



Hindus

The advertisement features a blue and red header with the Reliance logo and the slogan "Growth is Life". Below it, a large red banner proclaims "A GREAT START BEGINS WITH GREAT OFFERS.". A central graphic for the "2023 SALE" is surrounded by gold confetti. To the right, a smiling man in an orange jacket points towards the offer. The Reliance Digital logo and tagline "PERSONALISING TECHNOLOGY" are at the top right. The bottom left shows payment options for Citi and ICICI Bank, and the bottom right features the Jio logo with "DIGITAL LIFE".

Reliance
Growth is Life

A GREAT START BEGINS WITH GREAT OFFERS.

NOW OPEN AT:

- SECTOR-14, GURUGRAM
- WEST PATEL NAGAR, DELHI

digital
2023
SALE

UP TO **₹5000**
INSTANT DISCOUNT*

Citi | Credit & Debit Cards

+ **₹5000**
INSTANT DISCOUNT*

ON ALL CREDIT & DEBIT CARDS

ACICI Bank

WIN 8 iPhones
EVERYDAY*

3 INSTA
DELIVERY
LESS THAN 3 HRS

reliancedigital.in

SHOP ANY ELECTRONICS AT
MY JIO STORE

Jio DIGITAL LIFE

The Jio logo consists of the word "Jio" in a white, bold, sans-serif font inside a dark blue circle. To the right of the circle, the words "DIGITAL LIFE" are written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

[View Details](#) | [Edit](#) | [Delete](#)

OPEN BOX SALE
CLEARANCE LAST PIECES AND MORE

FLAT 50% OFF* on select TVs.*

FREE** APPLE AirPods Pro 1st Gen worth ₹26300

LG **2 Year WARRANTY**

NanoCell

139 CM (55) 55NAN083

₹62990

MAX 10% CASHBACK UP TO ₹7500/-*

SBI Credit Cards Standard Chartered SBI

kotak FEDERAL BANK AXIS BANK one card

An LG NanoCell television screen displaying a close-up of a textured surface with green and yellow highlights, representing a microscopic view of nanotechnology. The LG logo is in the top left corner, and a red banner in the top right corner reads "2 Year WARRANTY". The model number "139 CM (55) 55NAN083" is at the bottom.

SAMSUNG | 5G DEAL MODELS

SAMSUNG M13 5G 6/128
₹15999
Starting from ₹13999*

SAMSUNG Z Flip3 5G
₹84999
₹69999*

iPhone 13
Starting from ₹60900*

*Price post upgrade bonus & exchange bonus

FROST-FREE
WHIRLPOOL 265 L
₹23 490*
EMIs of ₹1958/-
2 STAR

LG 260 L
₹23 990*
EMIs of ₹1999/-
2 STAR

SAMSUNG 324 L
₹32 490*
EMIs of ₹2708/-
2 STAR

SIDE BY SIDE
KELVINATOR 584 L
₹53 990*
EMIs of ₹4499/-
LG 694 L
₹78 990*
EMIs of ₹6583/-
SAMSUNG 700 L
₹82 990*
EMIs of ₹6916/-

HAVELLS
3 L INSTANT GEYSER
₹3799*
BAJAJ
15 L STORAGE GEYSE
₹6 999*

AQUAGUARD
6.2 L WATER PURIFIER
JAZZ RO+UV
₹17 990*
FREE! Forbes Vacuum Cleaner Atom
Worth ₹4499

The image displays a grid of five promotional ads. The top row features two Samsung front-loading washing machines: a white 6.5 kg model on the left and a black 7 kg model on the right. The bottom row features an IFB 8 kg front-loading machine on the left and an LG 9 kg front-loading machine on the right. To the right of the LG ad is a partial view of a smartphone with a blue case, showing its screen and part of its body. The ads include price tags in blue circles and payment terms in smaller text below them.

Washing Machine Type	Brand	Capacity	Price	EMI Options
Front Load	SAMSUNG	6.5 kg	₹26990*	EMIs of ₹2249/-
Front Load	IFB	6.5 kg	₹30990*	EMIs of ₹2583/-
Front Load	SAMSUNG	7 kg	₹31490*	EMIs of ₹2624/-
Front Load	LG	8 kg	₹36490*	EMIs of ₹3041/-
Smartphone	(Smartphone)	27.6 cm (10.9) Liquid Retina Display, A14 Chip, 12 MP Ultra Wide Front Camera	₹44900 ₹39990*	*Price inclusive of Bank Cashback

WIDEST RANGE | FINANCE OPTIONS | LATEST ELECTRONICS | LOWEST PRICE

WIDEST RANGE | FINANCE OPTIONS | LATEST ELECTRONICS | LOWEST PRICES

VISIT: SECTOR-29, GURUGRAM ₹2500 DISCOUNT    1800 889 1044 Download the resQ app on 

VISIT US AT DELHI - 1-WEST PATEL NAGAR, OPP. METRO PILLAR NO. 236, PH: 9717066440 + SOUTH EXCIL, RING ROAD + SOUTHERN MALL, SELECT CITY WALK, DRIVEWAY, SANCTUARY, PH: 8808565747 + SANCTUARY, OPP. ANAMUL PVR + PACIFIC MALL, NSPITAMPURA, RING ROAD - KAROL BAGH, GUPTA ROAD - KAMLA NAGAR, BUNGLOW ROAD + MODEL TOWNSHIP, RING ROAD + ANNAPURANI, NEAR JANAPURANI EAST METRO STATION + RAJDHARI GARDENS, RING ROAD + AMBIENCE MALL, VASANT KUNJ + PACIFIC D12 MALL, SEC-21 METRO STATION, DWARKA + RELIANCE MALL, SEC-13, DWARKA + RELIANCE MALL, VIKASNAGAR + UNITY ONE MALL, SHAHDARA + V23 MALL, LAMMI NAGAR + LAXMI GARDEN, NAJAFGARH, GURUGRAM + SECTOR-14 OLD DELHI ROAD, PH: 7797809663 + M3M URBANA PREMIUM, SECTOR 67, PH: 9104895651 + ARIYA MALL, SONA ROAD, SEC-68 + ARDEE CITY MALL, SECTOR 52 + AMBIENCE MALL + SEC - 29 + MARKET APLAZA, PALAM VIHAR, NOIDA; THIRGATE GREAT INDIA PLACE (GIP) MALL + LOGIX CITY CENTRE MALL + GAUR CITY MALL, NOIDA EXT. GREATER NOIDA + MAXIM MALL + GHAZIABAD: AMBEDKAR ROAD, NEHRU NAGAR + AERO BUSINESS TOWER, NEAR RELIANCE SMART, SURYA NAGAR + SHIPRA MALL + MAHAGUN METRO MALL, FARIDABAD: CROWN INTERIORZ MALL, DEHRADUN: AXIOM MALL, RAIPUR ROAD HARDWARE + PENTAGON MALL, BHEL, JAWALPUR, NEAR UNCHAPUR, SAHARANPUR: COURT ROAD, NEAR PARSIVANATH PLAZA RUDRAPUR: METROPOLIS MALL, SIDCUL, HALDWANI: NAINITAL ROAD, ALIGARH: RAMGATH ROAD + CHANDIGARH: ELANTE MALL + PANCHKULA: HUDA MARKET, SEC 9. + MOHAL: BESTECH MALL + ZIRAKPUR: AMCB-CHD ROAD + AMBALA PREM NAGAR + JAMMU: WAVE MALL + KARNAK: KUNJUPURA ROAD + PANIPAT: GT ROAD NEAR IB COLLEGE + SONIPAT: GANDHI CHOWK, BABRA TARANA ROAD + ROTHLAKH: NEAR MANSAVAROOP PURI REWARI: BMG MALL + KURUKSHETRA: PIPLI ROAD NEAR OLD BUS STAND + LUDHIANA MEER MALL + JALANDHAR RELIANCE MALL + AMRITSAR MALL OF AMRITSAR + BATHINDA RELIANCE MALL | TO LOCATE YOUR NEAREST MYIO STORE SMS LOCATE <PINCODE> TO 56161

Unless specified, the retail prices shown are for 1 unit of the product.

Terms & Conditions Apply: General: Offers are on select brands & models only. Product visuals are for representational purpose only. Offers valid till stocks last. MRP of all products is inclusive of all taxes. Upto Rs. 5,000 discount – Citibank – 7.5% discount upto Rs. 3,000 with Citibank Credit / Debit Card Full Swipe transactions and upto Rs. 5,000 with Credit Card EMi Transactions. Applicable on a minimum purchase of Rs. 15,000. Offer valid on all Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays till 1st January 2023. ICICI Bank – 7.5% discount upto Rs. 5,000 with Credit Card EMi transactions. Applicable on a minimum purchase of Rs. 10,000. Offer valid from 30th December to 1st January. MasterCard SBI Debit Card – 7.5% discount upto Rs. 2,500 with MasterCard Debit Cards issued by SBI. Applicable on a minimum purchase of Rs. 15,000. Offer valid from 29th December to 1st January 2023. Upto Rs. 5,000 discount – Applicable on all Debit / Credit Cards & Cards EMi – Flat Rs. 1,000 discount on purchases above Rs. 10,000.



CHUNMUN
clothes n' more

up to

40%
OFF

on most items

*Conditions Apply



JACK&JONES



madame



UNITED COLORS
OF BENETTON.



Rohini F 19/14, Sec. 8 43700900	Women Central Mkt. 43700600	Lajpat Nagar Men's J-26, Central Mkt. 43700300	Pitampura J-18, Central Mkt. 43700600	Kamla Nagar Aggarwal City Mall 43700400	Dwarka D-21, Pacific Mall Dwarka Metro Stn.
Greater Noida West Galaxy Blue Sapphire Plaza	Ghaziabad Opulent Mall 0120-4343100	Ghaziabad Pacific Mall, Kaushambi 0120-4343200	Faridabad Parsvnath City Mall 0129-2299881	Jalandhar A-323, New Jawahar Ngr 0181-4370000	Lawrence Road Amritsar

This PDF was originally uploaded To Telegram channel_ LBS Newspaper platform (<https://t.me/LBSNEWSPAPER>) Subscribe now to get this edition before anyone else!! Backup channel:@LBSNEWSPAPER



Hindustan Times

FIRST VOICE. LAST WORD.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS FROM
LAL QILLA®
BASMATI RICE
AMAR SINGH CHAWAL WALA, Amritsar, INDIA www.lalqilla-rice.com

TRADITIONAL WHITELINE MAJESTIC SILVER LINE BROWN

Tributes pour in for PM's mother



Prime Minister Narendra Modi carries the mortal remains of his mother Heeraben at a crematorium in Gandhinagar. REUTERS

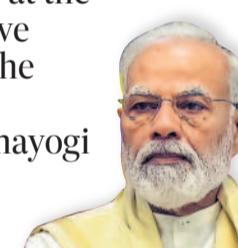
Bereaved Modi opens train link, chairs meet

Amit Cowper and Joydeep Thakur

GANDHINAGAR/KOLKATA: Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the last rites of his mother Heeraben, who died early morning at the age of 99, and returned to work hours later, flagging off a key train link in West Bengal and chairing a meeting of the National Ganga Council via video conference.

Heeraben was undergoing treatment at the UN Mehta hospital in Ahmedabad and passed away at 3.30am, said a medical bulletin. She is survived by five sons and a daughter. Her last rites were performed at a crematorium in Gandhinagar around 9.30am in the presence of Modi, his brothers, and other family members.

"A glorious century rests at the feet of God... In Maa, I have always felt that trinity... the journey of an ascetic, the symbol of a selfless Karmayogi and a life committed to values..."



her 100th birthday, she said one thing, which is always remembered that work with intelligence, live life with purity, that is, work with intelligence and live life with purity," Modi said.

Heeraben lived in Rayasan village in Gandhinagar with the PM's younger brother Pankaj. On Friday morning, the Prime Minister first went to her residence in Rayasan, and then carried the bier with her mortal remains to the Muktidham crematorium in Gandhinagar.

At 11.30am, Modi was back at work. Through video conference, he flagged off West Ben-

gal's first Vande Bharat Express between Howrah and Jalpaiguri, as well as the Joka-Taratala stretch of the Kolkata Metro.

Modi invoked *Vande Mataram*, the song on which the name of the train is based on, and the birthplace of its creator, Bankim Chandra Chatterjee.

"Today's Vande Bharat train was launched from the land where *Vande Mataram* slogan was coined. The launch date of December 30 is significant as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose had hoisted the tricolour in Andaman and Nicobar Islands on this day in 1943... In the 21st century, for rapid development of the country, growth and reform of railways is essential.

A nationwide campaign is underway to transform rail-

'Football in 4 letters': World mourns death of King Pele

Vivek Krishnan

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Pele, regarded as one of the world's greatest footballers and the sport's original icon, passed away in São Paulo in Brazil on Thursday at the age of 82 due to multiple organ failure. The grim news was on the horizon for a few months now, given his prolonged battle with cancer at the Albert Einstein Hospital, yet the confirmation of his death — around 4pm in São Paulo and past midnight in India — sent his legions of fans around the world into a state of mourning.

Brazil, the vibrant flag-bearers of the beautiful game revelling in dance and music, has fallen silent. The images of Christ the Redeemer and the iconic Maracana Stadium at Rio de Janeiro being lit up in the colours of Brazil's national flag provide a moving illustration of what he means to the South American country of roughly 217 million people.

Hordes of fans have flocked to the Urbano Caldeira Stadium in Santos, the city where he played most of his club football, to share their grief with each other and pay tributes.

His funeral will take place in

continued on P19



A giant screen announces Pele's death before a football match at The Hawthorns in England.



"A mere 'goodbye' to the eternal King Pele will never be enough... An inspiration to so many millions, a reference yesterday, today and forever."
— CRISTIANO RONALDO

"...before Pele football was just a sport...He transformed football into art...He's gone but his magic remains. Pele is ETERNAL." — NEYMAR JR.

"Rest in peace, Pele."
— LIONEL MESSI

PVT CONSTRUCTION BARRED AS GRAP-III MEASURES KICK IN

NEW DELHI: Delhi's pollution levels spiked to an Air Quality Index (AQI) reading of 399 (very poor) on Friday, prompting the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) to invoke measures under Stage III of the Graded Response Action Plan (Grap), which includes a ban on all private construction activities across Delhi-NCR.



Union minister Pralhad Joshi, home minister Amit Shah and Karnataka CM Basavaraj Bommai at a rally in Mandya on Friday.

unable to establish a foothold in the Old Mysuru region, populated by the influential Vokkaliga community that forms a key vote

bank for the JD(S). The region has traditionally swung between the Congress and the JD(S).

continued on P13

FRESH VACCINE STOCKS EXPECTED IN CITY BY JAN 2

NEW DELHI: Days after vaccination centres across Delhi reported non-availability of Covid-19 booster doses, senior Delhi government officials on Friday said that fresh stock of vaccines is expected by January 2. A Delhi government health department official said they had sent a request to the Centre to increase the vaccination allotment.

'NATIONAL SECURITY ABOVE GOOD TIES WITH NEIGHBOURS'

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Defence minister Rajnath Singh on Friday said India wants to have and maintain friendly relations with its neighbours, but not at the cost of national security. "...we need good and friendly relations with our neighbours. However, we will not compromise on national security to maintain good relations," Singh said at an event in Thiruvananthapuram.

2022

THE YEAR THAT WAS

P14-17: A look at Indian politics in the year 2022, and other issues that dominated headlines

NO PREPARATIONS IN PLACE 2 DAYS AHEAD OF ASHRAM FLYOVER CLOSURE

NEW DELHI: Roads remained cratered, footpaths non-existent, and diversion signs missing around the Ashram flyover on Friday, reflecting a worrying lack of preparation before authorities shut the overpass from Sunday, a decision that experts said must be reconsidered given the state of affairs.

The broken roads and the missing pavements mean the bottleneck that will be created when the flyover is closed will be far worse as vehicles and pedestrians jostle for the same narrow and crumbling stretches, especially during peak hours.

→ SPOT CHECK P3

INTEREST RATES HIKE ON NSC, POST OFFICE DEPOSITS; NO CHANGE IN PPF

Rajeev Jayaswal

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: People with small savings such as senior citizens accounts, National Savings Certificates and certain post-office time deposits may get better returns from January 1 as the Centre has decided to raise interest rates after they firms up due to RBI's intervention to tame inflation. Public Provident Fund rates remain unchanged.

Uzbek syrup deaths: Manufacturing activity of Noida pharma firm halted

Rhythma Kaul and Soumya Pillai

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: All drug production at Marion Biotech has been halted since Thursday night in the wake of concerns that the deaths of at least 18 children in Uzbekistan could be linked to a cough syrup it exported, Union health minister Mansukh Mandaviya announced on Friday.

Samples have been collected from the company for analysis, after Uzbek officials announced earlier this week that they had found a contaminant in the

ON FRIDAY, INDIA'S DRUG EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL SUSPENDED THE FIRM'S LICENSE FOR FAILING TO RESPOND TO ITS QUERIES

product which could prove fatal and may have been behind the deaths.

"Following inspection by

@CDSCO_INDIA_INF team in

view of reports of contamination in cough syrup Dokl Max, all manufacturing activities of Marion Biotech at Noida unit have been stopped yesterday night, while further investigation is ongoing," tweeted Mandaviya.

The firm's legal representative said on Thursday that it stopped the manufacturing of only the concerned syrup, called Dokl Max, which has reportedly only been exported.

On Friday, the Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India said it has suspended the firm's membership after it failed to respond to queries.

NIA FILES CHARGE SHEET AGAINST 11 IN PFI CONSPIRACY

NEW DELHI: The National Investigation Agency has filed a charge sheet against 11 people as part of its probe into alleged organisation of terror training camps and recruitment of Muslim youngsters for banned outfit Popular Front of India in Telangana, according to people aware of the developments. The charge sheet was filed on Thursday before a special NIA court in Hyderabad.

→ P6

India's role at G20, SCO will strengthen stability, says Putin

MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday voiced confidence that India's presidencies of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) and G20 will build multidimensional cooperation between the two countries and will strengthen the stability and security in Asia and the entire world.

While India formally assumed the G20 presidency on December 1, it took over the rotating presidency of SCO on September 16. In his New Year messages to President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Putin noted that Russia and India marked the 75th anniversary of their diplomatic relations in 2022 and, relying on positive traditions of friendship and mutual respect, the countries continue to develop their specially privileged strategic partnership, the Kremlin said in a statement.

Putin said the two countries carried out large-scale trade and economic projects in addition to energy, military technology and other areas of cooperation, and coordinated efforts in addressing matters of regional and

Putin tells Xi he's keen on ramping up military ties

MOSCOW/BEIJING: Russian leader Vladimir Putin told Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday he was keen to ramp up military cooperation and hailed the two countries' efforts to counter Western influence. "We aim to strengthen cooperation between the armed forces of Russia and China," Putin told Xi by video link at the start of the talks, calling the Chinese leader a "dear friend".

→ P19

{ ACCIDENT NEAR ROORKEE } CRICKETER DOZED OFF AT WHEEL

On his way to surprise mother, Rishabh Pant hits highway divider, survives horrific crash

Amit Bathla

letters@hindustantimes.com

DEHRADUN: India wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant survived a high-speed highway crash in Uttarakhand's Haridwar district early on Friday after the Mercedes car he was travelling in alone hit a divider, lost control, and turned upside down before bursting into flames on the Delhi-Roorkee road, according to the police and witnesses.

Pant, who remained con-

scious after the accident, was able to break a window of the car and exit the burning vehicle before passersby rushed him to a Roorkee hospital. The 25-year-old, who suffered injuries on his forehead, right knee and abrasions on his back, was in a stable condition, and told police that he dozed off at the wheel.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) in a statement said "the board will see to it that Rishabh receives the best possible medical care".

global agendas. "I am confident that India's recently started SCO and G20 presidencies will open new opportunities for building multi-dimensional Russia-India cooperation for the benefit of our peoples, in the interests of strengthening stability and security in Asia and the entire world," he said.

→ P8



Charred remains of Pant's car after the collision on Friday.

PTI

PAGE ONE PLUS

OBITUARY

1940-2022

Eternal PELE

Journey of greatness

Widely revered as the best footballer ever, Edson Arantes do Nascimento, or Pele as we know him, was destined for greatness ever since he learnt the game from his father growing up in Bauru, Sao Paulo. Part of three World Cup-winning Brazil sides in 1958, 1962, 1970, Pele was the central figure as the Selecao spun a web of wonder with their beautiful football.

1,366 Total appearances*	1,281 Total goals*	92 Appearances for Brazil	77 Goals for Brazil
------------------------------------	------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------

Neymar recently collected Pele's 'Player of the History' award from an official FIFA World Cup partner

*As per FIFA

World Cup glory

Playing against Argentina in 1957, Pele struck his first goal for Brazil aged 16. Drafted into the 1958 World Cup squad, the teen made waves in Sweden. In his debut against USSR in the group stage, Pele created an assist. There was more to come: a hat-trick against France in the semi-final and a brace against the hosts in the final that Brazil won 5-2 for their first-ever World Cup title.

PELE IN WC

- 1958 CHAMPIONS
- 1962 CHAMPIONS
- 1966 GROUP STAGE
- 1970 CHAMPIONS

Sacrosanct in Santos

After a few outings with amateur teams and in indoor leagues, Pele signed up for Santos FC in 1956, four months before he turned 16. He started his goal-scoring spree for the club from the 1957 season itself and never looked back.

PELE AT SANTOS

Major trophies

- Campeonato Brasileiro Serie A: 6 (1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1968)
- Campeonato Paulista: 10 (1958, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1973)
- Copa Libertadores: 2 (1962, 1963)
- Intercontinental Cup: 2 (1962, 1963)

Cosmos conclusion

After 19 seasons with Santos, Pele chose to end his club journey in 1974. But the closing chapters of his historic career were yet to be written. In 1975, he signed up with New York Cosmos in the North American Soccer League. Although past his prime, everyone in the United States seemed to want a taste of the Brazilian marvel, drawing record spectators and television audience wherever Pele went. He played his last match in 1977.

AT NEW YORK COSMOS

- 107 Matches
- 64 Goals

Trophies

- North American Soccer League Atlantic Conference: 1 (1977)
- Soccer Bowl: 1 (1977)

Stats: FIFA goal.com

TOP 5 GOALS

- 1 Brazil vs Sweden, 1958 World Cup final
- 2 SANTOS VS ATHLETICO JUVENTUS, 1959
- 3 SANTOS VS BENFICA, 1962
- 4 BRAZIL VS ROMANIA, 1970 WORLD CUP
- 5 BRAZIL VS ITALY, 1970 WORLD CUP FINAL

Pele received a ball from Nilton Santos and chested it down inside the box

As a defender approaches, he lobbs the ball over him

He then makes a run around the defender before he can turn to stop Pele

He lines up and slots home in the 55th minute, all in one action

A combination of speed, acceleration and inventiveness culminated in a brilliant solo effort

From a cross outside the box, Pele rose above the defender and headed home the opening goal

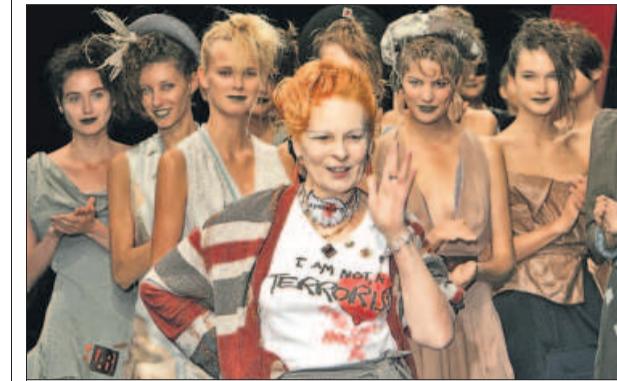
{ WORLD } QIN GANG NAMED
China appoints new foreign minister



China appointed Qin Gang, its ambassador to the United States and a trusted aide of President Xi Jinping, as its new foreign minister. Qin, 56, replaces Wang Yi, who has been foreign minister for the past decade. In solving challenges, China's diplomacy will offer "Chinese wisdom, Chinese initiatives and Chinese strength", Qin said in a statement posted on his ministry's website. Qin rose quickly through various positions in China's foreign ministry, including two stints as ministry spokesperson between 2006 and 2014.

{ WORLD } AGED 81

Vivienne Westwood, iconic punk fashion designer, dies



Vivienne Westwood, an influential fashion maverick who played a key role in the punk movement, died Thursday at age 81. Westwood's eponymous fashion house announced her death on social media, saying she died peacefully. "Vivienne continued to do the things she loved, up until the last moment, designing, working on her art, writing her book, and changing the world for the better," the statement said. Westwood's fashion career began in the 1970s when her radical approach to urban street style took the world by storm.

{ WORLD } FOR CORRUPTION

Suu Kyi gets 33 yrs in jail after last verdict



A court in military-ruled Myanmar convicted ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi of corruption on Friday, sentencing her to seven years in prison in the last of a string of criminal cases against her, an official said. This leaves her with a total of 33 years to serve after a series of politically tinged prosecutions since the army toppled her elected government in February 2021. The latest case involved five offences under the corruption law and followed earlier convictions on seven corruption counts, each punishable by up to 15 years in prison and a fine. →P19

{ DEVELOPED BY PFIZER INC } PAXLOVID

Generic version of key Covid drug approved

India's Hetero said last week that its generic version of Paxlovid, an antiviral treatment for Covid-19 developed by Pfizer Inc, was added to the World Health Organization's prequalification list

How it works

Nirmatrelvir inhibits an enzyme that the coronavirus needs to make core viral particles. This causes the replicated virus within the body to become duds — no longer being able to enter uninfected cells.

The other component of the treatment is ritonavir, a drug that essentially shuts down nirmatrelvir's metabolism in the liver, which means it can stay on in the body and work longer.

How effective is it

When Pfizer completed its clinical trials last year, it said it found an 89% reduction in the risk of hospitalisation and death in unvaccinated people. Throughout the year, Paxlovid was rolled out in many countries — including the US where the government offers it for free. The US found in a real-world study that adults who took Paxlovid within five days of a Covid-19 diagnosis had a 51% lower hospitalisation rate.

THE DRUG

First approved by WHO on April 22, the drug is sold as Paxlovid by its developer Pfizer. The drug is technically a combination of two pills — nirmatrelvir and ritonavir — and is taken orally.

Who is it for?

Most countries have advised its use in people at high risk of severe disease. People are advised to begin the treatment within five days of developing symptoms.

What about reports of "rebound"?

US President Joe Biden tested positive for Covid days after he took Paxlovid, triggering concerns that the drug could cause some sort of a rebound. Research found there is no cause for concern, although the phenomenon is being studied further. The hypothesis is that the treatment acts too quickly on the Sars-CoV-2 for the immune system to have recognised the virus and built defences. Therefore, once treatment stops, there can be increase in viral levels

How significant is the generic?

Pfizer offered the patent for Paxlovid to the UN-backed Medicines Patent Pool (MPP). Hetero said it entered into a licensing agreement with MPP to manufacture and sell the generic version in low- and middle-income countries. This means the treatment will be available at a much cheaper rate in countries like India, where Hetero will be manufacturing it

IMAGE: SUMIT SARASWAT / SHUTTERSTOCK

{ HOUSE COMMITTEE }

Panel releases Trump's tax records of six years

Agencies

letters@hindustantimes.com

WASHINGTON: Democrats in Congress released six years of Donald Trump's tax records to the public on Friday, disclosing documents the former president long sought to keep secret and dealing another setback as he again seeks the White House in 2024.

A Democratic-controlled U.S. House of Representatives committee released Trump's redacted returns for 2015 through 2020, capping a multi-year battle between the Republican former president and Democratic lawmakers that was settled only last month by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The nearly 6,000 pages of records include over 2,700 pages of personal returns from Trump and his wife Melania Trump, plus more than 3,000 pages of returns from his business.

The records show that Trump's income and tax liability fluctuated dramatically from 2015 through 2020, during his first presidential bid and subsequent term in office.

For 2020, more than 150 of Trump's business entities listed negative qualified business income, which the IRS defines as "the net amount of qualified items of income, gain, deduction and loss from any qualified trade or business." In total for that tax year, combined with nearly \$9 million in carry forward loss from previous years, Trump's qualified losses amounted to more than \$58 million for the final year of his term in office.

Aside from the returns themselves, the release did not contain much new.

In a statement Friday, Trump



Protesters during a tax march demand Trump to release his tax records in Washington DC.

AP Photo

Everyone sees TRUMP
70% WANT TO SEE YOUR TAXES THIS BIGLY!

THE CAPITOL

THE WHITE HOUSE

THE CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE FEDERALIST PAPERS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

Ashram spot check: Flyover far from prepared for closure

As January 1 looms, experts say agencies should delay closing the flyover until all the measures are in place to manage the additional burden

Alok KN Mishra
and Sanjeev Jha

letters@hindustantimes.com
NEW DELHI: Roads remained cratered, footpaths non-existent, and diversion signs missing around the Ashram flyover on Friday, reflecting a worrying lack of preparation before authorities shut the overpass from Sunday, a decision that experts said must be reconsidered given the state of affairs.

The broken roads and the missing pavements mean the bottleneck that will be created when the flyover is closed will be far worse as vehicles and pedestrians jostle for the same narrow and crumbling stretches, especially during peak hours.

An official from the Public Works Department (PWD), which is building an extension of the Ashram flyover as part of a long-awaited project to decongest one of the city's most jammed roads, said on Friday it will shut the existing overpass on January 1, which will force traffic to take the side roads that are capable of handling only a fraction of the vehicular volume typical for the area.

Signs that significant disruption was in store was visible during a "dry run" on Friday, when traffic police shut the flyover for two hours. "Since a lot of traffic congestion was noticed during the dry run, the PWD officials have been categorically asked to install adequate number of signage before closing the stretch. They have also been asked to put them prominently, ahead of all diversions, to alert the vehicle drivers about any possible traffic chaos," said SS Yadav, the special commissioner of police (traffic).

The Delhi Traffic Police had asked PWD to relay the tarmac between Ashram and Sarai Kale Khan and fix the footpath, along with putting up adequate signages, so that the diversions can be smoother.

When HT visited the spot on Friday, none of this had been done. The road was dotted with potholes, drivers to slow to a crawl, and footpaths were either missing or encroached upon by roadside shops and illegally parked cars, forcing pedestrians to walk on the main road.

At one spot, a large broken tree branch swung onto the main road, while at another, construction and demolition debris blocked the way.

Three senior PWD officials did not respond to requests for a comment. A fourth official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said the agency has installed multiple signages and posters, and the remaining work, such as diversion marking, is likely to be done in the next day.

PAVEMENTS NOT REPAIRED



Pavements on main Ring Road have not been repaired, forcing people to walk on the road.

SANJEEV VERMA/HT PHOTOS

ROADS NOT RECARPETED



The PWD was asked to recarpet the main carriageway, but the road has not been repaired.

SIGNAGE, BUT NO BARRICADES



Signage to alert commuters has been installed on Ring Road, but the construction site has not been barricaded.

ENCROACHMENTS NOT REMOVED



Encroachments on pavement on CV Raman Marg.

But experts reiterated that the preparations flagged to the agency and yet more steps need to be taken before the flyover can be closed, and urged PWD and the traffic police to delay the plan until adequate measures are taken.

Dr S Velmurugan, chief scientist, Central Road Research Institute (CRRI), said the relaying of the sideways – the roads underneath the flyover – is important to ensure traffic flows smoothly.

"The reason behind traffic congestion is slow discharge of traffic from a road. The obstructions will put brakes on the vehicles and will slow down the discharge of the vehicles leading to more traffic congestion," said Velmurugan.

The expert added that the "entire carriageways leading to the Ashram intersection on both directions of travel" must be

repaired. He said two more steps are particularly crucial: "First, the median at the intersection of Ring Road with Dr CV Raman Marg and Kilokri Road must be opened. Second, the central avenue should be opened to allow left-in, left-out traffic emerging from South East Delhi," he said.

But most of these steps seemed unlikely. A local police official, deployed near Taimur Nagar T-Point, told HT: "We are yet to know about the beginning of work on the plans to divert the traffic from CV Raman Marg."

Commuters HT spoke to on Friday too said the closure will trigger mayhem. "The government should not close the flyover without fixing steps required to mitigate the traffic mess the closure is likely to cause," said Yashwant Bharadwaj, who lives in Kilokri nearby.

"We are forced to walk on the

road because the footpath is blocked. It may delay traffic movement, but also exposes us to life threats," said Mohammad Usman, a 65-year-old man who lives in Jeevan Nagar, located across the road from where the Ashram flyover extension work is being done.

Several people who were headed to the Ashram metro station were particularly concerned.

Detailing the traffic advisory issued on Friday, the special CP said that from January 1, both the carriageways of the Ashram flyover road will be closed.

"However, the sideways of both the main carriageways will remain functional. General public are instructed to park their vehicles only at designated places, and plan their journey to reach hospitals, ISBTs, railway stations or airport well in advance," he said.

He added that movement of

traffic may be restricted or diverted from roads and stretches connecting Ashram flyover, including outer ring road, Captain Gaur Marg, the DND Flyway, and the Mathura Road.

A retired Delhi police officer, who also served as special commissioner of traffic police, said PWD's claims that it will complete the project within the stipulated 45 days it has said it will need is "unbelievable".

"Their previous track record is not very encouraging. In my experience, it will be a miracle if they complete the project in 90 days. I know from the day the PWD commences the construction work, only Delhi police will have to face the music," this person said.

"I am surprised with their decision to shut one of the most important stretches from January 1 – the day when traffic is almost double than other day," he added.

Reassuringly, the PWD said

clean fuels, the closure of all

stone crushers in NCR, and a

ban on mining and its associated activities.

"While assessing the overall air quality parameters, the sub-committee noted that due to extreme unfavourable meteorological conditions, the overall air quality of Delhi has deteriorated over last few hours and there is an increasing trend further in the coming days as per the Air Quality forecast... Therefore, it is considered necessary to put Stage-III of Grap back in place with immediate effect in the entire NCR in an effort to prevent further deterioration of air quality in the region," CAQM said in a statement.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) classifies an AQI between 0-50 as "good", between 51 and 100 as "satisfactory", between 101 and 200 as "moderate", between 201 and 300 as "poor", between 301 and 400 as "very poor", and over 400 as "severe".

The CAQM relies on the Early Warning System (EWS) for Delhi, developed by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology.

The commission noted that forecasts show Delhi's AQI could touch "severe" on New Year's eve and remain so on January 1 as well, requiring certain restrictions to be imposed. Forecasts show that Delhi's AQI will return to the "very poor" category only on January 2, and even then, conditions are likely to be unfavourable for significant dispersal of pollutants, as temperatures will be low.

Under Stage III of Grap, states also have the option to enforce a ban on BS-III petrol and BS-IV diesel vehicles. However, Delhi's transport department said a decision on imposing such a ban was yet to be taken.

A decision on whether to impose these restrictions will be decided soon. The order (to impose Stage III of Grap) came in the evening and an immedi-

ate ban on such vehicles will not be imposed," a government official said.

Stage III of Grap exempts all projects related to rail services or rail operations, Metro projects, airport projects, ISBT projects, projects related to national security or defence, projects of national importance and healthcare facilities.

Linear projects such as highways, roads, flyovers, over bridges, power transmission and pipeline laying are also allowed, in addition to sanitation projects.

For private construction, non-polluting and non-dust generating activities such as plumbing works, interior decoration, electrical works and carpentry related works are also permitted.

The last time Stage III measures were imposed in Delhi was on December 4, and since December 7, measures under Stage I and Stage II of the Grap have been in place.

NO EXIT FROM RAJIV CHOWK METRO STN AFTER 9PM TODAY: DMRC

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) on Friday announced that commuters will not be allowed to exit from the Rajiv Chowk Metro station from 9pm onwards on New Year's Eve. The decision was taken keeping in mind the huge crowds that will likely visit Connaught Place to celebrate the New Year, officials said.

"As advised by the Delhi Police, to ease overcrowding on New Year's Eve (December 31), exit from Rajiv Chowk Metro station will not be allowed from 9pm onwards. However, entry of passengers will be allowed till the departure of the last train from the Rajiv Chowk Metro station," the DMRC said in a statement.

Commuters are requested to plan their journey accordingly, DMRC said.

Delhi Police will deploy thousands of personnel across the city to ensure safe New Year celebrations. Like each year, Connaught Place will be out of bounds for traffic after 8pm on New Year's Eve.

KENT INSTANT EGG BOILER

NOW GET PERFECTLY BOILED EGGS OF YOUR CHOICE IN MINUTES

- 3 boiling modes – Soft, Medium and Hard
- Boils up to 7 eggs at a time
- Quick boiling with Automatic Turn Off

T & C Apply

₹ 1150* only

Buy Now on
amazon
Flipkart

Scan to view
the video

For more details, Call: 9582 123456

KENT
Smart Chef
Appliances

Up to
7 EGGS



Fresh vaccine stocks may come by Jan 2

Soumya Pillai

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Days after vaccination centres across the national capital reported the non-availability of Covid-19 booster doses, senior Delhi government officials on Friday said that fresh stock of vaccines is expected by January 2.

An official of the Delhi government's health department said they had sent a request to the Centre to increase the city's vaccination allotment.

"When the Covid-19 cases went down, people stopped coming to vaccination centres to take their precautionary doses. Now, because of a global surge in infections people have started coming again, but our stock has not been updated," the official said.

HT reported on Thursday that

several government vaccination centres in the Capital were either shut or were turning people away citing non-availability of vaccines. On Friday, hospitals including Ram Manohar Lohia, Deen Dayal Upadhyay and Chacha Nehru Bal Chikitsalya continued to have no vaccine stock. The Lok Nayak hospital administration claimed to have vaccine stock but the centre was not visible on the CoWin portal.

Covid-19 cases and deaths in Delhi over the past two months or so have been at their lowest levels over the course of the pandemic. Delhi on Friday logged just 9 cases of Covid-19 and no deaths, said the state government's daily health bulletin. Only 30 people in Delhi are currently infected with Covid-19, as per the state government data.

AMUL DOODH PEETA HAI INDIA

₹ 12*
170 mL

Amul
Milk

*MRP (incl. of all taxes), transportation and cooling charges included. Conditions apply. For any clarification/ availability included, please contact us on: Delhi: 011 - 28524336 / 37, Ghaziabad: 0120-2673093, 7827255377, Gurugram: 9313125999, Faridabad: 8777286447, Rest of Haryana: 9718222906

Hindustan Times

NOW BOOK YOUR ADS

Matrimonial / Employment

Obituary / Remembrance

Education / Property / Business

1800-103-1800

Amul

The Taste of India

FLAT 50% OFF
LENSES WITH EVERY FRAME PURCHASE

SINGLE VISION - ₹590 / ₹295

BI-FOCAL - ₹1290 / ₹645

PROGRESSIVE - ₹1590 / ₹795



Specsmakers™

CHENNAI | BANGALORE | MADURAI | TOLL FREE : 1-800-200-5065 | www.specsmakers.in

*T&C Apply

Ayar | Anna Nagar | Ashok Nagar | Ambattur | Avadi | Aminjikarai | Ayavaram | Adamabakkam | Chrompet | Choolaimedu | Chariers Road Gowrivakkam Keelkatalai | Kottivakkam | K.K. Nagar | Kattupakkam | Kundrathur | Kilpauk | Kodambakkam | Mogappair | Mylapore | Mandaveli Madipakkam | Mudichur | Nanganallur | Nungambakkam | Neelankarai | OMR Kanchanavadi | Old Washermenpet | Perambur | Purasaiwakkam Porur | Poonamallee | Padi | Pallavaram | R.K. Salai | RK Mutt Road | Selaiyur | Shanthi Colony | Saidapet | S.P. Kovil | Santhome | T.N. Tirupathi Tambaran | Thiruvottiyur | Thiruvanmiyur | TTK Road | Valasaravakkam | Velachery | Virugambakkam | West Mambalam

Yatra to march through areas hit by 2020 riots

Prawesh Lama

prawesh.lama@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will resume his Bharat Jodo Yatra on January 3 from Delhi's Yamuna Bazar, and his rally will pass through different parts of north-east Delhi. Officials aware of the details of the march said some of the areas that the Wayanad MP will march through include those which were affected during the February 2020 riots, including Majupur, Seelampur, and Gokapuri.

These areas in north-east Delhi also feature among the most crime-prone areas in the city, in terms of street crime, according to police records.

The Bharat Jodo Yatra arrived in Delhi on December 24, after covering a distance of 2,800km. Following a nine-day break, it will resume on January 3 and enter Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh from the Loni border on the same day, officials aware of the matter said.

Ahead of the resumption of the rally, leaders of the Delhi Congress unit held several meetings with Delhi Police officers. One such meeting, held at 24, Akbar Road — the headquarters of the Congress party — on Friday afternoon was attended by senior officers of the Delhi Police, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Intelligence Bureau (IB), along with the district deputy commissioners of East and North-east Delhi.

While the inner cordon of Gandhi's security is managed by CRPF, the outer ring comprises of states police personnel of states



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi waves to supporters while leading his Bharat Jodo Yatra towards Ashram on December 24. RAJ KRAJ/HT

through which the Yatra is passing.

The meeting was held in the backdrop of Congress general secretary KC Venugopal writing to Union home minister Amit Shah, alleging that Gandhi's security had been compromised multiple times when after the Bharat Jodo Yatra entered Delhi through Badarpur. He also said that the Yatra would pass through sensitive areas of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir.

"We told police personnel about the threat to our leader Rahul Gandhi. There is always a threat to his life when he walks on the road. He is also a senior leader in the opposition. We have also made suggestions. The police officers at the meeting said they would have a cordon around him using a rope which will be manned by police personnel," said

Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee president Anil Chaudhary.

Delhi Police did not share details on how Gandhi's security will be increased, but officials aware of the matter said that an advance security liaison team would inspect the route that he is expected to take on Tuesday.

An officer aware of the security details said, "The security ring around the Congress leader will be strengthened. Delhi police and CRPF will ensure that no one breaks this cordon. There will be adequate deployment of police personnel on the road. The traffic police will also ensure that vehicular traffic is diverted at specific locations.

In February 2020, clashes between Hindus and Muslims in parts of north-east Delhi left at least 53 dead and over 400 injured.

Owner of a chain of fitness centres killed in E Delhi

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The owner of a chain of gyms in the Capital was shot dead on the premises of one of his fitness centres in east Delhi's Preet Vihar by three unidentified assailants on Friday evening, police said.

Deputy commissioner of police (east) Amritra Guguloth identified the victim as Mahendra Agarwal, 40, the owner of Energie Gym and Spa, and added that the case under Section 302 (Punishment for murder) of the Indian Penal Code has been registered.

A police officer aware of the matter said that the gym in Preet Vihar is located in the basement of a building on Vikas Marg, and the office is on the first floor of the same building.

Agarwal was in his office on the first floor when three men barged into his room around 7.30pm, shot him and fled," the officer said.

He added that Agarwal was hit in his head.

Another investigator said that while fleeing the premises, the perpetrators took away the DVR of the CCTV camera installed in the office.

The officer said that according to the preliminary probe, three men came to the gym on a motorcycle and barged into Agarwal's office. When people



Mahendra Agarwal

heard the gunshots, they rushed into the office and found Agarwal injured. They took him to a nearby private hospital where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

Police said they were informed of the incident around the same time.

"We are scanning footage from CCTV cameras in the gym and around the area. Teams are also speaking to employees, family and relatives to ascertain if he was being threatened," the officer said.

Police said that crime and forensic teams have also been asked to visit the spot for inspection.

"Prime facie, it appears to be a case of personal enmity. The case is being investigated from all angles," the first investigator said.

Apart from running the chain of gyms, Agarwal also dealt in fitness equipment.

At 10.7°C, Delhi logs highest minimum temp this month

HT Correspondent

htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Delhi on Friday logged its highest minimum temperature this December, with the India Meteorological Department (IMD)'s Safdarjung observatory, which is considered the representative station for the Capital's weather, recording a minimum temperature of 10.7 degrees Celsius (C) -- four degrees above normal for this time of the year.

Before Friday, the highest minimum temperature recorded this month was on December 14 at 10.1°C.

IMD officials attributed the sudden spike in minimum temperature -- much above the 7°C logged on Thursday -- to a western disturbance, a weather system characterised by warm moist winds from West Asia.

The maximum temperature on Friday was 22.8°C, slightly lower than the 23.7°C recorded on Thursday but two degrees above the normal for this time of the year, IMD said.

However, IMD officials said the western disturbance will retreat by Saturday, resulting in cold northwesterly winds from Himalayas which will cause a dip in minimum temperatures over the next 48 hours, with Delhi is likely to see cold wave conditions from January 2 onwards.



Delhi residents during a picnic at Lodhi Garden on a sunny Friday afternoon.

VIPIN KUMAR/HT PHOTO

Meanwhile, Delhi observed shallow to dense fog over isolated pockets on Friday.

Visibility in Palam at 8.30am stood at 1000m, at Safdarjung and Ayanagar was 500m, while the Ridge saw a visibility of 200m.

According to the IMD, 'very dense' fog is when visibility is between 0 and 50 metres, 51 and 200 metres is 'dense', 201 and 500 metres 'moderate', and 501 and 1,000 metres 'shallow'.

IMD said Delhi is likely to witness dense fog, starting on December 31 till January 4.

"Due to light winds and high moisture near surface over Indo-Gangetic plains, dense to very dense fog very likely in some/many pockets over Punjab and Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi during December 31-January 4th," said IMD.

Kalyan Singh Super Speciality Cancer Institute
C.G. City, Sultanpur Road, Lucknow-226002
Website: <https://cancerinstitute.edu.in> Email: jdmm.sscih@gmail.com

Custom GeM Bid Notice

It is hereby informed that a Custom GeM bid No. GEM/2022/B/2922657 dated 29/12/2022 has been uploaded on GeM Portal for Procurement of Custom Bid for Services - Selection of a Service Provider for Setting up Security Services for KSSCI. All interested service providers/bidders are required to submit their bids on GeM Portal in accordance with the terms and conditions of the GeM bid documents. The Director reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids at any stage without assigning any reason thereof.

Note: 1. EMD Submitted for the previous bid through RTGS / NEFT will be accepted and held valid for this Bid However, UTR No. and a scanned copy must be uploaded with this GeM bid.

2. Bidders are requested to submit Fresh Affidavits in case they are rebidding.

The Tender documents are available on the website of the Institute www.cancerinstitute.edu.in

Advt No. KSSCI/PRO-44/2022-23

DIRECTOR

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-TENDERING TENDER NOTICE

Divisional Railway Manager (Works) N.C. Railway, Jhansi for and behalf of President of India invites sealed "Open Tender" through on Line (E-Tendering) for the following work.

Description of Work.	E-Tender No.	Approx Cost	Date of closing Tender.
Jhansi - Lalitpur section : Heavy repairs to residential quarters between Bijauli to Talibehat stations under ADEN/Lalitpur sub division.	JHS-ENGG-C-2022-126	7853953.57	24.01.2023 at 15.00 hrs.

Earnest Money : 157100.00

Date of completion/period from issue acceptance letter. : 09 Months

- Tender online can be submitted up to 15.00 hrs on 24.01.2023.
- For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website www.irps.gov.in

North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @PRONCR @northcentralrailway 1732/22(AN)

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, The Dy Chief Material Manager, General Store Depot, Jhansi are invite the following E procurement tender.

Tender No.	Description	Qty.	Tender Opening Date	EMD RS
51215124A	Steel Personal Locker (Cabinet) for Staff as per Drg. No. NCR/JHS/SK-3058 and Annexure -A, Each locker will have 12 compartments	80 Nos	20.01.2023	56000.00

Note:-1. The Complete information of above E-Procurement Tender are available on IREPS website i.e. <http://www.irps.gov.in>. 2. Bids other than in the form of E bids shall not be accepted against above tenders for this purpose venders are required to get themselves registered with IREPS Website along with class III digital signature certificate issued by CCA under IT act 2000. 3. Rules entered into financial rate page and duly singed digital signature shall only be considered rates and any other financial entry in any other form/letter had it attached by vendor shall be original straight way ignore and shall not be considered.

