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## IN BRIEF



Day after SC order, Teesta walks out of jail

AHMEDABAD  
A day after the Supreme Court granted her interim bail, social activist Teesta Setalvad on Saturday walked out of the Sabarmati Central Jail in Ahmedabad. The court granted her interim bail in a case of allegedly fabricating evidence related to the 2002 Gujarat riots.

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## Trade data flags testing time for goods exports

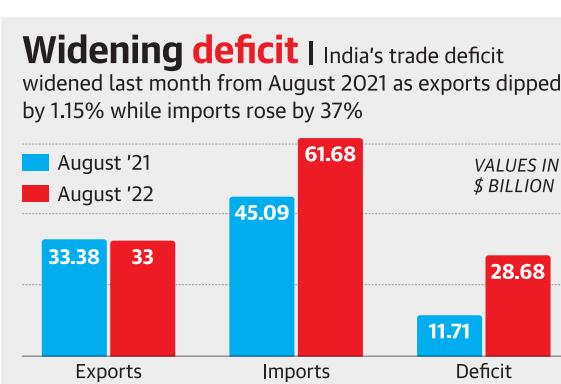
August exports dip 1.15%, imports rise above \$60 bn

VIKAS DHOOT  
NEW DELHI

India's merchandise exports shrank 1.15% year-on-year in August to \$33 billion, while inelastic imports of petroleum and coal continued to climb, lifting imports above the \$60 billion mark for the sixth successive month.

The country's goods trade deficit moderated slightly sequentially from the record \$30 billion in July, but remained the second highest on record at \$28.68 billion, and widened sharply from the \$11.7 billion in August 2021. Preliminary trade data for July had also shown a 0.8% dip in exports, which was revised to a 2.1% uptick. The last time India recorded a contraction in exports was in February 2021.

Global headwinds apart, Commerce Secretary B. V. R. Subrahmanyam attributed the dip in outbound shipments, which declined 9% sequentially, to a growing tendency among international buyers to seek deferrals in shipments of con-



firmed orders, as well as the gamut of measures taken by the government to try and curb elevated inflation.

"There is some concern about Christmas orders," Mr. Subrahmanyam observed. "Exporters' order books are full but there are cases where buyers are asking for shipments not to be despatched," he said, adding that restrictions akin to 'almost' being on a negative list for exports on items like wheat, steel and iron pellets to check inflation, had also impacted trade.

While goods exports have averaged \$38.5 billion a month between April and August, adding up to \$192.5 billion, Mr. Subrahmanyam forecast India's total out-

bound shipments in 2022-23 would touch \$470 billion, or at least \$450 billion in a 'worst case scenario'. To achieve that, exports need to average between \$36.8 billion and \$39.6 billion over the next seven months.

"The non-oil deficit accounted for nearly 60% of the total trade deficit in August, even though gold imports halved," noted Aditi Nayyar, chief economist at rating firm ICRA. "The year-on-year dip in exports, led by sectors such as engineering goods, gems and jewelry and yarns and textiles, suggests a cautious outlook for external demand going ahead," she cautioned.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 7

## FIR against two BJP MPs for entering ATC tower

They forcibly obtained nod for take-off

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Jharkhand Police have registered an FIR against BJP MPs Nishikant Dubey and Manoj Tiwari for entering the air traffic control (ATC) tower at the Deoghar airport to forcibly obtain take-off clearance for their chartered plane, though flight operations were not permitted after evening.

The two MPs and others have been booked under Sections 336 (act endangering life or personal safety of others), 447 (punishment for criminal trespass), and 448 (punishment for house-trespass) of the IPC.

The FIR was registered at the Kunda police station on September 1 on the basis of a complaint by security in-charge Suman Anand.

The Deputy Commissioner of Deoghar, Manjunath Bhajantri, too has complained about the incident to the Jharkhand government's Civil Aviation Department and sought a speedy inquiry, he said on Twitter.

The incident happened on August 31, when around 5.25 p.m. the two MPs



Nishikant Dubey

reached the airport with other passengers and supporters who had come to see them off. All passengers boarded the chartered plane. The pilot soon stepped out of the plane and stormed towards the ATC tower.

"It is clear that passengers entered the ATC, and despite there being no facility for night operation, there was pressure exerted for obtaining clearance disregarding passenger safety," Mr. Bhajantri said. He said that the CCTV footage showed that apart from the passengers, there were others who had gathered inside the ATC building.

Though it missed the deadline, Rajpath was readied for the parade on January 26 this year. After the parade, the work resumed, while Rajpath remained closed for the public.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 7

## New-look Rajpath to be inaugurated on Sept. 8

Amenity blocks, dedicated vending zones to be unveiled



Boating will be allowed in the two canals that are behind Krishi Bhavan and Vanijya Bhavan.

Among the additions to the area will be five vending zones behind the India Gate lawns with space for 40 vendors each, which will include a few ice-cream carts, according to a senior official. Earlier, the ice-cream carts and other street food vendors and toy-sellers had lined up along Rajpath.

**Street food from 16 States**  
In addition, two zones on either side of India Gate will have eight stalls each. These, sources said, will have street food from 16 States, which are being selected for Delhi

## on Sunday



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## Nano urea fast-tracked for approval despite incomplete trials

Three seasons of assessment by ICAR is required to approve a new fertilizer

JACOB KOSHY  
NEW DELHI

Nano urea, a product developed by the Indian Farmers and Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) and heavily advertised by the Central government as a panacea to reduce farmer dependence on packaged urea, is yet to be fully tested despite having been fast-tracked for commercial application. Normally, three seasons of independent assessment by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is required for

approving a new fertilizer, but in the case of nano urea this was reduced to two. Moreover, scientists are still unclear if the product can on its own cut farmers' dependence on urea.

### Crucial fertilizer

Nano urea is a patented and indigenously made liquid that contains nanoparticles of urea, the most crucial chemical fertilizer for farmers in India. A single half-litre bottle of the liquid can compensate for a 45 kg sack



Rushed process: Despite nano urea, packaged urea is vital for the initial stages of crop development. ■ VIJAY SONEJI

of urea that farmers traditionally rely on, it is claimed.

Minister of Health, Chemicals and Fertilizers Mansukh Mandaviya has claimed

and would no longer require the 90 lakh tonnes that it imported every year and would save the country close to ₹40,000 crore.

The standard practice in the cultivation of crops such as wheat, rice, mustard is to use at least two 45-kg sacks of urea, which is an inorganic compound and the crop's main source of nitrogen.

The first packet is applied during the early sowing or transplantation stage of the crop. The second stage application is done when the plant has sprouted a canopy of leaves, and is approaching the reproductive phase of plant growth.

However, a crucial point omitted in government communication around nano urea is that the traditional, packaged urea is still necessary during the initial stage, as basal nitrogen, of crop development. The nano urea could be useful once the

### SPECIAL

plant grew after which the product could be sprayed on its leaves.

"Based on the experiments, it was evident that 50% of the top-dressed urea (second stage application) could be replaced but not basal nitrogen," Dr. Trilo-

chan Mohapatra, former Director General of the ICAR, told *The Hindu*, "In most cases yields weren't affected and some instances the crop yield increased."

Based on a year (two seasons) of experiments, in 2019-2020, ICAR reported results of field trials on crops that benefited from nano urea, to the Central Fertiliser Committee, which decides on whether to approve a chemical fertilizer for commercial use. The approval came through, in February 2021, during Dr. Mohapatra's tenure.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 7

## ED searches fintech firms in loan app case

It seizes ₹17 cr. kept in merchant IDs and accounts of entities that ran the apps

DEEVESH K. PANDEY  
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted searches at six locations in Bengaluru linked to Razorpay Private Limited, Cashfree Payments, Paytm Payment Services Limited and entities controlled or operated by the suspects based in China, in connection with the micro-loan app case.

The Opposition BJP has convened its legislature party meeting on Sunday to chalk out its strategy in the House, sources said.

Mr. Soren's party, the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), has 30 MLAs, the Congress 18, and the Rashtriya Janata Dal one. The BJP has 26 MLAs.

Following a petition by the BJP seeking Mr. Soren's disqualification from the Assembly for violating electoral norms by allotting a stone mining lease to himself, the Election Commission (EC) sent its decision to Governor Ramesh Bais on August 25. Some BJP leaders had claimed that the poll panel has recommended Mr. Soren's disqualification.

The ruling coalition has asserted that Mr. Soren's disqualification will not affect the government, as it enjoys absolute majority in the 81-member House.



The firms are also accused of making Indian nationals dummy directors. ■ ISTOCK

the mobile apps.

The investigation is based on 18 first information reports (FIR) registered by the

cybercrime police in Bengaluru city against a large number of entities and individuals for their alleged involvement in the extortion and harassment of those who had taken small loans through the mobile apps run by them.

### China-based suspects

The agency alleges that these entities were controlled or operated by the suspects based in China. They used forged documents of Indian nationals and made them

dummy directors. "It has come to notice that the said entities were doing their suspected illegal business through various merchant IDs/accounts held with payment gateways/banks. The premises of Razorpay Private Ltd., Cashfree Payments Ltd. and entities controlled/operated by Chinese persons are covered in the search operation," said the agency.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 7

## Nitish Kumar plans Delhi trip, tour of States

Bihar CM says people's mandate will be good in 2024 if Oppn. parties join forces

AMARNATH TEWARY  
PATNA

Smarting from the defection of five of his six Janata Dal (United) MLAs in Manipur to the ruling BJP a day earlier, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Saturday hit out at his erstwhile ally, questioning the constitutionality and propriety of the move.

Party sources said the JD (U) leader would ramp up efforts to forge Opposition unity in the run-up to the 2024 Lok Sabha polls and begin with a three-day trip to Delhi

starting September 5 before visiting other States to meet leaders of various parties.

The visit to the national capital is likely to include meetings with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, Aam Aadmi Party chief Arvind Kejriwal and Left leaders.

Amid cheers from party leaders and workers shouting slogans such as "Desh ka Prime Minister kaisa ho, Nitish Kumar jaisa ho", Mr. Kumar reached the JD(U) office in Patna on Saturday to attend Day 1 of the two-day

Addressing a meeting of the State executive of the JD (U), which was followed by the national executive, Mr. Kumar issued a clarion call for a united front against the BJP. "If all Opposition parties join forces, then the people's mandate will be very good in 2024... the BJP will be bundled out for about 50 seats. I am devoting myself to that drive." Mr. Kumar also attributed JD(U)'s poor performance in the 2020 Assembly poll to a "BJP conspiracy".

(With inputs from agencies)

Starting September 5 before visiting other States to meet leaders of various parties. The visit to the national capital is likely

## Labourer dies in wall collapse

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

A 25-year-old labourer was killed while two others sustained injuries after a wall collapsed on Saturday in east Delhi's Mustafabad area, the police said.

The police received a PCR call around 5 p.m. regarding the incident at a construction site in Gali No. 5 in Mustafabad. The victim has been identified as Manoj Kumar, the police said. The injured persons have been admitted to Jag Pravesh Chandra Hospital near Shastri Park.

### TO ADVERTISE PLEASE CONTACT

**Mr. N SELVA KUMAR**

PH: 9820350726

selvakumar.n@thehindu.co.in

**THE HINDU**  
India's National Newspaper

## Now, DNA sample analysis in 24 hrs at new testing centre

L-G inaugurates advanced facility at FSL, Rohini

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Delhi Police's efforts to accelerate forensic evidence analysis received a boost on Saturday when Lieutenant Governor V.K. Saxena inaugurated an advanced DNA examination facility for sexual assault and POCSO cases in the Capital. The facility is equipped with machines that can reduce the sample processing time to 24 hours from the existing 72 hours.

Opened at Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL), Rohini, the facility can process 24 samples simultaneously and will be manned by an additional 93 staff members whose recruitment was sanctioned by the L-G recently, Raj Niwas said.

### Faster and accurate

The FSL, according to official estimates, currently has 2,500 to 3,000 cases related to murder, attempt to murder, sexual assault, POCSO, disaster tragedies and unidentified bodies.

The new centre, according to Raj Niwas, will enable biological and ser-

ological examinations and DNA typing of these cases much faster, ensuring that trials in courts do not get delayed. "The new facility, replete with an automated DNA extraction system and differential wash extraction system, exclusively for sexual offences and POCSO cases, will now enable the FSL to report on forensic samples in a much faster and accurate manner," Raj Niwas said.

"Interacting with officials at the facility, the L-G reiterated his instructions for timely and accurate disposal of cases referred to the FSL. He was informed that since his last visit to FSL Rohini on June 29, when he had issued instructions for expeditious disposal and reporting of cases, there has been an increase of 9% in both," Raj Niwas added.

The L-G stressed upon the need for integrity and transparency in forensic examinations and underlined the need of putting in place technology enabled systems that were free of human intervention and interface to the farthest possible extent, Raj Niwas said.

**U.P. POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED E-Tender Notice E-Tender No. SD-944** online e-Bids are invited for "02 Years Operation and Maintenance Work at different 07 Nos. 220kV Substations of UPPTCL". E-tender has been uploaded on 30/08/2022 on [www.etend-erup.nic.in](http://www.etend-erup.nic.in). Estimated Cost of work : Rs. 7.33 Crore (GST included) only. Completion Period : 24 months, E.M.D. Cost Rs. 7,33,00,000 only. Last date of tender submission 10/10/2022 at 15:30 Hrs. Total Quantum of work, tender specification and other terms & conditions are as per tender document available on the e-tender portal. Undersigned reserves the right to cancel the e-Bids without assigning any reason. Corrigendum, Addendum, Extension if any shall be uploaded only on the above website. Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly for updated information from time to time. **Superintending Engineer, ESDC-I, UPPTCL**

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL HOSPITAL AND CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR**  
Telefax- 0194-2496089, Email Id- xenmhchdk@yahoo.in  
**Gist of e-tender**  
NIT No: MHCHD/TS /2022-23/98-e-tendering Dated:-01.09.2022  
For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited from registered/reputed/experienced firms with J&K UT Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned work:-  

Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In rupees)	EMD Amount (In rupees)	Time of completion (in days)	AA Accorded Vide No:	TS No
1 Providing and fitting of sliding door for sub divisional office building at Main entrance at Govt. SMHS Hospital, Srinagar.	45,809/-	100	900	5	MC/Plan/Aug oxygen plant /1973-82 Dated: 05-08-2020	35 of 08/2022 (AEE SD-1st)
Cleaning, Descaling and Repair to convector at Govt. CD Hospital, Srinagar.	18,700/-	100	400	5	05-MCS of 2022, Dated: 10-06-2022	34 of 08/2022 (AEE SD-1st)
Repairs to the compressor B of 500 LPM oxygen Concentrator Plant (INMATEC) at Govt. GD Pant Hospital, Srinagar.	26,300/-	100	500	5	05-MCS of 2022, Dated: 10-06-2022	31 of 08/2022 (AEE SD-2nd)
Complete rewinding to the 2HP, 1.5 KW, 1400 rpm Fan motor assembly of compressor A of 500 LPM Oxygen Concentrator Plant (INMATEC) along with allied works and various works of 600 kg/hr steam boiler of laundry section at Govt. GB Pant Hospital, Srinagar.	14,450/-	100	300	5	05-MCS of 2022, Dated: 10-06-2022	08 of 05/2022 (AEE SD-2nd)

1. Downloading of Bids- The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of Quantities (B.Q.O.), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen from the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) from 01.09.2022(18.00 hrs) and can be downloaded from 01.09.2022(18.00 hrs) to 07.09.2022(14.00hrs) in two (02) covers.  
2. Uploading- The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site 02.09.2022(10.00 hrs) to 07.09.2022(14.00hrs)  
3. Opening of Bids- The bids received upto due date and time shall be opened on 07.09.2022 at 16.00 hrs or any date convenient to the department in the office of Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar  
MHCHD/TS/991-96  
Dt-01-09-2022  
DIPK-9185/22

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
MHCHD, Srinagar

Timings  
DELHI

SUNDAY, SEP. 04	
RISE 06:01	SET 18:40
RISE 13:43	SET 00:00
MONDAY, SEP. 05	
RISE 06:01	SET 18:39
RISE 14:49	SET 00:02
TUESDAY, SEP. 06	
RISE 06:02	SET 18:37
RISE 15:51	SET 01:04

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

**Delhi Palam Today**  
37°C The weather will be mostly dry. Day will be hot and humid with uneasy afternoon. Night will be slight warm.

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow**  
36°C A very warm and humid weather to prevail. Night remains comfortable. Spell of rain and thundershower with gusty winds may occur.

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# AAP MLAs slam BJP for 'bad state' of MCD schools

Civic body demands action for 'intrusion' in its schools

**STAFF REPORTER**  
NEW DELHI

Leaders of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) visited some Municipal Corporation of Delhi-run schools in the city on Saturday and said the BJP should apologise for the "poor condition" of the institutions and for "playing with the future of students".

Senior AAP leader and Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said the BJP has made a "mockery" of schools meant for poor children while being in power in the municipal corporation for 17 years.

Leading the inspection at Greater Kailash, AAP chief spokesperson Saurabh Bharadwaj denounced the BJP's education system and called it a "complete disaster" in the name of MCD schools being run in Delhi. He live-streamed his visit on social media platforms, highlighting the "poor condition" of the school buildings, classrooms, toilets and campuses.

Hitting out at AAP, the MCD denied that the infrastructure in its schools was poor and termed the live streaming of the school premises an "intrusion" that was "uncalled for".

"It is hoped that the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, the Delhi Commission for Women and Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights will take note of such breach and call for appropriate action against the trespassers in the schools who put the safety and security of children at bay," read a statement re-



AAP legislator Saurabh Bharadwaj visiting an MCD school at Krishn Vihar in Delhi on Saturday. ■ R.V. MOORTHY

leased by the civic body.

worthy of being exhibited to anyone. "The BJP is aware that there will be a huge unrest if their condition is revealed to the public," he said.

The BJP did not respond to the allegations.

The MCD, however, said the funds allotted by the Delhi government for the infrastructure, repair and maintenance of its 1,535 schools was meagre and that it received no money for the financial year 2020-21.

It added that the funds received for the same, in the financial year 2021-22 and 2022-23, stood at ₹21 crore and ₹7.5 crore, respectively.

"It is a sad commentary that the funds given by the Delhi government to MCD schools have been a trickle in comparison to the gush of funds for Delhi government schools, which have been provided more than ₹1,500 crore every year for 1,100 schools. A little coaxing and Twitter pleas to Delhi government by those raising the issue may help address the alleged problem to a great extent," the civic body said.

He challenged the BJP leaders to accompany them to MCD schools to see the "disastrous" state of the premises. "The first sight inside the school was shocking. The students were sitting under a tin shed. Given the hot climate of Delhi, we can only imagine the ordeal the children face in the classrooms," Mr. Bharadwaj said.

AAP MLAs Durgesh Pathak and Dilip Pandey, who inspected schools in Rajinder Nagar and Timarpur, said they were met with closed doors.

Mr. Pathak said by locking up the school, the BJP has shown that its schools are un-

destroy the foundation" of the education ecosystem.

The All India Democratic Students' Organisation (AIDS-O) said online classes could never be a "wholesome substitute" for classroom learning.

AIDS-O contended that

education was not just about "cramming facts" and "hoarding degrees" but about the holistic development of the child.

"The social interactions with teachers and fellow students are crucial in nurturing young minds," it said.

## Delhi's model virtual school anti-student'

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**

NEW DELHI

Even as the newly launched Delhi Model Virtual School (DMVS) received 800 applications and is likely to extend the last date of application, a students' body termed it "anti-student" and said it would

destroy the foundation" of the education ecosystem.

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"The social interactions with teachers and fellow students are crucial in nurturing young minds," it said.

The eligible graduates who have completed their Degrees from November, 2021 to September, 2022 shall apply online.

Visit our website: <https://www.srmist.edu.in> for online registration.

Last date for online registration: 18.09.2022 upto 5.00 PM.

For other programs, the date(s) of Convocation / Graduation will be intimated later.

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### 18th ANNUAL CONVOCATION

25th SEPTEMBER 2022

#### NOTIFICATION

The 18th Annual Convocation 2022 of SRM Institute of Science and Technology for the Faculty of Engineering and Technology is scheduled as given below:

Venue	Dr. T.P. Ganesh Auditorium, SRM Nagar Kattankulathur - 603 203
Date   Day   Time	25.09.2022   Sunday   11:00 A.M.
Faculty   Campus	FACULTY OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY B.Tech, B.Arch, B.Des & Ph.D Kattankulathur, Ramapuram & Vadapalani campuses

The eligible graduates who have completed their Degrees from November, 2021 to September, 2022 shall apply online.

Visit our website: <https://www.srmist.edu.in> for online registration.

Last date for online registration: 18.09.2022 upto 5.00 PM.

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**BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE**  
Office of the Executive Engineer, SWD, Koramangala Valley, BBMP, 9th Floor, Jayanagar Shopping Complex, 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560011.

No: EE/SWD/KVP/TEND/06/2022-23 Date: 03-09-2022

### SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION - (CALL-2)

(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer (SWD - Koramangala Valley), BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the Construction of works detailed below.

(Standard Tender Document - KW-4)

1. Construction / Remodelling of Primary, Secondary Drains, Culverts / Bridges and all other allied Works of SWD Spread Out at various locations in Layout Chickpet Assembly Constituency in Koramangala Valley under GOK Grants 2022-23 Package-01, Action Plan Sl.No. 180, 181, 182, 186, 187 and 190 - (CALL-2).

