

OPINION, P2

One pandemic,
many casualties

ACROSS THE AISLE, P CHIDAMBARAM



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FE SUNDAY

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Science Gallery Bengaluru's new virtual exhibition is an attempt to make sense of the uncertainty of a pandemic

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A diplomat outlines the 1989 Tiananmen protests from an Indian perspective

**ODD & EVEN**

ROHIT PHORE

**QuickPicks****Axis Bank awaiting nod to classify 3 promoters as public shareholders**

PRIVATE SECTOR Axis Bank on Saturday said three promoters United India Insurance Company, National Insurance Company and New India Assurance Company will be reclassified as public category shareholders post requisite regulatory approvals, reports PTI. The bank has identified the administrator of the Specified Undertaking of the Unit Trust of India, LIC, GIC, New India Assurance Company, National Insurance Company, United India Insurance Company, and Oriental Insurance as the promoters, Axis Bank said. PAGE 3

Cyclone Yaas likely to intensify: IMD

CYCLONE YAAS is likely to intensify into a "very severe cyclonic storm" and cross the Odisha and the West Bengal coasts on May 26, the IMD said on Saturday, reports PTI. A low pressure area formed over the east-central Bay of Bengal and the adjoining north Andaman Sea.

Crucial meet on Class 12 exams today

THE MINISTRY of education has called a crucial meeting on Sunday to decide on pending Class 12 board exams and subsequent entrance examinations that were postponed due to the second wave of Covid, Union minister Ramesh Pokhrayal "Nishank" said, reports PTI.

BATTLING COVID

Situation stabilising with daily cases reducing: Govt

● Positivity rate at 12.45% despite number of daily testing rising to 20.66 lakh

FE BUREAU
Pune, May 22

THE UNION HEALTH ministry on Saturday said the Covid-19 positivity rate was decreasing and stood at 13.85% during the May 15-21 period, the lowest in the past one month. The positivity rate on Saturday was recorded at 12.45% despite the number of daily testing rose to 20.66 lakh.

The ministry added that daily Covid-19 positive cases in the country remained below the three-lakh-level for the third consecutive day on Saturday. However, the number of daily deaths continued to stay above the 4,000-mark.

Lav Agarwal, joint secretary in the ministry of health and family welfare, said in a media briefing that daily cases dropped from 4,14,188 on May 13 to 2,57,299 cases on May 22 with a trend of decrease in cases seen over the last 15 days. The country saw 4,194 deaths on May 22 with six states - Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Delhi - accounting for the majority



Beneficiaries wait in a queue to receive Covid vaccine doses in Jalandhar on Saturday

of the daily deaths.

The total number of deaths is nudging the 3,00,000-mark with 2,95,525 deaths reported till May 22 with a fatality rate of 1.12%.

V K Paul, member, health, Niti Aayog, said the pandemic was subsiding with active cases coming down and overall burden reducing as there were restrictions on social and economic activities as well as containment measures in place and these would have to continue to break the chain of transmission. Rural areas have been impacted in the second wave, Paul said.

Continued on Page 11

India has over 8,800 cases of black fungus infection: Centre

THERE ARE 8,848 cases of mucormycosis or "black fungus" infection across the country, Union minister Sadananda Gowda said on Saturday, reports FE Bureau in Pune.

The minister added that 23,680 additional vials of Amphotericin-B, the drug used to treat the infection, have been allocated to the affected states and union territories.

"After a detailed review of rising no. of cases of #Mucormycosis in various states, a total of 23,680 addi-

tional vials of #Amphotericin-B have been allocated to all States/UTs today," Gowda, who is minister of chemicals and fertilisers, tweeted.

States like Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Telangana - all badly affected - have been allotted 75% of the additional vials, the minister added. The remaining 25% will be allocated after verification of the number of patients. ■ Page 3

'No mix and match of jabs anytime soon'

A MIX AND match of Covid-19 vaccine doses is unlikely to happen in the country anytime soon, VK Paul, member, health, Niti Aayog, indicated on Saturday, reports FE Bureau in Pune.

Preliminary results from a trial in the UK where a combina-

tion of the Oxford-AstraZeneca and Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 vaccines were given to and generated high immune response against the SARS-CoV-2 virus. However, such a combination was not being considered, Paul said at a press briefing. ■ Pg 3

Nod to Bharat Parenterals's favipiravir oral drug

BHARAT PARENTERALS on Saturday said it has received approval from the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) for favipiravir oral suspension, to be used for treatment of Covid-19 patients, reports PTI. The company has received

licensure and authorisation from DCGI to manufacture and market favipiravir oral suspension 100mg/ml, Bharat Parenterals said. Favipiravir was approved in Japan in 2014 for the treatment of novel or re-emerging influenza virus infections.

COVID IMPACT

Farmhouses script turnaround as rich prefer open green space

RISHI RANJAN KALA
New Delhi, May 22

COVID HAS SIGNIFICANTLY altered people's preferences around owning a house, particularly among the HNIs and ultra-HNIs. As the pandemic rages on, these deep-pocketed buyers are preferring to own self-sufficient properties outside metros with lots of green area, especially farmhouses.

The demand has more than doubled in the last 12-18 months with prices of such properties gradually inching upwards, especially in the country's biggest luxury farmhouse market, Delhi-NCR. Here prices have appreciated by 20-25%

EXPANDING SPACE

■ Prices of such properties in the country's biggest luxury farmhouse market, Delhi-NCR, have appreciated by 20-25% on an annual basis



The demand for farmhouses has more than doubled in the last 12-18 months

■ Despite rising demand, there is a big deterrent in the form of sanctioned built-up area

■ A 2.5-acre plot sells for anywhere in the range of ₹50-75 crore in Delhi-NCR depending on the area

25% on an annual basis.

"About 20% of our transactions in Delhi NCR since March 2020 are farm houses, with the remaining being city centre homes - apartments, bungalows and builder floors. Pre-

Covid, about 92-93% went with city centre homes, while the rest were farmhouses," India Sotheby's International Realty (SIR) CEO Amit Goyal told FE.

Continued on Page 11

AFTER 8 QUARTERS
Punjab & Sind Bank returns to profitFE BUREAU
New Delhi, May 22

AFTER EIGHT QUARTERS of losses, state-run Punjab & Sind Bank turned the corner in the January-March period with a net profit of ₹161 crore, aided by healthy recovery. The lender had recorded a net loss of ₹236 crore in the same quarter of FY20.

For the full year (FY21), the bank incurred a net loss of ₹2,733 cr, compared with that of ₹991 cr in FY20 (pre-pandemic period). The bank's gross non-performing assets eased to 13.76% of its advances as of March 31, 2021, from 14.18% a year ago.

Continued on Page 11

EXPLORING OPTIONS

JSW Steel mulls bid for Liberty Steel biz

● UK's Serious Fraud Office is probing Liberty owner Sanjeev Gupta's business

STEEL DEAL

■ JSW's interest extends to plants including Liberty Steel owner Sanjeev Gupta's Adhunik steel plant in Odisha

■ JSW Steel says its focus remains in India for now and it is not looking at acquiring any overseas assets

■ Liberty Steel employs around 3,000 people in Britain

According to sources, there are obstacles to any deal, including navigating the fallout from Brexit and India's Covid crisis overseas assets.

A sale would chip away at Gupta's sprawling network of businesses, comprising hundreds of privately held companies with interests spanning steel, aluminium, mining, financial services and real estate, built up over years of acquisitions.

Continued on Page 11

Hero Moto plants to resume ops tomorrow

TWO-WHEELER MARKET leader Hero MotoCorp on Saturday said it will resume production at all its manufacturing plants in India from May 24 after temporarily shutting operations due to the coronavirus pandemic, reports PTI. In the beginning of this week, the company

JAYPEE INSOLVENCY CASE

NBCC questions IRP's 'jurisdiction'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, May 22

Questions for IRP
NBCC, asserting that the offer is compliant with the insolvency law, demands that its bid should be put to vote.

■ The voting on the Suraksha group's offer is scheduled from May 24 to 27

■ NBCC says it might approach appropriate forum of law for recourse if its bid was not considered

On May 20, the Committee of Creditors had rejected NBCC's offer and decided to put on vote only Suraksha Group's bid

Against this backdrop, NBCC has written a letter to JIL's IRP Anuj Jain protesting against the CoC decision and said it might approach appropriate forum of law for recourse if its bid was not considered.

NBCC's bid was rejected in the fourth round of bidding process for JIL and the successful bidder has to complete around 20,000 apartments.

APPLE VS EPIC GAMES

'Threat profile' of iPhone justifies App Store rules, Cook tells court

APPLE CHIEF EXECUTIVE Tim Cook on Friday told a court that threats to iPhone security and privacy required tight control of the App Store, which "Fortnite" game maker Epic Games says is a monopoly that Apple illegally abuses. The testimony constitutes Cook's most extensive public remarks on the App Store, which anchors Apple's \$53.8 billion services business, at a time when the company that once urged the world to "think different" is criticised as too big and too powerful.

LEGAL TANGLE

Apple CEO tells court that its rules for developers are aimed at keeping its customers' information private and safe from malware

Cook says an Apple document showing a 78% profit margin for the App Store does not account for several costs and is meant to show trends, not a true bottom line

Epic has waged a public relations and legal campaign, parodying Apple's iconic "1984" commercial and arguing that it acts anticompetitively by only allowing approved apps on the world's 1 billion iPhones and forcing developers to use Apple's in-app payment system which charges sales commissions of up to 30%. Cook said he had higher concerns about the phone than Mac computers.

—REUTERS

SoftBank's Son joins calls opposing Olympic Games

● Organisers face criticism for pressing ahead with the event under pandemic

MASUMI SUGA
May 22

MASAYOSHI SON, THE billion-dollar founder and top executive of SoftBank Group, joined growing criticism of the plan

financialexpress.epaper.in

to hold the Tokyo Olympics this summer as scheduled amid the coronavirus pandemic.

"Now, more than 80% of the people want to postpone or call off the Olympics. Who is going to push for it, with what rights?" Son, known as an outspoken business leader, tweeted on Saturday.

His comments came hours after a top official of International Olympic Committee said the Games can be held even if the city remains under strict coronavirus emergency, according to Kyodo.

Organizers have come under fire for pressing ahead with the event under a pandemic, and critics' voices have grown louder. The country's slow vaccine roll-

out and the spread of variants is adding to fears that new virus mutations could be imported because of the Games and worsen the already-strained medical system.

Son's statement also mirrors concerns expressed by other Japanese business leaders.

Earlier this month, Hiroshi Mikitani, founder and chief executive of Japanese online retailer Rakuten Group, called the Tokyo Olympics a "suicide mission" and said in an interview with CNN that the event should not be held this year.

—BLOOMBERG

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— MASAYOSHI SON, FOUNDER, SOFTBANK GROUP

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Opinion

SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021

THE SECOND WAVE of the Covid-19 pandemic may or may not wane after the end of May. A third wave may or may not hit India, as it did a few countries, after a few weeks or months. The only thing that is certain is that everything about coronavirus is uncertain and unpredictable. It has overwhelmed many governments. Some have responded with courage and efficiency, while others, like the Indian government, have collapsed.

Wanted leadership

New Zealand, a small island nation with a small population, under a young prime minister, acted with foresight and determination. At the other end, the United States, with 50 states, a huge land mass and a population of 332 million, under a wise and elderly president, mobilized vast resources, set tough goals (100 million vaccinations in 100 days) and over-achieved by administering 200 million vaccinations. We also have examples of the United Kingdom and European countries that have successfully countered the pandemic. The common thread that runs through these examples is *leadership*. There were other qualities as well: *humility, transparency, efficiency and compassion*. All five are missing in India.

Besides Covid-19, we face other calamities.

Truth, compassion & credibility

Many more people are dying this year than in the corresponding period last year. The government maintains that this is not due to Covid-19. That's comforting, but if it is not Covid-19 what is the cause of so many deaths that our burial and cremation grounds are collapsing under the weight of the never-ending stream of bodies? Here is a true story from Gujarat: during the period of 71 days from March 1 to May 10, 2020, Gujarat issued 58,068 death certificates. In the same period of 71 days in 2021, the state government issued 123,873 death certificates — that is 65,805 more than last year. These numbers have been independently verified. Indisputably, it cannot be a natural increase. The Gujarat government admitted to 4,218 deaths due to Covid-related causes. What about the rest? There is not only no answer, but the state government dismissed the numbers as 'false propaganda', forgetting that the source of the 'false propaganda' was the number of official death certificates! The casualty is *truth*.

Every economist of renown, every NGO working among the poor and practically every government around the world has supported the idea of an 'income transfer' to the poor. Children and parents rushing to collect the free meals that are distributed here and there is a humiliating sight. Hunger is rampant. India's rank in the Hunger Index stood at 94 (out of 107) in 2020. The ₹20,000 crore earmarked for the Central Vista project will support 4000 crore free meals or one-meal-a-day for 40 crore children for 100 days. The one immovable, and unmoved, force is the Modi government. The casualty is *compassion*.

On May 19, *The Economic Times* published a graph that showed that the number of vaccinations administered per day had declined. The number had fallen from a high of 42,65,157 on

ACROSS THE AISLE

P Chidambaram



INSIDE TRACK

COOMI KAPOOR

Nuanced, but timely

At a recent function to discuss positivity, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat spoke of the need for collective action rather than individual leadership. While some read it as criticism of Narendra Modi's unilateral style, seasoned Sangh observers see it as a nuanced appeal to all BJP leaders, including CMs, to take decisions through consensus. By referring to RSS founder KB Hedgewar's heroic role during the plague epidemic, Bhagwat hinted that the BJP had been found inadequate in public service during the pandemic — a point also made by RSS Delhi state executive member Rajiv Tuli, who questioned the absence of Delhi BJP leaders in the Capital when cases surged. Since then BJP president J P Nadda has directed the cadres to stir out. Bhagwat extensively quoted philanthropist Azim Premji, who had addressed the RSS gathering a few days earlier, and appealed for a scientific approach in tackling Covid-19, a reference perhaps to cures floated in the name of Hindutva. Significantly, Assembly polls are due next year in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Goa and Punjab, and the BJP as of now is on the back foot.

Flip-Flops

Till the pandemic it was assumed that scientific pronouncements were backed with proven data. No longer. First we were told BCG vaccines provided immunity against the virus, then hydroxychloroquine was dubbed the wonder cure. A de-worming medicine ivermectin is routinely prescribed, and plasma with antibodies, once touted as an all-encompassing cure, is no longer considered an effective intervention. Remdesivir, another wonder cure, has been negated by the ICMR. One school of doctors warns against chest scans because of high radiation doses, another prescribes scans even to determine a recovered patient's progress. With many medical specialists these days in love with TV cameras, the *aam janata*, including sadhus and gurus, assume that they too are at liberty to proclaim their weird theories. Which emboldens me to mention my own thesis on one of the reasons for the sudden spike in cases in April in Delhi in the middle class. Many seem to have got infected after visiting a health centre for vaccination. Numerous cases could be avoided if a safer environment was created at these centres. Early advice to involve the private sector in the drive was ignored.

Stalin shows way

Tamil Nadu's new CM M K Stalin set an example which needs to be emulated by all politicians, particularly those in the North who even in the face of a deadly Covid-19 spike are concerned with scoring brownie points and have a partisan and competitive approach in relief work. Stalin announced that for the next three months there was to be no politics in the DMK, the sole goal being to combat the pandemic by working with all parties. Representatives of all parties have been included in committees set up in each of Tamil Nadu's 32 districts with local officials heading the all-party bodies.

Haste and waste

Comparisons with the Roman emperor Nero have been made by Narendra Modi's detractors for the government's refusal to abandon its grandiose plans during the pandemic for restructuring the Central Vista, with a reported budget of ₹20,000 crore. The government argues that only two projects, the new Parliament building and the beautification and expansion of the lawns and walkways on either side of Rajpath, costing ₹862 crore and ₹489 crore respectively, are to be completed in the coming year. None of the other ambitious schemes, such as breaking down and re-building the National Museum, the IGNCA, the PM's residence and innumerable government office buildings, has yet been formally approved. The first two projects are reportedly irreversible since the contracts were already awarded and work had begun. The reason preferred for the haste is questionable. The new Parliament building is to be completed by the 75th anniversary of India's Independence in 2022 and the beautification project before Republic Day.

Corona breather

The Covid-19 wave has given the Congress cover for avoiding soul searching for its dismal performance in the recent polls. True, a five-member fact-finding team has been formed, but it inspires little confidence. Chairperson Ashok Chavan, defeated in 2019; Salman Khurshid, a perennial loser; Jothimani, a Rahul loyalist and relative newcomer, are on the panel. The inclusion of Manish Tewari, a G-23 member, is seen as a move to co-opt rebels. At the CWC meet, dissidents made clear that any talks for party polls could be deferred for three months as health crisis was the priority.



IYC president Srinivas BV along with party volunteers distribute ration to the needy on the death anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi

PTI

April 2. It was under 20 lakhs for six consecutive days. The newspaper made three comments:

* *The steady decrease in vaccination points to lack of supply.*

* *Government and vaccine makers say capacity increased.*

* *That increased capacity is yet to show up in supply.*

There were other pertinent data points like the capacity claimed and the actual production and supply of Covishield and Covaxin. Of the only other approved vaccine, Sputnik V, only about 1,56,000 doses have been imported into India so far. The daily average of vaccinations administered in May (until May 19) was 16,85,000. The capacity to vaccinate many times more is there (e.g., on April 2) but there are no vaccines. Yet, the Union Health Minister repeats, parrot-like, "there is no shortage of vaccines". Every State

Health Minister is howling, along with thousands of people looking for a vaccination slot. Undeterred, the central government claims that it will vaccinate every adult Indian by December 31, 2021 (at the rate of 35,00,000 x 2 doses per day in the remaining about 200 days)! The casualty is *credibility*.

Rule of law & federalism

On May 15, the Delhi Police questioned Mr B V Srinivas, IYC President, on how he was able to mobilize oxygen concentrators and medicines and distribute them to the needy. On the same day, the Delhi Police arrested 24 persons and accused them of pasting posters asking the prime minister, 'Why did you export the vaccines meant for our children?' The Home Minister and the LG of Delhi looked away. No one was able to answer what law had been violated. The casualty is the *rule of law*.

On May 17, 2021, the CBI arrested two state ministers and a MLA of W. Bengal on a charge sheet dated May 7 but filed on May 17 in respect of a sting operation to trap public officials conducted in 2014. Bail was granted on the same day, the bail order was suspended by the High Court, Calcutta in the night of the same day, and a petition to recall the order of suspension is being heard by the Court. Let the law prevail, but the casualty is federalism. If a central minister is arrested by a state government on an alleged crime committed within that state, I suppose the law will prevail then too. The casualty will still be *federalism*.

Fight the pandemic, count the casualties.



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The Best XI

Premier League's team of the season rightly has a Manchester overload. Here's a brief analysis

RINGSIDE VIEW



Shamik Chakrabarty

THE INTERESTING THING is that of late La Liga has adopted a predominantly English style as regards to team formation, while the Premier League has gradually gotten out of its 4-4-2 preference. Stats put out by betweentheposts.net last year showed 12 La Liga teams used a 4-4-2 or 4-4-1-1 formation compared to eight Premier League sides. And while nine Spanish league teams played with a pair of strikers, just six English sides did that.

Top sides in the Premier League no longer play with a 4-4-2 formation. Manchester City under Pep Guardiola prefer 4-3-3 or its variants. In fact, Guardiola has made the use of a false nine an art form, playing without any specialist striker. Liverpool under Juergen Klopp, too, go with 4-3-3, while Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's Manchester United diligently used a double pivot — two defensive midfielders in front of a back-four — this term.

And yet, the team of the season here would fall back on a 4-4-2 diamond, with a defensive midfielder at the base of it and a No. 10 at the tip, for that's the best way to accommodate all the standout performers in the playing XI.

Goalkeeper — Emiliano Martinez: For the second season running, City's Ederson has won the Golden Glove award for keeping most clean sheets. With the last round of fixtures to go, Ederson has kept 18 clean sheets from 35 appearances. Picking him would have been an easy choice, but the life of a keeper playing for Europe's best team and enjoying the protection from an expensively-assembled back-four is a lot smoother than someone who plays for Aston Villa. As per the Premier League stats, Emiliano Martinez has made 136 saves from 37 matches. He has kept 35 clean sheets. Villa narrowly survived the drop last season and this term they signed Martinez from Arsenal for £17 million. The 28-year-old Argentine is the reason why they have had a very creditable season.

Chelsea's Edouard Mendy with 16 clean sheets from 30 games deserves an honourable mention.

Right-back — Kyle Walker: United's



Aaron Wan-Bissaka is an old-school right-back, whose defending is top-class. Going forward, however, he doesn't look very potent, although Wan-Bissaka has steadily improved over the season. In terms of stats, he trumps City's Kyle Walker, but he has played 11 more games than his nearest rival. Walker's forte is his versatility. He carries an x-factor. He is an automatic choice.

Centre-halves — Ruben Dias, Harry Maguire: After finishing second last term, 18 points adrift of Liverpool, Guardiola strengthened his defence. Ruben Dias came from Benfica for £65 million. Finally, City had a replacement for Vincent Kompany and as it turned out, the 24-year-old Portugal international has been the signing of the season. A Rolls-Royce of a centre-

half, Dias became the first defender in the Premier League era to win the Football Writers' Association (FWA) Footballer of the Year award.

