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INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

Yash Dhull-led India U-19 team will seek a record-extending 5th WC title as they play England today. Meanwhile, **Rohit Sharma** will lead the Men In Blue against Windies on Sunday, making India the first side ever to play 1,000 ODIs

3 more of **Brit PM Boris Johnson's** closest aides — chief of staff Dan Rosenfield, principal pvt secy Martin Reynolds, and communications director Jack Doyle — resign in wake of 'Partygate' scandal

Austria is the first Western democracy to mandate Covid vaccinations for nearly its entire adult population, with the step set to come into force today

Police in Myanmar have filed an 11th corruption charge against **Aung San Suu Kyi**, which carries a maximum prison term of 15 years

Sena ready to fight Mum civic polls alone: Min

Though it is the main constituent of the three-party Maha Vikas Aghadi, Shiv Sena is "prepared" to contest Mumbai civic polls alone, Sena leader and transport minister Anil Parab, a trusted aide of Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray, told **TOI** Friday. In the BMC House of 227, Sena has 97 seats, BJP 83, Congress 29, NCP 8 and SP 6. Sena has controlled BMC for the past 30 years. **P 15**

Sisters, aged 4 & 5, die in Gzb blaze

Two sisters, aged 4 and 5 years, were charred to death in their sleep when a cooking gas cylinder exploded in a house in Ghaziabad's Kavi Nagar area Thursday. The rest of the family climbed down a ladder from the balcony. TNN

'Penalty for marital rape Parl decision'

If the exemption to husbands under IPC 375 is set aside, the question of punishment for marital rape would lie in the domain of Parliament, senior advocate Colin Gonsalves, appearing for a woman petitioner, told Delhi HC on Friday. **P 10**

News Corp claims China hacking op

News Corp, publisher of The Wall Street Journal, said on Friday it had been hacked and data stolen from journalists and others. A cybersecurity firm probing the intrusion said Chinese intelligence-gathering is believed to be behind the job. **P 20**

DON'T MISS!

TIMES Verified **FAKE NEWS ALERT** P 3

SC: Official Covid toll stats 'not true', so don't deny ex gratia

Tells States: Give Payout Within 10 Days Of Claim

AmitAnand.Choudhary
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday directed state governments not to reject Covid-19 death claims on technical grounds and gave 10 days' time to them to pay compensation from the time such an application is submitted by a bereaved family.

"Official statistics are not true on death figures and it cannot be said fraudulent claims are being made (by families of Covid victims)," a bench of Justices M R Shah and B V Nagarathna said, taking note of rejection of a large number of claims by several state governments.

> You are not doing charity. As a welfare state it (paying Covid ex gratia) is your duty. Why are you sending people from pillar to post? Do it from the bottom of the heart
>
> —**SC** to Maharashtra govt on rejecting 60,000+ claim applications

We direct all state govts to give full particulars (of those who died of Covid) to the state legal service authorities... (and that of Covid) orphans within a week, failing which the matter shall be viewed very seriously

ALSO IN SC

- Apex court dismisses plea of homebuyers to renegotiate with Supertech on agreed settlement for refund prior to the razing of the twin towers of Noida's Emerald Court project | **P 10**
- Lok Adalats are not courts, so their settlement decrees have no precedence value in a court of law, rules SC while hearing a case of compensation to some landowners in Noida | **P 10**

The bench, which has been monitoring the implementation of its order to pay Rs 50,000 to all families which lost their dear ones due to the pandemic, expressed displeasure over the delay on the part of some of the states in reaching out to the families.

"You are not doing charity. As a welfare state, it is your duty. Why are you sending people from pillar to post? Do it from the bottom of the heart," the apex court told the Maharashtra government that had rejected over 60,000 claim applications.

▶**'Appoint officials', P 20**

5k criminal cases against MLAs & MPs pending

Senior advocate Vijay Hansaria, assisting the Supreme Court on expeditious trial against tainted lawmakers, has noted in his report that the number of pending criminal cases — currently at 4,984 — has been increasing since 2018 when SC ordered the setting up of special courts to try such MLAs and MPs. The report says the rise in cases indicates increasing criminalisation of electoral politics, **reports Amit Anand Choudhary**.

UP has the largest number of such cases at 1,339, followed by Bihar (571). "Despite a series of directions by SC and continuous monitoring, 1,899 pending cases are older than 5 years," the report notes. **P 13**

People at top want a weak CM: Sidhu

Remark Comes Ahead Of Cong Naming CM Face

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chandigarh: "People at the top want a weak CM" who will "sing their tunes", Punjab Congress chief **Navjot Singh Sidhu** said on Friday, apparently taking a dig at the party leadership before Rahul Gandhi's visit to the state to name the party's CM-pick on Sunday.

Sidhu's remarks became a talking point as he and CM Charanjit Singh Channi are locked in a battle to become the "CM candidate" ahead of the assembly elections. But the party tried to deflect attention, **saying Sidhu was referring to BJP. Also, Sidhu said he was quoted out of context**.

▶**Will get 2/3rds majority in U'khand: Dhami, P 16**

▶**'Need honest CM', P 20**

Channi kin held in sand mining case

ED arrested the nephew of Punjab CM Charanjit Singh Channi on Thursday night in an illegal sand mining case. ED had raided the premises of Bhupinder Singh Honey on January 18. **P 15**

Owaisi refuses 'Z' category security

Asaduddin Owaisi said he does not want 'Z' category security issued by the government and questioned why the UAPA has not been slapped on those responsible for the attack on him. **P 15**

NEET-PG will now be held on May 21

New Delhi: The National Eligibility cum Entrance Test for admissions to postgraduate medical courses will be held on May 21, the National Board of Examination in Medical Sciences announced on Friday, a day after the Union health ministry sought postponement of the exam by 6-8 weeks as it was clashing with the NEET-PG 2021 counselling.

Besides, many interns might not be able to participate in PG counselling 2022 by May-June due to non-completion of internship period, the ministry had said.

The online window for submission of applications for NEET-PG 2022, which was earlier notified to be closed on February 4 (till 11.55pm) shall now continue till March 25 (till 11.55pm), NBE said. On January 25, six MBBS graduates had filed a plea in the Supreme Court seeking postponement of the exam. TNN

HC upholds Assam law on madrassas

The Gauhati high court upheld on Friday a law passed by the Assam assembly to close and convert all 401 state-funded madrassas to schools for general education. The governor had given his assent to the legislation a year ago, **reports Prabin Kalita**.

The court affirmed that secularism means treating everyone equally. "We live in a democracy... It is thus the secular nature of the State which mandates that no religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution wholly maintained out of State funds [Article 28(1)]," the bench said. **P 14**

Hry challenges HC's job quota stay in top court

Dhananjay.Mahapatra
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Within 24 hours of the Punjab and Haryana high court staying a Haryana law mandating 75% quota in private jobs for locals, the ML Khattar government moved the Supreme Court for vacation of the injunction and alleged the HC stalled implementation of the law after a 90-second hearing, in clear breach of principles of natural justice. The case is likely to be heard on Monday.

Solicitor general Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Haryana government, sought an urgent hearing on the state's appeal from a bench headed by CJI N V Ramana and informed the court that he had appeared before the HC on Thursday to argue in defence of the law and the necessity of such reservation for locals in private jobs that offered salaries less than Rs 30,000 per month.

▶**SC hearing next wk, P 20**

IN THE COURTS

- K'taka HC upholds lenient view taken on 9 IIM Bangalore students expelled for exam malpractices, but says order not to be treated as precedent
- Calling water an essential service, Bombay HC asks BMC to restore society's supply, warns "we'll unleash hell" if denied
- Dismissing woman's plea, Madras HC says electricity essential but not for those who violate building plans **P 12, 13**

Covid funeral SOP for Parsis gets SC approval

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday approved the standard operating procedure agreed upon by the Centre and the Parsi community for conduct of last rites of Covid-19 victims allowing for traditional rituals and addressing the concern about containing the spread of the virus, **reports Amit Anand Choudhary**.

The court was hearing an appeal filed by the Surat Parsi Panchayat Board against a July 23 order of the Gujarat high court that refused its plea to allow the community to carry out rituals while following the Covid protocol.

▶**Metallic net, P 20**

YOGI FILES NOMINATION

Ajay Kumar

Accompanied by Union home minister Amit Shah, UP chief minister Yogi Adityanath filed his nomination from Gorakhpur Urban assembly constituency on Friday. Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan and state BJP chief Swatantra Dev Singh were also present. The Gorakhpur seat will go to the polls on March 7. In his affidavit, Yogi declared movable assets of Rs 1.5 crore and no immovable property. He owns a revolver and a rifle valued at Rs 1.8 lakh, while his gold 'kundal' (earrings) and a chain (with rudraksh) are worth Rs 69,000 | **P 16**

JNU VC Jagadesh Kumar is UGC chairperson

The government on Friday appointed JNU vice-chancellor **M Jagadesh Kumar** as chairperson of University Grants Commission for a period of five years or till he attains the age of 65, whichever is earlier, **reports Manash Gohain**.

The post fell vacant on December 7, 2021 after Prof D P Singh, who had taken charge in 2018, resigned upon turning 65. The post of the UGC vice-chairman is also vacant.

Kumar, whose tenure as JNU VC has been marred by controversies, including the 2016 sedition row and lockdown of his office multiple times, termed the move "a great opportunity to work for the young minds of our country" and said he will focus on making higher education more inclusive. **P 12**

Ambani, Adani richer than Zuckerberg: Report

TIMES NEW NETWORK

The hammering suffered by Facebook parent Meta on Thursday — it recorded its worst-ever 26% stock crash and a $230-billion erosion in market cap — had a silver lining for the two richest Indians. As FB founder Mark Zuckerberg's net worth slumped nearly $31 billion, Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani overtook him on the rich list, Forbes data showed. On Thursday, Forbes Real Time Billionaire Index put Adani's net worth at $91.1 billion and Ambani's at $89.2 billion. Zuckerberg was at $82.9 billion.

According to data from Bloomberg, however, Zuckerberg was ahead at $89.6 billion, with Ambani at $89.2 billion and Adani at $87.4 billion. Ambani and Adani are also the two richest people in Asia.

The Meta stock crashed after it said Apple's new data-sharing policy for all devices made it difficult for FB to mine and use the data for expanding its businesses.

▶**Inflation hits US tech cos, P 21**

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Cold Set To Weaken Its Grip In Two Days

Severe Cold-Day Conditions Persist In Ridge Area

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Parts of the city continued to shiver as cold day conditions prevailed for the second day in a row. The weather department expects respite within the next two days.

While 1.3mm rainfall was recorded on Friday, it was followed by brief sunlight in some areas as gusty winds partially lifted the cloud cover. The maximum temperature, however, rose by 4-5 degrees compared with a day earlier. Daytime temperatures are likely to rise further on Saturday. Cold day conditions will continue in isolated areas.

India Meteorological Department (IMD) expects a clear sunny sky, which may take daytime temperatures above the season's average by Sunday. "The city will see dense fog on Saturday and moderate on Sunday. The western disturbance will pass from the region, so no rainfall will be seen from Saturday onwards," said an official.

The maximum temperature at Safdarjung was 18.1 degrees Celsius, five notches below the season's average, against 14.4 degrees Celsius on Thursday. The minimum temperature was 10.4 degrees Celsius, two notches above the season's average, against 11 degrees a day earlier.

Ridge and Aya Nagar weather stations experienced cold day conditions with a maximum temperature of 18.1 degrees Celsius. Both had minimum temperatures below 10 degrees Celsius.

IMD said the maximum and minimum temperatures on Saturday would hover around 19 and 6 degrees, respectively.

Meanwhile, the air quality of the city improved from "very poor" on Thursday to the "moderate" category on Friday. The Air Quality Index (AQI), on a scale of 0 to 500, was recorded at 152 on Friday against 321 a day earlier.

"AQI improved significantly from Thursday's very poor category due to rain and gusty winds that washed out particulate matter. A few spells of light rain improved AQI further, but it remained within the moderate range. From Saturday, relatively calm surface winds are likely and air quality may gradually degrade back to the poor category and then to very poor as the rate of accumulation of pollutants is likely to be more than the ventilation," said a statement from System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research.

Anindya Chattopadhyay

The air quality improved from 'very poor' a day earlier to 'moderate'

152 AIR QUALITY INDEX RECORDED ON FRIDAY AS AGAINST 321 A DAY EARLIER

HC seeks police stand on bail plea by Sushil Kumar

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Friday sought the stand of Delhi Police on bail plea by Olympic medallist wrestler Sushil Kumar in the Chhatrasal Stadium murder case. Justice Mukta Gupta listed the case for further hearing on March 28. Kumar along with others is accused of allegedly assaulting former junior national wrestling champion Sagar Dhankar and his friends. PTI

High court sets aside ₹95L green compensation order

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Friday set aside an order passed by Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) imposing a Rs 95 lakh environment compensation on Okhla Industrial Area CETP Society.

The petitioner society has challenged the order saying it was passed without hearing it. Justice V Kameswar Rao after hearing the submissions of counsel for DPCC and Okhla Industrial Areas CETP Society set aside the order passed on July 7, 2021. The said order was passed by DPCC for non-compliance with environmental norms. The bench also took the note of the submission of counsel for DPCC, who submitted that the body will give a hearing to the petitioner. The society had moved a petition through advocate S K Bhattacharya, who submitted that the petitioner is a body engaged in treating industrial affluents. It was issued a show-cause notice on April 21. Bhattacharya said that the reply was given on May 4. Despite it, DPCC imposed a fine of Rs 95 lakh without taking into consideration the reply filed by the petitioner. ANI

Teacher sent on leave for not being vaxxed approaches HC

Abhinav.Garg@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: A teacher in a Delhi school has moved the high court seeking exemption from being vaccinated for Covid-19. Citing his medical history of diabetes, weakened immune system and other complications, the teacher said he was advised by doctors not to risk taking the Covid vaccine due to the probable side-effects.

The school has allegedly sent him on leave and refused to allow him to even conduct online classes, saying it is compulsory to get vaccinated as per Delhi government and DDMA guidelines.

Justice Yogesh Khanna on Thursday issued notice on his plea to the government and the directorate of education seeking their response. The court also asked the teacher to file his latest medical certificate clarifying if "it could be safe for him to step outside his house and to attend school, and also, if he is entitled to any exemption from the rigors of circular/orders of DDMA/GNCT of Delhi as it is submitted that schools are expected to be in physical mode soon."

The court, however, took note of the fact that the teacher's salary has been withheld for the last two months. It directed the school to release the same immediately. It said the salary would be subject to adjustments to be made on the final outcome of this petition.

HC won't hear plea on gap in vax doses

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Friday refused to entertain a plea seeking reduction in gap between the second and the precautionary dose of the Covid-19 vaccine from nine months to three months for frontline workers and senior citizens.

A bench of Chief Justice DN Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh stated that it was an administrative decision and made it clear the court would not interfere in policy matters. "The high court will be extremely slow in interfering with experts' decisions," the bench said, also pointing out that no proper homework was done before filing the PIL.

When the court said it was inclined to dismiss the petition with costs, the counsel for the petition said he was withdrawing the plea.

The petitioner had moved court seeking directions to reduce the gap between the second dose and the precautionary third dose of the vaccine from 39 weeks (nine months) to three months for frontline workers, healthcare workers and senior citizens. The plea also sought a direction to the government to pass appropriate directions so that immediate family members of frontline workers, healthcare workers, and senior citizens were given priority while taking the booster dose. However, the bench remained unimpressed. TNN

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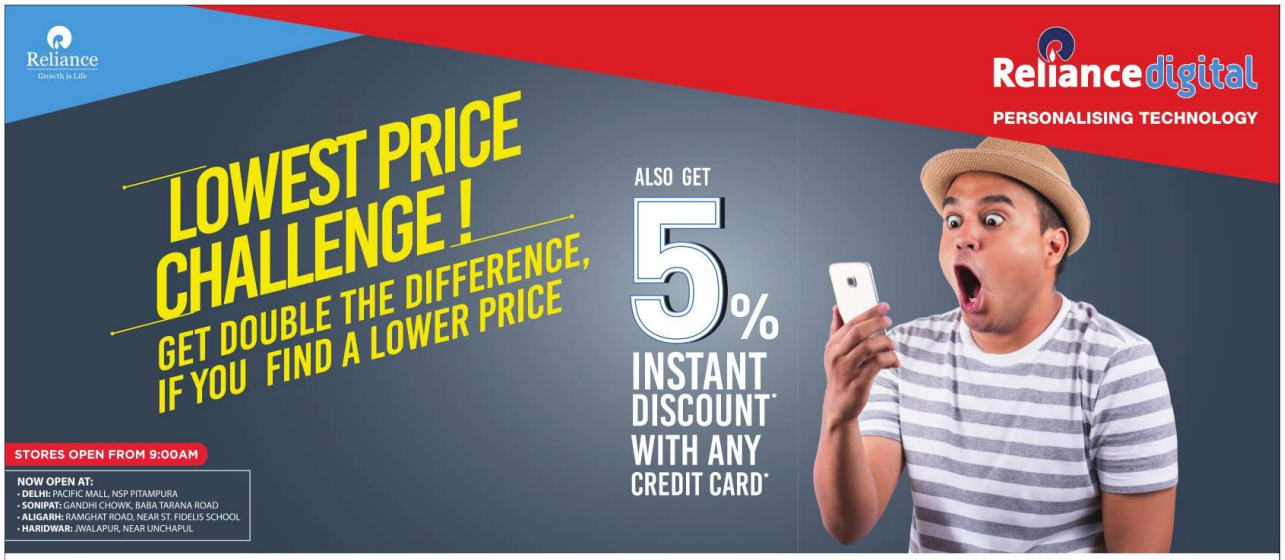

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Delhi Budget
Swaraj Budget

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आप की सरकार

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- Increase the income of Delhiites
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- Enable women to feel safe
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-Arvind Kejriwal, Chief Minister, Delhi

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Last Date: 15th February 2022

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Finance Department, Government of NCT of Delhi

Schools Ready To Open Doors For Kids

Parents Relieved At DDMA Move, But Some Educators In Favour Of Ending Hybrid Option

Shradha.Chettri
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: As the much awaited reopening of schools was announced on Friday, both the parents and the institutions were relieved at the decision of the Delhi Disaster Management Authority. The students of classes IX to XII will resume school from Monday, while those in nursery to Class VIII will return to classes from February 14. While the hybrid option of in-person and online classes will still be available, most schools said they would open to full capacity and would be ready to accommodate all their students.

Earlier, when classes had been allowed to resume before the third wave of Covid-19 forced their closure, the schools had been instructed to have only 50% of the students attending, because of which students attended on a rotation basis.

Sudha Acharya, principal, ITL Public School, Dwarka, said, "With the restrictions eased, we will be able to accommodate all our students. After February 14, we will also resume transport facilities because the junior students will not be able to come on their own and many parents would also be joining work. The canteen will start from Monday itself. We hope that many students will return."

Acharya, who is also chairperson of National Progressive Schools' Conference, a consortium of about 400 private schools in the city, felt that the hybrid mode was an impediment to full resumption of classes. "The hybrid mode will leave teachers under a lot of pressure. Now that the students have been vaccinated it would have been best to have physical classes," she said.

Tania Joshi, principal, The Indian School, said the government could have also done away with the need for parental consent for attendance. "Parents and children alike have become comfortable with online learning, so many may opt not to come to school. But physical classes are the need of the hour," said Joshi.

The central government has given the states the options to decide on whether their schools need parental consent to recall the students to classes. The Action Committee, an association of private schools, welcomed the decision and hoped there would be no more closures.

Some parents, like Tanya Agarwal who has been vociferously petitioning the government to reopen schools, said that the junior classes could also have started from Monday. The junior students returned to school for just a few weeks in November and December last year, with disruptions in between, after the institutions were closed by the pandemic in March 2020.

"There is no scientific reason for a staggered reopening," insisted Agarwal. "On the contrary, junior classes should open first. In any case, I now hope we move forward and restore normalcy for our kids. This means normal school hours every day with transport. Schools need to ensure they open fully and provide a meaningful physical school experience."

Contradicting this, Aprajita Gautam, president, Delhi Parents' Association, argued that primary and middle school should continue with online classes because students at these levels were unvaccinated.

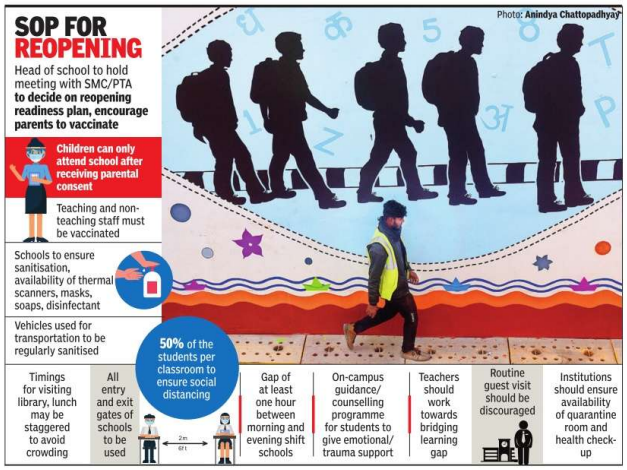

Photo: Anindya Chattopadhyay

Univs to assess readiness before taking call

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: With Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) giving the go-ahead to reopen higher educational institutions, the heads of several universities in the city said a decision on the modalities to resume offline classes would be taken after examining the government directions.

Najma Akhtar, vice-chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia, said the varsity would reopen gradually. "Whatever guidelines have been issued by the Delhi government will be followed. But reopening will be done gradually after taking into account what the statutory bodies have to say as well," Akhtar said.

Several others said a detailed order was awaited before deciding on calling students back to campus. Anu Singh Lather, vice-chancellor of Ambedkar University Delhi, said, "We will look into the order in a detailed manner and take a call after discussions with all deans and other members. We will also have to see the capacity for which the government is permitting the reopening."

Delhi University vice-chancellor Yogesh Singh also said, "We will first examine the detailed order to see the permitted capacity. If 100% is being allowed to return to the campus, we can reopen the university immediately. A meeting will be held among university officials and we can reopen soon."

DU VC SAYS

We will first examine the detailed order to see the permitted capacity. If 100% is being allowed to return to the campus, we can reopen the university immediately

Government officials said higher educational institutions would have to be completely in the offline mode, not a hybrid mode.

The DU authorities earlier maintained that due to a large number of outstation students, reopening its campuses had continued to be a problem. About reopening hostels, Singh said, "If all students are asked to return to campuses, hostels will also be reopened gradually. We will take a call on the matter soon."

In a notification later in the day, DU said the online teaching-learning mode would continue for all academic programmes till a decision was taken.

Senior officials of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) did not respond to the related queries.

Over the past two years, the university campuses in the national capital have remained largely shut due to the pandemic. As part of a phase-wise reopening, some universities like JNU had allowed final-year students to return to the campus, while a few others like DU had only resumed practical classes for the final-year batches. But the institutions had to be shut again before calling back the rest due to a fresh wave of Covid-19 late last year. At DU, at least two batches have not attended classes on campuses at all.

Gym owners hope lifting of curbs will help pull them from the brink

Siddhanta.Mishra
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Gym and spa owners took a huge sigh of relief on Friday after the ban on operating them was lifted by Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA).

The restrictions imposed under the Graded Response Action Plan have been lifted, allowing gyms, swimming pools, spas and yoga institutes to reopen from next week. The decision was taken due to a consistent drop in the number of fresh Covid-19 cases.

Bhupendra Sharma, president, Delhi Gym Owners' Association, said, "We welcome Delhi government's decision of reopening gyms. This will help five lakh families survive this financial pandemic. We assure that all standard operating procedures will be followed. It's time that Delhiites got back on the fitness track."

Earlier, the association members had protested outside the residences of LG Anil Baijal and chief minister Arvind Kejriwal demanding reopening of gyms. The owners said they were one of the first establishments to be closed down and the last to be reopened. This had hit their business. In the last phased reopening, the government had allowed many relaxations but left gyms out.

Sharma said gyms would open from next week. They would follow all protocols, conduct intensive sanitisation and allow only vaccinated trainers and customers. "All precautions will be taken for the safety of people. We are going to make vaccination mandatory for entry. Training will be allowed in batches of 8-10 people only. We expect the business to pick up only after a month, which is when people will become confident of visiting regularly," he added.

The gym owners have requested for amendments in the action plan. "This is now a fight for survival for us. We request to be kept out of the yellow zone as this decision impacts the livelihood of lakhs of people. We request the authorities to also waive fixed charges for electricity and water to help us survive these tough times," said Chirag Sethi, owner of Anytime Fitness gym.

Some traders questioned the government's decision of not lifting the night curfew. "We welcome the decision of opening gyms and spas as many livelihoods will be saved from complete destruction. The wedding season is on and most ceremonies take place at night. Night curfew will pose a problem," said Brijesh Goyal, chairman of Chamber of Trade and Industry.

"It is very good news that spas have been allowed to reopen. Our industry was struggling. All Covid-19 protocols will be followed by the establishments. We will wait for the final orders from the government," said Pooja Chatterjee Jha, president of New Delhi Spa Association.

Anindya Chattopadhyay

GEARED UP: Gym owners say they will follow all Covid protocols

10 PEOPLE IN A BATCH ALLOWED FOR TRAINING

'Too little, too less': Eatery owners not enthused by 1 extra hr at night

Amin.Ali@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Most restaurateurs were waiting with bated breath for the announcement on the night curfew being lifted. They accepted the need for a limit on the seating to continue, but hoped the restricted operating hours would be relaxed. Delhi Disaster Management Authority's decision on Friday, therefore, left them disappointed. They only got an hour extra with the start of the night curfew moved from 10pm to 11pm.

Restaurateurs say lifting the night curfew entirely would have allowed them longer service hours and salvaged dinner time business, which accounts for as high as 70% of their revenue. Also, the very word 'curfew' deterred people from stepping out for dinner, they argued. "We were hoping for an end to the night curfew. Moving it to 11pm doesn't help increase dinner business," said restaurateur Zorawar Kalra of Massive Restaurants. He said lifting the curfew in Delhi on the lines of Bengaluru and Mumbai would help the badly battered industry.

A RESTAURATEUR SAYS

We were hoping for an end to the night curfew as 11pm doesn't help in increasing dinner business, which accounts for 70% of overall business

Bobby Gujral of Wok in the Clouds said that while outlets remained shut, overheads such as rentals, salaries and other bills kept mounting. After being allowed to resume business, he had hoped for the easing of restrictions, explaining that it took months to recover the losses incurred because of the forced closure of even a month. While establishments like Gujral's hope an extra hour will boost dinner sales with people having adjusted to early dining out since last year, high energy bars and clubs are left wringing their hands in exasperation.

The National Restaurant Association of India had written to lieutenant governor Anil Baijal and deputy CM Manish Sisodia requesting them to lift the curfew. It had pointed out how numerous restaurants had shut down permanently in the last two years and cost many jobs. Others, who were scheduled to open mid-December last year in anticipation of a booming festive season, delayed operations due to increased costs and diluted investments.

NRAI members had pleaded for the assurances of Delhi's new excise policy, such as permission to operate till 3am and cater to a reduced drinking age of 21 years, to be implemented immediately to boost the industry finances. But the ongoing curbs have left many operators demoralised.

Maneck Malhotra of Bayswater Consultants, which helped new restaurants lease space after the second Covid wave, said that the restrictions impacted investments, new signings, market revival and, overall, the city's economy, not just the food business. He noted that the consumer sentiment was strong and companies were eager to offer new spaces. For this to happen, however, he said, the restrictions have to lifted.

Tahir opposes PMLA charges

New Delhi: Former AAP councillor Tahir Hussain claimed before a city court on Friday that a case under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act was not made out against him. Advocate Rizwan, appearing for Hussain, further claimed that the chargesheet filed in the case was not maintainable. The submissions were made before additional sessions judge Amitabh Rawat during the hearing of Hussain's bail plea in the money laundering case in connection with the northeast Delhi riots. Referring to the initial complaint by the Enforcement Directorate, the counsel argued that there were five names in it but the chargesheet has been filed only against Hussain and one Amit Gupta. TNN

DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

NOTICE FOR EMPANELMENT OF AGENCIES FOR PM-UDAY FACILITATION

Proposals are invited for Empanelment of agencies who will provide services of Filing Registrations/ Applications, Uploading Documents online on **PM-UDAY** Portal to residents of Unauthorized Colonies.

The Agencies interested to work as PM-UDAY Facilitation Agency may visit DDA's website (http://119.226.139.196/tendernotices_docs/sept2019/DELHI%20DEVELOPMENT%20AUTHORITY16032021.pdf) for scope of work, eligibility criteria and charges that can be collected from the residents of unauthorized colonies and may submit their proposal in the prescribed format as available on DDA website latest by 05:00 PM on 21/02/2022, to Assistant Director-II, HQ-I, PM-UDAY Cell, Room No. 301, Third Floor, A-Block, Delhi Development Authority, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi-110023.

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Curbs Eased, Focus On Vax And Compliance

Move To Help Bring Lives Back On Track: Sisodia

▶Continued from P1

In its last meeting on January 27, the DDMA had put off the decision on reopening schools and colleges for the next sitting.

Several representations were made by parents and school bodies to the LG over the past few days to allow the reopening of schools. Citing losses, gym and spa owners had also been demanding lifting of curbs.

The meeting was also attended by deputy CM Manish Sisodia, Delhi health minister Satyendar Jain, revenue minister Kailash Gahlot, Niti Aayog member Dr V K Paul, AIIMS director Dr Randeep Guleria, NCDC director Dr S K Singh and ICMR's Dr Samiran Panda. In view of educational institutions being opened, experts laid stress on enhancing vaccination in the 15-17-year age group.

While appreciating the efforts put in by all agencies in the management of Covid-19 in Delhi, the LG emphasised the need to maintain continued vigil and to not lower the guard, while focusing on enhancing vaccination coverage and ensuring enforcement of Covid protocols.

Addressing a digital press briefing after the DDMA meeting, deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia, who also holds the education and finance portfolios, said life and happiness was set to return to Delhi's schools and colleges and the Kejriwal government was ready to welcome children to educational institutes from Monday. He added that they were able to ease the restrictions only because the positivity rate had dropped significantly and the majority of the population, including children aged 15 to 17 years, had been vaccinated.

"Prolonged school closures have resulted in significant learning losses among students of all ages. Emotional and social well-being of the students has also suffered. Reopening schools is an urgent necessity," Sisodia said.

While Delhi schools have intermittently opened for offline classes for both senior and junior students in the past two years, colleges, technical institutes and polytechnics have allowed only a few lab classes to happen in physical mode.

The DDMA order stated that no standing will be allowed in school transport and the institutions will have to ensure effective monitoring of health conditions on a regular basis for their safety.

The test positivity rate in Delhi has dipped below the 5% mark while the number of daily cases has also reduced to less than 3,000. Less than 9% beds have currently been occupied in hospitals while the occupancy in Covid care centres and Covid health centres is just over 3% and 2%, respectively.

While the schools will run in hybrid mode initially — both online and offline classes — the deputy CM said they will gradually transition to a completely offline mode in the coming weeks.

The state disaster body, however, has made it mandatory that only fully vaccinated teachers would be allowed to take physical classes. The LG said that all educational institutions will have to follow Covid-appropriate behaviour and standard operating procedures laid down by the education department to ensure that physical classes did not lead to a spike in cases.

"Easing Covid restrictions will help us bring lives back on track and will help in recouping the losses incurred during the lockdown," Sisodia said.

Officials said the prolonged closure of gymnasiums, spas and swimming pools was affecting businesses as well as the well-being of athletes. "Athletes were having difficulty in preparing for their games. It has been decided that all gyms, spas, and swimming pools will open from Monday," an official said.

The exemption to motorists driving alone from wearing masks was not mentioned in the DDMA order, but a separate order was later issued by the health department.

The Delhi high court had earlier this week called the Delhi government order of asking motorists inside their personal cars to mask up as "absurd". The officials had also accepted that the "over-enthusiasm" of civil defence volunteers to penalise motorists not wearing masks often caused a lot of inconvenience to people.

Rajesh Mehta

GEETA COLONY

City reports 2,272 new cases, 20 deaths; Covid positivity rate declines to 3.85%

New Delhi: At least three top public hospitals of Delhi, including AIIMS, Lok Nayak and Guru Teg Bahadur, have decided to resume elective surgeries and routine admissions.

The decision comes in the backdrop of a continuous decline in the positivity rate and the new Covid-19 cases in the capital. On Friday, the city reported 2,272 fresh cases and 20 deaths, while the positivity rate dropped to 3.85%. On Thursday, Delhi saw 2,668 new cases with a positivity rate of 4.3%, and 13 deaths.

Out of the 15,426 Covid beds at hospitals, 1,200 — 7.78% — are occupied. While 398 patients are on oxygen support, 94 of them are on ventilator, officials said. The active case tally of Covid-19 is 11,716, of which, government data shows, 8,170 patients are in home isolation. "Routine surgeries were suspended in the second week of January because Covid-19 cases were very high. But now that the cases have come down and there are very few patients requiring hospitalisation for the infection, we have decided to resume non-Covid operations," a doctor at Lok Nayak Hospital said. TNN

No sweat over crowds without masks, focus on cars: Any civil defence here?

Sakshi.Chand@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: A lone driver may no longer be challaned in Delhi for not wearing a mask but people are questioning the very logic of penalizing families that are travelling in an enclosed space when they live together at home.

On the face of it, this zealous persecution of people in cars makes little sense when crowded public spaces like markets and malls are teeming with people who are either not wearing a mask or making just a pretence of it by wearing it on their chin or around their necks. If the objective is to check transmission of the virus, and not simply collect an exorbitant amount from a captive road user, the focus should be on people moving around in close proximity without any masks and social distancing.

Will patrons at restaurants, in the company of many others, be forced to wear their masks while eating? Will gym users, along with fellow members, be forced to put their masks on while exerting themselves on various equipment? And what about people going for a swim? The obsession with ensuring that car users are shown the stick is not only perverse but usurious. They pose the least amount of risk to others, particularly with their windows rolled up, and should be left alone. This is not a matter of any privilege but common sense.

Instead, the band of so-called civil defence volunteers, who have gained a lot of notoriety in the past two years, pounce on you wagging the finger for any minor transgression like pulling the mask down your nose to catch your breath or let the fog on your spectacles dissipate so that you could get a clear view of the road or just unmuffle yourself while speaking up. No argument or reason washes with these people who work with missionary zeal to make your wallet lighter.

LET US BREATHE, SAY THOSE ON MOVE

Photo: Anindya Chattopadhyay

People in markets roam around freely without masks, but auto drivers get fined for eating or smoking a beedi in our vehicle. If we are alone, we do not pose a risk to others. The poor get harassed over all issues

—RAKESH KUMAR (33) | Auto driver

Four-wheelers are being targeted unnecessarily. Mask wearing is required but are people in cars the only ones responsible? People are in pubs and restaurants without masks when those are open, and markets are full of violators and no masks in sight. A car is a private space and if there are people travelling together, then it should not be mandatory for them to wear masks inside

—YASH GOEL (25) | Private job

I have been asked to pay a fine twice, one of them when a friend was eating. There are events, rallies, markets, malls and several other places where people don't wear a mask, but if you are in a car, then it is mandatory. What is the point? I live with the same family and do not wear a mask at home. What is the point of wearing it when I am in the car with them? Is the onus of wearing a mask only on four-wheelers?

—NEHA JOSHI (28) | Sports consultant

If you are alone in a vehicle, it should be fine to be without a mask. When I am with my family in the car, wearing a mask doesn't make sense either as I don't wear one at home. But I'll still wear it since the officials who put the fines don't know who is travelling with family

—JASWINDER SINGH (39) | Businessman

Sports consultant Neha Joshi recalled her ordeal at a traffic signal at New Friends Colony. "I was alone in my car and wearing a mask but had to pull it down to catch my breath. This guy appeared out of nowhere and said I had committed a violation. I was made to pull my car to the side and asked to pay Rs 2000. They paid no heed to my protests. Since I did not have cash, I gpayed the money on a number given to me by that person. This is quite simply, just a money-making business."

On another day, Neha was in her car with two friends near a mall in Saket and taking a turn. "I was on the driver's seat with my mask on while my friend at the rear too was wearing a mask. The other friend next to me had pulled down her mask to eat a piece of cake since it was her birthday. Three people suddenly jumped in front of our car and a woman among them said we had to pay the fine. We could be exempted only if we could cite a medical reason, they said. This time we didn't pay and just drove off," she added. They were told they would be sent a challan home but never received one.

SUNIL SAYS

If that's the case, then people should wear a mask at home too. The rule should be about wearing masks in public spaces. You go to any market and see the number of people moving around without a mask unchecked

Sunil, who was visiting the city from Gurgaon with his wife and two others, said it made no sense to insist on everyone wearing a mask if a family was inside the car. "If that's the case, then people should wear a mask at home too. The rule should be about wearing masks in public spaces. You go to any market and see the number of people moving around without a mask unchecked. And then see how these civil defence volunteers jump in front of your car to prosecute," he said.

"Some people like me are unable to wear the mask for very long without feeling choked and need to catch our breath," said Anu Banerjee. She fell foul of these khaki-clad band of monitors when she was returning to Delhi from a company event and had pulled down her mask just below her nose. The car was stopped at a traffic signal and she was asked to pay up. When she refused, they insisted that she hand over any identity card or licence to them. "I just asked my driver to move on. These are just bullies. I haven't received a challan till date," she said.

The police, too, complain that the khaki uniform of these civil defence men make it seem that they are from the force and that leads to people getting intimidated. These men and women – a force of about 55,000 with each member earning just over Rs 700 daily -- can definitely serve a useful purpose if deployed at crowded places, but those in the car seem to be easy meat.

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Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots
1	4, Gurugram-I	5
2	5, Gurugram-I	5
3	9, Gurugram-I	9
4	9-A, Gurugram-I	12
5	10, Gurugram-I	8
6	10-A, Gurugram-I	13
7	12-A, Gurugram-I	3
8	14, Gurugram-I	2
9	15-I, Gurugram-I	6
10	16, Gurugram-I	4
11	18, Gurugram-I	2
12	21, Gurugram-I	2
13	22, Gurugram-I	4
14	Jailland, Gurugram-I	7
15	29, Gurugram-II	8
16	31, Gurugram-II	5
17	38, Gurugram-II	2
18	42, Gurugram-II	7
19	45, Gurugram-II	18
20	46, Gurugram-II	14
21	56, Gurugram-II	12
22	3 P-I Rewari	1
23	MTS Kosli	3
24	3, Rewari	15
25	1, Part-1, Narnaul	11
26	4A, Dharuhera	4

Residential Properties in Gurugram Zone

Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots
1	5, Gurugram-I	8
2	9, Gurugram-I	4
3	9A, Gurugram-I	11
4	10, Gurugram-I	4
5	10A, Gurugram-I	8
6	21, Gurugram-I	3
7	22, Gurugram-I	4
8	23-23A, Gurugram-I	7
9	Pataudi, Gurugram-I	4
10	31-32A, Gurugram-II	1
11	38, Gurugram-II	10
12	39, Gurugram-II	3
13	40, Gurugram-II	9
14	42, Gurugram-II	11
15	45, Gurugram-II	11
16	46, Gurugram-II	7
17	49, Gurugram-II	8
18	50, Gurugram-II	13
19	51, Gurugram-II	9
20	52, Gurugram-II	1
21	57, Gurugram-II	11
22	6, Dharuhera	20
23	18-Def, Rewari.	15

Commercial Properties in Panchkula Zone

Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots
1	23, Panchkula	10
2	25, Panchkula	17
3	6 MDC, Panchkula	6
4	10, Panchkula	2
5	20, Panchkula	20
6	5, Panchkula	9
7	1, Ambala	10
8	8, Ambala	8
9	10, Ambala	7
10	3, Naraingarh	10
11	18-MI, Jagadhri	4
12	5, Karnal	43
13	9, Karnal	10

Residential Properties in Panchkula Zone

Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots
1	27, Panchkula	3
2	28, Panchkula	10
3	4 MDC, Panchkula	6
4	30, Pinjore	22
5	15, Jagadhari	6
6	17, Jagadhari	5
7	18, Jagadhari	6
8	8, Ambala	30
9	4, Naraingarh	5
10	4, Karnal	11
11	5, Karnal	8
12	6, Karnal	3
13	12, Karnal	1
14	32-P, Karnal	1

Commercial Properties in Faridabad Zone

Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots
1	2, Faridabad	56
2	3, Faridabad	39
3	7, Faridabad	112
4	8, Faridabad	67
5	14, Faridabad	1
6	17, Faridabad	1
7	46, Faridabad	1

Residential Properties in Faridabad Zone

Sr. No.	Sector/ Urban Estate	No. of Plots
1	2, Faridabad	6
2	8, Faridabad	5
3	62, Faridabad	102
4	64, Faridabad	37
5	65, Faridabad	55
6	78, Faridabad	25

e-Auction will start at 10:00 AM

Registration will close one day before the scheduled date of e-Auction, at 5 pm.

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For any queries email us at eauctionquery.hsvp@gmail.com

* The competent authority can withdraw any site from e-auction without any notice

Chief Administrator
Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran
C-3, HSVP Complex, Sector 6, Panchkula 134 109, Haryana
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The detailed information of the sites and terms & conditions of e-auction will be available on **https://hsvphry.org.in.**

लोहिया स्वच्छ बिहार अभियान
(स्वच्छ भारत मिशन (ग्रामीण) एवं लोहिया स्वच्छता योजना)
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विद्युत भवन-2, प्रथम तल, बेली रोड, पटना-800 021, दूरभाष : +91-612-250 4980, फैक्स : +91-612-250 4960 वेबसाइट : www.lsba.bih.nic.in

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL- "HIRING OF AGENCY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF GOBARDHAN PROJECT IN BIHAR"

On behalf of the Government of Bihar, the Lohiya Swachh Bihar Abhiyan, Bihar Rural Livelihoods Promotion Societyinvites proposals from eligible agencies for" Implementation of Gobardhan Project in Bihar". Interested agencies may download detailed Request for Proposal (RFP) from **http://www.lsba.bih.nic.in**
Other information is as follows:

Description of Assignment	HIRING OF AGENCY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF GOBARDHAN PROJECT IN BIHAR
Dateof start to download the document	10-02-2022from http://www.lsba.bih.nic.in
Last date/time for submission of Proposal	02-03-2022 till 16:00 hrs. at **Lohiya Swachh Bihar Abhiyan-BRLPS,** 1st Floor (Southern Wing), Annexe II, VidyutBhawan, Bailey Road, Patna-800021, Bihar, India.
Nodal Person from Client	**Mr. Rajiv Kumar Singh (State Coordinator)** Phone: 0612-2504154

Additional Chief Executive Officer
PR- 012714 (Ni.Ni.) 2021-22 **Lohiya Swachh Bihar Abhiyan-BRLPS**

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

GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT, BIHAR
RAJ BHAVAN, PATNA-800022

CORRIGENDUM

In partial modification of this Secretariat's re-advertisement dated-01.02.2022 PR- 012513 (Governor's Secretariat) 2021-22 Section 2(27) of Aryabhatta Knowledge University (Amendment) Act, 2021 as mentioned below in the re-advertisement:-

"Professional Education " means education connected with a job that needs special training or skill, and includes Engineering & Technology including Management, Information Technology, Medical; Dental, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Law, Teaching etc.;
should be read as hereunder :-

Section 2(27) of Aryabhatta Knowledge University (Amendment) Act, 2021 stipulates:-

"Professional Education " means education connected with a job that needs special training or skill, in the fields of Nanotechnology, Astronomy, Environmental Science and Climate Change, River Studies, Economics, Journalism and mass Communication , Geographical Studies, Non Conventional Energy, Art & Culture, Philosophy, Stem Cell Technology, Archaeology and curatorial studies and others;

The re-advertisement dated- 01.02.2022 stands modified to this extent only.

(Robert L. Chongthu)
Principal Secretary to Governor-Cum –Chancellor,
Raj Bhavan, Patna

PR. No.12755 (GOVERNER SECRETRIATE) 2021-22

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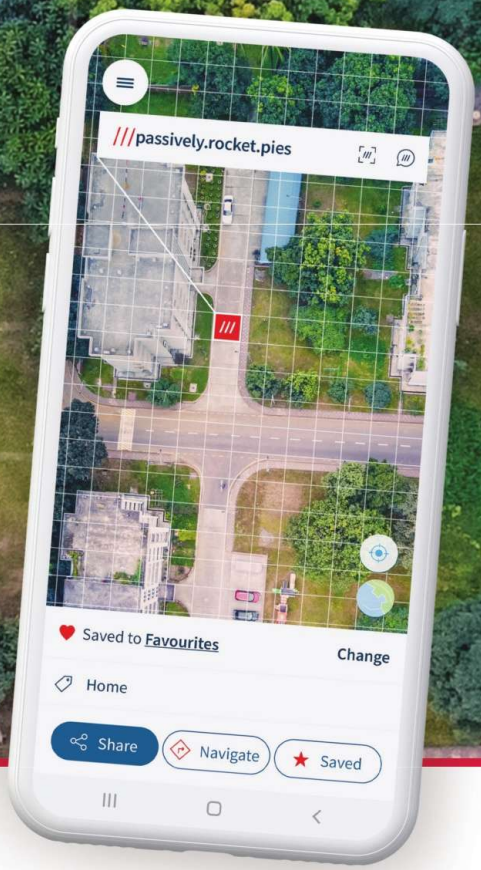

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Security guard rapes differently abled teenager

New Delhi: A 16-year-old specially abled girl, living at a care home in southwest Delhi, was allegedly raped and impregnated by a security guard of the facility. The guard has been arrested and booked for rape and under POCSO Act, police said.

