

VISION IAS
INSPIRING INNOVATION
www.visionias.in 8468022022

Heartiest Congratulations
to all candidates selected in CSE 2021

**8 IN TOP 10 | 71 IN TOP 100
SELECTIONS IN CSE 2021**

from various programs of VISION IAS

3 AIR GAMINI SINGLA ALL INDIA TEST SERIES	4 AIR AISHWARYA VERMA LAKSHYA, ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	5 AIR UTKARSH DWIVEDI FOUNDATION COURSE CLASSROOM	6 AIR YAKSH CHAUDHARY ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	7 AIR SAMYAK S JAIN ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	8 AIR ISHITA RATHI ALL INDIA TEST SERIES	9 AIR PREETAM KUMAR ALL INDIA TEST SERIES					
... 10 to 20 ...											
12 AIR VASHNATH SHOBHAN ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAS	13 AIR PRYAMAVADA ASHOK BHADRALAKHAN ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAS	14 AIR ABINAV JAIN ALL INDIA TEST SERIES	16 AIR ANSHU DIXIT LAKSHYA, ALL INDIA TEST INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAS	18 AIR RAUTKUMAR GHATE ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS	19 AIR DIKSHA JAIN ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS	20 AIR ARPEET CHAMPAAN ALL INDIA TEST SERIES	21 AIR DILIP KUMAR AGARWAL ALL INDIA TEST SERIES	23 AIR ASHISH ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAS	25 AIR SHRUTI RAJENDRA PRASAD ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAS	26 AIR UTSAV DUBEY ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	
... 21 to 40 ...											
27 AIR SAKSHAM GOEL ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAS	28 AIR BHAVSHYA INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	29 AIR NAMAN GOYAL LAKSHYA, ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS, FOUNDATION COURSE	30 AIR NAMANDEEP ANAY NITIN ALL INDIA TEST SERIES	32 AIR NAVNEET SINGH LAKSHYA, ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS, FOUNDATION COURSE	33 AIR JASPREND SINGH ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	34 AIR SHASHWAT SANGWAN ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	35 AIR KARTKEYA JASWAL ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	37 AIR V SANJANA SIMHA INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	39 AIR VISHAL DHAKAD ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS	40 AIR KUSHAL JAIN ALL INDIA TEST SERIES	41 AIR SONALI DEV ALL INDIA TEST SERIES
... 41 to 60 ...											
44 AIR ANJALI SHROTHIYA LAKSHYA, ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS, PT 365, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	45 AIR SHRADHA SHUKLA ABHYAS	47 AIR NAMAN KUMAR SINGLA ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAS	49 AIR DIVYANSH SINGH ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS	51 AIR AKSHAY PILLAY ABHYAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	52 AIR ANKUR DAS ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS	53 AIR ARPIPT SINGHAL ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS	54 AIR ARPIPT GUPTA ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	56 AIR KEERANMAYI KOPPUSSETTI ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	60 AIR SHRADHAA GOME LAKSHYA, FOUNDATION COURSE CLASSROOM, ABHYAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	61 AIR MOHIT KASHIYA ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, MAINS 365	
... 61 to 80 ...											
63 AIR KARTHIK PANGRAH ALL INDIA TEST SERIES	64 AIR KANKA ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	65 AIR PULKIT ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	66 AIR AKHIL V MENON ABHYAS	67 AIR ANAND MALHOTRA ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	68 AIR ANENDYA RAJASSHIRE ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	69 AIR GADDAM SUDEEKH KUMAR REDDY ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	70 AIR NARAYAN AMIT MALEMPATI ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	71 AIR SHREYA SHREE ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	72 AIR PARTH GUPTA ALL INDIA TEST SERIES	73 AIR NAMRATA CHOUBEY ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	
... 81 to 100 ...											
74 AIR AYUSH VENKAT VATS ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	75 AIR SURBHI SINGLA ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	76 AIR CHARU ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	77 AIR ASHUTOSH KUMAR LUCKNOW FOUNDATION COURSE, ABHYAS, ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	78 AIR SURBHI GOVAL ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	79 AIR SAMPADA TRIVEDI ALL INDIA TEST SERIES	80 AIR NIHIL MAHAJAN ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	81 AIR ISHU AGRAWAL LAKSHYA, FOUNDATION COURSE CLASSROOM	82 AIR SHABILJA ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	83 AIR GULAWAL JAGGA ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	84 AIR ANJIT KUMAR CHOUKSEY ALL INDIA TEST SERIES	
... 84 to 100 ...											
91 AIR PRAGYA JAT ALL INDIA TEST SERIES	93 AIR DEEPESH KUMARI ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	94 AIR INDRASHIS DATTA LUCKNOW, ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS	96 AIR MINI SHUKLA ALL INDIA TEST SERIES	97 AIR BHABHARE SHUBHAM ASHOK ALL INDIA TEST SERIES	98 AIR ANIKET DNYANESHWAR HIRDE ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE	99 AIR THARUN PATNAIK MADALA ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAS	100 AIR KRAN P B ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, MAINS ADVANCE COURSE	YOU CAN BE NEXT	 SCAN THE QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD TOPPERS ANSWER BOOKLET		

CIVIL SERVICES EXAMINATION 2020

2 AIR
ANKITA AGARWAL
ABHYAS

1 AIR
SHUBHAM KUMAR
(FOUNDATION COURSE CLASSROOM)

**Foundation Course
GENERAL STUDIES
PRELIMS cum MAINS 2023**

पाठ्यक्रम कोर्स सामान्य अध्ययन 2023

प्रारंभिक, मुख्य परीक्षा और निवांच के लिए महत्वपूर्ण सभी टॉपिक का विस्तृत कवरेज

DELI: 24 जूल, 1 PM | 5 अगस्त, 9 AM **LUCKNOW: 7 जुलाई, 9 AM** **JAIPUR: 22 जूल, 4 PM**

DELI: 17 जुल, 5 PM | 7 जुल, 1 PM | 1 जुल, 1 PM
29 जूल, 9 AM | 22 जूल, 1 PM | 15 जूल, 9 AM

LUCKNOW: 25th June **CHANDIGARH: 21st June** **JAIPIUR: 22nd June**

HYDERABAD: 13th June **AHMEDABAD: 18th June** **PUNE: 20th June**

ETHICS CASE STUDIES CLASSES
Case studies covers all the exclusive topics, contemporary and current issues as well as previous Year UPSC Paper Case studies

ESSAY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM
Learn the art of Essay writing by understanding how to build and interlink different concepts

ALL INDIA TEST SERIES
• Sociology • PS & IR • Essay
• Philosophy 26th June 26th June

ADVANCED COURSE GS MAINS
Targeted towards those students who are aware of the basics but want to improve their understanding of complex topics, inter-linkages among them, and analytical ability to tackle the problems posed by the Mains examination.

**DELI: HEAD OFFICE: Apsara Arcade Karol Bagh
| CONTACT: 8468022022, 9019066066**

JAIPUR | GUWAHATI | HYDERABAD | AHMEDABAD | LUCKNOW | CHANDIGARH | PUNE

The Indian Express homepage features a prominent 'EXPRESS AUDIO' section with an investigation titled 'Deleting history from the textbooks of future'. Other sections include 'PRIDE MONTH 2022: A LEXICON OF 22 WORDS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY', 'ENTERTAINMENT' (featuring Samrat Prithviraj), and 'TECHNOLOGY' (considering older Android flagships). The top navigation bar includes links for 'VISUAL STORIES', 'DAILY BRIEFING', 'PODCASTS', 'CUSTOMIZABLE NEWS EXPERIENCE', and a download link for the app.

FROM PAGE ONE

BRICS summit

Earlier, Xi, who was chairing the summit, said: "We must abandon Cold War mentality and bloc confrontation, and oppose unilateral sanctions and the abuse of sanctions. And it's important for the world to recognize that forging a community with a shared future, like a big family, is much better than building exclusive circles."

The reference to "exclusive circles" is also an oft-used term by China for groupings like the Quad.

In his remarks, Putin said BRICS "can find solutions to the crisis situation" in the global economy because of its "cooperative and self-reliant" nature. By contrast, nations that have been "turning to financial mechanisms" – a clear reference to the West's sanctions.

"I am convinced that BRICS leadership is relevant in order to design a truly positive, unifying force to form a multipolar system based on the universal rules of international law and the key principles of the UN Charter," Putin said.

Modi did not respond to or share these concerns in his statement.

While the Prime Minister's statement was audible to the domestic audience, there was a technical glitch that prevented the BRICS leaders from hearing his remarks. Xu urged Modi to repeat the speech again, which he did, during the closing remarks.

Modi said BRICS initiatives, including establishment of a vaccine R&D centre, coordination between Customs departments, establishment of shared satellite constellation and mutual recognition of Pharma products, have direct benefits for people.

He also spoke on the joint statement issued by the BRICS summit, sports, and interaction between civil society organisations and think tanks, have strengthened people-to-people contact.

Brazil's Jair Bolsonaro and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa also attended the virtual summit.

In the joint statement, the leaders said: "We have discussed the situation in Ukraine and decided to support the peace process as expressed at the appropriate fora, namely the UNSC and UNGA. We support talk between Russia and Ukraine. We have also discussed our concerns over the humanitarian situation in and around Ukraine and expressed our support efforts of the UN Secretary-General, UN Agencies and ICRC to provide humanitarian assistance."

The statement, or declaration, also made an important point in the context of the war in Ukraine as well as the border stand-off between India and China. "We commit to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries," it said.

In the statement, the leaders emphasised that territory should "not be used to threaten, attack, or impose or to shelter or train terrorists, or to plan to finance terrorist acts."

They stressed on the need for all sides to encourage Afghan authorities to achieve national reconciliation through dialogue and establish an inclusive and representative political structure.

On terrorism, the statement said: "We are committed to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the cross-border movement of terrorists, and terrorism financing networks and safe havens. We reiterate that terrorism should not be associated with any religion, nationality, culture or ethnic group."

Sports Ministry sources said the ministers explored areas of

Modi's participation at the 14th summit took place after New Delhi opted for a virtual summit instead of an in-person event in China. The decision was taken in view of the strained bilateral ties over the two-year border stand-off in eastern Ladakh.

China is hosting the summit in its capacity as the chair of BRICS this year. Beijing had made an outreach to revive bilateral dialogue and set the stage for the BRICS summit in China, with Foreign minister and State Councillor Wang Yi coming to New Delhi in an unannounced visit on March 24.

Beijing had proposed a meeting of all party group leaders in a dialogue, starting with possible high-level visits from both sides. China's ultimate and clear objective was to host Modi for the in-person summit. But that number did not change.

The last face-to-face meeting between Modi and Xi was in Brazil early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

Shah. While other MLAs were in the Shinde camp in Guwahati in BJP-ruled Assam. But that number touched 37 - Shinde needed the support of 37 of the 55 Sena MLAs to form a break-away group and avoid the anti-defection law - when five more Sena MLAs switched sides and joined the Shinde faction on Friday.

While other MLAs - Deepak Kesarkar, Sada Sarvankar, Ashish Fawwal - joined Shinde early Thursday morning, another two - Dada Bhuse and Nitin

VACCINATIONS IN LAST 24 HOURS		DELHI TOTAL CASES		Total		NODA	
PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL: 265		HOSPITAL BEDS 9,496		9,233		June 22 June 23	
OXYGEN SUPPORT	VENTILATOR SUPPORT	ICU BEDS	2,136	2,053	Cases 168 N/A	Deaths 0 N/A	
49	21	June 22	928	1,466	3	13,099	GURGAON
		June 23	1,934	1,233	0	23,879	Cases 278 497
		Total	5,757	18,95,397	26,242	3,89,43,157	Deaths 0 0

*Total active cases in Delhi

WHAT VOTERS WANT: BETTER WATER SUPPLY, GOOD ROADS

Rajinder Nagar votes after hectic campaign

ABHINAV RAJPUT &
ABHINAYA HARGOVIND
NEW DELHI, JUNE 23

WATER SUPPLY issues and sub-standard road infrastructure were issues rearing in the minds of Rajinder Nagar residents who turned up to vote in the bypoll on Thursday.

Several people complained that the water situation in the area has not improved despite having Raghav Chadha, who was the水供應 minister of Delhi Jal Board till March, as the MLA. "We want a local candidate so that we can air our grievances to him. We saw how the last MLA remained absent from the constituency most of the time," said Aarti Arora, a resident of Old Rajinder Nagar.

For Sushma Jaidka, also from Old Rajinder Nagar, poor roads and irregular water supply were the main issues.

Meena, another resident who has been living in the area for 40 years, echoed Sushma's demands: "The past 15-20 days, water supply has been a major problem. Whoever wins should be able to do some good work for us and ensure regular water supply and electricity."

Vishwanath, a resident of Indrapuri, said, "There is a water supply issue, but people think it is better to give the party in power another opportunity as they have more resources at their disposal."

At Naraina village, Kuldeep Tarwani said water and sewerage issues and a closed footbridge were major problems. "There are several lanes where water doesn't come at all," he said.

In the Jhuggi clusters, there was overwhelming support for the AAP. Nabila Hussain, who lives in a jhuggi, said, "The constituency, the contest was mainly between AAP

AIIMS director Guleria's term extended again

Dr Ranveer Guleria

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 23

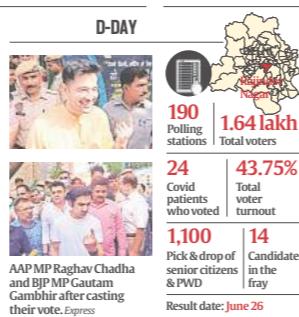
WITH THE search for a new director for the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) New Delhi still ongoing, the term of the present director Dr Ranveer Guleria has been extended for another three months, according to an internal office memorandum from the hospital's deputy director (administration).

This is the second time his tenure has been extended, with his original five-year term ending on March 28 this year.

"The president, AIIMS, New Delhi is pleased to further extend his tenure as director... by three months or by the time new director is appointed, whichever is earlier," the memorandum said. The current extension comes as the appointment committee of the hospital called the health ministry to send "a wider panel of names" for the position.

At least 32 senior doctors, including 12 from within the institute, had applied for the post of AIIMS director. Three doctors from within the institute were shortlisted — director of AIIMS trauma centre and head of the department of orthopaedics Dr Rajesh Mallik, professor of gynaecotroponomy and executive director of Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) Dr Pramod Garg, and head of the department of endocrinology Dr Nikhil Tandon.

Dr Guleria took over as director of AIIMS-New Delhi in March 2017. A pulmonologist by training, he is the only director of the institute and government committees through the pandemic. He is the only director to have completed the five-year term since the limit was introduced in 2007 amidst a tussle between the then health minister Dr Anbumani Ramadoss and the AIIMS director Dr Venugopal.



and BJP. The Congress was largely absent from their polling stations, while the AAP had a presence in 13 auxiliary ones, set up at 21 locations, equipped with ramps, sign language, braille, creches for mothers if they come to vote with their children etc.

Results will be declared on June 26.

police added, saying that he also hit his head against the wall. His family claimed he has been "depressed" and "unstable" since his father's death last month. Police said the accused has been "normal" and there are no criminal charges against him on his mental health.

Bhati entered the station at 12.50 pm Wednesday. Police said he was recording a video when a policeman asked him to stop and started questioning him. Bhati allegedly stabbed two policemen on the third floor and four more personnel on the stairs and the ground floor, said police. Later, he allegedly put a knife to his throat and threatened to kill himself.

Police said he has been booked under IPC sections 307 (attempt to murder), 183 (resistance to the taking of property by the lawful authority of a public servant), 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 353 (assault to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) and 309 (attempt to commit suicide).

The accused, Bharat Bhati, revealed he had some grievances. He told police he went to meet a duty officer to complain about his internet service provider but found someone else sitting with the of-

ficer and got upset, police added.

His family claimed he has been "depressed" and "unstable" since his father's death last month. Police said the accused has been "normal" and there are no criminal charges against him on his mental health.

Bhati entered the station at 12.50 pm Wednesday. Police said he was recording a video when a policeman asked him to stop and started questioning him. Bhati allegedly stabbed two policemen on the third floor and four more personnel on the stairs and the ground floor, said police. Later, he allegedly put a knife to his throat and threatened to kill himself.

Police said he has been booked under IPC sections 307 (attempt to murder), 183 (resistance to the taking of property by the lawful authority of a public servant), 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 353 (assault to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) and 309 (attempt to commit suicide).

The accused, Bharat Bhati, revealed he had some grievances. He told police he went to meet a duty officer to complain about his internet service provider but found someone else sitting with the of-

ficer and got upset, police added.

His family claimed he has been "depressed" and "unstable" since his father's death last month. Police said the accused has been "normal" and there are no criminal charges against him on his mental health.

Bhati entered the station at 12.50 pm Wednesday. Police said he was recording a video when a policeman asked him to stop and started questioning him. Bhati allegedly stabbed two policemen on the third floor and four more personnel on the stairs and the ground floor, said police. Later, he allegedly put a knife to his throat and threatened to kill himself.

Police said he has been booked under IPC sections 307 (attempt to murder), 183 (resistance to the taking of property by the lawful authority of a public servant), 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 353 (assault to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) and 309 (attempt to commit suicide).

The accused, Bharat Bhati, revealed he had some grievances. He told police he went to meet a duty officer to complain about his internet service provider but found someone else sitting with the of-

ficer and got upset, police added.

His family claimed he has been "depressed" and "unstable" since his father's death last month. Police said the accused has been "normal" and there are no criminal charges against him on his mental health.

Bhati entered the station at 12.50 pm Wednesday. Police said he was recording a video when a policeman asked him to stop and started questioning him. Bhati allegedly stabbed two policemen on the third floor and four more personnel on the stairs and the ground floor, said police. Later, he allegedly put a knife to his throat and threatened to kill himself.

Police said he has been booked under IPC sections 307 (attempt to murder), 183 (resistance to the taking of property by the lawful authority of a public servant), 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 353 (assault to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) and 309 (attempt to commit suicide).

The accused, Bharat Bhati, revealed he had some grievances. He told police he went to meet a duty officer to complain about his internet service provider but found someone else sitting with the of-

ficer and got upset, police added.

His family claimed he has been "depressed" and "unstable" since his father's death last month. Police said the accused has been "normal" and there are no criminal charges against him on his mental health.

Bhati entered the station at 12.50 pm Wednesday. Police said he was recording a video when a policeman asked him to stop and started questioning him. Bhati allegedly stabbed two policemen on the third floor and four more personnel on the stairs and the ground floor, said police. Later, he allegedly put a knife to his throat and threatened to kill himself.

Police said he has been booked under IPC sections 307 (attempt to murder), 183 (resistance to the taking of property by the lawful authority of a public servant), 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 353 (assault to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) and 309 (attempt to commit suicide).

The accused, Bharat Bhati, revealed he had some grievances. He told police he went to meet a duty officer to complain about his internet service provider but found someone else sitting with the of-

ficer and got upset, police added.

His family claimed he has been "depressed" and "unstable" since his father's death last month. Police said the accused has been "normal" and there are no criminal charges against him on his mental health.

Bhati entered the station at 12.50 pm Wednesday. Police said he was recording a video when a policeman asked him to stop and started questioning him. Bhati allegedly stabbed two policemen on the third floor and four more personnel on the stairs and the ground floor, said police. Later, he allegedly put a knife to his throat and threatened to kill himself.

Police said he has been booked under IPC sections 307 (attempt to murder), 183 (resistance to the taking of property by the lawful authority of a public servant), 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 353 (assault to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) and 309 (attempt to commit suicide).

The accused, Bharat Bhati, revealed he had some grievances. He told police he went to meet a duty officer to complain about his internet service provider but found someone else sitting with the of-

ficer and got upset, police added.

His family claimed he has been "depressed" and "unstable" since his father's death last month. Police said the accused has been "normal" and there are no criminal charges against him on his mental health.

Bhati entered the station at 12.50 pm Wednesday. Police said he was recording a video when a policeman asked him to stop and started questioning him. Bhati allegedly stabbed two policemen on the third floor and four more personnel on the stairs and the ground floor, said police. Later, he allegedly put a knife to his throat and threatened to kill himself.

Police said he has been booked under IPC sections 307 (attempt to murder), 183 (resistance to the taking of property by the lawful authority of a public servant), 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 353 (assault to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) and 309 (attempt to commit suicide).

The accused, Bharat Bhati, revealed he had some grievances. He told police he went to meet a duty officer to complain about his internet service provider but found someone else sitting with the of-

ficer and got upset, police added.

His family claimed he has been "depressed" and "unstable" since his father's death last month. Police said the accused has been "normal" and there are no criminal charges against him on his mental health.

Bhati entered the station at 12.50 pm Wednesday. Police said he was recording a video when a policeman asked him to stop and started questioning him. Bhati allegedly stabbed two policemen on the third floor and four more personnel on the stairs and the ground floor, said police. Later, he allegedly put a knife to his throat and threatened to kill himself.

Police said he has been booked under IPC sections 307 (attempt to murder), 183 (resistance to the taking of property by the lawful authority of a public servant), 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 353 (assault to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) and 309 (attempt to commit suicide).

The accused, Bharat Bhati, revealed he had some grievances. He told police he went to meet a duty officer to complain about his internet service provider but found someone else sitting with the of-

ficer and got upset, police added.

His family claimed he has been "depressed" and "unstable" since his father's death last month. Police said the accused has been "normal" and there are no criminal charges against him on his mental health.

Bhati entered the station at 12.50 pm Wednesday. Police said he was recording a video when a policeman asked him to stop and started questioning him. Bhati allegedly stabbed two policemen on the third floor and four more personnel on the stairs and the ground floor, said police. Later, he allegedly put a knife to his throat and threatened to kill himself.

Police said he has been booked under IPC sections 307 (attempt to murder), 183 (resistance to the taking of property by the lawful authority of a public servant), 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 353 (assault to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) and 309 (attempt to commit suicide).

The accused, Bharat Bhati, revealed he had some grievances. He told police he went to meet a duty officer to complain about his internet service provider but found someone else sitting with the of-

ficer and got upset, police added.

His family claimed he has been "depressed" and "unstable" since his father's death last month. Police said the accused has been "normal" and there are no criminal charges against him on his mental health.

Bhati entered the station at 12.50 pm Wednesday. Police said he was recording a video when a policeman asked him to stop and started questioning him. Bhati allegedly stabbed two policemen on the third floor and four more personnel on the stairs and the ground floor, said police. Later, he allegedly put a knife to his throat and threatened to kill himself.

Police said he has been booked under IPC sections 307 (attempt to murder), 183 (resistance to the taking of property by the lawful authority of a public servant), 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 353 (assault to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) and 309 (attempt to commit suicide).

The accused, Bharat Bhati, revealed he had some grievances. He told police he went to meet a duty officer to complain about his internet service provider but found someone else sitting with the of-

ficer and got upset, police added.

His family claimed he has been "depressed" and "unstable" since his father's death last month. Police said the accused has been "normal" and there are no criminal charges against him on his mental health.

Bhati entered the station at 12.50 pm Wednesday. Police said he was recording a video when a policeman asked him to stop and started questioning him. Bhati allegedly stabbed two policemen on the third floor and four more personnel on the stairs and the ground floor, said police. Later, he allegedly put a knife to his throat and threatened to kill himself.

Police said he has been booked under IPC sections 307 (attempt to murder), 183 (resistance to the taking of property by the lawful authority of a public servant), 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 353 (assault to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) and 309 (attempt to commit suicide).

The accused, Bharat Bhati, revealed he had some grievances. He told police he went to meet a duty officer to complain about his internet service provider but found someone else sitting with the of-

ficer and got upset, police added.

His family claimed he has been "depressed" and "unstable" since his father's death last month. Police said the accused has been "normal" and there are no criminal charges against him on his mental health.

Bhati entered the station at 12.50 pm Wednesday. Police said he was recording a video when a policeman asked him to stop and started questioning him. Bhati allegedly stabbed two policemen on the third floor and four more personnel on the stairs and the ground floor, said police. Later, he allegedly put a knife to his throat and threatened to kill himself.

Police said he has been booked under IPC sections 307 (attempt to murder),

In case of 'mistaken identity', 32-year-old Mundka fire victim cremated by another family: 'We waited so long... don't even know who to blame'

ARNAV CHANDRASEKHAR
NEW DELHI, JUNE 23

SWEETY'S FAMILY had been waiting more than a month for her body. The 32-year-old was among 27 people who were killed in a fire at a commercial building in Mundka in May, which left several bodies charred beyond recognition and required DNA tests to identify them. On Thursday, they were grief-stricken to learn that she had already been cremated — by an-

other victim's family who were mistakenly given her body.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Sweety's brother-in-law Ratan Singh said they thought the Ramu body was among those yet to be identified. "What is there to be done now? Somebody else has cremated her. We waited so long to realise that there is no body anymore... We do not even know who to blame... The authorities should take some responsibility; they were conducting the DNA tests and could have checked to see if the correct bodies were given," he said.

The family of victim Ranju Devi (32), who had been cremated, said they thought the Ramu body was among those yet to be identified. "We had already cremated the body thinking that it was Ramu's. Then we received a call from police telling us that we must have taken the wrong body, and that Ranju was still in the mortuary."

"Dev's body was handed over to them on Friday after DNA test results confirmed her identity. "This has been very hard for our

five children. We have taken her body to the ghat. Once the proper ceremony is over, we will cremate her finally," said Devi's son, who works as a labourer.

On the mix-up, DCP (Outer) Sameer Sharma said: "The FSL report has come which states that the body in the mortuary is of Ranju Devi. It is a case of mistaken identity."

According to police, after the fire on May 13, eight bodies were identified based on facial features, jewellery and clothes and handed over to the families. One

of them was tagged as Devi's. Samples were later collected of all bodies — including even those unidentified — to re-examine and make sure there was no misidentification.

DCP Sharma said: "While DNA samples of seven families matched, Ranju's sample didn't match with that of her son. When asked Ranju's parents and other family members to give blood samples..."

On June 20, police said DNA reports were awaited for six bodies. "The families claimed them

as the bodies of victims Geeta, Monika, Nisha, Parveen, Soni and Sunita, who had taken blood samples of their families on June 16," said the DCP.

On Thursday, police found that one of the six bodies was Ranju's. Police said Sweety and Ranju were of the same age and had identical jewellery and clothes on them. They worked as helpers at the building.

As of now, police said reports of two of the 27 bodies are pending and the others have been identified.



Sweety and (right) Ranju Devi were among 27 killed in the fire that broke out at the Mundka building in May

10-year-old boy dies trying to recreate stunt he saw online

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 23

A 10-YEAR-OLD boy died while he was allegedly trying to perform a stunt with a skipping rope at his home in Northeast Delhi on Wednesday. Police said the boy had watched a video of the act, and was trying to copy it when he fell and got his neck totally tangled around his neck and died of suffocation.

The incident took place in the Karter Nagar area around 7 pm. Police believe the stunt involved

tying the rope around the neck. A senior police officer said, "The boy's family told us he would watch a lot of stunt videos and he liked to play around. He was trying to make one of the stunts with the rope. It got wrapped around his neck and it suffocated him. He couldn't remove it and collapsed."

The boy's mother alerted neighbours and rushed him to a hospital where he was declared dead on arrival. The hospital informed police. Police said the boy and the mother were in different rooms at the time of the incident. The mother told police

her son had watched a video on her phone and wanted to try it. She found him lying on the ground later, they added.

"We conducted an enquiry and found it to be a case of accidental death. There's no foul play. No case has been registered and inquest proceedings under CrPC section 174 (unnatural death) have been initiated," added the police.

The boy is survived by his parents and a five-year-old brother. His father works at an electronics firm in Delhi while the mother is a homemaker.

Police said the two were seen without helmets on a scooter on Tuesday at 5.30 pm. They tried

to evade police when they were stopped to arrest him.

They were apprehended after police blocked their path with their vehicle.

After police frisked the two,

a large dagger or knife was found in the boy's pocket. When the boy was searched, a country-made pistol along with two live cartridges were found. Police

said a case was subsequently registered under section 25 (possession of arms/ammunition) of the Arms Act.

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scording. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scoring. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scoring. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scoring. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scoring. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scoring. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scoring. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

scoring. They added that raids are on to arrest him.

Harsha Vardhan, DCP (Dwarka), said: "The man had completed a one-year medical technician course after Class 12. Now he makes vlogs, videos and posts them on YouTube. As he needed to cross 1 million views to earn income on videos, he purchased weapons to make reels and vlogs. His previous channel was deleted by YouTube. He had started a new channel and since he did not have any viewers, he thought that showing off these weapons would attract them."

Police said after questioning, the weapon supplier was identified and was found to be ab-

</div



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



NEW CWC PICKS

A MONTH after the Congress at its Udaipur shivir decided to give 50 cent representation to those aged below 50 at all levels, including the CWC, party chief Sonia Gandhi Thursday induced four new members into the CWC but age clearly was not a constraint. The new members came from the central office and inner-party accommodation. Former Rajya Sabha MP T Subbarao Reddy who was made a permanent invitee is 79. He was rewarded for his loyalty. His induction is also aimed at sending a message to the influential Reddy community. Kumari Selja, who was made a CWC member, is close to Sonia. She was recently replaced as Haryana Congress chief with a close associate of Bhupinder Singh. A former Rajya Sabha MP, she also did not get renominated. Aparajita Lalla, who was made a special invitee is the only one under 50. She is 50. The 42-year-old will be soon reinstated since she was asked to sign up Congress chief after the Assembly election loss. Abhishek Singhvi, a Rajya Sabha MP and noted lawyer, is the party's go to man for everything legal. With Sonia and Rahul Gandhi facing ED heat in the National Herald case, his entry into the CWC shows the party's increasing reliance on him.

IN TRANSIT

ACC GENERAL secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's presence at the Mumbai airport amid the unfolding political drama in Maharashtra sparked a buzz on Thursday. But it turned out that she was in transit on her way to the Maldives. Her daughter turns 20 and she is completing her diving instructor's course in the Maldives. Priyanka is expected to return by the end of this month.

HOPE FLOATS

IN THE backdrop of two key appointments — of former Punjab DGP Dolan Gurjar as the new MIA chief and BS Swaraj as Special Secretary in the Home Ministry, hopes have been rekindled for possible new chiefs at the Intelligence Bureau and the Research and Analysis Wing. With the government dithering on police appointments — the NIA was without a regular chief for over a year — it was speculated that the Centre may go for further extension of incumbents Arvind Kumar and Samant Goel in the two agencies, respectively. The extended tenure of both officers is coming to an end on June 30. Even the extended tenure of Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla is going to end on August 31.

Land allotment for party office: HC notice to KCR

SEENIVAS JANYALA



THE TELANGANA High Court Thursday issued notices to Chief Minister and president of Telangana Rashtra Samiti K Chandrashekhar Rao, general secretary M Srinivas Reddy, Chief Secretary, Chief Commissioner of Land Revenue, after a writ petition challenged the allotment of land to the TRS to construct party offices.

A petition was filed asking why the state government had allotted to the TRS a 4,935 sq yard plot in Banjara Hills for construction of TRS Hyderabad district office. This plot was allotted on May 11 through a government order, where Rs 100 per sq yard to parties to construct offices in the state, adding they would also be exempted from paying property tax in this regard.

The petition, filed by Chidambaram Prabhakar, counsel for the petitioner, said the notices had also been issued to Principal

Drop veil, minister tells sarpanch in Gujarat's Mehsana

RITU SHARMA



THE SARBI veil covered her face as Meenaba Zala, the first elected woman sarpanch of Ranjet village in North Gujarat's Mehsana district, stood on stage. She was tasked to hand over a souvenirs — a framed photo of Mahatma Gandhi, the deity after which the taluka Becharaji gets its name — to state Education Minister Jitu Vaghani.

Meenaba got on to the stage from a bunch of women, all in similar veils, from her village who were sitting on the floor on one side while the men from the village sat on plastic chairs. What happened next was unprecedented.

To the surprise of Meenaba and the scores of villagers at the event, the minister insisted that she removed her veil before he accepted the souvenir as part of his felicitation.

"If the elders allow, I would



request Meenaba to come out of this riwaaz (tradition). "Vaghani said in front of villagers who had gathered at the school for the launch of the annual Shala Prashikshan (children's education) and Kanya Kelavani (bringing up of girls)—the state government initiatives to ensure maximum enrolment of children, especially girls, in primary schools and arrest the drop-out rate.

"Maan mayada (respect and modesty) is bright but when you are a Sarpanch you have to come out of these traditions. Let the vil-

lage decide.

lages decide. Look around, where the world has reached, by doing this (removing veil) we do not lose our maan mayada. Follow everything but at home. I do not say this is bad but we have to change as per the time and come out of this so that we can move forward," Vaghani said in insisting that all other women in the village reveal their faces.

Even the sarpanch of the village, who was also on the stage, agreed with Vaghani. Following the cue, Meenaba reluctantly pulled back a part of her saree and revealed her face. An extra chair was also arranged for her on the stage, albeit in a corner.

"The minister is right. We should keep our ghunghat at home and need to come out of our ghunghat. We are aghori. It has a male population of around 1,650 as against 1,552 females. It has a literacy rate of 71.59 per cent, including 80.99 per cent literate males and 61.66 per cent literate females."

Becharaji taluka is still weighed down by patriarchy as most of the women in the villages have to still cover their faces with a long veil using their sarees.

—S.P.

NEW CWC PICKS

BY THE EDITORIAL TEAM

OPINION

LETTERS

OBITUARIES

BOOK REVIEWS

ARTICLES

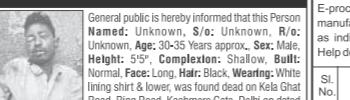
OPINION

LETTERS

OBITUARIES

BOOK REVIEWS

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that this person
Named: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o:
Unknown, Age: 30-35 Years approx. Sex: Male,
Height: 5'5", Complexion: Shallow Built:
Normal. Face: Long, Hair: Black, Wearing: White
linen shirt & lower, was found dead on Kele Ghat
Road, Ring Road, Kashmere Gate, Delhi on dated
18.06.2022. The dead body has been preserved
in morgue of Subzi Mandi for identification for 72 hrs.
In this regard a DD No. 36-a dated 18.06.2022 U/s 174 CrPC, has been
lodged at PS, Kashmere Gate, 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 the following.

SHO
ZIP NET No. UD8-22-KG-0074 RS. Kashmere Gate, Delhi
DP/2459/N/2022(UDB) Ph: 011-23967889, 8750871023

8 EXPRESS NETWORK

Assam CM conducts aerial survey of flood-hit Silchar

TORA AGARWALA
GUWAHATI, JUNE 23

ASSAM CHIEF minister Himanta Biswa Sarma Thursday con-

ducted an aerial survey of flood- hit Silchar town in south Assam's Barak Valley and took stock of the damage caused by the deluge.

"Packets containing food items, water bottles and essen-

tials were airdropped by heli- copters. We plan to continue such air-droppings for our stranded people in the days ahead, apart from the regular re- lief," Sarma said.

stors. It was under his watch that Punjab Police extradited two of them. He was also the first to highlight the threat posed by drones from across the border.

Gupta took over as the state police chief in February 2019, after the former chief of Punjab, Inderjit Singh Kohli, who had fought an unsuccessful legal battle against him. During his stint as police chief, he sought to overhaul training in a bid to make Punjab Police tech-savvy.

Dinkar Gupta appointed NIA chief
Telangana HC lawyer among 3 held over Maoist recruitmentEXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, JUNE 23Dinkar
Gupta

A distinguished police officer who served Punjab during the peak of militancy. Gupta successfully mapped and busted the narco-terrorism network in Punjab besides wiping off gang-

sters. It was under his watch that Punjab Police extradited two of them. He was also the first to highlight the threat posed by drones from across the border.

Gupta took over as the state police chief in February 2019, after the former chief of Punjab, Inderjit Singh Kohli, who had fought an unsuccessful legal battle against him. During his stint as police chief, he sought to overhaul training in a bid to make Punjab Police tech-savvy.

Telangana HC lawyer among 3 held over Maoist recruitment

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 23

The NIA on Thursday arrested three persons, including a Telangana High Court lawyer, "for their involvement in recruiting and propagating and recruiting youth for the proscribed organisation CPI (Maoist)".

The lawyer, identified as Chukka Shilpa, was arrested in connection with a case the agency registered on June 3 with regard to recruitment of college students in Maharashtra. The other two accused have been identified as Dongari Devendra and Dubasi Swapna.

The agency also conducted searches at three locations Ranga Reddy, Medak and Secunderabad districts in connection with the case. "During the searches conducted today, incriminating evidence including digital devices have been seized," NIA said in a statement.

According to the NIA leaders and members of Chaitanya Mahila Sangham (CMS), an alleged front-line organisation of the CPI (Maoist), were involved in recruitment of youth into the outfit. The case was initially registered on January 3, by the Andhra Pradesh Police, which was taken over by the central agency.

About three and half years ago, a college student, identified as Radha, went missing from her home in Visakhapatnam. In January this year, her mother lodged a complaint with the Visakhapatnam police that leaders of CMS had met her in her college hostel and got her to join CPI (Maoist). Following this, the police had registered an FIR.

It was alleged that Devendra had taken away the woman, a nursing student, on the pretext of providing medical treatment to someone in December 2017. She never returned. Her family later learnt that she had joined the Maoist outfit.

Uttarakhand IAS officer held in corruption case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
DEHRADUN, JUNE 23

A DAY after his suspension was ordered by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, IAS officer Ram Vilas Yadav was on Thursday arrested by Uttarakhand Vigilance Department after his questioning over allegations of amassing assets disproportionate to his income.

Yadav, who is set to retire at the end of this month, is accused of acquiring assets of more than 500 per cent of his income. He was transferred from Uttar Pradesh in 2019. He was earlier secretary of the Lucknow Development Authority (LDA) and was serving as Additional Secretary in the Rural Department in Uttarakhand.

Earlier this month, the Uttarakhand Vigilance Department searched four locations linked with Yadav in the disproportionate assets case, including his premises in Dehradun and Lucknow. A case was registered against him in April this year.

"In connection to the FIR registered against him, the team of Ram Vilas Yadav under the Prevention of Corruption Act on April 19, he appeared at the Vigilance establishment in Dehradun to get his statement registered. When questioned by the team about assets acquired by the name of his family members, he did not give satisfactory answers," said a statement issued by Uttarakhand Vigilance. "No one could give satisfactory answers or provide documents for his Dilkhush Vihar Banjarki house in Lucknow, Janta Vidyalaya in Gudambia, land purchased in Noida, 10 bigha land in Ghaziabad, money deposited in FD and accounts, money deposited in accounts of family members and family expenditure," it said.

DELHI JAL BOARD : GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER (M)-5
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (M)-5
ROOM NO. 312, VARUNALAYA PHASE-I, JHANDELALAN, DELHI-110005.

PRESS NIT No. 41 (2022-23) M-5

S. No. Name of Work Amount put to Tender / E/Money Tender Date of Release of Tender / Date of tender Refundable

1. Replacement of stopped/unmetered water meter in Karol Bagh Colony-2 42,44,110/- ₹ 84,900/- 15/06/2022 DL 23/06/2022 2022_DJB_224922_1 upto 03:00 PM

2. Replacement and upgradation of main sewer line from 3-Block to 1-B-Block, East Patel Nagar AC-24 under ACE(M)-5. ₹ 28,72,47/- ₹ 57,500/- 15/06/2022 2022_DJB_224922_2 upto 03:00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 2056/2022-23

Executive Engineer (M) (Mohd. Idris Ali)

STOP CORONA. Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

KMF Karnataka Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
KMF COMPLEX, DR. H. M. MARIGOWDA ROAD, BANGALORE-560029.
Tel: 080-25536625/255367789, Email: purchase@kmf.coop

IFT No.: KMF/ENG/Hasan-Mega Dairy/2023 Date: 23.06.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (2nd Call)
[Two Cover System] [Through E-procurement portal only]Hassan Milk Union Ltd., desires to establish New Mega Dairy Project and with regard to establishment of the Project & on behalf of HAMUL, Karnataka Milk Project Ltd.; Bangalore invites tender from the eligible suppliers / manufacturers / reputed eligible firms through E-procurement for the work mentioned in the table below. The interested and reputed suppliers / manufacturers / firms who have handled similar kind of works may participate in the tender as indicated below by logging on to website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and also contact Help desk E-mail: hphelpdesk.blr@itavto.gov.in and helpline no. 080-25501227/25501216.

Sl. No. Name of the work Qty EMD (Rs.) Period of Completion

1. Design, Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of Steam generation Plant with fuel & ash handling system with accessories including Steam header, Steam piping, PRS, Insulation & structural supports and other utilities like Air Compressor, Hydro pneumatic system, Water treatment plant etc., suitable for establishment of 10L/LPD Capacity expansion plant, 15L/LPD Capacity Milk processing plant including 60 MT capacity powder plant for Hassan Milk Union at Hassan on turn-key basis.

1. Tender schedules may be downloaded from dated: 24.06.2022 to 08.07.2022 upto 4.00 pm.

2. Last date for tender submission: 08.07.2022 upto 4.00 pm.

3. Tender [Part 1] to be opened on: 11.07.2022 at 11.30 AM.

Director [Engineering-2]

Advisor Member Secretary
GUCOSTGUJARAT COUNCIL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of GujaratBlock - B, 7th Floor, M.S. Building, Sector-11,
Gandhinagar, Gujarat-382011
Email : info@gcost.gujarat.gov.in Website : www.gcost.gujarat.gov.in

Request for Proposal for selection of Design and Technical Agency (DTA) for Preparation of Detailed Design of building, exhibits, theming and Construction Supervision of Regional Science Centre at Vadodara, Gujarat

Gujarat Council on Science and Technology (GUCAST) working under the aegis of the Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of Gujarat, invites interested bidders to participate in the competitive bidding process for selection of DTA for preparation of detailed design of building, exhibits, theming and construction supervision for Regional Science Centre at Vadodara, Gujarat.

The RFP document can be downloaded from any following website: <http://www.nprocure.com>, www.gcost.gujarat.gov.in. The Last date for submission of online Bid is 15th July 2022. GUCAST reserves the right to accept/reject any/all tender without assigning any reasons. Other terms and conditions are mentioned in the tender document.

Date: 22/06/2022

Director [Engineering-2]

INF/699/22-23

Azadi Ka Mahotsav

Haryana Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran Offers e-Auction of
Preferential Residential and Commercial properties of all zones and Nursing Home site of Narnaul

On 30th June, 2022

Commercial properties in Faridabad Zone

Residential properties in Hisar Zone

Commercial properties in Rohtak Zone

Commercial properties in Gurugram Zone

Residential properties in Gurugram Zone

Sr. No. Sector/ Urban Estate No. of Plots

Bishnoi admitted he plotted killing of Moosewala, was planning since Aug 2021 police



Gangster Lawrence Bishnoi; Singer Sidhu Moosewala

ENS & PTI
CHANDIGARH, JUNE 23

PUNJAB POLICE Thursday said jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi had admitted plotting the谋杀 of singer Sidhu Moosewala's killing, which was being planned since August 2021.

Bishnoi has confessed to hatching the conspiracy with Canada-based gangster Goldy Brar, Sachin Thapar and Anmol, said Punjab Police ADGP Pramod Ban. "The plan to carry out the killing was finalised during August last year. According to our information, never was done thrice. In January too, a different group of shooters had come to kill Moosewala but could not do so," the ADGP said.

Ban said that fake passports made outside Punjab were used by Lawrence's brother, Anmol and his gangster friends to travel abroad earlier this year.

He claimed Lawrence asked them to flee the country and settle abroad from where they could execute the crime.

10L views in an hour for singer's new track

Moosewala's latest song SYL—the first to be released after his death—has become an instant hit, getting 10 lakh views in just an hour. But like his other songs, controversy is sure to follow: it talks of the water dispute between Punjab and Haryana, the 1984 riots, militancy in the state, and the hoisting of the flag at the Red Fort during the farmer agitation, among other subjects.

Bank manager held for diverting Rs 5.7 crore, says lost it to girlfriend he met online

Bengaluru: A bank manager in Bengaluru has been arrested after he allegedly diverted Rs 5.7 crore, police said.

Hari Shankar, manager of Indian Bank's Hanumanthangar branch, said he lost the money to a woman he met on a dating app, police said, while rulling out the claim. He has been sent to police custody for trial.

He has reportedly Shankar's colleagues, assistant branch manager Kausik Jerai and clerk Muniraju, as suspects in the FIR. According to police, the alleged fraud took place between May 13 and 19.

According to police, a woman customer deposited Rs 13 crore as a fixed deposit and took a Rs 75 lakh loan. She later confessed that she had destroyed some SDPI signboards at the behest of a few CPIM leaders.

The video, widely circulated online, showed the Democratic

India team in Lanka: Ready to aid recovery via investments

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JUNE 23

AFOUR-MEMBER delegation led by Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra, including top commerce officials, arrived in Sri Lanka on Thursday to help Colombo's quick economic recovery by promoting investments, connectivity and strengthening economic linkages.

The delegation—which included Ajay Seth, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, and Arunodaya Rajapaksa, the Sri Lankan leadership on Thursday that India is ready to help Colombo's quick economic recovery by promoting investments, connectivity and strengthening economic linkages.

During the meeting, the delegation underlined that India stands ready to help Sri Lanka in quick economic recovery by promoting investments, connectivity and strengthening economic linkage, he said. "They" referred to India's neighbourhood first policy.

India's recent economic aid of over \$3.5 billion to New Delhi also supported Colombo during the meetings at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in March this year, and in other forums including regional and plurilateral organisations.

MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said the talks were held in a "frank, cordial and constructive manner". In a statement,



The Indian delegation with President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. PTI

it said the Indian delegation underscored that the recent economic growth of Sri Lanka and its assistance of over \$3.5 billion to Sri Lanka was "guided by the 'Neighbourhood First' policy and Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi".

"During the call, the Indian delegation underlined that India stands ready to help Sri Lanka in quick economic recovery by promoting investments, connectivity and strengthening economic linkage, he said. "They" referred to India's neighbourhood first policy. Both sides reaffirmed commitment to development of India-Lanka ties," Bagchi said.

The Indian High Commission in Colombo said the talks were held in a "frank, cordial and constructive manner". In a statement,

At the meeting with Wickremesinghe, the two sides

had an in-depth discussion on the Sri Lankan economy and efforts undertaken towards achieving economic recovery, it said. "In this context, both sides highlighted the importance of promoting India-Sri Lanka investment projects, including in the fields of infrastructure connectivity, renewable energy and deepening economic linkages between the two countries," the statement said.

Kwatra also had a separate meeting with Sri Lankan counterpart, Aruni Wijewardena, where they worked in close coordination towards strengthening diplomatic engagement and undertaking a bilateral visit at an early date.

The Sri Lankan side appreciated the consistent support of the government and people of India over the past few years in a variety of fields such as connectivity, disaster management, humanitarian assistance, development cooperation, commercial engagement and people-to-people ties," the statement said.

It said development assistance extended by India stands at over \$5 billion.

MP: Rail officer overseeing track work hit by train, dies

IRAM SIDDIQUE
BHOJPAL, JUNE 23



MARATHI ACTOR RELEASED

Marathi actor Ketaki Chitale leaves Thane prison on Thursday. Incarcerated for around a month-and-a-half over a Facebook post that allegedly targeted NCP chief Sharad Pawar, the actor was awarded bail on Wednesday. Deepak Joshi

Kerala: Mob assaults CPM youth wing member, holds him captive

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JUNE 23

A CPI(M) youth member was allegedly assaulted, kept captive and subjected to a "trial" for around three hours by a mob said to belong to the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI) in Kerala's Kozhikode district early Thursday.

The mob also recorded a video of the incident at Balassery and forced 24-year-old Ishmael Muniraju, as suspects in the FIR. According to police, the alleged fraud took place between May 13 and 19.

According to police, a woman customer deposited Rs 13 crore as a fixed deposit and took a Rs 75 lakh loan. She later confessed that she had destroyed some SDPI signboards at the behest of a few CPIM leaders.

The video, widely circulated online, showed the Democratic

Youth Federation of India (DYFI) member holding a sword—which the mob claimed was used to damage the boards. It also shows the captors extracting "confession" from him.

The injured youth was admitted to a government hospital in Kozhikode.

The Balassery police Thursday registered a case against 29 people based on a complaint from Raji. Police also booked Raj on a complaint that he had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

that he had come to the area, Paloli, to destroy SDPI campaign material.

Raj said the assailants, belonging to SDPI and Indian Union Major League (IULM), had come to a nearby paddy field, where he was tried to drown him. Although the mob trial started after midnight, police reached the spot only three hours later, he said. The video showed the mob telling police that they (mob) had collected "evidence".

DYFI in a statement, called for a probe. "JUMLI and SDPI members have been targeted by the SDPI leader later told reporters that he was going home on a two-wheeler at around Wednesday midnight after attending a friend's birthday when he was waylaid. The mob alleged

<p

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY
RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

THE MELTDOWN

A post-poll alliance, Sena searching for a centre, BJP with a grudge — unravelling in Maharashtra is unsurprising and disturbing

THE STILL-UNFOLDING SCENES of the dramatic political crisis in Maharashtra, stretching from Mumbai to Guwahati via Surat, frame a picture of political fire in an important state, and its rippling echo. The Uddhav Thackeray government would appear to be coming undone by, on the one end, its own weakness, the inability or unwillingness of both a family-run party to accommodate the rising ambitions within, and on the other end, by its partner-turned-foe's aggressive fishing in murky waters. That the Sena rebels who have called behind Eknath Shinde have been ferried and locked into hotels in BJP-ruled states, first Gujarat and now Assam, tells its own story. There has been visible rancour between the Sena and BJP ever since 2019 assembly election, in which the BJP emerged as the single largest party but after which the two long-standing allies went their separate ways. It first inaugurated a battle over the "real" flagbearer of Hindutva against the arresting backdrop of the country's financial capital. At that time, the Sena went on to join hands with Sharad Pawar's NCP and Sonia Gandhi's Congress and formed a coalition government. Now the Shinde-led group of rebels are pointing to that unlikely alliance and the need to go back to a solo, undiluted Hindutva as reason for their revolt, but they protest too much. After all, unlikely alliances are not unusual in Indian politics and, time and again, power has proved to be a strong glue. In all likelihood, therefore, the current unravelling in Mumbai has more to do with a Sena, having lost Bal Thackeray, finding it difficult to hold together and a BJP in power at the Centre and not above weaponising its control of central agencies against political rivals and opponents; that is seizing the opportunity.

In the coming days, the prospect of a vertical split in the Sena, and the endgame for the Uddhav Thackeray government, will pose a test for the institutions of the Speaker and Governor. The Deputy Speaker — since the Maharashtra assembly does not have a full-time Speaker since 2020 — could be called upon to assess the claims and counter claims and determine the status of the Sena factors under provisions of the anti-defection law. The governor could play a critical role in resolving the political instability, even as, after the Bommai judgement in 1994, the Supreme Court has laid down that the place for deciding whether a government has lost its majority is the floor of the assembly, not Raj Bhavan.

The fate of the Uddhav Thackeray government in Maharashtra will also send signals that resonate beyond the state. With less than two years to go for the general election in 2024, and given that the Opposition is struggling to rally together to put up a fight against a formidable and predatory BJP, the loss of a crucial state will be consequential. Maharashtra, which has been one of the most prominent sites in the fight against Covid — during which, incidentally, the Uddhav Thackeray government kept a remarkably calm head — is now, amid the political tug and pull, again ground zero.

SAME SUFFERING

Government must help build resilience against recurring floods, put warning systems, long-term mitigation measures in place

EVEN AS ASSAM becomes the site of the political turmoil in Maharashtra, people in the Northeastern state are facing the fury of the Brahmaputra, Barak and their tributaries. Nearly 100 people have lost their lives in the rain-induced landslides and floods that have engulfed 30 of Assam's 35 districts, a geographical sweep described as unprecedented by experts. The Centre and state government have commenced relief operations but the raging rivers have hobbled these activities. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has reportedly said that once the waters recede, the government will find a permanent solution to the state's flood problem. Similar statements have been made before, including in 2020, by then CM Sarbananda Sonowal. But words have rarely been matched by action.

For more than half a century, Assam has relied on embankments to stave off the swelling rivers during the monsoons. A growing body of literature shows that these walled structures — most of them have not been repaired for decades — are ill-equipped to tackle floods, especially at a time when climate change is complicating the hydrology. Assam's flood management data shows that it needs to take such studies seriously. Last year, the state's water-resources minister, Pijush Hazarika, informed the Assam assembly that close to 1,300 cases of embankment breaches had been recorded since 2000. Reports of the state's Disaster Management Authority show that the problem has intensified in recent times. Floods ripped apart nearly 200 embankments in 2020. This year, they have destroyed nearly 300 such structures. A report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources last year advised the state government to strengthen flood protection structures, address soil erosion and silt rivers. But these measures continue to be on the to-do list of the Assam government. In fact, the state's flood management outlay has come down in the past two years.

Assam has received nearly twice its average June rainfall in the first three weeks of the month. The state's rainfall for March-May was 62 per cent more than the normal average. Destruction of natural wetlands and outmoded sewer systems in the state's cities — including in Guwahati, projected to be a smart city by 2025 — have made these urban centres susceptible to water logging. Waterbody restoration and sewer system overhaul might take time. Meanwhile, the state government would do well to build people's resistance to the elements in cities, towns and villages. Such measures include putting flood warning systems in place and shifting people and livestock to safer locations. The state's annual suffering must end.

SPOONFEEDING THE GAME

Allowing coaches to give instructions from sidelines will reduce the charm of tennis

AFORMULA 1 driver is always wired to a backdrop full of experts, football players keep looking at hand-waving managers in the sidelines and in cricket, drinks duty also means ferrying strategy messages to the pitch. For all these years, tennis was different. It was a sport that encouraged players to think on their feet on the court. Now, in a six-month experimental move, including at the US Open, tennis has permitted "off-court coaching," something that many believe has been happening surreptitiously anyway. "The trial aims to create additional points of intrigue and insight to enhance the fan experience," the ATP wrote of the change.