The way Harry Maguire bounced back from the Mykonos incident at the start of the season spoke volumes for his strength of character. He played a remarkable 73 games in succession in the Premier League before suffering an ankle injury. The United captain leads from the front, he puts his body on the line. A total of 23 blocks, 60 interceptions, 29 successful tackles, 122 clearances and 86 headed clearances (Premier League stats) showcases his quality. Maguire would be the captain of the team of the season.

Left-back — Luke Shaw: The most improved player of the season, Luke Shaw has thrived on Solskjaer's excellent management. He is a shoo-in for the left-back position.

Defensive midfielder — Declan Rice: The West Ham United man trumps his nearest rivals, N'Golo Kante and Wilfred Ndidi in terms of stats and impact. West Ham are on the verge of securing Europa League next season. For a long while, they were in contention for a Champions League spot. Rice has had immense.

Right-sided midfielder — Kevin De Bruyne: The Premier League's royalty, injuries restricted Kevin De Bruyne's playing time this season. And yet, in just 24 appearances, he had 11 assists and five

goals. He would be the first name on any team sheet.

Left-sided midfielder — Bruno Fernandes: The Portuguese has been central to United's positive turnaround. Going beyond his 18 goals and 12 assists, Bruno Fernandes has made an Eric Cantona-like impact.

No. 10 — Ilkay Gundogan: City had a slow start to the season and then they lost De Bruyne to an injury. Following David Silva's exit, the team had a massive void to fill. The 30-year-old German stood up to be counted. A sequence that saw Ilkay Gundogan score six goals in the six matches, turned City's season on its head.

Forwards — Marcus Rashford, Harry Kane: Cynics suggested that Marcus Rashford's off-the-pitch charity work affected his performance on the pitch. Ignore the truckload of rubbish. Eleven goals and nine assists in 37 Premier League games, and often playing with niggles, Rashford's foot is upwardly mobile.

Harry Kane walks in. The Tottenham Hotspur goal-machine, brilliantly adapted to a slight deeper role under Jose Mourinho. A tally of 13 assists on top of his 22 goals from 34 matches further attested Kane's class.

Manager — Pep Guardiola: No words needed.

PL team of the season: Martinez (GK), Walker, Dias, Maguire (C), Shaw, Rice, De Bruyne, Fernandes, Gundogan, Rashford, Kane; Manager: Guardiola

COMBATING COVID

India has over 8,800 black fungus cases

**Centre says
23,000 vials of
medicine
allotted to states**

FE BUREAU/PTI
Pune, May 22

THERE ARE 8,848 cases of mucormycosis or "black fungus" infection across the country, Union minister Sadananda Gowda said on Saturday.

The minister added that 23,680 additional vials of Amphotericin-B, the drug used to treat the infection, have been allocated to the affected states and Union territories.

"After a detailed review of rising no. of cases of #Mucormycosis in various states, a total of 23,680 additional vials of #Amphotericin-B have been allocated to all States/UTs today," Gowda, who is minister of chemicals and fertilisers, tweeted.

States like Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Telangana – all badly affected – have been allotted 75% of the additional vials, the minister added. The remain-

'No mix and match of doses anytime soon'

AMIX AND match of Covid-19 vaccine doses is unlikely to happen in the country anytime soon, VK Paul, member-health, Niti Aayog, said on Saturday. Preliminary results from a trial in UK, where a combination of the Oxford-AstraZeneca and Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 vaccines were given, generated high immune response against the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

However, such a combination of Serum Institute of India's Covishield and Bharat Biotech's Covaxin was not being considered, Paul said at a press briefing. Mixing of vaccine doses was theoretically possible, but was not at a stage where it could be recommended, he pointed out. "This was an evolving science and was not definitive," Paul said, adding there was no robust scientific evidence to support, and call would be taken only after seeing how it evolves around the world and conducting more studies in the country. — FE BUREAU

ing 25% will be allocated after verification of the number of patients. Gujarat has the highest number of infections with 2,281 cases and has been allocated 5,800 vials, while Maharashtra, with 2,000 cases, has received 5,090 vials.

Andhra Pradesh has reported 910 mucormycosis cases with 2,310 vials allocated, while Madhya Pradesh has 720 patients and will receive 1,830 vials. The number of cases in Karnataka is 500, Telangana

350, while Haryana has reported 250 cases and Delhi 197. Among other states, Uttar Pradesh has 112 cases, Punjab 95, Chhattisgarh has 87 cases and Bihar 56 cases.

Kerala (36), Jharkhand (27) and Goa (12) are the other states reporting the fungal infection caused by the use of steroids for treating COVID-19 especially in those suffering from diabetes with uncontrolled sugar levels or those taking immunosuppressants.

India crisis warning for low-and middle-income nations: IMF

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Washington, May 22

OBSERVING THAT THE ongoing "catastrophic" second wave of Covid-19 in India is a sign that the worst may be yet to come, the IMF has said. The situation in the country is a warning of the possible events in low- and middle-income nations that have seemingly escaped the pan-

demic till now.

A report co-authored by International Monetary Fund (IMF) economist Ruchir Agarwal and its chief economist Gita Gopinath on Friday also said under the business-as-usual scenario, the vaccine coverage in India is expected to remain under 35% of the population by the end of 2021.

"The ongoing catastrophic

second wave in India, following a terrible wave in Brazil, is a sign the worst may be yet to come in the developing world," it said.

While India's health system held up fairly well in the first wave, this time its health system is so overwhelmed that many people are dying because of a lack of medical supplies like oxygen, hospital beds, and medical care, the report said.

PRIVATE SECTOR AXIS Bank on Saturday said three promoters United India Insurance Company, National Insurance Company and New India Assurance Company will be reclassified as public category shareholders post requisite regulatory approvals.

The bank has identified the administrator of the Specified Undertaking of the Unit Trust of India (SUUTI), Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), General Insurance Corporation, New India Assurance Company, National Insurance Company, United India Insurance Company, and Oriental Insurance Co Ltd as the promoters, Axis Bank said in a regulatory filing.

Three promoter entities

United India Insurance,

National Insurance and New India Assurance have made a request to reclassify them to "public" category from "promoter" category, in terms of Sebi regulations, said the lender.

The board at its meetings held on February 27, March 26,

and April 28 has considered and approved the said requests, subject to the approval of the stock exchanges, statutory/regulatory authorities and the shareholders of the bank, it said.

—PTI



DHANUKA AGRITECH LIMITED

CIN: CIN: L24219DL1985PLC020126
 Registered Off.: 82, Abinash Mansion, 1st Floor, Joshi Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi -110005. | Tel. No.: 011-23534551 / 57
 Corporate Off.: Global Gateway Tower, M G Road, Near Guru Dronacharya Metro Station, Gurugram - 122 002, Haryana. | Tel. No.: 0124 4345000
 Email: investors@dhanuka.com | Website: www.dhanuka.com

Highlights-Q4 (FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20% Increase in Total Revenue 25% Increase in PAT 28% Increase in EPS 	Highlights (FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24% Increase in Total Revenue 49% Increase in PAT 50% Increase in EPS
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EXTRACT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2021

S. No.	Particulars	Standalone				Consolidated					
		Quarter Ended		Year Ended		Quarter ended		Year Ended			
		31.03.2021 (Audited)	31.12.2020 (Unaudited)	31.03.2020 (Audited)	31.03.2021 (Audited)	31.03.2021 (Audited)	31.12.2020 (Unaudited)	31.03.2020 (Audited)	31.03.2021 (Audited)		
1	Total income from operations	28,430.05	30,504.16	23,624.64	142,117.14	114,515.92	28,430.05	30,504.16	23,624.64	142,117.14	114,515.92
2	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (before Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	6,755.77	5445.64	5,031.73	28,493.67	18,064.20	6,755.74	5,445.64	5,031.71	28,493.64	18,052.55
3	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	6,755.77	5445.64	5,031.73	28,493.67	18,064.20	6,755.74	5,445.64	5,031.71	28,493.64	18,052.55
4	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	4,864.34	4,004.03	3,900.31	21,056.01	14,146.50	4,864.31	4,004.03	3,900.29	21,055.98	14,134.85
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax and other Comprehensive Income after tax)	5,294.16	3,904.03	3,573.69	21,185.83	13,774.88	5,294.13	3,904.03	3,573.67	21,185.80	13,763.23
6	Paid-up Equity Share Capital (Face value of ₹ 2/-per Equity Share)	931.57	931.57	951.57	931.57	951.57	931.57	951.57	931.57	951.57	951.57
7	Other Equity (excluding Revaluation Reserves as shown in the Balance sheet of previous year)				78,699.08	69,818.19				78,687.40	69,806.54
8	Earnings Per Share (for continuing and discontinued operations) (of ₹ 2/- each) (not annualised) - Basic EPS (in ₹) - Diluted EPS (in ₹)	10.45	8.54	8.19	44.61	29.73	10.45	8.54	8.20	44.61	29.71

Note:

- The above is an extract of the detailed format of Financial Results for the Quarter and Year ended 31st March, 2021 filed with the Stock Exchanges under regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the quarter and year ended Financial Results are available on the website of BSE & NSE where the Company's shares are listed i.e. at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com respectively and on the Company's website, www.dhanuka.com.
- The above Financial Results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and thereafter approved and taken on record by the Board of Directors in their Meeting held on 21st May, 2021. The Statutory Auditors of the Company have expressed an unmodified audit opinion on these Results.
- During the quarter ended 31st December, 2020, the Company has bought back its 10,00,000 fully paid up equity shares, representing 2.10% of the total issued and paid up equity share capital of the Company @ ₹ 1000/- per equity share aggregating to an amount of ₹ 100.00 Crores and extinguished those shares on 13th November, 2020. Consequently, Paid up Share Capital has been reduced by ₹ 20,00,000.
- The Board of Directors have recommended final dividend of 100% i.e. ₹ 2.00 per equity share for the financial year 2020-21, subject to the approval of the shareholders in the ensuing Annual General Meeting.

For and on behalf of the Board
Sd/-
(M.K. Dhanuka)
Managing Director
DIN : 00628039

Nuvoco Vistas Corporation Limited

Regd Office: Equinox Business Park, Tower 3, East Wing, 4th Floor, LBS Marg, Kurla (West), Mumbai, Maharashtra- 400070
 Tel. No.: 022-67692500 | Fax No.: 022-66306510
 E-mail: investor.relations@nuvoco.com
 CIN No.: U26940MH1999PLC118229



(Rs. in crore except for Earning Per Share and Ratios)

Extract of statement of financial results for the period ended 31 March 2021

SI No.	Particulars	Six months ended 31.03.2021	Corresponding six months in the previous year ended 31.03.2020	Current year ended 31.03.2021	Previous year ended 31.03.2020
		Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited	Audited
1.	Total Income from operation	3,633.97	3,392.35	5,888.76	6,829.94
2.	Net profit for the period before tax	188.30	160.93	99.49	386.75
3.	Net profit for the period after Tax	80.89	103.58	22.78	249.25
4.	Total comprehensive income for the period (comprising profit for the period after tax and other comprehensive income after tax)	85.27	101.77	25.64	246.22
5.	Paid up equity share capital	315.09	242.36	315.09	242.36
6.	Reserves (excluding revaluation reserve)	7,057.25	5,036.88	7,057.25	5,036.88
7.	Net worth	7,372.34	5,279.24	7,372.34	5,279.24
8.	Paid up debt capital / Outstanding debt	5,545.97	4,463.27	5,545.97	4,463.27
9.	Debt equity ratio (times)	0.65	0.85	0.65	0.85
10.	Earning per share of Rs 10 each				
i.	Basic	2.54	4.27	0.72	10.28
ii.	Diluted	2.54	4.27	0.72	10.28
11.	Capital redemption reserve	23.33	23.33	23.33	23.33
12.	Debenture redemption reserve	—	262.61	—	262.61
13.	Debt service coverage ratio (times)	0.90	0.98	0.90	0.98
14.	Interest service coverage ratio (times)	1.38	2.15	1.38	2.15

Note:

- These financial results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at its/ their meeting held on May 21, 2021.
- For the items referred in sub-clauses (a), (b), (d) and (e) of the Regulation 52(4) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to the National Stock Exchange of India Limited and can be accessed on www.nseindia.com.
- The above is an extract of the detailed format of half yearly/annual financial results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the half yearly/annual financial results are available on the websites of the Stock Exchange www.nseindia.com and the Company www.nuvoco.com.

For and on behalf of the Board
Jayakumar Krishnaswamy
Managing Director
DIN : 02099219

Axis Bank awaits regulatory nod to reclassify 3 promoters as public shareholders

The bank has identified the administrator of the Specified Undertaking of the Unit Trust of India (SUUTI), Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), General Insurance Corporation, New India Assurance Company, National Insurance Company, United India Insurance Company, and Oriental Insurance Co Ltd as the promoters, Axis Bank said in a regulatory filing.

Three promoter entities

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National Insurance and New India Assurance have made a request to reclassify them to "public" category from "promoter" category, in terms of Sebi regulations, said the lender.

The board at its meetings held on February 27, March 26,

and April 28 has considered and approved the said requests, subject to the approval of the stock exchanges, statutory/regulatory authorities and the shareholders of the bank, it said.

—PTI

Mutual Funds

Aditya Birla Sun Life Mutual Fund

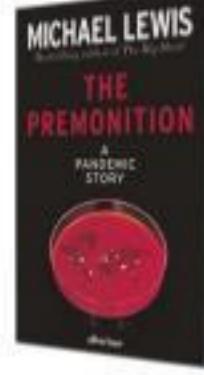
ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL
 PROTECTING INVESTING FINANCING ADVISING

Aditya Birla Sun Life AMC Limited (Investment Manager for Aditya Birla Sun Life Mutual Fund) Registered Office: One World Center, Tower 1, 17th Floor, Jupiter Mill Compound,

Words Worth

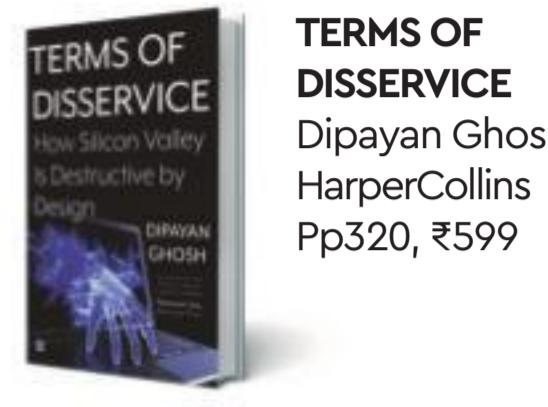
SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021

ON THE SHELF



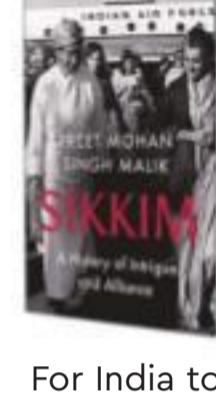
THE PREMONITION
Michael Lewis
Penguin
Random House
₹999

The *Premonition* is the story of a group who anticipated, traced and hunted the coronavirus; who understood the need to think differently, to learn from history, to question everything; and to do all of this fast, in order to act, to save lives, communities, society itself. It's a story about the workings of the human mind; about the failures and triumphs of human judgement and imagination. It's the story of how we got to now.



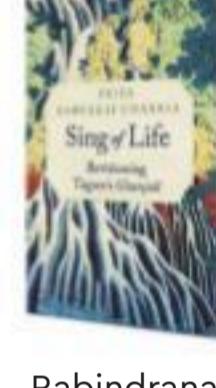
TERMS OF DISERVICE
Dipayan Ghosh
HarperCollins
Pp320, ₹599

Hardly a day goes by without new headlines about the dark side of digital technology. Many of those headlines concern the role of social media companies in distributing false and misleading information. In *Terms of Diservice*, Dipayan Ghosh looks into the future to uncover how we can use technology to create an open and equitable global economy, one that protects every citizen of the world.



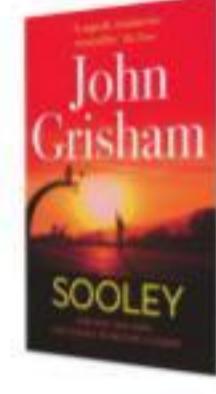
SIKKIM
Preet Mohan
Singh Malik
HarperCollins
Pp304, ₹699

For India today, Sikkim remains significant from a strategic point of view, given its proximity to Tibet and the crucial Siliguri Corridor. Yet Sikkim remains an enigma for most, with many misconceptions about its history and its merger with India in 1975. Malik combines insights into the erstwhile kingdom's unique history with the intriguing story of how it became India's 22nd state.



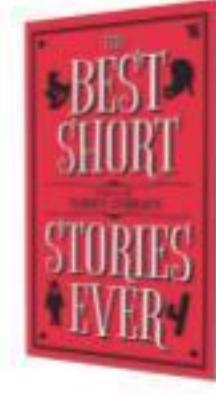
SING OF LIFE
Priya Sarukkai
Chabria
Westland
₹499

Rabindranath Tagore's profound meditations on life, nature, grace and brokenness in the *Gitanjali* won him the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913. *Sing of Life* is Priya Sarukkai Chabria's virtuosic revisioning of this world classic. Limned with daring, intuition and poetic imagination, it rings true to Tagore's search for spiritual splendour, and her own questing.



SOOLEY
John Grisham
Hachette
Pp368, ₹699

Seventeen-year-old Samuel Sooleyan comes from a village in south Sudan, a war-torn country. His great love is basketball and it may also bring him his big chance: he has been noticed by a coach taking a youth team to the US. If he gets through the tournament, Samuel's life will change beyond recognition. But it's the longest of long shots. And he must leave his family behind, at least at the beginning.



BEST SHORT STORIES EVER
Edited by
Terry O'Brien
Westland
₹199

This treasury of 41 short, classic stories from around the world, written by masters of the form, is a treat for all those who love literature. Selected by prolific author-editor Terry O'Brien, the stories are selected for their imagination and style, true portrayals of human emotions, subject matter and richness of language. The authors include Edgar Allan Poe, Ernest Hemingway, Somerset Maugham, Virginia Wolf, etc.

All books available as e-books

The Tiananmen story

A diplomat outlines the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests in China from an Indian perspective in a persuasive and precise manner

C UDAY BHASKAR

JUNE 4, 1989, will remain a tumultuous day in the history of modern China when tanks, armoured personnel carriers (APCs) and military trucks packed with armed troops swept down Beijing's Avenue of Eternal Peace to crack down on student protesters who had gathered there in thousands. The Chinese leadership was visibly rattled by the scale of the dissident movement and decided that it had to be suppressed. What the defiant students were seeking was symbolised in a statue they unveiled on May 30—the Goddess of Democracy. It was a still-born aspiration and very soon, this movement was crushed. Blood was shed on an avenue that stood for 'eternal peace' and many lives were lost. The official narrative is that the PRC (People's Republic of China) was saved from a grave socio-political crisis—one that could have had tectonic consequences for the stability of the country that was to celebrate its 40th anniversary on October 1.

The Tienanmen 'incident', as it is now referred to, has been selectively documented and carefully recalled within China in deference to the ruling communist party's sensitivities about democracy and dissent per se. However, given the enormous significance of Tiananmen, there have been narratives and interpretations of the 'incident' by external observers/authors and the book under review is a distinctive Indian contribution in this stream.

The author Vijay Gokhale is an illustrious diplomat having recently retired as the Indian foreign secretary. Prior to that, he was the Indian ambassador to Beijing and is counted among the most astute China experts in the country. The subtitle of the book is apt—*A Diplomat Looks Back*—and as Gokhale notes: "I have always wanted to tell this story since



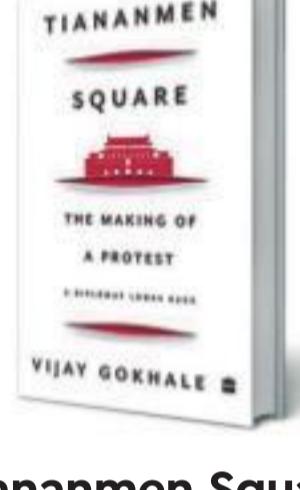
A file photo of paramilitary police officers standing guard at Tiananmen Gate, adjacent to Tiananmen Square, in Beijing AP

I witnessed it thirty-one years ago in Beijing, but my circumstances prevented me from doing so until now."

In a pithy introduction, the author frames the historical relevance of Tiananmen: "At the time it was a global phenomenon. Within a few months, however, the Berlin Wall came down and the world's attention reverted to Europe. The happenings in China in the spring and early summer of 1989 faded from public memory."

Observing that the Tiananmen story has remained "untold" from the Indian perspective, Gokhale, who was serving in the Indian embassy in Beijing as a junior diplomat at the time, makes a valuable addition to the existing literature by telling his version of Tiananmen. "My story is intended to interpret the facts, to some of which I was eyewitness, with the benefit of hindsight."

In 10 compact chapters, Gokhale outlines the background to the events that led to the June 4 crackdown and tells his story in a persuasive and precise manner.



Tiananmen Square: The Making of a Protest—A Diplomat Looks Back
Vijay Gokhale
HarperCollins
Pp 181 (with index), ₹399

Focusing on the principal player of the time, Deng Xiaoping, the general secretary of the all-powerful Chinese Communist Party (CCP), the early chapters offer a quick but comprehensive overview of the other players "in the drama that was to unfold".

Tracing the rise of the astute Deng Xiaoping and the skillful manner in which he snuffed out opposition to his ambitious programme of liberalising a communist, commune-driven controlled economy, Gokhale deftly sets the stage for the turbulence that was to seize Beijing in May-June 1989.

In the chapter titled *The Blaze*, some of the most significant political developments of that period are recalled succinctly. The visit of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in mid-May was truly historic, for it marked the formal end to Sino-Soviet hostility that began in the second phase of the Cold War. India was also drawn into the superpower rivalry of that period and the incongruous realpolitik compulsion of the time saw the world's

leading capitalist country, the US, drawing communist China into its camp, even while a communist USSR partnered with the world's largest democracy, India.

