules. The health code app determines every aspect of life. In Beijing, residents have to take a PCR test every 72 hours to preserve a green code, without which they cannot access schools, hospitals, offices or public transport. Uncertainty of lockdowns has dampened business sentiment amid already brewing troubles in the property market, a lynchpin of growth. In the second quarter of the year, China's economy grew by 0.4%.

Most people in China have been largely accepting of the measures – they do not, of course, have a choice in the matter – seeing it as a price to be paid for normalcy and to avoid the high

Data from Hong Kong show that three doses of Chinese vaccines are effective in preventing serious hospitalisation and death. The efficacy falls significantly when only two doses are administered.

Local government officials say their health resources are being entirely spent on regular testing and lockdowns to ensure zero-COVID. The same health workers who could have been sent door-to-door to vaccinate the elderly are instead occupied with administering lockdowns and PCR tests.

China also briefly considered and then abandoned vaccine mandates. In July, Beijing rolled out the country's first vaccine mandate, but abandoned it within 24 hours without explanation, amid suggestions that authorities were alarmed by the number of the elderly who had not completed their full doses.

While the unvaccinated elderly remain a significant concern, also complicating any easing of zero-COVID is continued official messaging that portrays COVID-19 as a life-threatening disease. As one Beijing doctor puts it, "Even one asymptomatic case now means an entire neighbourhood will be locked down. How do you then communicate with people that at some stage we have to live with the virus?"

## The politics of zero-COVID

That the doctor requested anonymity reveals how politicised this public health issue has become. There is no debate in China on the viability of the current measures, which are seen to have the personal endorsement of President Xi.

When Shanghai faced a surge in Omicron cases in February, the local health authorities, who had generally adopted a more open approach than elsewhere in the country, briefly suggested the city avoid a lockdown and adopt an approach that would mark a shift in China's COVID-19 strategy by only focusing on severe and elderly cases.

According to a recent account from the former Central Party School professor, in *Foreign Affairs* magazine, Cai Xia, who was removed in 2012 after criticising Xi's policies and is now living in the U.S., an online gathering of 60 experts

Even one asymptomatic case now means an entire neighbourhood will be locked down. How do you then communicate with people that at some stage we have to live with the virus?

A DOCTOR IN BEIJING

decided that life in the city could go on despite the cases. "But when Xi heard about it," Cai wrote, "he became furious. Refusing to listen to the experts, he insisted on enforcing his zero COVID policy..." Just like that, a modern, prosperous city was turned into the site of a humanitarian disaster, with people starving and babies separated from their parents." Cai was referring to Shanghai authorities taking away COVID-19 positive children from their homes without their parents.

Asked why China hasn't considered planning an exit strategy, with 90% of its population receiving two doses and two-thirds receiving a booster dose – a number that would have been far higher with a sustained campaign – Chang Jile, who is the Vice Administrator of the National Disease Control and Prevention Administration, said the view is that the time isn't right. "Globally, the current pandemic is still at its height and the virus is still mutating," he said, reflecting a sharp divergence in Beijing's view and that of the WHO. "With the dynamic zero-COVID policy, we can bring infections under control in the shortest time and at the lowest social cost."

He also made it clear that this was the directive from the top. "President Xi has stressed the importance of targeted prevention, to get maximum results at the lowest cost, and to minimise the impact of the pandemic on social development. This requirement from central authorities is unchanged," he said. "Our philosophy on prevention and measures is about putting people and lives first... These measures may cause some inconvenience to normal functions and life, but we should bear in mind the overall interests of the country."

Leaving aside the fact that most residents who have suffered lockdowns would question his characterisation of "some inconvenience", the reality is zero-COVID has become intensely political in China, seen as one of Xi's legacies ahead of the start of his third term.

Some health experts privately hope that after the Communist Party's twice-a-decade conclave, on October 16, when Xi is expected to secure his third term, the country will begin to consider an exit. But there are few signs of a shift in approach in public messaging about COVID-19 to back those expectations.

What may prompt a change is the economic situation in China. Local governments, already dealing with a slowing economy, are running out of money to fund the continued testing and lockdown regime. From January 2020 until April 2022, according to *Caixin*, China

had carried out 11.5 billion PCR tests, costing \$45 billion.

**A cautionary tale on state power**  
Within China, zero-COVID has been framed as evidence of the superiority of the Chinese political system. Yet, if it was hoped that China's extraordinary pandemic record in 2020 and 2021, after the missteps in Wuhan, would present to the world a model to be emulated, zero-COVID has instead increasingly become a cautionary tale on state power. The model has given the state extraordinary control over people's lives in China.

The potential for abuse has already come to light. When people converged in Zhengzhou in June, in the central Henan province, to protest a financial fraud that had cost them their savings, many arrived at the city's train station to find their health codes had turned red, meaning they would be immediately quarantined. The provincial authorities had tampered with their apps to prevent them from gathering. After the case caused an outcry, officials were later punished.

The other side of the lockdown model is the extraordinary power it has given local-level officials and neighbourhood committees, who haven't wielded this much influence on the lives of residents since the days of Mao Zedong. Officials now have the power to indefinitely confine residents to their homes or to close businesses by citing the pandemic. A new pandemic-centred bureaucracy now controls local-level governance in China. Signs are that it has been established for the long haul. All this has also marked a significant retreat in China's efforts to build a system of 'rule by law' as a constraint on official power. On the contrary, official power is arguably at its highest in decades.

Chinese social media is full of stories of local pandemic enforcers running amok, from confining residents to buildings during an earthquake to welding doors shut to prevent people from leaving. The system encourages the extremism, as a local outbreak, for Party officials, would likely be career-ending, taking precedence over every other aspect of governance, including driving economic growth. For the first time since the Mao era, the Chinese people need government permission to renew passports and leave the country.

On one recent afternoon in Beijing, Big Whites from a local neighbourhood committee descended on a small business in a Beijing complex and ordered it shut down, confiscating its property. Vague "pandemic violations" were cited for the move. When the employees protested that they had their rights under Chinese laws, the local officials said, "We can do whatever we want."

Rather than a model to be emulated, the zero-COVID machinery in China has emerged as a warning tale. When states accumulate extraordinary power, they are unlikely to easily relinquish it.



## FROM PAGE ONE

## Modi and Sharif spar over transit trade access

In his speech, Mr. Sharif, who focused on Afghanistan and the flood situation in Pakistan for most part, responded to Mr. Modi's remarks, calling for a more "structured" SCO approach to connectivity in the region, adding that "if there is connectivity, transit rights will automatically come".

India has developed Iran's Chabahar port as an alternative to Pakistan for the land route to Central Asia and Russia.

At present, delays by Pakistan have meant that even India's plan to send 50,000 tonnes of wheat to Afghanistan by the land route has not been completed over several months, as permissions for the last tranche of 10,000 tonnes to be transported have not been granted.

Briefing the media, Foreign Secretary Vinay Khatwani said Mr. Modi also raised the issue of terrorism during the "restricted" meeting between the SCO leaders, and that all the SCO countries had agreed to prepare a consolidated list of terrorist entities and individuals in their respective countries.

The SCO summit declaration ended with an expansion

of the group of eight countries – four Central Asian states, China, Russia, India and Pakistan – by inducting Iran as a full member, as President Ebrahim Raisi signed an MoU acceding membership. Among other membership hopefuls are Belarus, indicating that the grouping in future would have a larger number of countries facing Western sanctions. The group also adopted more than 40 documents, including an agreement on cooperation and good neighbourliness and a joint statement on climate change.

Mr. Modi said that among the other problems the world was facing was ensuring "food security", an issue that Mr. Mirziyoyev referred to in his opening remarks, pointing out that the SCO countries made up a majority of the world's grain exporting nations.

"SCO member countries contribute about 30% of global GDP, and 40% of the world's population also lives in SCO countries," Mr. Modi said, adding that one possible solution to this problem was to promote the "cultivation and consumption of millets".

## Ex-President named suspect in Easter attacks

The Cardinal has since conceded that the attacks had a political or electoral motive.

The latest report of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, released earlier this month, calls for the release of the "complete findings" of previous inquiries into the Easter Sunday bombings and establishment of a "follow-up independent and transparent investigation" with international assistance. President Ranil Wickremesinghe has said Sri Lanka would rope in Scotland Yard to help its investigators.

This is not the first time that the blame for the 2019 Easter bombings has fallen on Mr. Sirisena, who was President then. A parlia-

mentary select committee appointed in May 2019, and tasked with probing the Easter bombings, accused President Sirisena of "actively undermining" government and security systems, leading to "serious lapses" ahead of the attacks that shook Sri Lanka a decade after its civil war ended.

In February 2021, a Presidential Commission of Inquiry recommended that Mr. Sirisena and his intelligence chiefs be prosecuted for their failure to prevent the incident, despite Colombo receiving an intelligence input from India, weeks before the suicide bombings that are attributed to a radical Islamist network in Sri Lanka. Mr. Sirisena has denied any prior knowledge.

## Kerala HC asks State to care for dog-bite victims

The court asked the government to ensure that hospitals had adequate stock of medicines and equipment required for such treatment. The said treatment should also be without prejudice to the right of the person concerned to separately seek compensation from the State.

### 'Delayed action'

Referring to people taking law into their own hands and unleashing violence on community dogs, the Bench spoke of reports of delayed State action leading to the same.

The court also took note of a circular issued by the State police chief to ensure safety of community dogs, in the wake of instances of killing of dogs by beating and mutilating them, and through poisoning.

Yet another report submitted by the Director of Animal Husbandry, State Animal Welfare Board, mentioned that many measures

were in various stages of implementation across the State.

They include a mass anti-rabies vaccination programme that has begun for owned dogs with the cooperation of the local bodies, to be followed by one proposed to be initiated from September 20 for community dogs.

The State has identified 170 hot spots where the vaccination will be administered through the Animal Husbandry Department.

In addition, Animal Birth Control (ABC) centres have been identified across the State, while veterinary doctors, animal handlers and dog catchers will be appointed on contract basis to carry out the ABC measures.

The list of veterinary hospitals where emergency night services are available together with 24-hour facilities have been put up on the website of the department, along with their contact numbers, the report says.

## ED teams search 40 locations in 4 States in Delhi excise case

Premises linked to beneficiaries, distributors and associates come under scanner

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
NEW DELHI/HYDERABAD

The Enforcement Directorate on Friday searched 40 locations in different States in connection with the alleged irregularities in the Delhi excise policy case.

The premises linked to the beneficiaries, distributors and their associates in and around Delhi and Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu were covered. The officials searched some places purportedly related to YSR Congress Party MP M. Srinivasulu Reddy, including one at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh. The agency also recorded the statement of Delhi Minister Satyendar Jain.

On September 6, the ED searched over two dozen locations in Delhi, Gurugram, Faridabad, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Mumbai. The premises of Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, who is an accused in the case, has not been covered by the agency so far. The money laundering probe is



**Under probe:** ED officials outside the residence of M. Srinivasulu Reddy, MP, during a search in New Delhi on Friday in connection with the scrapped Delhi excise policy. ■ PTI

based on an FIR registered by the CBI on August 17 against Mr. Sisodia and others.

### Public servants

Among the accused public servants named in the FIR are the then Excise Commissioner Arva Gopi Krishna, Deputy Commissioner Anand Tiwari and Assistant Commissioner Pankaj Bhatnagar.

The others are Vijay Nair,

former chief executive officer of Mumbai-based entertainment and event management company named Only Much Louder; Manoj Rai, former employee of Pernod Ricard; Amandeep Dhal, director of Brindco Sales; Sameer Mahendru, managing director of Indospirit Group; Buddy Retail and its director Amit Arora, Dinesh Arora, Mahadev Liquors, its authorised signatory Sunny Marwah, Arun Ramchandra Pilai and Arjun Pandey.

The agencies have alleged that undue favours were extended to licence holders; licence fee was waived or reduced; and L1 licence was extended without the competent authority's approval. The illegal gains were diverted to the accused public servants and false entries made by the private parties concerned in their books of accounts to hide the money trail.

## SC seeks Centre's reply on issue of marital rape

It seeks govt. stand on criminalisation

**KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL**  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday sought a response from the government on appeals to criminalise marital rape.

A Bench led by Justice Ajay Rastogi indicated that several similar petitions were pending in the court and they would be listed together for hearing in February next year.

The appeals follow a split decision from the Delhi High Court on whether or not to prosecute husbands for non-consensual sex with their wives.

During the brief hearing, the All India Democratic Women's Association, represented by advocate Karuna Nundy, said both judges in the Bench in the Delhi High Court had agreed that the case raised a substantial question of law which required an authoritative ruling from the Supreme Court.

The issue focuses on the exception in rape law in the Indian Penal Code which dismisses the idea of rape within marriage. The ques-

tions raised include whether or not a married woman has bodily autonomy. In short, whether a husband should accept that his wife's "no means no", and any transgression would amount to rape.