While the move can see coaches hand-hold their players in times of crisis or change strategy during the game, it threatens sports' egalitarian charm. The fear is that players with bigger budgets can better brain banks and wiser counsel during a game. Spoon feeding from the sidelines might also come in the way of players conjuring those moments of inspired magic. History shows that it is only when a player is trapped in a cul-de-sac of sapping spirit, and the match seems lost, that something stirs inside, ingenuity locks in and they come up with a new way to get out of jail. Such sweetened episodes enrich the narrative of sports, enhance the drama and increase its appeal to fans. In some cases, it also gives an idea of the limitless nature of human potential.

In the sporting ecosystem, tennis was an outlier. It left the player to find a way out of the mess on their own. That was one of its charms. Why make it like every other sport? To watch someone try and fail or succeed, or give up without trying — that is sport at its core. A coach shouting out ideas and instructions comes with the risk of reducing a tennis game into a battle of automated machines reeling out the shots. That would be a pity.

WORDLY WISE
FLOODS ARE 'ACTS OF GOD,' BUT FLOOD LOSSES ARE
LARGELY ACTS OF MAN.
— GILBERT F. WHITE

Picture this

Shiv Sena dissidents from Maharashtra, in five-star luxury in Guwahati, surrounded by flood and misery



MRINAL PANDE

THE BATTLE FOR the heart of Maharashtra unfolds before us like a scene out of the Greco-Roman wars. On one side, we have the somewhat battle-weary combined forces of the Uddhav Thackeray-led Maha Vikas Aghadi; on the other, Eknath Shinde, the mighty dissident leader. Shinde has his high-sounding band of brothers, claiming that the coalition that the Sena had made with Sharad Pawar's NCP and Sonia Gandhi's Congress was unhybrid. Though it is being publicly denied, strong support is coming from the BJP headed by Devendra Fadnavis, still smarting from being dethroned by the MVA, and consumed by the desire for regaining his lost throne. The great strength of the camp supporting Shinde, as we all know, is its now demographic strength. It has the number of independently human mass that BJP-led states hold jointly to pulverise the enemy who snatched away India's financial capital successfully.

Operation Grab began a few days ago when a few air-conditioned buses were said to have carried dissidents from the MVA into Gujarat's Surat and kept them in a five-star hotel awaiting orders. This is, by now, a familiar scenario, repeated in many states before toppling an elected government and replacing it with another.

As things began stirring in Mumbai and Surat this time, suddenly and inexplicably, three chartered planes flew dissidents whose ranks had swelled, from the arid climes of Surat to the flood-ravaged north-eastern state of Assam. In Guwahati, as in Surat, they are reportedly staying in a five-star luxury hotel. As we all know, Assam is facing floods and landslides that have killed almost 100, rendered almost 72,000 people homeless, and submerged 32 of the state's 36 districts.

Questions arise, like who has been funding these expensive disaster tourism ventures for dissidents opposing the MVA, of which they are still a part? Who funded the trips in air-conditioned buses to Surat and picked up the tab for stays in five-star hotels in both Surat and Guwahati? The Maharashtra BJP state chief Chandrakant Patil says his party has nothing to do with what has been happening in the Sena's ranks and will not stake a claim

for government formation. However, Shinde and his friends were received by a BJP MP and a BJP MLA at Guwahati airport.

While the political drama is still unfolding in Mumbai and Delhi, with Uddhav Thackeray moving out of his official residence and the erstwhile Shiv Sena chief Shinde MLA being feted at Radisson Blu in Guwahati, it seems more likely than not that the MVA government may fall. It may be cause for glee in the ranks of those who engineered this coup, but it still leaves another question unanswered: What possessed the powers that be to undertake this unseemly horse trading in a state reeling under unprecedented floods? Media savvy as they are did not pause to think of the images of the homeless, others who have lost their homes and possessions, and play against the backdrop of MLAs thumping each other on the back and smiling for the cameras in plain sight?

It is unlikely that the Assam Chief Minister, during his much publicised train journey through the affected areas, had failed to notice how inadequate the air dropping of food and relief materials was proving to be in the face of the deluge. Didn't he point out to the organisers of this teddy bears' picnic at the Radisson Blu how hunger and disease are stalking the beleaguered land and that his first duty was to the citizens of Assam? Such indifference to public opinion brings to mind Herodotus, witness to the endless bloody processions of armies during the multifarious wars and the end of Xerxes, the powerful Persian King of Kings. "The end is not apparent from the very outset."

Herodotus, a proponent of freedom and democracy and a foe of despots, believed that good made good in these times for our elected representatives. Herodotus never blames human beings, he blames the system. It is the system that creates the soldiers and the kings and the learned men eventually. And their quality determines the end result. At the end of the Greco-Persian wars, a handful of free speaking, ever squabbling Greeks won because they were defending what is most defensible: The right of all citizens to be treated well, to be heard, to live with dignity befitting a human being. The Persians, with their great disciplined ranks, lost, because they worshipped at the feet of one supreme leader unquestioningly, with no arguments.

The Maharashtra dissidents enjoying themselves at someone else's expense in five-star luxury surrounded by misery, devastation, land erosion and death, are a metaphor, a symbol and sign of our times. They point to the borders that have been drawn between the common citizens and the political class they vote for. The millions that are being squandered on people's representatives who are defying their given mandate, could have been at the service of the state's disaster management, a commitment to help the people of Assam who have lost their homes, crops and their self-respect.

This is not the first instance, nor will it be the last. Year after year, crisis brews in a state and crores are wasted in supporting completely irrational dissidence through democratic means. To think that, decades ago, Mumbai was India's first multi-language metropolitan city where VK Krishna Menon, a rank "outsider", could win an election and rise to power.

What went wrong? Things changed with the rise of linguistic chauvinism. Once it began to tug at the political imagination, Maharashtra hit out at Gujarat, and then at South Indians and other "Others". Sadly, politicians from various ideological camps discarded their core ideology of liberal multiculturalism and joined the xenophobic supporters of "Maharashtra" for Maharashtra. In 1964, Marathi speaker Bal Thackeray created the Sena, and soon established a mindset that was anything but amusing. The wall built around the state is today simultaneously its shield and trap. Such walls do not make good neighbours. They will always make state politics a target for the entry of Trojan horses from UP to Guwahati.

The writer is former chairperson, Prasar Bharati



OP AGARWAL AND NITYA KAUSHIK

HOW TO TRAIN A KARMAYOGI

Capacity building for politicians, bureaucrats is a must for growth

RECENTLY, THE GOVERNMENT of India's Mission Karmayogi programme to build civil service capacity received a \$47 million boost from the World Bank. Prime Minister Narendra Modi championed capacity building in 2004 when, as the chief minister of Gujarat, he launched the "chintan shivir" to develop leadership qualities among bureaucrats. Today, his government must build capacity for a more complex nature.

Before 1985, capacity building of the higher civil services primarily involved two-year induction training. For the lower civil services there were no trainings. In 1985, the then government recognised that a two-year induction training was insufficient for senior officers. IAS officers were mandated to attend a week-long training annually, and periodic four-week trainings to allow reflection and learnings.

In the early 2000s, the government launched a year-long professional programme in public policy at IIM-Bangalore followed by programmes in IIM-Ahmedabad, MDI Gurgaon and TERI University. The government further strengthened the mid-career training for IAS officers by introducing Phases II and III. Phase II consists of three different phases of the career, in addition to Phases I and II (induction training). The rationale was that while the induction programmes equipped IAS officers to be good field officers, they needed different competencies at more senior levels.

Today, given our growth ambition, a massive scale-up in capacity-building is needed

both at the political and bureaucratic levels. As democracies mature, elected representatives will play a more proactive role in policy making. It is, therefore, imperative that representatives are able to understand the nuances of policy making.

Such a programme must build capability to manage crises and work towards rectifying them. It must equip the entire chain of command to coordinate and steer the ship towards a national goal. A forward-looking mindset that can quickly seize opportunities and foresee threats is critical.

Capacity building must aim at building professionals in all domains, from technical experts to generalists. As policymaking gets more complex, respect for data and evidence-based decision-making will grow exponentially. We won't be able to train top-level officials with little experience in the subject of their departments. Political leaders too would need to choose areas of specialisation.

Finally, building morale and self-respect among the frontline workers is critical. They include people like constables, patwaris, gram sevaks, frontline clerks, office peons, postmen, etc. They must recognise that they are important members of the larger administrative system, not mere cogswheels in the wheel.

Way back in 2004, while serving as Joint Secretary (Training) in the Union Department of Personnel and Training, one of us witnessed a three-day programme organised for safai karamcharis of the Satatra Municipal Corporation, in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir.

Agarwal is CEO, World Resources Institute India. Kaushik is head, Communications, WRI India. Views are personal

Given our growth ambition, a massive scale-up in capacity-building is needed both at the political and bureaucratic levels. As democracies mature, elected representatives will play a more proactive role in policy making. It is, therefore, imperative that representatives are able to understand the nuances of policy making.

Today, given our growth ambition, a massive scale-up in capacity-building is needed

both at the political and bureaucratic levels. As democracies mature, elected representatives will play a more proactive role in policy making. It is, therefore, imperative that representatives are able to understand the nuances of policy making.

Finally, building morale and self-respect among the frontline workers is critical. They include people like constables, patwaris, gram sevaks, frontline clerks, office peons, postmen, etc. They must recognise that they are important members of the larger administrative system, not mere cogswheels in the wheel.

Way back in 2004, while serving as Joint Secretary (Training) in the Union Department of Personnel and Training, one of us witnessed a three-day programme organised for safai karamcharis of the Satatra Municipal Corporation, in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir.

Agarwal is CEO, World Resources Institute India. Kaushik is head, Communications, WRI India. Views are personal

JUNE 24, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

THE ISRAELI INVASION

ISRAELI WAR PLANES ATTACKED Syrian positions in the mountains east of Beirut after renewed artillery exchanges shattered a cease-fire that lasted for less than 24 hours. The state television reported that 100 Israeli aircraft had struck six different locations along a 14-kilometre stretch of the Syrian-held territory between Aley and Hammana near the vital Damascus highway eight to 22 km east of Beirut, the broadcasters said. The air raids touched off fires in the hillsides but there were no immediate reports of casualties, the radio and TV said.

Charan Singh announced that very soon, opposition parties would evolve a programme which will show a new way to the country and save it from constitutional breakdowns.

ARGENTINA FACES COUP

THE ARMY, DEFYING Navy and Air Force opposition, took over the Argentine Government in an internal coup and appointed retired General Reynaldo Bignone prime minister. India's Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, the leaders, however, expressed their support for the coup. The rally was organised by eight opposition parties of Haryana and the Akali Dal (Longowal) in protest against the installation of the Bhajan Lal Ministry a month ago.

New Delhi



New Delhi

Q1: Which fertilizers we import & from where?

Q2: Which fertilizers we manufacture

Q3: Quantum of problem

Q4: -ve of high import of fertilizers

Q5: -ve of high use of fertilizers

Q6: Coln to problem.

A1: Urea, Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP), Muriate of Potash (MOP)

TOTAL: 13 Bn \$ import Bill

A2: Urea, DAP, Complex Fertilizers (Those which contain N, P, K, S in different ratios)

+ SSP (Single Super Phosphate)

problem: we import raw materials for above's production

Fertilizer : RM.

Urea : LNG (41% of India's LNG import)

DAP : Phosphoric Acid + Ammonia

also made locally

By Importing

Rock Phosphate Sulphuric Acid also made locally Sulphur

By Importing

A3: Import of FG (fertilizers) + of RM (of fertilizer) = 24 Bn \$

12-13 Bn \$

A1: China + mid-east + Russia, Canada, US (Africa included)

A4: Outflow of forex + subsidy Bill

A5: # PCs (N) available to crop per unit of urea by adding special chemicals e.g. urease, nitrification inhibitors

use liquid nano urea: small particles → to greater absorption of (N) per unit of urea used

PCs use of SSP & complex fertilizers (NPKs)

use DAP only for rice & wheat

AGRI

instead of directly using MOP in field,

use MOP for making complex fertilizers (NPKs)

PCs use of water soluble fertilizers (potassium nitrate sulphate calcium nitrate)

PCs alternate sources e.g. molasses, seaweeds extract.

THE IDEAS PAGE

The fertiliser pinch

India cannot sustain current cost of fertiliser imports. It must cap its consumption of urea, DAP and MOP



G RAVI PRASAD AND HARISH DAMODARAN

NO COUNTRY HAS AS MUCH AREA under farming as India. At 169.3 million hectares (mb) in 2019, its area under crop cultivation was higher than that of the US (160.4 mb), China (135.7 mb), Russia (123.4 mb) or Brazil (63.5 mb). With its perennial Himalayan rivers and average annual rainfall of 1,200 mm—against Russia's 475 mm, China's 650 mm and the US's 750 mm—India has no dearth of land, water and sunshine to sustain vibrant agriculture. Which has risen for 3,000 years and more.

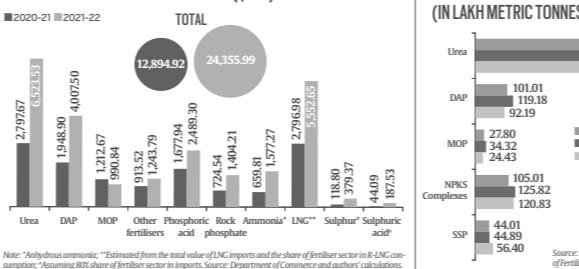
But there's one resource in which the country is most and heavily import-dependent—mineral fertilisers. In 2021–22, India imported 10.16 million tonnes of urea, 5.86 m tonnes of di-ammonium phosphate (DAP) and 2.91 m tonnes of muriate of potash (MOP). In value terms, imports of all fertilisers touched an all-time high of \$12.77 billion last fiscal.

That figure, however, presents an incomplete picture. In 2021–22, India also produced 25.07 m tonnes of urea, 4.22 m tonnes of complex fertilisers containing nitrogen-N, phosphorus-P, potassium-K and sulphur-S in different ratios, and 5.3 m tonnes of single super phosphate (SSP). The imports of raw materials for the manufacture of these fertilisers were substantially imported.

Note: *Analysed ammonia. **Estimated from the total value of LNG imports and the share of fertiliser sector in R-LNG consumption. Assuming 80% share of fertiliser sector in imports. Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations.

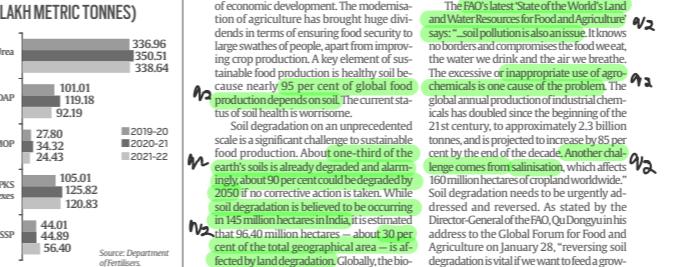


TABLE 1
IMPORTS OF FERTILISERS AND INPUTS (\$ MN)



Note: *Analysed ammonia. **Estimated from the total value of LNG imports and the share of fertiliser sector in R-LNG consumption. Assuming 80% share of fertiliser sector in imports. Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations.

TABLE 2
SALE OF FERTILISERS (IN LAKH METRIC TONNES)



Note: *Analysed ammonia. **Estimated from the total value of LNG imports and the share of fertiliser sector in R-LNG consumption. Assuming 80% share of fertiliser sector in imports. Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations.

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

mainly to paddy and wheat; other crops don't require fertilisers with 46 per cent P content. India can also import more rock phosphate to make SSP directly or it can be converted into "weak" phosphoric acid. The latter, having only about 29 per cent P (compared to 52–54 per cent in rock phosphate), "merely" grain-grade phosphoric acid is good enough for manufacturing 20:20:0·13, 10·26·26 and other low-analysis complex fertilisers.

As regards MOP, roughly three-fourths of the imported material is now applied directly and only the balance is sold after incorporating into complexes. It should be the other way around. India, to re-emphasise, needs to wean its farmers away from all high-analysis fertilisers and SSP—especially if imports of rock phosphate and SSP are already happening (Table 2). It requires a concerted push, alongside popularising high-nutrient-use-efficient water-soluble fertilisers (potassium nitrate, potassium sulphate, calcium nitrate etc) and exploiting alternative indigenous sources (for example potash derived from molasses-based distillery spent-wash and from seaweed extract).

There are two costs here. The first is foreign exchange outgo: Imports are mostly from China, Oman, UAE and Egypt (urea); China, Saudi Arabia and Morocco (DAP); Belarus, Canada, Russia, Israel and Jordan (MOP); Qatar, US, UAE and Nigeria (LNG); Morocco, Jordan, Senegal and Tunisia (phosphate); Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Qatar (ammonia); and Jordan, Morocco, Egypt and Togo (rock phosphate). The second cost is fiscal.

There is a need, first of all, to cap or even reduce consumption of high-analysis fertilisers—particularly urea (46 per cent N content), DAP (18 per cent N) and MOP (60 per cent P).

One way to do this is by incorporating urease and nitrification inhibitors chemically into urea. This will slow down the rate at which urea is destroyed (resulting in the production of ammonia and nitrate) leading to below-ground loss of nitrogen through leaching.

Reducing ammonia volatilisation and nitrate leaching, more nitrogen is made available to the crop, enabling farmers to harvest the same, if not better, yields with a lesser number of nutrients. Together with such low nutrient uptake, it is conducive to easier absorption by the plants than with bulk fertilisers, translating into higher nitrogen use efficiency—it is possible to achieve a 20 per cent or more drop in urea consumption from the present 34–35 mt levels. That works out to 6.5–7 mt fewer imports, equivalent to \$4.5–5 billion at current prices.

A second route is by promoting sales of SSP containing 16 per cent P and 11 per cent S and complex fertilisers such as 20:20:0·13 and 10·26·26. DAP use should be restricted.

Prasad is a fertiliser industry veteran and Damodaran is National Rural Affairs & Agriculture Editor of The Indian Express

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasikumar

Source: Department of Commerce and authors' calculations

Illustration: CR Sasikumar

Photo: C. R. Sasik

Q1: Which Fertilizers we import & from where?

A1: CHINA + MID-EAST + RUSSIA, CANADA, US
(AFRICA included)

AKA
HIGH
ANALYSIS
FERTILIZERS
UREA
DAP
MOP

A1: UREA, Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP), Muriate of Potash (MOP)
TOTAL: 13 Bn \$ import Bill

Q2: Which Fertilizers we manufacture

A2: UREA, DAP, Complex Fertilizers (Those which contain N, P, K, S in different ratios)

+ SSP (Single Super Phosphate)

Problem: We import raw materials for above's production

Fertilizer : R.m.

UREA : LNG (41% of India's LNG import)

DAP : Phosphoric Acid + Ammonia

also made locally
By Importing

Rock Phosphate

SULPHURIC ACID

also made locally
By Importing

SULPHUR

Q2: Quantum of Problem

A3: Import of FG (Fertilizers) + of RM (of Fertilizer) = 24 Bn \$

12 - 13 Bn \$

Q4: -ve's of High import of Fertilizers

A4: Outflow of Forex + Subsidy Bill

Q5: -ve's of High use of Fertilizers

BAD SOIL HEALTH + Contamination of Water & Food Chain
+ less in crop yields

Ans: Soln to PROBLEM.

- # ↑cs N AVAILABLE TO CROP PER UNIT OF UREA BY ADDING SPECIAL CHEMICALS e.g. UREASE, NITRIFICATION INHIBITORS
- # USE LIQUID NANO UREA : SMALL PARTICLES → GREATER ABSORPTION OF N PER UNIT OF UREA USED
- # ↑cs USE OF SSP & COMPLEX FERTILIZERS (NPKS)
- # USE DAP ONLY FOR RICE & WHEAT
- # INSTEAD OF DIRECTLY USING MOP IN FIELD,
USE MOP FOR MAKING COMPLEX FERTILIZERS (NPKS)
- # ↑cs USE OF WATER SOLUBLE FERTILIZERS (POTASSIUM NITRATE
POTASSIUM SULPHATE
CALCIUM NITRATE)
- # ↑cs ALTERNATE SOURCES e.g.
MOLASSES, SEAWEEDS EXTRACT.



ANTI-VIRUS CREATOR
MCAFEE CORPSE IN MORGUE YEAR AFTER DEATH
The body of software entrepreneur John McAfee, who died in prison in June last, is at a morgue as a legal case lodged by his family to demand further checks is yet to be resolved.

TOP OF THE WORLD



French President Emmanuel Macron

FRANCE
Parties ignore
Macron appeal
on stalemate

FRENCH PARTIES from left and right brush off President Emmanuel Macron's appeal for help to overcome a hung parliament on Thursday, demanding he clarify what compromises he has ready to make in their bidding. Before meeting off to a European Union summit in Brussels, Macron late on Wednesday called on rival party leaders either to look at possible coalition options with his centrist alliance or to consider lending support for a bill-by-bill basis. But the gathering was widely dismissed as an attempt to rally others to his policies while making few concessions. **REUTERS**

LONDON

WHO considers
emergency tag
for monkeypox

AS THE WHO convenes its emergency committee Thursday to consider if the spiralling outbreak of monkeypox warrants being declared a global emergency, some experts say it is a decision that only after disease spilled into the West could entrench the grotesque inequities that arose between rich and poor countries during the coronavirus pandemic. Declaring monkeypox to be a global emergency would mean the UN health agency considers the disease to be an "extraordinary event" and that the disease is at risk of spreading across even more borders. It would also give monkeypox the same distinction as the Covid-19 pandemic. **AP**

UNITED STATES
Judge approves
\$1 billion deal in
condo collapse

A JUDGE gave final approval on Thursday to a settlement topping USD 1 billion for victims of the collapse of a Florida beachfront condominium that killed 98 people, one of the deadliest building failures in US history. Miami-Dade Circuit Judge Michael Hanzman praised the dozens of lawyers involved for averting what could have been years of litigation with no sure outcome. "It will never be enough to compensate them for the tragic loss they have suffered," the judge said. **AP**

UNESCO-LISTED CAPITAL SEES RESTORATION EFFORTS

Lick of paint for Yemen's historic city Sanaa as ceasefire holds

KHALED ABDULLAH &
ABDULRAHMAN AL-ANSI
SANA'A, JUNE 23

YEMENI ARCHITECT Zaid al-Kuhani watched his workers dab white paint around stained glass windows of a unique tower house as a large-scale restoration effort of UNESCO-listed historic Old Sana'a that has endured years of bombings during the war. Others used pulleys and ropes to lift the city's distinctive brown mud to the top of its damaged unique tower houses as their renovation.

Afghanistan: aid trickles in to area devastated by quake, officials say rescue almost complete

MOHAMMAD YUNUS
YAWAR & SAYED HASSIB
GAYAN, JUNE 23

AID BEGAN arriving on Thursday in a remote part of Afghanistan where an earthquake killed 1,000 people, with Taliban officials saying the rescue operation was almost complete.

The magnitude 6.1 earthquake struck early on Wednesday about 160 km southeast of Kabul, in arid mountains deep in the rugged terrain near the border with Pakistan.

Poor communications and a lack of proper roads are hampering relief efforts in a country already grappling with a humanitarian crisis which has deteriorated since the Taliban took over last August.

"The rescue operation has finished, no one is trapped under the rubble," Mohammad Ismail Muwaijeh, a spokesperson for the top Taliban military commander in the hardest-hit Paktika province, said.

Mohammad Nasseem Haqqani, a spokesperson for the disaster ministry, said rescue op-

erations had finished in major districts but were continuing in some isolated areas.

The UN said on Thursday the Taliban ministry of defence had indicated as early as Wednesday 90 per cent of search and rescue operations had been completed.

The earthquake killed about

People sift through the rubble in Gayan, in Afghanistan's Paktika province, a day after a powerful earthquake killed 1,000 people and flattened homes. **AP**

1,000 people and injured 1,500.

More than 3,000 houses were destroyed.

About 1,000 people had been rescued by Thursday morning, Sharafat Zaman, a spokesperson for the health ministry said.

"Aid has arrived to the area and it is continuing but more is needed," he said.

The rescue operation will be a major test for the Taliban, who took over as US-led international forces withdrew after two decades of war.

The humanitarian situation has deteriorated alarmingly since the Taliban takeover, aid officials say, with the country

cut off from much international assistance because of sanctions.

Abdul Qahar Balkhi,

spokesperson for the Afghan foreign ministry, urged the international community to repeat calls for international aid.

"We call on natural disaster management agencies and the international community to provide immediate and comprehensive aid to the Afghan people," he said in a tweet.

The United Nations said its World Food Programme (WFP) was sending food and logistics equipment to affected areas, with the aim of initially supporting 3,000 households.

"The Afghan people are already facing an unprecedented crisis following decades of conflict, severe drought and an economic downturn," said Gordon Craig, WFP deputy country director in Afghanistan.

"The earthquake will only add to the already dire humanitarian needs they endure today."

The UN said on Thursday the Taliban ministry of defence had indicated as early as Wednesday 90 per cent of search and rescue operations had been completed.

"Aid has arrived to the area and it is continuing but more is needed," he said.

The rescue operation will be a major test for the Taliban, who took over as US-led international forces withdrew after two decades of war.

The humanitarian situation has deteriorated alarmingly since the Taliban takeover, aid officials say, with the country

REUTERS



PROTESTS GROW IN ECUADOR

Protesters march in Ecuador's capital Quito to demand President Guillermo Lasso address price increases for fuel, food and other basics which have ignited 10 days of demonstrations across the country. The demonstrations, triggered by the dispute over rising prices, are testing Lasso's ability to restart the country's economy and kick-start employment. **Reuters**

AHEAD OF ISRAEL MINISTER'S VISIT

Turkey detains 5 Iranians, says attack plans thwarted

ASSOCIATED PRESS
ANKARA, JUNE 23

TURKISH AUTHORITIES have detained five Iranians suspected of planning attacks on Israelis ahead of Thursday's visit to Turkey by Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid. Turkish media reports said.

Lapid arrived in Turkey on Thursday for talks with Turkish counterpart Mevlut Cavusoglu as the two countries press ahead with efforts to repair ties that have been strained over Turkey's strong support for the Palestinians.

They were also expected to discuss a recent warning issued by Israel calling on its citizens to avoid travel to Turkey and urging Israelis in Turkey to leave immediately.

The warning said Israeli citizens could be targets of Iranian attacks.

attacks.

The warning angered Turkey, whose economy depends on tourism to a large extent. Ankara responded by issuing a statement that said Turkey was safe.

Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett has since said that a joint operation with Turkey succeeded in thwarting several attacks and resulted in the arrest of several suspected operators on Turkish soil in recent days.

Hurriyet newspaper reported on Thursday that Turkish authorities detained five Iranian nationals on Wednesday suspected of involvement in an alleged plot to assassinate Israeli citizens in Istanbul.

Police seized two pistols and two silencers in searches conducted in houses and hotels where the suspects were staying, according to the report.

The move comes as Germany triggered a controversial emergency gas plan on Thursday in response to falling Russian supplies but stopped short of allowing utilities to pass on soaring energy costs to customers in Europe's largest economy.

Although the approval of the Kyiv government's application by EU leaders meeting in Brussels is just the start of what will be a years-long process, it marks a huge geopolitical shift and will anger Russia as it struggles to impose its will on Ukraine.

The expected green light "is a signal to Moscow that Ukraine, and also other countries from the former Soviet Union, cannot long remain in the Russian spheres of influence," Ukraine's ambassador to the EU, Vasyl Chentsov, said.

Meanwhile in Donbas, Ukraine's industrial heartland, the battle in Sievierodonetsk and Lysychansk is "entering a sort of fearsome climax," said Oleksiy Arestovych, an adviser to President Zelensky.

Russian forces were trying to encircle Ukrainian troops defending Lysychansk, senior Ukrainian defence official Oleksiy Gromov said Thursday.

REUTERS

GERMANY TRIGGERS GAS ALARM

EU's candidate status for Ukraine as Russia tightens vice on Donbas

REUTERS
KIEV, BERLIN, JUNE 23

UKRAINE IS set to be accepted as a candidate to join the European Union on Thursday, a move that boosts the country's morale as Russian assaults wear down the defenders of two cities in the eastern Donbas region.

The move comes as Germany triggered a controversial emergency gas plan on Thursday in response to falling Russian supplies but stopped short of allowing utilities to pass on soaring energy costs to customers in Europe's largest economy.

Although the approval of the Kyiv government's application by EU leaders meeting in Brussels is just the start of what will be a years-long process, it marks a huge geopolitical shift and will anger Russia as it struggles to impose its will on Ukraine.

REUTERS

The expected green light "is a signal to Moscow that Ukraine, and also other countries from the former Soviet Union, cannot long remain in the Russian spheres of influence," Ukraine's ambassador to the EU, Vasyl Chentsov, said.

Meanwhile in Donbas, Ukraine's industrial heartland, the battle in Sievierodonetsk and Lysychansk is "entering a sort of fearsome climax," said Oleksiy Arestovych, an adviser to President Zelensky.

Russian forces were trying to encircle Ukrainian troops defending Lysychansk, senior Ukrainian defence official Oleksiy Gromov said Thursday.

REUTERS

N Korea talks on new army duties hint at deploying nuclear weapons

ASSOCIATED PRESS
SEOUL, JUNE 23

NORTH KOREA discussed assigning additional duties to front-line army units at a key military meeting, state media said on Friday, a move analysts said indicates it plans to deploy battlefield nuclear weapons targeting South Korea along the rivals' tense border.

During an ongoing meeting of the Central Military Commission of North Korea's ruling Workers' Party, leader Kim Jong Un and other top military officers discussed the issue, reportedly confirming the operational duties of the front-line units of the Korean People's Army and modifying the operation plans, according to the official Korean Central News Agency.

A KCNA photo showed what appeared to be a large map of the Korean Peninsula's eastern coast, including border sites, standing next to a conference table.

Although there were no public meetings of tactical nuclear weapons, I can assess that the issues of forward-deploying tactical nuclear weapons... have been discussed in an in-depth manner" at the meeting, said Cheong Seong-Chang, a senior analyst at South Korea's private Sejong Institute.

AP

pose its will on Ukraine.

The expected green light "is a signal to Moscow that Ukraine, and also other countries from the former Soviet Union, cannot long remain in the Russian spheres of influence," Ukraine's ambassador to the EU, Vasyl Chentsov, said.

Meanwhile in Donbas, Ukraine's industrial heartland, the battle in Sievierodonetsk and Lysychansk is "entering a sort of fearsome climax," said Oleksiy Arestovych, an adviser to President Zelensky.

REUTERS

A worker sits on a scaffold as he renovates the facade of a house in the old city of Sanaa, Yemen. **Reuters**

and pushed Yemen to the brink of famine.

About 5,000 buildings were damaged including 380 that were seriously hit and were about to collapse in Sanaa's historic neighbourhoods, said Aqil al-Nusairi, deputy chairman of GOPHYC.

The number of these buildings have been restored when the top Sanaa issued a distress call which was answered by some international donors through the UNESCO, Nusairi said.

In the course of war, bricks

were used to seal windows in

some buildings, replacing Sanaa's unique coloured window glasses, as residents sought to protect their families from shrapnel.

Inside the houses, workers

wearing bright green vests that read 'cash-for-work project' and helmets - used the brown mud to repair walls.

"We have lived in

some buildings,

which were

damaged

in the

war,

and

now

we are

rebuilding

it,"

he said. "We are

very

hopeful

that

the

work

will

be

done

soon,"

he said.

"Everything in them is her-

itage," Nusairi added.

REUTERS

New Delhi

Covid vaccines prevented 42 lakh deaths in India in first year: global study

ANURADHA MASCARENHAS

PUNE, JUNE 23

COVID-19 VACCINES are estimated to have prevented nearly 1.98 crore deaths worldwide – out of a potential 3.14 crore deaths – in the first year of the vaccine programme, a new modelling study has found. These include 42.10 lakh deaths prevented in India. The study has been published in *The Lancet Infectious Diseases*.

Vaccination in India

"The study estimates how many deaths could have been saved between December 8, 2020 and December 8, 2021 – which reflects the first year in which vaccines were distributed – and for India, we have estimated that 42.10 lakh deaths were prevented by vaccination," Dr Oliver Watson, lead author of the study, from Imperial College London, told *The Indian Express*. "This is the first analysis to map out exactly what vaccination has had, especially in India, which was the first country to experience the impact of the Delta variant," he said.

These estimates are based on the estimates of excess mortality in India during the Covid-19 pandemic, which they have sourced from the Economist and are similar to the estimates that the WHO's Global Health Estimates team released. Independently, our group has also investigated the Covid-19 death toll based on reports of excess mortality and seroprevalence surveys and arrive at similar estimates of almost 10 times the official count," he said.

India began vaccination January 2021. According to the Health Ministry, till date, the cumulative vaccination coverage exceeds 196.62 crore. India's has one of the world's fastest vaccination drives. More than 65% of the population are fully vaccinated, according to Our World in Data.

Global inequalities

The study is based on data from 185 countries, from low-income countries and upper-middle-income countries accounted for the greatest number of prevented deaths (1.22 crore/1.98 crore), highlighting inequalities around the world. A further 5.99 lakh deaths could have been averted if the WHO's target of vaccinating 40% of the population in every country by the end of 2021 had been met, the report said. Despite the speed of vaccine rollout worldwide, more than 35 lakh Covid-19 deaths have been reported since the first vaccine was given in December 2020.

Methodology

The researchers used a model based on country-level data for officially recorded Covid-19 deaths occurring between December 8, 2020 and December 8, 2021. To account for under-reporting of deaths in countries with weaker surveillance systems, they carried out a sensitivity analysis and found that even if all excess deaths recorded above those that would have been expected during the same time period, the team did not account for all excess deaths. Where official data was not available, the team used estimates of all-cause excess mortality. These analyses were compared with an alternative hypothetical scenario in which no vaccines were delivered. China was not included in the study as it had not yet implemented Covid-19 measures. It is estimated that 1.81 crore deaths would have occurred if vaccinations had not been implemented. Vaccination prevented 1.44 crore deaths. These findings do not account for under-reporting of deaths. The team did further analysis based on total excess deaths to account for this.

More than three-quarters (1.55 crore/1.98 crore) of deaths averted were due to the direct protection provided by vaccination; and 43 lakh were estimated to have been prevented by reduced transmission.

THIS WORD MEANS

MO BUS

Bhubaneswar service, recipient of UN Public Service Award



The UN recognition is for promoting gender-responsive public services.

Bus conductors are women and 100 percent of Mo E-Ride drivers are women, transgender people, and people from disadvantaged communities," the UN noted.

According to the CRUT service, it plans to introduce 289 buses in three phases, and to extend the service to Cuttack soon.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

VAJIRAM & RAVI
INSTITUTE FOR IAS EXAMINATION
Online & Classroom Programmes
• General Studies • Optional Subjects • CSAT

9-B, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Jindal Nagar, New Delhi - 110060, Ph: 011-41007500;
www.vajiramravi.com | Email: online@vajiramravi.com

Goa's Sao Joao festival, and why revellers jump into wells and ponds

MAYURA JANWALKAR

PANAJI, JUNE 23

AS IN every monsoon, Catholics in Goa will celebrate Sao Joao, the feast of St John the Baptist, on Friday. The celebrations will include revellers sporting crowns made of fruits, flowers and leaves, the major draw of the fest is the water bodies – wells, ponds, fountains, rivers – in which the revellers take the 'leap of joy'. The festival also includes playing the traditional ghumot (percussion-instrument), a boat festival, servings of feijo, and a place of pride for new sons-in-law.

What is Sao Joao?

In Goa, Catholics celebrate all feasts of the Roman Catholic Church, which include on June 24 the feast of St John the Baptist (who had baptised Jesus Christ on the banks of Jordan). Traditionally, the springtime Sao Joao festivities in the villages of Cortalim in South Goa and Harmal, Baga, Siolim and Terekhol in North Goa. However, over the years, pool parties and private Sao Joao parties in Goa have been a "complete package of merriment and

joy" for tourists, according to the Goa Tourism Development Corporation (GTDC).

What does jumping into water bodies symbolise?

In the 2004 edition of *Fests, Festivals and Observances of Goa*, author and historian Maria de Lourdes Bravo da Costa Rodrigues writes, "The people of Goa celebrate this occasion with merrily and fun-filled feats, by jumping into overflowing wells or rivulets. The boys are found merrily jumping into the water to commemorate the leap of joy, which St John is said to have taken in the womb of his mother St Elizabeth when virgin Mary visited her."

Revellers wear the *kopel*, the crown of fruits, flowers and leaves, parade in villages and often well-known places to another as they chant, "Sao Joao! Viva São João". Villagers gather round the wells to cheer on their jumping in. Renditions of Konkani songs written for the occasion are accompanied by music from instruments like the *gumot* and *cansain* (cymbal).

Rodrigues writes that the revellers are treated with sweets, fruits and a peg of feijo.



Jumping into the well is part of the Sao Joao festivities. Flickr/FN-Goa

EXPLAINED YOUR MONEY

What FPIs' market exit means

Foreign portfolio investors have pulled out Rs 42,000 crore this month amid rising inflation and monetary policy tightening in the US. How does this impact the market and the rupee, and what should you do?



GEORGE MATHEW

SUSTAINED CAPITAL outflows from the capital market have unnerved the stock markets and led to a weakening of the rupee amid rising inflation across the globe. With the US Federal Reserve set to hike rates further, outflows are likely to continue, putting pressure on the Indian currency.

Why do FPIs pull out?

Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs), which own around 10.5% of the market capitalisation of stocks, have pulled out Rs 42,000 crore in June so far, taking the total outflows to Rs 260,000 crore (\$33 billion) since October 2021. The FPI sell-off is being attributed to the tightening of monetary policy by the Fed which has been on a rate hiking spree to control inflation. Other central banks, including in Britain and the Eurozone, are following suit. The Fed's higher interest rates have pushed bond yields in the US, appreciating dollar and concerns regarding the possibility of a recession in the US triggered by aggressive tightening are factors behind FPIs' pullout.

India's Geojit Financial Services.

When the global economy took a hit, central banks across the world slashed interest rates and announced liberal monetary policies. As a result, bond yields fell and led to higher consumption, thus pushing up inflation. This is why central banks have started tightening monetary policies and hiking interest rates. In India, inflation surged to an eight-year high of 7.79% in April, prompting the RBI to hike the repo rate by 90 basis points to 4.90%.

How does it impact the markets and the rupee?

The pullout is dampening sentiment in equity and forex markets. The benchmark Sensex has plunged by 16% from the October 2021 high of 62,245.43 to 52,266.72 on June 23. The impact of FPI selling on markets is visible.

How big are they in India?

FPIs continue with the outflow and there is a dip in retail and DII participation, which market participants have noticed over the recent past. The equity markets may witness further corrections as foreign institutional investors pull out further from current levels, experts say that investors should stick with their existing investments in domestic equities.

What should investors do?

If FPIs continue with the outflow and there is a dip in retail and DII participation, which market participants have noticed over the recent past, the equity markets may witness further corrections as foreign institutional investors pull out further from current levels, experts say that investors should stick with their existing investments in domestic equities.

Even as the weakness is likely to continue in the markets, investors should not look to redeem their holdings in the current market. They should stay with them as a rebound in economic activity, which is on the way and could gather momentum over the next one to two years, would result in revival of the market, which would be a better bet for gains for investors," said V.K. Vaishnav, CEO of Axis Mutual Fund. The rise in global yields is not good news for Indian stocks and investors. The FPI sell-off has led to a decline in the valuation of top-500 companies, with some of them losing 15-20% in the last 9 months.

What is the impact on the rupee?

Khalasa TV and its surrendered licence in UK

MANRAJ GREWAL SHARMA

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 23

KHALASA TELEVISION Limited surrendered its licence to broadcast in the UK on June 21 after an investigation by the country's media regulator found that its channel, Khalasa TV, had breached broadcasting rules with Khalistani propaganda. The channel, which has faced hefty fines for violating broadcast regulations in the past as well, has been off-air in the UK since March 31.

What is Khalasa TV?

Khalasa TV or KTV broadcasts largely to the Sikh community in the UK under a licence held by Khalasa Television Limited. It claims to broadcast in 136 countries.

KTV was officially launched in the UK on January 22, 2017.

On its website, Khalasa TV aka KTV Global, describes itself as the UK's newest and most exciting Panjabi channel catering to the Sikh diaspora and airing a range of cultural, religious,

educational and entertaining programmes for audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

"We aim to deliver only the best in programming using the latest broadcast technology from our purpose-built studio setting in 1984, during which time we set out his view that the central leadership of the Sikh community lacked the courage or drive to take the necessary action to achieve this aim."

What did Khalasa Television Limited surrender the licence?

This is an investigation by the UK's media watchdog, Office of Communications (Ofcom), found that the channel had breached broadcasting rules by beaming incendiary and separatist propaganda in a programme called *Prime Time*, beamed in February.

It was found that the programme did not contain any inflammatory language or content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

It was also found that the programme did not contain any content that could be considered as threatening or abusive.

Classifieds

PERSONAL

**LVikas S/o-Satish Kumar R/o-A-
34 Street No.2-Harjan Basti
Karanagar Nagar-Delhi-110094
have changed my name to
Vikas Kumar for all purposes**

0040619841-1

**ILakshmi Bhanushali,W/O Arvind
Vaderor/O/Amrit no-41st, floor, 10
Alipore, West Bengal-700020
110054, have changed my name
to Kalpana Vador, for all
purposes**

0040619841-2

**LSumita Palsania,W/o-Chotu
Ram Jai R/Ward no-7,Dhanki
Karanagar, Village, Surana,
Surana,Tehsil Shahpura,
District Jaipur, Rajasthan-
303005, have changed my name
wrongly-written SUMITRA DEVI
in my some-documents but my
correct-name is SUMITRA
PALANIYA**

0040619875-1

**LSanjay Kumar Pandey S/o
Rajesh Shyam Pandey,R/o-533
8,Thekdi, Sector-B, Dholi
Nagar,Rani Bagh,Delhi-
110034, have changed my name
to Sanjay Pandey.**

0040619842-5

**Arvind Kumar Bhanushali,S/o-
Ran chhoti
Sector-16, Rohini, North West
Delhi-110054, have changed my
name of My Father was written
as Narottam in my Educational
Document, have changed my name
of My Father is Narottam
Kumar Aggarwal, for all purposes**

0040619841-3

**ILakshmi P/o Mahavir
Prasad R/o F-1/54, Sudhir Vihar
Sector-16, Rohini, North West
Delhi-110054, have changed my
name to Anil Kumar Bansal**

0040619842-6

**LAshmi RANI O/NAKAN CHAND
R/o-A-162, NAND RAM PARK,
UTTAM NAGAR, NEW DELHI-
110067, have changed my name
to MANUJ SACHDEV**

0040619841-0

**ILANKARAO S/O
RAMPARKASH ARORA,R/o-TP-
10,2ND FLOOR,TV
PORTER PITAMBARA, DELHI-
110034, have changed my name
to SHAIJA ZAMAN**

0040619841-3

**LSANDALYAL S/O KOMAL R/O
18-673,LIC CAMP SAMAPUR
BADLI,DELHI-110042, HAVE
CHANGED MY NAME TO SENDER
LAL**

0040619841-8

**LSALAHUDDINANSARI,O/o
Muhammad Ansari,R/o-10-Ward
Humber, 11,Gaddarpur,
Samastipur,Bihar-
841810, presently at New
Delhi, have changed my name
to SAHLI,ANSARI,for all
purposes**

0040619841-1

**Lehmat W/o Mukhtyar Ahmad
R/o-11094 have changed my
name to Rahmat.**

0040619879-4

**LMansi S/o-Subash R/o-10001,
R/o-82, 124C,Raj Nagar,Part-
2,Palam Colony New Delhi-
77, have changed my son's
name from Aditya Solanki to
Aditya Solanki vide affidavit
dt.14.6.22,before Delhi.**

0040619845-5

**LiRajiv Kohli s/o Sohan Lal Kohli,
R/o/53, Ground Floor, Mohd
Nagar, New Delhi-110015, have
changed my name to Rajiv Kohli's
name from UDAYA to UDAYA
KOHLI**

0040619827-1

**LPawan Kumar alias Pawan
Kumar Dogra S/o Preetam
Singh Dogra R/o-110001,
9923,Kohli, North west
delhi-110052, have changed my
name, from Pawan Kumar alias
Pawan Kumar Dogra to Pawan
Kumar for future purposes**

0040619843-7

**LPRADESH TIWARI,S/o
PRABHAKAR TIWARI/R/o
FLAT-N-1116,CREMA
VARDHAMAN MANSION-1/4
VARDHAMAN MANSION-1/4
INDIRAPURAM GHAZIABAD,UP-
201014, changed my name to
PRAKHANT KUMAR TIWARI**

0040619842-2

**LPRADEEP S/o-Subhash
Kumar, R/o-10001, Sector-14
Jammu, in my service records
the name of son has been
writtenpushdeep Singh
Manhas instead of pushdeep Singh
Manhas. It needs correction.
Objection is made by concerned
authorities within seven days.**

0020441082-1

**LMHEA MALIK,W/o-ANKIT MALIK
R/o-A-2204 ATS HACENDIAS
AHIND KHADIA-1
INDORAHMANA GHAZIABAD,UP-
201014, changed my name to
NEHA TANDON**

0040619841-9

**LJatin Oberai S/o/O
PRAKASH OBEROI R/o/D-
1/23,FLOOR PLATE NO-100-
15,Rohini,Delhi-110089, HAVE
CHANGED MY NAME TO JATIN
OBEROI**

0040619841-5

**LSuman Dua,W/o Surinder pal J-
127,MIND Floor,Vikas Puri,New
Delhi-110081,Have changed my
name to Sharma,for all
purposes.**

0040619841-4

**LURMK SHARMA,S/o-RAJESH
KUMAR SHARMA, R/o-603
Prateek Residency, Sector-7
77,Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201306,
Noida (UP), have changed my
name to HIRTHIK SHARMA,**

0040619842-4

**LGauri Sethi S/o Gyatri
Singh R/o-5/6, Second-Floor,
Rajouri-Garden,Delhi-27
Dwarka,ND-78,have changed my
name to Dulya Rida vide
affidavit dt. 23.6.22,before
Delhi.**

0040619827-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

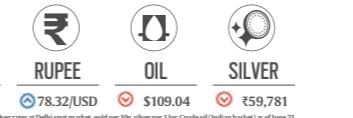
0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok
Road, Bazaria, Ghaziabad,
Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare
that name of My Father has
been changed my name to
Arun Prakash Dwivedi, which
may be amended accordingly**

0070791822-1

**LGaurav Dwivedi S/o Arun
Prakash Dwivedi, R/o-A-303,
Ashok Apartments, Ashok**

SENSEX: 52,265.72 ▲ 443.19 (0.86%) NIFTY: 15,556.65 ▲ 143.35 (0.93%) NIKKEI: 26,171.25 ▲ 21.70 HANG SENG: 21,273.87 ▲ 265.53 FTSE: 7,063.45 ▼ 25.77 DAX: 13,000.41 ▼ 143.87



Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market; gold per 10g, silver per 1kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of June 21

SECTOR WATCH
BIG TECH

Non-English content moderation: Meta Oversight Board flags lack of investment

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JUNE 23

FLAGGING CONCERN over inadequate investment in moderating content in languages other than English, the Oversight Board of social media company Meta has pointed out the small number of user appeals from India and other such non-English majority countries that the advisory group received.

In its first annual report, the board noted that almost half of the appeals came from the US and Canada, while only 2.4 per cent came from Central and South Asia – the region to which India belongs.

"We recognise that this distribution does not reflect the spread of Facebook and Instagram users worldwide. In 2019, for example, only six of the 20 countries with the most Facebook users were in Europe and North America, while India has the most Facebook and Instagram users of any country," it said.

"The lower numbers of user appeals from outside Europe and US & Canada could also indicate that many of those using Facebook and Instagram in the rest of the world are not aware they can appeal Meta's content moderation decisions to the Board," it pointed out, adding that it did not believe that the distribution of appeals data re-

AANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 23

E EXPLAINED **Agenda points**

IN A MEASURE that will help curtail revenue loss from tax evasion on gold and precious stones under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime, the GST Council will discuss a proposal to implement a mandatory e-way bill system for intra-state movement of such high-value items with a minimum threshold of Rs 21 lakh. A ministerial panel, headed by Kerala's Finance Minister KL Balagopal, has made the recommendation and also suggested mandatory e-invoicing for B2B transactions by all taxpayers supplying gold/precious stones and having annual aggregate turnover of Rs 100 crore.

The GoM has suggested that states should be allowed to decide the modalities about the implementation of the e-way bill for intra-state movement of gold and precious stones within their states. It has also suggested that

any amount including or above this amount as minimum threshold for generations of e-way bill for intra-state movement of gold/precious stones in their state," the GoM said in its report.

This recommendation by the ministerial panel is expected to be taken up for discussion in the next GST Council meeting to be held on June 28-29. The council will also discuss rules committee from firms ranging from cut and polished diamonds (1.5 per cent from 0.25 per cent), tetra packs (18 per cent from 12 per cent), tetra pack (18 per cent from 12 per cent) and rate cut for ostomy appliances including waterproof pouch for collecting waste from the body (nil from 12 per cent). The panel has also recommended a uniform 5 per cent rate for NICL will work out the modalities and timelines for implementation of e-invoicing for gold/precious stones. "There will be a minimum threshold of Rs 2 Lakh, and the states can decide

informed deferring the decision and suggested that states of Haryana and Karnataka shall study all aspects and submit a report in due course.

Rate rationalisation measures under GST are being considered as the compensation regime – under which states were offered compensation for revenue loss from the introduction of GST – is now 14 per cent.

Under the GST law, the panel recommended a uniform 5 per cent rate for orthopaedic implants (trauma, spine and arthroplasty implants). On the issue of taxation of virtual digital assets including cryptocurrency, the fitment committee has recom-

Investment through P-notes declines to ₹86,706 cr in May

Investment in the Indian capital markets through participatory notes (P-notes) dropped to ₹86,706 crore till May-end from the preceding month, as per Sebi data

FOREIGN INVESTORS will reverse their selling stance and return to the country's equities in the coming 1-2 quarters, experts say

IN MARCH, the investment was at ₹87,979 crore. It was ₹89,143 crore in February and ₹87,999 crore in January

IN TERMS OF CII (OFFSHORE) withdrawal by FPIs last month

P-notes are issued by registered Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) to overseas investors who wish to be part of the Indian stock market without registering themselves directly. They, however, need to go through a due diligence process

Source: Sebi/PTI

Value of P-note investments in Indian markets – equity, debt, and hybrid securities – at April-end

moment you are ready with such a framework," the Minister said.

He said that the government's perspective was to engage with stakeholders on the proposed amendments to the IT Rules. Earlier this month, the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) proposed that "the central government shall constitute one or more grievance appellate committees, which shall consist of a chairperson and other members as the central government may... appoint", to be open to public review, and possibly reverse content moderation decisions taken by social media companies.

When some attendees at the consultation meeting suggested the government amended the broader IT Act, Chandrasekhar said: "Where we are today is in the evolution of our jurisdiction, of where we are in the evolution of our jurisprudence, rules and laws. Very soon we will have an absolutely contemporary law and Act, which will take care of a lot of these issues. IT Act is a 22-year-old Act and, therefore we are bolting on, retrofitting, band-aiding to get to a safer internet, and we need a new contemporary law and we are working on that."

With this stage, we will go ahead with the Appellate Committee. But I make a solemn commitment to you that if you come back with a self-regulatory framework that works and that meets the test of transparency and accountability, we are very happy to move to that from the

HC clears way for Yes Bank to vote in DishTV EGM today

OMKAR GOKHALE
MUMBAI, JUNE 23

A DIVISION Bench of the Bombay High Court Thursday dismissed an appeal by the promoter of DishTV India Pvt Ltd to restrain Yes Bank from exercising its right to vote in the previous shareholders' meeting.

The division bench, comprising Justice Gautam S Patel and Justice Madhav Jamdar, rejected the application filed by DishTV promoter group, DishTV, had moved an appeal before the division bench after a single-judge bench, on June 17, rejected its interim application. Legal experts said the court had made an announcement about the EGM to ratify and pass a resolution for re-appointed the MD, whole-time director and a non-executive independent director.

"At this stage, we will go ahead with the Appellate Committee. But I make a solemn commitment to you that if you come back with a self-regulatory framework that works and that meets the test of transparency and accountability, we are very happy to move to that from the

Govt, Tata Motors to probe Nexon EV fire

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JUNE 23

STANDARDS SET FOR EV BATTERIES

New Delhi: The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has decided to standardise safety standards for electric vehicle batteries in order to ensure the safety of consumers, a senior Consumer Affairs Ministry official said

on Thursday.

BIS, the national standards body, said that functions under the consumer affairs ministry has published the "Performance standards for electronic vehicle batteries", the official said. PTI

"This is a first incident after more than 30,000 EVs have been manufactured and sold in the market across the country in nearly 4 years," the company said.

There have been many incidents of electric two-wheelers catching fire in the recent past. Electric two-wheeler makers such as Ola Electric, Okinawa

and Environment Safety, Naval Science & Technological Laboratory and Institute of Science are likely to join the probe ordered by the Ministry.

"We will share a detailed response after our complete investigation. We remain committed to the safety of our vehicles and their users," the company said.

The Centre for Fire, Explosive

No precision tools; risk of joblessness moving up: Powell

RailTel (A Government of India Undertaking) CIN No U42420L2000Q0107065 RailTel Region invites e-tenders from eligible bidders for deployment of OPGW maintenance team for a period of 3 years in Northern Region.

(1) Trenching, laying, termination, splicing and maintenance of OPGW and connectivity of NTRD Ustapuri math and pretensioned path in Northern Region of RailTel.

(2) Zonal Rate contract for OPG laying and LAN services for the period of 3 years in Northern Region of RailTel.

(3) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(153.74 km).

(4) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(196.5).

(5) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 251).