1724/22 (AN)

North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @PRONCR @northcentralrailway

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-TENDERING NOTICE

Sr. DEE/TRD/ Agra for & on behalf of President of India invites "Open Tender" through on-line only (e-Tendering) for the following work:

S. N.	Tender No.	Name of work	Approximate cost	Earliest money
1.	AGCTRDT 202219	Non Power Block activity for OHE maintenance in BHA-ETW section of Agra division for a period of 12 months	Rs. 4591241/-	Rs. 91800/-

Period of completion:- Twelve months,

1. For full details & submission of the bid please see the Indian Railway website www.irps.gov.in. 2. Tender can only be submitted through web portal www.irps.gov.in up to 15.00 Hrs on date 19.01.2023. 1729/22 (D)

North central railways @ www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @northcentralrailway @ CPRONCR

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE				
SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./ AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES
1	HARYANA TOURISM CORPORATION LIMITED	HIRING OF AGENCY FOR ORGANIZING THE COMPETITIONS DURING THE 36TH SURAJKUND INTERNATIONAL CRAFTS MELA-2023.	31.12.2022 06.01.2023	0.50 LAKH
2	HARYANA TOURISM CORPORATION LIMITED	HIRING OF AGENCY FOR PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR THE 36TH SURAJKUND INTERNATIONAL CRAFTS MELA-2023.	31.12.2022 06.01.2023	2 LACS
3	HARYANA TOURISM CORPORATION LIMITED	HIRING OF AGENCY FOR REFURBISHING/REPAIR/ PAINTING ON EXISTING COMMEMORATIVE GATES FOR 36TH SURAJKUND INTERNATIONAL CRAFTS MELA-2023.	31.12.2022 06.01.2023	0.25 LAKH

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.elenders.hry.nic.in

RO NO 13/2023/60/14731/I/19/7

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
EXTRA-ORDINARY APPELLATE JURISDICTION
Petition for Special Leave to Appeal (Civil) DIARY No. 28000 OF 2022
WITH PRAYER FOR INTERIM RELIEF
INTERLOCUTORY APPLICATION NO. 151382/2022
(APPLICATION FOR CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING)

LAND AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT AND ANOTHER
VERSUS
MANISH SETHI AND OTHERS
Petitioner(s)
To,
1. MANISH SETHI S/O CHAMAN LAL SETHI,
HOUSE NO. 5959, BASTI HARPHOOL SINGH,
DISTRICT- NEW DELHI, DELHI
2. SIDHARTH SETHI S/O CHAMAN LAL SETHI,
HOUSE NO. 5959, BASTI HARPHOOL SINGH DELHI,
DISTRICT- NEW DELHI, DELHI
PID: 184545/2022 FOR R[1] IN
DIARY NO. 28000/2022 (SEC XIV)
PID: 184546/2022 FOR R[2] IN
DIARY NO. 28000/2022 (SEC XIV)

WHEREAS the Petition for Diary to Appeal with application for CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING, EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT, EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T., SUBSTITUTED SERVICE above mentioned (copy enclosed) filed in the Registry by Mr. ATUL KUMAR, Advocate on behalf of the Petitioner above named was listed for hearing before this Court on 31st October, 2022 along with the connected matter, when the Court was pleased to pass the following order:-

"Issue notice on the application(s) for condonation of delay as well as on the Special Leave Petitions, making it returnable on 28.11.2022.
Dasti service, in addition, is permitted."

The respondents be served within a period of one week from today."

Thereafter, the matter along with connected matter was listed before this Court on 12th December, 2022 along with the connected matter, when the Court was pleased to pass the following order inter alia:-

Delhiwale

EXPERIENCE YOUR CITY LIKE NEVER BEFORE



Mayank
Austen Soofi



This way to dargah's neem

The Walled City dictionary

PUBLIC INTEREST

As part of our 'Walled City dictionary' series that explores every significant Old Delhi landmark.

Keekar Wali Masjid, Khajoori Wali Masjid, Anar Wali Masjid, Bar Wali Masjid, Pahari Imli. All these Old Delhi landmarks are named after trees. Although the said trees no longer exist on the said locales.

One tree that exists, and magnificently at that, fails to give its name to the place. Ideally, this sufi shrine, home to the graves of mystics Hazrat Samad Shahid and Hazrat Hare Bhare Shah, ought to have been called Neem Wali Dargah. For the neem tree stands in the shrine's very heart, enclosed within its small prayer chamber. (It finds its freedom by shooting up, through an opening in the concrete roof, into the smoggy sky, spreading its leafy bouquet into the Walled City's bird-filled air.)

The part of the tree that is inside the shrine is itself like a shrine. The massive trunk is draped in layers of silken fabrics, the colourful chaadar that pilgrims traditionally spread over a saint's grave. The trunk is also decked with very many scraps of loose flappy paper, each scrawled with a handwritten prayer. While the rest of the tree, above

the roof, is all leaves—beyond the reach of pilgrims, and their wish-making threads and arziyan (applications).

The neem inspires awe also from outside the dargah. The imposing Jama Masjid, a few steps away, does steal away some of its thunder (see photo), but the tree is said to be older than that centuries-old mosque. Indeed, hundreds of years ago, the area was a veerana; its wilderness ended in the 17th century when Shahjahan chose this location for his new capital. Many trees must have been felled to bring to fruition an emperor's command, one assumes. Somehow this neem survived—according to the shrine's rose seller, who asserts that the tree is more than 500 years old. When nothing was here, he forcefully points out, this neem was here. The two sufi mystics too came later, he says. Their graves rest on either side of the tree.

This afternoon, a visitor is fastidiously tying her handwritten prayer around the trunk. She had to change two city buses to reach here from her home in Khajoori Khas. The woman agrees to share the content of her prayer, penned in Hindi: "Babaji, my health is not good. Please put an end to all my illnesses. Besides, there is tension at home. The son is keeping all his earnings to himself, not contributing to the household expenses. Babaji, please get us rid of all our problems."



READ:
For more
stories by
Mayank
Austen
Soofi,
scan the
QR code

Shoot-out near Civil Lines; two held with guns and cartridges

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Two members of a gang which targeted businessmen carrying money in the city were arrested after an exchange of fire with the police early on Friday morning near north Delhi's Hindu Rao hospital, barely 2km away from the lieutenant governor's residence, police officers said.

They added that two other members of the same gang were arrested on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Police said they recovered four semi-automatic pistols, two countrymade pistols, four magazines, 11 live cartridges, and cash from their possession.

Deputy commissioner of police (north) Sagar Singh Kalsi said this gang was involved in several robbery cases in north, central and north-east Delhi, and in at least 10 incidents of robbing businessmen in the past few months.

They had been arrested in connection with several cases of murder, dacoity and robbery and planned to carry out similar incidents in the future, the deputy commissioner said.

Police said that on December 19, Jagatpal, an employee of Max Forex & Holidays Private Limited collected ₹28 lakh from Kucha Ghasiram in Chandni Chowk. He and Garib Kumar, another employee, were crossing Kamla Nehru Park near MCD Chowk when two people on a motorcycle snatched their bag containing cash after threatening them with a gun. "When Jagatpal and Kumar tried to chase the robbers, two men on another motorcycle stopped them, threatened them with a countrymade pistol and took away the keys of their motorcycle," Kalsi said. The police registered a case and took up investigation, he added.

A team intercepted Somveer and Deen Bandhu near Hindu Rao Hospital. "When they saw the police, both of them tried to run and opened fire at them. In retaliation, police also fired two rounds at them, overpowered and apprehended them," the DCP said.

According to police, Deen Bandhu, a resident of Bihar, murdered his school principal in 1997 when he stopped him from cheating in an exam. He was convicted and came out of jail in 2012.

Somveer murdered his friend Birender Verma in 2000 when he allegedly abused Somveer's wife. He was locked up in Tihar Jail for seven years. Kamal provided the gang with stolen bikes to be used in the robberies, and has stolen 22 motorcycles so far, police said.

"During scrutiny of similar

cases in the past, it was found that the same suspects were involved in the robberies. Subsequently, dossiers on criminals, CCTV footage and technical surveillance was checked. The suspects were identified as Kamal Yadav, Vijay Tomar, Deen Bandhu and Somveer," the DCP said.

According to tip-offs from their informers, the police came to know that the suspects were hiding at different locations in Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Uttarakhand and Punjab. On November 27, Kamal Yadav was arrested, and a day later, Vijay Tomar was also nabbed. The two told the police about the whereabouts of Deen Bandhu and Somveer.

A team intercepted Somveer and Deen Bandhu near Hindu Rao Hospital. "When they saw the police, both of them tried to run and opened fire at them. In retaliation, police also fired two rounds at them, overpowered and apprehended them," the DCP said.

According to police, Deen Bandhu, a resident of Bihar, murdered his school principal in 1997 when he stopped him from cheating in an exam. He was convicted and came out of jail in 2012.

Somveer murdered his friend Birender Verma in 2000 when he allegedly abused Somveer's wife. He was locked up in Tihar Jail for seven years. Kamal provided the gang with stolen bikes to be used in the robberies, and has stolen 22 motorcycles so far, police said.



daCunha/AB/835

Education is govt's top priority, says Sisodia

NEW DELHI: Deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia on Friday said that strengthening the education system was the priority of the Delhi government, and that as a result of improved facilities a large number of children from private schools enrolled in government institutions.

He made the comment while attending the annual day functions in Government Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Shakarpur

and Government Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, West Vinod Nagar on Friday. "Until 7-8 years ago, parents used to send their children to government schools due to financial constraints. But now they feel pride in sending their children to our schools. In the past 8 years, excellent work has been done in the field of infrastructure, teacher training and quality education in Delhi government schools," said Sisodia. HTC

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA EXTRA-ORDINARY APPELLATE JURISDICTION SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CIVIL) No. 30077 OF 2019

DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ... Petitioner(s)/Appellant(s)

VERSUS

MOHAN LAL AND OTHERS ... Respondent(s)

To,
1.MOHAN LAL
S/0 RAM CHAND,
SUBHASH NAGAR,
DISTRICT- NEW DELHI,
DELHI

PID: 138494/2022 FOR R[1]
IN SLP(C) NO.30077/2019
(SEC XIV)

WHEREAS the Petition for Special Leave to Appeal with prayer for interim relief along with application for CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING, EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT, PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES, above mentioned (copy enclosed) filed in the Registry by Ms. ARTI SINGH, Advocate on behalf of the Petitioner(s) above named was listed for hearing before this Court on 29th November, 2019, when the Court was pleased to pass the following order:-

"Subject to payment of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only) by way of cost to the Supreme Court Secretarial Staff Welfare Association within four weeks from today, the delay in filing the special leave petition is condoned.

Issue notice.
In the meantime, operation of the impugned order shall remain stayed.

Let this special leave petition be listed for orders as soon as the Constitution Bench judgment is rendered in Special Leave Petition (C) Nos.9036-9038 of 2016-Indore Development Authority & Ors. Etc. v. Manohar Lal & Ors. Etc."

AND WHEREAS, the matter above-mentioned was listed before Lt. Registrar's Court on 11th October, 2022, When the following order was passed:-

"Respondent nos. 2 to 4 have failed to file the counter affidavit despite last opportunity. However, as prayed, two weeks time, as a last and final opportunity is granted to learned counsel to file the same.

As per office report, learned counsel for respondent no.1 has not filed proof of publication. However, at this stage learned counsel for said respondent requests for issuance of fresh notice for publication. His request is acceded to. Fresh notice be issued to said respondent for paper publication. Further steps be taken in this regard within two weeks.

List again on 23.11.2022."

NOW, THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE that the above petition with prayer for interim relief along with application for EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT, PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES will be posted for hearing before this Court in due course and you may enter appearance before this Court either in person or through an advocate on record of this Court duly appointed by you in that behalf within 30 days from the date of service of notice. You may thereafter show cause to the Court on the day that may subsequently be specified as to why Special Leave Petition and interim relief as prayed be not granted and the resultant appeal be not allowed.

Take further notice that this Court has passed an interim order pending for disposal of SLP after notice as quoted above.

Take Further Notice that the prayer for interim relief after notice will also be listed before the Court in due course.

You may file your affidavit in opposition to the petition as provided under Rule 14(1) of Order XXI, S.C.R.2013 within 30 days from the date of receipt of notice or not later than 2 weeks before the date appointed for hearing, whichever be earlier, but shall do so only by setting out the grounds in opposition to the questions of law or grounds set out in the SLPs and may produce such pleadings and documents filed before the Court/Tribunal against whose order the SLP is filed and shall also set out the grounds for not granting interim order or for vacating interim order if already granted.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if you fail to enter appearance as aforesaid, no further notice shall be given to you even after the grant of special leave for hearing of the resultant appeal and the matter above mentioned shall be disposed of in your absence.

Dated :14th October, 2022
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

Important Notice
LEGAL AID

(1) Legal Services of an advocate is provided by the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee and the Supreme Court Middle Income Group Legal Aid Society to eligible litigants.

For further information, please contact the Secretary, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee or the Member Secretary, Supreme Court Middle Income Group Legal Aid Society, 107-108, Lawyers' Chambers, R.K. Jain Block - Near Post Office, Supreme Court Compound, Tilak Marg, New Delhi-110001 (Tel. Nos.011-23116353, 23116354 (Additional Building Complex) and 011-23381257 (Front Office))

MEDIATION

(2) The facility of amicable settlement of disputes by trained mediators in cases pending in the Supreme Court is now available in the Supreme Court.

For further information, please contact the Coordinator, Supreme Court Mediation Centre, 109, Lawyers' Chambers, R.K. Jain Block - Near Post Office, Supreme Court Compound, Tilak Marg, New Delhi-110001 (Tel No. 011-23071432)

**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER, CONSTRUCTION WING,
UTTARAKHAND PEYJAL NIGAM**
E-32, JUDGE FARM, HALDWANI, UTHAM SINGH NAGAR (PIN 263139)
Letter No.: 2793/Nivida-Anubandhi/Utham Singh Nagar/184 Date : 30-12-2022
E-Tender Notice
1. Name of the work:- Construction of proposed Pharmacy block at Government Polytechnic, Bajpur District - Utham Singh Nagar
2. Estimated Cost :- Rs. 367.00 Lakh (excluding G.S.T.)
3. Period of Completion:- 9 Months
4. Date and Time of availability of Bid documents in the portal:- 31-12-2022(11.00 hrs)
5. Online Bid submission: End date :- 14-01-2023 (17.00 hrs)
6. Date & Time of Technical bid opening:- 17-01-2023 (11.00 hrs)
7. Name and Address of the Officer inviting bid :- General Manager (Kumaon), Nirmal Wing, Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam, Haldwani.
8. Pre-bid meeting details (if required) Date & Place:- 04-01-2023(11.00hrs) Project Manager, Construction Unit, Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam, Utham Singh Nagar.
9. For further details, details of subsequent Amendment / correction documentation etc. may be obtained from the e-Procurement portal www.uktenders.gov.in
GENERAL MANAGER

Hindustan Times
TUNE MAARI ENTRIYAAN FT. BOLLYWOOD DEBUTS
CHECK OUT TODAY'S EDITION
HT City

भारतीय थल सेना
JOIN INDIAN ARMY AS AN OFFICER
www.joinindianarmy.nic.in
आधिकारी प्रविष्टियाँ

1. निम्नलिखित कोर्स के लिए आवेदन आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं:-
(क) 61वां अल्पसेवा कमीशन (तकनीकी) कोर्स (पुरुष) एवं 32वां अल्पसेवा कमीशन (तकनीकी) कोर्स (महिला) अक्टूबर 2023 के लिए।
(ख) 54वां अल्पसेवा कमीशन एन.सी.सी. विशेष मर्ती कोर्स (पुरुष एवं महिला) (युद्ध में हताहत सेना कार्यक्रों के आंतरिकों सहित) अक्टूबर 2023 के लिए।
(ग) 31वां अत्याकालिक सेवा कमीशन जे.ए.जी. कोर्स अक्टूबर 2023 कानून में स्नातक पुरुष एवं महिला अध्यर्थियों के लिए।
2. ऑनलाइन आवेदन निम्नलिखित अवधि तक खुले रहेंगे :-
(क) अल्याकालिक सेवा कमीशन (तकनीकी) कोर्स - पुरुष एवं महिला -11 जनवरी से 09 फरवरी 2023
(ख) एन.सी.सी. विशेष मर्ती कोर्स - पुरुष एवं महिला - 17 जनवरी से 15 फरवरी 2023
(ग) जे.ए.जी. कोर्स - पुरुष एवं महिला - 18 जनवरी से 16 फरवरी 2023

OFFICER ENTRIES

- Applications are invited for the following courses:-
(a) 61th Short Service Commission (Tech) Men and 32nd Short Service Commission (Tech) Women Courses Oct 2023.
(b) 54th Short Service Commission NCC Special Entry Scheme Course Oct 2023 for Men & Women (including Wards of Battle Casualties of Army personnel).
(c) 31st Short Service Commission JAG Entry Scheme Course (Men & Women) Oct 2023 course for Law Graduates.
- Online applications will open as under:-
(a) SSC (Tech) Course - Men & Women - 11 Jan to 09 Feb 2023
(b) NCC (Special) Course - Men & Women - 17 Jan to 15 Feb 2023
(c) JAG Course - Men & Women - 18 Jan to 16 Feb 2023

नोट :-

- सेवा में मर्ती पूर्णतया पारदर्शी और मुक्त है। दलालों से साक्षात् रहे।
- विस्तृत नोटिफिकेशन और जानकारी के लिए, कृपया www.joinindianarmy.nic.in पर जाएं।

- Recruitment in the Army is totally transparent and free. Beware of touts.
- For detailed Notification, please visit www.joinindianarmy.nic.in.

CBC 10601/11/0033/2223



MY INDIA

Agnipath back in focus as IAF starts training

Rahul Singh

rahul.singh@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Indian Air Force's first batch of 3,000 Agniveers, recruited under the Agnipath scheme launched this year, began its training on Friday even as the army's first Agniveers are set to begin their training at regimental centres with improved infrastructure across the country from January 2, 2023, marking a turning point in how soldiers are inducted into the military, officers familiar with the matter said on Friday.

The navy's Agniveers began their training in the first week of December.

The Agnipath model for short-term induction of soldiers into the three services is a major departure from the military's decades-old recruitment system that was discontinued when the government announced the new scheme in June 2022. Around 19,000 army Agniveers will begin their training in the first phase, followed by another 21,000 in the second round in March, said one of the officers cited above, asking not to be named.

The army Agniveers will be trained for six months at regimental centres in Ahmednagar, Nasik, Hyderabad, Jabalpur, Bengaluru, Raigarh, Danapur, Ranikhet and Goa, said another officer.

IAF's first batch of 3,000 Agniveers kicked off their training at the Airmen Training School at Belagavi in Karnataka on Friday, while the navy's Agniveers started their training at the INS Chikka training establishment in Odisha. The navy's first batch of Agniveers consists of 3,000 trainees including 341 women. IAF will start inducting women under the Agnipath scheme next year onwards. The army's Agniveers include 100 women who were inducted into the Corps of Military Police.

A year-end review published by the defence ministry described the Agnipath scheme as a "major transformational reform".

Preparation and promulgation of basic military training policy governing training of Agniveers has been revised and implemented for smooth commencement of the training, the ministry said. "Requirement of training infrastructure for regimental centres encompassing simulators, IT infrastructure, physical

ARMY'S 1ST BATCH OF AGNIVEERS ARE SET TO BEGIN THEIR TRAINING AT REGIMENTAL CENTRES FROM JANUARY 2, 2023

training/sports infrastructure and works has been worked out and promulgated to cater for the reduced duration of training," the review added. Recruits trained for around nine months under the legacy system, compared to up to six months now.

Over 5.4 million candidates registered for the 46,000 jobs in the three services, according to defence ministry data.

India on June 14 announced the new scheme, replacing the legacy system, to lower the age profile of the armed forces, ensure a fitter military, and create a technically skilled war fighting force capable of meeting future challenges. It sparked widespread protests and forced a concerted outreach by the government to scotch apprehensions about the scheme.

The new scheme has its advantages but we will have to see how it unfolds. The model should be allowed to evolve with appropriate course corrections so that it stays contemporary and futuristic," said former army deputy chief Lieutenant General Subrata Saha (retd).

The Agnipath scheme seeks to recruit soldiers for only four years, with a provision to retain 25% of them in the regular cadre for 15 years after another round of screening.

Army chief General Manoj Pande on Thursday described the Agnipath scheme as path-breaking. "We have upgraded the training infrastructure at regimental centres, got in more simulators and paid more attention to infusion of technology to make the training more effective and meaningful. We have also come up with an extremely transparent, robust and credible assessment and selection system based on which the Agniveers will be selected for continuation of service beyond the initial four years," Pande said.

He added that commanders at all levels took full ownership of the scheme and the focus was now on its correct implementation.

Leaders from across nations, party lines pay homage to PM's mother

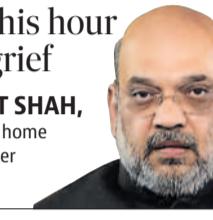


Prime Minister Narendra Modi performs last rites of his mother in Gandhinagar on Friday.

TRIBUTES POUR IN

The struggles faced by Heera Ba to nurture the family are a role model for all... The entire nation stands with Prime Minister Modi and his family in this hour of grief

AMIT SHAH,
Union home minister



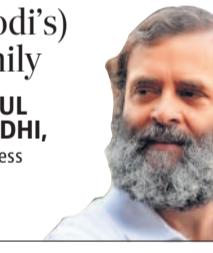
...May she rest in peace and may you find solace in her memory and the rich heritage she bequeathed to you and many others.

BENJAMIN NETANYAHU,
Israel PM



The news of the demise is extremely sad. In this difficult time, I extend my deepest condolences and love to him and his (Modi's) family

RAHUL GANDHI,
Congress leader



'Symbol of resilience': When Modi recalled their enduring bond

Saubhadra Chatterji
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: During his first trip to the US as Prime Minister in 2015, Narendra Modi didn't hold back his tears in an otherwise formal occasion when he spoke about his humble roots and mother Heeraben at a Facebook townhall.

"My father is no more. My mother is older than 90, but does her own work. When I was young, my mother worked in neighbours' homes, washed utensils, fetched water and did mazdoori (labour)," the PM said before being overwhelmed with emotion.

In his eight years as PM, Modi often spoke of his mother, mentioned her as the strongest root of his family in a blog when she entered her 100th year, visited her occasionally, and once brought her to Delhi to stay at his official residence. Heeraben died in the early hours of Friday after a brief bout of illness.

Many visits of the PM to Gujarat included a trip to Heeraben's residence at Vrindavan Bungalows Society. Modi celebrated several birthdays and special occasions with her.

In Lok Sabha, in 2015, when Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) member Hukum Deo Narayan Yadav spoke about the PM's childhood and how his mother brought him up, Modi was visibly moved and teary eyed.

In 2016, two years after Modi moved to his official residence in Delhi, Heeraben stayed for a few days with him.

The Prime Minister's Office released pictures that showed Modi showing her the gardens and pushing her wheelchair.

On June 18 this year, on her birthday, Modi wrote a long article on her. "My mother is as simple as she is extraordinary. Just like all mothers."

He mentioned the "innumer-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being welcomed by his mother Heeraben after he returned from the Etka Yatra.

able everyday adversities" that his mother encountered and "successfully overcame" in their "tiny house in Vadnagar with mud walls and clay tiles for a roof".

"My mother not only did all household chores by herself but also worked to supplement the meagre household income. She used to wash utensils at a few houses and take out time to spin the charkha to help meet the household expenses," Modi recalled in the blog.

"During the rains, our roof would leak, and the house would flood. Mother would place buckets and utensils below the leaks to collect the rainwater. Even in this adverse situation, mother would be a symbol of resilience," he wrote.

Heeraben, who never missed voting in an election, rarely accompanied Modi to political functions.

An event in Ahmedabad in 1991, soon after he returned from BJP's Etka Yatra in Srinagar, she applied tilak on his head. She was also present when Modi took oath as Gujarat's chief minister in 2001 for the first time.

In 2014, after he was elected as the leader of the National Democratic Alliance, Modi took her blessings before returning to Delhi to take oath as Prime Minister.

NIA charges 11 for recruiting, training PFI cadre in T'gana



6.3 MILLION CASES ARE CONSIDERED DELAYED DUE TO LACK OF COUNSEL: CJI CITES NJDG DATA

Press Trust of India

letters@hindustantimes.com

AMARAVATI: Over 6.3 million cases across the country have been considered to be delayed due to non-availability of counsel and over 1.4 million cases are delayed as they await some kind of document or record, Chief Justice of India Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud said on Friday.

Speaking at the inauguration of the Andhra Pradesh Judicial Academy, Justice Chandrachud said people must get rid of the colonial mindset of referring to and treating the district courts as subordinate judiciary in hierarchy and in practice. They are not only the backbone of the judiciary but also the first interaction with the judicial institution for many. Bail, not jail, is one of the most fundamental rules of the criminal justice system, he said.

Yet, in practice, the number of under-trials languishing in prisons in India reflects a paradoxical situation, the CJI pointed out.

"According to the NJDG data, almost 14 lakh (1.4 million) cases have been delayed as some kind of record or document is being awaited which is beyond the control of the court," he said.

"Similarly, across the country over 63 lakh (6.3 million) cases have been considered to be delayed, as per NJDG data due to non-availability of counsel. We really need the support of the Bar to ensure that our courts are functioning at optimum capacity," he, however, said it may be much higher or lesser as more data is yet to be received from all courts.

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a charge sheet against 11 people as part of its probe into alleged organisation of terror training camps and recruitment of Muslim youngsters for banned outfit Popular Front of India (PFI) in Telangana, according to people aware of the developments.

The charge sheet against 10 people from Telangana and one from Andhra Pradesh was filed on Thursday before a special NIA court in Hyderabad.

The central anti-terror probe agency had taken over the probe into the matter on August 26 from Telangana's Nizamabad Police.

"Investigations have revealed that the accused persons were radicalising gullible Muslim youth and recruiting them into the PFI through speeches filled with hatred and venom against the government of India as well as other organisations and individuals," a NIA spokesperson said.

"Once recruited into the PFI, Muslim youths were sent to training camps organised by PFI under the cover and guise of yoga classes and physical education..." the spokesperson added.

PFI and its eight affiliate organisations were banned under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) on September 28, after a nationwide crackdown by NIA and Enforcement Directorate (ED) led to arrests and recovery of purported incriminating documents from offices and residences of the outfit's office bearers.

The Centre alleged the outfit was fuelling radicalisation and was involved in terror funding.

NIA: Kerala HC lawyer held for links with outfit

NEW DELHI: The National Investigation Agency has arrested a lawyer in a case related to "unlawful and violent activities" by the banned Popular Front of India (PFI) in Telangana, according to people aware of the developments.

The charge sheet against 10 people from Telangana and one from Andhra Pradesh was filed on Thursday before a special NIA court in Hyderabad.

The central anti-terror probe agency had taken over the probe into the matter on August 26 from Telangana's Nizamabad Police.

"Investigations have revealed that the accused persons were radicalising gullible Muslim youth and recruiting them into the PFI through speeches filled with hatred and venom against the government of India as well as other organisations and individuals," a NIA spokesperson said.

"Once recruited into the PFI, Muslim youths were sent to training camps organised by PFI under the cover and guise of yoga classes and physical education..." the spokesperson added.

PFI and its eight affiliate organisations were banned under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) on September 28, after a nationwide crackdown by NIA and Enforcement Directorate (ED) led to arrests and recovery of purported incriminating documents from offices and residences of the outfit's office bearers.

The Centre alleged the outfit was fuelling radicalisation and was involved in terror funding.

{ RUSSIAN NATIONALS } IN ODISHA

12-member team visits hotel to probe deaths

Debabrata Mohanty

letters@hindustantimes.com

BHUBANESWAR: A 12-member team of Odisha's Criminal Investigation Department (CID) on Friday visited the hotel in Rayagada to probe the deaths of two Russians - lawmaker and industrialist Pavel Antov and his friend Vladimir Bidenov last week.

According to officials aware of the developments, the team led by deputy superintendent of police Saroj Kant Mahanta examined room numbers 203 and 305 of Hotel Sital International where the deceased were staying along with Russian couple Mikhail Turov and Natalia Panasenko.

The team tried to chalk out the sequence of events that took place when Bidenov died on December 22 and when Antov died two days later, the people said.

Antov allegedly fell to his death from the second floor of a hotel in Rayagada on December 24. Antov, who was critical in June of Russian president Vladimir Putin's decision to go to war with Ukraine before changing his

stance, was found dead on the premises, two days after his friend Bidenov died of a heart attack in the same hotel.

Antov arrived in Rayagada on December 21 with Bidenov, Turov and Panasenko.

"During the visit to the hotel, a spot map was drawn indicating all relevant references of the area. A pair of slippers believed to be of Antov was also collected from the spot," one of the officials said.

The team also seized items like drinking glasses and water bottles from room 309, where Antov shifted after the demise of his friend, an official added.

The team met Rayagada police officials and also spoke to doctors who conducted the two post-mortems and sought to know why Antov's viscera sample was not stored, the first official said.

Eight other parties, including the Samajwadi Party, the Aam Aadmi Party, the Yuva Jana Samika Rithu (YSR) Congress Party, the Congress, the Shriman Akali Dal, the Punjab Lok Congress Party, the Goa Forward Party, and the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam received a total of ₹95.56 crore collec-

tively, the report added.

An electoral trust is a non-profit organisation formed for orderly receiving of contributions from corporate entities and individuals to political parties.

It aims at improving transparency in the usage of funds for election-related expenses.

ADR, which advocates for strengthening governance and enhancing transparency, publishes annual reports on contributions from all parties from all six Electoral Trusts," the report said.

Eight other parties, including the Samajwadi Party, the Aam Aadmi Party, the Yuva Jana Samika Rithu (YSR) Congress Party, the Congress, the Shriman Akali Dal, the Punjab Lok Congress Party, the Goa Forward Party, and the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam received a total of ₹95.56 crore collec-

tionally, the report added.

An electoral trust is a non-profit organisation formed for orderly receiving of contributions from corporate entities and individuals to political parties.

It aims at improving transparency in the usage of funds for election-related expenses.

ADR, which advocates for strengthening governance and enhancing transparency, publishes annual reports on contributions from all parties from all six Electoral Trusts," the report said.

Eight other parties, including the Samajwadi Party, the Aam Aadmi Party, the Yuva Jana Samika Rithu (YSR) Congress Party, the Congress, the Shriman Akali Dal, the Punjab Lok Congress Party, the Goa Forward Party, and the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam received a total of ₹95.56 crore collec-

tionally, the report added.

An electoral trust is a non-profit organisation formed for orderly receiving of contributions from corporate entities and individuals to political parties.

It aims at improving transparency in the usage of funds for election-related expenses.

ADR, which advocates for strengthening governance and enhancing transparency, publishes annual reports on contributions from all parties from all six Electoral Trusts," the report said.

Eight other parties, including the Samajwadi Party, the Aam Aadmi Party, the Yuva Jana Samika Rithu (YSR) Congress Party, the Congress, the Shriman Akali Dal, the Punjab Lok Congress Party, the Goa Forward Party, and the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam received a total of ₹95.56 crore collec-

tionally, the report added.

An electoral trust is a non-profit organisation formed for orderly receiving of contributions from corporate entities and individuals to political parties.

It aims at improving transparency in the usage of funds for election-related expenses.

ADR, which advocates for strengthening governance and enhancing transparency, publishes annual reports on contributions from all parties from all six Electoral Trusts," the report said.

Eight other parties, including the Samajwadi Party, the Aam Aadmi Party, the Yuva Jana Samika Rithu (YSR) Congress Party, the Congress, the Shriman Akali Dal, the Punjab Lok Congress Party, the Goa Forward Party, and the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam received a total of ₹95.56 crore collec-

tionally, the report added.

vijay sales

Shop On www.vijaysales.com

**LAST
TWO DAYS!**
**#ALMOSTGONE!
YEAR END SALE**



**UP TO
70%
OFF**



AIR CONDITIONERS	PRICE	YES PRICE	ULTIMATE SAVINGS
1T Split 3Star Invert	₹41,900	₹28,990	31%
1.5T Split 3Star Invert	₹61,990	₹33,000	47%



LED TVs	PRICE	YES PRICE	ULTIMATE SAVINGS
32 (80cm) LED TV	₹28,000	₹7,990	71%
32 (80cm) Smart LED TV	₹32,000	₹10,990	65%
43 (108cm) Smart LED TV	₹50,000	₹20,990	58%
43 (108cm) 4K UHD LED TV	₹38,990	₹26,990	30%
50 (125cm) 4K UHD LED TV	₹48,690	₹28,990	40%
55 (138cm) 4K UHD LED TV	₹56,790	₹32,990	42%
55 (138cm) 4K QLED TV	₹59,990	₹36,990	38%
65 (164cm) 4K QLED TV	₹79,990	₹56,990	28%
70 (178cm) 4K UHD LED TV	₹94,500	₹59,990	36%



SMALL APPLIANCES	PRICE	YES PRICE	ULTIMATE SAVINGS
Food Processor	₹13,825	₹8,490	39%
Geyser	₹5,300	₹3,200	40%
Hand Blender	₹2,050	₹1,249	39%
Steam Iron	₹2,100	₹999	52%
Vaccum Cleaner	₹4,500	₹2,690	40%
OFR Heater	₹15,890	₹11,000	31%



REFRIGERATORS	PRICE	YES PRICE	ULTIMATE SAVINGS
192L Direct-Cool	₹22,000	₹12,990	41%
195L Direct-Cool	₹23,600	₹13,990	41%
258L Frost-Free	₹39,500	₹20,990	47%
292L Frost-Free	₹40,450	₹26,990	33%
338L Frost-Free	₹49,100	₹29,990	39%
472L Frost-Free	₹70,550	₹44,990	36%
630L Side By Side	₹1,33,900	₹63,990	52%



For Windows Laptop

**Up To 30%* Off
On Select Laptops**

Also avail up to 10% cashback
on select bank CC/DC EMI



WASHING MACHINES	PRICE	YES PRICE	ULTIMATE SAVINGS
6.5 Kg Semi Automatic Top Load	₹16,990	₹7,990	53%
7 Kg Semi Automatic Top Load	₹12,890	₹8,990	30%
6.5 Kg Fully Automatic Top Load	₹23,990	₹13,990	41%
7.5 Kg Fully Automatic Top Load	₹27,750	₹15,990	42%
8 Kg Fully Automatic Top Load	₹29,000	₹20,990	28%
6 Kg Fully Automatic Front Load	₹32,600	₹22,990	29%
8 Kg Fully Automatic Front Load	₹48,800	₹33,990	30%
9 Kg Fully Automatic Front Load	₹57,990	₹35,990	38%

T&C apply

iPhone 14 128 GB



Cashback ₹5,000
Trade in Value ₹20,900*
Trade in Bonus ₹6,000*

**VSP ₹74,900
EFFECTIVE PRICE
₹43,000*/-**

(*Price inclusive of offer)

Apple Watch Series 8



Cashback ₹3,000
Trade in Value ₹3,000*
Trade in Bonus ₹2,000*

**VSP ₹42,900
EFFECTIVE PRICE
₹34,900*/-**

(*Price inclusive of offer)

Vijay Sales Apple Days

**MacBook Air M1
8GB | 256GB**



Cashback ₹10,000
Trade in Value ₹17,900*
Trade in Bonus ₹10,000*

**VSP ₹87,900
EFFECTIVE PRICE
₹50,000*/-**

(*Price inclusive of offer)

SAMSUNG

**Samsung A04S
4GB | 64GB
YES PRICE*
₹13,499/-**



vivo
**Vivo Y22
4GB | 64GB
YES PRICE*
₹14,499/-**

**Up To 5%
Instant Discount on
Banks & Paper Finance**

**Bank of Baroda
Credit Card**

**AU
AU SMALL FINANCE BANK**

**IDFC FIRST
Bank**

HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES

**BAJAJ
FINSERV**

Give us a missed call
on 99110 12303 to connect
with us on WhatsApp
for sales, delivery, service
and demo related inquiries.



**FULLY
AIR-CONDITIONED
AMPLE CAR PARKING**

MUMBAI PUNE AHMEDABAD SURAT VADODARA DELHI GURUGRAM NOIDA INDIRAPURAM FARIDABAD GHAZIABAD HYDERABAD WARANGAL ANDHRA PRADESH
Model Town III: H-2, Ring Rd, Next to ICICI Bank, Opp. Metro Pillar No. 41
Pitampura: HD/2, Block HD, Opp. Metro Pillar No. 360, Pitampura Residential Scheme
Rohini (E): F-19/6, Sector-8, Nr. M2K Cinema
Paschim Vihar: Shop No. 13, Bhera Enclave, Main Outer Ring Rd., Nr. Underpass & Gol Chakkar
Uttam Nagar (E): Main Najafgarh Rd., Opp. Metro, Pillar No. 663
Dwarka: 117, Palam Extension, Sector 7
Rajapuri: Main Rajapuri Road, Opp. Sec 5, Behind Madhu Vihar Bus stand, Dwarka

Janakpuri: Block No. B-1, Nr. Amar Leela Hospital, Opp. Metro Pillar No. 547
Rajouri Garden: C-1/12, Marble Market, Ring Rd., Opp. Gurudwara
Patel Nagar: W-8, West Patel Nagar, Nr. Shadipur Metro Station
Karol Bagh: 3384, Deshbandhu Gupta Rd., Adjoining Hotel Gold Palace
Lajpat Nagar II: K-25, Central Market, Nr. 3C Cinema
Kalkaji: M-62, Block M, Nr. Axis Bank, Guru Ravidas Marg
Saket J-Block: J-287, Saket, New Delhi

Vikas Marg: A-18, Swasthya Vihar, Nr. Preeti Vihar Metro Station, Opp. Metro Pillar No. 83
Shahdara: A-485, A1, A2, GT Rd., Opp. Dilshad Garden Metro Station
Daryaganj: Opp. LNJP Hospital, Near Union Bank
Indirapuram: UGF 114, 115 ND Anchor Store, OC Square, GH-4, Ahinsa Khand 1
Ghazabada: B-25 & 32, RDC Raj Nagar, below Gold's Gym, Uttar Pradesh 201002
Noida: K-5-K6, Sector 18, Adjoining Ebony Gautier Showroom, Nr. Atta Market
Greater Noida: Veera Tower, A-6 Alpha Commercial Belt - 1

Gurugram: SCO 315, Sector 29, Nr. Huda City Metro Station
Gurugram: M.G. Rd., The Plaza Mall
Old Gurugram: SCO-10-11 Jail Rd., Sohna Chowk, Ajronda Metro Station, Sector 15A
Faridabad: Crown Plaza Mall, Nr. Neelam Chowk, Ajronda Metro Station, Sector 15A
Faridabad: 14/3, Mathura Rd., Nr. Mevla Mahajapur Metro Station

Now Open - Hauz Khas: Block M-1, Hauz Khas, New Delhi

*Conditions apply. This offer includes all other discounts also. No other offer can be clubbed with this offer. Images shown are for illustrative purpose only. Offer till stocks last. Finance offer applicable at the sole discretion of Financier. "Processing Fee is applicable as per Financier. For Paper Finance: Please bring Aadhaar Card, Pan Card, Electric Bill & Cancelled Cheque. Offer is based on minimum transaction slabs defined by Finance Com. Kindly speak to our store sales staff for the "Terms and Conditions" of all the bank offers, and for the respective Instant Discount/Cashback amounts applicable on each Bank.

All production halted at firm linked to Uzbek syrup deaths

Rhythma Kaul and Soumya Pillai
letters@hindustantimes.com



A police van outside the office of pharma company Marion Biotech, in Noida. HT PHOTO

NEW DELHI: All drug production at Marion Biotech has been halted since Thursday night in the wake of concerns that the deaths of at least 18 children in Uzbekistan could be linked to a cough syrup it exported, Union health minister Mansukh Mandaviya announced on Friday.

Samples have been collected from the company for analysis after Uzbek officials announced earlier this week that they had found a contaminant in the product which could prove fatal and may have been behind the deaths.

"Following inspection by @CDSCO_INDIA_INF team in view of reports of contamination in cough syrup Dokl Max, all manufacturing activities of Marion Biotech at Noida unit have been stopped yesterday night, while further investigation is ongoing," tweeted Mandaviya.

gation that India conducted.

The Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) on Friday said it has suspended the membership of Marion Biotech after it failed to respond to the council's queries on the possibility of contamination of their cough syrup.

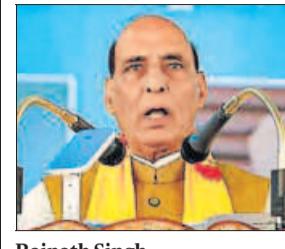
The suspension of Marion Biotech means that its exports will become ineligible for incentives under the Market Access Incentive Scheme.

The contaminant Uzbek officials said they found was ethyl glycol, often a chemical that is produced as a byproduct in the manufacturing of some syrups.

If production processes are not adequately managed, these could make its way as a contaminant. The State Security Service of the Central Asian nation announced it had started a criminal probe in the matter, reported the SSS press service on Tuesday, after it was reported that several children took Doc-l Max tablets and syrup made by

Marion Biotech. "On the fact of death of 18 children, which occurred as a result of taking the drug Doc-l Max, a criminal case was initiated against officials of Quramax Medical (importer of the drug) and State Center for Expertise and Standardization of Medicines... under Article 186-3 of the Criminal Code (violation of the order of retail sale of medicines containing potent substances)," the SSS said in a statement quoted by UrduPoint News / Sputnik from Tashkent.

Former president of the Indian Medical Association, Dr JA Jayalal, said, "India is one of the largest exporters of drugs and if such incidents are reported repeatedly then our country's image and exports will be impacted. We should have better monitoring systems to make sure that the quality of drugs that are exported are up-to-mark. Countries such as US have mechanisms to thoroughly test drug quality before it enters its markets."



Rajnath Singh

WON'T PRIORITISE GOOD TIES WITH NEIGHBOURS OVER SECURITY: RAJNATH

Press Trust of India

letters@hindustantimes.com

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Union defence minister Rajnath Singh on Friday said India wants to maintain friendly relations with its neighbours, but it will not be done at the cost of national security.

Speaking at the 90th annual pilgrimage of Sivagiri Mutt at Varkala town in Kerala's Thiruvananthapuram, Singh recalled the then prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpeeyee's remark that "we can change friends but not our neighbours".

"Therefore, we need good and friendly relations with our neighbours. However, we will not compromise on national security to maintain good relations. We do not want good relations with anyone at the cost of our national security," he said.

Singh also spoke about Kerala-based social reformer Sree Narayana Guru's teachings, like prosperity through industry which is the basis of the Indian's government's Atmanirbhar Bharat policy.

As a result of the same we are considered as one of the top five economies in the world and our military is seen as a force to be reckoned with, he contended.

He further said that while he was working to "protect the body — boundaries — of India with the help of the armed forces" and under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the saints of different mutts were working to protect the soul of the country.

"I appreciate the work you are doing. We can survive as a nation only when both the body and soul are safe," Singh said and expressed confidence that this year's annual Sivagiri pilgrimage will also be a success.

India's SCO, G20 presidencies will strengthen world stability: Putin

Press Trust of India

letters@hindustantimes.com

MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday voiced confidence that India's presidencies of the SCO and G20 will build multi-dimensional cooperation between the two countries and will strengthen the stability and security in Asia and the entire world.

While India formally assumed the G20 (Group of 20) Presidency on December 1, it took over the rotating presidency of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) on September 16.

In his New Year messages to President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Putin noted that Russia and India marked the 75th anniversary of their diplomatic relations in 2022 and, relying on positive traditions of friendship and mutual respect, the countries continue to develop their specially privileged strategic partnership, the Kremlin said in a statement.



Vladimir Putin AP

Putin said the two countries carried out large-scale trade and economic projects in addition to energy, military technology and other areas of cooperation.

"I am confident that India's recently started SCO and G20 presidencies will open new opportunities for building multi-dimensional Russia-India cooperation for the benefit of our peoples, in the interests of strengthening stability and security in Asia and the entire world," he said.

India has not yet criticised the Russian attack on Ukraine and has been maintaining that the crisis should be resolved through dialogue.

The SCO comprising China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan is a Eurasian political, economic and security organisation.

It is the world's largest regional organisation in terms of the geographic scope and population, covering approximately 60% of the area of Eurasia, 40% of the world population, and more than 30% of global GDP.

The G20 comprises 19 countries — Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the UK and the US — and the European Union. The G20 members represent around 85% of the global GDP, over 75% of the global trade, and about two-thirds of the world population.

7 MISSING AS BOAT CAPSIZE IN GANGA NEAR PATNA: COPS

{ TRAVELLERS FROM 6 COUNTRIES }

Govt asks airlines to alter check-in systems amid new Covid-19 norms

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The civil aviation ministry on Friday directed airlines to modify their check-in systems for international passengers arriving from China, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Singapore and Thailand, as part of new Covid-19 rules that require a negative test report for such arrivals.

The civil aviation ministry's directive came a day after the health ministry mandated negative Covid RT-PCR reports for passengers prior to departure, a decision sparked by the rising number of cases in many of these regions, especially China.

The aviation ministry directed airlines to issue board-



Passengers undergo screening at IGI airport. ANI

ing passes to only those passengers who submit a self-declaration form on the Air Suvidha portal.

In a statement, it said the decision "will be reviewed, if needed, as per the prevailing situation."

"In the context of the evolving trajectory of Covid-19 cases in some countries, especially China, Singapore, Hong Kong,

Republic of Korea, Thailand and Japan, and reports regarding circulation of variants of SARS-CoV-2 in these countries, it has been decided that the existing guideline for international arrivals needs to be revised and updated," the statement said.

The ministry reiterated health minister Mansukh Mandaviya's directive that RT-PCR tests will have to be conducted within 72 hours of undertaking the journey to India.

"Airlines are directed to modify their check-in functionalities to incorporate the changes and issue boarding passes only to those international passengers travelling from the six countries who have submitted self-declaration forms on the Air Suvidha portal," it added.

As a result of the same we are considered as one of the top five economies in the world and our military is seen as a force to be reckoned with, he contended.

He further said that while he was working to "protect the body — boundaries — of India with the help of the armed forces" and under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the saints of different mutts were working to protect the soul of the country.

"I appreciate the work you are doing. We can survive as a nation only when both the body and soul are safe," Singh said and expressed confidence that this year's annual Sivagiri pilgrimage will also be a success.

Nitish calls on Dalai Lama



Bihar CM Nitish Kumar during a meeting with Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, in Bodh Gaya, on Friday. PTI

CHINESE WOMAN NOW BROUGHT TO DELHI, SET TO BE DEPORTED: POLICE

PATNA: A 40-year-old woman from China who allegedly overstayed her visa in India and triggered a security alarm when she reached Bihar's Bodh Gaya, where the Dalai Lama is currently staying, was on Friday brought to New Delhi and will be deported soon, said police.

The police have also lodged an FIR against the Gaya-based guest house where the woman, identified as Song Xiaolan, was staying since December 22. "The Chinese national was brought to New Delhi by a team of police officials from Gaya woman police station on Friday. She has been sent to the Chinese embassy and will be subsequently deported. She has also been slapped with a 'Leave India' notice," said Patna's additional director general of police Jitendra Singh Gangwar. HTC

HT Homage

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



8TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY
WG. CDR. I. J. BHALLA (retd.)
11.12.1933 – 31.12.2014

It is hard to forget SOMEONE Who gave so much to REMEMBER

Fondly remembered by:

Mrs. Prabha Bhalla (Wife)
Rohit & Madhu Bhalla (Son & Daughter-in-Law)
& Entire Wings & Addon Family
(9810136069)

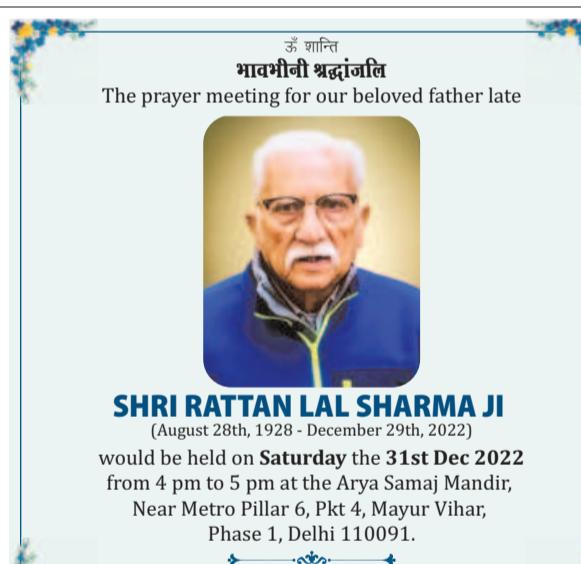


In Loving Memory

SH. ARJUN DEV ARORA
27-7-1929 to 31-12-2009
Always in our hearts

ASHWANI ARORA
GULBIA ARORA
LAVANYA MEHRA
RUCHIR MEHRA
RITU MALIK
RAJESH MALIK
ADITYA MALLIK

B-463,
New Friends Colony,
New Delhi-110025



We are here for you

To place an obituary or remembrance advertisement with

Hindustan Times

Scan the code:



You can also call on:

1800-103-1800 (9 AM to 9 PM everyday)

or

Email at: counterclassifieds@hindustantimes.com

WESTERN RAILWAY

IMPROVEMENT TO STAFF QUARTER AND VARIOUS OTHER WORKS

Divisional Railway Manager (WA), Western Railway, 6th Floor, Engg. Deptt., Mumbai Central, Mumbai - 400 008, invites E-tender as per details given as follows.