According to police, a senior manager of the care home reported on Monday that a girl with learning difficulties had complained of stomach ache. "When the home administration took the girl for a medical examination, the doctor said after a few tests that she was pregnant," said a senior officer. The survivor then revealed that the guard, identified as Lokesh Kumar, had sexually assaulted her, the officer said.

Deputy commissioner of police (southwest) Gaurav Sharma said the case had been registered at the Vasant Kunj South police station and Kumar had been sent to judicial custody. Police are also trying to establish if the accused has any previous criminal involvement.

An officer said counselling sessions had been arranged for the survivor. Her condition is fine, he added. TNN

Relief For Patients, Kin Out In The Cold

AIIMS Announcement To Resume Routine In-Patient Admissions To Spell End Of Long Wait

Somrita.Ghosh@timesgroup.com

Photos: Rajesh Mehta

Kamlesh Ram has come from Garhwa, Jharkhand, and is stuck with his wife and seven-year-old son at the shelter home since November; Braving rain and cold, several other families have been spending days in the subway connecting AIIMS and Safdarjung while they wait for their turn

New Delhi: For the past four days, Mamta Devi has been spending day and night braving the chill in the subway connecting premier AIIMS and Safdarjung Hospital. Wrapped in a blanket that she had carried from home in Saharsa district in Bihar, Devi awaits news about her husband's heart surgery.

"I am managing the cold somehow," she smiled. "We came in a hurry and didn't have time to look for accommodation and we found the dharamshalas costly. A few locals told us that patients and families make do in the subway, and that is how I came here. Of course, toilets and hygiene are problems, but what can we do?"

Like Devi, there were many others sheltering in the subway, shunning the shelter homes outside these hospitals. Akhtari Begum, 55, of Bareilly district in Uttar Pradesh was lying near the staircase of the subway with her husband. She has been coming to AIIMS for the past five years and said that despite difficulties, she prefers staying in the subway.

"We do feel the chill, but we manage to spend the nights because we have no other option," shrugged Begum. "I tried to get a place in one of the shelter homes, but they cited Covid to not give us admission. Also, now I am accustomed to staying here because I have to come to the hospital twice a year. The odour of urine doesn't bother me anymore."

Begum has to visit several departments for her check-up, including orthopaedics, geriatric and skin sections. This time she will have to spend more days in her temporary dwellings because she hasn't yet got appointments for the OPDs.

Ram Bhavan and his wife Sabitri Devi, a cancer patient, who reached AIIMS on Thursday from Gorakhpur, UP, too have got used to the subway life. "We have been coming here for the past 10 years now. If we get a gap in between treatment days, we usually go to our relatives' house in Jahangirpuri. Otherwise, we spend the nights here," said Ram Bhavan, who is waiting for a date for his wife's follow-up.

Getting dates for appointments at the OPDs is what keeps patients in Delhi. Kamlesh Ram has come from Garhwa, Jharkhand, and is stuck with his wife and seven-year-old son at the shelter home since November. Scheduled for a surgery in the left knee after cancer recovery, 41-year-old Ram is yet to get a date at AIIMS.

"Every week, I am instructed to wait for a few days. So far, no appointment date has been given," said Ram with a rueful expression. "My infection is spreading and I need to change the dressing twice a day. Also due to Covid, I was told there were no beds available."

Exasperated patients like Ram are going to get a huge relief from Saturday. On Friday, AIIMS announced that routine in-patient admissions, including elective surgeries in general wards and in private wards, would be resumed with immediate effect on a restricted basis and according to availability of staff, in-patient beds and operation theatre services.

Ironically, owing to restrictions in the OPDs and only selective surgeries being undertaken, there are fewer patients at the shelter homes and beds are available. A visit to the shelters showed many beds vacant. Perhaps the miserable subway dwellers don't know they could find shelter from the cold here. Madan Lal, caretaker at one of the shelter homes, confirmed, "Because of the pandemic there is not much of a rush at this time. Otherwise, it is always difficult to accommodate everyone here."

NGT: Huge gaps in execution of action plans for noise control

Times News Network

New Delhi: Stating that there are still "huge gaps" in the execution of action plans for noise control, National Green Tribunal (NGT) has asked the authorities concerned in all states and UT's to address the issue.

An order dated February 3, passed by a bench headed by Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel, stated that noise pollution needed to be addressed. It gave directions while hearing a 2018 case filed by Hardeep Singh and others, in which Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC), Delhi Cantonment Board and others were the respondents.

In 2021, NGT had asked the authorities to ensure that noise pollution norms were enforced for protection of public health and the environment. It had earlier directed the authorities to install noise limiters at potential sites. "DPCC and other authorities may get prepared an app (like Sameer) to facilitate receiving and addressing complaints. If Delhi becomes a model of compliance for enforcement of pollution norms, it may help all other states/UTs to follow the same," it had noted.

Last year, NGT had analysed action plans submitted by the states and UTs, in which it found many gaps. It then asked the authorities, especially the police and environment department, to take steps to control the gaps.

"From November 1, 2021, the states/heads of police forces must be held liable to pay compensation at Rs 10 lakh per month on the same pattern as failure to enforce action plans for control of air pollution. Police departments of all states/UTs may obtain noise monitoring devices within three months. They may also train their staff regarding the use of such devices. They may develop a robust protocol for taking appropriate action against defaulters," NGT had noted.

WHO calls for steps to reduce cancer burden

Times News Network

New Delhi: The burden of cancer is on the rise, despite 30-50% of such cases being preventable, World Health Organization (WHO) said on Friday, World Cancer Day.

The UN health agency called on the countries in Southeast Asia to prioritise measures to reduce risks, detect and diagnose early, and care for people suffering from the disease.

"The Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted delivery of cancer care services, including palliative care. This has further exposed the vulnerabilities of people living with cancers and increased the risk of severe disease and death. We need to urgently address these gaps," said Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh, regional director of the WHO Southeast Asia region.

"Close the care gap", the theme of this year's World Cancer Day, is especially relevant with the pandemic having exacerbated inequalities, making it harder for many to adopt healthier behaviours or access preventive, diagnostic and treatment services, Dr Singh said.

"As countries build back and reprioritise public spending, we have an opportunity to focus on providing equitable access to tools for early detection, diagnosis, treatment, and palliative care to ensure a fairer future where everyone can live happier, healthier lives," she said.

Dr Piyush Ranjan, additional professor of AIIMS' surgery department, said health services were completely disrupted by the pandemic, especially in the first wave. "This affected cancer care in a multidimensional manner, at the centre of it being the restriction of mobility to reach the healthcare facility. For several patients whose treatment halted due to the pandemic, it resulted in progression of the cancer."

REGIONAL DIRECTOR SAYS

The Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted delivery of cancer care services, including palliative care

He added that several women with breast cancer were awaiting surgery, but couldn't be operated upon due to the limited number of operation theatres. "There was also limited availability of radiation therapy and chemotherapy slots. The routine operative procedures had decreased by almost 50% and routine admissions by 60%.."

Dr Amit Agarwal, director of medical oncology at Fortis Shalimar Bagh, said the incidence of breast cancer was higher in metropolitan cities compared with rural areas. "The trend suggests that there is a link between lifestyle changes and the risk of developing certain cancers," he pointed out.

EDMC asks doctors to get back to work, assures of salaries by Feb 15

Times News Network

New Delhi: East Delhi Municipal Corporation commissioner Vikas Anand on Friday asked the protesting doctors of Swami Dayanand Hospital to get back to work at the earliest and said that their salaries would be released by February 15.

"The east corporation is working in a challenging environment due to paucity of funds and we all have to face this challenge together so that we can provide better citizen services with less resources. We are sensitive towards the valid demands of its employees. If the doctors return to work, they will be given one month's salary by February positively," said the EDMC commissioner.

Shyam Sunder Agarwal, mayor of the civic body, also appealed to the healthcare workers and doctors to call off the strike. "Swami Dayanand Hospital provides medical services to the people of low-income and poor sections of east Delhi and adjoining areas. People coming to this hospital for treatment do not have the financial capacity to get treatment in private hospitals and the marginalised poor section is being affected the most by this strike. In this hour of crisis, all of us have to work together and discharge our duty impartially towards public service," said Agarwal.

For the past few days, doctors, nurses and paramedic staff of the hospital have been protesting for timely payment of their salaries.

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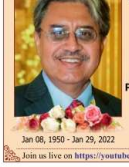

KIRTAN & ANTIM ARDAAS
With profound grief and deep sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved
Shri Tejinder Singh Sial
Bhog & Antim Ardaas will be held on 06.02.2022 (Sunday) From 12:30 to 1:30 PM at Pahari Wala Gurdwara, Greater Kailash I
IN GRIEF
Tripta Sial (Wife) +91-9810004314
Gurdip & Puneet Sial (Daughter in law & Son)
Neha & Simran Sial (Daughter in law & Son)
Mehr, Ruvir & Roohi Sial (Grandchildren)
Jan 08, 1950 - Jan 29, 2022
Join us live on https://youtube.com/channel/UCvd3dDtPGQdnZxbtagOni0w

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In loving memory of
MRS URMILA JAIN
08.08.1942- 05.02.2020
Deeply miss you every moment. You Will always be fondly remembered by all of us.
FAMILY, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

In Ever Lasting Memory
of our beloved father
Shri Raj Kishore Chugh
Sunita & M. M. Chugh
Madhu & Subhash Chugh
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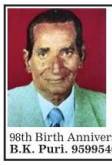
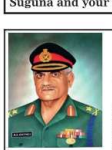


In Loving Memory of
Chanan Gobindpuri
05.02.1924 - 29.01.2006
Remembering the famous (punjabi) Poet, Geetkaar, Ghazal 'Ustaad Retd. Sr. Govt. Officer & our great father on his 98th Birth Anniversary. Family, Friends & B.K. Puri. 9599546081 - 9818995318

In Loving Memory of
Mrs. C. UMA SHASTRI:
Yet another year has passed since God snatched your physical presence from us. We miss you every moment every day. C.S.P. Shastri; Suguna and your Bujju.



In Loving Memory Of
Late Maj Gen BS Rathee
(16 Jun 41 - 05 Feb 2021)
You continue to remain in our hearts and prayers forever. Lovingly remembered by:
Wife - Asha Rathee, Sons - Sanjiv and Basant, Daughter in laws- Richa & Shailja, Grandson-Bhavyea, Relatives and Friends.

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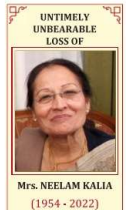


Mrs. NEELAM KALIA
(1954 - 2022)
on 26 Jan 2022
A gentle soul, she will forever remain in our hearts & remembered for her divinely attributes.
Kalias & Kapurias
Havan and Kriya on 06.02.2022 at 9:30AM on Zoom, Meeting Id - 82956553486

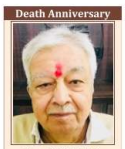
REMEMBRANCES

In Loving Memory of

Mrs. RUPA CHATTERJEE
08.05.1954- 05.02.2014
YOUR PASSING AWAY HAS LEFT A HUGE VOID IN OUR LIVES. YOUR MEMORIES ARE STILL FRESH AS EVER. YOU REMAIN AN ETERNAL SOURCE OF INSPIRATION AND STRENGTH.
MAY YOUR NOBLE SOUL REST IN PEACE.
Remembered by:
BHASKAR, ROMIRA, RONITA, RONEN, RIYA

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

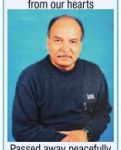
Death Anniversary



SH. CHANDER PARKASH
26.05.1956 - 05.02.2021
Not a day passes by without remembering you. You will forever remain alive in our hearts and memories. Though we are learning to live without you, we still miss you so very much.
REST IN PEACE
Remembered by
Veena, Nakul, Meghna & Aditya, Mukul, Bavita & Mohnish.
956067977, 9650239434

SAD DEMISE

SAD DEMISE
DR K M PANT
(S/o Late H B PANT, Allahabad)
Gone from our sight, but never from our hearts



Passed away peacefully on 25 Jan 2022
Deeply missed by
Asha Pant
Ruby & Naresh Pandey
Sangita & Jaismin Pant
Paresh, Neelesh & Utkarsh
Email: jaismin.pant@gmail.com

God accepts only what is good. - Dear Spake Prophet Mohammad

Push to farming without soil and less use of water

New Delhi: Transport minister Kailash Gahlot on Friday visited the Hydroponics Horticulture and Training Facility at Kushak Nallah Cluster Bus Depot by the Delhi transport department and distributed certificates to the first batch of women being trained at the facility.

The facility includes a training, production and harvesting centre and trains women to commercially utilise these crops as livelihood generators once necessary sanctions are approved. This will be another significant step in creating more end-to end employment solutions for women and persons with disabilities (PwDs) and more entrepreneurs.

Hydroponics is a type of horticulture/farming that involves growing plants without soil and very less water by using mineral or nutrient solutions even in a small space.

A batch of 20 women in the age group of 18-50 years was trained for eight in various techniques and verticals of hydroponic technology along with soft skills and marketing skills.

Sai Swayam Society, a registered NGO, has started harvesting all leafy vegetables such as iceberg lettuce, bokchoy, parsley, rocket leaves, and this is expected to give a total harvest of 200Kg. TNN

PM positive about setting up medical college at Jamia: VC

Times News Network

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is positive about the setting up of a medical college at Jamia Millia Islamia, university vice-chancellor Najma Akhtar has said.

The university has already sent a proposal to the government for the same and is awaiting a nod before details can be worked out, Akhar said in a statement after a meeting with the PM on Wednesday.

"We have been writing to the education ministry about the setting up of a medical college and now the ball is in their court. The interaction with the PM was extremely positive. He said that it will be a good move if a medical college can be set up and that he'll see what can be done. We have already sent a proposal to the ministry but they haven't responded yet. So first the government has to give the permission and then we can move ahead with the structure and other modalities," she said.

This was the second meeting between the PM and JMI VC in the last two years.

In December last year, JMI received an A++ accreditation by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council(NAAC).

"The PM was fully aware of the kind of work which Jamia as a university is undertaking and was very appreciative. Overall, it was an extremely nice and fruitful meeting. It was quite encouraging for us to know that the PM was happy about the improved performance of the university in the last few years," Akhtar said.

Earlier, the varsity said that the PM had urged Akhtar to work more on the educational upliftment of Muslim women and towards the implementation of the New Education Policy (NEP), 2020.

"The vice-chancellor assured the Prime Minister that she will work hard to meet his expectations to bring about the desired transformation of the nation," JMI had said.

Irani targets Delhi govt over excise policy, AAP hits back

Times News Network

New Delhi: Launching a scathing attack on Delhi government's new excise policy, Union women and child development minister Smriti Irani on Friday alleged that liquor stores were being opened in the capital close to educational institutions and religious places.

Irani further alleged that while chief minister Arvind Kejriwal had earlier written in his book about picketing liquor vends and shutting them down, he was now "exploring opportunities to open liquor shops in each municipal ward".

Addressing a virtual rally organised by Delhi BJP, which was telecast on over 550 LED screens, Irani said while BJP was building temples, the Kejriwal government was opening "thekas".

"There are three schools on Najafgarh Gaushala Road where a liquor shop has been opened. There is another shop near Uttam Nagar bus terminal. At Tilak Nagar, a liquor shop has come up in Sant Nagar residential area near a gurdwara. In Shahdara, a liquor shop has been opened adjacent to a school," alleged Irani, adding that Mandawali residents had frequent alterations due to a liquor store in their neighbourhood.

Asking the civil society to ponder over whether the money earned through sale of liquor would suit welfare and development, Irani said the liquor vends jeopardised the safety of women. She claimed women were forced to pass through crowds, including drunkards, near the liquor shops praying for their safety and modesty.

"The Kejriwal government has given a message to the society that it is ready to go to any length for profits. I want to ask the AAP government who will be answerable to the families that will be destroyed in this quest for profit," said Irani.

Delhi BJP chief Adesh Gupta had on Thursday warned that liquor stores near schools and religious places would be sealed after 48 hours if Delhi government failed to shut them down. The corporations led by BJP have closed down several liquor shops over alleged violations of the master plan and other norms.

Responding to the allegations, AAP claimed there was a deep nexus between BJP and the liquor mafia in Delhi and the party used to earn Rs 3,500 crore from them. "With the new excise policy, we broke the back of the liquor mafia. The illegal earnings of BJP stopped, which is troubling them. That's why BJP functionaries are continuously making frivolous allegations against the government," added AAP.

A senior official said the excise policy was being targeted by BJP because the municipal polls were round the corner. "There is rampant corruption in the corporations. Opening of liquor shops is a non-issue. The new excise policy has only tried to equally distribute the shops in all parts of the city. Also, the government is disengaging itself from the retailing business."

Never get lost again /// what3words

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Made in New Delhi

2 held a day after group of men pumped bullets into 24-year-old in Laxmi Nagar

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi Police on Friday arrested two men in connection with the murder of a 24-year old man who was shot dead in east Delhi's Laxmi Nagar area.

According to the police, the accused have been identified as Siddharth (23), a resident of Ganesh Nagar in Shakarpur, and Chirag Sirohi (20), a resident of Krishna Nagar.

Priyanka Kashyap, DCP (East), said: "Siddharth finished his mass communication in 2019 from Rohini and was at present working along with his father at their shop in New Ashok Nagar. Chirag has previous cases of assault, causing hurt and criminal intimidation registered against him. He is pursuing his LLB from a private college in Ghaziabad."

A purported video of the incident went viral in which a person was seen running with blood flowing out of his back and then trying to hide behind a two-wheeler

On Tuesday night, a group of people shot dead a property dealer in Laxmi Nagar. The deceased, Mayur Chauhan, was involved in three criminal cases, including Arms Act, police said.

Mayur had gone to party at his friend's house in Laxmi Nagar. Later, he received a phone call and was asked by the caller to come out of the house. "As soon as he stepped out, the group of assailants started firing at him. He tried to escape, but he was chased and shot thrice in the back. His friends took him to a hospital where he died," the officer said. More than six rounds were fired.

"It might be a case of personal enmity," said the officer.

A purported video of the incident went viral in which a person was seen running with blood flowing out of his back and then trying to hide behind a two-wheeler.

During investigation, sections 120B (whoever is a party to a criminal conspiracy) and 149 (unlawful assembly) of the Indian Penal Code and 25 Arms Act have been added after post-mortem examination and analysis from CCTV footage.

NE riots: HC to hear pleas related to 'hate speeches' next week

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Friday said it would hear and dispose of "expeditiously" a batch of petitions relating to 2020 northeast Delhi riots and the alleged hate speeches by leaders that led to the violence against the backdrop of protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act.

A bench of justices Siddharth Mridul and Anup Jairam Bhambhani posted for February 8 the petitions which have been transferred to it from another bench after the Supreme Court in December last year asked the HC to dispose of expeditiously, preferably within three months, the petitions.

"We are on a clock. Their (Supreme Court) wish is command for us. The intent is to dispose of the matter expeditiously..shubhasya shighram," Justice Mridul responded when Additional Solicitor General Aman Lekhi said that the SC order may not be viewed as putting a deadline for the HC.

The court also noted that it has to first examine "which of the prayers in which of the petitions survive as we do not want to flag a dead horse" since in many cases, FIRs have been registered and trials are being conducted.

Advocate Rajat Nair, representing Delhi Police, said in most of the cases, investigation was complete and chargesheet had been filed and one or two cases had resulted in conviction of the accused. He added that some cases relating to protests at Jamia University and subsequent riots in northeast Delhi were connected.

He further said that trials were at advanced stages in some cases, pointing to the progress made in the last two years.

Car with MHA sticker lifted just before R-Day recovered, 2 held

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi Police has arrested two men and recovered from them a car bearing a home ministry sticker. It was lifted from Paharganj ahead of the Republic Day, which had triggered security concerns. Another car, which was stolen from Hamilton Road near Kashmere Gate, was also recovered from the duo.

The two arrested men have been identified as Tayyab (38) and his associate Salman (24).

On January 17, one Rajender Singh from Sonipat, Haryana reported that his white colour Santro car bearing Haryana registration had been stolen. Another Santro car, which had a sticker of the home ministry, was stolen two days later, police said.

Deputy commissioner of police (north) Sagar Singh Kalsi said investigation revealed that the thieves had come in another Santro car. "After a surveillance of more than 12 days, the car was spotted at Yudhister Setu and the two persons, Tayyab and Salman, were arrested. Two loaded countrymade firearms, a master key and door opening tools were recovered from their possession," the officer said. Both the men admitted to have stolen the two cars.

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9 women among 12 held for duping people by promising airline jobs

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The northwest Delhi police have arrested 12 people, including nine women, who allegedly duped people on the pretext of providing jobs in different airlines. The accused posed as human resource department officials of the airlines and conducted fake job interviews over the phone. The victims were then made to shell out money on different pretexts after which the accused switched off their phones and went underground.

According to DCP Usha Rangnani, the accused have cheated more than 200 people in past few months.

The police had received a complaint from a person alleging that a call center had cheated him of Rs 12,250 on the pretext of providing a job in an airline. During investigation, it was revealed that the fake call centre was running at a house in Shastri Nagar on the pretext of providing jobs in different airlines. Later, a raid was conducted and the 12 accused involved in running the alleged call center were nabbed. The three men arrested were the main conspirators who had hired the nine women as tele-callers, the DCP added.

They charged the victims Rs 700 to Rs 1,200 as fees for registration, Rs 2,500 to Rs 5,000 for account opening and Rs 4,500 to Rs 6,000 for uniform, police said.

Further efforts are being made to trace the accounts in which the cheated money was being transferred. Cash Rs 2,31,000, 15 mobile phones, two debit cards, etc., were recovered from their possession, police added.

The accused have been identified as Neeraj Kumar (35), Amir (28), Sonu (33), Sandhya (27) Neeta Rawat (28), Mushkaan, Vimlesh (27), Harpreet Kaur (26), Nisha (21), Jaya (21), Deepika (21) and Moni (20).

AAP alleges corruption in building parking lot near NFC

New Delhi: AAP on Friday alleged that the BJP-run South Delhi Municipal Corporation had constructed a parking lot for Rs 102 crore near New Friends Colony, but due to corruption, it had been submerged in water, causing discomfort to residents.

According to AAP, the parking was built in 2019 in Sarai Jullena following a long-standing demand of residents. But it's not functional as water has filled it up to five-six feet, it claimed. "Vehicle parking is not possible because the facility has transformed into a full-fledged swimming pool. One can also say this is the epicentre of the spread of dengue fever in Delhi. The structure has begun to deteriorate," said AAP's municipal elections in-charge, Durgesh Pathak.

However, BJP claimed that the parking was operational, and water had seeped in as it was close to the Yamuna. "The groundwater level is high and the problem increases during the rains. A technical inquiry is on and a permanent water pump is being installed. The problem will end soon," said Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor.

According to BJP, the parking was made within the right budget and there was no corruption. TNN

BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS
Department of Consumer Affairs
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Govt. of India
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davp 08103/12/0020/2122 **Head (HRD)**

UTI Infrastructure Technology And Services Limited
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NOTICE

This is reference to the advertisement published in Economic Times (on 18/01/2022), Times of India (on 19/01/2022) & Employment News (on 22/01/2022) for Recruitment of MD & CEO on Contractual basis.
It is here by informed that the last date of submission of online application has been extended till 11.02.2022 upto 11:59 PM and the last date for receiving physical application is 18.02 2022 upto 5:00 PM.
You may refer UTIITSL website (www.utiitsl.com) for any further information hereafter till last date of submission.

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davp 06101/11/0022/2122

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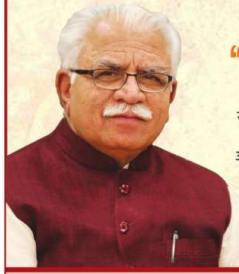
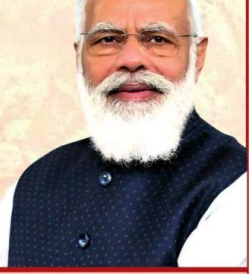
दीनबन्धु सर छोटूराम
की जयंती पर
शत-शत नमन
5 फरवरी, 2022



"दीनबन्धु सर छोटूराम जी का जीवन संघर्ष की एक अद्भुत गाथा है। किसानों और गरीबों की स्थिति सुधारने को उन्होंने अपना निजी कर्तव्य समझा। उनके विचार राष्ट्रीयता से ओत-प्रोत थे। वह एक कर्मठ ईमानदार व स्पष्ट वक्ता थे। ऐसी महान विभूति को कोटि-कोटि प्रणाम।"
- मनोहर लाल

"जन सेवा और किसान कल्याण के लिए अपना जीवन समर्पित करने वाले सर छोटूराम जी को उनकी जयंती पर शत-शत नमन। उन्होंने न केवल देश के अन्नदाताओं के अधिकारों के लिए संघर्ष किया, बल्कि वे मजदूरों, वंचितों और शोषितों की भी आवाज बने। समाज के उत्थान में उनका योगदान सदैव अविस्मरणीय रहेगा।"
- नरेन्द्र मोदी



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SC Rejects Homebuyers' Plea To Renegotiate On Refunds

SUPERTECH CASE: 'Unfair Once Settlement Agreed Upon'

AmitAnand.Choudhary @timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Observing that it would be "manifestly unfair" to direct real estate company Supertech to renegotiate with homebuyers on refunding the money after settlement had been agreed upon, the Supreme Court rejected the plea of buyers and asked the company to refund the money as per the agreement.

The buyers had booked flats in the twin towers in Supertech's Emerald Court housing projects in Noida and have been seeking refund after the towers were ordered to be demolished by the apex court which held that the construction was done illegally and in violation of law.

A bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud and Surya Kant said that homebuyers have themselves reached a settlement with the company and they cannot be allowed to contend that it was done under coercion. The bench noted that even the court- appointed amicus curiae, advocate Gaurav Agrawal, had approved the settlement.

"We have to maintain fairness with the developer also. We cannot order for the reopening of the settlement. You have yourself accepted it and the issue had to be brought to an end. Otherwise it will go on and on. Amicus has also agreed to the settlement," the bench said.

The court asked the company to refund the amount to homebuyers on or before February 28. Senior advocate S Ganesh, appearing for Supertech, told the bench that there were 38 impleadment applications filed by the homebuyers and assured that the amount would be refunded within the stipulated time as per the agreed settlement.

The court said for those homebuyers who had taken home loan, the company will make a final settlement with the bank and settle the home loan account by March 31.

Over 950 flats were to be built in the twin towers in which construction was done up to 32 floor when the Allahabad HC first ordered their demolition in 2017. A total of 633 homebuyers had booked flats in the twin towers out of which 248 have taken refund and 133 buyers shifted to Supertech's other housing projects. But 252 buyers remained invested in hope of getting favourable order from the apex court.

Approving Noida authority's decision to select Mumbai-based company Edifice Engineering to carry out demolition of the twin towers in the Emerald Court project, the Supreme Court had earlier directed Supertech to execute the contract and get approval from all authorities concerned within two weeks.

Holding that constructing additional towers also violated the minimum distance requirement between buildings, the apex court in its judgement on August 31 had said that a builder could not be allowed to subvert the requirement as prescribed in the Building Regulations as it will deprive the residents the amenities of light, air and ventilation which are essential to maintaining a basic quality of life.

SUPERTECH SAYS

There were 38 impleadment applications filed by homebuyers and the amount will be refunded within the stipulated time

Lok Adalats not courts, no precedent value of settlement decrees, says SC

Dhananjay.Mahapatra@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: In an important judgment, the Supreme Court has ruled that Lok Adalats are not courts as they do not resort to judicial adjudication in resolving disputes and said that their settlement decrees cannot be cited as a precedent before a court of law to claim similar relief by others who were not party to the compromise before the Lok Adalat.

Noida authority had issued a notification in March 1983 for acquisition of land in villages situated in Tehsil Dadri for planned industrial development. Land owners were given compensation at the rate of Rs 20 per square yard in November 1984. None of the land owners questioned the rate of compensation and all accepted the amount due to them.

One Fateh Mohammed filed an application seeking reference against the Award of November 28, 1984 and it was made over to a Lok Adalat, where Noida authority settled with him in 2016 and agreed to pay Rs 297 per square yard, almost 15 times more than the original compensation more than 30 years later.

"The other landowners saw the opportunity and successfully pleaded before the Allahabad HC for grant of compensation at the rate of Rs 297 per square yard on the ground that Lok Adalat awarded decrees had precedential value. NOIDA challenged the HC order in SC.

A bench of Justices K M Joseph and P S Narasimha framed the question, "Whether the Award passed by a Lok Adalat under Section 20 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 can form the basis for redetermination of compensation as contemplated under Section 28A of the the Land Acquisition Act, 1894. By the impugned judgment, the HC has taken the view that the Award passed by the Lok Adalat can indeed form the foundation for exercising power under Section 28A of the Act."

Writing the judgment, Justice Joseph disagreed with the HC view and said Lok Adalats do not employ any judicial scrutiny and under the legal services act only encourage the parties to settle amicably. It said even though the award by Lok Adalat could be enforceable like a decree, it cannot in the judicial arena have a precedential value.

"It is clear beyond the shadow of any doubt that the jurisdiction of the Lok Adalat under Section 20 is to facilitate a settlement of disputes between the parties in a case. It has no adjudicatory role," the bench said.

The SC said, "The award that is passed by the Lok Adalat cannot be said to be an award passed under the Land Acquisition Act. It is the compromise arrived at between the parties before the Lok Adalat which culminates in the award by the Lok Adalat... The enhancement of the compensation is determined purely on the basis of compromise which is arrived at and not as a result of any decision of a 'court' as defined in the Act."

Allowing the appeal of Noida authority and setting aside the HC order, Justices Joseph and Narasimha said, "We declare that an application under Section 28A of the Land Acquisition Act cannot be maintained on the basis of an award passed by the Lok Adalat under Section 20 of Legal Services Authorities Act."

SUPREME COURT SAYS

The award that is passed by the Lok Adalat cannot be said to be an award passed under the Land Acquisition Act

Parliament to decide punishment if marital rape made offence, HC told

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Centre on Friday told Delhi High Court it would argue next week to press for deference of hearings, as sought in its latest affidavit on a batch of petitions on the issue of marital rape.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta apprised a bench of Justices Rajiv Shakdher and C Hari Shankar about the additional affidavit filed by the Centre on Thursday. Meanwhile, the bench continued hearing other petitioners.

Senior advocate Colin Gonsalves, appearing for a woman petitioner, referred to a report of the law commission of the United Kingdom and certain judgments of the Supreme Court of India in support of his submissions to criminalise marital rape.

He submitted that the court couldn't desist from dealing with the constitutionality of the exception on the ground that it would be impossible for the woman to prove marital rape since it sometimes happened in the confines of the household and in private. If the high court sets aside the exemption given to husbands under IPC 375, the question of punishment for it lies in the domain of Parliament, he added.

"After this is done, Parliament will be called upon to apply its collective mind as to how, if at all, the generic definition 'coercion' and the generic definition 'no consent' have to be elaborated by making law," he said, adding that it is for Parliament to decide if lesser punishment should be prescribed for marital rape.

However, Justice Shankar pointed out that the court couldn't "close our eyes completely" to the consequences of striking down the provision. He said courts had to also examine issues of consent and coercion as argued by some other petitioners and the amicus.

The Centre, in its additional affidavit on Thursday, reiterated its request to defer the hearing, saying that if the matter, pending since 2015, was put on hold for some time, no prejudice would be caused, and it would be possible for the government to assist the court meaningfully.

It said it was committed to protecting "the liberty, dignity, and rights of every woman who is the fundamental foundation and pillar of a civilised society" and a meaningful consultative process with various stakeholders and state governments is needed on the pleas seeking criminalisation of marital rape.

Employee flees with ₹23 lakh, arrested

New Delhi: Delhi Police have arrested a 23-year-old man for allegedly stealing Rs 23 lakh from his employer, who runs an export business in west Delhi's Mundka. Search for the arrested man's aide, who had helped him flee, is underway, police said.

The arrested man has been identified as Nanhe Lal, a resident of Sahajanpur district in UP.

Police said one Munish Sangar filed a complaint on Saturday that his employee, Lal, went to Chandni Chowk to collect Rs 23 lakh on his behalf and didn't return after collecting it.

Raids were conducted at Lal's rented place in Deep Vihar Rohini, but he was missing. "Lal was found using technical surveillance. He went to Chandni Chowk with a friend Rakesh and then decided to flee with the money," said DCP (outer) Parvinder Singh said. TNN

tender & notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Date: 03.02.2022
Notice is hereby given to public that Smt. Raminder Mohli, W/o Sh. Tarun Kumar Mohli, R/o V-11/52, Ground Floor, DLF Phase – 3, Gurugram, Haryana – 122002 has unfortunately passed away on 30-05-2020 in Gurugram. That she was the owner of Flat No. 803, Tower B, Supertech Araville, Sector- 79, Gurugram. Now her son namely Manavjit Mohli, S/o Late Smt. Raminder Mohli has requested Supertech Ltd. to transfer, mutate and sold flat in the name of Manavjit Mohli. If anybody has any objection to this, he or she may contact Supertech Ltd. E- square, C-2, Sector-96, Noida within 15 days of this notice being published.
ATUL VOHRA (Advocate)
D – 1762/2003
RAJINDER NARAIN & CO.
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PUBLIC NOTICE
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Telephone No. 24608761
Fax No. 24651519
Website: http://ncdrc.nic.in
CONSUMER COMPLAINT NO. 2119 of 2019
SUMAN SAHGAL & ANR.
...Complainants
Versus
M/S AVALON PROJETS
...Opp. Partys
(A Unit of GRJ Distributors & Developers Pvt. Ltd.)
To,
THE PURCHASERS/ ALLOTTEES OF THE RESIDENTIAL FLATS IN "AVALON REGAL COURT" ALWAR BY PASS ROAD, BHIWADI, RAJASTHAN. DEVELOPED BY MIS. AVALON PROJECT.
Whereas the above Complainants have, through Mr SUSHIL KAUSHIK & MS. HIMANSHI SINGH, Advocate, D-271. Sushant Lok-1, Gurgaon, Haryana, Mobile No. 9813888800. filed the captioned Consumer Complaint before the Hon'ble National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, New Delhi on behalf and /or for the benefit of all the consumers who have either booked or have been allotted a flat, in the project namely AVALON REGAL COURT" ALWAR BY PASS ROAD, BHIWADI, RAJASTHAN. being developed by the Opposite Party named above for Redressal of their common grievances, and seeking the following reliefs :-
a. Grant permission U/s 12(1)(c)of the Consumer Protection Act 1986, to the Buyers / allottees / purchaser of houses in the above complex to joinfly present the complaint for the benefit of all the buyers / allottees in the said project.
b. Direct the O.P. to refund the entire amount collected from the buyers in the present project, towards the consideration of their respective Flats along with interest @18% p.a. on the amount paid by them from the date of each deposit of the amount till it is actually returned to the buyers / allottees.
c. Direct the O.P. to pay a sum of Rs. 30,000/- (Rupees thirty thousand only) to each of the Buyers / allottees /purchasers of houses in the above complex towards the cost of litigation.
d. Any other order(s) as may be deemed fit and appropriate may also kindly be passed.
And whereas the Hon'ble Commission vide its order dated 13.01.2022 is pleased to direct issue of notice of the institution of the above captioned complaint to all the consumers having same interest in the matter. Accordingly all allottees of the above referred Project having the same grievance against the Opposite Party, may appear before the Commission in-person or through an Advocate Authorized Representative on 13.06.2022 at 10.30 am. They can inspect the file of the aforementioned complaint in the office of the Counsel for the Complainant(s) and apply for being impleaded as a party to the complaint.
They may also note that the decision of the Commission in the captioned complaint will be binding on all the consumers on whose behalf and / or for whose benefit the complaint is instituted.
Given under my hand and the seal of this Commission on this 25th day of January, 2022
By Order
(RAJESH NATH)
ASSITANT REGISTRAR
Seal of the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission

TENDERS

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INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION
Export-Import Bank of India invites applications for Prequalification of Indian Consultancy firms for Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) and Project Management Consultants (PMC) services, for project "Construction of 135 MW Solar Power Plant in Sri Lanka".
All subsequent Addenda/ Corrigenda shall be notified on the Bank's website.
Details on:
https://www.eximbankindia.in/lines-of-credit-tenders.aspx

SCOPE PROMOTING EXCELLENCE
STANDING CONFERENCE OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
(An Apex Body of Public Enterprises)
SCOPE Minar, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092
Ph: 011-22458178
Fax: 011-22501185
E-TENDER NOTICE
On behalf of Constituents of SCOPE Minar, online e-tenders are invited from eligible, reputed, specialized Contractors as per eligibility criteria specified in the NIT for the following work at SCOPE Minar, Laxmi Nagar District Centre, Delhi-110092.
(a) Renovation of Main Staircase (GF to 20th floor) Core-2 at SCOPE Minar.
For details please visit SCOPE's website **www.scopeonline.in** & **www.tenderwizard.com/SCOPE** or contact at above mentioned address. **For e-tendering support:- 8799753401**
General Manager (Tech. & HR)

बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda
Regional Office, West Delhi Region, 12th Floor, Bank of Baroda Building, 16, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
(Retendering)
BANK OF BARODA intends to acquire commercially approved premises on lease basis on two bid system for shifting of our existing branch at **Najafgarh Road Branch at J2/15, Rajouri Garden, Najafgarh Road, New Delhi 110027** preferably on Ground Floor, having Carpet area 2000 to 2500 sq.ft within 1km radius (from existing Location), with 24 hour access, clear visibility with 3 phase power (30 KVA for Branch).
Sealed offers are invited in two bid system (1) Technical Bid (2) Financial Bid from owners having registered clear title (not on GPA basis). Premises having ownership interest of minors will not be considered. Property dealers and brokers need not apply. No brokerage shall be paid. Last date of submission of offer is **28.02.2022 up to 3.00 PM** and will be opened on **28.02.2022 at 03.30 PM.**
Note: The Premises should not be under ongoing sealing drive by Government of Delhi.
For more details, visit our bank's website **www.bankofbaroda.com /tender.htm**
Regional Head, West Delhi Region

SALE OF "As-is-where-is" basis of water affected coils (Galvanized, Alu-zinc & CRCA coils)

Sealed tenders are invited from intending buyers for the disposal, strictly on "as-is-where-is" basis with all defects of water affected coils (Galvanized, Alu-zinc & CRCA) lying at **Bhushan Power & Steel Ltd., Village Thelkoloi, P.O. Lapanga, Tehsil Rengali, District Sambalpur - 768232, Orissa (INDIA).**

Galvanized Steel Coils	**8031.322 MTs**
Alu-Zinc Steel Coils	**551.554 MTs**
CRCA Steel Coils	**729.131 MTs**

Tender documents can be obtained by post or in person on payment of Rs. 500/= in Cash from Professional Insurance Surveyors and Loss Assessors Pvt. Ltd., A Wing, 703, Building No. 65, Road No. 13, Tilak Nagar, Chembur, Mumbai – 400 089.
Inspection at the plant of Bhushan Power & Steel Ltd., Village Thelkoloi, P.O. Lapanga, Tehsil Rengali, District Sambalpur – 768232, Orissa (INDIA) from 07.02.2022 to 12.02.2022 between 10 AM to 4 PM.

Contact Persons:
1.Mr. N.V. Pavan Kumar : 98190 12266 (Mumbai)
2.Mr. AC Manoharan Nair : 80930 16053 (Sambalpur Plant)
Tenders to be submitted before 4 PM on 18.02.2022.
Tenders will be opened at 2:00 PM on 22.02.2022 at
Bhushan Power & Steel Ltd., Village Thelkoloi, P.O. Lapanga, Tehsil Rengali, District Sambalpur – 768232, Orissa (INDIA).

jobs

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shopping

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AN upright Baldwin Hamilton Piano is available for sale. Tuning and servicing required. Call 8826554791.

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Akarsh S/o Sh. Lakhan Singh R/o Udanpur, Jalaun. Udanpur, U.P.- 285203 have changed my name to Akarsh Singh for all purpose.

LOST & FOUND

I Rashmi Merum have irrevocably lost my Original Statement of Marks and Pass certificates for 10th from ICSE Board and 12th from the Board of Intermediate Education Andhra Pradesh for the years 2002 and 2004 respectively. If found please contact 9324604787.

Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. The Times of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and Owners of The Times Of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

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BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL
NEW DELHI BENCH
COMPANY PETITION NO.: CP CAA-5/ND/2022
CONNECTED WITH
COMPANY APPLICATION NO.: CA (CAA) – 134/ND/2021
In the matter of the Companies Act, 2013;
And
In the matter of Sections 230 to 232 and other relevant provisions of the Companies Act, 2013;
And
In the matter of Scheme of Amalgamation between Double Century Media FZ LLC and Times Internet Limited and their respective shareholders;
Double Century Media FZ LLC,
A Free Trade Zone Company with Limited Liability incorporated under the provisions of Dubai Technology and Media Free Zone Private Companies Regulations, 2003 and having its registered office at Office No. 237, Floor-2, Building No. 10, Dubai Media City, Dubai - 122832, United Arab Emirates **-------Transferor Company**
Times Internet Limited,
A company incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 and having its registered office at Express Building, 9-10 Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002, India
-------Petitioner/ Transferee Company
NOTICE OF PETITION
A petition under section 230 to 232 of the Companies Act, 2013, for sanction of Scheme of Amalgamation of Double Century Media FZ LLC and Times Internet Limited was presented by Times Internet Limited on the 31st day of January, 2022, and the said Petition is fixed for hearing before the New Delhi Bench of the National Company Law Tribunal on the 28th day of March, 2022. Any person desirous of supporting or opposing the said Petition should send to the Petitioner's advocate, notice of his/her intention, signed by him/her or his/her advocate, with his/her name and address, so as to reach the Petitioner's advocate not later than two days before the date fixed for the hearing of the Petition. Where he/she seeks to oppose the petition, the grounds of opposition or a copy of his/her affidavit shall be furnished with such notice. A copy of the Petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same on payment of the prescribed charges for the same.
Dated this 5th day of February 2022
Abhishek Seth, ASP Advocates
C 530, Ground Floor, Defence Colony, New Delhi – 110024
Mob: 9999201504

PROPERTY FOCUS TIMES interact

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, P.W.Dte., Kolkata North Electrical Division, P-5, C.I.T Road (2nd Floor), Kolkata-14 invites online bids for the work of "E.I. Work including fire detection system at Ashutosh Museum, College Street Campus under University of Calcutta ...E.I. Work." vide Tender ref. no.- WBPWD/EE/KNED/NIT-29 of 2021-22 and Tender ID.: 2022_WBPWD_364110_1. Last date of document download and bid submission for the tender is 19/02/2022 upto 01.00 PM. Detail information/ download/ upload will be available from the website: http://etender.gov.in and http://pwdwb.in Sd/- I. Kundu, Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Kolkata North Electrical Division.
ICA-T2086(3)/2022

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Superintending Engineer, Central Circle, P.W.Dte. invites e_NIT No.- **12** of **2021-2022** on behalf of the Governor of the state of West Bengal. Tender ID: **2022_PWD_364119_1. Name of work** - Construction of **100 bedded COVID hospital** Murshidabad Medical College & Hospital in the district of Murshidabad under **Berhampore Division No.II, P.W.D. Estimated amount: ₹9,88,27,428/-. Earnest Money: ₹10,00,000/-. Period of completion:- 365 days. Online Bid submission:- start date & time: 15.02.2022 at 06:00 pm. closing date & time: 09.03.2022 at 02:00 pm.** Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of e_N.I.T. and Tender documents may be downloaded from https://wbtenders.gov.in **Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Central Circle, P.W.Dte.**
ICA-T2092(3)/2022

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
The West Bengal Small Industries Development Corporation Ltd. (A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking) "Shilpa Bhavan," 31, Black Burn Lane, Kolkata - 700 012.
e-TENDER NOTICE
WBSIDCL invites e-Tender from eligible bidders vide NIET 15 of 2021-22 for 5 (Five) nos. Civil Works and NIET 16 (ELEC) of 2021-22 for 05 (Five) nos. of Electrical Works i.c.w. Establishment of Dedicated Industrial Parks at Singur Argo Industrial Park, Dist.-Hooghly, Gangasaghati I.P., Dist-Bankura, Bolpur I.P.-II, Dist.-Birbhum, Ethelbari I.P. and Jaigaon I.P., Dist.- Alipurduar , West Bengal. 1) Last date of submission of tender is 28/02/2022 upto 2.00 p.m. (for NIET NIT 15 of 2021-22), 2) Last date of submission of tender is 04/03/2022 upto 2.00 p.m (for NIET 16 (ELEC) of 2021-22). For details, log on to https://wbtenders.gov.in & https://www.wbsidcl.in Sd/- Executive Engineer (HQ/IC). ICA-T2107(4)/2022

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
S.E., Western Circle-I, P.W.D. invites online e-Tender for the works of: 1."Construction of 100 bedded COVID Hospital Building (RCC Structure including infrastructure development works) at Katwa Sub Divisional Hospital, Pin. - 713130 Latitude 23° 38' 43.25" E, Longitude 88° 7' 34.13" N during 2021-2022 (Civil & Electrical)." Estimated amount: Rs. 9,46,271/-, 2. "Construction of 100 bedded COVID Hospital Building (RCC Structure including infrastructure development works) within the premises of Sub Divisional Hospital Durgapur in the district of Paschim Bardhaman under PWD, Asansol Division during 2021-2022 (Civil & Electrical)." Estimated amount: Rs. 8,43,30,206/-. e-NIT No.- 19 of 2021-22. Tender ID: 2022_PWD_364052_1 & 2. Bid submission start date (online): 15.02.2022 from 3.00 P.M. Bid submission closing date (online): 28.02.2022 upto 1.00 P.M. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of e-NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from: http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- S.E., W.C.-I, P.W.D.
ICA-T2082(3)/2022

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
Santaldih Thermal Power Station
P.O. Santaldih, Thermal Plant, Dist. - Purulia, Pin - 723146
Notice Inviting E-Tender
Ref. No.: WBPDCL / Tend-Adv/21-22/STPS/CC-255 **Date : 31.01.2022**
NIT No.: WBPDCL/STPS/NIT/E2646/21-22
E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at https://wbtenders.gov.in by the General Manager, STPS, WBPDCL from eligible Agencies/Companies in 2 Part bid system for **"Two years RC for supply and dosing of chemicals for Cooling water treatment for 250 MW x 2 Unit # 5 & #6 of STPS, WBPDCL". Tender Document Download Start Date:** 07.02.2022 from 11:30 hrs. **Bid Submission End Date:** 04.03.2022 within 15:00 hrs. **Contact Person:** Mr. K. K. Dutta. **Tel. No.:** 8336903918. **E-mail:** cc_stps@wbpdcl.co.in /kdutta@wbpdcl.co.in
For details please visit : **https://wbtenders.gov.in** ICA-T2112(2)/2022

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
West Bengal State Health & Family Welfare Samiti
Swasthya Bhawan, Wing-'B', 3rd Floor,
GN - 29, Sector-V, Bidhannagar
Kolkata-700091
Brief Recruitment Notice
West Bengal State Health & Family Welfare Samiti intends to engage on contractual basis for the position of **State Consultant (Lab Services) in National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme** under National **Health Mission (NHM),** Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of West Bengal. Details of the position are as follows:

NAME OF THE POSITION	NUMBER OF VACANCY	PLACE OF POSTING
State Consultant (Lab Services)	1	State Head Quarter

Eligible candidates should apply online **in the prescribed** format **as given in the Department's website** for the mentioned **position.** Visit www.wbhealth.gov.in at the link "Recruitment" for details. Last date of completing the online application is **21st February, 2022**
Executive Director
WB SH & FW Samiti
ICA-N52(2)/2022

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Cleaner Yamuna: DJB Identifies 109 Colonies For Laying Sewer Pipelines

Mid-Yr Target To Trap Untreated Water Before It Reaches River

Siddhanta.Mishra
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Delhi Jal Board has identified 109 colonies in the city where it will lay sewer pipelines by mid-year to trap all untreated water that is flowing into and polluting the Yamuna. Work on this has begun in five major groups of colonies.