Reference is made to the May 16, 1989, Gorbachev-Deng meeting, where the Chinese leader signalled that the historical animosities going back to the days of Tsarist Russia were now a closed chapter. The Deng turn of phrase was evocative: "Let the wind blow away these questions" (when will such a wind blow away Sino-Indian discord?).

Having accomplished this major breakthrough with Moscow, Deng had to now deal with the students who took over Tiananmen Square. At peak, they were estimated to be 1.5 million and it was evident that the factional divide between Deng and his one-time protégé Zhao Ziyang had exacerbated the situation.

In the last fortnight of May, the Chinese leadership rallied around Deng and, on June 4, the die was cast. The military moved in to disperse the students and overpower them—if required. Gokhale carefully notes: "There is no accurate account of what happened in Tiananmen Square on the night of 3-4 June." Without subscribing or emphatically rejecting the 'massacre' allegation, he adds of those fateful hours: "There are credible eyewitness accounts of people dying of gunshot wounds, but these casualties were mostly bystanders and people blocking the advance of the troops."

Deng and the core of the CCP crushed the Tiananmen 'incident' and the country has been transformed. As Gokhale adds, China's GDP, which was less than \$500 billion in 1990, was \$14 trillion in 2019. Over the years, its "people have become prosperous and proud" and the students and youth "have never again tried to protest". And for those who believe that there is a simmering internal disquiet that can derail China in its objective to displace the US, the book concludes: "There is no sign yet that the majority of the people want to exchange their present for a democratic future."

The eight-page epilogue is import-laden and the book would have benefitted if the author had elaborated on some significant assertions. For instance, reviewing the relationship between the US-led West and China, the section concludes: "It has taken the West thirty years after the Tiananmen Square incident to realise the errors of their ways." Has the West really?

This quibble apart, Gokhale is to be commended for sharing his version of Tiananmen and the manner in which a nascent democracy movement was buried by the CCP on the avenue for Eternal Peace—eternally?

C Uday Bhaskar is director, Society for Policy Studies, New Delhi

Saving the world from a pandemic

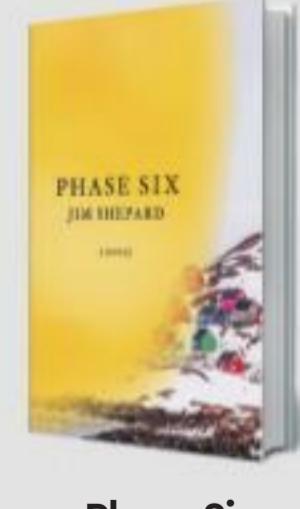
A novel charts a health crisis that results from two boys trespassing on a mining site in Greenland

DWIGHT GARNER

I DIDN'T PLAN to review Jim Shepard's new novel. I had another book in mind. But then I picked up *Phase Six* on a whim and devoured the first 100 pages before I knew what was happening. If I'd been in a bookstore, I'd have sat on the floor. So I set the other book aside. This turned out to be a mistake; in its second half, alas, this one rolls over and expires.

Phase Six is a pandemic novel, one that Shepard wrote before the outbreak of Covid-19. It's about events that transpire after two boys trespass on a mining site in Greenland. They inhale something unholy in the thawing permafrost and unwittingly carry it back to their village. Within a few weeks, a new virus—or a very old one—has saturated the planet. Like a lot of people, I have a sweet tooth for apocalyptic narratives. Shepard efficiently gets his off the ground. Things get dark quickly. He nails the scientific details, but also the cultural ones.

In Lawrence Wright's pandemic novel, *The End of October*, which came out a year ago, Taylor Swift and Brad Pitt die. In Shepard's book, something more unimaginable happens: Amazon is unable to ship (though Alexa can still list where riots are happening in real time). *Phase Six* bends in a new direction when two women who work for the



Phase Six
Jim Shepard
Pp 244

CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service arrive in Greenland. Danice is a doctor and a lab geek; Jeannine, the daughter of Algerian immigrants, is an epidemiologist. Together, they set to work on saving the planet. Jeannine and Danice can resemble, with their sarcastic, ping-pong dialogue, Maya Rudolph and Tina Fey in *Tyvek* suits. They bicker and deplore their love lives. *Phase Six* passes the Bechdel test on nearly every page.

Jeannine, who senses that some people resent her authority because of her dark skin, has a mordant streak. She remembers a woman telling her that, in rich countries, epidemics "always began when the first white person got sick."

As anyone who's followed his career is aware, Shepard is a crisp, intelligent and reliable writer. He writes perceptively in *Phase Six* about a lot of things. He's passionate in his defense of the environment, though it's hard to find a decent novelist who isn't.

After its creepy and bravura opening, however, *Phase Six* stalls. It's as if, having achieved escape velocity, Shepard turned off his engines. What begins as a brainy potboiler, the kind of book you'd have felt lucky to find in one of those spinning drugstore paperback racks, becomes ponderous.

Phase Six begins to flounder in dialogue about "trust" and "healing." There's some slackwriting, too, which is unusual for Shepard. "Checking your Twitter feed took more courage than base jumping," he writes. *Phase Six* aspires to real density, but it can't quite get there: the characters remain essentially static. The book falls into a no-person's land between pop thriller and literary novel. It doesn't satisfy on either level.

NYT

Life, love & loss

A book of haibun poetry is a microcosm of our post-modern aporetic experiences

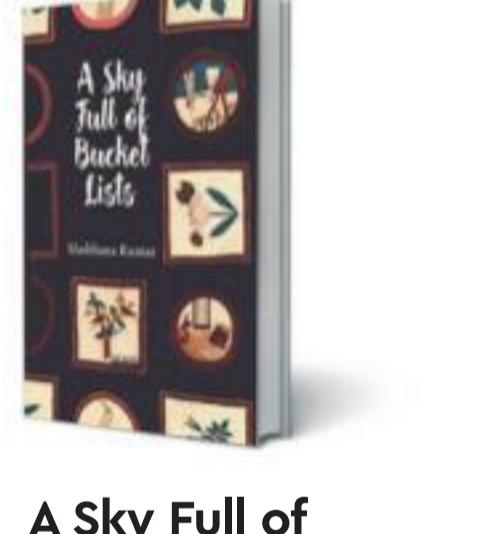
ASHWANI KUMAR

SHOBHANA KUMAR'S BOOK OF haibun poetry *A Sky Full of Bucket Lists* is structurally and aesthetically a microcosm of the aporetic experiences of our post-modern conditions. With exquisite control over the compositional movements of the language, she expresses the splintering of the self and society in an avalanche of unconventional imagery of our collective predicament.

Revolving around what she calls "remnants of yesterday", her poetry dwells in polymorphous voices of bodies—human, non-human and aliens of various sorts. With chiselled cinematic syntaxes and auto-fictional memories, her poems speak of haunting experiences of familiar-unfamiliar voices of life, love, loss and death. With "sandalwood, rose water, and jasmine fragrances", *A Sky Full of Bucket Lists* is also about a bold and experimental language of poetry that bids farewell to stereotypical linguistic and aesthetic constructions of reality. Consider the opening poem of the collection *Think of Master Stroke*. It is about the schizophrenic experience of "bodies without organs" as French cultural theorists Deleuze and Guattari have argued.

This book of poems, as Kumar says, "regales the visitor with anecdotes of a time" and "the odour lingers long after the cleaning". In the poem *Spaces*, she plans to decolonise our archival memories by owning a library in which she "builds each (room) with character that mirrors the inhabitants in different rooms. Ebony shelves in the master bedroom. Coloured panels for the daughter. The son's deliberately asymmetrical; where poetry settles into uncomfortable corners". This narratorial voice, with recurring attention to transitional spaces of similarity and differences, makes her poems a makeshift place of healing at the intersections of the worlds of haiku and fictional prose.

As we face the severe second wave of the pandemic, her poems eerily allude



A Sky Full of Bucket Lists
Shobhana Kumar
Red River
Pp 86, ₹230

to the blurring of binaries of living and non-living. For instance, Kumar, in her poem *Stopper*, invites us to experience surreal horrors of our times by inhaling "a miasma hovering around the patients, their clothes, beds, and even on their faces. You can't put a finger to it; it is not the smell of the streets. Neither is it the odour from their wounds. It feels like a heavy cloud, dragging every happy emotion as it moves from one patient to another".

Exploring logological truths of death in her poem *Post-mortem*, she says in a deconstructive tone: "Today, he caresses a stray strand of hair from his wife's forehead as he leaves. He slips from the

REVOLVING AROUND WHAT THE AUTHOR CALLS 'REMNANTS OF YESTERDAY', THE POETRY DWELLS IN POLYMORPHOUS VOICES OF BODIES—HUMAN, NON-HUMAN AND ALIENS OF VARIOUS SORTS

REVOLVING AROUND WHAT THE AUTHOR CALLS 'REMNANTS OF YESTERDAY', THE POETRY DWELLS IN POLYMORPHOUS VOICES OF BODIES—HUMAN, NON-HUMAN AND ALIENS OF VARIOUS SORTS

fourth floor, trying to save a fellow painter from falling. They want to file a report saying he was an alcoholic. She spends the next five years fighting to prove he was not". Here, you notice the alchemical power of irony in her poems with a silent ferocity, reminding us about Eunice De Souza's poetic craft of using irony for undermining binaries of social and linguistic experiences.

With child-like curiosity and clarity, she sees her poems as "anonymous, unclaimed memories" from our existential histories, as she says in the poem *Being*. For her, "forgetting becomes a habit", a sociological and clinical habit of wondering about the mysteries of "Blue Mountains of Nilgiris".

Poet Adil Jussawalla tells us, "Every poet has at least two voices: a literary voice and the one in which (s)he normally speaks." Kumar speaks through what literary critic Eric Griffiths calls the "printed voice" of everyday speech. Her poem *Lockdown Learnings* is acutely political and confessional. It speaks of our hidden guilts and fantasies of auto-annihilation as "Nothing has changed for the poor. And we, the only ones who have time for poems in lockdown. I wonder if I will remember this pausing when the madness resumes."

Her poetic language announces itself as a semiotic spectacle. It swoops down upon us like a wild beast, leaving us bewildered and redeemed at once. In this counter-discursive moment, "hoping against hope" becomes potentially a powerful ally in resisting grief and gloom. That's why Kumar's haibun is a performative mimicry of the catastrophic inequities of our age.

I am particularly delighted that Red River has been publishing poetry with anamnestic experiments with genres and forms, and also helping us recover forgotten literary fonts in Indian poetry. To conclude, you must not only read Kumar's poems, but also ride with her verses because as she says in the poem *Barter*: "After the rains, the ride on the highway is magical".

Enjoy the magical ride of haibun poetry through the hilltops, nondescript villages and paddy fields where "a group of women get ready to plough the soil" while enjoying the scent of ageing palm trees lining the sky—a sky full of bucket lists!

Ashwani Kumar is a poet, writer and professor at Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. The review of the book was prepared for its release at Anantha: A Festival of Poetry in April

New Delhi

This treasury of 41 short, classic stories from around the world, written by masters of the form, is a treat for all those who love literature. Selected by prolific author-editor Terry O'Brien, the stories are selected for their imagination and style, true portrayals of human emotions, subject matter and richness of language. The authors include Edgar Allan Poe, Ernest Hemingway, Somerset Maugham, Virginia Wolf, etc.

All books available as e-books

Spotlight

SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Although the practice of tasting is as old as the history of wine, the term 'tasting' first appeared in 1519. The methodology of wine tasting was formalised by the 18th century when Swedish taxonomist Carl Linnaeus and others brought an understanding of tasting up to date.



(Far left) As a professional tea taster, Guwahati-based Parag Hatibarua (right) tastes more than 2,500 cups daily; and (left) Visakhapatnam-based Chandrakala Avugadda is a Coffee Board of India-certified coffee taster.

REYA MEHROTRA

A MERICAN WINE CRITIC

Robert Parker is often referred to as 'the world's most prized palate' for his wine reviews and ratings. Having won many awards over his decades-long career, the wine critic is a formidable name in the industry today. A career that he has carved out on the back of his five senses.

In fact, not just wine tasting, other similar professions like coffee, tea, whisky and chocolate tasting and aroma smelling too, require a professional to utilise all their five senses to give an unbiased review. It might sound easy to some, but the truth is it takes years of experience and hours of training to become an expert. We spoke with sommeliers, coffee and tea tasters, spirits trainers and perfumers to know what goes behind working with the 'senses'.

Pop & pour

Like the wine they hold, sommeliers get better as they age in the profession. The art of sipping wine, in fact, is a process that follows the five Ss—see, smell, swirl, smell again and sip—shares wine taster Sumit Jaiswal, who is also assistant vice-president, marketing and exim at Grover Zampa Vineyards, Mumbai. He says that wine tasting is not just the job of the taste buds, but the eyes and nose as well. "Visual analysis is done to check the colour of the wine. First, factory analysis is done to check the condition of the wine. Swirling the glass agitates the wine and helps it get in contact with oxygen, so that the aromas open up and the wine tastes better. Second, nosing is done to analyse the varietal aromas—each and every grape variety smells and tastes different. Most people can easily differentiate between the basic wine aromas—fruity, floral, vegetal, spice, etc. The last step is taking a small sip and ensuring that the wine touches all parts of the palate (each part of the tongue will taste the wine differently) and then you either spit or swallow," explains 39-year-old Jaiswal.

Of course, a strong sense of taste helps, but Jaiswal, who has been working in the industry for 15 years, says the skill can be developed through training. "People generally have a strong sense of olfactory memory. It can be developed too. The more you taste different types of wines, the better you can differentiate between different aromas and flavours over a period of time. One can also use aroma kits to sniff the aromas in small glass containers and enhance the senses," he says. For the senses to work right, it is important to not let them be distracted, so sommeliers do not wear strong perfumes or eat strongly-flavoured foods (even black coffee) before wine tasting.

But how can one be sure that one's taste would appeal to the masses? The answer, Jaiswal says, is a well-balanced wine that finds the right balance between sweetness, acidity, body, alcohol and tannins (in reds). Each country has its own distinct taste when it comes to the choice of wine and it does not take long for sommeliers to adapt once they are familiar with the palate of the population, believes Delhi-based Magadeep Singh, India's first French-qualified sommelier who trained around 17 years ago in France. "We make a list of wines—sweet and dry, heavy and light—for people with varied preferences. For a food-loving country like India, getting the taste and aroma right is not an issue," the 41-year-old shares.

Wine tasting may be a relatively young profession in India that evolved only a few years ago, but that does not limit the scope of a sommelier. "Apart from the pandemic, work was there throughout the year. Hotels and restaurants need to know what sells and customers need to know what to buy. A lesser- and wisely-curated inventory would mean lesser costs and so sommeliers are in great demand in the hospitality industry," says Singh.

While retail shops hire sommeliers throughout the year, part-time employment works best for hotels, as they need to keep their stock moving and fresh. For wineries, gin or vodka companies, tasters might be involved on consultancy basis to get the recipe right.

Cup tales

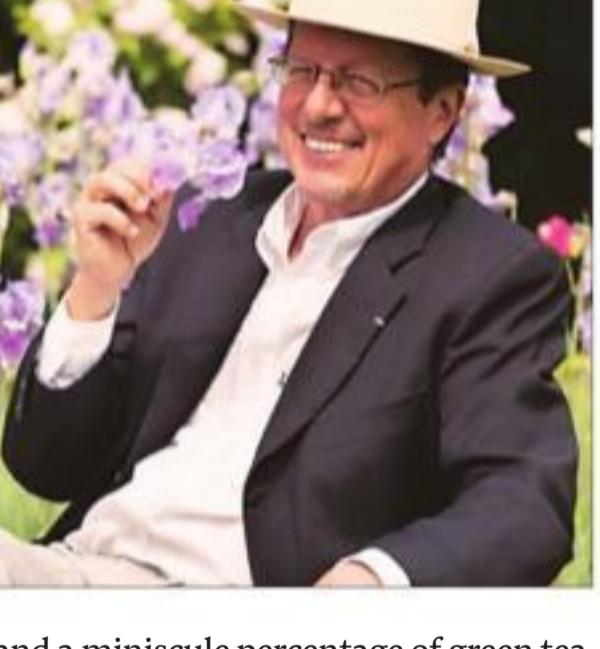
For Guwahati-based Parag Hatibarua, his

A TALE OF FIVE SENSES

It takes years of practice to become a tasting expert. We spoke with spirits trainers, perfumers, wine, tea and coffee tasters to find out one thing: How do they do it?



(Clockwise from above) Wine taster Sumit Jaiswal; sommelier Magadeep Singh; Mumbai-based spirits trainer Evonne Eadie; and perfumer Nicolas de Barry



profession ensures his daily cup of tea. Hatibarua has been in the tea trade for nearly 33 years and learned the tenets of tea tasting when he joined J Thomas and Company, the largest and the oldest tea auctioning firm, in 1993. "I taste daily as a part of my professional regimen. I have been fortunate to work with a wide variety of teas from across the world, so that keeps me excited and the thirst going," the 54-year-old says, adding with a laugh, "And in the evenings, whisky tasting, quite like tea tasting, keeps me wanting more!"

Tea tasting, like other tasting and smelling professions, is an organoleptic exercise, involving sight, smell, taste and texture. As a professional tea taster, Hatibarua has been tasting more than 2,500 cups daily for many years now. But here's a twist: tea tasters do not drink all the tea they taste. They sip and then spit it out. "We suck in the tea and air at the same time, so that the tea hits our palate, our taste buds, which are at the back of our mouths and joint to our nasal cavity. This allows us to determine the taste and smell, both very important for tea tasting," he explains.

So what's his favourite tea? The time of day decides that, he says. "Morning would be an Assam CTC, mid-day would be a light oolong, like a tie quan yin, and afternoon would be a higher-elevation second flush Darjeeling," shares Hatibarua.

Even though India has been a tea-loving nation, he calls us a 'young tea-drinking nation'. "More than 54 countries produce tea. Unfortunately, in India, we mostly deal in bulk black tea, CTC and Orthodox,

and a minuscule percentage of green tea. India is predominantly a black tea-producing country. There are more than 3,000 types of tea across the globe, and the taste of each tea could differ. We are a young tea-drinking nation, (it's been) barely 200 years since tea was first commercially planted, while China has recorded history of tea more than 3,000 years ago," he explains. Currently working as a director with Eastern Tea Brokers (a tea and produce brokering firm) and as south-east Asia director with International Tea Masters Association (which offers training in the tea industry), Hatibarua is also chief adviser and mentor to several tea startups both in India and abroad, as well as chief consultant for plantation companies in the country.

Just like tea, coffee tasting too requires great precision. But more important than anything else, one needs to be a coffee lover. Take, for instance, 27-year-old Visakhapatnam-based Chandrakala Avugadda. She is a quality manager and trainer (barista and coffee roasting skills) at Kaapi Solutions India Opc Pvt Ltd (a beverage equipment solution company) and a Coffee Board of India-certified coffee taster. The process is more than just a sip, she says. "Coffee tasting/cupping is about liquorizing coffee by adding hot water, checking the aroma and tasting to find the cup quality by checking different taste parameters such as aroma, flavour, body, acidity, mouthfeel and aftertaste," she explains.

Before a tasting session, Avugadda follows certain rules: she doesn't eat anything at least two hours before the session for

better evaluation, doesn't taste coffee when too hungry, uses neutralisers like water, buttermilk, etc, for better-tasting perception, among others.

Avugadda has observed a careful shift in the country from it being a tea-loving nation to an office-going coffee-loving culture. "With this shift, there definitely is a lot of scope in the coming decade for coffee tasters. As consumption has increased with growing consumerism, the quality has become better as well, and quantity of produce has increased," she says, adding, "Exposing oneself to and tasting more and more types of coffees is the best way to constantly improvise one's olfactory and sensory skills."

On the scent

While an aroma can mesmerise an ordinary person, a perfumer will deconstruct it into its constituents—that's how scientific their job is. Unlike tasters, who eventually and over time, get the knack of the job, perfumers are naturally gifted with a heightened sense of smell. But their nose alone does not qualify them for the profession—their creativity does. That's why they decide and create new combinations and fragrances.

French perfumer and author of the book *The Little Book of Olive Oil* (2001) Nicolas de Barry believes perfumers are more sensitive when it comes to the senses. "We are more sensitive to the olfactory aspect. The talent to evaluate and create fragrances is instinctive...an art. But as with

HOW TO TASTE



■ Avoid having strong and flavourful dishes a few hours before tasting

■ Describe the flavour by communicating it



■ Suck in the tea and air at the same time

■ Analyse its taste and smell

■ Spit it out



■ Visually observe the colour of the wine

■ Swirl the wine glass gently from the bottom to let its aroma rise

■ Smell the aroma to make out its flavour

■ Taste with a small sip, but ensure it touches all parts of the tongue as each part has a different sense of taste



■ Smell the aroma by rubbing on thumb

■ Hold it close to the nose to smell the aroma and cup it with your hands, so that the aroma does not escape

■ Snap a piece of chocolate from the bar to know its texture

■ Place the piece in the mouth, but do not chew

■ Press it between the tongue and roof of the mouth, so that it melts and you know its texture

■ Taste for flavour and notice how it unfolds in your mouth



■ Add hot water in coffee

■ Check the aroma and taste for flavour, body, acidity, mouthfeel and aftertaste

■ Do not eat anything at least two hours before the process

any art, you have to learn how to use your talent. To appreciate a perfume, one has to educate the nose, as one would do to appreciate food or wine, or any art," the 72-year-old shares. The perfumer, who lives in Candes-Saint-Martin in France, cites the example of a tourist at Taj Mahal who will appreciate its architecture, but those with a keen sense of smell will also recognise, for example, "the jasmine bloom in the garden below the mausoleum".