Justice Rajeev Shakdher, the lead judge on the Delhi High Court Bench which delivered a split opinion in May, had favoured striking down the marital rape exception for being "unconstitutional".

He had said it would be "tragic if a married woman's call for justice is not heard even after 162 years" since the enactment of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Justice C. Hari Shankar, the other judge on the Bench, had however disagreed and said the exception under the rape law was based on an "intelligible differentia".

The petitioners had challenged the constitutionality of the marital rape exception under Section 375 (rape) of the IPC on grounds that it discriminated against married women.

## IN BRIEF



### CM's Breakfast Scheme underway in T.N. districts

KALLAKURICI  
The Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme for students of Classes I to V in government schools was launched in Kallakurichi, Villupuram and Cuddalore districts on Friday. In Kallakurichi, Collector Sravan Kumar Jatavath launched the scheme at the Panchayat Union Primary School in Kalvarayan Hills.

### 6 Assam tribes to hold protest over ST status

GUWAHATI  
Six communities in Assam have threatened to launch a coordinated stir over the "inordinate delay" in granting them Scheduled Tribe (ST) status. These communities are Adivasi [referred to as "tea tribes"], Chutia, Koch-Rajbongshi, Matak, Moran and Tai-Ahom. On Thursday, Chief Minister Sarma said the ST status ball was in the court of the Rajya Sabha and the State could do little about it.

### SC seeks Web portal for student returnees

NEW DELHI  
The Supreme Court on Friday asked the government to consider creating a Web portal containing details of foreign universities where Ukraine-return Indian medical students can apply to complete their courses under the academic mobility programme approved by the National Medical Commission. A Bench said students should have the benefit of a transparent system.

### SIC pulls up officers for defaulting on penalty

JAIPUR  
The Rajasthan State Information Commission has taken a serious note of the laxity of government officers in depositing the fine imposed on them for violation of the Right to Information (RTI) Act. The Commission has directed that the failure to pay the penalty be recorded in the service books of all these officers if they do not comply with such orders within a month.

### Bombay HC stays payout order on Facebook

MUMBAI  
The Nagpur Bench of the Bombay High Court stayed an order of a consumer redressal commission directing Facebook India Online Services and META Platforms to pay ₹25,599 to a man for non-delivery of a product purchased online and fraudulent advertisement. The commission had directed the companies to pay ₹599 to Tribhuvan Bhongade, a daily wage labourer for non-delivery and ₹25,000 for causing mental agony to the complainant.

## 21,000 score 100 percentile in CUET

Universities likely to begin new academic session from first week of November

**JAGRITI CHANDRA**  
NEW DELHI

The National Testing Agency on Friday declared the result for the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) for undergraduate admissions in which more than eight lakh students had participated.

The total number of candidates who scored 100 percentile in each of the 61 subjects stood at 21,159. Of them, 12,799 were women candidates and 8,360 men.

English was the favourite subject among candidates in the maiden edition of the CUET. A total of 4,85,894 candidates appeared for the English paper, followed by chemistry (2,31,970), mathematics (2,29,793), physics (2,20,014) and Hindi (1,80,634).

Sanskrit recorded the highest percentage of students with 100 percentile score, at 23% of the 5,002 students who appeared for the subject. Among students who appeared for psychology, 5.9% had 100 percentile score, while 1.95% had the

### Results out | A look at the highlights of the results of the Common University Entrance Test for undergraduate admissions (CUET-UG)

Number of candidates who registered	14.9 lakh
Number of subject tests administered	47.1 lakh
Number of cities with exam centres	259
Number of mediums	13
Candidates with 100% percentile	21,159

top score in political science, 1.6% in English, 0.03% in maths and 0.02% in physics.

The marking scheme involved giving students "equipercentiles", where every student who appeared on a particular day in a specific subject was given a certain percentile. These percentiles for students appearing in the same subject on different days were then equated and converted into normalized marks.

The role of the NTA is confined to the registration of candidates, conducting the test, hosting of answer keys, inviting challenges, finalising answer keys, preparing and declaring result and hosting score cards.

**Further steps**  
The merit list of students will be prepared by the participating universities.

They will also take a decision on counselling for students on the basis of the score card.

Now, students will be required to visit the admission portal of individual universities, fill online applications and submit the required documents. The NTA will pro-

## Modi a true follower of Ambedkar'

Vision of Constitution-maker was being carried forward by PM, says Kovind

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
AHMEDABAD

Former President Ram Nath Kovind on Friday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi was a true follower of B.R. Ambedkar and was striving to turn the latter's vision of social reforms into a reality.

Mr. Kovind was speaking at a function to release the book *Ambedkar and Modi: Reformer's Ideas, Performer's Implementation*, published by BlueKraft Digital, in New Delhi on the eve of Mr. Modi's birthday.

The book has a foreword by music composer and Raaja Sabha member Ilaiyaraaja. In the 12 chapters, an attempt has been made to draw parallels between Ambedkar and Mr. Modi's vision



Ram Nath Kovind (centre), Anurag Thakur (left) and Justice K.G. Balakrishnan (retd.) at a book launch on Friday. ■ PTI

and efforts in the fields of infrastructure, education, socio-economic mobility and gender equality, a consonance that the BJP as a political party has been at work to establish as its support base among the Scheduled

Castes has also grown.

Mr. Kovind said that Ambedkar's vision of a self-reliant India was being carried forward by Mr. Modi. "Work done by Prime Minister Modi in the form of Swachh Bharat, Antyodaya scheme, Ujj

wala scheme, electrification scheme, New Education Policy, bank accounts for all are examples how his work is going on the lines of the vision of Babasaheb," he said.

Prime Minister Modi had also been proactive in developing five sites connected with Ambedkar as the *panch teerth* [the five pilgrimage spots], Mr. Kovind said.

Interestingly, he maintained that Ambedkar was never in support of the special status for Jammu and Kashmir. It was the Modi government in 2019 that revoked the special status under Article 370. Mr. Kovind said it was "a matter of pride" for him that he got an opportunity to witness the same as President.

## 'Let Assam team inspect abused elephant in T.N.'

It will also check on nine other elephants leased out by Assam, Gauhati HC directs Stalin's govt.

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
GUWAHATI

The Gauhati High Court on Friday directed the Tamil Nadu government to allow a four-member team from Assam to examine Joymala, an allegedly abused temple elephant, within three days of receiving a copy of the order.

The Tamil Nadu government has also been asked to

let the team inspect the condition of nine other elephants leased out by Assam for specific periods.

The team headed by Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Hirdesh Mishra, has been waiting since September 3 for permission from the Tamil Nadu government to inspect Joymala, a female captive elephant at the Krishnan Ko-

vil temple at Srivilliputhur. The elephant, renamed Jeyamalyatha, was leased out by Assam in 2011 for six months.

The High Court has issued a notice to the Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police to let the Assam team inspect the elephants within three days of receiving the order. The Tamil Nadu go-

vernment has also been asked to reply on the matter within 15 days," Assam's Advocate General Devojit Saikia said.

"Notices have also been issued to the Tamil Nadu Forest Department and the Union Environment Ministry," he said, adding that the court has fixed September 28 as the next date of hearing.

## Maharashtra was set to sign Vedanta MoU

&lt;p



**Vital meeting:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi with participants of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit in Samarkand of Uzbekistan on Friday; and (right) the Prime Minister with Russian President Vladimir Putin at a meeting on the sidelines of the summit. • REUTERS



## 'Today's era is not of war,' Modi tells Putin

On the sidelines of the SCO summit in Samarkand, Russian President replies that he understands India's concerns

SUHASINI HAIDAR  
SAMARKAND

Russia understands India's "concerns" over its war in Ukraine, Russian President Vladimir Putin told Prime Minister Narendra Modi, promising to try and end the nine-month-old conflict and blaming the Ukrainian government for prolonging it, in the first meeting between the two leaders on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit here.

Mr. Modi began his comments by telling Mr. Putin that the "era of war" is over, indicating India's discomfort with Russia's attack on Ukraine for the first time in public, although New Delhi has not criticised Russia for its action thus far.

"I know that today's era is not of war and we have spoken to you many times on the phone that democracy, diplomacy and dialogue are such things that touch the

world," the Prime Minister said.

"We want all of this to end as soon as possible. We will keep you abreast of what is happening there," Mr. Putin said in remarks that were televised.

The meeting with Mr. Putin was one of the four bilateral meetings Mr. Modi held on the sidelines of the SCO summit, which included a meeting with host Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, as well as a previously unannounced meeting with Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of Turkey. India has had tense ties over Turkey's criticism over the Kashmir issue.

### Meeting with Turkey

"The leaders reviewed bilateral relations and appreciated recent gains in bilateral trade. Also exchanged views on regional & global developments," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi tweeted after

India's Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra said New Delhi's position was that "hostilities should cease and the path to resolution is through diplomacy and dialogue".

Mr. Putin said in remarks that were televised.

"However, unfortunately, the opposing side, the leadership of Ukraine, announced its refusal to continue negotiations and declared that they wanted to achieve their goals by military means, as they say 'on the battlefield,'" Mr. Putin told Mr. Modi during the conversation. Officials said the two leaders also spoke about the "derivative" issues of the conflict such as the impact on food, fertilizer and energy security.

On Thursday, Mr. Putin had also told Chinese President Xi Jinping that he understood his "questions and concerns" about the Ukraine conflict.

Briefing presspersons, In-

**C** We have spoken to you many times on the phone that democracy, diplomacy and dialogue are such things that touch the world

NARENDRA MODI  
Prime Minister

the meeting. "Met President @RTERdogan and reviewed the full range of bilateral relations between India and Turkey including ways to deepen economic linkages for the benefit of our people," Mr. Modi said in a tweet.

In his meeting with Mr. Raisi, Mr. Modi discussed connectivity through Chabahar and energy cooperation, Mr. Kwatra said but did not confirm whether India intended to restore oil imports that were cancelled in 2018-19 due to the threat of U.S. sanctions.

Mr. Modi also discussed developing the Chabahar

trade route to Central Asia in his meeting with Mr. Mirzoyev.

"They stressed the need to make concerted efforts to diversify the trade basket and enter into long-term arrangements to promote trade and investment. Connectivity was considered key to unlock the potential in this regard, including greater usage of the Chabahar port and the International North-South Transport Corridor," said a statement issued by the Ministry before Mr. Modi's departure from Uzbekistan.

**Visa-free travel**

Mr. Putin also batted for a visa-free travel deal between India and Russia during his talks with Mr. Modi.

The Russian President said that India's rich history and ancient culture were traditionally of great interest to the Russian people.

Against this backdrop,

"we propose accelerating the process of negotiations towards an agreement on visa-free tourist travel," Mr. Putin was quoted as saying by Russia's official news agency TASS.

Mr. Putin wished "all the best" to his "dear friend" Prime Minister Narendra Modi ahead of his birthday on Saturday.

"I would like to wish India all the best. I also know that tomorrow, my dear friend, you are about to celebrate your birthday. As per the Russian tradition, we never offer congratulations in advance. So, I cannot do that right now," Mr. Putin said.

"But I would like you to know that we know about that. And we wish you all the best. We wish all the best to the friendly Indian nation and we wish prosperity to India under your leadership," the 69-year-old Russian President said.

(With PTI inputs)

## Assam districts at risk of climate change

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
GUWAHATI

Fifteen of India's 25 districts most vulnerable to climate change were in Assam, the State's Science, Technology and Climate Change Minister, Keshab Mahanta, told the 126-member Assembly on Friday.

Of these 15 districts, Karimganj was the most vulnerable in the country, he said. The other two districts - Cachar and Hailakandi - were almost as vulnerable, the Minister said.

Citing a 2021 report by the Council of Energy, Environment and Water, Mr. Mahanta said Assam had the highest overall vulnerability index in the country causing drastic change in the rainfall intensity.

