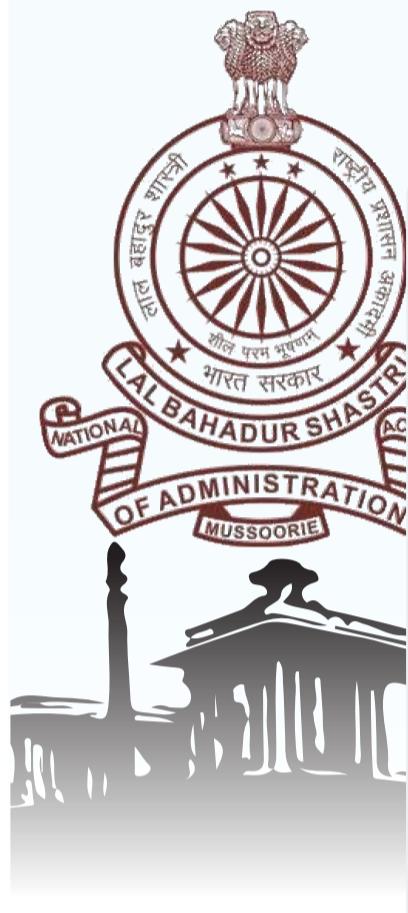


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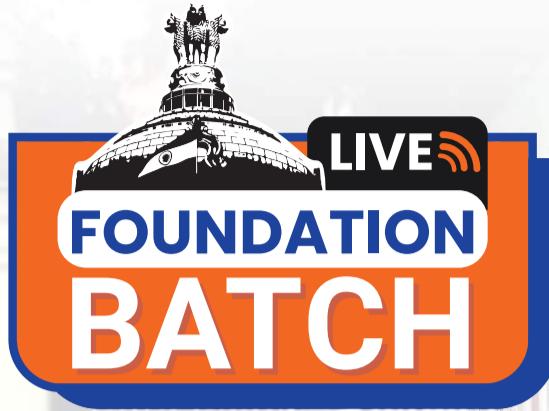


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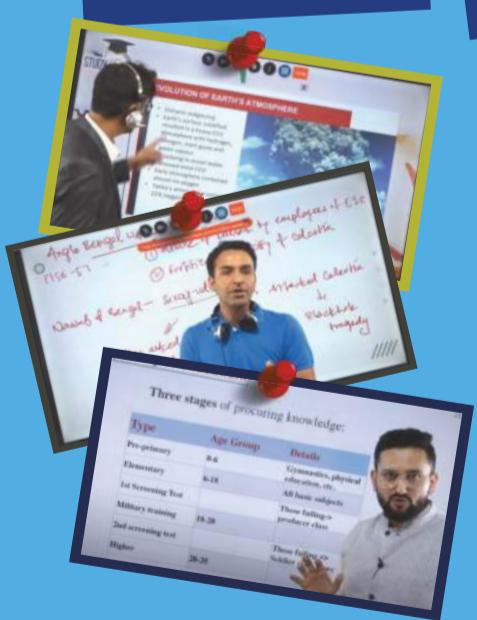
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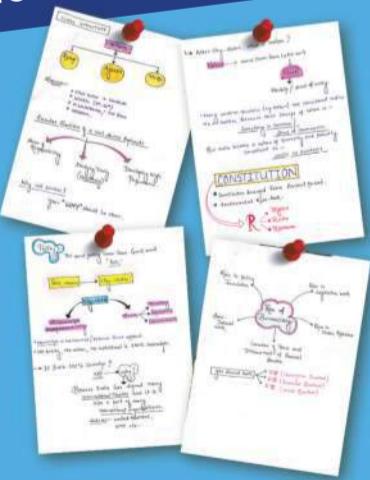


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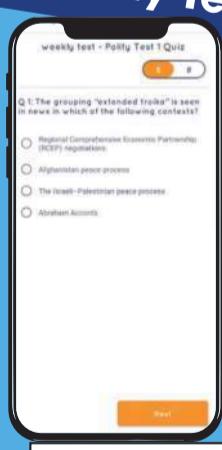
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Quad meeting discusses
China's military drills
and Sri Lanka situation
page 10



SC may take up today
battle between Uddhav,
Shinde over 'real' Sena
page 10



Liz Truss takes charge
as the United Kingdom's
56th Prime Minister
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Shanaka's all-round
show helps Sri Lanka
pip India in thriller
page 15

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IN BRIEF



'Non-locals in J&K being enrolled as voters'

Srinagar
Former CM and PDP president
Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday
claimed that non-local
labourers and security
personnel were being enlisted
as voters in Baramulla.

NEWS ► PAGE 11

OPPORTUNITIES ► PAGE 3

Nitish meets leaders from Opposition

SOBHANA K. NAIR
NEW DELHI

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar met a host of Opposition leaders, in what is seen as an effort to form a united anti-BJP front ahead of the 2024 election. Mr. Kumar began his tour on Tuesday by dropping in at the CPI(M) headquarters.

But his plans met with two notes of dissonance. One, the AAP began preparations for the nationwide 'Make India Number 1' campaign coinciding with Congress's 'Bharat Jodo Yatra'. Also, Indian National Lok Dal leader Om Prakash Chautala extended an invitation to Opposition parties, excluding the Congress and Left, for a grand rally to commemorate his father Devi Lal on September 25.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 10

Bangladesh PM favours early solution for Teesta, other issues

Kushiyara water treaty among the seven deals signed between the two countries



Common ground: Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina with Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the ceremonial reception at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on Tuesday. ■ V.V. KRISHNAN

Assam as well as Sylhet in Bangladesh.

Mr. Modi highlighted the values that made India and Bangladesh to put up a joint fight in the Liberation War of 1971 and said, "In order to keep the spirit of 1971 alive, it is necessary that we confront those forces that want to hurt our common values."

Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra, in a press interaction, said the pact over the Kushiyara was the first river-related agreement that the two sides reached 28

years after the conclusion of the Ganga Waters Agreement of 1996. He also said that India had extended the period of sharing flood water-related information in real time that would help Bangladesh counter the annual floods.

Ukraine war

Mr. Kwatra did not mention the Ukraine war's impact on the economic prospects of the South Asian region, but hinted at it saying the leaders discussed "regional and

global issues".

The Ministries of Railways of India and Bangladesh signed an agreement on training of personnel of the Bangladesh Railway in India.

In a bid to help Bangladesh deal with energy crisis, the two leaders unveiled Unit 1 of the Maitree power plant, a 1,320-MW supercritical coal-fired thermal power plant, at Rampal in Khulna division of Bangladesh.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 10

DHAKA'S WISH LIST ► PAGE 10

SC asks Centre, States to allay EWS quota concerns

It asks the parties to 'crystallise' thoughts by tomorrow

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

A Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the governments at the Centre and the States and petitioners to address a list of concerns raised in the Supreme Court about granting reservation on a purely economic basis, one of them being whether it is a violation of the Basic Structure of the Constitution to exclude the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and some of the most impoverished Socially and Educationally Backward Classes in the country from its scope.

The five-judge Bench, led by Chief Justice of India U.U. Lalit, is considering the validity of the 103rd Constitutional Amendment, which provides the 10% reservation to economically weaker sections (EWS) of society in government jobs and educa-

- Basic concerns** | With the SC scrutinising the EWS quota, senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan had prepared the draft legal issues for the Bench to examine:
- Whether the 103rd Constitution Amendment Act removes the basis of Indra Sawhney judgment that quota cannot be given on a purely economic basis
 - Whether the amendment breaches the Basic Structure of the Constitution in excluding the SEBCs, OBCs, SCs, STs from the scope of EWS reservation
 - Whether it breaches the 50% quota limit by permitting EWS reservations up to 10% over and above the existing reservation
 - Whether the imposition of EWS quota on private unaided institutions violates the Basic Structure



tional institutions. Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, on the court's orders, had prepared the draft legal issues for the Bench to examine. On Tuesday, the Bench asked the draft issues to be circulated

to the parties. The court scheduled the next hearing for Thursday to "crystallise" the issues finally. The CJI said the Bench would start hearing the case next Tuesday.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 10

India gets its first nasal COVID vaccine

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
NEW DELHI

India's first nasal COVID-19 vaccine, developed by Bharat Biotech, has been approved for primary immunisation in those 18 and above, Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said on Tuesday. The company said it was op-

timised for supply and administration.

The approval from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation for restricted use in emergencies will further strengthen India's fight against the pandemic, the Minister tweeted. "India has harnessed its

science, research and development, and human resources in the fight against COVID-19 under PM Narendra Modi's leadership. With the science-driven approach and *Sabka Prayas*, we will defeat COVID-19," he said.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 10

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Har Pal Aapke Saath

ED conducts searches in excise case

Searches carried out at over two dozen locations; BJP scared of Arvind Kejriwal's rising popularity: AAP

DEVESH K. PANDEY
NIKHIL M BABU
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday conducted searches at more than two dozen locations in different States in connection with the alleged irregularities in the formulation and implementation of the Delhi Excise Policy 2021-22.

Responding to the searches, AAP alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has instructed the ED to conduct raids all over the country and "fraudulently" link them to senior AAP leader and Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia.

Money laundering probe
The searches were carried out in Delhi, Gurugram, Faridabad, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Mumbai. The agency has initiated a money laundering probe based on the First Information Report (FIR) registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on August 17 against Mr. Sisodia and others.

"Why has there been no CBI-ED investigation into the



An ED official after conducting a search in connection with the excise policy case in New Delhi on Tuesday. • PTI

₹110 crore MP ration scam and ₹10,000 crore illegal liquor trade in Gujarat? The BJP's central government is conspiring against AAP because of its fear of Arvind Kejriwal's rising popularity in Gujarat," AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh said.

'BJP's hypocrisy'
He claimed that the BJP's "hypocrisy has been exposed and their real face is in front of the entire country".

Among the accused public

servants are the then Excise Commissioner Arva Gopi Krishna, Deputy Commissioner Anand Tiwari and Assistant Commissioner Pankaj Bhatnagar. Other accused include Vijay Nair, former chief executive officer of Mumbai-based entertainment and event management company named Only Much Louder; Manoj Rai, a former employee of Pernod Ricard; Amandeep Dhal, director of Brindco Sales; Sameer Mahendru, managing director

of Indospirit Group; Amit Arora, director of Buddy Retail; Sunny Marwah, the authorised signatory of Mahadev Liquors; and three individuals – Dinesh Arora, Arun Ramchandra Pillai and Arjun Pandey.

Although Mr. Sisodia is one of the accused in the case, the ED has not searched his premises so far.

'Undue favours'

The CBI has alleged that there were irregularities while modifying the excise policy, undue favours were extended to licence holders, licence fee was waived or reduced, and the L-1 licence was extended without the competent authority's approval. The alleged illegal gains were diverted to the private servants concerned by their books of accounts to conceal the money trail.

The probe agency has also alleged that the Delhi Excise Department decided to refund the earnest money deposit of about ₹30 crore to a successful tenderer against

the existing rules. Although there was no enabling provision, a waiver on tendered licence fee was allowed due to the COVID-19 pandemic from December 28, 2021, to January 27, 2022. It allegedly caused a loss of ₹144.36 crore to the exchequer, according to the FIR.

Identifying Mr. Dinesh Arora and Mr. Pandey as "close associates" of Mr. Sisodia, the CBI has also alleged that the three were actively involved in managing and diverting the bribes collected from the beneficiary licence holders to the public servants.

As alleged, Mr. Mahendru had transferred about ₹1 crore to the account of one Radha Industries, managed by Mr. Dinesh Arora; Mr. Pillai received money from Mr. Mahendru for further transfer to an accused public servant via Mr. Nair; and that Mr. Pandey had once collected about ₹2.4 crore from Mr. Mahendru on behalf of Mr. Nair.

In July, Lieutenant-Governor recommended CBI probe into the excise policy.

Woman set afire over dowry, husband, in-laws on the run

Victim suffers 40% burns; DCW chief demands quick action

SAMRIDHI TEWARI
NEW DELHI

A 30-year-old woman sustained severe burn injuries after being set ablaze by her husband and in-laws for not paying dowry, the police said on Tuesday. The incident took place in east Delhi's Mandawali on September 2.

A case has been lodged against the victim's husband and his parents, who are absconding, the police said.

According to DCP (East) Priyanka Kashyap, the police received information about the incident from Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, where the victim was rushed by her family, on September 2. She has suffered 40% burns, said a senior police officer.

Set ablaze over ₹5 lakh

"The Sub-Divisional Magistrate concerned was informed immediately upon receiving the information. He recorded the statement

of the victim, who alleged that her husband, father-in-law and mother-in-law demanded ₹5 lakh from her and, following an argument, poured kerosene oil on her and set her on fire," the DCP added.

The victim's brother told *The Hindu* that his sister got married in 2011.

"Her husband was a drunkard. He would often come home in an inebriated state and humiliate my sister," he added. "She would often come to our house feeling scared of her husband and his relatives."

"Her husband knew about our financial struggle, still he threatened to kill her several times for not paying dowry," he said.

Recalling the incident, the victim's brother said, "Nobody offered to help her after she was set afire.

So she called me up. She has sustained injuries on her face, lips, back, stomach and thighs. How will we ever go back to

Sack Sisodia, Jain from Cabinet: BJP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Delhi BJP MLAs on Tuesday staged a demonstration outside Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia's residence demanding that he and Health Minister Satyendar Jain be sacked from the Cabinet.

The MLAs, led by Leader of the Opposition Ranvir Singh Bidhuri, marched to Mr. Sisodia's house after they were unable to meet the President despite a scheduled appointment where they were supposed to demand the dismissal of the AAP government. The police took the BJP members under preventive custody. They were later released. Referring to the 'sting video' released on Monday, Mr. Bidhuri alleged, "The video has proved that the commission of liquor contractors was increased from 2% to 12% so that half of the share could be returned to AAP in cash."

Govt. earns ₹269.08 crore from liquor sale this month

350 vends report ₹8 lakh average daily sale

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Of the 500 Delhi government-run liquor vends, 350 vends have reported an average daily sale of ₹8 lakh since September 1, when the AAP government reverted to its old excise regime.

Nearly ₹269.08 crore has been collected in excise revenue by these vends within the first six days of the month, according to government data.

On July 22, Lieutenant-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena, in an unexpected move, recommended a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into the Delhi Excise Policy 2021-22 after receiving a report from the Chief Secretary about "deliberate and gross procedural lapses".

Following this, on July 31 the Cabinet sent a proposal to the L-G to junk the new excise policy and revert to the old regime, in which the Delhi government runs the retail liquor vends, for the next six months.

"As of date, sufficient liquor for more than 12 days is available in



Customers at a newly opened liquor vend at Gole Market in Delhi. • FILE PHOTO

Delhi. Liquor outlets have reported an average sale of about ₹8 lakh in the first week of September, which is likely to go up in the coming days," the Excise Department stated.

The department added that the liquor licences of nearly 926 hotels, clubs and restaurants have been auto-renewed till February 28, 2023. "A total of ₹269.08 crore in excise revenue has been collected under the current regime," it also stated.

Two foreigners held with drugs worth ₹1,200 crore

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Two Afghan nationals have been arrested for allegedly possessing drugs worth ₹1,200 crore, including 312.5 kg of high-quality party drug Methamphetamine and 10 kg of Afghan-origin heroin, the police said on Tuesday.

The accused have been identified as Mustafa Stanikzai from Kabul and Rahumullah Rahimi, a resident of Kandahar.

A team of the Special Cell was being provided credible inputs that over the past few years, Meth was gradually replacing heroin as the preferred financing option for terror operations.

An FIR was lodged under relevant sections of the UAPA Act and investigation was taken up.

Further probe revealed that a huge consignment of a known druglord operating from overseas would be in transit in Delhi.

Thereafter, a specific input was received on September 3 that two Afghan nationals were reaching Delhi and were expected to carry some contraband with them.

A trap was laid and the two persons were arrested from near the Kalindi Kunj metro station.

Making way for new name



Labourers at work at the Central Vista project site. The New Delhi Municipal Council will hold a special meeting today to approve a proposal for renaming Rajpath as Kartavya Path. • SHIV KUMAR PUSHKAR

Will decongest Delhi roads in phases: CM

Project to see redesigning of roads and construction of flyovers, underpasses

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Aiming to rid the Capital of traffic jams, the Delhi government will decongest 77 corridors in a phased manner. In addition, redesigning of roads and construction of flyovers, underpasses and foot overbridges will also be taken up at these congestion hotspots.

Areas with high-traffic density will be decongested first. Outer Ring

Road, Najafgarh Road, Wazirabad Road, Rohtak Road and Anand Vihar-Apsara Road are among the corridors set for a revamp under the project, the government announced after a review meeting chaired by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal here on Tuesday.

Traffic-free project

"We have taken up an unprecedented project to make Delhi completely

free of traffic jams," Mr. Kejriwal said. "We anticipate this to be a crucial step towards developing Delhi as the most liveable city of India and the whole world. Lakhs of commuters are set to benefit from this project," he said.

At these 77 corridors, the Public Works Department has identified and implemented various short-term and long-term measures that will help ease traffic.

'Delhi govt. has no right to question MCD's internal affairs'

Plea in HC objects to Assembly panel on civic body

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday asked the city government to respond to a plea by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) challenging the constitution of a "Committee of Municipal Corporation" by the Delhi Assembly.

Justice Yashwant Varma granted three weeks to the Delhi government to submit its response to the MCD's petition, which states that only the Centre has the power of managing its affairs.

'Holds importance'

The Delhi government's counsel told the High Court that the House committees were "very important committees in aid of the legislature", as pointed out by the Supreme Court.

The court also asked the Delhi government to desist from taking any further action in relation to the constitution of the committee after MCD's counsel urged the court to pass an interim order protecting it against the committee's orders.

"Don't proceed any further. We will put a short date," the court said.



The MCD also objected to the information sought by the committee about the corporation's "internal affairs".

'No legal right'

The MCD, in its petition, stated that being questioned by the Committee of Municipal Corporation was bad in law and illegal as the State government has "no power and no legal right to constitute the committee" or seek information and compel the presence of officers without sanction and approval of the Lieutenant-Governor.

The High Court will hear the case again on October 11.

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The candidates willing to apply should visit website of this institute www.gmcch.gov.in for further details. The Prospectus will be available on the website from **07.09.2022 on wards** and online application form will be available on the website from **07.09.2022 to 12.09.2022** upto 4.00 p.m.

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NORTHERN RAILWAY e-OPEN E-Tender Notice

Name of work with location, cost of work and Earnest Money

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Earnest Money 3. Rs. 1.80,500/- 2. Rs. 1.99,500/-

Completion Period 1. 12 Months 2. 12 Months

Earnest Money should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway only. Note: FDR or Demand Draft will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter No. 2015/CE-II/CT/51 dated : 31.08.2016.

Date and time of submission of tender and opening of tender Upto 15.00 hrs on 30.09.2022 opening of e-tender at 15.00 hrs on 30.09.2022.

Website particulars, published-tender, notice location etc complete details of tender can be seen and web site where the tender form can be downloaded

Similar nature of work Any Civil work other than track work

NOTE: All attachments must be self attested by the tenders and the affidavit should be submitted in the new format attached with tender conditions as per Annexure-XXIV is compulsory.

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Gist of e-tender

NIT No: MHCHD/TS /2022-23/92/e-tendering Dated:-03.09.2022 (Short Term)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT-e-tenders are invited from registered/reputed/experienced firms with J&K UTGovt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned work:-

Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T.Doc. (In rupees)	Time of completion (in days)	AA	Accorded Vide No:	TS No	EMD Amount (In rupees)
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1. Downloading of Bids:- The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from 03.09.2022(18.00 hrs) and can be downloaded from 03.09.2022(18.00 hrs).

2. Uploading:- The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site 04.09.2022(18.00 hrs) to 09.09.2022(14.00hrs) in two (02) covers.

3. Opening of Bids:- The bids received upto due date and time shall be opened on 09.09.2022 at 16.00 hrs or any date convenient to the department in the office of Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar.

MHCHD/TS/5112-17 Dt:03-09-2022

Sd/- Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar

DIPK-9343/22

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE

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

N.I.T. No. : 19- 22-23/WE

GEM Bid No.

GEM/2022/B/2488496

Comprehensive cleaning sanitization work at P.K. Road, New Delhi for a period of 33 months in this section of SSE/W/P under ADEN/E-I

Approx. cost of work : Rs. 2,15,78,864.23

EMD amount : Rs. 2,58,946.00

Completion period of work : 2 Years 9 Months

Date and Time for submission of tender and opening of tender : Closing date of tender on 26.09.2022 at 15.00 hrs.