Sr. No.	Tender Notice No.	Work and Location	Approx. Cost of Work (₹)	EMD (₹)
1	BCT/22-23/192 Dt. 29/12/2022	Bandra (Pali Hill) - Improvement to Staff Quarter & Amenities by Structural Attention and other Miscellaneous Items (Composite Tender)	3,27,12,120.34	313600
2	BCT/22-23/193 Dt. 29/12/2022	Cleaning and Disinfecting of UG and OH Tanks under the Jurisdiction of ADEN(Estate-South)-Lower Parel for SSE(W-I)-Lower Parel, SSE(W-II)-Lower Parel and SSE(W-M)-Mature Road for Two Years.	9,37,590.72	18800
3	BCT/22-23/190 Dt. 29/12/2022	(i) Virar-Surat (UP) - CTR(P) - 9.288 Tkm (ii) Virar-Surat (UP & Down) - TRR(P) - 9.286 Tkm & TSR(P) - 34.731 Tkm. (iii) Virar-Joravasaran - CTR(P) = 1.82 km 68.760 to 69.158 = 0.398 km & 73.00 to 74.200 = 1.200 km & 74.459 to 74.643 = 0.184 km & 74.903 to 75.134 = 0.231 km UP Line. (iv) Virar - Joravasaran Sec. - TRR(P) 91.838 to 93.480 = 1.642 km. (v) Screening of Shoulder Ballast by SBCM/FRM in connection of Virar-Joravasaran Sec. TBR = 59.335 km & TWR-1.338 km by MFBW. (Two Packet System).	10,92,72,424.66	696400
4	BCT/22-23/191 Dt. 29/12/2022	Virar-Surat Section: Strengthening of Bridges having ORN-3 and Protection of these Bridges by Constructing Return Wall, Wing Wall, Ballast Wall from Vatnara to Umargam under the Jurisdiction of ADEN-DRD.	7,11,48,414.91	505800

Date & Time of Submission and Opening of Tenders: Sr. No. 1 to 4 Up to 15.00 hrs. on 27/01/2023 and will be opened at 15.30 hrs. on the same day. Regarding detailed nature of work, containing cost of tender document (non-refundable), EMD, eligibility criteria, similar nature of work, detailed tender conditions, please visit www.irps.gov.in. Manual offers will not be considered.

Like us on: facebook.com/WesternRiy Follow us on: twitter.com/WesternRiy

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CABINET SECRETARIAT NATIONAL AUTHORITY CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (NACWC)

(1st Floor, Chanakya Bhawan, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi - 110021)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The requirement to submit Declarations to the National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC) is mandated under Section 12 of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) Act, 2000.

2. In exercise of extant provisions of the CWC Act 2000, it is notified that all the persons and facilities dealing with the chemicals belonging to Schedule-1, Schedule-2 and Schedule-3 and Other Chemical Production Facilities (OCPFs), liable to file Annual Declaration of Past Activities (ADPA), are to file the same, for the calendar year 2022 on or before 31st January, 2023. The notice is also given to those who, have previously filed ADPA for the calendar year 2021 and Annual Declaration of Anticipated Activities (ADAA) for the calendar year 2023, for filing their ADPA for the calendar year 2022 before the due date.

3. The ADPA for chemical facilities, having activities in respect of Schedule-1 Chemicals, should be filed in hard copy to the NACWC.

4. The ADPA in respect of Schedule-2, Schedule-3 and OCPFs, including Traders (Importers/Exporters) of Schedule-2 and Schedule-3 chemicals, need to be filed electronically by the respective chemical facilities, using authenticated Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)/e-sign through NACWC URL <https://cwc.nacwc.nic.in> (<https://cwc.nacwc.nic.in>). The online window for filing ADPA shall remain open from 1100 hours of 1st January, 2023 to 1800 Hours of 31st January, 2023.

Baghel govt to allow staff to pick between pension plans

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com



Bhupesh Baghel

RAIPUR: A month after the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority rejected Chhattisgarh's demand to return funds deposited for the National Pension System, the state said on Friday that it will give its employees the option of choosing between the new pension scheme (NPS) and the old pension scheme (OPS).

The decision was taken on Friday during a cabinet meeting chaired by chief minister Bhupesh Baghel, a public relations department official said.

"During the cabinet meeting, it was decided to introduce OPS by giving option to the employees who were appointed after November 1, 2004 and before April 2022," the official said.

"For this, employees will have to submit an affidavit. If such an employee opts for OPS, he or she will have to deposit the government's contribution and dividend in the NPS account since they were appointed (after November 1, 2004) till March 31 this year to the state government's new General Provident Fund (GPF) under OPS," the official explained.

It means employees opting for OPS will have to withdraw their fund deposited in the NPS account and then redeposit it in

provisions to refund contribution in NPS, along with accruals, back to state governments.

In a written reply, minister of state for finance Bhagwat Kisrao Karad said the governments of Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand informed the central government and PFRDA about their decision to restart OPS for their state government employees.

The ministry also underlined that PFRDA, India's pension regulator, has informed the respective state governments "that there is no provision under Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 2013 read along with PFRDA (Exits and Withdrawals under the National Pension System) Regulations, 2015, and other relevant regulations that the funds, which are already deposited both in the form of government contribution and employees' contribution towards NPS, along with accruals, can be refunded and deposited back to the state government."

A number of states, such as Punjab, Rajasthan, Jharkhand and Himachal Pradesh, have moved to return to OPS in recent months.

Chhattisgarh goes to the polls next year.

The cabinet also decided to start a special scheme for the renovation of school buildings and approved the Chhattisgarh Gambling (Prohibition) Bill 2022.

Earlier this month, the Union government told the Lok Sabha there was no proposal being considered to restore the OPS and clarified that there were no

With PTI inputs

READ: Himachal CM seeks return of money deposited for NPS

ANANT AMBANI,
KARAN ADANI TO
BE PART OF MAHA
ADVISORY BODY

Surendra P Gangar

letters@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Reliance Industries Limited chairman Mukesh Ambani's son Anant Ambani and Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani's son Karan Adani have been appointed as members of the new Economic Advisory Council (EAC) of Maharashtra, according to the chief minister's office (CMO).

The council will be headed by Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran and comprise 21 members.

The CMO said Reliance Industries Limited executive director Anant Ambani will represent the power sector, while Adani Port chief executive officer Karan Adani will represent ports and special economic zones.

Hindustan Unilever Limited chairman and managing director Sanjiv Mehta (FMCG), Bain Capital managing director Amit Chandra (share capital from private industries), former chief executive office of National Stock Exchange Vikram Limaye (banking) are among the members of the council. "The EAC will play a key role in achieving the goal of a \$1-trillion economy. It will function as a private research body with a focus on issues related to agriculture, banking, engineering and education among others," deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis said in the legislative council on Thursday.



HSIIDC Announces e-Auction of Commercial Sites/ Towers

in IMT Faridabad and IMT Manesar

Tentative
e-Auction Date :
03.02.2023
(07:00 hrs. to 11:00 hrs)

Estate	Area (in sqm.)	FAR	Reserve Price per Sq. Mtrs (in Rs.)	EMD (in Rs.)	Google Coordinates Latitude	Longitude
Faridabad, Sec-67	8222	1.75	30150	1,23,94,665	28.306098	77.356555
Manesar, Phase-I, Sec-2	4032	4	169350	3,41,40,960	28.364238	76.937217
	8424	6	284150	11,96,83,980		

■ Opening of Registration/Deposit of EMD Date : **29.12.2022**

■ Closing of Registration/Deposit of EMD Date : **24.01.2023** (upto 23:59 hrs)

Registration and e-Auction Portal: www.hsiidc.bidx.in



Scan to Download Brochure

Haryana State Industrial & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited

Regd. Office: C-13 & 14, Sector-6, Panchkula, Ph. 0172-25904183,

E-mail: contactus@hsidc.org.in, Website: hsidc.org.in

No. 354/3/2018-NSM

Government of India

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

Advertisement for filling up of one post of Director General in National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE).

Application are invited from eligible candidates for filling up of one post of Director General, National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), an autonomous body under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India. Details are available on the website of the Ministry of New and Renewable at www.mnre.gov.in under 'Public Information'- current notices and may be accessed at mnre.gov.in/public-information/current-notice. The application in the prescribed proforma complete in all respect may be forwarded through proper channel and should reach the undersigned (Sh. Devendra Singh, Under Secretary, Room No. 507, Atal Akshay Urja Bhawan, Opp. CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003 within a period of 4 weeks (6 weeks for candidates residing in Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, Lahaul & Spiti District and Pangi Sub-division of Chamcha District of Himachal Pradesh, the UTs of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Andaman & Nicobar Island and Lakshadweep Island), from the date of publication of the advertisement for this post in the Employment News/Rozgar Samachar.

CBC 28101/11/0021/2223 Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-TENDERING TENDER NOTICE

Prayagraj Division

Dated: 29.12.2022

For & on behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer (C&W), Prayagraj, North Central Railway, Prayagraj invites OPEN E-Tenders in prescribed forms, from reputed contractors with adequate experience and financial capability for the under mentioned work up to 18.00 hrs. of date of opening of tender-

S N	E-Tender No.	Name of work	Tender System	Tender Value (₹)	EMD (₹)
1	GEM/2022/B/2916865 Dated 29.12.2022	Material Handling cleaning and Horticulture work at GMC	Two Packet System	13478255.76	217400

Cost of E-Tender form: Nil. Period of work: 02 Years. Date of publishing on GeM website: 29.12.2022. Date of opening of tender: 19.01.2023. Note- 1. The complete information along with tender booklet of above E-Tenders will be available/uploaded since Date of publishing on GeM website and shall be remained on website www.Gem.gov.in on the due date of tender opening. 2. Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with GeM website. 3. Document being attached should be signed by the tenderer. 4. E-Tender Forms shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers. 5. In case of any difficulty help desk available on the website of GeM may be approached. 6. Online E-Tender can be submitted on the due date of tender opening upto 18.00 Hrs. 1738/22 FA

North central railways @PRONCR @northcentralrailway www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

SEE SECTION U/S 82 Cr. PC.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Akram Chaoudhary S/o Sh. Amer Ahmad R/o RZ A-54/1 Sitapuri, Dabri, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR. No. 22/18 U/s 288/337/304A/34 IPC, P.S. Kirti Nagar, Delhi, and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused Akram Chaoudhary cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Akram Chaoudhary has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Akram Chaoudhary of case FIR. No. 22/18 U/s 288/337/304A/34 IPC, P.S. Kirti Nagar, Delhi, is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 27.03.2023.

By Order
SH. KAPIL KUMAR

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate- West Distt.
Room No. 146, First Floor,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research University
The First Pharmacy University in India
A STATE UNIVERSITY UNDER ORDER OF GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
Mehruli-Bastupur Road, Sector-1, Pushp Vihar, New Delhi-110091
website: <http://dpsru.edu.in>

RECRUITMENT NOTICE NO.: DPSRNUITS/2022/01
ADVERTISEMENT FOR VARIOUS NON TEACHING POSTS
(GROUP B & C MINISTERIAL & TECHNICAL)

Online Applications on the prescribed format are invited from eligible candidates for direct recruitment to the following Non-Teaching (Group B & C) positions as per details given below:
Category of posts: Group B & C (Ministerial & Technical)

S No.	Name of post	Pay Matrix Level	UR	EWS	OBSC	SC	ST	TOTAL	Pwd
1	Section Officer	Level-8, Rs.47600/-151100	1	-	-	-	-	1	
2	Assistant Section Officer	Level-7, Rs.44900/-142400	2	-	-	-	-	2	
3	Assistant Grade - II	Level-4, Rs.25500/-81100	3	-	-	-	-	3	
4	Office Assistant	Level-2, Rs.19900/-63200	6	1	3	1	1	12	1
5	Technical Assistant	Level-5, Rs.22000/-92300	4	-	-	-	-	5	
6	Lab Technician	Level-2, Rs.19900/-63200	3	-	1	-	-	4	
7	Lab Assistant	Level-2, Rs.19900/-63200	5	-	1	1	-	7	1
8	Sr. Lab Assistant	Level-4, Rs.25500/-81100	5	-	1	1	-	7	
9	Jr. Stereographer	Level-4, Rs.25500/-81100	1	-	1	-	-	2	
10	Store Keeper	Level-4, Rs.25500/-81100	1	-	-	-	-	1	
11	Assistant Store Keeper	Level-2, Rs.19900/-63200	1	-	-	-	-	1	
	Total		32	1	8	3	1	45	

Last date has been extended upto: 08.01.2023.

Notes:-
1. Pwd reservation will be as per prevalent rules.
2. The number of posts advertised is indicative and the University reserves the right not to fill up any post and may decrease or increase the number of posts.

3. Upper age limit for sr. no. 162 is 35 years and for sr. no. 3,4,5,6,7,8,10 & 11 is 30 years and for sr. no. 9 is 27 years.

Qualifications:-
The online application form and other relevant details regarding educational qualifications, experience, Short-listing criteria, terms and conditions of appointment, relevance of degree, reservation policy, etc. required for various Non-Teaching posts advertised are available on University website: <http://dpsru.edu.in>

Registrar

Notice for Expression of Interest (EOI)

Notice for Construction of New Freight Terminals under

Gati Shakti Multi-Modal Cargo Terminal Policy (Greenfield project) at

Bareth (BT) Station of Bhopal Division, West Central Railway

The President of India acting through Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, West Central Railway, Bhopal Division, invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from interested Transporters, Logistics Service Providers, Infrastructure Developers, to construct New Freight Terminals at Bareth station under Gati Shakti Multi-Modal Cargo Terminal Policy (Greenfield project) under GCT Policy issued by Railway Board vide master circular letter No. 2021/TC(FM)/18/23, Dated 06.12.2022 which is available for download through following web address:-

https://indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/uploads/directorate/traffic_comm/Freight_Marketing_2022/GCT%20-2022.pdf

1. The proposal(s) for terminal(s) along with the idea of work execution and detailed estimate of the work may be submitted to the office of Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Bhopal in following Category:

Development of Gati Shakti Multi-Modal Cargo terminals.

2. Submission of the EOI: Up to 19.01.2023.

Notice of EOI containing details can be downloaded from website: <http://wcr.indianrailways.gov.in>.

Contact No.: M.S. Farooqui, CCI/Goods, Ph.- 9407504661

For Div. Rly. Manager(C), Bhopal

**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय,
भवन प्रमण्डल किशनगंज।
भवन निमाण विभाग**

Email Id- ee.bcd.kishanganj@gmail.com

—निविदा रद्दकरण सूचना—

सभी संवेदकों सूचित किया जाता है कि इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक-1712 दिनांक-17.11.2022 द्वारा आमंत्रित पुर्ण ई० निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या-15/2022-2023 है जिसका पी०आर०स०-10734 (BCD) / 2022-23 जो विभिन्न दैनिक समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित हुई है। C.W.J.C No-9941/2022 विहार संवेदक संघ बनाम किशनगंज सरकार एवं अन्य में दिनांक-21.12.2022 को माननीय उच्च न्यायालय पटना के द्वारा पारित न्यायादेश के अनुपालन में निविदा रद्द की जाती है। निविदा आमंत्रण की सूचना अलग से प्रकाशित की जाएगी।

कार्य का नाम :- 1 Construction of Proposed 100 Bedded Boy's Hostel (G+3) Model Plan-A SAI and SAG Ceneter Kishanganj (with Electrification) का निर्माण कार्य।

शेष सभी शर्तें यथावत् रहेगा।

**कार्यपालक अभियंता
भवन प्रमण्डल, किशनगंज।**

PR- 12609 (B C D) 2022-23

नशे से बचानी दूरी है, खांसी की परिवार जल्दी है।

CENTRAL ORGANISATION FOR RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION
1, NAWAB YUSUF ROAD, CIVIL LINES, PRAYAGRAJ-211001
FAX: 0522-2407692, www.core.indianrailways.gov.in

No. RE/Tender/Civil/523 Date: 29.12.2022

E-Tender Notice

Dy Chief Engineer, CORE, Prayagraj acting on behalf of President of India invites e-tender for following work.

Name of Work- Extension of Existing AC hall of Railway Electrification Officers Club and associated ancillary works situated near Balmiki Chauraha, Prayagraj.

1. Completion Period: 6 Months

2. Approximate Cost of the work: Rs. 51,16,764.83

3. Tender Document Cost: Rs. 0.00

4. Earnest money to be deposited: Rs. 1,02,300.00

5. Submission/Opening of tender: 20/01/2023 Upto 15:00 Hours for submission of tender through www.reps.gov.in and the Tender shall be opened online using IREPS portal any time after closing of tender.

6. Website particulars: www.reps.gov.in (Where details have been uploaded).

7. Office address: Office of PCE/CORE, 1 Nawab Yusuf Road, Civil Lines, Prayagraj

NOTE: Only E-Bid shall be accepted against above tender.

DY. CHIEF ENGINEER
CORE/PRAYAGRAJ
No.: PR-318/2022 (Kaka) FOR & ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT OF INDIA

Serving Customers with a Smile

जल संसाधन विभाग
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
बाढ़ नियंत्रण प्रमण्डल, किटिहार

अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या -06SBD/2022-23
(राष्ट्रीय/राजकीय स्पष्टी)

(केवल ई-टेक्सर पद्धति के अनुसार वेबसाइट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)

1. कार्य का विवरण -						
सु. सं.	कार्य का नाम	प्राकलित राशि (लाख रु. में)	अधिन की राशि (लाख रु. में)	परिमाण - विषय का मूल्य (अप्राप्तप्राप्तीय) (लाईन अंत में नमूने को तोड़कर मूल्य)	बेल्टेन को देय विषय प्राप्तरिता परी (अप्राप्तप्राप्तीय) (लाईन अंत में नमूने को तोड़कर मूल्य)	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
01.	लामा औंकिया पहाड़पुर महानदा दायीं तरबे के विषयों 9.80 के लिए निकट ग्राम लखनपुर का सुरक्षाकार एवं कटाव नियोजक कार्य।	356.95	7.14	10000.00	5900.00	15.05.2023
2.	निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना करने की तिथि : दिनांक -27.12.2022					
3.	निविदा कानूनीत डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने : दिनांक-07.01.2023 से दिनांक-12.01.2023 के 3.00 बजे अपराह्न की अवधि					
4.	प्री-विड मीटिंग का समय, रात्रि एवं तिथि : दिनांक-10.01.2023 04.00 बजे अपराह्न 6.00 में, मुख्य अभियंता, बाढ़ नियंत्रण एवं जल संसाधन विभाग, किटिहार।					
5.	तकनीकी बीड़ खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक-14.01.2023 समय 3.30 बजे अपराह्न। (सिर्फ वेबसाइट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)					
6.	वित्तीय बीड़ खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : समय परिवर्तनकरी द्वारा बाढ़ में घोषित की जाएगी। (सिर्फ वेबसाइट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)					
7.	निविदा खोलने का स्थान : दिनांक-10.01.2023 04.00 बजे अपराह्न।					
8.	निविदा की वैतान अवधि : 120 दिन					
9.	विज्ञानदाता का पदनाम एवं पता : कार्यपालक अभियंता, बाढ़ नियंत्रण प्रमण्डल, किटिहार					
	विशेष जानकारी प्राप्त करने हेतु वेबसाइट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in एवं state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर देखी जा सकती है।					
	कार्यपालक अभियंता, बाढ़ नियंत्रण प्रमण्डल, किटिहार					
	मो०-7463889238					
	PR No.12685(WRD) 2022-23					
	नोबल कोरेन के सबसे अचूक वित्तीय सेवा योग्य है।					
	Toll Free No.: 104 पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं।					

नोबल कोरेन के सबसे अचूक वित्तीय सेवा योग्य है।

24x7 Toll Free No.: **104** पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं।

Office of the Collector & District Magistrate: F-418

JAGATSINGHPUR
No. 19626 // Dt. 27.12.2022 //

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Collector & District Magistrate,Jagatsinghpur ("CLIENT") invites sealed proposal from all interested Bidder/s for " Selection of Agency for Providing Comprehensive Facility Management Services(CFMS)" at Special Circuit House, Paradeep.

A. Indicative scope :

B. The broad scope of services required through this RFP ,shall be inter alia as indicated below:-

(a) Housekeeping and cleaning services.

(b) Security services & parking Management.

(c) Landscaping & Garden & Lawn maintenance.

(d) Help Desk & Reception services.

(e) Catering services(paid)

(f) Pest control

(g) Reporting and complaint Management and

(h) Co-ordination with other service providers

(i) Minor repair of electrical & PHED fittings.

(j) AMC of all electronic items

(k) Laundry service(Paid)

A. Contact period:-3 years.

B. Bid processing fee(INR).....Rs.10,000/-

Earnest Money Deposit (INR) : Bid security declaration as per Form-T6 of RFP document

The RFP document can be downloaded from the district website <https://jagatsinghpur.nic.in>. To

clarify the queries of the Bidder/s received through E-mail, a pre-bidding meeting is scheduled to

be held in the Sadabhabana Sabagrha,Collectorate,Jagatsinghpur at 4.30 P.M. on 17.01.2023.

All the details will be provided as required by the intended Bidder. Fully completed proposal along

with other prerequisite documents in support of eligibility criteria and the required information as

per formats should be submitted through Registered Post/Speed Post/Courier and must reach

the office of the Collector & District Magistrate,Jagatsinghpur by 5 P.M. of date 31.01.2023, as

specified in the critical date sheet below. For details , please refer the RFP document.

Additional information related to Special Circuit House, Paradeep will be facilitated by this office

through site visit.

C. Important Dates

1. Last date & Time for submission of Pre-Bid queries 09.01.2023 at 5 P.M.

2. Pre Bid meeting date & Time 17.01.2023 at 4 P.M.

3. Upload of Pre-Bid Clarification Date & Time 20.01.2023 at 5 P.M.

4. Last date & Time of submission of Bid 31.01.2023 at 5 P.M.

5. Technical Bid opening Date & Time 01.02.2023 at 4 P.M.

6. Financial Bid opening Date & Time 14.02.2023 at 4 P.M.

D. Contact Person :-

* Asst. Collector,Nizarat,Collectorate,Jagatsinghpur- Rajesh Kumar Sahoo,ORS.

* Email: admjs.pd@nic.in

* Contact No. 06724-220147

* Venue Sadabhabana Sabagrha, Collectorate, Jagatsinghpur

Collector & District Magistrate Jagatsinghpur

OIPR - 24275/11/0006/2223

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, मनियारी जल संसाधन संभाग, मुंगेली जिला- मुंगेली (छ.ग.)

निविदा निरस्तीकरण आदेश

पत्र क्रमांक...../व.ल.स./2022-23 मुंगेली, दिनांक नार्थ अभियंता, जल संसाधन विभाग, शिवाय अभियंता, सेक्टर-19 नार्थ ब्लॉक, अटल नगर नवा रायपुर द्वारा दिये गये निर्देशनांसार इस कार्यालय के निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना क्र.12/व.ल.लि./2022-23 दिनांक 21.10.2022, सिस्टम नं. 112271 (प्रयम आमंत्रण), 16/व.ल.लि./2022-23 दिनांक 25.11.2022, सिस्टम नं. 115495 (द्वितीय आमंत्रण) एवं 14/व.ल.लि./2022-23 दिनांक 21.11.2022, सिस्टम नं. 114756 (प्रयम आमंत्रण) को निविदाओं में एकल निविदा एवं प्रतिवर्षीय निविदाकारों की संख्या निरक्षित होने के अनुसर उत्तर निविदाओं को "निरस्त" किया जाता है।

जी.नं.-95279, दिनांक 27.10.2022

जी.नं.-96162, दिनांक 29.11.2022

जी.नं.-95943, दिनांक 22.11.2022

कार्यपालक अभियंता
मनियारी जल संसाधन संभाग,
मुंगेली, जिला- मुंगेली (छ.ग.)

G-97106/3

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE B-101

Bid Identification No. CE-DPI & R-37/2022-23

1. The Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE form eligible contractors for Road work as mentioned below:

2. Nature of work : Road works

3. No. of work : 21 Nos.

4. Tender Paper cost : Rs.10,000.00

5. Class of Contractor : A' Class/Special Class/Super Class

6. Available of bid document in the website : From 10.00 A.M. of 12.



Vice-president of Bihar BJP quits

PATNA: Bihar Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) vice-president and media-in-charge Rajiv Ranjan signed from his post and primary membership of the party, alleging the party is not following the "vision" of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The BJP reacted quickly by suspending him from the primary membership for six years "for pursuing an anti-party stance."

1.5k stranded tourists rescued

SHIMLA: At least 1,500 tourists, stranded in more than 400 vehicles due to snowfall, were rescued from the South Portal of 9.02-km long Atal Tunnel at Rohtang Pass in Himachal Pradesh during an overnight operation, police said on Friday.

TUNISHA DEATH:
COURT EXTENDS SHEEZAN KHAN'S POLICE CUSTODY

Megha Sood

letters@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: A Vasai court on Friday extended the police custody of actor Sheezan Khan, arrested for allegedly abetting the suicide of his co-actor Tunisha Sharma, by one day.

According to the remand application submitted by Waliv police, a copy of which HT has seen, Khan was not cooperating during the probe and was reluctant to reveal details of the conversation he had with the deceased 15 minutes before her death.

Khan's lawyer, Sharad Rai, opposed the plea, contending that police had no evidence against his client.

Meanwhile, Tunisha's mother Vanita and uncle Pawan told reporters that they want police to investigate if the actor was murdered. "Khan was forcing her to wear a hijab and learn Urdu. My daughter was naive and had obsessive compulsive disorder. Khan knew she was fragile but still cheated on her," Vanita said.

Woman raped, forced to marry accused: Cops

Shruti Tomar

letters@hindustantimes.com

BHOPAL/SHIVPURI: A 20-year-old woman was allegedly abducted, raped and forced to marry the accused in Madhya Pradesh's Shivpuri district, police said on Friday.

So far, 10 people have been booked in the matter. They are absconding and efforts are on to trace them, police added.

In her complaint, police said, the survivor alleged that the accused, Rahul Karn, raped her in July 2019, made a video of the incident and blackmailed her against approaching the police.

The woman alleged that last month, the accused abducted her from her house and took her to Bhopal where he again raped her while his family members assaulted her. She said Karn even forcibly married her in a temple.

"The woman said she was raped by Karn in July 2019. Karn's mother was ill and he called her to his house for help. When she reached there, Karn raped her. He also shot a video of the incident and blackmailed her," Shivpuri

superintendent of police (SP) Rajesh Chandel said.

"On November 4 this year, the woman said she was abducted from her house by Karn and his relatives Dinesh Kushwaha and Rakesh Kushwaha. Karn took her to Bhopal to his relative's house where she was thrashed by his family members and raped by Karn," he added.

Another officer said the woman's family did not file any missing complaint, assuming she voluntarily went with Karn.

"But after failing to get any information about her, they travelled to Bhopal to meet her. The woman then shared her ordeal; She returned with her family to Shivpuri on Wednesday and filed a complaint on Thursday," the officer said, seeking anonymity.

Based on the woman's complaint, 10 people have been booked under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (since she was a minor in 2019) Act and various sections of Indian Penal Code, the officer said.

(with inputs from Ranjeet Gupta from Shivpuri)

ASSAM TEACHER, STUDENTS HELD FOR VANDALISM

Biswa Kalyan Purkayastha

letters@hindustantimes.com

SILCHAR: A teacher and nine students of senior secondary school in Assam's Karimganj district have been arrested for allegedly vandalising a fellow student's property and assaulting his family, police said on Friday. Two minors have also been detained in this regard, they said.

In his complaint, Nihar Debnath said that his 12-year-old son was slapped by the teacher at the school in Patharkandi more than 30 times last week after he objected to a decision that students can visit the toilet only twice during school hours. "He is in hospital," Debnath said.

"After I filed a police complaint, some teachers threatened me. On Saturday, a group of students arrived at my shop and began vandalising it. My wife and two daughters were molested after they tried to protest," he said.

"Except the two minor boys, all have been arrested. The minors are being treated under juvenile proceedings," a senior police officer said.

बिहार सरकार

कार्यालय कार्यपालक अभियंता (योग्यिक),
सिंचाई योग्यिक प्रमण्डल, वाल्मीकिनगर, (पश्चिमी चम्पारण)

शुद्धि पत्र

सिंचाई योग्यिक प्रमण्डल, वाल्मीकिनगर के अति अल्पकालिन निवादा सूचना संख्या—02SBD/2022-2023 (PR-1237WRD2022-2023) के निवादा शर्त के केंद्रिक 15 (संसोधित) संयुक्त सचिव (अधिकारीय) जल संसाधन विभाग पटना के पत्रांक—915 दिनांक 24.12.2022 आलोक में निवादा की दर मान्य होगा। कार्यपालक अभियंता (योग्यिक),
सिंचाई योग्यिक प्रमण्डल, वाल्मीकिनगर

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority

First Floor, Commercial Complex, Sector Omega 1 (P-2), Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201308

Toll Free No.: 180018296, Website: www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com

Reference No. YEIDA/ SYSTEM/192774/2023

Dated: 30.12.2022

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Selection of Consultant for Development and Implementation of Building Plan Management System for YEIDA

Detailed RFP document is available on the E-Procurement Portal of Government of UP [<https://etender.up.nic.in/>] and Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority's website [<http://www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com>] from 02.01.2023, 16.00 hrs. (IST). The authority seeks Selection of Agency for development and Implementation of Building Plan Management System for YEIDA.

Interested Applicants are required to submit their proposal online on the E-procurement website on or before 23.01.2023, 17.00 hrs. (IST) as per clause 3.7 of the RFP document. In case of any queries, the Bidders are invited to contact on the following email id and number as per the clause 3.7.13 and 3.9.7 of the RFP.

Email: mgrsystem@yamunaexpresswayauthority.com, yeidatenders@gmail.com

AGM, System Department, YEIDA

केन्द्रीय सूचना आयोग

Central Information Commission

बाबा गंगनाथ मार्ग/Baba Gangnath Marg

मुनिरका/Munirka, नई दिल्ली-110067/New Delhi-110067

Dated:- 09.12.2022

NOTICE

The Central Information Commission proposes to prepare a panel for engagement as Legal Consultant on contract basis.

2. **Eligibility Conditions:-** (a) Law Graduate from a recognized University with minimum 50% marks. (b) Qualified in All India Bar Examination (c) Minimum of one year of Work experience in courts, judicial or quasi-judicial authorities. (d) Professional legal skills in drafting submissions, proficiency in language. (e) Working knowledge of MS Office, computer handling & internet browsing. Age Limit: Must not have attained the age of 35 years as on the last date for receipt of applications as per the Advertisement/Notice.

3. The selected candidates will be paid a consolidated amount of fee/remuneration of Rs. 40,000/- fixed per month. An increment of Rs. 5000/- will be considered after one year subject to satisfactory performance of the individual. Method of Selection: the shortlisted candidates will be examined/interviewed by a Selection Committee constituted for this purpose, whose decision will be final and binding. No correspondence in this regard will be entertained. Intimation shall be sent only to the selected candidates. A panel will be formed of candidates who qualify the interview and would be engaged on the basis of requirement of the Commission.

4. The detailed advertisement and terms and conditions of engagement are available on the website of the Commission (<https://cic.gov.in>). Interested candidates may submit their application in the enclosed format as per Annexure-I (available on the website) along with self attested photocopies of the requisite certificates in a sealed cover super-scripted "Selection for preparation of Panel for Legal Consultants in CIC" addressed to Deputy Secretary (Admn), Central Information Commission, Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka, New Delhi-110067. The application should reach within 30 days from the date of publication of advertisement in the Employment News. Applications which are not made in the format as per Annexure-I, incomplete or not received in time will be summarily rejected.

एस.के. रब्बनी/S.K. RABBANI
उप सचिव/Deputy Secretary

केन्द्रीय सूचना आयोग

Central Information Commission

बाबा गंगनाथ मार्ग, मुनिरका, नई दिल्ली

Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka, New Delhi

CBC 50101/11/0013/2223

No. 1/1/2019-M.II

Government of India

Ministry of Mines

Appointment of Director General, Geological Survey of India, (GSI) at Kolkata.

Applications are invited, for appointment to the post of Director General in Geological Survey of India at Central Headquarters, Kolkata on deputation basis.

2. The mode of recruitment to the post is 'Deputation' in level- 17 in pay matrix (Rs. 2,25,000). Officers under the Central Government or State Governments or Union territories or Public Sector Undertakings or recognised research institutions or Universities or semi-Government or statutory or autonomous organization:

(a) (i) holding analogous post on regular basis in the parent cadre or Department. or

(ii) With one year service in the grade rendered after appointment their on a regular basis in level-16 of the pay matrix, or equivalent.

or

(iii) With two years' service in the grade rendered after appointment thereto on regular basis in the level-15 of the pay matrix or equivalent, And

(b) Possessing the following educational qualifications and experience:

Essential

(1) Master of Science in Geological Science or Master of Science (Technology) Geology or Master of Science in Geology or Integrated Master of Science in Applied Geology or Master of Technology (Geo-Exploration) or Master of Technology (Engineering Geology) or Master of Science (Marine Geology) or Master of Science in Earth Science and Resource Management or Master of Science in Oceanography and Coastal Areas Studies or Master of Science in Petroleum Geosciences course or Master of Science in Geochemistry from a recognized University OR

Master of Science in Physics or Applied Physics or Master of Science in Geophysics or Integrated Master of Science in Exploration Geophysics or Master of Science in Marine Geophysics or Master of Science (Tech.) in Applied Geophysics from a recognized university and

(ii) Having thirty years' of experience in Group A post in mineral targeting, Marine Geophysics, Airborne Geophysics including research and development in the fields specified above of which ten years shall be in a supervisory capacity. OR

Having thirty years of experience group 'A' post in Geophysical mapping, Geophysical Exploration for mineral targeting, Marine Geophysics, Airborne Geophysics including Research and Development activities in the field specified above of which ten years should be in a supervisory capacity.

Please visit website www.mines.nic.in and www.gsi.gov.in for detailed advertisement. The application, through proper channel should reach at the following address within 60 days from the date of publication of the advertisement in the Employment News.

DIRECTOR, MINES-II

ROOM NO. 310D

MINISTRY OF MINES, SHASTRI BHAWAN,

NEW DELHI -110001

EMAIL ID: amit.saran@nic.in

TELE FAX: - 011-23388345

CBC 26104/11/0002/2223

IndianOil
CIN-L 23201 MH 1959 GOI 011388

Requirement of Land for Retail Outlet (Petrol/Diesel Pump) in NCT/NCR

IndianOil is looking for suitable plot to be taken anywhere in Delhi NCR for development of ONE Retail Outlet (Petrol Pump).

Sealed offers are invited from interested parties holding valid and clear marketable title of land for transfer of plot by way of outright sale OR long lease (minimum for 19 years & 11 months with renewal option) to Indian Oil Corporation Limited for setting a Retail Outlet.

Interested Candidates can download application & guidelines from <https://spandar.indianoil.co.in/BPS/ HomePage.jsp>. Filled application form with all necessary documents as mentioned in application form must be submitted at the address as mentioned in the NIT or before the closing date and time. Corrigendum, if any shall also be published in the same website.

Contact Person: General Manager (Retail Sales), Delhi State Office, Tel No. 011-46364408, E-Mail: anupamh@indianoil.in. Last date for submission of bid is 30.01.2023 by 1700 Hrs. Offers received after the due date and time will not be considered. The offers submitted should be valid for a period of 150 days from the due date or such extended period as may be mutually accepted.

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE MISSION DIRECTOR
STATE BAMBOO DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
Udyog Bhawan, Bamunimaidam,
Guwahati-781021
Email id: sbda.assam@gmail.com
Website: [https://sbda.assam.gov.in](http://sbda.assam.gov.in)

No. SBM/ADB/37/2022/253
Addendum No. 1
Ref: No. SBM/ADB/37/2022/252 dated 22/12/2022
Reference to "Short e-Procurement Notice Inviting Expression of Interest for preparation of Detailed Project Report for setting up of an integrated Bamboo Park in Assam" which was published in the www.assamtenders.gov.in on 26/12/2022; the following addendum is made to the Notice :
Pre Bid Meeting : A pre bid meeting will be held on 12th January at 03:00 PM in the conference hall of the Commissioner of Industries and Commerce at the ground floor of Udyog Bhawan, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-21.
Sd/-
Mission Director
State Bamboo Development Agency, Assam
Bamunimaidam, Guwahati — 781021
Janasanyog /CF/3692/22

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified person whose name, residence and family is unknown, about 30-35 years of age, was found dead in front of Factory no. H-1272, DSIIDC, Narela, Delhi on 27.12.2022 at 11:55 AM. In this regard **FIR No. 968/2022, dated 27.12.2022**, has been registered at **P.S. Narela Industrial Area, Delhi**. The description of the UIDB is as under:
Sex: Male, Age: About 30-35 years, Height: 5'9", Complexion: Sallow, Injury Marks: Left side of face and right forearm, Wearing: Red, black, grey colour lined jersey and grey pant. If anyone has any information about this UIDB, kindly inform the SHO/Narela Industrial Area, Delhi.

SHO
P.S. Narela Industrial Area, Delhi
Ph. No.: 7065036324
DP/4314/ON/2022 E-mail: sho.narelaindarea@delhipolice.gov.in

No. Admn/10/2022-NRA
Government of India
National Recruitment Agency (NRA)
(An autonomous Body set up under DoPT)
4th Floor, Tower-II, Jeevan Bharti Building,
Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001

National Recruitment Agency (NRA), an autonomous body set up under Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT), Government of India invites applications vide Advertisement No. Admn/10/2022-NRA dated 22.12.2

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER NIRMAN MANDAL (E/M),
U.P. JAL NIGAM (URBAN), Ghaziabad
Add. C-8, Jal Nigam Colony, RDC,
Rajnagar, Ghaziabad-201002
Email:seemgb01@gmail.com

Date 30.12.2022

Short Term e-Tender Notice

E-Tender for "Supply & Supervision till commissioning and Trial Run of Gaseous Chlorination System with EOT and Electrical works at 70 MLD STP Dundahera, 56 MLD STP Indirapuram, 1.76 MLD STP Anupshahar & 0.81 MLD STP Anupshahar under Major Replacement Fund in Distt. Ghaziabad & Bulandshahar", is invited by U.P. Jal Nigam (Urban) that shall be downloaded and uploaded at e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> from 06.01.2023 at 13:00 hrs. onwards to 06.02.2023 at 17:00 hrs. E-tender shall be open on 07.02.2023 at 15:00 hrs. onwards at office of the Superintending Engineer, Nirman Mandal (E/M) U.P. Jal Nigam (Urban), Ghaziabad. The cost of tender document is 10,000+18% GST. All other conditions shall be as per NIT and tender document.



UJVN LIMITED

(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprise)
H.O. "UJJAWAL" MAHARANI BAGH, GMS ROAD, DEHRADUN - 248006, CIN No. U40101UR2001SCG025866
Tele.: 0135-2763508, 2763808, Fax: 0135-2763507, website: www.ujvn.com

No. 971

Public Notice

Date: 29.12.2022

Inviting Comments on Petitions filed by UJVN Ltd. before the Hon'ble Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory (Hon'ble Commission) for Truing-up of FY 2021-22, Annual Performance Review for FY 2022-23 and determination of Annual Fixed Charges for FY 2023-24 for its 10 Large Hydro Generating Stations.

Salient Points of the AFC/Tariff Petition

1. UJVN Ltd., a Government owned generating company, has filed the Petitions for the determination of Generation Tariff for the FY 2023-24 & Annual Performance Review of FY 2022-23 for its 10 Large Hydro Generating Stations before the Hon'ble Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission. Through the above Petitions, UJVN Ltd. has also proposed Truing up of its expenses for FY 2021-22 for its 10 Large Hydro Generating Stations & Maneri Bhali-II HEP. The salient features of the Tariff Petitions filed by UJVN Ltd. for its 10 Large Hydro Generating Stations are given in the Table below:

(Annual Fixed Charges) (₹ Crore)

Station	FY 2021-22 (True-up)		FY 2022-23 (APR)		FY 2023-24 (AFC)	
	Approved (T.O. dt. 26.04.2021)	Claimed	Approved (T.O. dt. 31.03.2022)	Estimated by UJVN Ltd.	Approved (T.O. dt. 31.03.2022)	Claimed
Dhakrani	32.07	28.41	30.53	34.80	28.89	41.64
Dhalipur	32.79	30.94	33.69	42.86	41.20	57.37
Chibro	89.92	94.53	96.60	105.11	100.94	125.39
Khodri	49.53	51.66	53.97	59.79	56.13	67.73
Kulhal	25.39	26.66	27.25	30.39	28.89	35.42
Ramganga	58.05	59.70	55.09	64.39	57.68	76.20
Chilla	77.35	87.52	76.94	96.05	85.30	113.66
MB-I	59.67	71.80	75.84	89.92	88.21	108.56
Khatima	44.78	45.76	45.16	48.20	45.40	51.61
MB-II	209.55	220.29	214.29	219.07	213.05	222.23
Total	679.11	717.27	709.36	790.58	745.69	899.81

1. UJVN Ltd. has computed Gap of ₹46.60 Crore which includes the impact of carrying cost (excluding the gap of HPSB) by working out the difference of AFC claimed now vis-a-vis actual revenue collected in FY 2021-22.
2. UJVN Ltd. has proposed an increase of about 26.85% for FY 2023-24 (with respect to approved tariff for FY 2022-23). In case, the entire claim of UJVN Ltd. is accepted by the Hon'ble Commission, an additional hike of around 2.43% in consumer tariff shall be required over and above the hike proposed by UPCL.
3. Detailed proposals as submitted by UJVN Ltd. can be seen free of cost on any working day in the Hon'ble Commission's office or at the office of UJVN Ltd., "UJJWAL", Maharanji Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun. Relevant extracts can also be obtained from the above-mentioned office of UJVN Ltd.
4. The proposals filed by UJVN Ltd. are also available at the website of the Hon'ble Commission (www.uerc.gov.in) and at the UJVN Ltd.'s website (www.ujvn.com).
5. Objections/suggestions are invited from the consumers and other stakeholders on the above proposals. These may be sent to the Secretary, Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission, either in person, or by post at 'Vidyal Niyamak Bhawan', Near I.S.B.T., P.O. Majra, Dehradun-248171 or through e-mail to secy.uerc@gov.in as a statement of objections or comments with copies of the documents and evidence in support thereof so as to reach the Secretary by 31.01.2023.

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

Office of the Superintending Engineer 12th Circle P.W.D.Pauri

Fax & Phone No. 01368-222322, E-mail-sepwdpauricircle@gmail.com

Letter No: 6561/141 Yata-12/2022-23

Dated: 30.12.2022

Short Term (E-Tendering)

Superintending Engineer, 12th Circle, Public Works Department Pauri on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand" invites item rate e-tender (two bid system) under Scheme of Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2022-23. For further details please log on to <http://www.uktenders.gov.in> from 05.01.2023.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Earnest Money (in Lakh Rs.)	Cost of Tender (in Rs.)	Validity of Tender	Time of Completion in Month	Contractor's Category of Registration	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Renewal of different motor road in kotdwara constituency with B.C 1. Haldukhata- Karnaswaram motor road, 2 Ratanpur- Sukho-Devi road motor road, 3 From Narendra singh bhandari house to DAV college motor road, 4 Motor road upto eastern cutting of oldage house, 5 Motor road from eastern Jhandichaur to Kishanpur, 6 Motor road from Kalaghati to oldage house, 7 Motor road from Jhandichaur to eastern Jhandichaur, 8 Gandriyakhal- lokmanipur motor road, 9 Nimbuichaur to Khonibad motor road, 10 Tehsil Triway to Balaji mandir motor road, 11 From Mawakot head road to towards east, 12 Ratanpur- Shibu Nagar motor road, 13 From Devi road towards south, 14 Different connecting roads in Umraonagar (Total Length 18.12 Km) (CD Dugadda)	10.60	5000.00 +18% G.S.T.	120 Days	02	Category A/A+ for Road works in State/ Central Govt./undertaking.							
2.	Providing and erecting crash barrier and cautionary sign board from Km 1 to 75 and 115 to 140 in late Jagmohan Singh negi(SH-9) motor road for road safety work of kotdwara constituency (CD Dugadda)	13.00	5000.00 +18% G.S.T.	120 Days	02	Category A/A+ for Road works in State/ Central Govt./undertaking.							
3.	Renewal by BC in Late Shri Geetaram Pokhrayal Motor Road (Marchula-Saraikhet-Bajiro-Pokhada- Satpuli) Motor Road, State Highway -32 in Km 99 to 115, 131 to 144 of Chauhattakhal constituency (Length Km 30.00) (CD Bajiro)	23.00	5000.00 +18% G.S.T.	120 Days	02	Category A/A+ for Road works in State/ Central Govt./undertaking.							
4.	Renewal by BC in Thalisain- Bungidhar- Deghat- Jaina- Manila- Dountial- Marchula- Motor Road; State Highway -52 in Km 4 to 13, Km 38 to 43 of Srinagar constituency (Length Km 16.00) (CD Bajiro)	11.50	5000.00 +18% G.S.T.	120 Days	02	Category A/A+ for Road works in State/ Central Govt./undertaking.							
5.	Road Safety works and Renewal by BC in Marchula Sariakhet Bajiro Pokhara Satpuli Pauri Motor Road (SH- 32) km 155 to 161, 164 to 169, 178 to 180 and 183 to 190 of Chauhattakhal constituency (Total Length 24.00 Km) (CD Pabau)	19.20	5000.00 +18% G.S.T.	120 Days	02	Category A/A+ for Road works in State/ Central Govt./undertaking.							
6.	Road Safety works and Renewal by BC in Chauhattakhal constituency (A)Satpuli Ekeshwar motor road in km 1,2,3,4,13,15,18 (Total Lenth 7.00 Km) (B)Jandadevi-Mardha-Syoli-Andkhil motor road in km 0.600.2,3,4,5,6,4 (Total Lenth 5.50 Km) (C) Berikhali-Bacheli-Mondadi-Bagyal Motor road in km 1 to 5, km 7,500, km 9 to 15 (Total Lenth 12.500 Km) (CD Pabau)	11.15	5000.00 +18% G.S.T.	120 Days	02	Category A/A+ for Road works in State/ Central Govt./undertaking.							
7.	Road Safety works and Renewal by PC in Chauhattakhal constituency (A) Shrikotkhal-rihakhal motor road in km 1 to 4 (Total Lenth 4.00 Km) (B)Jandadevi-Mardha-Syoli-Andkhil motor road in km 0.600.2,3,4,5,6,4 (Total Lenth 5.50 Km) (C) Berikhali-Bacheli-Mondadi-Bagyal Motor road in km 1 to 5, km 7,500, km 9 to 15 (Total Lenth 12.500 Km) (CD Pabau)	10.03	5000.00 +18% G.S.T.	120 Days	02	Category A/A+ for Road works in State/ Central Govt./undertaking.							
8.	Road Safety works and Renewal by PC in Srinagar constituency (A)Karnprya Noti Paithani MR SH-34 in km 68 to 72 (Total Lenth 5.00 Km) (B)Godikyakhal Bishalt Chopdiyu MR in km 4 to 13 (Total Lenth 10.00 Km) (C)Paithani Bareth MR in km 7 to 12 (Total Lenth 5.00 Km) (D)Chopdiyu Sama Bhaggoun MR in 3 to 7 (Total Lenth 5.00 Km) (CD Pabau)	11.50	5000.00 +18% G.S.T.	120 Days	02	Category A/A+ for Road works in State/ Central Govt./undertaking.							

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL OF INDIA

9, DEEN DAYAL UPADHYAYA MARG,
NEW DELHI - 110 002

Empanelment of Chartered Accountant firms/LLPs for the year 2023-2024

Online Applications are invited from Chartered Accountant firms/LLPs who desire to be empanelled with the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 2023-2024 for considering for appointment as auditors of Companies as per Sections 139(5) and 139(7) of the Companies Act 2013 and of Statutory Corporations/Autonomous Bodies as per the provisions of their respective Acts. Online application form along with detailed instructions in this regard will be available on the website www.cag.gov.in from 06 January 2023 to 15 February 2023. The applicant firms/LLPs will have to fill/update the data showing the status of their firm as on 1 January 2023. After filling/updating the data, the firms/LLPs will be required to generate online acknowledgement letter for the year. If the firms/LLPs fail to generate online acknowledgement letter, their application would not be considered for empanelment. The firms/LLPs will be required to submit a print out of the acknowledgement letter generated online and also hard copies of the documents in support of their online application to this office by 28 February 2023.

Sd/-
CBC 51101/11/0009/2223

Sr. Administrative Officer/CA-V

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंत
जल संसाधन संभाग-बेमतरा, बेमतरा (छ.ग.)
दूरभाष/फैक्स क्र. 07824-222268
E-mail : eewr_Bemetara@rediffmail.com

-:: निविदा निरस्तीकरण सूचना ::-

इस संभाग द्वारा जारी निम्नलिखित कार्यों का निविदा आमंत्रण में किसी भी निविदाकर द्वारा निविदा आमंत्रण में भाग नहीं लेने के कारण निविदा निरस्त की जाती है।

सं. कार्य का नाम	सिस्टम क्रमांक	एन.आई.टी. नम्बर	राशि रु. लाख में
1 CONSTRUCTION OF MANGLORE BANK PROTECTION SCHEME	114449	07/SAC/ Dt. 21.11.2022	Rs. 281.60 Lakhs
2 DEVKAR BANK PROTECTION SCHEME	114451	09/SAC/ Dt. 21.11.2022	Rs. 459.57 Lakhs
3 RENOVATION OF HEAD WORK, REMODELLING AND C.C. LINING OF BOTAKA TANK SCHEME	114453	11/SAC/ Dt. 21.11.2022	Rs. 193.01 Lakhs

DMK LEADER DID NOT DIE OF HEART ATTACK, 5 HELD FOR MURDER: POLICE

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

CHENNAI: The police on Friday arrested five people in connection with the murder of former DMK MP D Masthan, who was earlier believed to have died of a heart attack, officials familiar with the matter said, adding that the accused include the victim's relatives.

On December 22, Masthan was said to have allegedly died due to heart attack while travelling in a car towards Tiruchi. However, suspecting foul play, his son lodged a complaint with the police.

Police also took into account the autopsy report, which indicated injuries on Masthan's body.

Deputy commissioner of police (Tambaram), R Sibi Chakravarthy, said: "The deceased had nail marks on his right cheek. There was an injury on his lower lip. We suspected that he was smothered."