(6) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(7) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(8) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(9) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(10) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(11) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(12) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(13) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(14) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(15) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(16) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(17) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(18) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(19) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(20) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(21) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(22) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(23) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(24) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(25) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(26) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(27) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(28) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(29) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(30) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(31) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

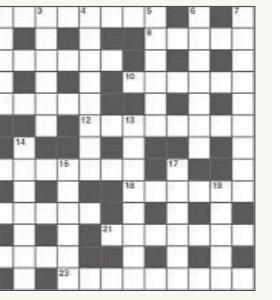
(32) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(33) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(34) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel/Dehradoon-Utarakhand-Phaphamal, Dehradoon-Bhopal-Shahpur section including LMC(RMK 196.5).

(35) RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/2022-23/23 for RailTel Tender OTN/RQAM/

CROSSWORD 4776

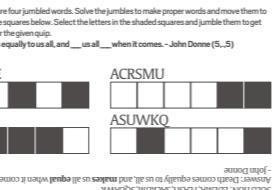


ACROSS
 1 Ash Wednesday is understandably the first of them (5)
 4 Girl getting a first love letter (5)
 9 The figure is in a strangely poor condition (7)
 10 Pictures a mince pie (6)
 11 He doesn't go for a horse that will finish (6)
 12 Order a dessert (5)
 15 Come again to gather fruit (5)
 18 Dramatic beginning formulated at once! (3)
 20 Be able to repeat a vigorous dance (6)
 21 Walk round the pub - The Bod (7)
 22 Appear in robes entirely too voluminous (5)
 23 Shift scenery as required (9)

DOWN
 2 An unusual term I deserve (5)
 3 They act diplomatically so envious (6)
 4 Cadger is source of shame (8)
 5 Neighbourly get-together (6)
 6 Proof that someone has settled (7)
 7 Game and trifle (9)
 11 He doesn't have to be smart to catch the birds (9)
 13 To walk about is bliss (8)
 14 Nut and date confection which is ridiculed (7)
 16 Key operators may strike back (6)
 19 It's more pleasant back in the precinct (5)

Solutions Crossword 4776: Across: 1. Shrove Tuesday, 4. Cupid, 9. Haggis, 10. Picture, 11. Cud, 12. Dessert, 15. Harvest, 18. Prologue, 20. Rehearsal, 21. Pub, 22. Robe. Down: 2. Novelty, 3. Hypocrite, 4. Infamy, 5. Gossamer, 6. Proof, 7. Trifle, 11. Bird-watching, 13. Bliss, 14. Nougat, 16. Key, 19. Precinct.

JUMBLED WORDS



Solutions Jumbled Words: DMAEE = MADE, ACRSMU = CRAMS, FHALS = SHALF, ASUWKO = WORKS.

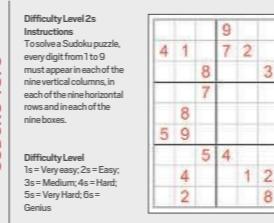
OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



Sudoku 4875: Difficulty Level 2s. Instructions: To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level: 1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4874



Solution Sudoku 4874: A 9x9 grid with numbers 1 through 9 in each row, column, and 3x3 subgrid.

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) You should now be set free from the tensions that have been weighing you down. You're still feeling slightly hemmed in, and friends and colleagues may show you the way to enjoy yourself. Don't be afraid to turn to your hit to persuade other people that you know what you're doing.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21) Entrepreneurial types, professional people with ambitious aspirations are on the upward phase of a cycle. Quite simply, you can do well now, so the beneficiary of a healthy windfall or an advance at work. Whatever you've planned to pay attention to loved ones' interests.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) You seem to be in a particularly good moment, that's for sure. Communication is the key, but co-operation may be hard to come by. Some travel will be called for on a short journey. All of you will be faced with information to absorb and decisions to take. You'd better get up to secret fears, they may actually go away.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22) The leg of uncertainty is refusing to clear up. A mystery may come to the foreground, but there is always a chance that you, or anyone, will truly understand what is going on. If you're under the weather, the cause may be emotional or nervous strain.

LEO (July 23 - Aug 22) You seem to be in a particularly good moment, that's for sure. Communication is the key, but co-operation may be hard to come by. Some travel will be called for on a short journey. All of you will be faced with information to absorb and decisions to take. You'd better get up to secret fears, they may actually go away.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 - Dec 21) You seem to be in a particularly good moment, that's for sure. Communication is the key, but co-operation may be hard to come by. Some travel will be called for on a short journey. All of you will be faced with information to absorb and decisions to take. You'd better get up to secret fears, they may actually go away.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22 - Jan 20) It may seem as if, having dramatically changed your mind on some occasions, you now have decided to let fate take its course. That's the long-term consideration. As far as today is concerned, it's money which looks large, especially for domestic commitments.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19) You seem to be in the driving seat today. You may be able to take the initiative and compensate for a few recent blunders. An argumentative mood may be dealt with nicely if you are the very essence of charm. Pay a little more attention to domestic grumbles before they become insoluble.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) It's a fine time for a bit of extravagance, particularly if partners have been holding you back lately. Family decisions and domestic plans may likely improve if they concern short-term and day-to-day affairs. Long-range plans may be fun to formulate, but are unlikely to do things quietly and



Chief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency
First Floor, Directorate of Panchayati, Office of the Commissioner, Dehradun Road, Dehradun 248001
Ref. No. SE/WR/KOTANIT/2022-23/1421 Dated: 22-06-2022

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SAKAD YOJANA (PMGSY)
e-Procurement Notice - 05/2022-23

The Chief Engineer, URRDA on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of Bridges and Ponds. Gram Sakad Yojana in the Districts of Pauri & Pithoragarh for the number of Ponds with estimated cost totaling to Rs. 4.74 Crore including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors registered with PWD/CPWD or equivalent.

Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 24-06-2022

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and should be submitted to the concerned authority through e-procurement system. The bidder will be required to submit the bid document online at the cost of Rs. 10/- per bid. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized certifying Authorities.

The bidders are required to submit original affidavit regarding correctness of the information furnished in the bid documents of Clause 4.4 B (ii) of ITB with CONCERNED CIRCLE OFFICES, mentioned in SBD/MBD, only up to or before the time and date of the submission of the Bids (for World Bank funded works) and on a date later than three working days after the opening of technical question and answer session. The bidder shall declare that the bid is registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.

Last Date / Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 29-06-2022

For further details please log on to www.pmgstyenders.gov.in. Chief Engineer, URRDA, Dehradun

* Non Registered bidders may submit bids, however, the successful bidder will get registration in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.

Note : For e-Procurement for any sort of queries 0135-2608125 number may be contacted 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE
The Sr.DM Diesel Northern Railway, Diesel Loco Shed, Tughlaqabad for and on behalf of President of India in the exercise of his powers to do anything in connection with the work. The tender will be accepted online only in the prescribed tender document.

Subject Description

Name of Work "Comprehensive AMC of MASTER CONTROLLER unit in various schedules (Yearly, 3 Yearly and 6 Yearly)" fitted in HHP Locomotives.

Place of Work Diesel Shed, Tughlaqabad, New Delhi-110044.

Completion period 24 months

Approximate cost of Work Rs. 69,19,144/- including GST @18% (Rs. Sixty Nine Lakh Forty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Nineteen and Fourteen Paisa only Including GST @18%)

Earnest Money Rs. 1,39,000/- (Rs. One Lakh Thirty Nine Thousand only)

Description of Similar Service Contract The approved definition of similar nature of work is:- The tenderer should be either an OEM of Master Controller or Authorized dealer of any OEM of Controller or Suppliers approved by RDSO for related work.

Technical Eligibility As per clause 10 of tender form (second sheet) of Tender Document.

Financial Eligibility As per clause 10 of tender form (second sheet) of Tender Document.

Websites to download and upload e-tender document www.irps.gov.in

Due date & time of uploading of Tender by tenderer 15.07.2022 upto 12.00 hrs.

Place of opening of tenders Divisional Railway Manager office, State Entry Road, New Delhi.

Date & Time of Tender opening 15.07.2022 after 12.00 hrs.

Validity of offer 45 days from opening of tender.

Allocation 05/31/32

Tender Document can be downloaded from Indian Railway website www.irps.gov.in. For details of work experience, scope of work and terms & conditions refer to the tender document.

TENDER NOTICE NO.: DSL-TKD-AMC-MC-2022 dated 22.06.2022 1535/2022

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



Office of The Superintending Engineer, Water Resources Circle, Kota
No.: SE/WR/KOTANIT/2022-23/1421 DATED: 15/06/22

E-TENDER NOTICE Ref ID: SE/WR/22-23/1404/2022-23/1421

Bids for Construction of Approach (Submersible Bridge) to old monument (Barod Shiv Temple) in US of Narmera Barrage on Kalianda River Tehsil Mangrol District Baran is invited from interested bidders from 16.06.2022 (9:30 Hr) to 05.07.2022 till 18:00 Hr. Other terms, terms & conditions may be given on the procurement portal <http://www.pmpm.rajasthan.gov.in> & <http://pprj.rajasthan.gov.in>.

NOTE: Correspondence & addendum, if any will be published online at <http://pprj.rajasthan.gov.in>.

N.B.: WRD/2223WL/0B00670 NIB No.: WRD/2223AO/65

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Water Resources Circle Kota

DIPRC/8373/2022

महिना आविष्कार कामकांडल (मार्दिम)
(प्राप्ति ग्राहन केंद्रिक)

संख्या : ०२२-२६५२२५२२४

TENDER NOTICE

Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal (MAVIM), A Government of Maharashtra Undertaking invites Expression of interest from Human Resource Management Consultancy Organization.

For detailed document, interested bidders should visit on www.DevitJabalsi.org. All rights are reserved with Managing Director.

Last Date & Time for submission of Tenders: Till 12th July 2022, before 5.00 pm.

Details of document, interested bidders should visit on www.DevitJabalsi.org. All rights are reserved with Managing Director.

Last Date & Time for submission of Tenders: Till 12th July 2022, before 5.00 pm.

Notes: Vendors may visit the IRPS website i.e. www.irps.gov.in for details. 2. No Manual will be provided.

Tender Notice No.: 8222915A Dated: 22.06.2022 1526/22

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
Regd Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, (Patiala)
CIN: U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website: www.pspcl.in
(Contact Number: 96461-17659)

Tender Enquiry No. 1404/O&M/PC-2310 Dated: 22.06.2022

Bids for Construction of Approach (Submersible Bridge) to old monument (Barod Shiv Temple) in US of Narmera Barrage on Kalianda River Tehsil Mangrol District Baran is invited from interested bidders from 16.06.2022 (9:30 Hr) to 05.07.2022 till 18:00 Hr. Other terms, terms & conditions may be given on the procurement portal <http://www.pmpm.rajasthan.gov.in> & <http://pprj.rajasthan.gov.in>.

NOTE: Correspondence & addendum, if any will be published online at <http://pprj.rajasthan.gov.in>.

N.B.: WRD/2223WL/0B00670 NIB No.: WRD/2223AO/65

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Water Resources Circle Kota

DIPRC/8373/2022

जावाहान नेहरु पोर्ट अथवा
(प्राप्ति ग्राहन केंद्रिक)

संख्या : ०२२-२६५२२५२२४

TENDER NOTICE

JAWAHAN NEHRU PORT AUTHORITY
(Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 400019)

Invitation of Tenders through E-procurement System
Principal Civil Engineer, Mumbai - 400019, New Delhi - 110001, for the supply of services of the Principal of the concerned authority.

For detailed NIT & Tender specification, please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 22.06.2022 from 17.00 Hrs onwards.

NOTE: Correspondence & addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>.

Tender Notice No.: 8222915A Dated: 22.06.2022 1526/22

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



Forest Research Institute
(Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education)
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun - 248006

File No. XXII/6/2022-23/Wooden auction /STR/ Dated: 23 June, 2022

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Tenders are invited on behalf of Director, Forest Research Institute, P.O. New Forest, Dehradun for the auction of old/obsolete/un-serviceable/defective/scraped wooden items. Details of the auction will be as follows:

The presented Tender Form can be obtained from

BRIEFLY

German football gives transgenders freedom of choice

Berlin : German soccer is bucking the recent trend of banning transgender women from women's competition by allowing all transgender, intersex and non-binary players to decide for themselves whether to play in men's or women's leagues. The German football federation passed a new regulation for gender-nonconforming players with the civil status "diverse" or "unspecified" on Thursday. "It also applies to transgender players who can now switch at a self-determined time or remain initially in the team in which they'd been playing previously," the DFB said in a statement. "As far as we are concerned, activity does not affect the health of the person while they are taking medication; the person can take part in the game, which is why the new regulation excludes doping relevance." AP

India U-17 women lose 0-7 to Italy

Udine : India's Under-17 women's football team suffered a humiliating 0-7 defeat against Italy in the opening match of a four-nation tournament at Grandisca O'Sonzo stadium here. The Thomas Dennerby-coached side started off the match by trying to press the opposition high up the pitch and entice mistakes from them. Tackles were flying in from both sides and a goal was scored from a free-kick in the fourth minute. Beatrice curled the free-kick but she narrowly missed the target. Italy almost took the lead in the 10th minute as Dragoni had just Indian goalkeeper Monalisa to beat but the latter stretched and produced a save that denied the Italian. PTI

Rodrigues, spinners do the job for India

Dambulla : The Indian bowlers choked the Sri Lankan women's team after Jemimah Rodrigues' vital knock on return to secure a convincing 34-run victory in the T20 International here on Thursday. Defending a modest 139, left-arm spinner Radha Yadav (21) and off-spinner left-righter Deepa bowled their way to the win by dismissing the dangerous-looking Sri Lankan captain Chamari Athapaththu (16) and Harsitha Madavi (10) in three balls. BRIEF SCORES : India Women 138/6 (Jemimah Rodrigues 36; Shafali Verma 31; Inoka Ranawera 3/30) bt Sri Lanka Women 104/5 (Kavisha Dilhari 47; Radha Yadav 2/22) PTI

Savita named skipper for CWG

New Delhi : India named an 18-member women's hockey team for the upcoming Commonwealth Games, with star striker Rani Rampal left out yet again for failing to regain full fitness after an injury. The CWG team is very similar to the one that will enter the World Cup next month. The side will be captained by goalkeeper Savita Punia while experienced defender Deep Grace Ekka will be her deputy in the Birmingham CWG, to be held from July 28 to August 8. The duo will also take the same roles in the World Cup, to be co-hosted by the Netherlands and Spain from July 1 to 17. There are only three changes in the team. Sharmila Rout, who was in the team, Rajani Elmarpu was named in place of Bichu Devi Kharibam as number two goalkeeper while World Cup team member Sonika (mid-fielder) was left out from the CWG squad. PTI

Playing the situation

Sarfaraz had packed away the characteristic cheekiness all along, but seeing that he was running out of partners, he started taking some risks.

He got down on his knees, offered his helmet to the advancing delivery and scooped Agarwal right over the keeper to enter the 90s. He'd try the shot at least three times more, but without success.

MP had sensed the shift in Sarfaraz's mood and had started increasing the number of boundary deliveries. With five of them waiting, Sarfaraz charged Kartikya and bashed him over his head for four to bring up his fourth hundred in the season.

By then, MP had run out of time to give Sarfaraz out. The boundary deliveries went on increasing, from five to six to seven. Sarfaraz calmly slog-swept Kartikya for six over them. He could have manipulated the field and the strike longer had No. 10 Tushar Deshpande not thrown away his wicket, causing Sarfaraz to furiously signal that he

should have batted sensibly instead of having a go. Still, Mumbai kept MP on the field for 127 overs and were riding on Sarfaraz's momentum when they came out to bat.

That was to dissipate in the face of some solid defending and leaving from MP openers. Shafali Verma and Nidhi Menari, despite the skies continuing to remain cloudy, Dharmal Kulkarni wasn't able to generate as much movement and bite of the surface as the MP seamers had.

Deshpande's natural length is anyway just short of good, which makes him easier to defend against if the surface is slowish, like this one. Mumbai had an extra pace, Mohit Avasthi, and he looked the sharpest, getting the ball to turn and then outswinger off and then straightening it in the channel to keep the batsmen on their toes. Avasthi gave away just 11 runs from his seven overs, but was unable to break through.

Mumbai tried their vocal best to distract the MP batsmen but they didn't make a mistake.

The MP batsmen did not have the threat to force one. Shams Malani was thumped for successive sixes by Menari and was otherwise knocked around easily. While Deshpande was bat-

ting, Shafali charged him and called for No. 3 and took the attack to Mumbai, slashing and driving hard for boundaries. Off-spinner Kulkarni was given just two overs but he did manage to get some bounce at the end of the day.

MP still need another 252 runs to take the first-innings lead and this match could yet have a result after five days, but this start will have left Mumbai worried. Thanks to Sarfaraz, who has made a routine of getting his hand on the ball and putting it in the pocket and then returned to serve a cooling-off period to Mumbai.

"I am so happy," Sarfaraz said, then he had to take a breath because he was still swimming.

By then, MP had run out of time to give

Sarfaraz out. The boundary deliveries went on increasing, from five to six to seven. Sarfaraz calmly slog-swept Kartikya for six over them. He could have manipulated the field and the strike longer had No. 10 Tushar Deshpande not thrown away his wicket, causing Sarfaraz to furiously signal that he

should have batted sensibly instead of having a go. Still, Mumbai kept MP on the field for 127 overs and were riding on Sarfaraz's momentum when they came out to bat.

That was to dissipate in the face of some solid defending and leaving from MP openers. Shafali Verma and Nidhi Menari, despite the skies continuing to remain cloudy, Dharmal Kulkarni wasn't able to generate as much movement and bite of the surface as the MP seamers had.

Deshpande's natural length is anyway just short of good, which makes him easier to defend against if the surface is slowish, like this one. Mumbai had an extra pace, Mohit Avasthi, and he looked the sharpest, getting the ball to turn and then outswinger off and then straightening it in the channel to keep the batsmen on their toes. Avasthi gave away just 11 runs from his seven overs, but was unable to break through.

Mumbai tried their vocal best to distract the MP batsmen but they didn't make a mistake.

The MP batsmen did not have the threat to force one. Shams Malani was thumped for successive sixes by Menari and was otherwise knocked around easily. While Deshpande was bat-

ting, Shafali charged him and called for No. 3 and took the attack to Mumbai, slashing and driving hard for boundaries. Off-spinner Kulkarni was given just two overs but he did manage to get some bounce at the end of the day.

MP still need another 252 runs to take the first-innings lead and this match could yet have a result after five days, but this start will have left Mumbai worried. Thanks to Sarfaraz, who has made a routine of getting his hand on the ball and putting it in the pocket and then returned to serve a cooling-off period to Mumbai.

"I am so happy," Sarfaraz said, then he had to take a breath because he was still swimming.

By then, MP had run out of time to give

Sarfaraz out. The boundary deliveries went on increasing, from five to six to seven. Sarfaraz calmly slog-swept Kartikya for six over them. He could have manipulated the field and the strike longer had No. 10 Tushar Deshpande not thrown away his wicket, causing Sarfaraz to furiously signal that he

should have batted sensibly instead of having a go. Still, Mumbai kept MP on the field for 127 overs and were riding on Sarfaraz's momentum when they came out to bat.

That was to dissipate in the face of some solid defending and leaving from MP openers. Shafali Verma and Nidhi Menari, despite the skies continuing to remain cloudy, Dharmal Kulkarni wasn't able to generate as much movement and bite of the surface as the MP seamers had.

Deshpande's natural length is anyway just short of good, which makes him easier to defend against if the surface is slowish, like this one. Mumbai had an extra pace, Mohit Avasthi, and he looked the sharpest, getting the ball to turn and then outswinger off and then straightening it in the channel to keep the batsmen on their toes. Avasthi gave away just 11 runs from his seven overs, but was unable to break through.

Mumbai tried their vocal best to distract the MP batsmen but they didn't make a mistake.

The MP batsmen did not have the threat to force one. Shams Malani was thumped for successive sixes by Menari and was otherwise knocked around easily. While Deshpande was bat-

ting, Shafali charged him and called for No. 3 and took the attack to Mumbai, slashing and driving hard for boundaries. Off-spinner Kulkarni was given just two overs but he did manage to get some bounce at the end of the day.

MP still need another 252 runs to take the first-innings lead and this match could yet have a result after five days, but this start will have left Mumbai worried. Thanks to Sarfaraz, who has made a routine of getting his hand on the ball and putting it in the pocket and then returned to serve a cooling-off period to Mumbai.

"I am so happy," Sarfaraz said, then he had to take a breath because he was still swimming.

By then, MP had run out of time to give

Sarfaraz out. The boundary deliveries went on increasing, from five to six to seven. Sarfaraz calmly slog-swept Kartikya for six over them. He could have manipulated the field and the strike longer had No. 10 Tushar Deshpande not thrown away his wicket, causing Sarfaraz to furiously signal that he

should have batted sensibly instead of having a go. Still, Mumbai kept MP on the field for 127 overs and were riding on Sarfaraz's momentum when they came out to bat.

That was to dissipate in the face of some solid defending and leaving from MP openers. Shafali Verma and Nidhi Menari, despite the skies continuing to remain cloudy, Dharmal Kulkarni wasn't able to generate as much movement and bite of the surface as the MP seamers had.

Deshpande's natural length is anyway just short of good, which makes him easier to defend against if the surface is slowish, like this one. Mumbai had an extra pace, Mohit Avasthi, and he looked the sharpest, getting the ball to turn and then outswinger off and then straightening it in the channel to keep the batsmen on their toes. Avasthi gave away just 11 runs from his seven overs, but was unable to break through.

Mumbai tried their vocal best to distract the MP batsmen but they didn't make a mistake.

The MP batsmen did not have the threat to force one. Shams Malani was thumped for successive sixes by Menari and was otherwise knocked around easily. While Deshpande was bat-

ting, Shafali charged him and called for No. 3 and took the attack to Mumbai, slashing and driving hard for boundaries. Off-spinner Kulkarni was given just two overs but he did manage to get some bounce at the end of the day.

MP still need another 252 runs to take the first-innings lead and this match could yet have a result after five days, but this start will have left Mumbai worried. Thanks to Sarfaraz, who has made a routine of getting his hand on the ball and putting it in the pocket and then returned to serve a cooling-off period to Mumbai.

"I am so happy," Sarfaraz said, then he had to take a breath because he was still swimming.

By then, MP had run out of time to give

Sarfaraz out. The boundary deliveries went on increasing, from five to six to seven. Sarfaraz calmly slog-swept Kartikya for six over them. He could have manipulated the field and the strike longer had No. 10 Tushar Deshpande not thrown away his wicket, causing Sarfaraz to furiously signal that he

should have batted sensibly instead of having a go. Still, Mumbai kept MP on the field for 127 overs and were riding on Sarfaraz's momentum when they came out to bat.

That was to dissipate in the face of some solid defending and leaving from MP openers. Shafali Verma and Nidhi Menari, despite the skies continuing to remain cloudy, Dharmal Kulkarni wasn't able to generate as much movement and bite of the surface as the MP seamers had.

Deshpande's natural length is anyway just short of good, which makes him easier to defend against if the surface is slowish, like this one. Mumbai had an extra pace, Mohit Avasthi, and he looked the sharpest, getting the ball to turn and then outswinger off and then straightening it in the channel to keep the batsmen on their toes. Avasthi gave away just 11 runs from his seven overs, but was unable to break through.

Mumbai tried their vocal best to distract the MP batsmen but they didn't make a mistake.

The MP batsmen did not have the threat to force one. Shams Malani was thumped for successive sixes by Menari and was otherwise knocked around easily. While Deshpande was bat-

ting, Shafali charged him and called for No. 3 and took the attack to Mumbai, slashing and driving hard for boundaries. Off-spinner Kulkarni was given just two overs but he did manage to get some bounce at the end of the day.

MP still need another 252 runs to take the first-innings lead and this match could yet have a result after five days, but this start will have left Mumbai worried. Thanks to Sarfaraz, who has made a routine of getting his hand on the ball and putting it in the pocket and then returned to serve a cooling-off period to Mumbai.

"I am so happy," Sarfaraz said, then he had to take a breath because he was still swimming.

By then, MP had run out of time to give

Sarfaraz out. The boundary deliveries went on increasing, from five to six to seven. Sarfaraz calmly slog-swept Kartikya for six over them. He could have manipulated the field and the strike longer had No. 10 Tushar Deshpande not thrown away his wicket, causing Sarfaraz to furiously signal that he

should have batted sensibly instead of having a go. Still, Mumbai kept MP on the field for 127 overs and were riding on Sarfaraz's momentum when they came out to bat.

That was to dissipate in the face of some solid defending and leaving from MP openers. Shafali Verma and Nidhi Menari, despite the skies continuing to remain cloudy, Dharmal Kulkarni wasn't able to generate as much movement and bite of the surface as the MP seamers had.

Deshpande's natural length is anyway just short of good, which makes him easier to defend against if the surface is slowish, like this one. Mumbai had an extra pace, Mohit Avasthi, and he looked the sharpest, getting the ball to turn and then outswinger off and then straightening it in the channel to keep the batsmen on their toes. Avasthi gave away just 11 runs from his seven overs, but was unable to break through.

Mumbai tried their vocal best to distract the MP batsmen but they didn't make a mistake.

The MP batsmen did not have the threat to force one. Shams Malani was thumped for successive sixes by Menari and was otherwise knocked around easily. While Deshpande was bat-

ting, Shafali charged him and called for No. 3 and took the attack to Mumbai, slashing and driving hard for boundaries. Off-spinner Kulkarni was given just two overs but he did manage to get some bounce at the end of the day.

MP still need another 252 runs to take the first-innings lead and this match could yet have a result after five days, but this start will have left Mumbai worried. Thanks to Sarfaraz, who has made a routine of getting his hand on the ball and putting it in the pocket and then returned to serve a cooling-off period to Mumbai.

"I am so happy," Sarfaraz said, then he had to take a breath because he was still swimming.

By then, MP had run out of time to give

Sarfaraz out. The boundary deliveries went on increasing, from five to six to seven. Sarfaraz calmly slog-swept Kartikya for six over them. He could have manipulated the field and the strike longer had No. 10 Tushar Deshpande not thrown away his wicket, causing Sarfaraz to furiously signal that he

should have batted sensibly instead of having a go. Still, Mumbai kept MP on the field for 127 overs and were riding on Sarfaraz's momentum when they came out to bat.

That was to dissipate in the face of some solid defending and leaving from MP openers. Shafali Verma and Nidhi Menari, despite the skies continuing to remain cloudy, Dharmal Kulkarni wasn't able to generate as much movement and bite of the surface as the MP seamers had.

Deshpande's natural length is anyway just short of good, which makes him easier to defend against if the surface is slowish, like this one. Mumbai had an extra pace, Mohit Avasthi, and he looked the sharpest, getting the ball to turn and then outswinger off and then straightening it in the channel to keep the batsmen on their toes. Avasthi gave away just 11 runs from his seven overs, but was unable to break through.

Mumbai tried their vocal best to distract the MP batsmen but they didn't make a mistake.

The MP batsmen did not have the threat to force one. Shams Malani was thumped for successive sixes by Menari and was otherwise knocked around easily. While Deshpande was bat-

ting, Shafali charged him and called for No. 3 and took the attack to Mumbai, slashing and driving hard for boundaries. Off-spinner Kulkarni was given just two overs but he did manage to get some bounce at the end of the day.

MP still need another 252 runs to take the first-innings lead and this match could yet have a result after five days, but this start will have left Mumbai worried. Thanks to Sarfaraz, who has made a routine of getting his hand on the ball and putting it in the pocket and then returned to serve a cooling-off period to Mumbai.

"I am so happy," Sarfaraz said, then he had to take a breath because he was still swimming.

By then, MP had run out of time to give

Sarfaraz out. The boundary deliveries went on increasing, from five to six to seven. Sarfaraz calmly slog-swept Kartikya for six over them. He could have manipulated the field and the strike longer had No. 10 Tushar Deshpande not thrown away his wicket, causing Sarfaraz to furiously signal that he

should have batted sensibly instead of having a go. Still, Mumbai kept MP on the field for 127 overs and were riding on Sarfaraz's momentum when they came out to bat.

That was to dissipate in the face of some solid defending and leaving from MP openers. Shafali Verma and Nidhi Menari, despite the skies continuing to remain cloudy, Dharmal Kulkarni wasn't able to generate as much movement and bite of the surface as the MP seamers had.

Deshpande's natural length is anyway just short of good, which makes him easier to defend against if the surface is slowish, like this one. Mumbai had an extra pace, Mohit Avasthi, and he looked the sharpest, getting the ball to turn and then outswinger off and then straightening it in the channel to keep the batsmen on their toes. Avasthi gave away just 11 runs from his seven overs, but was unable to break through.

Mumbai tried their vocal best to distract the MP batsmen but they didn't make a mistake.


**LIVE/ONLINE
Classes Available**
www.visionias.in

Heartiest Congratulations

to all candidates selected in CSE 2020

**10 IN TOP 10
SELECTIONS IN CSE 2020**

42 Ranks in top 50

from various programs of VISION IAS



"You are as strong as your Foundation"

Foundation Course

GENERAL STUDIES

PRELIMS cum MAINS 2023



"You are as strong as your Foundation"

Foundation Course

GENERAL STUDIES

PRELIMS cum MAINS 2023

DELHI: 21 APR, 1 PM | 7 APR, 5 PM | 9 MAR, 1 PM
23 MAR, 9 AM | 1 MAR, 9 AM

CHANDIGARH: 7th Mar | 15th Feb

AHMEDABAD: 21st April

JAIPUR: 10th May

LUCKNOW: 10th May | 9th Feb

HYDERABAD: 16th May | 11th April

PUNE: 7th Mar

फाउंडेशन कोर्स सामान्य अध्ययन 2023

प्रारंभिक, मुख्य परीक्षा और निबंध के लिए महत्वपूर्ण सभी टॉपिक का विस्तृत कवरेज

DELHI: 5 अप्रैल 9 AM | 1 फरवरी, 1 PM

LUCKNOW: 12 अप्रैल, 9 AM

JAIPUR: 10 मई | 15 फरवरी

लाइव / ऑनलाइन एवं ऑफलाइन कक्षाएँ

ABHYAS 2022 ALL INDIA PRELIMS (GS + CSAT) TEST SERIES

3 TEST | TEST-1 17 APRIL | TEST-2 1 MAY | TEST-3 15 MAY

- All India ranking & detailed comparison with other students
- Vision IAS Post Test Analysis™ for corrective measures and continuous performance improvement
- Closely aligned to UPSC pattern
- Available in ENGLISH | हिन्दी

Register at:
www.visionias.in/abhyas



AGARTALA | AGRA | AHMEDABAD | AIZAWL | AJMER | ALIGARH | ALMORA | ALWAR | AMRAVATI | AMRITSAR | ANANTHAPURU | AURANGABAD | BAREILLY | BENGLAURU | BHAGALPUR | BHOPAL | BHUBANESWAR | BIKANER | BILASPUR | CHANDIGARH | CHENNAI | CHHATARPUR | COMBATORE | CUTTACK | DEHRADUN | DELHI MUKHERJEE | NAGAR | DELHI RAJINDER NAGAR | DHANBAD | DHARWAR | DIBRUGARH | FARIDABAD | GANGTOK | GAYA | GHAZIABAD | GORAKHPUR | GREATER NOIDA | GUNTUR | GURUGRAM | GUWAHATI | GWALIOR | HALDWANI | HARDIWAR | HAZARIBAGH | HISAR | HYDERABAD | IMPHAL | INDORE | ITANAGAR | JABALPUR | JAIPUR | JAMMU | JAMshedpur | JHANSI | JODHPUR | JORHAT | KANPUR | KOCHI | KOHIMA | KOLKATA | KOTA | KOZHIKODE (CALICUT) | KURNool | KURUKSHETRA | LUCKNOW | LUDHIANA | MADURAI | MANGALURU | MATHURA | MEERUT | MORADABAD | MUMBAI | MUZAFFARPUR | MYSRU | NAGPUR | NASIK | NAVI MUMBAI | NOIDA | ORAI | PANJAI | GOA | PANJAI | PATALA | PATNA | PRAYAGRAJ (ALLAHABAD) | PUNE | RAIPUR | RAJKOT | RANCHI | ROHTAK | ROORKEE | SAMBALPUR | SHILLONG | SHIMLA | SILIGURI | SONPATI | SRINAGAR | SURAT | THANE | THIRUVANANTHAPURAM | TIRUCHIRAPPALLI | UDAIPUR | VADODARA | VARANASI | VIJAYAWADA | VISAKHAPATNAM | WARANGAL

ALL INDIA PRELIMS TEST SERIES 2022-23

» General Studies » CSAT

for PRELIMS 2022: 13 March

प्रारंभिक 2022: के लिए 13 मार्च

for PRELIMS 2023: 20 March

प्रारंभिक 2023: के लिए 20 मार्च

ALL INDIA MAINS TEST SERIES 2022-23

» Sociology » Philosophy » PS & IR 12 Mar

» General Studies » Essay

for GS 2022: 20 March

सामान्य अध्ययन 2022: 20 मार्च

for GS 2023: 20 March

सामान्य अध्ययन 2023: 20 मार्च

PERSONALITY TEST PROGRAMME

21 March



- DAF Analysis Session with senior faculty member of Vision IAS
- Mock Interviews Sessions with Ex-Bureaucrats/Educationalists

LIVE / ONLINE
CLASSES AVAILABLE



1 YEAR CURRENT AFFAIRS for GS PRELIMS

2022 in 60 Hours

ENGLISH Medium 22 Mar 5 PM

हिन्दी माध्यम 29 Mar 5 PM

DELHI: HEAD OFFICE: Apsara Arcade Karol Bagh
CONTACT: 8468022022, 9019066066

JAIPUR

GUWAHATI

HYDERABAD

AHMEDABAD

LUCKNOW

CHANDIGARH

PUNE



हम निकल पड़े हैं प्रण करके...

नये भारत का नया उत्तर प्रदेश बनाने को...



शपथ

राष्ट्रवाद की
सुशासन की
सुरक्षा की
विकास की

दिनांक : 25 मार्च, 2022 | समय : अपराह्न 4:00 बजे

स्थान : भारत रत्न अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय इकाना क्रिकेट स्टेडियम, लखनऊ



कार्यक्रम का
लाइव प्रसारण देखें

DD News

DD National/Uttar Pradesh
Youtube.com/dduttarpradesh

UPGovtOfficial
CMOUPradesh
CMOfficeUP

Rules For Newspaper Reading:

WHAT NOT TO READ / NOT TO FOCUS UPON?

- # Politics - OF PARTIES, INDIVIDUALS
- # Individual Law & ORDER incidents
- # News OF PRIVATE COMPANIES - PROFITS, MERGERS, SHARE PRICES, LEGAL CASES WITH LITTLE WIDE PUBLIC INTEREST
- # Policies, LAWS, SCHEMES - IN DRAFT STAGE i.e. NOT FINAL
(UNLESS VERY CLOSE TO EXAM)
- # COURT CASES - YET NOT ADJUDICATED.
- # LOWER COURT JUDGEMENTS
- # UNDER DEVELOPMENT i.e. DEVELOPING NEWS e.g. PM ON VISIT, BUT VISIT YET NOT CONCLUDED.; COVID CRISIS; AN FTA UNDER NEGOTIATION
- # ISSUES WHICH ARE TRANSIENT IN NATURE & WON'T HAVE LASTING IMPACT.
e.g. NEW VARIANT DETECTED; NO. OF CASES AS ON DATE;
- # PERSONALITIES, SPORTS # STATE LEVEL / DISTRICT LEVEL ISSUES

WHAT TO READ OR FOCUS UPON?

- # ANYTHING CONCEPTUAL, ANALYTICAL, RELATIONAL, CAUSATIONAL + ISSUES WITH LASTING IMPACT i.e. HAVE LIFE.
- # CONCEPTS # FINALIZED LAWS # SC JUDGEMENTS # CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS & POLICIES, SCHEMES
- # REPORTS BY INSTITUTIONS OF STATE (GOVT, JUDICIARY, PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES)
- # REPORTS BY INTERNATIONAL LEGAL ORGANIZATIONS (UN OR REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS)
- # EDITORIALS / OPINIONS / EXPLAINED / IDEAS PAHE WHERE FOCUS ON
 - # SOCIAL ISSUES # ECONOMY # CONSTITUTIONAL Qs # GOVERNANCE
 - # IR.
- # ARTICLES THAT ARE ABOUT
 - # LEARNINGS FROM HISTORY, OTHER COUNTRIES EXPERIENCES
 - # ANY BEST PRACTICES e.g. STATE LEVEL BEST PRACTICES REPPLICABLE ACROSS INDIA.
- # NEGLECT FACTS, FOCUS ON TRENDS & OUTLIERS. # ORGANIZATIONS OF STATE & THEIR MANDATE.
- # POLICIES & ANALYSIS OF : INTERNAL SECURITY ISSUES, DISASTER MANAGEMENT.
- # ANYTHING BORING IS USUALLY IMPORTANT.
- # NO CRITICISM OF STATE UNLESS DONE BY STATE OR UN LIKE ORGANIZATION.

CHINA OUTREACH TO INDIA AMID LADAKH STANDOFF XX

Wang Yi reaches Delhi, set to meet Jaishankar, Doval today

Second Delhi statement on his presence at OIC: Impacts reputation



Wang Yi made a stopover in Kabul before Delhi

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

TWO YEARS into the military standoff along the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh, Beijing made an unusual outreach Thursday when Chinese Foreign Minister and State Councillor Wang Yi reached New Delhi in the evening.

There was no official announcement of the visit — not in Beijing, not in New Delhi. Sources said Wang is likely to meet External Affairs Minister

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Month into war, a message from 16th century tower: 'Will fight till the end'



KRISHNA KAUSHIK
LVIV, MARCH 24

IN LVIV, they call it Powder Tower.

It was built in the 16th century to store gunpowder and weapons, and later converted

no judgement

SC refuses hijab hearing, says no link to exam, don't sensationalise

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

THE SUPREME Court on Thursday refused to give any specific date for hearing petitions challenging the Karnataka High Court's decision to uphold the restriction on wearing hijabs in educational institutions.

Responding to the petitioners' request that the matter be heard urgently next week as the girls would not be able to appear for their exams otherwise, Chief Justice of India NV Ramana said, "this has nothing to do with exams... don't sensationalise".

Appearing for the petitioners, Senior Advocate Devadatt Kamat said the exams will start from March 28. "One year will go. All these girls are being prevented from entering the school."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Behind charred bodies in Bengal, rags to riches, nexus of crime and TMC politics

PAGE 1
ANCHOR

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA & ATRI MITRA
RAMPURHAT, MARCH 24

IT'S A story of rags to riches to murder to killing — and it illustrates how deep the politics-crime nexus has entrenched itself in rural Bengal allegedly feeding on the patronage of the ruling Trinamool Congress.

At its centre is Bhadu Sheikh,



A mother covers her son during shelling in the besieged Ukrainian port city of Mariupol on Wednesday. Reuters

Indian banks avoid Russia entities on West blacklist

GEORGE MATHEW & SUNNY VERMA
MUMBAI, NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

THE GOVERNMENT and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) are yet to issue formal guidance on banking transactions involving Russian lenders in the wake of Western sanctions triggered by the Ukraine war but trade and in-

dustry are increasingly complaining about blockages in funds transfers and credits during routine transactions between Indian and Russian banks.

With the US and European nations blocking major Russian financial institutions from SWIFT, those entities on the sanctions list are unable to receive confirmations for fund transactions executed through

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

"And Ukraine will win the war because we have a strong aim... We cannot give away any part of the country because it is our land. It is our home. We have to protect it. Our soldiers have given away their lives for it. Any concession is a betrayal," she says.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

This resolve is what Oleksandra Bilokur symbolises. "Ukraine must fight till the end, Ukraine must fight for its freedom," says the 23-year-old, who is a coordinator for the volunteers.

Since then, around 100 volunteers have made it to the building in the city's east every day to make camouflage nets for the forces, ripping into small strips donated clothes or fabric, and tying them together to form a mesh.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

"Ukraine must fight till the end, Ukraine must fight for its freedom," says the 23-year-old, who is a coordinator for the volunteers.

Since then, around 100 volunteers have made it to the building in the city's east every day to make camouflage nets for the forces, ripping into small strips donated clothes or fabric, and tying them together to form a mesh.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

This resolve is what Oleksandra Bilokur symbolises. "Ukraine must fight till the end, Ukraine must fight for its freedom," says the 23-year-old, who is a coordinator for the volunteers.

Since then, around 100 volunteers have made it to the building in the city's east every day to make camouflage nets for the forces, ripping into small strips donated clothes or fabric, and tying them together to form a mesh.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

"Ukraine must fight till the end, Ukraine must fight for its freedom," says the 23-year-old, who is a coordinator for the volunteers.

Since then, around 100 volunteers have made it to the building in the city's east every day to make camouflage nets for the forces, ripping into small strips donated clothes or fabric, and tying them together to form a mesh.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

This resolve is what Oleksandra Bilokur symbolises. "Ukraine must fight till the end, Ukraine must fight for its freedom," says the 23-year-old, who is a coordinator for the volunteers.

Since then, around 100 volunteers have made it to the building in the city's east every day to make camouflage nets for the forces, ripping into small strips donated clothes or fabric, and tying them together to form a mesh.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

New Bill puts Centre at centre of MCD, signals delayed polls.

MALLICA JOSHI & ABHINAV RAJPUT
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

SLATED TO be introduced in Parliament by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday, the Delhi Municipal Corporation Amendment Bill, which seeks to unify the three municipal corporations in the national capital, will give complete control of the civic body to the Centre, according to its key provisions.

Apart from replacing the word "Government" with "Central Government", the provisions raise the prospect of a delimitation exercise, which could lead to a considerable delay in the conduct of civic body polls.

To run the corporation till then, they give the Centre the option of appointing an officer of its choice.

The Bill, which was passed by the Union Cabinet on Tuesday, states that in at least 11 sections

EXPLAINED E Delhi Steering in Centre hands

THE NEW law gives the Centre complete control of the national capital's civic bodies even before the election is held. The Centre's Special Officer can take charge after the proposed law comes into force.

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

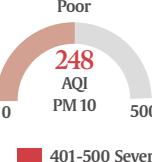
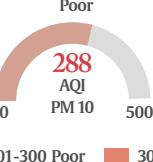
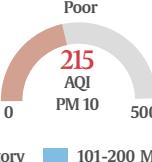
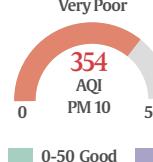
CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.

Osella, who is Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies at the University of Sussex, is a specialist in Kerala society and has conducted extensive research for over 30 years in the state, mapping its social

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

FILIPPO OSELLA, 65, a leading anthropologist and sociologist from the UK, was denied entry and deported to his country as he landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday morning.



UAPA CASE

No bail for Umar, court says role in 2020 riots apparent

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

A DELHI court Thursday agreed with key arguments presented by the defence counsel, including on "inconsistencies" in statements made by some prosecution witnesses, but rejected the bail plea of former JNU student Umar Khalid in a case lodged under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) on the riots in Northeast Delhi in 2020. It said that from a "broad reading" of all the statements recorded, "the role of the accused Umar Khalid in the context of conspiracy and riots is apparent".

Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat said he agreed with Khalid's counsel, senior advocate Trideep Pais, that there are "inconsistencies in the statement of some protected witnesses" but added that a "finding has to be given on the cumulative reading of statements of all witnesses and other events presented in the chargesheet".

Pais had argued that the protected witnesses had made inconsistent statements — and that his client did not write anything provocative in any incriminating WhatsApp group, as al-

Chintels collapse: IIT prelim report points to corrosion, rust in pieces found in debris

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GURGAON, MARCH 24

A PRELIMINARY inspection report submitted by a team from IIT-Delhi to the committee probing the collapse of a portion of a tower at Chintels Paradiso society in Gurgaon's Sector 109 last month has found that the steel reinforcements in debris and collapsed portion were corroded, and there were rust marks on pieces of concrete.

The report, submitted earlier this month, stated, "The steel reinforcements, that could be observed in the debris and in the remnants of collapsed portion, was seen to be significantly corroded. Rust marks were also seen on pieces of concrete that

As per the report, it was rec-

ommended that a detailed structural audit of the condominium be conducted and material testing be carried out for any deficiencies.

A three-member team from IIT-Delhi had visited the society for an inspection on March 6.



Khalid has been in jail since Sept 2020

could be seen in debris. There were cracks in the beams and vital cracks in the external columns."

The report noted that cracks were observed in floor tiles in several flats, and residents informed that frequent repairs were carried out in buildings and at the sixth-floor flat, where the collapse had happened. It added that the corrosion had led to the reduction in the diameter of steel bars.

As per the report, it was rec-

ommended that a detailed structural audit of the condominium be conducted and material testing be carried out for any deficiencies.

The court largely agreed with arguments put forward by Special Public Prosecutor Amit Prasad on the conspiracy aspect.

It noted that it is "also important to highlight that in a conspiracy, various continuous acts are committed by different accused persons. One act cannot be read in isolation. At times, if read by itself, a particular act or an activity may appear innocuous, but if it is a part of a chain of events constituting a conspiracy, then all the events must be read together."

The defence had argued that it is their "Constitutional right to protest" against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA)-National Register of Citizens (NRC). The court held: "There is no gainsaying the sacrosanct fundamental right of speech and free expression subject to public order available to every citizen of this country including the accused, as enunciated in Article 19 of the Constitution of India." However, it said, the chargesheet presents the case of conspiracy under the guise of a protest.

The defence had argued that it is their "Constitutional right to protest" against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA)-National Register of Citizens (NRC). The court held: "There is no gainsaying the sacrosanct fundamental right of speech and free expression subject to public order available to every citizen of this country including the accused, as enunciated in Article 19 of the Constitution of India." However, it said, the chargesheet presents the case of conspiracy under the guise of a protest.

The court noted that Khalid's name "finds a recurring mention from the beginning of the conspiracy till the riots". It said the statements of numerous witnesses highlight the incriminating

material against the accused. "From a broad reading of all the statements, the role of the accused Umar Khalid in the context of conspiracy and riots is apparent that every accused should be present at the spot," the court said.

The court also relied on a witness statement that the accused wanted to move out of Delhi before the riots. The statement said that Khalid had dismissed a suggestion from another witness that flight tickets to Patna, where he was headed, were expensive and may be booked at a later stage.

On arguments that Khalid was a researcher and his bent of mind can be accessed by his doctoral thesis on the welfare aspects of advisement of Jharkhand, the court said it was not relevant point of consideration. "If the bent of mind is to be assessed in this manner, then the co-accused Sharjeel Imam has written thesis on riots but any thesis or research work, by itself, done by any accused cannot be a ground for assessing 'mens rea' (criminal intent) or his bent of mind," the court said.

The court noted that Khalid's name "finds a recurring mention from the beginning of the conspiracy till the riots". It said the statements of numerous witnesses highlight the incriminating

material against the accused. "From a broad reading of all the statements, the role of the accused Umar Khalid in the context of conspiracy and riots is apparent that every accused should be present at the spot," the court said.

The court also relied on a witness statement that the accused wanted to move out of Delhi before the riots. The statement said that Khalid had dismissed a suggestion from another witness that flight tickets to Patna, where he was headed, were expensive and may be booked at a later stage.

On arguments that Khalid was a researcher and his bent of mind can be accessed by his doctoral thesis on the welfare aspects of advisement of Jharkhand, the court said it was not relevant point of consideration. "If the bent of mind is to be assessed in this manner, then the co-accused Sharjeel Imam has written thesis on riots but any thesis or research work, by itself, done by any accused cannot be a ground for assessing 'mens rea' (criminal intent) or his bent of mind," the court said.

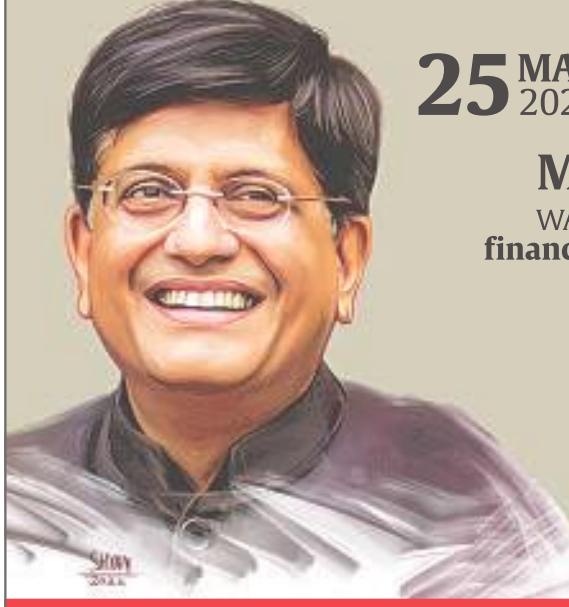
The court noted that Khalid's name "finds a recurring mention from the beginning of the conspiracy till the riots". It said the statements of numerous witnesses highlight the incriminating

HONOURING THE BEST FINANCIAL MINDS IN INDIA INC.

FINANCIAL EXPRESS PRESENTS FE CFO OF THE YEAR AWARDS, 2022.

FECFO awards

Chief Guest



Shri Piyush Goyal

Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles

Leadership Talk

25 MAR 2022 | 6:00 PM

MUMBAI

WATCH LIVE ON financialexpress.com



Sanjiv Mehta

Chairman & Managing Director Hindustan Unilever Limited

FINANCIAL EXPRESS

Read to Lead



SBI

STATE BANK OF INDIA

STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH (SARB)
2nd Floor, Patna Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna - 800001
E-mail : sbi.05176@sbi.co.in

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

E-auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described Immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is Where is", As is What is" and "Whatever there is" basis on 28.04.2022 (Thursday). Other details of the e-auction are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of Borrower(s)	Amount of Demand (as per SARFAESI notice)	Description of the property:	Name of Mortgagor/ Guarantor	Reserve Price below which the property will not be sold
1.	M/s Firoz Coal Bhandar.	₹26,67,926.76 as on 15.08.2019 with interest from 16.08.2019 & expenses, cost & other charges etc.	Simple Mortgage of all that part and parcel of the property in the name of Equitable mortgage of all that land measuring 1.674 decimal located at Khata No. 136, Khesra No. 157, Ward No. 13, Jamaband No. 189, Thana No. 244, Tauzi No. 1474 P.S. Swamian standing in the name of Firoz Alam S/o Md. Gul Abbas vide Sale deed no. 5635 dated 14.05.2009. Boundary North- 8 feet rasta Niz or Haza, South- Rasta or Haza, East- Ramawati Devi, West- Sakina Khatton Hal baidar (Property Id for e-auction: SBIN400107745203)	Firoz Alam S/o Md. Gul Abbas	₹ 8,00,000/- ₹ 80,000/- ₹ 10,000/-
2.	Mr. Uma Shankar Rai S/o Late Ram Vilash Rai.	₹24,54,278.69 as on 28.02.2021 with interest from 01.03.2021 & expenses, cost & other charges etc.	Simple Mortgage of all that part and parcel of the property in the name of All that land measuring 0.325 Decimal located at survey plot No-1060, Khata No. 16, Mauza-Mustafapur, Paragona Phoolwari, Tazia No. 5241, Thana no. 36, PS-Khagaul, Sub Registry Danapur, Dist- Patna standing in the name of Uma Shankar Rai S/o Late Ram Vilash Rai. vide sale deed no. 10050 dated 21.09.2015. Boundary North- survey plot no. 1059, South- Satyendra Singh, East- Smt. Pinki Singh, West- 5 Feet wide rasta kharidan apne jamin se chhorenge jo rasta survey aahar tak rahega (Property Id for e-auction: SBIN85154614457)	Uma Shankar Rai S/o Late Ram Vilash Rai.	₹ 21,00,000/- ₹ 2,10,000/- ₹ 10,000/-
3.	Smt. Amrita Gupta & Shri Amritesh Kumar Gupta.	₹61,45,479.47 as on 31.05.2021 with interest from 01.06.2021 & expenses, cost & other charges etc.	Immovable properties (Flat along with Car parking Space) in the name of Smt. Amrita Gupta W/o Sri Amritesh Kumar Gupta and Shri Amritesh Kumar Gupta S/o Sri Deo Narayan Prasad vide Deed No-872, dated 02.02.2018, Flat No. - 303 of Block- C on third Floor in "Terrace Gardenia" Which is situated at Sheo Shambhu Nagar Colony, Behind Laddoo Gopal, Ashiyana Digha Road, Patna, Bihar. At Present P.S.- Rajiv Nagar, District Registry Office of Patna Sadar, District - Patna, Tazia No. 5173, 5586, 5587, Khata No. 30, 49, 137, 140, 151, 157 Khesra Survey Plot No. 486 490, 491, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533. Boundary of Flat 303 BLOCK C : North : Stair then Flat No. 304 Block C, South : Lift then Flat No.302 Block C, East : Corridor then Flat No. 306 Block C, West : Set Back, Boundary of car parking for Flat 303 : North : Parking Space No. 403, South : Parking Space No. 103, East : Staircase, West : Set Back, Boundary of Entire Land : North : Land of Vishwa Vijay Singh/Mahabali Singh, South : Mundeshwari Endave Project, East : Branch Road/ Sheo Shambhu Colony, West : D.N. Pandit Plot No 526, 527. (Property Id for e-auction: SBIN80355290245)	Smt. Amrita Gupta W/o Sri Amritesh Kumar Gupta S/o Sri Deo Narayan Prasad	₹ 75,00,000/- ₹ 7,50,000/- ₹ 50,000/-

e-Auction Terms And Condition

- Date & Time of e-auction : 28.04.2022 (Thursday); Time : From 12:00 Noon to 14:00 PM. with unlimited extension of 10 Minutes each.
 - The auction sale will be "online through e-auction". The intending Bidders/ Purchasers are required to participate in the e-Auction process at e-Auction Service Provider's website <https://mstce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>.
 - MSTC Central Helpdesk Number (for any technical help): 033-40645207, 40609118, 40645316, 40602403, 40067351, 4028253.
 - The Detailed Terms and Conditions of e-auction sale is available on the website: <https://sbi.co.in/web/sbi-in-the-news-auction-notices/sarfaesi-and-others>.
- This publication is also a 30 days notice to all the borrower/guarantors require under Rule 8(6) of Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002.