Website particular notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. : Above tender available on website i.e. <a href="http://

Timings

WEDNESDAY, SEP. 07	
RISE 06:02 SET 18:36	
RISE 16:45 SET 02:11	
THURSDAY, SEP. 08	
RISE 06:03 SET 18:35	
RISE 17:33 SET 03:22	
FRIDAY, SEP. 09	
RISE 06:03 SET 18:34	
RISE 18:13 SET 04:32	

Delhi Weather	max	min
Delhi City	36	26
Safdarjung	36	26
Palam	37	27

Delhi Palam Today
38°C The weather will be mostly dry. Day will be hot and humid with uneasy afternoon. Night will be slight warm.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow
37°C A dry weather is likely. Day will be very warm and humid. Night remains slight warm.

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THE HINDU
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Kejriwal to start nationwide yatra from Haryana today

AAP's 'Make India Number 1' campaign coincides with Cong's Bharat Jodo Yatra

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal with his Bihar counterpart Nitish Kumar during a meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday. • PTI

With an eye on the 2024 Lok Sabha election, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) chief and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal will begin a countrywide yatra from Hisar in Haryana on Wednesday as part of the party's 'Make India Number 1' campaign.

Mr. Kejriwal's campaign coincides with the Congress' Bharat Jodo Yatra, also beginning on Wednesday. Buoyed by its recent victory in the Punjab Assembly election, AAP is campaigning to dislodge the Congress from the position of the principal Opposition party.

Distance from Oppn. AAP has maintained a distance from the Opposition bloc both inside and outside Parliament. In the recent Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections, while the party sided with most of the Opposi-

tion parties, it did not send any representative to the various Opposition meetings, making it clear that it does not want to be part of any groups that are coordinated by the Congress.

At the same time, AAP has been trying hard to make inroads into the traditional vote bank of the BJP.

"A few days ago, we launched a programme –

Make India Number 1. It is the dream of 130 crore people to see India become world's number one country," Mr. Kejriwal said in a video statement on Tuesday.

"We have to work like a team, like a family. If it happens, then no one can stop us from making India the world's number 1 country. To achieve this, I will go to each State and will try to join people to this

movement," Mr. Kejriwal said. "Tomorrow, I will start this yatra from my birthplace, Hisar, in Haryana. From there, I will go to the other States. Anyone can join the movement by giving a missed call on 9510001000," he added.

AAP's campaign is also aimed at strengthening its position in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh, where Assembly polls are due this year-end. The party is hoping that its electoral performance in both these States will have a direct impact in Rajasthan that goes to poll next year.

A party source said it won't be a continuous yatra and will be done over a period of time. "The aim is to save the country in the 2024 election," the source said.

After Haryana, Mr. Kejriwal's yatra will cover Rajasthan, the source added. The party has not officially announced details of the other campaigns.

Locals demolish 'tainted' madrasa in Assam's Goalpara district

RAHUL KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI

The residents of a 'char' or sandbar in western Assam's Goalpara demolished a madrasa that had employed two suspected Bangladeshi nationals linked to terror organisations, the police claimed on September 6.

The locals of Darogar Alga village on Pakhiura Char also brought down a house that adjoined the madrasa. The two suspected Bangladeshi nationals – Aminul Islam and Jahangir Alom – used to stay in this semi-permanent structure, a statement issued by the Assam police said.

This is the first instance of

voluntary demolition of an Islamic educational institution allegedly misused by "anti-India forces" after three in Morigaon and Bonagaon districts were bulldozed by the local authorities in August.

"The voluntary demolition was an outcome of the strong resentment towards

the jihadi activities that were being run from the madrasa," a spokesperson at the Assam police headquarters said.

The police had a few days ago arrested one Jalaluddin Sheikh who had engaged Islam and Alom as teachers at the Darogar Alga madrasa at different times during the period 2020-22.

APPOINTMENT

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September 01, 2022

Chair, Search Committee

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03	Medical Officer (E-1)	05

For full details of the advertisement, please visit Company's website www.sail.co.in

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CIN : L93090TN1956G0103507 Website: www.nlcindia.in

Adv. No. 08/2022

Recruitment of Graduate Executive Trainees through GATE - 2023

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NLCIL intends to recruit Graduate Executive Trainees (Engineering Graduates) on the basis of GATE-2023 score in various technical disciplines subject to availability of vacancies. Detailed Advertisement will be issued in the Year 2023 indicating discipline wise vacancies and other eligibility norms. Applicants interested in joining NLCL as Graduate Executive Trainees in 2023 are required to appear for GATE-2023 test. Please login to GATE-2023 website <https://gate.iitk.ac.in> for complete details.

Start date of GATE-2023 online registration is 30-08-2022 and closing date is 30-09-2022.

PUBLIC SECTOR IS YOURS : HELP IT TO HELP YOU

Chhattisgarh forms SC, OBC panels

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
RAIPUR

The Chhattisgarh government on Tuesday announced the formation of separate advisory councils for the Scheduled Castes and the Backward Classes in the State. CM Bhupesh Baghel said the move is aimed at providing help in recommending and implementing programmes for these groups. This assumes significance as the Assembly election is just 14 months away and the BJP is attempting to woo back the OBC voters.

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LEGAL NOTICE

In The Court of the SC/T Special
Court Namakkal, Tamilnadu
MCOP. No.12/2020

I. Shanthi, W/o:Natarajan
2. Ramya W/o.Dharmaraj
3. Minor Vidhya, Dio:Natarajan
4. Minor Gowtham, S/o. Natarajan
5. Bommayammal, W/o:Nagaraj
6. Nagaraj, S/o.Bommayakkar,
(34 minors are rep. by its mother
Shanthi) all are residing at 6/128,
Nerunchi Kadu, Kanooport Post,
Namakkal Tk & Dist,Tamilnadu.
Petitioners

- Versus -
Phool Singh, S/o.Rabodee,H.No.368
(Partly) Om Enclave Agwani,
Faridabad, Haryana -121002.

Ist Respondent

Court Notice to 1st Respondent
The above named petitioners are filed Motor Accident Claim case
against you, before the above court
which is posted for appearance on
20.09.2022. You are informed to appear before the court at 10:00AM
on the above date either in person or
through advocate. Incase of failure to appear, the matter will be decided
ex parte.

// By order of the Court/
V.Sundaram, M.L.I.L.,
Advocate, Rasipuram.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE FOR LOST
OF DOCUMENTS

Original Allocation Letter, Possession
Letter & NOC for Electric & Water
connection received from D.O.A. in
respect of Flat no. 2021, Block No. 2 & 3,
Sector No. B, Vasant Kunj having file no.
12629193/SFS/VKIII belonging to Mrs.
Jyoti Mehta, Plot No. 11, Sector No. B,
Rajouri Garden, West End Avenue, Sunil
Farms, New Delhi - 110062 have been
lost/misplaced and the same are not
traceable. FIR/NCR having LR No.
765163/2022 dated 06.09.2022 has been
filed.

Shivam Malhotra (Advocate)
9654499901

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : 24-B, Gandhi Nagar,
Kumbakonam - 612 001. E-Mail id : crmd@cityunionbank.in,
Ph : 0435-243232, Fax : 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following properties mortgaged to City Union Bank Limited will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of Rs.18,93,367/- (Rupees One Crore Eighty Six Lakhs Ninety Three Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty Seven only) as on 18-01-2022 together with further interest to be charged from 19-01-2022 onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers/ guarantors No.1) M/s. Moon Metals, Having its Registered Office at 3808, Gali Barna, Bara Tooti, Sadar Bazar, Near Heena Jewellers, Delhi - 110006, No.2) Mr. Prakash Daga, S/o. Mr. Harish Chand Daga, at Flat No.C-5, Plot No.11, Bandhu Vihar, Sector - 10, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110075. Also at, Mr. Prakash Daga, S/o. Mr. Harish Chand Daga, at Flat No-E-3, Plot No.11, Bandhu Vihar, Sector - 10, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110075. No.3) Mrs. Vijay Laxmi Daga, W/o. Prakash Daga, at Flat No-C-5, Plot No.11, Bandhu Vihar, Sector - 10, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110075. Also at, Mrs. Vijay Laxmi Daga, W/o. Prakash Daga, at Flat No-E-3, Plot No.11, Bandhu Vihar, Sector - 10, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110075.

Note : That our 244 - New Delhi/Rohini Branch has also extended Financial Assistance (FTL - ADHOC : 501912090016596) dated 01-09-2020 requested by No.1 of you represented by No.2 of you as Proprietor for which No.3 of you stood as Co-obligant and No.1 of you stood as Guarantor for the facility for a total amount of Rs.7,58,000/- at a ROI of 12.25%. The same has been also classified NPA on 22-12-2020 and the outstanding balance as on 18-01-2022 is Rs.9,10,680/- plus further interest and penal interest of 2.00% with monthly rests to be charged from 19-01-2022 till the date of realization.

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All that piece and parcel of Property bearing No.3808, without Roof Rights on Ground Floor, One Room, Three Stores, One Verandah, Admeasuring 43 Sq.Yds. known as Gali Berna, Sadar Bazar, Delhi and bounded as under: North : Other Property, South : Common Passage, East : Other's Property, West : Other's Property.

Reserve Price : Rs.10,00,000/-
(Rupees Seventy Lakh only)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
28-09-2022	City Union Bank Limited, New Delhi-Rohini Branch, C-9/115, Sector 8, Rohini, New Delhi, Delhi - 110085, Telephone No.011-27941336, Cell No.9350011173.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale:

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. (2) The intending bidders may obtain the Tenders Forms from The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, New Delhi-Rohini Branch, C-9/115, Sector 8, Rohini, New Delhi - 110085. (3) The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd., together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of 10% of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of "City Union Bank - West" or on before 12.00 Noon on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. (4) For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact Telephone No.011-27941336, Cell No.9350011173. (5) The properties are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever 'e' is basis". (6) The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at 01.00 p.m. on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. (7) The successful bidder shall have to pay 25% (inclusive of EMD paid) of the sale amount immediately upon completion of sale and the balance amount of 75% within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of 25% shall be forfeited. (8) The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. (9) The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. (10) The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues [lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues], TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. (11) The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 05-09-2022 Authorised Officer

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, CIN - L65110TN1904PLC001287, Telephone No. 0435-2402322, Fax : 0435-2431746, Website : www.cityunionbank.com

Many people marooned in rain-hit Bengaluru

2 electrocuted; rainwater enters several residential pockets; 162 lakes filled up

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

As heavy rain continued to pour Bengaluru, two electrocution deaths were reported over the past 24 hours in the city. Hundreds of people who were stranded, as flood waters encircled their homes, were rescued by NDRF teams.

A 23-year-old school administrator and a 32-year-old security guard were electrocuted when they were trying to navigate through an inundat-

ed road and basement, respectively.

Akhila, 23, a resident of Siddapura, Whitefield, was returning home from work when her scooter skidded on the waterlogged street, and she fell on an advertisement hoarding erected on the road divider, and was electrocuted.

Pipu Kumar Sahu, 32, a security guard at an apartment complex on Lavelle Road, was electrocuted when he went into the flooded base-



In full flow: After three decades, the crest gates of Thippagondanahalli reservoir were opened. ■ K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

ment to switch on a water pump to flush out water.

Monday night's downpour again caused floods in several parts of the Mahadevapura zone, starting from Sai

flooded recently too.

Two of the biggest lakes of the city – Bellandur and Varthur lakes – have been overflowing along with several other upstream lakes. NDRF teams deployed boats and tractors to rescue several residents.

"We have two teams of 60 NDRF personnel that we have further split into two, and have carried out operations at four places in last two days," said J. Senthil Kumar, assistant commandant and operation in-charge of NDRF in Bengaluru.

There has been no solution in sight to the waterlog-

ging on outer ring road, which, after the steady onslaught of rain, has not only impacted IT firms and MNCs but also small businesses and eateries that operate there.

The India Meteorological Department has predicted more rainfall in Karnataka till Friday.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai blamed the Opposition Congress for "maladministration and granting of permission for construction of buildings on the encroached lands", while the latter hit back saying that the government cannot get away by indulging in blame game.

Sachin Pilot's birthday draws Congress loyalists to Jaipur

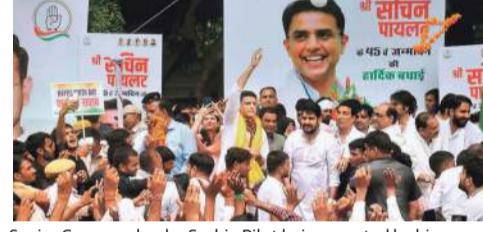
Show of strength comes ahead of party national chief poll

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAIPUR

Thousands of supporters of former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot gathered at his residence in Civil Lines here on Tuesday, a day before his 45th birthday, in a major show of strength and sending across a political message of his popularity among the masses as well as the Congress party workers. A huge cut-out of the leader was the centre of attraction at the venue.

The celebrations were organised a day before Mr. Pilot's birthday as he is scheduled to travel to the coastal town of Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu to join the party's Bharat Jodo Yatra on Wednesday. A large number of banners, hoardings and posters congratulating Mr. Pilot were put up in the Civil Lines area.

The event assumes signifi-



Senior Congress leader Sachin Pilot being greeted by his supporters outside his residence in Jaipur on Tuesday, a day before his 45th birthday. ■ PTI

cance because of its crucial timing, as the process for electing the new party president will be starting later this month. With Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot emerging as a front-runner for the post, Mr. Pilot's supporters have intensified their demand for making him the State's next CM.

While the Pilot camp in the Pradesh Congress Committee became active after the announcement of the party pre-

sident's election programme, Mr. Pilot himself made a cryptic remark that everyone would have to follow the high command's instructions.

Several Ministers and MLAs visited Mr. Pilot's home. These included Brijendra Ola, Hemaram Chaudhary and Murari Lal Meena. Seven MLAs considered close to Mr. Gehlot also visited.

AAP playing politics over sensitive cases +

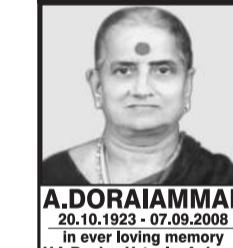
OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

E. Revichandran (64), Retired Assistant Engineer-Pre Press, The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 06-09-2022. Address: 49, Small Corporation Lane, Bhopalayam Road, Pattaialam, Chennai - 600012. Ct: 9884155079

IN MEMORIAM

FOURTEENTH ANNIVERSARY



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Date: 07.09.2022

Sd/- DIRECTOR

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No compromise

Air safety is paramount, and politicians should not be allowed to pressure ATC officials

The incident, on August 31, wherein two BJP Members of Parliament, Nishikant Dubey and Manoj Tiwari, and their entourage are alleged to have 'forcibly obtained take-off clearance' close to sunset, from the Air Traffic Control (ATC) at Deogarh airport in Jharkhand for their flight is a case of 'tail-scraping' established air safety norms. The politicians – they were in the State to meet the family members of a minor girl in Dumka who had been set ablaze by a stalker on August 23 – are reported to have reached the airport at around 5.25 p.m. to fly back to Delhi on a chartered twin-engine business jet. Based on complaints by the airport security-in-charge and the Deputy Commissioner of Deogarh, the allegation is that the ATC was coerced into allowing the flight to depart, resulting in the Jharkhand police registering an FIR against the MPs and the others. Various sections of the Indian Penal Code such as 'endangering life or personal safety' have been applied. Mr. Dubey in turn filed an FIR in Delhi against the Deputy Commissioner and the Jharkhand police which includes, bizarrely, their being booked under Section 124A (sedition). It is at this point, air safety experts concur, that the clutter must be swept aside and the core issue of flight safety brought firmly into focus.

Deogarh, according to data available in the Aeronautical Information Publication, is still a Visual Flight Rules (VFR) airport, and night operations are not permitted. Further, point 3 under 'En-Route-1.2 Visual Flight Rules' states that "VFR flights shall not be operated between 20 minutes after sunset to 20 minutes before sunrise, except when exempted by air traffic control for local flights...", the principle being that the airfield should be available in the event of an emergency after take-off under VFR conditions. It must be noted that sunset at Deogarh was at 6.03 p.m. and the flight left at 6.17 p.m. The difficulties the crew could have faced at such an airport in the event of an emergency, such as a bird hit or engine failure, do not have to be elaborated – avian life is active at twilight and Jharkhand is known to be a bird-rich spot. Other airports in the region available for a diversion are not close either. Additionally, to have one of the politicians who is part of a committee constituted by the Ministry of Civil Aviation attempting to push the boundaries of safety is unacceptable. The episode also highlights the pressures faced by air traffic controllers and officials, especially in small airports in India. As a member of the International Civil Aviation Organization and bound by its stringent rules, India must ensure that directives are followed and that there is a thorough and fair probe, with penalties, by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The politics should be fenced off.

Trial by fire

Liz Truss will have to deliver results quickly as the U.K. faces crises on different fronts

The United Kingdom's Conservative Party has elected Liz Truss, earlier the country's Foreign Secretary, as its next Prime Minister, making her the third woman to hold the top role in the country's political executive. She ascends to the post at a difficult time for the U.K., economically and politically – the government is challenged by soaring energy costs and recessionary headwinds; and the war in Ukraine has left the country scrambling to find alternatives to Russian fuel while standing up to Moscow's belligerence. Making matters harder, her path to the top has not inspired confidence in terms of her standing within the party. While she secured her victory with the backing of 81,326 of her party's members, her rival and former Chancellor, Rishi Sunak garnered 60,399 votes in the final contest, a much narrower margin than expected and the narrowest margin of any election for party leadership held in the past two decades. It is also concerning that Ms. Truss won the support of less than 50% of Conservative Party members, as nearly 20% of them did not vote. In terms of policy implications this poses a challenge: in the coming months Ms. Truss will have to win over a Conservative Party cohort that prefers fundamentally different approaches to hers in tackling the most serious crises that the U.K. faces. For example, with her plan to introduce £30 billion in tax cuts including reversing the rise in National Insurance, temporarily dropping green levies on energy bills, and scrapping a planned rise in corporation tax, there are likely to be party members who will oppose her proposals.

Nevertheless, if there is one strength that Ms. Truss has demonstrated in the past, it is her adaptable politics, especially at times when this trait could improve her prospects in the big picture. Indeed, she has moved far from her political origins as a Liberal Democrat and also from her former position on Brexit as a Remainer. It was considered a politically astute move by her to steer clear of the Conservative coup that ended her predecessor Boris Johnson's tenure in office, yet she managed simultaneously to avoid being seen as a staunch insider of Mr. Johnson's political circle. She will need a strong measure of these skills to accomplish the mammoth tasks of lifting up the enervated reputation of the Conservative Party among the British public, carrying it past the sleaze scandals that plagued the Johnson government and, importantly, bringing down the soaring cost of living by tackling the energy crises and reinvigorating the sluggish U.K. economy with the right macroeconomic policy mix. Towards achieving this, Ms. Truss may do well to tap into her recent experience crafting post-Brexit deals with the European Union – and even extending that model to trading partners across the world. One thing is clear: she will have to hit the ground running and deliver positive results soon, else face harsh judgement by her constituents.

India, 7% plus annual growth, and the realities

Given the desire to achieve developed country status in the next 25 years, the required rate is in the range of 8% to 9%



C. RANGARAJAN &
D.K. SRIVASTAVA

The National Statistical Office's real GDP growth estimate of 13.5% for the first quarter of 2022-23 is 2.7% points lower than the Reserve Bank of India's earlier assessment of 16.2%. Assuming that the central bank's estimates of the remaining three quarters of the fiscal year at 6.2% in Q2, 4.1% in Q3, and 4% in Q4 are realised, the annual GDP growth using the NSO's IQ estimate works out to be 6.7%. Compared to the pre-COVID-19 GDP level of ₹35.5 lakh crore in IQ of 2019-20, real GDP at ₹36.9 lakh crore shows an increase of only 3.8%. This indicates that the performance of the Indian economy is not fully normalised yet which would be consistent with a growth of 6.5% to 7%. In order at least to reach an annual growth of 7%, GDP may have to grow at about 5% in 3Q and 4Q of 2022-23.

Composition of growth

Out of the eight Gross Value Added (GVA) sectors, the first quarter growth performance is higher than the average of 12.7% in public administration, defence and other services (26.3%), trade, hotels, transport *et al.* (25.7%), construction (16.8%), and electricity, gas, water supply *et al.* (14.7%). Agricultural growth has remained robust, showing a growth of 4.5% in IQ of 2022-23, which is the highest growth over nine consecutive quarters. Growth in manufac-

ting, at 4.8%, however, is much below the overall average. A more relevant comparison would be to look at the increase with respect to corresponding output levels in the pre-COVID-19 normal year, that is in IQ of 2019-20.

In this comparison, manufacturing seems to have done better with an increase of 7% in IQ of 2022-23 while the trade, hotels, transport *et al.* sector has remained below its pre-COVID-19 level by a margin of minus 15.5%. This was the main contact-intensive sector which suffered the most during COVID-19 and which may show better recovery in succeeding quarters. Construction has also increased by a small margin of 1.2% when compared to its IQ 2019-20 level.