**UNIVERSITY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES, BAGALKOT**  
Office of the Registrar, Udaynagar, Navanagar, Bagalkot - 587 104  
Telephone No.08354-230286 Email: registrar@uhsbagalkot.edu.in  
No. R/UHSB/Rect/Advt.12/718/2022-23 Date : 15.09.2022

**NOTIFICATION**

The last date for the receipt of the applications applying for all the Teaching and Service Personnel posts published under this Office Notification dated **25.08.2022** is hereby extended upto **30.09.2022 by 05.00 p.m.** For further details, the applicants are informed to log on to the University Website: <https://uhsbagalkot.karnataka.gov.in>

By Order, Sd/- (DR. T. B. ALLOLLI)  
REGISTRAR

**STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19. NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.**  
Wear Mask Follow Physical Distancing Maintain Hand Hygiene

**SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PHED CIRCLE NCE ALWAR**  
PHED CAMPUS, MANU MARG ALWAR (RAJ.)  
E-Mail: senrcr.alw.phed@rajasthan.gov.in  
No- 3021-3034 Date 09-09-2022

**NOTICE INVITING BID (NIT No. 273-283/2022-23)**  
Bids for Works of Construction of Source, PLI of Rising Main & Distribution Pipe Line with FHTC Construction of Reservoir for Various villages are invited from interested bidders upto 05.00 PM on Date 11.10.2022. Other particulars of the Bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state and [https://phedwater.rajasthan.gov.in](http://phedwater.rajasthan.gov.in) departmental website.  
UBN:-

PHE2223WSOB06622	PHE2223WSOB06623	PHE2223WSOB06624
PHE2223WSOB06625	PHE2223WSOB06626	PHE2223WSOB06627
PHE2223WSOB06628	PHE2223WSOB06629	PHE2223WSOB06630
PHE2223WSOB06631	PHE2223WSOB06632	

Superintending Engineer PHED Circle, NCR Alwar  
DIPR/C/11889

**TAMIL NADU PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
Chennai - 600 003.  
**Tender Notice**

Advertisement No. 632/2022

Sealed tenders are invited upto **03.00 PM on 07.10.2022**, from reputed companies / firms with relevant experience, for designing, Printing and supply of OMR Sheets and various Forms and Scanning works for various examinations to be conducted by the Commission.

For further details and Tender documents with the specification of terms and conditions, form for Technical Bid and Commercial Bid etc., can be downloaded from the websites [www.tenders.tn.gov.in](http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in) or [www.tnpsc.gov.in](http://www.tnpsc.gov.in).

Date : 15.09.2022 DIPR/ 4148 / TENDER/2022 Controller of Examinations

"சொத்துகள் கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்துகொம், சாத்துகள் புறிந்து சரிக்கிறம் பட்டப்போவ்"

**HEALTH & F.W. DEPARTMENT VSS INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES & RESEARCH, BURLA (SAMBALPUR)**  
No.12459 / VIMSAR Dated, Burla, the 15/9/22

**TENDER CALL NOTICE**

Sealed Tenders in two bids are hereby invited by the undersigned from the Manufacturer/Registered firms/Authorized Dealers / DGS & D Rate Contract holders having GST Act for supply of Drugs & Medicines for the Hospital during the financial year 2022-2023 so as to reach this office of the Superintendent, VIMSAR, Burla on or before **21.10.2022 upto 5.30 PM** by Regd. Post / Speed post which will be opened on next working day at **11.00 AM**.

The detailed terms and conditions of Tender Call Notice can be obtained from the office of the Superintendent, VIMSAR, Burla during the office hours on all working days till the last date of receipt of the tenders on deposit of Rs.5000/- (Rupees five thousand) only (Non-Refundable) towards tender cost in the Users fees counter of this Hospital. The tenders can also download the tender documents from District website [www.sambalpur.nic.in](http://www.sambalpur.nic.in) & submit their tender with bank draft for Rs.5000/- as the tender cost drawn in favour of the Superintendent, VIMSAR, Burla.

Superintendent, VSS IMS&R, Burla  
OIPR/1056/11/0023/2223

E-474:

**भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE**  
विक्रम सामाराइ अंतरिक्ष केंद्र VIKRAM SARABHAJANIC SPACE CENTRE  
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण शृङ् / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP  
तिलवनपत्रम् / THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 22 / (फोन नं. / Ph. No. 0471 - 2564568 / 5669 / 4537)

**ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करते हुए संस्कृत सचिव से / BRIEF NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से नियन्त्रित कर्तव्य के लिए ई-टेंडरिंग प्राप्त आमंत्रित मद द्वारा निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। On behalf of the President of India, online item rate tenders are invited through E-tendering for the following works.

क्र.सं /SL No.	कार्ड का विवर तथा ई-निविदा सम्बन्ध में विवरण व ए-Tender Notice No.	पी.सी. / P.A.C.
1.	एसेसओई सुविधाएं, एसएपीएसरी, टर्स्स, वीसीएसएसी के लिए प्रसंगित डिजिटल सेवों के संबंध में विद्युत कार्य / Electrical works in connection with proposed DG set for ASOE Facilities, SPARC, TERLS, VSSC, NIT No. VSSC/CMG/E01/09/2022-23 DL. 16.09.2022	रु./Rs. 79.76/- लाख/Lakhs
2.	टर्स्स, वीसीएसएसी, टर्स्स के लिए वायरल संचार एवं सुविधा भवन के लिए विद्युत कार्य / Electrical works for Antenna structure & facility building for IRCDR station at TERLS, VSSC, NIT No. VSSC/CMG/E01/10/2022-23 DL. 16.09.2022	रु./Rs. 92.68/- लाख/Lakhs
3.	टर्स्स, वीसीएसएसी, टर्स्स में साफ सुविधाएं के लिए सड़क तथा फैसिलिटी प्राविद्युत कार्य / Providing Road & Fencing for SPARC facilities at VSSC, NIT No. VSSC/CMG/C01/15/2022-23 DL. 16.09.2022	रु./Rs. 43.20/- लाख/Lakhs

डाउनलोड करने के लिए ई-टेंडरिंग के लिए साफ सुविधाएं को पास के लिए ई-टेंडरिंग करने वाली वेबसाइट पर डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। Interested tenderers may please refer detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (E-NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details, which can be downloaded from website www.tenderwizard.in/siro or www.isro.gov.in. Sd/- यूप्र निदेशक / Group Director, सामर्थी, वीएसएससी / CMG, VSSC

**KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)  
# 49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan,  
Race Course Road, Bengaluru – 560 001.  
Phone No. 080-22265383, website : [www.kiadb.in](http://www.kiadb.in)

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-DPR-04/10890/2022-23 Date: 16.09.2022

**SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
(Through GOK e – Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB invites tender from reputed consultants/firms under two cover bid system having an office at Bengaluru with vast experience and proven record of similar nature of work for the project work of Providing Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the Formation of New Industrial Area Including Economic Analysis, Surveying, Layout Plan Design, Preparation of Cost Estimates, Cost Structure etc., for the proposed Chikkamalligewda Industrial Area, Dharwad District.(2nd Call).

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **28.09.2022 upto 04:00 pm**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal [https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in](http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in).

Sd/-  
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru  
DIPR/CP/2262/Zenkar/2022-23

**Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Bhopal**  
Institute Works Department, Bhopal Bypass Road, Bhauri, Bhopal-462 066

**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**

Institute Works Department, IISER Bhopal on behalf of the Board of Governors invites online percentage rate tenders for the following works from eligible firms/contractors in two envelopes system.

Sl.No.	NIT No. & Date	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Period
1.	IWD/SE/NIT/2022-23/12 dated 12.08.2022	Maintenance of Hostel Eagle (Hostel-2) at IISER Bhopal	₹ 39,47,889	4 months
2.	IWD/SE/NIT/2022-23/13 dated 12.08.2022	Furnishing of 1st to 4th floor labs in 4D building by providing & fixing glazed and solid wooden partitions with flush / aluminium doors and fixed windows at IISER Bhopal	₹ 19,80,882	3 months
3.	IWD/SE/NIT/2022-23/14 dated 26.08.2022	Providing and fixing solid & glazed partition along with doors, faculty & student sitting furniture of the DSE Office in the room 203 of Plasma Building at IISER Bhopal	₹ 15,17,539	03 months
4.	IWD/SE/NIT/2022-23/15 dated 26.08.2022	Re-carpeting of bituminous roads at IISER Bhopal	₹ 72,36,953	02 months
5.	IWD/SE/NIT/2022-23/16 dated 26.08.2022	Additional power points & laying of UTP CAT-6 cable and other allied works at 4D building to create more offices & labs at IISER Bhopal	₹ 13,48,226	02 months

The bids forms and other details for application can be obtained from the website [www.tenderwizard.com/IISERB](http://www.tenderwizard.com/IISERB). The press notice is also available in Institute website [www.iiserb.ac.in](http://www.iiserb.ac.in) and website [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in).

## No Modi-Sharif meet at summit: Bilawal

'Hopeful on being let out of FATF list'

SUHASINI HAIDAR  
SAMARKAND

Denying any knowledge of Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Masood Azhar being in Pakistan, Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto said he was "hopeful" that Pakistan would soon be let off the Financial Action Task Force List. Speaking to *The Hindu* and other media outlets after the SCO summit in Samarkand, Mr. Bhutto said that as far as he knew, "the individual" [Masood Azhar], who is wanted in India for a series of attacks from the 1999 IC-814 hijacking to Parliament attack and 2019 Pulwama bombings and is a UN-designated terrorist, was "in Afghanistan", a statement that directly contradicts a statement by the Taliban regime that placed Azhar in Pakistan.

Blaming big powers for climate change that led to floods in Pakistan, Mr. Bhutto said that was planning to declare him a "proclaimed offender" so as to proceed against him and convict him on various terror charges.

Pakistan also claimed that intelligence reports placed him in Afghanistan, and this had been taken up at the ministerial level with the Taliban regime. India believes Azhar has been funded and protected by the Pakistani establishment, expressing its scepticism about Pakistan's claims on several occasions.

"As far as weather changes and the floods in Pakistan, it is Pakistan today, it could be India or some other nation tomorrow. A single nation cannot deal with climate change alone. Neither Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, nor Sri Lanka is responsible for this. The big countries, that made themselves rich through industrialisation, have caused destruction to the climate," he said.

In what could pose a difficulty for India that has taken over as Chair of the SCO and will host the summit in 2023, Mr. Bhutto suggested that Pakistan had not yet decided on whether to attend next year's summit in India.

## IN BRIEF



## CBI gets Partha Chatterjee's custody

KOLKATA A court in Kolkata on Friday rejected the bail application of former West Bengal Minister Partha Chatterjee and remanded him to the custody of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) till September 21. Mr. Chatterjee was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on July 23 in the West Bengal School Service Commission (SSC) recruitment scam.

## Four held in Begusarai firing incident: police

PATNA Four persons were arrested on Friday in connection with the Begusarai firing incident of Bihar, in which one person was killed and nine others were injured. The arrested persons have been identified as Keshav alias Naga, Sumit Kumar, Yuvraj and Chunchun Kumar alias Satyajit. "In 50-hours of the incident, the police arrested four persons involved in the incident," an official said. However, family members of Keshav accused the police of wrongfully implicating him in the case.

## FAIMS opposes name change of AIIMS

NEW DELHI Opposing any change to the name of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi, the Faculty Association of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (FAIMS) cautioned that it may lead to the institute suffering "loss of identity". The association said all faculty members were unanimously against the move.

## ED seizes ₹46.67 crore in HPZ Token app case

NEW DELHI The Enforcement Directorate has seized ₹46.67 crore lying in various bank and virtual accounts in connection with a money laundering probe involving the HPZ Token app that allegedly promised its users large gains against investments in mining machines for bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies. The agency found that the application was being operated allegedly by Lillion Technocab and Shigoo Technology Private Limited.

## ED files chargesheet against Sanjay Raut

MUMBAI The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday filed a chargesheet against Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut in a 2018 chawl redevelopment case related to irregularities. Mr. Raut, a close aide of former Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, was arrested on August 1 and is lodged at the Arthur Road jail. He filed for bail on September 7, contending allegations against him is a perfect example of "abuse of power" and "political vendetta".

## BJP playing politics in rape case'

Congress demands justice from the U.P. government for the family of the victims

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is trying to give a communal colour to the rape and murder of two Dalit sisters in Uttar Pradesh's Lakhimpur Kheri, the Congress alleged on Friday as it sought "fast-track justice for the families of the victims".

The principal Opposition party also demanded that the Narendra Modi government implement the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Act with "full force".

Addressing a press conference, Rajesh Lilotia, who heads the Congress's Scheduled Caste department, said the alleged rape and murder of the two sisters should not be seen as an isolated incident, and added that atrocities against Dalits have been rising.

The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data revealed that 70,818 cases of atrocities against Dalits have been pending investigations till 2021, he said.

"This is a very serious matter and I would like to appeal not to do politics over this sad and unfortunate in-



**Under watch:** Security personnel outside a mortuary during the post-mortem of one of two minor Dalit sisters raped and murdered in Lakhimpur Kheri. ■ PTI

have been 61,000 cases of atrocities against Dalits and women in the past four years. The BJP and its people are trying to give the Lakhimpur Kheri incident a communal colour to dilute it," Mr. Lilotia alleged.

"The Congress demands justice from the U.P. government for the family of the victims. It also demands that the Modi government implement the SC/ST Act with full

cident," he added.

The Congress leader al-

leged that the BJP and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) are resorting to divisive politics.

"The Congress demands

justice from the U.P. govern-

ment for the family of the vic-

tims. It also demands that the

Modi government imple-

ments the SC/ST Act with full

force," Mr. Lilotia said.

"On one hand, big claims

are made that the Modi

government is working for the

welfare of Dalits, on the oth-

er hand there are these sta-

ttistics," he added.

The Congress leader also

accused the Yogi Adityanath

government in Uttar Pradesh

of not providing justice in

the 2020 Hathras rape case.