De Barry says he likes to work mostly in the morning because he finds his sense of smell is more efficient then. He also has his own magic do-it-yourself formula to enhance the sense of smell. "Soak cotton wool or small pieces of paper in essential oils (rose, jasmine, sandalwood, etc) and number them without knowing the origin. This way, you will recognise them little by little and enrich your olfactory memory. It can be complicated by associating them together," says de Barry, who has been a perfume designer for 25 years and trained in perfumery with the famous Edmond Roudnitska, French master perfumer, in Grasse, France.

The nose of a perfumer can commit hundreds of scents to memory and can distinguish between ingredients that would smell identical to the untrained nose, says Bengaluru-based Malvika Kalauny, senior manager, fragrance development, Skinn, Titan's perfume company. "The trick is to associate each with a memory. The more experiences you have in life, the more memories you create and that's how you remember raw materials when you start because it reminds you of your grandmother or a shop or bakery or a certain country road," says Kalauny, who has been in the profession for 20 years.

If smelling more than two fragrances at a time, one needs to take a break and wait, advises de Barry. "The best thing is to get out of the workplace where the scents are present and breathe fresh air. Also, wait until the olfactory system (nasal and cerebral) is rested before going back to work," he says.

That's the spirit

Behind every successful bar is a spirits trainer. Mumbai-based Evonne Eadie, national reserve brand ambassador for Diageo India, specialises in single malt whisky. With over 12 years of experience, the Australian's training journey began working in bars while she was on a gap year in London. Later, she also worked in several areas of hospitality. But it was while she was in university studying marketing that her passion for cocktails and whisky grew.

While most professions require mental concentration or physical work, a few rare ones require the two senses to be working right: the sense of smell and taste. When on certain days, the senses are diminished, work takes a backseat. On such days, Eadie avoids creating new cocktail serves and relies on past experience and recipes, which she knows are balanced and delicious. "Smell accounts for around 80% of taste, so anything that affects that sense will have an impact on your ability to create recipes, balance serves or analyse a spirit. If I am sampling spirits, then I try not to have anything too powerful in flavour prior. So that means no coffees or hot curries before. This ensures I haven't dulled my senses and will be able to isolate the maximum flavours in the liquid," says the 34-year-old, adding that communicating or understanding the flavours after tasting is important and that develops with experience.

Tasting more than one flavour a day can mix up flavours, too, for tasters. For that, Eadie suggests a few hacks like having soda water, a few slices of cucumber or a citrus sorbet between courses to cleanse the palate before moving on to the next. Few pairings she has devised include Johnnie Walker Black Label served paired with char-grilled dishes. "This amplifies the smokiness the guest experiences, so you can add a bit more sweetness than you would if you were serving the drink on its own," she says.

Every person's palate is different and so Eadie ensures there are tasting notes that accurately represent what is in the glass for the consumer to be able to choose something that appeals to their taste. Like artists, she believes that those cut out for tasting are naturally gifted, but like other crafts, this too can be enhanced. "Regardless of where you start, practice always improves your ability," she says.

SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021

Fe Lines

STORIES AND TRENDS FROM INDIA AND AROUND THE WORLD THAT CAUGHT OUR FANCY



Out of the lab

From meat and caviar to leather and diamonds, brands are pioneering new ways to come up with products grown in the lab

VAISHALI DAR

THE PHRASE 'LAB-GROWN' is fast catching up with brands. In the process, they are pioneering new ways to produce products like meat, leather, diamonds and, most recently, caviar in the lab. Yes, you read that right. The world's first lab-grown caviar will be produced by Exmoor Caviar (in Devon, England), which produces sustainable sturgeon caviar and has resonated well with Michelin-star chefs for more than a decade. It is working with leading scientists from universities in the UK to cultivate eggs using cells derived from the fish.

Kenneth Benning, the chief executive of Exmoor Caviar, told UK's iNews website about his plans, including using biotech to grow cells, using proteins and lipids derived from the fish. He also talked about wanting to take the caviar to the 2023 European Seafood Show in Brussels. If they are successful, a new kind of animal-free caviar would be made possible, as the product is aimed at the ethical and cruelty-free food market. As a farmer himself, Benning realises the importance of this and, in a way, his experimentation will revolutionise the luxurious caviar market.

Touted as the most expensive gastronomical attraction and a favourite of many chefs, caviar is eggs harvested from fish (salmon, sturgeon, trout) that are cured in salt. It has a high production cost and low yield. It originated from Middle Eastern and eastern European diets, and was later harvested by Russian and Persian fishermen in the Caspian Sea.

There are many types of caviar variants available in the market. A vegan variant, which is quite smooth and bubbly in texture, is seaweed caviar—a

plant-based food with no animal ingredients. It can easily replace different roe, including lumpfish roe, trout roe, salmon roe and cod roe. Its actual taste and texture come from seaweed, a multicellular large algae and a source of proteins packed with umami flavour.

Not just caviar, there are other products coming out of the lab too. English fashion designer Stella McCartney introduced the world's first lab-grown Mylo mushroom leather garments this year. Mylo is a soft and sustainable material. Unlike most synthetic leathers, it is made from mycelium, the infinitely renewable underground root system of mushrooms, which grows best in a lab with mulch, air and water. It is designed to have minimal environmental impact.

Lab-grown meat is also quite popular as it intends to reduce the slaughtering of animals for consumption, and hence claims to be ethical with environmental merits. Eat Just, a company based in San Francisco, describes its product as "real, high-quality meat created directly from animal cells for safe human consumption". Another company California-based Memphis Meats announced last year the building of a new plant to produce cell-based meat.

Then there is OsomeFood, which

THE WORLD'S FIRST LAB-GROWN CAVIAR WILL BE PRODUCED BY ENGLAND-BASED EXMOOR CAVIAR, WHICH PRODUCES SUSTAINABLE STURGEON CAVIAR AND HAS RESONATED WELL WITH MICHELIN-STAR CHEFS

goes beyond the vegan label to guarantee nutrition with food alternatives using mycoprotein and plant-based ingredients. This Singapore-based food manufacturer has launched the world's first nutrition-focused and plant-based hard-boiled egg for immunity purpose and without harming animals.

According to a recent report published in *The Guardian*, dozens of firms are developing cultivated chicken, beef and pork with a view to slashing the impact of industrial livestock production on the climate, as well as providing cleaner, drug-free and cruelty-free meat. Currently, about 130 million chickens and four million pigs are slaughtered every day for meat. By weight, 60% of the mammals on earth are livestock, 36% are humans and only 4% are wild.

The World Economic Forum reports that the environmental cost of the growing appetite for meat is alarming. Agriculture is responsible for 10-12% of greenhouse gas emissions, with meat, poultry and dairy farming producing nearly three quarters of it.

With sustainability being the need of the hour, there is a need to curb excessive mining, land disturbance, carbon emissions and environmental damages. Hence, lab-grown diamonds are also being approved. The process involves creating pieces with zero mining and eco-friendly sourcing. Indian brand Vandals has its first-ever retail outlet for jewellery made of lab-grown diamonds in Mumbai. Other brands like Limelight Diamonds and Anantaa Diamonds promise an alternative in the form of CVD diamonds, also known as Chemical Vapour Deposition diamonds or man-made diamonds. These diamonds are grown in state-of-the-art laboratories and do not involve any human mining.

WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY

The habit of smoking is linked to many diseases like diabetes, stroke and cancer, yet many continue smoking, often struggling to live without it. In 1987, World Health Organization created World No Tobacco Day on May 31 to draw attention to the dangers of using tobacco. At a time, when a virus is damaging the lungs and leading to death and despair, here are a few ways to quit tobacco/smoking in a natural way to lead a healthier life.

By Reya Mehrotra



Make up your mind

For tobacco users, the urge to smoke is very strong. So when one decides to quit, the first thing to do is to make up your mind and stick to it. A strong will goes a long way. Once decided, the mind will naturally work towards the goal. Remind yourself every morning that you are on your way to quit it and repeat positive affirmations like "I'm free of unhealthy habits". The stronger the will, the easier it is to reach the goal. Do not change your decision and stand by it firmly.

Support system

Build a support system around you instead of struggling on your own. One can use their family's or friends' support during this time. Constant reminders from them can lead to motivation and would help a person remain upbeat. It will also make sure

Fix a date

Once the mind is made up to quit, the next step is to fix a date when you would get rid of the habit completely. For instance, a heavy smoker can fix a date two months away. Each day or within a gap of fixed days, reduce the count of cigarettes and, in the last week leading to the final day, keep the cigarette count minimal or zero. Setting a day for being completely free of the habit will help one gradually decrease smoking and reach the goal in an organised manner. It will also help the body adjust to the new normal.



Relax

The urge to smoke often hits hard when under stress. Hence, when

you don't smoke again. If the addiction is severe, one must seek the help of a professional or support group to lead one in the right direction.

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stressed, try natural calming techniques like deep breathing, massage, meditation, listening to calming music, sounds or closing the eyes for a few minutes. A walk amid nature also helps beat the urge. At this time, remind yourself of the benefits of giving up smoking and how it could

harm your body if not given up.

Reward yourself

It is important to celebrate small milestones in the journey towards de-addiction as this helps you see your success and how far you have come. From the day you start reducing the



Cheat something

When trying to quit, smokers often feel the urge to keep the mouth occupied. One can keep a bowl of salad ready to chew on. A plate full of carrots, beetroot, cucumber or fruits would help in avoiding the urge to smoke while also providing nutrition to the body. Sugarless chewing gums or nicotine gums can also be had to avoid the urge to smoke. Chewing cardamoms or fennel seeds also helps in battling the urge to smoke.

usage of cigarettes or tobacco, celebrate every 10 days. Reward yourself with comfort foods or any treat of your choice. It helps if friends and family are part of the celebration too.

Stay busy

Staying busy is very important to avoid any thoughts that could lead to the urge to smoke. Plan a daily routine that starts with a healthy breakfast, workout, meditation and then work. If unoccupied, busy yourself in tasks like reading, running up and down the stairs, gardening and so on, so that the urge to smoke can be avoided. Replace any free time of the day with something productive or take up a hobby to distract yourself. If at home in isolation, try cooking new dishes or watch motivational videos.

Don't indulge the craving

One must also plan to avoid any triggers. For instance, if one smoked while reading the newspaper, try holding a pen instead of the hand and underline the important headlines. At times, one might be tempted to have just one cigarette in order to satisfy the craving, but beware as this could lead to many more till it becomes uncontrollable. One could also use the delay technique. If there's an urge to smoke, delay it for 10 minutes, then another 15 minutes and so on till the urge fades away or one gets occupied with work.

TECH-NOW-LOGY

How Roblox sparked a chaotic music scene

Players can customise their own worlds on the platform. Many illegally upload songs—called 'bypassing audio'—and some make intense tracks in a new genre: robloxcore

KIERAN PRESS-REYNOLDS

ARTISTS, LABEL HEADS and industry shakers know that success in pop music today requires racking up plays on TikTok and streaming services. But there's another, unlikely platform that's picking up steam: Roblox.

Roblox is a game-creation engine, first released in 2006, that allows players to customise their own sandbox worlds, create mini-games on multiplayer servers and enjoy a second life online as square-shaped beings called Robloxians. Unlike *Minecraft*, a game that drops users into a fantastical "otherworld," Roblox's most popular mini-games (or, as Roblox calls them, "experiences") are rooted in real life. They are "roleplays," meaning the player performs a certain persona; you can be a sheriff, a pizza chef, etc.

Last year, the platform spawned its own music genre: robloxcore. Mostly made by young teenagers, it's a strain of chaotic, profanity-laden rap that's overloaded with frantic sound effects. Tunes like *Threat*, by Lieu, a 13-year-old musician, emulate being inside a digital dimension where every bass thud and synth shake is an enemy you're blowing past, every vocal stutter and short-circuited squeak a new obstacle to avoid. The scene has made ripples in the underground music circuit.

While the platform's makers praised how music has become one of its hallmarks—"the fact that Roblox is spawning a new music subgenre speaks to Roblox's current generational and cultural ubiquity," wrote Jon Vlassopoulos, its global head of music, in an email—in actuality, many of its young users are doing things that are supposed to be forbidden, like hacking illicit music into the game.

Originally, the platform's founders set a filter for profanity since it's supposed to be child-friendly. Yet inventive users have devised a workaround. "Bypassing audio" refers to a technique where people distort or dis-

guise an audio file so it slips through the detection systems meant to filter out offensive language and copyrighted tracks.

While many players bypass tame mainstream music that would have otherwise been blocked because of copyright issues, a large contingent of users boost intense, explosive-packed underground rap music. That's partly how robloxcore exploded, after dozens of players uploaded those types of tracks and trumpeted them with their boombox items, inspiring other users in the same in-game worlds to listen to the music and share it, too.

Lieu, a pioneer of robloxcore and longtime Roblox player whose pronouns are they/their, said whenever they join games, they hear people playing their music. "It's crazy because none of this was ever my goal, I just wanted to make music and be funny," Lieu wrote over Discord, the talking and texting app popular with gamers. Without the game, Lieu said, they doubted the music would ever be popular, "or at least nowhere near as popular as it is now."

So, who are these mysterious, influential players bypassing music into Roblox?

They call themselves Roblox audio makers. Known for their devious bypassing methods and taste for aggressive rap, they gather in secret groups and chats run by exclusive collectives. Audio makers sell methods of sneaking songs onto Roblox to one another like furtive weapons dealers.

Largely populated by teens and younger players, the scene has a reputation for trollish behaviour. "A lot of them have egos and are edgy and toxic,"

explained marty_red, a popular Roblox TikToker, over Discord. "The scene is odd but in a good way—it's interesting how people can bond over something that goes against the terms of service."

The scene really took off in 2021, when popular audio makers on Roblox like DigitalAngels and CriminalViolence set up shop on video-sharing platform TikTok, establishing an entire subgenre of audio maker-themed videos. Roblox has always had a sizeable presence on TikTok—users post game footage, flashy animations and rapid-fire edits—but this content is different. Audio makers rate one another, brag about how much clout they have and compose slide shows of codes you can use to download the freshest bypassed audio in-game.

Over the last few months, the most successful bypass TikTokers have racked up tens of thousands of followers, bringing a group of newbies into the shadowy world of audio making. And some of the tracks they use as audio for TikToks end up flowing out into the broader TikTok pool.

The biggest so far is lungskull's *Foreign*. The 15-year-old Parisian began as an audio maker bypassing other people's tracks to the game, but since 2020 has been making his own warped rap songs. After one of his Roblox friends used *Foreign* in a late 2020 TikTok video, the tune had a mini-moment, and has now soundtracked over 45,000 TikTok videos.

Eventually, the song leaked beyond the gamer realm, becoming the backdrop to goth girl memes and a video of a cockroach dashing to evade insect repellent.

Other tracks initially lifted by Roblox players that then spilled across the wider TikTok horizon include Axxturel's ghoulish *Ave Domina Lilith*, which mushroomed in popularity after a Roblox TikToker posted a video of a cluster of male avatars wearing cat ears and maid costumes dancing to the song with the caption "me n the boys". More recently, the user cyrbiae made a video that helped propel Yamei Online's *Baby My Phone*, which ended up peaking at number two on the Spotify Viral 50 playlist in March.

While none of these songs fall into a defined genre, they're linked by their off-kilter vocal styles and a feeling of lo-fi incompleteness—a decaying quality similar to that of bypassed tunes. Many fans call the amorphous sound social reject music, which captures their ironic sense of themselves as the lowest of the low, playfully dissing one another for devoting such low-quality, earsplitting, coarse rap tunes.

NYT

Leisure

SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021

FAIZAL KHAN

RANJIT KANDALGAONKAR was researching public health trusts operating in the 19th century when it led him to outbreaks and epidemics like leprosy, cholera, influenza and plague. The Mumbai-based artist and researcher says he slowly "gravitated" towards the plague outbreak of 1896 in then Bombay to understand how public health trusts deal with health crises. "The plague outbreak of 1896 reshaped the 20th-century map of the city of Bombay," says Kandalgaonkar, whose artwork, *Drawing the Bombay Plague*, is part of the Science Gallery Bengaluru's new exhibition called *CONTAGION*, which began on April 30 and will run till June 30. Mounted online, the exhibition brings together works from around the world to make sense of the pandemic and how it influences the planet.

"It is an artistic expression of historical research into how we have responded to a pandemic in the past," says Jahnavi Phalkey, the founder-director of Science Gallery Bengaluru, about *Drawing the Bombay Plague*. "The artist has identified the various components of social and governmental response to a pandemic. Government is one part... there are also people, doctors, municipal authorities, local government," adds Phalkey, who has co-curated the exhibition with Danielle Olsen, the international cultural producer at London-based health research charity Wellcome Trust.

A new lens

The Bombay plague was an epidemic that British colonial authorities wanted to stop spreading to Europe. So they clamped down on the local population, imposing curfews, screening people leaving the city, with intrusive inspection teams entering homes, spraying disinfectants and whitewashing buildings with lime. "The colonial response is staged as theatre. It is done to shock its citizens into acquiescence," says Kandalgaonkar, who uses drawing to give these under-represented facts, figures and people a voice. "So in some sense, one can surmise that we can look at present ways in which (some) governments across the world behave during a public health crisis, we can be sure that is, in fact, reminiscent of some cherry-picked older version of colonial state response," explains the artist, who considers his work as a documentation rather than a comment. "I look at the drawing, or the image created itself, as a record in process; a form of encapsulating another reality of the plague episode. Hence, I imagine the drawing as a record that can be accessed to view the plague through a new lens, and hopefully viewed in years to come (by subsequent researchers if they want unconventional data) as a validation of some of the lesser-known aspects of the plague years," he says.

Selected from an open call a year ago, the exhibition's works—including a few commissioned projects—provide a much-needed space to make sense of a paralysed world through the interface of science and art. "We hope *CONTAGION*—with its wonderful range of voices and perspectives—provides an opportunity for all to make meaningful sense of these uncertain times," says exhibition co-curator Olsen.

For the exhibition, Science Gallery Bengaluru has collaborated with leading international academic and research bodies like German national public health institution Robert Koch Institute, the central government's Department of Biotechnology—Wellcome Trust India Alliance and Indian National Science Academy. There are 16 exhibits besides 20 public lectures and tutorials, 16 workshops and masterclasses, and five film screenings.

Stylised approach

One of the highlights of the exhibition is British artist group Blast Theory's *A Cluster of 17 Cases*, a virtual interactive work based on the outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in 2003. With the help of epidemiologists, Blast Theory went back to February 21, 2003, so to



PREDECESSOR OF WHO

The International Sanitary Conferences, originally held on June 23, 1851, was the first predecessor of the WHO. A series of 14 conferences that lasted from 1851 to 1938, it worked to combat many diseases like cholera, yellow fever, etc.

PHOTO COURTESY: RANJIT KANDALGAONKAR

Art and outbreak

Science Gallery Bengaluru's new virtual exhibition is an attempt to make sense of the uncertainty of a pandemic



(Top) *When the World Has A Laugh* by Paris-based visual artist Anaïs Tondeur; (above, left) Jahnavi Phalkey, founder-director, Science Gallery Bengaluru, and co-curator of *CONTAGION*; (above, right) Danielle Olsen, exhibition co-curator

(Top) When the World Has A Laugh by Paris-based visual artist Anaïs Tondeur; (above, left) Jahnavi Phalkey, founder-director, Science Gallery Bengaluru, and co-curator of CONTAGION; (above, right) Danielle Olsen, exhibition co-curator

speaks to the Metropole Hotel in Hong Kong to trace the origin of SARS. "In *A Cluster of 17 Cases*, we are exploring how we all respond to uncertainty and the unknown," says Matt Adams, a group member. "On one night, a doctor spread the disease to 16 other people. There is no evidence that any of those who got sick ever met each other. None of the staff at the hotel caught the disease," he adds.

"One reason we became fascinated by this story is that, in many ways, it is very banal. It takes place in an ordinary hotel, which would be familiar to almost everyone. Hotel corridors are a strange mix of private and public: as you walk to your room, you will often see no one. It's sometimes hard to tell if the hotel is fully booked or totally empty. And yet, it was here that a super-spreading event took place. It's the exact moment at which SARS jumped from the Chinese mainland to Hong Kong and then onwards to Singapore, Vietnam, Canada and the rest of the world," says Adams. In 2018, Blast Theory members were artists in residence at the World Health Organization (WHO) headquarters in Geneva over a three-month period,

"Our work uses a stylised approach to put you in that (hotel) corridor and gives you

embedded to WHO's Strategic Health Operations Centre that monitors incoming reports of infectious diseases. They were there as part of Wellcome Trust's Contagious Cities programme to understand the skills and practices of those fighting infectious diseases.

"Our work uses a stylised approach to put you in that (hotel) corridor and gives you



(Above) Christos Lynteris's photography-based work *Controlling the Plague in British India*; and (below) artist group Blast Theory's *A Cluster of 17 Cases*

PHOTO COURTESY: BLAST THEORY



the chance to go into some of the rooms. You follow some of the stories of those who were infected and get a sense of the randomness of infectious disease," says Adams. "Because SARS is a coronavirus like Covid-19, it shows the alternate path that an outbreak can take. SARS was quickly brought under control and less than 800 people died worldwide. Covid-19 followed a similar

path, but was impossible to contain."