On the demand side, all major segments showed magnitudes in IQ of 2022-23 that were higher than their corresponding levels in IQ of 2019-20. Recovery in domestic demand has been reflected in the growth rates of private final consumption expenditure (PFCE), at 25.9%, and gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) at 20.1% over the corresponding quarter of the previous year. As compared to its IQ 2019-20 level, the GFCF showed a growth of 6.7%. The ratio of gross fixed capital formation to GDP at current prices is 29.2% in IQ of 2022-23 which is 1% point higher than the investment rate of 28.2% in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

The contribution of net exports to real GDP growth is negative at minus 6.2% points in IQ of 2022-23 since import growth continues to exceed export growth by a tangible margin. Such an adverse contribution of net exports to real



GDP growth is an all-time high for the 2011-12 base series. It is likely that import growth will continue to exceed export growth in the next few quarters, both in real and nominal terms, considering prevailing high global prices of petroleum products and other intermediate inputs and India's growing demand for importing intermediate goods with a view to boosting 'Make in India'.

On the feasibility

The Indian economy may still show a 7% plus growth in 2022-23 provided it performs better in the subsequent quarters, particularly in the last two. Two important areas of policy support for this purpose would be to further increase the investment rate and to reduce the magnitude of negative contribution of net exports. Available high frequency indicators for the first four to five months of 2022-23 indicate continuing growth momentum.

Headline manufacturing Purchasing Manager's Index (PMI) was at an eight-month high of 56.4 in July 2022. It remained high at 56.2 in August 2022. PMI services were at 55.5 in July 2022, indicating 12 consecutive months of expansion. Outstanding bank credit by scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) grew by 15.3% in the fortnight ending August 12, 2022.

Gross Goods and Services Tax collections have remained high at ₹1.49 lakh crore and ₹1.43 lakh crore in July and August 2022, respectively, although a good part of this may be due to the higher inflation levels of both Wholesale Price Index (WPI) and Consumer Price Index (CPI).

As seen in 1Q of 2022-23, GVA growth has been led by public administration, defence, and other services, with a growth of 26.3%. This has been driven by the central government's frontloading of capital expenditure. The Centre's capital expenditure grew by 62.5% during the first four months of 2022-23. This momentum needs to be maintained. This would be facilitated by a buoyant growth in the Centre's gross tax revenues, which showed a growth of nearly 25% during the first four months of the current fiscal year. The relatively high tax revenue growth is in turn linked to the excess of nominal GDP growth at 26.7% in IQ of 2022-23 over the real GDP growth of 13.5%. Such a large gap between these two growth measures reflects a high implicit price deflator (IPD)-based inflation which is estimated at 11.6% in 1Q of 2022-23. This is in part because of the ongoing WPI and CPI inflation trends where the former continues to exceed the latter. With buoyant tax revenue growth, fiscal policy may strongly support GDP growth without making any significant sacrifice on the budgeted fiscal deficit target.

Raise investment rate

In the light of likely development in 2022-23, how confident are we of achieving the growth rate of 6% to 7% over a normal base? Given

our desire to achieve developed country status in the next 25 years, the required growth rate is in the range of 8% to 9%. In 2023-24, we must try to achieve a growth rate of 6% to 7%. The key to growth lies in raising the investment rate. Public capital expenditure has shown a rise. In crisis years, it is particularly good. It can crowd in private capital expenditure. But this cannot be the normal. Private capital expenditures, both corporate and non-corporate, must rise. It is pointed out that capacity utilisation in industry has touched 75% in 4Q 2021-22. This should help to attract private investment if demand for goods continues to increase. The output loss because of COVID-19 and the consequent lockdown is greater if we measure it from the trend line rather than the base of 2019-20. Had we maintained growth of 7% since 2019-20 in successive years, the real GDP would have been ₹183.4 lakh crore in 2022-23. Even if we achieve a 7% growth in 2022-23 over 2021-22, there is a shortfall of ₹25.7 lakh crore at 2011-12 prices. The international environment for growth is bleak. Developed countries even fear a recession. India's growth path in the next few years must depend on domestic investment picking up. Sector-wise growth in investment must be the focus of policymakers in removing bottlenecks and creating a favourable climate.

C. Rangarajan is former Chairman, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council and former Governor, Reserve Bank of India. D.K. Srivastava is former Director and Honorary Professor, Madras School of Economics. The views expressed are personal

For Vizhinjam, business as usual is not an option

It is politically hard, but developmentally critical, to run port projects with coastal management sustainably



VINOD THOMAS

Revenues from the ₹7,525-crore deep-water port and terminal at Vizhinjam in Kerala will only be justified if the project provides sufficient safeguards against ecological destruction and addresses the rights of households displaced by the project. Nowhere is this socio-environmental imperative bigger than in Thiruvananthapuram because of its precarious ecology and coast-reliant economy. It is politically hard, but developmentally critical, to make a mid-course shift, to put port development with coastal management on a sustainable track.

A false dichotomy

Singapore, Shanghai, and Dubai took advantage of ports to become hubs, earn incomes, and drive economic growth. Vizhinjam's proximity to east-west shipping routes, its natural undredged draft of some 20 metres, and suitability for large vessels all make it a unique site. But in a lopsided agreement, the Government of Kerala bears 67% of the financing and the Concessionaire (extended to a generous 40 years) 33%, with a low internal rate of return of 3.7% for the Government and 15% for the Concessionaire. Despite the locational advantages, the Adani Vizhinjam Port Pvt. Ltd., finds the deal attractive only with the inclusion of large real estate components in prime port property. The financial picture of the enterprise is murky at best.

Another crucial issue is that any revenue generation is at the cost of a heavy human toll. Some 350 families that have lost homes to coastal erosion last year, and those living in makeshift schools and camps are just a foretaste of things

to come if coastal erosion and extreme cyclones continue unabated. Port projects in China, Kenya, and Vietnam have seen vast resettlement and livelihood outlays by the owners over the life of the project.

A further danger is an irreversibly destroyed ecology, triggering deadlier hazards of nature. Ports without adequate safeguards in a highly delicate ecology unleash destruction on marine life and the livelihoods of the local population. Visakhapatnam and Chennai show how siltation, coastal erosion and accretion can be exacerbated by deepening of harbour channels in ecologically sensitive areas; this risk is just greater for Vizhinjam by an order of magnitude.

Building safeguards could potentially run economic growth and socio-economic sustainability in tandem. A 2017 study warned of the fallout for the shoreline and marine ecosystem from construction of breakwaters and dredging. But no funds have been earmarked for maintenance dredging within operational expenses, based on the false premise that siltation would be "negligible", with "minimum literal drift along the project site".

Equally, project documents hardly address the effects of the port on the precious marine ecosystem and biodiversity, a huge priority for Kerala. Recent studies have identified the Vizhinjam-Poovar stretch as a biodiversity hotspot and recommended that the region be recognised as a marine protected area. The discussion of flora, fauna, and lakes in the environmental impact assessment (EIA) is purely pro-forma.

The vital shoreline assessment in the EIA, released in May 2013, has come under heavy criticism for factual errors. For example, there is no mention of the ecological consequences of the dismantling of two hills in the Western Ghats to provide rocks for the project, aside from destroying a few promontories at the project site.



A just published study shows that during 2006-20, the sea gobbled some 2.62 square kilometres or close to 650 acres from the Thiruvananthapuram coast alone. The rate of erosion is faster between Pozhikkara and Veli. Also, 0.7 km² of land was accreted.

The latest shoreline report, based on beach profile and satellite analysis, by the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai, appointed by the developer, shows significant erosion on the northern coast of the port (Poonthura, Valiyathura, Shangumugham, Veli) and accretion in the port area and in the south (Poovar, Adimalathura) from 2015 to 2021 during port construction. Many of the spots themselves were the same during 2015-21 compared to previous periods, but new spots (Kochuveli, Cheraihura) too had emerged, post 2015.

Equally, project documents hardly address the effects of the port on the precious marine ecosystem and biodiversity, a huge priority for Kerala. Recent studies have identified the Vizhinjam-Poovar stretch as a biodiversity hotspot and recommended that the region be recognised as a marine protected area. The discussion of flora, fauna, and lakes in the environmental impact assessment (EIA) is purely pro-forma.

In fact, a study of shoreline changes in Kerala by the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management attributes most of the drastic shoreline changes during 1972-2010 to structures built

along its coast. Two-thirds of Kerala's coasts are eroding, and precautions are a must before constructing structures along its "eroding and vulnerable" coasts. Thiruvananthapuram has the highest percentage of erosion, facts ignored in environment clearances.

With a port, reclamation, dredging and construction of breakwaters further complicate erosion. Breakwaters have exacerbated the drastic shoreline changes in and around its proximity. In almost all these areas, the coast to the north of the breakwaters is heavily eroded.

The polluter is responsible
A bedrock principle of environmental regulation worldwide is that pollution penalties should be high enough and borne by the creators of damages. For large-scale infrastructure projects, the financier and the borrower must implement sufficient safeguards to avoid marine pollution and destruction. On involuntary dislocation of people that society is willing to accept in return for financial gains, the project must allocate funds in recognition of people's centuries' old right to the sea and its resources.

There are many examples of projects that unduly harm the environment or society, which can be learnt from. Just to take two in relation to the Vizhinjam venture, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) supported the 4,150-Megawatt Tata Mundra coal plant (Gujarat) – the negligence greatly and unnecessarily exceeded the harm to the local poor people. Tata Mundra is one of the 50 biggest sources of greenhouse gas emissions. And in another more recent case, Bravus Mining and Resources (an Adani unit in Australia) has begun construction of its Carmichael thermal coal mine in Queensland's Galilee basin to export vast amounts of coal to India – when the world is moving away from fossil fuels in a desperate effort to

save the planet.
Whether there were pre-existing health conditions or not, when COVID-19 infection precipitates illness or death, the pandemic is labelled the proximate cause. The same way, when port construction without adequate social and environmental safeguards harms lives and livelihoods, even in the presence of climate change, the project must take full responsibility for compensation. Corrective action by way of hard-engineering solutions such as seawalls and soft responses such as vegetation is in order.

Steps to take

The first order of business, as in infrastructure projects worldwide, is that the project provides compensation to the displaced people and restores their rights. Second, the gross neglect of the damage to invaluable marine biodiversity must be redressed with an acceptable EIA, including inputs from experts in biology, ecology, and oceanography. Third, there needs to be an independent assessment of safeguards that port authorities must put in place as a precondition for any further construction.

A Turkish proverb says, "No matter how far you have gone on a wrong road, turn back." That, in the context of unanswered financial, social and environment risks, means business as usual is not an option. On the other hand, rejecting the project, having approved it, is politically difficult. The way forward would be for the project management to take to heart, in the spirit of learning from experience, the red alerts, and the Government to allow continuation of the project only with agreement for a mid-course transformation, including a legal covenant to make the venture sustainable for Kerala.

Vinod Thomas is a former Senior Vice-President, Independent Evaluation, World Bank, and a former Director-General, Independent Evaluation, Asian Development Bank



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Trust vote

The Jharkhand government led by leader Hemant Soren winning the trust vote (Page 1, September 6) is a classic example of how money power does not always result in a win. Monday's victory will send out a firm message across the country that there are legislators in the country who are loyal to their leader and will not bow down to threats or offers of money. The country needs such legislators who will go by

strong principles.

J. EDEN ALEXANDER,
Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu

■ It is clear that sordid calculations to induce horse trading did not work; the United Progressive Alliance government in Jharkhand has certainly scored and proved a point. Those who were plotting should realise that it is not always possible to create political trouble in non-BJP ruled States.

V. VENKITASUBRAMANIAN,
Coimbatore

The rat race

As a septuagenarian with vast experience in the fields of teaching and learning, I found the report, "Boy dies of poisoning; classmate's mother held" (Page 1, September 5), to be very distressing to read, especially on Teachers' Day. It was the script of a very bad film. The matter should be dealt with in a manner where punishment is severe. Parents and teachers need to be aware of the need for all

C. CHRISTAL MERCY,
Chennai

What Liz Truss tells us about Britain today

With each election, the Conservative Party has chosen someone further to the right



PRIYANJALI MALIK

Rishi Sunak, the self-declared underdog, did not become the U.K.'s first ethnic minority Prime Minister. Mr. Sunak was never expected to win, though he put up a spirited fight against Liz Truss in the "Darwinian system" (former Prime Minister Boris Johnson's description of the leadership contest) that produces leaders of the Conservative Party. Mr. Sunak arguably had the backing of economists and his parliamentary colleagues (though, notably, not his former cabinet colleagues) as the U.K. heads towards cascading crises of the economy, health and services. He was the technocrat, pitted against a maverick who had declared a war against economic orthodoxy. He was the safer, if gloomier, pair of hands. And it was expected that he would lose. His defeat raises a question: Did Mr. Sunak's ethnicity have anything to do with his failure? The answer to that question is 'it's complicated'.

The ethnicity question

The first thing to note is that though the Tory leadership contest was modelled on a presidential system, the new Prime Minister was chosen by a small minority of the electorate – well under 0.5% of all eligible voters, as only members of the Conservative Party can vote for their new leader. Over 99% of the electorate had no say in the person declared Prime Minister on September 5. So, this vote is not in any way representative of the wider U.K. public. It is also known that paid-up members of the Conservative Party tend to be older, white males, based in the affluent south-east, and strongly in favour of Brexit and controlling immigration. These are the people who chose Ms. Truss over Mr. Sunak, whereas, at the penultimate stage of the contest, involving parliamentary members of the Conservative Party with constituents across the country, Mr. Sunak collected 137 votes compared to Ms. Truss' 113.

Second, throughout the campaign, no overt mention was made of Mr. Sunak's race or religion. Indeed,



Liz Truss delivering a speech during a campaign event in Leeds in July. ■ AFP

it was a complete non-issue that a practising Hindu was seeking the highest office in the land where the Queen is the head of the Anglican Church and the Church sends 26 Bishops to the House of Lords. This is to Britain's credit, as is the fact that of the eight original competitors for the job, four were not ethnically white.

Immigration stand

Here is where the good news ends, for this was a campaign that veered to the right on culture wars and immigration. Mr. Sunak, a grandson of immigrants, played to right-wing concerns when he repeatedly raised the spectre of uncontrolled immigration. He doubled down on his support for the Johnson government's policy, under Home Secretary Priti Patel, to deport to Rwanda those deemed illegal immigrants, even if they are seeking asylum. Ms. Patel's policy is currently facing legal challenges, amid claims that the Home Office and other government departments were aware of serious concerns about Rwanda's human rights record, which the U.K. has officially criticised in the past.

Both candidates vied with each other to sound tougher on immigration. In addition to his endorsement of the Rwanda policy, Mr. Sunak proposed introducing a cap on the number of refugees while also narrowing the means by which asylum may be

sought; spoke of housing migrants on disused cruise ships, which might have fallen foul of British and international laws on arbitrary detention; and promised to increase the power of the state to detain and monitor those deemed illegal immigrants. He also promised to double deportations of foreign criminals.

Ms. Truss promised to extend the Rwanda policy to other countries; not be bound by the European Convention on Human Rights; increase border staffing; and, most controversially, potentially force back small boats making the dangerous Channel crossing, which would entail a very real risk of loss of life.

Part of the problem

A two-month campaign is a long time in politics, especially in an internecine war. The candidates, in order to distinguish themselves, had to criticise each other and present themselves as a fresh start. The flaw in this strategy was that they were part of the problem they criticised. If the economy is in trouble, the National Health Service is in crisis and there are large-scale strikes, it is because of the policies their government has put in place, while they were part of it. So, the candidates chose straw men to shoot down instead. Immigration was of course one – red meat to the Tory faithful. But there were other dependable straw men: Mr. Su-

nak attacked "left-wing agitators" for "taking a bulldozer" to British history and culture, and "woke nonsense" that does not allow him to use words like "man", "woman" or "mother". In the past, Ms. Truss attacked "pink bus feminism" and "fashionable" stances on gender and race. During the campaign, she criticised a "woke civil service culture", even issuing a press release promising to protect Jews from "creeping anti-Semitism and wokeism".

At one level, this is baffling. But the problem with such right-wing assertions on a campaign trail is that they have a long half-life: with each utterance these sentiments become more normalised and the counter moves further to the right. This leads to two observations about political life in the U.K. today.

One, as the Conservative Party, which has been in power since 2010, has cycled through three Prime Ministers, it has chosen someone further to the right with each successive leadership election. A mirror response in the Labour Party saw the Opposition move further to the left, something that the current Leader of the Opposition, Sir Keir Starmer, is trying to reverse. The centre ground, however, remains a wasteland. There is more polarisation in politics now than there was during the last changing of Prime Minister, and it will be interesting to see how the Conservatives will campaign during the next general election.

The second observation is that there is now a marked democratic deficit in the U.K. as a result of the free-for-all in this leadership campaign. The whole country was in suspended animation for seven weeks while the Conservatives chose their new leader – had the government fallen, a general election would have had to be called within 25 days. In order to win, the candidates had to promise to protect the interests of a minuscule minority, which, at a time of economic crisis, means that several people in low- and middle-income groups are left staring at a financial abyss because the candidate who won does not believe in handouts and will cut taxes for higher earners instead. This could be a long and cold winter.

Priyanjali Malik is an author and commentator based in the U.K.

The burden that women bear

Systematic investment in quasi-public goods is essential to reduce domestic drudgery



KADAMBARI SHAH & SHREYAS NARLA

On August 15, while houses hoisted flags, Malti rushed at the crack of dawn to the public tap 500 metres away before residents swarmed the place. Water supply lasts only two hours, twice a day, for a village shy of 10,000 residents. Even if Malti gets ahead in line, there is no guaranteed supply. She makes four-five trips home, carrying 10-12 vessels of water in less than an hour. She repeats the process in the evening to sufficiently provide for her low-income household comprising her husband, two sons, and in-laws. Like Malti, 75% of women across India undertake such time-consuming efforts every day to ensure their families have water (NFHS-5). But drudgery does not end here. The remaining hours are spent securing fuel and caregiving – gendered responsibilities that shackle them further to their homes. For these women, freedom is relief from domestic drudgery, from doing repetitive tasks out of no choice owing to socio-cultural norms and limited access to resources like water, fuel and household appliances.

Shackled to their homes

Malti's daily drill was no different when India turned 50. As a pre-teen on the cusp of getting married, she queued up for an hour with her mother before it was their turn at the hand pump. If the hand pump was broken/empty, they walked 2.5 kilometres to the public well that promised longer queues and worse quality, losing four-five hours to collect water (National Commission for Women Report, 2005). The private wells of upper-caste neighbours, though nearby, continue to be out of reach. Purchasing water or waiting for the unreliable tanker, though costly, are the only alternatives.

After securing water, Malti's chores at home, primarily cooking, begin. Unlike her mother's reliance on firewood and/or agricultural residue, Malti uses a cleaner LPG cylinder received under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana. But with difficulties in refilling gas and increasing prices, she still searches for firewood, like 52% of rural India (Council on Energy, Environment and Water Report 2021). But Malti only gathers such fuel once or twice a week, unlike her mother who spent an hour each day (NITI Aayog). The absence of a refrigerator at home means daily shopping and cooking three fresh meals for her family, which takes three

hours. Add serving food, doing the dishes, laundry, and looking after her boys, and Malti's day is full. With rising inflation, Malti wants to add to her family earnings. She hopes to secure a sewing machine under the new government scheme. But this is not relief from drudgery; it is a few hours of work, though paid, after the family goes to bed.

Domestic drudgery has severe consequences: exhaustion, musculoskeletal disorders, lower immunity, and higher mental stress. It threatens women's physical safety. Drudgery also affects women from an early age. Though universal education is promised, median years of schooling for girls is still 4.9 compared to 7.3 for boys. It is telling that Malti, like her mother and grandmother, had to forgo her school bag and shoulder water vessels. Though women bear these burdens for their family, drudgery also means less time devoted to childcare. Pallavi Choudhuri and Sonalde Desai (National Council of Applied Economic Research) find this can impact cognitive development and education levels among children.

The broader issue

It is tempting to think that specific government interventions for water/fuel will save women from domestic drudgery. For instance, in Banaskantha, Gujarat, researchers found that when indoor piped water supply is coupled with job opportunities through micro-enterprises, time released from water collection is converted into income earned. But such opportunities are out of reach for millions. Ashoka University's Ashwini Deshpande and Jitendra Singh argue that the decline in the female labour force participation rate to 17% from 35% in the mid-2000s is because of demand-side problems in the employment market. The broader issue is India's economic growth and the sluggish growth in employment opportunities.

India has come a long way in 75 years, now with its second woman President and accomplished women in every field. Yet, women are often paraded as brand ambassadors for household appliances. Even their hard-won struggles against domestic work are usually because of other women supplementing their efforts. There is no silver bullet to freeing women from drudgery. While restructuring household roles and responsibilities would be ideal such that men contribute equally at home, a more systematic investment, driven by sustained economic growth and better state capacity, in delivery of quasi-public goods is also essential.