## Sewa Pakhwara to mark Modi's birthday

The service camp will go on till Oct. 2

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is planning to go big with celebrations to mark Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday on Saturday, with all district-level offices of the party being asked to organise a "Sewa Pakhwara" or service camp for the next 16 days (till October 2), which will include activities such as blood donation drives, adopting one tuberculosis-afflicted person to ensure proper treatment and sanitation drives.

BJP general secretary Arun Singh, addressing a press conference at the party's headquarters in New Delhi, said that he had written to all district presidents giving details of the activities to be undertaken, including setting up exhibitions on the life of Mr. Modi.

"Have exhibition at State and district level on personality and works done by PM Modi, a sample of which will be sent to the leaders. It is aimed at inspiring people

to do positive works," stated the communique sent by Mr. Singh.

People will also be able to send personal greetings to the Prime Minister and commit to activities under the "Sewa Pakhwara" via the NaMo app, Mr. Modi's personal App.

Among other activities listed for party workers to undertake are vaccination camps, sanitation drives, sharing stories of "Vocal for Local". The party has urged its leaders to celebrate "Unity in Diversity" and 'Ek Bharat'.

According to the reports, the leaders have been asked to follow the custom, traditions and eating habits of another State for a day.

The BJP's youth wing, the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha, has been tasked with organising blood donation and health check-up camps in every district.

Additionally, 10 best health check-up camps and blood donation camps will be awarded.

## Around 1,200 gifts to PM to be auctioned

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Union Culture Ministry on Friday said the fourth edition of the e-auction of gifts given to Prime Minister Narendra Modi would start from Saturday, with nearly 1,200 mementoes up for grabs.

During a briefing, Culture Minister G. Kishan Reddy said 1,222 gifts to Mr. Modi would be auctioned from Saturday, which was Mr. Modi's birthday, till October 2. The proceeds of the auction would go towards the Namami Gange project as was the case for the previous auctions, he said.

He added that 1,805 items were auctioned in the first round in 2019 and 2,772 in the second round. In 2021, the third auction had 1,348 items, he said.

"Mementoes in the auction include exquisite paintings, handicrafts and folk artefacts. Several of these are items customarily offered as gifts, such as angavastraams," he said.

## IAF to fly AN-32 on blended biodiesel for 200 hours

Performance very satisfactory, says Air Vice-Marshall

DINAKAR PERI  
NEW DELHI

As part of efforts to reduce its carbon footprint, the Indian Air Force (IAF) is looking to fly an AN-32 transport aircraft modified to operate on 10% blended biodiesel for 200 flight hours in the next six months, Air Vice Marshal S. K. Jain, Assistant Chief of the Air Force (Maintenance Plans), said on Friday.

The aircraft took flight on biodiesel blended with aviation turbine fuel (ATF) for the first time in December 2018. "So far, an AN-32 has flown 65 hours with a 10% blend of biofuel and the performance has been very sa-



**Going green:** An AN-32 took flight on blended biodiesel for the first time in 2018.

tisfactory," he said at a seminar on sustainable aviation biofuels organised by the Aeronautical Society of India.

A second aircraft, a Dornier, was now undergoing

ground tests after it had been cleared by the original manufacturer of the engine, Honeywell, for use of 50% biofuel, he said.

The global aviation industry is one of the biggest emitter of greenhouse gases that cause global warming. The fuel consumption of the IAF for 2021-22 was 6.2 lakh kilo litres, which contributed 15 lakh tonnes of carbon dioxide.

On the civil aviation front, an official from aircraft manufacturer Airbus said it had plans to offer 100% sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) compatibility on its commercial aircraft latest by 2030.

## Left stalled BJP in Kerala: Yechury

Look at Goa before asking who is BJP's 'A or B' team, CPI(M) leader tells Congress

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Days after attacking the Congress for spending 18 days of its Bharat Jodo Yatra in Kerala, the CPI(M) piped down its criticism, with its general secretary calling it the Congress's prerogative to decide "how many days it spends where" though he did not shrink back from hitting out at Congress leader Jairam Ramesh for calling the CPI(M) the "A team of BJP".

Addressing a press conference at the party headquarters in Delhi on Friday at the end of the party's two-day Polit Bureau meeting, Mr. Yechury said: "Every party has the right to take their own path. Going to people is a good thing. AAP is also doing



Sitaram Yechury

it in its own way. How many days they spend and where is their prerogative, but the people will of course draw their own conclusions."

To another question specifically pointing out Mr. Ramesh's tweet calling CPI(M) the "A team of BJP", he hit

out by saying, "Kerala is the only State where BJP has zero legislators. And who did this? It is the Left Democratic Front that stopped the BJP's expansion in Kerala. And as far as A or B team is concerned, they should look at Goa before levelling such allegations."

According to the sources, that the party's Polit Bureau also discussed the Bharat Jodo Yatra and its own sharp reaction to the Congress's decision to spend 18 days in Kerala. The CPI(M) from its official handle had tweeted "Bharat Jodo or Seat Jodo-18 days in Kerala, 2 days in UP. Strange way to fight BJP-RSS." It was felt that the responsibility of countering the Congress should be left to

the party's Kerala unit. Mr. Yechury reiterated his stand that a national-level pre-poll alliance before the Lok Sabha election of 2024 was not possible. The electoral understanding had to be arrived at in every State addressing the unique political factors of each of them.

"We need to understand that we have a parliamentary democracy not a presidential form of democracy," he said, explaining that an Opposition alliance could be formulated only once the re-sults came in.

Having added that caveat, he praised both TRS chief K. Chandrasekhar Rao and NCP chief Sharad Pawar for initiating a dialogue within the Opposition parties.

## Eklavya schools for tribal students get short shrift in teacher recruitments

4,000 teachers have been appointed so far



**Bleak future:** Students at the EMRS in Attappadi in Kerala performing Yoga as part of the Yoga Day this year. ■ NESTS

Despite sanctioning record numbers of Eklavya model residential schools for tribal students since 2014 and setting up of the National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) to manage these schools in 2018, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has so far been unable to fix the teacher shortage faced

across 378 such schools that are currently functional.

According to the data gathered by the Ministry, nearly 4,000 teachers have

been appointed across the 378 schools, of which nearly 70% are either on contract or on deputation from State government schools.

According to the guidelines issued to the States in 2020 by NESTS, each school had been recommended to have a total of 52 staffers, of which 30 were meant to be teachers.

This would mean that 378 schools would have a total of 11,340 teachers.

Officials said that the structure under which the NESTS was set up in 2018, had made it difficult for it to monitor and enforce its own recommendations to the schools as far as teacher recruitment was concerned.

After the NESTS was set up,

the State Education Societies for Tribal Students (SESTS) were also set up, which would receive the funding from the Ministry and allocate it accordingly.

The guidelines said that while NESTS would be responsible for recommending the syllabi, the school and hostel standards, and the teacher recruitment guidelines, the SESTSs would be in charge of implementing these guidelines with room for local modifications in each of these areas.

"The guidelines never mandated that the State so-

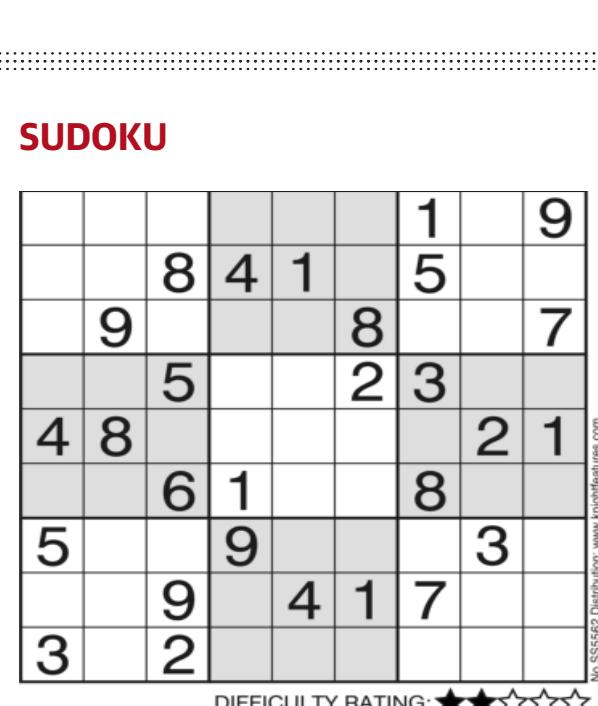
cieties must follow our recommendations, which were made considering the minimum requirements to maintain a standard education quality and uniformity across schools," a senior Ministry official said.

Officials added the Ministry had found that leaving the teacher recruitment to the States was leading to a non-uniformity in the quality of teachers, not enough recruitment happening in reserved positions, and a large number of schools recruiting teachers contractually in a bid to save on the

salary expenses, which was resulting in large gaps in the salaries of teachers working at the same level.

These are the same problems that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research and Training Institute in Odisha had identified at EMRSs in an official report in 2015.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs said the only way to solve the teacher shortage and bring uniformity in the teaching standards was to completely overhaul the administrative structure under which the EMRSs were run.



To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site at <https://qrgo.page.link/jptn>



- 14 Mysterious criminal nurtures a plan to kill nationalist (12)
- 18 How basketball player might score while still distressed by break-up (2,3,7)
- 21 Good progress after tackling a problem in style of painting (9)
- 23 Tossing and turning in dark, every so often overwhelmed by fear (5)
- 24 Trendy doctor exciting hot nurse at opening (5-2)
- 25 Presses back neck in scrap (7)
- 26 Bolt breaks record in running (6)
- 27 Quick appraisal of working with mask around beginning of epidemic (4-4)
- 28 Down
- 1 Mathematical ratio is inadequate, contains a little error (6)
- 2 Beer and rye stocks got used up (3,3)
- 3 Revolutionary colour scheme in abstract technique (9)
- 4 Art of predicting correct roulette number in gamble (7-7)
- 6 Member reviewed tax rate (5)
- 7 Royal really upset about a little insensitive banter (8)
- 8 Plan by woman holding clubs and diamonds to dominate right away (8)
- 9 Ultimately eager opponents rose to fight one-on-one (6-2-6)
- 15 Torture and flog gangster in abandoned site (9)
- 16 Bad poetry by silly George, boring – extremely dull (8)
- 17 Hang frames in retreat to welcome group (6,2)
- 19 Chess champion concedes as Kasparov moves (6)
- 20 Black tie, not loud is preferable (6)
- 22 Follow a criminal outside bar (3,2)

Across

1 Remove one's clothes in outing, captivated by very fine fellow (5,3)

5 Capturing rook with king, miss subtly grins (6)

10 Outline visit to a prison perhaps? (7)

11 Man from the east left enthralled by magnificent German physician (7)

12 Treat with new operation controlling onset of retinopathy (5)

13 Anxious union

# Oppose external interference: Xi to SCO

China's leader calls upon member countries to work together to make a more just international order

ANANTH KRISHNAN  
BEIJING

China's President Xi Jinping on Friday called upon members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) grouping, which includes India and Russia, to "guard against attempts by external forces" to instigate "colour revolutions" or interfere in their affairs, in a veiled criticism of the West.

Addressing the SCO summit in Samarkand, Mr. Xi hit out at "obsession with forming a small circle" – the U.S., India, Australia, Japan Quad is among groups labelled as such by Beijing – and called on the SCO group to work together to make a more just international order.

The Chinese President also offered to train 2,000 security personnel from SCO countries and host a China-SCO base for training counterterrorism personnel.

Mr. Xi's remarks did not



**United front:** Chinese President Xi Jinping, right, with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin in Samarkand. ■ AP

directly mention the West, but underlined how both Beijing and Moscow see the SCO as a key vehicle to push back against western countries.

"The world today is not a peaceful place," he said.

"Rivalry between two sets of policy choices – unity or division, cooperation or confrontation – is getting more acute.... The SCO should seize the opportunity and step up its work to expand the ranks of cooperation and augment the effective force for international equity and justice."

He said that "obsession with forming a small circle can only push the world toward division and confrontation" and the SCO members

"should remain firm in safeguarding the UN-centred international system and the international order based on international law, practice the common values of humanity and reject zero-sum game and bloc politics."

"We should guard against attempts by external forces to instigate 'colour revolution', jointly oppose interference in other countries' internal affairs under any pretext, and hold our future firmly in our own hands," the Chinese leader said.

#### Economic front

On the economic front, Mr. Xi said China would provide developing countries humanitarian assistance in grain and other supplies worth 1.5 billion RMB (\$105 million). He also called for implementing the roadmap for SCO member states to expand shares of local currency settlement as well as set

up an SCO Development Bank, which would likely follow the examples of the BRICS New Development Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), which are headquartered in Shanghai and Beijing respectively.

Meeting with Russia's Vladimir Putin on Thursday, Mr. Xi said China would "work with Russia to fulfil their responsibilities as major countries and play a leading role in injecting stability into a world of change and disorder."