Date : 23.03.2022

Place : Patna

AUTHORISED OFFICER
STATE BANK OF INDIA, SARB, PATNA

Satyendranath Tagore Civil Services Study Centre (SNTCSSC)
Government of West Bengal

IAS / IPS / other Allied Services INTERVIEW TRAINING - MOCK INTERVIEW

- SNTCSSC congratulates the young women and men of West Bengal who cleared the UPSC conducted Mains 2021 and are poised to appear for the Personality Test (PT) scheduled to start shortly.

- SNTCSSC invites them to join its intensive interview training sessions and appear at the series of Mock Interviews from 26th March 2022.

- Boards will consist of senior IAS / IPS etc. officers, (both serving and retired), distinguished academicians and domain experts with rich experience.

- SNTCSSC will provide hostel accommodation to candidates living in faraway districts, on request.

For further information visit www.csswb.in. Contact : iascoaching.sntcssc@gmail.com

Phone no: 9051829290/(033) 23410119/123/109 (during office hours)

Canara Bank

Regional Office - II

2nd Floor, Maurya Tower, Maurya Lok Complex, Patna

POSSESSION NOTICE [SECTION 13(4)] (For Immoveable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Canara Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon the borrower and also owner of the property/surety to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from date of the said notice.

The borrower and also the owner of the property/surety having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the owner of the property and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 & 9 of the said rules on the dates mentioned against account. The owner of the property in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the Canara Bank for the amount and interest/costs thereon, mentioned against account herein below.

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

BRANCH : SAMASTIPUR - II

Borrower: Rakesh Kumar Pandey, S/o Sri Surya Kant Pandey, Amount outstanding of ₹ 8.45 Lakh (Rs. Eight lakh forty five thousand only) with interest and incidental charges and costs, Date of Demand Notice-30.12.2021, Date of Possession- 21.03.2022, Description of the Immoveable property: Title holder- Rakesh Kumar Pandey, S/o Sri Surya



VACCINATIONS IN LAST 24 HOURS

79,659

PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL:

80 OXYGEN SUPPORT 4 VENTILATOR SUPPORT 1



DELHI: TOTAL CASES

18,64,246

ICU BEDS

2,310

Tests

32,800

Total active cases in Delhi

Total	Vacant
HOSPITAL BEDS 10,205	10,126
ICU BEDS 2,310	2,291
Deaths 0	0
Total 3,72,05,860	

NOIDA	Mar 23	Mar 24
Cases N/A	N/A	N/A
Deaths N/A	N/A	N/A
GURGAON		
Cases 62	48	
Deaths 0	0	

ACCUSES BJP OF PRESSURING STATE PANEL TO POSTPONE MCD POLLS

Kejriwal takes aim at PM: 'Claims of 56-inch seena false'

MALLICA JOSHI
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

CHIEF MINISTER Arvind Kejriwal launched an attack against the BJP Thursday, accusing it of "hating" BR Ambedkar and wanting to do away with elections. He was addressing the Delhi Assembly during the ongoing budget session.

Kejriwal alleged that the BJP-run Centre had pressured the State Election Commission (SEC) to postpone MCD elections because it was scared of going up against a "small party (AAP)."

On March 9, the SEC had said that the polls would be held in April but had to issue a clarification within hours that they were not in a position to announce the dates as the Centre had written to them, saying they wanted to bring a Bill to unify the three MCDs.

Since the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, where it lost all seven seats in Delhi, Kejriwal has refrained from directly attacking Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Even before the 2020 Delhi Assembly polls, he had kept the focus on work done by his party.

Buoyed by his party's landslide win in the Punjab Assembly polls, Kejriwal Thursday took aim at the



The CM was addressing the Delhi Assembly during the ongoing budget session. PTI

PM, saying that claims about the "56 inch ka seena were false".

"In December, polls are due in Gujarat and people are saying BJP will lose. If they are about to lose, they will write to the EC 10 days before the polls saying we are unifying Maharashtra and Gujarat so polls should be deferred. Next time they will be set to lose Lok Sabha polls, they will write a letter saying that the parliamentary system is bad, and we are bringing in the presidential form of government, defer the polls. What is this drama, what is this nautanki? India is a

democracy, the people will not tolerate this nautanki. They say they are the biggest party. We are the smallest. You are still scared? Kya kyar ho, yaar. If you have guts, fight polls. Kehte ho 56 inch ka seena hai, election karo nahi toh kurt e ke neechi 56 inch ka seena nahi hoi, jhoot hai," he said.

Kejriwal also said that BJP believes elections are "bad". "We did not get any appreciation when we said that photos of Bhagat Singh and Babasaheb Ambedkar will be put in all government offices... I will tell you why the opposition, especially

BJP, hates Ambedkar. He drafted the Constitution which established India as a democracy where people will vote and choose their government. But BJP doesn't want polls, polls are bad according to them," he said.

He said that there are murmurs that the BJP wants the MCD to function like the New Delhi Municipal Council, where members are nominated, not elected. "If it were up to them, they will stop all elections in the country. This is why they hate Ambedkar, they don't want elections," he said.

'Put Kashmir Files on YouTube, it will be free for all to see': CM to BJP leaders

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24ATTACKING THE BJP for promoting *The Kashmir Files* and demanding that it be made tax free in Delhi, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said "some people were earning crores" by exploiting the suffering of Kashmiri Pandits, while BJP leaders had been "reduced" to putting up posters of the movie.

If the BJP wants everyone to watch the movie, filmmaker Vivek Agnihotri should release it on YouTube so that it is available to everyone for free, he said. "Keh rahe hain *Kashmir Files* tax free kar. Arre, YouTube pe daal do, free hi free ho jayegi. Tax free kyun kara rhe? Itna hi tum ko shauk hai, Vivek Agnihotri ko bol do, YouTube pe daal dega. Saari picture free hai saare jaake dekh lenge ek hi din ke andar" (They are saying make *Kashmir Files* tax free. Put it on YouTube, it will be free for all.

Why do you want it to be tax free? If you want this done so badly, tell Vivek Agnihotri and he will put it on YouTube. Everyone will watch it in one day," he said.

The movie has already been declared tax free in several states including UP, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Chandigarh and Himachal Pradesh.

"Aaj saare desh ki saari Bharatiya Janata Party ek picture ke poster laga rahi hai gal-gali main jaake. Isliye rajneeti karne aaye the? Picture ke poster lagane?

Apne bachchon ko kya jawab doge?... 8 saal kendriya sarkar chalane ke baad agar kisi desh ke pradhan mantri ko Vivek Agnihotri ke charni main sharan leni pade, toh iska matlab hui uss pradhan mantri ne 8 saal main koi kaam nahi kia (Today, the BJP across the country is putting up posters for a movie in every street. Did you come into politics to do this? What will you tell your children when you go home?... If a Prime Minister, after running a country

for eight years, has to seek refuge at the feet of Vivek Agnihotri, it means he hasn't done anything in his tenure)," Kejriwal said.

"I read in a newspaper yesterday that a BJP MLA in Haryana was screening the movie for free in a park. Vivek Agnihotri tweeted immediately, asking (Haryana CM) Manohar Lal Khattar to make sure that people buy tickets to the movie.

Some people are earning crores of rupees in the name of Kashmiri Pandits and you (BJP) leaders have been asked to put up posters. What are you doing? Open your eyes. What have they reduced you to? They are treating you like sheep," he said.

He said the BJP had not been of any help to the people of Delhi. "Even Hitler employed his lackeys. What did they give you? Did your children get jobs, did they make arrangements for food and power? Only Kejriwal works for you. Power in your house is free. I gave jobs to 12 lakh youngsters

of Delhi, improved schools and hospitals. If someone is unwell in your house, Kejriwal gets them medicine, not Modi. I want to tell all BJP workers and supporters, open your mind a bit and stop this mindless following... All of you quit BJP and join AAP. You will be respected, we will not make you raise false slogans and we won't make you put up posters of these false movies either. We will work on nation-building together. Stop promoting a movie..." he said, as laughter rang out in the Vidhan Sabha.

Hitting back, BJP MP Manoj Tiwari said: "Arvind Kejriwal was, and is, and will remain Hindu Virodhi. He made fun of Hindus in the Assembly today and AAP MLAs were clapping. You will be able to please your voter bank, but it is clear the Kashmiri genocide happened because of people like you."

BJP national general secretary Dushyant Gautam said Kejriwal had "insulted all those Kashmiri Pandits who lost everything".

Soon, East and Northeast Delhi areas to get water supply round the clock

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

THE DELHI Jal Board has kick-started the process to extend round-the-clock water supply to parts of East and Northeast Delhi.

The attempt to provide 24x7 water supply was launched as a pilot project in 2013. Since then, it has only covered parts of Malviya Nagar, Vasant Vihar and Nangloi. This project is now being extended to cover East and Northeast Delhi on a similar PPP model and the process to tender the work has begun. But the private firm that will take up work in East and Northeast Delhi will also have to operate and maintain the sewerage network and provide sewer connections, which was not part of the mandate for agencies running the water supply system in the three areas part of the pilot project.

Increasing the supply of water itself has been a hurdle in extending the project to other areas. A senior Delhi government official said efforts are on to augment supply by extracting more groundwater via tube wells and optimising efficiency of production.

The capacity of the water treatment plant at Chandrawal was recently increased from 94 million gallons per day (MDG) to 104 MDG through engineering interventions, the official said.

Attempts are also being

IN THE PIPELINE

₹ 458.20 cr

Estimated cost of setting up pipelines, reservoirs, leak detection system

■ Pilot project launched in 2013

■ Existing 24x7 water supply project has covered only parts of Malviya Nagar, Nangloi, Vasant Vihar



The DJB has 117 primary underground reservoirs where water is stored.

AREAS TO BE COVERED:

East, Northeast Delhi (Trilokpuri, Patparganj, Shahdara, Seemapuri, Seelampur, Babarpur, Ghonda, Rohtas Nagar, Karawala Nagar, Kondli, Laxmi Nagar, Vishwas Nagar, Krishna Nagar, Gandhi Nagar, Mustafabad)

ground reservoirs from where it is distributed. From the primary underground reservoir onwards, the system will be handled by the private firm, though the assets, including the reservoirs, will remain with the DJB.

Since the existing network is large, bringing in a private firm to maintain it could help prevent delays in services, and improve accountability and coordination, the official said. The agency will have to improve the supply network and replace pipelines where needed, besides ensuring sewer connections are provided for all households in the zone.

To ensure 24x7 supply, the city has been divided into three zones — East and Northeast, South and Southwest, and West and Northwest. A tender for the project was invited in December and 7-8 bidders have expressed interest, the official said.

The tender document describes the objective of the project as "design, finance, construction, rehabilitation, operation, maintenance & management of water supply and sewerage networks". It identifies the construction phase as two years and eight months. After that, the agency will have to operate and maintain the system for 15 years. East and Northeast areas currently have over 10 lakh connections.

As per the tender, the project could cost around Rs 458 crore (capital expenditure).

made to reduce transmission losses by installing flow meters that can help track leakages and theft. Around 3,000 such meters have been installed so far.

In East and Northeast zones, the private agency will take charge of water distribution — maintain pipelines, install meters, set up customer care centres, check leakages, bill and collect revenue. The DJB will be responsible for providing adequate water, the official added.

As per the official, the private agency being brought in to manage the distribution network will not affect prices for consumers.

The DJB has 117 primary underground reservoirs where water is stored after treatment, and 400-500 secondary under-

ground reservoirs into closed-loop sections that will be monitored separately for consumption and losses. The loop will also remain pressurised at all times, and consumers will not have to install booster pumps, the official added.

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he told me that I have to call him back. Then I went to Pul Prabhadeep police station where I met the SHO. I told him about the incident, but instead of taking action, he called one of the MP's nephews and asked me to talk to him."

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he told me that I have to call him back. Then I went to Pul Prabhadeep police station where I met the SHO. I told him about the incident, but instead of taking action, he called one of the MP's nephews and asked me to talk to him."

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he told me that I have to call him back. Then I went to Pul Prabhadeep police station where I met the SHO. I told him about the incident, but instead of taking action, he called one of the MP's nephews and asked me to talk to him."

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he told me that I have to call him back. Then I went to Pul Prabhadeep police station where I met the SHO. I told him about the incident, but instead of taking action, he called one of the MP's nephews and asked me to talk to him."

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he told me that I have to call him back. Then I went to Pul Prabhadeep police station where I met the SHO. I told him about the incident, but instead of taking action, he called one of the MP's nephews and asked me to talk to him."

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he told me that I have to call him back. Then I went to Pul Prabhadeep police station where I met the SHO. I told him about the incident, but instead of taking action, he called one of the MP's nephews and asked me to talk to him."

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he told me that I have to call him back. Then I went to Pul Prabhadeep police station where I met the SHO. I told him about the incident, but instead of taking action, he called one of the MP's nephews and asked me to talk to him."

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he told me that I have to call him back. Then I went to Pul Prabhadeep police station where I met the SHO. I told him about the incident, but instead of taking action, he called one of the MP's nephews and asked me to talk to him."

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he told me that I have to call him back. Then I went to Pul Prabhadeep police station where I met the SHO. I told him about the incident, but instead of taking action, he called one of the MP's nephews and asked me to talk to him."

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he told me that I have to call him back. Then I went to Pul Prabhadeep police station where I met the SHO. I told him about the incident, but instead of taking action, he called one of the MP's nephews and asked me to talk to him."

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he told me that I have to call him back. Then I went to Pul Prabhadeep police station where I met the SHO. I told him about the incident, but instead of taking action, he called one of the MP's nephews and asked me to talk to him."

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he told me that I have to call him back. Then I went to Pul Prabhadeep police station where I met the SHO. I told him about the incident, but instead of taking action, he called one of the MP's nephews and asked me to talk to him."

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he told me that I have to call him back. Then I went to Pul Prabhadeep police station where I met the SHO. I told him about the incident, but instead of taking action, he called one of the MP's nephews and asked me to talk to him."

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he told me that I have to call him back. Then I went to Pul Prabhadeep police station where I met the SHO. I told him about the incident, but instead of taking action, he called one of the MP's nephews and asked me to talk to him."

He claimed that on February 14, two of his employees were assaulted by the accused. He alleged, "I made a call to MP Bidhuri from the spot, informing him that these people were beating my employees and stopping work. But he

IN PARLIAMENT ✓ BUDGET SESSION

FROM THE GALLERY

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Heritage Railways are like the jewels of India. How can you lease out the house jewels?... We understand that the Railways needs to make a profit, but you can still make a profit without selling the family silver."

JAWAHAR SIRCAR
TMC Raja Sabha MP

5 QUESTIONS

CONGRESS MP K SUDHAKARAN, FROM KANNUR IN KERALA, TELLS LIZ MATHEW ABOUT THE REJECTION OF ONE OF HIS QUESTIONS IN LOK SABHA.

Has any question raised by you been rejected? What was the question?

Lok Sabha Speaker disallowed my question to the Prime Minister on rising communalism and the National Security Council's threat assessment of the recent controversy pertaining to religious garments worn by students. The question also sought for the National Security Council's assessment of the threats on national unity and harmony from communalism in the short, medium, and long term.

What was the reason given to you for not addressing the question?
The status on the notice of questions submitted by an MP appears in their respective members' portal profile that receives timely updates from Lok Sabha Secretariat. There was no reason specified for disallowing my question that was to be answered on Wednesday.

Has this happened in the past?
Yes, this is the second time that one of my questions on communalism has been disallowed by Lok Sabha in the ongoing Budget Session. Earlier, I raised a question notice to the Home Minister on February 8, seeking data on religious and caste-based atrocities in India and the steps taken by the government to curb hate speech.

Why do you think the government is not responding to queries on such issues?

The National Crime Records Bureau had reported that the cases of communal rioting in India increased by 96 per cent and caste riots increased by nearly 50 per cent in 2020... The BJP wants to hide this reality from the public. When the government is obdurate, parliamentary procedures turn out to be mere means to a goal. The ruling dispensation neither exhibits the willingness to listen to dissenting voices nor gives them space in public discourse.

How are you planning to take up this issue?

After my question on religious atrocities was rejected in February, I wrote a letter to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla seeking reasons for the same, but there was no response... the Congress Parliamentary Party MPs will jointly approach the Speaker, and we will expose such wrongdoings in public.

IN RS, JAISHANKAR ARTICULATES INDIA'S POSITION ON RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE

Our decisions in national interest, for peace: Govt

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24



Jaishankar speaks in Rajya Sabha on Thursday. PTI

✓

TOPIC : Cooperative Societies. # 7th Schedule? # WHAT ARE THEY ? # WHATS PARLIAMENTARY Standing Committee? # Role of Cooperation Ministry?

On cooperatives, House panel tells Govt: Ensure federal features intact

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

EXPLAINED E. Concern in states

IN SEPTEMBER 2021, Amit Shah said his ministry will start formulating a new cooperative policy. The existing one was brought in 2002. The House panel, headed by a BJP MP, has echoed concerns of states over changes to the law.

not impinged upon and all the stakeholders in the Cooperative Sector are duly benefitted," the committee said in its report.

Stating that the ministry is presently functioning from "temporary" office accommodations at different places with an actual staff strength of 43, the committee has urged the Cooperation Ministry to take "time-bound action" to resolve issues relating to establishment matters.

The committee also recommended that the ministry "persistently pursue" posting of more and more staff to the Ministry till it gets its total sanctioned strength of manpower.

Appreciating the new policy initiatives of the ministry, the committee hoped that the New National Cooperation Policy will be evolved after thorough analysis of issues and corrective remedial measures finalised through regular consultations with all stakeholders in the sector.

According to the report, the ministry has informed the committee that it had received responses from 35 stakeholders, including 10 ministries and 6 states.

"After due consultation with all stakeholders, we intend to finalise 'New Cooperation Policy' within the calendar year 2022 to realize the aim of 'Sahakar se Samridhhi,'" the report said.

called for immediate cessation of violence and end to all hostilities, it stated.

Responding to Mani's supplementary question on the US describing India's position as "somewhat shaky" among the Quad countries against the Russian invasion and its possible implications on India-US trade, Jaishankar said "there is no question of linking the Ukraine situation to issues of trade".

Apart from the US and India, Australia and Japan are part of the Quad grouping.

In his oral and written submissions in the House, Jaishankar pointed out that ever since the hostilities broke out, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has spoken to Russian President Vladimir Putin thrice and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky twice.

The statement, provided in response to a question raised by Kerala Congress MP Jose K Mani, emphasised that India's position on the Ukraine conflict has been "steadfast and consistent". India has expressed deep concern over the "worsening situation" and

the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states.

Four, we call for humanitarian access to the conflict situation. Five, we ourselves give humanitarian assistance, we have given 90 tonnes of humanitarian assistance so far and we are looking at providing more, especially medicines. And six, we are in touch with the leadership of both the Russian federation and Ukraine on this matter," he said.

"We are very clear on our principles. Our policy is very much guided by our belief that the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of states."

He said India's position is not that the situation involving Russia and Ukraine "is not our problem. Our position is that we are for peace".

In a written statement laid on the table of the House, the External Affairs Minister said the government has been able to safely bring home 22,500 Indian citizens and 147 foreign nationals belonging to 18 countries from Ukraine since February 2022.

The statement, provided in response to a question raised by Kerala Congress MP Jose K Mani, emphasised that India's position on the Ukraine conflict has been "steadfast and consistent". India has expressed deep concern over the "worsening situation" and

the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states.

Four, we call for humanitarian access to the conflict situation. Five, we ourselves give humanitarian assistance, we have given 90 tonnes of humanitarian assistance so far and we are looking at providing more, especially medicines. And six, we are in touch with the leadership of both the Russian federation and Ukraine on this matter," he said.

"We are very clear on our principles. Our policy is very much guided by our belief that the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of states."

He said India's position is not that the situation involving Russia and Ukraine "is not our problem. Our position is that we are for peace".

In a written statement laid on the table of the House, the External Affairs Minister said the government has been able to safely bring home 22,500 Indian citizens and 147 foreign nationals belonging to 18 countries from Ukraine since February 2022.

The statement, provided in response to a question raised by Kerala Congress MP Jose K Mani, emphasised that India's position on the Ukraine conflict has been "steadfast and consistent". India has expressed deep concern over the "worsening situation" and

the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states.

Four, we call for humanitarian access to the conflict situation. Five, we ourselves give humanitarian assistance, we have given 90 tonnes of humanitarian assistance so far and we are looking at providing more, especially medicines. And six, we are in touch with the leadership of both the Russian federation and Ukraine on this matter," he said.

"We are very clear on our principles. Our policy is very much guided by our belief that the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of states."

He said India's position is not that the situation involving Russia and Ukraine "is not our problem. Our position is that we are for peace".

In a written statement laid on the table of the House, the External Affairs Minister said the government has been able to safely bring home 22,500 Indian citizens and 147 foreign nationals belonging to 18 countries from Ukraine since February 2022.

The statement, provided in response to a question raised by Kerala Congress MP Jose K Mani, emphasised that India's position on the Ukraine conflict has been "steadfast and consistent". India has expressed deep concern over the "worsening situation" and

the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states.

Four, we call for humanitarian access to the conflict situation. Five, we ourselves give humanitarian assistance, we have given 90 tonnes of humanitarian assistance so far and we are looking at providing more, especially medicines. And six, we are in touch with the leadership of both the Russian federation and Ukraine on this matter," he said.

"We are very clear on our principles. Our policy is very much guided by our belief that the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of states."

He said India's position is not that the situation involving Russia and Ukraine "is not our problem. Our position is that we are for peace".

In a written statement laid on the table of the House, the External Affairs Minister said the government has been able to safely bring home 22,500 Indian citizens and 147 foreign nationals belonging to 18 countries from Ukraine since February 2022.

The statement, provided in response to a question raised by Kerala Congress MP Jose K Mani, emphasised that India's position on the Ukraine conflict has been "steadfast and consistent". India has expressed deep concern over the "worsening situation" and

the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states.

Four, we call for humanitarian access to the conflict situation. Five, we ourselves give humanitarian assistance, we have given 90 tonnes of humanitarian assistance so far and we are looking at providing more, especially medicines. And six, we are in touch with the leadership of both the Russian federation and Ukraine on this matter," he said.

"We are very clear on our principles. Our policy is very much guided by our belief that the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of states."

He said India's position is not that the situation involving Russia and Ukraine "is not our problem. Our position is that we are for peace".

In a written statement laid on the table of the House, the External Affairs Minister said the government has been able to safely bring home 22,500 Indian citizens and 147 foreign nationals belonging to 18 countries from Ukraine since February 2022.

The statement, provided in response to a question raised by Kerala Congress MP Jose K Mani, emphasised that India's position on the Ukraine conflict has been "steadfast and consistent". India has expressed deep concern over the "worsening situation" and

the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states.

Four, we call for humanitarian access to the conflict situation. Five, we ourselves give humanitarian assistance, we have given 90 tonnes of humanitarian assistance so far and we are looking at providing more, especially medicines. And six, we are in touch with the leadership of both the Russian federation and Ukraine on this matter," he said.

"We are very clear on our principles. Our policy is very much guided by our belief that the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of states."

He said India's position is not that the situation involving Russia and Ukraine "is not our problem. Our position is that we are for peace".

In a written statement laid on the table of the House, the External Affairs Minister said the government has been able to safely bring home 22,500 Indian citizens and 147 foreign nationals belonging to 18 countries from Ukraine since February 2022.

The statement, provided in response to a question raised by Kerala Congress MP Jose K Mani, emphasised that India's position on the Ukraine conflict has been "steadfast and consistent". India has expressed deep concern over the "worsening situation" and

the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states.

Four, we call for humanitarian access to the conflict situation. Five, we ourselves give humanitarian assistance, we have given 90 tonnes of humanitarian assistance so far and we are looking at providing more, especially medicines. And six, we are in touch with the leadership of both the Russian federation and Ukraine on this matter," he said.

"We are very clear on our principles. Our policy is very much guided by our belief that the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of states."

He said India's position is not that the situation involving Russia and Ukraine "is not our problem. Our position is that we are for peace".

In a written statement laid on the table of the House, the External Affairs Minister said the government has been able to safely bring home 22,500 Indian citizens and 147 foreign nationals belonging to 18 countries from Ukraine since February 2022.

The statement, provided in response to a question raised by Kerala Congress MP Jose K Mani, emphasised that India's position on the Ukraine conflict has been "steadfast and consistent". India has expressed deep concern over the "worsening situation" and

the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states.

Four, we call for humanitarian access to the conflict situation. Five, we ourselves give humanitarian assistance, we have given 90 tonnes of humanitarian assistance so far and we are looking at providing more, especially medicines. And six, we are in touch with the leadership of both the Russian federation and Ukraine on this matter," he said.

"We are very clear on our principles. Our policy is very much guided by our belief that the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of states."

He said India's position is not that the situation involving Russia and Ukraine "is not our problem. Our position is that we are for peace".

In a written statement laid on the table of the House, the External Affairs Minister said the government has been able to safely bring home 22,500 Indian citizens and 147 foreign nationals belonging to 18 countries from Ukraine since February 2022.

The statement, provided in response to a question raised by Kerala Congress MP Jose K Mani, emphasised that India's position on the Ukraine conflict has been "steadfast and consistent". India has expressed deep concern over the "worsening situation" and

the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states.

Four, we call for humanitarian access to the conflict situation. Five, we ourselves give humanitarian assistance, we have given 90 tonnes of humanitarian assistance so far and we are looking at providing more, especially medicines. And six, we are in touch with the leadership of both the Russian federation and Ukraine on this matter," he said.

"We are very clear on our principles. Our policy is very much guided by our belief that the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of states."

He said India's position is not that the situation involving Russia and Ukraine "is not our problem. Our position is that we are for peace".

In a written statement laid on the table of the House, the External Affairs Minister said the government has been able to safely bring home 22,500 Indian citizens and 147 foreign nationals belonging to 18 countries from Ukraine since February 2022.

The statement, provided in response to a question raised by Kerala Congress MP Jose K Mani, emphasised that India's position on the Ukraine conflict has been "steadfast and consistent". India has expressed deep concern over the "worsening situation" and

the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states.

Four, we call for humanitarian access to the conflict situation. Five, we ourselves give humanitarian assistance, we have given 90 tonnes of humanitarian assistance so far and we are looking at providing more, especially medicines. And six, we are in touch with the leadership of both the Russian federation and Ukraine on this matter," he said.

"We are very clear on our principles. Our policy is very much guided by our belief that the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of states."

He said India's position is not that the situation involving Russia and Ukraine "is not our problem. Our position is that we are for peace".

In a written statement laid on the table of the House, the External Affairs Minister said the government has been able to safely bring home 22,500 Indian citizens and 147 foreign nationals belonging to 18 countries from Ukraine since February 2022.

The statement, provided in response to a question raised by Kerala Congress MP Jose K Mani, emphasised that India's position on the Ukraine conflict has been "steadfast and consistent". India has expressed deep concern over the "worsening situation" and

the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states.

Four, we call for humanitarian access to the conflict situation. Five, we ourselves give humanitarian assistance, we have given 90 tonnes of humanitarian assistance so far and we are looking at providing more, especially medicines. And six, we are in touch with the leadership of both the Russian federation and Ukraine on this matter," he said.

"We are very clear on our principles. Our policy is very much guided by our belief that the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of states."

He said India's position is not that the situation involving Russia and Ukraine "is not our problem. Our position is that we are for peace".

In a written statement laid on the table of the House, the External Affairs Minister said the government has been able to safely bring home 22,500 Indian citizens and 147 foreign nationals belonging to 18 countries from Ukraine since February 2022.

The statement, provided in response to a question raised by Kerala Congress MP Jose K Mani, emphasised that India's position on the Ukraine conflict has been "steadfast and consistent". India has expressed deep concern over the "worsening situation" and

the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states.

Four, we call for humanitarian access to the conflict situation. Five, we ourselves give humanitarian assistance, we have given 90 tonnes of humanitarian assistance so far and we are looking at providing more, especially medicines. And six, we are in touch with the leadership of both the Russian federation and Ukraine on this matter," he said.

"We are very clear on our principles. Our policy is very much guided by our belief that the international order must respect territorial integrity and sovereignty of states."

He said India's position is not that the situation involving Russia and Ukraine "is not our problem. Our position is that we are for peace".

In a written statement laid on the table of the House, the External Affairs Minister said the government has been able to safely bring home 22,500 Indian citizens and 147 foreign nationals belonging to 18 countries from Ukraine since February 2022.

</div

India's STAND on Russia-Ukraine

ABSTAINED in UNSC, UNGA.

BASED on 6 Principles

PEACE : Cease Hostilities immediately

DIPLOMACY : TALK

INTERNATIONAL LAW & TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY : RESPECT

HUMANITARIAN ACCESS : SHOULD BE AVAILABLE

India Unveil & Will Give Humanitarian Aid

India in Touch with BOTH PARTIES

CORE
(a) BASIS = Indian NATIONAL INTEREST
(b) IDEOLOGY = WE ARE NOT ISOLATIONISTS, WE ARE FOR PEACE
∴ NAM in OPERATION
[(a) + (b) = NAM]

FAQ

WHAT ARE INDIAN INTERESTS

IMPORTANCE OF RUSSIA FOR INDIA

IMPORTANCE OF UKRAINE ..

General Interests i.e. Precedents

WHICH WE DON'T WANT TO BE SET OR WANT TO BE SET (e.g. WE SUPPORT TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY)
∴ WE HAVE BORDER DISPUTES TOO.

WHY RUSSIA invaded UKRAINE

(a) LONG TERM REASONS.

(b) SHORT TERM REASONS.

POSSIBLE SOLUTION

IMPACT ON INDIA

IMPACT ON WORLD

on UN & WORLD PEACE

on US & EUROPE

on RUSSIA

on UKRAINE

on WORLD ECONOMY

Odisha: 65% voter turnout

Bhubaneswar: Around 65 per cent overall voter turnout was reported from the urban areas of Odisha in the elections to the 106 Urban Local Bodies (ULB), held on Thursday. A maximum of 65 per

cent voter turnout was recorded in Cuttack Municipal Corporation area, followed by Bhubaneswar (50%) and Berhampur Municipal Corporation (47%) for the mayoral election in the three corporation

areas, State Election Commissioner Aditya Prasad Padhi said.

The elections were held to elect 1,899 councillors, 106 chairpersons, and mayors for 109 urban local bodies.

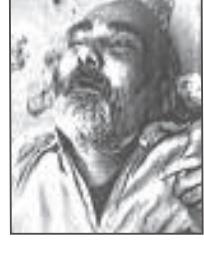
ENS

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male Namely Unknown S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown Age: 50-55 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Wearing: White coloured shirt & Black coloured pant, was found dead on 14.03.2022 from J.L.N Marg Roundabout Ramlila Maidan Kamla Market, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved for 72 hours at the Mortuary of MAMC. In this regard a DD No.75A, dated 14.03.2022 has been lodged at P.S. Kamla Market, Delhi.

If any one having any clue about deceased male may kindly inform the undersigned and contact on following numbers.

**SHO
P.S. Kamla Market, Delhi
DP/1326/CD/2022**
Ph.: 011-23230623, 23233743



SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is here by informed that this girl (depicted in the photo) namely: **Arti D/o Raju Raikwar R/o E-39, Shastri Market, Moti Bagh, New Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped from her residence since **10.03.2022 at 8.00am**. In this regard DD No. 12A dated 11.03.2022 has been registered at **PS. South Campus, New Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far.

Sex: Female, **Age:** 22 years, **Height:** 4' ft, **Face:** Round, **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Blue colour Suit white colour lag.

Any person who has information or clue about this missing/kidnapped girl may kindly inform to the following:-

**SHO
P.S. South Campus, New Delhi
Ph. No.: 011-26171719
Mob: 7065036223
DP/1085/SW/2022**

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641
Fax No.: 011-24368639

कार्यालय अधिकारी अभियन्ता, केन्द्रीय भारतीय उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान

जल भवन, 'बी' लैवर, नेहरु कामोंडी, देहरादून।

पत्रक : 938/ई-निवारा/2021-22 इ-निवारा सूचना दिनांक : 24.03.2022

उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान की ओर से केन्द्रीय भारतीय उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान कार्य हेतु ई-निवारा, दू-विड सिरस्टम (तकनीकी विड एवं कार्यालय) आधार पर नियन्त्रित की जाती है।

निवारा से सम्बन्धित संस्थान कार्यालयों के शर्ते उत्तराखण्ड की ओर येवराइट www.uktenders.gov.in एवं विभागीय वेबसाइट <http://ujts.uk.gov.in> पर और अन्न लाइ देखी। प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

निवारा सं.	विवरण	घरेलू	ई-निवारा प्राप्त ई-निवारा अपलोड करने के प्रारंभिक तिथि	तकनीकी विड करने के प्रारंभिक तिथि	निवारा प्राप्ति विवरण सूचना एवं सम्बन्धित युक्ति/विवरण इ-नेट एवं send करने की अवधि तिथि एवं समय
1	वासिक रदर अनुरक्षण एवं ISMarked C.I.Detachable Joints with full threaded bolts and nuts, rubber rings complete conforming to IS:8794/1988 for water works purpose and C.I.J. Detachable Joints with full threaded bolts and nuts, rubber rings complete conforming to IS suitable for PVC Pipes की जाती है।	4	26.03.2022 06.04.2022 तक 11:00 a.m. तक 12.04.2022 05:00 p.m.	14.04.2022 16.04.2022 तक 11:00 a.m. 120	04.04.2022 upto 11:00 a.m.
2	60,000.00	Rs. 1,27,75,820/-	23.03.2022 06.04.2022 तक 11:00 a.m. 12.04.2022 05:00 p.m.	23.03.2022 06.04.2022 तक 11:00 a.m. days	04.04.2022 upto 11:00 a.m.

अंदरूनी—Only manufacturers of ISMarked C.I.J. Detachable Joints or agency authorised by manufacturer having BIS license for IS:8794/1988 are allowed to take part in this tender.

ई-निवारा से सम्बन्धित संस्थान कार्यालयों के शर्ते उत्तराखण्ड की ओर येवराइट www.uktenders.gov.in एवं विभागीय वेबसाइट <http://ujts.uk.gov.in> पर और अन्न लाइ देखी। प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

**OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER M-3
DY. SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (T) M-3
DELHI JAL BOARD : GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI
H-BLOCK : SECTOR-15 : ROHINI - DELHI-89
E-mail Id: etenderingm3.djb@gmail.com**

SHORT PRESS NIT NO. 67 (2021-22)

Press Notice Tender

S. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to Tender Estimated cost	EMD/ Tender Fee	Date of release of tender procurement solution/ ID No.	Last date/time of receipt of bid through e-procurement solution
1.	P/LJ Water distribution system in industrial area of village Samay Pur in AO-Badi under EEE(North)-II (Presently under ACE(M)-3). (Reinvite)	Rs. 1,70,19,433/-	Rs. 3,40,400/- Rs. 1000/-	23.03.2022 2022_DJB_219426_1	23.03.2022 Upto 3.00 PM
2.	Deficiency estimate for repairing/maintenance works of DDA command post N.I Sector A-6, Pocket-11, Narela in AC-01/Narela under EEE(NW)/II (Presently under ACE(M)-3). (Re-invite)	Rs. 1,25,26,800/- Rs. 1000/-	23.03.2022 2022_DJB_219433_1	23.03.2022 Upto 3.00 PM	30.03.2022 Upto 3.00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 1301 (2021-22)

Sd/-
Dy. Superintending Engineer(T) M-3

"STOP CORONA: Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

DEHLI JAL BOARD: GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE ADD. CHIEF ENGINEER (M)-2 2142 JANTA FLATS G.T.B. ENCLAVE DELHI-110093

PRESS NIT NO 96 (2021-22)

SI. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to tender	Date of release of tender in E-Procurement solution	Last date/time of receipt of tender E-Procurement solution
1	Repair of damaged UGR at MS Park DDA Flat AC-64 Under ACE(M)-2 Re-invited	42,16,638.00	23.03.2022 2022_DJB_219466_1	02.04.2022 2:10 PM
2	Replacement of old damaged 350 mm dia P.S.C. water Main at New Seemepuri in NE-I (AC-63) Re-invited	51,86,424.00	23.03.2022 2022_DJB_219466_2	02.04.2022 2:10 PM

Further details in this regards can be seen at <https://delhi.govtprocurement.com>

Sd/-
V.K. Chauhan
Ex. ENGINEER (T)-2

"Stop Corona; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority

Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, (U.P.) Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors/firm for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & [https://etender.up.nic.in](http://etender.up.nic.in). Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

A) Fresh Tender Work:

S.N.	Jobs. No.	Name of the work	Tender Amount (Rs. Lacs)
1.	54/PGM/Sr.M(E&M)-IV/2021-22/ET	Supply and Fixing of Two nos Foaming Jet Fountain at sector-54, Noida.	34.54
2.	35/PGM/Sr.M(E&M)-IV/2021-22	Construction of Fountain of near S.T.P. sector-168, Noida.	37.64

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 07.04.2022 up to 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 08.04.2022 at 11.00 AM.

Principal General Manager
NOIDA

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORT

Paribahan Bhawan, Jawahar Nagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-22

Email: report.cttassam@gmail.com Website: www.comtransport.assam.gov.in

No CT-MV/289/2022/1271

Corrigendum-1

Extension of last date of bid submission for RFP, Technical Corrigendum & Pre-bid query reply and Corrigendum for Revised BOQ.

RFP No 10 of 2021-22

This is in reference to RFP No. CT-MV/289/2022/1087 issued dated 11th March 2022 by the Commissioner of Transport, Govt of Assam for selection of Service Provider for Supply, Print and Dispatch of Laminated card type Driving License and Vehicle Registration Certificate with QR code (without chip) for Transport Department, Govt. of Assam.

In this regard all prospective Bidders are hereby informed that the last date of bid submission for RFP has been extended as per the below table.

SI No	Particulars	Current Dates	Revised Dates
1	Bid Submission End Date	02-Apr-2022 01:00 PM	08-Apr-2022 12:00 PM
2	Bid Opening Date	04-Apr-2022 02:00 PM	08-Apr-2022 04:00 PM

Further, all prospective Bidders are hereby requested to refer the Technical corrigendum, Corrigendum for revised BOQ and pre-bid query reply uploaded in e-Procurement website: <https://assamtenders.gov.in/>.

-Sd-

Joint Commissioner of Transport

Office of the Commissioner of Transport
Paribahan Bhawan, Jawahar Nagar
Khanapara, Assam, Guwahati - 22

Janasanyog/C/13895/21

Janasanyog/C/13895/21

Janasanyog/C/13895/21

Janasanyog/C/13895/21



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



TIPS, OFFLINE

AFTER A year's gap, 'Pariksha Pe Charcha', the annual event during which Prime Minister Narendra Modi holds an interaction with selected students, parents and teachers on handling exam stress, is set to be held offline again. In 2021, the event had moved online due to the pandemic. This time, it will be held at Delhi's Talkatora Stadium on April 1. Like the first three editions, the April 1 event will also be interactive in nature with students, picked from among 15.7 lakh who had registered, getting to speak to the PM in person.

THE BEARD

ON THURSDAY, Malayalam actor Suresh Gopi, a BJP Rajya Sabha member, came prepared to flag the inability of many to claim benefits under the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) in Kerala's Kannur. As he stood up to make his intervention with the customary greeting to the chair, Venkaiha Naidu said, "Ap mask pehne hai, ya ye aapki beard hai? (Are you wearing a mask or sporting a beard?)", leaving the House in splits. "Beard, beard... this is my new look, Sir," Gopi responded with a smile. "For the next film," Naidu said in a lighter vein.

LOOKING SOUTH

IJML RAJYA Sabha MP from Kerala Abdul Wahab had Rajya Sabha in splits as he took a dig at Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav as well as his own colleagues during the debate on the Railway budget. He said: "Today everyone is praising the Railway Minister – even Brittas (CPM member John Brittas), although I don't know why?" Referring to the controversy about the Railway Budget being larger for Northern railways than Southern Railways, Wahab added that the South was discriminated against not only in India but the entire world – from South India to South America.

Mann calls on PM, seeks Rs 1 lakh cr aid for Punjab

KANCHAN VASDEV
CHANDIGARH, MARCH 24

PM Narendra Modi and Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann in New Delhi, Thursday. PTI

5 AAP nominees elected unopposed to Rajya Sabha

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, MARCH 24

ALL FIVE Aam Aadmi Party nominees for the Rajya Sabha polls have been elected unopposed from Punjab.

The AAP had nominated former cricketer Harbhajan Singh, party leader Raghav Chadha, Lovely Professional University founder Ashok Mittal, IIT Delhi professor Sandeep Pathak and industrialist Sanjeev Arora for the March 31 elections. Thursday was the last day for the withdrawal of candidature. A report in this regard has been sent to the ECI. Their term will expire on April 9.

"We, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), are working towards nailing the mafia and filling the coffers of the state. We want that we get a special package of Rs 50,000 crore each for two years so that Punjab can be self-reliant after two years," Mann told the PM.

"I am hopeful that the PM will discuss it with the Finance Minister and help Punjab, a state that was at the forefront in the battle of Independence," Mann later said. With Punjab being a border state, Mann also solicited "wholehearted support from the Centre" to foil the attempts of inimical forces across the border.

Savitribai Phule Pune University's (SPPU) Law Faculty semester-end exams, considered among the toughest of all faculties in the universities, recorded a pass percentage of 20.86% in the pre-pandemic year of 2018. That went up to 93.08% in 2021, when exams were held online.

From a pass percentage of 40.01% in 2018, Nagpur University's BA Final Year results went up to 94.17% and 87.96% in the pandemic years of 2020 and 2021 respectively, when exams were held online.

During the final exams of 2021, Mumbai University's undergraduate programmes recorded pass percentages of 93.21 for the Arts

X X



FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

XX
NO TEARS FOR IMRAN

Pakistan's 'selected' PM has won few friends at home or abroad. His likely early exit from office will not be lamented

THERE IS NOTHING new about an elected civilian government in Pakistan being ousted mid-stream, after it has done something to upset the Army. Prime Minister Imran Khan is likely to be voted out of office next week if he does not resign by then, as he does not appear to have the numbers required to defeat an Opposition no-confidence vote against him. But this time, there are no cries of democracy in danger. Pakistan's political class never accepted Imran Khan as an elected leader, he is described as the "selected" prime minister. It is no secret that the Army and Inter-Services Intelligence did a lot of leg work to ensure that he won the 2018 election and put together his coalition. Now, the Army seems to have conveyed to him that he no longer has their patronage, though in public it has used the word "neutral" to describe its position in the unfolding political drama. Though he has vowed to play "until the last ball" — one cabinet member has said there might be early elections; his party is readying for a physical showdown with the Opposition at competing rallies on March 27 — it may not help him win the match.

Ever conscious of its public image, the Pakistan Army no longer wants to be associated with a government that has proved inept from the beginning. Internationally too, Khan was unable to get any purchase with the Biden administration, and the security establishment is miffed about his mishandling of relations with powerful western allies, at a time when it needs them to stabilise the situation in Afghanistan. But more than anything else, the prime minister's falling out with Pakistan's most powerful institution came when he tried to play divide and rule with the top leadership of the Army. Nawaz Sharif did that in 1999, and was ousted in a coup. Khan, who crossed a red line when he tried to assert himself by delaying the appointment of a new ISI chief, can consider himself more fortunate, as he is being allowed to leave office via a constitutional process.

What all this means, though, is that the Army continues to run Pakistan, and Khan's successor must likely reach an agreement with Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa before being approved for the job, so that he or she does not attempt to disrupt the "hybrid" civil-military system. In India, there was real disappointment at Nawaz Sharif's judicial ouster in 2017, but tears will not be shed at Khan's likely departure from office. While the India-Pakistan relationship has not been top of the agenda for the Modi government since 2016, Khan's offer to move several steps forward if Delhi took the first step, sat uneasily with the personal nature of his attacks against the Indian leadership, especially after the 2019 decision on Kashmir. His praise for India's "independent" foreign policy now wins him no marks in Delhi. The February 2021 agreement for diligently observing the 2003 ceasefire remains the only one between the two sides in years. It was the result of a backchannel process in which the Pakistan government seems to have had little role, and was signed between the two militaries.

DOING IT WRONG

Sequence of events leading to Centre's decision on Delhi municipality casts a shadow over a long awaited reform

MUNICIPAL GOVERNANCE IN Delhi is in dire need of reform. In the past seven years, strikes by municipal agency employees over non-payment of salaries — including by doctors amid the raging pandemic — have compromised the national capital's capacity to deal with its myriad civic problems. Now, on Tuesday, the capital's longstanding need for stable civic administration got mired in controversy after the Union cabinet cleared a Bill that envisages the merger of Delhi's three municipalities — East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC), North Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) and South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC). The Centre has said that unification will improve the local body's financial standing. That's correct, to an extent. It's the timing of the move, however, that has raised eyebrows. Delhi's AAP-run government, which has had a troubled relationship with the BJP-dominated municipalities, contends that the merger is a ruse to defer the impending civic polls in the capital — the terms of the local bodies end in May.

The Delhi State Election Commission was slated to announce the polling dates on March 9. But the EC postponed the announcement at the last moment after the Centre expressed its intention to merge the three local bodies. The Delhi government alleged that the Centre's decision was hastened by the exit polls on the Punjab assembly elections — the AAP went on to win a thumping mandate in the state. The party which, by all accounts, was poised to mount a strong challenge to the BJP in Delhi municipal polls, has accused the Centre of shying away from the problems of the local bodies.

The Delhi municipality was divided into three agencies in 2012 to decentralise local governance. The trifurcation not only failed its stated objective but also pushed the city's local administration into a financial quagmire. The NDMC, which has the largest number of hospitals and schools, and the EDMC, which administers some of the poorest localities in Delhi, have struggled for revenues while the SDMC has done relatively better. Unification could correct some of this imbalance. However, much more will be required to put the city's municipal finances in order. The BJP has repeatedly accused the Delhi government of not paying the municipalities their dues in time. The AAP has countered by demanding that the Centre allocate funds for civic bodies in Delhi in the same way it does for other states. It's time that the issue of the capital's municipal funding is resolved, in a way that is credible and transparent.

ASH BARTY, THE PERSON

She is telling the world that one's goals can be different from those set by others on the tennis court or elsewhere

AT 25, THE world was Ashleigh Barty's oyster. She seemed destined for more Grand Slams and on course to becoming the dominant player in women's tennis of this era. In a shock retirement announcement Wednesday, Barty spoke about not having "the physical drive" or "the emotional want" to play the sport at the highest level. Barty was not just retiring but was also taking an important step towards the normalisation of putting personal wellbeing above glittering trophies and millions in prize money. By choosing to dance to the beat of her own drum, Barty was telling the world that one's goals can be different from the standards by which success is measured, on the tennis court or in any other field.

Striving to be the best is what drives the greatest players, is the very essence of sport and makes it compelling to watch. Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic brought the best out of Rafael Nadal, football is richer because Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo played in the same era. Lewis Hamilton with seven Formula One titles is willing to put everything on line to reclaim the throne from Max Verstappen. By retiring on her own terms, however, Barty was giving a life lesson about the importance of listening to an inner voice and about everyone not being wired the same way.

Barty has been ranked No 1 for over a hundred weeks, and has coveted Grand Slams trophies in her cabinet. All this was achieved during her second coming to tennis after she quit at 18 and played cricket in the Women's Big Bash League. "I think it's important that I get to enjoy the next phase of my life as Ash Barty the person, not as Ash Barty the athlete," she said. Even if she doesn't hold a racquet again, she will remain an inspiration for those who want to find a way off the treadmill, in sport and in life.

STATE Specific. imp if home CADRE. BUT still Read From AGRI perspective.

WORDLY WISE

FOR ME RETIRING WASN'T HARD ONCE I KNEW THAT THAT WAS THE DECISION I WAS GOING TO MAKE.

— GABRIELA SABATINI

A five-year plan for Punjab

PROBLEMS : PI: STUBBLE Burning



HARISH DAMODARAN

AAP government must slash paddy-wheat area, Centre should fund MSP procurement of alternative crops

cially in the southwest Malwa districts of Fazilka, Muktsar, Faridkot, Moga, Bathinda, Mansa, Barnala and Sangrur.

Second, the Punjab farmer will switch only to crops that are reasonably high-yielding and fetch much better prices than paddy and wheat. Yields per hectare in the state average around 70 quintals for non-basmati paddy and 50 quintals for wheat. The minimum support price (MSP) of paddy is Rs 4,960/quintal and Rs 2,015/quintal for wheat, with their corresponding per-hectare cultivation costs at roughly Rs 62,500 and Rs 37,500 respectively. The returns, thus, range from Rs 63,000 to Rs 75,000 per hectare.

That being so, any alternative crop has to give at least comparative returns for making it worthwhile to plant. The Indian Agricultural Research Institute, which bred the earlier-mentioned herbicide-tolerant direct seeded rice, has developed Pusa Arhar-16 and Pusa Parvati. The first one is an arhar and the second a chana variety, yielding an average 20 quintals and 25 quintals of grain per hectare respectively. At their MSPs of Rs 6,300/quintal and Rs 5,230/quintal — cultivation costs are only Rs 25,000/hectare each — the returns work out in excess of Rs 1,00,000 per hectare.

Third, the above calculations make sense only if the government undertakes procurement at the declared MSPs — like it does for paddy and wheat. The Punjab farmer will definitely grow pulses if she is assured of MSP, which should ideally factor in the environmental gains from atmospheric nitrogen fixation and lower water consumption. The same goes for oilseeds where yields are, however, a constraint. These average less than 15 quintals per hectare for mustard in Punjab, while existing soyabean varieties give 20 quintals at best. Both the AAP government and the Centre have to be open to genetic modification technology: Roundup Ready herbicide-tolerant soyabean and the Delhi University's indigenously-developed Barnase-Barstar gene-based mustard hybrids can raise yields to 25-30 quintals per hectare. The Punjab farmer, to repeat, will not touch any crop yielding below global average.

Fourth, the Punjab farmer wants to grow high-yielding crops that can also be mechanically harvested. Pusa Arhar-16 matures in 120 days, as against 160-180 days for normal pi-

geon pea varieties. Moreover, the plants are semi-dwarf, semi-erect and have a compact canopy, with synchronous flowering and pod-setting at the top. Farmers can, hence, easily apply pesticides using regular knapsack sprayers and harvest the crop at one go using combines. In Pusa Parvati chana, too, pod formation is profuse at the top. Since the bottom 20-25 cm portion of the stems bear no pods, the combines can run and harvest the entire yield.

Fifth, the crop diversification plan suggested cannot succeed without central support. The latter should fund MSP procurement of pulses, oilseeds, maize and cotton from Punjab, the way it is already doing for paddy and wheat. Arhar and chana can be sold through the public distribution system.

In cotton, maize and oilseeds, building an eco-system of ginning-and-pressing units, feed mills, corn starch and solvent extraction plants may take time. Some handholding is necessary during this transition. Fortunately, prices of cotton, maize, soyabean and mustard are all ruling high, thanks to the post-Covid and the Ukraine war-induced global supply disruptions. That's all the more reason to launch the proposed five-year plan of slashing paddy and wheat acreages — which is also the key to solving the stubble burning problem — from the coming kharif cropping season itself.

Last but not least, assured MSP should go hand in hand with crop area planning. Targeted reduction in paddy and wheat area can succeed only if farmers are confident about prices of the desired alternative crops at the time of harvest. A legally guaranteed MSP can be made conditional upon farmers cultivating crops suited to agro-ecology and market demand-supply conditions. Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as 'perpetrators'. The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

The writer is National Rural Affairs and Agriculture Editor of The Indian Express and Senior Fellow at the Centre for Policy Research

Punjab needs a plan of reducing the total paddy area to 15 lh (within that, 5-6 lh under basmati and 9-10 lh under non-basmati) and wheat to 30 lh, over a five-year-period. In paddy, the focus must be to not only halve acreage, but also promote direct seeding, as opposed to conventional transplanting, to the maximum extent. Direct seeded rice requires no nursery preparation, puddling, transplantation and flooding of fields, resulting in about 30 per cent water savings. Farmers further save on transplantation labour costs and nursery-raising time. Thankfully, there are herbicide-tolerant, non-genetically modified paddy varieties today amenable to direct sowing, just like wheat (<https://bit.ly/3iwPNKO>).

What are the crops that can replace paddy (on 16.5 lh) and wheat (on 5 lh) in Punjab? The alternatives to paddy are cotton, maize, arhar (pigeon pea), soyabean and other kharif pulses and oilseeds. For wheat, it is mainly mustard and chana (chickpea).

A few points are worth noting here.

First, cotton was being grown on over 7 lh area in Punjab till 1990-91. That's down to 2.5-2.7 lh now. With some effort, an additional 5 lh can be brought under the fibre crop, espe-

cially in the southwest Malwa districts of Fazilka, Muktsar, Faridkot, Moga, Bathinda, Mansa, Barnala and Sangrur. Second, the Punjab farmer will switch only to crops that are reasonably high-yielding and fetch much better prices than paddy and wheat. Yields per hectare in the state average around 70 quintals for non-basmati paddy and 50 quintals for wheat. The minimum support price (MSP) of paddy is Rs 4,960/quintal and Rs 2,015/quintal for wheat, with their corresponding per-hectare cultivation costs at roughly Rs 62,500 and Rs 37,500 respectively. The returns, thus, range from Rs 63,000 to Rs 75,000 per hectare.

That being so, any alternative crop has to give at least comparative returns for making it worthwhile to plant. The Indian Agricultural Research Institute, which bred the earlier-mentioned herbicide-tolerant direct seeded rice, has developed Pusa Arhar-16 and Pusa Parvati.

The first one is an arhar and the second a chana variety, yielding an average 20 quintals and 25 quintals of grain per hectare respectively. At their MSPs of Rs 6,300/quintal and Rs 5,230/quintal — cultivation costs are only Rs 25,000/hectare each — the returns work out in excess of Rs 1,00,000 per hectare.