Kadambari Shah and Shreyas Narla are research associates in the Indian Political Economy Program at the Mercatus Center, George Mason University

STATE OF PLAY

The road to good infrastructure

A new policy of the Andhra government is expected to improve logistics service

V. RAGHAVENDRA

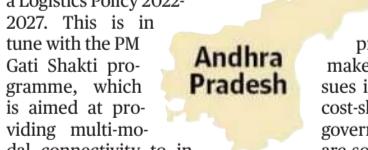
Endowed with rich natural resources, a strong agrarian economy, a 979-km-long coastline, a string of airports and a well-connected road network, Andhra Pradesh should ideally be a preferred destination for investments, including Foreign Direct Investment, in south India. Andhra Pradesh achieved the first rank in the Ease of Doing Business for 2020-21, which was made possible by a slew of reforms initiated by the YSR Congress Party government.

But the State's true potential has still not been tapped into, largely because of the lack of a comprehensive plan. Andhra Pradesh has good industrial infrastructure too, but nowhere close to what its neighbours – Telangana, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka – have. Taking this into account, the government has come up with a Logistics Policy 2022-2027. This is in tune with the PM Gati Shakti programme, which is aimed at providing multi-modal connectivity to industrial/economic zones.

The underlying objective of the Logistics Policy is to ensure logistics efficiency by putting in place a coherent policy and a regulatory and institutional framework. These are expected to fill the infrastructural gaps that have crippled various sectors.

The government is in the process of preparing the State Logistics Plan as per the guidelines of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade of the Government of India. An Empowered Group of Secretaries had been constituted to work out the plan covering all modes of transport in alignment with the National Master Plan. The plan envisaged a variety of fiscal incentives. Without these, no developer will come forward to make investments which matter more for the government as it is desperately looking for some major projects to host.

To start with, the government con-



Andhra Pradesh

DATA POINT

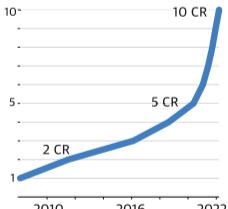
Taking stock of investors

The number of demat accounts in India have crossed the 10 crore mark for the first time. A demat account is similar to a bank account, but is used for holding shares and securities in an electronic format. It helps avoid handling shares physically. While it took the Bombay Stock Exchange more than 12 years to get to the first five crore investor mark, the next five crore investors joined in less than two years. About 30% of these accounts are from Maharashtra and Gujarat.

However, as a share of the population, only over 7% are registered BSE investors, with double-digit penetration being seen in just four States. Interestingly, the growth in investors in the recent past has been more pronounced in other parts of India, particularly the Northeast, indicating an increasing interest in investing in stocks

INVESTOR COUNT

The graph shows the number of investors registered with the BSE in crore. The graph has had a near-vertical rise after 2020



STATE-WISE INVESTORS

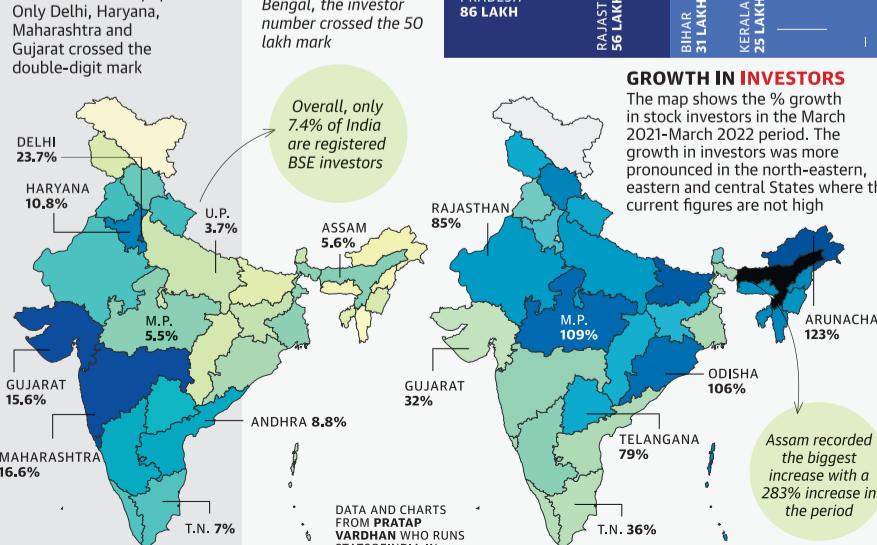
The graph shows the State-wise number of investors registered with the BSE in crores as of March 2022. With over 2.07 crore investors, Maharashtra leads the country followed by Gujarat (1.09 crore).

In Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, the investor number crossed the 50 lakh mark



GROWTH IN INVESTORS

The map shows the % growth in stock investors in the March 2021-March 2022 period. The growth in investors was more pronounced in the north-eastern, eastern and central States where the current figures are not high.



The Hindu

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 7, 1972

Preserve beauty spots: PM

Kanyakumari, Sept. 6: The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, to-day made a strong plea for preserving the beauty spots of the country while welcoming commercial activities. While inaugurating the work on the new Tirunelveli-Nagercoil-Kanyakumari-Tiruvandrum rail link, Mrs. Gandhi said she still remembered the thrill of her first visit to Kanyakumari in 1931, "but to-day we do not find that stretch of multicoloured sands which had made Kanyakumari world famous." She said that the Vivekananda memorial was beautiful, but she wished it had not been located on the rock. "I wish we could have retained the quiet and peaceful atmosphere, which had attracted and inspired Swami Vivekananda," she said. "Is there now such a place for the contemplation of the depth and range of our philosophy? Little by little here and in other parts of the country we are encroaching on the serenity which alone can give inner strength to a person. Our country is large enough for commercialisation without encroaching on our beauty spots and places of pilgrimage," she added. Mrs. Gandhi said that in olden days religion taught reverence for nature, but now in many places religious sentiments were subordinated to commercialisation. "It is easier," she said, "to master technology and build railways than to recapture the old spirit of beauty and contemplation." At the same time, she said she was fully conscious that there could be no contemplation or inner strength unless the living standards of our people were improved.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO SEPT. 7, 1922

In Russia

London, Sept 5: Much brighter outlook in the famine regions of Russia is indicated by Mr. Flesh, President of the United States Grain Corporation and Comptroller of the American Relief Administration, who has just arrived after a month's inspection of conditions in Russia. He considers that Russia will have enough food until next harvest, if it is properly distributed. Crops look excellent despite some complaints of locusts. Staple food can now be obtained at railway stations at exorbitant prices. Mr. Flesh says that railroads have enormously improved. He saw ninety locomotives being hauled to Russia from Germany. Relief administration at one time had ten and a half millions but the number is on the decrease now.

NEWS IN NUMBERS



Revenue deficit grant

7,183

In ₹ crore, the sixth instalment of the revenue deficit grant released to 14 States by the Finance Ministry for the current fiscal. The States for which the Post Devolution Revenue Deficit grant has been recommended by the 15th Finance Commission during 2022-23 are Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttarakhand and West Bengal. The grant is released in 12 equal monthly instalments. PTI

Coal production

58.33

In million tonnes (MT), India's coal production in August, missing its target of 67.94 MT for the month, according to government data. However, the production increased by 8.27% to 58.33 MT in August from the 53.88 MT in the corresponding month of the previous fiscal. The country's coal output in the first five months of the ongoing financial year increased to 324.39 MT as against the 263.97 MT in the April-August period of the previous fiscal. PTI

Pakistan floods

1,325

The number of people killed due to catastrophic floods in Pakistan, with at least 11 killed in the last 24 hours. Efforts are on to minimise the losses by rescuing the people and providing them with food and shelter. The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) said that 12,703 people were injured due to accidents related to the floods. Though the situation has improved in the mountainous north, the Sindh province in the south is still braving floods. PTI

PM-SHRI scheme

14,500

The number of schools to be developed as model schools under the Pradhan Mantri Schools For Rising India (PM-SHRI) scheme, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced on the occasion of Teacher's Day. Mr. Modi said that the schools developed under the new scheme would become model schools, encapsulating the full spirit of the new National Education Policy. The pedagogy adopted in these schools is expected to be more experiential, integrated, and inquiry-driven. PTI

For ease of business

16

The number of States, including Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Bihar to have integrated with the National Single Window System (NSWS) so far with an aim to promote ease of doing business, according to a senior official. The NSWS was aimed at providing support to investors, including pre-investment advisory, information related to land banks, and facilitation of clearances at the Centre and State levels. The NSWS portal is envisioned as a one-stop shop for investors for taking all the regulatory approvals and services related to investments. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

The Chilean referendum for a new constitution

What led to the referendum? What were some of the proposed amendments?

THE GIST

■ The people of Chile resoundingly rejected a new constitution which was set to replace a charter imposed by General Augusto Pinochet 41 years ago.

■ In 2019, over a million people took to the streets of Chile for greater equality and more social protections. The protests culminated with the then right-wing President Sebastian Piñera approving a referendum on the constitution.

■ The main changes to the constitution involved reforms to the pension system, mining grants, the nature of property ownership as well as policies with respect to the environment.

SAPTAPARNO GHOSH

The story so far: The people of Chile resoundingly rejected a new constitution which was set to replace a charter imposed by General Augusto Pinochet 41 years ago. Amid heavy turnout for the referendum, 61.9% of the voters rejected the draft document. President Gabriel Boric who had lobbied hard for the new document, said the results made it evident that the Chilean people "were not satisfied with the constitutional proposal that the convention presented to Chile".

What was the need for a new constitution?

In 2019, over a million people took to the streets of Chile for greater equality and more social protections. According to the World Bank, Chile has been among Latin America's fastest-growing economies in recent decades. However, more than 30% of the population is economically vulnerable and income inequality remains high. The 2019 protests sought reforms to address this inequality, which was in part spurred by the involvement of private sectors in social realms. The protests culminated with the then right-wing President Sebastian Piñera approving a referendum on the constitution. In October 2020, 78% of Chileans approved a proposal to draft a new constitution.

How was the new constitution drafted? In the national plebiscite of 2020, the voters had to tackle two main points: firstly, whether the constitution should be changed at all; and secondly, whether the new constitution would be prepared by a constitutional convention of members elected directly or a mixed constitutional convention – consisting of both members of Parliament and directly elected citizens in equal proportion. Seventy-nine per cent of voters suggested that a directly elected constitutional convention be entrusted with this duty. A second vote conducted between May 15 and 16 in 2021 elected the members

of the constitutional convention. The 155-member convention reserved 17 seats exclusively for indigenous people – ensuring representation of the varied communities constituting approximately 12.8% of the country's total population as per the 2017 census. Further, in order to ensure gender parity, it was mandated that neither gender can have more than 55% representation in the convention. Also, independent members were to be in majority. The constitutional convention in charge of the process commenced work in July 2021.

What changes did the proposed constitution entail?

The main changes to the constitution involved reforms to the pension system, mining grants, the nature of property ownership as well as policies with respect to the environment.

Chile's 1981 pension system mandated that all wage and salary workers pay a percentage of their gross earnings into a pension fund administered by varied private pension fund administrators (AFPs). In simple words, profit-making national or foreign liability companies managed social security funding. The then-Chilean government stated that the move was motivated by efficiency and fiscal concerns, and a wish to reduce the role of government in economic affairs. The earlier system based on the pay-as-you-go mechanism had ensured that pensions were not subjected to financial market fluctuations. Further, the incumbent Finance Minister of Chile Mario Marcel had pointed out recently that the 1981 system allowed for a lower level of contributions from workers and companies compared to other countries.

President Boric had proposed replacing the private sector-held system with a public one – among the biggest demands during the 2019 protests. *Reuters*, quoting Mr. Marcel, reported in March this year that the government would send the long-awaited reform bill to Congress next year. According to ratings agency Fitch, the existing pension

system's assets are equal to about 60% of the Chilean GDP. "Changes to the Chilean pension system could affect the ability of Chilean corporates to raise financing in the local market. The existing system encourages national savings and is the primary source of local financing for long-term investment projects used by many companies in the country," it states.

President Boric has also been a proponent of increasing mining taxes and royalties. During his campaign, he had also proposed setting up a national lithium company. Chile is the world's second-largest producer of lithium after Australia.

Recent amendments have stipulated that the state has an "absolute, exclusive, inalienable and imprescriptible domain on all mines." Exploiting natural resources (such as coal and copper, among others) has helped Chile prosper but fostered sizeable social inequality. The text of the amendment permitted certain 'mining concessions,' only if they serve the public good as determined by the judiciary. Fitch stated that a change in direction could hinder investments in the sector, especially large long-term investments. It added that potential concerns include the increased role of indigenous people in new project approvals, changes in property and water rights, and unclear terms of compensation if an asset is expropriated.

The new Chilean constitution was to also grant freedom to own all properties and goods, except those which "nature has made common to all men" or which should be collectively owned by the country as a whole. A qualified quorum law would establish requirements for the acquisition of properties to better serve the interests of the nation, including considerations about national security, public health utilities, and preservation of the environment. It recognises that the environment must be preserved and it is the right of the community to live in an environment free of contamination. The erstwhile constitution's 1981 Water Code let the government grant



'free water rights' to private entities. This ended up creating a market for water with the state unable to supply enough for domestic consumption. *Bloomberg* reported in February that a proposal to annul free water rights for private concerns was approved in an initial vote by the convention's environmental committee. This effectively meant that mines, agribusiness and utilities would have to seek temporary permits to use water. Additionally, the revised mechanism would prioritise human consumption, stability of water reserves, and indigenous rights.

A long road: President Gabriel Boric delivering a speech to the nation after Chileans emphatically rejected the new constitution in a referendum, in Santiago, on September 4. ■ AFP

EXPLAINER

The controversy over K.K. Shailaja's nomination for the Ramon Magsaysay Award

What is the main reason being given for declining the award? What was the Hukbalahap movement in the Philippines?

SUMEDA

The story so far: The decision of former Kerala Health Minister K.K. Shailaja to decline an offer to be considered for the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award this year has sparked a row following allegations that the CPI(M) (Communist Party of India (Marxist)) restrained her from accepting the honour.

Why did the CPI(M) decline?

The party cited the 'anti-communist' credentials of the former Philippines President as the reason for declining the offer. Magsaysay was a "staunch anti-communist" who oversaw the defeat of communists (Hukbalahap) in Philippines in the 1950s, leaders of the Left said. "...this award is in the name of Ramon Magsaysay who has a history of brutal oppression of the communists in the Philippines," said CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury to news agency PTI.

Ms. Shailaja told *The Hindu* that she turned down the award after consulting the central leadership. "The NGOs may not be in favour of the communist ideology. And hence it was not right that I receive it as an individual because I was considered for something which was actually part of a collective effort. So, I decided not to accept the award. I thanked them and politely refused the award saying I was not interested in receiving it in an individual capacity," Ms. Shailaja said.

Who was Ramon Magsaysay? Born in 1907, Ramon Magsaysay served as the seventh President of the Philippines from December 1953 to March 1957 before he was killed in a plane crash on Mount Manunggal in Cebu island. During World War II, he served as a guerrilla leader against the Japanese as part of the 31st Infantry Division of the Philippines. The U.S. took note of his military leadership during the war and appointed him as the military governor of his home province after the Philippines attained independence in 1946. Ramon Magsaysay started his political journey with his election to the House of Representatives in 1946. He came into prominence with his appointment as the Secretary of National Defence to deal with the communist-led Huks movement. In 1953, Ramon Magsaysay became President of the Philippines. As President, Magsaysay led several agrarian, military and administrative reforms. His three-year tenure is often cited as the 'golden years' of the Philippines.

What is the Ramon Magsaysay Award?

Following the death of President Ramon Magsaysay in 1957, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund (RBF) established the Ramon Magsaysay Awards in the President's honour in agreement with the Philippines government. Later, the Fund set up the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation, a non-profit organisation making Asia's biggest honour that



recognises selfless work transforming lives. Regarded as Asia's version of the Nobel Prize, the award was initially given for contributions to government service, public service, community leadership, journalism, literature and creative communication arts, and peace and international understanding. The category of 'emergent leadership' was added later. From India, 58 have bagged the international honour. Some of the past awardees include Mother Teresa, Satyajit Ray, Verghese Kurien, Arvind Kejriwal, Mahasweta Devi and Aruna Roy.

What about the campaign against the communist rebellion?

The Hukbalahap was a communist-led, peasant-based movement with its roots in the pre-colonial era of political, economic and social inequalities. It was founded in the 1940s to fight the Japanese Army that

had invaded the Philippines. A member of the Communist Party of the Philippines, Luis Taruc, was its first commander. The Hukbalahap emerged as a popular, well-organised, highly-trained force that aimed to seize power once the war ended. However, mistrust grew between the U.S. and the Huks which resulted in serious confrontations between the U.S. Army and the rebels. Backed by U.S. forces, the Philippines government disarmed the rebels and arrested their leaders. During the first elections held in the Philippines after its independence, a few from the Hukbalahap also contested and won including Luis Taruc, but they were unseated. The Huks then retreated to jungles in central Luzon where they began to restructure their organisation and resume plans to overthrow the newly elected Philippines government. They enjoyed massive support from the people who were still waiting for land reforms and were dismayed with corruption within the government.

President Manuel Roxas intended to fulfil his promise of removing the Huks from the island. According to an analysis by the U.S. Army Centre of Military History, "The Philippine Military Command, reorganised with the Police Constabulary after the war, joined Civil Guards on indiscriminate 'Huk Hunts' wherever they thought Huks or their sympathisers were located. Preying on the people for supplies, food, and information (often obtained through

intimidation and torture) they provided opportune and popular targets for Taruc's forces. They proved the best recruiters for the Huks, who gained new members with each passing day. This was the real start of the insurrection." Between 1946 and 1950, the Huks took control of large patches of the islands and targeted the Philippine Army and Police Constabulary.

To deal with the threat of an uprising, President Elpidio Quirino appointed Ramon Magsaysay as the Secretary of National Defence – a vocal spokesperson against communism. Using his experience of guerilla warfare, Magsaysay reformed the Armed Forces of the Philippines, let go of 'corrupt' officers and built public support. He launched the Economic Development Corps (EDCOR) project to establish resettlement colonies for the Huks, provided 'cash for guns' to facilitate their return to mainstream society and pushed for a land reform law. Later as President, Ramon Magsaysay led a massive anti-Huks campaign in 1954 with the help of a reorganised military and intelligence. "When it ended in mid-September, government forces had captured 88 Huks, killed 43, accepted the surrender of 54 others, and destroyed 99 production bases, burned more than 500 enemy huts, and captured 99 weapons," says Major Lawrence M. Greenberg, the author of the U.S. military analysis on the rebellion.

THE GIST

■ The CPI (M) cited the 'anti-communist' credentials of the former Philippines President as the reason for declining the offer.

■

Ramon Magsaysay was the seventh President of the Philippines. He came into prominence with his appointment as the Secretary of National Defence to deal with the communist-led Huks movement.

■ President Ramon Magsaysay led a massive anti-Huks campaign in 1954 with a reorganised military and intelligence. Through the operation, his government forces captured 88 Huks, killed 43, accepted the surrender of 54 others, and destroyed 99 production bases, burned more than 500 enemy huts, and captured 99 weapons.

■ President Ramon Magsaysay led a massive anti-Huks campaign in 1954 with a reorganised military and intelligence. Through the operation, his government forces captured 88 Huks, killed 43, accepted the surrender of 54 others, and destroyed 99 production bases, burned more than 500 enemy huts, and captured 99 weapons.



ABSTRACT

The benefits of intermittent fasting

Authors of the paper argue that the IF technique could actually aid in weight loss if one pays heed to what one eats during the feeding period

THE GIST

■ It is important to be as scientific as possible while embarking on diets. As always, diets come in different sizes and flavours, some plucked out of quackery, while others are rooted in scientific calorie control.

■ The paper by Sheryl S et al, is a collaboration between Mumbai-based nutritionists and the Chennai-based Madras Diabetes Research Foundation. While studies have shown that intermittent fasting results in substantial weight loss and fat loss, this limited study has shown that it is equally important to focus on what is being consumed during the feeding time.

■ Intermittent fasting refers to a period of fasting up to 16 hours daily, or a 24-hour fast on alternate days, or a complete 24-hour fast twice a week on non-consecutive days.

RAMYA KANNAN

Salis S, Shefa S, Sharma N, et al. Effects of Intermittent Fasting on Weight Loss in Asian Indian Adults with Obesity. *J Assoc Physicians India* 2022;70(9):62-66. DOI: 10.5005/japi-11001-0098

Interest in fad diets has probably never been as abiding and as temporal as they are in this age of social media. While the interest in weight loss is abiding, it is seldom a devotion to a particular diet or consistency in following a regimen long enough so it works. It is also important to be as scientific as possible while embarking on diets, to ensure that one does oneself a favour and not a disservice. As always, diets come in different sizes and flavours, some plucked out of quackery, while others are rooted in scientific calorie control paired with specific exercises. It is essential to zero in on the right dimensions for oneself and soldier on. In what is probably the first such data from India on the issue, the paper 'Effects of Intermittent Fasting on Weight Loss in Asian Indian Adults with Obesity', argues that the intermittent fasting (IF) technique could actually aid in weight loss and have additional health benefits if one pays heed to what one eats during the feeding period of the day.