He also extended "strong mutual support on issues concerning each other's core interests".

Mr. Xi, who also attended a China-Russia-Mongolia trilateral and several other bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the SCO, announced Beijing would push for the early operation of a China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan (CKU) railway project.

## Xi asks Pakistan to 'protect' Chinese citizens, businesses

'China, Pak. are always each other's trustworthy partners'

ANANTH KRISHNAN  
BEIJING

China's President Xi Jinping called on Pakistan to "provide solid protection" for Chinese citizens and institutions, amid continuing concerns over their safety after a number of attacks.

Mr. Xi on Friday held talks with Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif at the SCO Summit in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. Mr. Sharif accepted an invitation to visit China in November, Pakistani media reports said, suggesting it might be among the first overseas visits host-

ed by Mr. Xi as he begins a likely third term following the congress in October.

"No matter how the international situation evolves, China and Pakistan are always each other's trustworthy strategic partners," Mr. Xi said, according to a statement from Foreign Ministry.

The two sides must continue to firmly support each other, foster stronger synergy between their development strategies, and harness the role of the Joint Cooperation Committee of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to ensure smooth

construction and operation of major projects," he said.

"China hopes that Pakistan will provide solid protection for the security of Chinese citizens and institutions in Pakistan as well as the lawful rights and interests of Chinese business."

Pakistani media reports quoted Mr. Sharif as "highlighting the serious human rights situation" in Kashmir and "thanking China for its principled stand on the dispute", a reference that wasn't however mentioned in the Chinese statements.

## Mass grave found near recaptured city: Ukraine

Russia leaving death behind it: Zelensky

REUTERS  
Kiev

of the 1990s Balkan wars. Ukrainian forces retook Izium after thousands of Russian troops fled the area, abandoning weapons and ammunition.

Ukrainian police chief Ihor Klymenko said the bodies recovered so far appeared to be of civilians, although there was information that some bodies were of soldiers too.

"For months a rampant terror, violence, torture and mass murders were in the occupied territories," Mr. Zelensky's adviser Mykhailo Podolyak said in a tweet.

Russia has not responded to the reports.

"Russia is leaving death behind it everywhere and must be held responsible," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said.

The site in the former Russian frontline stronghold of Izium would be the biggest mass burial found in Europe since the aftermath

## Sri Lanka set to revive and upgrade FTA with India: Ranil

It seeks a comprehensive economic and tech partnership

MEERA SRINIVASAN  
COLOMBO

Sri Lanka will revive its Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with India and upgrade it to a "comprehensive economic and technological partnership", President Ranil Wickremesinghe has said, signalling Colombo's willingness to revisit a stalled pact.

Addressing the Sri Lanka India Society on Thursday, Mr. Wickremesinghe said his government would take steps for better trade integration with India.



Ranil Wickremesinghe

dia's bilateral development cooperation projects in Sri Lanka and set up an international trade office for negotiations. The "slow" pace of the projects has remained a concern for New Delhi.

#### Focus on energy

Speaking of areas with potential for bilateral cooperation, Mr. Wickremesinghe referred to the "long-term energy solution", the power grid connection between India and Sri Lanka, offshore wind energy, the solar power plant at Sampur and the renewable energy projects on three islands of Jaffna Peninsula. "We have a tremendous scope of potential renewable energy, and India has stepped in first," he said.

The current Indo-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (ISFTA) came into effect in 2000 and several rounds of bilateral discussions later, Colombo and New Delhi are yet to reach an agreement on its upgraded version. Mr. Wickremesinghe, as Prime Minister between 2015 and 2019, attempted to sign an upgraded trade pact with India, but was unsuccessful. He reiterated that his government is looking into In-

terior and Technical Cooperation Agreement (ETCA). Both versions of the proposed deal sparked stiff resistance within Sri Lanka, as critics feared it would impact Sri Lankans' job prospects with more competition from Indians.

"We look forward to trade

## Couple charged with murder attempt on Argentina's V-P

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
BUENOS AIRES

video pointing a pistol at Kirchner from close range as she greeted supporters outside her home on September 1.

After Montiel's weapon failed to go off – for reasons still unknown – he was overpowered and arrested, while his girlfriend Brenda Uliarte, 23, was arrested three days later.

The judge leading the case, Maria Capuchetti, issued charges of attempted aggravated homicide with premeditation against Sabag Montiel and Uliarte, who will remain in police custody, according to court documents seen by AFP.

Judge has yet to issue charges against two of the couple's acquaintances.

## + 10 killed as flash floods ravage hilly central Italy

Survivors rescued from rooftops, trees

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
CANTIANO

Flash floods swept through several towns on Friday in hilly central Italy after hours of exceptionally heavy rain, leaving 10 people dead and at least four missing. Dozens of survivors were rescued from roofs and trees.

Floods invaded garages and basements and knocked down doors. In one town, the powerful rush of water pushed a car onto a second-story balcony, while elsewhere parked vehicles were crumpled on top of each other in the streets.

"It wasn't a water bomb, it was a tsunami," Riccardo Pasqualini, the Mayor of Barbara, told Italian state ra-



People clear the way after floods hit the central Italian region of Marche. ■ REUTERS

## Iranian woman arrested by 'morality police' dies

She was held for 'dress code violation'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
DUBAI

A young Iranian woman who fell into a coma after being arrested in Tehran by the notorious morality police died on Friday, state media and her family said, with activists urging those responsible for her "suspicious" death be brought to justice.

Mahsa Amini, 22, was on a visit with her family to the Iranian capital when she was detained by the police unit responsible for enforcing the Islamic republic's strict dress code for women, which include the compulsory wearing of the headscarf in public.

"Unfortunately, she died

and her body was transferred to the medical examiner's office," Iranian state television reported.

"The circumstances leading to the suspicious death in custody of 22-year-old young woman Mahsa Amini, which include allegations of torture and other ill-treatment in custody, must be investigated," Amnesty International said.

"The so-called 'morality police' in Tehran arbitrarily detained her three days before her death while enforcing the country's abusive, degrading and discriminatory forced veiling laws. All agents and officials responsible must face justice," it added.

"Unfortunately, she died

**J&K Bank**  
Terminal Benefits Department, HR Corporate Headquarters, MA Road Srinagar JK-190001

**e-Request for Proposal (e-RFP)**  
for  
Empanelment of Annuity Service Provider for Staff pensioners of the J&K Bank Ltd under Defined Benefit Superannuation Schemes

RFP Notice along with Complete RFP document outlining the minimum requirements can be downloaded from and BIDs can be submitted on the Banks' e-Tendering Portal <https://jkbank.abcprocure.com> w.e.f. September 17, 2022, 16.00 Hrs. Tender Document can also be downloaded from Bank's Official Website [www.jkbank.com](http://www.jkbank.com). Last date for submission of Bids is October 08, 2022, 17.00 Hrs.

**e-RFP Ref. No.: JKB/CHO/TBD/Annuity/2022-415**  
Dated: 15-09-2022

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
Tender Notice No.: 45/2022-2023 Dated: 16.09.2022  
**Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement system**

Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

S. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
01	06225092	M.S. ANGLE-150x150x18MM	25000 KGS	11.10.2022
02	16220050A	GEAR WHEEL FOR HHP	26 NOS	14.10.2022
03	02221807	BRUSHLESS DC RAILWAY CARRIAGE FAN 40MM	5968 NOS	14.10.2022
04	07223447	LATERAL BUMP STOP FOR FIAT BOOGIE	6210 NOS	17.10.2022
05	02221964	BATTERY BOX FOR NON-AC COACHES	220 NOS	17.10.2022
06	06225089	ISHB-254X254X73.1 KG/M, LENGTH-	500000 KGS	21.10.2022

Note:- 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for details. 2. No Manual offer will be entertained.

**Serving Customers with a Smile**

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
TENDER NOTICE  
Invitation of tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement System)

N.I.T. No.	Name of work with its location	Approx. cost of work	Completion period of work	Cost of Tender document on cash/by post	Date of opening of tender	Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen
E-file-129060-Tender-RT	Tender for Work contract for complete Stripping, Repair and fitment of Seat Furnishing as per scope of work for 90 LWSCZAC and 10 LWFCZAC coaches at RCNK, SNP	Rs. 10,32,13,597/- (Rs. Ten Crore Thirty-Two Lac Thirteen Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Seven only) Including GST @18%	12 months from date of issue of LOA	NIL	Opening of Tender at 11:30 hrs. on 17.10.2022	Above tender available on IREPS website i.e. <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>

No.: E-file-129060-Tender-RT Dated: 16.09.2022 2434/22

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

No: 570-Sig-PS-Tender-124  
Date : 16.09.2022  
By CSTE/C/PS/NDLS, Northern Railway, New Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender (Single Packet System) for the following work:-

1. Name of work & Place S&T work (Indoor and Outdoor) for provision of Electronic Interlocking system (Centralized Type) at Bilwai & Tulsi Nagar Stations in connection with provision of double line between Jaunpur - Akbarpur Section of Lucknow Division of Northern Railway
2. Completion period 11 (Eleven) Months from the date of issue of LOA
3. Approx. Cost Rs. 7.99 Cr
4. Earnest Money Rs. 5,49,500/- (Rs. Five Lakh Forty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Only) (through online gateway payment only)
5. Sale/availability of tender document on Rly. Website i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) from 17.09.2022 to 10.10.2022 upto 11:30 hrs.
6. Last date/Time of upload of tender Tender documents can be uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS web site w.e.f. 26.09.2022 to 10.10.2022 upto 11.30 hours.
7. Date of opening of tender Tender will be opened on 10.10.2022 at 11.30 hours

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**

**Sunder @ Fouji**  
General public is hereby informed that one male namely Sunder @ Fouji, S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown Age: 50 years, Height 5'4", Complexion Shallow, Long Face, Thin Built, Wearing Khakhi colour lower was found dead at Pakoda Park Sadh Nagar Nasirpur Road, Near Mother Dairy, New Delhi on 08.09.2022.

In this regard a DD No. 98-A date 08.09.2022 has been lodged at PS Palam Village, New Delhi. The dead body has been preserved in Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital Mortuary for identification and Postmortem.

Any person having any information or clue about this deceased male may kindly inform to the following.

**SHO**  
PS: Palam Village, New Delhi  
Ph.: 011-25365979, 7065036227

DP/984/SW/2022

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**

General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male Namely Sheikh Abdulla S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown Age: 50 years, Height: 5', Complexion: Shallow, Face: Oval, Built: Medium, Hair: Moustache & Beard: Black & white, ID: Cut mark on both hands wrist, Wearing: Black coloured shirt, Grey coloured underwear & upper body Naked, was found unconscious on 08.09.2022 from in front of Gate No.3, Loknayak Hospital, JLN Marg, Darya Ganj, Delhi & admitted in Loknayak Hospital vide MLC No.E-114802005/22, during the treatment Doctors declared him dead on 08.09.2022 at 08:34 PM. The dead body has been preserved at the Mortuary of MAMC for identification. In this regard a FIR No.329/304A IPC has been lodged at P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi after receiving DD No.107A dated 08.09.2022 from Loknayak Hospital.