"Delhi government has set a deadline to clean the river," said a DJB official. "We are focusing on the untreated sewage that is directly flowing into the river. Work has begun on laying the sewer lines that will trap the sewage and direct the flow to a treatment plan."

The unchecked flow of sewage from many colonies into the stormwater drains and then into the river has concerned the authorities. Realising the problem in 2019, chief minister Arvind Kejriwal announced the free sewer connectivity scheme, the Mukhyamantri Muft Sewer Yojna, under which the development charge, road digging and connection charges have been waived.

217
KMS (APPROX) OF SEWER LINES TO BE LAID IN WEST DELHI'S RANHOLA

In 40 colonies in Vikaspuri in southwest Delhi, DJB is laying 124km of sewer lines, of which 50km have been completed. The work here is expected to be finished by June. All houses are then expected to be connected to the sewer. Similarly, in west Delhi's Ranhola, DJB is currently identifying the outfall points of the existing sewers and simultaneously laying new sewerage in around 50 colonies. The board will have to lay approximately 217km of sewer lines in the area, of which 74km have been completed.

Nine colonies in Swaroop Nagar and three colonies in Bhalswa are also receiving new sewer lines. In Swaroop Nagar, 80km of pipeline will be laid, while Bhalswa will get 40km of sewage lines.

"After these sewer pipelines are laid, the waste from these colonies will be channeled to the sewage treatment plants that are nearest these groups of colonies," said the DJB official.

Earlier, water minister Satyendar Jain had instructed DJB officials to upgrade all the sewage treatment plants in the city and given them 12-15 months to accomplish the task. The state of the art technology is being inducted for this, unlike conventional technology using which it would take years to complete the upgrade.

GODDESS OF LEARNING

Anindya Chattopadhyay

A Saraswati idol being carried to Raisina Bengali School at CR Park on the eve of Basant Panchami

DELHI'S GREEN RIDE PLAN SHIFTS GEARS WITH FOCUS ON ELECTRIC VEHICLES

NDMC gives a fresh push to its e-scooter plan, invites tenders

Vibha.Sharma@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: It's been over a year since New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) scrapped its ambitious project of introducing e-scooters on rent for the general public. However, the plan seems to have reinvigorated, with the NDMC calling for a new tender this week.

NDMC VC SAYS

The fleet of e-scooters will motivate people to use green transportation modes for covering short distances

The project includes designing, building and operating the public e-scooter sharing system in its areas by a concessionaire.

"The fleet of e-scooters will motivate people to use green transportation modes for covering short distances and last-mile connectivity," said NDMC vice-chairman Satish Upadhyay.

The initial plan included setting up 100 stations and 1,000 e-scooters in two phases in Lutyens' Delhi. "In phase 1, 50 stations will be set up and at each station, 10 e-scooters will be parked. Likewise, in phase 2, another 50 stations will come up," said Upadhyay.

While the detailed guidelines will be drawn after the concessionaire is finalised, the initial plan included setting up all stations at identified sites by the contractor, who will also be responsible for taking permission and arranging for a power connection.

"These e-scooters will have a GPS facility so that their movement can be tracked from the Control and Command Centre. The user will have to hire them for a minimum of 15 minutes and the charges will be imposed minute wise," as per the plan.

Users will need to have driving licenses to use the facility as the council has also decided to approach the transport department, Delhi government, for registering vehicles as it falls under the 'motorable category'. However, no registration charges are taken for e-scooters.

Delhi govt's step-by-step guide to malls on setting up EV chargers

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: To provide step-by-step guidance to shopping malls owners on how to set up electric vehicle (EV) chargers in their parking lots, Delhi government on Friday launched the EV Charging Guidebook for Shopping Malls.

With the launch of the guidebook developed by Dialogue and Development Commission of Delhi (DDC) and World Resources Institute, India (WRI India), Delhi has become the first state in the country to have simplified and enabled the adoption of EV charging at shopping malls.

After the launch of the EV policy in August 2020, it was aimed that at least 5% new vehicles registered from 2024 were electric. To have such a massive number of EVs, the city requires a robust charging network. The guidebook is an attempt at simplifying the process and encouraging entities to set up charging stations.

DDC vice-chairperson Jasmine Shah, WRI India's executive director Amit Bhatt and representatives of several shopping malls were present at the launch. The mall representatives said they were willing to reserve at least 5% parking space for charging dockets in the next six months.

Providing EV charging facilities could benefit malls through larger footfall, increased time spent by customers, improved visibility, boost to their "green" image, improved customer loyalty and an additional revenue stream.

The document guides shopping mall owners in understanding the importance of EV charging, assessing its scope, details the processes involved for effective decision-making and sets out the way forward for planning and implementation of charging stations in parking lots.

"Every city in the world that has made a mass-scale jump towards e-mobility did so at the back of a strong charging infrastructure. Besides this, we need to ensure that every place that a vehicle stops at has a charging point, be it offices, residences or malls," said Shah.

Two private EV chargers come up in capital

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Months after Delhi government launched the single window facility where the consumers can get a private EV charging point installed via an online single window portal, Switch Delhi. These can be at their homes, group housing societies, multi-story apartment complexes, RWAs offices and commercial shops through discom empanelled vendors. Under the policy, 12 private vendors have been empanelled with BSES.

To promote EV adoption, Delhi government has initiated the single window facility where the consumers can get a private EV charging point installed via an online single window portal, Switch Delhi. These can be at their homes, group housing societies, multi-story apartment complexes, RWAs offices and commercial shops through discom empanelled vendors. Under the policy, 12 private vendors have been empanelled with BSES.

To promote the scheme, the government is offering a one-time subsidy of Rs 6,000 for the first 30,000 charging points.

The EV chargers can be purchased by the consumer in two models, by either paying up the full amount or monthly installments.

Private EV charging points are billed at Rs 4.5 per unit.

Dalit girl's rape, murder: Accused says no evidence

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The temple priest who was arrested in an alleged gang-rape and murder case of a minor Dalit girl has claimed before a court that the victim's father was present when she was cremated, but he had concealed it when his statement was recorded by police.

According to the chargesheet, she was suffocated to death during the sexual assault by Radhey Shyam and forcefully cremated by him and others. But the priest's counsel claimed before additional sessions judge Ashutosh Kumar that that there was no evidence of murder, barring extra-judicial confessions. "As per the postmortem report, the cause of death was electric shock."

He also claimed that the eyewitnesses were planted. The chargesheet doesn't have any word on from where they had seen the incident, he pointed out. "The witnesses have a history of criminal cases and are politicians," he alleged.

He also claimed that the FIR was tampered with by inserting sections of the SC/ST Act by pen on a typed document, he alleged.

Gang of 4 busted for robbing bizman of ₹5.9L in east Delhi

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A gang that had robbed a 62-year-old businessman of Rs 5.9 lakh in Geeta Colony on February 1 has been busted by the Shahdara district police.

The accused — Mohammad Abbas (23), Aman Abbas (23) and John Abbas (23) — are residents of Brahampuri in northeast Delhi. A minor boy and another youth, Muzammil, were also caught for assisting the gang. The accused worked as helpers and tailors in a jeans factory. One of them was an air-conditioner mechanic.

5.9
LAKH ₹ SNATCHED AT GUN-POINT

DCP (Shahdara) R Sathiyasundaram said two of the arrested men were involved in the northeast Delhi riots, apart from other cases like robbery. One of them is accused in four cases lodged at Welcome police station in 2020 under IPC sections of rioting, promoting enmity between different groups, robbery and possession of illegal weapons. The second suspect was involved in the riots in New Usmanpur.

"We have recovered Rs 2.7 lakh and the victim's scooty and seized a pistol and two motorcycles from the accused," added the DCP.

The victim, who owned a ready-made garments shop in Gandhi Nagar market, told police that while he was returning home from work, 4-5 men snatched his scooty and a bag containing Rs 5.9 lakh at gunpoint. A team led by ACP Chandrakanta and SHO Sanjay Bhatt was formed to probe the case.

The team analysed footage of more than 50 CCTV cameras along the escape route of the gang members and the scooty was recovered from Ramlila Maidan in Geeta Colony. A bike used in the crime was recovered from a nearby area. It was stolen from Rohini in December last year. Cops tracked down the owner of the second motorcycle used in the crime, which led them to the other robbers. Police are on the lookout for one Abdullah, who provided the stolen motorcycle, and another accused, Qasim.

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed tenders are invited up to 25.02.2022 (Friday) by 03:00 p.m. for:-
(a) Awarding Rate Contract for purchase of different types of Air Conditioners along with Stabilizers on requirement basis for a period of one year
(b) Awarding Comprehensive Maintenance Contract for different types of Air Conditioners and Stabilizers for a period of two years.
(c) Awarding Annual Maintenance Contract for repairing of various Electrical Items for a period of three years, extendable for 1+1 year (on performance basis)

Detailed Terms and Conditions can be obtained on any working day except (Saturday / Sunday / Holiday) from the Branch Officer, Admn. Materials (Tel : 011-23115941) and can also be downloaded from the following websites :
www.sci.nic.in
www.eprocure.gov.in

Sd/-
(Anil Kumar Sharma)
Additional Registrar (AM)

05.02.2022

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice

The Chief Administrative Officer/Const/Northern Railway, Kashmere Gate, Delhi, for and on behalf of the President of India **invites e-tender** under **Two Packet System** for the under noted work:-

Full Name of work	Civil works, Road under bridges, Permanent way works, in c/w Extension of existing loop lines, construction of new longer loop lines at Chiheru, Kartarpur, Jandiala and Manawala Railway Stations in FZR Division in the jurisdiction of Dy. Chief Engineer/Const., Jalandhar City.
Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 4314.02 Lakhs
Completion period of the work	**18 months**
Earnest Money to be deposited	Rs.23,07,000.00
Sale/availability of tender document on Rly. Website	Tender documents will be available on IREPS web site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from **04.02.2022 to 28.02.2022 upto 11.30 hrs.**
Last date/Time of upload of tenders	**28.02.2022** upto **11.30** hours Tender documents can be uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS web site w.e.f. **14.02.2022 to 28.02.2022**
Date and time of opening of tender	**28.02.2022** at **11.30 hours** (immediately after close of uploading of tender (D2). In case of two packet system. Financial bids of the eligible tenders would be opened subsequently on the date and time to be notified later on. The detailed tender notice also can be seen on the Notice Board of the above office.

Tender Notice No. 74-W-1-1-451-WA-JUC Dated : 04.02.2022 258/2022

Serving Customers With A Smile

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ
E- TENDERING TENDER NOTICE
E-Tender Notice No. DyCE-C-I-JHS-2022-04

Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction-I), North Central Railway, Jhansi for and on behalf of the President of India invites open tender online (E-Tendering). Tender offer can be submitted online up to **15.00** hours of **15.03.2022**, on website **http://www.ireps.gov.in.** The details of the tenders are as under:-

S. N.	Tender No.	Name of Work	Approx. Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money in (Rs.)	Completion Period
1	2	3	4	5	6
01	E-Tender Notice No.Dy CE-C-I-JHS-2022-04	"Construction of Station Buildings, Service Buildings, Quarters, Over head tank, Platforms, Drains, Circulating area and ancillary work at stations between Barwasagar - Mauranipur section in connection with JHS-MKP & KID-BZM doubling project."	16.10 Crore (App.)	9,55,300.00	18 (Eighteen) Months including harvest & monsoon period

Date of Closing : 15.03.2022
Validity: 60 Days

Note:- For complete details and submission of tender please see Indian Railway's website **http://www.ireps.gov.in.** 126/22 (AN)

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

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call: 1800 110 069 (toll-free) or visit: www.pfrda.org.in

Scan QR code for online enrollment under APY

Scan QR code to watch APY video

davp 15113/13/0003/2122

pfrda पेंशन निधि विनियामक एवं विकास प्राधिकरण
PENSION FUND REGULATORY AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-Procurement Tender Notice No.: 319-W/01/PLG/PRYJ/P.Way/21-22/3
Date: 25.01.2022
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, **Chief Administrative Officer/Construction, North Central Railway, Prayagraj** invites the E-Procurement Tenders for the manufacture and supply of the following materials :-

S. N.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Appox. Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Date of Tender Opening
1	2021202203	Glued Joints, 60Kg, to Drg. No. T-2572.	1746 No.	25491722/-	509840/-	03.03.2022
2	eRA2021202204	ERC Mark-V to Drg. No. T-5919.	858290 No.	81984719/-	1639700/-	14.03.2022

Date of Completion: For both tender 12 months.

Note :(1) The complete information of above E-Procurement Tenders are available on **IREPS** website i.e **http://www.ireps.gov.in. (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 **IREPS** website along with class III digital signature certificates issued by **CCA** under **IT Act-2000. (3)** Rates entered into financial rate page and duly signed digitally shall only be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in any other form/letter head if attached by vendor shall be straight way ignored and shall not be considered. 92/22 (A)

North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @CPRO NCR

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Advertisement No. NIBMG/Admn/Estb/Rectt/2021-22/359 **Date : 02/02/2022**

Applications are invited from suitable candidates for the following position :

Post ID	Post	No. of Vacancy	Category
2201	**Manager (Finance)**	**One (01)**	**UR**

Last date for receipt of both Online application and Hard Copies at NIBMG is **30 days** from the date of publication of this advertisement in the Employment News, Rozgar Samachar and **45 days** for the candidates residing abroad, Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands, States/Union Territories in the North Eastern Region, Ladakh, Jammu, Kashmir, Sikkim, Sub-division Chamba and Lahaul and Spiti districts of Himachal Pradesh. For details, please visit **www.nibmg.ac.in** **Manager (Administration)**

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE No.: AGC-ELG-T-14R-2021-22
Date: 02.02.2022
Office of the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (Gen.) North Central Railway, Agra Division
E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (General) N. C. Railway, Agra on behalf of President of India invites "Open Tender" through on line only (E-Tendering) for the following works.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	AGC-ELG-T-14R-2021-22
1.	Name of work with its location & Completion Period	Repairing and shifting of High masts of Agra Division. **Completion period 06 months**
2.	Approx. Cost of the work	₹ 1861988.61

For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website **www.ireps.gov.in.** Tenders can only be submitted through web portal **www.ireps.gov.in** up to **15:00 hrs** on **24.02.2022.** 132/22 (A)

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TIMES NATION

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2022

EXTORTION CASE AGAINST PBS: CID NAMES TWO COPS & TWO BIZMEN IN CHARGESHEET

AMID SPARRING, KCR & PM TO SHARE STAGE TODAY; MINISTER DEPUTED TO RECEIVE MODI AT AIRPORT

Third wave across India to ebb by March: ICMR ADG

'Noting Covid's Likely Shift To Endemic Stage'

Nisha.Nambiar
@timesgroup.com

PTI

THE NEEDLE-FREE VAX IS HERE: A healthcare worker administers a dose of the needle-free ZyCoV-D vaccine in Patna on Friday. Bihar has received 15 lakh doses of the vaccine made by Zydus Cadila

Pune: Additional director-general of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) Dr Samiran Panda on Friday said the third wave of Covid was likely to wane by February-end in Maharashtra, Delhi and West Bengal.

"The peak of cases encountered in these states will come down to the base level by the end of this month itself. An overall decline in Covid cases in the country is expected by March," he said.

Epidemiologist Dr Chandrakant Lahariya also told **TOI** that the third wave across the country was expected to end in the next three-four weeks. "With Omicron dominating 90% of the cases and Delta being only about 10%, the rise and fall in cases being witnessed is the trend across the world," he said.

According to the mathematical model-based projection by the ICMR, the entire peak and fall in cases in these states would be achieved within this month. The chronic model developed by the ICMR and Imperial College London projects that India may reach the stage of endemicity of Covid by mid-March this year.

The overall disease epidemiology indicates that the epidemic is heading towards a stable situation. "If newer variants of concern of SARS-CoV-2 do not appear in future, things may get well under control. A shift is being noted from the epidemic to the endemic stage," Dr Panda said.

He said the states and the districts registering a high number of cases by early January were now seeing gradual decline in infections. "We can say the surge will decline by the end of February," he said.

The presentation of the central health ministry on Thursday showed that Maharashtra had registered a considerable decline in cases. It is among the 34 states registering a declining trend in Covid cases. Experts in the state, too, said the declining trend had commenced in most districts in the state.

According to the data shared by the health ministry, the positivity rate of Maharashtra declined from 22.6% on January 13 to 14.5% on February 3. Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan also registered a decline in cases and positivity rate. The positivity rate increased in only two states — Kerala and Mizoram.

Dr Lahariya said the declining trend in cases in 34 states was a positive sign, but it would be too early to say India had reached endemicity. "We are still in the third wave and the cases should continue to dip for sufficient time after the wave declines," he said.

JNU VC with tumultuous tenure named UGC chief

Manash.Gohain
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: JNU vice chancellor **M Jagadesh Kumar** was appointed the chairperson of the University Grants Commission (UGC) on Friday. According to the ministry of education, Kumar has been appointed as the head of the higher education regulator for a period of five years.

"The central government has appointed M Jagadesh Kumar as UGC chairman for a period of five years or till he attains the age of 65 years, whichever is the earliest," said a senior MoE official.

The post of UGC chairperson fell vacant on December 7, 2021 after professor D P Singh resigned upon turning 65. The post of the vice-chairman of the higher education regulator is also vacant.

Kumar is currently holding charge as acting VC of JNU after his five-year term expired last year. He is also the chairperson of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council. The ministry is yet to appoint his successor at JNU.

Kumar told the **TOI**: "This is a great opportunity for me to work for the young minds of our country. My immediate focus is going to be speedy implementation of National Education Policy, enabling research and innovation ecosystem in institues and making higher education more inclusive and accessible using technology."

From the sedition row of 2016 and lockdown of his office multiple times, to then HRD minister getting stuck for six hours at the venue of JNU's convocation in 2019, Kumar's tenure at JNU has been marred by controversies.

Kumar, who was made the VC in January 2016, had his first brush with controversy just a week after his appointment when students locked horns with the administration over holding an event against the hanging of Parliament attack convict Afzal Guru.

He has previously worked as assistant professor at IIT-Kharagpur and associate professor at IIT-Delhi.

Garhwal univ prof appointed NCERT chief

Professor of history Dinesh Prasad Saklani has been appointed the new director of National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) on Friday, reports **Manash Gohain**. Saklani is a professor with the department of history, ancient Indian history, culture and archaeology at HNB Garhwal University, Uttarakhand. Saklani takes charge of NCERT at a crucial period of the making of the four National Curriculum Frameworks and designing of new school textbooks.

China building Pangong bridge in area occupied since 1962: Govt

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The government on Friday reiterated in Parliament that the bridge China is constructing on Pangong Lake is located in areas that have continued to be under China's illegal occupation since 1962 and that India has never accepted this.

Replying to a written question in Lok Sabha, junior minister for external affairs V Muraleedharan said India's approach to the eastern Ladakh LAC disengagement talks will continue to be guided by three key principles — both sides strictly respect and observe the LAC, neither side attempts to alter status quo unilaterally and that both fully abide by all bilateral agreements in their entirety.

"The government has made it clear on several occasions that J&K and Ladakh are an integral part of India and we expect other countries to respect India's sovereignty and territorial integrity," he said.

▸ Related reports, P15

As regards disengagement in the remaining areas along the LAC in eastern Ladakh, he said India and China have maintained dialogue through both diplomatic and military channels. He said India's approach in these talks has been and will continue to be guided by the stated principles.

The minister also said the government had noted reports of renaming of some places by China in Arunachal Pradesh and that this was a futile exercise that will not alter the fact that the state had always been, is and will always be an integral part of India.

The minister recalled that China continued to be in illegal occupation of 38,000sqkm in Ladakh for the past six decades and under the so-called China-Pakistan 'Boundary Agreement' signed in 1963, Pakistan illegally ceded 5,180sqkm of Indian territory in Shaksgam Valley from areas illegally occupied by Pakistan in Ladakh to China.

"Government of India has never recognised the so-called 'Boundary Agreement' and has consistently maintained that it is illegal and invalid," he said.

The government is giving "careful and specific" attention to the improvement of infrastructure of border areas as also to meet India's strategic and security requirements, he added.

No scientific evidence yet to cut 2nd & 3rd dose gap: ICMR

Pune: Additional director-general of ICMR Dr Samiran Panda on Friday said there was no deliberation on reducing the nine-month gap between the second shot of Covid vaccines and the precaution dose because there was no scientific evidence yet to do so, reports **Nisha Nambiar**.

Time gaps between the doses of vaccines are set by studying emerging scientific data and public health considerations specific to a country. There have been demands from some quarters to reduce the interval between the two doses.

According to a PTI report, Serum Institute of India has urged health minister Mansukh Mandaviya to consider reducing the gap between the second and the precaution dose of Covishield from current nine months to three. Telangana and Andhra Pradesh have also requested that the time gap between the second dose and the precaution dose should be reduced.

At 678, India sees highest daily toll of 3rd wave; cases dip

Amit.Bhattacharya
@timesgroup.com

India continued to report a gradual rise in Covid-19 fatalities, with 678 deaths reported on Friday, the highest in the third wave, even as fresh cases declined steeply for the second day running.

India reported just over 1.28 lakh new cases on Friday, with data from one state awaited, the lowest daily tally in over four weeks since January 6. On Thursday, 1.5 lakh fresh cases were recorded. The highest count this week was 1.73 lakh cases on Wednesday, far lower than the previous week's peak of 2.9 lakh (also reported on a Wednesday), as per **TOI**'s Covid database.

While cases were falling across the country, nationwide deaths were still on the rise. Friday's toll of 678 was marginally more than the previous highest of 676 reported on Wednesday. These numbers exclude deaths from earlier periods added to the Covid toll.

AFP

A health worker takes a nasal swab of a passenger at a railway station in Mumbai on Friday

Kerala reported 225 deaths on Friday (including fatalities from the past few days), up from 160 on Thursday. Maharashtra (81 deaths), Karnataka (53), Gujarat (35), Bengal (35) and Tamil Nadu (30) continued to record a high number of casualties. Odisha reported 23 deaths, the highest during the third wave, while Haryana logged 19 deaths, equalling its highest single-day count in the current wave.

Over 70k reports of AEFI, 1,013 deaths till Jan, govt tells LS

New Delhi: A total of 70,102 adverse events and 1,013 deaths following Covid Immunisation (AEFI) have been reported in India till January 30, in over one year since the rollout of the vaccination programme in January 2021, the government informed Parliament on Friday.

"As on January 30, 2022, a total of 70,102 cases (Covishield: 63,315, Covaxin: 6,757 and Sputnik: 30) of AEFI's and 1,013 cases of death (Covishield: 921, Covaxin: 92, and Sputnik: 'Nil') were reported," junior health minister Bharti Pawar said in Lok Sabha.

Frequent communication to states through letters, advisories were issued to improve the reporting of cases of AEFI, Pawar said. AEFI is monitored through a well-structured and robust surveillance system in India, he said. Causality assessment of all severe AEFI cases is done by the AEFI committee to determine if it is related to the vaccination process. TNN

MADRAS, BOMBAY HCs REMARK ON BASIC AMENITIES

'Electricity, water not essential services for bldg plan violators'

Chennai: Electricity and water supply are indeed an essential service for people, but certainly not so for those who violate approved building plans, the Madras high court has said, reports **Suresh kumar K**.

"The court may feel that disconnection of electricity may hinder not only the violators, but also the family members. In such an event, the authorities/court must ensure that while passing interim/final orders in the application, the electricity charges, property tax, water and sewage charges must be five times to the violators, till such time the violation is set right, and the building is rectified in terms of the plan," said a division bench on Friday. "It (electricity) has got to be fixed at the premium rate till the illegal building is brought back in accordance with the plan," the court added.

This apart, officials must make a periodical surprise inspection to violated places to check about electricity theft. If exorbitant rates are foisted, it will affect the monthly budget of the violators and they will think twice to violate, as the charges are recurring one, the judges said.

They added that courts must be slow in granting relief, much less interim relief in cases where violators approach the court. The bench passed the order while dismissing a plea moved by B Kanchana, a Chennai resident, seeking direction to the authorities to regularise her residential building, which was constructed in violation of the approved building plan.

We'll unleash hell, HC warns BMC on denial of water to society

Mumbai: Observing that water supply is an essential service and warning it of contempt proceedings, the Bombay high court on Friday directed the BMC to provide a potable water connection to a rehabilitation building in Kurla (West) by 6pm on Friday, reports **Rosy Sequeira**. Following the HC's directions, a BMC rushed its team to the spot to restore water supply.

"When it comes to (denial of) water, we'll unleash hell," said a bench of Justices Gautam Patel and Madhav Jamdar on a petition by 10 occupants of Navbharat SRA co-operative housing society. They sought restoration of water supply which the BMC had disconnected in November 2021. Their petition said the Slum Rehabilitation Authority issued an occupation certificate in March 2021 to developer M/s Grace Mass Housing Corporation's claim of authorised water connection. But the connection was illegal and supply was therefore disconnected.

On Thursday, the developer's advocate Cherag Balsara said the developer had used water from a borewell. Despite paying all charges, the BMC was not providing drinking water to the rehab building, he added. BMC's advocate Sagar Patil said the developer must get an NOC from the assessment department showing payment of arrears of property tax. Balsara showed the BMC's 2018 circular that water connection will not be withheld on account of arrears of property tax in case of a rehab building. The judges said BMC must reconnect the water supply.

RISING INDIA

Basant Panchami Special

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CONSUMER CONNECT INITIATIVE

Basant Panchami, the day that marks the creation of the universe is celebrated with a lot of gusto and excitement across the country

Kamini.Kulshreshtha
@timesgroup.com

The festival of spring that marks the beginning of a beautiful time of the year, Basant Panchami is celebrated across the country with a lot of fervour and excitement. Primarily a spring harvest festival that is celebrated in reverence of the yellow bloom on the mustard crop, Basant Panchami is also observed as the auspicious day when the goddess of knowledge, art, music and wisdom. Goddess Saraswati is worshipped by the devotees who thank her for providing them with the knowledge and learning and also pray her for gaining more of the same. According to mythology, the occasion marks the birth of Goddess Saraswati while according to other mythological tales, it is believed that this is the day when the universe was created. The day falls on the fifth day of the Indian month, maagh and is the time when winters start wrapping up and spring starts coming in.

The day which is believed to be the day when Lord Brahma created the universe, Basant Panchami is predominantly celebrated in eastern parts of the country as Saraswati Puja. On the other hand, the festival is the time when people fly kites in the north. In Rajasthan, people wear beautiful jasmine garlands to celebrate the festival with appropriate rituals. As a part of tradition, people like to wear yellow coloured clothes on this day and also cook yellow food to offer it to the deities. Men like to wear kurtas in hues of yellow while the women dress up in bright yellow and similar shades to mark the festival of spring.

Since this is a festival which is celebrated by worshipping Goddess Saraswati, people consider it auspicious to initiate their children to education. The festival is also celebrated in various schools with prayers and celebrations that are attended by the students and teachers alike.

The season of spring or Basant as it is known in the country is known by the beautiful colour yellow which symbolises peace, light, energy and happiness. This is one more reason why people choose to wear yellow on this occasion and also make traditional delicacies in shades of yellow. Primarily, sweet rice with saffron and dry fruits is made in most households on this occasion. The deities are also offered coconut and other fruits. As is the case with most other festivals of the country, the arrival of Basant Panchami also sees women making several traditional delicacies like *khichuri*, *kesar halwa*, *kesari bhaat*, *payesh* and *rajbhog* to mark the occasion.

Basant Panchami is considered to be an extremely auspicious day in India. It is believed that it is the right day to acquire something new, whether it is a new property, a new business, vehicle or anything that one is looking to buy. Therefore, people buy new things on this day since buying these things on Basant Panchami adds to the prosperity.

PICS: ISTOCK

ACCORDING TO MYTHOLOGY, THE OCCASION OF BASANT PANCHAMI MARKS THE BIRTH OF GODDESS SARASWATI AND IS ALSO THE DAY WHEN THE UNIVERSE WAS CREATED

The celebration of SPRING

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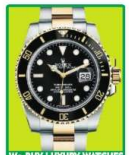

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Despite SC push, 5k cases are pending against netas

UP Tops List With 1.4k Cases, Followed By Bihar With 571

AmitAnand.Choudhary
@timesgroup.com

Reuters

GROWING CONCERN

New Delhi: Despite the apex court's directions for setting up of special courts to hold expeditious trial against MPs and MLAs who are facing criminal cases, the number of pending cases are, however, increasing and as per the data filed in the Supreme Court there are 4,984 cases pending against lawmakers out of which the largest number of cases at 1,339 are from Uttar Pradesh followed by Bihar where 571 cases are going on.

Senior advocate Vijay Hansaria, who is assisting the apex court in the matter of expeditious trial against lawmakers, filed his report in the court and informed that the number of pendency is increasing since 2018 when the court passed the direction for setting up of special courts. He said the growing number of cases indicates increasing criminalisation of electoral politics.

"It is submitted that despite a series of directions by this Court and continuous monitoring, as many as 4,984 cases are pending out of which 1,899 cases are more than 5 years old. It may be noted that the total number of cases pending as on December 2018 were 4,110; and as on October 2020 were 4,859. Even after disposal of 2,775 cases after December 04, 2018, the cases against MPs/MLAs have increased from 4,122 to 4,984. This shows that more and more persons with criminal antecedents are occupying the seats in the Parliament and the State Legislative Assemblies. It is of utmost necessity that urgent and stringent steps are taken for expeditious disposal of pending criminal cases," he said .

According to the report, which provided state-wise data on cases, Uttar Pradesh topped the list with 1,339 cases pending for final disposal as on December 1, 2021, whereas in December 2018, 992 cases were pending, and in October 2020, 1,374 cases were pending. In Bihar, in December 2018 there were 304 cases pending, which rose to 557 in October 2020, and then 571 in December 2021. Out of 571 cases, 341 cases are pending before magistrate courts and 68 cases before sessions judges.

He said the courts dealing with cases against MPs/MLAs should exclusively try only these cases on day-to-day basis and other cases would be taken up only after trials of such cases are over. "Both the prosecution and defence shall cooperate with the trial of the case and no adjournment shall be granted. In case, the public prosecutor and/or the prosecution fail to co-operate in the expeditious trial, the matter shall be reported to the Chief Secretary of the State who will take necessary remedial measures. In case, the accused delays the trial, his bail shall be cancelled," he said in his report.

He said that the trial court must send a report on each of the cases where trial has been pending for more than five years before the respective HC, giving the reasons for delay and suggest remedial measures. "The central government will provide funds for ensuring smooth functioning of courts through virtual mode…," the report said.

BMC's ₹32cr payment to firm linked to Sena MP Raut under ED scanner

Mumbai: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) is examining BMC's around Rs 32 crore payment to businessman Sujit Patkar's unregistered company for managing Covid field hospitals in the city as it found the contract suspicious, reports **Vijay V Singh**.

Patkar is one of the directors, along with Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut's two daughters, in a firm that is subsidiary of a wine distribution company.

During the search of his house on Tuesday, ED officials stumbled upon the BMC contracts awarded to Patkar's unregistered company, Lifeline Hospital Management Services. After going through the documents, they found the contract suspicious as Patkar's company had no any work experience in the field.

On Tuesday, the ED raided Patkar's house in a money-laundering case related to fraudulent sale of FSI worth Rs 1,034 crore of Goregaon's Patra Chawl where his friend, Pravin Raut, is an accused. On Wednesday, the ED had arrested Pravin Raut.

Probe agency suspects Pravin Raut had diverted a part of the money to Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut through Patkar.

HC upholds lenient view on IIMB students

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: The Karnataka high court on Friday dismissed a writ appeal filed by Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (IIMB), challenging the lenient view taken by a single bench on nine expelled postgraduate programme students caught for exam malpractices. It, however, added that the verdict should not be treated as a precedent for other similar cases.

These students allegedly used social media (by forming a WhatsApp group) for cheating and indulged in unfair practice during online mid-term exam for the subjects — marketing management, organization design and managerial communication I — held on August 5, 2021.

The institute expelled them on August 25, 2021 and rejected a review appeal on September 24, 2021.

IIMB challenged the order, contending that the single bench did not properly examine the manual and consider the judgements of Supreme Court and high courts while dealing with educational and academic matters.

However, the division bench noted that though the manual provides for severe penalty, it does not mean every time the award of expulsion should be resorted to and lenient view cannot be taken. Once a provision has been made and a view on its basis has been cited by the court, it can't be said that the view taken by the court is wrong and no interference should have been made, the bench observed.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINNER DIVISION TIKAMGARH
PHONE No. 07683-242321 E-mail:-eepwdtikam@mp.nic.in

NIT No-15 **DATE 01-02-2022**

Online bids for the following works are invited from registered contractors and firms of repute fulfilling registration criteria :

S. No.	Tender Portal No.	Name of work	District	Probable Amount Contract (Rs. in lakh)	Eranest Money Deposit (EMD) (in Rs.)	Cost of Bid Document (in Rs.)	Period of completion (in months i/c Rainy Season)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2022_PWDRB_182274_1	Construction of Jatara Pathrigarh Baharutal road lenth 5-30 Km.	Tikam-garh	440.45	440450.00	15000.00	08 month Inciuding rainy season
		TOTAL AMOUNT		440.45	440450.00	15000.00	

1 All details relating to the Bid Document (s) can be viewed and downloaded free of cost from the website. http:// mptenders.gov.in
2 Bid Document (s) can be purchased after making online payment of portal fees through Credit/Debit/Cash Card/internet Banking./
3 The Bid Document (s) can be purchased only online from 04-02-2022 (time) 10.30 am to 18-02-2022 time 05.30 pm Other key dates may be seen in Bid Data Sheet.
4 Amendment (s) to NIT, if any, shall be published on website only, and not in newspaper.

G-22298/21

Sd/-
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
TIKAMGARH

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DELHI SECRETARIAT, I.P. ESTATE, NEW DELHI-110 002

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Election to Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh, - Grant of paid holiday to employees on the day of poll.

It is notified for information of the General Public that as per the provisions of Section 135B(1) of the Representation of the People Act 1951, every person employed in any business, trade, industrial undertaking or any other establishment in National Capital Territory of Delhi and entitled to vote at the election to the Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh shall be granted a holiday on the day of poll on 10.2.2022, 14.2.2022, 20.2.2022, 23.2.2022, 27.2.2022, 3.3.2022 and 7.3.2022, as may be applicable, so that he/she can cast his/her vote during the General Election to Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh, 2022.

Further, as per the provision of Section 135B(2), no deduction or abatement of the wages shall be made on account of above holiday and if any person is employed on the basis that he/she would not ordinarily receive wages for such a day, he/she nonetheless be paid wages as he/ she would have drawn had not a holiday been granted to him/ her on that day.

As per section 135B(4) the aforesaid shall not apply to any elector whose absence may cause danger or substantial loss in respect of the employment in which he is engaged.

Any contravention of the above provisions is punishable as per the Provisions of section 135 B (3) of the Representation of People Act, 1951.

(Amitabh Kundoo)
Dy. Secretary (GAD)

DIP/Shabdarth/0628/21-22

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHANDIGARH
TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Bid Submission Schedule (Online)	Opening Technical Bid (Online)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - Roads Division No. 2			
1.	Construction of Gaushala and Cattle Pond on MC Land at Raipur Kalan, Chandigarh, Phase -1 (Balance Work). (CIVIC WORK) Est. Cost: Rs. 360.11 Lacs EMD : Rs. 7,20,230/- Time Limit: 06 Months	04.02.2022 To 14.02.2022 upto 12.00 noon	14.02.2022 at 12.00 noon

Note :- 1) Tender Notice alongwith detailed terms and conditions is available/uploaded on website at www.chandigarh.gov.in or etenders.chd.nic.in

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Roads Division No. 2, Room No. 303, M.C. Chandigarh

NORTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
NOTICE INVITING RE-CALL OF e-BID

N.I.T. No. 21/MW (E&M)/2021-22/TC Dated: 04/02/2022

N.O.W-Operation and Comprehensive maintenance of 05 Nos. departmental Bulldozer BD-65 and 02 Nos. Excavator at SLF Bhalswa under North DMC for 01 year.

The NIT called vide NIT No. 20/MW (E&M)/2021-22/TC dt 22.12.2021 has been recalled with relaxed eligibility now vide NIT No. 21/MW (E&M)/2021-22/TC dt 04.02.2022 on same tendering portal https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app. This is for information to all interested bidders that all subsequent communication will be on website only and no further press publicity will be done.

Sd/-
RO NO 69/DPI/NORTH/2021-22 EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (E&M)

राजस्थान सरकार
कृषि आयुक्तालय, राजस्थान, जयपुर

क्रमांक एफ.8 ( )आ0कृ0/जउ3/NFSM/MTF/2021-22/966 दिनांक 31.01.2022

संशोधित-निविदा सूचना

वर्ष 2021-22 में राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा मिशन-दलहन एवं न्यूट्रीसीरीयल योजना अन्तर्गत प्रदेश के कृषकों को अनुदान पर तिरपाल (Movable Thresing Floor) उपलब्ध कराने हेतु RTPP Act 2012 के अनुसार उचित दर पर व्यापक उपलब्धता/वितरण सुनिश्चित करने के उद्देश्य से इच्छुक निर्माताओं से e-proc portal के माध्यम से निविदा सं. 740 दिनांक 21.01.2022 ऑन लाईन बोली (तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय) आमंत्रित की गयी।

उक्त के क्रम में अपरिहार्य कारणों से निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की अंतिम दिनांक व समय, भौतिक दस्तावेज प्रस्तुत करने की दिनांक व समय तथा तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की दिनांक व समय को निम्नानुसार बढ़ाया जाता है:-

Bid Schedule	पूर्व में जारी दिनांक व समय	संशोधित दिनांक व समय
Upload of Pre-Bid queries/suggestion	31.01.2022 Upto 06.00 PM	04.02.2022 Upto 06.00 PM
Bid Submission start Date & Time	31.01.2022 at 06.00 PM	04.02.2022 at 06.00 PM
Last Date & Time of Submission of Bid	10.02.2022 at 06.00 PM	14.02.2022 at 06.00 PM
Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bid	11.02.2022 at 03.00 PM	15.02.2022 at 03.00 PM
Physically submission of tender Fee, Guard sample and processing fee	11.02.2022 upto 01.00 PM	15.02.2022 up to 01.00 PM

UBN No. - AGR2122GLOB00260

(डॉ ओम प्रकाश)
आयुक्त कृषि

DIPR/C/1400/2022

Bihar State Electronics Development Corporation Ltd.
(A Government of Bihar Undertaking)
Beltron Bhawan, Shastri Nagar, Patna-800023,
Telephone No. 0612-2281242 Tele Fax No. 0612-2281857
CIN No -U31900BR1978SGC001317
Email: sanjivani@bihar.gov.in

Govt. of Bihar

e-Tender Notice

Ref. No. 5453/2022

e- Tenders are invited by **Bihar State Electronics Development Corporation Ltd.** for **"Selection of Agency for providing Technical Manpower for the office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Bihar".** The details of the tender will be available on the website: **www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in.**

Last date of Bid submission is 10/03/22.

PR- 12845 (Ni Ni) 2021-22 **Managing Director**

नशे से बनानी दूरी है, क्योंकि परिवार जरूरी है।

TATA MEMORIAL CENTRE
TATA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
(A Grant-in-Aid Institute under Dept. of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India)
DR. E. BORGES MARG, PAREL, MUMBAI 400 012

No: TMH/VIZ/2021-22/CAP/PT/0130 & TMH/TMH/2021-22/CAP/PT/0131

PUBLIC TENDER NOTICE - 14

03/02/2022

Director, Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai invites Technical & Financial Bids from Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) or Authorized vendors for "Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Medical Equipment. Set of Complete tender document is available on https://tmc.gov.in

Tender No. TMH/VIZ/2021-22/CAP/PT/0130 & TMH/TMH/2021-22/CAP/PT/0131
Date of Commencement of Tender: 03.02.2022
Date of Submission: 08.03.2022 up to 4.00 p.m
Date and time of opening of Part I Technical Bid: 09.03.2022 at 10.30 am onwards

PURCHASE OFFICER

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Ritika

General public is here by informed that this Girl (depicted in the photo) namely: **Ritika** D/o **Naresh Kumar** R/o **H.No. 19/8 Andrews Ganj, New Delhi-49 and permanent address Cantt Colony, Sewa Sadan, Ranikhet, Post Office, Tehsil and police station Ranikhet, District Almora, Uttrakhand** has been missing/kidnapped from her home. In this regard DD No. **45A,** dated **07.01.2022** has been lodged at **PS Defence Colony, New Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far.

Her physical description is as under:-
Sex: Female, **Age:** 21 years, **Height:** 4'9" ft., **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Normal, **Wearing:** Blue jeans and jacket and black shoe in feet.

Any person is having information or clue about this missing girl may kindly inform to the following telephones nos.:-

SHO
Website:http://cbi.nic.in **P.S. Defence Colony, New Delhi**
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in **Ph. No.: 011-26253402**
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 **Mob. No- 8750870827**
Fax No.: 011-24368639 **DP/24/SD/2022**

Govt. of Bihar

Bihar Horticulture Development Society
2nd Floor, Krishi Bhawan, Mithapur, Patna – 800001

Short Notice Inviting Request for Proposal through e-Tender

Request for Proposal (RFP), is invited, from agencies / companies for Selection as Event Management Agency for Conceptualizing, Designing and facilitating execution of Bagwani Mahotsav 2022 at Veer Kunwar Singh Park, Patna, Bihar for a period of three days. The requisite details are as mentioned below:

SN	Particulars	Details
1	Designation and address of Advertiser	Director Horticulture -cum- Mission Director, Bihar Horticulture Development Society, Department of Agriculture, Government of Bihar, 2nd Floor, Krishi Bhawan, Mithapur, Patna - 800001
2	Start Date & Time for Downloading of Tender document	12.02.2022 (10:00 hrs)
4	Last Date & Time for submission/uploading of offer/Bid	21.02.2022 (11:00 hrs)
5	Date and time of Technical bid opening	21.02.2022 (15:00 hrs) To be intimated to technically successful bidder only
6	Date and time of Financial bid opening over videoconferencing / virtual mode	
7	Contact Details	Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Dy. Director Horticulture +91-9431818933
8	RFP details can be found on website	https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in/BELTRON http://horticulture.bihar.gov.in/

For further details please visit website www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar

Director Horticulture cum
Mission Director,
Bihar Horticulture Development Society

PR. No. 12339 (Agriculture) 2021-22

नशामुक्त हो जाए बिहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL & CONTROLLER, DR. S.N. MEDICAL COLLEGE & ASSOCIATED GROUP OF HOSPITALS, JODHPUR

Shastri Nagar, Residency Road, Jodhpur (Raj). 342001 ☎0291-2434374
E-mail: principal.drsnmc.jod@rajasthan.gov.in, prmedclg-jod-rj@nic.in
No. F 6 ( ) Store/SNMC/JU/2021-22/5366-70 Dated: 27.01.22

NOTICE INVITING BID No. 24/2021-22 (E-tender)

Bids for **Supply and installation of Turnkey Project of Flat Panel Neuro Bi-Plane Digital Subtraction Angiography (DSA) System,** for use in Dr. S.N. Medical College and Attached Hospitals, Jodhpur are invited from interested bidders upto 12:00 NOON 21.02.2022 Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and also be seen at http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in of the state procurement portal and https://education.rajasthan.gov.in/dsmcjodhpur departmental website.