The IF technique

The paper by Sheryl S et al, is a collaboration between Mumbai-based nutritionists and the Chennai-based Madras Diabetes Research Foundation (MDRF) and was recently published in the *Journal of the Association of Physicians of India*. Intermittent fasting refers to a period of fasting up to 16 hours daily, or a 24-hour fast on alternate days, or a complete 24-hour fast twice a week on non-consecutive days. Thus, a fasting period anywhere between 12 to 20 hours can be referred to as IF. Accordingly, for each fasting cycle, the remaining hours will be considered the feeding period. While studies elsewhere have shown substantial weight loss and fat loss with IF, this limited study has shown that it is equally important to focus on what is being consumed

during the feeding time.

"Fasting is not alien to our culture, and is present in many religions," says Sheryl Salis, primary author of the paper. "People in many communities do observe fasts, from time to time, in various forms. But more recently the trend of following fad diets to lose weight rapidly has caught up. IF is among these diets, and is seen as fancy, doable."

While active handling of weight issues is important, it is important to watch what we are eating and be guided by professionals while embarking on a serious regimen

However, she adds that there are a lot of versions doing the rounds, including variations in the number of hours of fasting, the number of meals consumed in the feeding period and what is consumed during that period. While active handling of weight issues is important given that worldwide, obesity has nearly tripled since 1975, it is also important to watch what people are eating and be guided by professionals while embarking on a serious regimen, she explains. "There are people who hoard and stuff themselves in a single meal they eat in a day, and there are others who wake up only during feeding hours. All of this can be extreme." With this, grew the desire to study scientifically a group of people who were on IF, to see if there is an impact on actual weight loss, and other health parameters.

Detailing the study

With able guidance from the MDRF who also provided the structure for the study, a total of 32 adult individuals both males and females, who were overweight or obese were assigned the diet in January 2020, just before the pandemic struck. Participants followed 12 to 16 hours of fasting with 12 to 8 hours of feeding period for three months.

Ms. Sheryl says participants were followed up every month for three months. Due to the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, the in-clinic anthropometric measurements were not possible

post-intervention. Therefore, participants were requested to send pictures of their weight and waist circumference measures on WhatsApp or email, in addition to the information on duration and frequency of fasting and the data collected at baseline. Analysis of data post-intervention, according to the paper, showed a significant reduction in mean weight, waist circumference, BMI (body mass index), calorie intake, and increase in protein intake. Body fat % and visceral fat % showed a clinically relevant reduction.

Ranjani Harish, corresponding author in the study, and Senior Scientist and Head, Department of Translational Research, MDRF, said the big question with weight loss measures is sustainability. Here, the fasting hours were slowly and gradually ramped up, in a manner that the participants of the trial were comfortable with. Advice was provided not only for the diet, but also for sleep, stress management and exercise. Ms. Ranjani says: "We found in this small study that IF can be done in a sustainable manner. The patients did not think a fasting period of 14 hours was that hard."

The plan given to them insisted on regulating what was consumed, eating a light dinner early, increasing the protein content, and watching the calorie count. "Most patients said they could easily manage the fasting, and all participants showed positive results – weight loss and fat loss, during evaluation," she explains.

"We deliberately kept our people who were pregnant, lactating mothers, or those with diabetes in this study. Their calorie intake and periodicity of meals requirement might have to be calibrated carefully. We do not recommend IF for children either," Ms. Sheryl adds.

Interestingly, in post-intervention qualitative interviews conducted among participants in the trial also reported a reduction in acidity, bloating and regularity in their monthly cycles. Ms. Ranjani goes on to add that the results of this limited, but real world study were encouraging enough to plan a proper randomised control trial among a larger group of participants with diverse needs, this time, possibly without the constraints of conducting a study during a total lockdown.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

"Good morning, sir."

"Good morning."

"Sir, how do you distinguish these words: accumulate, amass, hoard?"

"When you accumulate something, you collect it over a period of time."

He accumulated a fortune as a novelist.

He has accumulated a lot of knowledge in his chosen field.

I was away for about a year. My books have accumulated dust during my absence.

'Accumulation' is a gradual process. You can accumulate anything, good or bad. I'd like to quote two lines from Goldsmith's *The Deserted Village*:

Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey.

Where wealth accumulates and men decay.

'Amass' generally refers to things that are valuable.

He has amassed wealth.

He amassed a fortune during the second world war.

'Hoard' means 'storing up'. There is also the implication that what is hoarded is generally concealed. There is an element of greed in it. It is a miser who hoards gold."

"What is the meaning of 'He refused to knuckle under their threats of punishment', sir?"

"It means that he refused to yield to their threats. 'To knuckle under' means 'to submit or yield'. The old meaning of 'knuckle' was 'knee-joint'. To knuckle under means 'to bend the knees'. When a person refuses to bend his knees before others, you say that he refuses to knuckle under. There are some who kowtow to others."

"Sir, what is the meaning of 'kowtow'?"

"When you kowtow to another, you are subservient to another. You become very submissive. No self-respecting person would kowtow to another."

He may be a minister. But I refuse to kowtow to him.

He will kowtow to anyone to get what he wants.

'Kowtow' is from Chinese. It refers to the Chinese custom of touching the ground with the forehead as a sign of worship or absolute submission'. 'Kow' is pronounced like 'cow' and so is 'tow'. The stress is on the second syllable 'tow'. Another word of Chinese origin comes to my mind. That is 'mandarin'. It means a person holding a high office. It is also the name of standard spoken Chinese language'. You may be surprised to hear that the word 'mandarin' is from Sanskrit 'mantri'. 'Mantri' travelled to China several centuries ago and became 'mandarin'. Let's stop here for the day. Goodbye."

"Thank you, sir. Goodbye."

THE DAILY QUIZ

Bank of India (BOI), an Indian nationalised bank was founded on September 7, 1906. In the year 1946, they were the first Indian Bank to open a branch outside the country. Here is a quiz on some of the oldest banks in India.

1 This was a bank founded in British India. Considered the oldest bank in India, it was eventually closed and restarted in 1806. It later became one of the four banks that were merged to form the Bank of Madras in 1843. Name the bank. In which year was it founded?

2 Bank of Hindostan, a now-defunct bank, is considered among the first modern banks in colonial India. It was established by an agency house. What were agency houses? Which agency house established the Bank of Hindostan?

3 This is an Indian private sector bank, founded in 1920. This bank sponsors the Gokulam Kerala FC. Name the bank. What was it called before?

4 The Oriental Bank Corporation was a British imperial bank founded in India in 1842. This was the first bank in which country? This also was the first bank to issue banknotes in the country.



◀ This stamp of the bank was released by India Post on the 150th anniversary of the bank. Which is the bank? What was it called before?

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

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

- This man's grandson, who was a Union Health Secretary, passed away on Teacher's Day. **Ans: Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan**
- This American philosopher and Marxist is best known as a reformer of education. His student at Columbia University was one of India's foremost social reformers and political leaders. **Ans: John Dewey**
- This woman was born into the socially backward Mali family and had the most progressive views on education, women's empowerment, and caste reforms. **Ans: Savitribai Phule**
- Many actors such as Om Puri and Surekha Sikri consider this man their guru. **Ans: Ebrahim Alkazi**
- This man helped bring the Montessori system of education to India. **Ans: Gijubhai Badhela**
- Visual: The artist of this painting who was a teacher to Mrinalini Mukherjee and Ghulam Mohammed Sheikh. **Ans: K.G. Subramanyan**

Early Birds: Nandana Baijshy| Ravindra Pal Singh| Aarushi Aggarwal| Pallab Choudhury| Naveen Varshney

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

FROM PAGE ONE

Hasina favours early solutions for Teesta

The project is being set up at an approximate budget of \$2 billion out of which \$1.6 billion was Indian Development Assistance. "Bangladesh will get greater access to affordable electricity because of the Maitree thermal power plant's first unit," Mr. Modi said.

The Hindu had reported earlier that India had taken note of the deteriorating energy scenario in Bangladesh, and both sides were in talks to deal with the situation. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said, "The close neighbourly relations between India and Bangladesh transcend all partnerships. Projects unveiled today reinforce our

commitment for the development of the region." The two sides also inaugurated the Rupsha rail bridge, which will help in connecting Khulna with Mongla port and Petrapole and Gede in West Bengal. The initiatives are part of the ongoing projects in Bangladesh that are aimed at converting the country into a connectivity hub.

Ms. Hasina met with President Droupadi Murmu in the evening. On Wednesday, she will hand over Mujib scholarships to 200 family members of the personnel of the Indian military who were killed or wounded during the Liberation War of 1971.

SC asks Centre, States to allay EWS quota concerns

He indicated that the arguments on both sides should conclude in seven days. Mr. Sankaranarayanan has highlighted five draft issues. These include whether the amendment violated the Indra Sawhney judgment of 1992, which had disallowed reservation on a "purely" economic criterion.

Besides raising the question of whether the amendment "breached the Basic Structure of the Constitution in excluding the SEBCs/OBCs/SCs/STs from the scope of EWS reservation", the draft issues highlight if the 10% EWS quota infringed in the 50% ceiling limit for reservation.

The draft document has asked the court to ruminant and decide if the EWS quota should be imposed in private unaided institutions.

India gets its first nasal COVID-19 vaccine

The company noted that the ChAd36-SARS-CoV-2 COVID-19 (Chimpanzee Adenovirus Vectored) recombinant vaccine has been evaluated to determine its impact on safety. The vaccine is stable between two and eight degrees Celsius for easy storage and distribution. The company said it had established manufacturing capabilities at multiple sites across the country.

Krishna Ella, chairman, Bharat Biotech, said: "iNCO-VACC will be a global game changer in intra-nasal vaccines technology and delivery systems. Despite the lack of demand for vaccines, we continued product development in intra-nasal vaccines to ensure that we are well prepared with platform technologies for future in-

fectious diseases." "The reactogenic events and adverse events that were documented during the trial were highly comparable to the published data from other vaccines. Product development data will be submitted to peer-reviewed journals and made available in the public domain," he said. The vaccine has the double benefit of enabling faster development of variant-specific vaccines and easy nasal delivery that enables mass immunisation to protect from emerging variants of concern. It promises to become an important tool in mass vaccinations during pandemics and epidemics. The product will be launched and available for use in due course of time, the company said.

Nitish meets leaders from Opposition

At AKG Bhavan, Mr. Kumar met party general secretary Sitaram Yechury. Emerging out of the one-hour meeting, Mr. Kumar reminisced about his association with the Left parties. He reiterated that he is not in the running to be the Opposition's Prime Minister face.

"I am neither the claimant nor do I have desire to be the Prime Minister of the country," he said.

At the same time, he argued that his focus will be on uniting all Left parties, regional parties and the Congress. "It will be a big deal if all of us come together," he said.

Mr. Yechury also dismissed the idea of picking the Prime Ministerial face first. "First, the agenda is to unite all parties, not deciding on the PM candidate. When the time comes, we will decide the PM candidate and let you all know," he said. Mr. Yechury hoped that the political parties that want to secure and protect the country's unity, diversity, its unique character and Constitution will work together.

Mr. Kumar then met CPI general secretary D. Raja at the party's headquarters Ajoy Bhawan. During the meeting, Mr. Kumar stressed on the need to bring together Chief Ministers who are on the fence, like Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik and Andhra Pradesh's Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy.

The Bihar CM later met with Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal for lunch. He visited with Mr. Chautala and accepted his invitation to the joint Opposition rally. He also called on Samajwadi Party's Mulayam Singh, and Akhilesh Yadav.

The current situation demands that all secular democratic forces come together to defeat the BJP and the events in Bihar will have its impact on the political course of the country," Mr. Raja said.

Mr. Kumar later met Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for lunch.

Mr. Kumar said that the two Chief Ministers discussed "BJP's penchant to buy legislators to strengthen their own stables".

Bangladesh shares wish list of defence equipment from India

It includes floating dock, logistics ship and oil tanker for its Navy, among others

DINAKAR PERI
NEW DELHI

Marking some progress on the delayed implementation of the \$500 million defence Line of Credit (LoC) extended by India to Bangladesh, Dhaka has recently shared a wish list of military platforms and systems that its armed forces would like to procure from India, according to official sources. This includes a diverse range of equipment, including a floating dock, and logistics ship and oil tanker for the Bangladesh Navy, among others.

Bangladesh is modernising its military, inducting new weapons and improving infrastructure in line with its 'Forces Goal 2030'. India has the capability to meet a significant part of these requirements, which will also boost defence cooperation between the two countries," one official source said.

The LoC extended in 2018 is for utilisation by April 2029. Though progress has been slow, a number of types of equipment are under various stages of consid-



Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inspecting the guard of honour at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. ■ V.V. KRISHNAN

eration, the source noted.

Talking of the wish list, the source said that the Bangladesh Army has approved procurement of three items, so far, under the LoC – five Bridge Layer Tanks (BLT-72) at a cost of approximately \$10 million; seven portable steel bridges (Bailey) at a cost of around \$2.2 million; and 11 Mine Protective Vehicles from the Tata Group at an approximate cost of \$2.2 million.

Other items proposed to be procured by the Bangladesh Army are Mahindra XUV 500 off-road vehicles; door hard top vehicles from

Mahindra at an approximate cost of \$2.35 million; heavy recovery vehicles; armoured engineer reconnaissance vehicles; and bullet proof helmets. The proposals include modernisation and extension of automobile assembling unit for a Bangladesh machine tools factory, which is a proposal from Shapoorji Pallonji and Company Private Limited; two types of explosives at a cost of over ₹4 crore; 21 types of raw materials at a cost of around ₹3 crore; and 10 types of tools at a cost of ₹6.6 crore. The Bangladesh Navy has proposed the pro-

curement of a logistics ship, floating dock, oil tanker, and an ocean-going tug, the source stated.

Stressing on India's expanding indigenous defence industrial base, sources said India is keen to offer artillery guns, mortars, rockets and missiles, support vehicles, electronic and engineering equipment, radars, helicopters, military rakes, and ship building services.

In addition, Bangladesh can also be offered India's expertise in sea and airport infrastructure development among others, a second source said.

There is also scope for cooperation in high technology sectors in which India has expertise, the source said, and these include Information Technology and cyberspace, satellite and space technology, maintenance and overhaul, development of local defence industry, and training. "There can be increase in military exercises as well as more visits at the senior military level," the source added.

Quad discusses China moves, COVID vaccine

Foreign Ministries officials held meet

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

Shared concerns over China's moves in both the Indian Ocean Region and Pacific Island countries, as well as the situation in Sri Lanka, came up during the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) of Quad countries, that ended on Tuesday in Delhi, diplomatic sources told *The Hindu*. The meeting, which reviewed projects agreed to by leaders of Australia, India, Japan and the U.S. during the Quad Summit in Tokyo this year, and set the course for a Ministerial-level meeting of the four countries, due to be held in India next year, also held discussions on Quad

proposals like the vaccine initiative that has run into trouble over the past year, as well as cooperation on emerging technologies, infrastructure funding for Indo-Pacific countries, and projects to counter climate change in vulnerable regions.

Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said in a tweet that the officials discussed: "regional & global developments, reaffirming their vision for a free, open & inclusive Indo-Pacific".

The sources said that problems for the Quad vaccine initiative, that had been announced in March 2021, were also discussed briefly. As *The Hindu* had reported in May 2022, the original plan to manufacture one billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines, including the Johnson & Johnson vaccine by the end of 2023, has run aground over India's refusal to give an indemnity waiver for the American-developed vaccines, as well as shrinking demand for the vaccines as the Indo-Pacific countries have completed their COVID-19 inoculation schedules.

An official present at the meeting said that the Quad SOM had discussed a repurposing of the initiative for cooperation in future pandemic situations. "The important point is to build joint capacity to deal with future challenges – in that sense are efforts have not been useless," the official told *The Hindu*, on condition of anonymity.



Senior officials in Foreign Ministries of Quad group.

to tensions with China and concerns over Beijing's growing influence in the island nations near India and Australia.

According to officials, the Quad SOM, the first meeting of the grouping since the Taiwan crisis, spoke about the need to share information on possible security concerns in Indo-Pacific maritime sphere, and "maintaining the rule-based global order". However, officials said that it was "erroneous" to portray the discussions as seeking to "counter or contain" China.

The sources said that problems for the Quad vaccine initiative, that had been announced in March 2021, were also discussed briefly. As *The Hindu* had reported in May 2022, the original plan to manufacture one billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines, including the Johnson & Johnson vaccine by the end of 2023, has run aground over India's refusal to give an indemnity waiver for the American-developed vaccines, as well as shrinking demand for the vaccines as the Indo-Pacific countries have completed their COVID-19 inoculation schedules.

"The Quad has emerged as a key platform for ensuring progress, prosperity, stability and security. We are also engaged in advancing the realisation of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework. Along with Japan, we are working on promoting supply chain resilience," Mr. Jaishankar said.

The Minister said that it was in the "realm of politics and strategy" that the India-Australia transformation in recent years. "Much of the growing convergence has been driven by concerns about the region's stability, prosperity and security," he added in a veiled reference

Hilsa fish reach Kolkata ahead of Durga Puja

Bangladesh allows 2,450 tonnes of fish

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

Coinciding with the visit of Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in New Delhi, the first consignment of Hilsa fish arrived in the markets of Kolkata on Tuesday. "We have received this year's first consignment of about 8.5 tonnes of Hilsa from Bangladesh today," Syed Anwar Massod, secretary of West Bengal Fish Importers Association, said.

Mr. Massod told *The Hindu* that Bangladesh has given permission to export 2,450 tonnes of the fish ahead of the Durga Puja festival. Bangladesh had imposed a ban on export of Hilsa to India in 2012, but

since 2019 has allowed relaxations on the export of the fish.

Diplomacy over Hilsa has played out on several occasions. Only a few months ago, State's Chief Minister Mamta Banerjee had asked visiting Bangladesh's Minister of Commerce Tipu Munshi to request Ms. Hasina to send Hilsa to India during the festival season.

According to the association, in September 2021, Bangladesh gave permission to export about ₹4,600 tonnes of Hilsa fish, the highest since 2019, when the ban was eased out. However, due to paucity of time only ₹1,200 MT could be exported to India.

Hasina meets Rahul, discusses bilateral issues

She has maintained ties with Gandhis

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina met with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday. Sources said the two leaders discussed a "whole range of issues" relevant to India-Bangladesh relations.

In an interview ahead of her visit, Ms. Hasina had referred to her ties with the Nehru-Gandhis.

At the Hyderabad House here, Ms. Hasina had mentioned of her six-year-long exile in India following the assassination of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and most of her family members in 1975, when she was given asylum by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. "My

visit reminds me of the time I spent here," she said.

Ms. Hasina had maintained connection with the Gandhis throughout her tenure as the Prime Minister. During her last visit in October 2019, Ms. Hasina met Sonia Gandhi, her daughter Priyanka Vadra and former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. "My

visit is in the "realm of politics and strategy" that the India-Australia transformation in recent years. "Much of the growing convergence has been driven by concerns about the region's stability, prosperity and security," he added in a veiled reference

to the power of the Speaker/Deputy Speaker to initiate disqualification proceedings, when proceedings for his or her own removal from office have been initiated.

The Bench had framed 10 questions of law for the Constitution Bench to consider and decide.

These included questions on the scope of the power of the Speaker to determine the Whip and the Leader of the House; whether intra-party decisions were amenable to judicial review; the extent of discretion and power of the Governor to invite a person to form the government, and whether the same is amenable to judicial review; the scope of the powers of the EC.

It had highlighted gaps in the court's earlier judgment in the Nebam Rebia case re-

Yet to get Zero FIR against IAS officer: Deoghar SP

FIR invokes sedition, conspiracy laws

VIJAYA SINGH
NEW DELHI

Days after the Delhi Police registered a 'Zero FIR' against an IAS officer from Jharkhand, based on a complaint by a Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) MP, the State police said they were yet to receive a physical copy of the FIR and yet to re-register the case in its police station.

BJP MP Nishikant Dubey on September 3 filed a complaint against Deoghar Deputy Commissioner Manjunath Bhajantri and others. The MP alleged that there was a conspiracy to kill him at the Deoghar airport and he was obstructed from performing his duties as a member of a committee constituted by the Centre.

The Zero FIR was registered a day after the Deogh-

ar police booked nine persons, including Mr. Dubey and BJP MP Manoj Tiwari, for allegedly forcibly entering the Air Traffic Control (ATC) tower. The FIR invokes Sections of IPC such as 124A (sedition), 353 (assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty), 448 (house-trespass), 201 (Causing disappearance of evidence of offence), 506 (criminal intimidation) 120B (criminal conspiracy) and Section 7 of the Official Secrets Act, 1923.

Subhash Chandra Jat, SP, Deoghar, said, "We are yet to receive a hard copy of the FIR from Delhi Police. Only after we get the copy, can we register a case."