Among other works are *Contagion in the Twenty-First Century*, a multimedia work of text, images and simulation by the Museum of Robert Koch Institute, Berlin; the photography-based work *Controlling the British Plague in India* by medical anthropologist Christos Lynteris of the University of St Andrews, Scotland; *When*

(Top) Drawing the Bombay Plague by Ranjit Kandalgaonkar; and (above) lab material from the house of German bacteriologist Robert Koch in Wolsztyn, Poland

the World Has a Laugh by Paris-based visual artist Anaïs Tondeur; and the video work *Malware Museum* by Finnish computer security expert Mikko Hypponen. *Controlling the British Plague in India* is about the plague that broke out in Yunnan, China, in 1855 and swept across the globe until 1955, causing the death of approximately 12 million people.

Infectious laugh

Created for the Science Gallery Bengaluru exhibition, *When the World Has a Laugh* is a 2021 video work by Anaïs Tondeur. "The birth or rebirth of the world out of a laugh appeared to me as a promising image for the dark times we live in," says Tondeur.

In Japan, divine spirits known as *kamis*, thought to inhabit the earth, rocks, rivers, trees or springs, are usually presented as laughing spirits, according to the artist. "The *Kojiki*, an early Japanese chronicle of myths, even evokes the ways a laugh took the earth out of the shadows," says Tondeur. "I was also influenced by clay statuettes, found in the region of Veracruz in Mexico, where the Totonac population raised the temples of El Tajin and sculpted thousands of laughing figurines, also in a cult of the sun," she adds.

Tondeur, who was attracted by the possibilities opened by laughter, received more than 75 laughs from Australia, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, France, Morocco and India (Bengaluru, Durgapur, Pune and Chennai). A participative and evolving project, *When the World Has a Laugh* is composed in two chapters, a collection of laughs and a speculative fiction made of laughs whose vibrations give shape to a miniature world".

Faizal Khan is a freelancer

Order of the day

Ordering directly from outlets means they don't have to shell out high margins to aggregator services

BETWEEN SIPS
Magandeep Singh

IN ANOTHER AVATAR, I'd hate myself for telling people to stay home and order in when they can go out and enhance the experience manifold. But right now, not only am I encouraging all of you to order in as and when you can (and support our F&B industry), I am also strongly advocating ordering directly from the outlets, so that they don't have to shell out inexplicably high margins to aggregator services which (given the current circumstances)

amounts to opportunist extortion of the arm-twisting kind. Here is my pick for this fortnight:

Ojolife: Healthy first. I am always apprehensive of tailor-made meal plans, even more so when they flash terms like 'detox' and 'weight loss'. Well, Ojolife was a pleasant indulgence, in that all the food was varied, carefully planned and superbly prepared. You sign up for a week or so and, every morning, a box turns up with a detailed menu for the day, which includes juices, energy-booster shots, warm and cold meals, hot drinks and even a dessert. If anything, I struggled to finish the food on any one day and yet was surprisingly within my daily calorie intake limit. Well, medically speaking, I don't think the body ever needs to detox, but, in a



less stringent sense, this five-day bout of healthy eating sure made me feel better and more conscious of my consumption pattern. Order at ojolife.in

LIFE Artisanal Foods: Simple home-cooked meals delivered to your doorstep for a modest price. These are vegetarian meals with quite a varied

BY ORDERING IN,
YOU ARE NOT JUST
KEEPING YOURSELF
SAFE, BUT ALSO
SUPPORTING THE F&B
INDUSTRY IN THESE
TOUGH TIMES

menu, prepared fresh everyday, not too heavy on the oil and spices. For now, this service is limited to certain parts of NCR. To order, call 9313447353.

Call Chotu: Next comes decadence and Call Chotu is perfect, in that it leaves no greedy gastronomic desire unrequited—from kebabs to hawker Chinese, from rolls and snacky affairs to heavier staples. Think of it as an aggregated cloud kitchen that picks up the "best hits" from its other cloud menus, so you get an expansive list of offerings from one service provider, all modestly-priced. Order at callchotu.in

Hung Li: This is a moderately-priced take on *desi* nostalgia-inducing Chinese fare served in those boxes that we have seen people in American sitcoms eat out of. Overall, the menu is fairly exhaustive, but non-complicated enough to order from and not too adapted to seem un-southeast Asian. It's for those late-night movie binges when you want some flavourful grub minus the service hassle. Order at hungli.co.in

Chickeera: They do everything chicken, from New York cart-style to

Mexican and Middle Eastern versions (pita-wich, anyone?), and even gyros and burritos. They also do deep-fried Snickers bar, which has enough calories to feed a family! Back to the mains.

Given how for Indians, non-vegetarian equals chicken, these guys have nailed it spot on. Order at chickeera.com

Habanero sauces: Now for some self-effort. The range of sauces and dips from Habanero are a great way to spruce up a simple meal, from a bowl of ramen to a quick-toss pasta dish. I even made some tortillas (using their wraps too) and their spicy barbecue sauce. A special shoutout to their very versatile Sriracha chilli sauce. Order at habanero.in/shop

Living Food Company: This is a gourmet delivery service with a mix of comestibles, breakfast cereals, chocolates, oils, dips, sauces, spreads, even fresh-ground *podi* powder mixes that are otherwise hard to come by, and a solid range of tofu. Definitely worth browsing if you want to up the ante with minimal effort in terms of what you concoct in your kitchen. Order at livingfood.co.in

The writer is a sommelier

Idea Exchange

SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021

JUSTICE GOVIND MATHUR, FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE OF ALLAHABAD HIGH COURT

In last few years, at times State has backed mob attacking civil liberties. It is necessary for courts to protect liberties

Justice Mathur admits 'guilt' about CAA protests' hearing not being taken to conclusion, criticises 'liberal use' of NSA and sedition law, expresses concern over the law and order situation in UP and plays down Madras HC's 'murder' remark against EC. The session was moderated by Assistant Editor Apurva Vishwanath

APURVA VISHWANATH: As the country grapples with the pandemic, what is the role of the judiciary in this hour of crisis?

...The role of the judiciary is to protect the law, to impart justice to every citizen... Also, if the court notices something wrong, it can take suo motu cognizance... The first responsibility of the court is to protect citizens from any event that is not in accordance with the law. When the government is working, the doctors and police are onboard, then how can the courts remain closed. So we decided to continue... The first suo motu cognizance was taken by a Bench that I was also a part of. Then, as chief justice, I constituted a Special Bench and it is still working. Fortunately, it has given very effective directions and played a very vital role in protecting people from coronavirus in Uttar Pradesh... At present, things are in bad shape as far as coronavirus is concerned.

APURVA VISHWANATH: Can you tell us about your experience of dealing with civil liberty cases?

...In the last few years, the State has been taking several actions or sometimes supporting the mob that is attacking civil liberties of individuals. In such times, it is necessary for courts to protect civil liberties. It is very easy to call any person anti-national... But I believe that 99.9% of the citizens of this country are committed to this nation. They are patriots. I can have a different view on a specific issue and you can have a different view... The government is required to protect this if it is not against the interest of the country... What is sedition? If I am raising slogans against some person, if I am opposing some legislation, that doesn't mean that I am waging war against the State. In Uttar Pradesh, I don't know what has happened, but many people think that they can take law into their hands, they can punish people on roads and, unfortunately, to some extent, the government failed to protect such people. So it was necessary and it is necessary for courts to intervene.

In Lucknow, in March 2020, posters (carrying photographs and details of people accused of violence during anti-CAA protests) had come up, and the Allahabad HC took suo motu cognizance. The judiciary is always required to come forward to protect constitutional values. Our Constitution is our *Gita*. It is not only a political or legal document, it is a social document, which is required to be adopted by every citizen of this country, to make our society more civilised.

ASAD REHMAN: Earlier this year, two ordinances — the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Ordinance, 2020, and the UP Recovery of Damage to Public and Private Property Ordinance, 2020 — were cleared by the UP Cabinet and they became Acts. Do they stand the test of constitutional validity?

I can't say what I would have done on it. But yes, I would have protected all constitutional values and rights of the people...

APURVA VISHWANATH: But you had a prima facie view on these legislation?

Yes. I admitted the petitions for hearing only for the reason that prima facie I was satisfied that the provisions were in conflict with our constitutional provisions.

APURVA VISHWANATH: You also passed many orders in cases linked to the National Security Act, and in most cases you suggested that the law was being misused.

The National Security Act came up in 1980, and even at the time there was a huge debate in Parliament about it being prone to misuse... The NSA can't be invoked in a circumstance which can be dealt with other criminal laws. For the Act to be invoked, first national security has to be at stake. Now, if I express my view, that is not causing any injury to national security. Recently, I read somewhere that if any person is opposing (Covid-19) protocols, he will be dealt with under the NSA. Our system, our Constitution doesn't permit for such liberal use of the NSA.

APURVA VISHWANATH: So when the government perceives something like cow slaughter to be a matter of national security...

No, not at all. These are not issues of national security. Security is quite a big thing. There is an advisory board also (for the Act), but I have noticed that the orders passed by it are mechanical in nature. Maybe because two of the members on it



WHY

JUSTICE GOVIND MATHUR

From taking suo motu cognizance of posters featuring anti-CAA protesters with their details, to quashing NSA against Dr Kafeel Khan, Justice Mathur consistently backed civil liberties as chief justice of the Allahabad HC. Having started out as a Rajasthan HC judge in 2004, he retired last month

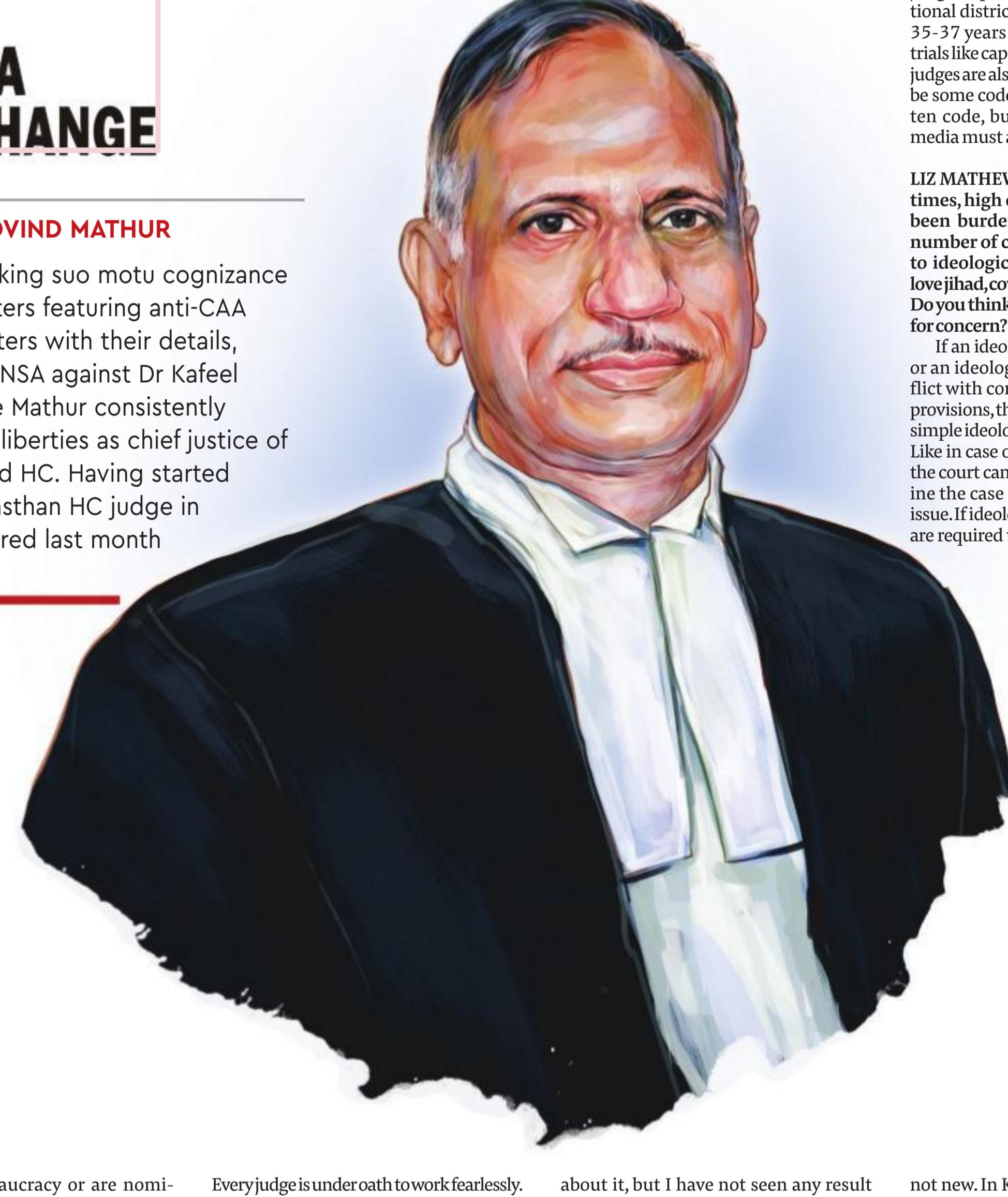


ILLUSTRATION: SUVAJIT DEY

come from bureaucracy or are nominated. These are political appointees, these nominations are political nominations, and while making political nominations the government must be aware that a statutory duty has to be discharged very seriously. No hanky-panky business must go on there.

APURVA VISHWANATH: In recent days, many high courts have asked tough questions of the government regarding the pandemic. You have passed orders linked to misuse of the NSA. Do these orders bring about any change?

In the constitutional structure, the judiciary is also a face of the State. The executive, legislature and judiciary need to have respect for each other. Unfortunately, sometimes, bureaucrats and even political persons, consider the judiciary a rival. Judiciary is not a rival, it is just extending its support to the State. The State does not mean any political party or government led by a political party or a person. The State is the Union of India or a state government. We are taking care of the State, which includes its fundamental unit, its citizens. I fail to understand why the Executive opposes the judiciary... However, I also feel that the judiciary should not interfere in every matter, especially those that are linked to small policy issues and are not affecting constitutional rights.

MANRAJ GREWAL SHARMA: The legal fraternity seems quite hesitant to say anything to the executive when a case goes to the Supreme Court. But earlier this year, in a love jihad case where two Muslim men were booked under the anti-conversion law, when the UP Police said that the case was before the Supreme Court, you responded that it doesn't preclude the high court from answering a challenge to the law.

We have the Union judiciary as well as the state judiciary. Now, if an order of the state high court is challenged before the Supreme Court, that doesn't mean that the high court should stop its work. Only if a stay is granted that should happen. When a judge is appointed, they take an oath which says that they will work fairly and fearlessly.

Every judge is under oath to work fearlessly.

APURVA VISHWANATH: In the case of the anti-CAA posters, while the Allahabad HC ordered for them to be removed, the state went to the Supreme Court. Do such parallel proceedings undermine the high court's orders?

The Supreme Court admitted the Special Leave Petition for hearing and an interim order was also passed. Then, an ordinance was introduced (UP Recovery of Damage to Public and Private Property Ordinance, 2020), which went on to become an enactment. So, the direction given on the suo motu petition became infructuous at that stage. The enactment was challenged and a Division Bench, of which I was also a part, admitted the petition. Unfortunately, it was in March last year, when the pandemic struck. Though that matter was listed, for some reason it had to be adjourned. It has been more than a year, and the court has failed to decide the issue... I feel guilty for the delay.

APURVA VISHWANATH: There were a clutch of cases linked to the anti-CAA protests. People's properties were being auctioned... While the court put a stay, why was the larger case not heard?

In 90% of the cases, the courts gave interim orders, protected people and many of those arrested were released. The fine imposed was also stayed in 100% cases. So interim relief was granted... But yes, as far as the validity of provisions (under the ordinance) is concerned, that should have been decided by the court at the earliest. Because of certain unavoidable reasons, including the pandemic, the court failed to do so.

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN: Do you think that somewhere the leadership's commitment to the Constitution also needs to be addressed?

Very frankly, yes. You see, when you are making decisions on the basis of caste and not on merit... I am talking about the political arena... In my younger days, casteism was a negative thing. Now, while deciding candidates for constituencies, caste plays a vital role, tickets are given based on it. There is another tendency in the executive these days, to leave things on courts. They don't want to take any action... There is no effort on the part of political parties as well as the executive to have constitutional values as our social values. Some political parties or NGOs must be doing something

about it, but I have not seen any result because it is still about whether I am Hindu or Muslim or something else, but not a citizen who has to abide by constitutional provisions... It's like whenever I get a chance to violate constitutional provisions for my personal gains, I will do that. It is a dangerous phenomenon. Our leaders have also not escaped it. They are also doing the same thing.

ANANT GOENKA: Do you think there is more pressure today on judges than there has been historically?

In my last 17 years, I have had no pressure of any kind. In Rajasthan, I dealt with a number of cases, including the Bhanwari Devi case, where a Cabinet minister ultimately resigned, but nobody dared to tell me anything. But yes, at times some efforts may be made indirectly. If a judge doesn't take pressure, nobody tells you anything.

...The pressure is of a different kind, when it is about future appointments. The allurement of being appointed as a presiding officer of, say, the Human Rights Commission or any tribunal is very dangerous. Judges should not accept it and Parliament should not make any provision for retired judges to be appointed as heads of any tribunal... We must ensure that enactments for post-retirement employment must be abandoned... I am not going to accept any government assignment in the remaining part of life.

APURVA VISHWANATH: How did you view Justice Ranjan Gogoi's nomination to the Rajya Sabha?

I would not like to say anything about it.

APURVA VISHWANATH: Would you accept a Rajya Sabha seat?

Never. If I have an opportunity to go to Parliament by contesting an election, I will go, but not by nomination.

ANANT GOENKA: Is the media a factor while cases are being heard in court?

Yes, no doubt. Journalism, at least in subordinate judiciary, plays a vital role during trials. I am of the opinion that there should be no media trial. On a sub-

conscious level, it affects the mind of a judge, especially younger judges. Additional district judges in the age group of 35-37 years are deciding on important trials like capital punishment. Ultimately, judges are also human beings. There must be some code for the media... Not a written code, but mostly ethics which the media must adhere to.

LIZ MATHEW: In recent times, high courts have been burdened with a number of cases linked to ideological issues — love jihad, cow-slaughter. Do you think it is a cause for concern?

If an ideological issue or an ideology is in conflict with constitutional provisions, then it is not a simple ideological issue... Like in case of love jihad, the court can't say that we will not examine the case because it is an ideological issue. If ideology is in conflict with law, we are required to protect the law. But this is

justice of Allahabad HC is dependent on several other factors for making recommendations for appointments. A huge volume of work is an issue but the huge volume of lawyers is also a very important issue... The Collegium system needs a 100% (relook). After the failure of the National Judicial Appointments Commission, why did the government leave this entire issue? I fail to understand.

BHUPENDRA PANDEY: The UP government has often ignored directions passed by the Allahabad High Court, including in the Hathras rape case and, more recently, in implementing lockdown in certain areas because of rising Covid-19 cases...

As far as lockdown is concerned, I have read the order. It was passed after my retirement. The court asked (the government) to examine viability of imposing a lockdown in a specific manner. And interestingly, even though an interim order was passed by the Supreme Court (for an interim stay on the Allahabad HC's order), from that very day there was a lockdown in UP.

In the Hathras case, I am proud of the judges who took suo motu cognizance of the matter. An outstanding order was passed by them... I am of the view that honouring those directions would have enhanced the prestige of the state also. But what happened ultimately? When you talk about the position of law and order in Uttar Pradesh, I don't think it is up to the mark... I am not saying things like there is jungle raj etc... But it is no less than that.

KRISHN KAUSHIK: Do high courts take their cues from the Supreme Court?

In our constitutional scheme, the Union judiciary and state judiciary are absolutely different. The state judiciary is absolutely independent. But by certain other means, like the State Legal Services Authority Act, there is a window for the Union judiciary to look into the state judiciary. I deprecate that. Next is the Collegium system. It is making a link between the two independent organisations... Judges sometimes are under pressure... as to what has been said by the Supreme Court... It is against the constitutional scheme of the justice delivery system.

VANDITA MISHRA: In recent years, the judiciary seems to have dropped the ball on issues of civil liberties. Is it because of an executive with a decisive majority which is weaponising that mandate, or is it because of the larger process of institutional decline?

If you see the history of Indian judiciary, in the early 1970s, at that time also, a majoritarian executive was there. Today also, it is the same position. At that time, the election of Mrs Indira Gandhi was set aside by the Allahabad High Court, and after 1977, a series of judgments were passed by the Supreme Court as well as by different high courts which were certainly progressive. Those judgments played a very vital role in ensuring civil liberties, personal liberty of a person and so many other fundamental issues. Maybe, the same sort of circumstances are prevailing now... The judiciary can't be pressurised by a majoritarian executive... I am of the view that most of the judges in this country are working fearlessly.

MONOJIT MAJUMDAR: One of the complaints that the present as well as previous governments have had is of judicial overreach. Do you believe that judges sometimes step out of line?

You used the term overreach and overreaching is always wrong. If anything is overreaching, then a system is prescribed. If the high court has tried to overreach, then go to the Supreme Court. And if the Supreme Court notices that there has been an overreach, it sets aside that order... Some errors happen and everybody is prone to errors. Those are to be rectified.

APURVA VISHWANATH: The Madras High Court recently said that the Election Commission should face 'murder charge' for failing to enforce Covid protocols during polls...

Please try to understand the circumstances in which courts work... It is a simple observation, not a hue and cry issue. The media should also understand that during heated arguments, this is quite common... It is not the lead news. Ultimately, it is the order that has been passed by the court that prevails. During these heated arguments, many things are uttered. If you are going to take cognizance of each and every statement, then it would be very difficult.