Detailed enquiry by the police revealed that some of his relatives had a financial dispute with him, the police official said.

Police subsequently arrested Naeer, Imran Basha, Thoufique Ahmed, driver Lokesh and Thamim alias Sultan. Imran and Thamim are related to Masthan while the remaining are their friends. "Imran had borrowed around ₹15 lakh from Masthan, and there was a dispute over the delay in returning it," Sibi said.

AMIT SHAH IN K'TAKA

Shah alluded to this political tradition in his speech in Mandya district and said both parties were hampering progress in the region because of rampant corruption.

"We have seen administration of both parties. When Congress is in power, Karnataka will become Delhi's ATM and when JD(S) comes it becomes ATM for a family. Due to corruption in both these parties, progress has been affected in Karnataka. Both the parties are communal, casteist and is full of criminals," he said in a rally as part of the Jana Sankalpa Yatra.

Shah said that there had been enough of "JD(S)-Congress, Congress-JD(S)" and urged Mandya to vote for the BJP with a full majority. "In the next five years under the leadership of Modiji, we will take Karnataka forward on the path of progress," he said.

He said that the government had decided on a three-year plan to set up a primary dairy in every panchayat in the country under the Union cooperation ministry.

Bommai also targeted the JD(S) and the Congress, and said that despite repeatedly winning in the region, they had failed to push for the welfare of the people.

The core Old Mysuru region consists of nine districts — Mysuru, Mandya, Hassan, Chamrajnagar, Ramanagara, Kolar, Chikkaballapura, Kodagu and Chikmagalur — accounting for 61 seats.

While the JD(S) has kick-started the Panchayat Yatra, a road campaign across the Old Mysuru region from Mulabagilu

{ FROM PAGE 1 }

tion after the green revolution. The second-largest dairy in the state, Manmool Mega Dairy, supports thousands of farmers," Bommai said.

Shah blamed the Congress for ignoring the demands of Indian farmers for several decades and said there were requests to separate the cooperative ministry from the agriculture ministry after Independence. "If someone had worked on it then, today the situation of Indian farmers would have been different," said Shah, who is also the Union minister for cooperation.

"From this stage I want to tell all those associated with cooperatives across the country that no injustice will happen to them any more, this is the decision of the Government of India," he said.

He said that the government had decided on a three-year plan to set up a primary dairy in every panchayat in the country under the Union cooperation ministry.

Bommai also targeted the JD(S) and the Congress, and said that despite repeatedly winning in the region, they had failed to push for the welfare of the people.

Shah's visit comes when the BJP is dealing with former chief minister BS Yediyurappa, who recently said he had his own strengths and no one could finish him off politically. On Friday, Yediyurappa skipped Shah's event in Mandya.

The core Old Mysuru region consists of nine districts — Mysuru, Mandya, Hassan, Chamrajnagar, Ramanagara, Kolar, Chikkaballapura, Kodagu and Chikmagalur — accounting for 61 seats.

While the JD(S) has kick-started the Panchayat Yatra, a road campaign across the Old Mysuru region from Mulabagilu

in Kolar district, and is confident to win most segments, the BJP is also going all out to bolster its base in this Vokkaliga stronghold.

Karnataka Congress spokesperson M Lakshman said Shah's visit to Mandya will not have any electoral impact in the region. "For today's programme, the BJP wanted to get 100,000 people. Where were they? Not even 10,000 people were there. People from other districts have come. Mandya is the belt of JD(S) and Congress," he said.

Which party is not a dynastic party? Many people in the BJP are from dynastic politics only. Amit Shah is thinking he can do some magic like in Gujarat. That will not work here," Lakshman added.

Tanveer Ahmed, JD(S) national spokesperson, criticised the BJP.

"Amit Shah has accused that Karnataka will become an ATM for one family or an ATM for Delhi. All the contractors in the state, whom did they accuse of 40% commission? Corruption happened in the health sector during Covid-19 and irrigation projects," Ahmed said, referring to allegations of corruption in public works given to contractors.

Shah's visit comes when the BJP is dealing with former chief minister BS Yediyurappa, who recently said he had his own strengths and no one could finish him off politically. On Friday, Yediyurappa skipped Shah's event in Mandya.

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed that a boy namely **Tarun S/o Kishan R/o H.No. 688, G/F, Gali No.11, Road No.4, Mahipalpur, New Delhi** has been missing from his house. In this regard a FIR No. **474/2022 Dt: 18.12.2022 U/s 363 IPC** has been lodged at PS, Vasant Kunj North, New Delhi. The description of missing boy is as under :-

Name: Tarun, **Father's Name :** Kishan, **Age : 12 Years, Height : 5'5'**, **Face : Round, Complexion : Wheatish, Built : Thin, Wearing :** Blue color sweater, Black color lower and slipper in feet.

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned at following phone numbers.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>
e-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax : 011-24368639
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/4241/SW/2022

SHO P.S., Vasant Kunj North, New Delhi Ph. : 011-26123990, 26892530

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed that a person namely **Dhananjay, S/o Sh. Rajender Parasad, R/o H.No. A-89, Gali No.4, Amrit Vihar, Burari, Delhi**. **Age: 40 years, Height : 5'10", Complexion-Fair, Face-Round, Built-Medium, Wearing:** Dark Blue colour Jeans Pant and White colour Inner, Grey colour Jacket & Blue colour Shoes in his feet has been missing from front of Honda Showroom main 100 foot road Burari, Delhi since 20.12.2022 at 4.30PM. In this regard a **VIDE DD No. 104 A dated 21.12.2022** has been registered at **PS. Burari, Delhi**.

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

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
SHO Ph : 011-24368638, 24368641
P.S. Burari, Delhi Fax : 011-24368639
DP/4295/N/2022

Vacancy Circular
No. 17(03)/2022-ABCD
Government of India
Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)
Electronics Niketan, 6-CGO Complex
New Delhi - 110003

Subject:- Filling up the post of Director General, Semi-Conductor Laboratory (SCL), an Autonomous Society under MeitY.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) proposes to fill up the post of Director General, Semi-Conductor Laboratory (SCL), an Autonomous Society under MeitY, in the pay scale of Level-15 in the Pay Matrix (Rs. 182200-224100) on Direct Recruitment/Deputation basis. Last date for receipt of application would be the day falling after 45 days from the date of publication of the advertisement in the Employment News.

2. Further, details and application form can be obtained from websites of MeitY (<http://meity.gov.in>): DoPT (<http://persmin.gov.in>) SCL (www.scl.gov.in) and National Career Service Portal (www.ncs.gov.in).

CBC 06101/11/0017/2223

Uttar Pradesh Medical Supplies Corporation Ltd.
(A Government of Uttar Pradesh Undertaking)
GSTIN: 09AACCU250P1ZZ, CIN: U85310UP2018SCC102425
Address: SUDA Bhawan, 7/3, Sector-7, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow

Tender Ref. No: GEM/2022/B/2912258 Date: 28 December, 2022

GEM Tender Notice Invitation

Uttar Pradesh Medical Supplies Corporation Limited, Lucknow invites tenders on GeM Portal from eligible and qualified Manufacturer/Importer/Authorized Agent for supply of Rapid Antigen Test Kit. The schedules of Tendering activities are as under:

Sr. No.	Activity	Date & Time
1	Tender Reference No.	GEM/2022/B/2912258
2	Commencement of Downloading of Tender Document	28 December, 2022
3	Last Date & Submission of Online Bids	07 January, 2023 upto 02:00 PM.
4	Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bids	07 January, 2023 upto 02:30 PM.
5	Date of Completion of Examination of Technical Bid	To be declared on GeM Portal
6	Date & Time of Opening of Financial Bid	To be declared on GeM Portal
7	Date of Completion of Examination of Financial Bid	To be declared on GeM Portal

The details of tender notice are given on GeM Portal & UPMSCL website www.upmscl.in Kindly check GeM Portal & UPMSCL website for any detail & updates. Managing Director UPMSCL

Department of Medical Health & Family Welfare, Uttar Pradesh

(iii) The post is non-transferable & non-deputable, and selected candidates shall be posted at Sub Centre level Health & Wellness Centre in the District, for which she/he to be selected.
(iv) OMR Based Written Exam of two hour duration will be conducted, which will be tentatively based on the below given syllabus and programmatic information:

Tentative Coverage of Syllabus		Approx. Coverage in Question Paper*
Syllabus/Programmatic Information*		
BAMS, Basic BSc & Post-Basis BSc Nursing Syllabus of CCIM & INC		Upto 60%
General Knowledge & Current Affairs		Upto 10%
Reasoning & Mathematics Aptitude		Upto 10%
Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child Health+ Adolescents (RMANCH+A) and all National Health Programmes covered under NHM		Upto 10%
MLHPs Course integrated in the Basic BSc Nursing & Post-Basic BSc Nursing Curriculum, as per Circular/Notifications (2019) issued by Indian Nursing Council (New Delhi)		Upto 10%

*References are Just Indicative & additional questions may be considered for OMR Based Exam.

- Candidates applying for advertised post should ensure that they fulfill all eligibility conditions particularly for respective Courses as per advertisement/corrigendum (if any). Their candidature at all the stages of the recruitment process will be purely provisional subject to satisfying the prescribed eligibility conditions. mere submission of application form and depositing of requisite fee shall not imply that candidate is eligible for the advertised posts.
- If any ineligible candidate apply, then her/his Application Form shall be rejected without any information. Although necessary steps will be taken not to consider the applications of ineligible candidate for the advertised posts. Still, if any ineligible candidate shall be rejected at any level.
- District-wise provisional selection will be done on the basis of scoring of marks in the OMR Based Exam and additional 05 marks to be given to the candidates, who have already completed the BPPCHN Course, or MLHPs Course integrated in the curriculum of Basic BSc/Post-Basic BSc Nursing. Additional 05 marks will be considered on the basis of production of valid Certificate.
- Candidates, who have completed their BAMS or Basic BSc/Post-Basic BSc Nursing Degree before 2019 are state-wide not eligible for additional 05 marks to be given on account of Essential Qualifications, as respective Course (i.e. BPPCHN/IGNOU or University/Institution assigned by the State, and MLHPs Course integrated in the Basic BSc/Post-Basic BSc Nursing Curriculum) were not in existence before 2019.
- Candidates for claiming additional marks on account of essential academic qualifications, are required to attach the copy of the 'BPPCHN Certificate issued by IGNOU or University/Institution assigned by the State', or 'MLHPs Course integrated in the Basic BSc/Post-Basic BSc Nursing Curriculum issued by their Institute, in reference of the Circular/Notifications issued by the Indian National Nursing Council (New Delhi) in 2019 in compliance with the directions of MoHFW/GoI.
- It is clarified that no other Certificate will be considered for additional 05 marks for referred Courses and Original Certificate(s) for claiming benefits of reservation and additional marks on account of essential academic qualifications are required to be produced at the time of document verification. The Certificate(s) other than the prescribed format(s) shall not be considered for claiming any benefits of reservation and academic qualifications.
- Final merit will be subject to the Documents Verification and District-wise & Category-wise merit finalized on the basis of marks obtained in OMR Based Exam plus 05 Additional Marks to be given to the eligible candidates, who have already completed the BPPCHN Course, or MLHPs Course integrated in the curriculum of Basic BSc/Post-Basic BSc Nursing; for which original certificates shall require to be produced at the time of document verification to ensure their eligibility in terms of academic qualifications. BPPCHN or MLHPs Course, age, reservation benefit (if any). Eligibility Certificate, Haryana Domicile etc., After document verification, no additional time shall be provided to any of the candidate for production of any certificate for claiming additional 05 marks on account of BPPCHN or MLHPs Course, and reservation in any category. Therefore, all candidates are required to produce relevant certificates at the time of document verification.
- Reservation Benefit in different categories will be considered for bonafide residents of Haryana only, who have the valid Haryana Domicile Certificates. Further, in case of candidates claiming reservation benefit for Ex-servicemen (Self/Dependent), Other Backward Classes (A & B Category) and Economically Weaker Sections (General Category), they are required to upload Valid Eligibility Certificate(s) issued by the concerned Competent Authority.
- Candidates for claiming the reservation benefit(s) under particular category, are required to attach the copy of Certificate(s) of Scheduled Castes (SC)/Backward Class-A & Backward Class B (BC-A & BC-B) Certificate issued in the current financial year 2022-23 only/Economically Weaker Sections (EWS): Certificate of Annual Income of Rs. 6.00 lakh issued for financial year 2022-23 for Haryana Govt. Services only/Ex-Serviceman (ESM): Latest Eligibility Certificate not more than 01 year old from the date of issuance in case of dependent, and Discharge Book/NoC in case of Self), issued by competent authorities only. All Candidates (except Scheduled Castes & Physically Challenged), who claim Reservation Benefit under any reserve category are required to get issue their Updated Certificates, as only Updated Certificates shall be considered for Reservation Benefits during document verification.
- Reservation Benefits shall not be given to any of the candidate at the time of document verification, if she/he fails to produce the required Certificates as per the conditions specified. No further time shall be given to any of the candidate for producing relevant Certificates for claiming any reservation benefit after the date of document verification. Therefore, all candidates are suggested to get completed/renewed their respective Certificates for claiming reservation benefits, before the date of document verification.
- Each Candidate shall submit a Self-Undertaking at the time of document verification regarding their eligibility in case, if she/he is claiming the reservation benefit under any particular category. If the quota reserved for Ex-servicemen remains unfilled due to non-availability of suitable Ex servicemen or dependents, then chance will be given to the Freedom Fighters' Children/Grand Children upto the extent of available reserved seats under ESM category.
- If there is any requirement of Assessor in case of Physically Challenged candidate, then permission of Competent Authority (i.e. Mission Director, NHM Haryana) is essential to be taken atleast 3 days in advance of the OMR Based Exam. The Disability Certificate issued by the Medical Board D/o the concerned Civil Surgeon alongwith all the relevant documents are required to be produced before the competent authority for evaluation of the candidate.
- All Candidates are required to bring printed copy of the online issued Admit Card/Roll No. and Identity Proof for appearing in the OMR Based Exam.
- Selected Candidates are also required to appear for the Document Verification and District-wise & Category-wise merit finalized on the basis of their seniority in age. In case of equal status, final merit will be decided on the basis of marks obtained by them in their qualifying degree (i.e. BAMS or Basic BSc/Post-Basic BSc Nursing).
- Sample copy of Surety Bond at time of Counselling may be seen at NHM Website for advance information of Candidates to understand Terms & Conditions, which will be printed by NHM SHQ team at the time of Counselling and subsequent joining.
- If any candidate fails to attend the Document Verification and Counselling Session as per fixed schedule, her/his candidature will be considered cancelled for the said post even if she/he is top in her/his category/district, and no further opportunity will be given to such candidates.
- The Selected Candidates are required to serve Health Department/NHM Haryana for atleast 3 years continuously in the same District for which she/he has applied/selected, and in case any candidate left the service before three years, she/he shall be liable to financial penalty as per the Surety Bond. For this purpose, a Surety Bond for three years' service has to be signed by each candidate with NHM Haryana.
- In case of equal marks obtained in the Written Exam by two or more Candidates in a particular Category, then merit will be considered on the basis of her/his seniority in age. In case of equal status, final merit will be decided on the basis of marks obtained by them in their qualifying degree (i.e. BAMS or Basic BSc/Post-Basic BSc Nursing).
- All Candidates are required to fill their Online Application Form carefully, as there is no provision of amendment after submission of the same. If any information is inadvertently filled wrong in the online application form, the candidate has to get it correct at the time of document verification her/himself and department will not be held responsible for the same. The "District Applied For" shall not be changed in any circumstances, if any candidate filled it wrongly, she/he is suggested to fill another application form for her/his choice of District.
- The MLHP-cum-CHOs already working under NHM Haryana are

POLITICS 2022 THE YEAR THAT WAS

{ 2022, AT A GLANCE }


India's G20 presidency theme is 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'. SHUTTERSTOCK

INDIA EMBARKS ON AN 'INCLUSIVE, AMBITIOUS' G20 PRESIDENCY TERM

India's first G20 presidency officially began from December 1, with a focus on counter-terrorism and ensuring inclusive growth following the global impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic and the Ukraine crisis.

The theme for India's G20 presidency – "One Earth, One Family, One Future" – highlights the importance of having an approach that unites the world to address global challenges such as climate action. Addressing the final session of the G20 Summit in Bali, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the country's presidency will be "inclusive, ambitious, decisive and action-oriented".

SENA VS SENA: POWER TUSSLE THAT LED TO FALL OF MVA GOVT

On June 29 this year, then Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray resigned from his post amid rebellion within the ranks, ending a 31-month-long stint of the Maharashtra Vikas Aghadi government in alliance with the Congress and the Nationalist Congress Party.

The development took place days after Shiv Sena leader and senior minister Eknath Shinde went untraceable along with around 10-12 MLAs on June 21. Thackeray sent two senior functionaries to negotiate a truce between the rebel group and party leadership. However, it did not bear fruit. On June 22, the rebel Sena MLAs flew out to Guwahati where Shinde claimed he had the support of 40 MLAs, more than the number required to overcome action under the anti-defection law.

The matter reached the Supreme Court, which said a floor test was the only way to settle all issues. Soon after, Thackeray resigned, saying: "I am not going away forever, I will be here." Less than 24 hours later, Shinde was sworn in as Maharashtra chief minister, and BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis as his deputy.



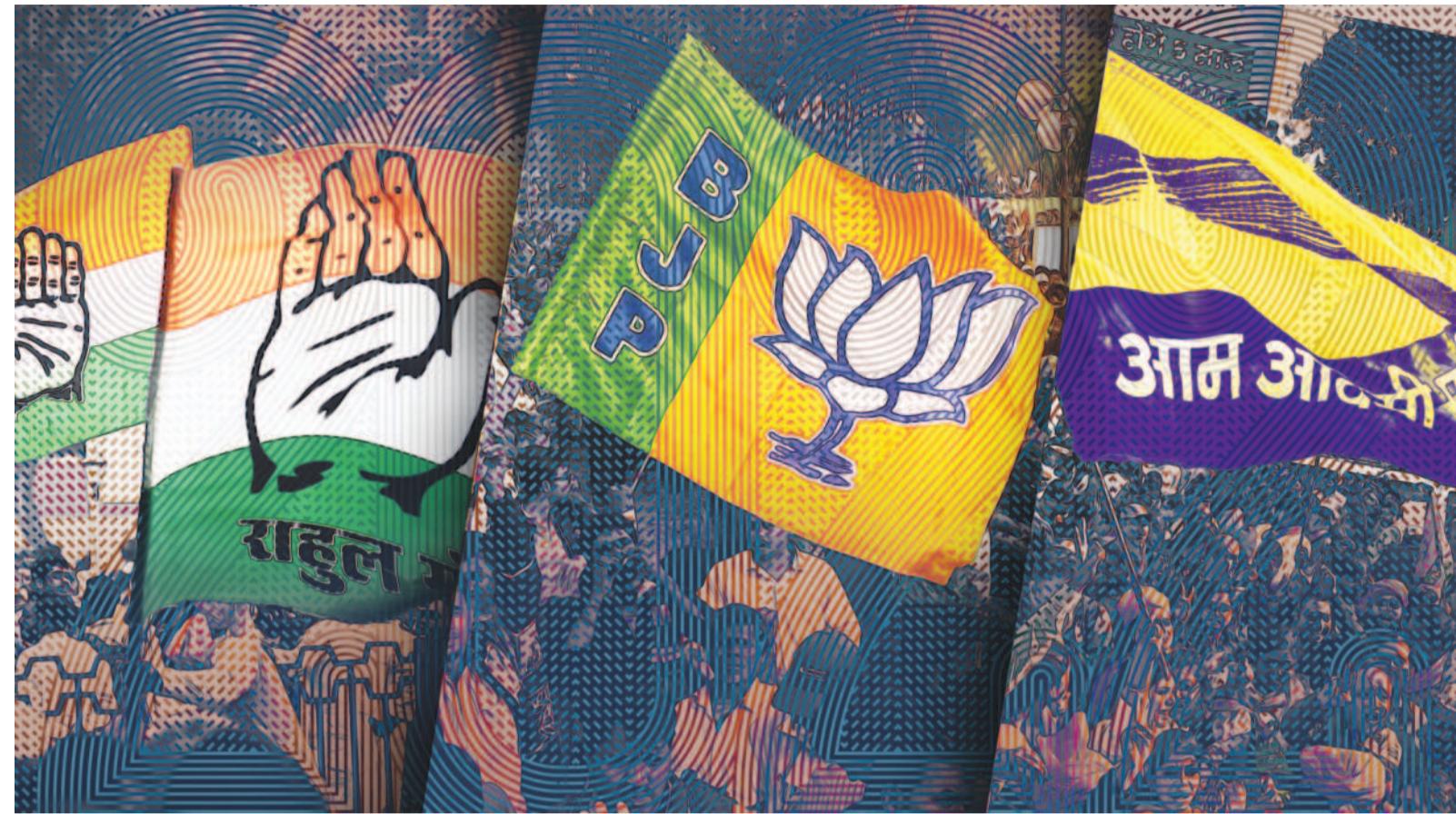
The Tawang clash comes amid tensions between Army, PLA in Ladakh sector.

ANOTHER INDIA-CHINA STANDOFF TRIGGERS POLITICAL SLUGFEST

A clash erupted between Indian and Chinese soldiers in Arunachal Pradesh's Yingtse sector on December 9, after Chinese troops attempted to transgress the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Tawang sector, but they were pushed back by Indian soldiers, the Indian Army said on December 12.

The clash came in the midst of ongoing border tensions between the Indian Army and the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) in the sensitive eastern Ladakh sector.

The latest standoff also triggered a slugfest, with the Opposition demanding a discussion in Parliament. "Why is China emboldened to continually attack us?" Congress leader Sonia Gandhi asked on December 21. The Centre, however, has refused any discussion, maintaining that it has already made a statement on the sensitive matter.



Rescuers during a search operation after a bridge collapsed in Morbi, on October 31. AP

SUSPENSION BRIDGE COLLAPSE IN GUJARAT'S MORBI KILLS 135 PEOPLE

On October 30, ahead of assembly elections a month later, a British-era suspension bridge in Gujarat's Morbi, apparently repaired just five days ago, collapsed into the Machchhu river, killing 135 people.

Soon after, a political slugfest ensued with the opposition parties alleging "criminal negligence and gross misgovernance". The ruling BJP, however, maintained that it has "saved as many lives as possible" and swung into a damage-control exercise, with constant visits from chief minister Bhupendra Patel, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

And 40 days after Gujarat saw one of its biggest tragedies in recent memory, the party won all three seats in the Morbi district.

HOW INDIA VOTED IN 2022

For the BJP, 2022 was about sustaining power in its two key states. For the Cong, repeated failures have led to political experiments. And for the AAP, a win outside Delhi triggered national ambitions

Prashant Jha

letters@hindustantimes.com

When the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) look back at 2022, they will all have reasons to see it as a pivotal year that may shape their respective fortunes for years to come.

For the BJP, 2022 was when it won the two states most important to the party leadership and there was a sense of inevitability that crept in about its return to power in 2024.

For the Congress, 2022 was when repeated failures led to experiments, both at the level of organisational leadership and mass mobilisation. And for the AAP, 2022 was when the party's national ambitions finally expanded.

BJP: Sustaining the success

For three elections in a row — 2014, 2017 and 2019 — the BJP had succeeded in UP. It defeated the Samajwadi Party (SP) when the latter was an incumbent; an SP-Congress alliance; and an SP-Bahujan Samaj Party alliance. But till this year, the BJP had not succeeded in retaining power at the state-level in UP; for that matter, no chief minister (CM) had succeeded in completing a full term in office and returning to power in the state's modern political history.

This year, the BJP won a comfortable majority on the back of the combined appeal of Narendra Modi and Yogi Adityanath; a social coalition of upper castes, backward communities and Dalit sub groups; a forceful campaign on the plank of law and order (or order at the cost of law, for the government has deployed extra-judicial mechanism to impose its will); welfare, particularly free ration; and communal polarisation. A weak opposition helped.

The win shored up Modi's domestic capital in the post pandemic political context. It elevated Adityanath's stature in the party, and has given birth to his national ambitions. The next text for him, however, will be delivering UP's 80 seats in 2024 and retaining power in 2027.

If the year began with the UP win, it ended with the unprecedented Gujarat victory for BJP.

The win in Gujarat wasn't a surprise, but the scale of the victory was. The BJP increased its vote share; it won across all pockets of the state; Modi's image as the son of the soil leading the nation helped; and the combined effort of Amit Shah and state unit chief CR Paatil ensured that the party machinery was well-oiled. An absent Congress — Rahul Gandhi used the yatra as a justification to skip the Gujarat campaign — and the presence of AAP — which didn't do as well as it hoped but did enough to divide the anti-BJP vote — helped. The BJP also succeeded in retaining power in Uttarakhand (where it

had to change its chief minister twice and faced anti-incumbency), Manipur and Goa — in a sign that absent an effective opposition, even a weaker than usual BJP machine is hard to beat.

But the year also exposed the party's vulnerabilities. In Himachal Pradesh, internal discord and anti-incumbency saw the Congress prevail. In Punjab, the one state in north India which the BJP hasn't been able to penetrate successfully, the perception of being a Hindu majoritarian party coupled with the backlash over the farm laws, prevented the party from being able to take advantage of the political vacuum in the state as the AAP stormed to power.

But beyond the electoral setbacks, the party will have to introspect about two structural vulnerabilities. The first is the overwhelming dependence on Modi — take him out of the equation, and even with a robust organisation, the BJP struggles. The second is the emerging sense within party and Sangh circles that there is a dip in support among younger voters, particularly those in the 18-24 category, for whom the BJP is the establishment and memories of Congress misrule are distant. This isn't a crisis yet, but is a trend-line worth watching.

Congress: Setbacks and experiments

The Congress's rough patch continued over the year — and the party's chronic illnesses once again came to the fore, with nothing quite seeming to work.

In Punjab, the party had experimented by replacing Captain Amarinder Singh with Charanjit Singh Channi; it also first encouraged Navjot Singh Sidhu and then clipped his wings. The experiment failed — not only did the party lose miserably, a majority of women votes went to the BJP. In Gujarat, the party leadership barely campaigned and came up with a theory of how it was relying on localised micro-campaigns. Its vote share dipped by over 15 percentage points and it lost five dozen seats compared to its 2017 tally. In Uttarakhand and Goa, where Congress should have won, the party snatched defeat from the jaws of victory.

The win shored up Modi's domestic capital in the post pandemic political context. It elevated Adityanath's stature in the party, and has given birth to his national ambitions. The next text for him, however, will be delivering UP's 80 seats in 2024 and retaining power in 2027.

If the year began with the UP win, it ended with the unprecedented Gujarat victory for BJP.

The win in Gujarat wasn't a surprise, but the scale of the victory was. The BJP increased its vote share; it won across all pockets of the state; Modi's image as the son of the soil leading the nation helped; and the combined effort of Amit Shah and state unit chief CR Paatil ensured that the party machinery was well-oiled. An absent Congress — Rahul Gandhi used the yatra as a justification to skip the Gujarat campaign — and the presence of AAP — which didn't do as well as it hoped but did enough to divide the anti-BJP vote — helped. The BJP also succeeded in retaining power in Uttarakhand (where it

had to change its chief minister twice and faced anti-incumbency), Manipur and Goa — in a sign that absent an effective opposition, even a weaker than usual BJP machine is hard to beat.

The second experiment was Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra. It has energised a demoralised and almost defunct organisation. And it has helped win Gandhi respect, even from critics, for hard work. But yatra is based on a conceptual divorce between the ideological and electoral battle. For a party suffering from its gravest electoral existential crisis, to publicly claim that the march has nothing to do with election defies logic.

The Congress is only in power in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, and Himachal Pradesh. In all three, it is grappling with internal discord. Next year, the party may win Karnataka but unless it is able to win more states, it will walk into 2024 with low morale, depleted funds, and stare at its third consecutive electoral loss.

AAP: Making a mark

2022's other big political story was AAP's win in Punjab.

AAP was able to leverage the complete disarray among traditional parties in Punjab. The Congress was in self-destruct mode with leadership changes and anti-incumbency; the anger against Akali Dal's misrule had persisted; the BJP is a weak player. And AAP tapped into the yearning for change. But the party has had to confront governance and perceptual challenges on law and order, corruption, fiscal mismanagement, and the sense of the CM being remote controlled from Delhi in a state with a poor and strong sub-nationalist tradition.

AAP's political success led to national ambitions. Arvind Kejriwal believes that there is a vacuum — with the Congress shrinking and regional parties and leaders boxed into their specific geographies and identity backgrounds. He has the advantage of speaking a political language that resonates with middle class India. And he has adopted a centre-Right platform; the party supports a majority of Hindutva causes and remains silent when it comes to issue of minority rights. In AAP, this is seen as a clever way to win over the BJP's Hindu votes, while retaining Muslim votes.

But as the year ended, the success and limits of the party's ambitious plans became clearer. The AAP won Delhi's municipal elections, but with a lesser margin, and only won five seats in Gujarat. Nonetheless, Kejriwal remains a leader to watch out for on the national stage, for he has displayed political smarts in converting what was a start-up ten years ago to a key player in the politics of north India.

Put it together and it is clear that 2022 has set the stage for the multilayered political competition India is embarking on over the next 18 months.



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi tries hand at a grass-cutting machine in Dausa. ANI

BHARAT JODO: RAHUL'S MAMMOTH MARCH AHEAD OF 2024 POLLS

I am walking, meeting people and hugging people, but what am I doing? And then I found the answer: nafrat ke bazaar mein mohabbat ki dukaan khol raha hun (setting up a shop for love in a market of hate), Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said on December 19 when asked about the motive for the Bharat Jodo Yatra.

The 3.57-km march began on September 7 from Kanyakumari, and covered parts of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi. The BJP, however, called it a "facade for its 'Bharat Todo' (Dividing India) agenda".

"He (Rahul) should first piece together his own party and then go out to unite the country," party chief JP Nadda had said.

Collegium a simmering issue between executive, judiciary

Utkarsh Anand

letters@hindustantimes.com

The year 2022 witnessed an extraordinary battle of words between the executive and the judiciary. While the government functionaries went after the collegium system of appointing judges, the Supreme Court judges called out the "unhappiness" of the government over its legislation, which promised a greater role for the executive in judicial appointments, failing the test of constitutionality in 2015.

The exchange began merely a few days before justice Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud was slated to take over as the Chief Justice of India (CJI) on November 9. Spearheading the attack on behalf of the government, Union law minister Kiren Rijiju said on October 17 that judges spend half their time in deciding who to appoint as judges, instead of delivering justice. He termed the collegium system "opaque" and described the Indian selection system as the only one where judges appoint judges.

Again, on November 4, Rijiju criticised the collegium system, saying it is "opaque, not

accountable and non-transparent", adding that it is the duty of the minister concerned to speak about the ills of such a selection mechanism. At another event in the same month, Rijiju spoke on the collegium system in a similar fashion.

A week later, the Supreme Court had its first retort when it took on the judicial side in a case relating to delays by the government in clearing the names approved by the collegium. It said there are "enough checks and balances" before the collegium recommends names for appointments and thus, the endless hold-up by the Centre in clearing names is "not acceptable".

On November 25, CJI Chandrachud tacitly called for a restraint by both sides. Speaking at a function to celebrate Constitution Day, the CJI, who also heads the collegium in the top court, stressed on the need for "constitutional statesmanship" between the Union government and the apex court, saying that the two institutions cannot keep finding fault with each other in matters of judicial appointments. The CJI appealed for "harmony" and "balance" as he remained emphatic that the collegium does a lot of homework before names are sent to the government for notifying appointments.

TOP COURT STRENGTH

34	
SANCTIONED STRENGTH	
28	FUNCTIONING JUDGES
6	VACANT POSTS

ON DECEMBER 18
5 Names recommended for appointments in the top court by the collegium



Two days later, a bench led by justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul unambiguously disapproved of Rijiju's public stance on the collegium, asserting that the Centre is bound to "observe the law of the land" and cannot "frustrate the entire system" just because it remains "unhappy" about its law seeking to replace the collegium with a

National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) getting quashed in 2015.

On December 2, another Supreme Court bench led by justice MR Shah called the top court the "most transparent institution" and said the collegium system cannot be derailed.

Throwing his hat in the ring, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar also waded into the controversy as he delivered his opening address after assuming the office of Rajya Sabha Chairperson on December 7. He said the SC's 2015 order striking down the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act was a "glaring instance" of "severe compromise" of parliamentary sovereignty and disregard of the "mandate of the people".

A day later, when justice Kaul-led bench took up the matter relating to the judicial appointments, it minced no words. The Union government is bound to follow the collegium system "to a T" because that is the law of the land, the bench observed on December 8, adding there will be a "breakdown" and an "infinite battle" if everyone starts choosing which law to follow. During the hearing, the top court also took cognisance of statements made by certain "government

functionaries" criticising the collegium system, and asked attorney general R Venkataramani to "advise them" to "exercise control".

Meanwhile, a note submitted by the AG in the court on that day complained against ascribing the entire blame to the government for delays in appointing judges, asserting that the high courts and collegium must also assume a part of the role in massive vacancies lying across the 25 high courts in the country.

Rijiju again aimed at the collegium system when he spoke in Parliament on December 15. Rijiju said the issue of vacancies and appointments in the higher judiciary would remain a challenge till the time a new system of appointments is created, as he advised that the Supreme Court should not hear bail pleas at a time when the pendency of cases is so high. It did not take long for the top court to reply again. On December 18, a bench led by CJI Chandrachud underscored that the Supreme Court exists to answer the cry of the citizens whose liberties have been taken away and thus, no case is small for the highest court of the land. Ordering for immediate release of a man sentenced to a total of 18 years in jail under nine

separate cases of electricity theft, the apex court held that it "performs a plain constitutional duty, obligation and function" in attending to all the grievances that come before it.

Meanwhile, the collegium on December 13 sent a fresh set of recommendations of five names for the Supreme Court judges, following the Centre's belated notification appointing Justice Dipankar Datta as an SC judge. The government sat over justice Datta's name for more than two months before notifying his elevation.

Justice Datta's appointment seems an apparent shift in the fight over the judges' selection mechanism. But the tug of war between the executive and the judiciary appears to be far from over. It has been weeks and the appointment of the new Supreme Court judges are yet to come through. Several old recommendations, including the one to appoint an openly gay senior advocate as a high court judge, remain in limbo too. The coming weeks, or perhaps months, will vouch whether the government's stance was just another tool to negotiate with the collegium or that it was testing the waters for a new law on judicial appointments.

PANDEMIC 2022 THE YEAR THAT WAS

{ VIRUS EVOLUTION }



At a Covid-19 care centre in New Delhi. HT

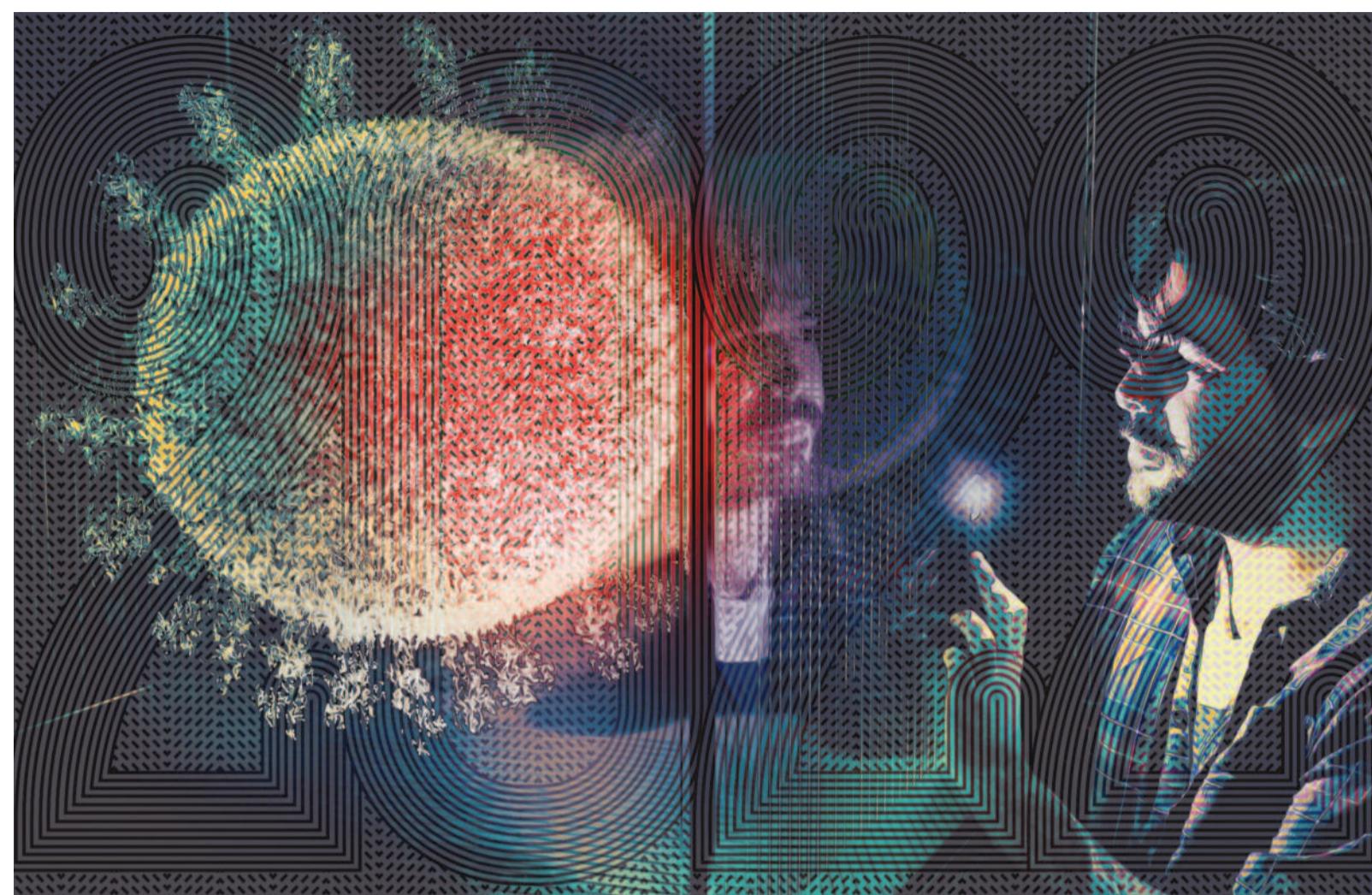
THE MYSTERY AROUND OMICRON VARIANT

Through the year, there was no clear theory on how the Omicron variant came to be. With 50 mutations compared to the virus first seen in Wuhan, this version fell further from the evolutionary tree than any other Sars-CoV-2 variant. Its effects too were drastically different: it had a significantly changed mechanism of infecting cells, which made it significantly more transmissible but, thankfully, it also became far less lethal as it lost the ability to infect lung tissue.

There are usually few ways a virus evolves this substantially. One, when it stays as a prolonged infection within the same host (often a person with compromised immunity). Two, through reverse zoonosis when an animal is infected by humans, and then passes the virus back. And three, through recombination with another version of the Sars-CoV-2 in a host infected by both.

While the mystery on Omicron's origin is yet to be worked out, the virus continues to evolve and keeps getting "fitter". In late 2022, scientists flagged a new set of Sars-CoV-2 variants: all offshoots of Omicron, which appear to be picking up the same sort of genetic traits after following different evolutionary journeys. In other words, the virus seems to be going through some recombination.

How this changes the pandemic will only be answered in coming months.



People hold white sheets of paper during a stir against the lockdown in Beijing. REUTERS

CHINA, WITH A POLICY STUCK IN 2020, LEARNS A COSTLY LESSON

The year 2022 was when the pandemic came a full circle for China. In 2020, when it first infected people in Wuhan, the virus was unknown – scientists at one point did not even know whether it spread between people. But as infections exploded in the Chinese city, the administration took the only action that made sense: clamping a lockdown.

Fast forward three years, and not only does the world know a lot more about the virus, the pathogen itself changed. What did not, however, is China's pandemic policy. The so-called Zero Covid principle meant the country would keep locking down whenever even small clusters of cases were found.

The iron-fisted approach saw people forcibly dragged to isolation centres, homes boarded up and city streets resembling the deserted dystopia that kept harking back to Wuhan, 2020, even when the events like the Football World Cup showed how the rest of the world moved on.

Now, China has taken the only decision it could – not because there were no alternatives but because it stuck too long with an outdated policy. It has unlocked with a knee-jerk. Today, infections are rippling through the country, and there are questions about what that means for the evolution of the virus.

PHOTO: AFP;
IMAGING: MALAY KARMAKAR

THE SHADOW STILL LOOMS

With the virus now sparing no one, Long Covid was a serious problem to deal with, which easily was the most important implication of how the pandemic had changed in its third year

Binayak Dasgupta

letters@hindustantimes.com

Is the glass half full or half empty? This was the question posed in our special feature when we looked ahead to 2022, exactly a year ago. At the end of 2021, the Omicron variant had just arrived, bamboozling scientists with its large constellation of mutations and an unprecedented ability to infect more and more people, but causing far milder disease. Before governments could react, the Omicron variant was ripping through entire cities and states, triggering reinfections and leaving the last of the lucky ones – who never had symptomatic Covid in the first two years – unspared.

After a debilitating 2021, when the Delta variant caused immense suffering in mostly unvaccinated populations, 2022 became the year that 2020 could have been: people ditched masks, resumed travelling, and even got married in record numbers.

The year, therefore, panned out in the most optimistic of scenarios first thought out – or, the glass-half-full view.

Changing pandemic equation

The Omicron variant was a version of Sars-CoV-2 that was so far removed from its predecessors that several assumptions about the virus became redundant in 2022.

The first of these was how long infected people had to isolate. Many countries shortened the mandatory period for people to stay isolated from 10 days to seven, with some even cutting it down to five. Several researchers found that two negative tests on days 6 and 7 were reliable determinants of whether an infected person was contagious.

A second key change the Omicron variant brought on was the need for new vaccines. It was in January 2022 itself that the first evidence emerged of how it was more resistant not just to antibodies – which latch on to circulating

virus and disable them – but also to immune memory. Researchers from La Jolla Institute published in the journal Cell a study that found memory B cells, which churn out antibodies, could recognise only 42% of the heavily mutated virus.

It was borne out in real world data too. The UK Health Security Agency that month said protection from symptomatic infection drops to 18-20% in people who had two doses. Booster doses helped lift this protection to 65-70%, but even that began to fall soon. Vaccine makers Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech, which used the quickly reconfigurable mRNA platform, had their new, updated doses approved by August in the US and the UK. Third, with the virus now sparing no one, Long Covid was a much more serious problem to deal with, which easily was the most important implication of how the pandemic had changed in its third year.

The unseen damage

That Long Covid was leading to a large impact on the quality of people was little understood until recently. In 2022, a pivotal study emerged from The Netherlands, where researchers carried out what is regarded as the most reliable assessment of Long Covid. They found that one in eight people who had Covid-19 have problems such as breathlessness and general tiredness 90 to 150 days after their infection. The study, published in *The Lancet* in August, said that researchers found over a fifth of people with Long Covid experienced at least one of the residual symptoms to moderate severity.

But even less understood was the science and physiology behind it. And here too, the year yielded some important insights.

A case of even mild Covid-19, scientists from Stanford and Yale found, could lead to significant effects on the brain, effects that they said was similar to receiving chemotherapy.

The study found there was residual nerve inflammation, and a high level of microglia – a type of immune response in the central nervous system. In other words, there was reason to believe some infection may have remained. Later, in December, a study published in *Nature* by researchers from Maryland, US, detailed evidence to contend that in some patients, the SARS-CoV-2 can cause systemic infection and persist in the body for months.

Looking to 2023
The year also was a reminder that scientific evidence is supreme. China learnt this lesson the hard way when it continued to persist with its Zero Covid policy of hard lockdowns to stamp infections. It was in March 2020 that epidemiologists (from Imperial College London) said dealing with an infectious disease was possible only when there was adequate immunity, either by exposure or vaccine, and that lockdowns were an option only to slow the spread – not stop it. Today, forced by mass protests by a population that ran out of patience, China has undone the policy, triggering a massive spike in infections that no one truly knows the scale of. What implication this mass spread holds for the world will only become clear over time, especially since the threat of mutations grows in tandem with how widely a pathogen continues to spread.

A second key sign scientists are already looking at is how the Omicron variant is evolving. In the last week, scientists have flagged a variant called XBB.1.5, which appears to have originated in the US. This variant is causing a spike in cases in cases in America (though hospitalisations are still under control). But perhaps what is of particular scrutiny is cellular characteristics: the new variant, some have said, possesses "alarming antibody evasion properties". This is, to be sure, still not as much of a jump as when Omicron first arose, but that a single amino acid switch could perhaps change that is reason enough to remember the world is likely to live under the shadow of a coronavirus' threat, unless there is a major breakthrough in vaccines or therapies.



Medics wear protective gear as they bring a patient to a hospital in Beijing. REUTERS

BOLSTERING PUBLIC HEALTH CARE INFRA

Over three years, experts have refined the techniques used to track the outbreak based on different waves, variants and the context of the time in question. For instance, asymptomatic cases were an important factor when tracking the Delta variant as even those carrying the virus without exhibiting symptoms could inflict damage on the vulnerable people they could infect. Tracking such cases has largely become irrelevant now with the relatively milder infections being caused by the Omicron family of Sars-CoV-2 as it makes far more sense to focus medical attention on only those needing care in the extremely rare cases. Similarly, when focusing on outbreaks, it remains crucial to track them through the regional context. In case of India, there are currently 150-200 new cases being reported every day, translating to a single new infection for around every 7 million people in the country – a truly minuscule size compared to what other countries are seeing now.

BOOSTER PROTECTION A VIABLE SOLUTION TO RESTRICT TRANSMISSION

Experts have stressed that to tackle the growing concerns about the spread of Covid-19 in countries such as China, the clearest solution that lies ahead for India is the booster shot. Government data shows that around 720 million of India's estimated adult population of 940 million adults have not yet taken their third shot of the vaccine. The data also goes on to show that around two-thirds of the country's adults (66%) had their last shot more than six months ago, while more than half of India's adult population (53%) got their second jab more than nine months ago, and around 10% over a year ago – with all these people likely having suboptimal protection by now. Achieving additional protection in such a massive size of the population would definitely give the country an edge and assuage concern regarding any possible spike.

A man walks past a mural art of a health worker at New Delhi's Rajendra Nagar. HT

Changing pandemic equation

The Omicron variant was a version of Sars-CoV-2 that was so far removed from its predecessors that several assumptions about the virus became redundant in 2022.

The first of these was how long infected people had to isolate. Many countries shortened the mandatory period for people to stay isolated from 10 days to seven, with some even cutting it down to five. Several researchers found that two negative tests on days 6 and 7 were reliable determinants of whether an infected person was contagious.

A second key change the Omicron variant brought on was the need for new vaccines. It was in January 2022 itself that the first evidence emerged of how it was more resistant not just to antibodies – which latch on to circulating

virus and disable them – but also to immune memory. Researchers from La Jolla Institute published in the journal Cell a study that found memory B cells, which churn out antibodies, could recognise only 42% of the heavily mutated virus.

It was borne out in real world data too. The UK Health Security Agency that month said protection from symptomatic infection drops to 18-20% in people who had two doses. Booster doses helped lift this protection to 65-70%, but even that began to fall soon. Vaccine makers Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech, which used the quickly reconfigurable mRNA platform, had their new, updated doses approved by August in the US and the UK. Third, with the virus now sparing no one, Long Covid was a much more serious problem to deal with, which easily was the most important implication of how the pandemic had changed in its third year.

Looking to 2023
The year also was a reminder that scientific evidence is supreme. China learnt this lesson the hard way when it continued to persist with its Zero Covid policy of hard lockdowns to stamp infections. It was in March 2020 that epidemiologists (from Imperial College London) said dealing with an infectious disease was possible only when there was adequate immunity, either by exposure or vaccine, and that lockdowns were an option only to slow the spread – not stop it. Today, forced by mass protests by a population that ran out of patience, China has undone the policy, triggering a massive spike in infections that no one truly knows the scale of. What implication this mass spread holds for the world will only become clear over time, especially since the threat of mutations grows in tandem with how widely a pathogen continues to spread.

A second key sign scientists are already looking at is how the Omicron variant is evolving. In the last week, scientists have flagged a variant called XBB.1.5, which appears to have originated in the US. This variant is causing a spike in cases in cases in America (though hospitalisations are still under control). But perhaps what is of particular scrutiny is cellular characteristics: the new variant, some have said, possesses "alarming antibody evasion properties". This is, to be sure, still not as much of a jump as when Omicron first arose, but that a single amino acid switch could perhaps change that is reason enough to remember the world is likely to live under the shadow of a coronavirus' threat, unless there is a major breakthrough in vaccines or therapies.