If any one having any clue about deceased male may kindly inform the undersigned and contact on following numbers. SHO  
P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-23279331, 23274683  
Mob: 8750870421

DP/991/CD/2022

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT UTUPAD NIGAM LIMITED  
CIN - U40102RJ2005G016484 (A Govt. of Rajasthan Undertaking)

O/o ACE (Fuel), 205, Dreamax Plaza, Sakhar Marg, Jaipur-302005  
Online Tender Notice: TN-20(RVU22235LOB01221)

E-tenders are invited for Logistics Contract for Transportation of coal from MCL Various Sides to Kalisindh Thermal Power Station of RVN through Rail-Sea-Rail Route via Paradip / Visag Port & Dahej/Kandla/Mundra Port. Tender details are available on websites <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> (for e-tender), [www.rajasthan.gov.in/r](http://www.rajasthan.gov.in/rvnl)

## MARKET WATCH

	PRICE	CHANGE
Sensex	58,841	-1.82
US Dollar	79.78	-0.08
Gold	49,447	-1.67
Brent oil	92	-0.89

## NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	938.20	-30.35
Apollo Hosp	4279.75	-62.10
Asian Paints	3322.55	-72.85
Axis Bank	789.30	-0.70
Bajaj Auto	3689.55	-78.45
Bajaj Finserv	1734.90	-37.30
Bajaj Finance	7274.10	-112.20
Bharti Airtel	779.65	-5.45
BPLC	321.30	-10.10
Britannia Ind	3639.55	-82.00
Cipla	1043.50	10.20
Coal India	231.05	-3.20
Divis Labs	3573.70	-31.75
Dr Reddys Lab	4077.35	-91.65
Eicher Motors	3549.00	-73.25
Gasim Ind	1744.60	-63.70
HCL Tech.	896.90	-23.00
HDFC	2404.10	-55.30
HDFC Bank	1492.75	-27.95
HDFC Life	546.75	-20.00
Hero MotoCorp	2685.20	-10.10
Hindalco	412.50	-11.90
Hind Unilever	2528.15	-32.25
ICICI Bank	909.10	-8.50
IndusInd Bank	1227.35	31.50
Infosys	1377.05	-55.75
ITC	331.30	-2.80
JSW Steel	685.85	-3.80
Kotak Bank	1930.30	-3.85
L&T	1920.00	-37.50
M&M	1250.10	-46.95
Maruti Suzuki	9189.65	-20.10
Nestle India Ltd.	18404.20	-604.80
NTPC	172.80	-2.30
ONGC	131.25	-1.35
PowerGrid Corp	235.65	-1.95
Reliance Ind	2499.20	-63.50
SBI Life	1272.25	-22.75
State Bank	561.80	-10.35
Shree Cement	23317.70	-594.90
Sun Pharma	868.05	-6.25
Tata Consumer Products Ltd.	795.20	-42.20
Tata Motors	432.50	-14.75
Tata Steel	105.70	-1.30
TCS	3008.70	-95.65
Tech Mahindra	1033.20	-49.80
Titan	2611.80	-44.35
UltraTech Cement	6481.40	-308.65
UPL	703.40	-39.20
Wipro	401.65	-13.40

## EXCHANGE RATES

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	79.54	79.86
Euro	79.41	79.76
British Pound	90.72	91.08
Japanese Yen (100)	55.56	55.78
Chinese Yuan	11.35	11.39
Swiss Franc	82.72	83.06
Singapore Dollar	56.49	56.68
Canadian Dollar	59.94	60.18
Malaysian Ringgit	17.53	17.62
Australian Dollar	53.22	53.44

Source: Indian Bank

## IN BRIEF



## Manali Petro arm to be wound up

## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI

Manali Petrochemicals Ltd's step-down subsidiary Amchem Speciality Chemicals UK Ltd., will be liquidated during the current fiscal as part of the group's restructuring plans.

Based on professional advice, under a scheme of group reorganisation, Amchem UK has stopped activities from April.

After liquidation, its net assets would be transferred to its parent Amchem Speciality Pvt. Ltd., Singapore, according to MPL's latest annual report.

Amchem Singapore is the wholly owned subsidiary of MPL.

## Centre cuts windfall tax on domestic crude oil

## NEW DELHI

The Centre on Friday slashed the windfall tax levied on crude petroleum producers from ₹13,300 a tonne to ₹10,500 and cut the tax on exports of aviation turbine fuel to ₹5 per litre from ₹9. The levy on export of diesel was reduced to ₹10 per litre from ₹13.50. The changes take effect on September 17.

## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI

State Bank of India, the country's largest lender, is aiming for double-digit growth in deposits as loan demand gathers steam and utilisation of existing credit lines improves, a top executive said on Friday.

"We believe 9% to 10% (deposit growth) is definitely possible for us, it is a sustainable growth rate, though we have an internal target of 11% to 12%," Challa Sreenivasulu Setty, managing director at SBI, told Reuters.

Alongside stepping up efforts to garner more domestic deposits, banks are also

seeking foreign deposits more aggressively.

The bank is also aiming to focus on boosting its fee-based income from its overseas operations.

SBI's shares have risen 22% so far this year.

Challa Sreenivasulu Setty

SEEKING FOREIGN DEPOSITS

# Decoding F1's matrix of success: the interplay between man and machine

A car's inherent characteristics determine its racing destiny, but what the driver brings to the table is pivotal. As Verstappen has demonstrated in 2022, great drivers do not merely extract the best from their car; they also raise its ceiling of development

S. DIPAK RAGAV

In Formula One, although drivers are the heroes who make the sport what it is, the car is the main differentiator in determining who wins a race. A rough but informed estimate of the car-to-driver contribution would peg it at 80:20 in favour of the machinery. So, you can put Lewis Hamilton or Max Verstappen in the slowest car on the grid and they are unlikely to challenge for podiums or consistent point-scoring finishes.

But as we have seen this year, that 20% a driver brings to the table makes a huge difference to a team's fortunes. The quality of this contribution is what separates the elite drivers from the very good and good.

**Style and substance**

While there are universal technical principles drivers use to extract the best possible lap time, there are subtle differences in how they adapt their individual driving styles to what the machines demand; in a sport of such fine margins, this is often pivotal.

In 2022, we have seen wide disparities between team-

mates. Be it Verstappen dominating Sergio Perez at Red Bull or Lando Norris putting Daniel Ricciardo in the shade at McLaren, the gulf between teammates is huge.

A car can have several characteristics based on how it has been developed – like being quick on the straights if it has low drag or sharp through fast corners if it can generate high downforce. Some vehicles will be good through slow corners where traction is important, making the car stable under acceleration and preventing it slipping.

Another trait that commentators often speak about is a car having understeer (car turns less than the steering input) or oversteer (car turns more than the steering input), and this can play a huge role for drivers depending on what they prefer.

It has, to an extent, influenced the way the title fight has unfolded, especially with Verstappen now all set to seal his second World championship.

At the start of the year, Perez and Verstappen were quite evenly matched in a Red Bull that was stable but not as quick as the Ferrari. It was

also heavier than the minimum weight prescribed by the regulations, costing it lap time.

After the Monaco GP, which Perez won, he was trailing his teammate by only 15 points. But as Red Bull developed its car and it began to have a more 'pointy' front end, it started to suit Verstappen more.

"There are some inherent characteristics which are the fundamental basis of the car. It will be designed by the team in the way they think will give the best performance in terms of downforce and outright pace. After that, you can change set-ups in terms of suspension or aero based on driver preference," says Karun Chandhok, India's second F1 driver, when asked how drivers adapt to different cars.

**The Red Bull case**

"When you say Red Bull has a pointy front end, it means when the driver turns the steering wheel, it is very responsive and points quickly.

That needs a driver like Max who prefers to have a car [re-

spond] like [that] when they first turn the wheel but also can control the rear from sliding. When the rear slides, it affects the confidence of a driver.

"This year's car was calmer at the start of the year and you saw Perez was closer to Max. As the car has developed with more downforce and they made changes to the original car, it has favoured Max and Checo [Perez] is not able to extract the same level of performance," adds Chandhok.

After his Dutch GP win, Verstappen spoke about the challenge at the start of the year: "When the regulations change then sometimes you have to start over. At the beginning of the year, it was a bit of adaptation, which is not fully to my liking. Also, the car was quite heavy... that doesn't help the balance of the car because it becomes a bit lazy and also [the weight distribution] in the wrong place, and that's why it understeered quite a bit. With reducing the weight it all felt a bit more agile."

Chandhok also explains that greats like Michael Schumacher, Hamilton (especially in his McLaren days) and Ver-

stappen prefer a car with a bit of oversteer as they can use their talent to control the rear end.

This year, Mercedes has loads of performance that they can see in the wind tunnel, but balance issues on track mean it doesn't give the driver confidence to attack the corners. That is an example of why a driver is still very important."

periods of dominance are not possible without the driver directing the car's evolution.

"In terms of car development, a driver who can give good feedback and clear direction on how to make the car faster is a huge asset. It is one thing to rely on data. But only a driver can feel what the car is actually doing on track. Teams ... will naturally gravitate towards developing a car their faster driver can extract performance from

KARUN CHANDHOK,  
Former F1 driver

stappen prefer a car with a bit of oversteer as they can use their talent to control the rear end.

Drivers like Carlos Sainz, on the other hand, prefer understeer – "My driving is really aggressive," Sainz said, "I can make a car rotate myself with the steering wheel and pedals. Give me an understeering car and don't worry, I'll make it turn."

Asked if it is desirable to have an oversteering car, Chandhok says, "Ultimately it's about personal preference. If you have understeer, but he has also been able to drive its development towards his style as the team knows he can extract more out of it."

"The teams exist to achieve the best result possible," says Chandhok, "and what they will naturally gravitate towards is, developing a car that their faster driver can extract performance from. If you have two drivers of similar style, that is the best-case scenario but often one is going to lose out. Teams will use faster drivers to give them the direction to develop the car. That is what has happened with Perez. He was able to extract good lap time in races like Saudi

and Monaco. But as the car has developed, it has favoured Max."

It is this ability of a great driver to maximise everything that has taken Verstappen within striking distance of a second title, as he leads Charles Leclerc by 116 points and his teammate by a staggering 125. With a lesser driver than Verstappen, Red Bull would likely have been trailing in both the drivers' and constructors' championships.

As Verstappen himself said, citing Hamilton's 2020 drive in Istanbul, "Your car is super important, but when you are an exceptional driver, like of course Lewis is as well, you make a difference over your teammate. One that stood out was Tukey when it was very slippery – just staying calm, not making mistakes. You end up winning a race like that and that's what good drivers do. They make the difference compared to other fast drivers [who are] not as good. So, yeah, the car is very dominant in Formula 1 but between teammates, only one can win. That's where you have to make the difference."

**Your car is super important, but when you are an exceptional driver... you make a difference... compared to other fast drivers [who are] not as good. So, yeah, the car is very dominant in Formula 1 but between teammates, only one can win**

MAX VERSTAPPEN, reigning F1 champion



## STACKING UP



### ATP Men's Top 15

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Carlos Alcaraz	19	6,740	17
2	Casper Ruud	23	5,850	23
3	Rafael Nadal	36	5,810	10
4	Daniil Medvedev	26	5,065	19
5	Alexander Zverev	25	5,040	19
6	Stefanos Tsitsipas	24	4,810	22
7	Novak Djokovic	35	3,570	11
8	Cameron Norrie	27	3,550	24
9	Andrey Rublev	24	3,390	24
10	Hubert Hurkacz	25	3,355	22
11	Jannik Sinner	21	3,200	21
12	Taylor Fritz	24	3,055	23
13	Felix Auger-Aliassime	22	2,950	24
14	Pablo Carreno Busta	31	2,510	23
15	Matteo Berrettini	26	2,360	18

Top Indians ▶

Ramkumar Ramanathan	Rank 276 ▼ 37 spots
Prajnesh Gunneswaran	Rank 335 ▼ 6 spots

### WTA Women's Top 15

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Iga Swiatek	21	10,365	17
2	Ons Jabeur	28	5,090	19
3	Anett Kontaveit	26	4,300	20
4	Paula Badosa	24	3,980	24
5	Jessica Pegula	28	3,501	17
6	Maria Sakkari	27	3,480	21
7	Aryna Sabalenka	24	3,470	20
8	Coco Gauff	18	3,047	17
9	Simona Halep	30	3,025	19
10	Caroline Garcia	28	2,930	22
11	Daria Kasatkina	25	2,895	21
12	Garbine Muguruza	28	2,776	19
13	Veronika Kudermetova	25	2,436	22
14	Belinda Bencic	25	2,335	20
15	Jelena Ostapenko	25	2,325	19

Top Indians ▶

Ankita Raina	Rank 325 ▲ 3 spots
Karman Thandi	Rank 359 ▲ 6 spots



### F1 Drivers' standings

#	DRIVER	TEAM	POINTS	WINS
1	Max Verstappen	Red Bull Racing	335	11
2	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	219	3
3	Sergio Perez	Red Bull Racing	210	1
4	George Russell	Mercedes	203	0
5	Carlos Sainz	Ferrari	187	1
6	Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes	168	0
7	Lando Norris	McLaren	88	0
8	Esteban Ocon	Alpine	66	0
9	Fernando Alonso	Alpine	59	0
10	Valtteri Bottas	Alfa Romeo	46	0
11	Pierre Gasly	AlphaTauri	22	0
12	Kevin Magnussen	Haas	22	0
13	Sebastian Vettel	Aston Martin	20	0
14	Daniel Ricciardo	McLaren	19	0
15	Mick Schumacher	Haas	12	0
16	Yuki Tsunoda	AlphaTauri	11	0
17	Zhou Guanyu	Alfa Romeo	6	0
18	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	5	0
19	Alex Albon	Williams	4	0
20	Nyck de Vries	Williams	0	0
21	Nicholas Latifi	Williams	0	0



### F1 Constructors' standings

POS	TEAM	POINTS	WINS	PODIUMS
1	Red Bull	545	12	20
2	Ferrari	406	4	14
3	Mercedes	371	0	13
4	Alpine	125	0	0
5	McLaren	107	0	1
6	Alfa Romeo	52	0	0
7	Haas	34	0	0
8	AlphaTauri	33	0	0
9	Aston Martin	25	0	0
10	Williams	6	0	0



### Badminton Men's ranking

# Can wizard Potter survive the Bridge curse?

The 47-year-old tactical miracle-worker takes charge at a critical juncture in Chelsea's life. Will he be afforded the patience previous managers at the football club have been denied?