Well-Being

SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021



MAIN THEME

Guilt is a main theme in John Steinbeck's *East of Eden*, Fyodor Dostoyevsky's *Crime and Punishment*, William Shakespeare's play *Macbeth*, Edgar Allan Poe's *The Tell-Tale Heart* and many other works of literature

CHRISTINA CARON

LIKE MANY PEOPLE, Erin Fitch has been feeling guilty lately. She and her husband, who live in San Diego, decided to prioritise safety over socialisation during the pandemic. But that meant that their three boys, ages 9, 11 and 14, have had to remain pretty isolated — learning remotely for the most part and keeping their distance from friends.

Over the last few months — and especially after her 11-year-old said he would pay \$100 if he could learn inside a classroom again — Fitch, 44, has been wondering if she is making the right call, the self-doubt creeping in as she watches other families loosen their restrictions. "The guilt wakes me up every morning and puts me to bed every night. It's never-ending," she said. "This is mom guilt on steroids."

Or, to be even more specific, it's unjustified pandemic guilt — a nagging, self-punishing emotion that keeps surfacing as we continue to navigate the crisis. "The highly distressing, morally difficult, and cumulative nature of Covid-19 related stressors may be a perfect storm to result in a guilt and shame response (although the actual prevalence will not be known for some time)," wrote the authors of a paper published in August in the journal *Psychological Trauma*.

Feelings of guilt may be particularly prevalent among health care workers. An October survey of 14,000 health staff in the United Kingdom, including nurses and assistants, found that 51% had sought mental health support during the pandemic. One nurse reported: "It was a nightmare — I felt guilty and helpless about not being able to do more. I couldn't sleep and was very anxious."

Perhaps you feel self-conscious about the good things in your life — or even your own survival — when others have suffered so greatly. Or maybe you feel responsible for things that are not really your fault, like accidentally infecting a family member with Covid-19. Or you're in anguish over your choices, even when there isn't a definitive path to follow.

"People feel much more guilt for all kinds of things than they did before, especially unjustified guilt," said June Tangney, a psychology professor at George Mason University in Fairfax, who studies guilt and shame. We asked experts how we can pull ourselves out of the pandemic guilt spiral if we're feeling unwarranted remorse.

Turn brooding into action

"I have extreme feelings of guilt as someone who has most of my extended family in India," said Neha Shastray, 30, who lives in Brooklyn. She has been shaken by the deepening Covid crisis there, as infections and deaths rapidly advance from big cities into rural areas. "It's surreal to wake up a year later in New York City and see the streets full and businesses flourishing again, while my family is fearing for their lives."

She has coped, in part, by writing out her thoughts every morning and attempting to "embrace the guilt and accept it."

With unjustified guilt, people punish themselves even though circumstances are out of their control or they didn't deliberately hurt anyone, said Sherry Cormier, a psychologist and bereavement trauma specialist in Edgewater, Maryland, who has observed survivor's guilt during the pandemic.

Experts draw a distinction between guilt and shame. Shame is the more insidious feeling of being defective and internalising negative beliefs about yourself, whereas guilt stems from something we've done or failed to do, or from the act of comparing ourselves with others.



A lingering effect of Covid: Guilt

Many have felt remorse over things they can't control. Here's how to stop the spiral

"The best way to get out of the guilt spiral is to do something concretely," Cormier said. "Because as long as we continue to think about the event or the situation that's making us feel guilty, and we just brood about it, we're going to keep living in guilt."

If you are feeling guilty about your good fortune, for example, you might consider either volunteering or making a financial donation to a charity or an individual. Or, if you didn't get a chance to say a proper goodbye to a relative who died during the pandemic, you may want to bolster your relationships with other relatives or friends in your life.

Fitch, in California, is taking action, too. Her 14-year-old is now back in school and when the new school year starts, her two youngest sons will return as well. "We'll have to take whatever risks come with it," she said. "They can't just keep doing this."

Swat down negative self-talk

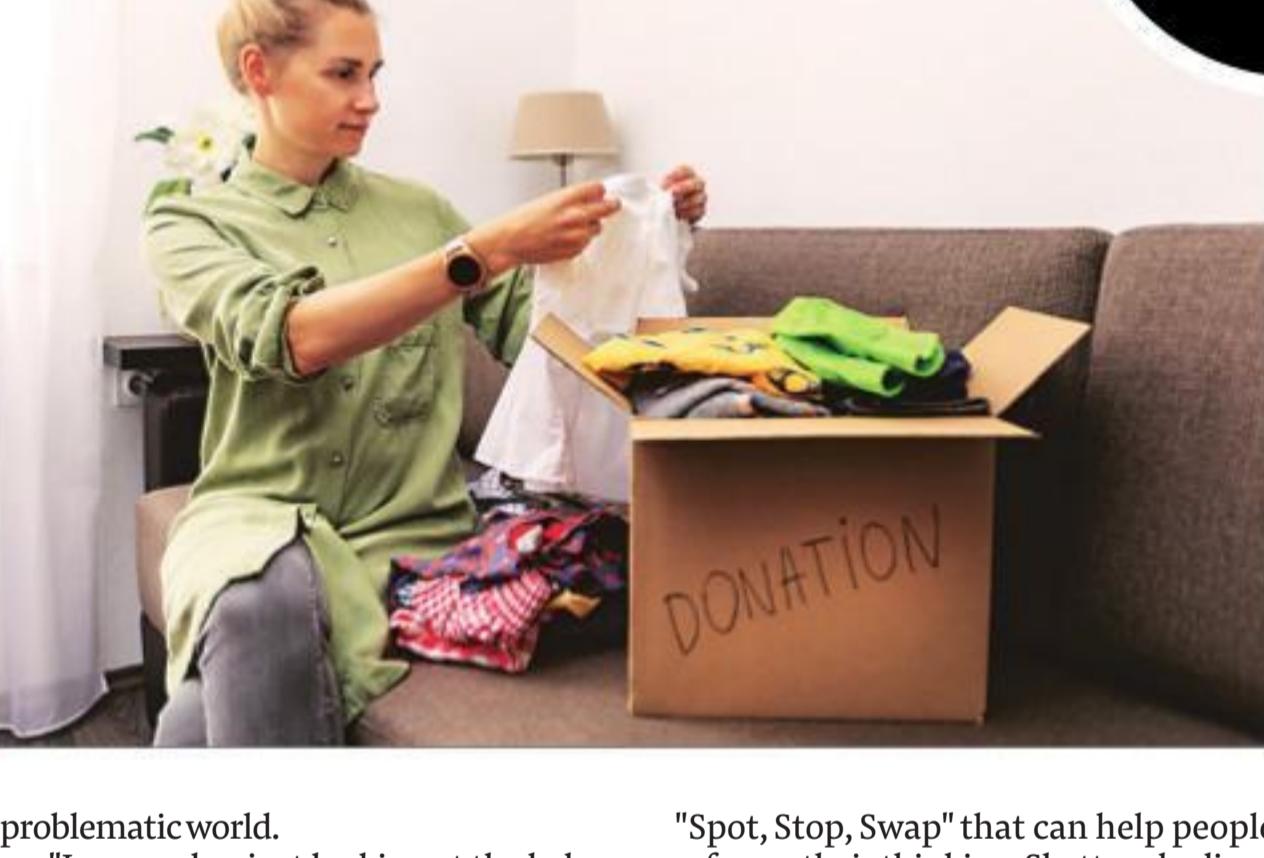
The way you speak to yourself might perpetuate the guilt you feel. When Sumaya Alsenan, 36, gave birth to her first child last year in Brooklyn, she was guilt-ridden about having brought new life into such a complex and oftentimes

problematic world.

"I remember just looking at the baby and truly verbalising how sorry I was," Alsenan said. "I noticed that I was trying to actually find ways to take the blame. Like, how did I not know that pandemics are going to be a thing now?"

By identifying the negativity in your thought process, you can begin to tackle your guilt, the experts said.

In his book, *Think Like a Monk*, the author Jay Shetty details a technique called



IF YOU ARE FEELING GUILTY ABOUT YOUR GOOD FORTUNE, CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO A CHARITY OR AN INDIVIDUAL

"Spot, Stop, Swap" that can help people reframe their thinking. Shetty, who lived as a monk in his early 20s, said this is his name for what monks describe as awareness, addressing and amending.

Say you feel bad for not spending as much time with a friend as you'd like to.

"If we spot these feelings, we can trace them to their root. We can become curious instead of critical," Shetty explained in an email. "Why is this bothering us? Are we not honouring our values because we're

truly not prioritising our friendship?"

In the stop phase, "we can shift from guilt to compassion," he added, and recognise the reasons it has been difficult to honour our values. "We can then make a mental swap to something more positive and empowered. We can acknowledge that while we can't be perfect, we can be present."

If you're stuck in a cycle of negative self-talk, remember that the past is gone and that we own only the present and the future, Cormier said.

"You can't really go back to relive that moment," she added. "But we can change what's happening right now in our brain. And we can change the way that we respond in that situation or a similar situation in the future."

Relinquish control

At the hospital in Florida where the nurse Donna Kearns works, when patients are near death, they are allowed one visitor for 30 minutes, provided the visit is "supervised," she said.

"This feels so invasive and such an emotional, private thing. So intrusive. I try to just stay near the door and avert my eyes," Kearns, 63, said. "There's a lot of guilt in feeling like you wish you could do more."

If you're feeling guilty about things over which you have no control, the guilt you're feeling is not warranted, the experts said.

Tangney suggested imagining what you would say if a good friend were in the same situation. Would you berate your friend? Or would you respond with compassion and empathy?

"Doing that little switch — where you're stepping outside of yourself — can help people to a point of self-compassion, of giving yourself a break," she said.

Talking it through with a trusted friend or, if your thoughts are pervasive, with a therapist, can help you analyse your thinking and any assumptions you might be making.

Stephanie Hills, 68, who lost both of her parents earlier this year, regrets that she wasn't able to see her mother, who had Covid, after she was admitted to the hospital. At the time, Hills had Covid, too.

When she spoke to her mother on the phone, "I kept on telling her I'd come back and wouldn't forget her," said Hills, who lives in Davie, Florida. But her mother was so weak she couldn't respond.

The hospital rabbi suggested that she tell her mother that it was OK for her to go. "I couldn't say it," Hills said. "I wanted her to fight and get better." This only compounded her feelings of guilt, Hills said recently.

People are hard-wired to engage in counterfactual thinking, Tangney said. In other words, if something negative happened, they will dwell on that experience and wonder if there was anything they could have done that would have changed the outcome. "If only I had left a little earlier," for example, or "If only I had said something different."

This kind of thinking can be practical in instances where we want to find new solutions or alternative ways of doing things.

"We're just looking for ways to get control, so that X doesn't happen again," Tangney said.

But if it's applied to circumstances that are beyond our control, it can also reinforce feelings of guilt, she added. Ask yourself: Could I really have foreseen this? Is this something I would hold someone else responsible for? "Bad, bad things happen," Tangney said. "And sometimes it's nobody's fault."

NYT

How exercise may help us flourish

Physical activity can promote a sense of purpose, creating a virtuous cycle that keeps you moving

GRETCHEN REYNOLDS

OUR EXERCISE HABITS may influence our sense of purpose in life and our sense of purpose may affect how much we exercise, according to an interesting new study of the reciprocal effects of feeling your life has meaning and being often in motion. The study, which involved more than 18,000 middle-aged and older men and women, found that those with the most stalwart sense of purpose at the start were the most likely to become active over time, and vice versa.

The findings underscore how braided the relationship between physical activity and psychological well-being can be, and how the effects often run both ways.

Science already offers plenty of evidence that being active bolsters our mental, as well as physical, health. Study after study shows that men and women who exercise are less likely than the sedentary to develop depression or anxiety. Additional research indicates that the reverse can be true, and people who feel depressed or anxious tend not

to work out.

But most of these studies examined connections between exercise and negative moods. Fewer have delved into positive emotions and their links with physical activity, and fewer still have looked at the role of a strong sense of purpose and how it might influence whether we move, and the other way around.

This omission puzzled Ayse Yemisigil, a postdoctoral research fellow with the Human Flourishing Program at Harvard University, who studies well-being. "A sense of purpose is the feeling that you get from having goals and plans that give direction and meaning to life," she says. "It is about being engaged with life in productive ways."

This definition of purpose struck her as overlapping in resonant ways with many people's motivations for exercise, she says. "Active people often talk about how exercise gives structure and meaning to their lives," she says. "It provides goals and achievements."

In that case, she thought, physical activity plausibly could contribute to a sense of purpose and, likewise, a sense



of purpose might influence how likely we are to exercise.

But there was scant evidence to support those ideas. So, for the new study, which was published in April in the *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, she and her colleague Ivo Vlaev, a professor of behavioural science at the University of Warwick in England, set out to find links, if any, between moving and meaning.

They began by turning to the large

and ongoing Health and Retirement Study, which gathers longitudinal data about the lives, attitudes and activities of thousands of American adults aged 50 or older. It asks them at the start about their physical health, background, daily activities and mental health, including if they agree with statements like, "I have a sense of direction and purpose in life," or "My daily activities often seem trivial and unimportant." The study's researchers then checked back after a few years to repeat the queries.

Then, Yemisigil and Vlaev drew records for 14,159 of the participants. To enlarge and enrich their sample, they also gathered comparable data for another 4,041 men and women enrolled in a different study that asked similar questions about people's physical activities and sense of purpose.

Finally, they collated and compared the results, determining, first, how much and how vigorously people moved, and also how strong their sense of purpose seemed to be. The researchers then assessed how those disparate aspects of people's lives seemed to be related to one another over the years, and they found clear intersections. People who started off with active lives generally showed an increasing sense of purpose over the years, and those whose sense of purpose was sturdier in the beginning were the most physically active years later.

The associations were hardly outsize. Having a firm sense of purpose at one point in people's lives was linked, later, with the equivalent of taking an extra weekly walk or two. But the associations were consistent and remained statistically significant, even when the researchers controlled for people's weight, income, education, overall mental health and other factors.

"It was especially interesting to see these effects in older people," Yemisigil says, "since many older people report a decreasing sense of purpose in their lives, and they also typically have low rates of engagement in physical activity."

This study was based, though, on people's subjective estimates of their exercise and purposefulness, which could be unreliable. The findings are also associational, meaning they show links between having a sense of purpose at one point in your life and being active later, or vice versa, so do not prove one causes the other.

But Yemisigil believes the associations are sturdy and rational. "People often report more self-efficacy" after they take up exercise, she says, which might prompt them to feel capable of setting new goals and developing a new or augmented purpose in life. And from the other side, "when you have goals and a sense of purpose, you probably want to be healthy and live long enough to fulfil them." So, cue exercise, she says.

NYT

WHEN YOU HAVE GOALS AND A SENSE OF PURPOSE, YOU WANT TO BE HEALTHY AND LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO FULFIL THEM

Mind & Games

SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021

ALICE CALLAHAN

THERE ARE FEW SINGLE measures in healthcare that seem to carry as much weight as body mass index, or BMI. We encounter it not just at doctor's offices, but with online calculators and smart scales, at gyms as well. Its formula is simple: Take your weight (in kilogram), and divide by the square of your height (in metre). The result, which slots you into one of four main categories, is meant to describe your body in a single word or two: underweight (BMI less than 18.5), normal weight (18.5 to 24.9), overweight (25.0 to 29.9) or obese (30 or greater).

Many feel judged by these categories. But after talking with an epidemiologist, two obesity medicine physicians, a health psychologist and a sociologist, none claimed that BMI was a very useful measure of a person's health. And, in fact, some said they would indeed call it a scam.

How is BMI useful?

Introduced in the 1830s by a Belgian statistician who wanted to quantitatively describe the "average man," the calculation was named the body mass index and popularised in the 1970s by the Minnesota physiologist Ancel Keys. At the time, Keys was irritated that life insurance companies were estimating people's body fat — and hence, their risk of dying — by comparing their weights with the average weights of others of the same height, age and gender. In a 1972 study of more than 7,000 healthy, mostly middle-aged men, Keys and his colleagues showed that the body mass index was a more accurate — and far simpler — predictor of body fat than the methods used by the insurance industry.

"It is a very useful tool in epidemiologic research," said JoAnn Manson, a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School. Research has shown that across large groups of people, higher BMI is generally associated with greater risk of heart disease, Type 2 diabetes and some types of cancer, she said. On average, people with a higher body mass index have more body fat, so it can be useful for tracking rates of obesity, which have nearly tripled globally over the last several decades. It also has a "J-shaped" relationship with mortality; very low and very high BMIs are associated with greater risk of dying sooner, whereas the "normal" to "overweight" range is associated with lower mortality risk.

As Keys found, BMI is also easy and inexpensive to measure, which is why it is still used in research studies and doctor's offices today.

Does it accurately describe individual health?

For all its utility as a research tool, though, body mass index is "fairly useless when looking at the individual," said Yoni Freedhoff, an associate pro-



Is BMI a scam?

It can be a helpful health measure for large groups of people, but it won't tell you much about yourself

essor of family medicine at the University of Ottawa.

BMI can't tell, for instance, what percentage of a person's weight is from their fat, muscle or bone. This explains why muscular athletes often have high BMIs despite having little body fat. And as people age, it's common to lose muscle and bone mass but gain abdominal fat, a change in body composition that would be concerning for health but might go unnoticed if it didn't change a person's BMI, Manson said.

The measure also does a poor job of predicting a person's metabolic health. In a 2016 study of more than 40,000 adults in the United States, researchers compared people's BMIs with more specific measurements of their health, like their insulin resistance, markers of inflammation and blood pressure, triglyceride, cholesterol and glucose levels. Nearly half of those classified as overweight and about a quarter of those classified as obese were metabolically healthy by these measures. On the

other hand, 31% of those with a "normal" body mass index were metabolically unhealthy.

BMI can "label a huge swath of our population as somehow aberrant because of their weight, even if they're perfectly healthy," said A Janet Tomiyama, lead author of the study and an associate professor of health psychology at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Another problem with BMI is that it was developed and validated mostly in white men, said Sabrina Strings, an associate professor of sociology at the University of California, Irvine. But body composition and its relationship with health can vary depending on your gender, race and ethnicity. "Women and people of colour are largely not represented in many of these data," Strings said. "Nevertheless, they're being used to create a universal standard."

Can BMI be harmful?

It can be if it's used to set arbitrary goal posts for body size. Rekha Kumar,

an associate professor of clinical medicine at the Weill Cornell Medical College, said that some patients who have lost weight and reached what she sees as their "healthy, happy weight," but who still have a high BMI, may feel that they have to unnecessarily or unrealistically drop more pounds to be considered normal on the scale.

It can also be harmful if a doctor assumes that a person with a normal body mass index is healthy, and doesn't probe them about potentially unhealthy habits they may have, like following a poor diet or not getting enough physical activity, Freedhoff said. And if the doctors of patients with higher BMIs focus on weight alone as the cause of any health issues they may have, the doctors may miss more important diagnoses and risk stigmatizing patients.

There is plenty of evidence that weight stigma is harmful, Tomiyama said. Research has shown that anti-fat bias is common among medical doctors, which can result in lower quality care and cause patients to avoid or delay medical attention. People who have felt discriminated against because

BMI CAN'T TELL WHAT PER CENT OF A PERSON'S WEIGHT IS FROM THEIR FAT, MUSCLE OR BONE, MEDICAL EXPERTS SAY



If you think you know what a fern is, think again

■ Ferns are ancient plants, with the earliest fossil records indicating that they may have inhabited the earth 400 million years ago, according to the book *The Complete Book of Ferns* by Mobee Weinstein.

■ Many of the oldest species are extinct, but others, like the interrupted fern (*Osmunda claytoniana*), a native to eastern North America and east Asia, have racked up at least 180 million years of history, despite remaining essentially unchanged.