How 2022 became a turning point in the outbreak

Jamie Mullick

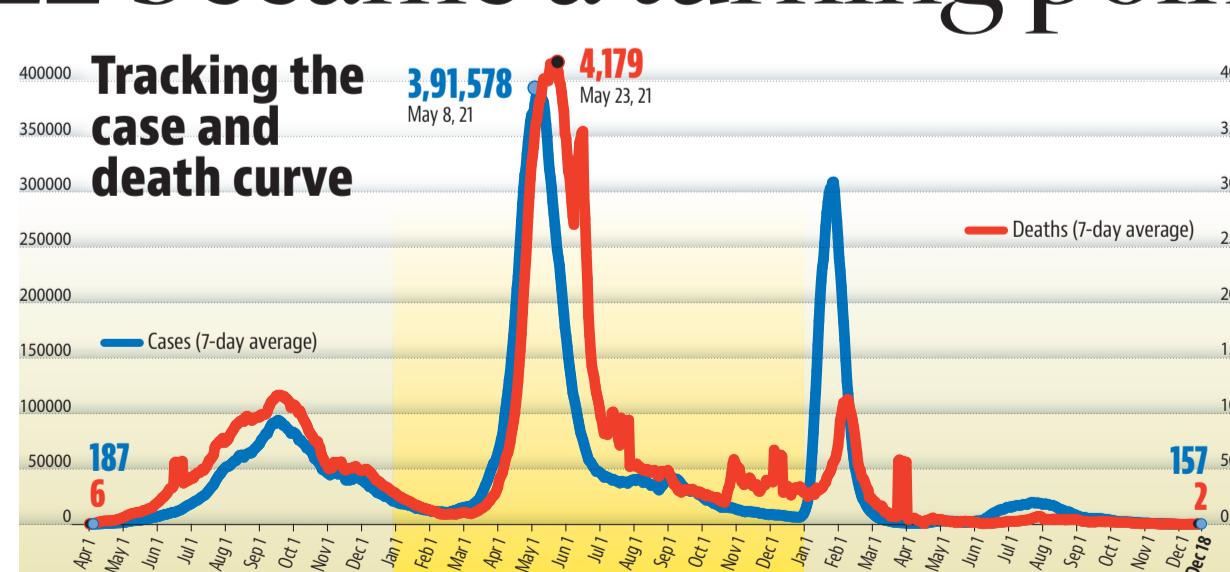
letters@hindustantimes.com

Saturday, December 31, 2022, marks exactly three years since the day the Chinese government informed the World Health Organization (WHO) that it was trying to ascertain the cause of an "unidentified pneumonia outbreak" that had made 44 people sick in the city of Wuhan. Much has been written about how that pneumonia outbreak, now known as the coronavirus disease or Covid-19, has redefined that world as we know it since then. Looking back at the pandemic three years on can offer some crucial insights into how and why it transformed the world, and how it may continue to do so.

The year 2020 will be remembered as the year of the virus. It was about how the world grappled with containing it – nations the world over enforced lockdowns the kind that have never been seen before in history, as the world saw an unprecedented health crisis.

The year 2021, on the other hand, was the year humanity fought back – it will be remembered as the year of the vaccines; the year that offered a glimmer of hope of how humanity could move on from the virus.

2022, meanwhile, will go down as the year the world started reaping the dividends of the vaccination effort put in through 2021. For India, as the year started, the first month offered a very clear preview of what was to come. In first few weeks of 2022, the Covid-19 curve of infections in the country started rising rapidly, before eventually becoming what is now known as the third wave or Omicron



wave. Cases across India soared to levels that were last seen only during the brutal Delta wave (in the first half of 2021), but deaths remained low.

This is why 2022 ended up becoming the turning point in the global Covid-19 outbreak. The data established during the Omicron wave – where the death curve broke away from the case curve – remained consistent nearly throughout the past year.

The chart given with this story illustrates that. In it, the case and death curve (the seven-day average for both parameters) are plotted

against each other in a ratio of 100:1. So, if the death curve is above the case curve here, it means that more than 1% of cases are leading to deaths in that time period, and if it is below the case curve, then fewer than 1% of new infections are resulting in deaths. Such a chart makes it clear that while deaths consistently followed the case curve through 2020 and 2021, they have stopped doing that in 2022.

Another way to look at it is by seeing the number of cases and deaths recorded through each year. According to HT's database, a total of 10.3 million infections were reported across

India in 2020, which resulted in the reported deaths of around 149,000 people – giving the year an overall case fatality rate (CFR) of 1.45%. In 2021, due to the massive Delta wave, there were more than twice as many infections, with 24.6 million people getting infected, of which around 333,000 people ended up dying. This meant that despite the brutal Delta wave, the CFR through the year was 1.35%, actually improving from 2020.

In contrast, 2022 painted a completely different picture. There was a total of 9.8 million infections reported in the country this year,

with just a little over 50,000 reported deaths from the disease. This means that the nationwide CFR dropped to around 0.5% in 2022.

But here, a major caveat must be mentioned – one that is dominating global headlines right now. Over the past few weeks, China has seen an explosive surge in infections in the country that has, according to reports, already started to overwhelm the country's health care infrastructure.

Reports emerging from the country (that has a notoriously opaque sharing of public health data) are suggesting that not just hospitals and ICUs, but also crematoriums are overwhelmed due to the case surge. So, the question to ask is that after a year of what finally appeared to be a turnaround against the virus, are we likely to see another surge that will push us back to phases of the pandemic not seen in the country since 2021?

The short answer is that it's not very likely.

The surge in China appears to be a unique phenomenon that is a result of factors that appear to be largely confined to that country. The primary reason is that majority of the vaccines used in China (CoronaVac and Sinopharm) have proven to be less effective against severe infection in older people. This problem is compounded by the fact that its age-wise vaccine coverage is opposite to India's: China has covered a higher proportion of younger rather than older people, as illustrated by HT's Abhishek Jha in a December 22 article.

Furthermore, the relatively mild Omicron surge appears to have given natural immunity to a vast proportion of Indians through 2022 – something that the Chinese populace has not

had thanks to the country's strict "Zero Covid" policies.

So then, how is the outbreak likely to unfold in India (and the rest of the world) through 2023? Despite the headlines in the past few weeks, it appears unlikely that the world will again regress to outbreak levels that it has seen in the past three years (and in 2021, more particularly). But that remains a theory that will need to be asserted in action.

The real reason the world saw a better side of the pandemic in 2022 was because it managed to stay ahead of the curve. Billions of people were able to resume their lives because of the onset of high-quality vaccines delivered at a historic pace. The importance of robust vaccines (ones that keep changing to counter the changing nature of the virus), timely booster doses, and precaution at a personal level, cannot be stressed enough.

While the first factor among those remains an action limited to scientists and policymakers, the other two are precautionary steps that can be taken by the common man. More than 700 million people are overdue for their booster shots in India at the time of this article being written. That's more than half the country's population that can easily be given added protection from the disease immediately.

While 2022 may have been the year humanity turned the tide against Covid-19, the next year must be the one that ends the pandemic (or at least as we know it). Booster shots, masking at times of case surge or mass events, are all tools that can ensure that the world never again goes back to pandemic levels that it has witnessed over the past three years.

WORLD & TECH 2022 THE YEAR THAT WAS

{ EVENTS TO REMEMBER }

XI SECURES HISTORIC 3RD TERM AS CHINA CHANGES STATUS QUO ON TAIWAN

China's five-yearly Communist Party Congress wrapped up in October with President Xi Jinping emerging from the event as leader for an unprecedented third term and introducing a new Politburo Standing Committee that is stacked with loyalists, cementing his place as the country's most powerful ruler since Mao Zedong.

The 69-year-old is poised to sail through to a third term as China's president, due to be formally announced during the government's annual legislative sessions in March - in the middle of a backlash over a Covid wave. Xi has overseen China's rise as the world's second-biggest economy, a huge military expansion and a far more aggressive global posture that has drawn strong opposition from the US. Tensions between Taiwan and China soared to their highest level for years in August after Beijing staged huge and unprecedented military drills to protest against a visit to the island by US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Beijing lashes out at any diplomatic action that might lend Taiwan international legitimacy and has responded with growing anger to visits by Western politicians.

UK'S LONGEST-SERVING MONARCH DIES AMID NIGHTMARE AT NO. 10

One would have to go back hundreds of years to find a monarch who reigned longer than Queen Elizabeth II's 70 years.

For most Britons, she was the only monarch they had ever known. Her death was arguably the most high-profile this year, prompting an outpouring of grief, respect for her steady leadership as well as criticism of the monarchy's role in colonialism.

The death certificate says the 96-year-old monarch died of old age at Balmoral Castle in Ballater, Scotland on September 8 at 3:00pm.

At the same time, Britain got its fifth consecutive prime minister in six years, the first of Indian origin. Rishi Sunak took office in October after his tax-cutting predecessor Liz Truss self-combusted in just 44 days - the shortest-ever tenure for a British leader.

Truss was chosen to be the country's leader after the forced resignation of Brexiteer premier Boris Johnson who was hit by a series of scandals.

RUSHDIE, ABE, IMRAN KHAN: HIGH-PROFILE ATTACKS MAKE THE NEWS

2022 saw a number of high-profile assassinations and attempted killings.

Author Salman Rushdie lost sight in one eye and the use of one hand following an attack on stage at a literary event in western New York in August. He wrote *The Satanic Verses*, which some Muslims consider blasphemous. The attacker confronted Rushdie on stage at the Chautauqua Institution and stabbed or punched him 10 to 15 times as he was being introduced.

In July, Shinzo Abe was shot and killed during an election rally by a man who said his mother was bankrupted by the Unification Church, which critics call a cult, and blamed the former Japanese prime minister for promoting it. It was the first killing of a leader in Japan, where guns are tightly controlled, since the days of pre-war militarism in the 1930s.

Former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan survived an attempted assassination in November when he was shot in the leg during a rally in the eastern city of Wazirabad.

The attack on his convoy, apparently by a lone gunman, killed one man and wounded at least 10, significantly raising the stakes in a political crisis that has gripped the South Asian nation since Khan's ousting in April.



THE YEAR OF CONFLICT

The year, which began with a modicum of positivity as the pandemic eased, quickly devolved into chaos after war erupted in Ukraine, its reverberations felt across the world, including in India.

Pramit Pal Chaudhuri

letters@hindustantimes.com

As 2022 wore on, the pre-existing fractures in the international order became deeper and more urgent. But the year itself had begun with great expectation: Covid was nearly over, the world economy flush with funds, there were new opportunities in cryptocurrency and a smorgasbord of startups were available to the intrepid investor.

Instead, Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24 and everything turned upside-down, except prices which only went up.

Though geographically isolated, the impact of the war has been global. Ukraine is one of the largest grain and edible oil exporter and the war's de facto blockade of the Black Sea exacerbated already rising food prices in the world. The 10 months of fighting, a throwback to the Europe of a previous century, have created a humanitarian crisis within the central European country, leaving at least 6.5 million people internally displaced, 7.8 million refugees across Europe, and more than 7 million without electricity as winter deepens.

The conflict has also interrupted climate policies as disruptions in the energy trade have sent fuel prices soaring and brought many coal-fired plants back in action in Europe, where Russia is the main provider of natural gas. Geopolitical tensions have revived the importance of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato), with Sweden and Finland shedding their strategic neutrality to join the alliance. At times, when Moscow felt it was on the back foot and concerned about Ukrainian incursions into Russia proper, nuclear language was used. As the US government has admitted, neutral players such as India played a role in ensuring that rhetoric did not become reality.

The conflict has also interrupted climate policies as disruptions in the energy trade have sent fuel prices soaring and brought many coal-fired plants back in action in Europe, where Russia is the main provider of natural gas. Geopolitical tensions have revived the importance of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato), with Sweden and Finland shedding their strategic neutrality to join the alliance. At times, when Moscow felt it was on the back foot and concerned about Ukrainian incursions into Russia proper, nuclear language was used. As the US government has admitted, neutral players such as India played a role in ensuring that rhetoric did not become reality.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

Europeans grumbled but, given the Ukraine war revealed how irrelevant their post-modern world view was, when push came to shove, they also found new salience in India.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

The other challenge was economic. India had come out of the pandemic with little fiscal space: a fifth of its budget was consumed by interest on debt. Given its dependence on imported oil, gas and fertilisers, it was left reeling when these prices went through the roof. The Modi government pulled out a few rabbits from its economic hat, including the controversial decision to buy discounted Russian crude and, just as importantly, urea. The government navigated Western sanctions on Moscow for the war with a geopolitical ladder.

SNAPSHOTS 2022 THE YEAR THAT WAS

ONE FOOT FIRMLY IN THE FUTURE

If 2021 was a year of starts and stops, 2022 was about moving on and striding forward. The changes that defined the year gone by will also largely define the year to come. In many ways, key pillars of the country — economic, political, judicial, infrastructural, and even sporting — experienced a shift.

India began the year staring down the barrel of another Covid-19 wave, as an ominous air loomed across the nation. But robust vaccine coverage ensured that the population, and economy, emerged strongly from the wave.

The country got its first tribal President in Droupadi Murmu, who was handed the keys to Rashtrapati Bhavan in July and will preside over a crucial five years for the country.

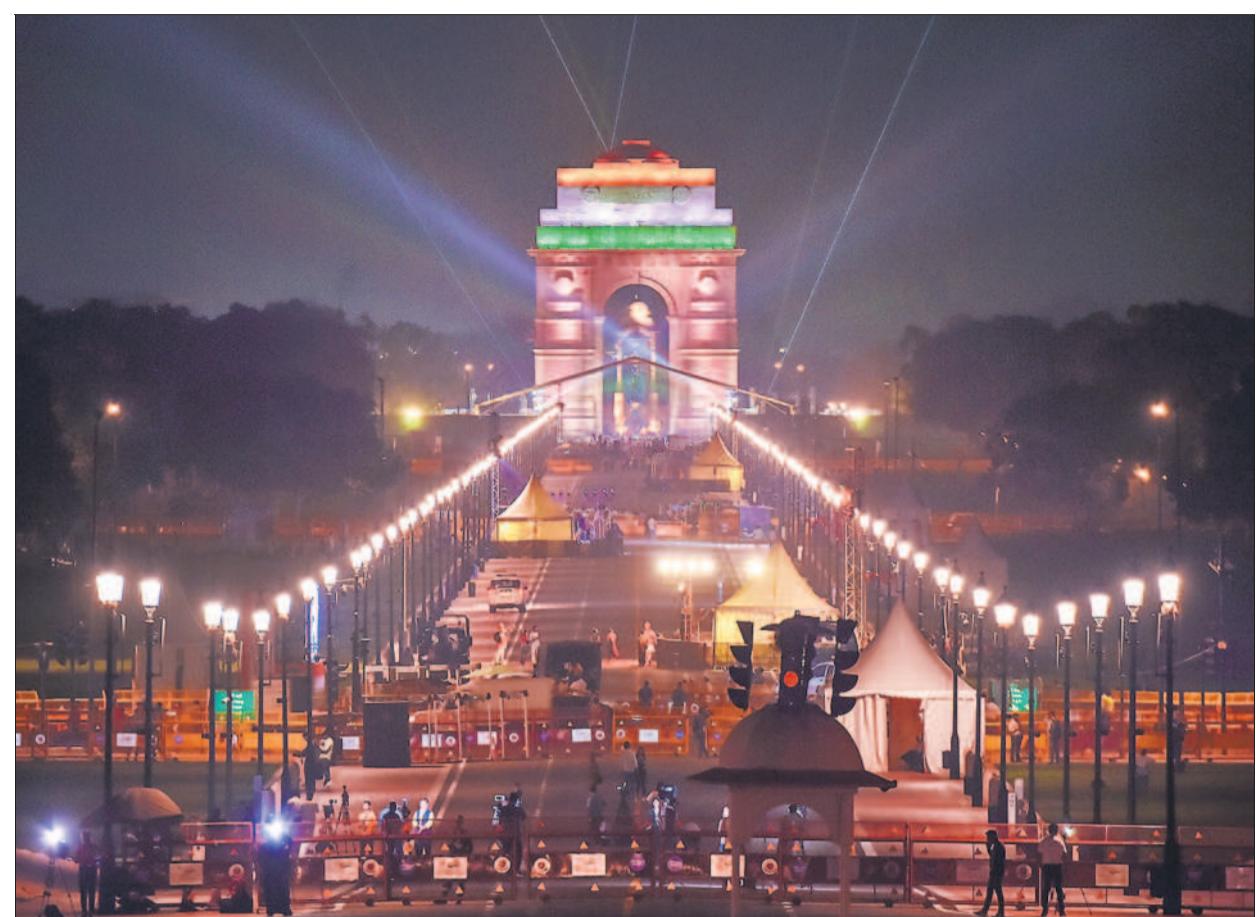
Meanwhile, three people occupied the top seat of the

country's Supreme Court. Justice NV Ramana vacated his seat in August, with Justice Uday Umesh Lalit taking over for 74 days, and overseeing key administrative shifts in his short stint. He then passed the baton to Justice Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud, who will be at the helm of the country's top court till November 2024.

Political turmoil wrought Maharashtra, one of India's largest states. Shiv Sena MLA Eknath Shinde engineered a rebellion along with other legislators and overthrew Uddhav Thackeray to not just become the state's chief minister, but also split the decades-old party in two.

The country also lost a political stalwart in former Uttar Pradesh chief minister Mulayam Singh Yadav, as well as the nightingale of India, Lata Mangeshkar.

As the year ends, we look at some of the images that trace 2022.



A NEW VISTA
The stretch from Rashtrapati Bhavan to India Gate was reopened after renovations on September 8 this year and rechristened Kartavya Path. It marked the end of a 19-month-long revamp project on the iconic stretch, giving it vastly improved public amenities, 16.5km of red granite walkways, refurbished canals, repaired and polished facades. During the inauguration, Prime Minister Narendra Modi also lifted the curtains off a 28-foot-high statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at the India Gate canopy.

RAJ K RAJ/HT PHOTO



INDIA'S STAR WARSHIP
INS Vikrant — the largest warship to be built in the country — was commissioned into the navy on September 2. The aircraft carrier, India's first indigenous one, will significantly boost the country's naval presence, reach and stature.

INDIAN NAVY

PRESIDENTIAL HISTORY
President Droupadi Murmu on July 26 scripted history and took oath as India's first tribal head of State. She secured 64.03% votes in the electoral college comprising politicians and state legislators and beat the Opposition's candidate, Yashwant Sinha.

HT PHOTO

THE MAHARASHTRA BATTLE
(Below, from left) Former Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray and his successor Eknath Shinde addressing Dussehra rallies at separate grounds in Mumbai, as the clash of the two Shiv Senas reached a crescendo.

PRATIK CHORGE & SATISH BATE/HT PHOTOS



KOHLI DRAGS INDIA OVER THE EDGE AGAINST PAK
Virat Kohli celebrates after beating Pakistan by 4 wickets during ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022 match in Melbourne on October 23. Kohli scored a blistering 82 not out, hitting consecutive sixes in the penultimate over to bring India back from the brink and help snatch an improbable win from the jaws of defeat.



NOIDA TWIN TOWERS FALL

The illegally built Supertech twin towers were wiped from Noida's skyline on August 28. The structures fell in 12 seconds after a series of controlled explosions around 2.30pm. On August 31, 2021, the Supreme Court ordered the demolition of the towers, upholding a 2014 verdict of the Allahabad high court, as it flagged the "complicity of the planning authority in the violation by the developer of the provisions of law".

SUNIL GHOSH/HT PHOTO



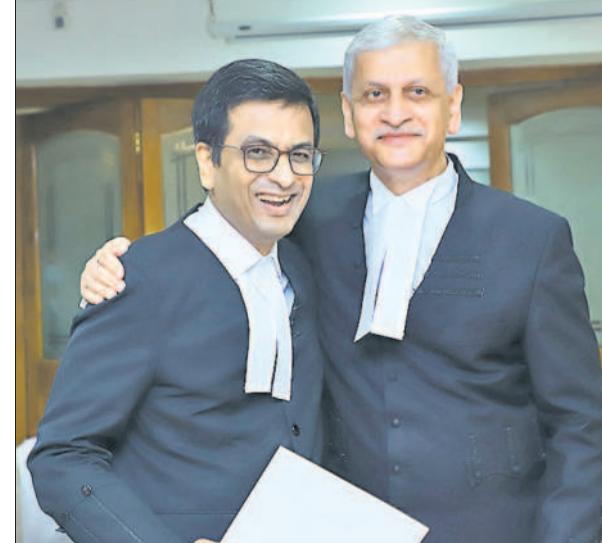
INDIA TAKES OVER G20 PRESIDENCY

Indonesia's President Joko Widodo hands over the G20 gavel to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Bali. India officially took over the presidency of the grouping this December.



CONG'S MARCH TRAVERSES INDIA

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with party leaders during the Bharat Jodo Yatra in New Delhi. The Yatra is a 3,700km-long foot march to revive the party's flagging electoral fortunes amid internal turmoil.



3 CJIs THIS YEAR

Justice Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud was appointed Chief Justice of India (CJI), after his predecessor Uday Umesh Lalit's 74-day term. The year 2022 became only the second year since the court's inception in 1950 when it had three different CJs in under three months. Justice NV Ramana retired on August 26 after a 16-month tenure. He passed the baton to Justice Lalit, who demitted office to Justice Chandrachud on November 8.

HTPHOTO

{ OUR TAKE }

The man who made football

Whether Pele was the greatest of all time or not is immaterial. He was the first, the original and the pioneer. The one who expanded the horizons of football and his nation, and set the benchmark for everyone to follow

The world of sport is constructed of moments, the little ones in which someone does something unbelievable that stays with us forever; of feats, the landmarks that exemplify the zenith of human achievement; of personalities, the larger-than-life characters whose tireless and idiosyncratic quest for excellence pushes the boundaries of what is possible; and of icons, who spread beyond the confines of their arena to define a generation. As Pele bids farewell, at the age of 82, in a hospital bed surrounded by his loved ones and mourned by legions of fans who grew up on his legend, the world lost a superstar who personified all of the above.

Pele gave us countless little moments of sheer joy — the flick-and-volley finish against Sweden in 1958, the bicycle kick against Belgium in 1965, the unseen pass to Carlos Alberto in the 1970 World Cup final. Such was Pele's range that he singlehandedly devised the next 60 years of football that would follow; doing the Cruyff turn before Cruyff, the Beckenbauer run-and-gun before Beckenbauer, the Ronaldo scissor kick before Ronaldo, and the Messi shimmy before Messi.

Pele's greatest global feats have remained unachieved six decades later — starring in a World Cup triumph at the age of 17 in 1958, fashioning the last team to ever have retained that title four years later, and giving Brazil a third world crown in four attempts in his Eastman-colour swansong in 1970.

The larger-than-life Pele's quest for the back of the net continued for almost two decades — his smiling visage served as the perfect foil for an insatiable hunger that resulted in a Fifa and Guinness Book record of 1,281 goals (including friendlies and unofficial matches) that were scored in every manner possible.

And his aura stretched far beyond the football field — he was one of the world's most recognisable names through the 20th and 21st centuries even in places he'd never visited, he was declared a "national treasure" who was entreated not to ply his trade in European clubs, and he put Brazil, until then for many westerners the land where the nut came from, on the world map as the "land of the beautiful game".

Over the last two weeks, ever since Argentina won the World Cup in Messi's final attempt at 35 years of age, the never-ending debate on who is the greatest of all time (GOAT) has been reignited, with Diego Maradona and Pele as the other two candidates. But the futility of that argument becomes apparent, when you consider that in Pele's case the real question is a different one: Was he the world's biggest sporting icon of his age because he played football, or did football become the world's most popular sport because it was played by him?

For Pele, GOAT or not, was the first, the original, the pioneer. The one who expanded the horizons and set the benchmark for what was to follow. As he told *The Guardian* in 2003, the one who never dies, but goes on forever.

Building a road map to end caste discrimination

Caste discrimination is alive and thriving in India. Three incidents reported from two extremes of the country underscored this unfortunate trend — the first where a temple in Tamil Nadu's Salem was sealed after entry was denied to Dalit devotees; the second was in Tamil Nadu's Pudukkottai, where the discovery of human faeces thrown in a drinking water tank meant for Dalit communities exposed an insidious system of caste segregation in the village; and the third from Uttarakhand, where the parents of children from the Dalit communities complained they had been made to sit separately from upper caste students in school.

This scourge has persisted despite decades of protest — in much the same way that violence against women has continued to roar

society. Every time an incident shakes the public conscience, like the December 2012 gang rape case, activists, non-governmental organisations and ordinary men and women pour into the streets, imbuing hope that misogynistic mindsets will see some positive change. The attitudes that are responsible for caste discrimination are not unconnected to the thinking that inflicts violence on women — a feeling of superiority that needs to be attacked with repeated blows.

Some of this horror came together in the grisly murder and gang rape of a 19-year-old Dalit woman in Uttar Pradesh's Hathras two years ago. Not only was a group of four upper caste men brazen enough to rape the young

woman while she was out in the fields, but due to the social marginalisation and vulnerability of the victim and her family, her body was later controversially cremated, allegedly without the consent of her family.

She was an ambitious, talented woman, reports said, who wanted to make something of her life, but her gender and caste locations were responsible for her unfortunate end, and for snuffing out the hopes of a better life.

Earlier this month, the country marked the 10th anniversary of the 2012 gang rape case, a moment in India's collective history that sparked a remarkable outpouring of anguish, forced the government to amend laws and brought conversations about gender rights into our living rooms. But these 10 years have also underlined the limitations of our movements. Statistics from

the National Crime Records Bureau showed that a crime against a woman was registered nearly every minute in 2021, and a crime against a scheduled caste person was committed every 10 minutes. Needless to say, Dalit

women, who fight the oppression of both patriarchy and caste, are affected the most.

This is not to say that our movements have had no impact. But we need to build deeper, more intimate connections of solidarity, and instil awareness about anti-casteism, especially among the caste elite who often participate in these crimes (think of the case of Payal Tadvi, who was driven to suicide in 2019, allegedly by three senior women students in a medical college).

There can be no liberation for women's rights while caste discrimination thrives. We are fighting for our rights, dignity and identity — in schools and colleges, offices, on the streets, in literature and inside legislatures. Whether it be the victims of Khairlanji in 2006, Delhi in 2012 or Hathras in 2020, justice can only be achieved when we pledge to continue to build a more sensitive and compassionate world for our women and marginalised groups.

Anita Bharti is a veteran Hindi author and rights activist
The views expressed are personal



Anita Bharti



Vinoba Bhave's Bhoodan movement, the Chipko movement, and the movement for a gamut of rights (information, work, food), to name a few, have played a crucial role in rising open spaces for rooting substantive democracy

HT ARCHIVE

Celebrate civic political action for its own sake

The battleground for substantive democracy in India has largely been outside the electoral arena in the form of citizen-led mobilisations. Movements such as *Bhoodan* and *Chipko* played a crucial role in entrenching democratic norms. In 2023, when state polls will dominate discussions, the challenge will be to preserve this space

Is our elite public debate impatient with the possibilities and promise of political participation outside the formal electoral arena? Put differently, should all forms of political action be judged by the yardstick of electoral outcomes alone?

It is widely acknowledged by scholars and observers that Indian democracy has been far more successful in rooting its "procedural" form — elections, separation of powers, judicial oversight — in society than its "substantive" form, namely free and equal citizenship, entrenching liberal democratic values in the everyday functioning of institutions and society, especially, the freedom of expression.

The battleground for substantive democracy has largely been outside the electoral arena in the form of organised civic activism and citizen-led counter-mobilisation, which at different moments has helped shift the elite-political consensus. Vinoba Bhave's *Bhoodan* movement, the *Chipko* movement, and the movement for a gamut of rights (information, work, food), to name a few, have played a crucial role in entrenching liberal norms and rising open spaces for rooting substantive democracy. In more

recent times, the protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) in 2019, the long walk home of migrant workers during the 2020 Covid-19 lockdown, the 2021 protests by farm groups against three now-scrapped laws have dominated the non-electoral political space, even as parts of India's procedural democracy have witnessed erosion and backsliding.

Yet questions continue to be asked about the significance of these spaces of political action due to their limited impact on electoral outcomes. Think back to the debates after the Uttar Pradesh elections in March and what was asked of the farm protests. It is true that many social movements have only limited influence on the electoral landscape, but the repeated search for electoral consequence in diverse forms of political action reveals an elite cynicism with the idea of political action for its own sake and its contribution to democracy. It also raises an important question — how should public discourse interrogate democracy between and outside elections?

In the arc of India's democratic history, the current moment presents an important paradox. As Ashutosh Varshney recently argued, India is a reasonably well-performing electoral democracy with largely free and competitive polls even as its liberal credentials have ever-widening deficits. Crucially, India's enthusiasm for voting is unabated — voter turnout touched record highs in the 2019 general elections and has only grown in state elections since. But this participatory upsurge coexists with an electoral grammar which is remarkably comfortable with any shade of authoritarian power and has limited patience with democratic norms (and this cuts across political parties). The public sphere has normalised polarisation and hate speech as a part of the electoral process, and political parties of all colours are increasingly centralised family firms. With the combination of money and muscle playing a key role in elections, their ability to adequately represent the aspirations and anxieties of voters remains limited.

It is against this backdrop that non-electoral political action, particularly in the present moment of widening deficits in liberal facets of Indian democracy, is extremely significant. Arguably, the very fact that dominant counter-mobilisations in recent years — such as protests against the CAA and farm laws — actively chose to distance themselves from the formal political sphere is an indication of the present limits of the electoral arena. But their contribution to democracy runs deeper.

Social anthropologist Mukulika Banerjee's masterful work on why India votes illustrates, from the citizens' perspective, the centrality of voting in empowering and creating a democratic citizen. The act of voting creates a sense of shared solidarity and equal moral standing — which is crucial in a society divided by many inequalities. But as she powerfully demonstrates in her book *Cultivating Democracy*, voter choices and the making of a democratic culture is a dialectical process shaped by the electoral and non-electoral dynamics of social and political life. Citizen-led political action that takes place between and outside elections — movements, protests or mobilisations — play a crucial role in shaping these non-electoral dynamics. They serve as critical training grounds for democracy and citizenship by performing three critical functions intrinsic to democracy — generating awareness, encouraging active participation and creating a sense of collective civic responsibility around a set of ideas and principles. It is in the intersection of these experiences of citizenship with everyday dynamics of social and political life that voter choices are shaped and democratic culture established.

This is the lens through which the role of political action between and outside elections should be interpreted: As a process intrinsic to the quest for substantive democracy. This is how we must see the role played by the dominant mobilisations in our contemporary political moment. It is for this reason that, regardless of electoral outcomes, political action for its own sake ought to be celebrated. This is also why the battle to preserve space for dissent, protest, and old-school argumentation will remain critical for saving the future of Indian democracy. This is the challenge for 2023, especially in a year when the political debate will be dominated by nine assembly elections, and the tone for the 2024 general elections will likely be set.

Postscript: As the year ends and everyone is scrambling to make lists, I put together a list of India's 10 most important welfare initiatives. It reminded me of how central non-electoral activism has been to creating India's welfare State. Remember, if we did not have vibrant social movements, the public distribution system and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, which sustained millions of people during the pandemic, would not have been created and preserved. This activism may not have had a significant long-term electoral impact, but it proved vital to preserving the life-line of India. We must fight for these forms of political action because they are essential to democracy, even if they may not always appear so.

Yamini Aiyar is president and chief executive, Centre for Policy Research
The views expressed are personal

For growth, bolster the manufacturing sector

Is India's recent push to catch up with industrial powerhouses in manufacturing misguided? Some commentators, such as former Reserve Bank of India governor Raghuram Rajan have argued against India's manufacturing emphasis as there is "no place for a second China", making a case instead for harnessing the potential of services.

I disagree. India should fully tap the potential of services, be it information technology and communication, education, health, accounting, legal, and tourism. But why ignore India's manufacturing potential, which is key to realising its development aspirations? As economist Nicholas Kaldor has argued, few countries, if at all, have achieved prosperity without industrialisation.

The transformation of an agriculture-dominated economy into a services-dominated one has been an achievement for the past 75 years. While the service sector has delivered robust growth rates, it has failed to absorb workers proportionately, leaving agriculture to sustain 46% of India's workforce with barely a 15% share of the gross domestic product (GDP). It has translated into low productivity, pervasive informality, and persisting poverty. Therefore, the structural transformation — where workers move from low-productivity sectors (e.g. agriculture) to higher-productivity sectors (such as industry and services) over time — has failed to take place in India.

This failure can be largely attributed to the country's inability to harness its manufacturing potential. The share of manufacturing value-added (MVA) in India's GDP has stagnated at around 16% compared to over 30% in the East Asian countries. The vision of a developed nation by 2047 will never be realised without providing decent jobs for everyone in India's young workforce. This will require harnessing manufacturing's potential to create millions of jobs directly and indirectly.

Furthermore, Covid-19 has exposed the risks of overdependence on a few sources for supply chains, leading to the trend of reshoring. In addition, industrial policymaking has seen a strong revival globally, with the \$50 billion in semiconductor subsidies by the United States (US) becoming the latest example. Against that backdrop, India's production-linked incentives (PLI) to revive 14 manufacturing sectors under Atmanirbhar Bharat can be seen as a part of the global trend.

What are the key manufacturing opportunities for India?

The most important opportunity is strategic import substitution. In 2021-22, India's merchandise imports totalled \$610 billion, which included \$300 billion of manufactured goods. What are these imported goods? They comprise machinery and other capital goods, elec-

tronics and semiconductors, and intermediate goods. They also include products earlier made in India but now outsourced to China to save costs, and low-technology and labour-intensive household electric goods such as toasters, wall clocks, electric irons, refrigerators and televisions.

A priority should be to reverse this deindustrialisation trend and bring back this production for local consumption, besides other products (including defence equipment) that can be made in India competitively, given the size of local demand. Substitution of 50% of these imports over the next couple of years could enhance MVA by 30%.

While tariffs and PLI schemes are helpful, India could also leverage non-tariff barriers and a competitive exchange rate in real terms. The protection should gradually be withdrawn to enhance competitiveness once the scale is built. The industrialised and newly industrialised countries have followed such sequencing in the early phases of their development.

The early results are impressive: India-made mobile handset exports crossed the \$1-billion mark in September. Although these exports represent assembly, that is how the electronics industry begins anywhere. Once assembling achieves a particular scale, the deepening of the local production happens with the ecosystem taking shape. As a result, several semiconductor manufacturing projects are on the horizon.

A strategy of export-oriented industrialisation, as pursued by Southeast Asian countries, may be challenging in the context of global recession and rising protectionist trends. Yet even a marginal increase in India's 1.7% share of global merchandise exports over the next

two-three years could enhance MVA, and add \$100 billion to India's exports.

Consolidating India's presence in traditional areas such as textiles and clothing, leather goods, gems and jewellery, processed foods, vaccines, generic pharmaceuticals, automobiles, and components, refined petroleum products, steels, and non-ferrous metals, some types of machinery and electrical equipment is vital while making inroads in new areas and markets. Moreover, India should fully harness the opportunity provided by the China+1 strategy adopted by global corporations to de-risk their supply chains.

Import substitution and export orientation are not antithetical to each other, as they are often posited, but complementary industrial strategies, as demonstrated by the East Asian countries. Building scales of production and leveraging domestic demand helps enhance competitiveness.

Green industrialisation also offers profitable opportunities in India. Manufacturing green hydrogen, solar panels, wind turbines, electric vehicles, and batteries, among others, provide promising industrialisation avenues while advancing the sustainability agenda. India can aim to become a global hub of compact EVs, batteries, and solar panels, among other sun-rise industries. Translating these opportunities for strategic import-substitution, export orientation, green industrialisation, and other sun-rise sectors can potentially double India's MVA to \$1 trillion by 2026, thus advancing the government's \$5 trillion economy target. Hence, India should move ahead with determination toward a manufacturing-led transformation.

Nagesh Kumar is director, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development
The views expressed are personal



Nagesh Kumar



Book Name:
Vivienne Westwood
Year: 2014

{ EDITOR'S PICK }

HT's editors offer a book recommendation every Saturday, which provides history, context, and helps understand recent news events

LIFE AND TIMES OF AN ICONOCLAST

Considered the doyenne of high British fashion, Vivienne Westwood, who melded music and fashion to help define punk for a generation while stoking one controversy after another for daring acts on the catwalk, died on Thursday aged 81, her family and eponymous fashion house said.

Westwood's career began in the 1970s when her radical approach to street style took the world by storm. But she went on to enjoy a long career highlighted by a string of triumphant runway shows and museum exhibitions, and marked by provocative stunts, from leather bondage gear to T-shirts decorated with sketches of naked men.

This week, we recommend *Vivienne Westwood*, a personal memoir written by the iconoclast along with biographer Ian Kelly, that etches a compelling narrative of the many events, people and ideas that shaped a remarkable career.

WORLD

U.S. SAYS CHINESE INTERCEPT COULD HAVE CAUSED AIR COLLISION

Associated Press

letters@hindustantimes.com

BEIJING: The US military says a Chinese fighter jet flew dangerously close to an Air Force plane over the South China Sea, forcing the American pilot to manoeuvre to avoid a collision.

US Indo-Pacific Command said in a statement Thursday that the incident occurred December 21 when the Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy J-11 flew in front of and within 6 metres (20ft) of the nose of an RC-135, a type of large reconnaissance plane operated by the US air force.

The US plane was "lawfully conducting routine operations over the South China Sea in international airspace," the statement said. Its pilot was forced to "take evasive manoeuvres to avoid a collision."

China frequently challenges military aircraft from the US and its allies, especially over the strategically vital South China Sea, which China claims in its entirety. Such behaviour led to a 2001 in-air collision in which a Chinese plane was lost and pilot killed.

The US and others have also accused China of harassing military aircraft and ships in the East China Sea off the Chinese coast and as far away as the Horn of Africa, where China operates a naval base.



This video grab shows Andrew Tate being led away by police, near Bucharest.

AP

INFLUENCER ANDREW TATE HELD IN ROMANIA FOR TRAFFICKING

Agence France-Presse

letters@hindustantimes.com

WASHINGTON: Former professional kick-boxer and controversial influencer Andrew Tate appeared in a Romanian court on Friday following his arrest for alleged human trafficking, rape and forming a criminal group.

The move came just days after Tate had a heated Twitter exchange with Swedish environmentalist Greta Thunberg which internet users speculated helped Romanian police to locate and arrest him.

Tate, who holds British and US nationality, and his brother Tristan were detained for an initial "24 hours", a spokeswoman for a Romanian body fighting organised crime, Ramona Bolla, told AFP on Friday.

Internet users speculated that the brand of pizza featured in a video posted by Tate in his angry exchanges with Thunberg helped police confirm Tate's presence in Romania.

"It's not related," spokeswoman Bolla told AFP.



Passengers register before a Covid-19 test at the Malpensa Airport in Milan, Italy, on Thursday. REUTERS

Chinese visitors see more Covid-19 curbs

China said all Covid data it has shared has been transparent as US considers airline wastewater testing

Sutirth Patrakar and agencies

letters@hindustantimes.com

BEIJING: South Korea, Malaysia and Spain on Friday joined a growing list of countries, including India, Taiwan, the US and Japan, in imposing restrictions on travellers from China, as the country said all the Covid-19 data it has shared - including with the World Health Organization - has been transparent.

Spain will require all air passengers coming from China to have negative Covid-19 tests or proof of vaccination, the government said on Friday.

Malaysia on Friday also said it will screen all inbound travellers for fever and test wastewater from aircraft arriving from China for Covid-19. It was not immediately clear when the new measures would take effect.

Earlier in the day, South Korea took steps until February next year to limit travellers from mainland China, imposing visa restrictions, testing requirements and limiting flights as Beijing grapples with a surge in Covid-19 infections.

Seoul's decision comes after countries including Italy, Japan, India and the US announced their own measures, which they say are a bid to avoid importing new Covid variants from China.

They cite a lack of information from China on variants and are concerned about a wave of infections. China has rejected criticism of its Covid data and said it expects future mutations to be potentially more transmissible but less severe.

China's hospital have been overwhelmed by an explosion in cases after Beijing began unwinding hardline controls that had torpedoed the economy and sparked nationwide protests. Around 9,000 people in China are probably dying each day from Covid-19, UK-based health data firm Airfinity said on Thursday.

It says it uses modelling based on data from Chinese provinces before the recent changes to reporting cases were implemented.

The Chinese foreign ministry said virus prevention measures of various countries should be scientific and appropriate, and should not affect "normal personnel exchanges".

"Since the outbreak of the epidemic, China has been sharing relevant information and data with the international community, including WHO, in an open and transparent manner," foreign ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said on Friday.

"We shared the sequence of the new coronavirus at the first instance, and thus making important contributions to the development of relevant vaccines, drugs in other countries," he added.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is considering sampling wastewater taken from international aircraft to track any emerging new variants, the agency told Reuters.

Such a policy would offer a better solution to tracking the virus and slowing its entry into the US than new travel restrictions announced this week.

Suu Kyi - sentenced to a total

{ UKRAINE 'CRISIS' }

Xi, Putin hail ties as war goes on

Associated Press

letters@hindustantimes.com

MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese leader Xi Jinping vowed Friday to deepen their bilateral cooperation against the backdrop of Moscow's 10-month war in Ukraine, which weathered another night of drone and rocket attacks following a large-scale missile bombardment.

Putin and Xi made no direct mention of Ukraine in their opening remarks by videoconference, which were broadcast publicly, before going into private talks. But they hailed strengthening ties between Moscow and Beijing amid what they called "geopolitical tensions" and a "difficult international situation," with Putin expressing his wish to extend military collaboration.

"In the face of increasing geo-

political tensions, the significance of the Russian-Chinese strategic partnership is growing as a stabilising factor," said Putin.

The Russian leader said he expected Xi to visit Moscow in the spring. Such a trip "will demonstrate to the whole world the strength of the Russian-Chinese ties on key issues, will become the main political event of the year in bilateral relations," he said.

Putin said military cooperation has a "special place" in the relationship between their countries. He said the Kremlin aimed to "strengthen the cooperation between the armed forces of Russia and China."

Xi, in turn, said through a translator that "in the face of a difficult and far from straightforward international situation," Beijing was ready "to increase strategic cooperation with Rus-

sia, provide each other with development opportunities, be global partners for the benefit of the peoples of our countries and in the interests of stability around the world."

In its report on the meeting, Chinese state broadcaster CCTV described the events in Ukraine as a "crisis". The term marked a departure from China's usual references to the "Ukraine situation," and the change may reflect growing Chinese concern about the direction of the conflict.

"Xi Jinping emphasised that China has noted that Russia has never refused to resolve the conflict through diplomatic negotiations, for which it (China) expresses its appreciation," CCTV reported.

In Ukraine, the general staff of the armed forces said in its Friday morning update that Russian forces had unleashed a total of 85 missiles and 35 airstrikes

on targets across Ukraine in the previous 24 hours. Russia also launched 63 attacks from multiple launch rocket systems, the military report said.

Following the first waves of missiles on Thursday morning, Russian forces attacked Ukraine with Iranian-made Shahed-131/136 drones on Thursday night and early on Friday, all of which were shot down, the Ukrainian air force said.

Some were aimed at Kyiv, Mayor Vitali Klitschko said Friday. Of seven exploding drones launched against the Ukrainian capital, two were shot down on the approach to the city and five over Kyiv itself.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said in his nightly video address that Russia hasn't abandoned plans to capture all of Donetsk, aiming to accomplish the goal by New Year's Day.



26 bodies found as search ends at Cambodia fire site

POIPET: The search for bodies in the wreckage of a burned-out casino hotel complex in west Cambodia concluded with 26 people confirmed dead. After 39 hours of rescue and search operations, there were also 57 injured survivors from the Wednesday night fire at the Grand Diamond City casino and hotel in the town of Poipet. Seventeen of the dead were from Thailand, one each from Nepal, Malaysia and China, and six bodies were yet to be identified.

AFP

Bolsonaro says no justification for 'terrorist act'

BRASILIA: Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro said on Friday there was no justification for what he called an attempted "terrorist act" after police foiled a man's plan to set off an explosive device in Brasilia last week in protest against his election defeat. In his final address before leaving office, Bolsonaro condemned the bomb plot.

REUTERS

Beijing gives HK chief more power in security cases

HONG KONG: Beijing ruled on Friday that Hong Kong's leader has the power to decide whether foreign lawyers can be involved in national security cases in the city — a decision that could effectively block a prominent pro-democracy publisher Jimmy Lai, the founder of the now-defunct Apple Daily, from hiring a British barrister for his high-profile trial.

AP

Suu Kyi faces 33 yrs in prison after final Myanmar verdicts

Agencies

letters@hindustantimes.com

NAYPYIDAW / WASHINGTON: Ousted Myanmar democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi was sentenced to another seven years in jail as her long series of trials ended on Friday, with the Nobel laureate now facing more than three decades behind bars.

A prisoner of the military since a coup last year, Suu Kyi, 71, has been convicted on every charge levelled against her ranging from corruption to illegally possessing walkie-talkies and flouting Covid restrictions.

On Friday she was jailed for seven years on five counts of corruption related to the hiring, maintaining and purchase of a helicopter for a government minister, a case in which she allegedly caused "a loss to the state".

Journalists have been barred from attending the hearings and



Aung San Suu Kyi AP/FILE

of 33 years following 18 months of court proceedings that rights groups have dismissed as a sham - appealed in good health, a legal source familiar with the case told AFP.

"All her cases were finished and there are no more charges against her," said the source, who requested anonymity as they were not authorised to speak to the media.

Journalists have been barred from attending the hearings and

Suu Kyi's lawyers have been blocked from speaking to the media. The road leading to the prison holding Suu Kyi in the military-built capital Naypyidaw was clear of traffic ahead of the verdict, said an AFP correspondent in the city.

Former Myanmar president Win Myint, who was co-accused with Suu Kyi in the latest trial, received the same sentence, the source said, adding that both would appeal.

The US on Friday condemned Myanmar's junta for the sentencing and Suu Kyi's demanded her release.

The Burma military regime's final sentencing of State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi is an affront to justice and the rule of law," a state department spokesperson said, using Myanmar's former name and the veteran leader's title before she was ousted in February 2021.



Floral tributes outside the home of British designer Vivienne Westwood (left) in London. AFP

Westwood sent a bare-breasted Kate Moss down the runway munching on ice cream, and almost broke Naomi Campbell's ankle when the supermodel failed to stay upright on a pair of her nine-inch platform heels.

And she held on to her edge even as she was embraced by the establishment, thanks largely to her energetic activism for environmental causes.

It was all a long way from the village of Tintwistle in northern England where Vivienne Isabel Swire was born on April 8, 1941 to a mother who worked in a cotton mill and a father who mended shoes.

"Fashion can be so boring," she told AP after unveiling one of her new collections at a 2010 show. "I'm trying to find something else to do."

In an ever-colourful career,

another big name of the fashion world, Marc Jacobs, wrote that she "did it first. Always. Incredible style with brilliant and meaningful substance".

"I've never forgotten her generosity and kindness in making that happen and saving the day," Cattrall wrote on Instagram. "RIP Vivienne. You are a legend."

For a sport that brings the world together like no other, Pele's rise from humble beginnings to soccer legend is a story of what is possible. Today, (first lady) Jill and my thoughts are with him and all those who loved him," said US President Joe Biden.

"After marriage too, she picked up all these responsibilities. Despite the onerous responsibilities and everyday struggles, Mother held the entire family together with calm and fortitude," he added.

WORLD MOURNS PELE Santos on Monday and Tuesday.

But the tributes were not confined to Brazil alone — extending across the globe from South America to Europe, the United States to South-East Asia, from Australia to Africa, to India. After all, Pele, born Edson Arantes do Nascimento, couldn't be restricted to the parochial boundaries of his country.

The international football federation (Fifa) lowered the flags of all nations to half-mast at its headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland, as a symbol of "mourning and respect".

From floral tributes to heartfelt banners and murals, the outpouring of grief has been apparent in regions, including India, where he made multiple

trips to the country.

He donated the canary yellow of Brazil for the first time as a 16-year-old against Argentina in 1957. By the time he finished playing for Brazil in 1971, he was the undisputed king.

Pele was also a prolific goal-

scorer at club level for Santos and New York Cosmos in a 21-year journey as a professional footballer. According to Fifa, he scored more than 1,200 goals in over 1,300 games.

Referred to as O Rei (The King) by his fans, Pele helped put Brazil on the sporting map at a time when his country was mired in poverty.

He showed that it is possible to come from the streets and climb the ladder of success provided you possess skill with the football at your feet. Pele had plenty of that. That Pele is the gold standard in a sport that has produced the likes of Diego Maradona, Zinedine Zidane, Lionel Messi and the two Ronaldos in recent decades is an apt reflection of his genius.

He combined artistry with athleticism and grace with gumption to reach the summit of his sport. His first brush with international stardom came in 1958 at all of 17, when he scored six goals to help Brazil lift the World Cup for the first time ever. His tally included a brace in the final against hosts Sweden as Brazil ran away 5-2 winners.

Brazil would add two more World Cup titles to their kitty during his time, helping the forward cement a legacy that is celebrated even 51 years after his last international game. Rest in peace, King Pele."

Former Germany great Franz Beckenbauer, who won the World Cup as player in 1974 and as coach in 1990, said: "Football lost the greatest in its history today — and I lost a unique friend. Football will be yours forever. Rest in peace, Pele."

Former England forward Geoff Hurst, who scored a hat-trick in the 1966 World Cup final

against West Germany, said of his contemporary: "I have so many memories of Pele, without doubt the best footballer I ever played against (with Bobby Moore being the best footballer I ever played alongside). For me, Pele remains the greatest of all time and I was proud to be on the pitch with him."

Lionel Messi simply said: "Rest in peace, Pele."