## THE POTTER FILE

BORN: May 20, 1975 in Solihull, England

### PLAYING CAREER

- Began as a left-back at second-tier Birmingham City in 1992
- Was a part of the Southampton side that recorded a famous 6-3 win over Manchester United during the 1996-97 Premier League season
- Had spells at West Brom, York City and Boston United before ending his career at League Two Macclesfield Town in 2005

### COACHING CAREER

- Worked as technical director for the Ghana women's team at the 2007 World Cup and became assistant coach for Leeds Metropolitan University.
- Named manager of fourth division Swedish side Ostersund in 2010 and guided it to the top flight in 2015-16
- Won the Swedish Cup in 2017 and led Ostersund to the Europa League group stage
- Appointed head coach of Championship club Swansea City ahead of the 2018-19 season, where it finished 10th
- Took over at Brighton & Hove Albion in May 2019 and led it to 15th, 16th and ninth, its highest top-flight finish, in his three seasons there



pounds takeover of the club, said he was "thrilled" to bring Potter to Stamford Bridge. "He is a proven coach and an innovator in the Premier League who fits our vision," Boehly said.

Potter was mooted as a candidate for the Manchester United job eventually filled by Erik ten Hag after masterminding Brighton's highest-ever league finish of ninth last season despite operating on a limited budget. Under his stewardship, the Seagulls are fourth this season. But when Chelsea – currently sixth after spending around 250 million pounds in the summer window – came calling, Brighton was unable to stand in his way as he had a release clause in his contract.

**Strong reputation**  
The 47-year-old Potter, who had spells at Swedish side Ostersund and Swansea City before taking charge of Brighton on England's south coast, has earned a reputation as a coach who can significantly improve his players. He is widely admired as one of the country's best tacticians and coaches a brave, entertaining style that has won plaudits if not trophies.

Potter's teams play fluid, progressive football, driven by slick passing, constant rotation and heavy possession

– even against 'bigger' teams. But while he emphasises a strong creative identity, he also sets his team up to defuse the opposition's weapons. And, importantly, he is an adept coach of pressing and counter-pressing schemes, a non-negotiable in today's game.

Potter's flexible style, innovative methods and attention to detail at Brighton have won many admirers including Pep Guardiola and Jürgen Klopp, two of the game's most successful managers and also two of its most significant figures, given their influence on its evolution.

"He obviously has a clear idea about football and he is doing a brilliant job," Liverpool manager Klopp said of Potter a year ago. "He has brought a clear identity to how he wants his teams to play. He is an innovator and is adventurous."

Manchester City manager Guardiola's praise was even more emphatic. "We were in front of the best English manager right now," Guardiola said after a fixture between City and Brighton. "As a spectator, I like to watch these teams. I like watching Brighton on play. I recognise it. When I was a football player, I would love to play in this team."

With a background in higher education after a modest

playing career – it included eight Premier League appearances at Southampton, but was mostly spent in the lower leagues – Potter is reputed for his out-of-the-box approach to man-management.

Not afraid to push his players outside their comfort zone, he once got his Ostersund squad to perform the ballet Swan Lake for the local community. It was in keeping with his philosophy of challenging his players' mental processes and decision-making under pressure and encouraging them to use dance and music as forms of self-expression.

**A step up**  
Potter understandably views his move to London as a step forward in his career, an opportunity, after years with a small purse, to show what he can do with an expensively assembled squad. "It's the start of a really exciting period, I think," he said in an interview with the club's website. "[I spoke with] the new ownership who I was really, really excited with and impressed by. The history of the club speaks for itself, but it's about trying to create that again in our own way. And to compete at the top and try and create a winning team, that's a fantastic opportunity for me."

But while Boehly has been

convinced that Potter is the man to instil a long-term ethos and identity throughout the club at the start of the new era, the demands he will face at the Bridge will contrast sharply with those at his previous clubs. Chelsea will give Potter his first taste of dealing with the egos of superstar players, while coping with ultra-demanding new US owners.

"I try to find some common ground, try to build relationships, to try to communicate effectively on a daily basis and build respect, trust and honesty, so my starting point would always be the person first," Potter said, about the challenge of dealing with big egos. "I think that you have to understand that they're human beings first, and the key thing is to try to understand them, understand what motivates them and understand what they're like as people."

**Tricky situation**  
The Englishman is also assuming charge at a volatile juncture in the club's life. It's the first season after the end of the 19-year tenure of Roman Abramovich, the Russian oligarch who had to sell the London club after being sanctioned by the British government for what it called his enabling of Russian President Vladimir Putin's "brutal and

barbaric invasion" of Ukraine.

Under Boehly, there has been a restructuring at the top, with the removal of senior personnel such as Petr Cech (technical advisor), Bruce Buck (chairman) and Marina Granovskaya (director), seemingly to ensure the club was breaking free from the Abramovich era.

The upheaval hasn't been

confined to the boardroom. There has been significant stress in the dressing room as well. Prior to his sacking, Tuchel's relationships with his players had reportedly deteriorated and there were tensions with the club hierarchy. attracted more attention and scrutiny than the rest of his career. He was talked about and judged constantly, with 'experts' attempting to read meaning into his smallest twitches. He will need to win to keep the media off his back. It will also be interesting to observe how much patience the club's owners have with him if the results aren't immediately positive.

### The tenure question

Boehly did hand Potter a five-year contract and spoke about looking forward to "supporting him, his coaching team and the squad in realising their full potential in the coming months and years". But it remains to be seen whether Chelsea, renowned for regularly changing managers during the previous regime and after Tuchel's swift exit under the current dispensation, allows Potter the time to bed in, so his ideas can take root.

**C** [Potter] obviously has a clear idea about football and he is doing a brilliant job. He has brought a clear identity to how he wants his teams to play. He is an innovator and is adventurous

JURGEN KLOPP, Liverpool manager



REUTERS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

For some, Graham Potter's appointment as Chelsea manager came out of left field. But for those who work within football, have managed against Potter or are fans of the tactical and analytical aspects of the game, it was a no-brainer.

When you get rid of Thomas Tuchel, widely regarded as an astute and influential coaching mind, you cannot afford to skimp on training-ground pedigree. While Potter wasn't the biggest or most fashionable name available, his work – and the respect it has evoked among truly great managers – convinced Chelsea's top bosses.

Potter was confirmed as Chelsea manager last week, replacing Tuchel – the club's Champions League-winning manager from last year – who was ruthlessly fired by chairman Todd Boehly. The American billionaire, who heads the consortium that completed a 4.25 billion

pounds takeover of the club, said he was "thrilled" to bring Potter to Stamford Bridge. "He is a proven coach and an innovator in the Premier League who fits our vision," Boehly said.

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## PICTURE THIS



### Comic relief

Papa Smurf, the mascot for the Allianz Memorial Van Damme 2022 in Brussels earlier this month, strikes a pose, as competitors in the 1 Hour Men Final streak past him.

The event, which was part of the 2022 Diamond League series, chose Papa Smurf because of the

character's Belgian connection. He is one of the protagonists of the Smurfs, a Belgian comic franchise, which, as the kids know, deals with the adventures of a fictional colony of small, blue humanoid characters who live in mushroom-shaped homes in the forest.

Mascots are typically animal-inspired characters, played by

human beings in costume. In sport, mascots have been used by teams and tournaments – most notably by the Olympics, the football World Cup and American franchises – for a variety of reasons.

They give a tangible form to the team or event's identity, spirit and personality. They also bring with them an air of festivity and

are popular with children; many mascots develop a fan following for their high-jinks, designed to entertain the audience during breaks in play.

In addition to their entertainment value, mascots also offer valuable commercial potential – in terms of merchandise sales – especially if they are well-loved.

## GAME THEORY

### International cricket's most prolific century-makers

Virat Kohli, who ended a century drought that lasted more than 1,000 days at the Asia Cup, pulled level with Ricky Ponting on the list of batters with the most international hundreds (Tests, ODIs, T20Is). The Indian's first T20I ton was his 71st overall. Only Sachin Tendulkar has more

Player	International innings	100s	Break-up: Tests   ODIs   T20Is	Innings per 100
Sachin Tendulkar	782	100	51   49   0	7.82
Virat Kohli	522	71	27   43   1	7.35
Ricky Ponting	668	71	41   30   0	9.41
Kumar Sangakkara	666	63	38   25   0	10.57
Jacques Kallis	617	62	45   17   0	9.95
Hashim Amla	437	55	28   27   0	7.95
Mahela Jayawardene	725	54	34   19   1	13.43
Brian Lara	521	53	34   19   0	9.83
Rahul Dravid	605	48	36   12   0	12.60
AB de Villiers	484	47	22   25   0	10.30
Joe Root	405	44	28   16   0	9.20
David Warner	403	43	24   18   1	9.37
Chris Gayle	551	42	15   25   2	13.12
Sanath Jayasuriya	651	42	14   28   0	15.50
Rohit Sharma	431	41	8   29   4	10.51
Younis Khan	491	41	34   7   0	11.98
Shivnarine Chanderpaul	553	41	30   11   0	13.49
Matthew Hayden	348	40	30   10   0	8.70
Ross Taylor	510	40	19   21   0	12.75
Steve Smith	320	40	28   12   0	8.00
Mohammad Yousuf	432	39	24   15   0	11.08
Tillakaratne Dilshan	527	39	16   22   1	13.51

SOURCE: espncricinfo.com

# Podoroska packs off crowd favourite Bouchard, makes last four

The Argentine will meet 17-year-old Fruhvirtova, who will play her maiden semifinal

## CHENNAI OPEN

N. SUDARSHAN  
CHENNAI

Nadia Podoroska won her second three-setter in less than 24 hours, this time packing off crowd favourite Eugenie Bouchard 1-6, 6-4, 6-2 to enter the last four of the WTA Chennai Open, at the SDAT Tennis Stadium here on Friday.

In a match that lasted nearly three hours, both players alternated between enthralling tennis and extended flat spots. Bouchard's pedigree and big-match experience should have helped her edge the contest; she won more points (88 to 86), served and returned just as well as the Argentine and made seven fewer double-faults.

But Podoroska, whose ranking of No. 298 is deceptive at best – she was ranked as high as 36 in July last year – was steady when it mattered while Bouchard combusted at crucial junctures. Podoroska will next meet the 17-year-old Czech Linda Fruhvirtova, who ousted the tournament's second seed Varvara Gracheva 6-4, 6-3.

Fruhvirtova, for whom it will be a maiden Tour-level semifinal, was later given the inaugural Margaret Amritraj Award for the most promising young player of the tournament.

Bouchard played pop-the-cork tennis at the beginning, winning 16 of the first 21 points to go 4-0 up, saving six break points to hold to 5-1 and then breaking again to take the set 6-1.

However, the bubbling promise soon faded, and Podoroska, just like against Tatjana Maria in the round-of-16, sprang to life in the second set, running up a 4-1 lead. She put enough air under the ball to take it away from her opponent's strike zone, even as Bouchard was guilty of not picking off short balls that were dragged down by Podoroska's spin.

A medical time-out for Bouchard (exhaustion), though, disrupted Podoroska's rhythm. The Canadian got one break back and had three break opportunities to level at 5-5. But Podoroska wriggled out, as Bouchard missed all three, including the second on which she fluffed three attempts at a smash.

Podoroska went on a roll again in the third set, breaking twice for 3-0 lead, only for lightning and light rain to stop play for 35 minutes. She appeared shaky on resumption, but held on to make her first Tour-level semifinal since the 2020 French Open.

A visibly tired Bouchard later retired from her doubles quarterfinal, in the company of Yanina Wickmayer, down 3-6, 1-1 to Anna Blinkova and Natela Dzalamidze.

**The results (quarterfinals): Singles:** Nadia Podoroska (Arg) bt Eugenie Bouchard (Can) 1-6, 6-4, 6-2; Linda Fruhvirtova (Cze) bt Varvara Gracheva 6-4, 6-3; Magdaléna Linette (Pol) bt Rebecca Marino (Can) 7-6(10), 6-3.



Recognition: Fruhvirtova won the Margaret Amritraj Award for the most promising young player of the tournament. ■ K.V. SRINIVASAN

## Ruud proves too hot for Prajnesh in first singles

### DAVIS CUP

SPORTS BUREAU

Casper Ruud gave a rousing start for Norway, as he outgunned Prajnesh Gunneswaran 6-1, 6-4 in just over an hour in the opening singles of the Davis Cup World Group tie at the Hakons Hall, Lillehammer, on Friday.

Though the 32-year-old Prajnesh tried his best, World No. 2 Ruud was a class apart.

Playing his first match after the US Open final against Carlos Alcaraz last Sunday, Ruud continued to show fine form. The indoor hard court surface did not seem to bother him as he raced on his swift legs to execute strokes with precision and consistency.

In contrast, Prajnesh was unable to sustain his high-quality game for long though he did a commendable job of staying in the rally quite a few times.

Ranked a modest 335,



Ruud... a sizzling start.

Prajnesh gave a good account of himself against the 23-year-old Ruud, who has had a phenomenal season by making the French Open final on clay and the summit clash on the outdoor hard courts of New York.