Third, the above calculations make sense only if the government undertakes procurement at the declared MSPs — like it does for paddy and wheat. The Punjab farmer will definitely grow pulses if she is assured of MSP, which should ideally factor in the environmental gains from atmospheric nitrogen fixation and lower water consumption. The same goes for oilseeds where yields are, however, a constraint. These average less than 15 quintals per hectare for mustard in Punjab, while existing soyabean varieties give 20 quintals at best.

Both the AAP government and the Centre have to be open to genetic modification technology: Roundup Ready herbicide-tolerant soyabean and the Delhi University's indigenously-developed Barnase-Barstar gene-based mustard hybrids can raise yields to 25-30 quintals per hectare. The Punjab farmer, to repeat, will not touch any crop yielding below global average.

Fourth, the Punjab farmer wants to grow high-yielding crops that can also be mechanically harvested. Pusa Arhar-16 matures in 120 days, as against 160-180 days for normal pi-

geon pea varieties. Moreover, the plants are semi-dwarf, semi-erect and have a compact canopy, with synchronous flowering and pod-setting at the top. Farmers can, hence, easily apply pesticides using regular knapsack sprayers and harvest the crop at one go using combines. In Pusa Parvati chana, too, pod formation is profuse at the top. Since the bottom 20-25 cm portion of the stems bear no pods, the combines can run and harvest the entire yield.

Fifth, the crop diversification plan suggested cannot succeed without central support. The latter should fund MSP procurement of pulses, oilseeds, maize and cotton from Punjab, the way it is already doing for paddy and wheat. Arhar and chana can be sold through the public distribution system.

In cotton, maize and oilseeds, building an eco-system of ginning-and-pressing units, feed mills, corn starch and solvent extraction plants may take time. Some handholding is necessary during this transition. Fortunately, prices of cotton, maize, soyabean and mustard are all ruling high, thanks to the post-Covid and the Ukraine war-induced global supply disruptions. That's all the more reason to launch the proposed five-year plan of slashing paddy and wheat acreages — which is also the key to solving the stubble burning problem — from the coming kharif cropping season itself.

Last but not least, assured MSP should go hand in hand with crop area planning. Targeted reduction in paddy and wheat area can succeed only if farmers are confident about prices of the desired alternative crops at the time of harvest. A legally guaranteed MSP can be made conditional upon farmers cultivating crops suited to agro-ecology and market demand-supply conditions. Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need. We can trust in her more than god to make India atmanirbhar in pulses and edible oil.

Fixing Punjab's agriculture calls for an approach that is practical, not sanctimonious, and takes its farmers along rather than viewing them as "perpetrators". The Punjab farmer has fed India in times of need



For Ukraine side of view. (Q) Why Russian invasion is Against international law?

Ukraine & myth about NATO

The arguments that European countries have cornered or encircled Russia by joining NATO or allowing other countries to join NATO are false propaganda to justify Vladimir Putin's imperial vision

THE BUCHAREST NINE

AS THE PREMEDITATED, unprovoked and unjustified Russian aggression in Ukraine is ongoing, a debate has sprung up about the geopolitical origins of NATO-Russia tensions. We, the envoys of the Bucharest Nine — a group of NATO's eastern flank countries that joined the alliance after the end of the Cold War — feel that the Indian public deserves to be acquainted with the basic facts on the ground.

Firstly, it must be underlined that NATO is not an organisation that "expanded" to the east. It was we, the independent European states, that decided on our own to go west.

Our countries have been for decades either forcefully occupied and annexed by the Soviet Union (for example, the Baltic States), subdued by it against their will and even invaded (Hungary in 1956, former Czechoslovakia in 1968). The tragic events of the Second World War and its aftermath placed us against the will of our people on the wrong side of the Iron Curtain and deprived us of the self-determination promised in the United Nations Charter. The fall of communism in Central and Eastern Europe in 1989 opened new and brighter chapters in our history. Our governments, for the first time in decades, were elected in a free and democratic way. We finally regained the freedom to set our own destinies, in a process not much different from the waves of decolonisation that brought justice and dignity to other countries around the world. Our governments opted for the path of peace, security, economic growth and respect for fundamental freedoms. Integration with NATO and the European Union became a dream of ours.

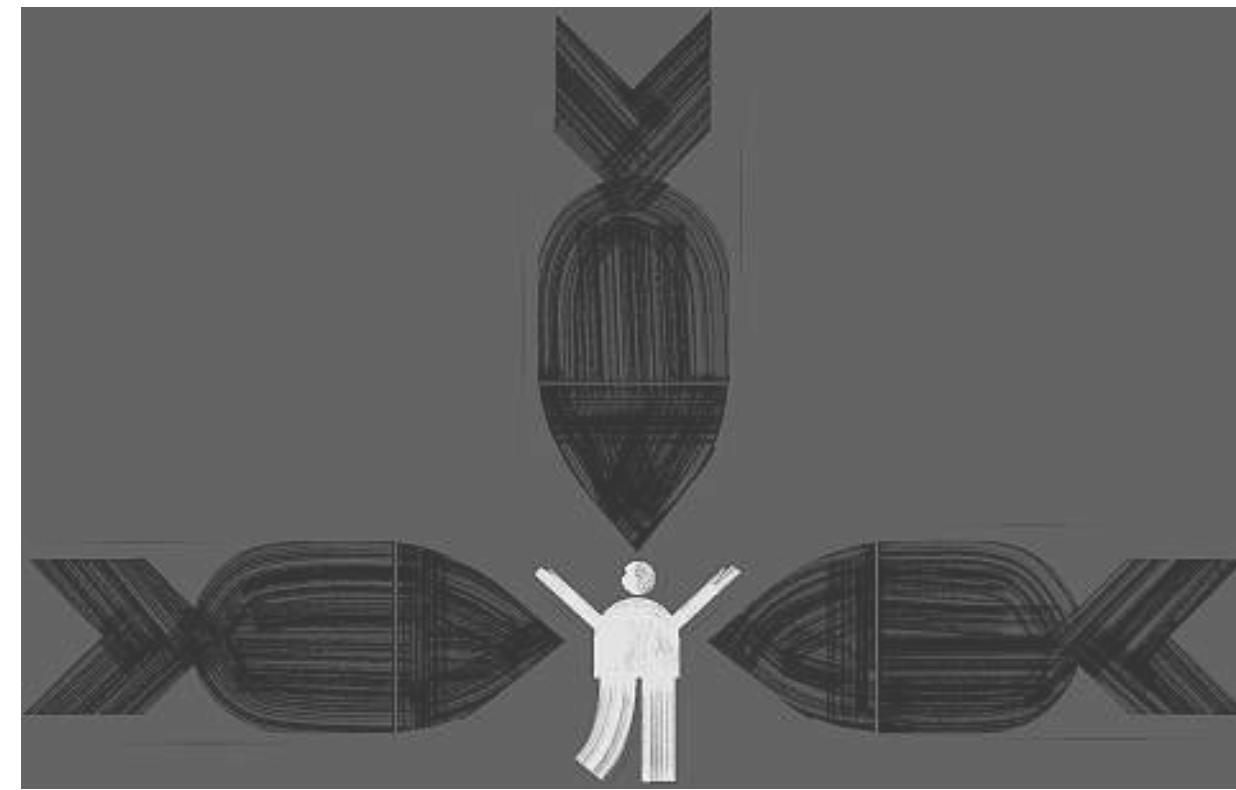
Our path to NATO and the EU was not easy. It took a lot of effort to fulfil all the requirements: Adopting new national legislation and introducing reforms in such areas as anti-corruption, fiscal and judicial law, protection of human rights and minorities. We also had to build up our national defence forces as well as prove that we can contribute to the collective defence. This was no free ride.

With NATO membership, our borders became secure. For the first time in our history, the threat of invasion by a foreign power was unlikely with the collective defensive support of our allies — one for all, all for one. The process of joining NATO and the security guarantees it provided allowed our countries to focus on internal political and economic transformation — from centrally-planned and ineffective economies without fair elections to modern democracies with liberalised markets. NATO membership helped pave the way for nine of us to join the EU.

Over 30 years of uninterrupted growth, peace and security in our countries brought tremendous civilisational progress. Since the fall of communism, our GDP per capita has grown exponentially. Our countries are now leading economic models with impressive records in most social and economic indexes. From being one of the sources of global emigration before 1989, we became the destination for those who seek a better place to live and raise their children.

Secondly, neither our decision to join NATO nor the organisation itself poses a threat to Russia. It is a defensive alliance, one that seeks no territory. Moreover, in the last two decades, NATO focused efforts on fighting terrorism and piracy — threats that are common for most states, including India.

And 109 of our soldiers lost their lives in



CR Sasikumar

Afghanistan while being part of the NATO mission there. These efforts contributed also to global security, including a reduction of maritime piracy in the Indian Ocean.

NATO stands for freedom, democracy, rule of law and respect for smaller nations. Russia, on the other hand, committed to respecting Ukraine's sovereignty in return for Kyiv giving up its nuclear weapons in the Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances in 1994. And then it broke that obligation.

NATO has sought partnership and dialogue with Russia. No other state has received from NATO over the years so many offers of cooperation and dialogue as Russia: Starting from the Partnership for Peace in the early 1990s that our countries were part of as non-NATO members at the time, to the creation of the NATO-Russia Council. The 1997 NATO-Russia Founding Act, which defined cooperation between Russia and NATO, presented a positive direction for the development, even presaging the forthcoming enlargement of the alliance.

Russia has broken its commitments to work together and damaged our trust by conducting cyberattacks on some of us (Estonia in 2007), annexing parts of the territory of our neighbours (Georgia in 2008, Crimea in 2014) until finally starting unjustified and unprovoked military aggression against Ukraine. In January 2022, NATO offered to Russia the possibility of dialogue to discuss the security situation in Europe that would include transparency, arms control and other measures.

Instead, Russia chose war. If Russia claims it has a "legitimate interest" concerning Ukraine or "defending itself" against NATO, then why does it refuse to advance such interests through diplomacy? The arguments that European countries have cornered or encircled Russia by joining NATO or allowing other countries to join NATO are nothing else but false propaganda to justify Vladimir Putin's imperial vision. Does anyone outside the Kremlin truly want to bring back a world of imperialism, land grabs and rampant violations of territorial integrity?

In this senseless war, Russia is targeting

civilians and creating the biggest flow of refugees in Europe since the Second World War. We have provided shelter to them, and this includes helping to evacuate Indian students escaping Russian aggression, threading their way home through bombardment by Russian warplanes and artillery.

Finally, the people of Ukraine are fighting today for the same opportunities that our countries had in the last three decades. The Ukrainian people want to exercise their right to self-determination according to the UN Charter, to live in peace, and transform their country into a modern and functional state, free of coercion and corruption. However, Russia cannot accept this. A free and prosperous Ukraine would prove to the Russian people that a better world for them is possible. Ukraine fights for the values that we, the Bucharest Nine, believe in, and have fought for over many generations and which we will always collectively defend.

Ukraine today has become a symbol of the fight with imperialism, for all. No state wants to be a "buffer zone" or part of another's sphere of influence. All states have the right to independently follow the aspirations of their people. Any attempts to brutally inhibit this right should not be accepted by the international community in the 21st century. All states, furthermore, should be ensured their free choice to decide about their alliances and paths of development. No one should wish for the times of colonialism, bullying of the small by the more powerful to return. We do not wish to see this again in Europe, Asia or on any other continent.

The authors of this article — representatives to India of the Bucharest Nine countries — are Eleonora Dimitrova (ambassador, Bulgaria); Katrin Kivi (ambassador, Estonia); Andras Laszlo Kiraly (ambassador, Hungary); Artis Bertulis (ambassador, Latvia); Julius Pranavicius (ambassador, Lithuania); Adam Burakowski (ambassador, Poland); Daniela Sezonov Tane (ambassador, Romania); Robert Maxian (ambassador-designate, Slovakia) and Roman Masarik (charge d'affaires, Czech Republic). All B9 countries are members of NATO and the EU

(imp AUTHORS :: must READ)

Acknowledging hunger

Governments need to allocate sufficient resources to address food insecurity

KALYANI RAGHUNATHAN, DIPA SINHA, RAJENDRAN NARAYANAN (Q) GFI ES ?? (Q) FAo ??

TWO YEARS AGO, the imposition of the national lockdown in India had disastrous consequences for the working poor, especially the migrant labour. In October 2020, The Right to Food Campaign and associated organisations had conducted the first Hunger Watch survey (HW-I). The main objective of HW-I was to document the economic distress and hunger caused by the lockdowns and catalyse public action for relief. Covering close to 4,000 people in 11 states, the survey highlighted the extent of widespread hunger and a deterioration in the quality of diets compared to the pre-pandemic period.

In 2021, India was hit by a devastating second wave of infections. While no nationwide lockdowns were announced, the speed and severity of the spread meant inevitable disruptions to lives and livelihoods. Most states imposed curfews and restrictions on economic activity. The economy contracted by 6.6 percent in 2020-21. While the economy is estimated to grow at 8.9 per cent in 2021-22, the low base effect means that per capita incomes have still not recovered to pre-pandemic levels. Unemployment rates continue to be high.

Given the prolonged nature of the pandemic and the spike in indebtedness caused by unforeseen medical expenditures through the second wave, it was important to capture the continued economic distress. The second round of the Hunger Watch survey (HW-II)

was conducted in December 2021-January 2022. While not conducted with the same respondents, HW-II followed a methodology similar to that used in HW-I. Close to 6,700 respondents were interviewed in person across 14 states; 73 per cent of these were based in rural areas, and 71 per cent of them were women. The survey focused on understanding food and income insecurities among the informal sector.

Food insecurity was widespread — 79 per cent of the overall sample reported experiencing at least one of the eight conditions of food insecurity from the Food and Agriculture Organisation's Global Food Insecurity Experience Scale (GFIES) in the month preceding the survey. The eight conditions range from worrying about not having enough food, to not being able to eat a diet of sufficient quality or quantity, to running out of food and having to go without eating a whole day. A quarter of the sample reported "severe" food insecurity, that is, they experienced seven or eight of the conditions.

The situation was worse in urban areas, where 87 per cent reported any food insecurity, and 28 per cent reported severe food insecurity, compared to rural areas where the numbers were 76 per cent and 24 per cent respectively. Nearly one-third of the respondents said that they or someone in their household had slept without eating in the month preceding the survey and 36 per cent

said they had had to skip meals. This is a slight improvement compared to HW-I, where 48 per cent said that they had slept without eating at least once and 46 per cent said they had to skip meals.

The bulk of the poor relies on cereals for food security. However, in HW-II only one in three households said that their consumption of cereals was sufficient for their needs.

Two-thirds of households could not afford cooking gas in the month before the survey. This was higher in rural areas than urban.

Given that food intake needs are not being met, it is no surprise that diets are also nutritionally deficient. HW-II did not include a dietary quality assessment but elicited the frequency with which respondents reported eating nutritionally rich foods. 50-60 per cent of households said that they were able to consume eggs, milk, flesh foods or fruits fewer than two-three times a month; more than a quarter could only eat even the more affordable items like dark green leafy vegetables and pulses fewer than two-three times a month. Here rural households reported somewhat poorer diet quality than urban households, with the sole exception of fruits. Other differences were small.

People expect the situation to deteriorate further. Two in five respondents said that the nutritional quality of their food had worsened since the pre-pandemic period; a similar proportion said that the quantity of food they eat

had also declined. These numbers are similar to those from HW-I — 59 per cent of urban households reported a deterioration in the quality of their diets compared to before the pandemic, compared to 35 per cent of rural households, though this could be the result of a higher baseline in urban areas. Overall, the outlook about the food situation over the coming months was pessimistic. Only one in six respondents said they thought their food situation would improve in the next three months.

While the HW-II sample was not designed to be nationally representative, it is indicative of the predicament in which many poor and vulnerable households find themselves — unable to secure either enough food (of any kind) or food of adequate quality. Against the backdrop of the recent National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-5 findings which show marginal improvements in child stunting and underweight among women and a significant deterioration in anaemia across the board, the HW-II findings are not an outlier. There is an urgent need to acknowledge the problem of hunger and take immediate action, including allocating sufficient resources to address the issue.

Raghunathan is a member of the Hunger Watch team, Sinha teaches at Ambedkar University, and Narayanan teaches at Azim Premji University

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"In response to the multifaceted economic challenges thrown up by the Covid-19 pandemic, we should have by now seen broad-based policies aimed at remedying some of the structural issues in Pakistan's economy." — DAWN

Struggle against darkness

We need a band of leaders who must declare that they are fighting an ideological battle and not seeking power for themselves



YASHWANT SINHA

In 1946, I was nine years old, growing up in the then small town of Patna. I was hardly aware of the momentous goings-on around me but I clearly remember the cries of "Bajrang bali ki jai" and "Allah hu Akbar", especially as darkness fell on the city. I knew from the precautions taken by the elders in the family that something sinister was afoot. Luckily, we were not attacked by the rioters and remained safe in our mohalla. I remember that on August 15, 1947, sweets were distributed in the neighbourhood school where I was a student. I partook of the sweets and was told that our country was independent now, though I was not aware that it had also been partitioned into India and Pakistan. The riots, Independence and Partition did not leave much of an impression on my mind as a child. What stayed with me was a story told to us by one of my elder brothers.

He had gone to attend a University Training Corps (later replaced by the National Cadet Corps) camp and was returning to Patna by train. Given the prevailing law and order situation, the cadets were required to stand guard in full military gear outside the compartment. When the train reached Masaari, a small station near Patna, it was my brother's turn to stand guard. He told us that the platform was so full of dead bodies that he could barely find space to stand. These were the bodies of the victims of communal riots. I have never forgotten that conversation. But despite my background and experience, I have remained a liberal throughout.

Communal riots took place all over the country. Mahatma Gandhi's call for peace had no immediate takers until he went on a fast unto death in Calcutta (now Kolkata). Around the same time, the wise people who were elected to the Constituent Assembly of India by the provincial assemblies sat down in the central hall of today's Parliament building to draft the Constitution. On August 29, 1947, the Assembly set up a seven-member drafting committee headed by B R Ambedkar. B N Rau, an ICS officer, was appointed the constitutional advisor. The painstaking work of preparing the Constitution began in earnest. The Assembly finally adopted the Constitution on November 26, 1949.

All those who were involved in the drafting of the Constitution had been witness to the catastrophic events that had just happened in India — the communal riots, Partition, the massive transfer of population from one country to another, the bitterness and hatred between the two major communities, the fact that Pakistan decided to become an Islamic republic and the temptation to do something similar in India. Yet, they settled for a liberal, democratic and secular Constitution, though the word "secular" itself was inscribed only later during the Emergency.

Course, this clash is not confined to India alone. The war in Ukraine is a struggle between a democracy and a dictatorship. In India, the talk of parties in opposition to the BJP uniting to challenge and change the government takes a shortsighted view. The struggle is greater and more difficult than it was during the Emergency.

Indians' commitment to democracy is proven. We only need the leadership to take the right message to the people. Those who seek power cannot do this. Jayaprakash Narayan succeeded because he never sought power for himself. We need a band of leaders who must declare that they are fighting an ideological battle and not seeking power for themselves. Only then will they be believed. Will I live to see that day? I am not sure. But I know one thing. People will wake up from their slumber one day, whatever the quality of opium used to keep them sedated.

I have great faith in the people of India.

The writer is a former Union minister and currently, vice-president, All-India Trinamool Congress

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BENGAL VIOLENCE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Uphold the law' (IE, March 24). The killing and consequent retaliation at Rampurhat in West Bengal is a continuation of the culture of violence with overt political patronage — a trait inherited by the TMC from the CPI. West Bengal had earlier witnessed an orgy of violence between the BJP and TMC during the fiercely contested state elections. It is unfortunate that Mamata Banerjee has so far shown no intention to rid the state of this malaise. She could have made a new beginning with the overwhelming mandate that her party had won. A perpetual confrontationist attitude against the Centre isn't enough.

Vijai Pant, Hempur

NOT ALL POSITIVE

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Understanding and trust' (IE, March 24). The "ear-to-the-ground" approach the writer talks about is what the PM raises some questions. On what basis and on whose recommendations were the nationwide lockdown imposed in 2020, which resulted in large-scale sufferings and humanitarian crises among urban labour? The shortage of oxygen cylinders during the second wave indicates mismanagement at a high level. However, there were also achievements — ramping up testing, the vaccination drive, support to MSMEs, etc.

Sudhantha Shekhar, via email

SPREAD THE WORD

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Changing face of money' (IE, March 24). Investors across the globe are exploring new but lucrative options. With both Green Bonds (GBs) and Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) at their nascent stage, a comprehensive policy framework is needed for better awareness, effective regulation, and the resultant increase in global investment. Not just awareness about their existence in the market but the knowledge regarding their working, uses, advantages, etc. also needs to be imparted to the general public.

Aerika Singh, Chandigarh

BE PRACTICAL

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'CCTVs to help BMC keep an eye on road construction, repair work' (IE, March 24). Is that some kind of a novel idea, or a joke? Does the municipal commissioner think this idea of CCTV cameras will really work? What is required is more sincerity in road construction contracts and everything else will fall in place. And this claim of 1,000-km of roads concretised in Mumbai needs to be checked. While they concretise the middle lanes, the sides of the roads are left in deplorable condition. Sometimes, tar is haphazardly, unevenly spread at the sides making it difficult for pedestrians and flooding in the monsoons. Let's get practical.

Melville X D'Souza, Mumbai



Topic: Food Security (Q) For : Identifying (a) Trends (b) Rural-Urban (c) Parameters (d) Comparison For Judging Food Security.

Acknowledging hunger

Governments need to allocate sufficient resources to address food insecurity

KALYANI RAGHUNATHAN, DIPA SINHA, RAJENDRAN NARAYANAN (Q) GFI ES ?? (Q) FAo ??

was conducted in December 2021-January 2022. While not conducted with the same respondents, HW-II followed a methodology similar to that used in HW-I. Close to 6,700 respondents were interviewed in person across 14 states; 73 per cent of these were based in rural areas, and 71 per cent of them were women. The survey focused on understanding food and income insecurities among the informal sector.

Food insecurity was widespread — 79 per cent of the overall sample reported experiencing at least one of the eight conditions of food insecurity from the Food and Agriculture Organisation's Global Food Insecurity Experience Scale (GFIES) in the month preceding the survey. The eight conditions range from worrying about not having enough food, to not being able to eat a diet of sufficient quality or quantity, to running out of food and having to go without eating a whole day. A quarter of the sample reported "severe" food insecurity, that is, they experienced seven or eight of the conditions.

The situation was worse in urban areas, where 87 per cent reported any food insecurity, and 28 per cent reported severe food insecurity, compared to rural areas where the numbers were 76 per cent and 24 per cent respectively. Nearly one-third of the respondents said that they or someone in their household had slept without eating in the month preceding the survey and 36 per cent

said they had had to skip meals. This is a slight improvement compared to HW-I, where 48 per cent said that they had slept without eating at least once and 46 per cent said they had to skip meals.

The bulk of the poor relies on cereals for food security. However, in HW-II only one in three households said that their consumption of cereals was sufficient for their needs. Two-thirds of households could not afford cooking gas in the month before the survey. This was higher in rural areas than urban.

Given that food intake needs are not being met, it is no surprise that diets are also nutritionally deficient. HW-II did not include a dietary quality assessment but elicited the frequency with which respondents reported eating nutritionally rich foods. 50-60 per cent of households said that they were able to consume eggs, milk, flesh foods or fruits fewer than two-three times a month; more than a quarter could only eat even the more affordable items like dark green leafy vegetables and pulses fewer than two-three times a month. Here rural households reported somewhat poorer diet quality than urban households, with the sole exception of fruits. Other differences were small.

Russia - Ukraine

FAQ: IMPACT ON WORLD (UN & WORLD PEACE)

-VES OF RUSSIAN INVASION

MURTS TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY i.e. R2 SELF DETERMINATION UNDER UN CHARTER

MAY NOT BE IN SELF DEFENCE OF NATIONAL INTERESTS AS NATO IS DEFENSIVE ALLIANCE

IN 2 DECADES NO TERRITORIAL EXPANSION BY NATO COUNTRIES.

MAIN FOCUS HAS BEEN PIRACY & TERRORISM.

EASTERN EUROPE WASN'T FORCED BY NATO TO JOIN NATO

FEAR OF PAST INVASIONS BY USSR

FEAR OF BEING SPHERE OF INFLUENCE OF USSR IN PAST

EASTERN EUROPE WAS ATTACKED BY GERMANY ALSO BUT

AS MEMBERS (WITH GERMANY IN NATO) EASTERN EU FEELS SAFE.

ALSO GERMANY FOLLOWS PASSIVE POLICIES @ MILITARY.

GOOD ECONOMY IS REASON FOR JOINING EU & NOT CONTAINMENT OF RUSSIA.

IF RUSSIA WINS, IT WOULD BE RETURN OF IMPERIALISTIC WORLD ORDER.

ASSEMBLY SPEAKER SAYS 'OUR RSS'

Karnataka minister: All Muslims, Christians will be with RSS in future

DARSHAN DEVAIAH BP
BENGALURU, MARCH 24

KARNATAKA RURAL Development Minister and senior BJP leader K S Eshwarappa Thursday declared in the Assembly that all Muslims and Christians in the country will associate themselves with the RSS in the future, sparking an outcry.

The statement came after Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri told Congress MLA Zameer Ahmed Khan that the day is not far when everyone will have to accept RSS as "our RSS", which Congress legislators opposed.

The RSS issue came up during the Leader of Opposition Siddaramaiah's debate on law and order situation in the state where he made a reference to the organisation while speaking about his friendship with a few BJP leaders and Ministers in the assembly. "It is important to maintain mutual respect, irrespective of which political ideology one believed in, first comes personal relationships and then comes party differences- BJP, RSS, Congress and others," Siddaramaiah said.

NSE case: Court rejects bail plea of ex-official Subramanian

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

OBSERVING THAT the CBI was yet to unveil the identity of the Himalayan Yogi, who is as elusive as the Himalayan Yeti, a Delhi court Thursday rejected the bail plea of former group operating officer of the National Stock Exchange, Anand Subramanian, in a 2018 case of bourse manipulation.

Special Judge Sanjeev Aggarwal denied bail to Subramanian, who the CBI alleged was impersonating a "Himalayan Yogi" and influencing the decisions of the former managing director Chitra Ramkrishna.

According to SEBI, several key decisions taken by Ramkrishna during her tenure as the NSE's MD and CEO from 2013-16 were guided by an unidentified yogi.

The court denied bail to Subramanian considering the grave and serious allegations against him.

"Further, the investigations are on and the investigating agency is in the process of removing the secret veil to show to the court the true face of this Himalayan Yogi, who is as elusive as anecdotal Himalayan Yeti. Further, the prosecution at this stage of investigation is stated to be working on disjoint scattered dots, from which it has to conjure a final picture," the court said.

Karnataka hands probe into killing of Bajrang Dal worker to NIA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, MARCH 24

THE KARNATAKA government has handed the investigation into the murder of a right-wing Bajrang Dal worker to the National Investigation Agency.

Harsha Nagaraj alias Harsha Hindu, 27, was killed on February 20 in Shivamogga region of the state. The NIA registered a formal complaint in a New Delhi court Wednesday after being handed the investigation.

On March 2, the Karnataka Police invoked sections of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, against 10 persons arrested in the case.

The NIA is expected to seek custody of the arrested suspects to carry out investigations in Shivamogga. On February 22, Shobha Karandlaje, Union Minister of State for Agriculture and BJP leader from Karnataka, in a letter to Home Minister Amit Shah had sought a probe by the NIA into the murder case.

The invoking of the UAPA was seen as a precursor to the handing over of the investigations to the anti-terror agency, as sought by BJP leaders. "The UAPA has been invoked in the case. There is a suspicion of a larger conspiracy behind the murder than a localised rivalry," a police official had said.

Apex court transfers Param Bir probe to CBI

'Troubling situation at higher echelons... need impartial probe'

ANANTHAKRISHNANG
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24



Plea was moved by Param Bir Singh

AMID OPPOSITION from Maharashtra, the Supreme Court Thursday transferred the investigation against former Mumbai police commissioner Param Bir Singh to the CBI.

This is not a reflection on the

police force of the state of Maharashtra," said the Bench of Justices S K Kaul and M M Sundresh. But it flagged the troubling situation arising at the higher echelons which has brought about the scenario as presented before us".

It directed the state to put the departmental proceedings against him on hold until the agency's probe into the five FIRs transferred to it is completed.

The Bench also ruled that future FIRs against Singh, if any, shall be transferred to the Central Bureau of Investigation.

His suspension, however, shall continue.

Singh faces cases of extortion, corruption and misconduct. He was removed as Mumbai police

chief owing to his alleged mis-handling of the Antilia bomb scare case.

Thursday's ruling came after Singh challenged a Bombay High Court order that refused to transfer the cases against him to the central agency.

"The objective is to embolden and gain the people's confidence in the police force by an impartial investigation which is necessary," said Justices Kaul and Sundresh.

The court rejected the argument of the Maharashtra counsel, Senior Advocate Darius Khambatta, that "the FIRs registered really have to be appreciated in a scenario where a person loses power, the persons who suffer at his hand come up with their hands and FIRs are registered".

The bench said: "It is not a coincidental occurrence or occur-

rences arising from the aforesaid but we do believe prima facie there has been some concerted effort in this direction arising from the intense battle which needs investigation by an agency outside the state police."

"We are not saying that the appellant (Singh) is a whistleblower. We are not saying that anyone involved in this process is washed with milk... what is the truth, who is at fault, how does such a scenario come to prevail presenting a disturbing picture before the court is something... that requires an independent probe," said the court.

On November 22, the top court had granted Singh major relief when it directed the Maharashtra Police not to arrest him in criminal cases lodged against him.

The state police had earlier told the apex court that Singh cannot be considered a "whistleblower" under the law as he chose to speak out against alleged corruption involving former state home minister Anil Deshmukh only after he was transferred.

SC allows Centre to look into 'fake' claims for Covid ex gratia

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

THE SUPREME Court Thursday permitted the Centre to conduct an inquiry into "fake claims" for ex gratia meant for the families of Covid-19 victims after claim numbers in multiple states vastly overshot their respective government's official death figures.

The court also set an "outer time limit" for filing ex gratia claims — 60 more days for deaths before March 20, 2022, and 90 days from the date of death for future cases. It agreed with the Centre that claiming ex gratia could become an "endless" process and raise the spectre of fake claims if no time limit is fixed.

The bench of Justices M R Shah and B V Nagarathna allowed the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)

"to carry out the random scrutiny of 5% of the claim applications by the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala and Maharashtra at the first instance" to find out if any fake claims were being submitted to claim compensation.

The order came on a plea by

Pune girl raped in school, man known to father arrested: police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PUNE, MARCH 24

PUNE CITY Police Thursday arrested a suspect in connection with the rape of an 11-year-old girl on her school premises a day before.

Police Commissioner Amitabh Gupta said the suspect was an acquaintance of the girl's father and had worked with him in the past. The man was nabbed based on leads from security camera footage and clues gathered by multiple investigation teams.

The rape had taken place on Wednesday afternoon, when classes in the victim's school were about to begin. "The girl had come to the school some time before the classes were to assemble. Using some pretext, the person took the girl towards the area of the school where the washroom blocks are located, near the playground. He raped and sexually abused her. The incident came to light after the girl told some of her friends about what had happened. The friends in turn informed the school authorities. Subsequently, the parents of the girl were informed and they approached the police," said the in-charge inspector of the police station where the case was registered.

Officials who are part of the investigation said the girl kept refusing to accompany the man to the washroom blocks but he forced her to do so.

Police registered an offence under IPC sections for rape and provision of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act. An extensive manhunt involving multiple teams had been launched for the suspect.

Police are investigating how he managed to enter the school.

Minorities in Tripura not safe: Sarkar on BJP MLA's 'shut madrasas' remark

DEBRAJ DEB
AGARTALA, MARCH 24



Former CM Manik Sarkar

LEADER OF Opposition in the Tripura Assembly Manik Sarkar Thursday said minorities aren't safe in the state under the BJP rule and that such a "unnatural situation" didn't exist before the party assumed power.

Sarkar's comments came two days after BJP legislator Shambhu Chakma said in the Assembly that the government-run madrasas should be shut down as "such religious educational institutions produce terrorists and not doctors or engineers".

"A member, citing the speech of the CM of an adjoining state, said in the House that madrasas have to be closed because they

produce terrorists. What is the meaning? When we raised the issue in the House and wanted to know the view of the government, they didn't tell anything. The Deputy Speaker simply overlooked it and went to other issues," Sarkar said.

"Such an intimidating speech by an MLA and the government's attitude make it evident that minorities aren't safe. We feel this is an unnatural development," he said. "Chakma The Indian Express Thursday he was quoted out of

PM leads tributes to ex-CJI Lahoti

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24



Justice RC Lahoti had died at 81

by the passing away of former CJI Shri RC Lahoti ji. He will be remembered for his contributions to the judiciary and emphasis on ensuring speedy justice to the underprivileged. Condolences to his family and well-wishers. Om Shanti."

Justice Lahoti was appointed a district and sessions judge in the state in 1977. However, he resigned a year later to practise law in the High Court. A decade later, Justice Lahoti was appointed an Additional Judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court and in 1998 he became a Supreme Court judge.

In a tweet, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "Anguished

Indian Express, "I have lost a very dear friend who was very passionate and was also a man of robust humour. His tenure as CJI was marked by the way he carried all colleagues along with him and how all decisions were taken with consensus."

In a tweet, Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju said, "Saddened to hear of the passing away of Shri RC Lahoti, former Chief Justice of India. He rose from a humble background and reached the highest position of our country's judiciary because of his ability, knowledge and wisdom."

After retirement, CJI Lahoti headed the Akhil Bharatiya Adhivakta Parishad's Nyaya Chaupal, a forum set up with the stated aim of solving civil disputes that are an outcome of the "crumbling family structure in the new societal order".

For any kind of information such as detailed Time-Table of stations enroute and composition etc., passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTES App.

All norms of the State and Central Government regarding COVID-19, may please be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.

Visit RailMadad Website :- www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in

Download RailMadad app.

RailMadad Helpline No. 139

Please join us on Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav

631/2022

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Kashmiri Pandit group files curative plea in SC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

AKASHMIRI Pandit organisation

Thursday filed a curative petition in the Supreme Court against the top court's 2017 order which had turned down a plea for an investigation into the "mass murders and genocide of Kashmiri Pandits during 1989-90 and subsequent years" and the "reasons for non-prosecution of FIRs" of

the incidents.

The plea by 'Roots in Kashmir' referred to the SC orders dismissing its writ petition on July 24, 2017 and the review petition against this on October 25, 2017 on the ground that more than 27 years had elapsed in the matter and evidence is unlikely to be available.

The curative petition contended that the SC was "not justified at all in dismissing the writ petition at the admission

stage by merely on presumption of evidence being unavailable due to passage of time, and pointed out multiple cases to back its assertion.

The SC ruling dismissing its petition and review is also "contrary" to what the SC had said in the 2007 decision in *Japani Sahoo vs. Chandra Sekhar Mohanty* that "a crime never dies", the plea said.

Police registered an offence under IPC sections for rape and provision of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act. An extensive manhunt involving multiple teams had been launched for the suspect.

Police are investigating how he managed to enter the school.

The SC ruling dismissing its petition and review is also "contrary" to what the SC had said in the 2007 decision in *Japani Sahoo vs. Chandra Sekhar Mohanty* that "a crime never dies", the plea said.

Police registered an offence under IPC sections for rape and provision of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act. An extensive manhunt involving multiple teams had been launched for the suspect.

Police are investigating how he managed to enter the school.

DOCTOR HARISINGH GOUR VISHWAVIDYALAYA, SAGAR - 470003 (M.P.) INDIA (A Central University) Tel: 07582 - 297112

Advt. No.: DoFA/G.F./2022/ 21 March 2022

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE FOR GUEST FACULTY

Applications are invited from Indian Nationals for the various Non-Teaching Positions in the Institute. The prescribed online application form & other details are available in the Institute website: www.nitdelhi.ac.in. The last date for submission of online application form shall be 29th April, 2022. (23.59.59 hrs)

Sd/- Registrar (I/c)

20487/2048 Barmer - Delhi Jn. - Barmer - Superfast Express (Bi-Weekly)

Train No. 20487 STATIONS ↑ Train No. 2048

Arr. Dep. Barmer 06:30 --

21:49 21:51 Utarai 05:52 05:54

23:01 23:06 Balotra 04:13 04:18

23:32 23:37 Samdari Jn. 03:43 03:48

00:28 00:31 Luni Jn. 02:42 02:45

01:00 01:15 Jodhpur 01:45 02:00

02:41 02:46 Merta Road Jn. 00:02 00:07

03:26 03:29 Degana Jn. 23:20 23:23

04:00 04:03 Makrana Jn. 22:45 22:48

05:35 05:37 Phulera Jn. 21:50 21:52

06:30 06:40 Jaipur Jn. 20:40 20:50

06:53 06:56 Gandhi Nagar Jaipur 20:20 20:23

07:40 07:42 Dausa 19:38 19:40

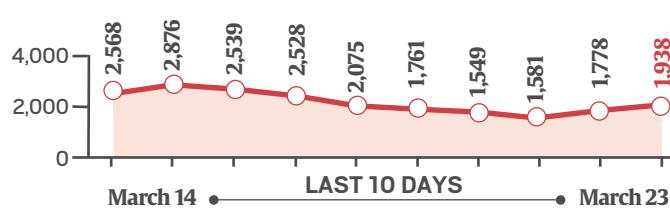
09:01 09:04 Alwar Jn. 18:17 18:20

TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

DASHBOARD, AS ON MARCH 23

752 DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN	New cases 1,938	Active cases 22,427	Deaths 67
Weekly CFR: 1.55% Overall CFR: 1.20% Total deaths: 516,672			

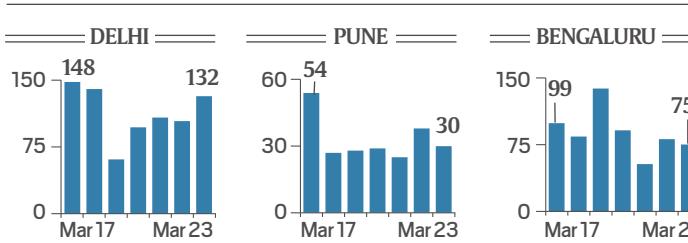
NEW CASES, DAILY



CASES IN THE STATES

State	ON MARCH 23			Weekly positivity
	New cases	Active cases	Deaths	
Kerala	702	5,918	61	3.32%
Mizoram	191	1,412	0	11.95%
Maharashtra	149	1,084	2	0.37%
Delhi	132	490	0	0.44%
Karnataka	93	1,844	1	0.38%

CASES IN THE CITIES, LAST 7 DAYS



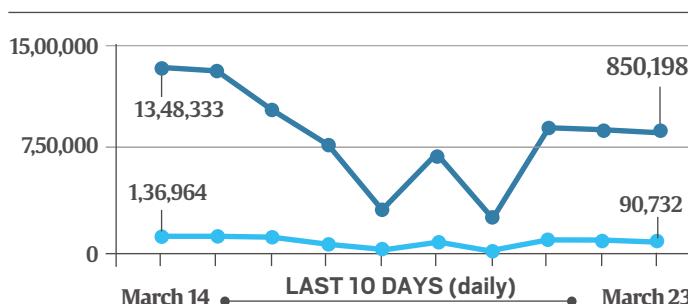
TOTAL TESTS	784,952,800
TESTS ON MARCH 23	661,954
WEEKLY POSITIVITY	0.35%

INDIA TOTAL DOSES	1,822,330,356
(Adults 1st dose: 912,154,367; 2nd: 787,964,575;	
15-18 age group 1st dose: 56,501,245; 2nd: 36,371,187;	
Age group 12-14 1st dose: 7,217,166; Precautionary: 22,121,816)	

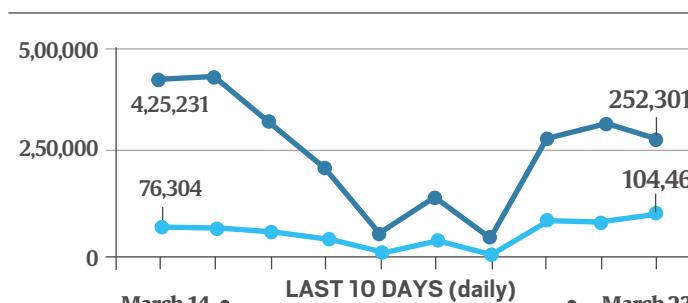
First dose ■ Second dose

March 23 total: 3,415,122

ADULTS



AGE GROUP 15-18



VAJIRAM & RAVI

Institute for IAS Examination

Strengthen your Main Exam Preparation with our

Online & Offline Courses



G.S Current Affairs

Crash Course



G.S Test Series



Optional Subjects Test



Essay Course

Email: www.vajiramandravi.com

The new refugees from Sri Lanka in TN – driven by hunger, not war

ARUN JANARDHANAN

CHENNAI, MARCH 24

FOR DECADES, groups of Sri Lankan Tamils have come to Tamil Nadu, fleeing war and hostilities on the island. The 16 Sri Lankan Tamils who arrived on the Rameswaram coast in two batches on March 22 were, however, different.

They were economic refugees, trying to escape a dire situation in Sri Lanka, which is reeling under a severe economic crisis.

Indian intelligence agencies believe that as unemployment and skyrocketing inflation drive more and more people to desperation in the coming days and weeks, the numbers of these refugees are likely to only increase.

TN, a natural destination

Barely 30 km away across the shallow Palk Strait, India has long appeared within reach, especially to Tamils in Northern and Eastern Sri Lanka. Ethnic affinity has made Tamil Nadu inviting, either as asylum or as a point of transit to the West, mostly Europe

– where a large and influential Tamil diaspora has gathered over the decades of war and political turbulence in Sri Lanka.

People and political parties in Tamil Nadu have been traditionally welcoming of Sri Lankan refugees with similar ethnic and cultural roots. In the 1970s and 80s, India trained and armed the Tamil rebels, and the sea crossing presented no major threat to the illegal immigrants from Sri Lanka. This situation changed radically after Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated by the LTTE in 1991.

History of Sri Lankan refugees

While Tamil-origin refugees from Northern and Eastern Sri Lanka had been arriving in India from long before the 1980s, their flow increased significantly after 1983, when ethnic clashes began on the island between the majority Sinhala Buddhist ruling class and the Indian-armoured Tamil Tigers.

Those who arrived before 1983 were mainly Indian-origin Tamils whose forefathers had migrated to Sri Lanka to work in the tea plantations. Their arrival was facilitated by an agreement between Prime

Ministers Lal Bahadur Shastri and Sirimavo Bandaranaike to allow 9,75,000 people of Indian origin in Sri Lanka to become citizens of the country of their choosing.

Many of the 4.6 lakh repatriations from Sri Lanka before 1982 travelled to Europe; others married Indians in an effort to resolve their crises of identity.

From 1983 onward Sri Lankan Tamils arrived in multiple waves. The first of these was between July 1983 and 1987, when 1.34 lakh Sri Lankan Tamils reached India, pushed by anti-Tamil riots in Sri Lanka after an LTTE ambush killed 13 Sri Lankan soldiers, and pulled by the India-Sri Lanka Accord. In the two years from 1987, however, some 25,600 refugees returned to Sri Lanka, according to official records.

The second wave of arrivals began after the war flared up in June 1990, and about 1.22,000 Tamils fled the island. Between 1991 and 1995, some 54,000 refugees were repatriated to Sri Lanka; this was also the period in which Sri Lankan Tamils faced pressures in Tamil Nadu after the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi.

The third wave of arrivals began in 1995 and continued until 2002, a period that witnessed intense fighting in Northern Sri Lanka. The exodus turned into a flood in 2008-09, the final years of the war. Refugees continued to arrive until 2013.

Tamil refugee numbers

As per latest records, about 19,000 Sri Lankan families – or 58,822 individuals, including about 10,000 children below the age of 8 – live in 108 refugee camps set up for Sri Lankan Tamils in Tamil Nadu. Another 34,087 individuals with refugee certificates live outside the camps.

There are also individuals who have overstayed in India, those who are in transit to Europe, former Tamil militants who have been sheltered in special camps, and refugees who have been caught by Indian agencies while attempting an illegal sea passage from Indian waters to Europe or Australia.

Refugees' life in Tamil Nadu

Many Tamil nationalists in Sri Lanka consider the DMK a betrayer of Tamils be-

cause it was part of the UPA regime that aided the brutal last phase of the war in which the Sri Lankan army killed thousands of civilians. Ordinary people fleeing the island however, are more favourably disposed towards the M K Stalin government, which has taken several "pro-refugee" steps over the past year.

Despite continuous discussions on the Sri Lankan Tamil issue in Tamil Nadu politics for decades, not much was done to improve the quality of life in the refugee camps. Most camps are ramshackle open prisons with families crammed into one or two rooms that they received in the 1980s or 1990s. Many refugees who work in hotels or other sectors, or as daily wage labourers, are watched by the Q-branch, the state intelligence and investigative unit tracking terrorists and other radicalised individuals.

The refugees have benefitted from the general social welfare schemes in the state, be it the free rice or periodic festival incentives and "kits". The head of each refugee family gets a monthly allowance of at least Rs 1,000, and monthly assistance for spouses

and children below age 12. The DMK government announced a scheme to build 3,510 houses for Sri Lankan refugees, renovate 7,469, and provide financial assistance to refugee students for higher education.

New economic refugees

The collapse of tourism following the Easter attacks of 2019 and the Covid-19 pandemic has wrecked the Sri Lankan economy. The country is heavily import-dependent, and with foreign exchange reserves crashing, there have been acute shortages of food items, fuel, and other essentials. Staples like rice and milk have become unaffordable for large numbers of people.

Local people in Mannar and Jaffna, the Tamil populated areas in the north, say many are ready to travel to India. They are waiting for conducive factors such as the availability of boats and the position of the Sri Lankan navy and the Indian Coast Guard...," a source in Mannar said. Several sources said people are keenly following the news from Tamil Nadu about the way those who have reached India are being treated.

SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

Vacancies in the IAS

India has about 22 per cent fewer IAS officers than the sanctioned strength, the Govt has told Parliament. How are the numbers of IAS officers decided, and what is the reason for the large number of vacancies?

SHYAMLAL YADAV

NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

MINISTER OF State for PMO; Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Jitendra Singh told Lok Sabha on Wednesday that as on January 1, 2021, there were 5,231 IAS officers in the country – 1,515 (22.45 per cent) fewer than the sanctioned strength of 6,746. A total 3,787 officers were direct recruits to the IAS, while 1,444 were promoted (State Civil Services/ non-SCS).

On Thursday, the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Grievances, Law and Justice headed by Sushil Kumar Modi in its 112th report tabled in both Houses of Parliament said: "...There is a huge shortage. The gap between the sanctioned strength and the in-position strength of IAS officers is as large as 104 in UP cadre, 94 in Bihar cadre and 87 in AGMUT cadre."

Is the shortage a new trend?

No. As the chart shows, even in 1951, there were 957 officers, including 336 from the Indian Civil Service (ICS), against a sanctioned strength of 1,232 – which means 275, or 22.32 per cent, seats were vacant. The shortage has been a constant feature ever since – it was the least in 2001 (0.79 per cent), and the most in 2012 (28.87 per cent), as per available data.

The 10 years of the UPA regime saw a 19 per cent vacancy on average; during the last seven years of the NDA government, this number has been 22.58 per cent.

How is the sanctioned strength decided?

There is a provision for quinquennial cadre reviews for every cadre of the All India Services under the relevant Cadre Rules. The Cadre Review Committee (CRC) is headed by the Cabinet Secretary with the Secretary DoPT, Secretary Expenditure, Secretary Administrative Ministry (for services other than the IAS), and the senior most member of the service/cadre in question as its members.

Cadre review is an ongoing process, and some states are taken up by rotation every year for review – in 2020-21, for example, it was decided to revise the strength and composition of the IAS in UP and Bihar, and of the

SANCTIONED AND ACTUAL STRENGTH OF IAS OVER THE YEARS

Year	Sanctioned	Actual	Shortage
------	------------	--------	----------





MEANWHILE

CHINA WANTS TO DO ALL TO STOP WAR: MACRON

French President Emmanuel Macron said on Thursday that he believed China still wanted to do everything to stop the war in Ukraine and avoid doing anything that could escalate the situation. "China, as a member of the United Nations Security Council and as a great power, cannot do anything but be a power of mediation and moderation and help us to convince Russia to stop this war," Macron told reporters after a G7 and NATO meeting.

24TH TO 24TH
A MONTH OF
WAR

The bombing in Kharkiv on Feb. 27. AP

- FEB 24: Russia launches a full-scale assault on Ukraine
- FEB 26: SWIFT ban on Russian banks; India begins evacuation
- FEB 28: Ukraine applies to join the EU. Russia and Ukraine start ceasefire talks
- MARCH 1: A 65km-long Russian convoy heads for Kyiv. Russian rocket hits Kharkiv killing 24
- MARCH 2: Russian tanks enter Kherson, the only city to fall; India abstains from UNSC vote
- MARCH 8: Civilians flee the town of Sumy via an evacuation corridor
- MARCH 9: Russian air strikes hit a maternity hospital in Mariupol, killing three
- MARCH 14: Chechen leader joins Moscow's fight
- MARCH 15: EU leaders ride a train to Kyiv. Zelensky says NATO membership not a prospect



Ukrainians crowd under a destroyed bridge in the outskirts of Kyiv on March 5

TOP OF THE
WORLD

NORTH KOREA

N Korea tests largest ICBM ✓
Seoul: North Korea conducted what is thought to be its largest intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) test ever on Thursday, the South Korean and Japanese militaries said. It would be the first full-capability launch of the nuclear-armed state's largest missiles since 2017. REUTERS

SOMALIA
Suicide bomber kills 48 people

Mogadishu: A prominent Somali woman lawmaker is among at least 48 people killed in a suicide bombing that hit a polling station in rural central Somalia, police and a local official said Thursday. The attack took place late Wednesday in the town of Beledweyne, the capital of Hirsh region. Among its victims was opposition lawmaker Amina Mohamed Abdi, an outspoken government critic who was campaigning to retain her seat in the National Assembly. AP

CHINA
Cockpit voice recorder probed
Wuzhou: Chinese investigators began examining the cockpit voice recorder from a China Eastern Airlines jet that plunged into mountainside with 132 people on board as recovery crews searched muddy fields on Thursday for a second black box. The cockpit voice recorder would provide investigators with details of communications between the flight's three pilots. REUTERS

Early elections likely to end uncertainty: Pak minister

SAJJAD HUSSAIN
ISLAMABAD, MARCH 24

PAKISTAN'S INTERIOR Minister Sheikh Rashid said on Thursday that early elections can be held in the country to end the current political uncertainty due to a no-trust motion against embattled Prime Minister Imran Khan, who is struggling to save his government.

Addressing a press conference, Rashid also warned party dissidents that switching sides would not do them any good.

Pakistan has been on the edge since Opposition parties on March 8 submitted a no-confi-

rency motion before the National Assembly Secretariat, alleging that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government led by Prime Minister Khan was responsible for the economic crisis and the spiralling inflation in the country.

Khan, 69, is heading a coalition government and he can be removed if some of the partners decide to switch sides. Khan ran into trouble after his allied parties with 23 members refused to give a clear indication to support him in the parliament during the no-trust vote motion which would come up for discussion in Parliament later this month. PTI

he showed up in Delhi in the evening. He is the highest-ranking Chinese official to visit Kabul after the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan last August.

A large Russian delegation led by Zamir Kabulov, Special Representative for Afghanistan, also met Taliban officials to discuss economic cooperation.

Wang, who arrived in Kabul from Islamabad after attending the conference of OIC Foreign Ministers, met Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi and Deputy PM Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar.

China is hosting a meeting of

JUST READ

On table at three summits: Aid for Ukraine



NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg (centre front left) US President Joe Biden (centre front) and British Prime Minister Boris Johnson (front right) at NATO summit in Brussels on Thursday. AP

Over half of Ukrainian children forced out from homes by war: UN agency

THE NEW YORK TIMES
GENEVA, MARCH 24

RUSSIA'S ASSAULT on Ukraine has driven more than half the country's children from their homes, the United Nations children's agency said on Thursday, calling it one of the largest displacements of children since World War II.

Some 4.3 million Ukrainian children from a total estimated child population of 7.5 million have been displaced by the one-month-old conflict, UNICEF said. This includes 1.8 million children who have taken refuge in neighbouring countries and over 2.5 million who are in temporary shelter within the country.

United Nations monitors in Ukraine have reported that 81 children have been killed since



Some 4.3 million children from a total estimated 7.5 million of them have been displaced. NYT

the start of Russia's invasion and 104 have been injured. "This is a grim milestone that could have lasting consequences for generations to come," Catherine Russell, UNICEF's director, said in a statement. The World Health Organization has recorded 64 attacks on healthcare facilities in the conflict, its director, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, said on Wednesday.

According to Xinhua and Global Times, Wang told Baradar that China welcomes "Afghanistan's active participation in the joint construction of the Belt and Road, and stands ready to extend the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor to Afghanistan, replicate more successful experiences, and make Afghanistan, with the geographical strength as the 'Heart of Asia', a bridge for regional connectivity".

FULL REPORT ON

[www.indianexpress.com](#)

China's Wang, Russia's Kabulov show up in Kabul, engage Taliban leaders

Ready to extend CPEC to Afghanistan: China Foreign Minister

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

CHINA AND Russia made their presence felt in Kabul Thursday, signalling they had not forgotten Afghanistan despite their own preoccupations, and expressed solidarity with the Taliban regime a day after it drew global condemnation for turning away girls from high schools.

Chinese Foreign Minister and State Councillor Wang Yi made a surprise stopover in Kabul be-

UN again isolates Russia over humanitarian crisis

MICHELLE NICHOLS
UNITED NATIONS, MARCH 24

ALMOST THREE-quarters of the UN General Assembly demanded aid access and civilian protection in Ukraine on Thursday, and criticised Russia for creating a "dire" humanitarian situation after Moscow invaded its neighbour one month ago.