UBN Number:-
SMC2122GLOB00312

(Dr. S.S. Rathore)
DIPR/C/1237/2022 Principal & Controller

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

Kajal

General Public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Kajal**, D/o Vijay Kumar Chobey, R/o H No. 410 F89, Gujri Gurudwara Tihar Village, Delhi. **Age :** 17 years, **Height :** 5'3", **Complexion**-Sallow, **Face**-Round, **Built**-Medium, **Hair**-Black, **Wearing**-Yellow colour suit & salwar & blue colour chappal in her feet has been missing/ kidnapped from her house since **20.12.2021 at about 2.30 PM.** In this regard **FIR No. 731/21 u/s 363 IPC, dated 29.12.2021** has been registered at **P.S. Hari Nagar, Delhi.**

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

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph : 011-24368638, 24368641 SHO
Fax : 011-23011334 **P.S. Hari Nagar, Delhi**
DP/709/WD/2022 **Ph. : 011-28125719, 28522868, 8750871128**

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, PRAYAGRAJ

E-Tender Notice

E-Tender Notice No.- DyCE-C-I-JHS-2022-03
Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction)-I, North Central Railway, Jhansi

for and on behalf of the President of India invites open tender on line (E-Tendering). Tender offer can be submitted on line up to **15.00** hours of **25.02.2022,** on website **http://ireps.gov.in.** The details of the tenders are as under-

S N	Tender No.	Description of work	Approx Cost (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)
1	2	3	4	5
01	E-Tender Notice No. DyCE-C-I-JHS-2022-03	Balance P.Way Track linking, transportation of P.Way material leading out of ballast, AT welding and other ancillary works between Babina-Bijrotha (excluding) stations in connection with construction of 3rd line between Jhansi-Bina section.	667.84 Lacs (App.)	4,88,900.00

6. Completion Period: 09 (Nine) Months including Harvest & Monsoon Period.
7. Date of closing: 25.02.2022. **8. Validity:** 45 days. **Note:** For complete details and submission of tender please see Indian Railway's website **http://www.ireps.gov.in.**

125/22 FA

North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in North Central Railway@CPRONCR

Puducherry court convicts 6 in bomb plot targeting ex-CM

A special court in Puducherry on Friday convicted six activists of a Tamil nationalist group with a history of violent protests for planting a powerful bomb near the house of former chief minister V Narayanasamy, reports **Bosco Dominique**. Puducherry chief judge convicted five activists — R Thiruselvam, his brother R Kalai Lingam, Kaviarasu alias Raja, Karthik alias Aadhi alias Jeeva and John Martin alias Ilanthanal — to seven years imprisonment and M Tamilarasan alias Thangaraj, to five years imprisonment. The judge slapped a fine of Rs 3,000 on Thiruselvam and Rs 3,500 each on the other five. Police inquiries revealed that these men had planted the bombs to protest the decision of the then Congress-led UPA government, permitting foreign direct investment in the retail sector. Narayanasamy was the Union minister of state in PMO. The NIA took over the case in March 2014.

HC OKs Assam plan to turn madrassas into gen schools

Move To Cover State-Funded, Not Private, Madrassas

Prabin.Kalita@timesgroup.com

TOI, BCCL, Mumbai

LEARNING ABOVE ALL

Guwahati: The Gauhati high court upheld on Friday a law passed by the Assam assembly to close and convert all 401 state-funded madrassas to schools for general education.

The governor had given his assent to the legislation a year ago. Around 900 private madrassas, community madrassas or Qawmi Madrassas and Maktabs — almost all of which are run by Jamiat Ulama, not the government — will remain functional in the state.

A division bench of Chief Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia and justice Soumitra Saikia dismissed a writ petition filed by 13 people challenging the Assam Repealing Act 2020 that the assembly passed on December 30, 2020. Those against the law had argued that it infringed the right to education and religious freedom. But the court affirmed that secularism means treating everyone equally. "We live in a democracy... Therefore, preference given by the State to any one religion, in a multi-religious society like ours, negates the principle of Articles 14 and 15 of the Constitution of India. It is thus the secular nature of the State which mandates that no religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution wholly maintained out of State funds [Article 28(1)]," the court said.

"Division Bench of Honble Gauhati High Court in a landmark judgment delivered today upheld the Act of 2020 to repeal Madrasa Education Procincialisation Acts and also upheld all other notifications to convert 397 provincialised madrassas to general educational institutions," tweeted chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, who pushed for the legislation as the state education minister in 2020.

Jamiat Ulama's legal cell convenor Masud Akhtar Zaman said, "Our madrassas do not depend on even a single paisa from the government. Almost all our students are from BPL families and we take care of their food, accommodation and clothes. It is wrong to say that madrassas are only for religious teachings. We have a normal syllabus, same as other schools under the state board." Some of the government-funded madrassas are more than 50 years old, set up by Sir Syed Muhammad Saadulla, the first PM of Assam under British rule when the Muslim League was in office in the state.

J&K scribe held for 'anti-India' posts 'glorifying terror activities'

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir police on Friday arrested a journalist, Fahad Shah, for his alleged involvement in uploading "anti-national content" on social media, reports **Saleem Pandit**.

Inspector general Vijay Kumar said the police arrested "the FB user who was also running a portal and was in the habit of uploading anti-national content, including photographs, videos and posts with criminal intention to create fear among public" and provoke the public to disturb law and order.

"The accused was uploading such posts, which tantamount to glorifying terror activities and causing dent to the image of law enforcing agencies besides causing disaffection against the country," the statement said. Taking cognizance of the matter, the police registered a case under relevant sections and initiated probe. "The accused is on police remand," the IG said.

Dress-code row grips more institutes; 'I love hijab' demonstration in Mysuru

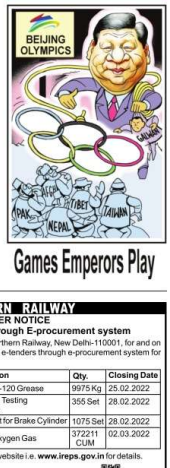
Udupi/Belagavi/Bengaluru: The hijab and saffron shawl controversy surfaced in two more colleges in Karnataka, one in Udupi and another in Belagavi, on Friday even as the state government made it clear that the existing uniform rule must continue in all educational institutions until the high court rules on the issue.

A group of Muslim students wearing hijabs and 300 Hindu boys wearing saffron shawls at Government PU College in Byndoor, Udupi, were prevented from entering classes on Friday. This is the fifth college in Udupi district — three in Kundapur, one in Udupi and one in Byndoor — to witness a row over wearing hijabs and saffron shawls.

The issue, which began at Government PU College, Udupi, has spread to more institutions — two government PU colleges in Shivamogga, Kundapur's Government Junior College, Bhandarkar's Arts and Science College (Kundapur), Government PU College, Byndoor and a government PU college in Belagavi, among others. However, the Shivamogga colleges have resolved the matter. Both government college (Kundapur) and Bhandarkar's, sponsored by the Academy of General Education, Manipal, which were allowing students to wear the hijab to class, stopped them from entering the campus after the government recently ordered all government colleges in the state to not allow students wearing face veils and saffron shawls inside the campus.

Muslim students in Mysuru held an "I love hijab" demonstration recently, extending support to their Udupi counterparts. Karnataka chief minister Basavaraj Bommai and primary and secondary education minister B V Nagesh held a meeting with the advocate general on Friday to discuss the state's stand. "The matter is before the high court... till the verdict comes, all schools and colleges must follow the respective uniform code...," Nagesh said. TNN

JUST LIKE THAT AJIT NINAN



Games Emperors Play

कार्यालय कार्यपालन यंत्री,लोक निर्माण विभाग
वि/यॉ संभाग ग्वालियर –474011
ई-मेल eepwdelecgwl@mp.nic.in फोन नम्बर-0751-2340749

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

निविदा सूचना क्रमांक 11/ब.ले.लि./टेण्डर/2021-22 ग्वालियर, दिनांक 28/01/2022

म.प्र. राज्यपाल की ओर से कार्यपालन यंत्री, लोक निर्माण विभाग वि/यॉ संभाग ग्वालियर के अनधीन निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु लोक निर्माण विभाग में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से ई-टेण्डर के माध्यम से अविलम्बित निविदा आमंत्रित करते है। विवरण निम्नानुसार है।

क्र.	ई-टेण्डर आई. डी. क्र.	कार्य का नाम	अनुमानित लागत रू.	अमानत राशि रू. + पोर्टल चार्ज	ठेकेदार की श्रेणी	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि	दस्तावेज जमा करने का स्थान एवं दिनांक
1	2022_PWDRB_181857_1	जे.ए.एच. और जी.आर.एच.सी. ग्वालियर में आंतरिक / बाहरी विद्युतीकरण कार्य का संधारण एवं 2 वर्ष का वार्षिक रखरखाव	350.00 लाख	350000.00 + 15000.00	म.प्र.लोकनि में केन्द्रीयकृत पंजीकृत 'अ' कलास विद्युत ठेकेदार	24 माह वर्षाकाल सहित	कार्यालय कार्यपालन यंत्री लोनिवि वि/यॉ संभाग ग्वालियर दिनांक 21/02/22 सायं 17:30 तक
2	2022_PWDRB_181858_1	महिला पॉलिटेक्निक कॉलेज पड़ाव के भूतल पर विद्युतीकरण कार्य	4.87 लाख	9740.00 + 2000.00	म.प्र.लोकनि में केन्द्रीयकृत पंजीकृत विद्युत ठेकेदार	02 माह वर्षाकाल सहित	कार्यालय कार्यपालन यंत्री लोनिवि वि/यॉ संभाग ग्वालियर दिनांक 21/02/22 सायं 17:30 तक
3	2022_PWDRB_181859_1	जे.ए.एच. विभाग के आर.एच. ग्वालियर में समाज विमुक्त एवं डी. / एन.टी. लड़कों 2x500 KVA 11/0.433 ट्रांसफार्मर मेन एल.टी. पेनल का कार्य एवं वार्षिक रखरखाव कार्य (AMC)	150.22 लाख	150220.00 + 15000.00	म.प्र.लोकनि में केन्द्रीयकृत पंजीकृत 'अ' कलास विद्युत ठेकेदार	06 माह वर्षाकाल सहित	कार्यालय कार्यपालन यंत्री लोनिवि वि/यॉ संभाग ग्वालियर दिनांक 21/02/22 सायं 17:30 तक
4	2022_PWDRB_181860_1	जे.ए.एच. परिसर ग्वालियर में OPD, ICU कार्डियोलोजी में विद्युत अनुरक्षण एवं संधारण का कार्य (AMC)	16.43 लाख	32820.00 + 2000.00	म.प्र.लोकनि में केन्द्रीयकृत पंजीकृत 'अ' कलास विद्युत ठेकेदार	06 माह वर्षाकाल सहित	कार्यालय कार्यपालन यंत्री लोनिवि वि/यॉ संभाग ग्वालियर दिनांक 21/02/22 सायं 17:30 तक
	2022_PWDRB_181861_1	पी.जी. कॉलेज रायपुर में विद्युतीकरण कार्य	22.41	44940.00 + 2000.00	म.प्र.लोकनि में केन्द्रीयकृत पंजीकृत 'अ' कलास विद्युत ठेकेदार	06 माह वर्षाकाल सहित	कार्यालय कार्यपालन यंत्री लोनिवि वि/यॉ संभाग ग्वालियर दिनांक 21/02/22 सायं 17:30 तक

निविदा आमंत्रण की सम्पूर्ण शर्ते एवं अन्य जानकारी का विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाईट **http://www.mptenders.gov.in** पर दिनांक 01 / 02 / 2022 समय सुबह 10:30 से दिनांक 18/02/2022 समय सांय 17:30 तक देखी जा सकती है। निविदा हेतु ऑनलाइन बिड सम्मिलन दिनांक 18/02/2022 समय सांय 17:30 तक प्रस्तुत की जा सकती है। मूल फीस राशि एवं अन्य दस्तावेज संबंधित कार्यालय में भौतिक एवं लोक पोस्ट के माध्यम से दिनांक 21 /02/2022 को सांय 17:30 के पूर्व जमा होगी।

1. निविदा निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना एवं अन्य जानकारी उपरोक्त वेबसाईट पर देखे जा सकती है।
2. निविदा में किसी भी प्रकार का संशोधन समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित नही किया जायेगा, सिर्फ वेबसाईट पर ही किया जायेगा। आवेदन आने पर ठेकेदार का भुगतान किया जायेगा।
3. मूल फीस राशि एवं निविदा प्रपत्र राशि ऑनलाईन ही मान्य की जायेगी।

Sd/-
कार्यपालन यंत्री
लोक निर्माण विभाग
वि/यॉ. संभाग ग्वालियर

दो गज दूरी मास्क है जरूरी
जब तक कोरोना की दवाई नहीं, तब तक कोई ढिलाई नहीं।

G-22278/21

CAD-2893

Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMC)
In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit - III, Bhubaneswar -751 001
Tel. : (0674) 2380608 Website : www.osmcl.nic.in,
Email: Proc.osmcl.od@nic.in

Notification No. 760 /OSMCL/2022 Date: 04.02.2022

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER FOR Supply of Spectacles Fitted With Prescription Lens For School Children, Presbyopics and Others Under Universal Eye Health Programme (UEHP)

Online Bids through e-Tender portal (**https://tendersodisha.gov.in**) are invited from eligible bidders for supply of spectacles as per the particulars mentioned below :

Sl.	Bid Reference No.	Item Name	Bid Document Cost inclusive of GST (Rs.)
1	OSMCL/ 2021-22/EQP-Spectacles (UEHP)/16	Supply of Spectacles Fitted With Prescription Lens For School Children, Presbyopics and Others Under Universal Eye Health Programme (UEHP)	5,600/-

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date and time	
1.	Date & time of release of bid	04.02.2022, 5 PM	
2.	Date & time of **Pre-bid** query submission through e-mail.	On or Before 11.02.2022, 1 PM E-mail : proc.osmcl.od@nic.in	
3.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time 14.02.2022, 03 PM	End Date & Time 28.02.2022, 05 PM
4.	Date & time of online Technical bid opening	03.03.2022, 03 PM	
5.	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the Technically qualified bidders	

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: **www.osmcl.nic.in** and **https://tendersodisha.gov.in**. The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
Managing Director,
OSMC Ltd., Odisha

OIPR - 10112/11/0068/21-22

HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD, LUCKNOW
e-TENDER INVITING NOTICE

DATED 02.02.2022

LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF e-TENDER: 08-02-2022

e-TENDER NOTICE FOR THE FOR RUNNING/RATE CONTRACT BASIS FOR ONE YEAR (FROM THE DATE OF THE SIGNING CONTRACT) OF THE STITCHING OF THE SUMMER AND WINTER LIVERIES OF CLASS IV EMPLOYEES AND DRIVERS OF HIGH COURT LUCKNOW BENCH, LUCKNOW FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2021-22.

On-line e-Tenders on prescribed bid forms in Two Parts namely Part I (Technical Bid) and Part II (Price Bid) are invited for running/rate contract of the stitching of the summer and winter liveries of class iv employees and drivers of High Court Lucknow Bench, Lucknow for the financial year 2021-22, which shall be opened at the specified date and time as stated below:

The terms & conditions and details for submission of e-bids are available in the bid documents uploaded on the e-Tender website: https://etender.up.nic.in

Items to be stitched

Sl. No.	Stitching Items	Approx. Quantity of the items to be stitched in the current year
1.	Achkan for Jamadar	76
2.	Coat (Achkan) for peon	750
3.	Drivers Coat with Patch (Terricot)	102
4.	Pant (Terricot)	1475
5.	Pant (Cotton Mix Woolen Cloth)	413
6.	Shirt	268
7.	Blouse	256
8.	Peticoat	256
9.	Woolen Achkan Red Blazer with Lace, Ghundi and Khatoon Dori	38
10.	Peon Woolen Coat Red Blazer	375
11.	Drivers Buttoned Up Coat Navy Blue with Red Patch	51
12.	Ladies Woolen Coat Navy Blue	64
13.	Pant Grey Colour Blazer	118
14.	Gents Woolen Coat Navy Blue	67
15.	Belt of Jamadar with lace	38

Schedule of e-Tender/e-Bid

1.	Date of publication of e-Tender	02.02.2022	18 hr	30 min
2.	Document Download / Sale Start Date	02.02.2022	18 hr	30 min
3.	Pre Bid meeting	07.02.2022 in Nazarat Section, High Court Lucknow	14 hr	00 min
4.	Last date for submission of e-Bid alongwith supporting documents in PDF/XLS format	08.02.2022	16 hr	00 min
5.	Deposition of Bid Document Fee (Tender Cost), Earnest Money in Nazarat of High Court Lucknow	Upto the last date of submission of e-Bid		
6.	On-line opening date & time of Part-I i.e. Technical Bid	09.02.2022	14 hr	00 min
7.	On-line opening date & time of Part-II i.e. Price Bid	14.02.2022	14 hr	00 min
8.	Venue of opening of e-Tender	Office of the Senior Registrar, High Court, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow		
9.	Bid Document Fee (Tender Fee)	Rs. 500/- in the form of demand draft/banker's cheque		
10.	Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 10,000/- in the form of demand draft/banker's cheque		

UPID 173890 dt 02.02.2022,
www.upgov.nic.in

Pankaj Kumar Singh
Senior Registrar,
High Court, Lucknow

राष्ट्रीय ध्रुवीय एवं समुद्री अनुसंधान केन्द्र
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR POLAR & OCEAN RESEARCH
(Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. Of India)
Headland Sada, Vasco-da-Gama GOA 403 804, INDIA
Tel: 91- (0) 832 2525571/573
Email: warlu62@ncpor.res.in Website: www.ncpor.res.in

TENDER FOR CHEMICALS, GLASSWARES & LABWARES
NCPOR/RC/2022-23

Director, National Centre for Polar & Ocean Research invites sealed tenders for entering into Rate Contract for a period of one year from 01.04.2022 to 31.03.2023 from the Manufacturers and Authorised suppliers for supply of LABORATORY CHEMICALS, GLASSWARES & LABWARES: Please visit: http://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app & http://www.ncpor.res.in

Last date for submission of quotation : **25.02.2022**
The quotations will be opened on : **28.02.2022**

Sd/-
Advt. No. **एनसीपीओआर**/03/2022 For & on behalf of NCPOR

एक कदम Plastic waste मुक्त भारत की ओर।

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tenders through E-procurement system

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

Sl.No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
1.	04210058A	Servoplex SHC-120 Grease	9975 Kg	25.02.2022
2.	18165485C	Supply Erection Testing Commissioning	355 Set	28.02.2022
3.	07210463A	Over Hauling Kit for Brake Cylinder	1075 Set	28.02.2022
4.	14220858	Compressed Oxygen Gas	372211 CUM	02.03.2022

Note: 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in** for details.
2. No Manual offer will be entertained.
Tender Notice No. 74/2021-2022 Date: 03.02.2022 253/22

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

कार्यालय नगर विकास न्यास, कोटा

क्रमांक :- एफ 3/संलग्न/21-22/760 - 80 दिनांक :- 02/02/2022

ऑनलाईन निविदा सूचना संख्या : 60/21-22

नगर विकास न्यास, कोटा की ओर से न्यास में पंजीकृत उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों एवं किसी भी राजकीय/अर्द्धशासकीय/स्वायत्तशासी विभागों के अनर्गत "एए" तथा "ए" क्लास (विद्युत कार्यों के लिए ई-1/EWSD-1 श्रेणी) संवेदकों से **निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्युरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया से** कुल 11 कार्यो (**UIK2122WSOB00565 To UIK2122WSOB00575**) हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदाऐं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। उक्त कार्यों का विस्तृत विवरण, निविदा शर्तें, अनुमानित लागत, निविदा बेचने, प्राप्त करने एवं खोलने की दिनांक आदि सम्पूर्ण विवरण वेबसाईट **https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in,** एवं **http://urban.rajasthan.gov.in/uitkota** पर देखा जा सकता है।

राज.संवाद/सी/21/11332 अधिशाषी अभियन्ता

CAD-2895

Bhubaneswar Development Authority

Akash Shova Building, Sachivalaya Marg
Bhubaneswar - 751001

RFP No: 4676 Date : **04.02.2022**
File No: TPS/Planning-06/2021

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR "SELECTION OF AGENCY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF TOWN PLANNING SCHEME NO. 08, 09 & 10 OF BDA IN BHUBANESWAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN AREA".

Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) invites Proposals for Selection of Agency for implementation of Town Planning Scheme No.- 08, 09 & 10 of BDA in Bhubaneswar Development Plan area. The RFP Documents will be available from **04.02.2022** to **04.03.2022** in BDA website i.e. **bda.gov.in**. Any further intimation (i.e. Corrigendum/ Addendum/ Responses to the queries/ Clarifications) shall be uploaded in BDA website only.

The Pre-bid meeting is scheduled on **10.02.2022 at 04.00 P.M**. at the Conference Hall, 1st Floor of BDA office. The last date of submission of proposals is **04.03.2022 till 03.00 P.M.** and the opening of Technical Proposal will be held on **04.03.2022 at 04.00 P.M.** Please refer the RFP documents for further details.

BDA reserves the right to accept or reject bid process without assigning any reasons thereof.

Sd/-
Planning Member
Bhubaneswar Development Authorit

Bhubaneswar Development Authority

Akash Shova Building, Sachivalaya Marg
Bhubaneswar - 751001

RFP No. 4675 Date : 04.02.2022
File No: TPS,Planning-06/2021

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR "SELECTION OF AGENCY FOR IMPLEMENTATION Or TOWN PLANNING SCHEME NO. 11, 12 & 13 OF BDA IN BHUBANESWAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN AREA".

Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) invites Proposals for Selection of Agency for implementation of Town Planning Scheme No.- 11, 12 & 13 of BDA in Bhubaneswar Development Plan area. The RFP Documents will be available from **04.02.2022** to **03.03.2022** in BDA website i.e. **bda.gov.in**. Any further intimation (i.e. Corrigendum/ Addendum/ Responses to the queries/ Clarifications) shall be uploaded in BDA website only.

The Pre-bid meeting is scheduled on **10.02.2022 at 04.30 P.M.** at the Conference Hall, 1st Floor of BDA office. The last date of submission of proposals is **04.03.2022 till 03.00** P.M. and the opening of Technical Proposal will be held on **04.03.2022 at 04.30 P.M**.

Please refer the RFP documents for further details.

BDA reserves the right to accept or reject bid process without assigning any reasons thereof.

Sd/-
Planning Member
Bhubaneswar Development Authorit

OIPR-13033/11/0190/21-22

THE ADMINISTRATION OF UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH
Industries & Commerce, Department

JOB OPPORTUNITY : PMFME Date : 06-02-2022

Applications are invited for the following positions under the Prime Minister's Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprise Scheme (PMFME Scheme) in the UT of Ladakh. Interested candidates may apply through the recruiting agency **M/s Xeam Ventures Pvt Ltd.**

S. No.	Description	Positions
1	State Lead Project Manager	01
2	Manager Marketing	01

- Resume should be submitted to **sanjay.dhiman@xeamventures.com**
- Interview shall be conducted in Leh, Ladakh. **(in physical presence)**
- Last date for applying is **13-02-2022.**
- For detail advertisement please visit **www.ladakh.nic.in**
- For any queries, kindly contact on **+91 9212107744/+91 9622974983**

Advertisement issued by Information Technology Department, Ladakh.

A-842

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER & BASIN MANAGER
BRAHMANI BASIN, SAMAL
DIST : ANGUL, ODISHA, PIN : 759037
Tel No. (06760)266333 ; E-Mail : cebmbbs@gmail.com

TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE

The Tender called vide Bid Identification No. BBS-HID-09 of 2021-22 of CE&BM, Brahmani Basin, Samal with Tender Reference No. CEBBS-HID-09/2021-22 is hereby cancelled.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer & Basin Manager
Brahmani Basin, Samal

OIPR - 32046/11/0014/21-22

बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग
15, नेहरू पथ (बेली रोड), पटना - 800001

आवश्यक सूचना

विज्ञापन सं. 04/2021 के अन्तर्गत बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग, पटना में निम्न वर्गीय लिपिक के पदों पर चयन/नियुक्ति हेतु दिनांक - 27.02.2022 को आयोजित की जाने वाली प्रारंभिक प्रतियोगिता परीक्षा अपरिहार्य कारणवश अब दिनांक-26.02.2022 (शनिवार) को 12.00 बजे मध्याह्न से 02.15 बजे अपराह्न तक पटना, मुजफ्फरपुर भागलपुर, गया सारण, नालंदा एवं भोजपुर जिला मुख्यालयों में आयोजित की जायेगी।

कम/अधिक उम्र के आधार पर अनर्हित तथा एक उम्मीदवार का दो या दो से अधिक ऑनलाईन आवेदनों की समाहित (Merged) सूची आयोग के वेबसाईट **www.bpsc.bih.nic.in** पर प्रदर्शित है। किसी उम्मीदवार को अपनी अनहर्त्ता पर आपत्ति हो तो संगत साक्ष्य के साथ अपनी आपत्ति आयोग के ईमेल **bpscpat-bih@nic.in** पर दिनांक 15.02.2022 की संध्या 05.00 बजे तक या उसके पूर्व आयोग को भेज सकते है। दिनांक-15.02.2022 के बाद प्राप्त आपत्ति पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा।

स्वा:/-
संयुक्त सचिव-सह-परीक्षा नियंत्रक,
बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग, पटना

Had written to EC, will form MSP panel after polls: Tomar

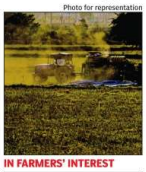
TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The government is committed to constituting a panel on the minimum support price for farmers, and will do so after the assembly polls are over as per the Election Commission's directions, agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar said on Friday.

PM Narendra Modi had promised to set up a panel to examine the farmers' demand for a legal guarantee on MSP, while announcing the repeal of the three farm laws last November.

While replying to questions in RS, Tomar said the government had written to the EC to seek permission to set up the committee but was told to wait till the conclusion of the assembly polls in five states. "The country knows the PM announced the formation of a committee to make crop diversification, natural farming and MSP effective and transparent. The government is committed to the announcement made by the PM. The matter is under consideration of the ministry," Tomar stated.

Photo for representation



IN FARMERS' INTEREST

Replying to a query about whether the government would bring a bill in the house to give legal guarantee to MSP, the minister said, "Whatever the recommendations the committee will make, the government will examine them."

Prior to 2018, there was no mechanism to define MSP and make farming profitable. In fact, fixing MSP at 50% than the cost of production was one of the 14 recommendations of the Swaminathan committee that were rejected by the inter-ministry panel then. PM Modi, however, accepted that recommendation in 2018-19 and started fixing higher MSP in the interest of farmers, the minister further said.

ED arrests Channi kin, rivals attack Cong

BJP Says Recovery From Nephew Shows Punjab CM's Family Patronised Sand Mafia

Mohit.Behl@timesgroup.com

Ludhiana: The Enforcement Directorate on Thursday arrested Punjab CM **Charanjit Singh Channi's** nephew Bhupinder Singh Honey in an illegal sand mining case. Honey was produced before a court in Jalandhar on Friday and remanded in ED's custody till February 8. Hours after ED move, rival parties attacked the Congress government, saying it can't escape answerability.

After ED raids on the premises of Honey and his aides on January 18, ED summoned Honey on Thursday to record his statement in a money laundering case linked to alleged illegal sand mining registered in 2018 against his confidant Kudratdeep Singh.

He reached the agency's office around 12 noon, where he was questioned for about nine hours. He kept evading questions, but was finally arrested around 9.30 pm.

Sources claimed that during questioning, Honey had accepted that the entire amount of Rs 10 crore seized by ED during January 18 raids belonged to him (Rs 8 crore was seized from his properties in Ludhiana and Mohali while Rs 2 crore from other premises).

Reacting to the arrest, the CM said, "We've no objection to the law taking its own course". He was campaigning in Bhadaur assembly segment on Friday, hours after Honey was arrested.

Rivals of Congress sharpened their attacks.

AAP member Raghav Chadha said, "If one relative of Channi accumulated so much ill-gotten wealth in his 111 days of tenure as the CM, imagine how much his other relatives would accumulate in five years". Targeting Channi, he said the man who was repeatedly trying to project himself as an "aam aadmi" (common man) must explain how his relative was able to own such huge sums of money.

BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh rubbished allegations that Honey was arrested by ED on political grounds. He alleged that the recovery of money from Honey's residence showed that Channi's family had been patronising the sand mafia.

SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal demanded the immediate dismissal of the CM, saying the over Rs 10 crore seized from Honey was part of a cache received from the sand mafia and bribe for postings.

Backing its CM, Congress said the raids were reflective of the anti-Dalit mindset of BJP, which was targeting the Congress leader to help its "B-team" of AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal in the polls in Punjab. Congress member Mallikarjun Kharge said, "BJP cannot tolerate that a person from among the SCs has become a chief minister". Party spokesperson Supriya Shrinate also said BJP, RSS and the PM were against Dalits, and the reason why they can't tolerate a Dalit CM like Channi is that they have not appointed a single SC person to head the government in 17 states they govern.

BJP slams CM's 'conversion remark'

BJP on Friday attacked Punjab CM Charanjit Singh Channi for allegedly supporting the conversion of Sikhs to Christianity.

Citing a purported statement of Channi where he said there's nothing wrong if those who don't feel loved among Sikhs convert to Christianity, BJP's Manjinder Singh Sirsa termed it unfortunate. "For Sikhs in Punjab, nothing can be more unfortunate than a Sikh CM justifying conversion to Christianity," he said. The attack comes close on the heels of AAP's Arvind Kejriwal promising an anti-conversion law to stop conversions organised by fraudulent means. TNN

Oppn: Women will be biggest victims of bill to regulate popn

New Delhi: In a discussion over the Population Regulation Bill, 2019 in the Rajya Sabha on Friday, BJP member Vikas Mahatme sought the removal of penal clauses from the private member bill while maintaining the legislation will lead to an increase in female foeticide. Many opposition members also said women will be the biggest victims of a bill that seeks to regulate population by promoting two-child per couple policy.

The bill, moved by BJP's Rakesh Sinha, revitalises efforts towards promoting small family norms of up to two children per couple. It also proposes to ensure healthy birth spacing through measures related to augmenting the availability, accessibility and affordability of quality reproductive health services.

Sinha said India has availability of only 1.2 hectare land per person, while the resources which get regenerated automatically is 0.43 only.

Congress MP L Hanumanthaiah expressed apprehension that the move is targeted at a particular community and if passed, it will further marginalise the marginalised. TNN

Govt trying to erase Indira's memory: Adhir

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: With PM Modi in attendance, Congress member **Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury** on Friday stressed that beyond the symbolism of statues, it was important to follow the principles of Subhash Chandra Bose who had dubbed Savarkar as a British lackey and said India should be a place of religious co-existence.

He also raised Pegasus snooping issue and attacked Modi's focus on duties and his questioning of rights, saying "After Muslim-mukt Bharat and Congress-mukt Bharat, you want to make a rights-mukt Bharat". He also raised the Chinese occupation of Indian land, drawing counters from Union minster Kiren Rijiju.

He also accused the BJP government of trying to erase the memory of ex-PM Indira Gandhi by removing the Amar Jawan Jyoti, asking why could the Memorial to the 1971 Bangladesh War not exist alongside the National War Memorial flame.

Remarks against chair should be eschewed: Birla

Taking exception to TMC MP Mahua Moitra's criticism of Lok Sabha presiding officer Rama Devi, Speaker Om Birla on Friday expressed anguish over "inappropriate remarks" against the chair and said such outbursts should be eschewed inside and outside the House, including on social media.

While Birla didn't name Moitra, members across parties expressed their support for the chair while referring to the proceedings of Thursday. Moitra had slammed Devi on TV while also tweeting about her grievance, after she was angry over "not being allowed to complete the speech". TNN

House to decide if Preamble bill will be taken up: Deputy chair

New Delhi: Deputy chairman of Rajya Sabha Harivansh on Friday ruled that the House, not the chairman, will decide whether a private member bill sought to be moved by its member will be allowed to be introduced or not, reports **Swati Mathur.**

The ruling follows a confrontation between the treasury benches and opposition parties in December 2021, when BJP MP KJ Alphons' attempted to introduce a private members' bill to amend the Preamble of the Constitution and to replace the word 'Socialist' with 'Equitable'. Opposition MPs had argued that the bill shouldn't be introduced since the Preamble is part of the basic structure of the Constitution and a bill seeking to amend it should not be allowed.

On Friday, Harivansh said as per Rule 67 of the Rules of Procedure, "If a motion for leave to introduce a Bill is opposed, the chairman, after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the member who moves and from the member who opposes the motion, may, without further debate, put the question for the decision of the House."

Post attack, Owaisi refuses 'Z' category security

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A day after his car was fired upon from close range in western Uttar Pradesh, AIMIM member **Asaduddin Owaisi** said he doesn't want 'Z' category security issued by the government but is desirous of 'A' category citizen's status "like you all", as he questioned why has UAPA not been slapped on those responsible for the attack and those who are radicalising the youth.

Speaking in Lok Sabha on Friday, Owaisi said threats were issued to him by name in the "dharma sansads" held in Haridwar, Raipur and Prayagraj, and the government should look into them. "Those who are radicalising individuals, why are they not being booked under UAPA? If someone gives a speech or posts support for a cricket team on Facebook, they are booked under UAPA. But no UAPA for (attack on) a sitting MP?" he said.

He said that the MHA should have a counter-radicalisation cell for all religions, as radicalisation and far-right communalism is endangering the country.

Earlier, the home ministry approved Z category, pan-India security cover by CRPF, for the AIMIM MP after reassessing his threat levels in view of the attack on his car near Meerut on Thursday.

Importantly, while ET Basheer of IUML stood up and spoke briefly to condemn the attack on Owaisi, none of the other oppositi on members got up to speak on the issue, the kind that normally draws comments in solidarity from across the political divide.

After Bashir, Speaker Om Birla immediately invited Union minister Piyush Goyal, who said everyone was relieved that Owaisi was unhurt and said the state government had taken prompt action by arresting the accused and seizing the weapon used in crime. He said the home minister will make a statement on Monday. A senior Congress member clarified that everything happened very fast and the Speaker immediately invited the minister to speak, which was the reason for lack of reaction from other parties.

THE SPEAKING TREE

A Living Democracy

To build a truly inclusive political ethos, remember it's we who are our own true leaders, writes SADHGURU JAGGI VASUDEV

Sometimes it feels like we inhabit a land that is in a perennial state of election. With the assembly elections around the corner, our print, digital and social media are ablaze with election fever.

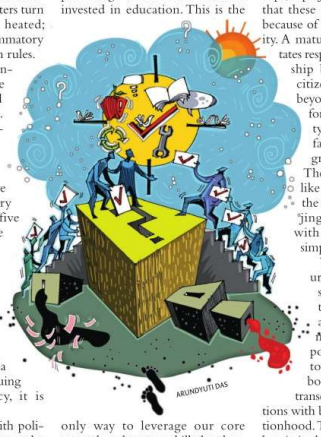
Elections in the world's largest democracy are invariably an emotional issue: passions fly; voters turn volatile; arguments turn heated; leaders make wildly inflammatory statements; and desperation rules.

In such a climate, consciousness — a prerequisite for both spirituality and politics — is compromised. Also, unsurprisingly, political leaders are unable to perform with any degree of efficiency.

It would be ideal to have assembly and parliamentary elections just twice in five years. The alternative is the gladiator sport of today, where rule books are habitually thrown to the wind and everyone is in survival mode, trying to outshout and obliterate the other. When every state election is fought under the glare and hysteria of media attention, the ensuing drama is not democracy, it is populism.

I actually empathise with politicians of all stripes, because to be in perennial election mode is to be in a state of constant existential siege. Scarcely is one election over when another has begun. Even if you win, there is no time to deliver on your promises towards the larger well-being of the state, the nation and the world.

Unless this country's voters collectively show their refusal to be seduced by short-term benefits, nothing will change. We will simply be given sops, cash and trinkets at election time, and little else afterwards. It is time to insist on long-term priorities, rather than populist dividends. For instance, it is time for us to insist that education, ecology and health be viewed as key election issues. If population is our demographic dividend, a significant percentage of the GDP must be invested in education. This is the only way to leverage our core strength and create a skilled and accomplished young workforce.



ARUNDYUTI DAS

Similarly, ecology is no longer an elite preoccupation. The desertification of Indian soil is happening at an alarming pace. This means an impending food crisis, plummeting levels of nourishment, as well as sociological and economic disruptions produced by mass urban migration. If we want to save this country, or indeed the planet, electorates must demand a government policy that ensures a minimum of three per cent organic content in agricultural soil. Only then will adequate budgets be allocated to address the environment question.

We often think of politicians as a separate species — venal and villainous. But they are simply us — capable of being as inspired, as corrupt, as prejudiced as we are, except that these qualities are magnified because of their power and visibility. A mature democracy necessitates responsible political leadership but also a responsible citizenry. We talk of voting beyond barriers of faith, but for many, the political party has become the new faith. Many still vote as groups, not as individuals. They treat those who vote like them as believers, and the others as heretics. Such tribalism has little to do with true democracy, it is simply tribal warfare.

What modern societies urgently need is a living spiritual process that fosters conscious individuals. Consciousness does not mean taking a few political stands. It means touching a dimension of boundless intelligence that transcends narrow identifications with body, tribe, and even nationhood. This may seem utopian, but it is the larger ideal we must strive for. Our politicians are merely citizens who have stood up to do some of our dirty work for us. If we want to build a truly inclusive, non-feudal and accountable political ethos, let us remember the truth that underlies this system of government: it is we who are our own true leaders. That is the essential promise that democracy holds out to its people. A living democracy requires a conscious and responsible citizenry. Let us make it happen. ■

JHARKHAND STATE ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES MASTER TRUST
Engineering Building,HEC, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004
Email- adm.jseemt@gmail.com

Abridged Notice
Expression of Interest (EOI) for Engagement of Financial & Investment Advisor for investment of Funds
EOI No. - EOI/03/Investment & Financial Advisor/2021-22

Jharkhand State Electricity Employees Master Trust (hereinafter JSEEMT) has been constituted to ensure that the interest of the Members, as regards payment of Terminal Benefits, is protected. JSEEMT having its office at Engineering Building, HEC, Dhurwa, Ranchi-4 manages the funds provided by GOJ and Contribution from cos. The object of the Trust is to make arrangement for payment of terminal benefits to the members of the Trust.

JSEEMT intends to Engage Financial & Investment Advisor for providing impartial advisory and allied services on the matter of Investment of Funds of Trust pertaining to Terminal Benefits comprising of Pension Fund, Gratuity Fund, Leave Encashment, GPF, GSS etc as per applicable statutes/rules.

Applications are invited from eligible agencies fulfilling the qualifications as specified in our EOI document. Firms fulfilling eligibility criteria mentioned in the tender documents only shall apply. The EOI Document and other detailed terms & conditions are available at https://jbvnl.co.in (for reference and submission of EOI) and can be downloaded for submission in accordance with terms and conditions set forth therein.

स्वहित एवं राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचावें। कृपया अपनी शिकायतों को टोल फ्री नं० 1800 345 6570 पर दर्ज कराएं।

Sd/-
Administrator
Jharkhand State Electricity Employees Master Trust

PR.NO.263297 Jharkhand Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd(21-22):D

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि०
CIN:U31200UP2003SGC027460

अल्पकालीन ई–निविदा
निरस्तीरण सूचना

एतद्द्वारा इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमंत्रित ई० निविदा सं० डीपीएनएल–एमएम/ 3165–2022 एवं डीपीएनएल–एमएम/ 3166–2022 को अपरिहार्य कारणवश निरस्त किया जाता है। अधीक्षण अभियन्ता (सा0प0)–I

112/अधिकृति(वाणिज्य)–1/ आगरा/दिनांक दिनांक 04.02.2022

राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें

PARADIP PORT TRUST

E-TCN No.EM/IOHP-44/2021
Name of the work : **"Design, Manufacture, Supply, Erection & Commissioning of 3200TPH Capacity Ship Loader at IOB".** Estimated cost : **Rs.30,12,50,000/-**. Last date & time of submission of Bid : **upto 1800 Hrs. on 20.02.2022.** Refer our Website **https://eprocure.gov.in/ eprocure/app for details.**
Executive Engineer (Mech)
PPT/PR/149/2021-22, Dt. 04.02.2022 **IOHP**

JHARKHAND STATE ELECTRICITY EMPLOYEES MASTER TRUST
Engineering Building,HEC, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004
Email- adm.jseemt@gmail.com

Abridged Notice
Expression of Interest (EOI) for Engagement of Agencies by Jharkhand State Electricity Employees Master Trust for Audit
EOI No. - EOI No. - EOI/04/Audit/2021-22

Jharkhand State Electricity Employees Master Trust (hereinafter JSEEMT) has been constituted to ensure that the interest of the Members, as regards payment of Terminal Benefits, is protected. JSEEMT having its office at Engineering Building, HEC, Dhurwa, Ranchi-4 manages the funds provided by GOJ and Contribution from cos. The object of the Trust is to make arrangement for payment of terminal benefits to the members of the Trust.

JSEEMT intends to Engage Agencies for Audit of various aspects pertaining to following:
1) Submission of requisition of transfer of funds by respective disbursing units/ cos. (viz. JUVNL, JUUNL, JBVNL & JUSNL), transfer of funds to them by trust and disbursement thereon as defined in scope of work for the period from 01.,2014 to 31.03.2022.
2) Contribution due as per provision of The Jharkhand State Electricity Reforms Revised Transfer Scheme, 2015 vis-à-vis amount remitted and amount due.

Applications are invited from bidders duly fulfilling the qualifications as specified in our EOI document and eligible to provide services as per applicable statutes and scope of work. To avoid conflict of interest, any CA firm associated with any work of JUVNL or any of its subsidiary cos. since 06.01.,2014 are ineligible to participate. Firms fulfilling eligibility criteria mentioned in the EOI documents only shall apply. The EOI Document and other detailed terms & conditions are available at https://jbvnl.co.in (for reference and submission of EOI) and can be downloaded for submission in accordance with terms and conditions set forth therein.

स्वहित एवं राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचावें। कृपया अपनी शिकायतों को टोल फ्री नं० 1800 345 6570 पर दर्ज कराएं।

Sd/-
Administrator
Jharkhand State Electricity Employees Master Trust

PR 263299 (Jharkhand Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd) 21-22 (D)

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-OPEN TENDER NOTICE
E-OPEN TENDER NOTICE NO. : Com-Gshed-Dev-NYO-SEE-21D. Date : 01.02.2022
The Sr. DCM / SEE for and on behalf of the President of India invites two packet open e-tender for the following work. The last date of online tendering is 02.03.2022 up to 15:00 hrs. All information and tender documents related to E-tender is available on **Website: www.ireps.gov.in.**
Sl. No. 1. Name of work with item no. : Development of Goods sheds at Nayagaon and its maintenance against subsequent incentive as detailed in tender documents for a period of Ten (10) years i.e. 120 months. **Approx. Cost (In Rs.):** 12,87,00,000.00 **Earnest Money (In Rs.):** 00 **Cost of Tender Document (In Rs.) (Non Refundable) :** 10000.00
The above tender notice is available on **website: www.ireps.gov.in.** RIGHT OF RAILWAY TO DEAL WITH TENDER: Railway administration reserves the right to postpone/modify or to cancel the above tender without assigning any reasons.
Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial)
East Central Railway/Sonpur
PR/01621/SEE/COML/T/21-22/36

DELHI JAL BOARD
OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER (M)-11
TENDER DIVISION (M)-11
ROOM NO.110, JAL SADAN, SHIV MANDIR MARG, LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110024
EMAIL : aeetdjm11@gmail.com PH-011-29810956

Press N.I.T. No. 58 (2021-22)

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (In Rs.)	Date of release of tender in e- procurement solution	Last date/time of receipt of tender through e- procurement solution
1.	Replacement of 200mm dia old and damaged C.I. water line from Okhla water works to Zakir Nagar dhalan Okhla Constituency AC-54 under AEE(M)-54, (re-invited)	38,33,161/-	2022_DJB_ 215976_1 03.02.2022	17.02.2022 up to 3.00 pm
2.	P/L D.I. water line for supplying water to U/A colonies Zakir Nagar Extension, Joga Bai Extension and Batla House through channelizing the tube wells installed inside OWW in Okhla AC-54 under EE(South)IV, (re-invited).	45,59,716/-	2022_DJB_ 215976_2 03.02.2022	17.02.2022 up to 3.00 pm
3.	Replacement of old damaged water line 100mm, 150mm and 200mm dia at R-Block MB Road to GA Block Pul Pehladpur at Tughlakabad Constituency under EE(M)-52. (re-invited)	37,89,658/-	2022_DJB_ 215976_3 03.02.2022	17.02.2022 up to 3.00 pm
4.	Replacement of old damaged water line at DSIDC shed Scheme III & Y-26 to A-132 Okhla Ph-II at Tughlakabad Constituency under EE(M)-52.(re- invited)	25,21,512/-	2022_DJB_ 215976_4 03.02.2022	17.02.2022 up to 3.00 pm
5.	Providing and laying water line from police station choki to O-Block Saurabh vihar for improvement of water supply at Hari Nagar Extension in Badarpur constituency under EE(S)-IV (AC-53). (re-invited).	48,53,769/-	2022_DJB_ 215976_5 03.02.2022	17.02.2022 up to 3.00 pm
6.	Replacement of main peripheral water line at School road Meethapur in Om vihar ward in Badarpur constituency under EE(S)-IV (AC-53). (re-invited).	47,66,903/-	2022_DJB_ 215976_6 03.02.2022	17.02.2022 up to 3.00 pm
7.	Replacement of old damaged water line 100mm dia X-10 to X-20, B-6/9 to B-24 150mm dia Okhla Ph-II & 200mm dia water line A-Block Harkesh Nagar to Okhla Ph-II at Tughlakabad Constituency AC-52 under EE(M)-52,(re-invited).	30,75,264/-	2022_DJB_ 215976_7 03.02.2022	17.02.2022 up to 3.00 pm
8.	Shifting of old damaged sewer line 300mm dia at DDA flat 690 to 354 Pul pehladpur at Tughlakabad Constituency under EE(M)-52.	48,46,252/-	2022_DJB_ 215976_8 03.02.2022	17.02.2022 up to 3.00 pm
9.	Commissioning of 20 nos. new bore at Okhla Ph-I, II & Harkesh Nagar at Tughlakabad Constituency AC-52 under EE(M)-52.	49,06,194/-	2022_DJB_ 215976_9 03.02.2022	17.02.2022 up to 3.00 pm
10.	Commissioning of 17 nos. new bore at Pul Pehladpur Viswakarma colony Lai Kuan & Tekhand village at Tughlakabad Constituency AC-52 under EE(M)-52,	46,13,731/-	2022_DJB_ 215976_10 03.02.2022	17.02.2022 up to 3.00 pm
11.	Providing and laying water line at Zakir Nagar UAC in Okhla Constituency AC-54 under EE(M)-54.	49,43,193/-	2022_DJB_ 215976_11 03.02.2022	17.02.2022 up to 3.00 pm

Further details in this regard may be seen at (https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in)

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 1088 (2021-22)

Sd/- (Arif Hussain)
AEE(T)M-11

STOP CORONA "WEAR MASK, FOLLOW PHYSICAL DISTANCING, MAINTAIN HAND HYGIENE"

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
OPEN TENDER, DATE: 02.02.2022
NIT No. : DRMW-JBP-13-2022
E-tender on behalf of the president of India acting through Sr. Divisional Engineer (Co-ordination); Divisional Railway Manager (Works), West Central Railway, Jabalpur for the following works: - **NIT No.** : DRMW-JBP-13-2022, **Name of work with location**- Two works under the jurisdiction of Divisional Engineer (North) Jabalpur - **Part A:-** Jabalpur — Manikpur: - Construction of Limited height Subway in lieu of LC No. 384 with provision of approach shed pumping arrangement and drainage system. (By cut and cover method). **Part B:-** Jabalpur — Manikpur: - Construction of Limited Height Subway in lieu of L/C No. 362 with provision of approach shed pumping arrangement and drainage system. (By cut and cover method)., **Approx cost of the work (Rs.)-** 8,66,52,528.17, **Completion Period-** 15 Months, **Earnest Money (In Rs.) -** 5,83,300/-, **Last date & Time for submission of tender (Up to 15.00 Hrs. On) -** 25.02.2022, **Tender to be opened at 15:15 Hrs on -** 25.02.2022. The complete information of the above **'e-tender'** is available on website "https://ireps.gov.in" and also placed on notice board of the Divisional Railway Manager (Works) Office, West Central Railway, Jabalpur. Tenders other than in the form of e-bids shall not be accepted against above tenders.
Divisonal Railway Manager (works)
West Central Railway, Jabalpur

कोरोना को हराना है, तो टीका लगवाना है

Tewari missing from Cong list of Punjab's star campaigners

New Delhi: Even as Aam Aadmi Party led by Arvind Kejriwal on Friday made an issue about Congress not making a Hindu as its chief ministerial candidate in Punjab, Congress star campaigners' list for the state did not feature party MP Manish Tewari.