With nothing to lose and a slim chance of improving on his 3-6 win-loss record in Davis Cup, the Chennai left-hander came out swinging.

There was no change to the script, however.

**The result:** Norway leads India 1-0 (Casper Ruud bt Prajnesh Gunneswaran 6-1, 6-4).

## India batters flop, lose series

England women win third T20I by seven wickets

### INDIA IN ENGLAND

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
BRISTOL

The Indian bowlers put up a valiant effort with a below par total to defend before rookie Alice Capsey held her nerve to guide England to a seven-wicket win in the third women's T20I and clinch the series 2-1.

India put up an inept batting performance, scoring only 122 for eight, courtesy wicketkeeper Richa Ghosh's 22-ball 33 and all-rounder Pooja Vastrakar's unbeaten 19 off 11 deliveries.

The Indian batters were unable to navigate through the England spin bowling as Sophie Ecclestone (three for 25), Sarah Glenn (two for 11) and Bryony Smith accounted for six wickets.

England scored the runs in 18.2 overs, courtesy opener Sophia Dunkley's 49 off 44 and 18-year-old Capsey's unbeaten 38 that took the hosts over the line.

Chasing 123, the home side was off to a brilliant start with both openers Dunkley and Danni Wyatt (22 off 23 balls) sharing a 70-run stand before India triggered a mini collapse by snaring

### SCOREBOARD

#### INDIA

Shafali Verma b Wong 5 (12b), Smriti Mandhana c Ecclestone b Smith 9 (8b, 2x4), S. Meghan c Wyatt b Davies 0 (9b), Harmanpreet Kaur b Glenn 5 (14b), D. Hemalatha c Jones b Glenn 0 (2b), Deepi Sharma c Jones b Ecclestone 24 (25b), Sneh Rana lbw b Ecclestone 8 (15b), Richa Ghosh lbw b Ecclestone 33 (22b, 5x4), Pooja Vastrakar (not out) 19 (11b, 2x4), Radha Yadav (not out) 5 (2b, 1x4); Extras (b-4, w-10); 14; Total (for eight wkts. in 20 overs): 122.

#### FALL OF WICKETS

1-11 (Shafali, 2.4 overs), 2-15 (Smriti, 3.4), 3-19 (Meghana, 5.4), 4-21 (Hemalatha, 6.3), 5-35 (Harmanpreet, 9.5), 6-52 (Sneh, 12.6), 7-75 (Deepi, 16.1), 8-103 (Richa, 18.5).

#### ENGLAND BOWLING

Smith 4-0-19-1, Davies 4-0-35-1, Wong 4-1-24-1, Glenn 0-

11-2, Ecclestone 4-0-25-3, Kemp 1-0-4-0.

#### ENGLAND

Sophia Dunkley b Pooja 49 (44b, 6x4), Danni Wyatt c Radha b Sneh 22 (23b, 1x4), Alice Capsey (not out) 38 (24b, 6x4), Amy Jones b Radha 3 (5b), Bryony Smith (not out) 13 (14b, 1x4); Extras (b-1); 1; Total (for three wkts. in 18.2 overs): 126.

#### FALL OF WICKETS

1-70 (Wyatt, 9.5), 2-72 (Dunkley, 11.2), 3-79 (Jones, 12.5).

#### INDIA BOWLING

Renuka 4-0-33-0, Deepi 3.2-0-30-0, Radha 4-1-14-1, Sneh 4-0-32-1, Pooja 3-0-16-1.

**Toss:** England. **Player-of-the-Match:** Ecclestone.

**ENGLAND** won by seven wickets with 10 balls remaining to clinch series 2-1.

**First ODI:** September 18, Hove, 3.30 p.m. IST.

three quick wickets in as many overs. Earlier, India was in all sorts of trouble as it slipped to 75 for seven before Richa and Pooja joined forces, but it wasn't enough.

## Pranav, Ilamparthi are World champions



Pranav and Ilamparthi. ■ TWITTER/CHESSEBASEINDIA

**SPORTS BUREAU**

**Indian performances (with final placings and points): Under-14 (Open):** 1. A. R. Ilamparthi (9.5 points), 16. John Veny Akkarakaran (7), 52. Gaurang Bagwe (6).

**Girls:** 4. Mrittika Mallick (8), 7. Anupam S. Sreekumar (8), 8. H.G. Pragna (7.5), 14. Amulya Guruprasad (7).

**Under-16 (Open):** 1. Pranav Anand (9), 5. M. Pranesh (8), 24. S. Harshad (6.5), 28. Ritvik Krishnan (6.5); (Girls): 42. Tanisha Boramanikar (5.5).

**Under-18 (Open):** 14. Soham Kamotra (7); (Girls): 6. S. Kanishka (7.5); 8. Rakshita Ravi (7.5), 25. V. Rindhiya (6).

**Samson to lead India-A in one-dayers**

### NZ-A IN INDIA

ANI  
MUMBAI

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on Friday announced India-A squad against New Zealand-A in one-day series to be played in Chennai.

India-A will play three one-day games against New Zealand-A under the captaincy of Sanju Samson.

The first match of the series will be played on Sept. 22, while the second match will take place on Sept. 25. The final and third game will be held on Sept. 27.

**The squad:** Prithvi Shaw, Abhimanyu Easwaran, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Rahul Tripathi, Rajat Patidar, Sanju Samson (Capt.), K.S. Bharat (wk), Kuldeep Yadav, Shahbaz Ahmed, Rahul Chahar, Tilak Varma, Kuldeep Sen, Shardul Thakur, Umran Malik, Navdeep Saini and Raj Angad Bawa.

## Bhui joins the party, South declares at 630

He makes a strokeful unbeaten century while Indrajith scores a half-century

### DULEEP TROPHY

S. DINAKAR  
SALEM

Had the South Zone selectors picked a specialist wicket-keeper-batter, Ricky Bhui would have missed out on the run feast.

Now, he has a Duleep Trophy hundred. On such slender threads do cricketing tales hang.

The chunky Bhui grabbed his opportunity with both hands with a strokeful unbeaten 103 (170b, 10x4, 2x6) on the second day of the Duleep Trophy clash against North at the SCF ground here on Friday.

**Mountain of runs**  
South, perhaps inspired by the hills around the ground, built a mountain of runs – 630 for eight declared – and on a pitch offering turn and having uneven bounce, holds the aces going into the last two days.

Playing back could be hazardous on this surface since the odd ball can keep low and shoot through straight.

With the sun beating down, the cracks on the



On the ball: Bhui toyed with North attack. ■ R. RAGU

pitch could open up. North, 19 without loss at stumps, has a battle on its hands. Already we saw a delivery of appreciable turn for Sai Kishore.

Back to Bhui. Truth to tell, he cannot be blamed for any selection folly. All he can do is put in his best effort and he certainly did that with the bat.

The 25-year-old Bhui played with typical flair and flamboyance. His cover and square-drives caught the eye, so did the on-side whips.

North's pace spearhead Navdeep Saini pulled up in the morning with a groin strain and was taken for

forward defensive bat.

There were useful contributions all through the South innings – Manish Pandey's battling 35, K. Gowtham's entertaining 48, Ravi Teja's aggressive 42; the tiring North wilted under the onslaught.

#### The score:

**South Zone – 1st innings:** Rohan Kunnummal b Saini 143, Mayank Agarwal b Sindhu 49, Hanuma Vihari lbw b Dagar 134, B. Indrajith b Dagar 65, Manish Pandey c Nagarkar b Dagar 35, Ricky (not out) 103, K. Gowtham c Mandee b Sindhu 48, Ravi Teja lbw b Narang 42, R. Sai Kishore st Malhotra b Narang 1, Tanay Thyagarajan (not out) 1; Extras (b-1, lb-6, nb-1, w-1) 9; Total (for eight wkts. decl. in 172.5 overs): 630.

**North Zone bowling:** Saini 11.2-0-58-1, Kaul 21-3-74-0, Dagar 56.4-3-184-3, Rana 4-1-13-0, Sindhu 40-7-151-2, Narang 33.5-6-121-2, Dhill 6-0-22-0.

**North Zone – 1st innings:** Yash Dhill (batting) 8, Manan Vohra (batting) 11; Total (for no loss in five overs): 19.

**South Zone bowling:** Sai Kishore 3-0-15-0, Basil Thambi 2-0-4-0.

### S. DIPAK RAGAV

COIMBATORE

After Jaydev Unadkat (3/24) and off-spinner Tanush Kotian (3/17) helped West Zone bundle out Central Zone for 128 and take a 129-run lead, Prithvi Shaw (104 batting, 96b, 11x4, 3x6) cemented that advantage in the second innings at the Sri Ramakrishna College ground on Friday.

At stumps on day two of the Duleep Trophy semi-finals, West was 130 for three – an overall lead of 259.

Resuming at 252 for nine, West was bowled out for 257 in its first essay. Unadkat then bowled his side into a strong position, removing three Central top-order batters.

Unadkat struck early, removing Yash Dubey leg-before as Central started cautiously. Just when Shubham Sharma seemed to finding his rhythm, Atit Sheth induced an error, having him caught at third slip by Ajinkya Rahane who had just moved himself there from gully. In his second spell, Unadkat worked the angles by coming around the wicket. He had Himesh Mantri caught at slip with a delivery that went across the left-hander and got one to straighten to the right.

At the other end, Rahane was dismissed again while shouldering arms while Tripathi was leg-before doing the same, with Rajpoot being the bowler on both occasions. After being watchful for a while after his 50, Shaw

handed Priyam Garg from the same angle.

Later, Shaw once again played aggressively on a surface where the batters needed to make most of the loose deliveries. He flicked majestically whenever the pacers drifted to his pads while flashing hard through the off-side when given width and raced to his half-century off just 32 balls.

At the other end, Rahane was dismissed again while shouldering arms while Tripathi was leg-before doing the same, with Rajpoot being the bowler on both occasions. After being watchful for a while after his 50, Shaw

took on the left-arm spinner Kartikeya by sweeping him for two sixes over midwicket. He then drove

**Annar scores four goals**

**NEW DELHI:** Annar Hussain netted four goals and Jehirul Islam added three as Missa HS, Nagaon registered a comprehensive 10-0 win over Smt. Shantaben Haribhai Gajera Secondary School, Amreli in a Pool B match of the 39th Nehru sub-junior (ur-15) boys hockey tournament.

**The results:**

**Pool B:** Missa HS, Nagaon 10 (Annar Hussain 4, Jehirul Islam 3, Siddhartha Das 2, Manish Dubey) bt Shantaben Haribhai Gajera SS, Amreli 0.  
**Pool C:** Sri Gurunanak HSS, Rajhandgaon 3 (Yajat Kaushik, Pravin, Aman Verma) bt Punjab PS, Nabha 1 (Nriday Pratap Singh Sadaria).  
**Pool D:** Loyola HSS, Kohima 2 (Mvielo Koza, Neimhalie Rulu) bt St. Agnel, Uttarakhand 1 (Ankit).

## JK Tyre Silver Jubilee racing edition this weekend



**Battle royale:** Royal Enfield Continental GT Cup, that has been changed to a new format, the Pro-Am Series, is expected to provide keen competition. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

## 'If you are confident, you can achieve anything'

Sports science is something we need to educate ourselves more about: Raina



**Forecast:** Suresh Raina, who attended the Conclave virtually, said Indian cricket will soar to greater heights. ■ R.V. MOORTHY

**C** It is the group which surrounds you which becomes most important

**SURESH RAINA**

said a player needs extra support during his or her growing stages.

"When a medal comes, there is a lot of support. Before that, there was nothing for me. Our government is doing great but when I am practising or training there needs to be more assistance. The kind of support I am getting now, if I continue receiving the same, an Olympic medal isn't far off".

### Need for ecosystem

"Athletes require a whole support system around him. I am a big fan of long-term athlete development plans. India is full of talent. It is just the ecosystem which is required," Commander R. Rajagopal, former head of the Target Olympic Podium Scheme, said.

Sanjeeda Singh, high-performance director, Indian archery, feels States need to implement an all-around sports policy.

"You should have a good sports policy; one which covers all angles. It is no more about a coach and a player. It is about a full team. Sports physiotherapists, psychologists, and so on. Not just that, you will also need to have proper infrastructure".

team, also a part of the panel, said he is thankful he hails from Uttar Pradesh, a State which has helped him a lot in every step of his journey.

"We sometimes start playing a sport because we are not good academically. We also sometimes look to play sports, which do not require a lot of money. Self-motivation is the best motivation.

Once you set your mind to something, you know, even unknowingly, you start working towards it. Once we start playing, the TOPS (Target Olympic Podium Scheme) and all come in. It also depends on which State you are from. I am lucky I am from here".

On UP's new insurance policy for players, Lalit said,

"This is a great step. I am not afraid of getting injured anymore".

Commonwealth Games

medallist judoka Vijay Yadav

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