It is the second time the 193-member General Assembly has overwhelmingly isolated Russia over what Moscow calls a "special military operation" that is says aims to destroy Ukraine's military infrastructure.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has blasted Russia's "absurd war." Thousands of people have been killed in Ukraine, millions made refugees, and cities pulverised in the past month.



Smoke was visible near a seaport in Berdyansk, Ukraine, on Thursday. AP

Mercenary group, 65 others on UK's sanctions' list

THE NEW YORK TIMES
LONDON, MARCH 24

BRITAIN IMPOSED sanctions on a further 65 Russian companies and individuals on Thursday, including the Wagner Group, a private military force with ties to President Vladimir P Putin, which has sent mercenaries into Ukraine.

Among the other targets are Polina Kovaleva, the glamorous stepdaughter of Russia's foreign minister, Sergey Lavrov, and Galina Danilchenko, who was installed by Russian forces as a puppet mayor in the Ukrainian city of Melitopol. The Ukrainian foreign ministry said Russians had abducted the previous mayor, Ivan Fedorov.

How the Wagner Group would be sanctioned was not immediately clear, given that it is a

shadowy organisation. Last month, European security officials said about 300 Wagner mercenaries with experience in Libya and Syria filtered into two separatist regions in eastern Ukraine to lay the groundwork for the Russian invasion; the British statement on sanctions referred to reports that it had also sent mercenaries into Ukraine.

The destroyed ship in Berdyansk could carry up to 20 tanks, 45 armored personnel carriers and 400 paratroopers," the Ukrainian deputy defense minister, Anna Malyar, said in a statement on Thursday. "This is a huge target that was hit by our military." The Ukrainians have claimed to have damaged or destroyed several Russian warships over the course of the war.

UKRAINIAN'S MILITARY said on Thursday it destroyed a Russian ship at a port under Russian occupation in southern Ukraine.

"The destroyed ship in Berdyansk could carry up to 20 tanks, 45 armored personnel carriers and 400 paratroopers," the Ukrainian deputy defence minister, Anna Malyar, said in a statement on Thursday. "This is a huge target that was hit by our military." The Ukrainians have claimed to have damaged or destroyed several Russian warships over the course of the war.

The Ukrainian military said it had destroyed the Orsk, but it was not immediately clear from the visual evidence which ship was destroyed. Videos show other Russian ships, also appearing to have small fires with smoke rising, leaving the port while the Alligator-class vessel burns. The Russians have not commented on the report out of Berdyansk. NYT

BA.2 accounts for majority of global cases, says WHO

THE NEW YORK TIMES
MARCH 24

THE WORLD Health Organization reported that the highly contagious Omicron subvariant, BA.2, that is helping to drive another surge of coronavirus cases in Europe is now the dominant version of Omicron around the world.

Globally, BA.2 made up about 86 per cent of cases reported to the WHO between Feb. 16 and March 17, the agency said in a report on Tuesday. The previously dominant subvariants, BA.1 and BA.1.1, together represented about 13 per cent of the cases.

FIRST WOMAN TO SERVE AS U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE DIES AT 84

Madeleine Albright, a trailblazer who fled Nazis, climbed to diplomacy summit

NYT & REUTERS
MARCH 24

MADELEINE K Albright, a child of Czech refugees who fled from Nazi invaders and Communist oppressors and then landed in the United States, where she flourished as a diplomat and the first woman to serve as secretary of state, died on Wednesday in Washington. She was 84.

The cause was cancer, her daughter Anne said.

Enveloped by a veil of family se-

crets hidden from her for most of her life, Albright rose to power and fame as a brilliant analyst of world affairs and a White House counselor on national security. Under President Bill Clinton, she became the country's representative to the United Nations (1993-97) and secretary of state (1997-2001), making her the highest-ranking woman in the history of American government.

She was largely unknown until Clinton took office as president in 1993 and named her chief delegate to the United



Madeleine Albright shakes hands with US soldiers during her visit to Air Base Eagle near Tuzla, Aug. 30, 1998. APfile

Nations. Over the next four years, she became a tough advocate for the global interests of the United States. But she and Mr. Clinton clashed repeatedly with Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali over peacekeeping operations in Somalia, Rwanda and the Bosnian civil war.

Days after beginning his second term, Clinton nominated Albright as secretary of state. She was unanimously confirmed by the Senate (99-0) and soon made her first official trip, not to a foreign capital but to Texas, where

she spoke at Rice University — determined, she said, to take United States foreign policy straight to the American people.

"Everybody has their own style, and mine is people to people," she said on a walk in Rome. "I'm trying mine, and I am enjoying it."

After Albright stepped down as secretary of state in 2001, there was speculation that she might pursue a political career in the Czech Republic. Vaclav Havel, the writer and former dissident who was the republic's first president from 1993 to

2003, suggested publicly that she might succeed him. Ms. Albright said she was flattered but not interested.

Condoling her death, US President Joe Biden said, "Madeleine Albright was a force. Hers were the hands that turned the tide of history ... When I think of Madeleine, I will always remember her fervent faith that 'America is the indispensable nation.' Others remember her as a trailblazer and a luminary who left an indelible mark on the world and on the United Nations."

19

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2022

ECONOMY

SENSEX: 57,595.68 ▼ 89.14 (0.15%) NIFTY: 17,222.75 ▼ 22.90 (0.13%) NIKKEI: 28,110.39 ▲ 70.23 HANG SENG: 21,945.95 ▼ 208.13 FTSE: 7,470.59 ▲ 9.96 DAX: 14,276.88 ▼ 6.77

	GOLD	₹ 51,818
	RUPEE	₹ 76.37
	OIL	\$ 115.44
	SILVER	₹ 67,864

Note: Gold, silver rates at Mumbai spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of March 23

International market data till 1900 IST

AVIATION WATCH INT'L SCHEDULED FLIGHTS

Global airlines prep for business as usual: Ramp up old, fresh routes

From March 27, resumption of scheduled international flights



Passengers at Ahmedabad Airport. File

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

AS THE March 27 resumption of international scheduled flights from India inches closer, foreign carriers have started announcing new flights and increased frequencies to airports in the country.

Finnair, which already operates the Delhi-Helsinki route, will add three weekly flights between Mumbai and Helsinki. German carrier Lufthansa announced that it is resuming direct flights between Chennai and Frankfurt thrice every week effective April 29.

Dutch airline KLM will respond to the resumption of scheduled international flights from India by increasing its frequencies to Delhi and Mumbai. The carrier flies to India from Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport. Poland's LOT Polish Airlines will commence passenger flights from Warsaw to Mumbai from May 31, and resume flights on Delhi-Warsaw sector effective March 29.

Malaysia's flag carrier Malaysia Airlines will resume 25 weekly flights from Kuala Lumpur to several Indian cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai and Hyderabad March 27 onwards.

After a two-year suspension imposed because of Covid-19, the government announced resumption of international scheduled flights from March 27 — a move that was expected to lead to an increased number of flights, thereby providing a relief to high fares on international sectors. In absence of scheduled flights, airlines have been operating international flights under air bubble agreements with 37 countries.

Earlier this week, the Ministry of Civil Aviation relaxed Covid-19-related regulations, stating that cabin crew members need not wear PPE kits, airlines need not keep three seats vacant on international

flights for medical emergencies, and security personnel at airports may resume pat-down search of passengers.

"We are delighted that after a pandemic-related break, our flagship aircraft can again land at Delhi's IGI Airport. Ensuring a direct connection is an essential element in strengthening Polish-Indian cooperation," said Rafal Milczarski, president of the Management Board, LOT Polish Airlines.

Speaking on resumption of Malaysia Airlines' services to five Indian cities, the airline's country manager—South Asia, Amit Mehta, said, "We will steadily increase capacities to these cities based on demand".

Separately, jurisdictions of Hong Kong and Singapore have also eased travel rules that will help airlines mount flights to India from these destinations. Earlier this month, Hong Kong announced scrapping of its travel ban on nine countries, including India, that it deemed high-risk from a Covid-19 perspective.

Following Singapore administration's easing of rules, Singapore Airlines and its low-cost arm Scoot will open up its entire network to fully-vaccinated travellers without the need for quarantine or testing. So far, Singapore had implemented the vaccinated travel lane system, in which travellers could fly to Singapore only from specific destinations to get exemption from quarantine and testing.

If a passenger was flying to Singapore from a destination other than those specified under the system, they would be subjected to quarantine and testing requirements. From April 1, fully-vaccinated travellers from India will be able to fly from Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Bengaluru, Chennai, Coimbatore, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kochi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Tiruchirappalli, Thiruvananthapuram and Vishakhapatnam without additional restrictions.

New Delhi: Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) on Thursday said it has appointed Hisashi Takeuchi the new managing director and chief executive officer with effect from April 1. This is consequent to the completion of the term of Kenichi Ayukawa on March 31, 2022, the company said in a statement.

In order to facilitate a smooth transition, Ayukawa will continue as a whole-time director designated as executive vice-chairman till September 30, and will continue to provide guidance to the auto major, the statement added. The appointments are subject to shareholder approval. Takeuchi joined Suzuki Motor Corporation in 1986. He has been on the MSI board since July 2019, as joint MD (commercial) since April 2021. FE

BRIEFLY

Growth forecast

United Nations: India's projected economic growth for 2022 has been downgraded by over 2 per cent to 4.6%, as per an UNCTAD report.

Future default

New Delhi: Future Enterprises Ltd said it has defaulted on payment of ₹93.9 crore to PNB and Canara Bank under one-time restructuring plan.

Byju's, FIFA WC

New Delhi: Byju's said it has been named as an official sponsor of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022.

GeM portal

New Delhi: Procurement of goods, services from Government e-Market portal crosses ₹1 lakh cr in FY22. PTI

P&O Ferries firing

London: P&O Ferries CEO Peter Hebblethwaite acknowledged the company chose to ignore the law and labour contracts in firing 786 workers sans consulting. AP

SHARES OF ZEE ENTERTAINMENT ENTERPRISES JUMP 16.8%

Invesco backs ZEEL-Sony merger, not to pursue EGM for MD removal

ENR ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, MARCH 24

EXPLAINED
E New company, new board

INVESCO DEVELOPING Markets Fund has backed the merger of Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd (ZEEL) with Sony and decided not to pursue its requisition for an extraordinary general meeting (EGM) for the removal of ZEEL MD & CEO Punit Goenka.

Soon after the announcement by Invesco, which owns 18 per cent stake in ZEEL, the latter's shares jumped 16.83 per cent to Rs 299.15 on the BSE on Thursday.

According to Invesco, this follows the Bombay High Court decision recognising Invesco's requisition for an EGM as legally valid and upholding Invesco's right for the same. "Since we announced our intention to requisition an EGM and add six independent di-

rectors to Zee's board of directors, Zee has entered into a merger agreement with Sony. We continue to believe this deal in its current form has great potential for Zee shareholders," Invesco said.

"We also recognize that, following the merger's consumma-

tion, the board of the newly combined company will be substantially reconstituted, which will achieve our objective of strengthening board oversight of the company," it said, adding, "Given these developments, and our desire to facilitate the transaction, we have decided not to pursue the EGM as per our requisition dated September 11, 2021."

Invesco said it will continue to monitor the proposed merger's progress. If the merger is not completed as currently proposed, Invesco retains the right to requisition a fresh EGM, it further said.

Last September, Invesco had sought an EGM for the removal of Goenka and to appoint six directors. However, the ZEEL board then proposed a merger deal with Sony to counter the Invesco move. Sony Pictures Networks India (SPNI) and ZEEL entered into an

exclusive and non-binding agreement for a merge.

While Sony India, which has emerged as a white knight for ZEEL promoters, would hold a majority 52.93 per cent stake in the combined company, ZEEL shareholders would hold the balance 47.07 per cent. Current ZEEL managing director & CEO Punit Goenka will continue in the position for another five years as Sony has agreed on his continuance in the top position.

"We are pleased with the Bombay High Court's ruling, which we view as an important reaffirmation of shareholder rights in India and the mechanisms under Indian law to hold boards accountable to their shareholders. The ruling is a boon for corporate governance in India and a win for shareholder democracy," Invesco said.

'IOC, BPCL, HPCL lost \$2.25 bn due to fuel price freeze'

Indian OMCS IOC, BPCL and HPCL together lost around \$2.25 billion in revenue for keeping fuel prices on hold during state elections, said a Moody's report said

STATE FUEL RETAILERS

Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation did not revise petrol and diesel rates for a record 137 days despite prices of crude oil rising to \$120 per barrel against about \$82 last November when the hiatus began

BASED ON CURRENT MARKET PRICES oil marketing companies (OMCs) are currently

incurring revenue loss of:

■ \$25 per barrel on sale of petrol

■ \$24 per barrel on sale of diesel

IFC CRUDE CONTINUES TO AVERAGE \$111 A BARREL, the three OMCs will incur a combined daily loss of around \$65-70 million on the sale of petrol and diesel unless fuel prices are increased to cover the rising crude oil prices

Source: Moody's Investors Service/PTI

Takeuchi is MD-CEO of Maruti Suzuki



Hisashi Takeuchi Credit: MSI

Goyal on tax raids: Action will be taken for wrongdoings

New Delhi: Responding to concerns that raids by investigative agencies on industry had dampened enthusiasm for private investments, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Thursday said in Parliament that anyone indulging in wrongdoings... Action will be taken", the minister said in the Lok Sabha, during

"I am amazed... I do not understand the relation between raids and investments... Is there any provision or law in the country that if you are a big politician or a big industrialist, action would not be taken for their wrongdoings... Action will be taken", the minister said in the Lok Sabha, during

discussions on the demands for grants of the Commerce and Industry Ministry

Income tax authorities on Wednesday raided multiple offices of Hero MotoCorp as well as the office and residential premises of Hero MotoCorp chairman and CEO Pawan Munjal. ENS

Price of Suzuki EVs to be based on 2014 pact: Bhargava

RISHI RAJ
NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

SUZUKI MOTOR Corporation's wholly-owned arm Suzuki Motor Gujarat (SMG), which plans to locally manufacture EVs and batteries by 2026, will follow the same arrangement for selling the vehicle to Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) as it currently has for internal combustion engine (ICE) cars.

Maruti Suzuki chairman RC Bhargava said that the pricing of electric vehicles (EVs) or batteries sold by SMG to MSI will take into account the cost of material, labour, electricity, depreciation of

equipment and other consumables, but not include any profits.

"The pricing of the EVs sold will be based on the contract manufacturing agreement signed at the time of the setting up of the SMG plant in 2014," Bhargava said.

He was responding to a report by proxy advisory firm Institutional Investor Advisory Services, that said Suzuki's move would leave MSI with a legacy portfolio of cars with a limited future. "Tell me how is it possible? If the arrangement is working fine now with no disadvantage, how can it be wrong for EVs. The only thing changes with the new plant is instead of ICE there would be EVs." FE

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
[A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking]
Victoria Cross Vijeta Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwalli Road, Dehradun- 248001
Corporate Identity No. U40109UR20015GC0258672358
Telephone No. 0135-2724444, Fax No. 9135-2743039 E-mail ID: msticcommerce.com in Webpage: www.upcl.org

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited invites e-tenders (www.msticcommerce.com) for purchase of short term power for the month from 01-Apr-2022 to 31-Mar-2023 (RTC) as per Ministry of Power, Government of India guidelines dated 30-03-2016 against Tender Specification No. 01/CE (COMM)/UPCL-01/2022-2023.

Month	Timings	Quantum of Power (MW)	Minimum Bid Quantity (MW)	Delivery Point
Apr-22	00:00 To 24:00	200	50	
May-22	00:00 To 24:00	200	50	
Jun-22	00:00 To 24:00	200	50	
Jul-22	00:00 To 24:00	200	50	
Aug-22	00:00 To 24:00	200	50	
Sep-22	00:00 To 24:00	200	50	
Oct-22	00:00 To 24:00	200	50	
Nov-22	00:00 To 24:00	200	50	
Dec-22	00:00 To 24:00	200	50	
Jan-23	00:00 To 24:00	200	50	
Feb-23	00:00 To 24:00	200	50	
Mar-23	00:00 To 24:00	200	50	

The timelines for short term procurement/bid process and activities thereafter are as under:-

Last Date of request for purchase of tender document 01/04/2022 upto 10:00 hrs

Last date and time of submission of e-tender document 01/04/2022 upto 12:00 hrs

Date and time of opening of tender document/Part-1 01/04/2022 upto 13:00 hrs

Date and time of opening of Initial Price Offer (IPO) & e-Reverse Auction (e-RA). 04/04/2022 upto 10:00 hrs

Earliest Money Deposit (EMD) in the shape of Bank Guarantee should be in favour of Executive Engineer (EM), UPCL, VCV Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwalli Road, Dehradun and to be submitted in the office of SE(Commercial), UPCL, VCV Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwalli Road, Dehradun

Cost of tender Specification (Demand Draft in favour of) Executive Engineer (EM), UPCL, VCV Gabar Singh Bhawan, Kanwalli Road, Dehradun and to be submitted in the office of SE(Commercial), UPCL, VCV Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwalli Road, Dehradun, Rs. 29,500/- (Rs. Twenty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Only) including taxes.

The qualifying requirements for a bidder to bid for this tender are as follows:-

1. The bidder must quote not less than 50 MW quantum of power from single source of generation.

2. The quantum of power offered by the bidder shall be firm power for the duration mentioned above.

3. The bidder must submit the details of Bidder Company as per Annexure 'A' of tender specification for consideration of their bid. Bidder shall ensure submission of (General/Technical/Financial Information for last three years supported by unabridged Annual Financial Statements, assets and liabilities statements and other financial statements duly certified.)

4. If Bidder is a Trader, it should submit a copy of valid Category license or equivalent Trading License issued by CERC/Appropriate Commission.

5. If Bidder is a Trader, it should submit a copy of at least one number executed power purchase agreement or an equivalent



BRIEFLY

Japan, Saudi Arabia qualify for World Cup



Japan players celebrate after beating Australia 2-0. Reuters

Seoul: Japan qualified for a seventh successive World Cup after beating Australia 2-0 in Sydney and ending the Socceroos' chances of automatic qualification. The result also qualified Saudi Arabia from Asia Group B. Japan was on top of the group with 21 points, one ahead of Saudi Arabia. Australia remained in qualifying contention in third place. It faced a playoff against the third-place team from Group A, currently the United Arab Emirates, and a possible final game against South American opposition. AP

Women's IPL on GC meeting agenda

Mumbai: The feasibility of a full-fledged women's IPL from next year will be discussed at a Governing Council meeting on Friday. In the past, BCCI president Sourav Ganguly and secretary Jay Shah had expressed the intention to conduct a women's IPL. "The matter will be discussed in the governing council and a plan of action will be decided," a BCCI official said. How many teams to be fielded and participation of foreign players will be on the agenda. BCCI will also discuss the tender process for media rights for next IPL cycle (2023-2027). DEVENDRA PANDEY

Swiss Open: Sindhu, Srikanth progress

Basel: PV Sindhu and Kidambi Srikanth, progressed to the quarterfinals of the Swiss Open. While Sindhu eased into the last 8 with a 21-19 21-14 win over Nelsian Yigit of Turkey, Srikanth staved off a spirited challenge from France's Christo Popov, ranked 60th, with a fighting 13-21 25-23 21-11. Third seeds Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty lost 19-21 20-22 to Indonesian pairing of Pramudya Kusumawardana and Yeremia Erich Yoche Yacob Rambitan in the men's doubles. PTI

Sathiyan-Manika win silver medal

Doha: G Sathiyan and Manika Batra settled for the silver in the WTT Contender Doha 2022, capitulating in the final of the mixed doubles against the top-seeded Chinese Taipei pair of Lin Yun-Ju and Cheng I-Ching. The Indians lost 4-11, 5-11, 3-11. Sharath Kamal, on the other hand, failed to up the ante from an advantageous position in the sixth game and went down fighting 3-4 (5-11, 11-8, 6-11, 11-7, 11-5, 10-12, 9-11) in the semifinals of the men's singles against Yuan Lisen of China. PTI

Although he has relinquished captaincy, MS Dhoni will continue to be the man who pulls the strings from behind the stumps

SANDIPG
MARCH 24

STAGE BY stage, like a man approaching the vanaprastham, MS Dhoni is renouncing his responsibilities. Seven years after he quit Test cricket, two years after he forsook the national colours forever, he stepped down as the captain of Chennai Super Kings. Now, by strict definition, he remains a player, a wicket-keeper batsman. Only that for legions of his devout, he will remain forever their captain.

The banner—MS Dhoni: Captain For Life—used to be waved frantically in the mild sea-breeze-infused IPL summer evenings at Chepauk. Even during the two wilderness years of CSK, the Dhoni-maniacs would stick that banner on the walls of the MA Chidambaram Stadium, and fervently chant his names, even as he reluctantly wrapped the purple jersey of Rising Pune Supergiant. When he returned, they burst crackers, garlanded his giant cut-out and shrieked his names so loud that the waves of the vast ocean that hugged the stadium seemed to carry the echoes to distant shores.

Love for Dhoni seemed to flow unconditionally. But the ultimate truth is that a sportsman is loved because he is successful. Conditions sneak in, even in the most unconditional of loves. Dhoni was loved as much for his charm and charisma as for his success and glory. And therein lies his biggest legacy

— he is the IPL's most successful captain (four titles, five runner-up spots, just once failing to reach the top-four).

No leader of men in this format has led men as comfortably or as successfully as captain. He set the tone, tempo and template of captaining in the shortest format, one that did not exist when he started playing cricket, yet it is difficult to codify his captaincy streaks into a manual of T20 success, or even a blueprint. Dhoni was a man until his own.

At the start of his CSK days, he was risk-prone and adventurous, even left-field at times, like his pre-captaincy batting. But none of those tactics were a gamble or a whim, out of an instinct or impulse. Before making a decision, he weighed the outcome forensically. He was much more meditative and thoughtful, just that it was his genius that he made it all look instinctive. For instance, his ploy to unleash left-arm spinner Shabab Jakati against Sachin Tendulkar in the 2010 finals was misconstrued as a gamble, but it derived from a training session for India some years ago when Jakati was called as a nets bowler. Dhoni remembered Tendulkar mistiming a few lofted hits to the deep. He had registered that in his memory, and when the ripe moment came, he recollects and deployed it. Jakati indeed lured Tendulkar into a fatal chip to the deep.

He thus had not only the memory and instinct, almost a sixth sense to plot a wicket, but also the courage to accomplish it.

Years ago, former CSK bowler Palani Amarnath narrated an incident: "The brief was to keep the over tight, but I ended up conceding 16-17 runs. I was nervous and averted my eyes, but he told me not to worry, keep my composure, and I ended up getting 13-14 wickets that season." A brief but valuable insight into the workings of a man who keeps his mind to himself. All of that treasure-chest of stories and an-

ecdotes, analysis and observations to himself.

The portrait we sketch of Dhoni is thus always incomplete. We stitch together our personal impressions as well as of those who have played with him and those that claim to know him. Coach Stephen Fleming frequently reminds the world of Dhoni's skill to coax the best out of players, even from those who have seemed over-the-hill. "He helps create an environment when everyone feels comfortable and everyone wants to win every game. That probably is a reason, he as well as CSK are successful," Fleming once observed.

A recent example is Shane Watson. The Australian all-rounder was considered past his use-by date when CSK acquired him, upon Dhoni's insistence, in their return to the league auction in 2018 for four times his base price. He racked up 555 runs including a century in the final. Likewise, Dhoni backed the ageing trio of Robin Uthappa, Dwayne Bravo and Ambati Rayudu last season, and extracted match-winning contributions. As much as trusting ageing cricketers, CSK has been a finishing ground for a lot of youngsters. From Ravichandran Ashwin and Ruturaj Gaikwad to Deepak Chahar and Ravindra Jadeja, Dhoni's CSK has shaped world-class talents. And contrary to perceptions, CSK is not the oldest team in the league—it is Gujarat Titans (28.7 compared to CSK's 27.9)—though the credit for busting T20 as a young man's game would dwell peacefully on CSK's shoulders. Dhoni never had the best teams on paper, but often ensured that his team emerged as the best at the end of the season.

Some have criticised Dhoni and Co. for clinging sentimentally onto players seemingly past their prime. Not that CSK were hyper-sentimental, but they were not tempted to frequently chip and chop their players around. At a time, in the early years of the league, when teams were on a perennially experimenting mode, Dhoni was busy

carrying on." CEO Viswanathan said. Viswanathan confirmed Dhoni won't pick and choose games this term and will be a guiding force for the team. EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

'MSD will continue to play beyond 2022'

Kolkata: MS Dhoni relinquished Chennai Super Kings captaincy and gave the reins to allrounder Ravindra Jadeja but the 2022 IPL season won't be his last, Chennai Super Kings chief executive Kasi Viswanathan told The Indian Express. "No, I don't think (this is going to be his last season). He will carry on," CEO Viswanathan said.

Viswanathan confirmed Dhoni won't pick and choose games this term and will be a guiding force for the team.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

building a stable nucleus. "He used to emphasise on building a core of key players who could play for years at the same club," Fleming would say.

A lot of them stuck around for a lot of years, whereas several franchises would easily jettison players after an unsuccessful year or two. Later, Mumbai Indians too adopted that formula and became a trophy-guzzling machine. Dhoni in that sense was a non-conformist—he would stick by players in a fickle world and coax reciprocation, he would pick fringe players and remodel them into functional cogs and assemble them into a winning machine, he would cushion erratic youngsters and propel them to greatness. But he did not let instinct dictate him, he coated it with common-sense and pragmatism. He was both a rebel and a revolutionary in the garb of an everyman.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

But him no longer being the captain does not mean that he is no longer the captain. By strict definition, he might not be. But when he walks out onto the field, he will still be the captain. And in the heart of his legions of devotees, he will remain just that: Captain Forever. Even though vanaprastham is not far behind.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

But him no longer being the captain does not mean that he is no longer the captain. By strict definition, he might not be. But when he walks out onto the field, he will still be the captain. And in the heart of his legions of devotees, he will remain just that: Captain Forever. Even though vanaprastham is not far behind.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had its limitations in this day and age, he must have realised. But no other captain carries that expectation from the audience of witnessing something spontaneous. But then, he is no longer the captain.

As the years passed by, a veil of conservatism was thought to have crept into his leadership. On-the-foot thinking had

Das, Smyth in joint lead on redesigned course

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MARCH 24

THE DELHI Golf Club is renowned to be one of the tightest layouts any professional can hope to encounter, and despite the redesign by South African legend Gary Player, it played true to its reputation on the opening day of the DGC Open on Thursday.



rich dividends in the form of six birdies and a solitary dropped shot. Both the leaders are yet to win on the Asian Tour.

"This is a very good course. Earlier there were flat greens, but now there are more high greens. Now not only do you have to hit the tee shot well, but you have to hit the second shot really well, then only you get a chance for a birdie. Overall, I feel I am getting my game back," Das reflected on the changes in the layout.

He has waited a long time to get near the top of a leaderboard with a back injury and then the pandemic resulting in no tournaments for him to play.

At one stage, it seemed that home boy Kapur will also finish around the top of the leaderboard before he faltered in the second half of his round. "I started off quite well, was quite happy with my round, was four under for the first 10 holes. Then I hit a bit of a speed bump on the back nine. I didn't quite have my A game today. I made a couple of sloppy bogeys coming in and that made the difference between a good and an average round," said the four-time winner on the Asian Tour who triumphed in the 2017 Panasonic Open at the same venue.

Overall, players from the morning wave had much the better of conditions with Ahlawat the rare afternoon starter to make good progress (tied third).

Leaderboard (Indians unless specified): Leaderboard (Indians unless specified):
1. Travis Smyth (USA),
Shankar Das (-5, 67) 3. Veer Ahlawat, Nitithorn Thippong (Tha) (-4, 68). 5. Ajeeet Singh Sandhu, Karandeep Kochhar (-3, 69), 7. Varun Parikh, Zach Bauchau (USA) (-2, 70)

ASSOCIATED PRESS
LAHORE, MARCH 24

PAKISTAN SURVIVED an intriguing last session to reach 73-0 on day four after a bold declaration by Australia set a tricky target of 351 runs in the series-deciding third test on Thursday.

Opening batters Imam-ul-Haq, 42 not out, and Abdullah Shafique, 27 not out, survived television referrals against offspinner Nathan Lyon to leave the home team still needing 278 runs in a minimum 90 overs on the last day Friday.

Shafique had a close escape when Steve Smith's poor run in the slips continued as the Australia vice-captain couldn't hold onto a sharp chance off Marnus Labuschagne's penultimate ball of the day.

Captain Pat Cummins declared Australia's second innings at 227-3 shortly after tea, Usman Khawaja having achieved an unbeaten 104, his second successive century to round off a brilliant tour to the country of his birth.

It gave Australia nearly four sessions to have a crack at Pakistan, after missing out in the

second test at Karachi where Pakistan batted for 171.4 overs and forced an epic draw.

"It's a brave declaration, no doubt about it," Pakistan batting coach Mohammad Yousuf said. He added he was expecting Australia to bat for a few more overs and set a target of around 380 runs. "The way our openers have batted (in the last session), it has given us confidence. We will definitely go for victory tomorrow."

The worn-out pitch at Lahore encouraged Cummins to push Pakistan after the home team collapsed to 268 in the first innings

against the brutal reverse swing of Cummins and Mitchell Starc to concede a massive 123-runs lead.

Khawaja featured in three half-century stands and raised his hundred at the stroke of tea as Australia blunted the reverse swing of Naseem Shah (1-23) and Shaheen Shah Afridi (1-45) while scoring freely against spinners Nauman Ali and Sajid Khan.

Khawaja made 97 in the drawn first test at Rawalpindi and followed with 160 and 44 not out at Karachi. Despite being ill on the opening day of this test, Khawaja scored 91 in the first innings. The

left-hander has an impressive 496 runs at a series average of 165.33.

"It's been a really good series for me, I have enjoyed it," Khawaja said. "We declared at the right time ... they played well (today), but we have 90 (more) overs and they will need to push the run rate which is not going to be easy once we apply pressure and get wickets."

Khawaja combined in a 96-run opening stand with David Warner, who was clean bowled on 51 by Afridi in the penultimate over before lunch.

Labuschagne, with 36, then shared another brisk 65-run stand

with Khawaja before he swept hard at left-arm spinner Nauman and was caught at deep midwicket in the second session.

Smith scored only 17 but on 7 became the fastest batter to 8,000 test runs in his 151st inning, one quicker than former Sri Lanka skipper Kumar Sangakkara. Naseem found the outside edge of Smith's bat soon after tea.

BRIEF SCORES: Pakistan 268 and 73 for 0 (Imam 42*, Shafique 27*) need 278 more runs to beat Australia 391 and 227 for 3 dec (Khawaja 104*, Warner 51)

Khawaja ton, Pak openers set up enthralling series finale

The best minds of India bring the best ideas for India

25-26 March
10 am onwards

Witness thought leaders and best minds from various fields talk about the journey of India so far and their vision for the future.

Watch it live all day on ablive.com or Download the app

State Partner:
Associate Partner:
Wellness Partner:
Technology Partner:
Partner:
Print Partner:
Digital Partner:
ABP Network:

WILD STONE
Presents
ABP Network
IDEAS OF INDIA
SUMMIT 2022

TOREX



don't bother for scars any more.

To get blemish free skin use
NO SCARS. It helps to reduce
and remove, scars and marks.



Get dazzling
Glamour with...

Long Lasting
Premium Quality Soap

Nothing makes a woman more beautiful than the belief that she is beautiful. This belief paves the way to real beauty inside which reflects outside. **No Scars beauty soap** helps making your skin look soft and radiant. The components of **No Scars** make it a wonderful moisturizer & provides nourishment to all the skin types.



NO SCARS®

For more information,
please contact :
+91 97792 14455,
+91 73199 35154 (Whatsapp)
care@torquepharma.com



New Delhi





#CreatingForIndia

Creative entrepreneurs on YouTube helped generate **6,83,900** full-time equivalent jobs in India.



/ CARachanaPhadkeRanade

Every day, millions of Indians come to YouTube to learn new skills, earn a living, and transform their lives. YouTube is privileged to play a role in helping Indians achieve their dreams. Take Rachana: Through her YouTube channel, she breaks down investment and stock market concepts for viewers with the goal of inspiring financial discipline and instilling confidence in women to secure their futures. With her channel reaching 36 lac subscribers during the pandemic, Rachana leveraged YouTube to become a leading 'finfluencer' in India.



Scan the QR code to read about YouTube's positive impact

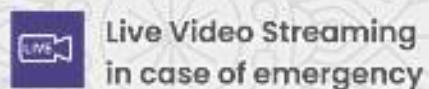
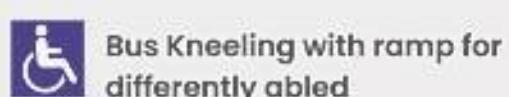
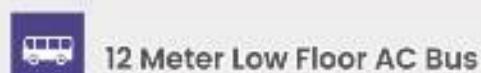
According to Oxford Economics, YouTube's creative ecosystem supported 6,83,900 full-time equivalent [FTE] jobs in India in 2020.

100+ NEW BUSES ON DELHI'S ROADS

100 new CNG buses and new DTC e-Bus
to run on the roads of Delhi



CNG BUS FEATURES



ELECTRIC BUS UNIQUE FEATURES



FLAG-OFF CEREMONY

By

Shri Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi

in the august presence of
Shri Kailash Gahlot
Transport Minister, Delhi

Date : Monday, 7th March 2022

Time : 10:45 AM

Venue: DTC, Indraprastha Depot



**DECISION
2022** 
UP PHASE VII TODAY
54 SEATS
613 candidates | 2.06 cr voters

RESULT: MARCH 10

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



BSF trooper opens fire on colleagues; five killed

KAMALDEEP SINGH BRAR
AMRITSAR, MARCH 6

FIVE BSF personnel were killed on Sunday at a battalion headquarters near the Pakistan border in Punjab's Amritsar after one of them allegedly opened fire at his colleagues with his service weapon before succumbing to bullet injuries himself.

The BSF described the incident at the 144 Battalion HQ in Khasa as a case of fratricide and ordered a court of inquiry while the local police registered a case. BSFIG (Punjab) Asif Jhalal said the incident is being investigated. "We have called the police," CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

TRANSITION XXX
15,920 INDIANS EVACUATED ON 76 FLIGHTS SO FAR

Hoping for rescue 'any minute', Indian students wait in Sumy

Officials hope to get them out via western border

SHUBHAJIT ROY & JAYPRakash NAIDU
NEW DELHI, MUMBAI, MARCH 6

ELEVEN DAYS into Russia's invasion of Ukraine, India's evacuation efforts have entered a critical stage with all eyes on the north-eastern Ukrainian city of Sumy, close to the Russian border, where about 700 Indians, mostly students, are waiting for rescue — the last big group from the country still stranded there.

Officials said that a team from the Indian Embassy is stationed in Poltava, a city in central

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



A man leaves the town of Irpin, near Kyiv, with his child after heavy shelling on Sunday. Reuters



"Putin has made us open our eyes, that to keep peace, there might be a price"

WALTER J LINDNER
GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO INDIA

PAGE 11

THE EDITORIAL PAGE
CALLING ON MOSCOW
PAGE 12

Civilian rescue stalls as ceasefire fails, Ukraine leader gives call to arms

YURAS KARMANAU
LVIV, MARCH 6

A SECOND attempt to evacuate civilians from a besieged city in southern Ukraine collapsed on Sunday amid renewed Russian shelling, but President Vladimir Putin said the invasion could be halted "only if Kyiv ceases hostilities".

Food, water, medicine and almost all other supplies were in desperately short supply in the besieged port city of Mariupol, where Russian and Ukrainian

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

EXPLAINED E ✓ Concept
Problem with a
no-fly zone

ENFORCING a no-fly zone could mean shooting down Russian aircraft, which NATO fears could trigger a "full-fledged war". Russian President Vladimir Putin has warned that any country enforcing a no-fly zone would be "participating" in the conflict.

Evacuation proves rising influence in world: PM

ANURADHA MASCARENHAS & AJAY JADHAV
PUNE, MARCH 6

THE FACT that India succeeded in evacuating its nationals amid the war in Ukraine is proof of the country's growing influence in the world, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday.

"You have seen how, under Operation Ganga, India is bringing its citizens safely out of the war zone. Many big countries are

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

a) WHAT IS THE CASE? WHY SEBI FAILED?

NSE manipulation case: CBI arrests Chitra Ramkrishna

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, MARCH 6

THE CBI on Sunday arrested Chitra Ramkrishna, the former CEO and MD of National Stock Exchange (NSE), in the agency's 2018 case of alleged manipulation of the bourse, an official said.

Ramkrishna's arrest came the day after a Delhi court rejected her anticipatory bail application and pulled up the CBI for its "lack-advisal" investigation.

The agency's move marked its second high-profile arrest in the case after it took into custody Anand Subramanian, NSE's former group operating officer, in Chennai, on February 24. Earlier last month, the agency had questioned Ramkrishna.



Arrest a day after bail rejected

Subramanian and former NSE CEO Ravi Narain in the case.

"Ramkrishna has been arrested following questioning and will be produced in a competent court on Monday," a CBI official said.

On February 11, Ramkrishna was fined Rs 3 crore by SEBI for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

INSIDE

BENGAL GOVT TO CURB INTERNET ON EXAM DAYS

UAPA INVOKED IN BAJRANG DAL WORKER KILLING

PAGE 10

XX
Civilian killed, cop among 24 hurt in Srinagar grenade attack

NAVEED IQBAL
SRINAGAR, MARCH 6

A CIVILIAN was killed and 24 people including a police official suffered injuries Sunday in a grenade attack in the heart of Jammu and Kashmir's Srinagar city.

No outfit has claimed responsibility, said Central Kashmir DIG Sujit Kumar.

The attack took place at around 4.20 pm in the busy Amira Kadal area that also has a popular Sunday market.

"As of now, one person has succumbed to injuries. One of our personnel is also injured. However, the majority of those injured are civilians," Kumar told *The Indian Express*.

On January 25, a grenade attack had taken place within metres of the same spot, injuring multiple civilians and damaging a police vehicle.

The deceased person is 55-year-old Mohammad Aslam Makdoom from Naidakadal in downtown Srinagar, police said. He had suffered multiple injuries and was declared dead at the Shri Maharaja Hari Singh hospital, where the injured people are being treated.

Another civilian, Rafiya, who suffered multiple injuries, is said to be recovering.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Survivor, not victim: Kerala actor speaks up about sexual assault XX

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, MARCH 6

Actor Bhavana on Sunday

where she draws her courage from, said, "It makes me very angry and very sad (that perpetrators of sexual assault get rehabilitated)... It's not every day that I feel empowered and ready to fight. So many days, I have wanted to give up.... We must normalise the idea of the person

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

.. TUNE INTO ..

INDIA'S BIGGEST EXIT POLL

ZEE - DESIGNBOXED

**TODAY
6PM ONWARDS**

ZEE NEWS

Research Partner

Sabse Pehle Life Insurance Also Available Online

PLAYFUL RETIREMENT

LIC's JEEVAN AKSHAY VII

A Non-Linked, Non-Participating, Individual Immediate Annuity Plan

UIN-512N337V02 Plan No. 857

LIC भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

Har Pal Aapke Saath

Download LIC Mobile App "MyLIC" Visit: licindia.in Call Centre Services (022) 6827 6827

For details, contact your Agent/Nearest LIC Branch or SMS YOUR CITY NAME to 56767474

BEWARE OF SPURIOUS PHONE CALLS AND FICTITIOUS / FRAUDULENT OFFERS. IRDAI is not involved in activities like selling insurance policies, announcing bonus or investment of premiums. Public receiving such phone calls are requested to lodge a police complaint.

Follow us: LIC India Forever

IRDAI Regn No.: 512

Resolve of Delhi Government: Holistic Development of Every Child



A Conversation with Private Schools on implementation of:

- Happiness Curriculum
- Entrepreneurship Mindset Curriculum
- Deshbhakti Curriculum

Monday, 7th March 2022 | Thyagaraj Stadium, INA, New Delhi

Chief Guest: **MANISH SISODIA** Dy. Chief Minister, Delhi

"

We are happy to share the Mindset curricula of Delhi government with private schools. Let us together give the best educational opportunities to all children of Delhi.

-Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi



दिल्ली सरकार
जान चाहे सरकार

DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION Government of NCT of Delhi

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਨੈਸ਼ਨਲ ਬੈਂਕ  **punjab national bank**
...ਭਰੋਸੇ ਕਾ ਪ੍ਰੀਤਿ !

...the name you can BANK upon !

(A Govt. of India Undertaking)
Circle Sastra Patna North: 2nd Floor, Chanakya Tower, R-Block, Patna-800 001

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of immovable assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s), Guarantor(s) and Mortgagor(s) that the below described immovable property-mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Punjab National Bank**, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As what is" and "Whatever there is" on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of its dues due to the **Punjab National Bank**, Secured Creditor from the respective borrower(s), guarantor(s) and Mortgagor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit will be as mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS

Lot No.	Name of the Branch Name of the Account	(A) Dt. of Demand Notice u/s 13(2) of SARFAESI ACT 2002 (B) Outstanding Amount as on (C) Possession Date u/s 13(4) of SARFAESI Act 2002 (D) Nature of Possession Symbolic/Physical/Concriptive	Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged/Owner's Name (Mortgagors of property(ies))	(A) Reserve Price (Rs. in Lacs)	Date/ Time of E-Auction	Details of the encumbrances known to the secured creditors
1.	Branch: Langaroli, Patna (47420) A/c No.: 0474250010159, 0474300015552 Borrower: Sri Santosh Kumar, S/o Lok Nath Rai, Smt. Sita Devi, W/o Lok Nath Rai	(A) 29.06.2021 B) Rs. 7,85,059.97 with upto date interest C) 16.09.2021 D) Symbolic	EM of land and building situated at Mouza-Paharpur, Thana-Phulwari, Sadar registry and Distt-Patna, Thana No.14, Survey Plot No.319, Khata No.124, Area-1 Kattha, Name of owner: Smt. Sita Devi, W/o Lok Nath Rai, Boundaries as per deed:- North-Niz Mokir, South-Ajit Kumar Srivastav & Ram Niwas Pandey, East-Police Colony, West-Parmeshwar Singh and others then Rasta.	(A) 39,38,000/- B) 3,93,800/- (21.03.2022) C) 50,000/-	24.03.2022 From 11:00 am to 12:00 noon	Nil
2.	Branch: Jalalpur (097320), Patna A/c No.: 0973250021818 Borrower: M/s Laxmi Traders, Prop.-Smt. Savita Devi, W/o Sri Naresh Ray	(A) 22.11.2021 B) Rs. 15,25,479.00 with upto date interest C) 08.02.2022 D) Symbolic	EM of land and building situated at Mauza-Mainpur Shankar, Pragana-Phulwari Sharif, Survey Thana and Sub Registry Office-Danapur, Sadar Registry Office and Distt-Patna, Tauzi No.5124, Thana No.24, Khata No.6, Survey Plot No.557, Area-10 Dhur vide Sale Deed No.323 dated 15.01.2016 pertaining to Smt. Savita Devi W/o Sri Naresh Ray. Boundary:- North-Dashrath Rai and Amar Rai, South-Part Plot Hal Digar Kharidar, East- Part Plot Digar Kharidar, West-Sahayak Rasta.	(A) 12,75,000/- B) 1,27,500/- (11.04.2022) C) 50,000/-	16.04.2022 From 11:00 am to 12:00 noon	Nil
3.	Branch: Morcha Road (2916), Patna A/c No.: 177525000449 Borrower: M/s Ranjan Polytubs Prop.: Sri Om Prabhat Ranjan S/o Sri Rajeev Kumar Ranjan	(A) 23.11.2021 B) Rs. 31,96,445.07 with upto date interest C) 15.02.2022 D) Symbolic	EM of Land and Building situated at Mohalla-Simli Murarpur North of NH, Mohalla-Soda Godam, Patna City, Taghat Nagar, Avar Registry Office- Patna City, Thana-Malsalami, Sadar Registry Office and Distt-Patna, Tauzi No.Bihar Sarkar, Thana No.-38, Circle No.-215, Ward No.-71/54/35/30, Sheet No.-280, Municipal Survey Plot No.-1950(P), Jamabandi No.246, Area- 6 Dhu 3.25 Dhurki (0.9628 Decimal) vide Sale Deed No.9024 dated 13.12.2016 pertaining to Sri Rajeev Kumar Ranjan S/o Chandra Prasad Boundary:- North-Sri Lallu Yadav, South-3 Feet wide common Road and Smt. Sanju Kumari W/o Sri Sanjiv Kumar badau 7 feet 6 inch wide Common Road, East-Sri Arun Mehta, part of said plot, West-Smt. Shanti Devi W/o Sri Bhubneshwar Prasad, part of Said plot.	(A) 16,50,000/- B) 1,65,000/- (11.04.2022) C) 50,000/-	16.04.2022 From 12:00 noon to 1.00 pm	Nil
4.	Branch: Morcha Road (2916), Patna A/c No.: 291600870004841 Borrower: M/s Sakshi Enterprises Prop.: Sri Kundan Kumar Jain S/o Sri Ravindra Prasad Jain	(A) 29.06.2020 B) Rs. 15,91,792.66 with upto date interest C) 15.02.2022 D) Symbolic	EM of Land and Building situated at Mohalla-Taghataq Nagar, Patna City, Thana-Malsalami, Sub Registry Office-Patna City, Sadar Registry Office and Distt-Patna, Circle No.-226, Holding No.-33/37(P), Badahu Holding No.39/31(p), Present Holding No.-39B/31, Ward No.-71/56/37/32, Sheet No.-282, Thana Code-471, Municipal Survey Plot No.-693(P), Volume No.-229, CD No.-46/ year 2011, Pages From-387 to 400, Book No. 1, Area-12 Dhu 9.50 Durki (1.9492 Decimal) Vide Sale Deed No.-17273 Dated 24.06.2011. Pertaining to Smt. Rekha Devi Jain W/o Sri Ravindra Kumar Jain. Boundary- N-Corporation Gali, Municipal Survey Plot No.695, S-Koli Badahu, Sri Jaggu Paswan, E-Sri Rajesh Kumar Jaiswal, Part of Said Plot and Koli Badahu Sri Jaggu Paswan, W-Sri Braj Kishore Jaiswal, Part of Said Plot and Koli.	(A) 22,00,000/- B) 2,20,000/- (11.04.2022) C) 50,000/-	16.04.2022 From 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Nil

- The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions.
- The properties are being sold on "as is where is basis" and "as is what is basis" and "Whatever there is basis".
- The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation.
- The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website <https://www.mstcecommerce.com> on date & time as per detail given above.
- For detailed term and condition of the sale, please refer www.ibapi.in, www.tenders.gov.in, www.mstcecommerce.com, [https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app](http://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app).

STATUTORY 15/30 DAYS NOTICE UNDER THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

Date : 07.03.2022

Place : Patna

Authorized Officer
Punjab National Bank

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)

CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

No. A1M1B3/Fly Ash/BTPS/Mar 2022 Dated: 07.03.2022

E-AUCTION NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal of GoK)

(Evaluation of Auction participants and E-Auction bidding)

Name of Work: SALE OF DRY FLY ASH FROM BELLARY THERMAL POWER STATION (BTPS) Unit 1 to 3 of KPCL. KPCL has already finalized H1 (M/s. UltraTech Cement Ltd.) and H2 (M/s. Dalmia Bharat Cement Ltd.) bidders in the previous tender cum auction for lifting of dry fly ash from Bellary TPS and is already issuing fly ash to them after entering into contract agreements with them. Tenders are invited through e-auction from direct end-users/ suppliers to end-users of fly ash for H3, H4, H5.....H11 positions for 'Lifting of dry fly ash of approximately 7.30 lakh MT per annum (2000 MT per day) on an available basis for a period from finalization of this auction and issuance of Letter of Award up to 06.06.2024 from Bellary, i.e., from Bellary Thermal Power Station - Unit # 1 to 3 of KPCL. Even the above two existing H1 and H2 bidders can participate in this auction and have a separate contract additionally. Operation & Maintenance of Ash Handling System and Silo of BTPS, Unit 1 to 3, including Spares, Consumables, Housekeeping & Miscellaneous works, if any, is in the scope of KPCL. The last date for receipt of the completed bids: 17.00 Hrs. on 21.03.2022. The Auction document can be downloaded from the website <https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in>. Further details can be had from: The Superintendent Engineer (Mines), KPCL, No.82, Shakti Bhavan, III Floor, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560001. e-mail: cefuelskpcl@karnatakapower.com e-Portal/ HP Helpdesk : 080-22234115 / 22230960.

INDIA EXPOSITION MART LTD

CIN: U99999DL2019PLC110396

Regd. Office: Plot No. 1, 210 - Atlantic Plaza, 2nd Floor, Local Shopping Centre, Mayur Vihar Phase-I, Delhi - 110091 Tel: +91-120-2328011-20, Fax: +91-120-2328010 Email: cs@indiaexpocentre.com, Website: www.indiaexpomart.com

NOTICE OF THE 12TH EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING, INFORMATION ON E-VOTING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the 12th Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the Company is scheduled on Tuesday, March 29, 2022 at 02:30 PM at Govt. Servants Cooperative House Building Society Limited, Kalyan Kendra, 9, Paschimi Marg, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi – 110057 to transact the business as stated in the notice sent to the members individually.

The Notice of EGM has been dispatched to all the members whose email IDs are registered with the Company. Physical copies of the same have been sent to all other members at their registered address in the permitted mode.

The same are also available on the Company's website www.indiaexpomart.com. Additionally, the notice of EGM is also available on the website of National Securities Depositories Limited ("NSDL") at <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com>. The documents pertaining to the businesses to be transacted at the EGM are available for inspection at the Registered Office of the company between 12 Noon and 3 PM on all working days except Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays upto the date of EGM. The dispatch of notice of EGM has been completed on March 04, 2022.

In terms of Section 108 of Companies Act, 2013, read with rules thereto, as amended, the company is pleased to provide Remote e-voting facility to the members to cast their vote by electronic means (remote e-voting) on all the resolutions set forth in the notice. The company has engaged services of NSDL for providing e-voting facility. Kindly refer the notice of EGM regarding instructions on e-voting.

The remote e-voting commences on Thursday, March 24, 2022 at 10:00 AM (IST) and will end on Monday, March 28, 2022 at 05:00 PM (IST). The remote e-voting shall not be allowed beyond the said date and time.

• The cut-off date for determining the eligibility to vote by electronic means or at the EGM is Tuesday, March 22, 2022.

• A person whose name is recorded in the register of members as on the cut-off date, i.e. March 22, 2022, shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting or voting facility available at the meeting, as the case may be.

• Any person who has acquired shares of the company and becomes member of the company after dispatch of the Notice and holding shares as on cut-off date, may obtain the login id and password by sending a request at evoting@nsdl.co.in or cs@indiaexpocentre.com by mentioning DPID/ Client ID No.

• The company shall also provide facility for voting through electronic voting system or polling paper at the meeting and Members attending the meeting who have not already casted their vote by remote e-voting shall be able to exercise their right to vote at the EGM.

• The members who have casted their vote by remote e-voting prior to the meeting may participate in the meeting but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again.

• In case of any queries, you may refer to the 'Frequently Asked Questions' (FAQs) and 'e-voting user manual' available in downloads section of NSDL's e-voting website <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com>. In case of any grievances, you may contact Ms. Pallavi Mhatre, Manager, of NSDL at Toll free number 1800-1020-990 and 1800-2244-30; email: evoting@nsdl.co.in who will also address grievances connected with the voting by electronic means.

The results of voting would be declared as stipulated under the relevant rules and will also be posted on the above-mentioned company's website and website of NSDL.

By Order of the Board of Directors

March 07, 2022 Anupam Sharma

Company Secretary & Compliance Officer



Nehru Memorial Museum and Library

Cordially invites you to a Public Lecture

on

China's Multilateral Thrust under Xi Jinping: Will it Reshape the Global Order?

By

Prof. Madhu Bhalla

Formerly at University of Delhi

Tuesday, 8 March 2022 at 3:00pm

Venue:

Seminar Room, Library Building

Nehru Memorial Museum and Library

Google Meet Link: <https://meet.google.com/dkj-pecf-nwf>

All are Welcome

davp 09142/12/0034/2122

NOTIFICATION

CO-BRANDING OF RAILWAY STATIONS

With a view to maximize non-fare revenue, Indian Railways for 1st time in history has launched the concept of Co-branding of railway stations. Government and reputed business houses (excluding advertising agencies) can grab this opportunity to connect & further proliferate their brand by associating with Indian Railways.

AHEAD OF MCD POLLS

BJP men climb atop Jain's car, Kejriwal says party of lumpens

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 6

HEALTH MINISTER Satyendar Jain's car was stopped and surrounded by Delhi BJP workers on Sunday, with many climbing on the bonnet and banging on the windshield while raising slogans against Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

The incident took place around noon near Goyala Vihar in Chawla, where Jain had gone to inaugurate sewer development work. Members of the Delhi BJP youth wing started protesting against him over the new liquor policy when he was leaving from the area.

Delhi has seen several protests by the BJP against the new liquor policy over the past few months. With MCD elections only a month away, BJP has made it the central theme of its campaign against the AAP. Over the past few days, the BJP has held a referendum on the policy in different parts of the city.

The incident drew a sharp reaction from the Chief Minister, who posted: "Ye Bhajapa hai. Nihayat gundon aur lafangan ki party. Jab ye haar rahe hote hain to apni auaqat dikha dete hain. Inher janata inakee auaqat batayegi. (This is BJP. It is a party of complete lumpens and goondas. They show their true colours when they are losing elections). The public will show them their



Screengrabs from video footage of the incident posted by AAP. Delhi BJP leaders, however, said it was a simple protest.

place.)"

While the Delhi Police responded to a call from the spot, it said a formal complaint had not been received so far.