2. Calendar of Events: 1) Tender Documents can be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Portal website: [www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in](http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in) 2) Date of Pre-Bid Meeting on 06-09-2022 at 16.00 Hrs. 3) Last Date for Submission of Bid Document: 13-09-2022 upto 16.00 Hrs. 4) Date of Opening of Technical Bid: 14-09-2022, 16.31 Hrs. Further details can be had from the above office.

3. Sd/- Executive Engineer, SWD, Koramangala Valley, BBMP.

4. PAY DEVELOPMENT CHARGES, HELP TO DEVELOP BENGALURU

COVID-19, DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE

5. Foot Follow Physical Distancing

6. Maintain Hand Hygiene

7. Wear Mask

8. We are taking all necessary COVID 19 Precautionary Measures

### IN BRIEF

#### Court issues contempt notice to Police Chief

NEW DELHI

A court here has issued a contempt notice to the Delhi Police Commissioner in a case of alleged gang rape of a woman and said, "the narration and sequence of events in the case depicted a sordid state of affairs in the administration of Delhi Police". The court was hearing the bail plea of an accused in the case and noted that an FIR was registered almost 36 days after the victim filed a complaint before the SHO. PTI

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- WAZIRPUR A-5, Near Richi Rich Banquet (Opp. Shalimar Bagh)
- JANAKPURI B-1/2, Main Najafgarh Road, Opp. Metro Pillar 543
- NOIDA, Nirula's Sec-2, Near Metro Station, Sec-15, Noida, UP
- LAJPAT NAGAR, 49, Main Ring Road, Adj. Haldi Ram, Near Moolchand Crossing

We are taking all necessary COVID 19 Precautionary Measures

### Himachal Pradesh Public works Department Notice Inviting Tender

Sealed item rate tender on from No. 6 & 8 are hereby invited by the Executive Engineer Banjar Division, HP.PWD, Banjar on behalf of Governor of H.P. from the eligible contractors enlisted in HP.PWD for the following works, so as to reach in this office on or before 15.09.2022 up to 11.00 AM and the tender will be opened on the same day at 11.30AM in the presence of intending contractors or their authorized representatives. The tender forms can be had from this office against cash payment (non-refundable) up to 14.09.2022 at 4.00 PM. The application for issue of tender forms shall be received upto 11.00 AM on 14.09.2022.

The Earnest money in the shape of National Certificate/Time deposit/Saving Account in any of the post office/Saving Bank Account of Nationalized Bank in H.P. duly pledged in favour of Executive Engineer Banjar Division HP.PWD, Banjar must be accompanied each tender. Conditional tender and the tender received without earnest money will summarily be rejected. The offer of tender shall remain open for 75 days from the date of opening. The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons.

All the contractors will have to bring with them attested copy of enlistment/ renewal/ exemption in earnest money. Contractor will be issued the tender forms only when they fulfill the terms and condition of form No. 6 & 8. Contractors should be registered under HP, Sales Tax Act, 1968/GST.

Job No.	Name of Work	Estimated cost	Earnest Money	Time	Cost of form
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# THE HINDU CLASSIFIEDS

thehinduads.com

LIFE MADE SIMPLE

## THE HINDU MATRIMONIAL

BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

### BENGALI

Bengali girl, PhD, 33/57", job, divorced, residing in Vizag-looking for a suitable qualified, empathetic partner with liberal values, open to relocation. Contact: mmalati534@gmail.com, 7003818827(7-9pm)

### TAMIL

37/165cm, Slim, Charming, Banker in Malaysia seeks NRI Tamil Catholic groom. Email:sacrament295@gmail.com

**COMPUTER / INFO.TECH.**  
DEC 84, 4ft 11 inch, Hindu, Nadar, BTech, Issueless, Innocent. Divorce. Looking for a suitable Hindu Nadar groom, 8870863350.

### COSMOPOLITAN

SEEKS EDUCATED Hindu Groom any caste around 36 yrs for issueless Divorcee Ph.D holder. Send BHP to hisodhu@gmail.com

### GROOM WANTED

**DOCTOR MBBS MD MRCPCH**  
Working in NHS London  
37/167 Fair Tamil Protestant CSI Christian Nadar BC innocent divorced no issues seeks christian Doctor Groom/ Professionals in UK/ India. Caste no bar  
**Ph: 98435 26370**

### DIVORCEE

HINDU ADDRAVIDAR MD 36/165 Punarpoosam/Mithunam, seeks groom from same community, preferred Engg/ SW/ Doctors 37-41yrs. Ct: 8148323860

### DOCTOR

**DOCTOR GIRL** MD Anesthesiology 33/165 from affluent Elite family of doctors. Working as Cardiac Anesthesiologist in top hospital, Chennai. Fair beautiful good mannered & cultured. Father doctor Kerala Nair, Mother CSI Tamil Christian Doctor & Engineer grooms with MD/ MS/ MCh/ DM/ BE/ Tech from good family background from Kerala & Tamilnadu - preferable. Ct: 984050381/ 9840985383

**VANIY CHETTIYAR** Aswini Messan 28/163 MBBS, MD final year. Pulmonology, seeks Doctor/PSI/MS. Sub cast no bar; sriharicars@gmail.com

SEEKING A Suitable Hindu Tamil Doctor Groom for a Gynecologists DNB, 29yrs, 155cm, BC, working in Chennai. Contact: 9444141815

**MBBS KSHATRIYARAJU** Hindu Brid 27/ 53' Fair NEET Preparing Seeks Hindu PG Doctor or in around Chennai Caste No Bar Contact: 94444 87192/ 88257 28652.

**DEVENDRAKULA VELLALAR**, Bride, 31, MBBS, Star Thiruvonam, Legally Divorced. No issue. Doctor Preferable. Ct: 90258 23457, 63698 0628

Hindu Sozhai vellalar Makam / Simham fair 25/155 MBBS passed PLAB2 working in UK sees Doctor groom in UK or willing to go to UK (also Engg groom). Ct: 9443142646, 944222401 or sriyaa23@gmail.com

**Wanted DOCTOR Groom**  
Working in USA for Affluent Chennai Doctor Bride working in California.  
25 fair slim 165cm, Tamil BC WhatsApp 96770 26459

Balaji, Doctor MBBS, working in Pvt. Hospital, good looking 31/165 Chennai sees Doctor/ CA Groom. Father Govt Doctor. Ct: 9840196667 / 9789032870

### ENGINEER

SEEKING UPPER middle class groom willing to settle down in Canada/ USA for daughter, 26 years. residing in USA, MBA, Hindu, Vanniyar, whatsapp +1 57199609 or 99414 93276

### KANNADA

HINDU VOKKALIGA 27/153cms, BE seeks Groom from the same community. Contact: 97917 68175.

### MALAYALAM

**MUSLIM GIRL**, (39), 162 cms, Senior Manager in an MNC, Thiruvananthapuram, seeks suitable match. Unmarried boy around 42. Contact: 946371766

**MALAYALEE VISHWAKARMA(Q.S)** girl 39/162, Avittom, Deputy Manager in MNC, Chennai seeks Educated & Employed (C.NB), 9445615162, 9952995662

**ALLIANCE INVITED** for Chennai based Nair girl, 25/157, Star Meekran, Embryologist, P.C. preferably from Chennai. Ct: 9444947616/ 967712326

**EZHAVA GIRL** 28 years, 165 cm, Thriketta, MBBS, MS doing. Doctors preferred. Phone: 9446304849

**THIYAA GIRL** 31/164, MBBS/PG, Pathology. Uthradam, looking for Malabar based professionally qualified Thiyya boy. Based 9950531887

**VISWAKARMA TAMIL** Gold Smith girl from Kerala B.Tech, Age 27, 169 Cm, employed IT Bangalore, seeks alliance from parents of educated employed boys from similar status. 9995953267

### TAMIL

Alliance Invited for a Protestant bomy again Girl, BDS, MPH/Health Administration) 28/152cm, Working as a Consultant (MWHF, Delhi) EM: maniahead23@gmail.com Ct: +91 40344, 9895559553

### TELUGU

**NAIDU Balija Pooram, 25 / 5'4"**  
**Chartered Accountant**  
MNC Chennai

**Well settled family seeks:**  
Professionally qualified / business GROOM from an affluent family

+91 94443 97942  
groominvited@gmail.com

**SMU GIRL** 30/157, Fair, M.Com M.Phil, Asst. Prof. Chennai Seeks Qualified Professional Groom. Ct: 9445678086

**SM URDU** 30/168/MD practicing Doctor, Chennai well settled family seeks alliance from PG or pursuing PG Doctors age 31-35 years Ct: 981524064

**URDU SPEAKING** Muslim bride 26, 53' from affluent family with M.E. working in core at Chennai. Type I diabetic and in control. Suitable good looking bride solicited with details. Caste no bar. email id: armanojursuya@gmail.com

**FATHER SEEKING** US NRI Groom aged 32-36 for his US Citizen daughter. Contact ahmim8@msn.com

**NAIDU Balija** Pooram, 24/160, PG upper Mid-Class seeks Prof. Qualified Groom Sub-sect no Bar. 95660 77584

**URDU BRIDE**, B.com, MA, Employed, 40yrs, divorcee, No Issues, Chennai. Well settled. Ct or Wap: 9814377786

**BRIDES WANTED**

**COMPUTER / INFO.TECH.**

**MALAYALAM**

**NAIR BOY** 38, Chathayam Nakshathram settled in Coimbatore working in HCL Technologies (WHF) looking for a suitable proposal. Please contact: 9845460509

**COSMOPOLITAN**

**Hindu Satvik**- Unmarried Boy, Educated family, 1993 Born, 5 ft, 10 inch, MBA working in a MNC Hyderabad, fluent in Hindi, English & Telugu seeks suitable Bride. Ph: 9182485056

**TELUGU SC** Ma groom, 29, 175 cm, good looking, B.Tech and Masters, from well to do educated family, working in UK, seeks educated bride between the age 23-27 from an educated family. Caste or language no bar. Christians can also apply. Send bio, photo to raagawarao7@gmail.com, 8238645024. No brokers.

**PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED**

**SAIVA PILLAI**, 28/164, uthirattathi, B.E, SW Engr, working in trichy, 8LPAs having left hand slightly short seeks suitable bride from same caste, ct: 9442957552

**REDDY REMARRIAGE** 36 MBBS 6.5

Own hospital Ch seeks 1st Marriage girl only CNB Ct Geetham 9884858014

**RIDDLE REMARRIAGE** 37 BCom MA 6.2

Tiruvanam Chennai seeks educated girl CNB Ct Geetham 9884858014

**TAMIL**

**WANTED SMART** and homely Bride for a fair and smart business man of 33 years (Hindu, Tamil) from a reputed family doing business in India & UK. Contact: 9840377444

**PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED**

**SAIVA PILLAI**, 28/164, uthirattathi, B.E, SW Engr, working in trichy, 8LPAs having left hand slightly short seeks suitable bride from same caste, ct: 9442957552

**REDDY REMARRIAGE** 37 BCom MA 6.2

Tiruvanam Chennai seeks educated girl CNB Ct Geetham 9884858014

**TAMIL**

**WANTED** Born again/ Pentecost Tamil Christian Bride (working EP/Dr/Executive in Govt/Pvt/Bank) for (BE & MBA) 31yrs working in Chennai, 5.9"- Fair & handsome, upper Middle class, AD, Chennai , Native of Salem. Contact: 94431-2634, satyam62@gmail.com

**DIVORCEE RC-** Christian 35yrs/ 171 Cms, B.Sc. Btch. Mktg. working in Cruise Ship 10LPAs. seeking suitable Bride without Child. Ct: 8825924783

**ELITE BRIDES WANTED**

**SOZIYA VELLALAR**, 24, 175 cms, Businessman, BBA. Lives in Kulathalai. Belongs to an affluent business family with a good net worth. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448344

**PILLAI**, 34, 168 cms, Development Engineer, PhD. Lives in Japan. Parents are retired. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for an amiable match from any community. Contact: 6366448345

**KAMMA NAIDU**, 27, 175 cms, IT Engineer, B.Tech. Lives in Chennai. Father is an affluent Businessman with a good net worth. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448345

**VOKKALIGA**, 31, 183 cms, Businessman, BE, Lives in Bangalore. Belongs to an affluent business family with a good net worth. Looking for a suitable match from Vokkala/Kapu Naidu/Kapu Reddy community in Bangalore. Contact: 6366448343

**CASTE NO BAR**, 33, 177 cms, Medical Professional, PGT. Lives in Chennai. Parents are working Professionals. Family is affluent. Looking for a suitable medical professional match in Tirupur/Coimbatore/Erode/Karur. Contact: 6366448343

**INTERCASTE**, 29, 160 cms, Animator, Bachelors. Lives in Chennai. Father is an affluent Businessman with a good net worth. Looking for a like minded match from any community in India/A abroad. Contact: 6366448344

**LINGAYATH**, 26, 170 cms, Masters from a Premier Institute. Lives in Bangalore. Father is a well reputed Businessman with a good net worth. Looking for a well educated match from the same community in Bangalore. Contact: 6366448346

**ELITE GROOMS WANTED**

**BRAHM**, 28, 165 cms, Software Professional, B.Sc in IT. Lives in the USA. Father is an affluent Businessman with a good net worth. Looking for a like minded mate from the same community. Contact: 6366448345

**MUDALIAR**, 26, 165 cms, pursuing PhD. Lives in Chennai. Parents are Central Govt. Employees. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for an amiable match in India/Abroad. Contact: 6366448343

**CASTE NO BAR**, 28, 173 cms, Medical Professional, MBBS. Lives in Tirupur. Parents are working Professionals. Family is affluent. Looking for a suitable medical professional match in Tirupur/Coimbatore/Erode/Karur. Contact: 6366448343

**INTERCASTE**, 29, 160 cms, Animator, Bachelors. Lives in Chennai. Father is an affluent Businessman with a good net worth. Looking for a like minded match from any community in India/A abroad. Contact: 6366448344

**SECRETARYTANYA410@gmail.com**

**80726 23211**

**ELITE BRIDES WANTED**

**A High Profile, Well - Established (Business)**

**Family in Chennai,**

**Looking for a Beautiful, Tall,**

**Cultured Girl** for their Tall, Suave,

**Humble and Caring** 29 Year Old Son.

**secretarytanya410@gmail.com**

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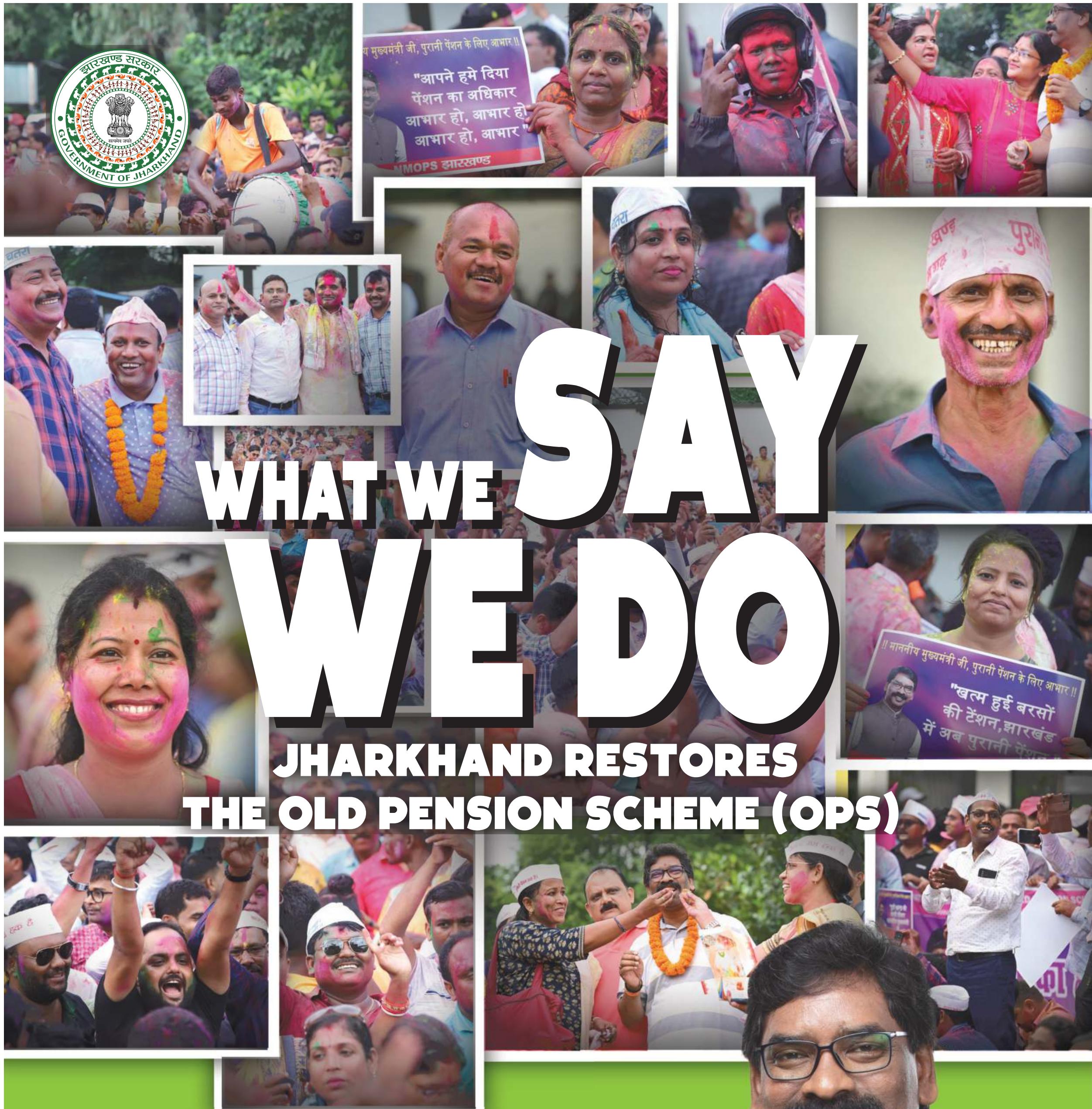
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# WHAT WE SAY WE DO

## JHARKHAND RESTORES THE OLD PENSION SCHEME (OPS)

### HEMANT SOREN's GOVERNMENT FULFILLS ONE MORE PROMISE

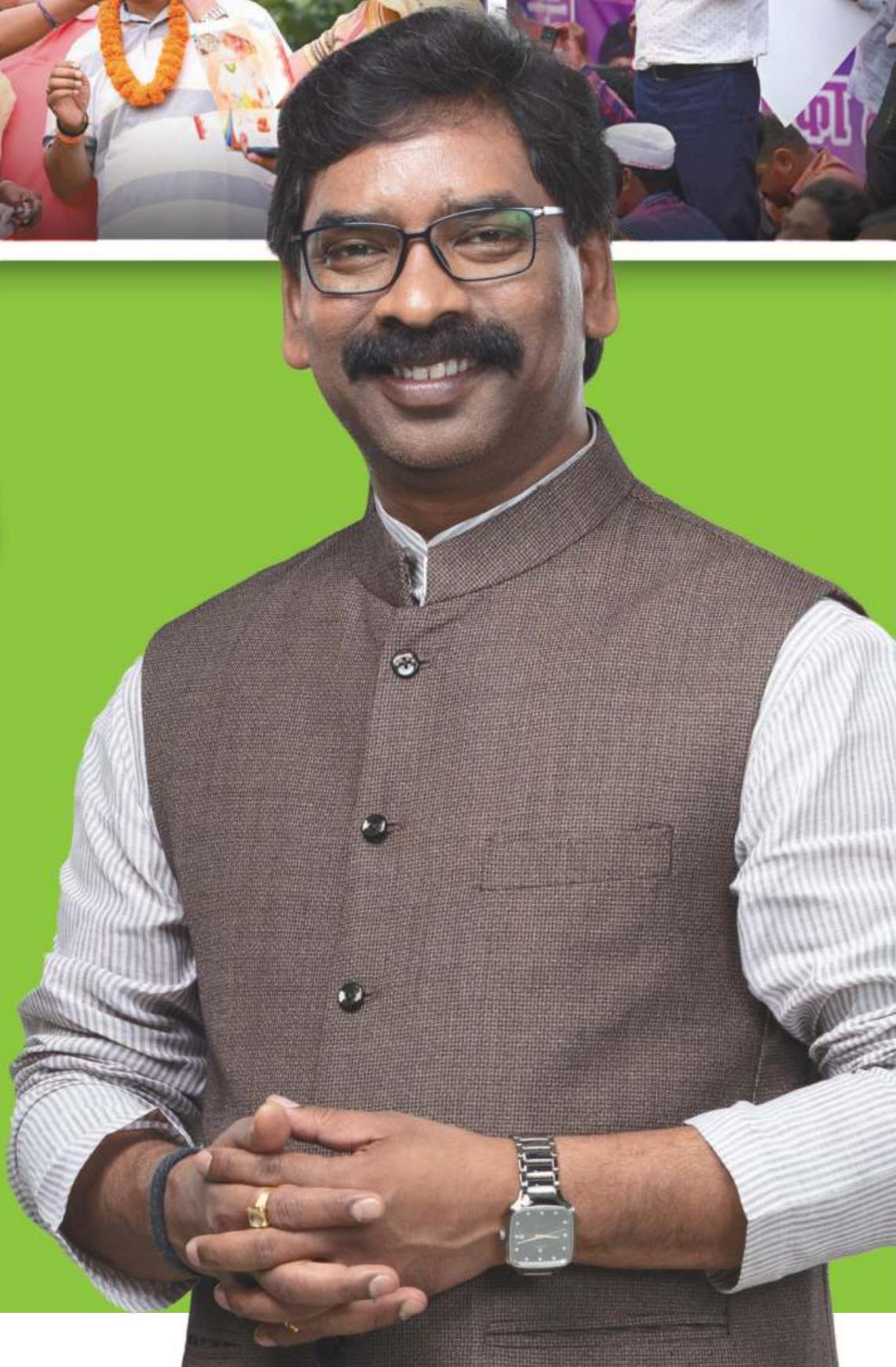
Secured a dignified future to lakhs of state government employees and their families



All the employees have a significant role to play in the implementation of the Government schemes at the ground level. Please extend your sincere support to help me serve the state better. I stand by you to take care of all your concerns."