(With inputs from Arnabjit Sur)

Constitution Bench may hear 'real' Shiv Sena case today

CJI hints at listing it as Shinde faction seeks early hearing

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India (CJI) U.U. Lalit on Tuesday indicated that the Supreme Court may list on Wednesday the dispute between Uddhav Thackeray and Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde over the "real" Shiv Sena.

The CJI hinted at listing the case on Wednesday after senior advocate Neeraj Kishan Kaul, for the Shinde faction, mentioned it for early hearing. On August 23, a three-judge Bench had referred the dispute to a Constitution Bench.

The Bench had raised im-

portant constitutional ques-

tions relating to interpretation of Schedule 10

lating to the power of the Speaker/Deputy Speaker to initiate disqualification proceedings, when proceedings for his or her own removal from office have been initiated.

The Bench had framed 10 questions of law for the Constitution Bench to consider and decide.

These included questions on the scope of the power of the Speaker to determine the Whip and the Leader of the House; whether intra-party decisions were amenable to judicial review; the extent of discretion and power of the Governor to invite a person to form the government, and whether the same is amenable to judicial review; the scope of the powers of the EC.

It had highlighted gaps in the court's earlier judgment in the Nebam Rebia case re-

Pak. violates ceasefire along Jammu border

JACOB KOSHY
SRINAGAR

Indian and Pakistani troops exchanged fire on the International Border (IB) in Jammu's Arnia Sector on Tuesday. It was the first such incident since February 2021 when the two countries renewed their pledge to abide by the 2002 ceasefire agreement.

A BSF spokesman said Pakistani rangers held a flag meeting following the skirmish on Tuesday morning.

The much-awaited arrival of African cheetahs to India may be timed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday on September 17, suggests a statement by Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Tuesday.

Addressing a gathering of officials, Mr. Chouhan is heard saying: "It is the Prime Minister's birthday on the 17th of September and I'm happy to convey that he will be in Madhya Pradesh. The cheetahs are expected to ar-

rive on that day and we will be organising a function in Kuno Palpur."

A video grab of Mr. Chouhan announcing this was available on his official Twitter feed. Kuno-Palpur is the forest reserve expected to house the cheetahs. A person closely connected to the cheetah translocation project told *The Hindu*, on condition of anonymity, that "as of today this is the plan." Eight animals sourced from Namibia

ED arrests
NSE ex-MD
Ravi Narain

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday arrested former National Stock Exchange (NSE) managing director Ravi Narain in connection with the alleged illegal phone tapping of employees from 2009 to 2017, a senior official said.

In July, the ED arrested former Mumbai Police Commissioner Sanjay Pandey in the same case. Another former National Stock Exchange (NSE) managing director, Chitra Ramkrishna, was taken into custody for recording her statement.

The ED investigation is based on a first information report registered by the CBI on July 7.

Besides Mr. Pandey, Ms. Ramkrishna and Mr. Narain, the NSE's then executive vice-president, Ravi Varanasi, and head (premises), Mahesh Haldipur, Delhi-based iSec Services Private Ltd. and its functionaries were named as accused in the CBI case. As alleged, iSec Services was set up by Mr. Pandey in March 2001. He later resigned from the company.

SC asks Punjab, Haryana CMs to meet on SYL canal dispute

In the larger interest of the country, you have to sit down and work it out: court



Bone of contention: A view of a part of the Sutlej-Yamuna link canal in Rupnagar district of Punjab. • AKHILESH KUMAR

ter the Centre complained that Punjab had "refrained" from coming to the negotiating table to engage in talks with Haryana over the issue.

The court said the canal was meant to address water shortage. "Water is a natural resource and living beings must learn to share it, whether it be individuals, States or countries... There is a shortage. But if you look at it only from the point of view of the State, then somebody will look at it from the point of view of the city... Then what will happen? In the larger interest of the country, you have to sit down and work it out. It cannot be left as a festering wound," Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, heading a three-judge Bench, addressed Punjab and Haryana.

The observations came af-

ter farmers to reclaim lands acquired for the SYL canal project.

Assurance from Punjab

The assurance from Punjab came after Attorney-General K.K. Venugopal, for the Centre, placed on record a letter dated September 5 from the Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti. Mr. Venugopal, referring to the letter, said that "despite various endeavours, Punjab did not join the negotiating table". Punjab's abstention was despite its assurances to meet with the Haryana Chief Minister in an effort to resolve the ca-

nal dispute amicably.

On the other hand, Mr. Venugopal said, Haryana had been pressing for the implementation of the Supreme Court's decree in 2002 to complete the construction of the SYL canal. The Centre had been previously assigned the role of an arbitrator between the two neighbouring States. The Ministry said the construction of the canal and other carrier channels ought to be completed even as discussions on water-sharing could continue for arriving at an agreement.

The court said a negotiated settlement between the States was a matter of security concern, and affected the entire nation. If the States do not meet and resolve their issues, "other forces start to take root", it said.

Justice Kaul said countries were able to settle international boundary disputes. "Water rights among countries are resolved," the judge said. The court listed the case after four months, on January 18, 2023.



Arshdeep Singh

went on to win the match. Singh faced massive trolling on social media after the match, and his Wikipedia page was edited to brand him as "Khalistani".

Minister's stance

In response, Mr. Chandrasekhar tweeted that, "No intermediary operating in India can permit this type of misinformation and deliberate efforts to incite and #userharm - violates our government's expectation of Safe & Trusted Internet."

Indian cricketer Arshdeep Singh's page on the Wikipedia platform was vandalised after he dropped a crucial catch during the Asia Cup India-Pakistan match in Dubai on Sunday. Pakistan

said that the rules regarding content were set by these volunteers and that the organisation itself did not play any role in setting editorial policy.

"Vandalism does occur on Wikipedia from time to time, as can occur in any open, online platform. It is a violation of the trust and good faith of our editors and readers, and runs contrary to the values on which Wikipedia is based. The majority of vandalism on Wikipedia is reverted by bots or editors within minutes, as was done in this recent case," the foundation said in a statement.

In an earlier email interview to *The Hindu*, Wikimedia Foundation CEO Maryana Iskander had said that while Wikipedia was not immune to misinformation, "#userharm - violates our government's expectation of Safe & Trusted Internet."

Ms. Iskander said Wikipedia's method of volunteer driven content moderation worked because "the site is radically transparent".

SC bats for disabled IPS candidates

'Grossly understaffed wings such as that of cybercrime can accommodate them'

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

An analysis by the environmental think tank, Centre for Science and Environment, reported "barely any difference" in trends in particulate matter pollution (PM2.5) between the group of cities under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) and those outside its ambit.

The NCAP covers 132 of India's most polluted or so-called non-attainment cities. This is defined as a city whose air quality did not meet the national ambient air quality standards of 2011 to 2015. The NCAP launched in 2019 aims to bring a 20%-30% reduction in pollution levels from PM2.5 and PM10 particles by 2024, using 2017 pollution levels as a base.

Cities are required to quantify improvement starting 2020-21, which requires 15% and more reduction in the annual average PM10 concentration and a concurrent increase in "good air" days to at least 200. Anything fewer will be considered 'low' and the funding consequently reduced.

For disbursing funds, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), which coordinates the programme, only considers levels of PM10, the relatively larger, coarser

platform for the Rights of the Disabled, submitted.

Mr. Datar was responding to an initially sceptical Bench, which asked about how disabled persons can participate in basic physical training.

"Frustration could creep in if they are not able to do their job..." Justice Sundresh wondered.

Justice Banerjee pointed out that officers have to climb the ranks to reach the top, and this would include physical assignments.

"I know that they cannot become DGPs overnight... However, there can be a change in the training itself. It need not involve five miles of running or rappelling, etc.

In other countries, there is a different training for disabled persons," Mr. Datar said.

"This would need a complete change in policy," Justice Banerjee observed.

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tember last year excluding the disabled from certain branches of the civil services, both in combat and administrative capacities.

Mr. Datar had argued that the issue was of national importance and the notification was both unlawful and arbitrary.

Abuse of rights

He said the exclusion of disabled persons amounted to the abuse of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act.

The Supreme Court had earlier allowed disabled persons who have cleared their civil services' written exams time till April 1 to provisionally apply to the Union Public Services Commission for selection to the Indian Police Service, Indian Railways Protection Force Service and the Delhi, Daman & Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Police Service.

"We have to find a way," Mr. Datar said. He said disabled persons were allowed to join the CRPF, even Delhi and Kerala Police. "Only in IPS there is a problem," he submitted.

The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) Mains exam for 2022 is on from mid September.

The court adjourned the case to Monday on a request from the government.

The NGO had challenged an announcement of Sep-

tember last year excluding the disabled from certain branches of the civil services, both in combat and administrative capacities.

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Rear seat-belt alarm to be made mandatory

Draft notification to be issued soon

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Union government is planning to make it mandatory for automakers to introduce a seat-belt alarm system for rear seats too, Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said on Tuesday.

At present, it is mandatory for all vehicle manufacturers to provide seat-belt reminders only for front-seat passengers.

"Because of the death of Cyrus Mistry in a car accident, we have taken a decision that there will be a seat belt beep system for the rear seats also in vehicles," he said addressing a function.

"We will issue a draft notification in three or four days [for making it mandatory for automakers to introduce a seat-belt alarm system for rear seats also]," Mr. Gadkari added.

Former Tata Sons chairman Cyrus Mistry was killed in a road accident on Sunday after his car hit a divider in Palghar district of Maharashtra.

₹1,000 fine
Though not wearing a seat belt by passengers sitting in the rear seats attracts a fine of ₹1,000 under Rule 138 (3) of the Central Motor Vehicle Rules (CMVR), most people are either unaware of this rule or just ignore the stipulation.

Even traffic policemen seldom impose penalty on passengers sitting on rear seats for not wearing seat belts.

According to a recent Road Ministry report, the number of persons killed and injured due to not wearing a seat belt during 2020 stood at 15,146 and 39,102, respectively.

Clarification

In reference to the report headlined 'Cyrus Mistry's Mercedes-Benz has no rear airbags' in these columns, the carmaker clarifies that no vehicle in India, other than the Mercedes-Maybach S-Class, has frontal airbags for rear seat passengers.

6 States to get branches of National Centre for Disease Control

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya on Tuesday said that State branches of the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) will play a pivotal role in disease surveillance and monitoring of diseases thereby enabling early inter-

ventions," he said. Dr. Mandaviya virtually laid the foundation stone for NCDC branches in Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh.

"The State branches will coordinate with NCDC, Delhi with real time sharing of data

and information aided by cutting edge technology. The NCDC branches would also be crucial in ensuring timely availability of updated guidelines so that accurate scientifically backed information can be disseminated easily," he said.

Currently, NCDC has eight

FAITH

Traits of Vaishnavas

Sage Vyasa tells sage Jaimini about the 25 traits of Sri Vaishnavas, said P.T. Seshadri, in a discourse. A Sri Vaishnava washes the feet of Vishnu bhaktas, and sprinkles the water on his head. He does not have to bathe in sacred rivers. Being in the presence of such sadhus even for half a second, gets rid of one's sins. If such a person is born in a family, then the whole family will attain moksha. Nammazhvar, in his Thiruvaimozhi (2:71) says that seven generations in this family will attain moksha.

A true Vaishnava does not have evil qualities like kama, krodha, lobha and moha. He has no pride. He never criticises his father, but is respectful towards him. He sees Hari in everyone, and never hurts any living thing, be it human or animal. He never utters lies. Honesty gives strength to his tongue. So, whatever he says comes true. There is no jealousy in his heart. He has affection and regard for Vedic scholars. He sees all women other than his wife as mothers.

A true Vaishnava observes Ekadasi vrata, expecting nothing in return for such observance. He does Hari nama sankirtanam. He wears tulsi on his head. He offers Vishnu prasada to bhaktas. In whichever household Salagramas are worshipped, every person in the family is considered a Vaishnava. A Vaishnava will get his daughter married to a Vishnu bhakta. He helps those who perform puja to Vishnu.

He will not think of eating all of the Lord's prasada himself, but shares it with others. To him the Lord's prasada is nectar. He never eats anything that is not offered to the Lord first. He always thinks gratefully of Acharyas, who teach the Vedas. He protects tulsi gardens. He never abuses other Vaishnavas. Everyday he does aradhana to Vishnu, according to the rules.

TH CROSSWORD + 13654

(set by Incognito)

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



Across
8 Stud's superior officer (4)
9 Reject kilo-calories in Big Mac concoction? Only a sorcerer or witch can do it! (5,5)
10 Love going around college after a recess (6)
11 Military officer gets support for walking at Spanish educational institutions (8)
12 Agitates in favour of exams (8)

Down
1 Aptly cue about American type of tree (10)
17 Meticolous in spite of protecting officer responsible in the beginning (8)
18 Comes before decree is misrepresented in police station (8)
20 Badly suited for responsibilities (6)
22 Creative person and revolutionary satirist is missing (6)
24 Partly decadent country (4)
25 Fiery object in sky in front of king drowned (4)

SUDOKU

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5	9		8		7			
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	2					5		
4			2					7
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	7	6						

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★★

Solution to puzzle 13654

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| |

Liz Truss takes office as Britain's PM

The new PM faces huge economic and political challenges, from inflation to Northern Ireland protocol

SIRAM LAKSHMAN
LONDON

Former U.K. Foreign Secretary Liz Truss, who was declared the winner of the Conservative Party leadership contest on Monday, beating former Chancellor Rishi Sunak, was appointed Prime Minister of the United Kingdom on Tuesday by its monarch, Queen Elizabeth II. Ms. Truss said she would focus on three priorities: the economy, the energy crisis facing the country and improving the National Health Service (NHS).

The new Prime Minister faces enormous economic challenges domestically – starting with combatting burgeoning energy prices and a cost of living crisis. She also faces political challenges, such as resolving a messy consequence of Brexit involving Northern Ireland's customs borders. She will also have to navigate another call for Scottish independence. Ms. Truss had vehemently opposed a call for a second referendum.



Taking the reins: Queen Elizabeth II meeting Liz Truss at the Balmoral Castle in Scotland. • AFP

Speaking outside Downing Street after her arrival from Scotland, where she was appointed by the Queen, the Prime Minister said she would transform Britain into an "aspiration nation," cutting taxes and pushing reforms to grow the economy.

"I will deal hands on with

the energy crisis caused by Putin's war," Ms. Truss said, having promised over the weekend that she would announce a plan within a week of assuming office to tackle short term energy price challenges and longer-term supply issues. The *Financial Times* reported that she was working on a £100 billion

plan to protect households and businesses from soaring energy bills this winter.

She will also attempt to unite her party while putting together a Cabinet to deliver her programme. For the first time in history, the 'four great offices of state' – the posts of Prime Minister, Chancellor, Home Secretary

and Foreign Secretary are likely to be held by people who are not white males, as widely noted by the British press. The job of Foreign Secretary is likely to go to the former government's Education Secretary, James Cleverly. The Johnson government's Business Secretary, Kwasi Kwarteng, who is of Ghanaian origin, is likely going to be Chancellor – the first black person in the role. Attorney-General Suella Braverman, whose parents are of Indian-ancestry and from Kenya and Mauritius, is likely to be the Home Secretary. Her predecessor Priti Patel resigned from her post earlier on Tuesday.

Defence Secretary Ben Wallace, who had signalled his support for Ms. Truss early on, is likely to get a Cabinet role, while Work and Pensions Secretary Therese Coffey is tipped to get the health portfolio. Mr. Sunak and his highest profile supporter, Deputy Prime Minister Dominic Raab, will likely be backbench MPs.

Johnson asks U.K. to back Truss government

He defends his legacy; hints at possible return to active politics

SIRAM LAKSHMAN
LONDON

Addressing his colleagues, the press, and Britons outside No. 10 Downing Street, on a partially sunny morning, Boris Johnson asked people to unite behind Liz Truss' new government. His speech was laced with humour, sarcasm, and references to classics that suggested he may one day return to frontline politics.



Boris Johnson

Street. Mr. Sunak was one of the first to quit the Johnson Cabinet in July.

Mr. Johnson cited among his government's achievements: finalising Brexit, the speed at which a COVID-19 vaccine was rolled out, the low unemployment rate

(3.8%), and infrastructure projects. He also said Britain supplying weapons to Ukraine may have changed the course of the war with Russia. In addition to Britain's position on the Russia-Ukraine war, Mr. Johnson cited AUKUS, a new security alliance with the U.S. and Australia launched in 2021, as an example of Britain "standing tall" in the world.

High inflation

While unemployment in Britain is the lowest it has been in more than four decades, inflation is at its highest in four decades and energy prices and the cost of living

are soaring. On Tuesday, Mr. Johnson said the country now had the economic strength to give people "the cash they need to get through this energy crisis".

On his future career, Mr. Johnson compared himself to a booster-rocket that had served its purpose. "I am now like one of those booster rockets that has fulfilled its function. And I will now be gently re-entering the atmosphere and splashing down invisibly in some remote and obscure corner of the Pacific."

For now, Mr. Johnson continues to be an MP.

+ UN slams Sri Lanka's rights record

'Impunity for rights abuses is the underlying reason for the economic crisis'

MEERA SRINIVASAN
COLOMBO

Linking Sri Lanka's past record on human rights record to its current economic crisis, the UN Human Rights Chief on Tuesday said "impunity" for human rights abuses, economic crimes, and corruption was the "underlying" reason for the country's collapse.

A report from the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, released days ahead of the 51st session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, noted that Sri Lanka is facing a "devastating" economic crisis, and urged the international community to support Sri Lanka in its re-

covery. "For sustainable improvement, however, it is vital to recognise and assist Sri Lanka to address the underlying factors, which have contributed to this crisis, including embedded impunity for past and present human rights abuses, economic crimes, and corruption was the "underlying" reason for the country's collapse.

The report, prepared by the office of Michelle Bachelet, who recently completed her term, said the broad-based demands by Sri Lankans from all communities for accountability and democratic reforms presented "an important starting point for a new and common vision for the future". It was a

reference to the demands of the mighty people's movement that ousted the Rajapaksas earlier this year, in the wake of the harrowing economic downturn.

Root causes

"The High Commissioner encourages the Government to positively engage with the protest movements in a broad-based and participatory process to address the broader political and systemic root causes that have long perpetuated discrimination and undermined human rights," it said. This is the first time that the UN body has explicitly connected economic issues with past

human rights violations in Sri Lanka, observing that the crisis "underscored the individuality of human rights". The report is a prelude to a likely resolution on Sri Lanka in the coming session. The resolution might be put to vote if Sri Lanka does not agree with its recommendations. Colombo has already said it would continue rejecting any external mechanism on post-war accountability, although victims of the civil war have said they have little faith in domestic mechanisms.

The report further pointed to the lapse of 13 years since the end of Sri Lanka's civil war.

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nationally was 22.4C in August, exceeding the norm by 1.2C, state broadcaster CCTV reported, citing the country's weather service.

Some 267 weather stations across the country matched or broke temperature records last month, the report said.

It was also China's third-driest August on record, with average rainfall 23.1% lower than average. "The average number of high-temperature days was abnor-

mally high, and regional high-temperature processes are continuing to impact our country," CCTV reported the weather service as saying.

Scientists say extreme weather like heat waves and droughts is becoming more frequent due to human-induced climate change.

Last month, temperatures as high as 45C prompted multiple Chinese provinces to impose power cuts as cities battled to cope with a surge in electricity demand.

The average temperature

China's Chengdu under lockdown despite quake

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BEIJING

Authorities in southwestern China's Chengdu have maintained strict COVID-19 lockdown measures on the city of 21 million despite a major earthquake that killed at least 65 people in outlying areas.

Footage circulating online on Tuesday showed workers wearing protective gear preventing residents of

apartment buildings from exiting through locked lobby doors following Monday's 6.8 magnitude quake centred in the surrounding province of Sichuan.

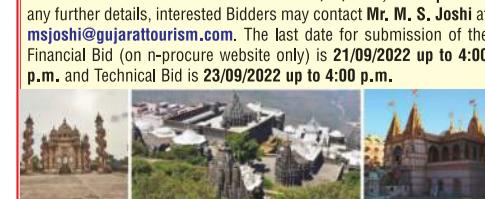
Despite only recording a handful of cases, Chengdu's lockdown is the most severe since China's largest city of Shanghai was placed in isolation over the summer, prompting rare protests in person and online.

Development of Hotel at Junagadh, Gujarat (Retender)

Components : Hotel with facilities equivalent to a 3 (three) star or above category, restaurant and support infrastructure

Tender Document can be downloaded from <https://www.nprocure.com/> & <https://www.gujarattourism.com/>, 07/09/2022 onwards.

The Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on 14/09/2022, 12:30 pm. For any further details, interested Bidders may contact Mr. M. S. Joshi at mjsjoshi@gujarattourism.com. The last date for submission of the Financial Bid (on n-procure website only) is 21/09/2022 up to 4:00 p.m. and Technical Bid is 23/09/2022 up to 4:00 p.m.