Sources close to Tewari pointed out that he is the only Hindu MP from Punjab and the decision not to give him a

BATTLEGROUND PUNJAB

star role plays into the hands of political rivals like AAP. Tewari is a member of G-23 and has been critical of Punjab leaders, while also tweeting that neither Charanjit Channi nor Navjot Sidhu or Sunil Jakhar should be made the CM. He had not named any of the leaders in his tweet but the references were very clear.

Earlier, Jakhar had lamented that he was overlooked for the CM's post despite having wide support in the legislature party because of his religion. Jakhar is a Hindu. TNN

Fake Samajwadis will stop sops to poor, farmers: PM

'Don't Let Mafia & Rioters Take Control Of UP'

Ishita.Mishra@timesgroup.com

PTI

Policemen sign a voter awareness signature campaign in Meerut on Friday

Meerut: "Fake Samajwadis" will stop benefits given by the Centre to the poor and farmers if they come to power in UP, said PM Narendra Modi while addressing his second virtual rally, 'Jan Chaupal', at over 100 big and small booths in Meerut, Aligarh and Hapur on Friday. "These polls are to maintain security, honour and prosperity, and to keep history-sheeters out and create new history," said Modi.

Modi said, "The Yogi (Adityanath) government's law and order was hanging on their head for the past five years. They had faced so many hurdles in carrying out their illegal trades. They are now set to take revenge, their ideas and motives are clear from the kind of people they have allotted tickets to... They want to take revenge on UP's sisters and daughters."

The PM added: "Do not allow rioters and mafia to take control of UP from behind the curtains. Vote before you sit down to eat (Pehle matdaan, phir jalpaan)."

Modi said "fake Samajwadis" had spread rumours urging people not to get the Covid vaccine. He thanked people for taking the vaccine. "Today UP has administered 100% first dose of Covid vaccine. Had people not taken the vaccine, Omicron would have destroyed India now," he said.

Hitting out at SP, Modi said, "These fake Samajwadis will also stop the MSP money from going into the accounts of farmers. The free ration will be snatched, and all Central schemes for the poor, Dalits and backwards will be stopped. That's why Yogi government is necessary." "Rioters won't come back in UP... To ensure this, the Yogi government has appointed 1.5 lakh people in the police force. This figure is more than the jobs provided in UP in the past 15 years. Among the recruits, 20,000 are women," said the PM.

"We have revived the lock industry of Aligarh and are building a defence corridor. Meerut's scissor industry and the sports industry are being boosted. We thought that there should a university in the name of Raja Mahendra Singh and Dhyan Chand...The BJP government, in comparison to regimes before 2017, has increased MSP manifold. They had shut down more than two dozen sugar mills in the state," Modi said.

Praising the Yogi government, Modi said it had paved the way for development of

BATTLEGROUND UTTAR PRADESH

the region, in the form of the Meerut-Delhi Expressway, RRTS, Poorvanchal Expressway, etc. "At the beginning of this year, my first visit was to Meerut. On that day, the weather was bad and I had to come by road. Because of the Delhi-Meerut Expressway, I reached the city in less than an hour," said PM, adding that earlier Meerut remained "so far from Delhi despite being so near".

Kartarpur Sahib in Pak due to a Partition-era error: Rajnath

Gurdaspur: Defence minister Rajnath Singh raked up the Partition during his rally here on Friday for the Punjab

assembly elections, saying that Kartarpur Sahib would have been a part of India if some gaffe had not been made during the country's division.

Addressing the rally in support of BJP candidates, Rajnath said a blunder had been committed during the Partition. He said if the decision had been taken rationally, Kartarpur Sahib would have been a part of India. Now, Nankana Sahib and Kartarpur Sahib, the birth and death places of Guru Nanak Dev, respectively, were in Pakistan, he said.

Praising the contribution of Sikhs in the country's freedom struggle, Rajnath said countrymen's heart fills with pride and gratitude thinking of the martyrdoms of Sikhs. At the same time he regretted that there were certain forces who wanted to create a rift between Hindus and Sikhs. "But such forces wouldn't succeed," he said. TNN

Day after Akhilesh's olive branch, Maya says SP 'anti-Dalit like BJP'

Harveer Dabas | TNN

Amroha: BSP supremo **Mayawati** at a public meeting in Amroha on Friday said that "goons rule the roost under the current BJP government and Dalits are still the most downtrodden".

"Dalits have not been able to get the benefit of government schemes," she said, adding that "both Congress and BJP are playing the caste game" and "just like BJP, SP is also an anti-Dalit party".

Mayawati also slammed the BJP government for the "high rate of inflation" and unemployment. "Dalits and backwards have no jobs. Most of the government works are being carried out through the private sectors, all beyond the reach of Dalits and backwards. They are yet to receive government jobs as per the quota." She added, "When BJP came to power, I thought it would do better, but it suppressed people in the name of religion, and is implementing the RSS agenda. Crime has also increased."

In a bid to woo back the party's voter base, Dalits and Muslims, Mayawati said, "The SP had stopped Dalit quota in government jobs. Muslims also need to know that during SP rule, riots happen and they suffer the most." Mayawati further said, "If voted to power, no controversial law will be implemented. We will protect Muslims and give jobs to the youth. Farmers will get proper prices for their crops."

SP chief Akhilesh Yadav on Thursday had asked "Ambedkarites" to join the SP-RLD alliance "to save the Constitution and democracy".

'BJP will buck the trend, win 2/3rd majority'

Kautilya.Singh @timesgroup.com

Dehradun: Since the formation of Uttarakhand in 2000,

no party has been able to win two polls consecutively. However, CM **Pushkar Singh Dhami** in a conversation with **TOI** on Friday exuded confidence that BJP will buck the trend this time. Dhami said that "large-scale development work will ensure a landslide win" for BJP. "A survey showed that presently we are winning 45-to-50 seats out of the total 70 in the state. However, the way our poll campaign is picking up, I am confident that we will cross the mark of 60 MLAs in the state assembly," the CM said.

On the question whether changing two CMs in quick succession will have an impact on BJP's prospects, Dhami said, "The CM face may have changed but we provided the people with a stable government and the key projects were never impacted." He said that "today, the state has better rail, road and air

BATTLEGROUND UTTARAKHAND

connectivity than ever before." The CM lashed out at Congress for promising to cap LPG cylinder price at Rs 500. "Are Congress governments in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh offering LPG at Rs 500? If not, then why have they made this promise to the people of Uttarakhand?" he said.

Proposers from bouquet of castes as Yogi files papers

Shalabh & Arjumand Bano | TNN

Gorakhpur: Accompanied by Union home minister Amit Shah, UP CM Yogi Adityanath filed his nomination from Gorakhpur Urban assembly constituency at noon on Friday. Several other senior party leaders, including Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan and state BJP chief Swatantra Dev Singh, accompanied Yogi to the collectorate building where he filed his papers.

"Now he will focus on the remaining constituencies and campaign for party candidates. He need not concentrate on this seat. Here he will win by a record margin," a party worker in Gorakhpur said. Voting is to take place here on March 7.

Five prominent faces from the Dalit, Brahmin, backward, Vaishya and Kayastha communities came in support of Yogi Adityanath when he was filing his nomination. The four proposers — Vishwanath Prasad, Mankeshwar Nath Pandey, Surendra Kumar Agarwal and Dr Manglesh Srivastava signed the nomination papers to show their support for Yogi. The fifth was Dr Arun Kumar Singh, Yogi's agent for the upcoming polls. He is an OBC.

Yogi's assets have grown by Rs 59 lakh in the past five years. He owns no immovable property and has no criminal case pending against him.

In his affidavit filed on Friday, Yogi (49) has declared movable assets worth Rs 1.5 crore. At the time of being elected a member of the legislative council five years ago, he had declared he had Rs 96 lakh in assets, whereas during the Lok Sabha polls of 2014 his assets were worth about Rs 72 lakh. There were four criminal cases pending against him in 2017.

Yogi owns a revolver and a rifle that are valued at Rs 1.8 lakh. The CM holds several bank accounts, including one in the State Bank of India's Parliament House branch in Delhi. He also has an account in a post office in Delhi. He operates two bank accounts in Gorakhpur district and one in Lucknow. The value of the gold "kundal" Yogi wears in his ears is Rs 49,000, according to the affidavit.

6 cops get notice for 'layant zindabad' chant

Notices have been served to six UP police constables deployed in UP's Rampur district jail after they were purportedly seen in a viral video whooping and cheering and shouting the slogan "layant Chaudhary zindabad" while dancing to patriotic songs, reports **Kanwardeep Singh**. Jail superintendent Prashant Maurya said responses from the cops are being sought and action would be taken after verification of facts. A report will be submitted to IG prisons, Lucknow. The constables, however, said they were dancing to the tune of patriotic songs and cheering for their friend — nicknamed Jayant Chaudhary — who received a commendation letter on Republic Day, and not the RLD chief who shares the same name.

Sena to fight BMC election alone: Minister

Mumbai: Though it is the main constituent of the three-party MVA, Shiv Sena will contest the crucial BMC polls independently though CM Uddhav Thackeray will take a final call in the matter, reports **Prafulla Marpakwar**.

Sena member Anil Parab told **TOI** that Sena has geared itself up for contesting the polls on its own subject to Thackeray's approval. NCP's Nawab Malik said his party was in favour of Sena contesting jointly or under the banner of MVA.

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TIMES EVOKE

HOW PLANTS GROW US

The phrase 'the kingdom of plants' comes from astonishing science — the World Economic Forum finds plants compose over 82% of the total biomass on Earth while humans account for just 0.01%. Plants are the foundation of life for it is through plant photosynthesis — sunlight's radiant energy transformed into chemical matter — that humans and other animals receive nourishment. The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) estimates that plants give us 80% of our food — 15 plants provide 90% of the calories consumed by humans worldwide.

There is even more benevolence to this kingdom. Via photosynthesis, plants absorb CO_2 and emit 98% of the oxygen we breathe. Plants are the primary source of goods from textiles to building materials and as the IUCN estimates, 80,000 plant species are used for medicinal purposes. Plants bind the soil, cool the atmosphere and even invoke rain through transpiration or releasing water into the air through their stems, flowers and leaves. From mosses and grasses to towering trees, the world knows of 3,90,000 plant species, venerable ancestors which began evolving over 400 million years ago while humans are just seven million years old. In 2019, 4,000 new species were discovered, many being potential sources of food, biofuels and medicine, including treatments for pandemic microbes.

However, this wondrous kingdom is besieged by threats today. Scientists find two in five of the world's plant species face extinction. The leading cause is the destruction of natural habitats for agriculture, followed by the pollution of ecosystems, building impacts and soil degradation. Further, climate change, the atmospheric accumulation of CO_2, is destabilising Earth's mantle, the layer of soil and air where plant life survives. FAO finds 40% of crops worldwide are already lost — yet, agricultural production must rise 60% by 2050 to nourish a growing world population. Importantly, as Times Evoke's global experts emphasise, there are multiple ways by which humans can conserve plants — and thereby, ourselves. Solutions range from reducing polluting impacts on ecosystems and concretisation to supporting chemical-free farming and afforestation. Join Times Evoke on a vibrant journey across the kingdom of plants — this grows us in every meaningful sense.

'Without plants, there can be no other stories on Earth — marvels of evolution, plants permit life'

***William E. Friedman** is director of Harvard University's Arnold Arboretum and teaches evolutionary biology. Speaking to **Srijana Mitra Das** at **Times Evoke**, he shares the story of how plants evolved — and enabled human life:*

What is the core of your research?

■ I'm an evolutionary biologist. I think of myself as an evolutionary historian — my work seeks to understand the birth and early diversification of flowering plants, the predominant source of diversity among photosynthetic land plants. But they are also a relatively recent group which evolved about 140 million years ago whereas conifers or cycads go considerably farther in time.

My work is also embryological where I study the fertilisation process and how in particular mothers nourish their progeny within seeds. One of the great mysteries of flowering plants is how they nourish their progeny with a tissue called endosperm — two out of every three calories of food humans consume is endosperm, manifest in a grain of rice, maize, etc. Without endosperm in plants, humans wouldn't be here.

What is the extent of plant life on Earth — and what determined its evolution?

■ There are estimates of 3,50,000 to 4,00,000 different species of land plants. As many remain undescribed, even this number could be higher. Plants show us how with evolution, nothing remains static — consider the fact that two billion years ago, there was only a single cell photosynthetic organism swimming in the waters of the world. Descended from that organism, the common ancestor, are all the flowers and ferns on Earth. About 475 million years ago, there were no land plants on Earth — just then, the first little green algae start to encroach on the edges of wet areas. They begin evolving greater tolerance to drier conditions. From there, it took millions of years before land plants that were a few centimetres tall emerged. Trees only came about 380 million years ago. There was a time on Earth when plants would only come up to our waist. It took entire eras when plants figured out how to grow tall, increase their girth to support their weight and so on. All the flowers we know today only start to evolve about 135 million years ago.

Courtesy: W. Friedman, Arnold Arboretum

TOUGH BUDS: The Hamamelis vernalis, part of the witch-hazel family, bursts into bloom in late winter when very little life can grow

So, this evolutionary story goes back millions of years when plants figured out the trick of turning the energy of light into chemical bonds. Without plants, there can be no other stories on Earth — until plants put energy into life systems, heterotrophs like us have nothing to eat. Plants shaped the biosphere through carbon dioxide levels, geochemistry, rain, etc. The history of Earth is thus a dialogue between non-living and living elements, where each changes and moulds the other.

What is sociobiology?

■ This is the idea that organisms interact and these interactions evolve based on relationships. People often assume that behaviour requires neurons — but behaviour is not about thinking. It is comparable to being genetically programmed. In plants, evolved behaviour is about how you relate to relatives that can help your genes survive. Mother plants, for instance, unlike fathers, also provide the food seeds need to grow. But this is not a random process — mothers can test the quality of their progeny. They can even test the compatibility of potential fathers. So, there is a great deal of knowledge about relationships in the plant world. But these are not thinking behaviours — these are wired-in due to the ability to detect relationships.

How do you envision the future of the plant world in an era of climate change?

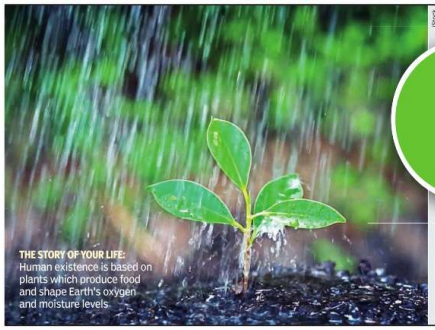
■ The plant world faces many climate impacts and I'm not too optimistic, given the human capacity to produce damage. Earth is facing climate change — but it is also facing other human impacts like burning rainforests or cutting trees to put livestock in their place. Every hamburger we eat, we are contributing to extinction.

We have only two options before us. We could either discover the impacts of our current behaviour so late that while humans will go extinct, a great deal of non-human life won't — the world will keep spinning with life but without us. Or, we could figure out how to live in greater harmony with the millions of species on Earth which have evolved over a four-billion-year journey, from the first cell of life to this moment. We live amidst this utterly magnificent and unique sequence of events — are we humans going to blow it up?

We have already done great damage because we just don't see beyond ourselves. Think about the phenomena of plant blindness — we walk by plants every day and we don't even notice them. We don't give them standing. We don't care to look but here are these wondrous species that are simply magnificent — and truly evolved.

Courtesy: W. Friedman, Arnold Arboretum

WE LIVE AMONG GIANTS: Flowering plants like the Euonymus sachalinensis began to evolve 135 million years ago while human beings started only seven million years ago



THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE: Human existence is based on plants which produce food and shape Earth's oxygen and moisture levels

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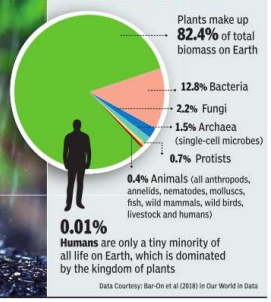
A WORLD BEYOND US



Data Courtesy: Bar-On et al (2018) in Our World in Data

A PLANT'S JOURNEY

POWER PLANTS

- Plants achieve **photosynthesis,** using sunlight to split water molecules into hydrogen and oxygen. The hydrogen is combined with CO_2, **making glucose. Oxygen** — needed by humans and other animals — is a by-product of this
- **Highly sensitive,** a single root apex can discern 20 chemical and physical parameters, **sensing even traces of cobalt or nickel in soil**
- Plants **communicate** through roots and fungal networks, using chemicals to **ward off predators and attract pollinators.** They are no pushover — when caterpillars eat corn, the plant exudes a chemical attracting wasps which exterminate the caterpillars
- Plants **regenerate** even if 90% of their bodies are destroyed. Just the sunflower genome is 20% **larger than the human genome with twice the number of genes** — hence, there are **70 species of highly adapting sunflowers**
- The Boquila trifoliolata vine in Chile can **change the shape, size and even the veins of its leaves,** confusing caterpillars
- **Remarkably patient beings,** the oldest plants include **1,00,000-year-old seagrasses** in Spain to a **9,560-year-old red fir tree living in Sweden**

Research: National Geographic, Smithsonian, Guardian

Photo: iStock

THEIR PLANT-BASED DIET

- **Snowshoe hares,** found across Canada and the northern US, eat a large variety of plant matter — in summer, these hares eat **grasses, dandelions, clover, willow and berries**. In winter, they eat **tree buds, twigs and bark**. Snowshoe hares return the favour to plants by **dispersing their seeds**, helping them to proliferate across areas

- **Rhinos,** which weigh upto 700 kgs and grow over ten feet long, are **vegetarian** — these shy animals, found in Africa and Asia, survive by eating a large amount of **grasses, plant stems and leaves**. Apart from poachers, these endangered animals face **the loss of their habitat** as an existential threat

- **Caribou,** found in the Arctic tundra, consume **dwarf birch and gray willow** — their diet is now helping to **shield rare plants, lichens and mushrooms from climate impacts,** protecting these from being outcompeted for nutrients by shrubs or being shaded by woody canopies

Research: National Geographic, IUCN, Encyclopaedia Britannica

'India has fabulous plant diversity — we venerate life-giving plants'

***Harini Nagendra** teaches ecology and sustainability at Azim Premji University, Bengaluru. She tells **Times Evoke** how deeply plants are interwoven into India's culture:*

India has tremendously rich plant diversity. We have two of the world's biodiversity hotspots in the Western Ghats and the eastern Himalayas. We also have the Eastern Ghats, the central Indian forests, the western Himalayas, deserts, wetlands and mangrove forests. With such diversity, each region has its own kinds of plants. Some studies estimate India holds 11% of the world's flora.

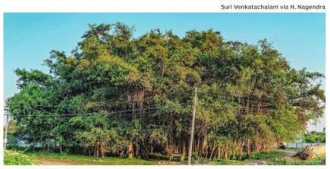
Plants thus have an incredibly special place in Indian culture. In the Biligiri Rangaswamy Tiger Reserve in Karnataka, the Soliga tribe has a 'dodda sampige mara', a huge champak tree. They believe this tree is 2,000 years old. Looking at the tree, you feel it is truly other-worldly.

Closer home to where I live, there stands a very large banyan tree, replete with all the roots and plants that grow upon it. This tree, considered to be 300 years old, is so dear to the locals, they insisted a highway was adjusted to not damage the tree. Villagers have built a small temple within the tree. When you walk inside this tree, with all its chambers and hollows, you feel like you've stepped into a magical place. Indigenous communities in Africa, North and South America also hold certain plants to be sacred — life-giving plants specifically, like the ficus tree which gifts fruit, shade and shelter, are venerated.

But human activities are now impacting this world of plants. Each plant has its own environmental range or the temperature, humidity and soil within which it flourishes. Climate change is impacting plants across an elevation gradient and latitude and longitude. Once, apple trees were grown in the lower reaches of the Himalayas. Now, with climate change making the higher parts warmer, people can grow apples there — which also reflects how many traditional crops can no longer be grown in these areas.

Many forests are also growing drier with more frequent forest fires breaking out. This gives invasive plant species like thorny lantana the opportunity to take over, further drying the forest and crowding out productive plants. That means animals can't get food in forests — they have to come out, seeking food in human habitations. Around Bannerghata National Park, many farmers have started growing non-food crops like eucalyptus as animals seek food crops to eat. But such crops are water-hungry and demand chemicals, adding to pollution, while leaving animals starved.

Suri Venkatachalam via H. Nagendra



YOUR MAJESTY: This enormous banyan tree in Bidaraguppe, Karnataka, has grown over 300 years from being a small plant to a veritable palace of greenery which now shelters multiple forms of life

A TRUE GREENHOUSE

We must be far more aware of our impacts on plants. Existentially, we lose ourselves when we lose plants — philosophically too, imagine a world bereft of plants, trees and flowers. What is left to gladden our hearts in such a world? We need to observe the plant world around us with more care. While hundreds of thousands of trees are chopped down every year, plants face human impacts every day, from encroachment to concretisation. We need to protect them from these dangers. Also, wherever you are, do plant something — put potted plants on your balcony. Convince your office to grow a green roof. Plant seeds in an open patch. I have seen slum inhabitants in Bengaluru who live in tin shacks but plant saplings in old paint buckets. If such marginalised people can look after plants, the endowed who have more space certainly can.

Perhaps the banyan is the most special plant to me. The banyan tree I mentioned makes me feel like I'm in the presence of a very wise being, someone who has seen worlds change and history play out. If this tree, which grew from a little plant to this mighty being, is standing here, sheltering so many birds, animals and human beings, there is still hope for the world.

iStock

PURPLE REIGN: The bougainvillea with its papery flowers is a familiar sight across India, an evergreen climber which thrives in hot and dry climates and protects itself against predators with its thick thorns

'In 60 years, climate change took seven years of agri-productivity growth'

***Ariel Ortiz-Bobea** is an economist and teaches at Cornell University. Speaking to **Times Evoke**, he discusses his research findings on how climate change is impacting agricultural productivity — and the implications of this:*

My research seeks to understand the historical and future impacts of climate change on the economy — and particularly on agriculture. Anthropogenic climate change has already impacted agriculture. In 2021, my colleagues and I conducted a global study examining the impacts of climate change on agricultural productivity. This encompassed crops, speciality crops, tree crops, livestock, etc. — about 99.9% of global agricultural production was captured in this study which had country-level data of productivity since the 1960s. We found that when a country experienced warming conditions or raised temperatures, it tended to experience lower agricultural productivity — to produce the same outputs, you would need more inputs. The inputs you'd be investing currently would be less productive in warmer years.

We then took our study into a parallel world without anthropogenic climate change where weather conditions were not impacted by human activity leading to greenhouse gases accumulating in the atmosphere. Such a world would have been considerably cooler than the one we are in. Studying both these worlds since 1960, we found agricultural productivity would have grown faster in the world without anthropogenic climate change. Human-caused climate change is slowing down the growth of agricultural productivity and the magnitude of this is not small — over the last 60 years, this has wiped out seven years of growth in agricultural productivity.

iStock

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?: Climate impacts are significantly reducing the growth of agri-productivity, a cause for worry as the world's population rises

A FIELD'S YIELD

Also, across multiple empirical models, we found these historical impacts were larger in countries around the equator. Tropical regions tended to be hit much harder than temperate regions which also includes India's agri-productivity growth. The implications for food security and employment in these countries are worrying. One of the implications of these findings is that we will need far more investments in research and development as well as generating alternative livelihoods to counter-balance this headwind.

Importantly, much more rapid changes in agricultural productivity are projected. We found that agriculture is becoming even more sensitive to high temperatures over time — this means the slowdown effect could be magnified. Already, data shows that for the same change in temperature, the slowdown was a certain amount in the 1960s — but this became higher in the 1980s. This calls for much more investment in building resilience.

We are already seeing agricultural productivity stalling in sub-Saharan Africa, one of the regions with the least investment in technological development to boost farming productivity. Our findings have serious implications for global food production which could reduce — when supplies fall short, food prices go up. Farmers respond by trying to grow more through increasing inputs but this means more polluting fertilisers and more land being cleared of forests.

This is not a sustainable way to bolster agriculture. Instead of increasing inputs, we need to learn how to make the most of the inputs we're putting in now. That knowledge can only come from investments in research. As this takes decades to be translated to technology, the urgency of investing in it has never been more pressing. The problem we face is also at a scale that requires deep systemic change. India should think about the sustainability of water used in growing crops — are current pricing systems encouraging more use of water than needed? This is just one issue that needs careful thought when we consider agri-productivity, climate change and the future of food.

A HARVEST OF HAZARDS

- NASA scientists find climate change could affect **wheat and maize production as early as 2030 — maize yields could decline by 24%** while **rising CO_2 levels** could denude wheat, a major staple world over, of many **key nutrients**
- **Rice** grows in **wetlands** where it faces **rising sea levels**, coastal flooding **salinating** soil and making it impossible to cultivate rice. Agri-experts estimate over **2,00,000 coastal rice farmers may be forced away from growing the crop** by rising tides
- Fruits like **grapes face droughts and unseasonal rain** — in 2020, smoke from the worst **wildfires in California's history wrecked 13% of the state's grape crop.** If global temperatures rise by two degrees this century, **grape-growing areas could shrink** by 56%

Research: NASA, CNN, BBC

READERS WRITE

Dear Times Evoke,

What an amazing Times Evoke article by KS Gopi Sundar (29th January, 2022) on ponds. The article was beautifully presented with lovely pictures. I am grateful to Times Evoke for presenting such articles that echo our feelings and create awareness.

—Asha Saini, Mount Abu

Kudos to TE for its rich and informative articles every week! KS Gopi Sundar's article on urban ponds had such thorough research and statistics. To know about nature's gifts in our hectic cities is so thought-provoking.

—Suparni Haldar, Kolkata

Thank you, Times Evoke, for such beautifully presented facts about wetlands. Such articles help inspire people to admire the beauty of these quiet wetlands, home to many birds.

—Adeeba Hasan, Bhopal

Kudos, Times Evoke, for KS Gopi Sundar's excellent article. In our childhood days, we were enthralled by such urban ponds, swimming in them, plucking singhara and watching beautiful birds alight. We need to cherish these blessings of nature.

—KN Tyagi, Meerut

Thank you, TE, for featuring KS Gopi Sundar's research on urban ponds. It was great to know how the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) disallowed the destruction of waterbodies, helping ponds to support multiple bird species. I really appreciated this.

—Rashi Mukati, Class 11 student, Barwani, MP

Share your thoughts at: **timesevoke@timesgroup.com**

You can also read Times Evoke online at: **www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/times-evoke**

CORPORATE BUZZ

www.toi.in/psu

Indian Coast Guard celebrates Raising Day

Indian Coast Guard celebrated its 46th Raising Day on February 1, 2022. The President of India, Vice President, Prime Minister and Defence Minister congratulated the Indian Coast Guard on completion of 45 glorious years of yeoman service to the nation and appreciated the remarkable role played by the

service in pursuit of the nation's interests in the maritime zones. From a modest beginning with just 7 surface platforms in 1978, ICG has grown into a formidable force with 158 ships and 70 aircraft in its inventory and is likely to achieve targeted force levels of 200 surface platforms and 80 aircraft by 2025. As the fourth largest coast guard in the world, Indian Coast Guard has played a significant role in securing the Indian coasts and enforcing regulations in the maritime zones of India.

SCOPE pays tribute to Gandhi on Martyr's Day

Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) organised a symposium on 'Transformational Leadership in Governance - The Gandhian Way' to commemorate the 74th Martyrs' Day. The occasion was addressed by Rohit Kumar Singh, Secretary, Consumer Affairs; Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna, veteran Gandhian; Pradeep Kumar Agarwal, CMD, Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. and Atul Sobti, Director General, SCOPE. Singh, in his address, enunciated Gandhi's vision of governance being citizen-centric, with decentralisation of power to the grassroot levels and customer as supreme. Dr. Radhakrishna highlighted the global presence of Gandhi as a moral leader. Sobti said that SCOPE through its dedicated forum has been exploring Gandhian principles while creating awareness among PSEs of its application in the modern times. Agarwal, while paying tribute to the Mahatma, accentuated the need for

leaders of today to create trust and influence people as manpower is the most essential component of any organisation.

2500 BSES employees get booster dose in camps

After the success of the Covid vaccination drives, where thousands of employees and their family members got vaccinated, BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL) and BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL) have now started a drive to administer booster doses to the eligible employees. Within a few days, over 2500 employees have received the booster dose. Additionally, BSES is also holding camps to administer vaccines to the children of employees. Apart from the doctors, nurses and medical scientists, discom personnel are playing their part in the fight against Covid-19. In South, West, East and Central Delhi, this responsibility is being shouldered by BSES power warriors.

Republic Day celebrated at THDCIL

THDC India Limited celebrated 73rd Republic Day with gusto and fervour. R. K. Vishnoi, Chairman and Managing Director, unfurled the national flag and took the ceremonial salute at corporate office, Rishikesh. Thereafter, he addressed the gathering and emphasized that THDC is working hard to successfully meet the nation's demanding power requirement. He

also motivated the employees to work hard to achieve new milestones for the corporation. On this occasion, J. Behera, Director (Finance) was present. The live telecast of the programme was done on all the project and unit offices. P. K. Aggarwal, ED (Technical); L. P. Joshi CGM (EM-Design); Veer Singh, GM (HR) and other officials were also present during the programme. Today, THDCIL is one of the premier power generators in the country with installed capacity of 1587 MW.

National Voters Day celebrated

On the occasion of National Voters Day 2022, Election Commission of India organised a national function at New Delhi on January 25, 2022. ECI publication - 'Leap of Faith: Journey

of Indian Elections' was released during the function.

A multi-media exhibition on recent electoral reforms and initiatives taken by the Election Commission of India to make elections more inclusive, accessible and participative was also displayed on the occasion. CEC Sushil Chandra, Election Commissioners Rajiv Kumar and Anup Chandra Pandey, and Union Minister for Law & Justice Kiren Rijiju graced the occasion.

Dr. Subhas Sarkar, Minister of State for Education, Govt of India, receiving the cheque from Manoj Kumar, CMD EdCIL, in the presence of Rakesh Ranjan, Additional Secretary (TE); Pandey Pradeep Kumar, Deputy Secretary (TC) and other senior officials of the Ministry and EdCIL on January 27, 2022. EdCIL (India) Limited, a Mini Ratna Category-I CPSE of the Ministry of Education, Govt of India, paid a dividend of Rs 11.5 crore for the year 2020-21.

CEL gets 'very good' performance rating

Government of India has given 'very good' rating to Central Electronics Limited, a Govt. of India enterprise, which has performed outstandingly well in the financial year 2020-21. This rating was given in OM released by Department of Public Enterprise, Ministry of Finance. The MoU score of CEL is 75.55 on a scale of 100. CEL has been a profit earning PSU for many years. CEL has performed outstandingly well despite the Covid-19 pandemic which impacted business and manufacturing operations everywhere. Manoj Kumar Sharma, PRO of CEL said that CEL is a pioneer in solar technologies, railway electronics, electronic ceramics and microwave electronics. CEL manufactured the first solar cell of India and the first solar module in 1978. For 43 years the company has been serving the far-flung areas of country through solar PV products.

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA — TENDER NOTICE

Sl. No.	Name of Board/Corp./Auth	Name of Work Notice Tender	Opening Date: Closing Date (Time)	Amount / EMD (Approx.) in Rupees	Website of the Board Corp./Auth	Nodal Officer/Contact Details/Email
1	GHDA GURUGRAM	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING OF ATCS/SMART TRAFFIC LIGHTS ALONG WITH CONVERSION OF OLD TRAFFIC SIGNAL LIGHTS INTO SMART TRAFFIC SIGNAL LIGHTS INCLUDING PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL LIGHTS AND O&M FOR 7 YEARS IN GHDA AREA, GURUGRAM.	02.02.2022 23.02.2022	14.29 CRORE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	xen1.ghda@gov.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in RO 7356

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL S.M.S. MEDICAL COLLEGE & CONTROLLER OF THE ATTACHED HOSPITALS, JAIPUR (RAJ.)

No. 14245/F/MC/Store/2021-22 Dated: 27/1/2022

Expression of Interest

State cancer institute of SMS Medical College wants to establish molecular oncology lab on public private partnership. The details of test to be conducted can be seen on SPPP. Interested hospitals/ diagnostic centers/healthcare firms can submit their proposals by 5:00 P.M. on 10/02/22.

SMS21-22RFP0015

Superintendent & Member Secretary of RMRS State Cancer Institute Jaipur.

DIPR/C/1079/2022

राजस्थान सरकार
निदेशालय, चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं, राजस्थान, जयपुर

क्रमांकः क्षय/निविदा/2022/157 दिनांक 31.01.2022

विज्ञप्ति

राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन, राजस्थान के तहत राष्ट्रीय क्षय उन्मूलन कार्यक्रम के अनतर्गत सम्पूर्ण राज्य में क्षय रोगियों की खोज व जांच हेतु मोबाईल वैन के संचालन तथा चिन्हित जिलों में रोगियों की IGRA जांच करवाये जाने हेतु निजी सेवा प्रदाताओं के माध्यम से प्रस्ताव आमंत्रित किये जाते है।

इच्छुक सेवा प्रदाता हेतु कार्य का विस्तृत विवरण दिनांक 04.02.2022 से विभागीय वैबसाइट www.rajswasthya.nic.in तथा eproc.rajasthan.gov.in एवं sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पोर्टल पर उपलब्ध है।

निदेशक (जन स्वा.)
चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं
राजस्थान, जयपुर

DIPR/C/1192/2022

POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Enterprise)
"Vidyut Bhawan", Near ISBT Crossing, Saharanpur Road, Majra, Dehradun -248002
Corporate ID No: U40101UR2004GOI028675 Tel. No. 0135-2642711

E-TENDER CORRIGENDUM-1

The Pre-Bid Clarifications of the E-Tender for "Supply, Erection, Testing and commissioning of 125 MVAR Reactor along with its associated bay and related work at 400 KV Substation Kashipur" against Tender Specification no. PTCUL/E-Tender/C&P-II/SS-14/2021-22 has been uploaded on e-tender website. For more details please visit the e-tender website **www.uktenders.gov.in** (tender id no. 2022 PTCU4_41717_1) and for e-tender corrigendum notice our website **www.ptcul.org**. All other terms and conditions shall remain same.
For any assistance on E-Tendering, please contact +91-8899890000

Letter No.: 137/HQPU/PTCUL/ Superintending Engineer
Dated : 03-02-2022 "Save Electricity in the interest of Nation." (C&P-II)

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता
लोक स्वास्थ्य यात्रिकी विभाग, खण्ड-बेमेतरा (छ.ग.)
Phone No.- 07824-222118 E-mail- eebem-phe-cg@nic.in

संशोधन सूचना

इस कार्यालय का ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट निविदा सूचना क्रमांक 233 (समूह क्रमांक-07)/ त.शा./ का.अ./ दिनांक 19.01.2022 (सिस्टम नं.-91045) को आमंत्रित किया गया था। उक्त निविदा को अपरिहार्य कारण से निरस्त किया जाता है।

उक्त कार्य राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग द्वारा लागू आचार संहिता के अंतर्गत नहीं है।

(पूर्व जी.क्रमांक- 67002)

Sd/-
कार्यपालन अभियंता
लोक स्वास्थ्य यात्रिकी खण्ड बेमेतरा (छ.ग.)

G-67434/6

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure - Traffic Engineering Cell, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002

No.: EE/RI-TEC/TEND/07/2021-2022 Date: 03.02.2022

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Short Term Tender Notification Call-2)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure - TEC Division invites tenders from eligible tenderers for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. Amt. put to tender (in Lakhs)	EMD (in Lakhs)
1	Providing Thermoplastic Painting for rumbler strips, Lane Markings, Junction Marking, different types of sign boards, pelican signals, Scientific humps, median, painting of medians and kerb stones, HRPC and other safety furniture as per Traffic Police requests in arterial and sub arterial roads partain to East Zone. **(Call-2) (Tender Document Type: KW-4)**	718.00	10.78

Calendar of Events: (1) Availability of tender document in e-procurement portal from: **04.02.2022** onwards. **(2)** Last date for submission of pre-bid queries: **08.02.2022** upto **1:30 p.m. (3)** Pre-bid meeting: **09.02.2022** at **3:30 p.m. (4)** Last date for submission of tenders: **15.02.2022** upto **4:00 p.m. (5)** Date of opening of Technical bid: **16.02.2022** at **4:30 p.m. (6)** Date of opening of Financial bid: **will be intimated to tenderers.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer (RI-TEC), BBMP

COVID-19 - DON'T SPREAD RUMOURS, ACT RESPONSIBLY, AVOID INFECTION-NOT THE INFECTED.
Wear Mask | 2 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY (KARNATAKA) LIMITED
(A Joint Venture of Government of Karnataka & Ministry of Railways)
Regd. Office: K-RIDE, 1st Floor, Samparka Soudha, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Opp. Orion Mall, Rajajinagar 1st Block, Bengaluru - 560010
Tele: 0636490850 Email ID: md@k-ride.in
CIN: U60100KA2000PLC028171

No.KRIDE/BSRP/11/2022 Dt: 03.02.2022

e-Tender Notice

Online tender is invited from Experienced agencies for executing the work of Bangalore Suburban Rail Project (BSRP) Corridor-4.

Name of work	Amount (Rs.in Cr.)
Shifting of Signalling & Telecommunication underground utilities in Heelalige to Rajankunte section of Bangalore Division to facilitate Bangalore Suburban Rail Project (BSRP) Corridor-4.	26.64

Last date for submission of tender is **07.03.2022.**
For details visit: **www.kride.in** and click on "Tenders" and for bid submission visit **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- General Manager (S&T), K-RIDE

DIPR/DDU/3193/MCA/2021-22

OFFICE OF ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER PHED, JAIPUR REGION-I, JAIPUR
Jyoti Nagar, Sahakar Marg, Jaipur-302005
Phone: 0141-2740170(o) e-mail: ace1.jpr.phed@rajasthan.gov.in
No.: F /ACE/PHED/Ar NKT/NIT-174 to 183/2021-22/14665-686 Date: 25.01.22
(e-NIT NO. 174 to 183/2021-22)

On behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan NIT No. 174 to 183/2021-22 online tenders are hereby invited from eligible bidders for "Conversion of Existing Handpump/P&T Water Supply Schemes into Piped Rural Water Supply Schemes under Jal Jeevan Mission at block Patan, NeemkaThana and Khandela of Division Neemkathana, District Sikar as per criteria mentioned in the detailed NIT/tender documents available on websites: https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in & http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in. Tenders are to be submitted online in electronic format on website *https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in* as per prescribed schedule.

NIT No.	Particular	Estt. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	UBN No.
174/2021-22	Sub Division NeemkaThana	395.93 Lacs	PHE2122WSOB12545
175/2021-22	Sub Division NeemkaThana	368.39 Lacs	PHE2122WSOB12546
176/2021-22	Sub Division NeemkaThana	486.61 Lacs	PHE2122WSOB12548
177/2021-22	Sub Division NeemkaThana	381.22 Lacs	PHE2122WSOB12549
178/2021-22	Sub Division Khandela	484.15 Lacs	PHE2122WSOB12553
179/2021-22	Sub Division Khandela	567.64 Lacs	PHE2122WSOB12554
180/2021-22	Sub Division Khandela	435.34 Lacs	PHE2122WSOB12555
181/2021-22	Sub Division Khandela	443.94 Lacs	PHE2122WSOB12556
182/2021-22	Sub Division Khandela	358.54 Lacs	PHE2122WSOB12557
183/2021-22	Sub Division Khandela	360.64 Lacs	PHE2122WSOB12558

SAVE WATER-SAVE LIFE

(Arun Srivastava)
Addl. Chief Engineer
PHED, Jaipur Region-I, Jaipur

DIPR/C/1196/2022

POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Enterprise)
"Vidyut Bhawan", Near ISBT Crossing, Saharanpur Road, Majra, Dehradun-248002
Corporate ID : U40101UR2004GOI028675 Tel. No. 0135-2842711

E-TENDER CORRIGENDUM-1

The Pre-Bid Clarifications of the E-Tender for "Construction of 01 No. 132 KV Bay at 132 KV Substation Kichha for 132 KV Kichha-Lalkuan Railway line" against Tender Specification no. PTCUL/E-Tender/C&P-II/SS-15/2021-22 has been uploaded on e-tender website. For more details please visit the e-tender website **www.uktenders.gov.in (tender id no. 2022_PTCU4_41741_1)** and for e-tender corrigendum notice our website **www.ptcul.org**. All other terms and conditions shall remain same.
For any assistance on E-Tendering, please contact +91-8899890000

NO. 136/EE(HQPU)/PTCUL, Dt: 03.02.2022 Superintending Engineer (C&P-II)
"Save Electricity in the Interest of Nation"

DEPARTMENT OF STAMPS AND REGISTRATION
Office of The Inspector General of Registration and Commissioner of Stamps, Kandaya Bhavan, 8th Floor, KG Road, Bengaluru - 560009 Tel: 080-22220436, e-mail: aigrcomp@karnataka.gov.in

No. Comp/108/2020-21 Date: 02-02-2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited by the Department of Stamps and Registration for **Selection of Service Provider for the "Procurement, Installation, Operations and Maintenance of IT Infrastructure along with Deployment of Operational Manpower in the Department Offices" on BOO (Build Own and Operate) Model**. The tenders forms, terms and conditions may be obtained through e-procurement portal: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**. The last date for submitting completed tender forms is **04-04-2022 till 5.30 PM.** For further details please contact **Assistant Inspector General of Registration (Computers) (e-mail:aigrcomp@karnataka.gov.in)**

Sd/- Inspector General of Registration and Commissioner of Stamps, Bengaluru.

DIPR/DDU/VC/3172/2021-22

COVID-19 DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 2 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Office of Additional Chief Engineer PHED, Region Bharatpur
Telephone No 05644-222731, 221500, Email: rj_acebha@nic.in

Notice Inviting Bid No. 223/2021-22

Online bids for NIT No. 223/2021-22 (1 work), Costing Rs. 100.00 Cr. is invited on behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan from eligible enlisted in appropriate class contractors of PHED, Rajasthan and meeting eligibility criteria. Contractors enlisted with other departments of Government of Rajasthan and enlisted with CPWD/ Postal/ Telecom/ Railways/ MES/ other State Government/ Central Government undertakings/ organization in class equivalent to "AA" class of Rajasthan (as applicable) and meeting prescribed eligibility criteria may also apply. Details of this Bid notification and pre-qualification criteria can be seen on web site www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. Bids are to be submitted online in electronic format on web site http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in from 28.01.2022 to 07.03.2022 (6PM) & Bids are to be opened at 11.00 AM on 08.03.2022 in presence of willing bidders/their authorized representative.