Hemant Soren, Chief Minister

\* The Old Pension Scheme is effective from 01.09.2022







# After Cong. exit, Azad to hold first rally

Jammu decked up with his huge posters and banners demanding *azad soch*, or free thinking

PEERZADA ASHIQ  
SRINAGAR

Former Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad, arriving in Jammu on Sunday for a series of public meetings ahead of launching his own political party, is likely to place his political mission around safeguarding jobs and land for local people in Jammu & Kashmir, a place where the spectrum of aspirations ranges from self-rule and greater autonomy to independence.

Sources in Mr. Azad's camp said the former Congress leader was likely to depart from the pattern of regional politics and navigate the polity in the Union Territory away from constitutional and pro-Article 370 demands.



**Setting the stage:** Supporters installing a hoarding of Ghulam Nabi Azad ahead of his public meeting in Jammu. • PTI

"Mr. Azad will focus more on safeguarding jobs and land while announcing his road map for J&K. Land and job securities were key provi-

sions to Article 370, too," a close aide of Mr. Azad said.

Mr. Azad may not demand "reversing the clock", but will focus on bringing more

laws related to land and jobs in the future "under a different nomenclature".

In Mr. Azad, Jammu and Kashmir will see a rare voice that departs from demanding any special status or touching upon Pakistan as a party to the Kashmir issue. In fact, Mr. Azad and J&K Apni Party chief Altaf Bukhari became two major voices in the post-August 5, 2019 Jammu and Kashmir to talk about moving on and not raising Article 370.

Mr. Azad, in his earlier statements made in Jammu and Kashmir in 2020, said there was "no point in raising Article 370".

After Jammu and Kashmir lost its special constitutional position in 2019, he shifted his focus more to the restora-

tion of Statehood and conduct of elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

Meanwhile, Jammu was being decked up with larger-than-life posters of Mr. Azad on Saturday, with many banners reading, "We are for azad soch [free thinking]."

Prominent faces of the Congress from Jammu and Kashmir have already joined Mr. Azad, who quit the Congress on August 26. All eyes will be on G-23, the rebel group within the Congress, if they join Mr. Azad in Jammu on September 3.

"There is overwhelming support from workers and the public for Azad sahib's political movement, which reflects a change that is coming to J&K soon," Mr. Azad's aide Salman Nizami said.

# Educator and humanitarian S. Parasuraman passes away

He served as Director of TISS between 2004 and 2018

VANDANA GOPIKUMAR

S. Parasuraman, a visionary, scholar and an institution builder who harnessed education in the social sciences as a tool for social transformation, passed away on Friday at the age of 70.

During his tenure as Director, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) between 2004 and 2018, he scaled up the opportunity for under-resourced regions to build their own human capital in the development sector, through extension of offsite campuses in Guwahati and Hyderabad and partnered with several not-for-profit organisations to build competencies in thematic areas such as mental health, disaster management, public policy, development studies etc.

He foresaw an expansion of Gross Enrolment Ratios (GER) in higher education in India and wanted to locate TISS in that canvas, as an institution committed to social justice. He dreamt big, and in most cases, his calculated risk-taking paid off.

**Pedagogical approach**  
Initiating 50 new programmes in a mere 10-year period, he had a vision to provide a good education using constructivist pedagogical approaches, resulted in his veering TISS towards actively addressing inequities and social injustices, and engaging with the needs of vulnerable groups.

This spurred many high-impact social action programmes around ontological instability and communal



S. Parasuraman

contributions as a social scientist and demographer par excellence... we will celebrate him for his many accomplishments.

But, it was Parasuraman, the humanitarian that won most hearts. A selfless mentor who was encouraging, optimistic, and dependable in his support; he often inspired hope in the bleakest of moments.

He stood tall in the face of every crisis that came his way, including unprecedented ones such as the tsunami when he led relief efforts from the front and nudged institutions and colleagues to partake in alleviating distress of those who had lost their all, through collectivising multiple stakeholders.

He occasionally narrated quite nonchalantly his everyday 5 km trek to his school and related struggles that he went through to pursue an education. His humility, wisdom and empathy perhaps stemmed from his own life experience and provided inspiration for several first-generation learners who enrolled in TISS and pursued careers in social engagement and innovation.

His passing away will leave a vacuum in academia and the social sector undoubtedly, but his legacy and the values that he stood by will continue to inspire many.

(With Lakshmi Lingam, Asha Banu Soletti, Joske Bunders, Tarique Mohammed, Olive Fernandes and Kishore Kumar. The writer and contributors were colleagues of Professor Parasuraman)

## Baghel's *rabri* counter to freebies jibe

### Police yet to act in HQ attack case: AIADMK

Party is dismayed by progress in probe, may approach Madras High Court

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

RAIPUR

Amid the ongoing debate on *revri* (a sweet made of sesame and jaggery), or distributing freebies for votes, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Saturday said loan waivers for industrialists were akin to dishing out *rabri* (an expensive milk-based sweet) to them.

"I want to ask when we give loan waivers to our farmers here, you call them *revri* but when loans amounting to 10 trillion rupees are waived off for 10 industrialists, that is *rabri* being served to them," said the Chief Minister, referring to the popular Indian milk-based dessert.

Mr. Baghel was speaking after inaugurating Khairagar-Chhukhadan-Gandai district, the 31st of the State.

Listing out the welfare measures of his Congress government, Mr. Baghel questioned the logic of dubbing them as *revri*.

"When we buy paddy at ₹2,500 a quintal or pay ₹7,000 every year to labourers, it is called *revri*," he said, pointing out that other schemes offering subsidy on electricity bills or free education to children too were ridiculed.

In July, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said some State governments doled out *revri* to secure votes.



The AIADMK has said that the police have not visited the scene of crime yet. • R.RAGU

on a complaint accusing them of having stolen cash, property documents and other materials from the headquarters on July 11, they

had not visited the scene of crime yet.

The court was also told on August 24 that the Director-General of Police had trans-

fered the investigation into three rioting cases booked in connection with the violence, as well as the theft case, to the Crime Branch-Criminal Investigation Department since all the four cases were related to the same incident.

Referring to the passage of a considerable amount of time since the occurrence of the crime and the transfer of the cases to the CB-CID, Mr. Shammugam accused Mr. Panneerselvam of having carried out the attack. The government had not yet acted against those responsible for the crime.

"The police remain a mute spectator," he contended.

Referring to the passage of a considerable amount of time since the occurrence of the crime and the transfer of the cases to the CB-CID, Mr. Shammugam accused Mr. Panneerselvam of having carried out the attack. The government had not yet acted against those responsible for the crime.

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Referring to the passage of a considerable amount of time since

# AAP promises fixed salary for sarpanches

Annual funds for village panchayats if elected: Kejriwal

MAHESH LANGA  
AHMEDABAD

A day after promising farm loan waiver and higher MSP for farm produce, Delhi Chief Minister and AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday promised fixed salaries for village heads, besides direct funds for panchayats, if his party were to be voted to power in Gujarat.

On Saturday, he launched the Aam Aadmi Party's guarantee registration portal in Rajkot and addressed a conclave of village heads or *sarpanches* in Surendranagar as he stepped up the campaign for the Assembly polls to be held in December this year.

"A *sarpanch* wins an election in his village and people like and respect him. He is the leader of his village. After winning the election, the *sarpanch* spends money from his pocket because he has no funds for the work

## Rahul rally tomorrow

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
AHMEDABAD

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi will address a rally of booth-level party workers for the upcoming Assembly elections in Gujarat and also visit Mahatma Gandhi's Sabarmati Ashram on September 5. He will address the 'parivartan sankalp' convention at the Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad.

..... people want him to do," Mr. Kejriwal said at the townhall event in Surendranagar in Saurashtra region.

An AAP government will provide a salary of ₹10,000 per month for the *sarpanch* and ₹10 lakh for the village panchayat per year, which would be transferred directly by the State government, he said.

When a *sarpanch* approaches an MLA or district official seeking funds, they ask for "commission," the AAP leader said. Every panchayat will get ₹10 lakh directly from the government so that a *sarpanch* does not have to beg for funds for minor works related to water supply, roads or sanitation.

He also said that Village Computer Entrepreneurs (VCEs) who work on commission basis will also get a salary of ₹20,000.

"All these promises will be fulfilled before February 28 next year," Kejriwal added, suggesting that the AAP, if voted to power, would implement the guarantees announced before the assembly polls within a month of forming the government.

An AAP government will also start a school and 'mohalla clinic' in each of the 18,000 village panchayats in Gujarat, he said.

# Jamaat women speak up for Bilkis

Women's wing writes to the President about reversing remission of the 11 convicts

ZIYA US SALAM  
NEW DELHI

Bilkis Bano has got some belated support from Muslim women's organisations. The Jamaat-e-Islami Hind's women's wing has sought President's "intervention" in the remission of the 11 convicts in the Bilkis Bano gang rape case and murder of 14 of her family members.

Demanding that the convicts recently released be sent back to jail at the earliest, the women's wing has written to President Droupadi Murmu, requesting her to intervene in the matter by calling "an urgent meeting of the Prime Minister, Governor of Gujarat and other legal experts".

The support of the Muslim body's women's wing comes on the heels of many secular women's organisations criticising the remission.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Atiya Siddiqua, national secretary of JIH women's wing, said the move to grant remission is aimed at garnering electoral dividends in the forthcoming elections in



In solidarity: Women participating in a recent protest in Delhi against the release of the 11 convicts. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Gujarat. "The release of her tormentors on August 15 makes a mockery of the Prime Minister's assurance to the nation regarding protecting the dignity of women. Releasing the rape convicts is an attempt to appease members of a particular community. It is meant to reap political dividends, and is highly objectionable.

At a time when the Prime Minister talks of *Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao*, what signal does it send to other women fighting for justice after a crime? And what signal

does it send to Ms. Bano who has shown immense faith and fortitude in fighting for justice since 2002?"

She disclosed that the body has sent a letter to the President, requesting her to give "directions to the Gujarat government through the Prime Minister and the Home Minister to reverse the decision".

With the vice-president of JIH, Salim Engineer, by her side, Ms. Siddiqua expressed hope in the Supreme Court, where a petition has been filed, reversing "the grave in-

justice carried out under the guise of official government policy".

"The remission policy should be applied to those languishing in jails for petty crimes, not for heinous ones like gang rape and mass murder," she said.

## Judicial failure

Earlier, the Jamaat also expressed concern over the Supreme Court closing all the proceedings arising out of the demolition of the Babri Masjid and the 2002 Godhra anti-Muslim riot cases. A Supreme Court Bench said that it was unfortunate that the contempt petition pertaining to the Babri Masjid demolition was not taken up.

Professor Engineer asked who was responsible for not hearing these cases. "Now the Supreme Court says that much time has passed and hence, there is no need to hear them. Whose job is it to hear the cases in the court? The judicial system is failing to deliver justice to the people. People are losing faith in the judiciary," he rued.

# AIIMS staff unhappy with name change

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The over 20 All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) across India could be looking at a name change with the Union government proposing to name them after regional heroes, freedom fighters, historical events or monuments of the area or their distinct geographical identity.

While the Health Ministry has not given official confirmation on the move, murmurs of discontent are growing among the faculty at these world-class institutes.

They state that "identity is linked with the name and if name changes the identity of these institutes will be lost".

The Faculty Association of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (FAIMS), Delhi has now sought the opinion of its members on this issue. If identity is lost, institutional recognition is lost, it said in a letter to colleagues.



Free at last: Teesta Setalvad with supporters after being released from jail in Ahmedabad on Saturday. ■ PTI

## Day after SC order, Teesta walks out of jail

Sessions court seeks ₹25,000 bond

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
AHMEDABAD

A day after the Supreme Court granted her interim bail, social activist Teesta Setalvad on Saturday walked out of the Sabarmati Central Jail in Ahmedabad.

The court granted her interim bail in a case of allegedly fabricating evidence related to the 2002 Gujarat riots. The court had held that her regular bail petition would be decided by the Gujarat High Court.

She was also asked to surrender her passport till the matter was considered by the Gujarat High Court for regular bail.

She has been lodged in the Sabarmati Central Jail here since her arrest on June 26 a day after she was detained in Mumbai where the State Police had gone to bring her to Ahmedabad in connection with an FIR

lodged against her and others.

As per the court's order, she was produced before sessions judge V.A. Rana for carrying out the bail formalities.

"The sessions court imposed two conditions over and above the conditions imposed by the apex court. The sessions court asked the accused to furnish a personal bond of ₹25,000 and not to leave India without its prior permission," special public prosecutor Amit Patel said.

Ms. Setalvad had approached the Supreme Court against the Gujarat High Court's refusal to grant her interim bail after the sessions court had rejected her bail plea in the case that is being probed by a special investigation team (SIT) constituted by the State government.

# 'Story of IITs is the story of free India'

President Murmu lauds the institutions for shaping the nation's global standing

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday hailed the IITs for their contribution to the story of India and for improving the country's standing on the global stage.

"The story of the IITs is the story of independent India," the President said at the closing ceremony of diamond jubilee celebrations of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Delhi.

"Your faculty and alumni have shown the world our brainpower. Some of those who studied here and in other IITs are now at the forefront of the digital revolution sweeping the world. Moreov-



A milestone: President Droupadi Murmu at the valedictory of the diamond jubilee celebrations of the IIT-Delhi. ■ PTI

er, the impact of IITs has gone beyond science and technology. IITians are leaders in every walk of life - in education, industry, entrepreneurship, civil society,

activism, journalism, literature and politics," said Ms. Murmu.

The President pointed out that the premier institutions derived their strength partly

from the fact that they had expanded beyond their traditional strengths in science and engineering by offering programmes in humanities, social sciences, design, management and public policy.

"This multi-disciplinary approach is well aligned with the new National Education Policy (NEP)," Ms. Murmu added.

Looking towards the next 25 years, it is the threats of climate change that posed a serious challenge, she pointed out and urged IITs to explore technological solutions to environmental challenges and help the country achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

## 299 families evicted from govt. land for solar plant

'90% illegal residents had already left'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
GUWAHATI

Authorities in central Assam's Sonitpur district on Saturday carried out a drive to evict 299 families from government land, officials said. A solar plant is expected to come up on 330 acres cleared with the excavators, bulldozers and demolition workers in the district's No. 3 Chitalmari area.

A district police officer said about 90% of the residents living illegally had already left the place with their belongings after receiving the eviction notice eight months ago. The operation was carried out under

heavy security equipped with anti-riot gear but there were no incidents or opposition from the people.

Most of the evicted families were Bengali-speaking Muslims followed by Bengali Hindus, Gurkhas and a few tribals. Many of them were victims of erosion by the Brahmaputra River and had relocated to Sonitpur.

The incident-free eviction in Sonitpur was in sharp contrast to similar drives in Assam since September 2021. At least two people died after the police opened fire on people who resisted eviction in Gorukhuti area of Darrang last year.

## Police interrogate Nora Fatehi in extortion case

Jacqueline to be questioned further

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Actor Nora Fatehi was interrogated for six to seven hours on Friday by the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Delhi Police in connection with a ₹200-crore extortion case linked to businessman Suresh Chandrashekhar, officials said on Saturday.

Special Commissioner of Police (EOW and Crime) Ravi Singh Yadav said that Ms. Fatehi had cooperated during the interrogation.

The police said that the names of other actors came up during the course of Ms. Fatehi's interrogation, and that actor Jacqueline Fernandez would be interrogated again.

According to an officer, Ms. Fatehi answered nearly 50 questions during her interrogation, which was carried out to strengthen the case.

Ms. Fatehi said that she had not been aware of Chandrashekhar's criminal background.

## Pasmanda movement tests political will

Community leaders ask Opposition parties to state their stand on the issue

ZIYA US SALAM  
NEW DELHI

As the Pasmanda Muslim movement gains traction, the community's leaders have urged Opposition parties to step forward to support their demand for Dalit Muslims to be given the status of Scheduled Caste, and the benefits of reservation similar to those Dalit Hindus enjoy.

They also seek a caste census for all, including Muslims. "This will reveal the exact percentage of the Pasmanda community. So far, the Ashrafs have a strong grip on the resources of the community," a Pasmanda leader said in New Delhi.

In a letter addressed to leading Opposition parties, including the Congress, the Trinamool Congress, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, Samajwadi Party, the Bahujan Samaj Party, the Rashtriya Janata Dal, the Nationalist Congress Party, and the Janata Dal(U), the Pasmanda leadership has asked the parties to clearly state their stand on the issue of Scheduled Caste status for

Dalit Muslims.

"The parties, which claim to be secular and get the Muslim vote in huge numbers, are not ready to state their stand on Pasmanda Muslims. The Muslim community in general is poor and backward. Accordingly, Pasmanda Muslims are the worst off. Yet, we don't hear any political party from the Opposition speaking for them," a Pasmanda leader said on the eve of a day-long meet in New Delhi.

Engaging Opposition parties via the letter is an initiative of noted Pasmanda leader Ali Anwar Ansari, president of the All India Pasmanda Muslim Mahaz.

Dalit Muslims have suffered like their Hindu counterparts. They need to be given Scheduled Caste status. It will help them gain economic and educational mobility," a Pasmanda leader stated. "Our slogan for more than 20 years has been, 'Dalit pichcha ek saman, Hindu ho ya Musalman' (Dalits, Backwards are the same, whether Hindus or Muslims)."

## Book sheds new light on Bengal's women revolutionaries

British sentenced more than 200 of them and another 900 suspects were under surveillance, says author Madhurima Sen

SHIV SAHAY SINGH  
KOLKATA

The first files on women revolutionaries in Bengal appeared in the Intelligence Branch of British India roughly around 1919. And by 1947, more than 200 cases of conviction and sentencing of women were recorded in these files.

Along with these convictions and sentences, the files of the Intelligence Branch of Bengal had a long list of women revolutionaries or suspects - approximately 900. Along with the files, the West Bengal State Archives has history-sheets on revolutionaries and thousands of glass and film negatives that record details of their surveillance. Such details about women revolutionaries are contained in a recent publication titled *Women in the War of Freedom Unveiled, Bengal 1919-1947: Glimpse from Archival records*.

Madhurima Sen, the author of the book, brings to the

fore several interesting facts of the Indian freedom struggle from the functioning of the British Intelligence Branch in Bengal.

Ms. Sen, an archivist at the West Bengal State Archives, has also derived information from its photo archives wing to which many did not have access. The Directorate of State Archives, West Bengal, one of the biggest repositories of documents from the colonial period in this part of the country, has a collection of about 50,000 glass and film negatives, including photographic print, all related to the 'revolutionary activities' in the 20th century.

"Most women mentioned in the IB files came from Hindu upper and middle classes, who could emerge from seclusion and develop a life within and outside their families and identify themselves with social and political causes. We, however, find names of Halima Khatun and Razia Khatun from Mymensingh district, Jobeda Khatun and Jayanab Rahim who were connected with the revolutionary/nationalist organisations of their time," the publication says referring to socio-political situation of the pre-Independent India, particularly Bengal.

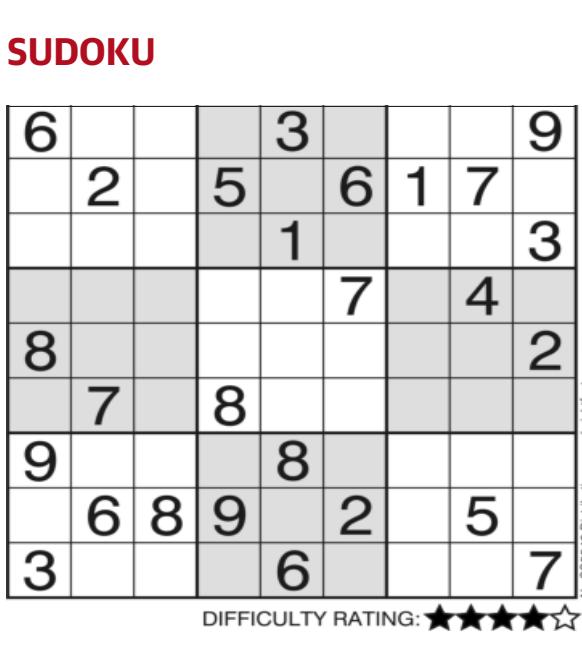
Ms. Sen said the trend of women's region-wise participation in the revolutionary movement suggest that "conviction of women in the eastern part of Bengal was far greater than the western part". "The highest numbers of accused were from Chittagong," the book said, adding that the numbers might have increased after the Chittagong Armoury Raid (1930).

In the western part of Bengal, the publication says, women revolutionaries were active in Kolkata and adjoining areas of 24 Parganas (North and South), Howrah, Hooghly, Bankura and Midnapore. "Women's wings became active among the students of Bethune College had become a centre of radical feminist agitation," she said.