"Today Health Minister Shri Satender Jain visited the Goyala Vihar area in connection with the inauguration of a sewer line. For this, adequate staff was de-

moved immediately, and the minister left the spot. The SHOs of Chawla and Sector 23 Dwarka too reached the spot immediately in response to the call. No complaint has been received in this regard," said Additional DCP (Dwarka) Vikram Singh.

Officials from the Delhi government said that they had informed the area SHO and a member of Jain's staff made a call at 112, the emergency number, at noon.

AAP national spokesperson Surabh Bhardwaj called the incident disgraceful. "BJP is scared it will lose. If what happened to Satyendar Jain had happened to the Prime Minister, how much drama would it have caused," he tweeted.

Delhi BJP leaders, however, said it was a simple protest.

"It is really sad that the Aam Aadmi Party, which emerged from an agitation, cannot tolerate a people's protest today. There was no goondaism against Minister Satyendar Jain. It was just local residents of the area protesting against the new liquor policy of the Kejriwal government," said Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor.

Delhi BJP youth wing president Vasu Rukhar said that the party's Najafgarh district youth wing had organised a protest and had only shown black flags. "There was no violence, AAP is creating drama over it," he said.

45-yr-old man assaulted, killed over loan of Rs 500

New Delhi: A 45-year-old man was allegedly assaulted and killed by a group of men in Samaypur Badli. Police said the accused allegedly assaulted him with a cooking cylinder and slit his throat after he refused to return a loan of Rs 500. Police have arrested two of the accused. Brijendra Yadav. ENS

IIT KHARAGPUR RESEARCH PARK FOUNDATION

Regd. Off.: IIT Kharagpur Campus, Paschim Medinipur
Kharagpur Midnapore, WB-721302 CIN: U73100WB2020NPL241037

Advertisement No.: R/06/2022 dated February 24, 2022

The IIT Kharagpur Research Park Foundation invites Online Applications from Indian Nationals for the post of Executive Officer on a purely Contractual basis.

For details and updates visit:
<http://www.iitkgp.ac.in/non-teaching-positions>

Last date for submission of Online Application:
24.03.2022

निदेशक/Director

Transaction failed?
Relax, your money
will be refunded,
in due time!*

- Amount debited for failed Digital Payment Transactions will be credited back to your credit card / debit card / PPI / bank account through which you made the transaction
- There is a provision for compensation if money is not credited back within the stipulated time*
- You can complain online on RBI's CMS* portal, if the money for failed transactions is not refunded

*Terms and Conditions apply
**Visit <https://cms.rbi.org.in>

Issued in public interest by
भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA
www.rbi.org.in

Inauguration of SCHOOL HEALTH CLINIC

'School Health Clinic' established in 20 schools as joint initiative between Directorate of Education and Health Department of Delhi Government



Healthy child, empowered nation

Directorate of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi

Partners:

Chief Guest:
MANISH SISODIA
Dy Chief Minister, Delhi

Guest of Honour:
SATYENDRA JAIN
Health Minister, Delhi

Monday, 7th March, 2022
Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Moti Bagh-1, Delhi

Facilities:

- Safe, accessible and free healthcare services to students
- Qualified doctor, nurse and psychologist in each clinic
- Focus on prevention, diagnosis and treatment
- Referral system for specialised treatment
- Special focus on malnutrition, anemia, academic & career related stress

A unique initiative to strengthen physical and mental well being of children



FROM PAGE ONE

Hoping for rescue

Ukraine, through which they hope to coordinate the safe passage of the students in Sumy to the western border. The students have been told to be ready to leave at short notice, they said.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Renish Joseph, a student

coordinator with Sumy State University who has been communicating with Indian officials, said the evacuation could start "any minute", depending on the conflict situation.

Since Ukrainian airspace has been closed for civilian flights, India has been evacuating its stranded nationals via land

routes of Moldova, Slovakia, Romania, Poland and Hungary. On Sunday, India commenced the final leg of Operation Ganga, the Government's evacuation mission, from Hungary. The Indian Embassy asked all students living in accommodation other than that arranged by the Government to reach Hungary City Centre in Budapest between 10 am and 12 pm local time (2.30 pm and 4.30 pm IST).

In Ukraine, the Indian Embassy is trying to get a "sense" of how many Indians are still stranded in that country, particularly in Sumy, amid intense shelling and efforts to ensure safe passage. It has asked all those who are yet to leave conflict zones in Ukraine to "urgently" fill up a Google form, with personal details and location, for evacuation.

According to Joseph, there are less than 600 Indian students in Sumy, and not 800 as estimated earlier, since several of them had submitted multiple forms to register. "My top priority is mentally preparing the students to stay here for a week. The evacuation can begin any time but due to the mental state of students, I am trying to convince them for the long haul," he said.

Joseph, who is staying with students in the Sumy university hostel, said he is "constantly in touch" with officials from the Embassy. "They are taking stock of the situation. For them, the safe evacuation of all is the top priority. I cannot divulge details, and there is no clarity yet. But one thing is clear, it (evacuation) will be done very soon, and the Indian Government has a proper plan for it, which has been conveyed to students," he said.

Under Operation Ganga, 76 flights have brought back 15,920 Indians so far, including 13 that transported 2,500 in the last 24 hours. There are seven flights scheduled over the next 24 hours: an IAF-17 from Rzeszow in Poland, five from Budapest and one from Suceava (Romania).

In Sumy, scared and weary after 10 days of waiting, Indian students posted a video clip on Saturday, announcing that they had decided to risk the walk to the Russian border. Within hours, the Government re-

sponded, asking them to remain inside shelters and assured them that they will soon be evacuated. "Yesterday, things were getting out of hand. But I told them it can be very dangerous to leave the premises. I told them strictly to stay back," Joseph said.

"I have divided the students into small groups and named team leaders for each. These leaders are now in charge of calming down the students and preparing them to be ready for evacuation. I told the students not to blame the Government or anyone, help each other to be mentally strong, take one day at a time, and prepare food in groups with whatever little is available," he said.

Joseph said the Ukrainians have been providing them with water supply for two hours every day. "The food supply, though less, will suffice for the next two-three days. Electricity is provided during the day but is cut for several hours as per the security requirements of Ukrainian authorities," he said.

Initially, it was estimated that around 18,000 to 20,000 Indians were in Ukraine, but that number went up during the evacuation process with some, who did not register in the initial days, doing so later. In all, over 21,000 Indians have left Ukraine since the last week of January.

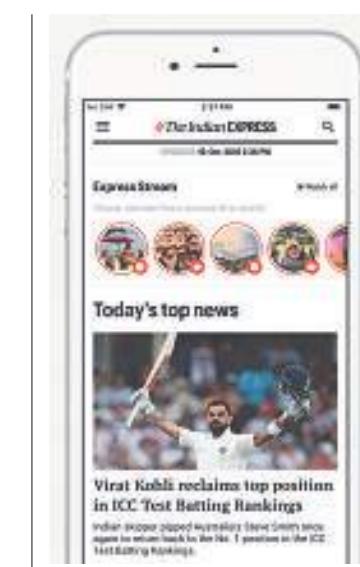
PM on evacuation

facing difficulties in doing so. But it is due to India's increasing influence that we have brought thousands of students back to their motherland," Modi said at the commemoration ceremony of the Golden Jubilee of Symbiosis University.

More than 15,900 Indians have been brought back since the special evacuation flights began on February 22, the Ministry of Civil Aviation said in an official release on Sunday.

Modi, who also inaugurated the Symbiosis Aarogya Dham, a project for the integrated development of various institutions to provide healthcare services as well as academic programmes, at the university's campus in Lavale, told students that their generation was fortunate that it did not have to burdened by the "defensive and dependent psychology" of "earlier times".

The Prime Minister also unveiled a statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj on the premises of Puna Municipal Corporation, inaugurated the R K Laxman Art Gallery-Museum, and laid the foundation stones of several development projects.



- DOWNLOAD APP !
- VISUAL STORIES
- DAILY BRIEFING
- PODCASTS
- CUSTOMIZABLE NEWS EXPERIENCE

Indian Express ★★★★ 4.6



SCAN THIS QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE APP

EXPRESS AUDIO

How Delhi's street names reveal its history

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Journalist Adrija Roychowdhury joins Sandip Roy to talk about her new book, 'Delhi in Thy Name' which traces the history of the capital city through the naming of its streets.

Ceasefire fails

forces had agreed to an 11-hour ceasefire that would allow civilians and the wounded to be evacuated.

But Russian attacks quickly closed the humanitarian corridor, Ukrainian officials said.

President Volodymyr Zelensky rallied people to remain defiant, especially those in cities that Russian soldiers have entered.

"You should take to the streets! You should fight!" he said on Ukrainian television on Saturday. "It is necessary to go out and drive this evil out of our cities, from our land," he said.

The war, now in its 11th day, has caused 1.5 million people to flee the country. The head of the U.N. refugee agency called the exodus "the fastest-growing refugee crisis in Europe since World War II".

Putin again blamed Ukraine for the war on Sunday, telling Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan that Kyiv needed to stop all hostilities and fulfill "the well-known demands of Russia". Those demands include what Putin has called the "de-nazification" of Ukraine.

Putin also told Erdogan he hoped Ukraine "would show a more constructive approach (to talks), fully taking into account the emerging realities". A third round of Russia-Ukraine negotiations is scheduled for Monday.

Putin also spoke with French President Emmanuel Macron on Sunday. The two leaders discussed the nuclear situation in Ukraine, which has 15 nuclear power plants, and agreed in principle to a "dialogue" involving

ing Russia, Ukraine and the UN's atomic watchdog, according to a French official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Potential talks on the issue are to be organised in the coming days, the official said.

After the ceasefire in Mariupol failed to hold on Saturday, Russian forces intensified their shelling of the city and dropped massive bombs on residential areas of Chernihiv, a city north of Kyiv, Ukrainian officials said.

The victims were declared "brought dead" around 11 am at Guru Nanak Dev Hospital in Amritsar. Another head constable, Nihal Singh, was seriously injured in the incident and is undergoing treatment.

"In an unfortunate incident, 5 BSF troops were injured...due to fratricide committed by Ct Satteppa SK at HQ 144Bn Khasa, Amritsar. Ct Satteppa SK was also injured in the incident. Out of the 6 injured, 5 troops including Ct Satteppa, have lost their lives. One of the injured is critical. A court of inquiry has been ordered to ascertain the facts," BSF said in a statement.

Zelensky on Sunday reiterated a request for foreign protectors to impose a no-fly zone over Ukraine, which NATO so far has ruled out because of concerns such an action would lead to a far wider war.

"The world is strong enough to close our skies," Zelensky said in a video address.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BSF trooper
which will also investigate," he said.

BSF sources said Constable Satteppa S K of 'B' company opened fire around 9.45 am,

CLASSIFIEDS

EXPRESS EDUCATION

LAW AMBITION LAW INSTITUTE
Since 2001

'Law is nothing but common Sense and logic',
Alok Kr Ranjan
Headmaster

JUDICIARY FOUNDATION
OFFLINE ONLINE
7 March, 22 7 March, 22
Contact Us : +91- 8800660301

JUDICIARY WEEKEND
OFFLINE ONLINE
3 April, 22 3 April, 22
Contact Us : +91- 8800662140

IAS LAW (Online)
Foundation Test Series
21 March, 22 10 April, 22
Contact Us : +91- 8800662140

CLAT/LL.B. (OFFLINE/ONLINE)
FOUNDATION - 1 Year FOUNDATION - 2 Years
14 March, 22 26 March, 22
Contact Us : +91- 8800660380

Toll Free : 1800 12000 2001
Watch more success story
visit our
YouTube Channel
Ambition Law Institute
Website : www.ambitionlawinstitute.com

Ambition Law Institute
B-10, 1st Floor, Above Maharashtra Bank,
Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009

Contact for Advt. Booking: M/s Friends Publicity Service
(M): 9212665841, 9212008155

दिल्ली सरकार
जाप की सरकार

Celebrating the culture of excellence

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS 2021

Monday, 7th March, 2022
Thyagraj Stadium, INA, New Delhi

Chief Guest:

MANISH SISODIA
Dy. Chief Minister, Delhi

- Recognising the best performing schools of Delhi
- Awarding students for their outstanding academic achievement

DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION Government of NCT of Delhi



New Delhi





VACCINATIONS IN LAST 24 HOURS

42,603

PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL: 105

OXYGEN SUPPORT 22

VENTILATOR SUPPORT 7

DELHI: TOTAL CASES

18,61,712

HOSPITAL BEDS 2,410

ICU BEDS 2,374

Cases Recoveries Deaths Tests

Mar 5 274 390 0 47,652

Mar 6 249 338 0 42,364

Total 1,261* 18,34,317 26,134 3,66,43,470

*Total active cases in Delhi

NOIDA		
	Mar 5	Mar 6
Cases	35	24
Deaths	0	0
GURGAON		
Cases	99	65
Deaths	0	0

BRIEFLY

Govt renews partnership with British Council

New Delhi: The Delhi government renewed its three-year partnership with the British Council in the area of education, English language and arts. It has also partnered with British Council to promote sports education through 'Premier League Primary Stars' project. Under this, school coaches and teachers are trained to enhance their understanding of football best practices for holistic development.

DoE to share lessons on curricula with pvt schools

New Delhi: In a special session, the Directorate of Education (DoE) will present details of its three flagship school curricula, Happiness, Entrepreneurship Mindset and Deshbhakti, to heads of the city's private schools on Monday, with the aim of helping them to implement the same. ENS

Civic polls: Expenditure limit increased to Rs 8 lakh

New Delhi: The State Election Commission of Delhi has increased the limit of expenditure that can be incurred by a candidate in the elections for the city's three municipal corporations to Rs 8 lakh from Rs 5.75 lakh.

PWD to revamp arterial roads

New Delhi: The Public Works Department will soon revamp its arterial roads having 30 metres or more right of way following instructions from the government to strengthen such stretches, officials said on Sunday. PTI

PROTEST WILL GO ON, SAY WORKERS

Termination notices issued to 26 anganwadi workers 'active' in strike

SUKRITA BARUAH
NEW DELHI, MARCH 6



Hundreds of workers and helpers have been on strike since January 31. Archive

strike, stated that it had not called for a meeting with the minister.

With this continuing strike, termination notices were issued by the department to multiple workers on Saturday evening which stated that continuance in their roles would be "against general public interest" and that their services have been terminated "with immediate effect".

These termination letters issued to the workers concerned are identical and state that since they are honorary workers, their contract states that their engagement can be terminated without prior intimation. The letters also state that they had been issued show cause notices last month and their responses had been

found "unsatisfactory".

They state that the worker: "deliberately attempted to disrupt the functioning of the ICDS scheme which involves essential public services, her conduct has been found to be in gross violation of the terms and conditions of her honorary engagement. Her conduct is liable for lacking sensitivity, failure to discharge duties and responsibilities cast upon her, and dereliction of duty. Her continuance as an AWW (anganwadi worker)/AWH (anganwadi helper) would be against the general public interest..."

One of these workers, who has been working there for the last 12 years, said that they are formulating their response to this.

WHAT THEY WANT

No. of workers and helpers: Around 21,000

Current monthly honorarium for

Workers*: ₹12,720	Helpers*: ₹6,810
Demand ₹25,000	Demand ₹20,000

*after recent hike

"We are all preparing our response to this, which we will send on Monday, but even then, our protest will continue. We had continued with the strike because we were not satisfied with the government's offer. They have increased the honorarium just by around Rs 2,000, whereas our demand was much more. We also have lots of other demands such as ESIs and PF benefits. We weren't going to just take crumbs and wind up our protest," she said.

According to a WCD official, they are expecting more workers and helpers to start reporting for duty in the coming week after this. "As far as their demands are concerned, the basic demand was enhancement of honorarium

which has been done. The scheme is made, financed, and structured by the central government and no state can regularise even a single worker without recruitment rules or orders given by the central government. So, this regularisation demand is not under purview of the state government... Now it seems to be a matter of politics and ego of the union's leaders, who had not responded to the minister's call for the meeting... The issue of malnutrition is major and services to lactating and pregnant women and young children cannot be stopped. Now there is no valid reason for the strike to continue and it is not justifiable to hamper these services for more than a month," said the official.

Before the hike was announced, anganwadi workers had been receiving a monthly honorarium of Rs 9,678 and helpers Rs 4,839. Their pay had been increased to this rate from Rs 5,000 and Rs 2,500 respectively, after they had gone on strike nearly five years ago. They have been demanding that this be increased to Rs 25,000 per month for workers and Rs 20,000 for helpers.

There around 21,000 workers and helpers employed in anganwadi centres across Delhi. With the protest raging on since January 31, many anganwadi centres have been shut.

'Changing negative perception of JNU, gender equity': New V-C outlines vision

SHEETAL BANCHARIYA
NEW DELHI, MARCH 6

SANTISHREE DHULIPUDI Pandit, a political science professor who took over as the first woman vice-chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) last month, has several items on her agenda, including making a "more gender-friendly campus" and "changing the trademark of a very negative perception" of the varsity.

In an interview with *The Indian Express*, Pandit, who will hold the V-C office for the next five years after taking over from M Jagadesh Kumar, shared her immediate plans for the university. "With my appointment, the present government broke three glass ceilings — I am a woman from a backward class from a non-Hindi speaking state," she said.

The central university was established in 1969 and it took more than five decades for a woman to take over the top post at JNU. She added that women's wellbeing is strongly influenced by literacy and educated participation within and outside the family, but the government does not have proper women's representation in selection committees, though it is statutory.

"The survival disadvantage of women as compared to men is very bad. We still have issues of domestic violence and marital rape that are not being properly addressed. More than literacy and education, everybody needs to be sensitised. I have met professors who think it is their birth right to make misogynistic comments at women. They need to be sensitised on workplace ethics and that's the first thing to do at JNU," said the 59-year old, who completed her PhD in International Relations from JNU's School of International Studies in 1990.

"...People say that we, at JNU, are among the most enlightened people. But the question is, are we? A few months ago, we had a very bad incident of molestation on campus and I would not like such a thing to be repeated," Pandit added.

Speaking on gender equity being the need of the hour instead of gender equality, Pandit said that one of her visions is to make "JNU a much more gender-



Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit is the varsity's first woman vice-chancellor

friendly campus".

"In JNU, we have a lot of dhabas and I would like to give their ownership to women's self-help groups. When we talk about equity, we are talking about equal access. I agree that JNU today has more women students than men, but the representation of women is increasing only at the entry level. Is there structural violence against women who come into careers? Women do not move to the associate professor or professor level as fast as men," said Pandit.

She said that a few men had reached out to her in support of women's choice of wearing head-scarves on education campuses amid the hijab row in Karnataka:

"My philosophy in JNU is that everyone decides what they want to wear. Here we have no rules or regulations and it has to be an individual's choice, but I don't want men to decide what women should wear. I told these boys who had come that if you want to wear hijab, then come and talk."

She also pointed out that the student strength has tripled from when she was at the university. "We were around 3,000 students at that point, now we have around 9,000. Back then, we had only seven hostels as compared to around 17 today. I want as many students, from different parts of India, to come to the campus and study, which also was the case when I was a student... We can make it a better place and change the trademark of a very negative perception of JNU, over which I feel really sad. But what JNU really represents is resistance, difference, and diversity," she said.

OUTER, SOUTH DISTRICTS TOP LIST

Over 950 dark spots in capital, finds audit

MAHENDER SINGH
MANRAL
NEW DELHI, MARCH 6

AN AUDIT of dark spots and dimly lit places, conducted by the Delhi Police, has revealed that there are 986 dark areas in the capital. Out of 15 districts, the audit found that five of them — 139 in Outer Delhi, 129 in the South, 118 in Southwest, 101 in Southeast and 91 in West — had the most dark spots, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana discussed the issue at a recent crime review meeting. "He asked all DCPs to not only identify dark areas but also spots with dim lighting and poor phone net-

work," said a senior police officer.

Another officer said they have observed that network issues often act as a hindrance for users of women's safety mobile app 'Tatpar' when they try to share details. "Asthana also asked DCPs about their efforts to improve the situation, they said they had sent letters to the authorities concerned," he said.

Data shows that the lowest dark spots — five — are in New Delhi and Northeast Delhi. A total of 17 in Central, 32 in Northwest, 34 in North Delhi, and 49 in Shahdara have been recorded.

When contacted, Delhi Police spokesperson Suman Nalwa said, "For the first time, we are not only identifying dark areas but also identifying such areas where

phone network doesn't work, and are approaching agencies concerned to work on the issues."

Asthana also reviewed crime data and found an uptick in robbery and burglary incidents between January 1 and February 23. As many as 502 robberies took place in Delhi as opposed to 405 in the same time frame last year, while 676 burglaries were reported this year as compared to last year's 487.

"Five districts reported the highest robberies — 72 in Northeast, 60 in Dwarka, 51 in Outer district, 50 in West, and 42 in Outer North. Last year, 63 took place in Northeast, 142 in West, 132 in East, 129 in Shahdara, and 123 in North Delhi."

However, this year, the percentage of solved cases has improved in comparison to last year

— data shows 89% of robberies were solved this year as opposed to 80% last year while 31% of burglaries were solved this year as compared to last year's 26%. Police have also improved conversion rate of PCR calls — number of calls converted into FIRs — at several districts while some lag behind. Data on PCR call conversion rate shows Northwest is at 95%, East is 91%, West at 85%, while Central district is at 84%. The lowest percentage was seen in Outer-North at 43%, Southwest at 44%, and Dwarka at 48%, an officer said.

Nalwa said, "We are focusing on free registration of FIRs so no criminal can go scot-free. We've also improved conversion rate of PCR calls and solving percentage."

basic difference between gender, sex, identities. We also want to file a PIL so no other student has to face what the boy did. The case is a reminder that not being aware of these things can lead to something so bad."

Sadika, who was part of the street play, said she participated to support the boy and many other individuals who struggle with their sexuality: "The family is traumatised and we didn't push them much, but many of the instances in the play are drawn from the boy's life. We tried to show how he was bullied in school and faced harassment from others."

Others who were part of their march expressed the need for better gender sensitisation.

Sanya, a 19-year-old student who is also the co-founder of an organisation called Sex Education India, said, "We want everyone to at least know the and jewellery design. He even taught me how to paint. It pains me to see what happened. He wanted to open an art school for his mother and teach other children."

and jewellery design. He even taught me how to paint. It pains me to see what happened. He wanted to open an art school for his mother and teach other children."

The boy's cousin, who studies at a private university, said, "...He was very creative and social... His room was filled with his artwork. He loved nail art

and jewellery design. He even taught me how to paint. It pains me to see what happened. He wanted to open an art school for his mother and teach other children."

The boy's cousin, who studies at a private university, said, "...He was very creative and social... His room was filled with his artwork. He loved nail art

and jewellery design. He even taught me how to paint. It pains me to see what happened. He wanted to open an art school for his mother and teach other children."

The boy's cousin, who studies at a private university, said, "...He was very creative and social... His room was filled with his artwork. He loved nail art

and jewellery design. He even taught me how to paint. It pains me to see what happened. He wanted to open an art school for his mother and teach other children."

The boy's cousin, who studies at a private university, said, "...He was very creative and social... His room was filled with his artwork. He loved nail art

and jewellery design. He even taught me how to paint. It pains me to see what happened. He wanted to open an art school for his mother and teach other children."

The boy's cousin, who studies at a private university, said, "...He was very creative and social... His room was filled with his artwork. He loved nail art

and jewellery design. He even taught me how to paint. It pains me to see what happened. He wanted to open an art school for his mother and teach other children."

The boy's cousin, who studies at a private university, said, "...He was very creative and social... His room was filled with his artwork. He loved nail art

and jewellery design. He even taught me how to paint. It pains me to see what happened. He wanted to open an art school for his mother and teach other children."

The boy's cousin, who studies at a private university, said, "...He was very creative and social... His room was filled with his artwork. He loved nail art

and jewellery design. He even taught me how to paint. It pains me to see what happened. He wanted to open an art school for his mother and teach other children."

The boy's cousin, who studies at a private university, said, "...He was very creative and social... His room was filled with his artwork. He loved nail art

and jewellery design. He even taught me how to paint. It pains me to see what happened. He wanted to open an art school for his mother and teach other children."

The boy's cousin, who studies at a private university, said, "...He was very creative and social... His room was filled with his artwork. He loved nail art

and jewellery design. He even taught me how to paint. It pains me to see what happened. He wanted to open an art school for his mother and teach other children."

The boy's cousin, who studies at a private university, said, "...He was very creative and social... His room was filled with his artwork. He loved nail art

and jewellery design. He even taught me how to paint. It pains me to see what happened. He wanted to open an art school for his mother and teach other children."

The boy's cousin, who studies at a private university, said, "...He was very creative and social... His room was filled with his artwork. He loved nail art

and jewellery design. He even taught me how to paint. It pains me to see what happened. He wanted to open an art school for his mother and teach other children."

The boy's cousin, who studies at a private university, said, "...He was very creative and social... His room was filled with his artwork. He loved nail art

</div



LAST ROUND

A polling officer after collecting an EVM from a distribution centre in Varanasi on Sunday, a day ahead of the last phase of elections in UP. Reuters

I HEREBY
DECLARE

ANIL KUMAR YADAV
CONG CANDIDATE
FROM NIZAMABAD
(AZAMGARH)

TOTAL ASSETS
₹1.74 lakh

MOVABLE ASSETS
Self: ₹1.74 lakh

IMMOVABLE ASSETS
Nil

LOANS FROM BANKS
AND OTHER FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS
Nil

CRIMINAL CASE
1

PROFESSION:
Social worker

EDUCATION:
MA in Medieval
History (2012)

DURGA PRASAD
YADAV

SP CANDIDATE FROM
AZAMGARH

TOTAL ASSETS
₹22.38 crore

MOVABLE ASSETS
Self: ₹50.04 lakh
(includes a pistol and a rifle)

Wife: ₹83.67 lakh

IMMOVABLE ASSETS
Self: ₹12.64 crore

Wife: ₹8.41 crore

LOANS FROM BANKS
AND OTHER FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS
Couple (joint account):
₹37.45 lakh

CRIMINAL CASES
3

SOURCES OF EARNING
Self: MLA salary,
agriculture
Wife: Agriculture
EDUCATION: LLB (1991)

VOTING FOR THE LAST PHASE TODAY

xx Politics xx

On test today: Modi magic in Varanasi and Akhilesh charisma in Azamgarh

Small parties in big race; 54 constituencies in nine districts go to polls today

LALMANI VERMA

LUCKNOW, MARCH 6

BSP six and the NISHAD party one seat. Notably, in this election, the SBSP is with the SP, and the NISHAD Party with the BJP.

In the 2012 Assembly elections, when Samajwadi Party came to power, most of the seats in this southeast UP region were won by it – 34. BSP had then won 7, BJP only 4, Congress 3, Quami Ekta Dal (QED) two, Independents three, and Apna Dal one seat.

Besides Varanasi and Azamgarh, the seven districts that will vote on Monday are Bhadohi, Chandauli, Ghazipur, Jaunpur, Mau, Mirzapur, and Sonbhadra.

In this phase, there are 2,06 crore eligible voters who will decide the fate of 613 candidates, including 75 women candidates.

For BJP, the litmus test of its popularity will be the three urban seats of Varanasi – Varanasi South, Varanasi North and Varanasi Cantonment. While they are considered safe seats for the party as it has never lost the election in these three seats in the past several elections, re-

ports of strong anti-incumbency against the sitting MLAs in Varanasi South and Varanasi North made the BJP jittery, thereby forcing the party and RSS to lend their full strength in the campaign. Modi himself led a roadshow in Varanasi on Friday that criss-crossed through these three constituencies.

In nearby Azamgarh district, where the SP had won nine of the 10 seats in 2012, but managed to win only five in 2017, Monday's vote will test SP chief Akhilesh Yadav's influence in the district where Yadav and Muslim votes determine the outcome.

The prestige of two Union ministers – Mahendra Nath Pandey and Anupriya Patel – is also at stake in their respective Lok Sabha constituencies of Chandauli and Mirzapur.

Anupriya Patel, the president of Apna Dal (Sonel) faction which is a junior partner of the BJP, has to consolidate Patel or Kurmi-OCB voters behind the BJP. Her mother Krishna Patel, who runs another faction of the

party – Apna Dal (Kamerawadi) – has forged an alliance with the SP and has fielded its candidates on three seats in this phase.

SBSP president Om Prakash Rajbhar who had won his first election in 2017 from Zahoorabad in alliance with BJP, is seeking re-election from the same seat, but this time in alliance with the SP. Rajbhar was a minister in the Yogi Adityanath government before snapping the ties with the BJP in the run-up to the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. His son, Arvind Rajbhar, is contesting from Shivpur in Varanasi district.

The BJP has fielded candidates from the Rajbhar community against both the father and son.

Jailed MLA Mukhtar Ansari's son, Abbas Ansari, is contesting from his father's constituency Mau as an SBSP candidate.

Among the SP's allies, SBSP is contesting on six seats and Apna Dal (Kamerawadi) on three.

NISHAD Party, an ally of the BJP, has fielded candidates on four seats, while Apna Dal (S) in three.

UTTAR PRADESH PHASE 7

BJP SP BSP Congress
ADS SBSP NISHAD
QED Independent AD



Phase 7
54
seats

RUNNERS-UP (2017):
BJP 10, SP 20, BSP 14,
SBSP 3, Congress 6,
Nishad Party 1,

Key battles:

Mau Sadar: Abbas Ansari vs Ashok Singh

Zahoorabad: Om Prakash Rajbhar vs Kalicharan Rajbhar

Varanasi South: Neelkanth Tiwari vs Mahant Pujari Dixit

Shivpur: Anil Rajbhar vs Arvind Rajbhar

Key candidates:

■ Abbas Ansari (SBSP)

■ Om Prakash Rajbhar (SBSP)

■ Neelkanth Tiwari (BJP)

■ Dara Singh Chauhan (SP)

■ Dhananjay Singh (IND)

TALKING POINT

xx Politics xx

Not just bulls, how bulldozers made it to election lexicon in UP

MANISH SAHU
LUCKNOW, MARCH 5

THE SAMAJWADI Party mentioned it first, as a jibe. The BJP decided to wear it as a badge of honour. And hence the bulldozer entered the poll lexicon this time in Uttar Pradesh, with Yogi Adityanath seeing in it an affirmation of both his government's "tough on criminals" and "high on development" image.

During the campaign, the Chief Minister and Home Minister Amit Shah contended that in the past five years, law and order had been brought under control in UP, especially the mafia dons. It is properties of these dons demolished by his

government that Adityanath proudly cites for his "Bulldozer Baba" credentials.

The rhetoric
Addressing a rally in Ayodhya last month, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav said: "Till now, we were calling him (Adityanath) 'Baba mukhyamntri'. But today, one of the reputed English newspapers called him 'Baba Bulldozer'... It's not me who has given this name."

Soon after, the BJP started ensuring bulldozers were parked at CM's rallies. These carried banners declaring "Baba ka Bulldozer".

At a public meeting in Karhal

in Mainpuri, from where Akhilesh is contesting, Adityanath warned: "I have sent the bulldozers for repairs. Once they start working again after March 10, all those who are hot-headed now will be silenced."

The Congress too tried to hop onto the bandwagon. Last week, general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra asked the public in Chandauli if the BJP had used the bulldozer against the local mafia.

The reality check

Between March 2017, when the Adityanath government came to power, and December 5, the UP Police claims to have arrested



BJP supporters at a recent rally by Yogi Adityanath in Siddharth Nagar. PTI/file

over 12,000 wanted criminals and invoked the National Security Act against around 680. Police also claim to have registered 14,982 cases against criminals under the UP Gangsters and Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act.

Under the Act, police claim to have seized properties worth Rs 1,900 crore, and demolished the ones constructed illegally.

Among the prominent names whose buildings have been demolished are gangster-turned-politicians Mukhtar Ansari and Atiq Ahmed, apart from properties owned by former BSP MP Dawood Ahmed, absconding criminal Badan Singh Badoo, and the house of gangster Vikas Dubey.

Asked about the demolitions, Additional Director General, Law

and Order, Prashant Kumar said properties are seized under the UP Gangsters Act. On details of the properties, he said he would have to collect the same.

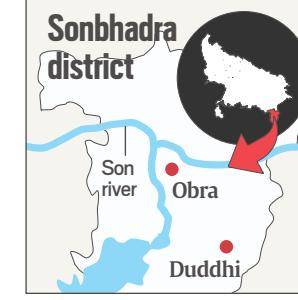
While officials did not come on record, sources said to their knowledge, no one had challenged the demolitions of their properties so far.

In December last year, Adityanath declared that government properties recovered from illegal possession of mafia would be used to build houses for the poor. He also laid the foundation stone of 75 houses to be constructed under the PM Awas Yojana (Urban) on land freed from the alleged illegal possession of former MP Atiq Ahmed in Prayagraj.

DUDDHI & OBRA

xx

In UP's only 2 ST seats, anger over stalled projects, drinking water



MAULSHREE SETH
LUCKNOW, MARCH 6

DUDDHI and Obra, the only two Assembly constituencies reserved for Scheduled Tribes in Uttar Pradesh, seem stuck in a time warp. The two seats in backward Sonbhadra district go to the polls on Monday – the last day of polling in the state – with the all-too-familiar issues of *roti-kapda-makaan*, besides clean drinking water, as their basic demands.

The four seats of the Naxalite tribal belt (besides Duddhi and Obra, Robertsganj and Ghorawal), which share their boundaries with Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh, also have unemployment as a major issue. In 2017, the BJP won three out of four seats in this tribal belt, while its alliance partner, the Apna Dal (S), won one (Duddhi).

While the BJP is banking on the projects that it inaugurated in the past five years – a medical college, housing schemes, a project to provide clean drinking water – resentment has been building up since most of these schemes are yet to get off the ground.

The Samajwadi Party, meanwhile, is banking on its established tribal leaders in a region where land is the main currency and which has in the past seen clashes over land rights – in 2015, over the Kanhar irrigation project, and in 2019, when 10 tribals were killed in Umbha.

In the current Assembly, Duddhi is represented by BJP ally Apna Dal (S) MLA Hariram. But this election, the BJP has decided to

contest the seat on its own and has chosen Ram Dular, a tribal leader.

A miffed Hariram has switched sides and is now the BJP candidate, but locals say much of the anger over unfulfilled promises is directed at Hariram and therefore, the fight could be between Ram Dular and SP's Vijay Singh.

In the 2017 election, about 8,500 people of this constituency had chosen the NOTA option.

Vijay Singh is a seven-time MLA and a former minister who

has been from the seat both on Congress and SP tickets. His supporters have been assuring voters that the Gond leader will get a space in the Cabinet if the party is voted to power. Singh had contested the 2017 election as a BSP candidate.

The Congress has fielded a woman candidate, Basanti Panika.

Campaigning for Ram Dular, Yogi Adityanath had promised to provide clean drinking water to the region. Reason: The high fluoride content in the water here has been blamed for several ailments among people. The government had approved an RO water project, but work on it is still underway in some regions.

Sensing the anti-incumbency in neighbouring Duddhi, five months before the elections, the BJP government in UP made Obra's sitting MLA Sanjiv Kumar, a Gond leader, a minister in the Yogi Adityanath Cabinet. The party hopes the course-correction will see the party through this election.

The SP has left Obra to its alliance partner, Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party, which has fielded Rakesh Kumar Gond. The Congress, on the other hand, is banking on Ram Dular, a young tribal leader who had led the 2019 protest over land in Umbha.

After the incident, however, the village was turned into a model village with pucca homes, land rights to farmers and even piped drinking. While the BJP is focusing on this turnaround, the Opposition is attempting to keep the focus on the incident.

The Samajwadi Party, meanwhile, is banking on its established tribal leaders in a region where land is the main currency and which has in the past seen clashes over land rights – in 2015, over the Kanhar irrigation project, and in 2019, when 10 tribals were killed in Umbha.

In the current Assembly, Duddhi is represented by BJP ally Apna Dal (S) MLA Hariram. But this election, the BJP has decided to

contest the seat on its own and has chosen Ram Dular, a tribal leader.

A miffed Hariram has switched sides and is now the BJP candidate, but locals say much of the anger over unfulfilled promises is directed at Hariram and therefore, the fight could be between Ram Dular and SP's Vijay Singh.

In the 2017 election, about 8,500 people of this constituency had chosen the NOTA option.

Vijay Singh is a seven-time MLA and a former minister who

has been from the seat both on Congress and SP tickets. His supporters have been assuring voters that the Gond leader will get a space in the Cabinet if the party is voted to power.

The Congress has fielded a woman candidate, Basanti Panika.

Campaigning for Ram Dular, Yogi Adityanath had promised to provide clean drinking water to the region. Reason: The high fluoride content in the water here has been blamed for several ailments among people. The government had approved an RO water project, but work on it is still underway in some regions.

Sensing the anti-incumbency in neighbouring Duddhi, five months before the elections, the BJP government in UP made Obra's sitting MLA Sanjiv Kumar, a Gond leader, a minister in the Yogi Adityanath Cabinet. The party hopes the course-correction will see the party through this election.

The SP has left Obra to its alliance partner, Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party, which has fielded Rakesh Kumar Gond. The Congress, on the other hand, is banking on Ram Dular, a young tribal leader who had led the 2019 protest over land in Umbha.

After the incident, however, the village was turned into a model village with pucca homes, land rights to farmers and even piped drinking. While the BJP is focusing on this turnaround, the



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



BRAINSTORMING SESSION

HEALTH MINISTER Mansukh Mandaviya has been holding regular 'Chintan Shivir' with senior officials of his ministry. A month ago, he held one such meeting at the National Institute of Health & Family Welfare. It lasted for a day and a half, and the topic of discussion was improving medical education in India so that foreigners come here and study. Another one was held this Friday and Saturday at National Institute of Biologicals in Noida. The topic was how to promote India as a destination for wellness travel. Since NIB Noida has a hostel, the officials participating in this round of discussion had to stay back the night. The aim was to hold informal interactions where different stakeholders in the ministry get to know each other.

GOING DIGITAL

PARALLEL TO the electoral battles, the BJP is about to go in for changes at the organisation level. Preparing itself to enter into a digitalised era for its functioning, the party has launched a pilot project in the Madhya Pradesh unit. Party in charge PMuralidhar Rao has laid out a plan to put in a system in which there are teams of two to interact with workers in 65,000 polling booths in the state. While one teammate will look after political functioning, the second member, the younger one, has been trained for a new app - Sangathan - to register workers, coordinate with them and to conduct people contact programmes. There are 10,000 such teams and each would cater to six or seven polling booths for two days every month. According to sources, registration of 62,000 polling booths have already taken place and work on people contact programmes has begun. Details of every programme has to be uploaded on the app, which will make it easier for the state unit leadership to keep a track on the activities. Once Madhya Pradesh unit is completely digitalised, it will be introduced in other states as well.

Join hands, chase away govt from Centre: Malik to khaps



Meghalaya Governor Satya Pal Malik addresses a khaps at Kandela village in Jind district, Sunday. Manoj Dhaka

REFERRING TO the three contentious farm laws that were repealed last year, Meghalaya Governor Satya Pal Malik Sunday alleged that a friend of the Prime Minister had set up a godown in Panipat before the enactment of these laws "to buy wheat at cheaper rates and sell it at higher prices".

Addressing a function organised by the khaps of Jind district at Kandela village on Sunday, Malik said: "Even today, they (buyers) decide the price of our crops, not us. This time, it (farmer agitation) was a decisive battle to ensure fair prices of crops after implementation of the MSP. But why is MSP not being implemented? Pradhan Mantri ka dost hai jisne 50 acre me godam bana diya hai Panipat me, ye kanon pass hone se pehle. (There is a friend of the Prime Minister who built a godown in Panipat before passing of these laws). He needs wheat at cheaper rates. He will take your wheat at lower rates and will sell it at higher prices. This is the basic battle."

Malik further urged the farmers to unite and form their

own government. "I would like to request that now you quit holding dharnas and sitting on roads. Form your government by getting together, change the government, there will be no need to beg from anybody."

Malik said: "The big thing is that the (Lok Sabha) elections will take place after two years. If you unitedly cast votes, all these leaders will run away from Delhi and there will be a government of the farmers."

Commenting on the UP elections, Malik said, "The result of the UP election has not been de-

clared but I tell you no minister could enter any village in western UP. The people said, 'Where were you when we were sitting on dharna?' This Smriti Irani was also made to flee." Indicating his political ambitions, Malik said: "I can (lead) but it's not good that I say this thing. Whoever leads, I will participate in it... My governorship is going to end in 7-8 months... (In the coming polls) main puri takat lagakar, pure Uttar Bharat me campaign karunga aur inkoo bhagaunga (I will campaign with all my might throughout North India and will chase them away)."

BJP YUVA MORCHA LEADER BEATEN TO DEATH: COPS

Lucknow: A 34-year-old BJP Yuva Morcha leader was beaten to death over a land dispute at Pukhraya town in Kanpur Dehat on Saturday evening, police said. Three persons have been detained and are being questioned, they added.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

ENS

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Tripathi, the former district vice-president of Yuva Morcha, reached Pukhraya after coming to know that a local resident and his family members were allegedly trying to capture a piece of land belonging to a trust by building a boundary wall. Tripathi was a member of the Trust, said police.

According to police, the incident took place when Amresh

Anyone can see that there is Russian aggression on a neighbour, which is a democratically elected government, is a member of the United Nations, and is not a small country. We are still in shock

Shubhajit Roy: Did the Russian aggression against Ukraine come as a surprise to Germany?

It came as a surprise to many of us. Nobody would have thought that President Vladimir Putin would brutally attack his neighbours. Let's call a spade a spade, he lied to everyone. First they said, "We will build up troops of 50,000 (soldiers) around Ukraine. Don't worry, nobody wants to invade, this is just for manoeuvre reasons." Then he said, our troops are there as peacekeepers. A peacekeeper doesn't bring bombs and doesn't shell civilian houses. They bring, not water and not food, but death and destruction. The latest lies are about blaming the victims, that they are the ones who have taken hostages. Anyone can see that there is Russian aggression on a neighbour, which has a democratically elected government and parliament, is a member of the United Nations, and is not a small country; it has 40-plus million people. We are still in shock. Who would have expected this from a leader of a global power?

Shubhajit Roy: What is Germany's assessment of why Putin is doing this?

Germany and Russia have a very strong relationship. Without Mikhail Gorbachev there wouldn't be a reunited Germany. And what's happening with Putin now, the war of Putin, I have no idea.

Shubhajit Roy: Do you think Germany is so overly dependent on Russia for its energy needs that it had tied Germany's hands in the past?

It is true that we import a lot of our energy from the Russians. But I don't think this has had too much influence on our political decisions. Since the Crimean occupation (in 2014), we have reduced our imports from Russia. We will be reducing it more. We also have to reduce the influx from Russia. Being the economic powerhouse in Europe, the sanctions from the German side are very drastic. We have put a freeze on the pipeline – Nord Stream. We have decided to increase our military budget and export weapons. We have never exported weapons into zones of tension. We have said this in the United Nations and in the German parliament. Democracy has its price and we are willing to pay it. Which means that inflation might go up, prices might go up. You can't get freedom and democracy for nothing. We have lived in a peaceful time for 70 years. Two to three generations have taken things for granted and Putin has made us open our eyes, and to keep that peace, there might be a price.

Shubhajit Roy: There's also India's dependence on Russia for its defence needs. Could India have done something different?

I'm a German ambassador here so I'm not the one who gives unwanted advice. Every country has a different history and different dependencies on neighbours. India has brilliant diplomacy, excellent diplomats. I was in New York for three years and some of the best and skillful diplomats were Indians. They know what to do and how to judge this. But I'm sure everyone in the world agrees that we cannot have the law of the jungle prevailing.

Krishna Kaushik: Do you think Russia's concerns of the eastward expansion of NATO is legitimate?

I don't want to go into a historic evaluation of who said what after the reunification of Germany. The fact is that NATO is a defence alliance. It's not threatening anyone. And what happened after the (Berlin) Wall came down is that those countries who became independent, and were previously with the Soviet, had their own choices to see to which alliances they belong to. These countries opted for becoming members of the NATO and European Union; with Georgia and Ukraine, it was a bit different, because they were still having border disputes. So, it was never on the actual agenda to make them members of NATO. The discussion was not even on the table. To justify this kind of breach of international order, you need a fake narrative. So, they're kind of bending history. And in this fast-living world, all these fake narratives have the tendency to prevail and influence people. If we let this happen, we all suffer.

Krishna Kaushik: Are we moving towards a more militarised world?

I grew up in a left-wing environment. We were protesting against the Vietnam War – make love, not war. Weapons are not a good thing. The world has to be a better place and fewer arms would be better than more arms because there are



WHY WALTER J LINDNER

Germany is one of Russia's closest partners in Europe and has deep historical, political and economic ties. With Russia's aggression against Ukraine, Germany, which is dependent on Russia for its energy needs, has decided to reverse its seven-decade long policy of not supplying arms to conflict zones. Under new German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, this reversal is seen as a watershed moment. German ambassador Walter J Lindner, who has been in India since 2019, has engaged with G-7 and EU ambassadors over the last few weeks to convey their position to New Delhi. As a veteran diplomat, he is perfectly placed to put forth the German and European view on the crisis.



Putin is acting as an autocratic person. That's why democracies around the world have to speak with one voice. The additional danger is that this will set a precedent and we will have the law of the jungle in international relations

'Putin has made us open our eyes, that to keep peace, there might be a price'

Walter J Lindner talks about the Russian aggression on Ukraine, Germany's lessons from history, putting pressure on Putin and the role of civil society. He was in conversation with Shubhajit Roy, Deputy Chief of National Bureau, *The Indian Express*



Walter J Lindner, German Ambassador to India, in conversation with Shubhajit Roy, Deputy Chief of National Bureau, *The Indian Express* Abhinav Saha

so many challenges. You have climate change, overpopulation, poverty reduction, there are so many things to do. We need money for this. So, what do we do? We have to spend more money for the military which instead should be spent for poverty reduction or on infrastructure. But Putin forces things on us. And that's another thing which I don't accept because he changed the world.

Shubhajit Roy: Moscow's policies are very clear, where it allows it to use nukes to end conflict. Where do you think this is going?

So far, there was a kind of a taboo to threaten countries which are not in possession of nuclear weapons with nuclear weapons. We know what the repercussions of world wars have been. A third world war will be the end of us all. It's irresponsible behaviour to threaten a nuclear world war which will end the planet. Who is he to do this?

Shubhajit Roy: As a diplomat, what do you think it will take for a ceasefire to come in place?

This is a lesson which we have learned in Germany, living on the edge of the Cold War with the Berlin Wall. In Berlin, where I live, there are still reminders of the Berlin Wall as a reminder for our future generation. We have to always keep channels of communication open. We have called it the Ostpolitik, which led to the disappearance of the Wall. Negotiated ceasefire would be the just thing to do, of course. But let's not comment from the outside. The Ukrainians are under threat of death and life and have to do this negotiation.

Liz Mathew: Do you think other countries should also change the contours and terms of diplomatic relations with countries in the new world order?

Shall we already call this a new world order? Shall we give Putin the right to define a new world order? Will a new world order be defined just by Putin and no one else? I think it's important that the whole world says 'no' to Putin, with one voice. I think that's a common understanding which we want to achieve in the world. I've talked to people who were in the UN meetings. Except a few of the diehards, like North Korea or Syria or Belarus, nobody is defending this. Sanctions are working already. Let's hope that this contributes to changing Putin's mind.

Shahid Judge: Is this going to test the West in international politics and economy?

I wouldn't say this is a test for the West; it's a test for the world. I don't want to see it as a confrontation between East, West, North, South. No, it's not. It's be-

tween Putin and most of the rest of the world, except those five countries, maybe. If you see the situation in the voting patterns in the Security Council, the Russians were the only ones with a veto against their own condemnation. And they had the presidency of the Security Council. By the way, it shows how outdated the Security Council is, it doesn't reflect the realities of today. So that's why they had to move this from the Security Council to the General Assembly. If you see, there were 141 (countries condemning Russia). That is big in historical terms.

Sourav Roy Barman: What explains the difference in reaction of European nations to refugees from Ukraine, who are being welcomed, and those in 2015 from Syria and Afghanistan?

I wouldn't share the view that this is a similar situation like 2015. What we have now is the aggression of one country towards another country, which is a democratically elected country. The United Nations Refugee Coordinator is expecting millions of people to flee from Ukraine. So that would be a massive movement. That's why the European countries are saying, okay, you can come from Ukraine and even choose where you want to go in Europe, there will be no visa issue. It's our answer to this brutal violation of norms. Our answer is: We are human, we take them in and we support them. Look at the support activities everywhere in Europe. Civilian groups, civil society, are collecting stuff, so are students in universities, wherever you go, football clubs, similar. They're all supporting the freedom and independence of Ukraine. Maybe that's why it's not really comparable to what happened with the refugees who were running away from Iraq or Syria.

Harikishan Sharma: Like Putin, there are strong leaders in other parts of the world. Do you think that they can

also commit such mistakes?

Putin here is acting as an authoritarian, autocratic person. So, you're right,

this might be a stimulus for others. That's the additional danger; that this will set a

precedent and then we will have the law

of the jungle in international relations

and nobody will win from that.

Anil Sasi: How much of a surprise was the Sunday (February 27) Reichstag session? Was it expected that the action would be as severe (against Russia) on weaponisation, the energy aspect and the sanctions?

Honest answer, I didn't expect it and many didn't expect it, because it's a watershed. For Germany, it was maybe the biggest leap, because it is the European powerhouse and the financial and economic sanctions we are talking about would, of course, only make sense if Germany goes along. I think it was the call of the hour of our historic responsibility to make this leap. And we did in the face of the threat, which came there, and it shows the seriousness of this threat. And when he (Chancellor Olaf Scholz) presented this package of our reaction, there was a standing ovation afterwards, from left to right.

Raj Kamal Jha: Why is Putin using the term 'de-Nazification'?

He draws on anything. What better use of the word 'denazification' because then everyone remembers World War II. He said denazification and demilitarisation. There are no NATO troops, there are just Ukrainian people there. You can see they're going there with self-made Molotov cocktails and with lots of kitchen material on the streets. Where is the denazification? This is a part of the narrative he does and you see how often he has to repeat it. There are a lot of people in Russia, a vast majority, who are not feeling well with this, they might be ashamed of the President. People are go-

ing on the street in Petersburg, in other places. If you go out there, the next thing that happens is that you go to jail. Still, they go out, and still there are journalists who write about it. There is a brave civil society still out there.

Shubhajit Roy: With Russian dependence on China for its economy, do you think there is a great amount of leverage that China has?

Every country must see what kind of means they have to change Putin's course. Every country has different kinds of history, relations, and dependencies with Russia. Every country should use its influence. Your Prime Minister has already talked to Putin several times. But you asked the question whether Putin first consulted China or not. I don't know. You have to ask him. What let him do that and who said to him, "yes, we agree" or not, I don't know. This is a speculation. It's Putin's war so he's responsible for it.

Krishna Kaushik: What are the red lines for NATO?

An attack on NATO territory is a red-line, it's in the NATO Treaty. And Ukraine is not a NATO territory.

Divya A: Will the relation between the people of Ukraine and Russia change with this situation?

If you know the history of Russia, there is Belarus, Ukraine and Russia. So, they're brothers. I'm sure that's what you see sometimes on the streets. There is no problem between the people. But it will of course, change their attitude towards Putin and his regime.

Shubhajit Roy: When chancellor Angela Merkel was around for more than 16 years, there was a great deal of stability. Now, we have the new Chancellor Olaf Scholz. Does the country feel the absence of Merkel?

Merkel left huge shoes to fill. But it would be unfair to expect from a new chancellor to have 16 years of experience. But he has been mayor in Hamburg and vice-chancellor and is an old hand. The way they are dealing with this crisis and how they reshaped German foreign politics, I think, has been pretty good.

Raj Kamal Jha: You talked about the history between Germany and Russia. Chancellor Merkel had strong ties... Can there be a back-channel...you make it seem Moscow revolves around one man.

As we see the reactions of the *nomenklatura* in the Kremlin, they're very focused on one person, it is pretty clear who calls the shots. The matter of the game is

how do we make Putin stop. Through these diplomatic channels? If possible, yes. Whoever has an influence should do it. Or through social media, or through contradicting their false narratives, or through civil societies and sanctions. Whatever it takes, it's necessary right now.

By the way, you didn't bring up the question of any kind of mistreatment of refugees, who have a different skin colour? I say that for the reason that it could be fake news, it could be a kind of a narrative. But there could also be cases like these. Our foreign minister said in the General Assembly, "If there are cases like these, we take them very seriously." And we take them up with Ukrainians and the Ukrainians have also said if there are such cases, we are taking them up. This is the difference between a democracy and an authoritarian regime like Russia. We are not putting this under the carpet. All the information we get, we take them seriously, and we try to find out what's behind it.

Shubhajit Roy: Germany has had relatively stable periods under long chancellorships. How do you see the trajectory of German politics ahead?

There was always a kind of a lower-intensity crisis like the Brexit, refugee crisis, and the economic breakdown, the bubble which burst, and then, you had Afghanistan. These days, I think being in politics means crisis management, wherever you are. I think that the result of our elections last year also reflects the situation in the world, which at that time, without Putin, was more focused on climate change. That's why the Green Party did very well. And that's why we have this kind of rainbow coalition, which means in the future not only in Germany, but in many European countries, climate will be a very important topic.

Shubhajit Roy: The India-German relationship in the last three years, you've seen it grow. What are the challenges that you faced in this relationship?

I think the challenges are to know how to get crises like Ukraine and such things out of the way because we have to focus on the real things which matter – cooperation between the two countries, economic growth, getting jobs, working on renewable energies and technic transfer and getting the students to Europe. There are so many positive things which we have to focus on, you should not focus on the war. We have 2,000 companies here, we have six Goethe institutes, the highest number of Indian students in Europe are in Germany, they're not in the UK. France has 8,000 and the UK has 25,000. Germany has 30,000 students. We could do more.