NIB Code : PHE2122A5645
UBN No.: PHE2122WLOB12547

(Jagat Tiwari)
Addl. Chief Engineer
PHED, Region Bharatpur

DIPR/C/1088/2022

M. P. PASCHIM KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN Co. Ltd.,
GPH COMPOUND, POLOGROUND, INDORE
(Ph. No: 0731-2426144, 2426111, 2426204 & 2426166)
(Email: - sepurchase06@gmail.com)

No. MD/WZ/06/PUR/NIT-268/1769 Indore, dated: 04.02.2022

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Online tenders are invited for supply of following items/services as per Tender Specification:-

TS No.	Name of Items	Unit	Approx Qty	Online tender opening date
1572	11 KV & 33 KV Metering Equipments (CT - PT Combined Unit of 0.5s accuracy class)	No.	629	20.04.2022
1573	HT Trivector Meter 0.5s Accuracy Class for 5 Amp. With Modem for consumer metering	No.	1091	26.04.2022
1574	Double Compartment HT Meter Box with TTB	No.	625	27.04.2022
1575	4G Modem for existing HT meters with GPRS as backward compatibility	No.	200	08.03.2022
1576	12 Core*2.5 Sqmm. Armored Cu Control Cable for Metering	Km.	8.5	08.03.2022
1577	Digital High Quality Clamp Meter (10A & 6KA)	No.	15	04.03.2022
1578	Portable Fully Automatic Electronic 3 Phase Phantom Loading Kit	No.	1	08.03.2022
1579	121 KVAR Capacitor Units	No.	1080	11.03.2022
1580	Providing of SIP trunk with Toll free number for call centre of MPPKVVCL, Indore	LS	LS	03.03.2022
1581	Providing Internet Connectivity (Unlimited plan) through cable Connection in various offices at C/o MD (WZ), Indore	No.	280	09.03.2022
1582	Supply of Oracle Annual Technical Support (ATS) Services at MPPKVVCL, Indore	LS	LS	08.03.2022
1583	Data activated NB-IoT Based SIM Card to be utilized for existing NB-IoT Modem for initial contract period of one year	No.	1500	05.04.2022
1584	Portable primary Injection Testing Kit 0-100 Amp	No.	6	03.03.2022
1585	Phantom loading kit single & Three phase (for manual testing)	No.	9	10.03.2022
1586	Power Quality Analyzer	No.	3	15.03.2022
1587	Engagement of outsourcing agency for testing of LT Meters installed in the premises of high value consumers of Indore O&M circle of MPPKVVCL, Indore	No.	4918	22.03.2022

For further detailed information visit web-site **http://www.mpwz.co.in** or **https://www.mptenders.gov.in**

Chief Engineer (Purchase)

KARNATAKA STATE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE PROCESSING & EXPORT CORPORATION LIMITED (KAPPEC)
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
No. 17, General K.S. Thimayya Road
(Richmond Road), Bengaluru-560 025. Karnataka,
India. Tel: 080-22271194/22243082
E-mail : kappec1996@gmail.com Website kappec.karnataka.gov.in

1. **Letter of Invitation:** Karnataka State Agricultural Produce Processing & Export Corporation Limited (KAPPEC) has been identified as the Cluster Development Agency (CDA) by National Horticulture Board (NHB), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare for the implementation of Cluster Development Programme (CDP) in Chitradurga. The CDA shall recommend the implementing agency/agencies (IA's) for the implementation of different verticals of the Chitradurga Cluster for value chain of Pomegranates, namely- (a) Pre-production and production (b) Post-Harvest Management & Value Addition (c) Logistics, Marketing & Branding.

KAPPEC invites proposals from the eligible implementing agencies to submit their proposal for implementation of Cluster Development Programme for Chitradurga (Cluster) via online portal **(http://www.nhb.gov.in/Online Application Registration Form.aspx).**

Interested agencies may obtain further information and the prescribing the "call for proposals" from the website: **www.nhb.gov.in** and **https://www.kappec.karnataka.gov.in** Last date for submission of proposals is **28.03.2022.** KAPPEC reserves the right to cancel the bid at any time or amend/withdraw any of the terms and conditions contained in the RFP document without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/- MANAGING DIRECTOR

Himachal Pradesh Public Work Department
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The **Executive Engineer Seraj Division HP.PWD Janjehli Distt. Mandi** on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system, from the eligible class of contractor registered with HP PWD for the works as detailed in the table.

Sr. No. :- 1 **Name of Work** :- Construction of Science lab Govt. Sen. Secy, School Bagachanogi in Tehsil Thunag Distt. Mandi (SH:- C/o building portion, W.S. & S.I., Septic tank and Rain Water Harvesting System) **Estimated Cost** :- 1,88,14,087/- **Earnest Money** :- 3,76,300/- **Cost of Tender** :- 5000/- **Eligible class of Contractor** :- Class-C-B **Starting date for downloading bid** :- 10.02.2022 at 11.00 AM **Deadline for submission of bid** :- 18.02.2022 at 09.00 AM

Sr. No. :- 2 **Name of Work** :- Construction of Kelti to Jainshla road Km 0/000 to 6/000 (SH:- F/C 5/7 mtr width in Km at RD 3/630 to 4/690 **Estimated Cost** :- 29,14,307/- **Earnest Money** :- 58,300/- **Cost of Tender** :- 1500/- **Eligible class of Contractor** :- Class-C-D **Starting date for downloading bid** :- 10.02.2022 at 11.00 AM **Deadline for submission of bid** :- 18.02.2022 at 09.00 AM

Sr. No. :- 3 **Name of Work** :- Construction of 25.00 mtr span Jeepable bridge over Khala Khad in GP Lehthach and Kyoli (SH:- C/o Sub structure, super structure and both side approaches) **Estimated Cost** :- 1,32,22,866/- **Earnest Money** :- 2,65,500/- **Cost of Tender** :- 5000/- **Eligible class of Contractor** :- Class-C-B **Starting date for downloading bid** :- 10.02.2022 at 11.00 AM **Deadline for submission of bid** :- 18.02.2022 at 09.00 AM

Sr. No. :- 4 **Name of Work** :- Construction of Link road from Jagrunallah to Ukhali Bekhali Katwanoo road Km 0/000 to 2/250 (SH:- C/o R/Wall at RD 0/060 to 0/090 **Estimated Cost** :- 31,88,937/- **Earnest Money** :- 63,800/- **Cost of Tender** :- 1500/- **Eligible class of Contractor** :- Class-C-D **Starting date for downloading bid** :- 10.02.2022 at 11.00 AM **Deadline for submission of bid** :- 18.02.2022 at 09.00 AM

Sr. No. :- 5 **Name of Work** :- Missing CD on Thalout to Kalhani road Km 0/000 to 10/500 (SH:- C/o 3.00 mtr slab culvert at RD 9/125 **Estimated Cost** :- 13,79,657/- **Earnest Money** :- 27,600/- **Cost of Tender** :- 500/- **Eligible class of Contractor** :- Class-C-D **Starting date for downloading bid** :- 10.02.2022 at 11.00 AM **Deadline for submission of bid** :- 18.02.2022 at 09.00 AM

Sr. No. :- 6 **Name of Work** :- Missing CD on Khalimod to Surah in GP Murag Km 0/000 to 5/070 (SH:- C/o vented couse way with wing wall at Km 1/315) **Estimated Cost** :- 8,73,926/- **Earnest Money** :- 17,500/- **Cost of Tender** :- 500/- **Eligible class of Contractor** :- Class-C-D **Starting date for downloading bid** :- 10.02.2022 at 11.00 AM **Deadline for submission of bid** :- 18.02.2022 at 09.00 AM

Sr. No. :- 7 **Name of Work** :- Construction Link road from Kandhi Kochada to Banoa in GP Kuklah in Km 0/000 to 2/000 (SH:- F/C 5/7 mtr width in Km 0/825 to 1/780 **Estimated Cost** :- 43,31,447/- **Earnest Money** :- 86,600/- **Cost of Tender** :- 2000/- **Eligible class of Contractor** :- Class-C-D **Starting date for downloading bid** :- 10.02.2022 at 11.00 AM **Deadline for submission of bid** :- 18.02.2022 at 09.00 AM

Sr. No. :- 8 **Name of Work** :- Construction of road from Kashinaladhar to Bara Bunad Junger road Km 0/000 to 4/000 (SH:- F/C 5/7 mtr width in Km 3/105 to 3/900 **Estimated Cost** :- 44,16,265/- **Earnest Money** :- 88,300/- **Cost of Tender** :- 2000/- **Eligible class of Contractor** :- Class-C-D **Starting date for downloading bid** :- 10.02.2022 at 11.00 AM **Deadline for submission of bid** :- 18.02.2022 at 09.00 AM

Sr. No. :- 9 **Name of Work** :- Construction of Sudas to Khunachi road Km 0/000 to 1/700 (SH:- C/o R/Wall at RD 1/415 to 1/460 and ROFD and F/C 5/7 mtr width in KM 0/000 to 1/375) under SCCP **Estimated Cost** :- 41,70,164/- **Earnest Money** :- 84,000/- **Cost of Tender** :- 2000/- **Eligible class of Contractor** :- Class-C-D **Starting date for downloading bid** :- 10.02.2022 at 11.00 AM **Deadline for submission of bid** :- 18.02.2022 at 09.00 AM

Sr. No. :- 10 **Name of Work** :- C/o road Teeldhar to Sudhrani road Km 0/000 to 3/500 (SH:- F/C 5/7 mtr width in Km 2/690 to 3/500 **Estimated Cost** :- 34,83,797/- **Earnest Money** :- 69,600/- **Cost of Tender** :- 1500/- **Eligible class of Contractor** :- Class-C-D **Starting date for downloading bid** :- 10.02.2022 at 11.00 AM **Deadline for submission of bid** :- 18.02.2022 at 09.00 AM

Sr. No. :- 11 **Name of Work** :- C/o road Teeldhar to Sudhrani road Km 0/000 to 3/500 (SH:- F/C 5/7 mtr width in Km 1/720 to 2/690 **Estimated Cost** :- 36,39,004/- **Earnest Money** :- 72700/- **Cost of Tender** :- 1500/- **Eligible class of Contractor** :- Class-C-D **Starting date for downloading bid** :- 10.02.2022 at 11.00 AM **Deadline for submission of bid** :- 18.02.2022 at 09.00 AM

Sr. No. :- 12 **Name of Work** :- C/o road Jagrunallah to Ukhali Bhekhali Katwanoo in Km 0/000 to 2/000 (SH:- F/C 5/7 mtr width in Km 1/330 to 1/810) **Estimated Cost** :- 14,89,111/- **Earnest Money** :- 30,000/- **Cost of Tender** :- 500/- **Eligible class of Contractor** :- Class-C-D **Starting date for downloading bid** :- 10.02.2022 at 11.00 AM **Deadline for submission of bid** :- 18.02.2022 at 09.00 AM

Sr. No. :- 13 **Name of Work** :- C/o Link road Dagali to Shehanu Chamar G P Kholanal in Km 0/000 to 2/000 (SH:- F/C 5/7 mtr width in Km 0/270 to 0/510) **Estimated Cost** :- 14,99,241/- **Earnest Money** :- 30,000/- **Cost of Tender** :- 500/- **Eligible class of Contractor** :- Class-C-D **Starting date for downloading bid** :- 10.02.2022 at 11.00 AM **Deadline for submission of bid** :- 18.02.2022 at 09.00 AM

The bidder are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website www.hptenders.gov.in

Executive Engineer
Seraj Division HP.PWD
Janjehli Distt Mandi H.P.

HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

Advt.No. 6650/04/02/2022

SEARCH FOR MISSING

RAVEENA

General Public is hereby informed that a girl (depicted in the photo), **Namely:** Raveena **D/o** Sh. Ramdayal **R/o** Masjid Wali Gali, Chandan Holla, New Delhi, has been missing since 15.01.2022 from her house. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 50/22 U/s 363 IPC dated 16.01.2022 has been registered at Police Station Fatehpur Beri, New Delhi. Her physical description as under:-

Age: 16 Years, **Height**: 5', **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Hair:** Black, **Wearing**: Red Colour Shirt & Black Colour Legging.

Any person having any information/ Clue about this missing girl, may inform SHO, Fatehpur Beri, New Delhi at E-mail Id-**cic@cbi.gov.in** or website: **http://cbi.nic.in**

Phone: **SHO**
011-24368638, 24368641 **P.S. Fatehpur Beri, New Delhi**
Fax No. 011-24368639 **South Distt., New Delhi**
DP/41/SD/2022 **Ph. No. 011-26659511**

UV Asset Reconstruction Co. Ltd

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE

Corporate Office: 1304, Chiranjiv Tower, 43, Nehru Place, New Delhi – 110 019

This public notice is being issued in terms of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (SARFAESI) read with rules 6,7,8 & 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Pursuant to the possession of the properties/secured assets detailed herein below, having been taken by the undersigned as 'Authorized Officer' of UV Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (**UVARCL**), an Asset Reconstruction Company registered with Reserve Bank of India under the provisions of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, for recovery of secured debts of **UVARCL**, it has been decided by the undersigned to sell the properties of under-noted borrowers/guarantors detailed herein below. Offers are invited under sealed covers by the undersigned from intending purchasers/ bidders for purchase of the property/ies described herein below on "**AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS AND WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS**":

Name of the Account Borrower/ Mortgager	Claim amount as per Demand Notice	Description of Property/ies	Reserve Price / Earnest Money (10%)	Possession Status
BORROWER - M/S BHARAT STEEL TUBES LTD (in Liquidation) (Regd. Office: L-77, Lajpat Nagar II, New Delhi-110024) and its 'Guarantors'	**Rs.1139.75 Crore (Rupees One Thousand One Hundred Thirty Nine Crore and Seventy Five Lakhs Only) as on 31.07.2009** together with further interest at contractual rates i.e. **19.75% p.a.** with quarterly rests and costs, charges, other monies until payment or realization in addition to the face value of secured debentures acquired by UVARCL together with accrued interest thereon from the date of allotment of debentures & charges incurred by the undersigned while taking possession of the secured assets & thereafter for preservation of the same, less already received.	Residential Plot admeasuring 2846 Sq. Yards, with built up structure being part of Plot No. 17 situated at Friends Colony Cooperative Housing Building Society Limited, Friends Colony (West), New Delhi and **bounded as under: East:** Road, **West:** Service Road, **South:** Plot No. 16, **North:** Road	**Rs.82,00,00,000/ - (Rupees Eighty Two Crores Only)** **Rs 8,20,00,000/- (Rupees Eight Crores and Twenty Lakhs Only)**	**PHYSICAL POSSESSION**

Notes:
1. M/s Bharat Steel Tubes ("BST") is in liquidation (CP no. 55 of 2000) before Hon'ble High Court of Delhi and official Liquidator has been appointed.
2. Original Application is pending before Debt Recovery Tribunal-I, Delhi, being OA no. 12 of 2003
3. We do not hold original title deeds of this property. The Mortgage of the secured asset was created in favour of our predecessor (s) in interest by deposit of certified copies of the tittle deed, and there is no challenge to our rights as secured creditors.
4. This property is a sub-divided property, being part of bigger property measuring 8600 sq.yds

DATE & TIME OF INSPECTION OF PROPERTY: Between 11.00 AM to 5.00 PM on 18.02.2022.;
LAST DATE AND PLACE OF RECEIVING OFFERS: UV Asset Reconstruction Company Limited, 1304, Chiranjiv Tower, 43, Nehru Place, New Delhi -110019 till **03.00 PM on 23.02.2022;**
DATE AND PLACE OF OPENING TENDERS: At the Corporate Office i.e. UV Asset Reconstruction Company Limited, 1304, Chiranjiv Tower, 43, Nehru Place, New Delhi -110019 on **23.02.2022. at 04.00 PM;**

Terms & Conditions:
1. Interested parties may send and submit their sealed bids for purchase of the said property in the sealed cover superscribed as "**Offer for Assets at Friends Colony – A/c M/s Bharat Steel Tubes Ltd"** along with earnest money deposit equivalent to 10% of reserve price of the property by Banker's Cheque/ Demand Draft favoring UV Asset Reconstruction Company Limited, payable at New Delhi, which is refundable, if the bid/tender is not successful. Offer should reach us **till 3.00 PM on 23.02.2022** at the abovementioned address. Offers without earnest money deposit will summarily be rejected.
2. The successful bidder shall deposit 25% (Twenty Five Percent) of the bid amount immediately i.e. on the same day or not later than next working day (EMD deposit shall be adjusted) on the sale being knocked down in his favor. In case the successful bidder fails to deposit 25% of the bid amount immediately i.e. on the same day or not later than next working day on the sale being knocked down in his favour, the entire deposit amount made by the successful bidder shall be forfeited by the Authorised Officer without any notice.
3. The balance of bid amount shall be paid by the successful bidder to the authorized officer on or before the 15th day of the date of confirmation of sale to the successful bidder by the Authorized Officer or such extended period (in any case not exceeding 3 months) as agreed upon in writing by parties and solely at the discretion of the Authorized Officer. In case of default of payment of the balance of the bid amount within the said period, the entire deposit of the successful bidder shall stand forfeited.
4. Payment to be made in the form of **Banker's cheque/DD drawn in favor of UV Asset Reconstruction Company Limited, payable at New Delhi.**
5. The successful bidder shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance etc such as stamp duty, Registration fee, etc. as applicable as per law.
6. The Authorised officer will not be held responsible for any charge, lien, encumbrance, property tax, or any other dues to the Government or anybody in respect of the property under sale.
7. **The Authorised Officer reserves the right to conduct inter-se bidding at the same place on same day of opening tender/bid. In case of inter-se bidding, the increment amount shall be Rs.1 Lakhs or multiple thereof.**
8. The Authorised Officer has absolute right to accept/ reject any tender/bid or adjourn/ postpone the sale without assigning any reason therefor.
9. The sale is subject to confirmation by the UVARCL (secured creditor).
10. The offers will be opened by the Authorized Officer on 23.02.2022 in the presence of available bidders at the **Corporate Office - UV Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd 1304, Chiranjiv Tower, 43, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019 at 04.00 PM.**
11. The secured creditor shall not be responsible for any error, misstatement or omission in this Sale Notice.
12. For Tender Document and detailed terms & Conditions, please contact on **011-49128520, 8130599388, 8587068492 between 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. or write to us on on shradha@uvarcl.com , COO@uvarcl.com.**

This is also a notice to the Borrower/guarantor/mortgagor of the above said loan about holding this sale on the abovementioned date if their outstanding dues are no repaid in full.

Date: 05.02.2022
Place: : New Delhi

Sd/-Authorised Officer
(UV Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd)

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED.

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL Dam Division.,Narayanpur-585219
Tq :Hunasagi, Dist :Yadigir.

IFT. No.: KBJNL/ DDN/PB/DRIP-II/P-1/CALL-2/2021-22/1566 Date:: 02-02-2022

NATIONAL OPEN COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION

(ONLY THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT SYSTEM)

National Open Competitive Procurement Tender In electronic mode on item rate basis Is Invited from the eligible tenderers vide this office tender notification No: KBJNL/NCB/EE/DDN/DRIP-II/P-1/Call-2/TENDER/2021-22/1565 Date:02.02.2022 by the undersigned on behalf of Managing Director, KBJNL, Bangalore. The tender will be offered through e-procurement system only and will be In two covers system viz Technical Bid and Financial Bid. The tenderers can access e tender document through website: www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and can be submitted through electronic mode only.
The details of work put to tender and the category of contractors eligible Is as under

Sl No.	Name of the work	Approximate Amount put to tender (Rs.in lakhs)	EMD (Rs.in lakhs)	Transaction Fee	Stipulated period of completion of work (including monsoon)	Category/ Class of Contractor Eligible.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	**Treatment of the Masonry Dam for Block no 38 to 52 below MDDL RL 486.00 M including arresting observed leakages in Drainage gallery of Concrete over flow section of Narayanpur Dam (Package-I) under DRIP Phase-II (indent No:21663 Call-2).**	2171.15	INR 21.72	As per E-Procurement	18 Months (Including Rainy season)	Bidders registered with the Government of India or other State Governments / Central Government Undertakings

The intending bidders are requested to submit any queries not later than 11-02-2022 through the e- procurement portal only or raise enquiries during the Pre-Bid meeting. All the queries will be answered in the Pre-Bid meeting. The calendar of events of bidding process is as under

Sl.No.	Calendar of events	Dates
01	**The tenderer can have access to the e-tender technical bid document in the website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in on payment of e-cash towards transaction fee as per e-procurement**	From 04-02-2022 to 14-03-2022 up to 5.00 PM
02	**Pre-Bid meeting at the office of the Managing Director, KBJNL PWD Annex, III Floor K.R. Circle Bengaluru**	15-02-2022 at 11.00 AM
03	**Last date for receipt of queries from the prospective bidders**	11-02-2022 up.to 5.00 PM
04	**Last date for submission of completed tender documents**	14-03-2022 up to 5.00 PM
05	**Date of Opening of technical bid at O/o Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Dam Division, Narayanpur-585219. Dist: Yadgir**	16-03-2022 at 11.00 AM
06	**Date of Opening of Financial bid at O/o Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Dam Division, Narayanpur-585219. Dist: Yadgir**	21-03-2022 @ 11.00 AM (Tentative). Will be Intimated to the qualified bidders after approval to Technical bid

Further information if any can be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours only.

Sd/- (Shankar H. Naikodi) , Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Dam Division, Narayanpur.

SOUTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (E&M)-I
Room N0.2, Near Gate No. 09, Dr Ambedkar Stadium
Delhi Gate, New Delhi-110002
No. EE (E&M)-I/SDMC/2021- 22/D-337 Dated:- 04.02.2022

PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDERES (NIT No - 04)

The Executive Engineer (E&M)-I SDMC on behalf of Commissioner, SDMC invites online tender in two parts (Technical Bid & Financial Bid) for the following work :-
S. No.: 1, **Name of Work:** Hiring of trailer mounted 10-Seater Mobile Toilet Van (with min. 1000 Ltr waste tank and min. 1000 Ltr fresh water tank) and Single Seater Toilet Block (with min. 200 Ltr waste tank and min. 200 Ltr fresh water tank) with various requisite provisions for the work., **Tender Amt. (in Rs.):** 2,44,72,540/-, **EMD (in Rs.):** 4,90,000/-, **Tender Cost (in Rs.):** 1500/-, **Time of Completion:** Two Years.
The tender can be downloaded online from the website **http://eprocure.gov.in.** The last date of tender submission will be **14.02.2022 up to 14:00 PM.** The tenderers will submit their offer online. However, The tender fee and EMD will be payable to Commissioner SDMC through online mode only before submission of closing of bid up to **14.02.2022 at 14:00 PM** for an amount mentioned in above table.
Addendum/corrigendum etc. (if any) shall be uploaded on the aforesaid website only. All prospective bidders are advised to regularly scan the said websites for any update with regard to the subject tender.

RO No.: 70/DPI/S/2021-22 **EE (E&M)-I, SDMC**

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Vipin Gulati, Director, M/s** Kalyani Petrochem Pvt. Ltd., **R/o** A-637, Sec 19, Noida-201301, U.P. has committed (or is suspected to has committed) the offence in case **CC No. 3830/17, U/s 138 NI Act** has been registered at **PS Rajinder Nagar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Vipin Gulati** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Vipin Gulati** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Vipin Gulati** accused of **CC No. 3830/17, U/s 138 NI Act, PS Rajinder Nagar, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **21.03.2022**.

By Order
Sh. Bhujali, Metropolitan Magistrate (NI ACT)-01 (Central)
Room No. 201, 2nd Floor Court Building,
DP/1234/CD/2022-(Court Matter) **Annexe-II, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi**

हरियाणा विद्यालय शिक्षा बोर्ड, भिवानी

(ISO 9001:2015 Certified Organization)

सार्वजनिक सूचना

सर्व साधारण को एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि बोर्ड ऑफ ओपन स्कूलिंग एण्ड रिकल एजूकेशन सिक्किम, गंगटोक द्वारा संचालित सैकेण्डरी/सीनियर सैकेण्डरी परीक्षाओ को हरियाणा विद्यालय शिक्षा बोर्ड, भिवानी द्वारा समनाम से संचालित परीक्षाओ के समकक्ष प्रदान की गई समकक्ष मान्यता वापिस ले ली गई है।

अतः अब बोर्ड ऑफ ओपन स्कूलिंग एण्ड रिकल एजूकेशन सिक्किम, गंगटोक द्वारा संचालित कोई भी परीक्षा हरियाणा विद्यालय शिक्षा बोर्ड भिवानी द्वारा संचालित किसी भी परीक्षा के समकक्ष मान्यता प्राप्त नहीं है और न ही समकक्षता सूची में शामिल है। समकक्षता सूची बोर्ड वैबसाईट www.bseh.org.in पर उपलब्ध है।

RO No. 7332 हस्ता०/-
(अध्यक्ष)

सागर (लड़का) और बिट्टी (लड़की) का विज्ञापन मामला

14 जनवरी 2021 को पुलिस सेक्टर 55 फरीदाबाद की तरफ से सीडब्ल्यूसी फरीदाबाद में सागर (लड़का) और बिट्टी (लड़की) नाम के दो बच्चों को लेकर आई और बताया कि उनकी मां रोटी बनाते समय जल गई थी और वर्तमान में वह दिल्ली के सफदरजंग अस्पताल में भर्ती है, परिवार में बच्चों की देखभाल करने वाला कोई नहीं है। उन्होंने हमारी सोसाइटी मिरेकल चैरिटेबल सोसाइटी, फरीदाबाद विशेष दत्तक ग्रहण एजेंसी जिसका पता मकान नंबर 10, सेक्टर 31 फरीदाबाद को भेजा। काफी समय हो गया है और हमें उनके परिवार और पुलिस से कोई जानकारी नहीं मिली है, न ही कोई बच्चों को देखने या उनके बारे में जानकारी लेने आया है। यदि इन बच्चों के पिता-माता या कोई कानूनी अभिभावक इस विज्ञापन को पढ़ते हैं, तो कृपया कार्यालय जिला बाल संरक्षण अधिकारी या बाल कल्याण समिति, फरीदाबाद से बाल भवन, बस स्टैंड, केएल मेहता के पास, रोड, न्यू इंडस्ट्रियल टाऊन, फरीदाबाद, हरियाणा संपर्क करें फोन नंबर-0129-2265199, +91 7291977831, +91 9711169273 और ई-मेल आईडी- **dcps.faridabad.icps@gmail.com**। अन्यथा, बच्चों को जेजे अधिनियम, 2015 के अनुसार गोद में दिया जाएगा।

RO No. 7325

Advt. No. : SHKM/Rectt/2022/01

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA

Advertisement for filling up the posts for S.H.K.M. Government Medical College, Nalhar, Nuh

40 (GC-15, SC-06, BCA-03, BCB-01, EWS-03, ESM (GC-01), ESP(SC-02, BCA-01, BCB-1), PH-07, posts of Junior Residents are proposed to be filled up on contract basis for SHKM GMC Nalhar, Nuh through Walk-in-Interview for six months only from eligible Medical Graduates on Thursday i.e. 17-02-2022.

The other details like essential qualification, pay scales, fees, application form & other terms and conditions may be downloaded from institute website www.gmcmewat.ac.in. It is also informed that all interested candidates may visit institute website on regular basis for all updates regarding date of interview, No. of posts etc. which is available only on institute website i.e. www.gmcmewat.ac.in. Further recruitment for Junior Residents will be made quarterly basis, date of interview, No. of posts and other details will be updated only on institute web site. i.e. www.gmcmewat.ac.in.

Issued through:DPR,Haryana/Advt.No.7330/04.02.2022. **Director.**

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(A Government of Bihar Undertaking)
Beltron Bhawan, Shastri Nagar, Patna-800023,
Telephone No. 0612-2281242 Tele Fax No. 0612-2281857
CIN No -U31900BR1978SGC001317
Email: sanjivani@bihar.gov.in

Ref. No. 5432/2022

e-Tender Notice

e- Tenders are invited by **Bihar State Electronics Development Corporation Ltd.** for **"Selection of System Integrator for PROCUREMENT OF ICT EQUIPMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTING C-DOT LEMF SOLUTION FOR CENTRALIZED MONITORING SYSTEM, POLICE DEPTT. (Deptt. of Home) GoB".** The details of the tender will be available on the website: **www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in.**

Last date of Bid submission is 10/03/22.

PR- 012710 (Ni.Ni.) 2021-22 **Managing Director**

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GURU JAMBHESHWAR UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, HISAR

(Established by State Legislature Act 17 of 1995)
A GRADE NAAC Accredited State Govt. University
ADVT. NO. 1/2022

FACULTY POSITIONS

Online applications are invited on the prescribed form for the posts of Assistant Professor in various departments on regular basis. Last date for submission of online applications is **08.03.2022.** Detailed information with regard to number of posts, qualifications, selection criteria, etc. may be seen on the University website **www.gjust.ac.in.**

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बिहार सरकार

Bihar Horticulture Development Society, Patna.

2nd Floor, Pant Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna-800001,
Phone Fax: 0612-2521776, e-mail: md-hort-bih@nic.in, dir-bhds-bih@nic.in,
Website : horticulture.bihar.gov.in

SHORT NOTICE – INVITING e-TENDER (SECOND RE-TENDER)

1. Bihar Horticulture Development Society (BHDS), Government of Bihar invites e-tender from empaneled agencies under micro irrigation plan for implementation of digitization of selected Seed Multiplication (SM) farms in Bihar under NeGP-A. The Micro Irrigation agencies other than those empaneled with BHDS may also apply after undergoing the due empanelment process.
2. The complete bidding document shall be published on https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in/BELTRONand http://horticulture.bihar.gov.infor the purpose of downloading.

SN	Particulars	Details
1.	Start Date & Time for Downloading of Tender document	11.02.2022 (10:00 Hrs.)
2.	Last Date & Time for Downloading of Tender document	17.02.2022 (11:00 Hrs.)
3.	Last Date & Time for submission/ uploading of offer/Bid	18.02.2022 (10:00 Hrs.)
4.	Date and time of Technical bid opening	18.02.2022 (15:00 Hrs.)
5.	Date and time of Financial bid opening	To be intimated to technically successful bidder only
6.	Contact person for queries	Mr. Anil Kumar, Assistant Director Agriculture Engineering Mobile No.: 7763889307
7.	It is mandatory to submit the EMD and in hard copy or original on or before the online submission of technical bid	

1. Bidders are advised to study this RFP document carefully before submitting their proposals in response to the RFP. Submission of a proposal in response to this shall be deemed to have been done after careful study and examination of the document with full understanding of its terms, conditions and implications
2. The proposal must be submitted online through https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in/BELTRON.
3. Mission Director, Bihar Horticulture Development Society, Patna reserves the right to revise/change/cancel the Tender without assigning any reasons thereof.

Mission Director
Bihar Horticulture Development Society, Bihar, Patna

PR- 12803 (Agriculture) 2021-22

नशे से बनानी दूरी है, क्योंकि परिवार जरूरी है।

BMSICL Bihar Medical Services & Infrastructure Corporation Limited

4th floor State Building Construction Corporation Limited.
Hospital Road, Shastri Nagar, Patna 800023
Mob No: +919471006239, +919471009071

TENDER NOTICE

Tender for Selection of Managed Service Provider for Bihar State Health System Digitization.

Notice Inviting Tender Ref No.: -BMSIC/MSPBSHSD/22-01

(Only through E- Tender on website: -www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)

Bihar Medical Services and Infrastructure Corporation Limited (BMSICL) invitesE-Bids from the interested parties for "Selection of Managed Service Provider for Bihar State Health System Digitization", vide Notice Inviting Tender No.-BMSIC/MSPBSHSD/22-01. Detailed tender document containing eligibility criteria, selection mechanism, other terms and conditions are available on the website www.eproc.bihar.gov.in.

Tender Schedule

Tender Reference No.	BMSIC/MSPBSHSD/22-01.
Date and time for downloading of bid document	Upto 26th February2022 till 1800 Hrs.
Date of pre-bid Meeting	10th February 2022 at 15:00 Hrs (Considering the current situation BMSICL may decide to conduct the pre -bid meeting through electronic mode, the details for the same shall be posted on BMSICL website http://bmsicl.gov.in Bidders are requested to regularly check the website for such updates)
Last date and time of submission of online bids	28th February 2022 by 18:00 Hrs.
Last date and time for submission of original bid documents with EMD and Tender Fees	02nd March 2022 till 14:00 Hrs.
Date, Time and Place of opening of Technical Bid	02nd March 2022 (at 15:00 Hrs.) on the website of www.eproc.bihar.gov.in in the office of BMSICL
Date and time of opening of Financial Bids	To be announced later on www.bmsicl.gov.in and www.eproc.bihar.gov.in
Validity of Tender	180 Days
Cost of the tender document	Rs. 10000/- (Ten Thousand only) + GST @18% Non-refundable.
Bid Processing Fee	Rs 1180/-(One thousand one hundred eighty only) Non-refundable.

Details information visit website state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar **GM (Procurement) BMSICL**

PR- 012843 (Ni.Ni.) 2021-22

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

TIMES GLOBAL

YOU MAY DELAY, BUT TIME WILL NOT — BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

* THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2022

CHANNING TATUM SAYS HE'S 'TRAUMATISED' & NOW CAN'T WATCH MARVEL FILMS AFTER PROJECT STARRING HIM FELL APART IN 2016

SARAH JESSICA PARKER SAYS WON'T BE OK WITH KIM CATTRALL REJOINING 'SEX AND THE CITY': TOO MUCH PUBLIC HISTORY OF FEELINGS ON KIM'S PART

India has protested CPEC as it is laid through POK

▶ Continued from P 1

Addressing the meeting, Khan, who was a critic of the CPEC before coming to power for its secrecy and uneven investments neglecting certain provinces of the country, said that the project has strategic significance for both the countries and delivering tangible benefits. He noted that the CPEC's early-harvest projects had transformed Pakistan's economic landscape, thus laying a solid foundation for sustainable economic growth, the report said. During the meeting, both sides reviewed the progress of ongoing CPEC projects and discussed the preparations for future initiatives, it said. Addressing the Chinese criticism of delay in projects, Khan, who prior to his visit ordered the removal of 37 regulations hindering the pace of the CPEC projects, reaffirmed the commitment of the two sides to their timely completion.

The ambitious CPEC is a 3,000-km long route of infrastructure projects connecting China's northwest Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region and the Gwadar Port in the western province of Balochistan in Pakistan. India has protested to China over the CPEC as it is being laid through the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (POK).

As CPEC entered its second phase which primarily revolves around Special Economic Zones development and industrialisation, the need for a comprehensive Framework Agreement became imperative, the report said. Last year, a report by US-based international development research lab AidData said that a substantial chunk of Chinese development financing under the CPEC consists of loans that are at or near commercial rates as opposed to grants. According to the report, excerpts of which was carried by Pakistani daily Dawn, Pakistan received about half of all Chinese development finance in the form of "export buyer's credit", i.e. money lent by Chinese institutions to Pakistan in order to facilitate the purchase of equipment and goods to be bought by Chinese implementation partners. As much as 40% of China's lending to Pakistan do not appear on the government's books "for the most part", the report said. In its editorial, Dawn said that the nature of Chinese financing calls for a greater transparency. PTI

Cash-strapped Pak to 'lend Lanka $200m to buy rice, cement'

Cash-strapped Pakistan has decided to lend Sri Lanka a $200 million loan for the purchase of rice and cement, the News reported. The decision was made during a recent visit of the Sri Lankan trade minister to Islamabad, the report said. However, the terms and duration of the loan were being finalised by the authorities from both the countries, it added. Sri Lanka will use the amount for the import of rice and cement from Pakistan. Sri Lanka's secretary to the treasury Sajith Attygalle confirmed that Islamabad and Colombo have agreed on the $200 million credit line in principle while the details of the credit is yet to be worked out, according to the Colombo-based Daily Mirror newspaper. The amount will be used to import cement, basmati rice and medicines manufactured in Pakistan, the publication added. Sri Lanka has been facing a shortage of cement. IANS

Putin & Xi vow 'no limits' to Russia and China ties

Oppose Nato Expansion, Affirm Taiwan Part Of China

Moscow: China and Russia proclaimed a deep strategic partnership on Friday to balance what they portrayed as the malign global influence of the US as China's President Xi Jinping hosted Russia's Vladimir Putin on the opening day of the Beijing Winter Olympics. In a joint statement, the two countries affirmed that their new relationship was superior to any political or military alliance of the Cold War era. "Friendship between the two states has no limits, there are no 'forbidden' areas of cooperation," they declared, announcing plans to collaborate in a host of areas including space, climate change, artificial intelligence and control of the Internet.

The agreement marked the most detailed and assertive statement of Russian and Chinese resolve to work together — and against the US — to build a new international order based on their own interpretations of human rights and democracy. Steeped in ideological discourse, it was not clear whether it would immediately translate into an increase in tangible and practical cooperation despite Putin trumpeting a new gas deal with China on Friday, or was intended as more of a statement of general policy intent.

The two countries have moved closer together as both have come under pressure from the West on a host of issues including their human rights records and Russia's military build-up near Ukraine. The timing of their announcement was highly symbolic, at a China-hosted Olympics that the US has subjected to a diplomatic boycott. Each went significantly further than before in explicitly backing the other over key bones of contention with the US and its allies:

- Russia voiced its support for China's stance that Taiwan is an inalienable part of China, and opposition to any form of independence for the island. Moscow and Beijing also voiced their opposition to the AUKUS alliance between Australia, Britain and the US, saying it increased the danger of an arms race in the region.
- China joined Russia in calling for an end to Nato enlargement and supported its demand for security guarantees from the West — issues at the heart of Moscow's confrontation with the US and its allies.

The two countries expressed concern about "the advancement of US plans to develop global missile defence and deploy its elements in various regions of the world, combined with capacity building of high-precision non-nuclear weapons for disarming strikes and other strategic objectives". Elsewhere, without naming Washington, they criticised attempts by "certain states" to establish global hegemony, fan confrontation and impose their own standards of democracy.

In the technology arena, Russia and China said they were ready to strengthen cooperation on artificial intelligence and information security. They said they believed that "any attempts to limit their sovereign right to regulate national segments of the internet and ensure their security are unacceptable". Meanwhile Russian state energy giants Gazprom and Rosneft on Friday agreed new gas and oil supply deals with Beijing worth tens of billions of dollars. The deals capitalise on Putin's drive to diversify Russian energy exports away from the West, which started shortly after he came to power in 1999. The Kremlin said the presidents also discussed the need to broaden trade in national currencies because of unpredictability surrounding the use of the dollar. REUTERS

via Reuters

Russian President Putin with Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping in Beijing. Russia energy giants Gazprom and Rosneft on Friday agreed new gas and oil supply deals with Beijing worth tens of billions of dollars. The deals capitalise on Putin's drive to diversify Russian energy exports away from the West

Russia has history of invasions during (or just after) Oly

As Beijing prepared to officially open the Winter Olympics on Friday, in another part of the capital, Xi Jinping, China's leader, was preparing to host President Putin of Russia to discuss the crisis in Ukraine. The US and Nato have been warning for weeks that Russia may be on the brink of invading Ukraine. If that were to happen before February 20, it would not be the first time in recent memory that Russia troops had marched into a former Soviet republic during the Olympics. As Beijing was hosting the opening ceremony for the 2008 Summer Games, news spread that Russian troops had moved into Georgia. At the time, Russia's president was Dmitri Medvedev (and Putin was PM). But it was Putin's stern statements, issued from the Beijing Olympics, that appeared to define his country's position. In 2014, Russian troops began streaming into Crimea days after Putin returned to Moscow from the Winter Olympics in Sochi. The invasion was a response to the ouster of Ukraine's president, Viktor Yanukovych, in late February, during the Games. Putin later reclaimed Crimea as part of Russia. NYT

US warns Chinese cos against helping Russia

The US warned Chinese firms on Thursday they would face consequences if they sought to evade any export controls imposed on Moscow in the event of Russia invading Ukraine. "We have an array of tools that we can deploy if we see foreign companies, including those in China, doing their best to backfill US export control actions, to evade them, to get around them," US state department spokesman Ned Price said. Western countries say any invasion of Ukraine by Russia would bring sanctions on Moscow. REUTERS

Johnson hit by staff exodus as aides quit

London: This was the week British PM Boris Johnson hoped to get a grip on his government after weeks of scandal. By Friday, he was struggling to hang on after a scathing report on lockdown-breaching parties and the departure of several top aides.

Johnson was rocked on Thursday by the resignation of his policy chief, Munira Mirza, a trusted adviser who worked with him for over a decade. Mirza stood by the PM amid "partygate" revelations that Johnson and his staff broke the rules they had imposed on the nation. But she said his "scurrilous accusation" this week that an opposition leader had failed to stop a paedophile was the final straw.

After Mirza quit, Johnson's office announced the departure of three more top staffers: chief of staff Dan Rosenfield, communications director Jack Doyle and principal private secretary Martin Reynolds. Elena Narozanski, who worked in Mirza's policy unit, resigned on Friday. Johnson tried to reassure staff that he remained in control by quoting the wise monkey Rafiki from "The Lion King", telling a meeting: "Change is good" even if it is difficult.

Conservative lawmakers loyal to Johnson depicted the departures as part of a planned overhaul to restore order to his 10 Downing Street office.

"The PM was clear... there would be changes at the top of No. 10 and that is what he has delivered," energy minister Greg Hands said. "This is the PM taking charge." Others weren't so sure. The PM's grip on power has been shaken by public anger at revelations that his staff held "bring your own booze" office parties at times in 2020 and 2021 when Covid curbs in place. Rosenfield, Doyle and especially Reynolds — who sent 100 government staff invitations to a BYOB party in May 2020 — were always likely to be ousted as part of the PM's post-"partygate" shakeup.

The exodus is sending further shockwaves through Conservative MPs as they mull whether to seek a no-confidence vote in the PM. Under party rules, such a vote is triggered if 15% of party lawmakers — at present 54 people — write letters calling for one. If Johnson lost such a vote, he would be replaced as party leader and PM.

About a dozen Conservative legislators have publicly called for Johnson to quit. AP

AFP

British PM Johnson is attempting to reset his government following the 'partygate' scandal that has put his position in peril

AROUND THE WORLD

Plan to dismantle bridge for Bezos yacht sparks anger

A plan to temporarily dismantle a recently restored historic bridge in Dutch port city Rotterdam so that a huge yacht, reportedly being built for Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, can get to the North Sea is unlikely to be plain sailing. Reports this week that the city had already agreed to take apart the Koningshaven Bridge sparked anger with one Facebook event set up calling for people to pelt the multimillion dollar yacht with rotten eggs. However, a spokeswoman for mayor Ahmed Aboutaleb said on Friday that while a request has been submitted by a shipbuilder for the bridge to temporarily be taken apart over the summer, no permit has yet been sought or granted. "It really is our heritage. And I think that if the rich can pay for it to be opened, which normally nobody else could do, then you get controversy," said Rotterdam local Lizette Touber. Aboutaleb said that once a request for a permit is submitted it'll be assessed based on factors including economic impact, environmental nuisance and possible risks to the "monumental structure" of the bridge.

Myanmar piles on 11th graft charge against Suu Kyi

Police in Myanmar have filed an 11th corruption charge against Aung San Suu Kyi, the country's elected leader who was ousted from power by a coup, state-controlled media reported on Friday. Global New Light of Myanmar newspaper reported that Suu Kyi was being charged under the Anti-Corruption Law covering bribery, which carries a maximum prison term of 15 years.

Austria vaccine mandate becomes law

Vienna: An Austrian law making it compulsory for adults to get vaccinated against the coronavirus, the EU's first such sweeping Covid vaccine mandate, was promulgated on Friday and will go into force on Saturday. Austria's Upper House of parliament passed the bill on Thursday by a large margin. It was officially published on Friday after being signed into law by President Alexander Van der Bellen and Chancellor Karl Nehammer, meaning it will take effect on Saturday. Roughly 69% of Austria's population is fully vaccinated against Covid-19, one of the lowest rates in western Europe, which the government says justifies the measure and its fines of up to €3,600 ($4,109) for breaches.

There are, however, growing doubts that the mandate will be fully implemented since a record number of infections due to the Omicron variant is increasing immunity among the population.

"The law is unconstitutional," Herbert Kickl, leader of the far-right and anti-vaccination Freedom Party, the only party to oppose the bill, said. There are also weekly protests on Saturdays in Vienna against curbs including the mandate, often attended by thousands of people. The policy will be implemented in phases. There will be no checks until March 15, when police will start verifying the vaccination status of people at random. More thorough checks will begin at a later, unspecified date in a third phase. REUTERS

AP

Roughly 69% of Austria's population is fully vaccinated against Covid-19, one of the lowest rates in W Europe

China intel hand in News Corp hacking?

Washington: News Corp, publisher of Wall Street Journal, said on Friday it had been hacked and had data stolen from journalists and other staffers, and a cybersecurity firm probing the intrusion said Chinese intelligence-gathering was believed behind the operation.

The news company, whose publications include New York Post, said it had discovered the breach on January 20. It said in a regulatory filing that an investigation is underway "to determine its nature, scope, duration and impacts". It said customer and financial data were so far not affected and that the firm's operations had not been interrupted.

But a major concern was the company's journalists. News organisations are prime targets for the world's intelligence agencies because their reporters are in constant contact with sources of sensitive information. Journalists and newsrooms from Mexico and El Salvador to Qatar, where Al-Jazeera is based, have been hacked with powerful spyware.