Scan this QR code to read today's e-paper for this week's Books page



ON FRIDAY, THE PM VIRTUALLY LAID THE FOUNDATION STONE OF PROJECTS WORTH ₹7,800 CRORE IN WEST BENGAL, INCLUDING FOUR RAILWAY PROJECTS

West Bengal, to be given the National Heritage tag.

Modi returned to Delhi on Friday evening.

Tributes and condolences poured in from across the world and cutting across political lines.

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida wrote, "PM Modi, I would like to express my deepest condolences for the passing of your beloved mother. May her soul rest in peace."

Newly appointed Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda said, "At this hour of grief, I express heartfelt condolences to PM Modi ji and his family members and pray for eternal peace of the departed soul."

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehzad Sharif also sent his condolences. "There is no greater loss than losing one's mother. My condolences to Prime Minister @narendramodi on the passing away of his mother," he said.



HT brunch



{ NEW YEAR OPTIMISM SPECIAL ISSUE! }

Three Like That!

Presenting creative achievers whose millennial way of life is idea-agnostic and refreshing

Photos shot exclusively for HT Brunch by
Shivamm Paathak

The creative entrepreneur

Rishiv Khattar, 34
The force behind NYC's hottest new restaurant, Koloman, is agnostic about creative pursuits

It is easy to dismiss Rishiv Khattar's success as a given. He's followed in the footsteps of his successful parents, after all. But there are two reasons why this 34-year-old won't let that happen.

One: In New York where new restaurants open every week, when Rishiv Khattar opened Koloman, *The New York Times* gave it three stars.

And two: like his father Rohit Khattar, the hospitality industry veteran, Rishiv refuses to be called a restaurateur!

Koloman is based on the European café tradition. Rishiv's last restaurant concept

was Comorin in Gurugram, with its standout drinks paired with Indian food. The former student of British School Delhi and UPenn has worked in public policy, dabbled with a start-up and is interested in literature.

"I want to have as many different types of experiences as I can, so boxing myself into one area seems limiting," says Rishiv.

—Jamal Shaikh

The information superhighway

Tanaya Narendra, 29
Her online persona, Dr Cuterus, is making

all the right noises about sexual health

On World Menstrual Hygiene Day three years ago (May 28, 2019), a millennial gynaecologist in Allahabad decided to start an Instagram account dedicated to sexual health. She called it @DrCuterus.

Dr Tanaya Narendra, aka Dr Cuterus, 29, now has 1M followers on Instagram, 25.3k subscribers on YouTube, and regularly posts verified sexual health information.

And, she's had a bright start to 2023 already with the release of her debut book, *Dr Cuterus: Everything Nobody Tells You About Your Body*.

Your passion is what drives you. For me it's music, for some people it's acting, for some people it's cooking. When you do that thing that really inspires you, time just flies.

ZAEDEN, Musician



(Left to right)
Rishiv Khattar,
Dr Tanaya
Narendra and
Zaeden don't feel
the need to chase
fame

HT brunch
Free weekend e-magazine of the Hindustan Times | Saturday, December 31, 2022

Sunday Debate
BOLLYWOOD CHOREOGRAPHY GOES TIKTOK?
Page 3

18 YEARS OF brunch

Faces Of The Future
Presenting three millennial achievers who are changing the narrative of fame and success

#FacesOfTheFuture

New Year Optimism Special Issue!

People are having a lot of sex. So, why not empower them with information that they need to make better decisions?
—Dr Cuterus, 29, Gynaecologist and women's health champion

Tanaya grew up comfortable with conversations about sexual health, unlike her patients. "Many preventable fertility issues are caused by a lack of information around sexual health," says Tanaya.

When she started @DrCuterus, Tanaya got a lot of flak from outside her family. But she decided to stay the course. "Why not empower people with the information they require to make better decisions?" she says.

—Karishma Kuenzang

The auteur of entertainment

Zaeden, 27

The DJ-turned-musician shows how evolving endlessly is the only way forward

By the time Sahil Shah, better known as Zaeden, was 23, he had DJ-ed at Tomorrowland, the world's most famous EDM festival. "But I wasn't really challenging myself as an

artist. I just wanted to learn more," he says. That's when he started writing and singing his own songs, releasing his first, *Tere Bina*, in 2019.

Now 27, Zaeden says, "Since I was a child, I've played every sport, I've played many different instruments. My mum says, 'maybe being jack of all and master of none is good for you.'

Reinventing himself is the best way for Zaeden to express himself. His new work, he says, is a departure from his previous sound. But he has another idea too.

"In 2023, I'll definitely be exploring acting," he says. "It'd be amazing to do *Dev D* 3 with Abhay [Deol] writing the script."

—Urvee Modwel

brunchletters@hindustantimes.com

Follow @HTBrunch on Instagram and Twitter

ART DIRECTION: AMIT MALIK; HAIR & MAKE-UP BY REKHA DAS



READ
the longer
version of this
story

This week in HT Brunch

MENTAL HEALTH

The real problem with the internet. By Nikhil Taneja



WELLNESS

Why you get the winter blues. By Luke Coutinho



FASHION

Seven ways to style scarves for any occasion



column { invisible women }

In 2023, here's hoping Indian women learn to use their voice

Irrespective of gender discrimination, we must ask for what we want, need, and deserve

December is a month filled with festivities. There is so much celebration, as if the whole world were united in bidding the year farewell. Then the infectious energy at the start of the year inspires us to make promises and look into the future wide-eyed and hopeful. I believe in miracles, magic, and manifestation. However, I also believe that without a clear plan for execution, very few of our doe-eyed dreams are within reach.

In 2012, after the Nirbhaya gang rape case, our country was united in its desire for improvement on the issue of violence against women. It has been a decade since that desire first manifested and what better time than the end of the year to humbly respect on what has happened since then?

Ten years ago, the initial reaction to the case was uproar. India's daughters were being violated and needed protection. The case resulted in many promises about empowerment, legal amendments to improve conditions for women, and the Nirbhaya Fund, set up to reduce violence against women. The fund was originally given ₹1,000 crores. Overall, it has been allocated ₹6,000 crores in the past 10 years. Alas, more than 30 per cent of the ₹6,000 crore Nirbhaya Fund—more than ₹1,800 crores—has not been utilised. According to activists, the fund is being mismanaged. Thus far, the money has been meant to be used to build one-stop centres that are safe places for women to escape to. The idea is to make secure places that can fast-track court

WOMEN HAVE A VOICE. WE NEED TO LEARN AND REMEMBER HOW TO USE IT. MOST PEOPLE ARE NOT GIVEN THINGS UNLESS THEY ASK.



India lags behind when it comes to progressive thinking and acceptability towards women

worsening numbers when we are making policies that should create positive change? India is one of the fastest growing economies in the world. Have we actually done justice to our female population?

People often say that women "need to be given a voice". I fundamentally disagree. That is not true. Women have a voice. We need to learn and remember how to use it. Most people are not given things unless they ask for them. Therefore, irrespective of the gender discrimination, our voices need to be

loud and our intentions need to be clear so we can ask for what we want, need, and deserve. Ultimately, I believe when we are able to take ownership of our needs and desires, we will create the tools required to create a long-lasting impact.

A new year begins tomorrow. Let's make it a good one for India's women.

brunchletters@hindustantimes.com

Follow @HTBrunch on Twitter and Instagram

Ahilya Mehta, 27, is an entrepreneur-in-residence at Nua, former co-founder of Aara Health, and has been in women's wellness for three years.



RANVEER ALLAHBADIA

Social media star

ACE THE HASHTAG GAME

Q How many hashtags are too many to be used in one post?
—Aneesh, via Instagram

Technically, Instagram allows a user to add up to 30 hashtags in a post. However, it won't add to the reach of your content as Instagram's algorithm keeps on changing. You need to find the right mix of hashtags as per your content, keeping a balance between the hashtag's reach and your follower base. These days with hashtags, less is more, so I'd recommend using no more than three hashtags in a post.



TAGGING ETIQUETTE

Q Is it okay to tag a celebrity in a post about them? What do I do if they repost?
—Shikha, Mumbai

One can definitely tag celebrities if the post is about them or around them, as long as it is not offensive. There is no harm in tagging anyone in your posts if it is associated to them. And if they repost, you can just be courteous and thank them, but don't spam them with messages.

Popularly known as BeerBiceps, Ranveer is a star YouTuber and digital marketing entrepreneur. His videos on fitness, grooming and wellness, and his recent podcasts, have won him millions of fans

BOOKS 2022 THE YEAR THAT WAS

Anup Gupta



Baked to perfection

Earlier this year, my daughter, who loves to bake, recommended that I read *The Theobroma Story: Baking a Dream*, written by Kainaz Messman Harchandri with her sister, Tina Messman Wykes. This fascinating story of the food-crazy Messman family documents how a small initiative that started in a tiny "hole in the wall" in south Mumbai (with just four tables) in 2004 grew to more than 50 outlets across the country.

This is the story of how a family came together to build a business they were passionate about, and how one of them, Kainaz Messman, spearheaded the effort and pushed to make it all happen. What touched me most was this amazing Parsi family's spirit of partnership and inclusiveness. I would recommend this book to everyone.

Most of us tend to give up when faced with a challenge. This book inspires the reader to keep at things. Towards the end, Messman writes: "I occasionally wonder what life would be like if we had stayed small. It is unlikely that we would have written this book or you would have heard of me." All I can say is that immediately after reading the book, I hunted for a Theobroma outlet and succumbed to the lure of their brownies. They taste even better than they look.

Rhythma Kaul



On thriving despite mental illness

I have never been able to pinpoint what prompts me to pick up a book. In this case, it's what Anand Mahindra, non-executive chairperson of the Mahindra Group, wrote about the author in his foreword to *Chemical Khichdi: How I Hacked My Mental Health*:

"At first glance, Aparna's life looks ideal. Raised in Mumbai and London, she studied at Oxford University and Harvard Business School... A former chief executive of a leading furniture business and from a well-known Indian business family, she is married with two children."

An ideal life indeed, was my first thought. But Aparna Piramal Raje, the author and protagonist of this book, suffers from bipolar disorder, and this volume documents her 20-year struggle with it. While the book is about Aparna's struggles, it is not a story of grief. Instead, it is an inspiring one that focuses on leading a fruitful life despite hardship.

The general tendency is to pass judgement on individuals and situations without giving a thought to what someone might be going through in their life. This book helps the reader empathise and see deeper. Extremely relatable, *Chemical Khichdi* was the best book I read this year.

Zia Haq



Stopping climate change

India saw its hottest summer on record this year, which scientists at Pune's Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology have attributed to global warming. A scorching heatwave in March shrivelled India's wheat crop, crimping output by 3 million tonnes. A patchy monsoon followed. Climate change is hurting. COP27, the big climate conference held in Egypt this month, achieved something yet nothing. It was, expectedly, a squabbling platform for the West and the Global South.

Climate diplomacy isn't working. That's the key inference of Charles F Sabel and David G Victor, the authors of *Fixing the Climate: Strategies for an Uncertain World*. They convincingly explain why big transformations needed for deep cuts in emissions must arise locally. Stopping climate change requires an environmentalist approach, not a diplomatic one. The authors show why climate change can't be fixed by top-down global treaties. They point to the 1987 Montreal Protocol, which protects the ozone layer, as a successful example of the environmentalist approach. This would entail governments and businesses working together to experiment with new technologies, learn which the best solutions are, and spread that information. If there's one book published in 2022 on climate change that's a must-read, it's this one.

Manjula Narayan



A clearer view of India

Hosting the Books & Authors podcast has meant I have to read a book a week. It's a good discipline to have, even if it means that I'm occasionally sleep-deprived and bleary-eyed. This year, my reading veered towards books that presented a clearer view of India by examining fresh, unignorable data.

Nalin Mehta's *The New BJP: Modiji and the Making of the World's Largest Political Party* and Nilakantan RS's *South vs North: India's Great Divide* were exceptional. While Mehta's book showed us that the BJP is no longer a Brahmin party, indeed more OBC in its rank and file, Nilakantan's work points out how different the north and the south of India are and the expected outcomes of the latter's increasing prosperity.

Nikhil Menon's *Planning Democracy* drew a great picture of post-Independence India's obsession with planning and of PC Mahalanobis, the "5 Year Plan Hero". But my vote for the most impressive book of the year goes to *20th Century Indian Art* by Partha Mitter, Parul Dave Mukherji and Rakhee Balaram. Beautifully produced and encyclopaedic, it provides expert insight on everything from street photography to Regional Modern and Dalit art. It's too formidable to curl up with, but you can dip into it frequently to understand the artistic impulses coursing through the subcontinent.

HT editors' best reads of 2022

From books on climate change and technophilosophy to political memoirs and photobooks, contemporary classics of Hindi literature and a portrait of queerness, this is a varied collective reading list



R Sukumar



From technophilosophy to sensory bubbles

I read at least one book every week in 2022; on most weeks, I read two (other than the guilty pleasures). So, I am not going to pick one book, but four.

The first, under the category of end-of-the-world-books, is Sequoia Nagamatsu's *How High We Go in the Dark*, a set of interconnected stories that deal with life after the world, as we know it, ends, again, because of some kind of plague: how we grieve; how we survive; how we endure. The second, under the category of non-fiction (which seems such a dull description of what the author calls *Technophilosophy*) is David Chalmers's *Reality+: Virtual Worlds and the Problems of Philosophy*, because any book that has a chapter titled *Is it likely that we're in a simulation?* has my vote.

Sunetra Choudhury



Information is control

When one of my favourite writers, Joan Didion, died in the last week of 2021, I started reading her classic work, *The Year of Magical Thinking*. It's a raw account of how Didion deals with the death of her husband. As she deals with debilitating sorrow on her own, she looks for literature of bereavement as a coping strategy because, she says, "Read, learn, work it up, go to the literature. Information is control." It's a great philosophy to adhere to and it certainly became my reading mantra for 2022. For instance, how do you deal with the vulnerability of aging parents? In their early 70s, the last two years have left them vulnerable and robbed them of the freedom they so

Paroma Mukherjee



A free-flowing exchange of ideas

Guftgu in Urdu refers to a conversation, a free-flowing exchange of thoughts and ideas. Offset Projects' first book, *Guftgu*, a first-of-its-kind deconstructed photo book, is exactly that.

Offset Projects founder Anshika Varma, also the curator and editor of the book, brought together 10 lens-based artists and photographers from South Asia to begin a conversation through their works in this volume. Jaisi Nageswaran's *The Land That Is No More* is a personal, public and political commentary on isolation. Mapping a portion of the journey that indigenous people affected by the Narada Valley Development Project have undertaken, the photo-

Roshan Kishore



Explaining the contradictions in our society

While I get through academic or quasi-academic writing quite easily, it takes a lot of effort for me to read fiction, especially when I am not on vacation. This year has been a welcome exception of sorts on this front, as I rediscovered the joy of reading Hindi fiction thanks to a friend's (he is a professor of Hindi) recommendations. One book that I loved was *Rambhakt Rangbaaz* by Rakesh Kayastha. There are many reasons why I loved it. The sarcasm and humour in the writing were reminiscent of Harishankar Parsai. To encounter such literary insight in what is otherwise a world of decadent popular culture in the Hindi belt was a pleasant surprise.

The book manages to capture the social fissures that the Hindi belt has suffered in the tumultuous period that has followed the 1990s, which is often described as Mandal, Mandir and Market in the journalistic lexicon. This book could be described as the post-Reforms sequel to another cult classic in Hindi literature, Shrilal Shukla's *Rag Darbari*. The protagonist, a Muslim tailor who can recite the *Ramcharitmanas* and goes by the name of Rambhakt Rangbaaz, sees his world turn upside down as communal fissures divide his locality in the wake of the Ram Janmabhoomi movement. Some of the best voices in Hindi fiction have done a much better job of explaining the contradictions in our society than have social scientists. *Rambhakt Rangbaaz* is a welcome addition to that tradition.

The third, under the category of nature books, has to be Ed Yong's *An Immense World: How Animal Senses Reveal the Hidden Realms Around Us*, which I am hoping to read over the next two weeks (my son is reading it now), but the essence of which I got from a cover story based on the book in *The Atlantic*. Why? Because it argues that every animal lives in its own sensory bubble, called *Umwelten*, and that we have the "profound gift... as the only species that can come close to understanding other *Umwelten*".

And the fourth, prompted by the Netflix show, was a re-reading of Neil Gaiman's *Sandman* graphic novels, a mix of fable, myth, and the classics—but within a universe of Gaiman's own creation. It is about dreams (and nightmares), but also worlds, and words.

As for the guilty pleasures (guilty because I have a huge reading backlog, on my Kindle and in every room of my house), I moved from Rex Stout to Michael Connelly to John Norman's *Gor* through the year, re-reading stuff just for the heck of it. Through December, I've been re-reading the *Flashman* books.

loved. That's where the wonderful book *Goodbye, Vitamin* by Rachel Khong came in. It's a story about a young woman moving back to her parents' home to help care for her father, who has dementia.

The plot sounds depressing, because how could dealing with a progressive condition that has no cure have a happy ending. And yet the book is surprising in its lightness. It reiterates what has been the great lesson for all of us through Covid: that we should enjoy the present and not worry about the future.

Among political books, the one I really enjoyed was Margaret Alva's autobiography, *Courage & Commitment*. It came out a few years ago but I never got around to reading it until this year, when Alva ran for Vice-President. It's the most honest Indian memoir I have read, with gems about things such as MPs going abroad and drinking too much, and what Indira Gandhi was like in private. If you want to know what politics is really like, this is the book for you.

graphs and text mirror the challenges faced by those displaced by the hands of power. In this case, it is Nageswaran himself, as a Dalit in India. In *Album As Method*, Diwas Raja KC examines the visual semantics of performance in the family albums of three women very important to Nepal's feminist movement. Nandita Raman's *They Live Where They Take Seed* is a nuanced visual work about roots and identity. Nida Mehboob's *Ahmadias of Pakistan* brings to light the discrimination against the community, including the criminalisation of their religious practices. In Arko Datto's *Dinos of Hindustan*, the visual commentary on technofascism and the psychosomatic stress of captive animals comes at the reader like political satire. Adira Thekkuveetil and Amarnath Praful, in *Acts of Looking*, question the location of the colonial gaze.

In the end, each zine that's part of this book is an iteration of the fluidity of the medium.

Zara Murao



Slaying the siren of infinite growth

Today, the Earth's resources are being managed only in the loosest sense of that term. The hope is that man and technology will somehow trump physics. In *Survival of the Richest: Escape Fantasies of the Tech Billionaires*, Douglas Rushkoff lays out why this is a false hope that even those peddling it don't buy. They're privately making getaway plans. What would it take to create tiny bases on Mars? How would they eventually safeguard their resources against, say, the workers within their fortified compounds? These are the questions Rushkoff was asked at a private meeting organised by a group of billionaires. They're gamifying the end of the world; they're not going to be the ones to save it, he argues, as he sets out to explore the Mindset that led us here. He traces it to the Age of Enlightenment, which placed science on a pedestal. Technosolutionists now control the narrative, with a small group of individuals wielding unprecedented amounts of financial, social and political power. Rushkoff's area of expertise is looking into the future to see where we and our machines are headed. So to hear him say that we're going to hell in a hand basket if we don't rapidly unlearn, can be jarring. It also makes for a gripping, enlightening read. Is this the end then? Rushkoff argues it is not. What then is the answer? Small, community-level living, to begin with. We still have enough, he says, if we start by slaying the siren of infinite growth.

Dhrubo Jyoti



A portrait of queerness

In the last decade, a flurry of books—fiction and nonfiction—featuring LGBTQIA+ people and their lives has hit the market. Yet none has been nearly as searing as *My Father's Garden*. Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar's fourth book was among the best I read this year. Its three sections that trace the journey of the protagonist through heady teenage days to more placid middle age and then the stirring denouement in a moving set of interactions with his father, sometimes jagged in their lack of continuity, though these imperfections somehow blend into an imperfect picture of queerness that the writer is able to conjure. Yes, the writing is uneven in places, but not since Sachin Kundalkar's *Cobalt Blue* have I seen an Indian author build this kind of portrait of queerness from small scraps of everyday life. Its intimate portrait of the awkwardness of desire, the changing vista of a small town and the struggles of marginalisation create a patchwork of queerness that is both comforting and startlingly unfamiliar. Can heartbreak be described so quietly? What is one's identity? How does history affect us? In asking these questions, and showing that queerness is often about things and people farthest from normative ideas of sexuality lies Shekhar's triumph.

Lalita Panicker



The ground beneath our feet

Author Amitav Ghosh has been taking up the topic of the many nature-related crises we confront, and he has done so again in *The Living Mountain: A Fable of Our Times*. The narrator is a girl who is part of the ancient Valley People whose lives are as mystical and magical as the great mountain in their midst. But until each life some rain must fall, and when it begins to, it pours for the Valley People, with the appearance of the Anthropoi who soon subjugate them. As with colonial rulers, the Anthropoi change the idyllic society of the Valley People and toss aside their aversion to climbing the great mountain. The mountain reacts violently and both the Valley People, now rechristened the Varvaroi, and the Anthropoi blame each other as they near the summit. It's all about how the human race, in its mad rush for advancement, fails to understand that it cannot sustain this without being in sync with the natural world. A little simplistic, you might say, but read with his other books on the environment and climate and the inherent ability of the human species to wreak havoc on its surroundings, it is clear that the author is telling us what many of us know but do not wish to act on. It does not offer any startling insight but it does tell us how little it takes for the ground to slip from beneath our feet.

Vinod Sharma



A celebration of Hindustani

Much of the material used by Yasir Abbasi, author of *Ye Un Dinon Ki Baat Hai; Urdu Memoirs of Cinema Legends* has been culled from Urdu film magazines he accessed from private collectors. It's hard to fathom why regular libraries in Urdu-speaking areas couldn't spot archival value in the magazines they junked.

For instance, by what stretch of the imagination could a write-up by Kaifi Azmi on Sahir Ludhianvi or one by Raja Mehdi Ali Khan on Sa'adat Hasan Manto be considered less than a work of literature? The same holds true of Khwaja Ahmad Abbas's impressions of Prithviraj Kapoor and his son Raj; character actor Iftikhar's take on his much-celebrated friends Ashok Kumar and Kishore Kumar; and the legendary music composer Naushad's engrossing story on the equally accomplished K Asif, who directed *Mughal-e-Azam*.

The book opens with Nargis's moving tribute to Meena Kumari (who died of alcoholism at 39) under the caption: "Meena, Maut Mubrak Ho (Meena, Congratulations on Your Death.)"

Many of the riveting passages in this book are at once a celebration of Urdu periodicals and of the language (Hindustani) that was the lingua franca of our Talkies in the immediate post-Independence period.

Jamal Shaikh



An unconventional life

My year in books was dominated by autobiographies, with everyone from corporate game-changers such as Indira Nooyi and James Dyson to film personalities Onir and Divya Dutta jostling for attention. One book from this pile stood out to me, for its honesty and insight. Kabir Bedi's *Stories I Must Tell* gives an account of an unconventional life lived as a constant quest for success.

Bedi was a much bigger star in Italy than he ever became in India. His open marriage and complicated relationships provide a voyeuristic flavour.

The most-read and talked-about part of the book has to be the one on Bedi's relationship with Parveen Babi, who achieved fame but battled mental illnesses and faced a tragic and early death. It made me wonder if two stars feeding on appreciation from others could ever provide each other the security of love.

The book also offers a ringside view of how brittle stardom can be, the evolution of ambition, and the politics of success. Autobiographies are often self-indulgent, selective, and delusional. But beyond all that, this book reiterated what I learnt years ago as a young entertainment journalist: fame is a double-edged sword. Use it to your advantage; don't ever be consumed by it.



Scan the QR code to read fuller versions of the editors' picks online



Classifieds {Saturday}

SCAN THE CODE
TO BOOK YOUR
ADS ONLINE -

www.htclassifieds.com

PROPERTY

DLF - SUSHANT LOK

FARMS

- WESTEND GREENS
- KANGANHERI
- ANSAL PUSHPANJALI
- BIJAWASAN - DWARKA EXP'WAY
- DHANSA MAIN ROAD
- RAJKRI

WAREHOUSE / INDUSTRIAL
LAND AVAILABLE NEAR
MUMBAI EXPRESSWAY
HIGHWAY, SOHNA (HARYANA)

NAVEEN SHOKEEN
9810300189

EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY

RESIDENTIAL

520 Sq. Yds. in Sector 46 (Best Location)
400 Sq. Yds. Corner Plot, Malibu Town, Sec-47, Shohan Road
263, Sq. Yds. Plot, Sec-45, 18 Mr. Road best for Builder Floor

COMMERCIAL

DSS Shop Corner Golf Course Road Sector 42
Kiosk on Main Golf Course Road @ 1.25cr.
27 Sq. yds. Shop on Golf Course near Cyber Hub

NURSING / CLINIC SITE

500 Sq. Yds. on main 18 mtr. Road in Sector-57
Golf Course Road, Sector-42, 340 Sq. Yds.
Sector-15, Part I, Near Shopping Centre, 300 Sq. Yds.

NURSERY SCHOOL SITE

18 Meter x 18 Meter Corner, Best Location
935 Sq. Yds. 3 Side open in Sector 56
862 Sq. Yds. 3 Side open in Sector 46

BHARTIYA ASSOCIATES

9899029578, 9810174051

BEST TIME FOR INVESTMENT IN GURUGRAM

DLF - SUSHANT LOK

DLF - SUSHANT LOK

**SABHARWAL
ASSOCIATES**
9711776151

**SAUDAGAR
PROPERTIES PVT. LTD.**
9718511207

ULTRA LUXURY Top Floor with Roof
DLF Phase-2 - 215 yds 3 BHK + Study
With Lift still North Facing Near NH-8, MG Road, Market, etc. Best Price.

Saudagar Prop 9718511207

3D BUILDCON
9999404040

DLF-4 CONFIRM Plots 500y(4500-
3000)-300y(2500), Cr. Filled 20y @
2.25cr. Sl. 1.33, Prk/Fac. Gated 737/
main behab 500/418y crnt plot/ext
fa300y-B/Bk east fac9999404040

**SDR
PROPERTIES**
Akshay 99997-85858
Sakshi 98110-31558

GREATER KAILASH-I, Corner Original
Plot 400y(3000) Bldg. 400y(3000)
F.F. SF. TF. 4 Beds D/D, Rich
Specifications. S. Kumar 98110-31558

DEFENCE COLONY D block, 325 Sq Yds,
Ground, Basement & First Floor,
NE facing. Excellent Construction

(LW-VY) 899954878, 9810117890

3D BUILDCON
9811162648

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20, 350y@2.25, 400y@
500y@300y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
100y@1.00y@2.25, 240y@1.00y@
200y@1.00y@2.25 DLF-2 old

CONFIRM PLOTS SL-1 B blk 502y@1.95
300y@2.20,

Centre raises interest rates on some small savings schemes

The interest rate for senior citizen savings scheme has been increased to 8%

Rajeev Jayaswal

rajeev.jayaswal@htlive.com

NEW DELHI: People who have small savings such as senior citizens accounts, National Savings Certificates, Kisan Vikas Patra and certain types of post-office time deposits may get enhanced returns from the first day of the New Year as the government has decided to raise interest rates on these instruments after interest rates in the economy firmed up substantially due to the central bank's intervention to tame inflation.

While the interest rate for senior citizen savings scheme has been raised from 7.6% to 8%, investors of National Savings Certificate (NSC), Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP) will now get 7% and 7.2% (with 12-month maturity) respectively from January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023. Currently, interest rates for NSC and KVP are 6.8% and 7% (with 12-month maturity), respectively.

"The rates of interest on various Small Savings Schemes for



While interest rates on post-office deposits have been raised up to 1.1 percentage points from January 1, the rates for savings deposit and PPF remained unchanged.

the fourth quarter of the FY 2022-23 starting from 1st January 2023 and ending on 31st March, 2023 have been revised..." a finance ministry notification issued on Friday said.

The government fixes interest rates for small savings on quarterly basis. The interest rates were, however, hiked for the second quarter in a row after rates were kept unchanged

for nine consecutive quarters. While interest rates on post-office deposits have been raised up to 1.1 percentage points from January 1, the rates for savings deposit, Public Provident Fund (PPF) and girl child savings scheme Sukanya Samridhi remained unchanged at 4%, 7.1% and 7.6%, respectively.

Interest rate for one-year time deposit has been raised from 5.5% to 6.6%, two-year

time deposit from 5.7% to 6.8%, three-year time deposit from 5.8% to 6.9%, and five-year time deposit from 6.7% to 7%, according to the order.

According to the order, the Monthly Income Account Scheme will earn 40 basis points more at 7.1%. The government started raising interest rates for these small savings after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) hiked policy rates to tame

inflation. One basis point is one hundredth of a percentage point.

In its last Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting this month, RBI hiked repo rate by 35 basis points, taking it to 6.25%, cumulatively raising it to 225 basis points since May 2022. This also prompted commercial banks to raise interest rates on deposits.

"In recent months, the RBI has raised the repo rate, which has caused an increase in the interest rates on bank deposits. This change has also had an impact on the interest rates offered on various small savings schemes," CA Tarun Kumar, direct tax head at Coherent Advisors, said.

Experts said the move cannot be postponed after RBI raised policy rates substantially.

Vivek Ramji Iyer, partner and national leader financial services-risk advisory at Grant Thornton Bharat, said: "Rising inflation has a tendency to reduce the real income of senior citizens as they are largely dependent on income from fixed income investments. An increase in interest rates on small savings schemes is a very positive initiative towards protecting the real income of senior citizens."

Experts said the move cannot be postponed after RBI raised policy rates substantially.

Vivek Ramji Iyer, partner and national leader financial services-risk advisory at Grant Thornton Bharat, said: "Rising

inflation has a tendency to reduce the real income of senior citizens as they are largely dependent on income from fixed income investments. An increase in interest rates on small savings schemes is a very positive initiative towards protecting the real income of senior citizens."

No major changes to import duty waivers

Gireesh Chandra Prasad

gireesh.p@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: The government is unlikely to roll back customs duty exemptions in the Union budget significantly but may increase duty rates on specific sectors to promote local production, a person familiar with the discussions in the government said.

In the current year's budget, the government announced the removal of duty concessions for nearly 400 items, including capital goods, farm products, medical devices, and textiles, to discourage imports and support domestic production, as seen in the previous two budgets.

"That exercise was undertaken after public consultation and has been completed. No further removal of exemptions is thought of at this juncture," the person said, declining to be named.

Duty concessions on highly advanced industrial machines may continue.



Duty concessions on highly advanced industrial machines may continue.

BLOOMBERG

domestic manufacturing.

These include sectors such as furniture and certain chemicals, said a second person, who also spoke on condition of anonymity.

The customs duty changes in the Union budget should be carefully calibrated considering the recently concluded free trade agreements and those at the discussion stage, said M.S. Mani, partner at Deloitte India.

Experts also expect measures that would improve the ease of doing business and facilitate trade. "The government had in the past offered amnesty schemes in the case of income tax as well as service tax and central excise (Sabka Viswas scheme). It would be desirable to offer a similar scheme for customs duty-related disputes," said Abhishek Jain, tax partner at KPMG.

increases in customs duties in several sectors to make free trade agreements with India more attractive to global trading partners and give the government a stronger negotiating position for such deals.

India is negotiating free trade agreements with various countries, including the UK and European Union, after implementing a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with the United Arab Emirates on 1 May and an early harvest deal with Australia on December 29.

An email sent to the spokesperson for the finance ministry seeking comments for the story on December 20 remained unanswered at the time of publishing.

The customs duty changes in the Union budget should be carefully calibrated considering the recently concluded free trade agreements and those at the discussion stage, said M.S. Mani, partner at Deloitte India.

Experts also expect measures that would improve the ease of doing business and facilitate trade. "The government had in the past offered amnesty schemes in the case of income tax as well as service tax and central excise (Sabka Viswas scheme). It would be desirable to offer a similar scheme for customs duty-related disputes," said Abhishek Jain, tax partner at KPMG.

Air India poses territorial risk to IndiGo in new year

Anu Sharma

anu.sharma@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: Aviation behemoth IndiGo has built its empire over the last 16 years from being a startup in 2006 to now the largest airline in India with more than 290 aircraft in its fleet and 500 more in the pipeline. The airline has managed a steady orderbook to tap the growing number of flyers in India and has also achieved profitability, aided by a low-cost structure, promoter support and shrewd negotiations in contracts.

The absence of steady and strong competitors has also seen the airline gaining significant market share post the end of Kingfisher in 2012 and the shutdown of Jet Airways in 2019. The low-cost carrier almost touched 50% market share in April 2019 at from 42.5% in January 2019 whereas the then state-run Air India managed 13.9% in April from 12.2% in January.

The market share of SpiceJet fell to 13.1% in April from 13.3% in January of 2019 while that of GoFIRST jumped to 10.8% from 8.7%.

However, more than three years and three covid waves later, a consolidated Air India backed by the Tata Group now poses a territorial risk to IndiGo. The Air India group has seen a major transition in 2022 with the takeover by the Tata Sons under a government-led strategic divestment programme in January and the decision to merge Vistara with Air India in November. The Air



The Air India Group has the second largest fleet size.

AFP

QIP fundraising plunges in volatile year for stock markets

Swaraj Singh Dhanjal

swaraj.d@livemint.com

MUMBAI: Despite a recent increase in initial public offerings, the market for qualified institutional placements (QIPs), a way to sell shares quickly to institutional investors, has been subdued due to choppy secondary markets.

The QIP market has seen only one deal each in November and December, and 14 overall in 2022,

when firms raised ₹11,743 crore through this route, data from primary market tracker Prime Database said. That's a 72% drop in funds raised through this route from 2021, when 35 firms raised ₹41,997 crore through QIPs.

Global macroeconomic challenges, including geopolitical tensions, rising inflation and interest rates, and recession fears, have added to market volatility and reduced QIP market activity.

"QIP is a bull-market product, and historically we have seen QIPs happening when the secondary market is rallying as firms would like to dilute shareholding at a higher valuation. In 2022, there was a fair amount of bearishness, especially in the first half, and markets were choppy, which didn't help the cause," said Pranav Haldea, managing director at Prime Database group.

The largest QIP this year was

that of real estate firm Macrotech Developers, which saw investors buy shares worth ₹3,546.9 crore, followed by AU Small Finance Bank and Indian Hotels Co Ltd, both of which raised ₹2,000 crore from their share sales, data show. Other firms that tapped the QIP market include Restaurant Brands Asia Ltd, Indiabulls Real Estate Ltd and Ujjivan Small Finance Bank, among others.

"The soft demand for QIPs is a

result of relatively high valuations and signs of soft global markets as well as early indications of recession in the West. This has led to muted demand from investors and hesitancy from promoters to initiate QIPs. This is despite markets showing resilience," said Samir Bahl, chief executive of Anand Rathi Advisors.

Bahl said QIPs have stayed muted even as the IPO market has seen strong activity as the

former offers limited pricing flexibility to companies, making it difficult to launch deals in volatile markets. "IPO markets remain strong, but the pricing of recent IPOs have been revised downward, and expectations have been reset," he said.

Haldea said the global macro headwinds and recession woes made firms cautious about fundraising plans, thereby lowering the appetite for QIPs.

Cement, coal, electricity prop up core sector output in November

Ravi Dutta Mishra

ravi.dutt@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: Production of eight infrastructure sectors expanded by 5.4% in November, faster than the 3.2% growth in the year earlier, on improved performance of cement, coal, electricity, steel, and fertilizers, data released by the government on Friday showed.

All sectors, barring natural gas, crude oil and refinery products, recorded growth in November. However, the core sector index for the month saw little change, remaining at 139 compared with October. The eight core industries, which comprise 40.27% of the Index of Industrial Production include coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilizers, steel, cement and electricity.

"With fewer holidays relative to November 2021, the growth of the core sector output improved to 5.4% in November from the marginal 0.9% in October, as the base effect reversed,"

"The output in refinery products contracted to a 21-month low year-on-year, while crude oil and natural gas output shrank by 1.1% and 0.7%, respectively. Each of these sectors has witnessed a reduction in output now for two, six and five months, respectively," Pant added.

The growth rate of coal, fertilizers, steel, cement and electricity stood at 12.3%, 6.4%, 10.8%, 28.6% and 12.1%, respectively, in November. On the other hand, the output of crude oil, natural gas and petroleum refinery products declined by 1.1%, 0.7% and 9.3%, respectively.

While the IIP will also display an improvement to a 3-4% growth in November from the contraction in the previous month, its performance may trail that of the core industries, given the drag imposed by weaker exports, Nayar added.

India Ratings said steel and cement sectors may see strong growth on sustained capex support from states and the Centre.

said Aditi Nayar, chief economist at ICRA.

However, the recovery underway isn't broad-based as refinery products, crude oil and natural gas continue to pull down growth in the core sector output in November, said Devendra Kumar Pant, chief economist at India Ratings.

"The final chapter to this bear market is all about the path of earnings estimates, which are far too high," according to Morgan Stanley's Mike Wilson, a Wall Street bear who predicts earnings of \$180 per share in 2023 for the S&P 500, versus analysts' expectations of \$231.

The upcoming earnings recession may rival 2008, and markets are yet to price it in, he said.

Previously resilient corporate profits are widely expected to crumble in 2023, as pressure builds on margins and consumer demand weakens.

"The final chapter to this bear market is all about the path of earnings estimates, which are far too high," according to Morgan Stanley's Mike Wilson, a Wall Street bear who predicts earnings of \$180 per share in 2023 for the S&P 500, versus analysts' expectations of \$231.

The upcoming earnings

Adani acquires 27.26% more stake in NDTV for ₹602 crore

Gaurav Laghate

gaurav.laghate@livemint.com

MUMBAI: Gautam Adani, the world's third-richest man, took majority control of New Delhi Television, or NDTV, after founders Prannoy Roy and Radhika Roy sold a 27.26% stake in NDTV to an Adani unit for ₹602 crore in several block deals.

On Friday, Adani Enterprises, through its indirect subsidiary, RRPR Holdings, acquired an additional 17.6 million shares of NDTV for ₹342.65 apiece from the Roy family.

The transaction, which was at a nearly 17% premium to what minority shareholders were offered in an open offer that ended on December 5, increased Adani's stake in NDTV to 64.7%.

Shares of NDTV rose 0.1% to ₹345.60 on BSE on Friday.

The transactions were done



The transaction increased Adani Group's stake in NDTV to 64.7%.

REUTERS

through an inter-se transfer under the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) Regulations, 2011, which allows share transfer at a premium to the current market price if the firm is an existing promoter

group.

RRPR Holdings was initially an NDTV promoter group firm, which Adani Group's AMG Media Network acquired in August by converting warrants. Following the acquisition, Adani Group announced an open offer to buy 26% more of NDTV in accordance with Sebi's takeover regulations and increased its holding to 37.45%.

On December 23, the Roy family announced their plan to sell a significant part of their stake to Adani Group, keeping only 5% of the company they founded. The transfer was done on Friday morning in four block deals.

In August, Adani acquired Vishvapradhan Commercial, a company that extended a loan of ₹403.85 crore to RRPR Holdings in 2009-10 in lieu of warrants, convertible into a 99.9% stake in RRPR Holdings if the loan was not repaid.

After \$18 tn rout, global stocks face more hurdles in 2023

Bloomberg

feedback@livemint.com

More tech tantrums. China's Covid surge. And above all, no central banks riding to the rescue if things go wrong. Reeling from a record \$18 trillion wipeout, global stocks must surmount all these hurdles and more if they are to escape a second straight year in the red.

With a drop of more than 20% in 2022, the MSCI All-Country World Index is on track for its worst performance since the 2008 crisis, as jumbo interest rate hikes by the Federal Reserve more than doubled 10-year Treasury yields — the rate underpinning global capital costs.

Bulls looking ahead at 2023 might take solace in the fact that two consecutive down years are rare for major equity markets — the S&P 500 index has fallen for two straight years on just four occasions since 1928. The scary thing though, is

WITH A DROP OF MORE THAN 20% IN 2022, THE MSCI ALL-COUNTRY WORLD INDEX IS ON TRACK FOR ITS WORST SHOW SINCE THE 2008 FINANCIAL CRISIS

alize. A Bloomberg Economics model shows a 100% probability of recession starting by August, yet it looks unlikely central banks will rush in with policy easing when faced with cracks in the economy, a strategy they deployed repeatedly in the past decade.

Policymakers, at least in the US and Europe, now appear resigned to weaker economic growth in 2023. Deutsche Bank Private Bank's global chief investment officer Christian Nolting told clients in a note. Recessions might be short but

"will not be painless," he warned.

A big unknown is how tech mega-caps fare, following a 35% slump for the Nasdaq 100 in 2022. Companies such as Meta Platforms Inc. and Tesla Inc. have shed some two-thirds of their value, while losses at Amazon.com Inc. and Netflix Inc. neared or exceeded 50%.

Expensively-valued tech stocks do suffer more when interest rates rise. But other trends that supported tech's advance in recent years may also go into reverse —

buzz

D. K. Madan assumes charge as CVO of POWERGRID

DK. Madan has assumed the charge of Chief Vigilance Officer of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited. Prior to this, he was working as Director (Chemical) in Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers. He has been on the board of PSUs- HCL, HIL & HFL as "Government Nominee Director".

NHB extends concessional funding under a few segments

National Housing Bank (NHB) has been extending enhanced concessions in interest rates to the extent of 25 to 30 bps under its Liberalised Refinance Scheme to the eligible Primary Lending Institutions. In view of the Nation's commitment at COP26 to reach net-zero by 2070, NHB has decided to extend 100 bps concession for loans under Green Housing.

Vishwakarma University implements RPL in Haryana universities

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) in Vocational and Higher Education model of Shri Vishwakarma Skill University will now be implemented in the entire State and Technical Universities of Haryana State. Higher Education Department of Haryana has entrusted Shri Vishwakarma Skill University with the task of implementing RPL in all other State and Technical universities of the State.

NDMC announces Budget 2023-24 in a special council

The NDMC Budget 2023-24 presentations in its special council meeting were presided over by Amit Yadav - Chairman NDMC. He said that the prospects for the ensuing financial year are more promising. He presented the annual Budget with financial projections. The total receipts of the Budget Estimates (BE) 2023-24 are Rs 4743.41 Crore against Rs 4222.70 Crore provided in Revised Estimate (RE) 2022-23.

Amrit Bharat Station Scheme formulated for Indian Railways

The Ministry of Railways has formulated a new policy for the modernisation of stations named "Amrit Bharat Station" scheme. It envisages development of stations continuously with a long-term vision. It is based on master planning for long term and implementation of the elements as per the needs and patronage of the station. The scheme aims at enhancing facilities including and beyond the MEA and aiming for creation of roof plazas and city centres at the station in long run.

Union Minister Anurag Thakur unveils official GoI calendar for 2023

Union Minister Anurag Thakur released the Official Government of India Calendar for the year 2023. Speaking on the occasion the Minister said that the calendar is a reflection of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's belief of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas. He commended the calendar for being an impressive collection of 12 images depicting a dynamically growing India. He further highlighted that the 12 themes for the 12 months are a glimpse into the strenuous efforts made by the Government towards public welfare.

The Minister recalled that the calendar is being printed in a physical form after a gap of two years when the calendar had only been brought out in a digital format.

H9N2 vaccine for chickens developed by ICAR-NISAD

Inactivated low pathogenic avian influenza (H9N2) vaccine for chickens, developed by ICAR-NISAD, Bhopal was transferred to M/s Globion India, Secunderabad, M/s Venkateshwara Hatcheries, Pune, M/s Indovax, Gurgaon and M/s Hester Biosciences, Ahmedabad on Dec 30.

MoHUA's key initiatives for India's Urban Rejuvenation

Rankings, 2022' and 'City Beauty Competition - were launched. Manoj Joshi, Secretary, MoHUA and other senior officials from Ministry attended the event.

Hardeep S. Puri, Union Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs addressed an event organised by MoHUA, where two key initiatives of Ministry- 'City Finance

India Internet Governance Forum 2022 concludes

The second edition of India Internet Governance Forum 2022, a multistakeholder platform, was a three-day event which started from Dec 9 till Dec 11. At the

forum, the focus was on issue related to the past, present and future of the internet. IIGF was conducted jointly by MeitY, NIXI and multistakeholder group.

'Bijli Utsav' organised by REC in Assam

As a part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', REC Limited organised 'Bijli Utsav' in Anandapur Gaon of Baksa district and adjoining villages in Assam. Numerous dignitaries such as Katiarm Boro, Speaker - Bodoland Territorial Council graced the occasion and conducted sessions.

EssenceMediacom, South Asia new CEO, CSTO announced

Following GroupM's announcement of a global merger of Essence and MediaCom to form EssenceMediacom earlier this year, GroupM India has confirmed the elevations of Navin Khemka as CEO and Sonali Malaviya as Chief Strategy and Transformation Officer for EssenceMediacom South Asia. Navin and Sonali will play a powerful role in driving the integration of the digital and data-driven DNA of Essence with MediaCom's multichannel, audience planning and strategic media expertise, facilitating client

growth globally through an agile response to an ever-evolving media landscape.

Prasanth Kumar, CEO - GroupM South Asia said, "Both Navin and Sonali are inspirational leaders and under their leadership for MediaCom and Essence, they have been consistent in their efforts for the transformation of agency businesses. With both agencies coming together, we all are excited and confident that we will continue to strengthen our client relationships and focus on our people and capabilities."

MoC&F interacts with farmers and retailers

Union Minister of Chemical & Fertilizers, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya virtually addressed farmers who gathered at around 9000 PMSKS across the country. He also interacted with farmers and retailers of PMSK of six states namely Raigarh, Kota, Dewas, Vadodara, Eluru and Rajapura.



Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited has realigned its vision of expanding its network to enhance its business after the listing of the Bank's shares in the stock exchanges. The bank opened two new branches at Thevur, Salem District, TN and at Koyambedu, Chennai, TN on Dec 29. Executives and staff members from the Bank, customers and the public participated in the function.



Kambham Vinay, a mechanical engineering student of VIT-AP, university, Amaravati won 2 gold medals with his splendid performance at the 25th AITA National ITF Taekwon-do Championship -2022 held in Ongole, Prakasam District of Andhra Pradesh. He won a gold in 64kgs power-breaking category and another gold in sparring category of the Taekwon-do championship - 2022.



Engineers India Limited (EIL) has been conferred with ET Ascent Star Industry Award in category 'Best Overall Excellence in CSR' for the Company's commendable performance in the area of CSR. The award was received by AK Kalra, Director (HR), EIL & Abhijit Roy, GM (CC & CSR), EIL during the 16th Edition of Star Industry Award ceremony held on December 22 in Delhi.



As part of India's G20 presidency, the Minister for Electronics & IT, Communications and Railways, Ashwini Vaishnaw launched the "Stay Safe Online" campaign and the "G20 Digital Innovation Alliance" on Dec 30. The event was graced by Amitabh Kant, G20 Sherpa, dignitaries from Union Ministries and departments, representatives of Embassies and Consulates.



Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MOS PMO, Dr Jitendra Singh stated that beginning from Jan 1, 2023, National Research Development Corporation will undertake Technology Commercialisation for benefit of Start-Ups. He presided over a meeting with Secretary, DSIR and officials of NRDC.



On December 27, Vice Chancellor of Gurugram University Prof. Dinesh Kumar has launched the portal of e-migration in a program organised on the occasion of Good Governance Day. Under this, students will no longer have to rush to university to get migration certificate, now students would be able to complete this process through online medium by sitting at home.

HT Classifieds Saturday

SCAN THE CODE
TO BOOK YOUR
ADS ONLINE →

www.htclassifieds.com

SHOP & BUY

30% discount
Till 10 January
THE VARIETY
BOOK DEPOT
ONE STOP BOOK SHOP FOR BOOK LOVERS
M-3, First Floor, Connaught Place, Middle Circle,
New Delhi-110001 • Mob: 9891516868, 9899944709
Email : varietybookdepot@gmail.com

BUSINESS

KONICA MINOLTA
PREMIUM PERFORMANCE AT AFFORDABLE PRICE
Special Rental Scheme for Corporates, SME's & Institutes
bizhub C226i
Monochrome Output upto A3
Multi-Touch Screen, Wireless LAN
V D INTERNATIONAL
098114 19032 & 7210116602
sales@vdinternational.in

**Advertising Rates**

HT (D) Classified CD/Block: ₹150/- per sq.cm (B/W & Color)

HT+HH (D) Classified CD/Block: ₹220/- per sq.cm (B/W & Color)

Publication Date : 1 / 2 January 2023

To book your ad, contact us:

WEST DELHI: Amit. Raj: 9891984320 | NORTH DELHI: Vishal: 9910249013

EAST & CENTRAL DELHI: Sumit : 9899268321

SOUTH DELHI: Abhishek: 9899865804, Rohit: 9910207577

CENTRAL DELHI: Prayag: 9999084347 | GURGAON/FARIDABAD: Ranjeet: 9911819105

NOIDA/GHAZIABAD: Gaurav : 8630242501 | Telebooking : 1800-103-1800

BUSINESS**FOR SALE**

RUNNING MEDICAL diagnostic centre with digital X-ray, current annual business approx 40 Lacs at Kharibabu, NFT for immediate sale. Also LIC panel. # 620463485

HTHT

Readers are recommended to make all enquiries and seek appropriate advice before acting on any advertisement appearing in this publication. Any subscriber sending money, incurring any expenses or acting on any medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication, shall do so entirely at his/her discretion, intelligence and risk. The Company, Publisher or any of its employees do not vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of products and services and shall not be held liable for any damage, loss, consequences, suffered by any person on account of relying on such advertisements.