## Role of journals

The publication draws attention to certain journals of the pre-Independent period which played a crucial role in mobilising women for 'revolutionary activities'. One particular mention is to *Jayashree*, a journal published by women whose title page datelined February 1939 is contained in the book.

## SUDOKU



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	5	3	6	2	9	4	7	1




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## SNAPSHOTS

## Cancer risks



Nearly 50% of cancer deaths worldwide are caused by preventable risk factors. The largest study yet of the link between cancer burden and risk factors used estimates of cases and deaths from over 200 countries. Smoking, alcohol use and a high body-mass index were the biggest contributors to cancer.



## Mass burial

Genomic analysis suggests that remains recovered from a medieval well in Norwich, U.K., were probably those of Jews murdered in the twelfth century. Radiocarbon dating established that the bodies of six adults and 11 children had been deposited between 1161 and 1216 – a time frame encompassing a historically documented antisemitic massacre in Norwich in 1190.



## Rare trees

There are trees so rare that only a single specimen remains. Scientists protect their seeds like rare jewels, gingerly collect pollen for hand fertilisation, and wait years for a single precious flower. But there are more threatened tree species than there are restoration projects. And due to climate change, some trees may not thrive in their natural homes again.

CO<sub>2</sub> on exoplanet

The James Webb Space Telescope has captured the first unambiguous evidence of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere of a planet outside the Solar System. The telescope gleaned information about the composition of the gas giant WASP-39b as it moved across the face of its star. The result offer promise that Webb is going to be revolutionary for exoplanet research.

# New sub-lineages of monkeypox virus emerge

Despite a slow decline in cases globally, monkeypox cases continue to rise rapidly in Latin America

BANI JOLLY  
VINOD SCARIA

males aged between 30-43 years, although demographics have been found to differ between regions. For instance, in West and Central Africa, a larger number of cases are reported among younger individuals.

## Declining in Europe

Despite an increase in the number of global cases for four consecutive weeks, the number of reported monkeypox virus infections across the world saw a decline by over 20% in the last week of August 2022. This decline is predominantly attributable to the decreasing number of reported cases in European countries.

Since the beginning of the outbreak, European countries have cumulatively reported over 20,000 cases of monkeypox, including two deaths reported from Spain. The first case of the outbreak in the region was reported in the United Kingdom in May 2022 in a man with a travel history to Nigeria. Heightened awareness and public health measures including vaccination could account for the observed decline.

As cases show a declining trend globally, numbers continue to rise in the U.S. Cumulatively, the U.S. accounts for over 30% of all the global cases, with over 18,000 infections reported from the country to date. The first death in the U.S. linked to monkeypox was reported from the state of Texas. Although the case is still being investigated by health officials to ascertain the role of monkeypox in the death of the patient, early reports from

As of September 2022, over 50,000 cases have been reported from over 99 countries, and eight deaths from non-endemic countries

**1** The U.S., Brazil, Peru, Canada, Spain, France, Germany, the U.K., Netherlands and Portugal account for nearly 88% of cases

**2** Despite an increase in the number of global cases for four consecutive weeks, the number of infections has declined by over 20% in the last week of August

**3** Decline in cases is predominantly seen in Europe, while the rate of rise in cases has been plateauing and possibly declining in the U.S.

**4** Infections continue to rise rapidly in Latin America, possibly due to lack of awareness and insufficient availability of vaccines

**5** Only a small proportion of monkeypox cases (5%) have been reported in health-care workers globally; most of them have been outside health-care settings

**6** The continued spread of the IIb.B.1 lineage has resulted in eight sub-lineages

**7** There are still many aspects of the virus and infection that remain unknown – the evolution, disease mechanisms, prevalence of asymptomatic transmission, and vaccine efficacy

**Unprecedented:** For the first time, human-to-human transmission of monkeypox virus has sustained in non-endemic countries for three months. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

the country state that the individual was severely immune-compromised. A small proportion of pediatric cases of monkeypox have also been reported from the U.S. and with the increase in cases in the country, it is likely that more cases will be found in young children and other vulnerable groups.

Although case numbers continue to increase in the U.S., the rate of rise in cases has been plateauing, and possibly declining. In recent weeks, major cities in the U.S. including New York, San Francisco and Chicago have been showing a decline in cases following the trend in Europe. Like in Europe, this decline may be attributable to the impact of vaccination campaigns coupled with behavioural changes and

heightened awareness among people who are at high risk, although more data in the coming days will reconfirm the trend.

Despite a slow decline in cases globally, monkeypox cases continue to rise rapidly in Latin America, possibly also compounded by the lack of awareness of the disease and insufficient availability of vaccines. Amongst all countries in the region, a majority of cases have been reported from Brazil and Peru and a total of three deaths have been reported from Brazil, Ecuador and Peru, although the Peruvian case is still being investigated to confirm monkeypox as the cause of death. Peru is also the third-highest in the world in terms of monkeypox infections per million inhabitants.

Currently, only a small proportion of cases of monkeypox (5%) have been reported in health-care workers globally, although most of the cases were reported to have acquired the infection in the community. Only three cases of monkeypox have been attributed to occupational exposure so far, however additional investigation will be needed to ascertain the risk of health-care-associated transmission.

## Tracking variants

As genomic surveillance continues to provide opportunities to track the evolution of the monkeypox virus, the WHO has laid down the process of naming different variants of the virus taking into

consideration the proposals put forward by scientists for a non-discriminatory nomenclature system. Following the new nomenclature, the monkeypox virus variant formerly known as the Congo Basin or Central African clade will be denoted as Clade I, while the former West African variant, which is the main circulating clade in the current outbreak, will be denoted as Clade II. Clade II of the monkeypox virus encompasses two subclades, denoted as Clade IIa and Clade IIb.

The continued genomic surveillance of monkeypox has now resulted in over 1,500 genomes available in the public domain which provides unique insights into the evolution and spread of the virus. At least two distinct lineages of the virus are known to be circulating in the present outbreak. The European outbreak was largely contributed by the IIb.B.1 lineage of virus, but a distinct but smaller lineage (IIb.A.2) presently encompassing genomes from India, the U.K., the U.S. and Thailand was also identified. This lineage has a possible origin predating the European outbreak and possibly had a cryptic spread for almost a year. The continued spread of the IIb.B.1 lineage which encompasses the majority of the genomes has resulted in many sub-lineages – over eight, including the recent one designated from Peru (B.I.6), the U.K. (B.I.7) and Germany (B.I.8).

The present monkeypox outbreak, while may have seen many learnings from

the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic put to practice, has exposed many gaps as well. Even as case numbers are brought under control in European and North American countries, global efforts will be needed to contain the spread of the virus in regions such as Latin America and Africa.

## Necessary steps

Continued surveillance will be key to preventing future outbreaks of the disease while more in-depth science would be required to understand the pathogen, evolution, disease mechanisms and vaccine efficacy more closely. For example, the quantum of asymptomatic monkeypox transmission and the efficacy of vaccinia vaccine in preventing spread would be of immediate importance. The present outbreak, while calling for global unity and co-operation has unfortunately also put many of these concepts to test. The unavailability of vaccines in Africa which needs it the most, despite the frenzy by rich governments to corner a larger proportion, if not all of the vaccine produced, also puts into question the sincerity in efforts for global health and equity.

As we look forward to fighting more outbreaks in the future, we should keep in mind that nobody is safe until everyone is.

(The authors are researchers at the CSIR Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB) in Delhi. All views expressed are personal.)

## Factors to consider when migrating individuals for conservation efforts

The study showed adding more individuals can reduce adaptation in fluctuating environments

SHUBASHREE DESIKAN

tution of the immigrants can play a role in deciding whether the evolutionary outcomes of immigration are beneficial. The study has been accepted for publication in *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*.

## Role of environment

In the experiments, the researchers subjected populations of *Escherichia coli* that were adapting to complex and fluctuating environments to migration of colonies from outside. These colonies consisted of varying proportion of clonal ancestral immigrants. That is to say, the immigrants consisted of a mix of clonal members and those carrying genetic variation.

Experiments done by researchers from the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune, indicate that in contrast to the simple plan outlined here, other factors, namely, the nature of the environment and the genetic consti-

tution of the immigrants can play a role in deciding whether the evolutionary outcomes of immigration are beneficial. The study has been accepted for publication in *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*.

Effects of varying the ratio of clonal members to those carrying genetic variation.

One of the major studies done in this field, published in 2007 in the journal *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, showed that when bacterial cells were subjected to high level of stress – so high that it was lethal – then increasing

the levels of migration increased the chances of survival in the stress environment. This implied that migration promotes adaptation.

However, the present study looks at more general conditions and yields a more complex result. They show that the results of the 2007 study do not hold true when the bacteria is subjected to non-lethal but stressful environment.

"When the stress environment does not lead to complete mortality, the effects of migration on adaptation is reversed," says Sutirth Dey from IISER, Pune, in whose lab the experiment was conducted, in an email to *The Hindu*. This means that increasing the proportion of

immigrants actually decreases the adaptation.

## Genetics crucial

S. Selvashwari, from IISER Pune and an author of the paper, adds, "The genetic makeup of the immigrant individuals is another crucial factor in determining the effects of migration."

She explains that in contrast to clonal immigrants (those that do not have much of a genetic variation amongst themselves), immigrants carrying greater amount of genetic variation can counter the negative effects of migration in such environments.

"We also subject our bacterial cells to broad-spectrum stresses such as oxidative stress, osmotic stress and pH stress, whereas [in the other work] antibiotic stresses were much narrower," says Prof. Dey.

## Has science evolved to record dreams?



**Close resemblance:** In REM sleep, mouse performed up-down eye movements similar to daytime sky scans. ■ GETTY IMAGES

The recording of brainwaves (EEG) provided fresh insights. These recordings showed very little difference between REM sleep and the awake state. More surprisingly, the neuroscientist Matthew Wilson recorded brain activity in a rat while it was exploring a maze and, not much later, obtained identical brainwaves when the same rat was in REM sleep – it was solving the maze in the dream.

The brain was found to be as active in REM sleep as in the fully awake state. Yet the body was inactive, asleep. REM sleep was found in all mammals and birds. Michel Jouvet showed that inducing damage to the brain stem in a cat freed it from bodily immobility in the dream state. This cat would noisily fight with other cats, stopping when it woke up.

## Database of dreams

Another way of studying dreams was to compile vast databases of dreams. Analysing 50,000 dreams led the compiler, Calvin Hall, to con-

clude that most dreams did not resemble surrealist paintings, and were fairly predictable. Children may smile while dreaming, as children were more likely to dream of animals, but adult dreams were not very pleasant and were often filled with moments of anxiety.

We are anxious about important things, things that need to be resolved. In a theory proposed by Francis Crick and Graeme Mitchison, dreaming served as a housekeeping function, a nightly sorting of that particular day's happenings. While sorting, a few important events (possible sources of anxiety) were stored away as

nerve cells called Head Direction (HD) cells. In mice, using electrodes inserted in a HD cell, it has been shown that these cells are active when the head is moving. Senza and Scanziani recorded both REM as well as HD cell activity in sleeping mice. Remarkably, they showed that in its REM sleep, the mouse performed up-down eye movements similar to daytime scans of the sky. The HD cells too indicated the corresponding movement, although the head itself did not move, the mouse being asleep. It appears that the dream was about escaping from a predatory bird.

Can these studies be used to benefit humans? Persons who have experienced sudden, intense trauma suffer from PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder). A soldier shocked by a hand grenade exploding just behind him, although otherwise unharmed, can suffer from recurring nightmares and anxiety for several years. What does he 'see' every night? A better understanding would lead to better rehabilitation strategies.

The article was written in collaboration with Sushil Chandani who works in molecular modelling. sushilchandani@gmail.com)

## iron-carbon alloy and water together to the pressure and temperature expected at the Earth's core-mantle boundary, melting the iron-carbon alloy. The researchers found that water and metal react and make iron oxides and iron hydroxides, just like what happens with rusting at Earth's surface. However, they found that for the conditions of the

core-mantle boundary carbon comes out of the liquid iron-metal alloy and forms diamond (*Geophysical Research Letters*). They found that carbon leaking from the core into the mantle by this diamond formation process may supply enough carbon to explain the elevated carbon amounts in the mantle. They also predicted that diamond-rich structures can exist at the core-mantle boundary and that seismic studies might detect the structures because seismic waves should travel unusually fast for the structures, as per a release.

Researchers from the Arizona State University conducted experiments where they compressed



## Question Corner

## Diamond formation

Can diamonds be found in plenty deep inside the Earth?

The Earth's core is the largest carbon storage on Earth – roughly 90% is buried there. Scientists have shown that the oceanic crust that sits on top of tectonic plates and falls into the interior contains hydrous minerals and can sometimes descend all the way to the core-mantle boundary.

The temperature at the core-mantle boundary is at least twice as hot as lava, and high enough that water can be released from the hydrous minerals. Therefore, a chemical reaction similar to rusting steel could occur at Earth's core-mantle boundary.

Researchers from the Arizona State University conducted experiments where they compressed

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in



## SPEAKING OF SCIENCE

D. BALASUBRAMANIAN

Our understanding of human biology has taken large strides in the last century. However, progress in our understanding of dreams has been really slow. The biological function of dreams is a grey area; the only sure thing is that most human beings dream regularly.

The phase of sleep associated with vivid dreaming is called REM (rapid eye movement) sleep. People who have woken up in this phase of sleep often report that they were dreaming. The rapid eye movements are a puzzle to researchers because they are difficult to measure.

A recent report (*Science* Vol. 377, 2022) addresses the question of whether eye movements are related to whatever is going on in the dream. Could the movements carry information



**Justice delayed:** Protesters demand the release of Teesta Setalvad after she was arrested. ■ REUTERS

## Bail for women

What are the provisions under the law that are 'favourable' to women accused?

K. VENKATARAMAN

**The story so far:** "We hasten to add that the relief of interim bail is granted to the appellant in the peculiar facts including the fact that the appellant happens to be a lady," said the Supreme Court Bench headed by Chief Justice of India, U.U. Lalit, in its order on activist Teesta Setalvad on September 2. During the hearing, too, Justice Lalit made an oral observation that under Section 437 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), a woman is entitled to favourable treatment. He was referring to a provision that says being a woman is a possible ground for granting bail, even when otherwise it cannot be considered.

**What does the bail provision say?**

■ Section 437 of the CrPC deals with bail in case of non-bailable offences. It says a person shall not be released on bail if there is reasonable ground to believe that he has committed an offence punishable with death or life imprisonment; or, if he has been previously been convicted for an offence punishable with death, life imprisonment, or for a term of seven years or more; or been convicted on two or more occasions on other offences with a term between three and seven years.

+ However, it also contains exceptions in a proviso that says the court may grant bail even in these cases, "if such person is under the age of 16 or is a woman or is sick or infirm".

**Are there other provisions favourable to women accused?**

■ There are several provisions in criminal law that give special consideration to women, of any age, when they are victims of offences, including sexual offences, in the way they are treated as witnesses and victims of crimes. There are also some provisions relating to women when they are made an accused, and arrested.

Section 437 of the Code of Criminal Procedure contains an exception that says the court may grant bail, 'if such [a] person is under the age of 16 or is a woman or is sick or infirm'

This is understood to mean that the officer has to visit the place of residence to make enquiries. This benefit is also available to boys under 15, men above 65 and any mentally or physically disabled person.

In its 84th and 135th Report in 1980 and 1989, the Law Commission suggested that the word 'place' is ambiguous, and it would be better to amend it to 'dwelling place'.

**What does the CrPC say on the arrest of a woman?**

■ A police officer may arrest a person who has committed a cognisable offence without a judicial order or a warrant (Section 41). If the person does not submit to custody based on the word or action of the police, Section 46 enables the police officer to confine the person physically to effect the arrest. A proviso was introduced in the CrPC in 2009 to the effect that where a woman is to be arrested, only a female police officer may touch the woman's person, unless circumstances otherwise require.

Earlier, through a 2005 amendment, a subsection was added to Section 46 to prohibit the arrest of a woman after sunset or before sunrise. However, in exceptional circumstances, a woman police officer can obtain the prior permission of a judicial magistrate to make the arrest.

**What does it say on women who don't appear in public?**

■ The police may seek entry into any premises where they suspect that a person who is required to be arrested is present. In a situation where any such place is an apartment in the occupancy of a female (who is not the person to be arrested) and if the woman is one who, by custom, does not appear in public, the police have to give notice to her so that she may withdraw before they enter it (Proviso to Section 47). It adds that they shall afford her every reasonable facility for withdrawing before they break open and enter the place.

In yet another exception, a woman who intends to file a defamation case, but is one who does not appear in public according to custom, can ask someone else to file the complaint on her behalf.

## Why is inflation rate different across States?

What are local factors? How has it dented spending, particularly in rural India, as it faces more price pressures?

VIKAS DHOOT

**The story so far:** India's economy grew at a slower-than-expected 13.5% in the first quarter of the year. Private consumption picked up, but inflation has been a dampener. Retail inflation which shot up to an eight-year high of 7.79% in April, cooled slightly to 6.7% by July. However, in several States and Union Territories (UTs), including Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana and Telangana, consumers continued to face over 7% inflation in July, while 11 States, including West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, saw accelerated price rise in the month.

Which States are seeing the highest inflation and where are consumers better off?

■ Inflation measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) crossed the central bank's upper tolerance limit of 6% in January and has averaged 6.8% till July 2022. But an analysis of State-wise inflation prints for this period reveals that 14 States as well as three UTs, including Jammu and Kashmir, have faced higher than the national inflation, most of them averaging over 7% in the same period.

While consumers in Telangana (8.32%), West Bengal (8.06%) and Sikkim are worst-hit with 8%-plus inflation, other major States are not too far behind, with some of them posting a spike in price rise in July. The average 2022 retail inflation so far in Maharashtra and Haryana has been 7.7%, followed by Madhya Pradesh (7.52%), Assam (7.37%), Uttar Pradesh (7.27%), Gujarat and J&K both of which have averaged 7.2% and Rajasthan (7.1%).

By contrast, a dozen States have recorded retail price rise of less than 6% through 2022, including Kerala (4.8%), Tamil Nadu (5.01%), Punjab (5.35%), Delhi (5.56%) and Karnataka (5.84%). Manipur, Goa and Meghalaya, in fact, averaged inflation below 4%, at 1.07%, 3.66% and 3.84%, respectively.

Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand's inflation averaged just 0.1% over the national rate at 6.9%, but the former averaged 8.18% in the April to June quarter before easing slightly to 7.38% in July, while the same numbers were



7.36% and 5.65% for the latter, respectively.

**What explains the variations in price rise among the States?**

■ Food price inflation that dropped to a five-month low of 6.8% in July, is a key differentiating factor for States' inflation experience, explained Bank of Baroda chief economist Madan Sabnavis. States that are not major crop producers have higher food inflation as transport costs are added on, and those with predominantly rural areas also clock more inflation as the CPI for rural areas assigns a higher weightage to food, he pointed out. Indeed, rural inflation has averaged more than urban inflation at 7.07% from January to July, and 7.6% in the four months since it peaked at 8.38% in April. For urban consumers, inflation only crossed 6% in March 2022, has averaged 6.47% through 2022 and fallen 0.6 percentage points by July from its 2022 high of 7.09% in April.

Consumption patterns and divergences in different items' price trends also influence variations among States. Tomato inflation dropped to 44% from 158.4% in June, while meat and fish price rise cooled to a 46-month low of 3% in July. As EY India noted in a report this week, inflation in petrol used for conveyance eased to a 32-month low of 0.3%, diesel turned negative for the first time since November 2019 at (-2.4%), but LPG inflation hit

a six-month high of 23% and kerosene touched an unprecedented 108.8% in July. That some States lowered their fuel taxes made a difference.

**Why does it matter?**

■ While the share of private consumption has spiked to nearly 60% of GDP in Q1 2022-23, this persistently high inflation has denting spending propensity, particularly in rural India that is facing more price pressures.

"Private consumption is improving, with urban demand getting support from contact-intensive services. Had it not been for high inflation and subdued rural demand due to negative real rural wage growth, private consumption would have grown faster," said CRISIL's chief economist Dharmakirti Joshi. With the monsoon's progress still uneven, there is anxiety about rural demand even as inflationary pressures continue to cramp household budgets. Identifying what is driving inflation higher (or lower) in some States vis-à-vis others could help policy makers address those pressure points more specifically to provide lasting relief to consumers, apart from other broad-brush ploys such as interest rate hikes and trade curbs to cool prices of individual items. The Centre and States can co-ordinate to pinpoint and address the price triggers that may not be driven by global headwinds but local factors.

## At Vostok-22, why is India not joining naval drill?

What message does India's participation at the military exercises send to U.S.-EU and Russia-China groupings?

SUHASINI HAIDAR

**The story so far:** From September 1-7, Russia is holding annual military exercises in its eastern region, with about 13 countries including India and China sending contingents. While the exercises in Vostok-2022 are routine, they are the first such multilateral exercises to be held since the Russian war in Ukraine began. They include a maritime component near the disputed islands of South Kuril, claimed by both Russia and Japan.

**Who is taking part in Vostok-22?**

■ The countries that have sent military contingents are Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, China, Laos, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Syria and Tajikistan, according to the Russian Ministry of Defence, which estimates that "more than 50,000 troops and 5,000 units of military equipment" including 140 aircraft and 60 warships would participate in the exercises.

According to a statement issued by the Indian Defense Ministry, the Indian Army contingent is part of "joint manoeuvres to include joint field training exercises, combat discussions, and firepower exercises."