Mandiant, the cybersecurity firm examining the hack, said it "assesses that those behind this activity have a China nexus, and we believe they are likely involved in espionage activities to collect intelligence to benefit China's interests." It was not known when the hackers breached the network or how much data they stole. In an email to staff, News Corp said the hack "affected a limited number" of email accounts and documents. "Our preliminary analysis indicates that foreign government involvement may be associated with this activity, and that some data was taken," the firm said. A spokesperson for the Chinese embassy in Washington did not return an email seeking comment. News Corp's assets includes the publishing house HarperCollins, News Corp Australia and Storyful. AP

TIMES NATION

Metallic net to keep out birds at Tower of Silence

▶Continued from P 1

The agreed protocol was framed after discussion between representatives of the community and solicitor general Tushar Mehta who was asked by the court to explore an amicable solution. At the outset of hearing, senior advocate Fali S Nariman told a bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and Surya Kant that the issue has been resolved amicably with the assistance of solicitor general and the court could dispose of the case after taking on record the agreed SOP.

As per the SOP, only Dokhma No.3 (well and platform in the Tower of Silence) will be used for bodies of Parsi Covid victims; non-Covid victims' bodies will be placed in other Dokhmas. The community also agreed to install as soon as possible a metallic bird net over Dokhma No. 3 so that the birds, which could become carriers of the virus, do not come in contact with the body.

It says that bodies will be brought to the funeral parlour in the Tower of Silence complex and will only be handled by the Nassasalars (professional corpse bearers employed by the Panchayats). The corpse bearers will be fully vaccinated and their temperatures duly recorded before every funeral.

The SOP says that neither relatives nor friends will be permitted to touch the body and it will be ensured that they always remain beyond 10 feet away.

Appoint dedicated nodal officers for ex gratia: SC

▶Continued from P 1

After going through the latest data collated by additional solicitor general Aishwarya Bhati on the basis of information provided by the states, Justices Shah and Nagrathna indicated that the states needed to be more pro-active in helping the aggrieved families, and directed them to appoint dedicated nodal officer to coordinate with the member-secretary of the State Legal Service Authority (SLSA) to streamline the process and facilitate payment of ex gratia.

The court was hearing a PIL filed by social activist Gaurav Bansal on whose plea it had passed the order for grant of compensation to the families of Covid victims.

Since the bench expanded the criteria for determining the eligibility of those who can claim compensation for Covid deaths, the gap between the "deaths" recognised by state governments as having been caused by the virus, and the claims made for compensation has widened. The court had said death of any person, including suicide, within 30 days of testing positive will be treated as a Covid death case and the family will be entitled to compensation. The largest number of applications was rejected by the Maharashtra, which refused compensation to 61,848 out of the total 2,27,107 applications.

For Maharashtra, the official death toll is 1,42,705 and it has paid compensation to 1,32,092 families. The number of claims for Covid compensation received in Gujarat now stands at 1,02,230 against the official toll of 10,094. The state has approved 87,045 claims and disbursed compensation amount to 82,605 families, while rejecting 8,994 applications.

Telangana rejected 2,752 claims out of total 31,053.

PTI

A woman gets tested for Covid in Mumbai on Friday

SC to take up Haryana plea next wk

▶Continued from P 1

I was asked by the HC to argue. When I started and had hardly completed two sentences in about the one-and-a-half-minute-long hearing, the HC dictated the order granting an interim stay on the operation of the law, Haryana State Employment of Local Candidates Act," Mehta said. CJI Ramana agreed to hear the appeal next week.

"This, by itself, is a serious matter and I have many points to make. Despite the order being passed hurriedly on Thursday, the same is not yet uploaded," the SG said and sought the CJI's permission to circulate the special leave petition on Monday subject to his placing the order of the HC on record. The CJI permitted the circulation of the SLP on Monday, subject to the order being placed on record.

The Haryana law has kept 75% of jobs in the state, offering salaries of Rs 30,000 or less, reserved for locals and has made it applicable even to all private companies which employ more than 10 persons. The state in its appeal said the stay granted by the HC was in the teeth of the SC's consistent rulings that a legislation bringing social reforms could not be stayed at the interim stage until and unless it was proved by the challenger that the provisions were manifestly unjust and glaringly unconstitutional.

The HC did not even call upon the petitioners to make arguments about the constitutionality of the provisions of the law giving 75% reservation to locals in private employment irrespective of caste or religion, making the order "ex-facie unsustainable and liable to be set aside (by the SC)", state said in its SLP, which was drafted overnight by a team of lawyers.

Automated fitness tests a must for cars from June 2024

New Delhi: All heavy commercial vehicles such as trucks and buses would have to get fitness tests done from approved automated testing stations from June, 2023, according to a draft notification issued by the road transport ministry. For personal, medium goods and passenger vehicles, this mandatory norm would be effective from June 2024, it said.

This proposed change in the fitness test regime is part of the government's policy to push the voluntary vehicle scrappage policy to retire unfit vehicles. Currently, the vehicle owners can get the test done either at any automated or manual testing centre.

There is a high scope of the test results getting manipulated in the manual system. Some of the transport experts told **TOI** that the government has to ensure that there are enough such centres across the country before making this mandatory. "You can't hold people responsible, if they don't get such a centre within100-km radius. Each authorised dealers of vehicles should have this facility linked to the RTO. You will see the compliance when you ensure the facilities rather than simply putting the blame on people," said S P Singh of IFTRT, a Delhi-based think tank on transport issues.

The motor vehicle law mandates fitness testing for commercial vehicles every two years up to eight years, and every year for vehicles older than eight years. TNN

Crushed between trucks during drill, fireman dies

Mumbai: One firefighter — who was injured along with two others last Saturday while performing a fire drill at a building in Mumbai's Matunga — succumbed to injuries on Thursday, reports **Chaitanya Marpakwar**.

Sadashiv Karve (56), who had sustained grievous injuries, had his leg amputated. He was admitted in the ICU at BMC's Sion hospital. Karve's body was placed at the fire brigade headquarters in Byculla on Friday. Mayor Kishori Pednekar paid tribute by offering a wreath on behalf of the citizens.

Karve is survived by his wife and two sons.

The three, including Karve, were in charge of driving a fire engine, standing behind the engine and operating the pump attached to it.

"Accidentally, the fire vehicle that was stationed behind them started to move ahead and the three were crushed between the two engines," said a fire official. Chanchal Pagare and Nivrutti Ingavle, the other two firefighters, were discharged from the hospital.

The fire brigade has suspended the driver of the fire engine that lost control and a probe was ordered to ascertain the cause of the incident and to investigate if there was any negligence.

Govt: Steps taken to ensure social media accountability

▶Continued from P 1

Asked by Congress MP Anand Sharma on steps to check "insidious messages" on social media, the minister said various measures had been taken to ensure social media accountability.

At this point, the government is working within the constitutional framework. "If the House has consensus, we are willing to provide even stricter social media rules. We have to come forward as a society to make social media more accountable," the minister said. Law enforcement agencies in different states are taking action based on the information provided from the Centre.

There is a framework created for any cybercrime that happens in the country and it can be reported over a central portal and it goes to the relevant law enforcement agency, he added. The government brought comprehensive intermediary rules and guidelines for social media in 2021 to make it safe and accountable.

Under it, there were five institutional frameworks and all social media intermediaries were obliged to publish their monthly compliance reports online, Vaishnaw said.

Need an honest CM candidate: Sidhu keeps up heat on Channi

▶Continued from P 1

People at the top want a weak CM. They want a CM who will sing their tunes. Do you want such a CM?" Sidhu was heard saying in a video from a public meeting in Amritsar, while his supporters were seen shouting: "Hamara CM kaisa ho, Navjot Sidhu jaisa ho."

The clip quickly went viral, prompting him to make a rejoinder: "My statement has been distorted, there are chief ministers who have danced to tunes of the Centre like puppets even if they don't like the tune."

Sidhu said the Congress high command is intelligent and will look into all angles before making a decision. He said he will accept the top leadership's decision. "Everyone can't become chief minister. How can you become CM without MLAs?"

The comments followed Congress's plan to devise from its past strategy of not nominating a CM before the polls. Both Channi and Sidhu insisted that the party will do well if Punjab's voters have the clarity on who will be CM.

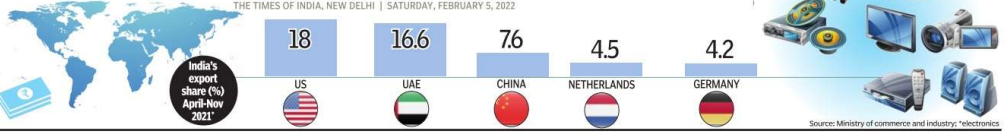
Sidhu kept the fire going against Channi in separate remarks through Friday. He said: "We need an honest candidate…A 'mafia-type person' cannot implement your programmes." His comments were seen as a direct attack on Channi on a day the CM faced a setback as the Enforcement Directorate arrested his nephew in a case of illegal sand mining.

TIMES BUSINESS

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2022

India's Electronic Goods' Exports Surge To $11bn

Indian electronic goods' exports grew 49% in April-December 2021 to $11bn (provisional) from $7.4bn in 2020. Exports touched $1.7bn in December, registering a 34% growth. Mobile phones were a major chunk of the exports. Other exports include IT hardware, consumer, industrial and auto electronics, electronic components, LED Lighting, strategic electronics, and wearables



Source: Ministry of commerce and industry; *electronics

Small savings inflows surge in FY22 due to Covid impact

Savers Seek Better Returns, Feel Need To Build Safety Nets

Sidhartha & Surojit Gupta | TNN

New Delhi: There has been a sharp increase in inflows to small savings schemes such as public provident fund (PPF) in the current fiscal year as savers flocked to such safe haven instruments for better returns, against the backdrop of devastating impact of Covid, Budget data showed.

Falling interest rates on traditional savings products such as fixed deposits and the need to create safety nets due to the pandemic, triggered a shift to small savings products, which have remained attractive because of higher returns they offer and the impact of compounding.

For example, in 2021-22, savings deposits are estimated to increase by 21.8% from 8.8% growth in the previous year, while certificates (like NSCs) are also set to rise by 21.2% in the current fiscal from 11.8% in the previous year, according to data in the Budget documents *(see graphic)*.

Experts attributed the increase in investment in these schemes to the search for better returns. "Investors flocking to fixed income products are primarily on account of low yields on market-linked debt mainly mutual funds. The volatility only increases with mark-to-market (MTM) impact on account of increase in interest rates. However, if you are true to your holding period then run-down maturities product offer you yields, which you will be able to earn, provided you hold till maturity. Investors may consider these products in a staggered manner spread over the next six-eight months," said financial planner Surya Bhatia.

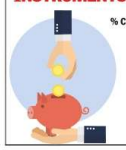
Government officials said inflows to small savings schemes are estimated to be on the higher side this year and are expected to moderate next year as FD rates rise. The RBI has pointed to the high rates as an obstacle to its ability to lower overall rates and has backed rationalisation of returns on these schemes.

"This year, we expect around Rs 6 lakh crore of inflows. But in a typical year it is of the order of Rs 3-4 lakh crore and in 2022-23 we expect around Rs 4.25 lakh crore of inflows on a perspective that people will find other investment avenues to be equally attractive. But if it does not happen, then market borrowings will go down," Ajay Seth, secretary department of economic affairs, told **TOI** in an interview.

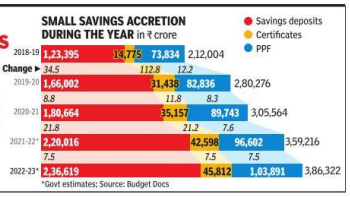
The Centre has kept the interest rate unchanged for these schemes for seven quarters. The 5-year post office scheme offers a 6.7% rate, while PPF yields 7.1% return.

"A surge in small savings collections in this fiscal has ensured that net borrowing of the government stayed within reasonable limits and even fall short of Budget estimates. In the current fiscal, the government has scaled down significantly the budgeted small savings collections. The jury is still out whether small saving collections will continue to be attractive," said Soumya Kanti Ghosh, group chief economic adviser at SBI.

SAFE-HAVEN INSTRUMENTS



SMALL SAVINGS ACCRETION DURING THE YEAR in ₹ crore



*Govt estimates; Source: Budget Docs

IndiGo names co-founder & promoter Bhatia as MD

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Gearing up for Tata-Air India big plans, IndiGo on Friday announced it will embark on a major expansion on international longhaul routes. The budget carrier's co-founder and promoter Rahul Bhatia has been appointed as MD to prepare for this next phase of growth. The airline quoted Bhatia as saying that his "agenda would be transformational and would focus on expanding the airline's presence in India and in international markets and building for the long term."

IndiGo CEO Ronojoy Dutta said, "I would describe Rahul as a restless and driven entrepreneur, who is always looking for bigger and improved opportunities in any business or venture. For example, our initiative into cargo, as well as the entire digitisation in the last couple of years were spearheaded by Rahul."

"We are now entering a new phase in our journey, with more international and long-haul flights. In this evolving and exciting environment, strengthening the thought leadership in the company is a timely and welcome move," Dutta added. About Bhatia's new role, IndiGo chairman Meleveetil Damodaran said, "This will further strengthen the airline in the years ahead. Bhatia would oversee all aspects of the airline, and actively lead the management team."

Upskilling helps cos beat Covid shocks

Employees Who Fail To Stay Up-To-Date In Their Fields Risk Becoming Redundant

Namrata.Singh
@timesgroup.com

One of the statistics thrown up by researchers in the wake of the pandemic-triggered lockdown was that people were buying vast amounts of snacks. But what of the companies making those snacks? How did they keep their factories going? Here's what happened at Mondelez India, which decided to advance the launch of its entry into cakes in 2020.

There was limited scope to travel to the factory due to Covid restrictions. So, the entire process was executed on virtual mobile platforms with the vendor in remote locations. "We would have had no option but to shut the line for three weeks had the shift engineer not run it from his laptop," says Mondelez International president (India) Deepak Iyer.

Mondelez India, well before the pandemic, had been experimenting with putting sensors on all its machines and collecting that information. The engineers had been learning from the information and had been trained on IoT (Internet of things), which allowed them to run the production line remotely. "If he wasn't trained on using IoT, this could never have happened," says Iyer.

It's not just about getting cakes off the production line and into homes. Machine learning (ML) & artificial intelligence (AI), augmented & virtual reality (AR & VR) helped Mondelez shift an entire chocolate line from China to India without the machine manufacturers coming to the floor. Instructions were provided over cameras and mobile platforms on how to dismantle the line, how to package, ship it, unpack it, and assemble it. A couple of months ago, Mondelez started production on time, without any delay despite Covid. Iyer says all this is because Mondelez is focused on learning.

Today, even in revenue management models, advanced pricing tools and techniques are being used to offset rising cost pressures. "If you go through the entire domain of data analytics today, you can't say, 'I have a set of people doing data analytics'. It's everybody's job. Building data analytics as a skill means they must take courses. We have offered digital marketing external courses like 'low-code/no-code', which means even without knowing coding in Python, you can still work with low-code/no-code kind of algorithms that will teach you how to code the data that you want to see," says Iyer.

Mapping competencies: SKF India CHRO & director Gautam Kumar says today's workforce needs to continually learn new skills and adapt to the ever-changing environment. Greater adoption of technology will mean that skills needed for jobs will keep changing, and the skills gaps will continue to be high. The pandemic has only accelerated the pace of change.

To help understand this better, SKF has mapped the jobs and skills required in future. "While mapping future competencies, we saw a radical change in the technology needed," says Kumar.

To enable growth, SKF aims to bring in new technology and has identified key future mega trends such as digitisation, new business model, integration of sensors with bearings, electric vehicles, sealing and bearing solutions.

The teacher also learns: In keeping with the changing needs of learning, Harvard Business School (HBS) is reimagining its educational programmes even as it looks ahead to see what relevant skills leaders and general managers would require with the changing times. In the wake of the pandemic, HBS set up hybrid classrooms for many courses, with executive education going completely online.

Learning for life: On why learning has shifted from a one-time phenomenon to a lifelong exercise, Prabir Jha, founder & CEO of Prabir Jha People Advisory, says when the world had long spells of steadiness, generations could get by with some base learning or qualification. "You need not only be impactful, you need to stay relevant," says Jha.

Clearly, leaders will need to drive this change they wish to see in their organisations.

This story first appeared in the Worklife+ newsletter

'LEARNING MUST BE IN-DEPTH, YET WIDE'

"Investing in learning is very important to stay relevant and grow. This is the mindset we have been driving very intentionally in our organisation

DEEPAK IYER | PRESIDENT (INDIA), MONDELEZ INT'L

"Many people ask me why should learning only occur in the 2 years (of MBA)? The world is changing fast. I think it's really possible now because of the digital transformation

SRIKANT DATAR | DEAN, HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL

"Learning must be anticipatory and discontinuous. It must be deep enough, yet wide-angled. You don't need to sharpen your axe — ask if the axe is even relevant

PRABIR JHA | FOUNDER & CEO, PRABIR JHA PEOPLE ADVISORY

TOI+

For full report, scan the QR code

Tata Steel Q3 net doubles to ₹9,598cr

New Delhi: Steel major Tata Steel on Friday said its consolidated net profit more than doubled to Rs 9,598 crore for the quarter ended December 2021, mainly on account of higher income. The company had clocked a net profit of Rs 4,011 crore in the year-ago period.

Total income during the October-December quarter jumped to Rs 60,843 crore from Rs 42,153 crore in the year-ago period. Tata Steel CEO and MD T V Narendran said domestic steel demand has begun to improve on the back of continued economic recovery as the third wave of Covid begins to ebb.

The company's steel deliveries in India expanded by 4% in the first nine months of the financial year, along with an improvement in product mix. PTI

Paytm's loss widens to ₹780cr in Q3

Mumbai: Paytm's parent company One97 Communication reported a net loss of Rs 780 crore for the quarter ended December 2021 as compared to a loss of Rs 461 crore in the preceding quarter and Rs 519 crore in the year-ago period.

The company said that its revenue for the quarter rose 89% to Rs 1,456 crore driven by an increase in merchant payments, disbursement of loans on platform and recovery of commerce business from Covid impact.

Contribution profit (defined as revenue from operations less payment processing charges, promotional cashback and incentives, and other direct costs) improved to 31.2% of revenue in Q3 FY22 from 8.9% in Q3 FY21. TNN

Aditya Birla Fashion eyes D2C space

New Delhi: Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail (ABFRL) on Friday announced its foray into direct-to-consumer (D2C) business through a new subsidiary. The board of the leading fashion company, in a meeting held on Friday, gave an "omnibus approval" to set up a new subsidiary towards building a portfolio of distinct, new-age, digital brands across categories in fashion, beauty and other allied lifestyle segments. This venture will initially be funded through ABFRL's internal accruals," the company said. PTI

BharatPe's Grover asks board to remove CEO

John.Sarkar@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: BharatPe co-founder and MD **Ashneer Grover** has written to board members of the fintech startup to remove CEO Suhail Sameer from the board, said three people in know of the matter.

Sameer was put in charge of operations at the New Delhi-headquartered company after Grover went on voluntary leave in January. He was elevated as CEO in August last year.

The development comes against the backdrop of alleged financial irregularities at the Tiger Global-backed company unearthed recently during an ongoing investigation by management consultant and risk advisory firm Alvarez and Marsal.

Grover stepped back from the day-to-day operations at the fintech in January after sparking a string of controversies, including a legal spat with banker Uday Kotak. His wife Madhuri Jain Grover, who served as the head of controls at BharatPe, soon followed suit along with a bunch of other employees. The Grovers' tenure at the company is being reviewed, said sources. Grover did not respond to messages from **TOI**.

When contacted, a BharatPe spokesperson said, "We are deeply pained that integrity of BharatPe board or individual board members is being questioned time and again through misrepresented facts and baseless allegations."

Grover first sparked controversy when a leaked audio file allegedly featuring him abusing a Kotak employee went viral. While Grover said it was fake, the episode assumed significance when a legal notice sent by the Grovers to Kotak surfaced. In the notice dated October 30, the duo sought compensation, claiming that the Grovers planned to invest Rs 500 crore in Nykaa through the bank's IPO financing services.

Interestingly, this was the first time Grover, a former Kotak employee, mentioned Sameer, claiming that the bank financed him to buy shares during the Nykaa IPO, while failing to do so in the duo's case. Investors of BharatPe are against Grover, sources said, and the $3-billion company is unlikely to give in to his demand of a hefty payout for leaving.

RIL acquires 25% stake in US deep-tech co for $15mn

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Mukesh Ambani-controlled Reliance Industries (RIL) has invested $15 million in Silicon Valley-based deep-tech startup Two Platforms for a 25% stake, ramping up its access to niche technologies that can solve complex problems.

Two Platforms, founded by former Samsung Technology and Advanced Research CEO Pranav Mistry, is an artificial reality company. After text and voice, Two Platforms believes the next chapter of artificial intelligence (AI) is visual and interactive. It plans to bring its interactive AI technologies first to consumer applications followed by entertainment and gaming, as well as enterprise solutions including retail, services, education, health and wellness.

RIL, which has routed its investment in Two Platforms through Jio Platforms, said: Two Platform will work with Jio to fast-track the adoption of new technologies such as AI, metaverse and mixed realities. Several deep-tech startups have been attracting investments or acquired by large companies to gain access to their disruptive technologies.

For instance, KPIT Technologies bought a controlling interest in a product engineering services company. KFin Technologies acquired a stake in an insurtech insurtech startup

Travel cos return to black in Q3, 1st time since Covid

Saurabh.Sinha
@timesgroup.com

Chennai: Omicron struck late last year just when listed travel biggies had finally started emerging from the shadows of the pandemic, thanks to pent-up demand. At least three of the biggest sectoral players — IndiGo, Taj and Oberoi Hotels — have so far reported a profit in the October-December 2021 quarter for the first time since Covid outbreak in early 2020. Revenues in Q3 were almost double of same period last fiscal.

IndiGo has reported a profit of Rs 129.8 crore in Q3, against a loss of Rs 620 crore in same quarter last fiscal. Revenue was up 89% from Rs 4,910 crore to Rs 9,294.8 crore in this period with a 50% increase in capacity deployment due to demand. Airline CEO Ronojoy Dutta said this demonstrated a "fundamentally strong business model. Our employees have remained a pillar of strength throughout this health crisis".

PENT-UP DEMAND

Oberoi Hotel's holding company East India Hotels (EIH) reported a profit of Rs 32.2 crore this Q3 against a loss of Rs 40.8 crore in same quarter last fiscal. On a standalone basis, EIH revenue this Q3 was Rs 324.3 crore — up 94% from Rs 167.5 crore in same period last fiscal.

Taj parent Indian Hotels Company (IHCL) saw a profit of Rs 76 crore in Q3 versus a loss of 119 crore in same period last fiscal, thanks to a strong recovery in revenue per available room (RevPAR) and hotel occupancy. Revenue was up 85% to Rs 1,134 crore in Q3 FY22.

US tech cos hit by rising inflation

▶ From P 1

During an earnings call, Zuckerberg said that Apple's App Tracking Transparency policy, which was introduced in mid-2021, would cut $10 billion out of Meta's earnings this year. Subsequently Meta's stock price crashed 18% in Wednesday's post-market trade and finally closed Thursday's regular session down 26%. This also wiped off about $230 billion of Meta's market capitalisation to $668 billion. In early trade on Friday, the stock was down another 2.2% with its market capitalisation further down at $649 billion, Bloomberg data showed.

Tesla chief Elon Musk remains the richest person on Earth on both the lists, with a networth of about $230 billion.

In recent months, several technology stocks have been under selling pressure, mainly because of rising inflation and expectations of a rate hike by the US Federal Reserve. Historical data show that whenever inflation rises, companies usually tend to cut costs, with spending on new software acquisition and upgrades being reduced. Earlier this month, the US Fed chief said its rate setting committee is almost certain to hike interest rates after retaining it near zero for about two years.

META LOST $250BN MCAP IN 2 DAYS

➤ Meta (Facebook) CEO **Mark Zuckerberg**'s wealth dropped by over $30bn on Thursday as the social media giant's stock crashed 26% due to growth concerns

➤ As a result, India's richest men Adani Group chief **Gautam Adani ($91.1bn)** and Reliance CMD **Mukesh Ambani ($89.2bn)** went ahead of Zuckerberg **($82.9bn)** in Forbes Real Time Billionaires list

➤ However, in Bloomberg's billionaire index, Zuckerberg's net worth **($89.6bn)** was marginally higher than Ambani **($89.2bn)** and Adani **($87.4bn)**

➤ Zuckerberg's wealth may drop even more as Meta's stock was down over 2% in early trade on Friday

Sensex down over rate hike worries

The sensex closed 143 points or 0.2% lower at 58,645 on Friday as policy tightening by central banks and persistent foreign fund outflows weighed on sentiment. However, a strengthening rupee capped the downside for the bourses, traders said. PTI

DELHI JAL BOARD

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER(M)-7/EE(T)
H-BLOCK UDYOG NAGAR PEERA GARHI CHOWK NEW DELHI-110041

NIT No. 87/EE(T)/ACE(M)7/(2021-22)
Short Press Notice Tender

S. N	Name of Work	Amount Put to tender (Rs.)	EMD	Tender Fee's	Dt. of release of tender procurement solution/I.D. No.	Last dt./time of receipt of tender through E-procurement solution
1	Hiring of Sewer jetting cum suction machine of 8000 liter Capacity for Nangloi Jat AC-11 under AEE(M)-11.	Item Rate	54,500/-	500/-	02/02/2022/ 2022_DJB_215860_1	11-02-2022 at 3.00 P.M.

NIT No. 89/EE(T)/ACE(M)7/(2021-22)
Press Notice Tender

S. N	Name of Work	Amount Put to tender (Rs.).	EMD	Tender Fee's	Dt. of release of tender procurement solution/I.D. No.	Last dt./time of receipt of tender through E-procurement solution
1	Making connection in ISP system by P/L 710mm dia HDPE pipe to stop sewage flow in supplementary drain from Rohtak Road (Burning Ghat) to Ruchi Vihar in Nangloi Jat AC-11 under AEE(M)-11	1,74,92,507/-	3,50,000/	1000/-	03/02/2022/ 2022_DJB_215911_1	21-02-2022 at 3.00 P.M.
2	Desilting of 900 / 1000 / 1100 mm dia Trunk Sewer from SPS camp no. 3 to Arvind Enclave X-ing at Rohtak road in Mundka AC-08 under ACE(M)7 (Re-invited)	33,64,097/-	67,300/-	500/-	03/02/2022/ 2022_DJB_215912_1	21-02-2022 at 3.00 P.M.

Further details in this regard can be seen at https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) (SATISH KUMAR GUPTA)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 1087(2021-22) EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (T)

"STOP CORONA: Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग, पटना।
15, नेहरू पथ (बेली रोड), पटना–800001
67वीं संयुक्त (प्रारम्भिक) प्रतियोगिता परीक्षा

शुद्धि–पत्र

67वीं संयुक्त (प्रारंभिक) प्रतियोगिता परीक्षा के लिए दिनांक 24.09.2021 को विज्ञापन प्रकाशित करते हुए सुयोग्य उम्मीदवारों से ऑनलाईन आवेदन आमंत्रित किये गये थे। दिनांक 03.11.2021 को अवर निबंधक/संयुक्त अवर निबंधक (मद्य निषेध, उत्पाद एवं निबंधन विभाग, बिहार) के 03 पदों की रिक्तियों को उक्त विज्ञापन में समाहित करते हुए शुद्धि पत्र प्रकाशित की गई थी। पुनः मद्य निषेध, उत्पाद एवं निबंधन विभाग, बिहार, पटना के अवर निबंधक/संयुक्त अवर निबंधक के 02 पदों एवं अधीक्षक, मद्य निषेध के 02 पदों के रिक्तियों की अधियाचना प्राप्त हुई हैं जिन्हें 67वीं संयुक्त (प्रारंभिक) प्रतियोगिता परीक्षा की रिक्तियों में जोड़ दिया गया है। विज्ञापन प्रकाशन के पश्चात् प्राप्त रिक्तियों की अद्यतन आरक्षण कोटिवार विवरणी निम्न प्रकार है:–

क्र. सं.	पद/विभाग का नाम	वेतनमान	आरक्षण कोटिवार रिक्तियाँ									कुल पद	न्यूनतम उम्र
			Unreserved (01)	SC (02)	ST (03)	EBC (04)	BC (05)	BCL (06)	EWS	FFD 2%	विकलांग		
1	अधीक्षक मद्य निषेध, (मद्य निषेध, उत्पाद एवं निबंधन विभाग)	लेवल–9 (राजपत्रित)	01	00	00	01	00	00	00	00	00	02	21 वर्ष
			00	00	00	00	00		00			00	
2	अवर निबंधक/संयुक्त अवर निबंधक (मद्य निषेध, उत्पाद एवं निबंधन विभाग)	लेवल–9 (राजपत्रित)	04	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	05	22 वर्ष
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अब 67वीं संयुक्त प्रतियोगिता परीक्षा के अंतर्गत रिक्तियों की कुल संख्या 802 है। दिनांक 24.09.2021 को प्रकाशित विज्ञापन को इस हद तक संशोधित समझा जायेगा।

स्वा:/–
संयुक्त सचिव–सह–परीक्षा नियंत्रक,
बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग, पटना

A thought for today

Everybody knows politics is a contact sport

BARACK OBAMA

Go Cold On China

India right to diplomatically boycott Winter Games

India did well to join leading democracies in diplomatically boycotting the Beijing Winter Olympics. And China made the decision easy – by making a PLA regiment commander involved in the 2020 Galwan clashes a torchbearer in the Olympic relay. China, therefore, politicised the Games even though it has been levelling that charge against other nations. Before India, the US and UK, Canada, Australia, Estonia, Lithuania, Belgium, Kosovo and Denmark had all announced diplomatic boycotts of the Games citing China's human rights violations.

Put together, these countries constitute a sizeable 35% of the global GDP. Add to this, countries with well-performing economies like Japan and those in the Asean grouping who have also seen their relations with China become turbulent in recent years. Therefore, the larger message for China is that its political and security misadventures may not be costless economically. China may draw comfort from the Olympic attendance of some prime ministers, heads of state and royalty. But note that many of these dignitaries come from authoritarian countries. And more, the difference between global admiration for China during the 2008 Summer Olympics and the cold shoulder from key countries in these Winter Games should tell Beijing where it's going wrong.

That India aligned with other major democracies on this issue – the US welcomed the decision – also shows the future course. New Delhi, inside and outside Quad, must liaise with other powers for coordinated responses whenever possible. Xi's China is a bully – and bullies understand strength. That Putin and Xi – the two met before the Winter Games began – may cosy up does make it a little tricky for India, given we still need Moscow's weapons. But Russia needs India's arms orders, too. So, this may not be too tough a conundrum to solve as India chalks out its China strategy.

Don't Be Cryptic

GoI should quickly decide on legality of crypto assets

Four days after the Budget, messaging on virtual digital assets, including crypto assets, remains mixed. FM brought VDAs into the tax net. Then came subsequent statements from both the political executive and the bureaucracy that taxation does not automatically confer legitimacy. This was followed by officials saying that crypto assets are risky investments. For investors in particular and for a major economy with a flourishing startup sector and digital ambitions, the messaging needs to be clearer.

The issue is very simple – does GoI consider VDAs, most importantly crypto assets, legal or not. This newspaper has argued, as have several experts, that crypto products should be treated as an asset class, and regulated as such, which may include taxing capital gains. But if GoI feels otherwise, it should quickly say so – and end the growing uncertainty. The same need for speed holds if GoI – rightly – says crypto products are legal. Too much unnecessary water has flown under the crypto bridge already – from a committee saying crypto should be banned to a bill that was not tabled in Parliament to a Budget proposal that still leaves questions unanswered. GoI should settle the matter before the next financial year begins in April.

A clear and quick decision will also settle any confusion in the popular mind about the digital rupee, which is a sovereign currency, and crypto products, which are tradable assets.

China's Many Characters & How It Managed Them

One nation, one language, Beijing-style

China has the oldest written language in the world, complex, ideographic and mystifying to others. ***Kingdom of Characters: The Language Revolution that Made China Modern*** by ***Jing Tsu*** is the story of how that subtlety was simplified and the language adapted to changing times. It is also a story of China's recent history and its passage to modernity.

The Chinese script doesn't follow the principles of the Roman alphabet – a few of its characters are pictograms, and they are all a mix of stroke patterns, radicals and tones that give or alter meaning.

At the start of the 20th century, China was smarting from imperial humiliation, itching to reinvent itself. In a country where nearly 80% of the people were non-literate, and various regions could not speak to each other, the language barrier had to be surmounted.

Wang Zhao, a reformist mandarin, wanted to build a bridge of communication to China's poor peasantry, and even the foreigners they hated. Mandarin was not a common language for the linguistically diverse country, but Wang began an ambitious quest for a standardised alphabet and the modern Mandarin or Putonghua that the Chinese speak today.

Over the next century, others joined the quest to find the perfect phonetic representation of standard Chinese, to restore the glory of the script, and to make it a practical tool to transact with others.

The next step was equally challenging – the Roman alphabet allowed the West to dominate communication tools like telegraphy and typewriting. Zhou Houkun, then at MIT, created a keyboard for the Chinese language to have the same speed, efficiency and precision of mechanical reproduction.

Given the forest of characters in the Chinese script and the mechanical contortions needed to form any one of them, one-to-one correspondence like the Qwerty keyboard was impossible; the very idea of the keyboard had to be reimagined. The Chinese typewriter was seen as a revolutionary machine, deconstructing and reassembling a complicated script into modular parts.

Of course, as we know all too well in India, a uniformity project is not easy, and involves sacrifice. Many characters had to be abolished, to standardise the script. Inevitably, preservationists and traditionalists clashed with the modernisers. The Communists, of course, had no hesitations about this radical rupture, simplifying and paring down the characters, while in Taiwan, the nationalists continued with the traditional script – language wars were critical to their feud.

mindfield
SHORT TAKES ON BIG IDEAS

In the 1950s, Mao Zedong's committee on script reform devised Pinyin, the phoneticised system of transliteration into the Roman alphabet. Pinyin was an enormous achievement, and China now controlled its own engagement with the international system, the imperfect Peking became 'Beijing'. Literacy jumped dramatically – from 65.5% in 1982, it was nearly 97% in 2018.

Later, in the 1970s, the language was heaved into the computing age. Today, the Chinese script in all its variation flourishes on the internet, and all its once-reviled peculiarities like homophones are now a way of circumventing the authorities.

China is vying to shape global standards, and its language and technology are tools of influence, as it sets out to script its own narrative today.

India took a different path – it teems with linguistic diversity, recognises many languages, has kept English as a link, there's resistance to Hindi imposition, and struggles to bring digital access in all regional languages.

UP: Why BJP Needs A Big Win

Just victory not enough for incumbent, because its larger ambitions require another sweep

Gilles Verniers

The Uttar Pradesh campaign is intensifying as the first phase of voting approaches. Even though parties have raised their game and sharpened their attacks against their adversaries, the fragmented opposition space still gives the incumbent a great competitive advantage.

Despite this, BJP is sparing no effort in its campaign, to the point of betraying anxiety, which some may find surprising given the gap that separates it from its main opponent.

One possible explanation for the incumbent's intense drive is that its main competitive pressure comes not from its adversaries, but from within, as BJP needs to not only win this election, but win it decisively, on a par with its recent performances.

In 2017, BJP won 77% of the seats with nearly 40% of the votes (41.6% in the seats it contested). In 2019, it won 62 of the state's 80 Lok Sabha seats with 49.5% of the votes, leading, however, in fewer assembly segments than in 2017 (275).

Even though these were two different elections, this variation in wins shows that even maintaining its vote share may not necessarily translate into the same number of seats. All depends on the spatial distribution of the votes.

BJP won more votes in 2017 than Congress ever did in the past, when Uttar Pradesh had what political scientist Rajni Kothari called a one-party dominant system. Given the depth of fragmentation of the electorate and the party system, in which over three effective candidates per seat is frequent, maintaining such a high vote share for a single party is a daunting task.

Of course, BJP only needs a simple majority of seats to retain power and SP's recent effort to intensify its campaign does not alter the fact that opposition fragmentation still gives the incumbent a superior edge.

But I argue that merely winning the election is not enough for BJP; it needs to maintain its current level of dominance in Uttar Pradesh for at least four reasons.

- First, Uttar Pradesh is seen, for good and bad reasons, as a barometer for national politics. BJP's sweeping 2017 victory helped the party project a perception of invincibility, which contributed to its domination at the national level. If BJP loses ground in Uttar Pradesh, it would send the signal that it can very well lose ground anywhere else.
- Second, Uttar Pradesh is crucial for BJP to maintain its majority at the Centre. It currently holds 301 seats in the Lok Sabha (55.5%), which is a comfortable majority albeit not a large one. Holding this majority reposes on BJP's ability to maintain itself at its current level of dominance in the Hindi belt, where it currently occupies 77% of the seats (175 out of 226).

Uttar Pradesh is key to the edifice of BJP's national domination not only in terms of numbers but also as a symbol. This is the state where, historically, every ideological battle BJP has been fighting takes place in more exacerbated forms

In 2019, BJP made almost perfect sweeps in Rajasthan (24 of 25 seats), Madhya Pradesh (28 of 29 seats), Haryana (10 of 10 seats), Jharkhand (11 of 14 seats), Delhi (7 of 7 seats) Uttarakhand (5 of 5 seats) and, of course, in Uttar Pradesh (62 of 80 seats). Recent elections in West Bengal, Odisha and the south have shown that BJP's capacity to expand further beyond the Hindi belt remains limited.

It is likely to do well in states where it is opposed by Congress. But in Uttar Pradesh, a resurgent Samajwadi Party could seriously make dents into BJP's current position. Again, state and national elections differ from one another, but a good showing in 2022 could give SP the impetus to try harder to challenge BJP in 2024.

- The third reason may not concern BJP at large, but its main protagonist in the state. The current chief minister, Yogi Adityanath, is seen to have larger ambitions. In 2017, he played a side role in the making of BJP's victory, and elbowed his way to the chief ministership after the elections were concluded.

To cement his ambition, he now needs a landslide to prove that he is capable of maintaining the party at its current level of performance, or even improve it. Losing ground even while winning the election would weaken him as a contender for a higher position.

- Finally, Uttar Pradesh is key to the edifice of BJP's national domination not only in terms of numbers but also as a symbol. This is the state where, historically, every ideological battle BJP has been fighting takes place in more exacerbated forms.

This is the state where the Ram Temple is being built. This is the state where BJP has been explicitly seeking to merge caste mobilisation with religious appeal.

This is also a state led by a Hindu monk, who has passed or used legislations to target minorities and other citizens and embodies by his own persona the merger of religion and politics, a prefiguration of what a more complete Hindu Rashtra could look like at the national level.

Losing ground in Uttar Pradesh would not alter the balance of power at the national level in the short term. But it could alter the perception that BJP cannot be challenged in the heartland and therefore at the national level, in future elections.

The writer is Assistant Professor of Political Science, Ashoka University. Views are personal

This Lady Is Definitely Not For Turning

Even those bored with budgets had to admire FM's refusal to use anti-business rhetoric

Jaithirth Rao

Budgets are important for newspaper editors and TV anchors. For the rest of us, it has increasingly become a time for yawning in a bored mood. Important matters, like the repeal of the disastrous retrospective tax happen between budgets. Very important matters like the return of Air India to its rightful original owners finally happen after 20 years of anticipation. Again, not a budget firework item.

Oh my (un)fair republic

Nevertheless, dear reader, I was worried. The entire international woke thinktank chatterati are up in arms against inequality and inequity. They would of course prefer a stock market crash so that the hated rich are impoverished quickly. Failing that, they would love nothing more than a rapacious, incendiary tax that takes away wealth from the rich.

Never mind the fact that such aggressive tax policies have been tried in the past in our fair republic and have failed miserably. They have successfully impoverished everyone. But bad ideas tend to easily gain support.

There is always a residual part of our civil service which has never fully reconciled itself to the weakening of the permit-licence raj. And in our hyperactive political environment, some busybodies can always make the case that soaking up the rich with a wealth tax may win votes.

But I am glad to be able to paraphrase Christopher Fry. This lady, Nirmala Sitharaman, is definitely not for turning. It would be churlish of me to complain that she did not drop our marginal rates down from 42%. Especially if one were to consider that she has definitely walked away from such anti-citizen and anti-wealth-creation imposts like Wealth Tax and Inheritance Tax.

AMRUTA LAKSHYAM: Godspeed

In her entire speech, while there was concern for the underprivileged, nowhere did she demonstrate any antagonism for the rich or make the perverse envy-ridden suggestion that taxing the rich was something that would benefit the poor.

Why don't you felicitate businesspersons?

If anything, her frequent references to entrepreneurs, entrepreneurship, public-private partnerships and an ecosystem that sustains growth – all of these are to be considered music for those of us who for years have moaned that fact that many of our political leaders do not openly felicitate our businesspersons, something that countries to the east of us have routinely done.

Sitharaman has followed the lead given by the Prime Minister on this score. What I found even more interesting and encouraging is that her approach is not just a negative one.

But this Budget speech was ambrosia

Yes, she has certainly not introduced taxes that would have driven Indian entrepreneurs away to Dubai and Singapore. There is more than that.

In her speech, there is a promise of ambrosia (I loved her use of the expression Amruta at multiple points) that not only will she ensure that bad taxes are not imposed, but she will try to create an environment where good scaffolding (infrastructure, transportation, digital underpinnings) will be put in place. Clearly, she understands Valluvar's insight of the need for an environment where the ploughman, the artisan and the merchant can flourish.

I turn 70 this year. For my generation, each year the Budget meant only two things. Firstly, cigarettes would cost more. (And the czars and czarinas of All India Radio would only tell us about the increase in the cost of Players Navy Cut. We had to find out the fate of Panama and Charminar at the street corner).

Secondly, we could be sure that the very next day, Nani Palkhivala would hold forth at Brabourne Stadium as to how once more our politicians have voted to perpetuate poverty rather than create wealth. We would hear him out, clap a great deal and go home despondent.

It is a tad reassuring to note that in my lifetime the narrative has changed. And Ms Sitharaman: We wish you luck in staying the course as you seek your Amruta Lakshyam. Godspeed.

The writer is an entrepreneur and author

dilbert

Sacredspace

True Birth

Saraswati belongs to the realm of sattva. Her work, her duty, her dharma is to bestow knowledge, understanding and wisdom ... The moment you take birth in knowledge, it is defined as the real birth ... If there is no knowledge, understanding and wisdom, how will you know how to do things?

Swami Niranjanananda Saraswati

Moving Towards A State Of Permanent Basant

Anandmurti Gurumaa

From autumn through harsh winter, the land goes barren, leaves fall and the grass goes lifeless. Wearing the veil of darkness, everything plunges into a deep slumber. Such is the view outside, but what about the ominous gloom that dwells within us?

Sant Kabir says, 'Asleep in the temple of this body, I have been awakened hearing the Master's eternal words.' Sleep symbolises ignorance, darkness, inertia and unconsciousness. And this very sleep is the inner autumn – the autumn of the mind. If someone is asleep, we call him out, 'Wake up, the dawn has broken.' So, the person gets up hearing that voice. But a person in the slumber of ignorance can only be awakened by the words of an evolved master.

Body as temple

Kabir is referring to the body as a temple, which symbolises purity. It epitomises sacredness, something that is beautiful to look at. The saint says, 'I am sleeping in this body that is akin to a temple. Temple is where the Lord dwells. If I am asleep in the temple, how would I know who resides within me? I wake up hearing the eternal word of the Master, thus the sleep of ignorance that was going on for aeons is over.'

Ignorance is the breeding ground for all types of fears and insecurities. What will we do without money, relatives and kids? What if I die? These fears are perpetually there, but for the one who has woken up, all these anxieties dissolve away once and for all. The one who knows that the entire creation is an illusion along with this body, what's there to fear?

THE SPEAKING TREE

Why worry?

If you are sleeping, you are in bondage. When you are awake, you are free. Sleeping akin to ignorance is pain. Wakefulness is eternal bliss. While sleeping, you are in darkness. When you wake up, you are established in the Eternal Truth. Knowing oneself as an eternally pure Self, an embodiment of bliss, where is the space left for worries and insecurities?

When this flower of Ananda, the eternal bliss, blooms inside, we can say that the Basant has come! Basant means blooming. The autumn of ignorance is over. Basant implies that the flowers have blossomed. The gloom of ignorance that enveloped us has left and has been taken over by the illuminance of supreme wisdom.

With the coming of spring, small saplings begin to make headway on the ground shrunk by the winter; the stem grows, buds come, and within weeks flowers bloom. Once the harsh winter is over, colours begin to spread all around. These are the colours of Basant, spring.

When the love for the Lord dawns, or the love for the Master culminates, we experience a permanent Basant! Outside, flowers will wither away with time. However, the flower of divine love that once blooms within never dies; for such a person, Basant is never over.

Today is Basant Panchami

DAVID DE GEA FIRST GOALKEEPER IN 6 YEARS TO WIN EPL 'PLAYER OF THE MONTH' AWARD

LIVERPOOL STILL INTERESTED IN SIGNING FULHAM MIDFIELDER FABIO CARVALHO: KLOPP

TIME FOR SOME HIGH-FIVES!

Four-Time Champions India Have Everything Going For Them As They Lock Horns With England For The Title

Gaurav.Gupta@timesgroup.com

Having successfully overcome a Covid-19 outbreak in their camp, India's under-19 team is writing an inspirational story of its own at the junior World Cup in the West Indies.

Gunning for their fifth title after crushing Australia by 96 runs in the semifinal, a buoyant India — even more fired up after a pep talk by Virat Kohli — face England in the final at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua on Saturday. England, who beat Afghanistan by 15 runs in the first semifinal, are aiming for their first crown in 24 years.