Every country has a different history and different dependencies on neighbours. India has excellent diplomats. They know what to do... Every country must see what means they have to change Putin's course

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

nothing can

CALLING ON MOSCOW

Russia needs to be told: Its invasion endangered students, their safety is India's national interest, hostage talk obfuscates

ININDIA'S FIRST PRIORITY in the Ukraine war is the safety of all Indian students and other citizens in that country, parts of which are being subjected to heavy bombardment by Russian troops. So far, blending diplomacy and logistics, since the invasion began, the Government has brought back home over 15,000 Indian nationals. However, groups of students are still stuck in eastern Ukraine — reports from Sumy, close to the Russian border in northeastern Ukraine, raise deep concern. The town, where 800 Indian students are stuck in miserable conditions, is under near continuous shelling by Russian forces. While a "regime of silence", or ceasefire, called by Ukraine and Russia to enable civilians to leave the cities of Mariupol and Volnovakha collapsed amid mutual recrimination, it is doubtful if the students stuck in Sumy, 600 km to the north, could have taken advantage of the suspension had it held. They have no access to transport to make such a long journey. The Russian border, towards which these students decided to walk, is closer but is 48 km away and the journey hazardous because of shelling. On an appeal by the MEA that it is making efforts to evacuate them, the students have, for now, called off the journey. The next challenge is to ensure a humanitarian corridor to evacuate those stuck in Sumy, and in the Pischyn area of Kharkiv, even if it takes more high-level calls between Delhi and Moscow. Both phone conversations between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Vladimir Putin dwelt on the safety of Indian citizens. India must lean on him to do more.

At the same time, New Delhi was right to call out Moscow's specious claim about Indian students being taken hostage by the Ukrainians. As a top official told this newspaper, had that been the case, these young men and women would not have been free to post heart-rending videos and SOS messages on social media, or keep in touch with their family members and friends back home. Not one of them has complained about being held captive or being asked to pay for a safe passage. Certainly though, trapped as they are, these hapless students are hostage to a situation not of their making.

This has to be conveyed to Moscow along with the message that India's abstention in the UN votes on resolutions condemning Russia doesn't mean an abdication of national interest. And, right now, India's national interest is that each of its students stuck in Ukraine following the Russian invasion should return home safe and secure. Over a relationship of decades, Delhi has built enough friendships in the Kremlin to speak frankly and tell its friends how crucial the safety of the students is for the relationship. Russia's invasion is what has endangered the students, the ball, therefore, is in Moscow's court.

...nor imp... collegium system & its Peas/cons from Party

THANK YOU, JUSTICE

Justice Akil Kureshi's remarks on judicial independence and the collegium strike many chords. Hope his colleagues heard him

CHIEF JUSTICE OF the Rajasthan High Court Akil Kureshi retired Sunday ending a remarkable nearly two-decade long career as a judge of a constitutional court. In his farewell speech, Justice Kureshi broke his silence on the controversy surrounding his elevation nearly four years ago — and he deserves applause for that. First, he responded to the charge former Chief Justice of India, Ranjan Gogoi, made in his autobiography that the government had a negative perception of him based on his judicial pronouncements. As a judge, Justice Kureshi, said he considers such a perception a "certificate of independence". He added that what is of greater significance to him was the perception of the judiciary, which was never officially communicated to him.

It was in 2018, that the government broke convention and appointed Justice A Dave in place of Justice Kureshi as acting chief justice of the Gujarat High Court. As senior-most judge of the court, Justice Kureshi would have had to serve under a chief justice who was his junior. Following protests from the Bar, the government withdrew the notification. He was acting chief justice for just two weeks before he was transferred to the Bombay High Court. When he was recommended for elevation as Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court, the government once again stalled the process. The collegium buckled and instead appointed Justice Kureshi as Chief Justice of the Tripura High Court. His elevation to the Supreme Court, when he was second in line in the All India List of Seniority of Judges, was the cause of an unprecedented two-year long impasse within the collegium, virtually stalling all appointments to the Supreme Court. Eventually, under a new CJI, N V Ramana, the impasse was resolved with a list of nine appointments to the SC — that did not include Kureshi.

The government may have had reservations about Justice Kureshi — valid or otherwise — but it is the collegium's refrain on his elevation that is disquieting. While the collegium system of appointing judges keeps the public away from these crucial conversations, it is of concern that even the judges in question are kept guessing. It is a testament to his judicial tenure that the Gujarat Bar went on an indefinite strike and even moved the Supreme Court on the judicial side when he was not appointed the acting chief justice of the High Court. It is fitting that Justice Kureshi invoked Justice H R Khan in his farewell speech — Justice Khan is remembered for his integrity and standing up to the government of the day during the Emergency at the cost of his appointment to the Chief Justice of India's office. Justice Kureshi eloquently, reminded his colleagues on the bench what that means today — and what a democracy expects them to do.

FREEZE FRAME

E P UNNY



VIKRAM SINGH MEHTA

WHAT WILL BE the impact of the Ukrainian crisis on India's energy sector? What lessons should it draw from the playbook of the crisis? What policies must it frame to safeguard its national energy interests? These are the questions that this article will address. The focus will be on energy.

The tangible and unavoidable impact of the crisis will be on India's macro-economy. Sajid Chinoy has, last week, summarised well the balance of payments, exchange rate and inflationary consequences of rising oil prices ('Crude Pressures', IE March 4). I want to add that the inflation-adjusted price of Brent crude is \$83/bbl (as of writing, the nominal price is \$116 / bbl), which is lower than the peak of \$145 / bbl in 2008 and the average price that year of \$100/bbl. In other words, prices could rise much further and we would still not be in uncharted waters. Further, there are manifold uncertainties. The price trajectory will depend on the duration of the conflict, its impact on global energy demand, countervailing supply measures (for example, drawdown of strategic reserves, diversion of US LNG supplies to Europe, the Iranian nuclear deal which, if signed, could release up to 1 mbd of Iranian crude into the market) and whether in all this mayhem, the pipeline infrastructure currently feeding Russian gas into Europe remains operational. One cannot discount the possibility of a wayward missile disrupting supplies. Let me also add that our earnings from petroleum products (diesel, petrol, naphtha) will be adversely impacted. In 2021, these products generated \$39 billion in revenue and at 14 per cent they accounted for the highest share of export earnings.

It is still difficult to quantify impact will be on the value of India's energy assets in Russia. ONGC has a 26 per cent stake in the Vankor oil field, a 20 per cent stake in the Sakhalin-1 LNG/oil export complex and maybe a few other less valuable interests. All these holdings have eroded substantially in value. Many Western majors (Exxon/BP/Shell) have walked away from their investments. ONGC has that option too, as also the opportunity to increase its shareholding on the cheap. It will not do the

same again.

Two, the emergence of the US as the largest producer of oil in the world and potentially the largest exporter of LNG. It has the capacity to blunt the impact of a supply shortfall but as it is controlled by profit-maximising private corporates, this will depend on market forces. Supplies will head towards the highest bidder.

Three, the ability of Saudi Arabia to swing the crude oil market. It is the one member of OPEC plus with significant spares, low cost, producible capacity (approx 3 mbd) of crude oil. The US has pressured Saudi to bring this volume into the market but they have, as yet, not buckled.

And finally, the chokehold of China over the rare earths, minerals and components that are required to effect the transition to a clean energy system.

India will have to navigate the consequential (and conflicting) geopolitics generated by these four features.

The final impact will be on the petroleum industry. Ahead of the current state elections, the government disallowed the oil marketing companies (OMC) from passing on the rise in prices to the consumer. If this ban continues, the OMCs will be financially crippled and plans to privatise BPCL will come a cropper.

The Ukraine crisis throws up many learnings:

To deal with energy volatility, India must build reserves, revive talks with Iran, Turkmenistan

Autocrats and oil

WORDLY WISE

IN DOING WHAT WE OUGHT WE DESERVE NO

PRAISE, BECAUSE IT IS OUR DUTY.

— SAINT AUGUSTINE

Lack of democratic energy policy.

Issue of domination of energy markets in hands of few.

ings. But one needs particular emphasis. It is not enough to read the tea leaves of supply, demand and geopolitical trends to understand the trajectory of the energy market. It is comparably important to understand the mindsets of the autocrats that hold the levers of energy policy. Three individuals, in particular, must be carefully studied. President Putin, Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman (MBS) and President Xi Jinping. These three exercise plenipotentiary powers over energy policy in their country and the hydrocarbon market has been witness to the consequences of their "irrationality" twice in two years. In Q1 2020, the oil market went into free fall because MBS was determined to protect Saudi's market share, and increased supplies, despite the Covid-induced collapse in demand. The result was so dramatic that on one day in April, the holders of crude futures had to "pay" to offload their holdings. The price of oil was in negative territory. President Putin has today driven an equally "irrational" wedge into the market with comparably severe but opposite ramifications.

The lesson: One must presume the word "rational" does not have the same meaning for these leaders as for those who derive its interpretation from the Oxford dictionary. And that to understand what it means for them, one must interpret it through the prism of their personal predilections, egos and political ambitions.

Against this backdrop, I offer five broad policy suggestions for India. One, frame it around the expectation of continuing volatility. Two, build up strategic reserves to safeguard against the unexpected. Three, revive conversations with Turkmenistan and Iran about a transnational gas pipeline. Four, fast forward efforts to decouple the supply chain dependence on China for the minerals and components required for the clean energy transition. And, finally bring in psychologists to get a better fix on the logic that drives the decisions of the energy autocrats.

The writer is chairman and distinguished fellow, Center for Social and Economic Progress

The Ukraine crisis throws up many learnings. But one needs particular emphasis. It is not enough to read the tea leaves of supply, demand and geopolitical trends to understand the trajectory of the energy market. It is comparably important to understand the mindsets of the autocrats that hold the levers of energy policy. Three individuals, in particular, must be carefully studied. President Putin, Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman (MBS) and President Xi Jinping. These three exercise plenipotentiary powers over energy policy in their country and the hydrocarbon market has been witness to the consequences of their "irrationality" twice in two years. In Q1 2020, the oil market went into free fall because MBS was determined to protect Saudi's market share, and increased supplies, despite the Covid-induced collapse in demand. The result was so dramatic that on one day in April, the holders of crude futures had to "pay" to offload their holdings. The price of oil was in negative territory. President Putin has today driven an equally "irrational" wedge into the market with comparably severe but opposite ramifications.

The lesson: One must presume the word "rational" does not have the same meaning for these leaders as for those who derive its interpretation from the Oxford dictionary. And that to understand what it means for them, one must interpret it through the prism of their personal predilections, egos and political ambitions.

Against this backdrop, I offer five broad policy suggestions for India. One, frame it around the expectation of continuing volatility. Two, build up strategic reserves to safeguard against the unexpected. Three, revive conversations with Turkmenistan and Iran about a transnational gas pipeline. Four, fast forward efforts to decouple the supply chain dependence on China for the minerals and components required for the clean energy transition. And, finally bring in psychologists to get a better fix on the logic that drives the decisions of the energy autocrats.

The Ukraine crisis throws up many learnings:

The Ukraine crisis throws up many learnings:

PHYSICAL FOR DIGITAL

Fix non-tech elements like governance to realise utility for digital platforms

KUMAR VARAD PANDE AND ROHIT KUMAR ① How Can India Leverage Technology ② How To Achieve Digital India

A LOT HAS been written about the emphasis on "digital" in the 2022 Union Budget. But one aspect that hasn't been talked about as much is the importance given in the budget to digital public infrastructure (DPI) — the idea that cross-sectoral "digital rails" like ID, payments and data exchanges when combined with open interconnected data systems in sectors like health, education and social protection, can transform service delivery. DPI?

India is seen as a global trendsetter in the DPI movement, having set up multiple large-scale DPIs like Aadhaar, UPI and sector-specific platforms like DIGIT for Governance and DIKSHA for education. These have helped push the frontier of public service delivery.

This year's budget adds to the growing discourse on DPIs by making four key announcements:

In health, an open platform with digital registries, a unique health identity and a robust consent framework; in skilling, a Digital Ecosystem for Skilling and Livelihood (DESH-Stack) to help citizens upskill through online training; a Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP) to streamline movement of goods across modes of transport; and for travel, an "open source" mobility stack for facilitating seamless travel of passengers. These announcements are welcome.

Research by Omidyar Network India and BCG shows that the creation of national digital ecosystems in sectors like health, jobs and skilling, agriculture and justice can lead to economic opportunities worth Rs 35 lakh crore by 2030.

Similar analysis by the Centre for Digital Economy Policy Research (C-DEP) also estimates that national digital ecosystems could

add over 5 per cent to India's GDP.

But important design considerations must be set right if we are to truly unlock the value of these platforms.

One way to think about this is by differentiating between the "tech" and "non-tech" layers of our digital infrastructure — while India seems to have made significant headway on the "tech" layers, the "non-tech" layers of community engagement and governance need a lot more work.

The combination of these three layers is what is critical to making tech work for everyone. Together, they embody what we call the open digital ecosystems (ODE) approach.

To unleash the true potential of India's ODEs, we need to get the "non-tech" layers right, by prioritising principles around data protection, universal access and accountability.

While this presents a large menu, three specific non-tech levers are critical.

First, protecting the data of all users and giving them agency over how their data gets used. The passage of a robust Data Protection Bill is imperative. But we also need to go beyond the mere requirement of "consent".

Consent as a construct is insufficient, as anyone who has tried to read privacy policies knows — it forces you to make a binary choice in quick time, in an environment overloaded with information suffused with dense legalese.

Recent research by the Centre for Social and Behaviour Change (CSBC) suggests that users can be "nudged" to make privacy-conscious decisions by providing standardised privacy ratings, presenting privacy policies more visually, and mandating users to stay on the privacy page for at least a few minutes.

Second, it is important to address the digital divide. Research by ORF, for instance, shows that Indian women are 15 per cent less likely to own a mobile phone and 33 per cent less likely to use mobile internet services than men.

So, we need a "phygital" approach that provides services through both online and offline options and strong grievance redressal mechanisms. Research has shown that leveraging trusted local intermediaries who are embedded in communities can significantly improve access to tech platforms for marginalised groups.

Finally, as we push the frontier on digitisation, India must also focus on developing anchor institutions and robust governance frameworks. Just as Aadhaar is anchored by UIDAI under an Act of Parliament, and the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission is anchored by the National Health Authority, every new ODE requires an accountable institutional anchor.

These institutions are critical for setting standards, ensuring a level playing field and safeguarding consumer interest. The sector-specific institutions also need to be complemented by a "National ODE Council" to inform coordinated policies and keep the focus on citizen-centricity.

From Aadhaar and UPI to DBT and CoWin, India's tech stacks are grabbing global attention. It is now critical to bring the gaze on to the non-tech layers of the stack, so that the potential of these platforms can be unlocked for every Indian.

Pande is a partner at Omidyar Network India and Kumar is co-founder of The Quantum Hub

FREEZE FRAME

E P UNNY



MARCH 7, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

UPROAR IN HOUSE

THE BUDGET SESSION of the West Bengal assembly had a boisterous start marked by walkouts and noisy scenes throughout the brief sitting. The main business before the session is the vote-on-accounts for the period from April 1 to June 21, when the term of the present government expires. The walk outs were prompted by the address delivered by the governor B D Pande. The small SUCI group left the house in criticism of the state government's policies on education and language. When the house convened after the recess, the Congress (I) leader described governor B D Pande's speech as an election manifesto.

BAD WEATHER

THE UNION AGRICULTURE minister's hopes of a bumper wheat harvest will be threatened if the bad weather does not clear. Reports do not indicate countrywide losses but damage to the wheat crop has been reported in some states, particularly Punjab and Haryana. About 200 villages in Haryana are believed to have been affected by hailstorm.

LOK DAL CRISIS

THE LOK DAL general secretary Madhu Limaye is believed to have quit the party post pushing the crisis-ridden party to the brink of disintegration on the eve of its national ex-

ecutive meeting. It's also believed that Limaye will stay away from the meeting. Karpoori Thakur and George Fernandes may also follow him.

SIMLA BUILDING FIRE

YET ANOTHER HISTORIC building of Simla, the Kennedy Cottage, was gutted. The oldest building in the summer capital during the British rule housed the state electricity board, the Forest Survey of India, the CPWD's electrical wing, statistical department, home guards and the office of an insurance company. The losses amounted to well above Rs 1 crore, besides valuable documents.

XX TRANSITORY

UNDER RUSSIAN SHELLING, UKRAINE CITY RUNNING LOW ON FOOD, WATER

Dire conditions in besieged Mariupol, city becoming 'unfit for human life'

THE NEW YORK TIMES

MARCH 6

STAGGERED BY blasts pummelling the city, cut off from heat through freezing nights, and running low on food and water, the people of Mariupol, Ukraine, have been trapped by Russia's siege.

In interviews, residents and local officials in Mariupol, a port on the Sea of Azov, described nightmarish conditions after five days of shelling by Russian forces around the city. On Sunday, city officials said they would attempt to resume an evacuation effort that was called off a day earlier because of Russian attacks.

"There's no electricity, no heating, no telephone connection. It is absolute horror," said Petro Andryushchenko, an adviser to the mayor of Mariupol. "People drink from puddles in the streets."

The shelling has destroyed the city's left bank district, he said, making it "unfit for human life". The city had not been able to accurately count the dead or even help many of the wounded because of the barrage, he added.

"It just never stops," he said. "Everyone who tries to go outside risks their life. That is why the mayor can't ask people to do that; it would be like sending people to a certain death."

Videos have shown explosions rocking Mariupol's residential areas and starting fires, as well as the ruins of shops and cars around city.

"The shelling is constant and at random," said a resident, Diana Berg. "When you're on the street, at any moment, a rocket can land next to you." She said that people were still braving the streets to make fires for warmth.

On Saturday, city leaders halted a planned evacuation because of the shelling, and accused Russian forces of violating a temporary ceasefire that was meant to allow some of the city's nearly half-million residents to flee. President Vladimir Putin blamed Ukraine for sabotaging the humanitarian routes.

Another evacuation announced for Sunday was also cancelled after Ukrainian officials accused Russian troops of violating the ceasefire again.

Mikhail Vershinin, the head of the Donetsk Regional Patrol Police, said that several hundred cars had planned to form convoys to leave the city through the humanitarian corridor.

"As soon as we sent the cars back home, the offensive attacks in that region began," he said. The city, he said, was facing a humanitarian catastrophe."

Andriyushchenko, the mayor's adviser, said that city officials were wary of the Russian forces even as they gathered people for the planned evacuation, and could not send residents out because the route was too dangerous. "There was no ceasefire for the whole length of the corridor and Russian troops continued to attack our positions," he said. "That is why we did not let the people board the buses."

PESHAWAR DOMESTIC ISSUE OF PAK XX

Officials say unearthed network of bombers responsible for blast

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

PESHAWAR, MARCH 6

PAKISTANI INVESTIGATION authorities on Sunday claimed to have unearthed the entire network of bombers responsible for the deadly suicide attack on a crowded Shia mosque in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province that killed 63 people and wounded 200 others, a senior official said.

An suicide bomber, believed to be from ISIS-Khorasan, blew himself up inside a mosque in Qissa Khan bazaar in Peshawar, capital of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province on Friday, in one of the deadliest attacks in the restive region, bor-



At a funeral in Peshawar on Saturday. Reuters

dering Afghanistan.

Adviser to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister on Information Barrister Muhammad Ali Saif along with Peshawar City Police Chief Ijaz Khan told reporters that a rickshaw driver and facilitator have been traced while



People on an improvised path under a bridge that was destroyed by a Russian strike, while fleeing the town of Irpin in Ukraine. AP

Russian forces fire on evacuees, leaving 3 people dead outside Kyiv

THE NEW YORK TIMES

IRPIN, MARCH 6

A RUSSIAN force advancing on Kyiv fired mortar shells on Sunday at a battered bridge used by evacuees fleeing the fighting, sending panicked civilians running, kicking up a cloud of dust and leaving three members of a family dead on the pavement.

Crowds of hundreds have clustered around the damaged bridge over the Irpin River since Saturday. Ukrainian forces had blown up the bridge earlier to slow the Russian advance. Only a dozen or so Ukrainian soldiers were in the immediate area of the bridge on Sunday, not fighting but helping carry civilians' luggage and children.



A man helps an elderly woman to run for cover in Irpin, near Kyiv, on Sunday. Reuters

To cross a hundred yards or so of exposed street on the side of the bridge closer to Kyiv, people seeking to flee to the capital formed small groups and made a run for it together. Soldiers ran out, picked up children or luggage, and ran for cover behind a cinder block wall.

The mortar shells fell first 100 or so yards from the bridge, then shifted in a series of thunderous blasts into a section of street where people were fleeing.

As the mortars got closer to the stream of civilians, people ran, pulling children, trying to find a safe spot. But there was nothing to hide behind. A shell

landed in the street, sending up a cloud of concrete dust and leaving one family — a mother, a father, a teenage son and a daughter who appeared about 8 years old — sprawled on the ground.

Soldiers rushed to help, but the woman and children were dead. The father still had a pulse but was unconscious and severely wounded.

Their luggage, a blue roller suitcase and some backpacks, was scattered about.

The shelling suggested either targeting of the evacuation routes from Irpin, something of which the Ukrainian authorities have accused the Russian army after a railroad track used for evacuations was hit on Saturday, or disregard for the risk of civilian casualties.



Workers prepare to move works of art, Andrey Sheptytsky National Museum in Lviv. AP

time, energy. You are doing something good, you feel pleased. Today you see empty walls, so it feels bitter, sad. We didn't believe it till the last minute that this could happen," museum General Director Ihor Kozhan said Friday.

"Sometimes the tears are coming because a lot of labour has been put in here. It takes

the western city of Lviv have been closed since Russia's war on Ukraine began on February 24, and heritage sites across the country face danger as the fighting continues. Korzhan said he receives daily calls from other European cultural institutions offering to help as he and his staff race to pre-

serve the museum's works. Anna Naurobska, head of the rare manuscripts department, said she still doesn't know where to safely store the collection of more than 12,000 items being packed into boxes. "This is our story; this is our life. It is very important to us," she said.

AP

ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD

New US envoy arrives in Beijing amid tense relations

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING, MARCH 6

NEW US Ambassador Nicholas Burns has arrived to take up his post in Beijing amid heightened tensions between China and the United States over Taiwan, trade, human rights and the war in Ukraine.

Burns arrived Friday with his wife Libby and a group of other US diplomats and their families and will undergo three weeks of quarantine at his official residence as China requires, according to a US Embassy spokesperson.

The sketches of the bombers and two facilitators who have come on to the scene at the blast site have been completed.

City police chief Ijaz Khan said he did not agree to the assertions of some that police personnel did not play their role properly.

The post had been empty since Terry Branstad departed in October 2020.



Nicholas Burns

Burns is a career diplomat, former State Department spokesperson, ambassador to NATO and leading academic, teaching most recently at the Harvard Kennedy School and serving as a foreign policy adviser to Joe Biden's presidential campaign.

He has framed the US relationship with China as manageable, saying Americans should "have confidence in our strength" when dealing with the rise of China.

MEANWHILE

N KOREA CONFIRMS TESTS ON SPY SATELLITE

North Korea performed data transmission and other key tests needed to develop a spy satellite, state media said Sunday, in the second such tests in about a week, indicating the country intends to conduct a prohibited long-range rocket launch soon. The moves come as North Korea has been carrying out a spate of ballistic missile launches.

XX TRANSITORY

Putin says campaign will not stop until Ukraine stops fighting

In call with Russian leader, Turkey's Erdogan urges ceasefire

REUTERS

LVIV, KYIV, MARCH 6

RUSSIAN PRESIDENT Vladimir Putin said on Sunday his campaign in Ukraine was going according to plan and would not end until Kyiv stopped fighting, as efforts to evacuate the heavily bombed city of Mariupol failed for a second day in a row.



He said his campaign in Ukraine was going according to plan

tempt to draw out negotiation would fail, a Kremlin statement said.

The Turkish presidency said Erdogan told Putin that Turkey was ready to contribute to a peaceful resolution of the conflict.

President Erdogan, who said an immediate ceasefire will not only ease humanitarian concerns in the region but also give the search for a political solution an opportunity, renewed his call of "let's pave the way for peace

RANDOM XX

Israel PM says will try to XX mediate even if prospect slim

DAN WILLIAMS

JERUSALEM, MARCH 6

ISRAEL WILL continue trying to mediate between Russia and Ukraine even if success seems unlikely, Prime Minister Naftali Bennett said on Sunday after returning from surprise talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Ukraine has requested that Israel serve as intermediary, citing the Bennett government's good relations with both Kyiv and Moscow. Bennett's office said he spoke three times over the weekend with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky.

In televised remarks to his cabinet, Bennett gave no details on his three-hour Kremlin meeting with Putin on Saturday, saying only that it had "the blessing and encouragement of all parties" — an allusion to the United States, among other powers.

Bennett and Putin had discussed the mediation idea by phone last week.

"We will continue to assist wherever this is requested, even if the chances are not great," Bennett said. "The moment there is even a small opening, and we have the access to all sides and the capability, I see it as a moral duty to make every attempt."

Israel has condemned the Russian invasion of Ukraine, expressed solidarity with Kyiv and sent humanitarian aid. But Bennett has not met Ukrainian requests for military assistance and has kept channels open to Russia, with which Israel coordinates operations against Iranian deployments in Syria.

IN BRIEF

XX SMALL MATTER

Radio Free Europe halts ops in Russia

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, the US-funded media outlet founded in the Cold War to deliver news into Communist-controlled countries, announced that it would cease its operations in Russia as the country cracks down on information following their invasion of Ukraine. Jamie Fly, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty president and chief executive said in a statement on Sunday that the move was a result of "the Putin regime's assault on the truth". Since its invasion of Ukraine, Russia has moved swiftly to limit free speech and dissent, forcing Western companies to reassess. Bloomberg News, the BBC, CNN International and ABC News have also suspended their news reporting operations inside Russia. The Kremlin has blocked access to Facebook inside the country. NYT

XXX NOTHING GREAT

Hundreds still line up to join army

Hundreds of men have been lining up in Kyiv to join the Ukrainian army. An order from Ukraine's government prohibited men between the ages of 18 and 60 from leaving the country to keep them available for military conscription. But some like Volodymyr Onysko volunteered to fight. "We know why we are here. We know why we defend our country. And our guys that are actually standing there and fighting Russian military forces," he told Britain's Sky News. Others, like British Army veteran Mark Ayres, travelled to Ukraine to help. Ayres said the Ukrainian people have been inspiring and "it's galvanised everybody". AP

Policy & Analysis imp & not

XXX individual incidents not imp

Official: 6 dead as large tornado roars through central Iowa



Members of the fire department after a long evening responding to emergency calls in Winterset, Iowa. AP

her husband, Tony, called her from a nearby shed where he was working and alerted her about a tornado warning.

Burkett said she came outside and joined him in front of the house, looking down their driveway toward the southwest. "And then we saw it. The tornado," she said. "There was debris flying around and it was getting louder and louder."

They hurried with their daughters to their basement as the tornado roared by, and while the family was unhurt, their home was in ruins amid debris all around, even in the trees.

But within about a minute, the tornado passed by, and while the family was unhurt, their home was in ruins amid debris all around, even in the trees.

New Delhi

15

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2022

E. EXPLAINED

Too many micro details

India's difficult evacuation challenge in Sumy

Around 700 Indians are stranded in this Ukrainian city, 60 km from the Russian border, which has been facing continuous shelling.

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, MARCH 6

SUMY, LYING about 350 km east of Kyiv and 180 km north-west of Kharkiv, is now at the centre of India's evacuation efforts from the war zone. About 700 Indians, mostly students of medical colleges at Sumy State University, are stranded in this city in Ukraine's northeast.

There has been no respite from shelling in the city. President Volodymyr Zelensky said on Sunday that Russian forces were trying to block and keep encircled Sumy, along with Kharkiv and several other cities, the Associated Press reported.

Situation on the ground

Ukrainian media were reporting on Sunday that Russian forces had captured Trostyanets in Sumy oblast (province), south of the city of Sumy. "The city (Trostyanets) is

on the verge of a humanitarian catastrophe," Dmytro Zhyvytskyi, head of the Sumy Regional State Administration, said.

Residents are no longer able to go out to buy food and other essentials, shops are being looted, and snipers have been positioned across the city. The Russians are in control of the ambulance station, and are not allowing medical staff to leave except for emergency care of children.

Russian strikes on the evening of March 3 left Okhtyrka, another city in the oblast further to the south of Trostyanets, without water, electricity, and heating. With several other places in the province also without power, local authorities were looking at a general evacuation as homes turned into "cold, stone traps", according to Zhyvytskyi.

Challenges for evacuation

It is in this situation that several hundred Indian students — all in their late teens and early 20s — are trapped in their underground

shelters, waiting to be rescued. The challenges are manifold.

First, Sumy is right in the middle of a conflict zone, with no break in the fighting. It's been 11 days since the war began. It is very cold, snowy, and windy. (At 6 pm local time on Sunday, the temperature was -1°C.) It is a difficult situation for those who are stranded without proper heating and water.



away, not easy to cover on foot in this weather even under normal circumstances. Right now, bombs and shells are falling in the region, and combatants are firing at each other.

"The main challenge remains the ongoing shelling there, violence, and the lack of transportation options. I think even more than transportation, it is about having a secure and safe way to get them (Indian students) out while they are not under threat," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said on Saturday.

the ground. The Russian embassy in New Delhi said the ceasefire was in effect from 10 am Moscow time (noon in India) on Sunday, but the Ukrainians said the Russians had violated the agreement, and the ongoing shelling made it "impossible to open humanitarian corridors for the safe evacuation of civilians, the delivery of medicines and food".

"Russia continues to launch missile and bomb strikes on Mariupol, Volnovakha and other Ukrainian cities," the Ukrainian foreign ministry said. "We call on the international community — states and international organisations — to immediately condemn Russia's gross violation of the agreements..."

Ceasefire not holding

The Indian government is in touch with both the Russians and Ukrainians, seeking a halt to hostilities so that these Indians can be evacuated. There was a glimmer of hope after Russia and Ukraine announced a ceasefire on Saturday — they called it a "regime of silence" — and humanitarian corridors for civilians to leave the southern cities of Mariupol (on the Sea of Azov) and Volnovakha to its north in Donetsk oblast.

But that ceasefire was not observed on

Those stuck in Sumy, too, face a similar situation. The border to the east is 60 km away, but it is not safe to venture out of their shelters until the guns fall silent at least for some time. Already, one Indian student has lost his life and another has been injured, and the government does not want to take any chances with the 700-odd Indians who remain in the war zone.

Officials said a team from the Indian embassy is stationed in Poltava city in central Ukraine to coordinate the safe passage of Indian students stranded in Sumy to Western borders via Poltava. The Indian students have been asked to be ready to leave at short notice.

Some 21,000 Indians have come out of Ukraine since the last week of January; about 16,000 of them have been evacuated on flights organised by the government under Operation Ganga. Partha Satpathy, India's ambassador to Ukraine, posted on Twitter that the government would leave "no stone unturned" to ensure the safe evacuation of students from Sumy.



IN FACT

CHALLENGES FOR EVACUATION

It is in this situation that several hundred Indian students — all in their late teens and early 20s — are trapped in their underground

shelters, waiting to be rescued. The challenges are manifold.

First, Sumy is right in the middle of a conflict zone, with no break in the fighting. It's been 11 days since the war began.

It is very cold, snowy, and windy. (At 6 pm local time on Sunday, the temperature was -1°C.) It is a difficult situation for those who are stranded without proper heating and water.

The border with Russia is about 60 km

away, not easy to cover on foot in this weather even under normal circumstances. Right now, bombs and shells are falling in the region, and combatants are firing at each other.

"The main challenge remains the ongoing shelling there, violence, and the lack of transportation options. I think even more than transportation, it is about having a secure and safe way to get them (Indian students) out while they are not under threat," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said on Saturday.

Shorter route not safer

Indians who were stranded in Kharkiv and nearby Pisochny have been able to move out and travel west, where the border is about 1,000 km away. The Russian border to the east is, by contrast, only 40 km away — however, the conflict is raging on the eastern side.

"The shortest route is not the safest," a top official told The Indian Express on Sunday.

VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Preparation

Strengthen your Main Exam Preparation with our Online & Offline Courses

G.S Current Affairs Crash Course
G.S Test Series
Optional Subjects Test
Essay Course

Enroll now: www.vajiramandravi.com

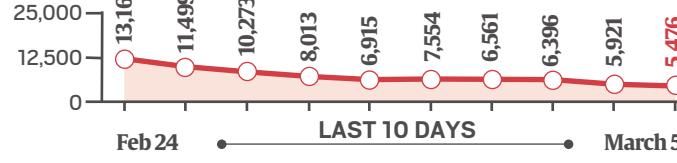
TRACKING INDIA'S COVID CURVE

DASHBOARD, AS ON MARCH 5

734 DAYS SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN	New cases 5,476	Active cases 59,442	Deaths 158
----------------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------------

Weekly CFR: 0.69% | Overall CFR: 1.20% | Total deaths: 5,15,036

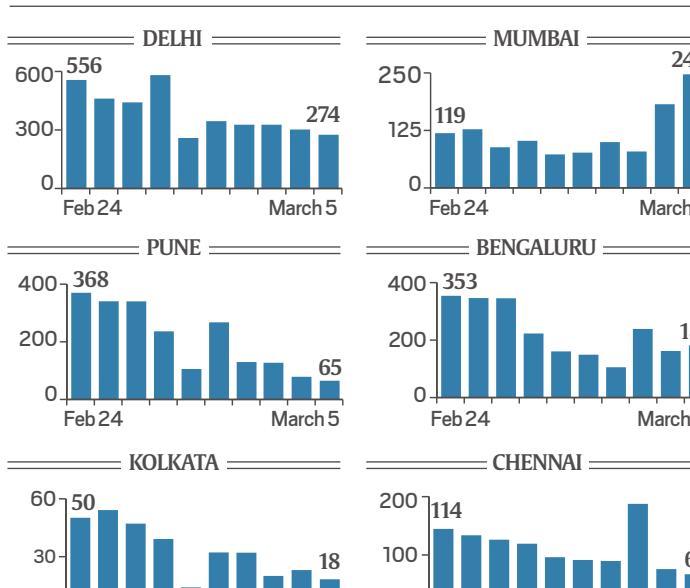
NEW CASES, DAILY



SURGE IN THE STATES

State	ON MARCH 5			Weekly positivity
	New cases	Active cases	Deaths	
Kerala	1,836	16,637	124	6.65%
Mizoram	568	4,615	1	21.26%
Maharashtra	535	4,038	10	0.84%
Karnataka	278	3,324	3	0.62%
Rajasthan	278	2,940	2	1.47%

CASES IN THE CITIES, LAST 10 DAYS



TOTAL TESTS

TESTS ON MARCH 5	77,28,24,246
------------------	---------------------

WEEKLY POSITIVITY

0.77%

OVERALL POSITIVITY

5.56%

INDIA TOTAL DOSES

178,83,79,249

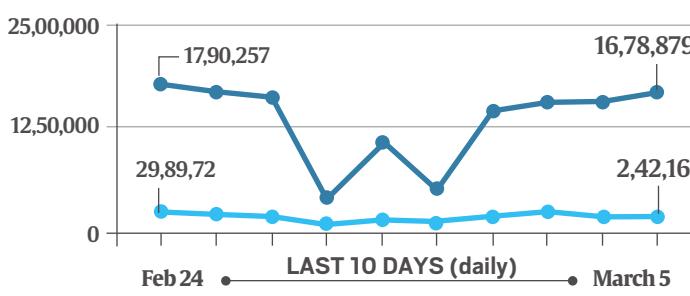
(Adults 1st dose: 91,02,71,445; 2nd: 77,12,88,099; 15-18 age group)

1st dose: 5,53,77,120; 2nd: 3,08,21,856; Precautionary: 2,06,20,729

First dose

Second dose

MARCH 5: 28,12,309



IN FACT

PREY, EAT, BREED

Availability of food and space is the primary factor that determines how many tigers a forest can hold. And often, food is space for the tiger.

While they are known to establish vast ranges — the male in particular strives to control multiple females with typically smaller ranges — how far a tiger will range is determined by the abundance of prey in its forest.

In the Terai and Shivalik hills habitat — think Corbett tiger reserve, for example — 10–16 tigers can survive in 100 sq km. This slides to 7–11 tigers per 100 sq km in the reserves of north-central Western Ghats such as Bandipur, and to 6–10 tigers per 100 sq km in the dry deciduous forests, such as Kanha, of central India.

The correlation between prey availability and tiger density is fairly established. There is even a simple linear regression explaining the relationship in the 2018 All-India Tiger Report that put the carrying capacity in the Sunderbans "at around 4 tigers" per 100 sq km.

A joint Indo-Bangla study in 2015 pegged the tiger density at 2.85 per 100 sq km after surveying eight blocks spanning 2,913 sq km across the international borders in the Sunderbans. "Low density of tigers in the Sunderbans is an inherent attribute of the hostile mangrove habitat that supports low tiger prey densities," it said.

The ongoing WII study indicates a density of 3–5 tigers in the Sunderbans. Given that 88 (86–90) tigers were estimated in 2,313 sq km of the Sunderbans in 2018, the population has been close to its so-called saturation point in the mangrove delta for some time.

Conflict: cause or effect

The consequence, as classical theories go, is frequent dispersal of tigers leading to higher levels of human-wildlife conflict in the reserve peripheries. But, experts say, carrying capacity and conflict may also pose a chicken-and-egg conundrum.

While physical (space) and biological (forest productivity) factors have an obvious influence on a reserve's carrying capacity of tigers,

what also plays a crucial role is how the dispersal of wildlife is tolerated by people — from the locals who live around them to policymakers who decide management strategies.

While this not-so-discussed social carrying capacity assumes wider significance for wildlife living outside protected forests, it is an equally important factor in human-dominated areas bordering reserves where periodic human-wildlife interface is inevitable. More so when different land uses overlap and a good number of people depend on forest resources for livelihood.

Imagine a 1,000 sq ft terrace apartment. In theory, it can accommodate, say, 20 people at 50 sq ft per person. Put in place some furniture — think roads, traffic, encroachment — and that capacity will fall. It will slide further if no one is allowed to step out in the common terrace where they are targeted by hostile neighbours who consider them a threat.

That's how potential carry capacity may shrink in a reserve. Perceived conflict can squeeze the tiger's domain, which the animal is bound to overstep from time to time, leading to further conflict with no immediate winners.

The way ahead

Artificially boosting the prey base in a re-

serve is often an intuitive solution but it can be counter-productive. While tackling external factors, such as bushmeat hunting, is necessary to ease pressure on the tiger, the government's policies have discouraged reserve managers from striving to increase tiger densities by artificial management practices of habitat manipulation or prey augmentation.

To harness the umbrella effect of tigers for biodiversity conservation, experts say, it is more beneficial to increase areas occupied by tigers. For many, the prescription is to create safe connectivity among forests and allow tigers to disperse safely to new areas. But though vital for genes to travel and avoid a population bottleneck, wildlife corridors may not be the one-stop solution for conflict.

First, not all dispersing tigers will chance upon corridors simply because many will find territories of other tigers between them and such openings. Even the lucky few that may take those routes are likely to wander to the forest edges along the way. Worse, the corridors may not lead to viable forests in reserves such as Sunderbans, bounded by the sea and villages.

Little choice

While it has never been easy to share space with wildlife, particularly carnivores,

the contours of conflict largely depend on the local perception of animals. It ranges from minding one's own business based on the assurance gathered over generations that, left alone, animals rarely pose physical danger, to mobilising demand for removal at sight.

However, as several studies have shown, removing tigers or any wildlife cannot eliminate the chances of future interface as another lot invariably turns up. The remedy, experts say, lies in smarter land use to minimise damage and adequate incentives to promote acceptance of wildlife.

Generous compensation policies can take care of the financial cost of losing livestock or crops, or wasted man hours when a workplace is avoided due to a passing tiger. Besides, the percolation of financial benefits of having charismatic wildlife in the neighbourhood can also nudge some towards better tolerance.

Mumbai, Jharkhand, UP, Bengal win to make knockouts

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MARCH 6

MUMBAI STORMED into the Ranji Trophy quarterfinals for the first time since 2017-18 after an innings-and-108-run win over Odisha in their Group D match in Ahmedabad on Sunday. Having conceded a 248-run first innings lead, Odisha resumed the final day on 84/5 before the Mumbai spin duo of Shams Mulani (5/64) and Tanush Kotian (3/31) ran through their lower order. With the bonus point victory, Mumbai ended with 16 points, three ahead of Saurashtra who failed to make the cut despite a 211-run win over Goa.

At Guwahati: Skipper Saurabh Tiwary struck a match-winning 93 while Kumar Kushagra made 50 to guide Jharkhand to the knockout stage with a two-wicket win over Tamil Nadu in their last Elite Group H match. Chasing 212 for victory, Jharkhand needed 104 runs on the final day with six wickets in hand to dislodge Chhattisgarh from the top of the group. Tiwary and Kushagra added 90 runs for the fifth wicket before a few wickets put some drama into proceedings.

At Cuttack: Bengal thrashed Chandigarh by 152 runs in their Elite Group B match to advance to the quarterfinals. Defending 413, Bengal bowled Chandigarh out for 260 on the final day with the pace troika of Ishan Porel (3/37), Mukesh Kumar (2/72) and Nilakantha Das (2/50) sharing seven wickets among them.

At Sultanpur (Haryana): Uttar Pradesh stunned Maharashtra by six wickets in their Elite Group G match to qualify for the knockouts. Maharashtra, who had the first innings lead, resumed final day on 84 for 4 and made a brave declaration at 211/5, with Rahul Tripathi remaining unbeaten on 123 off just 110 balls. Uttar Pradesh were thus set 357 for victory, but rode on hundreds from opener Almas Shaukat (100) and skipper Karan Sharma (116) to win the match. Rinku Singh also chipped in with an unbeaten 78 off just 60 balls.

At Chennai: Karnataka thrashed Puducherry by an innings and 20 runs in their Elite Group C match to qualify for the knockouts. With the win and seven points, Karnataka finished with 16 points.

At Rajkot: Madhya Pradesh made it to the knockouts despite their last Elite Group A match against Kerala ending in a draw. They qualified with a better quotient of 2.147 than Kerala (1.648). Madhya Pradesh came into the game on 13 points after beating Gujarat and Meghalaya. Kerala were also on 13 points before their match. Since, the match ended in a draw and the first innings - of Kerala - was not completed, both teams got one point each and their tally stood at 14 each.



Pooja Vastrakar (67), along with Sneha Rana (53 not out), put on a world record partnership of 122 runs for the 7th wicket. AP

Vastrakar's tale: From outplaying boys to helping win WC opener against Pakistan

PRATYUSH RAJ
NEW DELHI, MARCH 6

LIKE ANY other budding cricketer, Pooja Vastrakar was fond of the gully version of the game. Among the first to notice her talent was Ashutosh Srivastava, a local cricket coach in Shahdol, a small town in Madhya Pradesh's Rewa district. Srivastava saw a kid smoking sixes off bowlers double her size. At first, Srivastava thought Pooja was a boy because of her cropped locks. "It must be 2010. I used to work at a local cricket academy in Shahdol. I saw her playing at the Municipal ground in Shahdol. I saw a kid smacking sixes in tennis ball cricket. I asked one of the kids, who is this boy, the reply was 'sir ye toh ladki hai.' I was amazed by her power-hitting," Ashutosh Srivastava shared Vastrakar's early journey with *The Indian Express*.

Next day Srivastava asked a ten-year-old Pooja if she was interested in playing cricket. Pooja replied, "Cricket mera passion hai." But Srivastava had a condition. He told his ward that she would only train with the boys and not play with girls. "She was way too good for the girls of her age. I put her in the boy's team. She used to play U-14 cricket with the boys. When she started playing with the boys, it turned out that she is the best among the boys of her age group as well," laughs Srivastava.

"What defines Pooja from others is her confidence. The energy is just next level. She is fearless," he adds. On Sunday against Pakistan in India's opening match against arch-rivals Pakistan, Pooja displayed her fearless cricket.

When Pooja Vastrakar walked in to bat at No 8, India was reeling at 114 for 6, losing five wickets for just 18 runs. The fearless youngster took on Pakistan. It felt like India's tail was set to wrap up quickly, but Pooja Vastrakar had other ideas. Vastrakar (67 off 59b; 8x4), along with Sneha Rana (53 not out off 48b; 4x4), put on a world record partnership of 122 runs for the seventh wicket and turned the tide in favour of India.

She took on the Pakistan bowlers from the word go. It was not only big shots, but the way Vastrakar and Rana ran converted those ones into twos, and twos into threes that was praiseworthy. Back in Shahdol, Srivastava was not overawed with his ward's performance.

"I've seen her playing such innings so many times. For the Madhya Pradesh Under-19 side, she used to bat in the middle-order. Last year, in the JS Anand Trophy (Women's Senior Tournament), organised by MPCB, she smashed two double hundreds and one score of 150. She is ruthless with the bat," recollects Srivastava. Like any Indian athlete, Pooja had her share of struggles. Just a month after joining the academy in Shahdol, she lost her mother. A distraught Pooja would not visit the academy for a month. "I was not in Shahdol. When I came back, a fellow coach said that she is not coming to the academy for one month. I immediately went to her house. Usha (Vastrakar), one of her sisters, assured me that she will not miss a single training session ever," says Pooja, who is the youngest among the seven siblings (five daughters and two sons), and Usha, who was into athletics, made sure that she would never skip her training session ever.

"When our mother passed away, Pooja was only 10. She was devastated and when Ashutosh sir visited our house and told us that she is a gifted cricketer, I made up my decision she is going to pursue her passion. We are very proud of her achievements," says Usha.

Pooja's father, Bandhan Ram Vastrakar, a retired BSNL employee, is very happy with his daughter's performance but is worried about her injury. "I hope it won't be too serious and she will be fit for the next match. Since the age of 4, she has been into cricket. I never thought that she would go on to play for India one day, but she always knew it. Whenever she asks for money for cricket, I will tease her why is she wasting her time in cricket. She used to say, 'aap dekhna India khelungi (One day, I will play for India)'," says Bandhan Ram. "I hardly did anything for her. Initially, it was Ashutosh sir, who helped her out. Then when she was picked for the Madhya Pradesh Under-19 team, she started earning money and never asked anything from me. She even helped with money during her sister's marriage," says a proud father. Vastrakar was rightly named the Player of the Match for her excellent knock. "The plan was to somehow try and get to 200. I like to bat in pressure situations, even in domestic games. I told the same to Sneha (Rana), to keep the partnership going. The batters told us that the wicket was slow, so the target was 200, but we didn't bat differently," Vastrakar told the broadcasters after the match.

BRIEF SCORES: India 244/7 in 50 overs (Pooja Vastrakar 67, Sneha Rana 53 not out; Nashra Sandhu 2/36) bt Pakistan 137 in 43.0 overs (Sidra Ameen 30; Rajeshwari Gayakwad 4/31).

Baby's Day out: Pak captain's daughter wins Indian hearts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MARCH 6

THE INDIA-PAKISTAN World Cup game at Mount Maunganui, New Zealand, finished in oodles of love and toddler clucks showered upon eight-month-old Baby Fatima, daughter of the Pakistan captain Bismah Maroof by the Indian team. While post-match beers tend to be a tradition after a hard day's play in the men's game in these parts of the world, the cynosure of all eyes post the game on Sunday, was an infant donning a bright red bow ribbon and clad in a matching jumpsuit and red-black tartan check booties.

The Indians - including Harmanpreet Kaur, Shafali Verma and Smriti Mandhana - gathered around the young mother, who returned to captain Pakistan in December 2021, just four months after giving birth, and the Indians sought the quiet baby's attention. Maroof, an Asian Games gold medallist from 2010 Guangzhou Games, has been Pakistan captain since 2017, and was Pakistan's first player to reach 1000 runs in ODI cricket. In April 2021, she had taken an indefinite break after announcing impending motherhood, but the cricket-crazy lady from Lahore, who has been playing since she was a teen, couldn't quite stay away from the game and returned to the field - baby and pram, in tow.

The ICC posted an image of the Indians

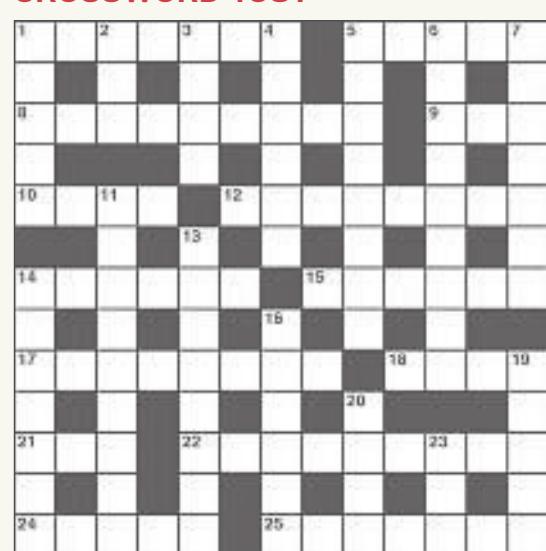
clicking a selfie with Maroof and baby Fatima in the centre and captioned it: "Little Fatima's first lesson in the spirit of cricket from India and Pakistan (with blue and green hearts) #CWC2022." The tweet had garnered close to 50K Likes. India cricketer Ekta Bisht was later clicked babbling gleefully with the baby. India started their Women's ODI World Cup campaign with a 107-run win on Sunday against Pakistan but the winners were bowled over by Bismah Maroof's daughter after the match, as the two teams interacted post the game and their video went viral. Earlier, Bismah had walked into the stadium in Mount Maunganui stadium, with Fatima in her arms.

While Pakistan had India under the pump, before a match-rebuilding partnership was forged, it had been a rough day in the end for Pakistan. Bismah said Pakistan could not capitalise on the strong start and let India off the hook. "We gave away easy runs to them, we were sloppy on the field, we didn't put them under pressure," she said. "Our batting has to improve, our shot selection wasn't good, we'll work on it ahead of the next game." India had prevailed in all 10 previous one-day matches between the two, but Bismah's team threatened to pull off an upset when they reduced Mithali Raj's side to 114-6 in the 34th over. "Relieved to have won the first game but there are a lot of things we have to work on," Mithali said of India's patchy batting.



Members of the Indian team flank Baby Fatima and mother, Pakistan captain Bismah Maroof after the game for a selfie. Courtesy: PCB

CROSSWORD 4681



- ACROSS**
1 I'm holding a number said to be corrupt (7)
5 She returns a valuable possession (5)
8 Mugs declare it avoids humiliation (4-5)
9 Backdated a leave? (3)
10 Uses the knuckles to fight back (4)
12 Newly arrived it is put back inside and reserved (8)
14 Radio reception problem which never goes away (6)
15 He helps the priest arrange a truce (6)
17 Pupil power? (8)
18 Temperature in the freezer ordinarily (4)
21 For each childless person (3)
22 Ballots to silence discord (9)
24 Drains topless pitchers (5)
25 A desert resort that is most expensive (7)

- DOWN**
1 What could be finer to conclude? (5)
2 Scottish mother figure (3)
3 Not considered a disfigurement (4)
4 Elsie is upset about a number of taxes (6)
5 The end of schooldays in the States (8)
6 Deadlock with an old friend (9)
7 After getting in the beer went round preaching (7)
11 Does it supply wood for building aircraft? (5-4)
13 Insisted order is order (8)
14 Church eminence (7)
16 Delhi's defensive arrangement (6)
19 Notes wrong beginning (5)
20 Sicilian hothead (4)
23 Lionel loses Lil, now single (3)

Solutions Crossword 4680: Across: 1 Reverses, 5 Fold, 9 Ailed, 10 Airless, 11 Impersonator, 13 Assets, 14 Pilots, 17 Mirror prophet, 20 Servant, 21 Elope, 22 Tied, 23 Deceased. Down: 1 Road, 2 Volumes, 3 Red-letter day, 4 Elapse, 6 Overt, 7 Distress, 8 Frontispiece, 12 Marmoset, 15 Onorous, 16 Writh, 18 Nurse, 19 Weed.

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

Age wrinkles the body, wrinkles the soul. - Douglas MacArthur

STVII

BEEGNU

ABYTT

AHOUGQ

Answers: VIST, BATTY, BUNGE, QUAGUE. Wrinkles the body, wrinkles the soul. - Douglas MacArthur



OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



SUDOKU 4766

Difficulty Level 4s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

9		7	4	2				
1				9				
	6	2						
5				1	2	8		
2	8	4			3			
			5	1				
3				8				
5	7	4			6			

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4765

7	6	5	2	4	9	1	3	8
1	4	3	5	6	8	9	7	2
2	8	9	7	1	3	6	4	5
4	7	1	9	5	6	2	8	3
6	3	8	1	2	7	5	9	4
5	9	2	3	8	4	7	6	1
9	5	4	8	7	2	3	1	6
3	2	6	4	9	1	8	5	7
8	1	7	6	3	5	4	2	9

17

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

The future looks relatively optimistic at the moment. In fact that's an amazing understatement. The stars are emphasising peace rather than war, so they may bring sweetness and light to areas of your life from which they have been sadly lacking. Make sure that other people feel good as well, and your thoughtfulness will give you credit.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

The week begins and ends with significant domestic indications. How about formulating plans today and then waiting about four or five days before putting them into practice? One thing is certain: conditions can get better. But it may take an almighty effort to see that improvements last.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Your skills as a peacemaker could be in demand at home over the coming days. One thing to remember is that disputes will arise as a result of the sheer range of different options, not from any ill-will. And that's the simple reason why you should give partners the benefit of the doubt.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

You've probably had enough big surprises, but fate may still have one or two tricks up its sleeve. The only complicating factor is that misunderstandings may periodically create an atmosphere of farce. A partner probably needs all the support you can give them.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

You're still unhappy about financial matters, and quite right too. If you weren't dissatisfied with the conditions of your life you'd never make the necessary improvements. Everything will work out if you realise that you have another two weeks before agreements will stick.