Putin attends military drills with China, others

India has sent an Army contingent

ASSOCIATED PRESS
MOSCOW

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday attended sweeping war games in his country's far east involving troops from China and other nations, in a show of military muscle amid the tensions with the West over Moscow's action in Ukraine.

The week-long exercise that began on Thursday is intended to showcase growing defence ties between Russia and China and also demonstrate that Moscow has enough troops and equipment for the massive drills even while its forces are engaged in fighting in Ukraine.

The Russian Defence Ministry said that the Vostok 2022 (East 2022) exercise that runs until Wednesday at seven firing ranges in Russia's Far East and the Sea of Japan involves more than 50,000 troops and over 5,000 weapons units, including 140 aircraft and 60 warships. It engages troops from several ex-Soviet nations, China, Laos, Mongolia, Nicaragua and Syria. India has also sent an Army contingent to participate in the war games.

Beijing sent more than 2,000 troops, along with more than 300 military vehicles, 21 combat aircraft and three warships, to take part in the drills, according to Chinese media. The Russian and Chinese navies in the Sea of Japan practised joint action to protect sea communications and support for ground forces in coastal areas.

Neil Melvin, the head of international security studies at the Royal United Services Institute in London, observed that the drills are intended "to indicate to the West, to its partners in Asia that this is an emerging se-



Vladimir Putin observing the Vostok 2022 military exercise. • AP

curity and military relationship that needs to be taken account of."

The drills continue a series of joint war games by Russia and China in recent years, including naval drills and patrols by bombers over the Sea of Japan and the East China Sea. Last year, Russian troops were for the first time deployed to Chinese territory for joint manoeuvres.

Japan's objection

The exercise marked the first time that China has sent forces from three branches of its military to take part in a single Russian drill, a sign of increasing close ties between Moscow and Beijing, which have grown stronger since Mr. Putin sent his troops into Ukraine on February 24. China has pointedly refused to criticise Russia's actions, blaming the U.S. and NATO for provoking Moscow.

Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirokazu Matsuno criticised Russia for holding exercises on two of the four disputed islands, which Japan calls the Northern Territories, in the Kuril chain off Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido. It was not clear whether China was part of the exercises on the disputed islands.

Russia to buy artillery shells, rockets from N. Korea: U.S.

ASSOCIATED PRESS
WASHINGTON

The Russian Ministry of Defence is in the process of purchasing millions of rockets and artillery shells from North Korea for its ongoing fight in Ukraine, according to a newly downgraded U.S. intelligence finding.

A U.S. official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the intelligence determination, said on Monday that the fact Russia is turning to the isolated state of North Korea demonstrates that "the Russian military continues to suffer from severe supply shortages in Ukraine, due in part to export controls and sanctions."

U.S. intelligence officials believe that the Russians could look to purchase additional North Korean military equipment in the future. The intelligence finding was first reported by *The New York Times*.

The White House said last week that Russia has faced technical problems with Iranian-made drones acquired from Tehran in August for use in its war with Ukraine. Russia picked up Mohajer-6 and Shahed-series unmanned aerial vehicles last month.

North Korea has sought to tighten relations with Russia as much of Europe and the West has pulled away, blaming the United States for the Ukraine crisis and decrying the West's "hegemonic policy" as justifying military action by Russia in Ukraine to protect itself.

North Korea has also hinted at the possibility of sending construction workers to help rebuild Russian-occupied territories in the country's east.

ENTERPRISE CONNECT

CMD, IREDA addresses young minds at IIT Guwahati; encourages students for innovations in RE sector



Shri Pradip Kumar Das, Chairman & Managing Director (CMD), Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA), delivered a keynote address at "Tech Expo" of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati, today.

He emphasised that with a strong foundation led by young minds, long-term sustainable economic growth driven by Aatmanirbhar Bharat is achievable. Speaking on the theme of Tech Expo Imagine Innovate Inspire, CMD, IREDA, said that innovative ideas do not originate in air-conditioned offices but rather in the minds of students at campuses such as IIT. He encouraged students to innovate in the field of Renewable Energy for the sustainable development of the country. Shri Das highlighted that IREDA is the only dedicated organisation that focuses solely on the development of the Renewable Energy Sector in India and is the largest "Green Financier" in the country. He further said that IREDA has been successfully offering the most competitive rate of interest for financing RE projects and acting as a trend setter for other financial institutions and banks.

The "Tech Expo" is the flagship event of the Techno-Management festival of IIT Guwahati—Techniche 2022". It brings together innovators from across the nation to showcase their technological and scientific concepts. CMD, IREDA, Shri Chintan Shah, Director (Technical), and other IREDA officials have also visited several stalls and interacted with young inventors at the Tech Expo.

Enjoy quick, safe, and affordable cooking with the KENT Jewel Induction Cooktop

Featuring 8 pre-programmed menus that enable simple one-button cooking of everyday culinary items. No more lighting matches or checking for gas tanks, switch over to smart and innovative cooking with the Kent Jewel Induction Cooktop and cook a variety of mouth-watering meals. High on technology, functionality, and aesthetics, the induction-based cooktop is also safer than conventional gas or electric cookers.

Loaded with features, KENT Jewel Induction Cooktop has 2000W power consumption, eight pre-set menus, including Curry, Fry, Roti, Keep Warm, Soup, Water, Milk Boiling, and Rice that allows you to prepare delectable curries and fried foods or nutritious soups. Simply choose your preference from the LED display, and the cooktop will work its magic! The induction can also be turned to manual mode so that you can change the heat and other settings to suit your needs.

Also, the touch-sensitive panel of the KENT Jewel Induction Cooktop features feather-touch buttons for simpler operation. You can stay informed about the modes and settings thanks to its digital features and LED display. With its effective auto turn-off feature, it provides the highest level of safety and comfort when cooking. Dr. Mahesh Gupta, Chairman, Kent RO Systems Ltd, said "With every product under the KENT banner, our endeavour is to offer health, well-being and sustainability, the new product KENT Jewel Induction Cooktop is

a step in that direction. This kitchenware utilises environmentally friendly, cutting-edge induction technology that meets international standards and is safer to use for any type of cooking than conventional gas burners or electrical cookers."

SBI Card Launches First-Of-Its-Kind 'CASHBACK SBI Card'

SBI Card, India's largest pure-play credit card issuer, today announced the launch of 'CASHBACK SBI Card', the first-of-its-kind and the most comprehensive Cashback credit card in India. CASHBACK SBI Card is the industry's first Cashback-focused credit card that enables cardholders to earn 5% Cashback on all online spends without any merchant restrictions. Targeted at customers across all categories, from mass to premium, the card offers a simple, seamless, and completely digital joining experience. Consumers across India, including tier 2 & 3 cities, can easily get CASHBACK SBI Card instantly from the comfort of their homes in just a few clicks through digital application platform 'SBI Card SPRINT'. The contactless card is free for the first year till March 2023 as a special offer. Owing to its strong proposition, CASHBACK SBI Card customer will earn unlimited 1% cashback on all online spends, cashback will increase to 5% on all online spends for up to maximum of INR 10,000 per monthly statement cycle. Its merchant agnostic nature ensures that the customers are not restricted to shopping with just a few merchants to avail the benefits.

CASHBACK SBI Card comes with auto-credit of Cashback facility, which allows automatic credit of entitled Cashback to the SBI Card account within two days of statement generation. Speaking on the launch, Mr. Rama Mohan Rao Amara, MD & CEO, SBI Card said, "CASHBACK SBI Card will further strengthen our core card portfolio. This product is a fine example of our continuous efforts towards addressing customers' evolving needs. During our diverse initiatives, we meticulously assessed affinity of cardholders towards online shopping and Cashbacks. In line, we thoughtfully designed CASHBACK SBI Card that truly empowers customers to avail the Cashback benefits on every purchase, every time, and everywhere. Launch of this unique card at an opportune time as customers can experience its power every day and make the most during the upcoming festive season." The benefits offered by CASHBACK SBI Card go well beyond its strong Cashback features.

Punjab National Bank donates to empower the All India Pingalwara Charitable Society

Under its CSR initiative, Punjab National Bank (PNB), nation's leading public sector bank, donated an ambulance to the All India Pingalwara Charitable Society. The Amritsar-based organization treats poor and handicapped people by providing shelter. The initiative took place in the presence of Shri Parveen Goyal, Zonal Head – Amritsar.

Patanjali Foods Limited (formerly known as Ruchi Soya Industries Limited) lays foundation stone for setting up Oil Palm mill at Industrial Growth Centre, Nigdi, District – East Siang, Arunachal Pradesh

The foundation stone has been laid by Shradhy Acharya ji and Shri Tage Patnaik, Hon'ble minister of Agriculture, Government of Arunachal Pradesh. In state of Arunachal Pradesh, we plan to undertake oil palm plantation on 38,000 ha area across 9 districts. We have already established 2 nurseries at Pasighat and Holangti and are in the process of establishing 3 more nurseries in Lower Siang District at Kherram, FTC and Dipa. This will give impetus to state's economy and will bring tremendous employment generation along with increase in local farmers' income. Patanjali Foods has committed itself to Government's NEMO-OP program and plant to undertake

large scale cultivation of oil palm plantation on 5 lakh ha area in India;

MARKET WATCH

	06-09-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	59,197	-0.08
US Dollar	79.82	-0.05
Gold	51,092	0.20
Brent oil	93.82	-1.52

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	850.35	-0.55
Apollo Hosp	4415.50	132.95
Asian Paints	3395.25	-29.55
Axis Bank	750.00	-6.10
Bajaj Auto	3929.40	-27.25
Bajaj Finance	16968.95	-407.15
Bajaj Finance	7119.35	-76.85
Bharti Airtel	761.25	20.85
BPCL	324.25	-0.50
Britannia Ind	3608.80	-53.80
Cipla	1040.85	15.20
Coal India	232.70	1.10
Divis Lab	3585.50	-7.25
Dr Reddys Lab	4239.20	24.95
Eicher Motors	3140.35	9.85
Gasim Ind	1723.05	12.30
HCL Tech	937.80	1.80
HDPC	2448.50	-7.75
HDPC Bank	1489.35	-5.70
HDPC Life	573.50	-0.15
Hero MotoCorp	2866.55	24.50
Hindalco	430.95	1.65
Hind Unilever	2573.10	-27.50
ICICI Bank	883.65	1.20
IndusInd Bank	1108.80	0.80
Infosys	1455.10	-6.20
ITC	327.15	-1.70
JSW Steel	684.55	2.60
Kotak Bank	1915.70	-22.20
L&T	1962.30	-6.05
M&M	1306.40	-14.15
Maruti Suzuki	8888.75	-61.30
Nestle India Ltd.	19041.90	-217.80
NTPC	168.45	3.95
ONGC	132.10	-1.30
PowerGrid Corp	225.05	1.65
Reliance Ind	2596.85	27.05
SBI Life	1311.35	17.95
State Bank	537.80	-1.10
Shree Cement	21654.35	360.70
Sun Pharma	887.75	3.15
Tata Consumer Products Ltd.	818.25	19.20
Tata Motors	457.75	-1.25
Tata Steel	108.60	1.70
TCS	3120.05	-6.35
Tech Mahindra	1063.70	-1.35
Titan	2631.65	4.30
UltraTech Cement	6495.50	-26.45
UPL	738.10	-8.75
Wipro	404.45	-1.05

EXCHANGE RATES

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	79.64	79.96
Euro	79.05	79.40
British Pound	92.25	92.62
Japanese Yen (100)	56.16	56.39
Chinese Yuan	11.44	11.49
Swiss Franc	81.15	81.52
Singapore Dollar	56.68	56.92
Canadian Dollar	60.66	60.93
Malaysian Ringgit	17.69	17.78
Australian Dollar	53.97	54.23

Source: Indian Bank

IN BRIEF

TMB IPO subscribed 1.53 times on Day 2
NEW DELHI
The initial public offering (IPO) of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank (TMB) got subscribed 1.53 times on Tuesday, day two of subscription. It got bids for 1,33,68,460 shares against 87,12,000 shares on offer, as per NSE. PTI
RIL to buy U.S. solar energy management firm
MUMBAI
Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) said it had signed definitive agreements to acquire a majority stake in SenseHawk Inc. for a transaction value of \$32 million, including funding for growth, commercial roll-out of products and R&D. Founded in 2018, SenseHawk is an early-stage California-based developer of software-based management tools for the solar energy generation industry.

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RIL to buy U.S. solar energy management firm

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SPORT

A series within a tournament, a grand opera with supporting acts

Having an India-Pakistan encounter a couple of times before the final means that a tournament is guaranteed a couple of peaks, and no matter the troughs



BETWEEN WICKETS

SURESHE MENON

It's not difficult to imagine that cricket's multi-team tournaments exist simply to enable India and Pakistan to play a mini-series within these. The 50-over and T20 World Cups, Asia Cup, Champions Trophy are about India playing Pakistan, and then some teams playing some other teams. Exaggeration? Perhaps.

At the 50-over World Cup in 2007, India and Pakistan, placed in separate groups, failed to qualify for the Super Eight league. Television in particular and the administrators in general felt it would be unwise to take such chances in future.

India and Pakistan are now usually placed together thus ensuring at least one meeting, and with the possibility of a se-

cond in the following round. At the Asia Cup in the UAE it could mean yet another contest on Sunday if the teams make it to the final. That's a three-match series (now tied 1-1) between the Asian giants – it's as if the other teams are merely the supporting acts in the grand opera that is an India-Pakistan series.

What a mouth-watering prospect for television, the administration, the public, advertisers and the media! Monetising passion is television's way of paying a tribute to sports.

India (world No. 1) and Pakistan (No. 3) are the top two sides in Asia. They might have been fielded in different halves, as happens in Wimbledon tennis, for example, or any number of other tournaments. The top two are generally seeded so they meet in the final, but that's seen as old-fashioned in cricket with its many leagues of three or four or six or eight teams at various stages in a single tournament.

Having an India-Pakistan encounter a couple of times before the final means that a tournament is guaranteed a couple of peaks, and no matter the troughs. The

matches themselves might not amount to much – although at the Asia Cup they have been closely-fought – but the idea alone is sufficient for a buzz to accompany the tournament.

It is not the sort of buzz that an India-Sri Lanka encounter or an Australia-South Africa one carries. There are historical reasons for this, as well as contemporary political ones. An India-Pakistan encounter fosters the feeling that the winning side is superior in all ways – in politics, culture, religion and in the way *rogan josh* is cooked. Politicians on both sides of the divide encourage such notions. It is a useful weapon in their armoury.

Impact of history and politics

Sporting contests have an edge when history and politics are intertwined with them. The West Indies great Viv Richards has spoken often about how he felt he was speaking for the Blacks when he played. In the 1976 series, England captain Tony Greig said he would make the West Indies 'grovel', which was especially derogatory coming from a player born in South Africa

(then under apartheid rule). Richards took that personally, and made over 800 runs in the series including two double centuries. And a phalanx of fast bowlers was unleashed on England.

When Australia play England in the Ashes or a white-ball series, they are a former colony trying to make a point about being as good as if not better than those who once ruled them. New Zealand taking on Australia are conscious of a smaller neighbour trying to match up to one which has been condescending to them and even dismissive.

Perhaps there is an element of that in the India-Pakistan rivalry too. One of the greatest New Zealand-born cricketers, Clarrie Grimmett, played for Australia. Former India captain Gulabrai Ramchand was born in Karachi (before Partition).

Things change, feelings of inadequacy or superiority dissipate with time and more interaction, while political and economic churning take away (or add to) some of the emotions in any exchange.

India, once the least favourite country

citing and the richest. Pakistan, once characterised by all-rounder Ian Botham as the country to send your mother-in-law to, have had bigger problems than Botham's sense of humour (or lack thereof) to deal with.

For political reasons, India and Pakistan play each other only in multi-team tournaments, thus investing their matches with an edge that comes from lack of regular meetings. Emotions pent up for longer than usual find release on the occasions when they do meet.

To act as if four teams are in the tournament just to make up the numbers is both unfair and untrue. But that's what the India-Pakistan obsession does. Dropping a catch or giving away runs is seen as a national disaster as Arshdeep Singh found out in the last game and Mohammed Shami did in the World T20 when India lost to Pakistan last year. They were trolled mercilessly, their patriotism called into question.

There's something about an obsession that destroys perspective. Indications are we are stuck with this for a while yet.

Gill ready for Acropolis

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI

JK Tyre's Gaurav Gill, the only Indian on the grid of 70 of world's best rally drivers, is gearing up for one of the toughest and gruelling rallies in the World Rally Championship (WRC) calendar – Acropolis Rally Greece from Sept. 8 to 11.

This will be Gill's third outing in the WRC this year along with co-driver Gabriel Morales from Brazil after the duo delivered some impressive performances in Kenya and Finland.

Popularly known as the Rally of the Gods, the event will cover 1,192km including 16 Special stages of 303km.

"We have to brave high temperatures, dust and rocky passes going into the rally," said the Arjuna awardee.

Global challenges won't dent India's recovery, says Moody's

Rating firm lowers FY23 growth forecast to 7.6%, retains Baa3 rating for country

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

Global rating firm Moody's Investors Service said on Tuesday that it does not expect the rising challenges facing the global economy, such as the fallout of the Russia-Ukraine military conflict, higher inflation, and tightening financial conditions to derail India's ongoing recovery from the pandemic in 2022 and 2023.

While it lowered its growth forecast for the Indian economy in FY23 to 7.6%, citing higher inflation, rising interest rates, uneven monsoon distribution, and slowing global growth as dampeners for 'economic



Slowing price rise: The agency expects inflation to average 6.8% through this fiscal and 5% next year. ■ SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

momentum on a sequential basis', Moody's said the risks from negative feedback between the economy and the financial system are receding and reiterated its Baa3 credit rating for India's sovereign.

"While risks stemming from a high debt burden and weak debt affordability remain, we expect that the economic environment will allow for a gradual narrowing in the general govern-

ment fiscal deficit over the next few years, avoiding further deterioration in the sovereign credit profile," the firm said in a credit opinion update. The agency expects real GDP growth of 6.3% in FY24, while inflation is projected to average 6.8% through this fiscal and 5% next year.

Moody's also reckoned that India's current account deficit this year would surge to 3.9% of GDP from 1.2% in FY22, and remain high at 3% of GDP in FY24.

"We expect inflationary pressures to weaken in the second half of 2022 and further into 2023," Moody's noted in the update.

Indian refiners have been snapping up relatively cheap Russian oil, shunned by Western firms and countries since sanctions were imposed against Moscow for what it calls a "special military operation" in Ukraine. India's imports from Russian oil rose by 4.7 times, or more than 4,00,000 barrels per day, in April-May, but fell in July. Crude oil imports from Saudi Arabia by the world's third-biggest oil importer and consumer rose in July by more than 25% after Saudi Arabia lowered the official selling price in June and July compared with May.

Saudi Arabia stayed at the No. 3 spot among India's suppliers. "As far as India is concerned, I see for the foreseeable future much of our crude oil supplies will be coming from Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Abu Dhabi, Kuwait, among others," Mr. Puri told Reuters in an interview. Although oil imports from Russia declined by 7.3% in July from the June levels, Moscow remained the country's second-biggest oil supplier after Iraq.

Mr. Puri said that by the end of the fiscal year on March 31, 2022, India's purchases from Russia represented only 0.2%, but rose later as the global situation became "problematic."

India's Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri said most of the country's crude oil supplies in the near future would come from the Gulf countries, including Saudi Arabia and Iraq, as it seeks a secure and affordable energy base.

Indian refiners have been snapping up relatively cheap Russian oil, shunned by Western firms and countries since sanctions were imposed against Moscow for what it calls a "special military operation" in Ukraine.

India's imports from Russian oil rose by 4.7 times, or more than 4,00,000 barrels

<p

Men in Blue on the brink of elimination after losing to Sri Lanka

Only Rohit and Suryakumar come good with the bat; openers Nissanka and Kusal Mendis provide the ideal platform as the Islanders chase down a target of 174

ASIA CUP

ASHWIN ACHAL
DUBAI

Sri Lanka held off a fighting India to record a six-wicket win in their Asia Cup Super 4 clash here on Tuesday. Only a few favourable results, and an India win in its last Super 4 match (against Afghanistan on Thursday), can allow the side to progress to the final.

Chasing 174, Sri Lanka crossed the finish line with one ball to spare. Sri Lanka was given the ideal platform by openers Pathum Nissanka (52, 37, 4x4, 2x6) and Kusal Mendis (57, 37, 4x4, 3x6).

It took a brilliant over from leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal to pull India back into the contest. Chahal first got Nissanka to mishit a reverse-sweep, and three deliveries later, tempted Charith Asalanka (0) to sweep a flighted ball to deep backward square.

Off-spinner R. Ashwin then took out Danushka Gunathilaka with similarly tossed up delivery. When Chahal's quicker one thudded into Mendis' pads, India had Sri Lanka on the ropes at 110 for four.