However, India has only sent its army contingent of the 7/8 Gorkha Rifles, and will not take part in the maritime section of the two-part event.

This is because, while the first part of the land exercises will be held in Russian military training grounds in Siberia and the Far Eastern Federal District, the maritime part of the exercises would be held in the Sea of Okhotsk and the Sea of Japan. These are near the disputed South Kuril islands.

Japan's Foreign Ministry issued a demarche calling on Russia to move the location of its maritime exercises, which the Russian Ambassador in Tokyo rejected, and India's decision not to take part in the naval exercises is believed to be in deference to Tokyo's sensitivities.



**Unity drill:** Participants attend the Vostok-22 military exercises at a firing ground in Russia on August 31. ■ REUTERS

**Why has Washington criticised the exercises?**

■ In a statement ahead of the exercises, U.S. White House Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said that the U.S. has "concerns about any country exercising with Russia while Russia wages an unprovoked, brutal war against Ukraine," adding that the decision to participate was up to each country, and that the government had been "pretty public" about its opposition to the exercises in talks. The Biden administration is in the process of stitching together support for more sanctions against Russia for its invasion of Ukraine, as well as a demand for price-caps on Russian oil exports, and the decision by India and other countries to participate in Vostok-2022 presents a divided approach towards Russia.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), however, rejected the concerns. "Let me just emphasise that India has

been regularly participating in multilateral exercises in Russia, along with a number of other countries," MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said, adding that "there will be only army participation in the Vostok exercises this year."

**What does India's participation mean?**

■ By sending an army contingent to join Russian and Chinese troops in the exercises at this time, New Delhi is aiming to send a four-pronged message. The first is its continuing relationship with Russia despite the Ukraine war, where the Modi government has decided not to join the Western sanctions regime, or to curb oil imports and other economic engagement with Moscow.

The second is to signal balance and non-alignment in the current crisis, given India has mostly abstained from votes at the United Nations seeking to criticise Russia. India also takes part in routine Indo-Pacific exercises with its Western partners including the Quad, as well as in bilateral exercises, like the India-U.S. "Yudh Abhyas" in Uttarakhand next month. These exercises will take place just after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Uzbekistan for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in September, where he will participate alongside leaders of Russia, China, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, who have sent contingents for Vostok-22 as well. It is a way of signalling that India remains comfortable in both its engagement with the U.S.-EU coalition and its rival groupings led by Russia-China. Third, by staying away from the maritime exercises, New Delhi has shown both its sensitivity to Japan's concerns on maintaining the status quo over the disputed islands, as well as stressing the importance of territorial sovereignty and integrity for India. This coming week, India is hosting a Quad meeting on Indo-Pacific initiatives in Delhi and holding bilateral talks with the U.S. and Japan on trade and defence as well.

Finally, the message the government continues to give is that it is willing to engage with China on a number of fronts, even military talks with China at the LAC (Line of Actual Control) remain stuck. The government, however, asserts that it cannot be "business as usual" with China until the latest logjam over Chinese troops' transgression since April 2020 is resolved.

## How will UGC execute the college cluster plan?

What are the National Education Policy recommendations for higher education institutes? Who will fund the move?

JAGRITI CHANDRA

**The story so far:** On September 2, the University Grants Commission (UGC) issued new guidelines for transforming colleges and universities into multi-disciplinary institutions. The guidelines prescribe three approaches, which include clustering of institutions located in proximity so that they can collaborate with each other to offer innovative programmes in offline, online or distance learning mode. The other two strategies recommended by the UGC include merger of single-stream institutions with other multi-disciplinary institutions under the same management or different managements and strengthening of existing establishments by setting up of new departments.

**Who is likely to benefit from the move?**

■ Colleges with poor enrolment and fewer resources may benefit by forming clusters with other institutions and help students access better facilities as well as avail innovative courses, according to the guidelines. The member colleges in a cluster will continue to function as affiliated colleges under the university in the initial phase during which they will share their resources to offer multi-disciplinary programmes and guide student research projects. Subsequently, the affiliating university may affiliate the cluster of colleges as a single unit which will be given autonomy in a graded manner before turning into an autonomous degree-granting cluster of

colleges. These can later turn into research and teaching-intensive universities.

The partnership plan must include infrastructure expansion, number of students, departments involved, administrative and academic functions and research activities. Member colleges will also have to design their timetable so that students don't face scheduling clashes. UGC chairman M. Jagadesh Kumar told *The Hindu*: "When multiple small institutions come together and transform into a degree-granting institution, they will have more opportunities for growth. It will ultimately help the higher education system to grow and be accessible to a large number of students."

**Why the emphasis on multi-disciplinary institutions now?**

■ More multi-disciplinary institutions in the country is one of the recommendations for higher education in the National Education Policy 2020. The policy document has set a target of 2030 for all higher education institutions (HEIs) to become multi-disciplinary, and thereafter, increase student enrolments "preferably in the thousands" by 2040. The goal is to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education including vocational education from 26.3% (2018) to 50% by 2035. The NEP proposes that though a number of new institutions may be developed to attain these goals, a large part of the capacity creation will be achieved by expanding and improving existing HEIs.

**What is the response of the sector to the guidelines?**

■ While the emphasis on multi-disciplinary education is welcome, many wonder where the financial resources will come from. The UGC chairman said State governments will provide the required funds for functioning of State-run multi-disciplinary institutions.

"By suggesting clustering and merging of colleges, the intent is to build upon existing infrastructure to attain the goal of higher Gross Enrolment Ratio without any additional funding. Already institutions are running on their optimum thresholds as there have been no teacher recruitments for the past several years at Central and State Universities," said an official with a State government's Higher Education Council. He, however, welcomed the room provided for institutions to collaborate with each other to offer additional programmes. "The UGC is evading its responsibility in providing funds. The latest guidelines seek to implement the NEP, which is not acceptable to us in toto because it is partisan and emphasises on centralisation and commercialisation," said Kerala's Minister for Higher Education, R. Bindu. "It says colleges must become autonomous degree-granting institutions—what will happen to small colleges in remote areas, which will simply be obliterated? Backward sections of our society will be deprived of higher education," she added.

Others have said that there should be regulations instead of guidelines so that they are adopted by State governments.

## GAUTAM ADANI

# From a trader to the world's third-richest

The Gujarat-based industrialist, whose interests spread from ports and airports to power, media and telecom, has a net worth of \$140 billion

K. BHARAT KUMAR

**I**ndustrialist Gautam Adani, who founded the ports-to-green energy Adani Group, last week broke into the top three in the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, trailing only Tesla founder Elon Musk and Amazon boss Jeff Bezos. Mr. Adani, whose net worth is pegged at just over \$140 billion as on September 3 according to the index, surpassed luxury brand LVMH owner Bernard Arnault to occupy the third slot, the first Asian to do so.

Mr. Adani's first brush with business was when he dropped out of college and left his native Gujarat — where his father ran a textiles unit — to try his hand in diamond trading in Mumbai. In 1981, still barely out of his teens, he returned home to chip in at his brother's venture that made plastic films. The scent of an import opportunity struck in 1988 when he saw domestic demand for polyvinyl chloride (PVC) far surpassing local supply. As business volumes spiked, a foray into exports was the next obvious step.

The inflection point in the career of the now 60-year-old Mr. Adani came, ironically, not when he partnered a global firm, but when one such partner exited their joint venture. Cargill and the Adani Group had agreed to set up a salt farm in Mundra, Gujarat, and had even acquired permission to build a jetty to ship the output. But Cargill walked out of the venture — with ostensible reasons for the U.S. farm produce and food giant's departure ranging from a disagreement between the

## In focus

■ In 1995, when Gujarat announced a new port policy opening the doors to private investment in the sector, Adani found an opportunity. The port he built, the Mundra Port, is now the country's largest

■ The SEZ policy of 2000 allowed for the setting up of a special economic zone in land adjoining the Mundra Port

■ Both these businesses were later combined under the Adani Ports and SEZ Ltd. umbrella, which is still the cash cow of the group

destiny saved him, both from a kidnapping-for-ransom in the early 1990s and from the November 2008 terrorist attack in Mumbai when he happened to be at the Taj Mahal Palace hotel. Mr. Adani has bet the future of his business not just on providence, but as observers point out, on sniffing out opportunities allied to existing business or those offering benefits of vertical integration.

For instance, the SEZ poli-

cacy of 2000 allowed for the setting up of such a zone in land adjoining the Mundra

## M.V. GOVINDAN

# The party man

The CPI(M)'s new Kerala chief is known to be a self-taught Marxist theoretician

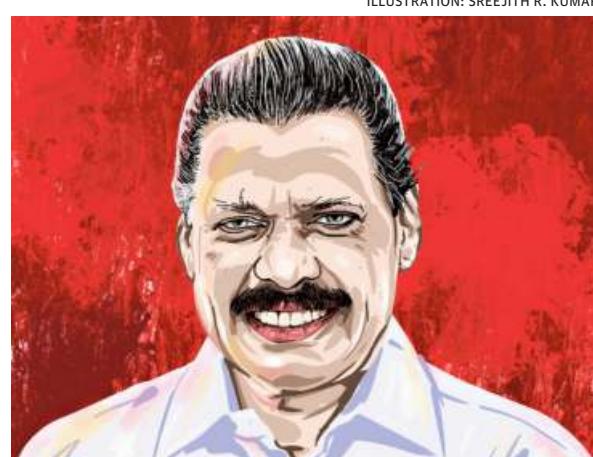
G. ANAND

**T**he purportedly self-effacing political demeanour of M.V. Govindan was apparent at his inaugural press conference as the Kerala State Secretary of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) in Thiruvananthapuram on August 26. An emergency State committee meeting had just elected him as the new party secretary to replace Kodiyeri Balakrishnan, who was later shifted to Chennai for treatment.

Mr. Govindan, 69, rejected the suggestion that his elevation portended a shift in the CPI(M)'s politics. Instead, he extolled the virtues of collective leadership. He stressed ideological and organisational cohesion on the political battlefield, while also displaying a disdain for placing the individual above the party.

Born in a working class family in Morazha, Kannur, Mr. Govindan faced political and personal struggles in his life. That Mr. Govindan had once stopped his car to greet his mother, who was engaged in road laying work, is a party anecdote.

He had left his job as a physical training teacher in a lower primary school in his village to become a full-time worker of the Kerala State Yuva Jana Federation (KSYF), a precursor of the Democratic Youth Federation of India (DYFI). In the party, Mr. Govindan is regarded as an autodidact and self-taught Marxist theoretician.



cian. A CPI(M) insider said Mr. Govindan had never totally shrugged off his teacher's mantle, given his active presence in party study classes. Over time, he earned the label Govindan Master — a hark back to his teaching days. "The new secretary tends to view society and politics primarily through the prism of Marxist thought. However, he is acutely aware of the exigencies of realpolitik and factors them in decisions," said the insider.

## Lessons from the past

It was not always smooth going for Mr. Govindan in the party. In the late 1980s, his name was reportedly linked to M.V. Raghavan, a communist veteran from Kannur who had triggered a fractious ideological strife in the CPI(M) by proposing an alliance with the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) and the Kerala Congress. The deviation from the party line led to Raghavan's expulsion.

By some accounts, the CPI(M) disciplined Mr. Govindan and other leaders who allegedly sympathised with Raghavan's political tack. The party soon reinstated Mr. Govindan as CPI(M) Kannur district secretary. Possibly drawing lessons from the past, Mr. Govindan hunkered down when the stormy intra-party strife in the CPI(M) saw Pinarayi Vijayan and V.S. Achuthanandan on opposite poles.

Party followers believe Mr. Govindan struggled to remain above the fray and sought refuge behind the party's constitution and organisational dogma. In his writings, Mr. Govindan has displayed a deep aversion for the Kannur-style confrontational politics that he felt spawned tit-for-tat violence and criminality.

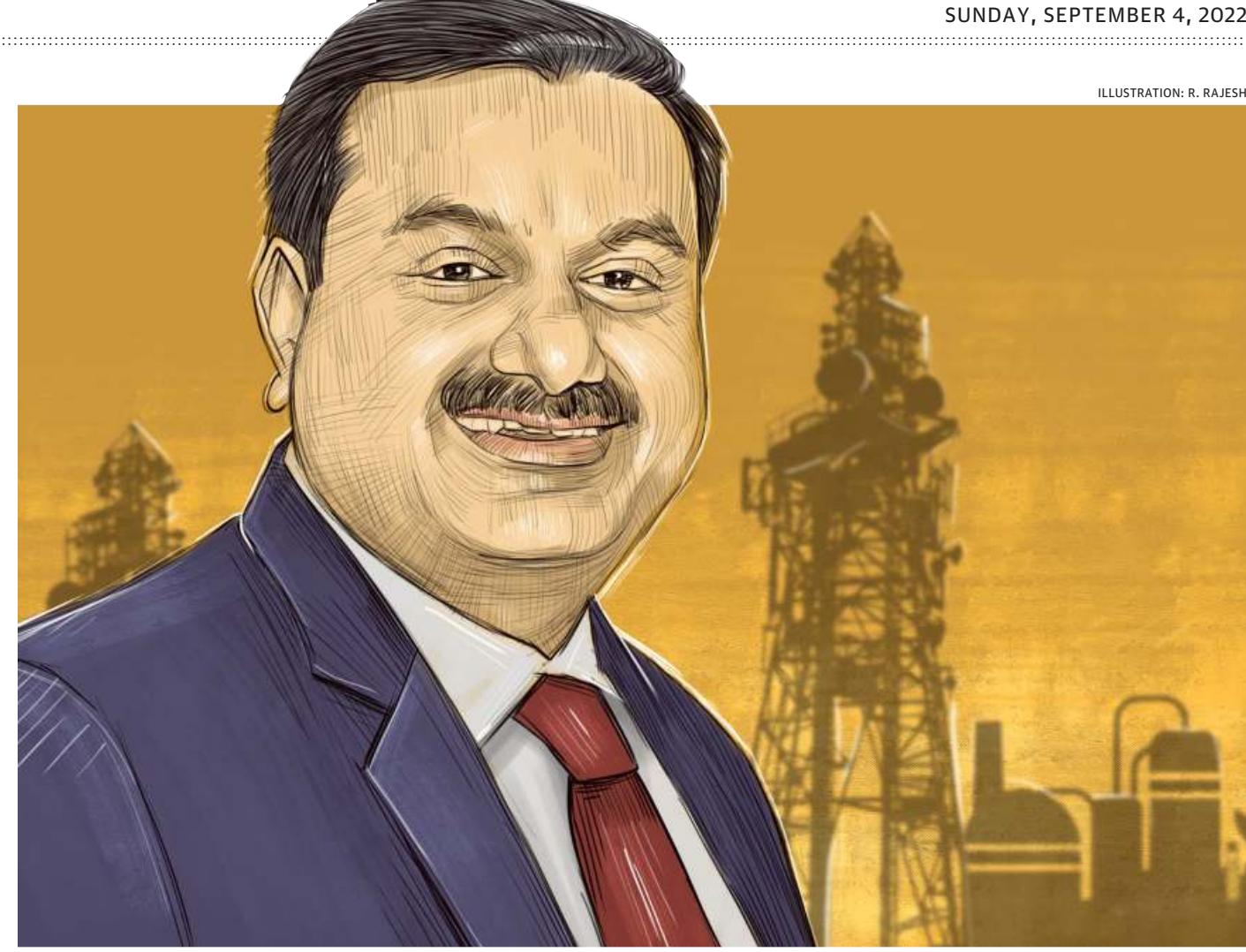
He has also argued against the misuse of the draconian Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA). However, the arrest of two

youth hailing from party families in Kozhikode under UAPA on suspicion of Maoist association had reportedly cast many veterans, including Mr. Govindan, in a moral and political dilemma. It did not help them that Chief Minister Vijayan justified the arrests.

Mr. Govindan was not always above controversy. The Congress had blamed his wife, P.K. Shyamala, a former chairperson of the Anthoor municipality in Kannur, for the suicide of an expatriate businessman allegedly due to official antipathy. Mr. Govindan reportedly faced criticism in the party over the incident.

He ascends to the helm of the CPI(M) in Kerala at a time when the party and the ruling front face several challenges. Foremost, Mr. Govindan will have to steer the CPI(M) through its volatile disputes with Kerala Governor Arif Muhammad Khan. It will be imperative for him to maintain the apparent synergy between the party and government achieved by Mr. Balakrishnan and Mr. Vijayan.

Mr. Govindan also faces the challenge of mobilising the party machinery and civil society to insulate the government from the Opposition's "recriminatory campaign" and prepare the ground for the Lok Sabha election in 2024. Another task before him is to stem the growth of right-wing forces by popularising progressive ideals through mass campaigns.



partners over shareholding to protests by activists against the salt farms. This was around 1991-92, just after India's economic liberalisation had been set in motion.

The abortive salt farm venture, however, left the Adani Group with about 3,000 acres of land that would prove the springboard for its next stage of growth.

At a time when Mr. Adani was said to have been looking to move beyond trading and eyeing an entry into an assets-based business, and in what would eventually prove to be a serendipitous turn of events, Gujarat announced a pioneering port policy in 1995 that threw open the doors to private investment in the sector. With the group's own trading business frequently impacted by delays in cargo clearance at other ports in the country, Mr. Adani decided this was the opportune moment to set up a port and thus was born the Mundra port venture. Today, the Mundra Port is India's largest private port, offering shippers the ability to load and unload bulk or containerised cargo.

For someone who avers destiny saved him, both from a kidnapping-for-ransom in the early 1990s and from the November 2008 terrorist attack in Mumbai when he happened to be at the Taj Mahal Palace hotel, Mr. Adani has bet the future of his business not just on providence, but as observers point out, on sniffing out opportunities allied to existing business or those offering benefits of vertical integration.

For instance, the SEZ poli-

cy of 2000 allowed for the setting up of such a zone in land adjoining the Mundra

Port. Both these businesses were later combined under the Adani Ports and SEZ Ltd. umbrella. Observers say this company is still the cash cow that allows the group to foray into newer kinds of businesses.

## Power generation

Mr. Adani's keenness on power generation was triggered by the demand for uninterrupted power supply by companies that set up shop in the APSEZ. An example of vertical integration was its entry into power transmission — which was an obvious next step — and coal mining, as supply of the dry fuel was key to the success of the power generation business.

Apart from detractors' claims that Mr. Adani's meteoric rise is a reflection of his proximity to the politicians in power, his forays into completely new areas have likely been more strategic, than audacious, observers contend. His decision to acquire ACC and Ambuja Cement from the Swiss building materials company Holcim for \$10.5 billion, to become India's second-largest cement maker, was a case in point. The Adani Group builds highways and implements other infrastructure projects, for which cement is a key raw material.

The power generation business produces fly ash as a by-product, which is an input material in cement-making.

Mr. Adani's entry into the airports sector was similarly strategic, claims Malay Mahadevia, who leads the airports arm of the business and is said to be a long-time friend of the group chairman. Mr. Mahadevia is quoted as having said that for a group with presence in the infrastruc-

ture chain — across roads, ports and warehouses — the airport business had been a missing link. Now, the Adani Group operates six airports in the country, in addition to the Mumbai airport.

The founder's penchant for large scale has helped the group achieve goals that seemed outlandish to begin with. In 2021, Mr. Adani committed to investing \$70 billion to become the world's largest renewable energy company. A year earlier, Adani Green Energy, a relatively new entrant in the renewables space, won the world's largest solar award from Solar Energy Corporation of India, to set up 8 GW solar capacity over 60

months entailing an investment of ₹45,000 crore (or about \$6 billion at the time).

However, the forays into various sectors have not been without controversy. The protests against the group's acquisition of the Carmichael mines in Australia saw local outrage. Having bought the mine in outback Queensland in 2010, the group had to wait till 2019 before all state clearances were in place. While the protests had made loans difficult for the group at the originally planned scale, the patient wait nevertheless hints at Mr. Adani's conviction that coal was the way to go for power generation.

As of July 2022, thermal power generation capacity accounted for 58% of the total capacity in the country, and earlier this calendar year, the country faced a power output crunch due to a coal shortage, necessitating coal imports.

The protests witnessed around the Carmichael mines were not the first that Mr. Adani has faced. Even during the development of the port at Mundra and after the setting up of a thermal

power plant in the area, reports of ecological damage — ranging from impact on fishing to warming of sea waters in the vicinity to pollution of local water bodies — drew the ire of environmentalists and local residents.

More recently, a Nordic pension fund exited investments in the group following Mr. Adani's past business transactions with a company linked to the Myanmar military. And S&P removed APSEZ Ltd. from its Dow Jones Sustainability Indices following scrutiny.

Still, not all that Mr. Adani touched has turned to gold. The Information Technology services business and the retail sector had briefly caught his eye. But plans had to be quickly shelved when the management time required was found to be far more than seen in the group's other businesses.

**New forays**  
More recently, telecommunications and the media industry have not been the first that Mr. Adani has faced. Even during the development of the port at Mundra and after the setting up of a thermal

power plant in the area, reports of ecological damage — ranging from impact on fishing to warming of sea waters in the vicinity to pollution of local water bodies — drew the ire of environmentalists and local residents.

Last month, a unit of the Fitch Group, CreditSights, had observed that the group's pursuit of an aggressive expansion plan had "pressured its credit metrics and cash flows". It pointed out that the group was increasingly venturing into new and/or unrelated businesses, which were "highly capital intensive and raises concerns regarding spreading execution oversight too thin." The agency said it saw little evidence of promoter equity capital injections into group companies, which it asserted was "needed to reduce leverage in their stretched balance sheets".