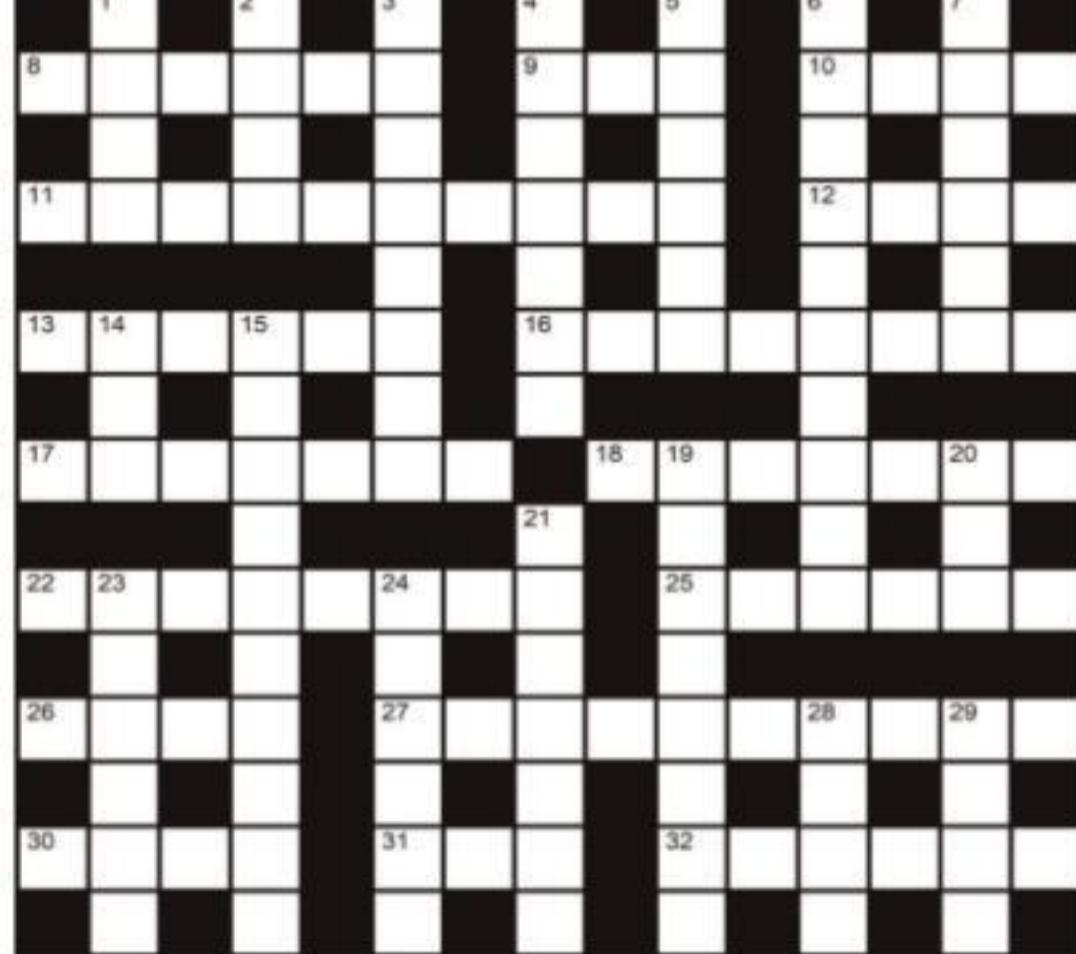
■ A fern's tightly coiled emerging frond, or fiddlehead, is named for the distinctive carved scroll at the top of a violin (its other name, crozier, refers to the curled ornament at the top of a bishop's staff).

■ But not everything 'fern' is a fern, Weinstein says. Asparagus fern, for instance. And not everything that is a fern looks fern-like (*Equisetum hyemale*, or horsetail, is a prime example). To be a fern, you must be a vascular plant with megaphylls (leaves that have more than one vein) that reproduces by spores, not seeds.

■ Most ferns want bright, indirect light, as well as loose, rich soil and ample moisture. But hoping you'll adopt some of the others as well, Weinstein will tell you that ferns range from terrestrial to aquatic, epiphytic (perched on tree branches) and epipetric (on the surface of rocks).

MARGARET ROACH/NYT

CROSSWORD



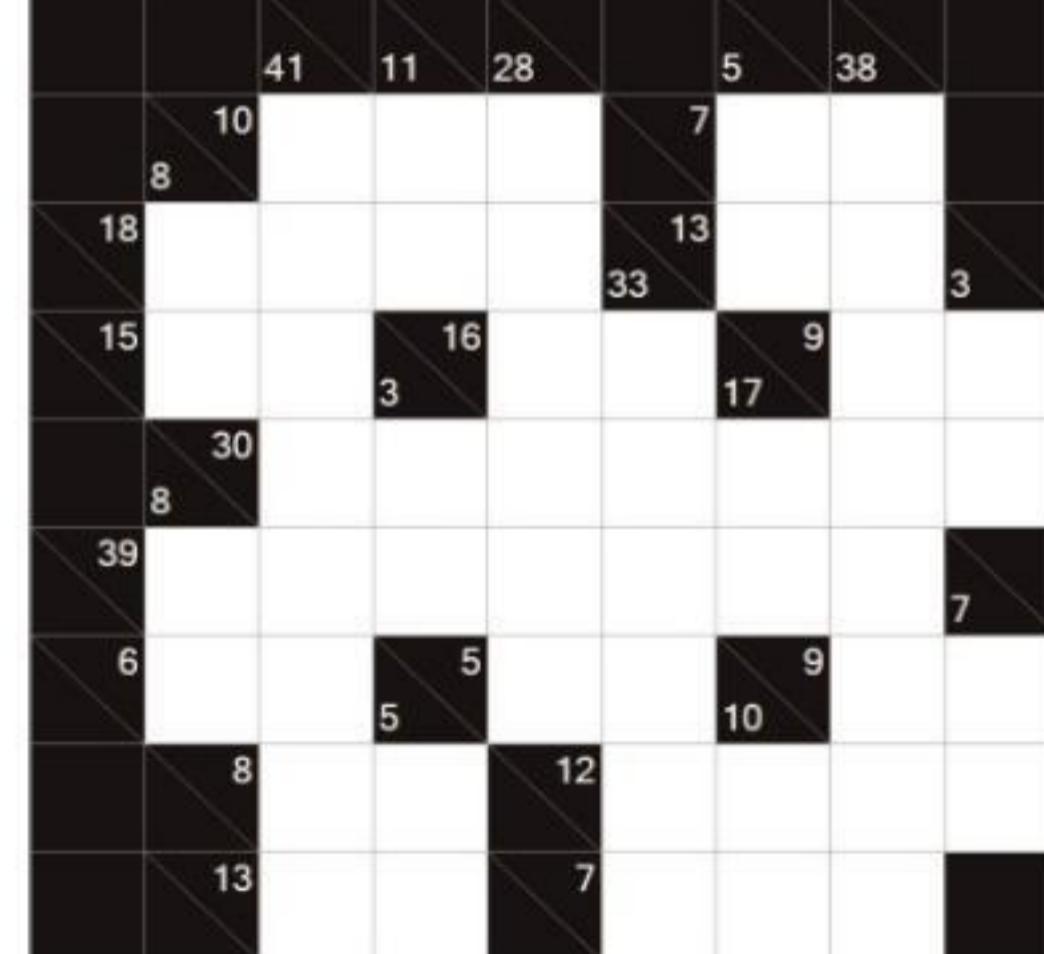
ACROSS
8 Maruti model (6)
9 A type of chart (3)
10 Angered or angry, poetically speaking? (4)
11 "D" in DCA, the government body dealing with corporations (10)
12 Regarding (2,2)
13 Exide Industries is owned by the Rajan group (6)
14 "R" in ICMR (8)
17 Provider of DTH broadcasting services (7)
18 Cleaned through vigorous rubbing and polishing (7)
22 Keralan-based publishers of the famous magazines and the Year Book (8)
25 Point a __ pistol at: threaten somebody, in a way? (6)
26 __ Hakkinen: 1998-1999 F1 Champion (10)

DOWN
1 Dabur India Ltd. manufactures many nature-based health products (4)
2 testing: final testing of a product or a software before final release (4)
3 This internet, finance company was established in Tokyo, Japan on September 3, 1981 (8)
4 Comes into view or turns up (7)
5 Demises, ends or terminations? (6)
6 Industrial area of Bangalore - van up (10)

pion (4)
27 Gadgets or gizmos (10)
30 "a" in a.m.i.e. the morning? (4)
31 Wise old bird? (3)
32 Mum or dad? (6)

DOWN
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KAKURO



BIZ QUIZ
1 Which country has classified the Indian COVID variant as Variant of Concern (VOC)?
2 Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), which was seen in the news recently, is associated with which country?
3 The Supreme Court has recently struck down the Housing Industry Regulation Act (HIRA) of which state as unconstitutional?

ANSWERS**SOLUTIONS**

In Kakuro sum puzzles, the numbers in the black squares refer to the SUMS of the digits, which you are to fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the black square containing the number. No zeroes are used here, only the digits one through nine. An important point: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination.

BUZZ WORD

The Buzz Word is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is

by trial and error.

Today's clue: VGW equals BOG
Eggsylic mu jmte wjxuu - yqc vsmwyqes yqc wjmyyqes, yqc fgsc exumir vsqci. - Blvjmjmlu Urslu

BRIDGE BOUTS L SUBRAMANIAN

TOO SIMPLE

Today's deal from an online IMPs tournament was awfully simple that only ten percent of the declarers went wrong in the play.

Dlr: North SAQ
Vul: N-S HAK 64 3
DAK 2
CA 65

N
S
SK 9 6 3 2
H J T
D 7 5 3
C 8 4 3

Contract: 3NT by south. West leads the CK. Plan the play.

Analysis: Your plan should be to prevent west from establishing his club suit and subsequently gain entry to enjoy winners there. As for making the contract, you should aim for four tricks in hearts, two each in spades and diamonds, and one in club, for a total of nine tricks. How do you continue?

Play: Employ the good old idea of 'hold up' play at trick one by refusing to win the opening lead. Let us say west continues his attack on the suit by playing the CQ. What now?

Play continues... Win the club continuation and play the SQ and overtake it with the king in your hand! Play the HJ and let it ride if west plays low. As it happens the finesse wins, and the suit breaks 3-3 and you finish with ten tricks. The complete hands were:

SAQ
HAK 64 3
DAK 2
CA 65

SJ 7 5
H Q 9 7
D J 9
C K Q J T 9
N
S
S 8 4
H 8 5 2
D Q T 8 6 4
C 7 2

SK 9 6 3 2
H J T
D 7 5 3
C 8 4 3

Discussion: As you would have noticed, if you play a heart to your hand after winning the second club, hoping for the queen with east, the defence can defeat you.

Suppose the heart finesse loses and east returns a club, the defence can take only a total of four tricks.

Suppose you cash the SA and overtake the SQ with the king in your hand and run the jack of hearts. The finesse may lose and east can put his partner in SJ to beat you in this iron-clad contract.

As simple as eating a 'dosa', don't you think? I am sure you got it right.

ZERO DRAG

■ **adj.** Relating to a highly motivated employee who has few personal responsibilities and so can work long hours, travel frequently, or be called in to work with little notice.

The ideal zero-drag employee is young, unmarried and childless with no responsibilities and an eagerness to do well.

—Diane E. Lewis, "Wedded to workplace," The Boston Globe, March 11, 2001

Situation stabilising with daily cases reducing: Govt

The spread is now limited to ten states which accounted for 78% of the daily cases. There are now eight states with more than one lakh cases. Karnataka was leading with 5.14 lakh cases, followed by Maharashtra with 3.69 lakh and Kerala with 3.06 lakh cases. However, all these states have shown a declining trend in cases. Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal have reported active cases of more than 1 lakh each and were witnessing a continuous rise in the number. On vaccine wastage, the ministry said Covishield wastage has reduced from 8% on March 1 to 1% now, while Covaxin wastage decreased from 17% to 4% in the same period.

Farmhouses script turnaround as rich prefer open green space

This number is likely to grow further as the demand pipeline is very healthy, he noted, adding, "This 20% may become 25-30% in the next 6-8 months as people are opting for larger standalone spaces with more play area, office area, etc."

The price of farmhouses in Delhi rose 20-25% Y-o-Y as on March 2021 with demand rising in most of the good localities, particularly DLF Chittarpur, Westend Greens, Radhey Mohan Drive, MG Road, Sultanpur, Vasant Kunj, Satbari area, etc., Goyal said.

From the Front Page

Other growth areas are Bijwasan and Kapashera, near the Delhi airport. Besides, Noida has also seen some deals activity in the past few years, he added.

In Mumbai, farmhouses are largely around Lonavala and Alibaug. The country's financial capital is more into apartments vis-a-vis independent homes, Goyal said, adding, "Mumbai office has also witnessed a trend like Delhi's. Mumbaikars are more keen to move 40-60 minutes away, pick up larger homes and spend more time there."

However, luxury farmhouses are largely a Delhi-based phenomenon and is not a preferred choice in cities like Bangalore and Kolkata, he pointed out.

Although demand is on the rise, there is a big deterrent in the form of sanctioned built-up area, Goyal said. "As per current policy there is very little that one can build in farmhouses. It has to be minimum 2.5 acre and above land parcel. On that piece, one is allowed to build 4,500 sq ft including basement. Most clients find this as a deal-breaker. Generally, a family asks for 7,000-8,000 sq ft space. This drives away demand," he added.

However, with the DDA's draft Green Development Area (GDA) policy this issue will be addressed with a relaxation in floor area ratio (FAR) norms, which will encourage many buyers. Another is that today, a lot of people opt for one acre farms. However, very few have approval for regularisation, which is not there otherwise for

below 2.5 acre plots, he explains.

"So if this acreage comes down then more people can afford farms. In such a scenario, the price range would come down between ₹15-30 crore. It will open this segment to rich millennials, C-suite executives, etc," Goyal emphasised.

For the sake of comparison, a 2.5-acre plot sells for anywhere between ₹50-75 crore in Delhi NCR depending on the area.

Punjab & Sind Bank returns to profit

Net NPA almost halved to 4.04% from as much as 8.03% a year earlier.

However, sequentially, while GNPs grew from 13.14% as of December 2020, net NPA, too, jumped from 2.84%. But the rise in gross bad loans was the fallout of the Supreme Court recently vacating an earlier order that had directed lenders not to classify an account (until further order) as NPA if it was not so until August 31, 2020. So, the accumulated NPAs in earlier months had to be declared as part of the March quarter financials. Having provided for 83% of its bad loans, the bank now expects to post profit in each quarter of this fiscal, managing director and chief executive S Krishnan said, indicating the worst is over for the bank. Its provision coverage ratio (PCR) improved significantly over the past year from just about 67% in March 2020.

Capital-to-Risk (Weighted) Assets ratio, too, jumped to

17.06% in March 2021 from 12.76% a year earlier, thanks to the government's infusion of as much as ₹5,500 crore. CASA (current account, savings account) level, which reflects the bank's ability to garner low-cost funds, jumped almost 19% from a year earlier. However, net interest margin dropped to 1.70% in the March quarter from 1.87% a year before.

Krishnan said the cost of the waiver of compound interest for all borrowers who availed of a loan moratorium in the wake of the pandemic (in sync with a recent Supreme Court directive) could be about ₹30 crore for his bank. Asked if the lender is urging the government to compensate it for this waiver, he said the Indian Banks' Association was taking up the matter on behalf of all banks with the Centre. Refuting speculations, Krishnan said he hasn't received any communication from the central bank expressing concern about non-interest paying securities (to the tune of ₹5,500 crore) that the government used last fiscal to recapitalise Punjab & Sind Bank. Punjab & Sind Bank, Krishnan said, won't contribute to the equity of the proposed "bad bank" (National Asset Reconstruction Company), which is expected to be operational in June. However, the bank will consider transferring certain bad loans to it.

JSW Steel mulls bid for Liberty Steel biz

Britain's Serious Fraud Office said this month that it was investigating Gupta's businesses, including their links to

Greensill. Although JSW Steel, part of the metals-to-cement conglomerate JSW Group controlled by billionaire Sajjan Jindal, was interested in bidding, one of the sources said, there were obstacles to any deal, including navigating the fallout from Brexit as well as India's coronavirus crisis.

And no final decision had been taken on whether to bid for what the source described as a

"surprise package". "The due diligence has not yet started. After Brexit, it will not be easy to operate these assets," he said. A spokesman for GFG said it "continues to serve its customers around the world and is making progress in the refinancing of its operations, which are benefiting from the operational improvements it has made and the very strong steel, aluminium and iron ore markets." The UK gov-

ernment said it was "closely monitoring developments around Liberty Steel and continues to engage closely with the company, the broader UK steel industry and trade unions".

Private equity investor Endless and China's Jingye Group, which owns British Steel, were also interested in Gupta's business in Britain, said people familiar with the matter.

Separately, commodity

trader Trafigura has expressed an interest in investing in GFG's aluminium smelter at Dunkirk in France, which is Europe's largest, said one source. JSW and Endless did not respond to requests for comment and Jingye's British Steel declined to comment. Trafigura, which provided a loan to GFG's Liberty House to help finance Dunkirk's purchase in 2018, declined to comment.

—REUTERS

MANGALAM CEMENT LIMITED

Regd. Office: P.O. Adityanagar - 326520, Morak, Distt. Kota (Rajasthan)
CIN-L26943RJ1976PLC001705

Website : www.mangalamcement.com • email : communication@mangalamcement.com

EXTRACT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER/YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH-2021

Particulars	Quarter ended				Year ended
	31.03.2021	31.12.2020	31.03.2020	31.03.2021	31.03.2020
Total Income	41929.84	34875.70	30391.62	133117.62	125797.68
Net Profit before tax and exceptional items	5667.50	5726.43	2343.62	16812.94	11714.04
Net Profit before tax after exceptional items	5667.50	5726.43	2343.62	16812.94	11714.04
Net Profit after tax	3640.08	3745.33	1551.54	10897.88	7590.21
Total comprehensive Income for the period (comprising profit for the period after tax and other comprehensive income after tax)	3601.24	3725.24	1485.89	10829.53	7404.33
Paid-up equity Share Capital (Face Value Rs.10/- Per Share)	2669.38	2669.38	2669.38	2669.38	2669.38
Other Equity	-	-	-	65483.85	54921.26
Earning per share (of Rs. 10/- each) Basic & Diluted	13.64	14.03	5.81	40.83	28.43

1. The Board of Directors has recommended a dividend of Rs. 1.50 (Rupee One and paisa Fifty) only per equity share of Rs. 10 each subject to approval of shareholders for the year ended 31st March, 2021
2. The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at their respective meetings held on 22nd May, 2021.
3. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/yearly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Yearly Financial Results are available on the Stock exchanges websites. www.nseindia.com, www.bseindia.com and Company's web site www.mangalamcement.com.

By order of the Board,
Anshuman Vikram Jalan
Co-Chairperson
DIN : 01455782

SHIRIRAM GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

E-8, EPIP, RIICO Industrial Area, Sitapura, Jaipur - 302022 (Rajasthan)

Tel No.: 0141-3928400, Toll Free No.: 1800-103-3009, 1800-300-30000 Website: <http://www.shriramgi.com>

Registration No. 137 Dated May 08,2008 • CIN No. U66010RJ2006PLC029979 • ISO/IEC 27001:2013 Certified

REVENUE ACCOUNTS

Form No. NL-1A-B-RA (Rs.' in Lakhs)

Particulars	For the Year Ended 31 st March, 2021				For the Year Ended 31 st March, 2020			
	Audited				Audited			
	Fire	Marine	Misc.	Total	Fire	Marine	Misc.	Total
Premiums Earned (Net)	1861	72	212244	214177	1604	95	225305	227004
Co-Insurance Administration Income	(7)	-	(2)	(9)	(3)	-	(1)	(4)
Misc. Income	207	-	90	297	143	-	74	217
Profit/ Loss on sale/redemption of Investments	183	6	9683	9872	131	6	9132	9269
Interest, Dividend & Rent – Gross	1109	34	58731	59874	867	36	60572	61475
Amortisation of discount / (premium), Net	(12)	-	(656)	(668)	2	-	147	149
TOTAL (A)	3341	112	280090	283543	2744	137	295229	298110
Claims Incurred (Net)	872	(20)	167371	168223	73	(20)	147586	147639
Commission	361	1	10556	10918	189	13	12150	12352
Operating Expenses related to Insurance Business	448	12	39681	40141	493	17	46809	47319
Expected Loss from Declined Pool	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL (B)	1681	(7)	217608	219282	755	10	206545	207310
Operating Profit/(Loss) C= (A - B)	1660	119	62482	64261	1989	127	88684	90800

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

Form No NL-2A-B-PL (Rs.' in Lakhs)

Particulars	For the year ended 31 st March 2021		For the year ended 31 st March 2020	
	Audited		Audited	
OPERATING PROFIT/(LOSS)				
(a) Fire Insurance	1660		1989	
(b) Marine Insurance	119		127	
(c) Miscellaneous Insurance	62482		88684	
INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS				
(a) Interest, Dividend & Rent – Gross	10267		10492	
(b) Profit on sale of investments	4519		3066	

E-AUCTION AEPL NOTICE

(Under Regulation 32 & 33 of IBBI (Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2016
AMAZON ENTERPRISES PRIVATE LIMITED (Under Liquidation) (AEPL)
CIN: U51101TG2013PTC089581

Liquidator of AEPL hereby invites Eligible Bidder(s) for participation in E-Auction Sale of Assets of AEPL, listed herein, on "as-is-where-is", "as-is-what-is", "whatever-there-is" and "Non-Recourse" basis as per the schedule listed herein & as per the conditions & Process listed in COMPLETE E-AUCTION PROCESS DOCUMENT available on <https://www.bankeauctions.com> or can be obtained by sending an email to the Liquidator.

DESCRIPTION OF ASSETS		RESERVE PRICE (Rs. Lacs)	EMD(10%) (Rs. Lacs)	Incremental Bid (Rs. Lacs)
S. No.	Description of Immovable/ Movable Assets	RESERVE PRICE	EMD	Incremental Bid
A	Plot - plot No. 2 in an unnamed layout in Sy No. 179, Suraram Village, Chithubulapur Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District - 1000 Sq.Yds	Rs. 250 lacs	Rs. 25 lacs	Rs. 5 lacs/-
B	-Recycled paper cutting machine -Recycled paper automatic bailing machine -Recycled paper grading and strapping machine -Matoba Stiching / Pinning Machine	Rs. 10 lacs	Rs.1 lac	Rs. 50,000/-

E Auction Timings on 07th June, 2021:

Option -A	Option -B
2-4 pm	4-5 pm

Site Visit & Discussion Meeting on 27th May, 2021, from 6.30A.M. to 8.30AM.

Last Date of Document Submission & EMD payment 30th MAY, 2021 Till 05:00 P.M.

Date/Time of E-Auction - Date:07th June, 2021 from 02:00 P.M. to 05:00 P.M.

Note: The plot shown at Option-Aat present is occupied by a third party claiming to be the owner.