Bhanuka Rajapaksa (25 n.o., 17b, 2x6) and captain



Great start, perfect finish! Madushanka got rid of Kohli for a duck as Sri Lanka restricted India to 173. Skipper Shanaka then guided the team home. ■ AP & REUTERS



Dasun Shanaka (33 n.o., 18b, 4x4, 1x6), however, stood tall. The duo ran hard, and put away the bad balls to chip away at the target.

It came down to the last over, bowled by Arshdeep Singh, with Sri Lanka needing seven to win. The left-arm spearer in the yorkers, but all it took was singles and

twos for the Lankans to get the job done.

Earlier, Sri Lanka grabbed wickets at regular intervals to keep India to a par score. Save for Rohit Sharma (72, 41b, 5x4, 4x6) and Suryakumar Yadav (34, 29b, 1x4, 1x6), the rest of the Indian batters came a cropper.

The start was disastrous,

with K.L. Rahul and Virat Kohli departing early. Rahul (6) rushed down the track to spinner Maheesh Theekshana only for the ball to hit his foot. Rahul reviewed the leg-before verdict, but replays showed that leg stump would have been clipped. Kohli, rather uncharacteristically, slogged across the line to lose

his stumps to Dilshan Madushanka.

Rohit and Suryakumar got together with India in trouble at 13 for two. Rohit came alive in the fifth over, bowled by Asitha Fernando, hooking the fast bowler for a six, and following it up with a cut for four.

The skipper later struck

spinner Wanindu Hasaranga for two straight maximums to keep the run rate healthy. He received a life on 40, when Shanaka put down a tough chance at cover.

Rohit departed in the 13th over, cutting a short ball from Chamika Karunaratne to deep point. The 97-run third-wicket stand between Rohit

SCOREBOARD

INDIA

K.L. Rahul lbw b Theekshana 6 (7b, 1x4), Rohit Sharma c Nissanka b Karunaratne 72 (41b, 5x4, 4x6), Virat Kohli b Madushanka 0 (4b), Suryakumar Yadav c Theekshana b Shanaka 34 (29b, 1x4, 7x6), Hardik Pandya c Nissanka b Shanaka 17 (13b, 1x6), Rishabh Pant c Nissanka b Madushanka 17 (13b, 3x4), Deepak Hooda b Madushanka 3 (4b), R. Ashwin (not out) 15 (7b, 1x6), Bhuvneshwar Kumar b Karunaratne 0 (2b), Arshdeep Singh (not out) 1 (1b); Extras (w-7, nb-1); Total (for eight wkts. in 20 overs): 173.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-11 (Rahul, 1.5 overs), 2-13 (Kohli, 2.4), 3-110 (Rohit, 12.2), 4-119 (Suryakumar, 14.2), 5-149 (Hardik, 17.3), 6-157 (Hooda, 18.1), 7-158 (Pant, 18.3), 8-164 (Bhuvneshwar, 19.3).

INDIA BOWLING

Bhuvneshwar 4-0-30-0, Arshdeep 3-0-40-0, Hardik 4-0-35-0, Chahal 4-0-34-3, Ashwin 4-0-32-1.

Toss: Sri Lanka; **MoM:** Shanaka. *Sri Lanka won by six wickets with one ball to spare.*

holing out on the boundary. Deepak Hooda (3, 4b), slotted as number seven as the finisher, failed to deliver.

TODAY'S MATCH

SUPER 4

Afghanistan vs. Pakistan

Sharjah, 7:30 p.m. IST

Bavuma to lead, Stubbs included

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
JOHANNESBURG

Tristan Stubbs was on Tuesday named in the South Africa squad for the T20 World Cup and that of the preceding three-match series in India.

Temba Bavuma will lead the side.

The squads: For T20 WC and T20Is vs India: Temba Bavuma (Capt.), Quinton de Kock, Reeza Hendricks, Heinrich Klaasen, Keshav Maharaj, Aiden Markram, David Miller, Lungi Ngidi, Anrich Nortje, Wayne Parnell, Dwayne Pretorius, Kagiso Rabada, Rilee Rossouw, Tabraiz Shamsi and Tristan Stubbs.

For ODIs against India: Bavuma (Capt.), de Kock, Hendricks, Klaasen, Maharaj, Janeman Malan, Markram, Miller, Ngidi, Nortje, Parnell, Andile Phehlukwayo, Pretorius, Rabada and Shamsi.

Siva makes a splash

Karnataka swimmer bags two gold

Y.B. SARANGI
GUWAHATI

S. Siva set a new meet record in the 200m individual medley and bagged two gold medals and a bronze on the opening day of the National aquatic championships at the Zakir Hussain Aquatic Complex on Tuesday.

Despite heavy rains and high humidity, the 21-year-old Karnataka swimmer, who had claimed a silver last year, clocked 2:05.64 to leave Sajan Prakash's 2018 performance of 2:05.83 behind.

Siva was also part of the Karnataka team that won the men's 4x200m freestyle relay and got a bronze in the mixed 4x50m medley.

The results: Men: 400m freestyle: 1. Vishal Grewal (Del) 4:03.55, 2. Shivank Vishwanath (Kar) 4:09.02, 3. Yug Chelani (Raj) 4:01.63; 50m



What a start! It was a day to remember for Siva.

■ RITU RAJ KONWAR

Payas and Yashaswini win

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SPORTS BUREAU

Payas Jain and Yashaswini Ghorpade capped India's campaign by winning the mixed doubles gold medal in the Asian junior table tennis championship at Vientiane, Laos, on Tuesday.

Payas and Yashaswini defeated China's Han Xinyuan and Qin Yuxuan 11-9, 11-1, 10-12, 7-11, 11-8 to emerge as India's first champion combination in this age-group continental championship.

The top-seeded Indians squandered a match-point at 10-9 in the third set and four more after leading 10-4 in the decider. The Chinese pair saved five match-points before the Indians won on the sixth.

Earlier, Yashaswini reached the singles semifinals to claim a bronze, just like Payas and Yashash Malik did in boys' doubles.

In the team event, the Indian boys made it to the semifinals and lost to Japan 2-3 for the bronze medal. The girls finished fifth.

breaststroke: 1. Likith S.P. (SSCB) 28.71, Danush Suresh (TN) 29.24, 3. Shwejal Mankar (Mah) 29.28; **200m medley:** 1. Siva S. (Kar) 2:05.64 (NMR), 2. Benedicton Rohit B. (TN) 2:08.93, 3. Swadesh Mondal (SSCB) 2:10.99; **4x200m relay:** 1. Karnataka (Shivam, Dhyan Balakrishna, Prithvi M., Siva S.) 7:54.39, 2. SSCB (Kuntal Giri, Aniket Chavan, Unnikrishnan, S. Rudrash, Manoj Mishra) 7:56.40, 3. RSPB (Emil Robin Singh, Sushrut Suryakant Kapse, Soumyajit Saha, Sanu Debnath) 7:57.74.

Women: **400m freestyle:** 1. Bhavya Sachdeva (Del) 4:30.25, 2. Vritti Agarwal (Tel) 4:33.25, 3. Shivangi Sarma (Assam) 4:35.83; **50m breaststroke:** 1. Chahat Arora (Pun) 33.22, 2. Vinitha Nayana (Kar) 34.77, 3. Manavi Varma (Kar) 35.04; **200m medley:** 1. Disha Bhandari (U.P.) and Manavi Varma (Kar) 2:27.28, 3. Richa Mishra (AIP) 2:28.73; **4x50m mixed relay:** 1. Gujarat (Maana Patel, Disha Mehta, Anshul Kotaria, Diya Patel) 1:52.67, 2. Assam (Jananjoy Jyoti Hazarika, Bhagav Phukan, Astha Choudhary, Shivangi Sarma) 1:53.65, 3. Karnataka (Siva S., Pruthvi D.S., Tanishi Gupta, Latiesha Mandanna) 1:54.64.

First Major loss of 2022 For Australian and French Open champion Nadal, it was a first Grand Slam loss of 2022 after an abdominal strain forced him to forfeit his Wimbledon semifinal.

Tiafoe, 24, will face Andrei Rublev, who he defeated over five sets in the third round in 2021, for a place in the semifinals.

"I don't know what to say, I'm so happy. He's one of the greatest of all time and I played unbelievable tennis today," said Tiafoe who had only previously reached one Slam quarterfinal in Australia in 2019.

"Something special hap-

U.S. OPEN

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
NEW YORK

Rafael Nadal fell to his earliest U.S. Open loss in six years on Monday when he was knocked out by Frances Tiafoe while Carlos Alcaraz survived a five-set epic to reach a second successive quarterfinal in a tie which finished at 02:23 a.m. (local time) on Tuesday.

Norway's Casper Ruud reached the semifinals for the first time on Tuesday with a 6-1, 6-4, 7-6(4) win over Matteo Berrettini of Italy.

Four-time Open champion Nadal, bidding for a 23rd Grand Slam title, lost 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 in the last-16 to 26th-ranked Tiafoe. The American's big-hitting performance conjured up 18 aces and 49 winners past a sluggish Nadal.

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Go for it! Tiafoe's free-swinging style seemed to unsettle Nadal. ■ AFP

pene today. Honestly when I first came on the scene I wasn't ready for it mentally and mature enough. I've been able to develop and I have a great team around me. With you guys, it's been great."

Nadal defeated 2014 champion Marin Cilic 6-4, 3-6, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 in a match which was just three minutes short of equalling the record

for the latest finish at the tournament.

The 19-year-old Alcaraz, seeded three and seen as the title favourite after the elimination of Nadal, will face Jan-Lennard Sinner for a semifinal place.

Alcaraz defeated 2014 champion Marin Cilic 6-4, 3-6, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 in a match which was just three minutes short of equalling the record

■ For the first time since the 2000 U.S. Open, the top two seeds have not reached the quarterfinals of men's singles

■ The last time this happened in any Grand Slam was at the 2017 Australian Open

■ Alcaraz, 19, is the youngest man to reach the quarterfinals in successive years at New York since Aussie legends Lew Hoad and Ken Rosewall at the 1952-53 U.S. Championships

■ At 19 years and four months, Alcaraz is the youngest man to reach three Slam quarterfinals since Michael Chang, who won Michael Chang, who won Roland Garros in 1989 at the age of 17. Chang also reached the last eight stage in 1990 and '91 in Paris

THE RESULTS

Men: **Quarterfinals:** 5-Ruud (Nor) bt 11-Berrettini (Ita) 6-1, 6-4, 7-6(4).

Fourth round: 11-Sinner (Ita) bt Ivashka 6-1, 5-7, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3; 3-Alcaraz (Esp) bt 15-Cilic (Cro) 6-4, 3-6, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3; 2-Tiafoe (USA) bt 2-Nadal (Esp) 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Women: 1-Swiatek (Pol) bt Niemeier (Ger) 2-6, 6-4, 6-0; 2-Pliskova (Cze) bt 26-Azarenka 7-5, 6-7(5), 6-2; 6-Sabalenka bt 19-Collins (USA) 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.

French Open champion and World No. 1 Iga Swiatek became the first woman to reach the Open quarterfinals.

Swiatek recovered from a set and a break down to see off 108th-ranked German Jule Niemeier, 2-6, 6-4, 6-0.

I don't know when I'll be back: Nadal



Nadal. ■ AFP

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
NEW YORK

Rafael Nadal on Monday admitted he wasn't sure when he will return to action after Frances Tiafoe condemned him to his earliest US Open exit since 2016.

"I need to go back. I need to fix things. I don't know when I'm going to come back," Nadal told a press conference.

"I'm going to try to be ready mentally. When I feel that I will be ready to compete again, I will be there."

Nadal is due to become a father for the first time in the coming weeks, which will factor heavily into his future on-court plans.

"Now I have to go home, I have more important things than tennis to attend to," he said.

LIVE TELECAST

AFC Cup: ATKMB vs Kuala Lumpur, SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7 p.m.
Asia Cup: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
US Open: Sony Ten 2, 3 (SD & HD) & LIV, 9.30 p.m. onwards
Champions League: Sony Ten 1, Six (SD & HD) & LIV, 10.15 p.m. & Ten 1, 3, Six (SD & HD) & LIV, 12.30 a.m. (Thursday).

IN BRIEF



Jemimah to play for Melbourne Stars

MELBOURNE
Melbourne Stars on Tuesday announced the signing of India batter Jemimah Rodrigues for the eighth season of Women's Big Bash League (WBBL). The 22-year-old represented Stars' cross-town rival Melbourne Renegades last season, scoring 333 runs at a strike rate of over 116. PTI

New CA role for Simon Longstaff

MELBOURNE
Cricket Australia (CA) on Tuesday appointed Simon Longstaff as its first "Independent Ethics Commissioner". Longstaff was previously associated with the CA in 2018 when the infamous ball-tampering scandal rocked world cricket. Longstaff's scathing review of the incident also led to the resignation of the board's then chairman, David Peever, that year, shortly after the incident. PTI

Pogba undergoes 'successful' knee surgery

PARIS
Paul Pogba underwent a successful knee surgery on Monday night, Juventus said as the France midfielder's hopes of appearing at the World Cup hang in the balance. "Paul Pogba underwent selective external arthroscopic meniscectomy," the club said in statement. AP

+ ATKMB faces an uphill task against KLC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

KOLKATA
ATK Mohun Bagan will look to start afresh after a premature Durand Cup exit when it takes on Kuala Lumpur City FC (KLC FC) in the AFC Cup 2022 inter-zonal semifinal here on Wednesday.

In a rebuilding mode after the departure of some high-profile stars in Roy Krishna, David Williams, Sandesh Jhingan and Tiri, Juan Ferrando's side faced a reality check when it was eliminated in the group stage of the Durand Cup.

Despite some promising signings in Ashique Kuruniyan, Vishal Kaith, Asish Rai, Brendan Hamil and Florentin Pogba, ATKMB failed to score against East Bengal and an own-goal by the rival gave it a lucky 1-0 win in the season's opening derby.

The match kicks off at 7 p.m.

Dhananjay pips Chandril

SPORTS BUREAU

Dhananjay Singh defeated seventh seed Chandril Sood 4-6, 6-2, 7-6(2) in the pre-quarterfinals of the Verka ₹100,000 AITA men's tennis tournament at the CLTA Complex in Chandigarh on Tuesday.

In the last eight, Dhananjay will challenge top seed Ishaque Eqbal, who eased past Amit Bzad for the loss of one game.

The results (pre-quarterfinals): Ishaque Eqbal bt Amit Bzad 6-1, 6-0; Dhananjay Singh bt Chandril Sood 4-6, 6-2, 7-6(2); Neeraj Yashpaul bt Shubham Malhotra 6-2, 6-4; Maan Keswani bt Anuj Malik 6-4, 6-2; Suraj Prabodh bt Shivank Bhatnagar 6-1, 4-6, 6-1; Sarthak Suden bt Parth Aggarwal 7-6(6), 5-2 (conceded); K.S. Siddharth Arya bt Ayush Gurnani 6-3, 6-3; Dalwinder Singh bt Lakshit Sood 6-0, 3-0 (conceded).

Aussies too good for Indians

The World No. 2 side outplays the host 116-49 in a Group-A contest

BASKETBALL

K. KEERTHIVASAN
BENGALURU

Australia's victory was never in doubt. It was only about the margin of defeat for India.

The host was never in the contest in any quarter as it was outplayed 116-49 by a team ranked No. 2 in the World in a Group-A match at the Sree Kanteerava Indoor Stadium here on Tuesday.

After the first day was washed out due to heavy rain, the tournament got off to a fine start with all other higher-ranked teams scripting victories.

Stronger and quicker
Being stronger and quicker, Australia ran circles around the Indians from the start and went up 17-0 within the first five minutes.

On the other hand, India took time to get into the groove and that came in the second quarter, where it

showed some system and pattern in its game. But Australia proved it belonged to a different league.

Japan, China post wins

In other matches, Chinese Taipei gave a splendid display of its fighting abilities before going down to seventh-ranked Japan 77-90 in Group-B while China showed why it's ranked World No. 4 when it drubbed Indonesia 91-30 in another Group-B contest.

The results:

Div. A: Group-A: Australia 116 (Sophie Burrows 17, Dallas Loughridge 13, Nyadieve Puoch 14) bt New Zealand 64 (Alliyah Leusogi-Ape 16, Lily Parke 12).

Group-B: Japan 90 (Yuzihi Yasogawa 23, Haruka Owaki 16) bt Chinese Taipei 77 (Yu Lan Chang 10, Yu Wen Hsiao 39); China 91 (Duoling Hu 19, Jing Wang 13, Wenxia Li 16, Qingyang Li 14, Zhongqiu Dou 11) bt Indonesia 30.



Lone warrior: Deepthi was the only bright spot for India, scoring 14 points. ■ SUDHAKARA JAIN

Nagelsmann wants Bayern Munich to recapture energy

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BERLIN

Bayern Munich manager Julian Nagelsmann blamed a lack of energy for his side's stuttering Bundesliga form, bristling at suggestions the six-time Champions League winner is missing striker Robert Lewandowski.

After an explosive start to the season which saw it score 20 goals in its opening

four competitive matches, two consecutive 1-1 draws against Borussia Moenchengladbach and Union Berlin sees Bayern occupy an unfamiliar third spot in the table.

While Lewandowski's replacement Sadio Mane has scored three goals in five Bundesliga matches since arriving, Nagelsmann said his side were lacking "energy" rather than the departed Pole and drew both games despite a "proliferation" of

chances. "Against Gladbach we had 31 shots on goal — I think that's creative enough," Nagelsmann said. Worryingly for Bayern, its opponent is also known for employing similar defensive tactics to Gladbach and Berlin.

Wednesday's fixtures: Ajax vs. Rangers; Frankfurt vs. Sporting CP; Napoli vs. Liverpool; Atletico Madrid vs. Porto; Club Brugge vs. Leverkusen; Barcelona vs. Plzen; Inter vs. Bayern; Tottenham vs. Marseille.

Prajnesh sails past Charoenphon

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU

Prajnesh Gunneswaran sailed past Yuttana Charoenphon of Thailand 6-1, 6-2 in the first round of the ₹37,520 Challenger tennis tournament in Nonthaburi, Thailand.

The results: First round:

\$37,520 Challenger, Nonthaburi, Thailand: Prajnesh Gunneswaran bt Yuttana Charoenphon (Tha) 6-1, 6-2.

\$25,000 ITF, Cairo, Egypt:

Men: Biagio Gramaticopolo & Giuseppe Treca (Ita) bt Antonio Mazzeo (Ita) & Ritabratra Sarkar 6-1, 6-3; Remy Bertola (Sui) & Lorenzo Rottoli (Ita) bt Lazar Vojinovic (Srb) & Anurag Agarwal 6-4, 7-6(3).

Women: Singles: Mayuka Aika-

wa (Jpn) bt Sanjana Sirimalla 6-0, 6-1.

\$15,000 ITF, Madrid, Spain: Digvijay Pratap Singh bt Miguel Avendano Cadena (Esp) 6-4, 6-2.

\$15,000 ITF, Monastir, Tunisia:

Men: Rishabh Agarwal bt Bruno Kuzuhara (US) 6-7(10), 6-3,

7-5; **Women:** Wei Sijia (Chn) bt Smriti Bhasin 6-0, 6-0; Samira De Stefano (Ita) bt Jennifer Luikham 6-2, 6-2.

DELHI ROUND-UP

All-round show by Trinav

Trinav Kumar's match-winning 62-ball 97 and three wickets saw Gyanti Club beat Global Academy by 89 runs in the 16th Hari Chand memorial under-17 tournament.

The scores: Gyanti Club 253 in 39 overs (Trinav Kumar 97, Abhishek Rahane 36, Harshit Choudhary 3/19, Ayush Ahlawat 3/6) bt Global Academy 164/9 in 40 overs (Trinav Kumar 3/26).

Quickfire century by Akshay
Man-of-the-Match Akshay

Saini scored a quickfire 117 as MIO Academy beat Ambica Club by five wickets in the 6th BR Sharma tournament.

The scores: Ambica Club 218 in 39 overs (Kavya 58, Purav Sharma 42, Ayush Brother 3/46) lost to MIO Academy 219/5 in 33 overs (Akshay Saini 117, Rujul Singh 58).

Mayank scalps three
Mayank Pal took three wickets as STSC beat SA Academy by two wickets in the Hitman Open tournament.

Quickfire century by Akshay
Man-of-the-Match Akshay

The scores: SAA 150 in 31 overs (Kunal Bhardwaj 61, Mayank Pal 3/27) lost to STSC 154/8 in 34 overs (Gurdeep Singh 38 n.o., Paranjali 3/36).

Narendra takes a five-for

A five-wicket haul by Narendra Rajput helped City Gymkhana Academy beat Dhaka Cricket Academy by 63 runs in the City Gymkhana under-17 tournament.

The scores: CGA 161 in 37 overs (Hardik 3/26) bt DCA 98 in 29 overs (Narendra Rajput 5/27, Anurag Sharma 3/33).

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