The credit rating firm added that in the worst-case scenario, overly ambitious "debt-funded growth plans could eventually spiral into a massive debt trap, and possibly culminate in a distressed situation or default" by one or more group firms.

## MICHELLE BACHELET

# The champion of rights

As OHCHR head, she has been forthcoming in taking up human rights issues

SRINIVASAN RAMANI

**I**t would have been out of character for Michelle Bachelet, the outgoing UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, if she had not released the pending report on the human rights violations in the Xinjiang region of China, before her term ended. She went on to release the report merely minutes before the end of her four-year tenure. The report, which the Chinese government sought to stop publication, stated that the Chinese regime had committed "serious human rights violations" against Uighur people in the province.

Ms. Bachelet, in many ways, has been an unconventional politician and later a diplomat who has been unafraid of ruffling feathers.

This was evident in the way Ms. Bachelet's office (OHCHR, or the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights) approached the Supreme Court of India in March 2020, asking to be impleaded in the petitions challenging the controversial Citizenship Amendment Act after informing the Human Rights Council that the OHCHR had "great concerns over the CAA". The Indian government averred that no foreign party had any "locus standi" on what was an internal matter of India.

Other issues that the OHCHR has raised during Ms. Bachelet's tenure included the Saudi Arabia-led military intervention in Yemen.

men that resulted in a humanitarian crisis in that country and the repression of Palestinians, including children, by Israeli forces that continued into 2022.

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helping reduce poverty and improving primary education, besides funding pension schemes, and other social programmes.

At the end of her first term, she enjoyed a high approval rating of 84%. Her second term (2014-18) was relatively less successful — Chile's economy suffered due to the downturn in international copper prices (the country is home to the world's largest copper mines). While she attempted to address inequality in the country by instituting progressive taxation policies, labour reforms to strengthen union and collective bargaining rights, besides reform of the Pinochet-era "binomial system" in elections to a more proportional representation based system, the allegations of corruption in her regime marred her legacy.

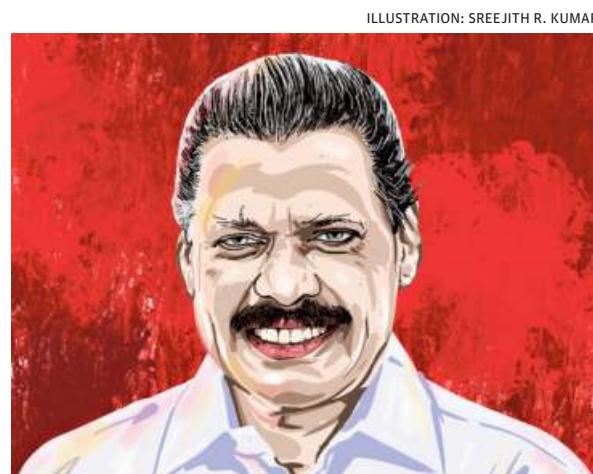
Despite the fall in her popularity, Ms. Bachelet remained acclaimed for being a forceful woman head of State who had instituted several reforms in her two tenures and secured the OHCHR in 2018. As the outgoing head of the OHCHR, she would rightfully claim her landmark achievement to be the "report on racial justice and equality", released in 2021 (a year after the George Floyd murder in the U.S.) that featured an agenda to end racism against African and African-origin people. In releasing the Xinjiang report, albeit belatedly, Ms. Bachelet went on to reclaim her legacy.

Running on a wave of popularity, Ms. Bachelet took the presidency in early 2006. Her first tenure coincided with the rise of other left-wing regimes in Latin America and her presidency was credited with guiding the country through a difficult economic period during the Global Financial Crisis, expanding the role of women in government,

first to Australia and then to Berlin, East Germany, where she studied medicine before returning to Chile in 1982 and finishing a degree in paediatrics.

She joined public life as an activist who helped children of victims of political repression. Following an educational stint at the Inter-American Defense College in Washington DC, she became an aide to Chile's Defense Minister in 1997 and soon became Health Minister and later Defence Minister in President Ricardo Lagos' Cabinets in the early 2000s.

Running on a wave of popularity, Ms. Bachelet took the presidency in early 2006. Her first tenure coincided with the rise of other left-wing regimes in Latin America and her presidency was credited with guiding the country through a difficult economic period during the Global Financial Crisis, expanding the role of women in government,





## Russians bid farewell to Gorbachev

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
MOSCOW

Russians on Saturday paid their final respects to the last leader of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, in a ceremony held in Moscow without much fanfare and with President Vladimir Putin notably absent.

Several thousand mourners queued up to quietly file past Gorbachev's open casket as it was flanked by honour guards under the Russian flag in the historic Hall of Columns.

The hall has long been used for the funerals of high officials in Russia and was where the body of Joseph Stalin first lay in state during four days of national mourning after his death in 1953.

After several hours the coffin was taken out of the hall in a procession led by Dmitry Muratov, the Nobel Peace Prize-winning editor-in-chief of independent newspaper *Novaya Gazeta*, which Gorbachev helped found.

Gorbachev was buried next to his wife Raisa, who died from cancer in 1999.

The mourners were of all ages, some old enough to remember the years of Soviet stagnation before Gorbachev came to power, others young enough to have only lived in Russia under Putin.

The Kremlin had said Putin would not attend Saturday's funeral due to his "work schedule".

# U.S. approves \$1.1 bn arms sale to Taiwan

The package was announced in the wake of China's military exercises around the island

REUTERS  
WASHINGTON

The U.S. State Department has approved a potential \$1.1 billion sale of military equipment to Taiwan, including 60 anti-ship missiles and 100 air-to-air missiles, the Pentagon said on Saturday, amid heightened tensions with China.

The package was announced in the wake of China's aggressive military drills around Taiwan following a visit to the island last month by U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi, the highest-ranking U.S. official to travel to Taipei in years.

The sale includes Sidewinder missiles, which can be used for air-to-air and surface-attack missions, at a cost of some \$85.6 million.

Harpoin anti-ship missiles at an estimated \$355 million cost and support for Taiwan's surveillance radar pro-



**Boost-up:** Air Force soldiers with a U.S.-made air-to-air missile at the airbase in Hualien, Taiwan. ■ REUTERS/FILE

gramme for an estimated \$665.4 million, the Pentagon's Defence Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) said.

"As China continues to increase pressure on Taiwan... We're providing Taiwan with what it needs to maintain its self-defence capabilities," Laura Rosenberger, White

House senior director for China and Taiwan, said in a statement.

Reuters reported last month that President Joe Biden's administration was planning new equipment for Taiwan but that the equipment would sustain Taiwan's current military systems and fulfil existing orders, not off-

er new capabilities, despite the heightened tensions that followed Ms. Pelosi's visit.

The Pentagon said the equipment and support announced on Friday would not alter the basic military balance in the region. U.S. officials said they did not reflect any change in policy toward Taiwan.

"These proposed sales are routine cases to support Taiwan's continuing efforts to modernise its armed forces and to maintain a credible defensive capability," a U.S. Department of State spokesman said.

Taiwan's Defence Ministry expressed its thanks, adding that China's recent "provocative" activities represented a serious threat and the arms sale would help it face China's military pressure.

"At the same time, it also demonstrates that it will help our country strengthen its overall defence capabili-



Gotabaya Rajapaksa and wife Ioma Rajapaksa at the Bandaranaike International airport on Friday. ■ REUTERS

## Gotabaya returns, faces call for arrest

He fled Sri Lanka after protests in July

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
COLOMBO

Former Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa faced calls for his arrest on Saturday after returning home from self-imposed exile under the protection of his successor's government.

Mr. Rajapaksa's govern-

such misery for the 22 million people of Sri Lanka," he added. "He can't live freely as if nothing has happened."

Mr. Rajapaksa's government was accused of chaotic mismanagement as the Sri Lankan economy spiraled into a blistering downturn.

The crisis saw acute shortages of food, lengthy blackouts and long queues at gas stations for scarce fuel supplies after the country ran out of foreign currency to pay for vital imports.

Sri Lanka's main opposition alliance, the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB), has yet to comment on Rajapaksa's return, but a former Minister from the bloc said the ousted leader needed to be prosecuted.

"Gotabaya must be held to account for his crimes before and during his presidency," Ajith Perera said.

### New govt. residence

Mr. Rajapaksa was garlanded with flowers by Ministers and senior politicians after disembarking from his flight in Colombo.

He was driven in a security convoy to a new official residence in the capital provided to him by the government of President Ranil Wickremesinghe.

## Ukraine's nuclear plant goes offline

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
ZAPORIZHZHIA

ment and had been in the vicinity of the southern Red Sea for more than 200 days.

"At around 2 p.m. (local time) on September 1, U.S. 5th Fleet detected the Iranian ship approaching both unnnamed vessels and removing them from the water," the U.S. Navy said.

Two destroyers operating nearby, the USS *Nitze* and USS *Delbert D. Black*, "remained on scene communicating with the Iranian warship to deescalate the situation," the statement added.

The U.S. Navy vessels were released at around 8 a.m. the following day, according to the statement.

The Russian-appointed regional administration in Enerhodar, where the Zaporizhzhia plant is located, blamed an alleged Ukrainian shelling attack on Saturday morning, which they said had destroyed a key power line.

"Gotabaya returned because no country is willing to accept him, he has no place to hide," Joseph Stalin, the leader of a teachers' trade union that helped mobilise demonstrators, told AFP.

## EU ready if Russia turns off gas, says Gentiloni

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
CERNOBIO

EU Economy Commissioner Paolo Gentiloni on Saturday said that the EU was "well prepared" in the event of a total halt in Russian gas deliveries, thanks to storage capacity and energy-saving measures.

"We are not afraid of Putin's decisions, we are asking the Russians to respect contracts, but if they don't, we are ready to react," he said.

Russian gas giant Gaz-

prom said on Friday that the Nord Stream pipeline linking Russia to northern Germany, which was due to resume service on Saturday after an interruption for maintenance, would be "completely" stopped until a repair is made.

European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen on Friday said that "it would be time" to put a ceiling on the price of gas imported from Russia, backing a measure advocated by Italian PM Mario Draghi.



Artemis I rocket sits on launch pad 39-B at Kennedy Space Center. ■ AFP

## NASA puts off Artemis moon rocket launch for second time

Repairs to plug a fuel leak may push schedule to October

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
CAPE CANAVERAL

NASA's new moon rocket sprang another dangerous fuel leak on Saturday, forcing launch controllers to call off their second attempt to send a crew capsule into lunar orbit with test dummies.

The first attempt last week was also marred by escaping hydrogen, but those leaks were elsewhere on the 98-metre rocket, the most powerful ever built by NASA.

NASA Administrator Bill Nelson said repair work could bump the launch into October.

Mission managers planned to meet later in the day to decide on a course of action. After Tuesday, a two-week launch blackout pe-

riod kicks in. Extensive leak inspections and repairs, meanwhile, could require that the rocket be hauled off the pad and back into the hangar; that would push the flight into October, Mr. Nelson said.

"We'll go when it's ready. We don't go until then and especially now on a test flight, because we're going to stress this and test it... and make sure it's right before we put four humans up on the top of it," he said.

**'Be ready for scrubs'**  
He added: "This is part of our space programme: Be ready for the scrubs."

The \$4.1 billion test flight is the first step in NASA's Artemis programme of renewed lunar exploration.

If the five-week demo with test dummies succeeds, astronauts could fly around the moon in 2024 and land on it in 2025. People last walked on the moon 50 years ago.

vedanta

transforming for good

**Vedanta Limited (Division: Cairn Oil & Gas)**

ASF Center, Tower-A, Plot No. 362-363, Jwala Mill Road, Phase IV,

Udyog Vihar, Sector-18, Gurugram-122 002, Haryana

CAIRN

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that, the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, vide its Letter No AP EG MIN 4 2021 3163, EC Identification No. EC21B002AP145759 dated 22nd November 2021, has accorded Environment Clearance (EC) to Vedanta Limited (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) for Offshore Oil & Gas Exploration and Appraisal in KG-OSHP-2017/1 block in Bay of Bengal, East Godavari Dist., Andhra Pradesh. The copy of the EC letter is available with the SEIAA, Andhra Pradesh and can also be viewed at the MoEF&CC website <https://parivesh.nic.in> and at Vedanta Ltd. (Cairn Oil & Gas) website <https://cairnindia.com>. This notice is issued in Stakeholder's interest.

ODISHA CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LIMITED (A Govt. of Odisha Undertaking) UNIT-VIII, BHUBANESWAR e-mail: <a href="mailto:theoccltd@odishaconstruction.com">theoccltd@odishaconstruction.com</a> GSTIN : 21AAAC02571K2ZM				
e-Procurement Notice No. 14 /OCCL/2022-23 (on-line)				
Type of Work	:- Execution of Concrete Dam & Spillway Component Structure of Chheligada Irrigation Project			
Total No. of Works	:- 01 (One) No.			
Period of completion	:- 15 (Fifteen) calendar months.			
Bid Identification No.	Amount put to Tender (Approx.) (Rs.in Crores)	Bid Security	Availability of Tender (On-line)	Submission of Tender (On-line)
OCCL-CP/01/2022-23	135.26 Crores	Bid Security Declaration as per W.D. O.M. 8484, dated 05.04.2022 is to be furnished	09.09.2022, 03.30 P.M. to 10.10.2022, 5.30 P.M.	17.09.2022, 03.30 P.M. to 10.10.2022, 5.30 P.M.
Procurement Officer - Managing Director, OCC Ltd., Bhubaneswar Date of opening of the Technical Bid: 11.10.2022, 12.00 Noon, ( <a href="http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in">www.tendersodisha.gov.in</a> ) Further detail can be seen from the Govt. website ( <a href="http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in">www.tendersodisha.gov.in</a> )				
Managing Director OIPR-34120/11/0020/223				

## Man sets off crash scare in Mississippi city; lands safely

He steals plane, calls 911 and threatens to crash

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
TUPELO

A man who stole a plane and flew it over northern Mississippi after threatening to crash it into a Walmart faces charges of grand larceny and terrorism threats, authorities said on Saturday.

Tupelo Police Chief John Quaka said at a press conference that Cory Wayne Patterson stole a Beechcraft King Air C90A from the Tupelo Regional Airport, took off early on Saturday, called 911 and then threatened to crash the aircraft.

Michael Canders, director of the Aviation Center at Farmingdale State College in New York, called the incident "a wake-up call" for general aviation airports and their staff.

The Transportation Security Administration requires annual training emphasising a "see something, say something" approach to try and prevent a scenario like what police believe occurred in Tupelo – an employee with access to aircraft, Mr. Canders said.

Negotiators spoke to Patterson and convinced him not carry out the threat and to land at the airport. Patterson did not have the experience to land and another pilot attempted to coach him through it. A negotiator re-established con-

tact, and the plane landed safely.

Tupelo Mayor Todd Jordan said he hopes Patterson "will get the help he needs" and didn't intend to hurt himself or others in the hours after the initial threat. Mr. Quaka said Patterson, on his Facebook page, posted what was in essence a goodbye message at about 9:30 a.m. "Sorry everyone. Never wanted to actually hurt anyone. I love my parents and sister this isn't your fault. Goodbye," the message read.

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IHCL to set up 2 hotels near Statue of Unity

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI

Indian Hotels Company Ltd. (IHCL) of the Tata Group has announced that it would set up two hotels in close proximity to the Statue of Unity in Ekta Nagar, Gujarat.

The 125-room Vivanta and 150-room Ginger would open in 2025.

Union External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Saturday laid the foundation stone for the hotels.

"The rapid growth of our footprint in Gujarat is an exciting development for IHCL, and these hotels will be a significant addition to our portfolio," MD and CEO Puneet Chhatwal said in a statement.

Located in the Narmada district in the heart of Gujarat, Ekta Nagar offers many tourist attractions.

## FTAs with U.K., Canada to be sealed in 2022: Subrahmanyam

Trade policy to be unveiled in September as part of package to spur exports'

VIKAS DHOOT  
NEW DELHI



**New horizons:** FTAs will open new markets and market access is our goal, says Commerce Secretary Subrahmanyam. ■ PTI

sequentially for the third straight month in August.

"We are going to probably clinch the FTA with the United Kingdom by the end of this month itself. They don't have a full-time Prime Minister and somebody will be in place by Monday or Tuesday.

Once that is done, we are going to see a \$10-15 billion up-tick from there," he said. Jewellery exports to the UAE had already risen 50% in the first two months following an FTA, he pointed out.

"There is a global demand to move out of China and

one of the reasons why countries are running to do Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with India and have become more flexible, is to reduce their own dependence on China," Mr. Subrahmanyam said.

"In 18 of 20 top product groups Australia imports, China has 50% to 80% market share. That's the kind of dependence... no wonder they want to sign an FTA with us," he pointed out, adding the same issue plagues Europe and the U.K., which are looking to diversify.

"That's why we are pushing for... FTAs which are an important part of our trade strategy. FTAs will open new markets and market access is our goal," he underlined.

## Employee centricity key to retaining talent: HR officials

'Arrogant, bureaucratic and complacent firms suffered a lot'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI

Organisations have to focus on 'employee centricity' to excel in changing times and prevent large-scale attrition, according to top human resource executives.

"Finding people who would be putting in working hours every day is very difficult to get," said Alok Sheopurkar, HR Head at HDFC Asset Management Co.

He was speaking at an HR conclave here.

"When the world looks for talent and India starts exporting talent, would we be able to retain our best people?" he asked.

"I envisage that the next economic crisis would be



due to a shortage of talent and not because of a shortage of money," he added.

He asserted that organisations which were arrogant, bureaucratic and complacent suffered a lot. "But the organisations that are purpose-driven and fair, could retain their talent."

"If an employee who comes into the organisation is able to be productive fas-

ter, and if we enable the employee to be continuously productive, the stickiness to the organisation is always going to be there," Hirak Bhattacharjee, Head HR, Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance AMC, observed.

"As per the Indian employment data, 68% of people changed jobs last year," Nalini Nutan, Head HR, BASF, said while deliberating on the theme of 'Battling The Great Resignation.'

"Of that, 61% changed for better opportunities while the remaining that quit chose culture and mental well-being, among others.... as corporates we need to change and we are taking baby steps towards it."

## 'Creative economy's 2019 exports stood at \$121 bn'

EXIM Bank paper maps potential

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

India's creative economy comprising the arts and crafts, audio and video arts and design, among others, accounted for exports of goods and services worth \$121 billion in 2019, according to a paper by the Exim Bank of India.

The research paper maps the untapped export potential of India's creative economy, Exim Bank said in a release on the inauguration of Exim Bazaar at the National Crafts Museum, here on Saturday. Exim Bank said the first of its kind study 'Reflection & Development of India's Creative Economy' analysed seven different creative segments such as



art & crafts, audio visuals, design and visual arts, as per the UN classification, to map their export potential.

India's total exports of creative goods and services stood close to \$121 billion in 2019, of which exports of creative services accounted for almost \$100 billion, Exim Bank said citing the research paper.

INTERVIEW | SANDIP PATEL

## India seeing growing interest in quantum computing: IBM

It can lead to scientific discoveries, critical drugs: India MD

MINI TEJASWI

India has been witnessing growing interest in quantum computing, with students, developers and academia actively participating, and is emerging as a talent hub in this field, said Sandip Patel, MD, IBM India/South Asia region. Excerpts:



What are the differences between quantum and classical computing?

■ Quantum computing is an exciting new technology that will shape our world of tomorrow by providing us with an edge and myriad possibilities. It is a fundamentally different way of processing information compared to today's classical computing systems.

While today's classical computers store information as binary 0 and 1 states, quantum computers draw on the fundamental laws of nature to carry out calculations using quantum bits.

What will be IBM India's contribution to the company's global initiatives in quantum computing?

■ In India, we are witnessing a growing interest in quantum computing with active participation (amongst the highest) from students, developers and academia in initiatives like the IBM Quantum Challenge, IBM Quantum Summer School and Qiskit Challenge-India (Qiskit is an open-source software development kit built by IBM for the quantum developer community).

Unlike a bit that has to be a 0 or a 1, a qubit can be in a combination of states, which allows for exponentially larger calculations and gives them the potential to solve complex problems which even the most powerful classical supercomputers are not capable of.

How will it provide an edge over classical computing in solving everyday challenges?

■ Quantum computers tap into the quantum mechanical phenomenon to manipulate information and are expected to shed light on processes of molecular and chemical interactions, address difficult optimisation problems, and boost the power of artificial intelligence. Advances like these could open the door to new

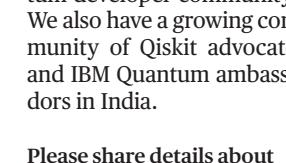
Please share details about IBM's collaboration with premier institutions in India.

■ Academia plays an important role in building skills for any deep technology including quantum. Hence, last May, we announced our collaboration with leading edu-

cational institutions in India through the IBM Quantum Educators Programme. The faculty and students of these institutions will be able to access IBM Quantum systems, quantum learning resources and quantum tools over IBM Cloud for educational purposes.

At what stage is India in quantum computing?

■ India is poised to play a pivotal role in the quantum technology revolution globally. As per our quantum roadmap announced in 2021, IBM debuted its first 127-qubit processor. In 2022, IBM extended its quantum roadmap even further to clearly lay out how we will blaze a path towards frictionless quantum computing. This expanded roadmap includes our plans to build a 4,000+qubit processor by 2023.



scientific discoveries, life-saving drugs, and improvements in supply chains, logistics and the modelling of financial data.