Your protection is our priority

Six easy steps to book your ad

1 Call us our Tele-booking No. 1800-103-1800 or Email: ad.booking@hindustantimes.com

2 Get assistance from our Reader Relationship Executive in availing the best schemes and offers

3 Pay for your Ad using:

• Cash collection from your doorstep

• Online through credit card

htclassifieds

Specify the category, Ad type, your ad message or artwork

4 Have your Classified Display Ad professionally designed by our in-house designers

5 Get your Advertisement published in the newspaper.

hindustantimes.com

Protecting you and providing a secure environment is and always has been a top priority for all our customers. To ensure a safe transaction with HT Media Ltd., we have added some security measures for all our bookings made through S.E.A.L.
• For all transactions, always insist on noting down a unique receipt number. Also please use this unique number for all communications with HT SEAL and while handing of cash and cheques.
• Always check for a hologram sticker on the receipt and the receipt number
• For all queries, rely safely on contacting our Number / Email : htclassifieds 1800 103 1800 ad.booking@hindustantimes.com

Govt. of Bihar**Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited**

A Government of Bihar Undertaking

INVITATION FOR RE-TENDER

FOR

Construction of Crematorium (Electrical & Wooden) in Jamui Nagar Parishad Under Nischay-2

(Through e-procurement mode only- www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

NIT No-01/2022-23

Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (BUIDCo) invites bids from eligible experienced Firms/Contractors/Agencies/Bidders registered in appropriate category in any government organisation/PSUs for execution of works as given below:-

Sr. No .	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (INR)	Bid Security (EMD) (INR)	Bid Document (INR)	Bid Processing Fee with GST (INR)	Time for completion
1	Construction of Crematorium (Electrical 01 01 Set) in Jamui, Nagar Parishad, Bihar under Nischay-2	2,09,23,697.00	4,18,500.00	11,800.00	5900.00	12 Months

- B. Date of Downloading of Bid Document : From 09.01.2023 to 06.02.2023 up to 12:00 P.M. Through website :www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in .
- C. Place & Date of pre-bid meeting : Date:-12.01.2023, Time 03.00 P.M.; BUIDCo Office, West Boring Cannan Road (Rajapul) Patna, Bihar, PIN -800 001
- D. Last date of Receiving Queries : Date:-13.01.2023, Time 05.00 P.M.
- E. Last Date and time for uploading of bid : Date:-07.02.2023 up to 03.00 P.M. Through website :www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in .
- F. Last Date and time for submission of hard copy of bid : Date:-08.02.2023, Time 03.00 P.M.
- G. Time & Date of opening technical bids : Date:-08.02.2023, Time 04.00 P.M.
- H. Time & date of opening financial bids : To be communicated later on.
- I. Place of opening of Bid : Through website :www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in .
- J. Periods of bids validity : 120 Days.
- K. Officer inviting bids : 1. Project Director, Urban Development Division, Jamui, Buidco
2. General Manager, South Bihar, Buidco, Patna
3. Chief General Manager, Buidco, Patna
- L. For participation in E-tendering proc, the contractor shall have to get themselves registered to get User ID, Password & digital signature. This will enable accessing the website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in & download/participate in E-tender.
- M. The tender documents can be obtained through our website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in & http://buidco.in.
- N. (i) Bid processing fees to be paid through online mode i.e. Internet payment gateway (Credit/Debit Card), Net Banking, NEFT/RTGS.
(ii) Bids along with necessary online payments must be submitted through e-procurement portal www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in before the date & time specified in the NIT. The department does not take any responsibility for the delay/Non availability of internet connection, Network Traffic/Holidays or any other reasons"
- O. Bid document cost should be paid by draft of any scheduled banks payable in favour of Managing Director, Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd, Original Bank Draft will have to be submitted in the office of Project Director, Urban Development Division, Jamui Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd, Near 1st floor Nagar Parishad Building, Jamui-811307 on or before 03:00 PM on 08.02.2023 failing which the tender will be rejected. The Estimated Cost may increase or decrease. All the information/corrigendum/addendum related to the project shall be published on the website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in and www.buidco.in.
- Q. The authority shall have the right to reject the bid without assigning any reason what so ever. For any information department help line No. 18003456109 may be used
- R. Estimate amount may vary. So EMD will be deposited as per Technical Sheet uploaded on the website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in
- S. Further details of works can be obtained from the office of Project Director, Urban Development Division, Jamui, Buidco, General Manager, South Bihar, Buidco, Patna & Chief General Manager, Buidco, Patna For clarification, regarding the E-tendering process, please contact e-procurement, Helpdesk, first Floor, M/22, Bank of India Building, Road No-25, Sri Krishna Nagar, Patna – 800 001, Telephone no. 0612-2523006, Mobile No -07542028164. For further details please visit website State.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar</p

SPORT

Pant injured in horrific car crash

Keeper breaks car window to escape from the vehicle that caught fire after it hit a road divider and turned upside down

Amit Bathla

letters@hindustantimes.com

DEHRADUN: India wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant survived a high-speed highway crash in Uttarakhand's Hardwar district early on Friday after the Mercedes car he was travelling in alone hit a divider, lost control, and turned upside down before bursting into flames on the Delhi-Roorkee road, according to the police and witnesses.

Pant, who remained conscious after the accident, was able to break a window of the car and exit the burning vehicle before passersby rushed him to a Roorkee hospital. The 25-year-old, who suffered injuries on his forehead, right knee and abrasions on his back, was in a stable condition, and told police that he dozed off at the wheel. He was due to attend the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru next week for fitness work ahead of the home Test series against Australia starting in February.

The Uttarakhand Police said Pant was on his way from Delhi to his home town of Roorkee, where his mother lives in Ashok Nagar, to surprise her and spend the New Year's eve with his family. His Mercedes AMG GLE crashed into the divider near Mohammadpur Jat in Manglaur town, about 20km before Roorkee, at 5.22am, shortly after he entered Uttarakhand.

Pant was rushed to Saksham Hospital Roorkee by a government-run ambulance called by the local police. He was later shifted to Max Hospital in Dehradun.

Senior superintendent of police, Haridwar, Ajai Singh said: "The accident took place at 5.22am. The cricketer was coming from Delhi to Roorkee when



As it happened

5:22AM

The cricketer's car hits a highway divider and bursts into flames. Pant is able to break a window and escape severe injuries

5:35AM

Police arrive at the accident spot, even as the cricketer is helped by passersby

6:00AM

The injured cricketer is admitted to Saksham Hospital in Roorkee

9:00AM

Pant is referred to Max Hospital, Dehradun

10:00AM

He is admitted to Max Hospital, Dehradun

10:00PM

BCCI issues a statement detailing his injuries

he dozed off and his car lost balance, hit a divider, turned turtle, and subsequently caught fire. He came out after breaking the car's window."

He added: "A Haryana roadways bus that was passing by stopped there and its driver Sushil Kumar along with the conductor rescued the cricketer and immediately dialled 112. Our police team from Narsan check post reached the accident spot within minutes and he was shifted to a nearby hospital in an ambulance from where he was referred to Max Hospital, Dehradun."

Hours after Pant's accident, Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted: "Distressed by the accident of noted cricketer Rishabh Pant. I pray for his good health

and well-being. @RishabhPant17"

Many India teammates and international players were among the number of people who sent him messages. Virat Kohli tweeted: "Get well soon @RishabhPant17. Praying for your recovery." Former Australia skipper Ricky Ponting, the Delhi Capitals coach, tweeted for the team's skipper: "Thinking of @RishabhPant17. Hope you're on the mend and back on your feet soon."

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami instructed officials to ensure the best treatment for the cricketer and wished him a speedy recovery. He added that the state government will bear the expenses of his treatment. Dhami, who was in Kolkata to attend the National Ganga Council chaired by the Prime Minister, also spoke to the cricketer's mother.

Manoj Manwal, station house officer at the Manglaur police station, said the question of whether Pant was speeding, or was possibly in an inebriated state, was still a matter of investigation.

A Haryana Roadways bus driver, who was among the people

who helped Pant after the accident, said he doesn't watch cricketer and didn't know who the injured man was. "With the assistance of conductor Paramjeet, I pulled him out completely as he was hanging out of the window. We initially thought he was dead, but he was alive. His face was covered in blood and clothes were torn," he told HT.

"As we inquired about him, Pant identified himself as a cricketer. I didn't know him... We handed over the cash and belongings found by us in his car to him in the ambulance," he added.

Devendra Sharma, childhood coach of Pant at Delhi's Sonnet Club, said the results of the player's MRI scans of the brain and spine were fine.

"Pant is doing better now. I have been in touch with his mother. She is obviously stressed. The ligament tear in his right knee is the major area of concern, but he is stable. I will be travelling to Dehradun on Saturday morning."

A statement by the Board of Control for Cricket in India detailed Pant's injuries. "Rishabh has two cuts on his forehead, a ligament tear in his right knee and has also hurt his right wrist, ankle, toe and has suffered abrasion injuries on his back. Rishabh's condition remains stable."

The statement, issued by BCCI secretary Jay Shah, added: "BCCI is in constant touch with Rishabh's family while the medical team is in close contact with the doctors currently treating Rishabh. The board will see to it that Rishabh receives the best possible medical care and gets all the support he needs to come out of this traumatic phase."

Dr Ashish Yagnik, medical superintendent of Max Hospital, said: "His medical condition is being evaluated constantly by a team of doctors and is stable. There is no need to worry. The team of doctors is attending to him based on what he is telling us about the injuries. He is under the observation of orthopaedic and plastic surgeons. Prima facie, we have found no serious injuries. We will issue a medical bulletin after a detailed evaluation."

Delhi escape with draw against TN

Vivek Krishnan

vivek.krishnan@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Delhi got away with a draw in their Group B Ranji Trophy clash against Tamil Nadu at the Ferozeshah Kotla ground on Friday. Resuming the fourth and final day on 28/1, Delhi folded for 262 in their second innings, leaving Tamil Nadu with a target of 139 from 18 overs.

Baba Indrajith's side raced away to 54/3 in six overs with the intent of pushing for an outright victory and getting six points, but fading light meant that play was called off half an hour before the scheduled close.

TN got three points for obtaining a first-innings lead of 124 runs while Delhi settled for one point.

Delhi could have avoided anot

about not converting his innings into a three-figure score.

Delhi have had a poor start to their Ranji campaign, accumulating just two points after three rounds. Delhi's three-member pace-bowling attack had a combined experience of three matches before this game.

With six points from three matches, Tamil Nadu also have a lot of catching up to do. They are currently sixth in Group B, with just the top two from the four Elite groups advancing to the quarter-finals.

Saurashtra beat Mumbai

Saurashtra allowed Mumbai to score only 13 runs for two wickets on Day 4 to complete a 48-run victory at Bandra Kurla Complex in Mumbai. Resuming on 218/8, Mumbai were skittled for 231 as Parth Bhut and Yuvaraj Singh claimed four wickets apiece.

Brief scores (select matches):
In New Delhi: Delhi 303 and 262 (V Rawal 95*, D Shorey 70; W Sundar 4/43). Tamil Nadu 427/8d and 54/3. **Match drawn.**

In Mumbai: Saurashtra 289 and 220. Mumbai 230 and 231 (P Shaw 68; P Bhut 4/56). **Saurashtra won by 48 runs.**

In Porvorim: Karnataka 603/7d. Goa 373 (D Misal 95; V Vyshek 3/60) and 150/3 (S Prabhudessai 61*). **Match drawn.**



Pakistan secure draw against NZ

KARACHI: Pakistan staved off a fifth consecutive defeat at home with a hard-fought draw in the first Test in Karachi on Friday despite career-best bowling figures from New Zealand leg-spinner Ish Sodhi. Sodhi grabbed 6/86 and threatened to give New Zealand victory in the first and final day, but Pakistan fought on before declaring their second innings on 311/8.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

MECHANICAL DIVISION NO.-II

IRRIGATION & FLOOD CONTROL DEPARTMENT

GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI

GROUND FLOOR, E-WING, VIKAS BHAWAN-II,

CIVIL LINES, DELHI-110054

E-mail: ifcmdii@gmail.com, Phone No.: 011-23814010 (Off.)

Expression of Interest

Irrigation and Flood Control Department (IFCD), Government of National Capital Territory Delhi, India invites Expression of Interest (EoI) from eligible National or International Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM)/Original Equipment Supplier (OES)/Other Authorized Agency, for identifying potential technological options and explore the suitability/selection of machine/equipment with latest/innovative technology adopted worldwide for effective de-siltation and removal of floating municipal waste/garbage/C&D Waste/hyacinth/cow dung etc from the drain and its proper disposal/reuse.

The EoI Document can be downloaded from the following website(s): <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in> Parties may contact IFCD on telephone at (0091) (11) 23814010 i.e. Executive Engineer (MD-II), the nodal officer. Those who applied against the earlier advertisement need not to apply a fresh, their earlier application submitted will hold good. However, they may submit EoI for their new machines/equipment in addition to their earlier submission (if any).

Applicants are requested to keep on checking website <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in> regularly for any corrigendum which shall not be published in any newspaper.

Last date for submission of Applications in all respect **21.01.2023 up to 1500 Hrs.**

(Tender I.D 2022_IFC_233696_1)

DIP/Shabdarth/0529/22-23

THE SEAMLESS WAY OF FINDING THE TRUTH

News made easy with navigation that's breezy, only on the HT App.

Scan the QR code to download the HT app now.



FIRST VOICE. LAST WORD.

© HTCity © htcity www.hindustantimes.com

SPOTLIGHT | IN MEMORIAM

EDSON GONE... PELE FOREVER

Pele was, is, and will always be, football's most famous four-letter proper noun



Celebrating Pele: A lifetime of stardom, 15 centuries of fame

Dhiman Sarkar

dhiman@htlive.com

It's 51 years since Pele last kicked a ball for Brazil (July 18, 1971). It's been 45 years since his last club game, at the Giants' stadium in New York, a farewell attended by 75,646 that included Robert Redford, Mick Jagger, Henry Kissinger and Muhammad Ali. That means his unquestionable skills are not part of lived experience for most. Yet, like Ali, he is a 20th century sportsperson who occupied our mindspace. With tifos and giant posters, Brazil fans and the team showed Pele was in their thoughts in Doha. Pele has a stadium named after him in Brazil and in 2021, there was a proposal to rename Rio's Maracana as Rei Pele Stadium.

This is not just because he was named Fifa's Player of Century with Diego Maradona. Or for scoring 1,281 goals (according to Fifa) in 1,366 games (including unofficial ones) and being the only player to win the World Cup three times. Phenomenal though they are, Pele is more than the sum of his achievements. His rise coincided with the growing reach of television and from black-and-white to colour, Pele became the definition for excellence in football and its first global superstar. "Pele was everything. Everything you could imagine," said Mario Zagallo, his teammate in 1958 and coach in the campaign 12 years later.

Pele's rise to fame coincided with Brazil's birth as a modern country, said the nation's former president Fernando Henrique Cardoso in a Netflix documentary. In 1977, United Nations made him "Citizen of the World". Pele's claim of a truce in the Biafran War when Santos, his club from 1956 to 1974, visited has been disputed but the fact that a footballer could think that had happened is proof not of him being delusional but of the delirium he generated, which Brazil and Santos milked. New York Cosmos did that too—his first game for them was telecast to 200 countries—and that is how Pele came to India in 1977 to play Mohun Bagan at Eden Gardens.

His presence spurred interest in soccer in USA leading to the country hosting a World Cup and readying for another in 2026. That 16 in the 26-player roster for the 2022 World Cup play in Europe shows that the men's game continues to grow in USA whose women's team has reached heights that Pele's Brazil did.

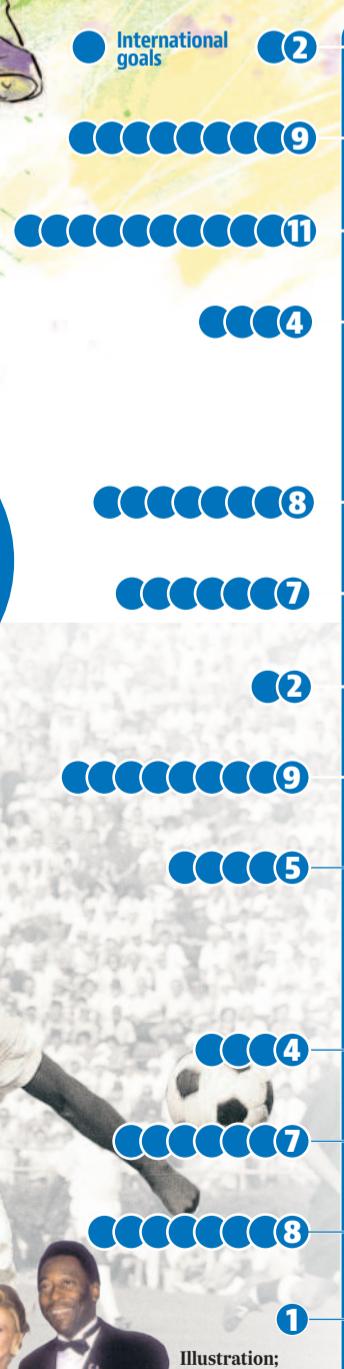
Pele was "gymnastically agile and resilient," according to the English football journalist Brian Glanville. "A tantalising juggler of the ball, a fine right-foot shot. Above all, his temperament was extraordinary, his coolness in the thick of battle, the most tense and dramatic situation, uncanny."

With five goals in the knockout rounds of the 1958 World Cup, Pele showed all that. In 1962, injury cut short his World Cup as it did in 1966 where he was brutalised by Portugal's Jose Morais. Pele had decided to not play the World Cup again but changed his mind closer to the 1970 iteration. Like in 1958, Brazil played four forwards but in 1970 the quartet comprised Jairzinho, Rivelino, Pele and Tostao. Like in 1962 and '66, Pele scored in the opening game. It was his assist for Jairzinho that made the difference in the 1-0 win against England. In the semi-final against Uruguay—the first meeting since the 1950 World Cup—Pele drew the defence to him and got Rivelino to score. In the final, he scored his last of 12 World Cup goals (in 14 games) and created two including that lay-off for Carlos Alberto who scored the last goal in the 4-1 win against Italy.

By then, Pele had married, become a father, starred in a Brazilian soap and signed up for a university degree in physical education. Vava and Didi, Pele's teammates in the 1958 World Cup, could move to Europe but Pele was declared a national treasure and held back. Yet, he has referred to Brazil's authoritarian president Emilia Medici as "an ardent football fan". Neither that nor exposes about his personal life undermined Pele's popularity. His warm smile and pleasant public persona promoted products and causes but they also helped O Rei (king in Portuguese) be at ease among people. "I was no longer Pele, I was Edson Arantes do Nascimento," Pele said after his last game. That comment did not age well because by being himself, he was successful and popular till the end. Pele was, is, and will be football's most famous four-letter proper noun.



Tracing 82 years of the GOAT

Illustration:
MOHIT SUNEJA,
Graphic: PARTHO

Early life

1940 A Star is born



1956 Santos calling

An impoverished childhood meant he took up odd jobs to support his family, including shining shoes. The free time was spent playing as amateur and honing his craft.

1957

International debut

Less than a year into his club career, a national call-up arrived in July 1957 against Argentina, and the teenager scored in Brazil's 1-2 loss, becoming the then youngest international scorer.

1958 First sightings of legend

Pele guided Santos to the Campeonato Paulista trophy, scoring 58 goals. It helped him get into the World Cup-bound Brazil squad.



1959-60 Santos soar

Pele helped Santos win their maiden Torneio Rio-São Paulo trophy and the next year, pumped over 30 goals to help his team regain the Campeonato Paulista trophy.

1961 National Treasure

European clubs, like Man United, Real Madrid, Inter and Juventus approached Santos with lucrative transfer deals. But as rumours of Pele's departure intensified, fans protested forcing the club to deny any transfer move.



1962 Santos win Copa Libertadores

Pele helped Santos win their first Copa Libertadores, with a brace in the final. The club also won the Intercontinental Cup against Benfica, with Pele scoring a hat-trick in their 5-2 triumph.

1962 Brazil defend world title

After flashes of brilliance early, Pele was ruled out of the Cup with injury. Brazil though went on to become the second team after Italy (1934, 38) to win back-to-back World Cups.



1966 Bruised and beaten

A forgettable World Cup for Brazil who were knocked out in the first round. Pele became the first to score in three successive World Cups and also the target of some vicious tackles. He hobbled out against Portugal and so did Brazil.

1970 Redemption

That Brazil team featuring Carlos Alberto, Pele, Rivelino and Tostao is often considered the best team ever. Brazil beat European champions Italy in the final. Pele ended with four goals. Coach Mario Zagallo became the first to win the World Cup as both a player (1958, 1962) and coach.



1999

Athlete of the Century

Pele was named Athlete of the Century by IOC despite not playing in an Olympics. He got more votes from NOCs than Muhammad Ali, Carl Lewis, Michael Jordan and Mark Spitz.

2000

FIFA Player of the Century

Pele and Diego Maradona shared FIFA's Player of the Century award. Maradona won the honour via an online poll, while Pele was voted by FIFA officials and journalists.



2020

Ballon d'Or Dream Team

Pele was picked as an attacking midfielder in Ballon d'Or Dream Team alongside Maradona, Lionel Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo, Ronald Nazario, among others.

2021 Released from hospital

In September, Pele was diagnosed with a colon tumour. The 81-year-old superstar was admitted to a hospital in Sao Paulo in first week of December for sessions of chemotherapy, and discharged on Dec 23. His treatment though, the hospital had said, would continue.

2022 RIP

After a prolonged battle with cancer, Pele passed away at a Sao Paulo hospital on Thursday night after spending a month in the hospital. His funeral is scheduled to be held in Santos on Monday and Tuesday.

Close encounters with The King

Dhiman Sarkar

dhiman@htlive.com

KOLKATA: Journalists thought they had covered all bases but then man-marking Pele isn't easy. So the lift he stepped out of didn't open to the naked, harsh glare of flashes and caught most on the rooftop lounge in Sao Paulo by surprise. Till then, Cafu was the cynosure, at least for those who spoke Portuguese or Italian because of his time at Roma and AC Milan. A World Cup winning captain, one who played three successive World Cup finals and was Brazil's most capped player, Cafu was a lot of things Pele was not. But he was not O Rei.

So when Pele arrived, the huddle around Cafu disappeared like a puff of smoke into the night sky of the Jardim Paulista area. Only to reappear in a bigger, fatter avatar around Pele.

Between them, Pele and Cafu had been part of all five of Brazil's World Cup victories but that Sunday evening at a lounge named Skye, there was only one star. He wasn't always seen at games but was beaming at you from every second billboard. From department chains to shampoo, whose tagline said it was the O Rei of shampoos, Pele sold them all.

Unlike Cafu, Pele spoke in English and Portuguese. It was his handlers who cut short the interaction. "Everyone's hassling him now," they were heard telling the restaurant staff. Whether this was a good cop-bad cop routine, we will never know but Pele looked far from hassled. He did not refuse requests to be photographed and listened to questions before giving un hurried answers.

To the one about how different 2014 would be to the 1958 World Cup, his first, Pele said: "When I got to Sweden, nobody knew about Brazil. They would think it was part of Argentina or they would think that the Amazon was all that there is to our country. Football played a large part in changing that perception. So it's fitting that football's most important tournament has come to Brazil."

That World Cup win, the encore in 1962 and a third in 1970 led to Brazil being expected to win every edition. So Pele would do his bit to reduce pressure on Luiz Felipe Scolari's team. Brazil, he said, had an obligation to play well but not win the World Cup.

At the Hindustan Times Leadership Summit in 2018 — struggling with a femur problem — Pele wasn't moving well at all and needed a wheelchair. But like in Sao Paulo, in New Delhi too he obliged all who asked with photographs. Through the session with Bhaichung Bhutia, Pele was the perfect blend of honesty, humour and humility. He said he would have Lionel Messi in his team and not Cristiano Ronaldo because "Messi has ball control and organises the team." Asked about Brazil's talent, he said: "Simple, God is the coach of Brazil." And he said he was proud to be named after Thomas Edison. In an interview after the session, Pele said he just wanted to be like his father Dondinho whose football career got cut short by injury. "I just wanted to be like my father, I didn't want to be Pele." Talking about teammate Garrincha, Pele, hand on chest, said he was the best but had injuries. The world knew of Garrincha's drinking, his biography dwells at length on it, but Pele wouldn't go beyond "some problem".

He apologised for his lack of fluency in English but looking back at a life that included bankruptcies and a fair share of upheavals, Pele said: "God has been so good to me."



Pele during the 2018 Hindustan Times Leadership Summit in New Delhi. HT FILE PHOTO



LifeWear

NEW YEAR OFFERS

STEAL DEALS ON THE WINTER COLLECTION | 30TH DEC TO 5TH JAN

SHIRTS

WOMEN

Soft Brushed Shirt ₹2,490

MEN

Extra Fine Cotton Shirt ₹2,990

Made of a brushed fabric that is soft and smooth to the touch.

100% Premium Cotton Shirt available in 20+ colors.

₹1,990

SMART PANTS

WOMEN

Smart Ankle Pants ₹2,990

2-way stretchable fabric that's wrinkle-resistant.

JACKETS

WOMEN

Relaxed Tailored Jacket ₹5,990 Limited Store

Comfortable fit perfect for business & casual wear.

MEN

NEW ARRIVAL

Comfort Jacket ₹5,990

NEW ARRIVAL

SWEATS

Crew Neck Sweatshirt ₹2,990

WOMEN

Sweats so soft, you'll love them, now available in all-new colors.

MEN

Sweat Pants ₹2,490

WOMEN

MEN

NEW ARRIVAL

Sweat Pullover Hoodie ₹3,990

WOMEN

Drawstring now fastens inside the waistband.

MEN

Sweat Pants ₹2,990

WASHABLE SWEATERS

WOMEN

Washable Cotton V Neck Sweater ₹2,990

Feels soft, machine washable & easy to care for.

MEN

Washable Milano Ribbed Half-Zip Sweater ₹3,990

SHORT COATS

WOMEN

Hooded Short Coat ₹6,990

Made of comfortable, stretchable jersey fabric with a soft texture.

MEN

Brushed Short Coat ₹5,990 Sale

WOMEN

Ultra Light Down Hooded Coat ₹8,990 Sale

An Ultra Light down coat with dropped shoulders and a relaxed fit.

MEN

ULTRA LIGHT DOWN COAT

HEATTECH THERMALS

HEATTECH is an innovative fabric that features heat-generating technology. The repeated trial has led to a product that is warm, lightweight, and comfortable.

HEATTECH
5 to 20 °C
Thin & lightweight, yet warm

HEATTECH EXTRA WARM
-5 to 15 °C
About 1.5 times* warmer than our regular HEATTECH

HEATTECH ULTRA WARM
-20 to 10 °C
About 2.25 times* warmer than our regular HEATTECH

MEN

HEATTECH T-Shirt ₹990

WOMEN

HEATTECH Seamless Ribbed T-Shirt (Extra Warm) ₹1,990

MEN

HEATTECH Ultra Warm T-Shirt ₹2,490

Extra-fine fibers absorb water particles released by the body.

Energy from water particles is converted into warmth and retained.

MEN

Mid Rise Relaxed Tapered Jeans ₹2,990 Limited Store

WOMEN

EZY Jeans ₹2,990

Relaxed cut with a low waist design.

JEANS

The look of authentic jeans with the relaxed feel of sweats.

MEN

AMBIENCE MALL, GURGAON • DLF AVENUE, SAKET
DLF MALL OF INDIA, NOIDA • DLF CYBERHUB, GURGAON
VEGAS MALL, DWARKA • AMBIENCE MALL, VASANT KUNJ
LULU MALL, LUCKNOW • NEXUS ELANTE MALL, CHANDIGARH A BLOCK, CONNAUGHT PLACE



SHOP AT UNIQLO.COM

Download the App and win a Welcome Coupon of ₹300.



OR

AMBIENCE MALL, GURGAON • DLF AVENUE, SAKET
DLF MALL OF INDIA, NOIDA • DLF CYBERHUB, GURGAON
VEGAS MALL, DWARKA • AMBIENCE MALL, VASANT KUNJ
LULU MALL, LUCKNOW • NEXUS ELANTE MALL, CHANDIGARH A BLOCK, CONNAUGHT PLACE

**SHIRLEY SETIA**

She was seen in the web film *Maska* in 2020, but this year, the singer-turned-actor made her big-screen debut with *Nikamma*. Speaking of her acting aspirations, Setia, 27, had earlier said, "There were many films I auditioned for before *Nikamma*, but they didn't work out. So, I let time take its own course and guide me."

From making an acting debut to migrating from different mediums or industries—this year saw many new entries in Bollywood

RECAP 2022**TUNE MAARI ENTRIYAAN****VIJAY DEVERAKONDA**

A popular name in Telugu cinema, Vijay Deverakonda's Bollywood debut with the film *Liger* was highly anticipated this year. Unfortunately, the movie tanked at the box office. In an interview, the 33-year-old said that filmmaker Karan Johar had offered him the movie after the success of *Arjun Reddy* (2017), but he wasn't ready then.

Text: Ashish Kumar Singh

RASHMIKA MANDANNA

Having worked mostly in Telugu and Kannada films, Rashmiika Mandanna, 26, made her Bollywood debut with *Goodbye*. The film received moderately positive reviews. Ahead of the debut, Mandanna had said, "I hope I'll have my way into their hearts with my work."

SHALINI PANDEY

Having earned accolades for the Telugu film *Arjun Reddy* (2017), the 29-year-old made her Bollywood debut with *Jayeshbhai Jordaar*. The film didn't receive great reviews, but Pandey's acting chops didn't go unnoticed. "People called it a bold choice, as I'm pregnant in the film. I know most girls would choose a glitzier debut, but I'm not one of them," she said.

PHOTOS:
YOGEN SHAH,
AAJAK SONI,
INSTAGRAM
AND FACEBOOK

BABIL

Late actor Irrfan Khan's son, Babil made an impressive debut with the web film *Qala*, in which he played a singer from the '40s. Babil, 24, said in an interview, "If I was not Irrfan Khan's son, nobody would have cared about my debut. I'd have been just an actor trying to get into films, auditioning and getting a part."

NOTE TO READERS: Some of the coverage that appears on our pages is paid for by the concerned brands. No sponsored content does or shall appear in any part of HT without it being declared as such to our valued readers.



GET GLYCERINE WITH SAVLON PROTECTION AT JUST ₹10[^]

A Soap with Natural Origin Glycerin that makes your skin feel soft and protects it from 100 disease causing germs.*

NATURAL ORIGIN GLYCERIN



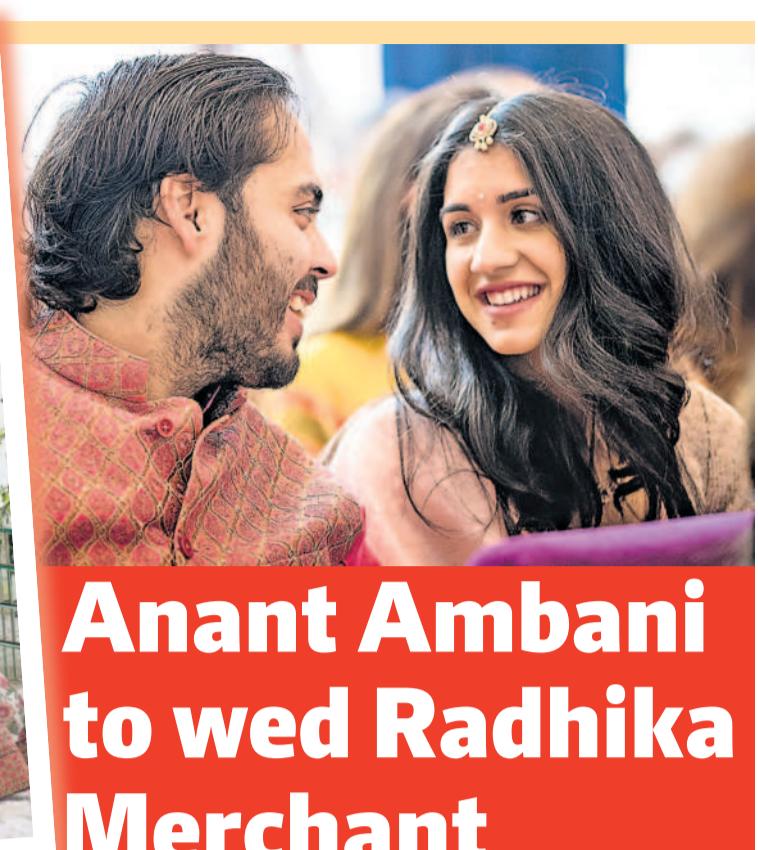
42g[^]

*Basis lab study on sample microbes.
Washes away germs

99.9% GERM PROTECTION



Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant
PHOTOS: HTCS



Anant Ambani to wed Radhika Merchant

The roka (engagement) ceremony of Radhika Merchant, daughter of Shaila and Viren Merchant, and Anant Ambani, son of Nita and Mukesh Ambani, took place at the Shrinathji Temple in Nathdwara (Rajasthan) on Thursday. The ceremony was held in the presence of their family and friends, and the couple was blessed by the priests from the temple. Radhika and Anant spent the day at the temple, seeking Lord Shrinathji's blessings for their

upcoming union. They also participated in the traditional raj-bhog-shringaar ceremonies at the temple. The family and friends later celebrated their engagement with a grand party in Mumbai.

Anant and Radhika have known each other for a few years and with the ceremony, commenced the formal journey of their marriage in the coming months. Both the families seek the blessings and good wishes of everyone for Radhika and Anant as they start

their journey of togetherness. Anant completed his studies at Brown University, USA, and has since served at Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) in various capacities. He is also a member of the boards of Jio Platforms Limited and Reliance Retail Ventures Limited. He currently leads the energy business at RIL. Radhika is a graduate of New York University, USA, and serves as a director on the board of Encore Healthcare Private Limited.



Ambani and Merchant family at the roka ceremony in Nathdwara



METALLIC CROP PUFFER JACKET



WOODS
SHOES • APPAREL • ACCESSORIES

Available at all **WOODLAND** stores

SHOP ONLINE www.woodlandworldwide.com



Customer Care No. 1800-103-3445

LOVE, SHUV TE BREAKUP!

When it comes to matters of the heart, the year was quite eventful for B'wood as the news of coupling and decoupling of many celebs made headlines. As 2022 draws to a close, we take a look at some of these dalliances and separations that took fans by surprise

Text: Vinay MR Mishra



RECAP 2022

HRITHIK ROSHAN - SABA AZAD

Actors Hrithik Roshan, 48, and Saba Azad, 37, made their relationship official in February when they arrived hand in hand at a dinner party. The two often leave mushy comments on each other's posts, root for one another and get papped together out and about in the city.



DIVYA AGARWAL - APURVA PADGAONKAR

After announcing her split with actor Varun Sood in March, reality TV star Divya Agarwal surprised her fans with the news of her engagement with businessman Apurva Padgaonkar in December. In an interview with us, Agarwal, 30, revealed that it was an "old affair", which found new meaning in her life.



DHANUSH - AISHWARYAA

Actor Dhanush, 39, and filmmaker Aishwaryaa Rajinikanth, 40, decided to call off their 18-year-long marriage in January, which came as a shock for fans. The two even released statements announcing their separation and asked for privacy. While there were rumours of them reconciling, there has been no confirmation on that front yet. They are parents to two sons, Yatra and Linga.



LALIT MODI - SUSHMITA SEN

IPL founder and business tycoon Lalit Modi, 59, made his relationship with actor together, Modi called her "my partner in crime, my love". Sen, however, never confirmed the relationship. Since the initial reveal, many have conjectured that the two have called it quits, with Modi removing all mentions of Sen from his Insta bio.



TIGER SHROFF - DISHA PATANI

In July, we exclusively broke the news of Tiger Shroff, 32, and Disha Patani, 30, breaking up. However, both the actors — who were speculated to be seeing each other for almost six years — remained silent on the matter until September, when Shroff admitted being single on filmmaker Karan Johar's talk show.



HONEY SINGH - TINA THADANI

After his divorce came through this year, conjectures were rife that singer-rapper Honey Singh was seeing model Tina Thadani, who had featured in his recent music video. During a song launch in December, Singh, 39, introduced Thadani as his girlfriend. "My girlfriend Tina is sitting here. She's the one who has given me the name Honey 3.0, and said, 'This is your third life', and that's how my third album and its title came about," he said on stage.



ARMAAN MALIK - AASHNA SHROFF

While singer Armaan Malik, 27, and lifestyle influencer Aashna Shroff, 26, had been posting pictures with each other for quite some time, we reported about their dalliance in August. Soon after, the two dressed as fictional couple Gomez and Morticia Addams on Halloween, and Malik even posted loved-up pictures together on her birthday. In the caption, he wrote, "I love you so much, ps - you're stuck w my lame jokes for life. (sic)



SIDDHARTH - ADITI RAO HYDARI

In July, videos of actor Siddharth lashing out at paparazzi when he was spotted with actor Aditi Rao Hydari outside a salon in Mumbai, started doing the rounds on social media. That fuelled conjectures that the two are dating, which was almost confirmed by Siddharth, 43, when he posted a picture with Hydari, 36, on her birthday in October, calling her the "princess of heart".



AAMIR ALI - SANJEEDA SHAIKH

News of actor couple Aamir Ali, 45, and Sanjeeda Shaikh, 38, ending their marriage of nine years left many fans heartbroken. The couple had been living separately for a while, but they kept their divorce under wraps for almost eight months, until we broke the news in January. There was also speculation that the two haven't been coparenting their daughter, Ayra.



RAJEEV SEN - CHARU ASOPA

A classic case of 'Will they, won't they', model Rajeev Sen, 39, and actor Charu Asopa, 34, made headlines throughout the year. The estranged couple, who got married in 2019, announced their separation, made allegations against each other, then reconciled for the sake of their daughter — Ziana — before finally deciding to part ways.



SOHAIL KHAN - SEEMA SAJDEH

Sohail Khan, 52, and Seema Sajdeh, 42, filed for divorce in May, ending their 24-year-long marriage. Both the parties, who had been living separately for quite some time, remained silent at first, until Sajdeh spoke about the separation during a reality show. They are parents to two sons, Nirvan and Yohan.



RAFTAAR - KOMAL VOHRA

Rapper Raftaar, 34, and interior designer Komal Vohra, 30, officially ended their six-year-long marriage in October, as we had exclusively reported. While Vohra confirmed the news to us, she never spoke about it at length. Meanwhile, Raftaar has maintained a stoic silence.

PELE
1940-2022



#KingPelé dies at 82: Tributes pour in

Some big names from the sports and film fraternities took to social media to pay their respect to Brazilian football legend, Pelé, who died on Thursday due to cancer-related complications

bachchan As a child my father introduced me to Pelé and his magic. And thus began a lifelong love for football. We had shelves filled with VHS tapes of his and the Brazilian team's matches. I would religiously watch them with my father. A magician we've all been blessed to witness. A few years ago, whilst visiting India I somehow managed to get an autographed jersey of his. It has pride of placement in my office. Thank you, sir for teaching us about *joga bonito* and being such a hero and idol to billions. Rest in Peace to the greatest! @pele

Yuvraj Singh
@YUVSTRONG12
Thank you for everything #Legend. You will be missed forever. A three time world-cup winning footballer and a timeless beauty on the field. You were the reason millions started playing the game. Rest in peace the #GOAT #Pele

PHOTOS: TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM

World bids goodbye to Queen of Punk

VIVIENNE WESTWOOD
1941-2022

Celebs remember the iconic British designer who revolutionised fashion with her fierce aesthetics



Yoko Ono
@yokoono - 10h
Rest in peace, Vivienne. What a woman - so young at heart, motivated, beautiful and elegant. Our love and deepest condolences go out to Andreas, Ben, Joseph and families. Love, yoko

the marc jacobs heartbroken.
you did it first. always. incredible style with brilliant and meaningful substance.

I continue to learn from your words, and, all of your extraordinary creations. I will always remember the night we bonded over our mutual love for Yves Saint Laurent. You never failed to surprise and to shock. I am grateful for the moments I got to share with you and Andreas.

Rest in Peace dear Vivienne, although, somehow peace seems like the wrong word to use.

my deepest sympathies to Andreas and your family.

THE GENIUS OF

@VIVIENNEWESTWOOD,
HER UNIQUE VOICE IS
IRREPLACEABLE AND
WILL BE MISSED..



GAURAV KHANJO,
FASHION DESIGNER
When we were in college, studying fashion, we had these books in the library dedicated to designers and there was one on Vivienne Westwood. Whether it was her jackets or graffiti pieces or torn jerseys — or how she evolved British punk fashion, she was a true legend. We're working on a collection — Bringing Back the Punk — which I would love to dedicate to her. She was a rebel, as this style is all about rebellion.

GAURANG SHAH, FASHION DESIGNER

Her commitment to ethical fashion and her contributions to the industry will live on. She often incorporated historical and cultural references into her collections, preserving the heritage and culture of nations.

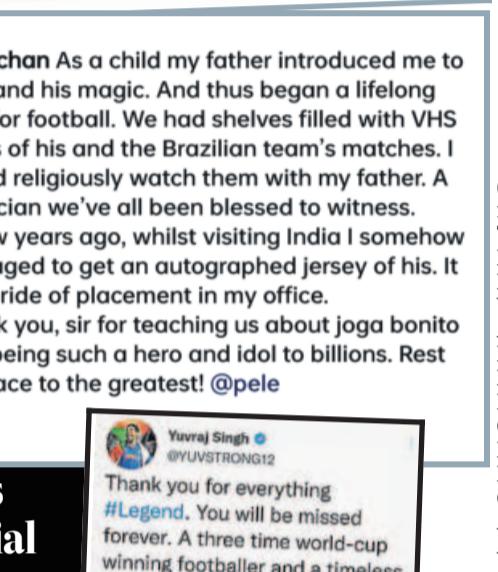


Compiled by
Sangita
Baruah and
Shruti
Shende

PHOTOS: AP AND TWITTER



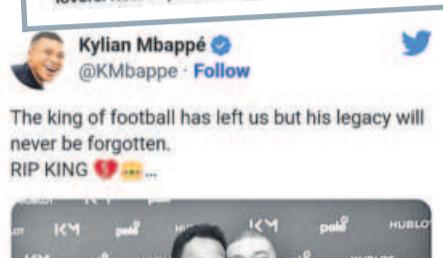
leomessi Rest in peace, @pele.



Mammootty
@mammukka
Thank you for making all of us love the beautiful game of football. Rest in Peace Legend. Heartfelt condolences to his family and well wishers around the world.



cristiano My deep condolences to all of Brazil, and in particular to the family of Edson Arantes do Nascimento. A mere "goodbye" to the eternal King Pelé will never be enough to express the pain that the entire football world is currently embracing. An inspiration to so many millions, a reference yesterday, today and forever. The love you always showed me was reciprocated in every moment we were shared even from distance. He will never be forgotten and his memory will live forever in each and every one of us football lovers. Rest in peace King Pelé.



Kylian Mbappé
@KMbappé · Follow
The king of football has left us but his legacy will never be forgotten.



proserstar An inimitable legend! Thank you for all the unforgettable memories, Pelé. You'll live in our hearts forever.



Anupam Kher
@AnupamPKher · Follow
Dearest Pele! You and your game, and the way you played it, will always be #GameChanger for millions of people all the world. Whether they played football or not. Thank you for your inspiring life. #RipLegend #OmShanti #Pele

Ajay Devgn
@ajaydevgn
I join the rest of the world in grieving for the Football Legend Pele. He was synonymous with the sport that the world continues to be enamoured with. May the Legend's soul find eternal peace. Wherever football is played, your mention will always come

SWEATSHIRT

Jackets & Sweaters

SALE

ARROW raymond



Hi-Fashion winter Collection 2022
Branded Sweaters, Jackets, sweat shirts & Lovers

up to
60% off

By Economy Sales: 9212758425

- PUNCHKUAN ROAD, Garwal Bhawan, (Near Jhandewalan, Gole Chkr.)
- WAZIRPUR A-5, Near Richi Rich Banquet (Opp. Shalimar Bagh)
- JANAKPURI B-1/2, Main Najafgarh Road, Opp. Metro Pillar 543
- NOIDA, Nirula's Sec-2, Near Metro Station, Sec-15, Noida, UP
- LAJPAT NAGAR, 49, Main Ring Road, Adj. Haldi Ram, Near Moolchand Crossing

• Pullovers • Cardigans • Jackets • Suits • Shawls • Track Suits • Woolmark Thermals
• Woollen Socks/Gloves • Jeans • Shirts • Trousers & many more for Children

DHIRSONS
JEWELLERS PVT LTD
— DHIRAJ DHIR GROUP —
Today's Hallmark 92% Gold Rate
₹50100/- per 10gms.
.916 certified by B.I.S.
MAKING CHARGES
ONLY 8% ON ALL ITEMS

LAJPAT NAGAR-II: D-32, Central Market
New Delhi - 110024. Ph: 47284728

WEDDING SPECIAL COLLECTION
Fiber to SILK FAB EXHIBITION CUM SALE
30 DEC TO 4 JAN AGA KHAN 6, Bhagwan Das Road, Near Supreme Court Mandi House Metro Station, New Delhi
India's Biggest Silk Fab Expo of 100% Pure Silk, Cotton Products from Kashmir to Kanyakumari Silk - Cotton - Saree - Suit - Dress Material - Kashmiri Shawl, Stole.

ENTRANCE & PARKING FREE / ALL CARDS ACCEPTED / ORG: U.A.C.E. ASHISH GUPTA 9412263333

Baidyanath
ASLI AYURVED
Kashmir Kesar
Pure Certified.
Protector against Cold
Blood Purifier
Complexion Enhancer

1800-102-8384 www.baidyanath.co.in



2023
Celebrate with us in style

NEW YEAR'S EVE

31ST DECEMBER 2022

Venue : RBB & Roman Garden | Time : 8:00 PM

Lavish Sumptuous Buffet with DJ
UNLIMITED FOOD & PREMIUM BEVERAGES

For Couple: ₹ 12500*

For Stag: ₹ 6500*

For Lady: ₹ 5000*

* Terms & Conditions Apply

19, Ashoka Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001, India
call : 011-4355-5555, 4355-5170 (Direct)
festivitydesk@hoteltheroyalplaza.com
www.hoteltheroyalplaza.com





When doors opened for the first time since Covid
 As the protests to reopen DU came to a climax in February, the varsity finally reopened its gates for physical classes after almost two years, since the lockdown in March 2020. Students jumped right out of their screens to hangout with their classmates, even if it meant sitting through endless lectures and offline exams.

Ab toh college khel do!

Student activism and protests hit new highs in DU as right from the start of the year, there were hunger strikes, chakka jam and what not by students demanding offline classes. A string of protests were witnessed on campus by students' political parties, including SFU, KYS, AISFA, and ABVP, along with Delhi University Students Union (DUSU) office bearers. These did bear fruit, as college reopened.

The return of fest fiesta
 Getting their groove back, students let loose and experienced pure bliss as they finally got to live college life through the much-awaited cultural festivals that were organised after two years of virtual campus. Amid the many uncertainties, Miranda House, Lady Irwin College and Rajdhani College successfully pulled off their fests and brought back the craze of celeb performances on campus.


Degree goes digital

Students graduating from the university this year at the 98th Convocation Ceremony got a taste of graduating in a digitalised setup. The university awarded 1.7 lakh degrees to students who graduated. Rajnath Singh, Union Defence Minister, was the chief guest and shared with the youngsters how life is going to be very different for them henceforth, but they must persevere, work diligently and not be afraid of failure.

Paid internship introduced for students
 To expose students to learning outside the classroom, the Vice Chancellor Paid Internship scheme was announced this year. It received approximately 4,000 applications, out of which 110 interns were to be chosen for regular as well as summer internships.


Campus wali Diwali, Navratri

Shimmery lehangas, colourful sarees, rangolis and diyas adorned the red brick walls during Diwali. Also, Diwali melas were organised, including Maitreyi College's Sparkle and Shaheed Bhagat Singh's Tarang. During Navratri, too, Gujarati songs echoed on campus as students gathered for dandiya and garba nights to revel in festive spirit, in colleges including Miranda House, Bharati college and Gargi College.

Abhinav Sharma revisited his Hansraj College days


Spotted: Celebs on campus

This year, DU saw actor Sara Ali Khan pay a visit to Miranda House, her Nani's alma mater, to spread awareness about media matters in an event organised by the college's societies. Mismatched actor Abhinav Sharma was also seen visiting his varsity, Hansraj College, to revisit the good ol' theatre days.

Sara Ali Khan visited Miranda House


RECAP 2022

#COLLEGEKEDIN: KISSE-KAHANYAAN AUR CAMPUS KE CHARCHE

Text: Mrinalini Kaushik



CUET saga
 Admission to DU's undergraduate programs were conducted, for the first time ever, through the Common University Entrance Test (CUET). But, contrary to claims of the test being introduced to ease the admission process, many students complained that it turned their world upside down. Technical glitches at the exam halls, repeated postponement of exams and the chaos over admissions also evoked memes fests on social media, almost all round the year.