While the head coach is former India allrounder Hrishikesh Kanitkar, the team is also being guided by batting legend VVS Laxman, who is there in the West Indies as head of the National Cricket Academy. A win will help erase memories of the last youth World Cup in South Africa in Jan 2020, when India lost an ill-tempered final to Bangladesh in South Africa. Unlike England, India have been a dominant force in this tournament, having reached their eighth final and their fourth in a row. No other team has reached as many finals or won more.

Putting on a complete show with both bat and ball in the second semifinal at Coolidge in Antigua, India overcame a couple of early jolts with a massive 204-run stand for the third wicket between captain Yash Dhull, who scored a brilliant 110, and his deputy Shaik Rasheed (94) .

India scored 290 for five — including 108 in the last 10 overs — before skittling out the Aussies for 194 in 41.5 overs as the bowlers too came to the party. It was India's fifth win on the trot, a commendable feat after a string of Covid infections ensured they could barely manage to field 12 players against Ireland and Uganda.

There's something about Delhi cricketers and the U-19 World Cup. Following on the footsteps of his Delhi 'seniors' Virat Kohli and Unmukt Chand, Dhull became the third Indian captain to slam a hundred. He will now love to emulate Kohli and Chand and win the coveted trophy.

Till this point, Dhull has scored 212 runs in three games@106.00. His sequence of performances reads 82 vs South Africa in the opener, an unbeaten 20 as India chased 112 on a tricky wicket, and then a fabulous hundred against Australia.

Timing the ball in sublime fashion, Dhull has shown the ability to play shots all around the ground, though the cut shot, off both the pacers and spinners, looks like his biggest strength.

However, this team isn't only about Dhull. He, Rasheed, and five others were infected by the virus, but have bounced back strongly. In their absence, Raj Bawa, who belongs to an illustrious family (his father Sukhwinder Singh Bawa coached Yuvraj Singh and his grandfather Tarlochan Bawa played for India in the 1948 Olympics) smashed 162 off 108 balls against Uganda, breaking Shikhar Dhawan's record for the highest score by an Indian in the tournament.

In that game, India made 405 for five, their biggest total ever in the under-19 World Cup.

Unlike in the semis, where they failed to get the team off to a good start, openers Angrish Raghuvanshi and Harnoor Singh will look to provide India with a fine start at the top.

Mumbaikar Raghuvanshi has been India's top run-scorer, having logged 278 runs in five games@55.60, with one century and one fifty. And then, as Dinesh Bana showed in the semifinal with his four-ball, unbeaten 20, India have the men to launch an assault at the 'death' as well.

In left-arm pacer Ravi Kumar, who blew away Bangladesh's top order in the quarterfinal with a three-wicket burst, right-arm seamer Rajvardhan Hangargekar, medium-pacer Bawa, spinners Vicky Ostwal (12 wickets@10.75 in five games, including 3-42 in the semis against Australia), allrounder Nishant Sindhu and Kaushal Tambe, India have a well-rounded bowling attack.

Like India, England have stayed unbeaten in this tournament so far. They looked in danger of losing their semifinal clash, before a three-wicket over by Rehan Ahmed, a Pakistan-origin leg-spinner, sealed the match in their favour. Besides Ahmed, England's biggest aces are captain Tom Prest (292 runs@73.00), who played for Hampshire in the T20 last year, and left-arm seamer Joshua Boydon, who's taken 13 wickets@9.53.

Where they lag behind India is in their overall record and big-match experience in this tournament, which they have won just once before, back in 1998. None of the present English team's members were even born back then.

U-19 WORLD CUP FINAL PREVIEW

37 Matches won by India U-19s out of 49 played against England U-19s (lost 11 and tied 1), for a success % of 76.53.

Getty Images

GLORY BECKONS: India's under-19 team members celebrate the fall of a wicket in the semifinal against Australia in Antigua

106.00 Yash Dhull's average while aggregating 212, including a hundred and a fifty in three innings. He is the only batsman to average 100-plus in the ongoing U-19 World Cup.

3.17 Economy rate produced by left-arm seamer Joshua Boyden while claiming 13 wickets at 9.53 runs apiece in five matches, the best among bowlers with 10 wickets or more in the current competition.

8 World Cup fixtures contested between the two teams. India U-19s have won six, including five in succession between 1988 and 2008, and lost two.

4 Between 2016 and 2022, India qualified in four successive U-19 World Cup finals, and 8 overall. India have won the title 4 times.

—Stats: Rajesh Kumar

KEY PLAYERS IN THE FINAL

VICKY OSTWAL

INDIA: YASH DHULL

In this World Cup, captain Dhull has been the cynosure of all eyes after his match-winning 110 against Australia in the semifinal. He is the third Indian captain to score a hundred in the U-19 World Cup after Virat Kohli and Unmukt Chand. The 19-year-old scored 82 to fashion India's 32-run win in the opening clash against South Africa, before being ruled out for the next two matches due to Covid. After returning to action from the quarterfinal stage, his scores have been 20* and 110. Dhull also led the side to the U-19 Asia Cup title. He is expected to be hot property at the upcoming IPL auctions.

SHAIK RASHEED

Dhull's deputy in this tournament, Shaik Rasheed, had scored 376 runs @75.20 for Andhra in the under-19 Vinoo Mankad Trophy. He scored an unbeaten 90 against Bangladesh in the semifinal of the Asia Cup, and then 72 not out in the warm-up game against Australia. Like Dhull and four others, the No. 3 batsman was forced to miss two games at the league stage due to Covid, but Rasheed bounced back with a magnificent 94 against Australia in the semis. His 204-run third-wicket partnership with Dhull proved decisive in the semifinal clash. Like so many others in this team, he is a talent to watch out for.

VICKY OSTWAL

This left-arm spinner has been India's top wicket-taker in the World Cup so far. The Maharashtra lad, who learnt his cricket at former India captain Dilip Vengsarkar's academy in Pune, has taken 12 wickets in five games@10.75. Ostwal was player of the match in the under-19 Asia Cup final, where he took 3/11. In the semis, his 3-42 in 10 overs was crucial in India dismissing the Aussies for just 194 and ensuring India a 96-run win.

ENGLAND: REHAN AHMED

His three wickets in five balls in the 46th and penultimate over helped England pip Afghanistan by 15 runs in the semifinal. The leg-spinner conceded 40 in his first five overs, but bounced back superbly to eventually finish with four for 41 in the match. At the age of 13, he had dismissed Ben Stokes, Alastair Cook and Joe Root in the nets. His father Naeem moved from Pakistan to England.

How will the pitch behave? Traditionally, the wicket at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, which has an Andy Roberts End and a Curtly Ambrose End, has offered a fair contest between bat and ball. The average ODI score there is 239. In 20 ODIs there, teams have won 10 games each while batting first and chasing.

Pak, SA colts finish on a high

North Sound: Two-time champions Pakistan and South Africa both signed off their under-19 World Cup campaigns with contrasting victories. The two sides' chances of lifting the trophy ended at the quarterfinal stage last week.

Pakistan eased past Sri Lanka in the fifth place playoff while South Africa finished in seventh place after a closely fought two-wicket victory over Bangladesh.

SKIPPER QASIM AKRAM MAKES HISTORY

AKRAM

Pakistan captain Qasim Akram became the first player in 45 years of youth ODIs to hit a century and take a five-for in the same game as Pakistan beat Sri Lanka by a mammoth 238 runs.

Pakistan were in command from the start at the Sir Vivian Richards ground, with openers Muhammad Shehzad and Haseebullah Khan (136) dominating the Lankan attack.

The pair led Pakistan to 100 without loss, and Shehzad made 73 before he was dismissed. Khan was joined at the crease by Akram (135 off 80 balls; 5/37) and the two took the game away from Sri Lanka. Both made centuries as Pakistan ended at a very impressive 365 for three.

The Sri Lankan response was in tatters after just two overs with Akram wreaking havoc with the new ball.

Scores: Pak 365/3 (Qasim 135*, Haseebullah 136) beat SL 127 (Qasim 5-37) by 238 runs.

BREVIS TON FASHIONS SOUTH AFRICA WIN

Over at the Coolidge Cricket Ground, Bangladesh made a strong start, reaching 50 without loss, only for Mahfijul Islam to fall to Liam Alder in the 10th over. But Ariful Islam then kept on the pressure on the South African attack, smashing 102 from 103 balls and finding the boundary on 12 separate occasions as Bangladesh reached a seemingly strong total of 293-8.

In reply, Dewald Brevis, who hit 97 in the quarterfinal defeat to England, smashed 138 off 130 balls before a rather nervy finish for South Africa. *m*

Scores: SA 298/8 (Brevis 132, Meherob 2-48, Musfik 2-52, Mondol 2-62) beat B'desh 293/8 (Ariful 102, Maphaka 3-55) by 2 wickets.

GALLERY

CA approves first tour of Pakistan in 24 years

Karachi: Cricket Australia on Friday approved its first tour of Pakistan in 24 years with a revised itinerary being announced by both the boards amid lingering security concerns. Coming off a 4-0 Ashes victory against England at home, Australia will play three Tests -- in Rawalpindi, Karachi and Lahore. They will also play three one day internationals and a T20I during the full tour.

Indian women's ODI series against New Zealand to begin on Feb 12: The Indian women's cricket team's ODI series against New Zealand will now begin on February 12, a day later than originally scheduled, as the host board announced revised fixtures on Friday to give the two sides more time between games. The Indian team was scheduled to play five ODIs and a T20I, starting February 9 across three venues but New Zealand Cricket (NZC) moved all matches to John Davies Oval in Queenstown last month in order to reduce the chances of Covid-19.

Pakistan's Hasnain banned from bowling over illegal action: Fast bowler Mohammad Hasnain has been banned from bowling and withdrawn from the Pakistan Super League (PSL) after his bowling action was found illegal, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has said.

10-man Kerala ride on Vazquez stunner to down NEUFC: Ten-man Kerala Blasters FC moved to second spot in the points table with a spirited performance to down wooden spooners NorthEast United FC 2-1 in the Indian Super League here on Friday. AGENCIES

ACTION TODAY

CRICKET: ICC U-19 WC: Final, India vs England, 6.30 pm (Star Sports 1); **FOOTBALL:** ISL: Bengaluru FC vs Jamshedpur FC, 7.30 pm (Star Sports); EPL: Burnley vs Watford, 11 pm (Star Sports); FA Cup: Chelsea vs Plymouth Argyle, 6 pm; Manchester City vs Fulham, 8.30 pm (Sony Six); **HOCKEY:** FIH Pro League, women's: The Netherlands vs Spain, 9 pm (Select 1); **TENNIS:** Maha Open, 3.15 pm (Star Sports)

Ashes aftermath: Coach Silverwood, batting coach Thorpe step down

London: England head coach Chris Silverwood has stepped down following the team's meek surrender in the Ashes series against Australia, the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) said on Thursday. Later, former batter Graham Thorpe , too, resigned as England's assistant coach. "Graham Thorpe has left his position as England men's assistant coach," ECB said in a statement. "I've been very fortunate to have worked with so many good players and coaches who I consider my friends for life," Thorpe said in a statement.

While England failed miserably on the field under his watch, Thorpe's departure was also expedited after reports emerged that police had to be called in to the team hotel in Hobart after he had lit a cigar inside the premise following a drinking session that lasted till 6am.

Silverwood had come under pressure after England lost the five-test Ashes series 4-0, with former skipper Mike Atherton calling for a complete overhaul of the England management. The announcement comes a day after Ashley Giles, who appointed Silverwood, left his role as the managing director.

"It's been an absolute honour to be England head coach, and I'm extremely proud to have worked alongside our players and staff," Silverwood said. "The last two years have been very demanding but I have really enjoyed my time with the team and working with Rooty (test captain Joe Root) and Morgs (white-ball skipper Eoin Morgan), and I am very proud of this group considering the challenges." Former England skipper Andrew Strauss has replaced Giles on an interim basis and will appoint a caretaker coach for the forthcoming tour of West Indies in March.

REUTERS

TIME TO GO: Chris Silverwood with England captain Joe Root

Joe Root to stay on as captain for West Indies tour: Joe Root is to remain as England captain for the upcoming tour of the West Indies, the team's interim managing director Andrew Strauss confirmed on Friday, despite his side's woeful performance in the Ashes. "Having spoken to Joe it is absolutely clear the extent of his commitment to moving this England team forward," Strauss told Sky Sports on Friday. "He's got incredible motivation and energy to do that. He's bruised, hugely disappointed by what went on in the Ashes and I think it goes without saying there are many others in the same boat.

"But he has the respect of the players, and he sets a magnificent example both on and off the field so I'm very happy to give him my support and make sure he has the right structure around him." AGENCIES

Spectators not allowed for Eden T20Is

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kolkata: Despite the West Bengal government opening 75 per cent capacity for sporting activities, including crowd presence, the forthcoming three T20 Internationals to be played between India and the West Indies at the Eden Gardens here will not see spectators. Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) president Sourav Ganguly was quoted as saying by PTI that there won't be any tickets for general public. He added that only officials of Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) will be allowed entry. The count in such case will be less than 1000.

Ganguly's clarification came after CAB president Avishek Dalmiya had welcomed the state government's move and hoped to conduct the three T20Is on February 16, 18 and 20 in the manner the one against New Zealand had been held last year. The match against the Kiwis had seen around 70 per cent of the stands filled up. Dalmiya on Friday refrained from reacting to Ganguly's statement, saying: "We have not received any written intimation or information regarding the same from the BCCI till now."

On The Eve Of India's 1000th ODI, Tendulkar Speaks Up For Bowlers

463 Number of ODIs played by Tendulkar

49 Number of ODI centuries scored

HUNDREDS & THOUSAND

Nitin.Naik@timesgroup.com

Getty Images

638 ODIs India played from Sachin's first to his last ODI

Tendulkar has featured in India's 200th, 300th, 400th, 500th, 600th, 700th and 800th ODI

6 World cup hundreds scored by Tendulkar

166th India's 166th ODI was Sachin's first

804th ODI was Sachin's last

Death, taxes and a Sachin Tendulkar special were the three constants for an Indian from the 1990s to 2010. "Sachin kitne pe hain yaar" was the question often asked rather than India's score. The refreshing approach he showed towards batting, especially in limited overs cricket, even as a 16-year-old hitting a 17-ball 53 in an exhibition match in Peshawar, had the fans hooked for all the 463 appearances he made for India.

"I showed I could play a few shots and generate power for a guy who doesn't have a big frame and earned an ODI spot for myself," is his modest assessment of his heroics against Abdul Qadir, Wasim Akram and Mushtaq Ahmed, in what could be the first T20 game ever played, as rain ruled out a full international match and because of the huge crowd presence, the two teams decided to play an exhibition match of 20 overs per innings.

"Not a bad strike-rate even in today's T20 era," he later says, shedding a few ounces of that modesty.

As India gets set to play its 1000th ODI against West Indies at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on Sunday, Tendulkar took time out to reflect on the evolution of the ODI game.

Surprisingly, he started with expressing sympathies for a tribe he often treated with disdain.

Fast bowlers.

"In the last 10 years, I have hardly seen reverse swing," he laments and feels the introduction of two new balls from each end has caused it. New field restrictions (since 2013) also means one spot always available to go over the top.

"So much has changed," he reflects. "We used to play a lot with the red ball and at venues in eastern India where games used to start at 8.45 am. The dampness in the pitch aided seam movement and the SG ball used to reverse beautifully too. Fast bowlers could plan their wickets. Opening the batting used to be a different dynamic," explains the legend, who featured in India's 200th, 300th, 400th, 500th, 600th, 700th and 800th ODIs.

Tendulkar transports you back to a match against Zimbabwe in 2000 where the team didn't shine the ball for seven overs. "Zaheer then came back and got Alistair Campbell bowled with reverse swing in the eighth over," he states, almost yearning for those times to come back.

To make his point about reverse swing, Tendulkar casts his mind to the 1999 World Cup. "Wasim Akram used to bowl in the 47th over with a slip. It's unheard of today."

The old ball getting dirty and getting difficult to sight is also a factor that has gone away, he feels. "Apart from reverse swing, a discoloured ball even against someone like Muralitharan offered a different challenge as you struggled to pick the release to know if it was an off-spinner or a doosra," he states.

In today's day and age of IPL and T20 cricket, many reckon ODIs in India may be struggling for relevance, especially post-Covid, but Tendulkar disagrees. "Not many people in today's generation may have been exposed to the way ODIs were played earlier. Things change. What was a good strike-rate or economy rate in the 1980s and 1990s, may not be so good today. Those numbers have changed."

He shoulders arms when asked to name his best Indian all-time ODI XI, but emphatically states that he would have loved one of those 463 ODIs to be the one India played on June 25, 1983 at Lord's.

Tendulkar is more forthcoming when asked to recall his five best ODIs. "World Cup 2011 final, Sharjah sandstorm vs Australia, Centurion 2003 vs Pakistan and the two VB series finals in Sydney and Brisbane vs Australia," he rattles off.

While Tendulkar, like a true Mumbai batsman, values hundreds, he has a special fondness for the 98 at Centurion in the 2003 World Cup vs Pakistan. "It's one knock I would love to play again," he says, "only for the pre-match tension, the build-up and the bowling attack, which I feel was the best at that time," he adds.

That it took 40 years and his genius to break the double century barrier in ODIs on February 24, 2010 in Gwalior, makes him send you a voice note again. "Because it happened for the first time, it has its own relevance. It also happened against a good attack and a good opposition."

And the fact that it has happened seven times since shows how easy things have become for the batsmen.

> **NOT MANY PEOPLE IN TODAY'S GENERATION MAY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THE WAY ODIS WERE PLAYED EARLIER. THINGS CHANGE. WHAT WAS A GOOD STRIKE-RATE OR ECONOMY RATE IN THE 1980S AND 1990S, MAY NOT BE SO GOOD TODAY. THOSE NUMBERS HAVE CHANGED."**

> **World Cup 2011 final, Sharjah sandstorm vs Australia, Centurion 2003 vs Pakistan and the two VB series finals in Sydney and Brisbane vs Australia."**
> —Sachin rates his top 5 ODI moments

'Challenge for Rohit is to stay fit and play everything till WC'

New Delhi: Former pacer Ajit Agarkar reckons the biggest challenge for India's new white-ball skipper **Rohit Sharma** is to remain fit ahead of T20 and ODI World Cup scheduled over the next 24 months.

"I think it's a good thing and the right thing to do - to have one captain for white-ball format and now Rohit actually can fly," Agrakar said.

With the T20 World Cup later this year in Australia and ODI World Cup next year looming large, Agarkar feels the captain should be present with the team, something he believes worked for former skippers Kohli and MS Dhoni.

"So, the challenge for Rohit Sharma in my opinion - is to stay fit and play everything that is there, from now to the World Cup in white-ball cricket, because you want the captain that was one of Virat Kohli's strengths or MS Dhoni before that, they rarely missed games, and both were very fit," Agarkar said.

Rohit had missed the Test series against South Africa due to a left-hamstring injury. He was subsequently also forced to skip the ODIs against the Proteas.

The hamstring has been a recurrent problem which also forced him to miss the first two Test matches as well as the white-ball leg of the tour of Australia in 2020-21. PTI

Mickelson unhappy with the way PGA is running golf

Six-time Major winner **Phil Mickelson** provided more details of his beef with the PGA Tour, expressing unease that players do not own media rights to their own images in tournaments.

A day after saying the threat of a new Saudi-based global golf circuit had already prompted the PGA Tour to distribute more money to its players, Mickelson gave more details of his issues with the US-based circuit.

"We're so far behind because we don't have player representation like the Players Association and the collective bargaining and all those things," he told reporters after the opening round at the Saudi International.

Mickelson said players had little motivation to innovate because only the PGA Tour stood to benefit under the current arrangement.

"For me personally, it's not enough that they are sitting on hundreds of millions of digital moments. They also have access to my shots, access I do not have," he said. "They also charge companies to use shots I have hit. And when I did 'The Match'- there have been five of them (exhibitions) - the tour forced me to pay them $1 million each time. For my own media rights. That type of greed is, to me, beyond obnoxious." REUTERS

Kapur drops late bogeys, but best Indian at T-17; 4 others make cut

Kaec, Saudi Arabia: Indian golfer Shiv Kapur endured a tough second round, carding a disappointing two-over 72 on a windy day but managed to stay as the best-placed Indian at the $5 million Saudi International here on Friday. Kapur, who shot 65 on the first day, is now three-under for 36 holes and slipped to T-17 from T-4 overnight. Four Indians of the seven who started made the cut. Apart from Kapur, Shubhankar Sharma (67-71), Rashid Khan (66-75) and Viraj Madappa 71-72) made the cut.

Shubhankar added 71 to his first round 67 to slip to T-21, while Rashid, starting the day at 4-under, rose to 6-under at one stage, but then crumbled to 5-over 75 and slipped to T-46.

Madappa squeezed inside the cutline despite two bogeys in the last four holes after starting from the tenth. At 3-over 143, he was T-59 as the cut fell at 4-over. PTI

WINTER GAMES START, WITH LOCKDOWN & BOYCOTTS

Pic: AP, AFP, PTI

(Clockwise from left) India's lone athlete in the Games, Arif Mohd Khan with the Tricolour during the opening ceremony on Friday. Dancers perform before the fireworks

Beijing: China's president Xi Jinping declared the Beijing Winter Olympics open Friday as the country tried to turn the page on a build-up overshadowed by human rights concerns, Covid and a US-led diplomatic boycott.

Fireworks exploded over the "Bird's Nest" as the lattice-shaped stadium took centre stage, just as it did at the 2008 Games, as Beijing becomes the first city to host both a Summer and Winter Olympics. Xi, under whose rule China has adopted a more muscular attitude internationally compared to 14 years ago, was given a rapturous welcome by the socially-distanced crowd wearing face masks, for what his ruling Communist Party hopes will be a soft-power triumph.

The snowflake-themed ceremony got off to a solemn start when eight soldiers slow-marched with the Chinese flag, before the national anthem rang out into the cold night air. "I declare the 24th Beijing Winter Olympics open," said Xi, who was joined by world leaders including Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin, the two having met earlier in the day.

China and Russia have both seen ties with Washington deteriorate markedly, and with tensions rising in Europe over Russia's troop build-up on the Ukrainian border, Putin hailed the "truly unprecedented nature" of relations with his hosts. The United States, Britain, Canada and Australia are among countries staging a diplomatic boycott of the Games over China's rights record, particularly the fate of the Muslim Uyghur minority in Xinjiang.

Their athletes will still compete at the Games, which run until February 20 and are taking place inside a vast "closed loop" bubble designed to thwart the virus. About a third of the 90,000-capacity "Bird's Nest" was full, but like sports events at the Games, tickets were not sold to the public because of the pandemic.

The show was the mastermind of acclaimed Chinese film director Zhang Yimou, who was behind the 2008 extravaganza. This time about 3,000 performers – with masks saying "WELCOME" – took part in a comparatively low-key affair.

After the teams marched into the arena, International Olympic Committee president Thomas Bach told them: "In our fragile world, where division, conflict and mistrust are on the rise, we show the world – yes, it is possible to be fierce rivals while at the same time living peacefully and respectfully together."

Despite the warm words and party atmosphere, the lead-up to the Games was clouded by controversy, including warnings about surveillance of athletes and what will happen to them if they make anti-China comments.

Speaking in Beijing, American figure-skating coach and former Olympian Adam Rippon said he hoped the Games will bring added scrutiny. "What I hope with these Games is that there is so much attention brought to these issues about human rights it does put pressure on the Chinese government to really address it," Rippon, a bronze medallist at the 2018 Winter Games, told CNN.

There are also environmental concerns about holding a Winter Games in one of the driest places in China and on almost entirely man-made snow. Then there is Covid. The nearly 3,000 athletes and tens of thousands of support staff, volunteers and media have been cut off from Beijing's general population.

China, where the virus emerged in late 2019, has pursued a no-nonsense zero-Covid policy and adopted the same approach to the Games, with everyone inside the bubble tested daily and required to wear a mask at all times.

There have been more than 300 Covid cases in the bubble, among them an unknown number of athletes.

Unlike the huge celebrations and outpouring of national pride that greeted the 2008 Games, enthusiasm this time has been noticeably more sober among locals. Covid restrictions meant that most people watched the show from home. Some sports, such as curling and figure skating, have already begun and Saturday will see the first gold medal of the Games, in cross-country skiing. AFP

PENG IS FREE TO MOVE IN CHINA: IOC CHIEF

Beijing: IOC president Thomas Bach says Peng Shuai has told Olympic officials she can move freely in Beijing and spend time with family and friends.Bach's promised dinner with the tennis player is widely anticipated amid global concern for her safety after she accused a former Chinese Communist Party official of sexual assault.

Bach says "we will know better about her physical integrity and about her mental state when we can finally meet in person." No details about the dinner during the Beijing Olympics have been given. The IOC president says if Peng wants an official Chinese investigation into her allegations "we would also support her in this." AP

Chinese fans fawn over Gu's fashion

Zhangjiakou: Freestyle skier Eileen Gu is already a social media darling in China and the Beijing Winter Games medal hopeful is being celebrated as much for her fashion as her sporting prowess.

The US-born freestyle skier, who competes for China, is also well known for her modeling and academic background and has gained immense popularity among young netizens.

In her latest post on Xiaohongshu, also known as RED, a Chinese social media and e-commerce app that resembles Instagram, Gu posed wearing a tiger hat celebrating the Lunar New Year inside the "closed-loop" of the Games and captioned "Olympic fashion" in Chinese.

The post was published on Feb. 2 and has so far gained about 24,000 likes. "Go! Don't stress, just do your best!," said one of the comments.

"Cool girl. Happy New Year, Ailing," said another, using her Chinese name.

On China's Twitter-like Weibo, the 18-year-old skier has some 1.4 million followers, where she constantly posts her brand partnerships.

This week, clips from her upcoming documentary quickly sent her trending on Weibo.

For the upcoming events at the Beijing Winter Olympics, Gu is competing in three freestyle disciplines – halfpipe, big air and slopestyle.

The freestyle skier became the first Chinese athlete to win gold in the X Games after deciding in 2019 to compete for China, where her mother was born. Last year, Gu became the first female skier to land double cork 1440 in a freeskiing event.

Gu's first event is scheduled to be the women's freeski big air qualifying session on Feb. 7.

This week Gu posted on Instagram that one of her goals was to spread the sport she loves, particularly in China.

"Going into my first Olympics, my goal is to simply do my best, enjoy the process, and continue to inspire others and be inspired by this sport and everyone in it," she said. REUTERS

Salah, Mane set for Cup of Nations final showdown

AP

ECSTATIC BUNCH: Egypt's Mohamed Salah (center) and teammates celebrate after the semifinal win against Cameroon on Thursday

Yaounde: Liverpool teammates Mohamed Salah and Sadio Mane are getting ready to face off against each other in the Africa Cup of Nations final in Cameroon this weekend after Egypt beat the hosts on penalties on Thursday to set up a clash with Senegal.

Egyptian captain Salah did not need to step up in the semi-final shoot-out as Cameroon failed three times from the spot, allowing the Pharaohs to win 3-1 on penalties after a goalless 120 minutes in Yaounde.

That was after Mane starred with a goal and an assist as Senegal overcame Burkina Faso to win 3-1 in the first semi-final a day earlier.

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp could have been forgiven for wishing both players had been knocked out of the tournament sooner so they could return to Anfield, but he expressed delight for the attacking duo on Friday.

"It is a great achievement for both getting through to the final," Klopp said in a presser ahead of his team's FA Cup tie against Cardiff on Sunday. That game will be played just a few hours before the Cup of Nations climax at the Olembe Stadium.

"So far it's been a really successful tournament for our boys. It will be exciting.

"Now it's obviously not so easy because one will definitely be really happy after and the other one much less so, but both have a good chance to achieve something really big."

It will be a second AFCON final appearance for Salah, a member of the Egypt team beaten by Cameroon in the 2017 showpiece in Libreville.

The 29-year-old has already admitted his determination to lift the Cup of Nations for his country, having made his international debut in 2011, a year after they won their last continental title.

"This trophy for me would be completely different. It would be the closest one to my heart," Salah, who has won the Premier League and Champions League at Liverpool, said earlier in the tournament. Mane has endured similar disappointment at the Cup of Nations, playing in the Senegal team that lost to Algeria in the final in Egypt in 2019. The Lions of Teranga are Africa's top-ranked team but have never been continental champions, in stark contrast to Egypt and their record seven titles. AFP

Real Madrid knocked out of Copa del Rey

A stunning last-minute strike by substitute Alex Berenguer handed Athletic Bilbao a shock 1-0 win over Real Madrid, eliminating them from the Copa del Rey in the quarterfinals on Thursday. Athletic, who knocked out Barcelona in the previous round, ended a run of three successive defeats by Real in all competitions over the last two months thanks to Berenguer's last-gasp goal.

The home team dominated the game from start and piled on the pressure on Real until they finally broke the deadlock in the 89th minute, with Berenguer firing into the right corner of the net.

Athletic joined Valencia, Rayo Vallecano and Real Betis in the semis. The draw will take place on Friday with the semifinals being played over two legs.

Real Madrid were clearly hampered by the absence Karim Benzema, who is still recovering from a leg muscle injury, and a below par performance from Vinicius Jr.

The 21-year-old forward appeared to be jetlagged after returning from international duty from Brazil earlier in the week. REUTERS

Majchrzak blossoms under coach Nystrom

Kumaraswamy.K
@timesgroup.com

Pune: Kamil Majchrzak had been World No. 7 in the juniors and had beaten Daniil Medvedev, Matteo Berrettini and Andrey Rublev while growing up. But while the latter three made their breakthroughs in the men's top tennis a few years ago, the 26-year-old Pole struggled to crack the code. There were a few injuries that had held him back a bit, no doubt, but there was something missing.

Fortunately, he was able to find the solution, thanks to his signing up with former world No. 7 and Wimbledon doubles champion Joakim Nystrom from Sweden.

The 58-year-old Nystrom not only won 13 ATP singles titles but also formed a formidable pairing with Mats Wilander in the 1980s. Indian fans will remember him for the straight-set win over Amritraj brothers in the 1987 Davis Cup final, which Sweden won 5-0. As a coach, Nystrom has worked with the likes of Jarko Nieminen, Jurgen Melzer and Jack Sock.

The decision to move base to Sweden in late 2020 didn't pay off immediately but has helped Majchrzak mature as a player since. "Me and my agent were looking for someone who was a great coach who actually has played before," said Majchrzak, adding "someone who can talk to me and share with me his experience from his professional career. The beginning was rough because I was getting injured. They (Nystrom and his staff) bring a lot of calm in my tennis," the 2013 US Open boys' doubles champion said. "They also worked with me to create different sides (aspects). I can be solid, but they are also working with me on the attack … take more risks when it matters, to come to the net and play harder with the opponents. Plus the serve. That is what we have been working on in the last year," he added.

All that was on show on Friday as Majchrzak, the 2014 Young Olympics gold medallist, upset second seed Lorenzo Musetti 6-2, 6-7 (5), 6-4 to set up a semifinal with Finland's Emil Ruusuvuori at the Tata Open Maharashtra.

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THE TIMES

INCLUSIVE OF DELHI TIMES

SC GRANTS PROTECTION FROM ARREST TO ACTRESS SHERLYN CHOPRA IN A CASE FILED BY MUMBAI POLICE OVER A PORN FILM RACKET

DDMA allows schools to open for Classes 9-12 from Monday

Restaurants Can Now Serve Guests Till 11pm

Atul.Mathur@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: With the test positivity rate and the number of Covid-19 cases decreasing consistently, the Delhi Disaster Management Authority on Friday gave its nod to reopen schools for Classes 9 to 12 in hybrid mode while allowing physical classes to resume in colleges, ITIs, skill institutes and polytechnics and coaching centres. Gymnasiums, spas and swimming pools will be allowed to operate with some restrictions from February 7. Classes for nursery to Class 8 will resume from February 14.

In a meeting chaired by LG Anil Baijal, the DDMA also decided to exempt motorists from wearing face masks while driving alone and also allowed 100% attendance in offices. The DDMA, however, gave relaxation of just one hour in the night curfew — which will now be imposed from 11pm instead of 10pm — but allowed restaurants to operate till 11pm. Giving impetus to trading activities, the DDMA also allowed B2B exhibitions to be held.

In its last meeting on January 27, the DDMA had lifted the weekend curfew and eased some curbs.

▶Focus on vax, P 6

CURBS EASING FROM FEB 7

- Physical classes at colleges, ITIs, polytechnics
- Hybrid mode for Classes 9-12 from Monday; for nursery to Class 8 from Feb 14
- Gymnasiums, spas and swimming pools to open
- Motorists driving alone exempted from wearing masks
- Offices can function with 100% attendance
- Night curfew to begin at 11pm instead of 10pm
- B2B exhibitions allowed

YET TO BE RELAXED

- Religious places stay closed
- Cinema halls, restaurants, bars at 50% capacity
- No standing in Delhi Metro and DTC or cluster buses
- Banquet halls only for wedding functions with no. of guests capped at 200

2,272
new cases and 20 deaths over past 24 hours, with positivity rate at 3.85%

3rd wave ebb in Delhi, Maha by Feb-end: ICMR

ICMR additional director general Dr Samiran Panda on Friday said the third wave was likely to wane by February-end in Maharashtra, Delhi and West Bengal, **reports Nisha Nambiar.** "The peak of cases encountered in these states will come down to the base level by the end of this month itself. An overall decline in Covid cases in the country is expected by March," he said.

Epidemiologist Dr Chandrakant Lahariya also told **TOI** that the third wave across the country was expected to end in the next 3-4 weeks. **P 12**

▶'No evidence yet to cut 2nd-3rd dose gap', P 12

IT minister for stricter checks on social media, seeks consensus in Parl

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The government on Friday said it is ready to bring in stricter rules to make social media more accountable if there is political consensus in Parliament, while maintaining there would be no compromise on protecting the dignity of women.

Information technology minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, responding to questions in Rajya Sabha, insisted the government had taken "immediate action" against the 'Bulli Bai' and 'Sulli Deals' apps when the matter was brought to its attention. The apps had triggered outrage after photographs and other details of Muslim women were put up for "auction" on social media.

Protecting the dignity of women, irrespective of religion or region, is "a fundamental construct" for the government. "Whenever we take steps to regulate social media, the opposition accuses us of attacking the freedom of speech, which is not true... We have to strike a balance," Vaishnaw said.

▶Min on consensus, P 20

'NO COMPROMISE ON WOMEN'S DIGNITY'

- Protecting women's dignity 'fundamental construct' for government, no compromise on it, says minister Vaishnaw
- Points to govt's 'immediate action' against 'Bulli Bai' and 'Sulli Deals' apps
- Says working within constitutional framework right now, willing to provide stricter social media rules

Committed to panel on MSP: Tomar in RS

The government is committed to constituting a panel on MSP for farmers and will do so after the assembly polls, agriculture minister NS Tomar told RS. **P 15**

Pak PM in Beijing, signs new pact with China to kick off CPEC 2nd phase

Beijing: Pakistan on Friday signed a new agreement with China to begin the second phase of the $60 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as PM Imran Khan showered praise on the controversial projects, saying it has strategic significance for both countries.

Khan, who arrived in China on Thursday on a four-day visit to attend the opening ceremony of the 2020 Beijing Winter Olympics and meet the top Chinese leadership, held a virtual meeting with He Lifeng, the chairman of China's apex planning body — National Development and Reform Commission — on Friday to discuss Chinese investments in Pakistan.

Pakistan's state minister and chairman of Board of Investment Muhammad Azfar Ahsan and Lifeng signed the Framework Agreement on Industrial Cooperation, which aims to attract FDI, promote development of economic zones, and initiate, plan, execute and monitor projects, Pakistan's state-run Associated Press of Pakistan news agency reported. PTI

▶India has protested, P 20

Russia, China slam US in pre-Oly meet

The leader of Russia and China pushed back against the US pressure on Friday, declaring their opposition to any expansion of NATO and affirming Taiwan is a part of China, as they met hours before the Winter Olympics in Beijing. **P 20**

Pak to lend Lanka $200m: Report

Even as cash-strapped Pakistan now seeks a $3-billion loan from China, it has decided to give Sri Lanka a $200 million loan for the purchase of rice and cement, The News reported. **P 20**

India to give 80 Afghan cadets 1-year training

New Delhi: Eighty Afghan cadets who have completed their courses in various Indian military academies but are facing an uncertain future because of the situation in Afghanistan will be offered a year-long training programme by the Indian government. The Afghan embassy said the cadets will be trained in "effective English communication for business and office". The Afghan cadets will be given training under the foreign ministry's ITEC (Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation) programme.

Before the Taliban returned to office last year, India had been regularly providing military training to young Afghan cadets. TNN

Before HC date, hijab protest in 2 more colleges

The hijab and saffron shawl controversy reached two more PU (Classes 11-12) colleges in Karnataka, in Udupi and Belagavi districts, on Friday, even as the state government said the uniform rule must continue in all institutions till the high court rules on the issue. The row has surfaced in eight institutions since last month.

School education minister B V Nagesh said students were aware of the uniform code and there is no reason for the "sudden" protests. Opposition leader Siddaramaiah said barring students in hijab is a breach of fundamental rights. The HC is to hear pleas on the matter on February 8. **P 14**

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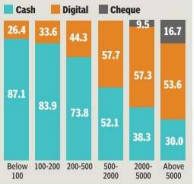
Why govt decision to launch 'digital rupee' is a big deal

In her Budget speech, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced the launch of a central bank digital currency in FY 2022-23. A look at how it will be different from the rupee that we are used to, and the ways in which it could affect the economy

What is a central bank digital currency?
Digital currency may seem like a new concept, but if you use cards, netbanking or payment apps like Paytm and Google Pay, you are already part of the movement towards cashless transactions that it is designed to strengthen. CBDCs, though, are about more than just cashless transactions and could end up transforming the banking system.

CASHLESS COMFORT
The use of physical cash is on the wane, a phenomenon to which the pandemic contributed significantly. An RBI survey in April 2021 showed that for most transactions of over Rs 500, digital payment was the preferred mode.

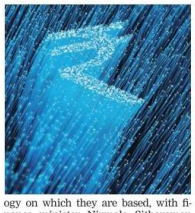


The biggest nudge to governments' digital currency push has come from the rise of cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin and Ether that have prompted speculation about the future of fiat currency – that is, currency backed by governments – as they claim to do most of the work of the modern banking system more swiftly and at a fraction of the cost.

How is CBDC different from cryptocurrency?
Although they are called 'cryptocurrency', Bitcoin, etc, are not currency but digital assets. They are privately issued and are not backed by any sort of authority, government or otherwise. But a fiat currency, such as the US dollar or the Indian rupee, is backed by a central bank, which guarantees its value.

CBDCs would be the electronic version of the physical currency and not a new currency altogether. According to RBI deputy governor T Rabi Sankar, it would represent "legal tender issued by a central bank in a digital form".

Where cryptocurrencies and CBDCs could overlap would be in the technology on which they are based, with finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman saying in her Budget 2022 speech that the RBI CBDC would use "blockchain and other technologies".



Blockchain is a kind of distributed ledger where the record of every transaction involving the cryptocurrency is maintained by every single device on which it is stored. It does away with the need for a central authority to validate each and every transaction.

Advantages of CBDCs
At present, cash is the only money issued by the central bank (RBI) that citizens use directly. Non-cash transactions are mediated by commercial banks (SBI, ICICI Bank, etc).

Commercial banks open an account on the condition that you maintain a minimum balance. This puts banking beyond the reach of poor people. However, CBDCs – because they are digital and issued by the central bank – could make banking possible for everyone.

In the years since demonetisation we have already seen the speed and other benefits of digital payments, but CBDCs could do the same for international transactions, at a lower cost. Commercial banks sometimes fail, and depositors lose a big chunk of their money despite the deposit guarantee scheme, but when your money is parked with the central bank there is no risk of default.

Disadvantages of CBDCs
CBDCs could spell the end of privacy as wherever you go – even with your phone turned off – you will leave a digital trail paying for food, fare and lodging.

State-backed digital money could also be bad news for volatile private cryptocurrencies (like Bitcoin), possibly making their values crash.

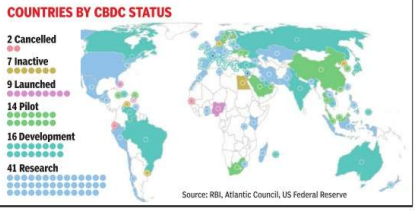
If CBDCs make it possible for the common man to bank with the central bank, people might choose to park their money with it, eliminating the risk of bank failure and losing money. That could leave commercial banks with less money to loan to industry and for other uses, increase interest rates and possibly hurt economic growth. This could also destabilise commercial banks in times of crises when depositors seeking safety might pull out their money and park it with the central bank.

9 countries already use digital currencies
Among the nine countries with active CBDCs, eight are small island nations in the Caribbean. Currently, at least 87 countries are researching or developing CBDCs, including 14 who are running pilot programmes.

In October 2021, Nigeria became the latest country to introduce a digital currency, e-Naira. For now, only those with bank accounts and digital wallets can access it but the long-term plan is to allow any citizen to use e-Naira even if they don't have a smartphone.

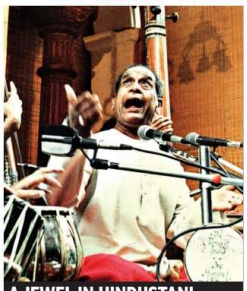
Among major economies, China is the closest to fully launching its digital yuan, which it had begun developing in 2014. It's undergoing its last pilot programmes ahead of a trial during the Winter Olympics in Beijing this week, followed by a full launch shortly after.

COUNTRIES BY CBDC STATUS



Source: RBI, Atlantic Council, US Federal Reserve

A MAESTRO'S CENTENARY



A JEWEL IN HINDUSTANI MUSIC'S CROWN

BHIMSEN GURURAJ JOSHI
Born on February 4, 1922 at Gadag in Karnataka

- Father **Gururaj** was a teacher and educator
- He wrote a biography of his son Bhimsen titled **'Naadputra'**
- Panditji displayed a love for music from an early age
- He used to stand outside a gramophone shop and listen to music for hours
- Learnt music from Sawai Gandharva, **Rambhau Kundgolkar**
- Started the Sawai Gandharva Mahotsav in his memory in **1952**
- **Recipient of Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan and Bharat Ratna**

"He often shared his insights. He was the best performer and taught me how to capture the audience. As per the trademark of the Kirana gharana, the focus was on emotions and the grammar, technique and aesthetics. He taught me everything right from tuning the taanpura

Shrinivas Joshi | SON AND DISCIPLE

"Apegaon was a simple village. Baba started the concert with a khyal in raga Yaman and the villagers loved it. They had organised lunch on a small road. But Baba had no airs, no pretence. He sat down like the others and relished the food

"Baba was very fond of American cars. We had a Buick when I was four years old. At the car mechanic, we would sit for hours when Baba discussed the nitty-gritty of maintenance. But I never got bored

"Baba never sat me down to teach music. Whatever I have imbibed was by listening to him and Aai. He was precise, pure and perfect

Shubhada Mulgund | DAUGHTER

*On **Pandit Bhimsen Joshi's** birth centenary, his disciples, fellow Kirana gharana vocalists and his children remember the master, his simplicity, love for cars, talent and stage presence, command over Hindustani classical music and electrifying performances that touched everyone*

King of concerts enjoyed mass appeal, took Kirana gharana to great heights

Prabha Atre | PADMA VIBHUSHAN, EMINENT KIRANA GHARANA VOCALIST

Pandit Bhimsenji, maestro of Hindustani classical music from Kirana gharana, enjoyed unparallel popularity for his *abhangavani* programme.

A singer's voice is the only tool to communicate his or her ideas. Talent needs to be strengthened by hard work and perseverance. Luck is also important. Bhimsenji was very fortunate in this regard.

His voice, even at an advanced age, had great power and tremendous mass appeal. Voice modulation, which he used consciously when he elongated the *taar shadja* or wove a *taan* in *taar saptak* in a low soft tone, was a great asset and invariably elicited spontaneous applause.

Coming from North Karnataka, Bhimsenji's Marathi was marked with a Kannada accent. So, his music with phrases and modulations came with a unique Carnatic flavour. This made his music special, more enjoyable.

Bhimsenji was the king of concerts. His abhangavani and *Mile sur mera tumharaa* took him to unbelievable heights of popularity. He consciously used every medium__ the radio, TV and movies to reach out to his fans. Kirana gharana's prestige rose to dizzying heights when Bhimsenji was awarded the Bharat Ratna.

Bhimsenji was nearly 11 years older than me and would come to listen to me whenever I sang in Pune. "Prabha has evolved an impressive style, all her own," he would say. He was simple, humble and warm. He readily responded to my requests whether it was writing the foreword to my books of compositions, inaugurating my Swaramayee Gurukul, and participating in the music festival I organised in the memory of my gurus Sureshbabu and Hirabai.

In 2006, he passed on his responsibility of concluding Sawai Gandharva Mahotsav to me. With the blessings of my seniors, I have been carrying forward the Kirana gharana tradition to the best of my ability.

Every generation has the responsibility of adding new features and vigour for the continuity of the music tradition they belong to. Although Bhimsenji and I took different paths in terms of using our voice, selection of music material and its presentation, we could project different facets of Kirana gharana staying true to its soul. As a woman vocalist, my approach added a different aesthetic quality, *laalitya*, to Hindustani classical music.

Photo courtesy: Prabha Atre

Both Prabha Atre and Panditji are from the same gharana but used their voices differently

Swarabhaskar (Panditji) is no more, but his voice will always be with us. Bhimsenji completed a memorable journey taking the Kirana gharana to new heights. All of us who have been a part of his journey are indeed the blessed ones.