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We have quantum scientists and engineers around the world conducting fundamental research to improve the technology.

## Emami East Bengal downs Mumbai City in thriller

Picks up first win of season; Army Red stuns ISL champion Hyderabad FC

DURAND CUP

AMITABA DAS SHARMA  
KOLKATA

Emami East Bengal surprised former ISL champion Mumbai City FC 4-3 in a thrilling 131st Durand Cup football Group B goal fest at the Kishore Bharati Stadium here on Saturday.

Having played two goal-less draws before a lone-goal loss against traditional rival ATK Mohun Bagan, East Bengal put a memorable finish to its campaign. Sumeet Passi and Cleiton Silva shared the four goals for East Bengal while Lallianzuala Chhangte struck twice and Greg Stewart once for Mumbai City.

The first half produced a very entertaining brand of attacking football that saw six goals scored. East Bengal scored two spectacular goals to establish a healthy lead in

the second session was relatively placid before Silva lit up things with the winner in the 81st.

Earlier, Army Red relied on its captain Suresh Meitei's lone goal to shock Indian

the first quarter. The first came in the 17th minute from Sumeet Passi, who finished with a nice angular header after Jerry set up a deep cross in the Mumbai box.

Brazilian Silva came up with a world-class free kick to double East Bengal's score by the 22nd minute.

Nice counter-attack

Mumbai regrouped after the initial setbacks and pulled one back through Stewart, who finished a nice counter-attack. Passi then struck his second in the 34th minute. East Bengal's joy did not last long as Chhangte's outstanding finishes made it 3-3 by the 43rd minute.

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The results: Group B: Emami East Bengal 4 (Passi 17, 34, Cleiton 22, 81) bt Mumbai City FC 3 (Stewart 27, Chhangte 36, 43).

Group C: Army Red 1 (Meitei 33) bt Hyderabad FC 0.

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Making a difference: Cleiton Silva and Sumeet Passi scored a brace each to ensure East Bengal's win. ■ DEBASISH BHADURI

## Neeraj takes 82kg Greco-Roman gold

WRESTLING

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
KOCHI

After downing Services' Parveen in a close thriller to take the 82kg Greco-Roman gold in the National under-23 wrestling championship, international Neeraj did the vanishing act at the Rajiv Gandhi indoor stadium here on Saturday.

He skipped the medal ceremony and the dope test. His coaches were summoned and asked for an explanation. And when they said that Neeraj's phone was switched off, they were asked to wait. That put pressure on the wrestler and his coaches.

Maharashtra international Ravi Raj had done a simi-



UP's Anuj Tomar, left.

■ STAN RAYAN

lar vanishing act a day earlier, after winning the men's 74kg freestyle title.

Ravi Raj turned up last night and gave his dope test. Even Neeraj came later and gave his dope test today. Now we will have to wait and see what the dope test result shows and then act," V.N. Prasood, secretary, Wrestling Federation of India,

told *The Hindu* on Saturday.

Haryana led the points table in the men's freestyle and women's event at the end of the penultimate day.

The results: (Men): Greco-Roman: 55kg: Rupin (Har) bt Laishram (SSCB) by points; 67kg: Vinayak (Mah) bt Anuj (Del) by technical superiority; 82kg: Neeraj (Del) bt Parveen (SSCB) by tech sup; 130kg: Parvesh (Har) bt Deepanshu (Del) by tech sup. Freestyle: 57kg: Rahul (Del) bt Suraj (Mah) by fall; 65kg: Anuj (Har) bt Jasikaran (Pun) by points; 79kg: Anuj Tomar (UP) bt Chander (Har) by points; 97kg: Sahil (Pun) bt Pardeep (Har) by tech sup. Women: 53kg: Pooja (Har) bt Manshi (UP) by fall; 59kg: Mansi (Har) bt Manisha (Raj) by tech sup; 68kg: Radhika (Har) bt Pratiksha (Mah) by tech sup; 72kg: Sunita (Har) bt Laxmi (UP) by fall.

## Shaji is AIFF Secy. General

Vijayan to chair technical committee

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The newly-elected Executive Committee of the All India Football Federation (AIFF) had its first meeting here on Saturday with several decisions taken to get the much-needed fillip to Indian football," AIFF president Kalyan Choubey, who proposed his name, said.

The acting secretary general Sunando Dhar was appointed the new deputy to Prabhakaran while I.M. Vijayan was named chairman of the Technical Committee with Eugeneson Lyngdoh, Climax Lawrence, Harjinder Singh, Arun Malhotra and Pinki Bompal being the other members. Shabbir Ali was named chairman of the Advisory Committee.

All members, including the eminent players co-opted in the EC barring Bhai-chung Bhutia, who lost the presidential election on Friday, were present with the EC unanimously approving Shaji Prabhakaran's nomination as the new AIFF Secretary General.

Shaji, who has been associated with FIFA and AFC in the past, is currently the

## Praggnanandhaa, Aravindh join leaders

Arjun beats Jumabayev, draws with Predke

DUBAI CHESS

# Serena glows like the last ember of a fading fire, bows out

Her dreams of a fairytale finish to a glittering career dashed in a gruelling three-hour five-minute battle against Tomljanovic in the third round

## U.S. OPEN

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
NEW YORK

Serena Williams' dreams of a fairytale finish to her glittering career were dashed on Friday as the tennis icon was sent crashing out of the U.S. Open by Australia's Ajla Tomljanovic.

The 40-year-old Serena – who last month signalled she planned to retire after the Open – was ousted 7-5, 6-7 (4), 6-1 by Tomljanovic in a gruelling three-hour five-minute battle.

### Giving it her all!

Serena poured everything into one last stand in front of a ferociously partisan crowd at the Arthur Ashe Stadium.

But the veteran wilted visibly in the decisive third set, wearied by the demands of a heroic second set display that saw her level the match in a tie-break.

As Tomljanovic raced to a 5-1 lead in the third, Serena summoned every last drop of her fighting spirit to stave off defeat, saving five match-points in a marathon seventh game before finally succumbing.

Afterwards, Serena saluted the crowd, welling up as Tina Turner's anthem 'Simply the Best' echoed around the stands.

Asked by an on-court interviewer whether there was any possibility she might yet extend her career, she replied: "I don't think so, but you never know."

Tomljanovic, 29, has never gone further than the quarterfinals of a Grand Slam event and is ranked 49th in the world.

Yet the Australian showed magnificent composure in the face of tremendous pressure from Serena and a home crowd determined to will her opponent to victory.

Every unforced error or mistake by Tomljanovic was greeted by cheers from the crowd, who conversely remained mostly silent whenever the Australian fired off a winner.

Serena, meanwhile, was let down by her serve. Though she was still able to send down 11 aces during the match, she was broken no fewer than eight times.

Tomljanovic had recovered from 5-3 down in the first set to break Serena, before rattling off four straight games to take the early lead. Tomljanovic also forced a tie-break in the second set after Serena had led 4-0.

Serena took the tie-breaker to level at 1-1, but the energy-sapping one-hour 23-minute second set clearly took its toll on the American.

The Australian looked by far the fresher of the two in the decider and she quickly built a 5-1 lead in the third before closing out the win.

## TOP RESULTS

**Third round: Men:** 1-Medvedev bt Wu (Chn) 6-4, 6-2, 6-2; 23-Kyrgios (Aus) bt Wolf (USA) 6-4, 6-2, 6-3; 12-Busta (Esp) bt 18-de Minaur (Aus) 6-1, 6-1, 3-6, 7-6(5); 27-Khachanov bt Draper (GBR) 6-3, 4-6, 6-5 (ret'd); Fokina (Esp) bt Galan (Col) 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4; 13-Berrettini (Ita) bt Murray (GBR) 6-4, 6-4, 6-7(1), 6-3; Moutet (Fra) bt Cachin (Arg) 6-3, 4-6, 6-2, 7-5; 5-Ruud (Nor) bt 29-Paul (USA) 7-6(3), 6-7(5), 7-6 (2), 5-7, 6-0.

**Women:** 21-Kvitova (Cze) bt 9-Muguruza (Esp) 5-7, 6-3, 7-6(12-10); Shuai (Chn) bt Marino (Can) 6-2, 6-4; 12-Gauff (USA) bt 20-Keys (USA) 6-2, 6-3; 17-Garcia (Fra) bt Andreescu (Can) 6-3, 6-2; 29-Riske-Amritraj (USA) bt Wang (Chn) 6-4, 3-6, 6-4; 18-Kudermetova bt Galfi (Hun) 6-2, 6-0; Samsonova bt Krunic (Srb) 6-3, 6-3; Tomljanovic (Aus) bt Serena (USA) 7-5, 6-7 (4), 6-1.

**23**  
Grand Slam singles titles

**14**  
Grand Slam doubles titles

**2**  
Grand Slam mixed doubles titles

**4**  
Olympic gold medals (three in doubles and one in singles)

**10**  
Grand Slam singles titles won after turning 30, an Open Era record

**367**  
match-wins at Majors, a record for a woman

**73**  
WTA Tour titles

**5**  
WTA Finals crowns

## BEING SERENA

**319**

Weeks spent as World No. 1, only behind Graf (377) and Navratilova (332)



## SALUTING SERENA

She is an all-time great. Obviously, that's an understatement

MARTINA NAVRATILOVA

Serena, you're literally the greatest on and off the court. Thank you for inspiring all of us to pursue our dreams

TIGER WOODS

How lucky were we to be able to watch a young girl from Compton grow up to become one of the greatest athletes of all time

MICHELLE OBAMA

Sport inspires society to push limits & achieve the impossible. Congratulations on an inspiring career

SACHIN TENDULKAR

It is because of you I believe in this dream. The impact you've had on me goes beyond words and for that I say thank you, GOAT

COCO GAUFF

Everyone looks at her and tries to be like Serena. And I'm sure that's going to be for years to come

CAROLINE GARCIA

Her incredible career made its mark on tennis history. And yet her greatest contributions may be yet to come

BILLIE JEAN KING

THE GREATEST OF ALL TIME

SANIA MIRZA

## THE LAST DANCE?

I could go on and on... but I honestly am so grateful that I had this moment – and that I'm Serena

I feel like I really brought something, and bring something to tennis. The different looks. The fist pumps. The just crazy intensity. Passion. I think, is a really good word

I'm ready to be a mom, explore a different version of Serena. Technically, I'm still super young, so I want to have a little bit of a life while I'm still walking

In my career, I've never given up. In matches, I don't give up. Definitely wasn't giving up tonight

I don't think so, but you never know. I always did love Australia

SERENA

when asked if she might reconsider walking away from the sport

I wouldn't be Serena if there wasn't Venus, so thank you, Venus. She's the only reason that Serena ever existed

It all started with my parents. They deserve everything



**Man-of-the-moment:** Suryakumar will look to carry on with his rich vein of form. ■ GETTY IMAGES

hul, have struggled in the two matches of this tournament.

While Rohit has made scores of 12 and 21 against Pakistan and Hong Kong respectively, Rahul was sent back for a golden duck by Pakistan speedster Naseem Shah. Rahul's tortured 39-ball 36 against Hong Kong reflected his lack of confidence. Rahul could take the opposite approach in this outing by blasting his way into some form.

**Not in top gear yet**  
Virat Kohli got an unbeaten 59, but his circumspect style suggested that he is not back in top gear yet.

Big things will be expected from Suryakumar Yadav who went berserk in the Hong Kong game with an unbeaten 26-ball 68. Suryakumar, cleaned up by Naseem for 18 in the earlier game, will pose the biggest threat for Pakistan.

India must fill a couple of surface cracks. The openers, Rohit Sharma and K.L. Ra-

dhik, rested

for the Hong Kong encounter, will likely return to the eleven. He will take great confidence from his 'man-of-the-match' performance against Pakistan, where he picked up three wickets and held the chase together with an unbeaten 33.

Fast bowlers Avesh Khan

and Arshdeep Singh, who have gone at a tournament economy rate of 12 and 9.82 respectively, must find the right lengths.

Bhuvneshwar Kumar has led the attack admirably, returning a four wicket haul against Pakistan while keeping the runs in check.

Fast bowlers Avesh Khan

ties. Khushdil Shah displayed brutal aggression in his rapid 15-ball 35 to end the innings.

Speedster Shahnawaz Dahani will not be available for Sunday's match due to a suspected side strain.

**The teams (from):**

**India:** Rohit Sharma (Capt.), K.L. Rahul (Vice-capt.), Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Deepak Hooda, Rishabh Pant, Dinesh Karthik, Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel, R. Ashwin, Yuzvendra Chahal, Ravi Bishnoi, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Arshdeep Singh, Avesh Khan.

**Pakistan:** Babar Azam (Capt.), Shadab Khan, Asif Ali, Fakhar Zaman, Haider Ali, Haris Rauf, Iftikhar Ahmed, Khushdil Shah, Mohammad Nawaz, Mohammad Rizwan, Naseem Shah, Usman Qadir, Mohammad Hasnain and Hasan Ali.

Pakistan, meanwhile, enters this fixture on the back of a huge 155-run win over Hong Kong. Spinners Shadab and Naseem took seven wickets between them, as Hong Kong was shot out for 38.

The batting clicked as well, with Mohammad Rizwan and Fakhar Zaman recording fif-

ties. Khushdil Shah displayed brutal aggression in his rapid 15-ball 35 to end the innings.

Speedster Shahnawaz Dahani will not be available for Sunday's match due to a suspected side strain.

**The teams (from):**

**India:** Rohit Sharma (Capt.), K.L. Rahul (Vice-capt.), Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Deepak Hooda, Rishabh Pant, Dinesh Karthik, Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel, R. Ashwin, Yuzvendra Chahal, Ravi Bishnoi, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Arshdeep Singh, Avesh Khan.

**Pakistan:** Babar Azam (Capt.), Shadab Khan, Asif Ali, Fakhar Zaman, Haider Ali, Haris Rauf, Iftikhar Ahmed, Khushdil Shah, Mohammad Nawaz, Mohammad Rizwan, Naseem Shah, Usman Qadir, Mohammad Hasnain and Hasan Ali.

"Jadeja is obviously ruled out of the Asia Cup. He is under the care of the medical team. He will see the doctors and experts. The World Cup is a fair way away, so we don't want to jump to any conclusions and rule him out or in. It's part of sport; people get injured. It's part of our job to manage how it goes. A lot will depend on his rehab and the severity of the injury. I don't want to rule him out or make too many comments until we get a clearer picture," Dravid said in a press conference here on Saturday.

**Challenging wickets**  
Asked if the Indian top-order batters have bought into the team philosophy of playing attacking cricket, Dravid said, "Everyone has bought into it. We have talked about playing positive cricket, but also being smart.

"It's about ensuring that you get par-plus scores, depending on what par is on that particular pitch and conditions. We don't want to be a team that falls below par. We've had some challenging wickets in this tournament; probably not 200-run wickets."

'Don't want to rule Jadeja out or in for T20 WC'

Part of job to manage injury: Dravid

ASHWIN ACHAL  
DUBAI

Saturday.

Dravid added that fast bowler Avesh Khan is "under the weather with a little fit of fever". "Avesh is not at practice today, but hopefully it is not too serious and he is okay for the match tomorrow," Dravid said.

**Asked if the Indian top-order batters have bought into the team philosophy of playing attacking cricket, Dravid said, "Everyone has bought into it. We have talked about playing positive cricket, but also being smart.**

"It's about ensuring that you get par-plus scores, depending on what par is on that particular pitch and conditions. We don't want to be a team that falls below par. We've had some challenging wickets in this tournament; probably not 200-run wickets."

## IN BRIEF



### Verstappen grabs pole

ZANDVOORT (NETHERLANDS)  
Max Verstappen claimed a pulsating late pole position for Red Bull with a dramatic final lap at his home Dutch Grand Prix on Saturday, outpacing Ferrari's Charles Leclerc by two-hundredths of a second. Leclerc's teammate Carlos Sainz was third. AFP

### Yoddhas cut Giants to size, enter final

PUNE  
Telugu Yoddhas secured a place in the final of the inaugural edition of Ultimate Kho Kho with a commanding 67-44 victory against Gujarat Giants on Saturday. Yoddhas will take on Odisha Juggernauts in the final on Sunday. PTI

# Sri Lanka subdues Afghanistan

AYAN ACHARYA  
SHARJAH

Rahmanullah Gurbaz's 45-ball 84 (4x4, 6x6) was overshadowed by cameos from Bhanuka Rajapaksa (31, 14b, 4x4, 1x6) and Danushka Gunathilaka (33, 20b, 2x4, 2x6) and good death-bowling as Sri Lanka beat Afghanistan by four wickets in the Super 4 stage of the Asia Cup on Saturday.

Chasing 176, Sri Lanka was 82 for two after 10 overs and 127 for four after 15. Needing 49 off 30, Rajapaksa targeted Naveen-ul-Haq in the 16th over, hitting two fours and a six. He enjoyed a slice of luck when he was dropped in the same over. It proved costly.

Earlier, the Islanders raced to 57 for no loss after six overs. However, Mendis was caught off Naveen in the next over. Pathum Nissanka hung around before falling to Mujeeb ur Rehman (2/30).

When Charith Asalanka



**Fist of fury:** Gurbaz blitz wasn't enough for Afghanistan. ■ AP

inside-edged Mohammad Nabi onto his stumps, there was a momentum shift. But some ordinary ground fielding, allied with poor catching, revived Sri Lanka.

**The scores:** Afghanistan 175/6 in 20 overs (Rahmanullah Gurbaz 84, Ibrahim Zadrin 40) lost to Sri Lanka 179/6 in 19.1 overs (Pathum Nissanka 35, Kusal Mendis 36, Danushka Gunathilaka 33, Bhanuka Rajapaksa 31).

**Toss:** Sri Lanka; MoM: Gurbaz.

# Villa fights back for a draw against City

EURO LEAGUES

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
LONDON

Erling Haaland extended his remarkable start to life in the Premier League, but Manchester City was held to a 1-1 draw after Leon Bailey snatched a late equaliser for struggling Aston Villa on Saturday.

Earlier, Liverpool was denied another injury-time winner when Mohamed Salah's shot hit the post in the 95th minute as an entertaining Merseyside derby against Everton somehow ended in a 0-0 draw on Saturday.

Everton had earlier been denied a goal by VAR

# Patidar, Abhimanyu hundreds thwart visitors

The MP batter, unbeaten on 170, looks set to pile on the runs in the company of Tilak as the hosts reach 492 for four

## NZ-A IN INDIA

P.K. AJITH KUMAR  
BENGALURU

Rajat Patidar's affair with the Garden City continues. His return to the friendly wicket at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium – after making a hundred that helped Madhya Pradesh win the Ranji Trophy final against Mumbai back in June – proved a memorable one on Saturday. His unbeaten 170 (241b, 383min, 14x4, 4x6) helped India-A reach 492 for four, in reply to New Zealand-A's 400, at stumps on day three of the first 'Test'.

Patidar wasn't the only century-maker for the host. Opener Abhimanyu Easwaran, who resumed at the overnight 87 not out and his side 156 for one, went on to score a pleasing 132 (194b, 290min, 13x4, 1x6). His



**In full flow:** Abhimanyu was at his fluent best, while Patidar continued his love affair with the venue. ■ K. MURALI KUMAR

drives on the off-side were especially lovely to watch.

Before he was bowled by left-arm wrist-spinner Michael Rippon, he had added 104 for the fourth wicket with Patidar.

That partnership ensured the visitors could not build on the early breakthrough, when they had Ruturaj Gaikwad

wad stumped by Cam Fletcher off the orthodox left-arm spinner Rachin Ravindra in the day's second over.

New Zealand-A could take only one more wicket, that of Sarfaraz Khan, caught behind off seamer Jacob Duffy for 36. For the prolific Mumbai batter with the astonishing average, it didn't prove a

profitable return to the crease here. And this was his lowest score in his last four First Class matches (after 153, 40 & 59 not out, 134 & 45).

### Costly drop

Patidar also reached the middle with as impressive a sequence of scores, which began with that sensational

54-ball 112 not out for Royal Challengers Bangalore in the IPL eliminator against Lucknow Super Giants.

On this day, he showed how he could drop anchor and yet keep the scoreboard moving, as he made most of a dropped catch, when he was on 13.

Walking alongside him

back to the dressing room at close of play was Tilak Varma, who also had a great IPL season, with Mumbai Indians. The impressive 19-year-old is batting on 82 (132b, 5x4, 5x6); his unfinished fifth-wicket stand with Patidar is so far worth 167.

### The scores:

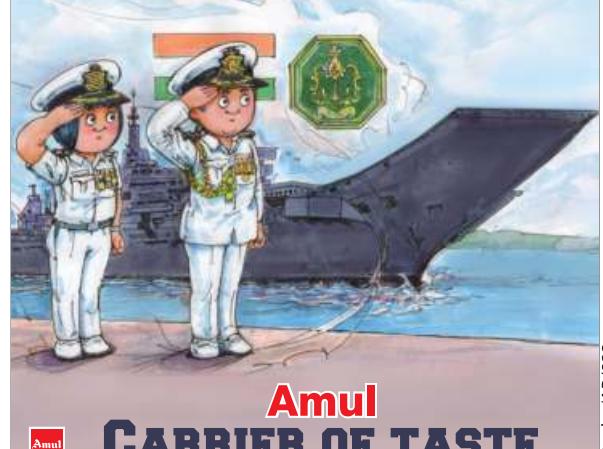
**New Zealand-A – 1st innings:**

**India-A – 1st innings:** Priyank Panchal c O'Donnell b Ravindra 47, Abhimanyu Easwaran b Rippon 132, Ruturaj Gaikwad st Fletcher b Ravindra 21, Rajat Patidar (batting) 170, Sarfaraz Khan c Fletcher b Duffy 36, Tilak Varma (batting) 82; Extras (b-2, lb-1, w-1); 4; Total (for four wkt., in 124 overs): 492.