Admission season spills over to #NYE
 Stressed out after appearing for board exams virtually, youngsters who attempted CUET were relieved that the final leg of the admissions process began in October. One would assume that since the semester has begun, admissions would be sorted. But, picture abhi baaki hai mere dost! The special spot round admissions are still underway and expected to end by December 31. Well, that's how long the admission season is for!

Get to know the NEP road ahead
 The batch of 2026 has a lot of adjustments to make. Among these are the changes at the undergraduate level, introduced by the National Education Policy 2020. These include the option of four-year UG programmes for students, introduction of dual degrees and the opportunity to have multiple exit and entry options.

Teacher's Day celebrations in their OG avatar
 As hard as offline classes were for students, professors too had their share of struggles. Doing away with the dilemma of "video on karao" and "awaz nahin aa rahi", students got a chance to physically express gratitude to their gurus on Teacher's Day. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College even organised a special storytelling event on Unsung Personality's Life and their Teachings on the occasion.

A second chance at getting degrees
 True to the adages of never say never and never give up, former students of DU lined up to give exams in October, which they had missed, and couldn't pass because of that. Giving another chance at attempting these exams gave the ex-students their long-awaited degrees.

What's new? A lot!

This year, DU introduced an array of new courses to accommodate students' growing interests, including a five-year integrated Journalism course, PG Diploma in Cyber Security & Law, Office Management & Secretariat Practices, Marketing Management and Retail Business, certificate course in Travel & Tourism and much more.

The more, the merrier!

DU increases batch size, tutorial class size

Classes will become a lot more crowded going forward, as DU increased the number of students in a classroom by 50-60%, changing the student-teacher ratio. This policy has also resulted in an increase in the size of tutorial classes, much to the dismay of students who may not get as much of a chance to talk to teachers and clear their doubts.

Miranda House reigns for the sixth consecutive year

Much to the joy of Mirandians, Miranda House bagged the top position in the NIRF rankings for the sixth consecutive year. Among the biggest reshuffles this year, Hindu College jumped up seven spots to secure second place, while St Stephen's wasn't even in the top 10 ranks.

Fresh DUSU elections still remain a faraway dream

With the last election for the DU student body held in 2019, DUSU has not had the opportunity to conduct fresh elections this year as well. As first-years still trickle in and examinations having kept second and third-years busy, elections — which have been integral to DU's esteemed student-driven democratic ethos — could not happen.



Olympic gold medalist, javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra, flagged off the Centenary Run in North Campus to mark 100 years of DU

The year marked milestones aplenty for Delhi University, from reopening gates after two years to turning 100. Look back to look forward!


Swag se swagat, for freshers

A tappa of filminess topped the fun as DU freshers were given an exciting welcome. Coming back in the physical form, finally, straight out of passing out from virtual school, the get-togethers and parties came as a breath of fresh air for the starry-eyed freshers.


When fragrances paved the path @ DU

Welcoming spring at North Campus, the 64th Annual Flower Show was themed on Floral Diversity & Rejuvenation, this year. A major attraction among the students who returned to campus after two years, this event that had blooming beauties encapsulate the feeling of the students.



The DUSU elections were last held on campus in 2019

PHOTOS: RAJESH KASHYAP, MANOJ VERMA, SANCHIT KHANNA, AMAL K. DHURV SETHI, SHANTANU BHATTACHARYA/HT



US Chickpeas is high in fibre and protein
PHOTOS: HTCS

HOP ON THE US CHICKPEA QUEST

Rupali Dean

US Chickpeas have been around for eons, offering a multitude of nutritional advantages. That said, they did not get too much attention except for in quintessential dishes such as the Punjabi Chole or the Mediterranean Falafel and Hummus. However, eating them in various ways has recently gained popularity, whether as a roasted snack or as flour to consume as a healthier option due to their high fibre and protein.

Delhi's mushrooming US chickpea food market is scheduled to grow every year and offers an extensive diversity of dishes today. From native ones



such as the US Choley Aur Anardanay Ka Shikampur prepared by executive chef Sandeep Pande at the JW Marriott Aerocity to the Sundal that chef consultant Bakshish Dean makes to showcase an easy and tasty preparation in a masterclass, or a wildly exotic one like the Vietnamese Asparagus and Black Mushroom US Chickpeas Banh Khot that Aakash Nakra, culinary director

Viet: Nom, offers on his special menu. There's also Kylin in Aerocity and Saket, where chef Bharat Khatri creates exceptional oriental dishes like the Wasabi Hummus and US Chickpeas on the Teppanyaki. And if you are in the mood to try some Middle Eastern delicacies, then the Truffle Hummus and Curried Carrot Falafel are must-haves at Syrah at the Hyatt Regency Delhi.

Additionally, at the avant-garde club lounge at The Westin Gurgaon,

chef Anurudh Khanna cooks up a storm and offers an amazing US Chickpea Salad, whereas chef Sheenu at the Radisson Blu Plaza Delhi Airport woos his tea lounge customers with the Sundal and more. All in all, Delhi-NCR restaurants are a flamboyant example of how an amazing and versatile ingredient like US Chickpeas can tingle one's taste buds.

The US Chickpeas promotion is on until January 15, 2023. Do not miss it for the world!

A sneak peek into the chickpea specials around Delhi-NCR

Location: Syrah, Hyatt Regency Delhi

Must-have: Lamb and US Chickpeas Kibbeh and the Classic Harira Soup.

Location: Delhi Baking Company, JW Marriott Hotel, New Delhi Aerocity

Must-have: Mediterranean Poke Bowl and Choley Kulchey melt.

Location: Radisson Blu Plaza Delhi Airport

Must-have: Tempura US Chickpeas with Chilli Cumin and Hummus Pita PZA

Location: Kylin, Aerocity and Saket

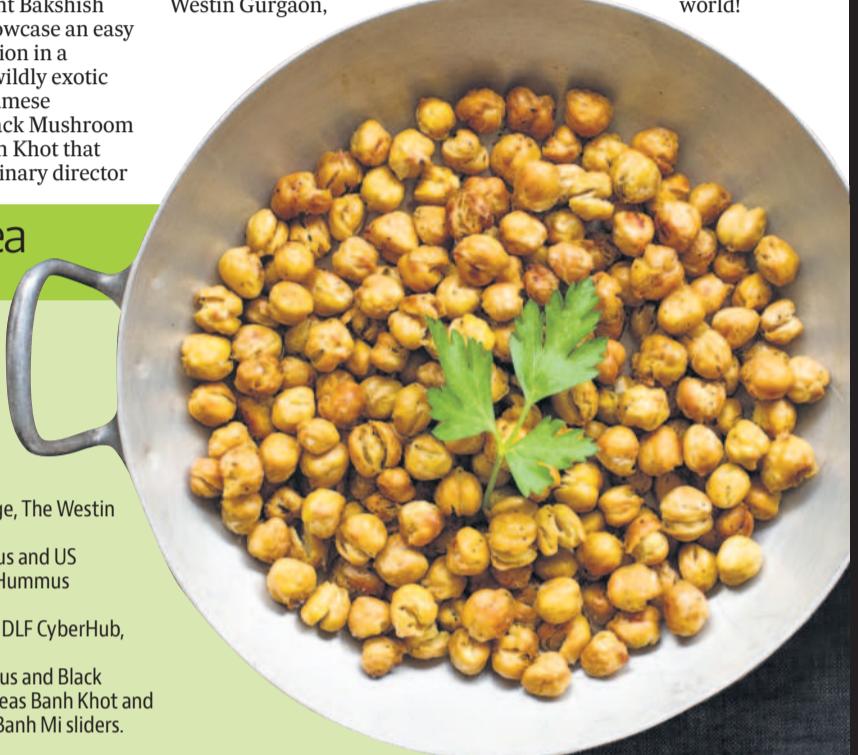
Must-have: Mapu US Chickpeas and US Chickpeas Crystal Red Dimsum

Location: Club Lounge, The Westin Gurgaon

Must-have: Cous Cous and US Chickpeas Salad and Hummus

Location: Viet: Nom, DLF CyberHub, Gurugram

Must-have: Asparagus and Black Mushroom US Chickpeas Banh Khot and US Chickpeas Falafel Banh Mi sliders.



Usher in the New Year with Pind Balluchi's festive delicacies



Shahi
Paneer
Pasanda



Kandhari
Mutton
Rogan Josh

Pind Balluchi — the renowned village restaurant chain — celebrates a gourmet gala of Punjabi fusion. Raise a toast to the New Year celebrations by savouring specialties from the new festive menu. Enjoy the epicurean delight flowing from the legacy of royal kitchens and the traditional culinary heritage of Punjab.

Pind Balluchi is known across the country for its delectable frontier, Punjabi and Lucknowi food. It is a brand that stands for food quality, variety in the North Indian cuisines, comfortable ambience with high hygiene standards and personalised service, dishing out an authentic village-dine-in experience to their patrons.

Jaspal Singh Chadha, founder and chairman, says, "Our valued guests deserve an all-new gastronomic experience to celebrate the ensuing festive season. We would love to have our patrons, cutting across age groups, devour the dishes exuding true oriental spirit."

For New Year celebrations, the restaurant has specially lined up an exquisite array of North Indian and fusion starters and main course delicacies. And the recently launched 'New Year Special-Festive Menu', is ongoing at all its outlets.

It features all-new delectable delicacies created by chefs. From mutton yakhni shorba, sesame-subz ki shammi, murgh kesari tikka, chutney bhara paneer tikka, tawa spl gurde-kapure, subz-bahar galouti, tandoori mutton tikka to pudina-hari mirch ki veg chaap, kandhari mutton rogan josh, shahi paneer pasanda, purani dilli-mutton tawa pulao, husseini veg



Jaspal Singh Chadha
PHOTOS: HTCS

PHOTOS: HTCS

chaap biryani, garam shahi tukda and much more!

Indulge your taste buds in an exotic range of newly launched, lip-smacking delicacies with enticing flavours at all Pind Balluchi outlets in the NCR.

Exploding with new flavours and fresh recipes, their elaborate new holiday menu has everything to attract foodies.

A dining experience here will indeed leave you satisfied! Bon Appétit!

For home delivery, call: 8010202020;
Visit outlets at various locations across
Delhi-NCR:
Connaught Place (Regal Building) –
9289026767, 011-41759072; Lajpat
Nagar – 9310125809,
011-29839001; Nehru Place –
9953866258, 011-41606868; Rohini –
9958292951, 011-47553530; Pamposh
Enclave (GK-I) – 9818708004, 011-
40817733; Aria Mall (Sohna Road,
Haryana) – 928908676, 0124-5072526
HTC



Tandoori Mutton Tikka



Guests can indulge in unlimited food buffets



Exciting New Year celebrations at Radisson Blu Plaza Delhi Airport



on January 1 to welcome the New Year.

Radisson Blu Plaza Delhi Airport has a variety of things to offer to make your New Year's celebrations exciting!

For the New Year celebration, the hotel is offering an enthralling night with the popular JUGNI band as a part of their New Year Gala Residential Package, which includes a delightful stay, a New Year's Eve buffet dinner with unlimited international pours, followed by a brunch in the sun

jazzy evening, Savannah Bar is the place to go with snacks and pours.

Savannah Bar and R the Lounge are the places to go for a la carte options, as well as appealing festivities and live music.

True to its reputation, Radisson Blu Plaza Delhi Airport is offering plenty of options to elevate your New Year's celebration!

For details, call: 7290001435,
95604 98463
HTC

Try delicious and healthy cranberries

Dried cranberries are a great snack on their own
PHOTO: HTCS

Cranberries are not just any fruit — they are known as America's Original Superfruit® and US Cranberries are now becoming increasingly popular in India because of their amazing nutritional benefits and their sweet, tangy taste.

Dried cranberries and cranberry juice are available across India at leading dry fruit retailers and on all major e-commerce platforms.

Dried cranberries are a great snack on their own. They are also a perfect ingredient for a large variety of dishes, both western and ethnic Indian. Cranberries are cholesterol- and fat-free and very low in sodium. They are also an excellent source of the antioxidant vitamins C and E.



WHEN Y2K AND VINTAGE MADE THE CUT

50 shades of purple

Declared Pantone Colour of the Year 2022, Very Peri dominated the ramps and streets alike, world over. Hopping on to the bandwagon, actor Vicky Kaushal teamed a purple suit by Falguni Shane Peacock with black shoes and sunnies to promote his film.

RECAP 2022

From daring low-rise bottoms to the loudest of colours and regencycore aesthetics, this year was all about travelling back in time with fashion from the 2000s taking centre stage. Here's what ruled the roost

Text: Shruti Shende

Voluminous silhouettes

Go big or go home remained a fashion motto of 2022 — think puff sleeves, oversized shirts and balloon silhouettes. Supermodel Kendall Jenner stunned in a black voluminous gown by Balenciaga at the Vanity Fair Oscars Party 2022.



Low-rise pants and skirts

One of the most talked about trends of 2022 was the revival of the '90s midriff-baring bottoms. Low-rise skirts broke the internet after a smashing debut at Miu Miu's S/S 2022 collection, with the who's who of the glam world embracing the trend. Supermodels Bella Hadid and Emily Ratajkowski were often spotted in low-rise bottoms, as did celebs closer home, such as Ananya Panday and Shanaya Kapoor.



Bra tops

Risky only became riskier this year, with bra tops and cholis commanding attention. Once worn under layers of clothing, innerwear as outerwear became one of the raging trends of 2022. At Givenchy's S/S 2023 runway show, supermodel Bella Hadid wore a denim bra top with a matching low-rise skirt.

Bright bags

Subtle became a thing of the past as, after the two-year pandemic, people were drawn to all things brighter and bolder. Agreeing to this, singer-songwriter Harry Styles was seen carrying a bright green Gucci handbag to the premiere of his film at the 2022 Toronto International Film Festival.



Some trends that dominated the year are low-rise bottoms, bootcut jeans, midriff-baring styles, etc. Pointy Cinderella shoes might trend in 2023 too.
RINA DHAKA,
Fashion designer

HT Classifieds {LIFESTYLE}

FTS

Full Service Production

Atul Satya Koushik's

Chakravyuh
featuring Nitish Bharadwaj as Krishna
in association with Ishan Yadav and Neha Dhamika

The MAGNUM OPUS
Hindi Play is
BACK IN DELHI
05 pm, 08th January
Kamani Auditorium

Tickets
BookMyShow
or call 9873579796

Regencycore

From corsets and pearls to puffy and leg-of-mutton sleeves, regencycore reigned this year and might continue to do so in the next, too. As soon as the web series Bridgerton was aired, sales of items such as empire waist dresses spiked, with many taking inspiration from the likes of actor Simone Ashley, who was seen in the show in a lilac empire waist dress.

Dizzying prints

Be it mod or swerves, prints that are slightly on the dizzying side made a mark this year. Where statement prints remained big, outfits with head-to-toe prints, too, gained prominence, such as the outfit sported by this Valentino model.

Barbiecore

Coming to prominence after the first look of the much-awaited film Barbie, Barbiecore stands for anything and everything pink. Featuring monochromatic looks, the trend further got fuelled after Valentino introduced an entire collection dedicated to the colour. Actor Zendaya was featured in the brand's Pink PP Fall campaign.



Platform shoes

Say goodbye to sky-high pencil heels and welcome their comfy counterpart — platform shoes. Approved by fashionistas around the world, platform heels marry grace with style effortlessly. Businesswoman Natasha Poonawalla wore a chunky pair of gold platform heels with matching fringed skirt and a white shirt-top.

The year 2022 has been about pushing boundaries. Pink got pinker. Shoes became vertiginous. It's been about rising above the mundane. However, there's also been room for understated refinement that whispers rather than shouts. A year of dichotomy.

NACHIKET BARVE, Fashion designer

PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM

SUSHMA
HOLIDAY HOMES IN KASauli

SUSHMA
HAPPY HOME
CELEBRATIONS

{ DAILY HOROSCOPE }

Saturday, December 31, 2022



Dr Prem Kumar Sharma (Astrologer and Vaastu expert) can be contacted at: Delhi: 011-47033152, 40532026 (Sat to Mon); Panchkula: 91-172-2562832, 2572874 (Tues to Thurs); Mumbai: 09716145644 (Last week of every month)

PREMASTROLOGER

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21

You may accomplish every task assigned to your team. Make family and friends a priority in your free time. Keep a tab on what you eat. Your social life will thrive as you remain the centre of attraction. LOVE FOCUS: Partner's absence may make you realise their importance. LUCKY NUMBER: 8 LUCKY COLOUR: Golden

ARIES

MAR 21-APR 20

CP You may take on a leadership role in your new workplace role. You may have to deal with challenges alone without help from loved ones. Profits can be made in honest property deals.

LOVE FOCUS: Create lasting memories together at a romantic evening.

LUCKY NUMBER: 18 LUCKY COLOUR: Dark Red

LEO

JUL 23-AUG 23

L Your financial situation may be stable. There's a good chance that your boss may surprise you with praise or bonus. Seize the chance to travel if you get one. Avoid undue haste in the property deal.

LOVE FOCUS: Prepare to have a good time on a dinner date.

LUCKY NUMBER: 11 LUCKY COLOUR: Peach

TAURUS

APR 21-MAY 20

T You may use your skills, resources to their fullest. Your family will be proud of your achievements. You may be able to make sound financial choices. Reduce exercise intensity to avoid injury.

LOVE FOCUS: Instead of becoming harsh toward your partner, choose warmth and sensitivity.

LUCKY NUMBER: 4 LUCKY COLOUR: Blue

VIRGO

AUG 24-SEP 23

M Stay committed to honing your skills to advance on the professionally. Don't waste money on luxuries if you don't want to disrupt finances. Take a trip to shake things up.

LOVE FOCUS: Keep your cool in an argument to not have any grudges or regrets.

LUCKY NUMBER: 4 LUCKY COLOUR: Yellow

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUN 21

G You may get several professional opportunities to make your mark. Do not fret if today is not exciting; things will improve. Keep your distance from negative people. LOVE FOCUS: Your dreams for your partner will come true in due time. LUCKY NUMBER: 22 LUCKY COLOUR: Purple

LIBRA

SEP 24-OCT 23

L You might deal with work-related issues expertly. Maintain communication with family and friends to make sound decisions. It is a good day to fulfil dreams of going abroad.

LOVE FOCUS: The romantic front could be a source of stress.

LUCKY NUMBER: 9 LUCKY COLOUR: Magenta

CANCER

JUN 22-JUL 22

G You will feel compelled to give a project your best effort professionally. You should put your money to work because fortune is on your side. Your loved ones are likely to support you and join in on your endeavours.

LOVE FOCUS: Communicate your feelings honestly with your partner.

LUCKY NUMBER: 17 LUCKY COLOUR: Green

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 23

m To increase your wealth, invest money wisely in secure schemes. Your superiors may have some stern words to say. Use your free time to try something different. Deals in property may take time to fructify.

LOVE FOCUS: Some new person may come into your life.

LUCKY NUMBER: 6 LUCKY COLOUR: Brown

AQUARIUS

JAN 22-FEB 19

N Work today should be comparatively stress-free. Make plans to fix slow progress and wrap up any loose ends. Minor disagreements can help you move up the ranks quickly. A long road trip will need detailed planning. Social front will be dynamic and interesting.

LOVE FOCUS: Your significant other will be a source of calm.

LUCKY NUMBER: 1 LUCKY COLOUR: Orange

PISCES

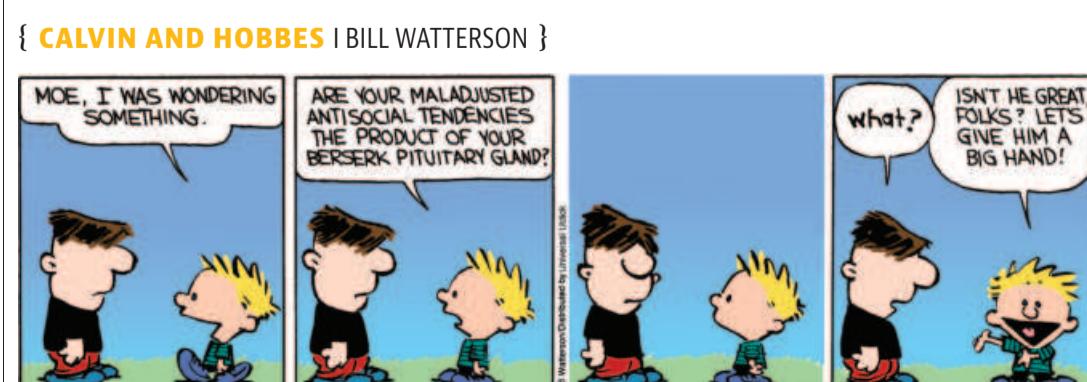
FEB 20-MAR 20

H Now is not the time to spend unnecessarily. You may get a lot done today with the help of your co-workers. Deal with family matters calmly. Avoid joint property ventures.

LOVE FOCUS: A greater sense of honesty and trust may develop between you and your partner.

LUCKY NUMBER: 2 LUCKY COLOUR: Peach

{ CALVIN AND HOBBS } BILL WATTERSON }



Dance, drink and dine at Le Meridien New Delhi tonight!

The time to party all night is here. And, Le Meridien New Delhi is all geared up to host yet another bash for New Year's Eve. Here are some offers to make the best of the celebrations:

NEW YEAR CALLING AT NERO
Join us for a quintessential New Year's Eve experience that offers best free flowing drinks at an open bar and sumptuous snacks buffet. Be a part of this enthralling gourmet dining accompanied by live music and peppy numbers of your choice. There's no better way to chill out and usher in the new year.

Price: ₹9,000 (All inclusive).



unlimited signature drinks as captivating music plays in the background. We will take your festive dining experience to an all new level.
Price: ₹11,000 (All inclusive).

SPARKLING CELEBRATIONS, FULL OF HIGHS AT LE BELVEDERE
The rooftop Le Belvedere at the 20th floor offers a remarkable dining experience with a breathtaking view. Raise a toast to 2023 all the way from top. Be mesmerised and dance your heart out with a special performance and an exclusive DJ spinning out your favourite tracks.

Price: Gala dinner with unlimited drinks at ₹12,000 (All inclusive)

Date: Tonight, December 31
Timing: 7pm to 12.30am
For details, call Festivity Desk +91 91 23460220/21

CITY REVELS AT THE ONE
Celebrate in style at our New Year's Eve gala. Join the festive moments that sparkle with lavish culinary presentations, live music, gifts, dancing, open bar, midnight Champagne toast to ring in the New Year.

Price: ₹9,000 (All inclusive).

COUNTDOWN TO MIDNIGHT AT EAU DE MONSOON
Ring the New Year while exploring a new buffet experience. Savour their classic and avant-garde Indian cuisine curated tastefully by their chefs. Relish the unique secret recipes of contemporary India with



The restaurant is known for its pan-Asian delights PHOTO: HTCS

Celebrate NYE at Azula-Kitchen & Bar

Usher in the New Year in style at Azula - Kitchen & Bar, with cocktails, premium alcohol and exclusive VIP tables along with butler service. Enthralling music by DJ Emjay will ensure that you have a rocking New Year's Eve. Hop in for a gastronomical journey with Azula's signature dishes such as chicken and prawn sisimai, ebi tempura sushi, fiery hunan chicken and much more.

Date: Tonight, December 31; Address: 53, Community Centre, New Friends Colony Market; For table reservations, call: 9650444697

HTC

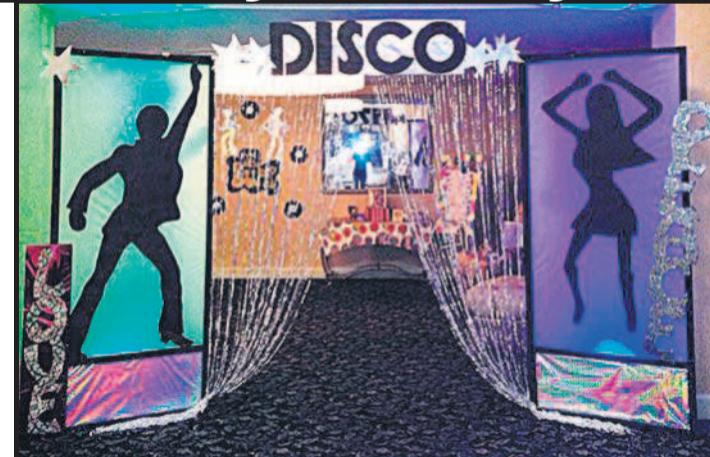
Ring in 2023, Bollywood style

There may be many ways to ring in the New Year, but the best has to be the one with Bollywood tadka. So, put on your dancing shoes and join the biggest Bollywood themed New Year celebrations at The Lalit New Delhi.

Enjoy a fun evening while grooving to your favourite Hindi film music played by popular DJs. And that's not all, you also get to indulge in a variety of flavoursome Indian and pan-Asian delicacies. Take the celebrations a notch higher with a special staycation offer including a luxurious stay, delectable cuisine, and an immaculate experience overall, complemented with the signature Lalit hospitality.

So, head to the most happening party place in the heart of the city.

Address: Crystal Ball Room, The



Enjoy a fun night out while grooving to Bollywood music

PHOTO: HTCS

Lalit New Delhi; Timing: 8 PM onwards; Prices start at ₹5,000 (All inclusive) onwards. For inquiries call: 8826892903; newdelhi@thelalit.com; Private tables are also available (minimum 10 guests)

HTC

Head to Seven Seas Hotel for a perfect year-end bash

Sophie Choudry
PHOTOS: HTCS

Seven Seas Hotel is back with a grand New Year bash, which promises to be a never-felt-before experience. The team is bringing a Carnival of Dreams on New Year's Eve where you can groove to the music of renowned singer Sophie Choudry, a live band and a DJ belting out upbeat tracks. Dig into stunning drinks and a lavish world cuisine buffet.

Inspired by the Seven

Wonders of the World, Seven Seas has curated an international cuisines menu, featuring dishes from India, Brazil, Italy, Egypt, Mexico and more. New Year's brunch and staycation packages are also available for couples and families.

Call: 8800994054 or 01143400007 for reservations; For more updates follow; Instagram @sevenseashotel

HTC

Punjabi Bagh gets a brand new party destination



Located in the heart of Delhi, Punjabi Bagh, the newly opened club Boom - A Culinary Bar is set to give you a new experience of artistic styles and aesthetic designs with its bold and beautiful interiors.

The lounge and bar offers multi-cuisine culinary delights including 14 dishes in starters, live pasta counter, hand crafted biryani and desserts, accompanied by signature cocktails. A unique fusion of great design, soothing music, live performances, and great hospitality, makes it one of the best lounges and bars in the city.

General manager, Dilip Rawat and the owner Ankur Bhatia state that the staff works round the clock to bring a luxurious and memorable experience for the customer.

Address: 27, NWA Punjabi Bagh, second floor; Call: 7065636969, 7065626969; Packages for New Years Eve: IMFL - ₹5,000 per couple, Imported liquor - ₹7,000 per couple

HTC



Korean fried chicken bao; (right) Mint julep



Hunt for a dreamy location for royal weddings, ends here

It was a memorable affair as restaurateur and F&B influencer, Kunal Motwani tied the knot with makeup artist, Simran Rajpal recently. The wedding venue, MorBagh Farms in Chattarpur, was beautifully lit up and decorated in an all-white theme for the wedding ceremonies. The groom wore an outfit by designer Falguni Shane Peacock, and the bride stunned in a self-designed, bespoke outfit, did her own makeup, and paired with customised jewellery.

MorBagh is well-known for their kind hospitality and great professionalism, earning them a loyal clientele. The ambience of the venue is sure to make heads turn with its interior decor and infrastructure, which is contemporary with a touch of minimalism and sophistication.

HTC

(Right) Kunal Motwani and Simran Rajpal; (below) The beautiful all-white decor at the wedding at MorBagh Farms

PHOTOS: HTCS

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE NY CELEBRATION!



How to party safely

- Before your night out, plan your transportation or get a designated driver to get you back home.
- Make sure your phone is fully charged before stepping out.
- Go easy with alcohol. In case you're planning to drink, do not drive. Be careful about drink spiking too.
- Carry only necessary items with you like ID cards, money, etc. Avoid carrying expensive belongings.
- Keep an eye on your surroundings and navigate smartly through crowds.
- Don't hesitate in reaching out for help. Get in touch with a bouncer or restaurant/club managers if you're in an uncomfortable situation.

Delhi Police to tighten security

About 18,000 extra personnel, with 2,500 women staff, from district and traffic units will be deployed to ensure citizens' safety on NYE. Strict action will be taken against law breakers. No vehicles will be allowed at Connaught Place after 8 pm. 125 drunk driving points have been identified too. Special arrangements have been made for the areas around India Gate, Rajouri Garden, New Friends Colony, Connaught Place, Greater Kailash, Defence Colony, Hauz Khas, Chattarpur, and Punjabi Bagh," stated a report by ANI.

Sanchita Kalra

sanchita.kalra@htlive.com

If you're planning to head out to a restaurant or a club for New Year's Eve tonight, safety is certainly the top priority. While Delhi Police is ensuring tight security by deploying extra staff, eatery owners are arranging for house drops and hiring extra female bouncers for women safety, in the end our safety is in our hands.

Umang Tewari, founder of Key nightclub, says, "The

party season brings more responsibilities on us, and ensuring women's safety is always on top of the list. We hire 30% extra staff for the December time, for more guarded supervision."

Talking about addition of female bouncers, he says, "We also have female bouncers so ladies feel comfortable confiding in them, in case they face any trouble. Immediate actions are being taken to resolve such issues."

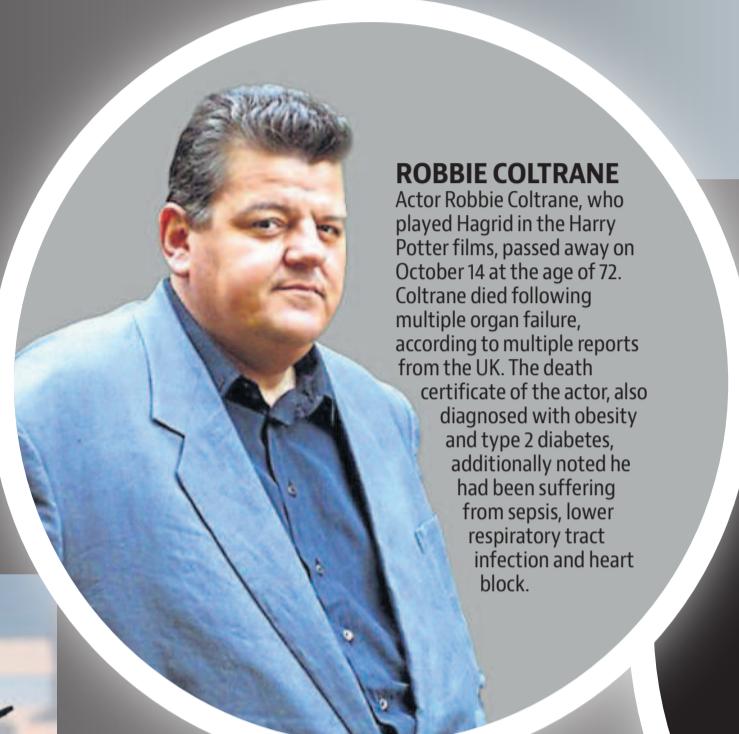
Sahil Sambhi, co-founder of Molecule, says, "Right from

arranging the drops for patrons to taking action when the team is alerted of anything unpleasant at the outlets, we're making sure security arrangements are well taken care of."

Not just customer's, safety of women staff is a priority for the party venues too. Sharad Madan, co-founder of Khubani, says, "We ensure that safety of our female staff is also taken care of and it has been our utmost priority. We ensure to drop them home if they are clocking in late nights."

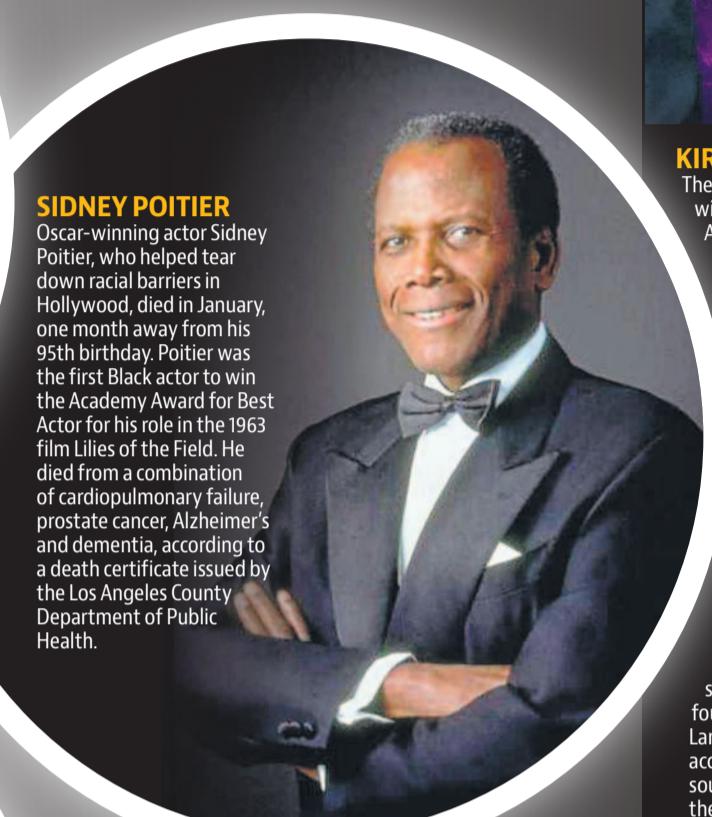
SHINING IN A DIFFERENT GALAXY...

Iconic actors, musicians, comedians and TV personalities — here are all the stars the West lost this year



ROBBIE COLTRANE
Actor Robbie Coltrane, who played Hagrid in the Harry Potter films, passed away on October 14 at the age of 72. Coltrane died following multiple organ failure, according to multiple reports from the UK. The death certificate of the actor, also diagnosed with obesity and type 2 diabetes, additionally noted he had been suffering from sepsis, lower respiratory tract infection and heart block.

RECAP 2022



SIDNEY POITIER
Oscar-winning actor Sidney Poitier, who helped tear down racial barriers in Hollywood, died in January, one month away from his 95th birthday. Poitier was the first Black actor to win the Academy Award for Best Actor for his role in the 1963 film *Lilies of the Field*. He died from a combination of cardiopulmonary failure, prostate cancer, Alzheimer's and dementia, according to a death certificate issued by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.



KIRSTIE ALLEY
The Cheers alum died on December 5 after a short battle with cancer. She was 71. The actor's family shared in a letter via Alley's Instagram following her death: "She was surrounded by her closest family and fought with great strength, leaving us with a certainty of her never-ending joy of living and whatever adventures lie ahead. As iconic as she was on screen, she was an even more amazing mother and grandmother."



STEPHEN "TWITCH" BOSS
Stephen "tWitch" Boss, the amiable DJ from The Ellen DeGeneres Show and dancer who rose to fame on So You Think You Can Dance, died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Boss, 40, was found dead inside a motel room on December 13 in California. Boss is survived by wife Allison Holker and their three children.



LOUIE ANDERSON
Louie Anderson, the Emmy-winning comedian, actor and game show host, died on January 21 in Las Vegas after a battle with cancer. He was 68. In recent years, Anderson gained acclaim for his performance in the comedy series *Baskets*. Anderson is survived by his two sisters, Lisa and Shanna.



ANNE HECHE
Actor Anne Heche, known for *Donnie Brasco* and *Wag the Dog* (1997), on August 5, drove her car into a home in Los Angeles causing the residence and her car to go up in flames. She suffered burns and a severe anoxic brain injury. She was hospitalized and placed in a coma, where she remained on life support while doctors worked to determine organ transplantation. Heche was taken off life support nine days after the crash. She was 53.



AARON CARTER
On November 5, pop star Aaron Carter was found dead at his house in Lancaster, California, according to TMZ. Police sources told PEOPLE the star was found by a house sitter in his bathtub, and that there were prescription pills and drug paraphernalia in his bedroom. He is believed to have lost consciousness and drowned. Aaron, brother of Backstreet Boys vocalist Nick Carter, struggled with mental health issues and addiction for the majority of his life.



JASON DAVID FRANK
Jason David Frank, the actor who originated the role of Tommy Oliver (the Green Ranger in the Power Rangers franchise), died on November 19. He was 49. His wife Tammie Frank confirmed that he died by suicide. "I had no idea that Jason was thinking of ending things. He had struggled with mental health and depression before, but I could never predict what would happen that night," Frank said.



NAOMI JUDD
Just one day prior to her induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame, singer Naomi Judd, 76, died by suicide (of a self-inflicted gunshot wound), according to PEOPLE. "We have always shared openly both the joys of being family as well as its sorrows... Our matriarch was dogged by an unfair foe. She was treated for PTSD and bipolar disorder," the family said in a statement shared with the AP.



WILLIAM HURT
Oscar-winning actor William Hurt, star of *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, died in March. "The family mourns the passing of William Hurt, beloved father and Oscar winning actor, on March 13, 2022, one week before his 72nd birthday," said Hurt's son Will, as reported by Deadline. The statement didn't specify if the terminal prostate cancer the actor was diagnosed with in May 2018 contributed to his passing.



BOB SAGET
Actor-comedian Bob Saget, well-known as Danny Tanner on the sitcom *Full House*, died on January 9 of head trauma. The family disclosed the cause of death in a statement to Variety, writing: "The authorities have determined that Bob passed from head trauma. They have concluded that he accidentally hit the back of his head on something, thought nothing of it and went to sleep. No drugs or alcohol were involved."



TOM PARKER
Pop singer Tom Parker, whose boy band the Wanted was a global sensation, was diagnosed with an aggressive brain cancer, in 2020, while his wife was pregnant with their second child. He passed away on March 30 at the age of 33. His final Instagram photo, posted just two days before his death, showed him onstage with the Wanted, with the caption "Dream Team".



RAY LIOTTA
The actor, whose breakout role came in the 1990 Martin Scorsese crime classic *Goodfellas*, died this May at the age of 67. According to Deadline, the Field of Dreams (1989) actor died in his sleep in the Dominican Republic, where he was shooting the film *Dangerous Waters*. Liotta leaves behind a daughter, Karsen. He was engaged to be married to former hairstylist Jacy Nittolo.



KEVIN CONROY
Actor and voice artiste Kevin Conroy, who famously voiced Batman in the iconic *Batman: The Animated Series* among other projects, died of cancer at 66. Actor Mark Hamill said in a statement: "He was one of my favourite people on the planet, and I loved him like a brother. He truly cared for the people around him — his decency shone through everything he did. Every time I saw him or spoke with him, my spirits were elevated."



TAYLOR HAWKINS
Foo Fighters drummer Taylor Hawkins, 50, died on March 25 after being found unresponsive in his hotel room in Bogotá, Colombia. An early urine toxicology test found 10 different drugs in his system. "His musical spirit and infectious laughter will live on with all of us forever," said a message on the band's official Twitter account.



A-Z OF THE YEAR THAT WAS

From witnessing real-life tearjerkers and branding India on global forums to unmasking shock and awe moments, 2022 was history in the making

RECAP 2022

Text:
Etti Bali

A Airport hai ya fish market? Our sympathies are with those who navigated the airport chaos during the holidays.

B #BoycottBollywood. From actor Kareena Kapoor Khan's straight up answers during Lail Singh Chaddha's promotion to Besharam Rang's costume colour in Pathaan — Bollywood couldn't escape the hashtag.

C Cannes honours India. With the first Country of Honour record to its name, India made history at the festival.

D Digital mania. NFTs, cryptocurrency, Digital Rupee... 2022 was all about the rise of all things tech.

E Elon Musk (business magnate) takes over as Twitter CEO. And what followed can be best described as tempest in a tweet! His new policies created outrage among users.

F FIFA witnessed history in making. Lionel Messi brought the World Cup

home for Argentina after 36 years in a thrilling finale.

G Goblin mode and gaslight become words of the year. If you blamed your SO for the stray socks and dirty dishes, then you need to look up these two terms.

H Houseful at celebrity Diwali parties. After a hiatus of two years, tinsel town was buzzing again during festivals and all eyes were on #whoworewhat.

I India gets G20 Presidency. In a historic move, the largest ever G20 Leaders' Summit will take place in New

Delhi in September 2023, with over 43 Heads of Delegations set to participate.

J Johnny Depp vs Amber Heard. The kabhi haan kabhi ha rollercoaster of a divorce trial kept everyone hooked.

K K-pop group BTS takes a break, breaks hearts. In June, the Korean boy band disbanded, citing individual interests and members embarking on solo quests.

L Love 21. As Roger Federer retired after 24 glorious years of tennis, his greatest rival Rafael Nadal bade him an emotional farewell. The teary-eyed photos melted hearts.

M Motherhood. Actors Priyanka Chopra Jonas, Alia Bhatt, Sonam Kapoor Ahuja, Bipasha Basu and Kajal Aggarwal welcomed their newborns.

N Nude Dude. Actor Ranveer Singh's photoshoot broke the internet.

O Oscar slap. Comedian Chris Rock took a potshot at actor Jada Pinkett Smith, leading husband, actor Will Smith, to smack him across the face.

P Picture-perfect. A campaign shot for a luxury fashion house featuring football legends Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo over a chess board marked an iconic moment. Alas, the shots were done separately.

Q Queen Elizabeth II's reign comes to an end. 70 years, 15 Prime Ministers, 14 US Presidents, 7 Popes, 4 children, 8 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren later, Elizabeth Alexandra Mary died on September 8.

R Return to normalcy. Public events like India International Trade Fair, Comic Con and Jashn-e-Rehka returned as reduced Covid cases brought respite.

S Smog. Shrouded in a cover of smog, Delhi and Mumbai battled with poor air quality.

T Tragic losses. With deaths of singers KK, Lata Mangeshkar, Bappi Lahiri, Sidhu Moosewala, the year was marked with sadness for many.

U Unsurprising OTT surge. Thanks to lockdowns and no censor curbs, OTT emerged as a strong alternative to the box office.

V Vile food combinations. Butter chicken ice cream, chai noodles, gulab jamun chaat... For the last time, stop this naan-sense.

W Who let the dogs out? Horrifying cases of dog attacks took place in various cities.

X X Factor. Actors Ben Affleck and Jennifer Lopez, who were once dating in Y2K years only to split up, got married, rekindling hope in estranged lovers that the spark can be found again.

Y Y this north-south cinema divide? Actors and filmmakers from the Hindi and various south Indian film industries came together to proclaim one India, one film industry.

Z Zubaan sambhal ke. US President Joe Biden mispronounced UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak as Rashi Sanook and we shouldn't keep calm.

PHOTOS: AP, REUTERS, AFP, VIJAYANAND GUPTA, TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM

MARUTI SUZUKI

NEXA

BOLD. INTUITIVE. INTELLIGENT.

Driving the New Age Baleno is pure thrill. It's power packed with hi-tech features that take your driving experience to a whole new level. Get ready to drive the bold side of technology.

CREATE. INSPIRE.



Scan the QR code
to know how
tech goes bold.

THE NEW AGE
BALENO
TECH GOES BOLD



360 View Camera



Head Up Display



22.86cm SmartPlay Pro*



6 Airbags^



In-built Suzuki Connect

DUAL FRONT AIRBAGS
ABS WITH EBD
PEDESTRIAN PROTECTION COMPLIANCE
COMPLIANT WITH -
FRONTAL IMPACT
FRONTAL OFFSET IMPACT
SIDE IMPACT

Feature and accessories shown may not be part of standard fitment. Black glass shade on the vehicle is due to lighting effect. Images used are for illustration purposes only.

BENEFITS UPTO ₹ 20 000*

Contact us at
1800-200-[6392]
1800-102-[NEXA]

www.nexaxperience.com

NOW YOU ALSO BOOK ONLINE

JAMMU: NEXA GANDHI NAGAR (PEAKS AUTO PH: 8899007260, 0191-7967026), NEXA BYEPASS (JAMKASH VEHICLEADES PH: 7051261302, 6006802043),
NEXA AKHNOOR ROAD (JAMMU MOTORS, TOPH SHERKHANIA PH: 9906038888, 0191-2582277, 0191-2583366), UDHAMPUR: NEXA SHIV NAGAR (J&K VEHICLEADES PVT. LTD PH: 1992-276267),
LEH: NEXA AIRPORT ROAD (Druk Auto Zone PVT. LTD. PH: 7051579707).

*T&C apply. Offers may vary across variants. Maruti Suzuki reserves the right to withdraw offers at any point in time. Smart Finance available only in select cities. Creative Visualization. Black Glass on vehicle is due to lighting effect. For details on functioning of safety features including air bag, kindly refer to the Owners manual.

SMART FINANCE
AN ONLINE END-TO-END
CAR FINANCE SOLUTION

Scan to know more.

Multiple Financiers
Live Loan status
Complete transparency (associated fees & charges)

**SMART
BAZAAR**

**SMART
SUPERSTORE**



**SMART
BAZAAR**

NEW DELHI : Unity One Mall, Near Janakpuri West Metro Station • V3S Mall, Laxmi Nagar • Pacific D21, Sector 21 Metro Station, Dwarka • Kalkaji Mandir Metro Station, GURGAON : Omaxe City Centre, Sohna Road • Sahara Mall, M.G. Road, FARIDABAD : Grand Sewa Mall, Near Sarai Metro Station. GHAZIABAD : Shipra Mall, Indirapuram • Opulent Mall, G.T. Road • Mahagun Metro Mall, Sector -3, Vaishali. • Aditya Mall, Indirapuram GREATER NOIDA WEST : Gaur City Mall, NOIDA The Great India Place • Logix City Centre.

SNACKS

Bingol / Lay's / Cornitos Chips 60 g Onwards (Select Variants) / McCain / ITC (Select Range)

UP TO
33%
Off

MRP ₹35
Onwards



Cheese Slice / Cube / Block 200 g Onwards (Select Range)

UP TO
50%
Off

MRP ₹160
Onwards



Del Monte 1.1 kg / Snactac Tomato Ketchup 950 g / Wingreens Premium Veg Mayo 800 g

50%
Off

MRP ₹150
Onwards Our Price ₹75
Onwards

Lotte / Orion Choco Pie 336 g Onwards (Select Variants)

UP TO
50%
Off

MRP ₹180
Onwards



Biscuits Large Pack 300 g Onwards (Select Variants)

UP TO
50%
Off

MRP ₹130
Onwards



Kwality Wall's Party Packs (Select Variants)

25%
Off

MRP ₹140
Onwards Our Price ₹105
Onwards



BEVERAGES

Coca Cola / Limca / Sprite / Thums Up 2 ℥ / Monster Energy 350 ml / Maaza 1.2 ℥ / B Natural Juice 1 ℥ (Select Variants)

UP TO
50%
Off

MRP ₹75
Onwards



Bisleri Soda 750 ml

BUY 1
GET 1
FREE

MRP ₹20
Onwards

SAVE
₹120

MRP ₹510
Onwards Our Price ₹390
Onwards

Red Label Leaf Tea 1 kg

MRP ₹510
Onwards Our Price ₹390
Onwards



India Gate Basmati Rozana 5 kg + Fortune Refined Rice Bran Health Oil 5 l

Our Price
₹1175

Combined MRP ₹1570
SAVE ₹395



Besan / Rawa / Maida / Dalia 500 g / 1 kg

BUY 1
GET 1
FREE

MRP ₹45
Onwards

Our Price
**₹329/
₹399**

MRP ₹549 / ₹499
SAVE ₹220 / ₹100



Shop at
JioMart.com

MAKEUP & GROOMING

Glimmer Beauty / Personal Accessories / Lakme / Mirabelle Facial Sheet Mask 20 ml Onwards (Select Variants)



50%
Off

MRP ₹40
Onwards Our Price ₹20
Onwards

Maybelline Colossal / Lakme Eyeconic Kajal (Twin Pack) (Select Variants)



SAVE
125

MRP ₹299
Onwards Our Price ₹174
Onwards

Fortune Refined Soya Oil 1 ℥



Our Price
₹148

MRP ₹175
SAVE ₹27

HOMEWARE

Offers Valid at Select SMART Bazaar & SMART Superstore only

trea Soogo Beer & Whisky Glass Range



Our Price
₹49
Onwards

MRP ₹149
Onwards

Dinner Set Range



UP TO
70%
Off

MRP ₹1150
Onwards

BOROSIL® treo OTG & Ovens Range (19 ℥ - 30 ℥)



Our Price
₹3799
Onwards

MRP ₹6700
Onwards



UP TO
25%
Off

MRP ₹149 Onwards

FASHION

Offers Valid at Select SMART Bazaar & SMART Superstore only

**MINIMUM
50%
OFF**

On entire apparel range
Rs. 99 Onwards



Offers also Available at

**SMART
POINT**

fresh Signature

RuPay **₹200**
Instant discount
on RuPay Debit & Credit cards
On contactless transactions

Flat
₹200
Min. Txn of
₹1500

Valid Once Per Card

Valid from 15th Dec 2022 to 15th Jan 2023



Scan to
locate your
nearest store

Terms and Conditions apply. Banking & Wallet offers valid only in Smart Bazaar, Smart Superstore, Smart Point & Reliance Fresh Signature. Offers valid till stocks last. All offers are subject to change without notice. The pictures / photographs of the products shown are for representation purpose only. MRP of all products are inclusive of all taxes. All offers are valid till 1st January 2023. Apparel & Home ware offers are Valid till 2nd January 2023 in select SMART Bazaar & SMART Superstore only. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts in Mumbai only.