**Fall of wickets:** 1-123, 2-157, 3-261, 4-325.

**New Zealand-A bowling:** Duffy 20-4-73-1, van Beek 19-2-72-0, Solia 15-1-60-0, Ravindra 29-3-96-2, Rippon 22-1-101-1, Walker 16-0-81-0, O'Donnell 3-0-6-0.

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daCunha/AB/333

## Zimbabwe stuns Australia

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
TOWNSVILLE

Zimbabwe stunned Australia by three wickets to claim a historic victory in the third ODI here on Saturday. Leg-spinner Ryan Burl (five for

10) played a starring role in dismissing the hosts for 141.

**The scores:** Australia 141 in 31 overs (David Warner 94; Ryan Burl 5/10) lost to Zimbabwe 142/7 in 39 overs. **Australia won three-match series 2-1.**

## Varun replaces Sarabjot for shooting junior Worlds

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) was compelled to replace the entry of Sarabjot Singh in junior air pistol team for the World Championship, with Varun Tomar, owing to age constraints.

As per the rules, a shooter has to be under-21 on the opening day of the championship, to be eligible to compete in the junior section.

Sarabjot will be 21 on September 20. The World Championship is scheduled from October 12 to 28 in Cairo, Egypt.

Quite interestingly, even

## Lara to take over as SRH head coach

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD

West Indies cricket legend Brian Lara will be head coach of Sunrisers Hyderabad for the 2023 Indian Premier League season.

This was formally announced by the team management on Saturday, a day after Tom Moody quit the post. For the record, Lara was SRH strategic advisor and batting coach last season.

Punjab Kings is set to sign World Cup-winning coach Trevor Bayliss as the head coach ahead of the 2023 IPL with expectation that the Australian guides them to the elusive title.

The 59-year-old most recently coached Sunrisers.

## Sehajpreet scores six for Dhudial Khalsa

### HOCKEY

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Sehajpreet Singh scored six goals while Krishna Mohan and Suraj Kumar Sah struck thrice each as Dhudial Khalsa Senior Secondary School,

Patiala thrashed Punjab Public School, Nabha 19-0 in a Pool B match of the 50th Nehru junior hockey tournament at the Shivaji Stadium here on Saturday.

Also winning big was Unacco School of Excellence, Imphal with a 20-0 victory over SNBP School of Institutes, Pune in Pool F for the latter's second loss in as many games in the competition.

**The results:**  
**Pool B:** Dhudial Khalsa SSS,

Patiala 19 (Sehajpreet Singh 6, Krishna Mohan 3, Suraj Kumar Sah 3, Sourabh Yadav 2, Dilpreet Singh 2, Harmanjot Singh, Harsh, Sonu) bt Punjab PS, Nabha 0.

**Pool D:** Sofia HA, Sonepat 14 (Almaaz Khan 3, Jeetpal 3, Kuldeep 2, Mohit 2, Manish Malik 2, Sahil Ruhal, Vinay) bt Modern, Delhi 0.

**Pool F:** Unacco, Imphal 20 (Th. Kingson Singh 6, Sushil Lisham 5, L. Kirun Meitei 3, Nelson Yumlembam 2, S. Samson Singh 2, Sh. Boris) bt SNBP, Pune 0.

**Pool C:** Krida Prabodhini, Pune 6 (Kartik Patare 3, Divyansh Vijkape 2, Suraj Shukla) bt Roobebud, Devgarh 3 (Vishnusinha Zala 2, Anjat Pargi).

**Pool E:** Mukherjee Seminary, Muzaffarpur 5 (Shobhit Raj Tiwary 3, Amrendra Kumar Singh, Nandali Sah) bt Sainik, Tilaiya 0.

## Fifth title of season for Yuki-Myneni

### INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU

Yuki Bhambri and Saketh Myneni won the €45,730 Rafa Nadal Open Challenger tennis in Manacor, Spain, on Saturday beating Marek Gengel and Lukas Rosol of the Czech Republic 6-2, 6-2 in the final.

It was the fifth Challenger title for the season for Yuki and Myneni as a pair. They had also won the ITF titles in Bhopal and Delhi. Myneni is set to break into the top-100 in doubles ranking.

**Other results:** \$25,000 ITF men, Setubal, Portugal; **Doubles: Semifinals:** Fabio Coelho & Jaime Faria (Por) w/o Elliott Benchetrit (Mar) & Sasikumar Mukund.

**\$15,000 ITF, Monastir: Men: Semifinals:** Constantin Bittoun Kouzmine (Fra) bt Rishab Agar-



**On a roll:** Yuki and Myneni with their winnings.

■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

kine (Per) & Teja Tirunelveli (US) 6-3, 6-1.  
**Doubles: Semifinals:** Anis Ghorbel & Aziz Ouakaa (Tun) bt Bharath Kumaran & Karan Singh 6-3, 6-3.  
**Women: Doubles: Final:** Honoka Kobayashi (Jpn) & Jennifer Luikhambt Anastasia Iamach-

## SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRL



General public is hereby informed that this Girl Namely: Ankita, D/o: Ram Sajiwali, R/o: 51-B, Amar Colony, Kimrdei Nagar, Narya, Delhi, Age: 17 Years, Height: 4 Feet 6 Inch, Complexion: Wheatish, Wearing: White Color Check Suit & Black Color Salwar and Dupata Bare Foot, has been Missing/Kidnapped since 27.08.2022 from her House, in the area of P.S. Nihal Vihar, New Delhi.

In this regard a FIR No. 964/2022, dated 27.08.2022 has been registered at P.S. Nihal Vihar, New Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this Girl but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this Girl kindly inform to the following.

E-Mail: cic@cbi.gov.in  
Website: http://cbi.nic.in  
Fax: 011-24368639  
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO  
P.S. NIHIL VIHAR, DELHI  
Ph. 011-25946700, 7065036129  
DP/453/OD/2022

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male Age : 55 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Wheatish, was found dead on 14.08.2022 at Gate No. 4, LNJP Hospital, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 22-A dated 14.08.2022 has been lodged at P.S. I.P. Estate, New Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased man may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO : P.S. I.P. Estate, New Delhi  
Ph.: 011-23370928, 23370999  
DP/604/CD/22

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that this Male Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: 60 Years, Sex: Male, Height: about 170cm, Complexion: Shallow, was found dead in unconscious condition H-Block, Safdarjung Hospital on dated 30.08.2022 at 05:30 pm. He was admitted at Safdarjung Hospital by Hospital Staff vide MLC No. 305523/22 and during the treatment doctor declared him dead.

In this regard a DD No. 113-A dated 30.08.2022 has been lodged at P.S. Safdarjung Hospital, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.

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

## UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY



General Public is hereby informed that one male Namely: Unknown S/o: Unknown, Address: Unknown was found dead at Auto Stand, Opposite Tea Stall & Jeba Barber Shop, Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi on 01.09.2022. in the area of P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi. The body has been preserved in Sabzi Mandi Hospital's Mortuary, Delhi. In this regard a case has been lodged vide DD No. 48A U/s 174 Cr.P.C. dated 01.09.2022 at P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi. The description of the dead male is as under:- Age: About 30-35 years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'9", Hair: Black, Face: Round, Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Thin, Wearing: Grey & pink colour checked shirt, grey colour lower and bare feet. If any one having any information about this dead male please inform undersigned.

SHO : P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-23961522, 8750871302  
DP/610/RLY/2022

## SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed that a boy (depicted in the photo), Namely: Amit Kumar S/o Ghurah Ram R/o B-114, Sushil Sharma Ka Makan, Gazipur Village, Delhi has been missing since 31.08.2022 from the area of P.S. Patparganj Industrial Area, Delhi. In this regard a case vide DD No. 47A dated 01.09.2022 has been lodged at Police Station Patparganj Industrial Area, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

Age: 19 Years, Height: 5'3", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Thin, Wearing: Dark Green Colour Shirt & Blue Colour Jeans and Chappal in feet.

Any person having any information/ Clue about this missing boy, may inform SHO, Patparganj Industrial Area, Delhi at E-mail id: cic@cbi.gov.in or website: http://cbi.nic.in

Phone:  
011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Patparganj Industrial Area, Delhi  
Fax No. 011-24368639  
SHO  
East Distt., Delhi  
Ph. No. 22157909, 22146491  
DP/600/ED/22

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male Age : 30-35years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Identification: A Tattoo on right hand, wearing blue colour checkdar shirt, green colour pant with handicapped rickshaw, was found dead on 30.08.2022 at Pillar No. 211 Opp. ISBT Anand Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 36-A dated 30.08.2022 has been lodged at P.S. Patparganj Industrial Area, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased man may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO : P.S. Patparganj Industrial Area, Delhi  
Ph.: 08750870626, 9871330137  
DP/618/ED/22

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**3**



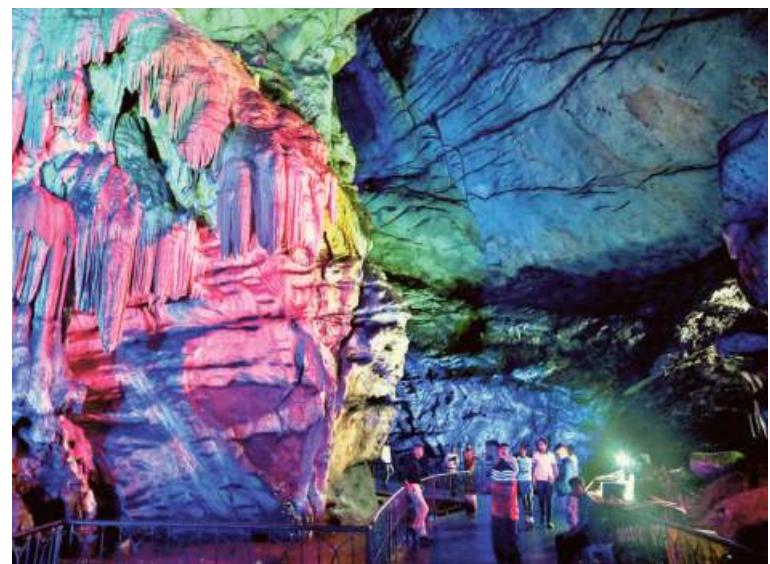
**Slow descent:** Tourists walk down the stairway to the Borra caves.



**Mineral chandelier:** Stalactite and stalagmite formations created by the flow of water through the limestone caves.



**One for the album:** The flow of tourists has improved now after the lull induced by the pandemic.



**Layers of yore:** Stalactites grow down from the cave ceiling, while stalagmites grow up from the cave floor.

# Going deep under

The Borra caves in Andhra Pradesh are a geotourist's delight

TEXT AND IMAGES BY K.R. DEEPAK

Located in the Anantagiri hills of the Eastern Ghats range in Alluri Sitharama Raju district in Andhra Pradesh, the Borra caves are among the deepest caves in India.

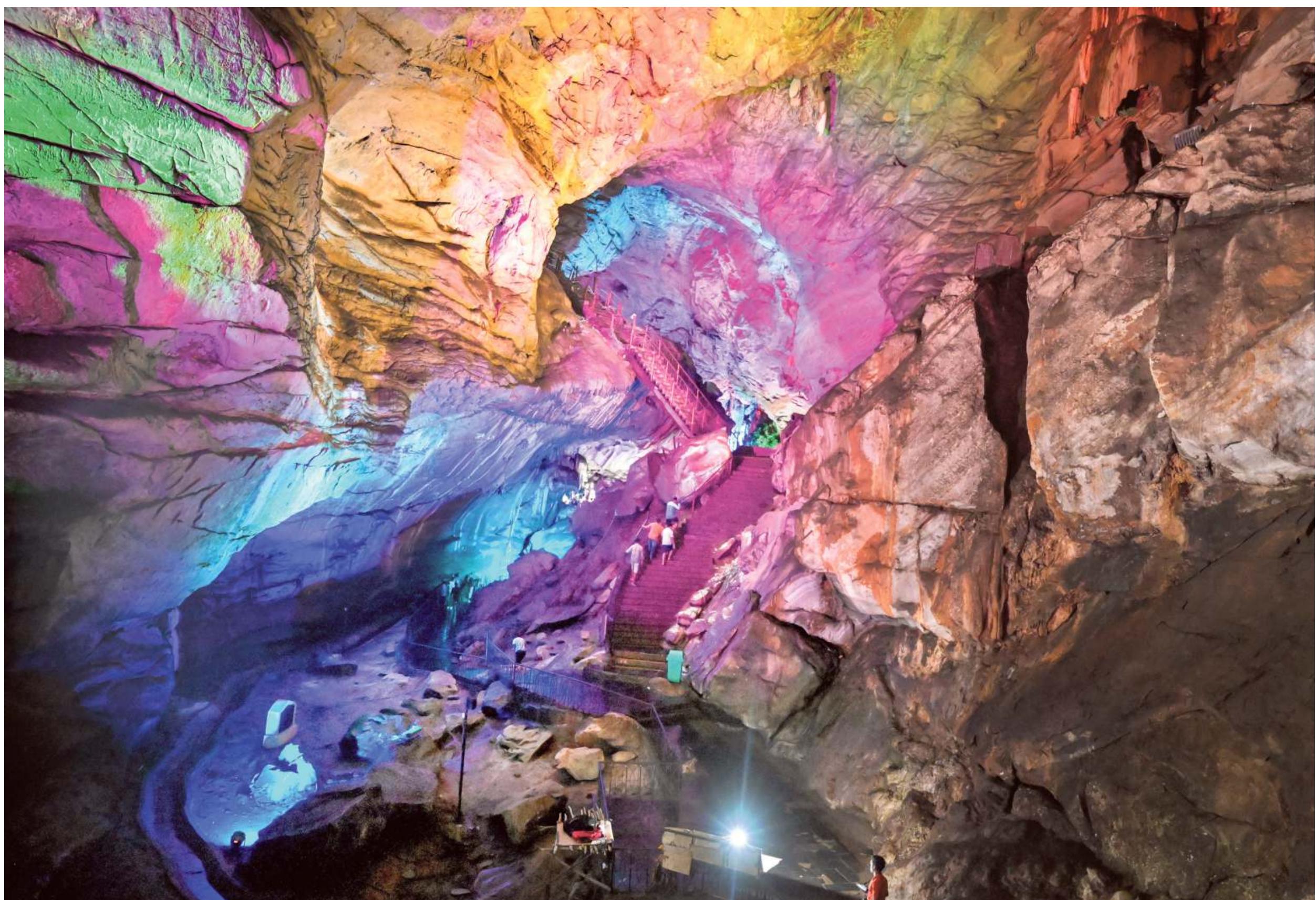
The caves created millions of years ago by water activity, mainly by the Gosthani river, are a rare geological formation. They are basically karstic limestone structures extending to a depth of 80 metres.

The ancient caves were discovered by the Geological Survey of India in 1807. Since then, extensive research has been done by different government departments and expert groups.

Due to the water activity cutting through rich limestone, many stalagmites and stalactites have formed over the years. According to researchers, the cave is highly valuable for anthropological research, as excavations carried out earlier unearthed stone tools of middle Paleolithic culture dating between 30,000 and 50,000 years ago. These findings confirm human habitation in that area.

One of the major tourist attractions of the region, the caves – illuminated with artificial lighting – draw visitors from across India, sometimes crossing 10,000 visitors a day during peak season.

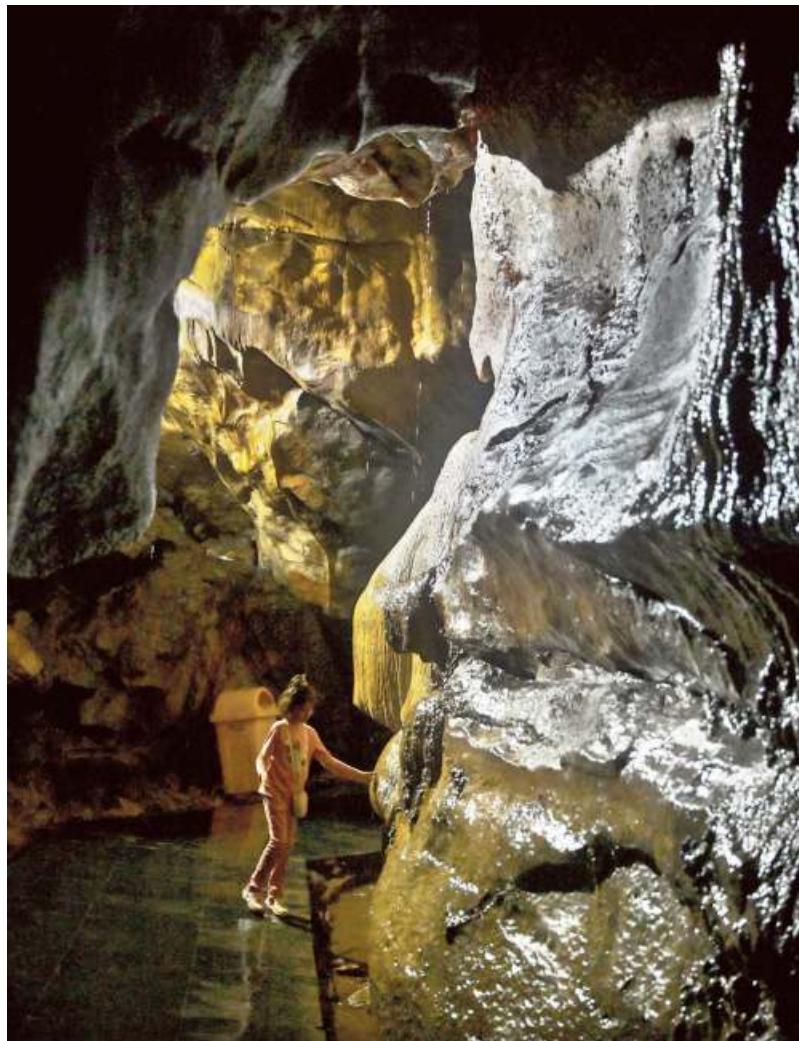
The caves are about 100 km from Visakhapatnam and the journey by road takes about three hours. The Borraguhalli station is the nearest railway station.



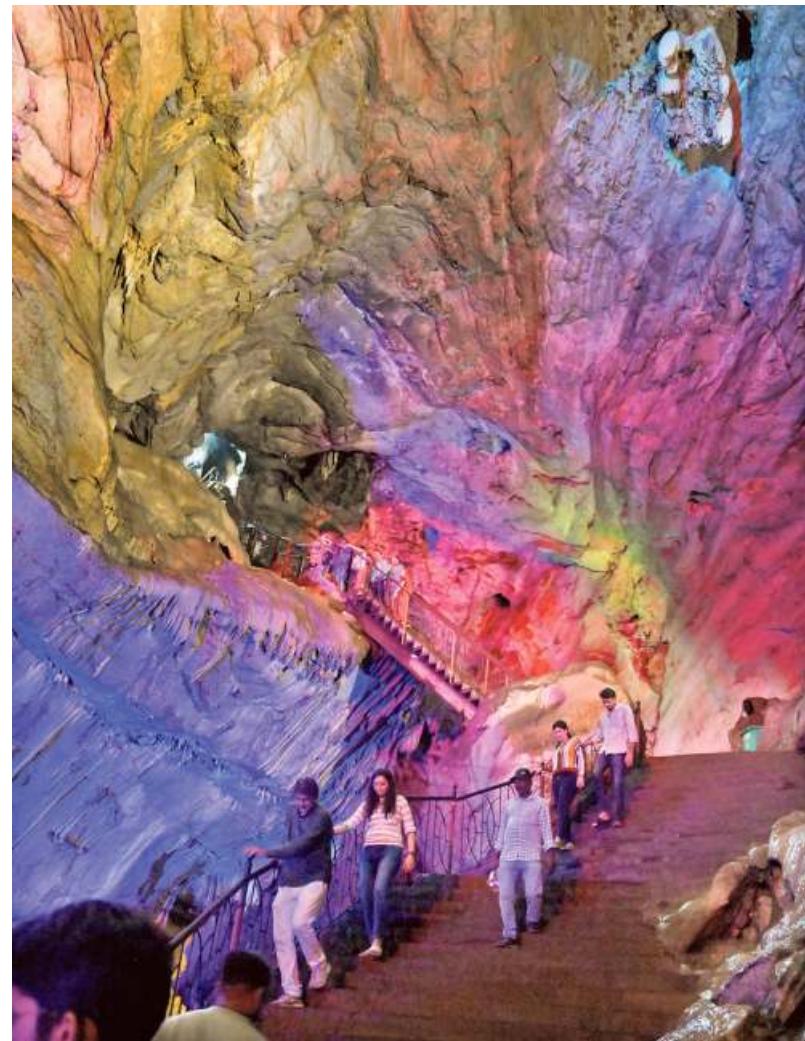
**In relief:** Rock formations illuminated with colourful lights.



**Neon hues:** Focus lights are used to brighten the dark spaces.



**Tactile experience:** A girl feels the texture of the cave wall.



**Day trip:** The caves are open to visit from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



**Steep climb:** Nearly 400 steps go down the caves.



**Picking up trivia:** Visitors can learn more information from the tourist guides at the caves.



**Underground expedition:** While the stairs may be a bit tough for senior citizens, there are points along the way to take rest.