Interested Applicants are required to deposit EMD amount through NEFT/RTGS in the EMD A/C No. 15731100003378 in the name of Beneficiary "Amazon Enterprises Private Limited. (Under Liquidation)", Name of the Bank:- UNION BANK OF INDIA, IFSC CODE: UBIN0559041, Branch : Banjara Hills, Raod No.4,Hyderabad 500034

* The complete details of the Plot and Plant & Machinery can be sought after signing the confidentiality undertaking with the Liquidator.

* Interested Applicants are advised to refer the Bid Documents and Submit the complete Bid Documents along with proof of deposit of EMD in hard copy to the Liquidator.

The Liquidator reserves right to accept or cancel or extend or modify any terms and conditions of the e-auction.

Nethi Mallikarjuna Setty
(Liquidator)

In the Matter of AMAZON ENTERPRISES PRIVATE LIMITED,

Regn. No. IBBI/IPA-001/IP-01251/2018-19/11958

Reg. Add.: Flat No 101,Laural Residency,

Road No 18,Panchavathi Colony, Manikonda,Hyderabad-500089

Email:malliknethi@gmail.com

Contact No. 9963606444

Date:23.05.2021

Place : Hyderabad



DCW LIMITED

Registered office : Dhranadhra - 363215 (Gujarat)
Head Office : 'Nirmal' Nariman Point , Mumbai - 400021.
Website : www.dcwlt.com, Telephone : 22871914/16.

Telefax : 22 22028838, E-mail : ho@dcwlt.com CIN : L24110GJ1939PLC000748 (₹ in lakhs)

EXTRACT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED ON 31ST MARCH, 2021 :

Particulars	Quarter Ended 31.03.2021 (Audited)	Quarter Ended 31.12.2020 (Unaudited)	Quarter Ended 31.03.2020 (Audited)	Year Ended 31.03.2021 (Audited)	Year Ended 31.03.2020 (Audited)
1. Total Income from operations	45,567.95	38,607.98	29,359.09	1,46,426.17	1,27,727.68
2. Net Profit / (Loss) before tax for the period	1,872.07	994.89	(3,590.87)	1,367.51	(3,965.84)
3. Net Profit / (Loss) after tax for the period	646.96	619.59	(2,505.74)	379.31	(2,676.16)
4. Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit / Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)	605.40	643.74	(2,461.07)	410.21	(2,579.56)
5. Equity Share Capital of face value of ₹ 2/- each	5,220.61	5,220.61	5,220.61	5,220.61	5,220.61
6. Earning Per Share (of ₹ 2/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)					
1. Basic	0.25	0.24	(0.96)	0.15	(1.12)
2. Diluted	0.25	0.24	(0.96)	0.15	(1.12)

NOTES:

The above is an extract of the detailed format of Standalone Audited Financial Results for the quarter and year ended on 31st March, 2021 filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Audited Financial Results for the quarter and year ended 31st March, 2021 are available on the Stock Exchanges websites (www.bseindia.com) and the company website (www.dcwlt.com).

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors

Sd/-
Pramod Kumar Jain
Chairman & Managing Director
DIN : 00380458

DCW LIMITED - Manufacturers of CHEMICALS THAT MAKE INDUSTRIES HUM
Visit us at : www.dcwlt.com



THE SINGARENI COLLIERIES COMPANY LIMITED

(A Government Company)

R.O. : Kothagudem Collieries - 507101, Telangana

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

Tenders have been published for the following Services / Material Procurement through e-procurement platform. For details, please visit <https://tender.telangana.gov.in> - or - <https://www.sclmines.com>

NIT/Enquiry No.- Description / Subject / Estimated Contract Value - Last date and time for Submission of bid(s)

E022100067 - Procurement of Operator Seats for various HEMM under Rate contract for a period of two years against Open Enquiry - 10-06-2021-17:00 Hrs. -GM,MP

E072100054 - Procurement of T S Niton XL2+ Handheld XRF Analyser on specific make from OEM M/s Thermo Fisher Scientific or their authorized dealers on open enquiry-15-06-2021-17:00 Hrs. -GM,MP

RG-III/CVLET-10/2021-22 - Repairs works to JEQ quarters at CNC (GEMMCO SHEDS), RG-II/Area-31-05-2021-4:30 PM. -GM (Civil)/RG-III

RG-III/CVLET-11/2021-22 - Deployment of contractor's work men's (14800 man shifts) for underground works at ALP, Adriyala Projects Area - 27-05-2021-4:30 PM. -GM (Civil)/RG-III

CRP/CVLR/MNG/TN-12/2021-22, Dt:18-05-2021 - Construction of Rest hall at PK OC-2 Extension Project at Manuguru area, Bhadradi Kothagudem Dist, Telangana State-Rs. 61,54,107/-, 01-06-2021-4:30 PM. -GM (Civil)

CRP/CVLR/ITN-13/2021-22, Dt:20-05-2021 - Providing chain link mesh fencing along the diverted Nallah from new coal corridor road to 2 Incline under bridge at RG-I Area, Godavarikhani, Peddapalli Dist, Telangana State-Rs.1,70,12,335/-, 03-06-2021-4:30 PM. -GM (Civil)

PR/2021-22/MP/CVLU13 RnNo:1812-PP/CL/AGENCY/AVT/1/2021-22, Dt:22-05-2021

LUMAX Lumax Auto Technologies Limited
CIN: L31909DL1981PLC349793
Regd. Office: 2nd Floor, Harbans Bhawan-II,
Commercial Complex, Nangal Raya, New Delhi-110046 Tel: 0124-4760000,
Email: shares@lumaxmail.com Website: www.lumaxworld.in/lumaxautotech

TRANSFER OF UNPAID DIVIDEND AND THE UNDERLYING SHARES TO THE INVESTOR EDUCATION AND PROTECTION FUND (IEPF)

Dear Shareholder(s),
Pursuant to the provisions of Section 124 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 ("the Rules"), as amended from time to time, every Company is required to transfer to the Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF), the money in the Unpaid Dividend Account of the Company which remains unpaid or unclaimed for a period of 7 (seven) years from the date it was transferred to Unpaid Dividend Account and transfer of shares to IEPF in respect of which dividend remains unpaid or unclaimed for 7 (seven) consecutive years or more to IEPF.

In view of above, we wish to inform you that the due date for transfer into IEPF of the Unpaid/Unclaimed Dividend lying in the Unpaid Dividend Account of the Company for the Financial Year 2013-14 is 27th August, 2021. Accordingly, concerned Shareholders are requested to claim the Unpaid Dividend.

The underlying shares of such Shareholders will also be transferred into the IEPF. After such shares are transferred to the IEPF, all voting rights on the same shall be frozen and you will lose all benefits accruing on your shares e.g. dividend, etc. as this shall also be transferred to the IEPF.

The complete list of Shareholders whose dividend(s) are lying unpaid against their Folio/DP-ID/Client ID, in the Unpaid Dividend Accounts of the Company beginning Financial Year 2013-14 onwards and also those whose shares are due for transfer to the IEPF is being uploaded on the website of the Company at www.lumaxworld.in/lumaxautotech under the Investor Section. The Company has sent individual communication to the concerned shareholders at their registered address whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF under the Rules for taking appropriate action(s). The Company will follow the process as mentioned below:

- For the shares which are in physical form and which are liable to be transferred to the IEPF Authority, the concerned shareholders may note that the Company would be issuing duplicate share certificate(s) in lieu of the original share certificate(s) held by them and upon issue of the duplicate share certificate(s), the original share certificate(s) which are registered in their name will stand automatically cancelled and be deemed as non - negotiable as per the rules. After the issue of duplicate share certificate(s), the Company shall inform the depository by way of corporate action to convert the duplicate share certificate into the Demat form and transfer in favour of the Demat Account of the IEPF Authority.
- For the shares which are in Demat form, the Company will process the transfer of shares through depositories by way of Corporate Action in favour of the Demat Account of the IEPF Authority.

The concerned shareholders whose shares are in physical form may further note that their details uploaded on the website of the Company should be treated and considered as an adequate notice in respect of issue of duplicate share certificates(s) by the Company for the purpose of transfer of shares to the IEPF Authority as per the rules.

In case the Company does not receive any communication from the concerned shareholders, the Company with a view to adhering with the requirements of the Rules, transfer the dividend to the IEPF and the shares which are liable to be transferred to IEPF by the due date i.e. 27th August, 2021.

Please note that no claim shall lie against the Company in respect of unclaimed dividend amount and shares transferred to IEPF. Shareholders may claim the dividend and corresponding shares transferred to IEPF including all benefits accruing on such shares, if any, from the IEPF authorities after following the procedure prescribed in the Rules.

For any queries on the above matter, Shareholders are requested to contact the Company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent, M/s BigShare Services Private Limited, Unit: Lumax Auto Technologies Limited, Bharat Tin Works Building, 1st Floor, Opp. Vasant Oasis, Makwana Road, Andheri-East, Mumbai-400059, Tel: 022-62638200, Email ID: yinod.y@bigshareonline.com.

For Lumax Auto Technologies Limited

Place : Gurugram Date : 22/05/2021 Anil Tyagi Company Secretary



FRANKLIN TEMPLETON

Franklin Templeton Mutual Fund

Indiabulls Finance Center, Tower 2, 12th and 13th Floor, Senapati Bapat Marg, Elphinstone Road (West), Mumbai 400013

Income Distribution cum capital withdrawal (IDCW) in the Franklin India Equity Hybrid Fund

The Trustees of Franklin Templeton Mutual Fund have decided to distribute the following Income Distribution cum capital withdrawal (IDCW):

Name of the Schemes / Plans	Face Value per Unit (₹)	Amount of IDCW per Unit* (₹)	NAV per Unit as on May 20, 2021 (₹)
Franklin India Equity Hybrid Fund (FIEHF)			
FIEHF- IDCW	10.00	1.75	24.9412
FIEHF- IDCW - Direct			28.0829

The Record Date for the same will be May 28, 2021 (Friday). If in case the Record Date falls on a non-Business Day, the immediately following Business Day shall be the Record Date. All the Unitholders /



NOTICE

Declaration of Dividend:

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of IDFC AMC Trustee Company Limited (Trustee to IDFC Mutual Fund) has approved the declaration of the following dividend under the Income Distribution cum capital withdrawal option (IDCW Option) of the Scheme(s)/ Plan(s), subject to availability of *distributable surplus, with the Record Date as 'Friday, May 28, 2021.

Scheme(s) Name	Plan(s)	Option(s)	Quantum of Dividend* (Rs. per Unit)	NAV (in Rs.) Per Unit as on May 21, 2021
IDFC Arbitrage Fund	Regular	Monthly IDCW	0.0215	12.8745
IDFC Arbitrage Fund	Direct	Monthly IDCW	0.0225	13.4961
IDFC Equity Savings Fund	Regular	Monthly IDCW	0.03	13.69
IDFC Equity Savings Fund	Direct	Monthly IDCW	0.04	14.54
IDFC Regular Savings Fund	Regular	IDCW	0.0338	13.5788
IDFC Regular Savings Fund	Direct	IDCW	0.0370	14.8517
IDFC Bond Fund - Medium Term Plan	Regular	Bi - Monthly IDCW	0.0714	11.9223
IDFC Bond Fund - Medium Term Plan	Direct	Bi - Monthly IDCW	0.0991	12.3043

Face Value per unit is Rs. 10/-.

* TDS and other statutory levies (if any) shall be levied on the amount received by the investor. Considering the volatile nature of markets, Trustee reserves the right to restrict the quantum of dividend upto the per unit distributable surplus available on the Record Date in case of fall in market.

If in any case the Record Date falls on a non-business day, the immediately following business day shall be deemed to be the Record Date.

All investors whose names appear in the register of unit holders of the Scheme(s)/Plan(s)/Option(s) as on the close of the record date will be eligible to receive the dividend.

Pursuant to the payment of dividend, NAV of the Scheme(s)/Plan(s)/Option(s) will fall to the extent of payout and statutory levy (if any).

Date: May 22, 2021

MUTUAL FUND INVESTMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO MARKET RISKS, READ ALL SCHEME RELATED DOCUMENTS CAREFULLY.



CCL Products (India) Limited

Registered Office : Duggirala, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh - 522 330.

CIN No. L15110AP1961PLC000874

Extract of Audited Consolidated financial results for the Quarter Ended 31.03.2021 (₹ in Lakhs)

Particulars	Consolidated		
	Quarter ended	Year ended	Quarter ended
	31.03.2021	31.03.2021	31.03.2020
Total income	33,454.78	12,487.20	26,746.07
Net Profit (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	7,178.45	23,478.30	5,767.46
Net Profit before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	7,178.45	23,478.30	5,767.46
Net Profit after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	4,920.31	18,226.16	4,219.58
Total Comprehensive Income [Comprising Profit after tax and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	4,988.64	18,550.81	4,856.88
Paid up Equity Share Capital (₹2/- Per Equity Share)	2,660.56	2,660.56	2,660.56
Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve as shown in the Balance Sheet)		1,06,069.21	
Earnings Per Share (of ₹.2/- each) (Not Annualised):			
a) Basic	3.70	13.70	3.17
b) Diluted	3.70	13.70	3.17

1) The above Financial results as recommended by the Audit Committee were considered and approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on 21st May, 2021.

2) Key data relating to Standalone audited financial results of CCL Products (India) Limited is as under:

Particulars	Quarter ended	Year ended	Quarter ended
	31.03.2021	31.03.2021	31.03.2020
Audited	Audited	Audited	
Total income (Rs.in Lakhs)	29,088.82	86,157.18	24,534.65
Profit before tax (Rs.in Lakhs)	12,221.23	21,042.01	11,148.26
Profit after tax (Rs.in Lakhs)	10,042.32	15,868.95	9,644.58
Total comprehensive income after tax (Rs.in Lakhs)	10,157.31	16,257.34	9,241.30

Note : The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulations 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on company's website at www.cclproducts.com and the stock exchange's websites, www.nseindia.com and www.bseindia.com.

By and on behalf of the Board

Sd/-
Challa Rajendra Prasad
Executive Chairman

Place: Hyderabad

Date : 21-05-2021

VIMTA LABS LIMITED

Plot Nos. 141/2 & 142, IDA, Phase - II, Cherlapally, Hyderabad - 500 051

CIN : L24110TG1990PLC011977

INFORMATION REGARDING 31ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING (VC) / OTHER AUDIO VISUAL MEANS (OAVM)

Shareholders may note that the 31st Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Company will be held through VC/OAVM on Monday, 5th day of July 2021 at 10:00 A.M in compliance with all the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules issued thereunder and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 read with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) General Circular No. 20/2020 dated 5th May 2020 read with circular nos. 14/2020, 17/2020 and 02/2021 dated 8th April 2020, 13th April 2020 and 13th January 2021, respectively (collectively referred to as "MCA Circulars") and other applicable circulars issued by the MCA, SEBI and Government of India, to transact the business that will be set forth in the Notice of the AGM.

In compliance with the above circulars, the electronic copies of the Notice of the 31st AGM and Annual Report for the Financial Year 2020-2021 will be sent to all the shareholders whose email addresses are registered with the Company/ Depository Participant. The Notice of the 31st AGM and Annual Report for the Financial Year 2020-2021 will also be available on the Company's website www.vimta.com and on the website of Central Depository Services (India) Limited at www.evotingindia.com.

Manner of registering/updating email Address:

- Shareholders holding shares in physical mode and who have not registered/ updated their email address with the Company are requested to register / update their email addresses by sending a request letter to the Registrar and Transfer Agents of the Company, CIL Securities Limited (Unit: Vimta Labs Limited) Address: 214, Raghava Ratna Towers Chirag Ali Lane, Abids Hyderabad -500001. Mail id: rta@cilsecurities.com; Phone: 040-2320155 / 23202465.
- Shareholders holding shares in dematerialized mode are requested to register / update their email addresses with the relevant Depository Participants.
- Shareholders holding physical shares are requested to send necessary details like Folio No., name of shareholder, scanned copy of the share certificate (front and back), PAN (self-attested scanned copy of PAN card), Aadhar (self-attested scanned copy of Aadhar Card) by email to Company/RTA@email.id.
- Demat shareholders are requested to send Demat account details (CDSL-16 digit beneficiary ID or NSDL-16 digit DPID + CLID), name, client master or copy of Consolidated Account statement, PAN (self-attested scanned copy of PAN card), Aadhar (self-attested scanned copy of Aadhar Card) to Company/RTA@email.id.

Manner of Voting at the AGM :

Shareholders will have an opportunity to cast their vote remotely or during the AGM on the business set forth in the Notice of AGM through the electronic voting system. The manner of voting remotely or during the AGM for shareholders holding shares in dematerialized mode, physical mode and for shareholders who have not registered their email address will be provided in the Notice convening AGM.

The Register of Members shall be closed from **Tuesday, the 29th day of June 2021 to Monday, the 5th day of July 2021** (both dates inclusive) ('Book Closure dates') for the purpose of ascertaining the eligible shareholders for participating in the AGM.

For registering the Bank Account details:

Name and Branch of the Bank; Bank Account Type; Bank Account Number; MICR Code; IFSC Code; and Scan copy of the cancelled cheque bearing all the above details for authentication

Shareholders may note that the Income Tax Act 1961 (Act), as amended by the Finance Act 2020, mandates that dividends paid or distributed by Company after April 01, 2021 for Rs. 5,000/- or more shall be taxable in the hands of shareholders and the Company is required to deduct tax at source (TDS) from dividend paid to shareholders in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

The prescribed rates of TDS for various categories and the procedure for declarations are as follows:

- Resident Shareholder:

Particulars	TDS Rate
With PAN	10% or as may be notified by the Government of India
Without/Invalid PAN	20% or as may be notified by the Government of India
Submission of declaration in Form 15G or Form 15H	NIL

For the above purpose, the shareholders are requested to update their PAN with the Company/RTA (in case of shares held in physical mode) and depository participants (in case of shares held in demat mode) to get the benefit of Lower TDS rate and to enable the Company to provide the TDS Certificates to the shareholders

- Non-Resident Shareholder:

TDS Rate @ 20% plus applicable surcharge and Cess (OR) applicable as per the Tax Treaty Rate under the Double Tax Avoidance Treaty (DTAA) between India and their country of residence (whichever is lower) are applicable, subject to the fulfillment of the following requirements:

The Non-resident shareholders are requested to provide the following documents to avail the tax treaty benefits by sending an email to rta@cilsecurities.com with subject line: (unit- VIMTALABS LIMITED) on or before 28th June 2021 Declaration for "No Permanent Establishment" in India; Beneficial Ownership Declaration; Tax Residency Certificate (TRC) for FY 2021-22; Form 10F and Copy of Indian PAN (if available).

For Vimta Labs Limited
Sujani Vasireddi
Company Secretary

Place : Hyderabad, INDIA

Date : 23.05.2021

Financial Express e-paper .in

NELCAST LIMITED

CIN : L27109AP1982PLC003518
Regd. Office: 34, Industrial Estate, Gudur - 524 101.

Tel : 08624 - 25126, Fax : 08624 - 252066.

Website : www.nelcast.com Email: nelcast@nelcast.com

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 that a Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Monday, the 31st May 2021 to consider and take on record Standalone and Consolidated Audited Financial Results of the Company for the quarter and year ended 31st March 2021 and recommendation of dividend if any, for the financial year ended 31st March 2021.

This intimation is available on the website of the Company, www.nelcast.com and also on the website of the Stock Exchanges, www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com.

For NELCAST LTD.
(S.K. SIVAKUMAR)
Company Secretary

Place: Gudur
Date : 22nd May 2021.

GRP Limited

(CIN : L25191GJ1974PLC002555)

Registered Office : Plot No.8, GIDC Estate, Ankleshwar - 393 002 Dist. Bharuch, Gujarat
Tel no.: 022 67082600 / 2500, Fax: 022 67082599, e-mail id : investor.relations@grpweb.com, website: www.grpweb.com

EXTRACT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER & YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 2021

(₹ in Lakhs)

Sr No.	Particulars	Standalone			Consolidated		
Quarter ended		Year ended	Quarter ended		Year ended		
<th

EMERGING
STRONGER

Godrej Industries Limited

CIN : L24241MH1988PLC097781

Regd Office: Godrej One, Pirojshanagar, Eastern Express Highway, Vikhroli (E), Mumbai - 400 079.

Tel. : 022-25188010 / 20 / 30; Fax : 022-25188066

website : www.godrejindustries.com, Email Id: investor@godrejindustries.com

EXTRACT OF AUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

(Amounts in ₹ Crore)

Particulars	Quarter Ended					Year Ended 31-Mar-20 Audited Restated (refer note 4 and 11)
	31-Mar-21 Audited (refer note 11)	31-Dec-20 Unaudited	31-Mar-20 Audited Restated (refer note 4 and 11)	31-Mar-21 Audited	31-Mar-20 Audited Restated (refer note 4)	
Total Income from Operations	2,610.69	2,356.47	3,120.67	9,333.51	11,290.75	
Net Profit / (loss) from continuing operations for the period (before Tax, Share of Profit of Equity Accounted Investees, Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items #)	(28.53)	82.96	190.48	263.47	658.06	
Net Profit / (loss) from continuing operations for the period before Tax and Share of Profit of Equity Accounted Investees (after Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items #)	(28.53)	82.96	180.56	263.47	648.14	
Net Profit / (loss) from continuing operations after Tax (after Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items #)	(92.22)	170.66	104.06	389.65	637.85	
Net Profit/(loss) from discontinued operations after Tax	-	-	(0.67)	1.27	173.67	
Net Profit / (loss) After Tax (after Exceptional and / or Extraordinary items #) attributable to the owners of the Company	(15.81)	131.93	26.55	334.57	553.81	
Total Comprehensive Income / (Loss) for the period (Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) & Other Comprehensive Income (after tax) attributable to the owners of the Company	(35.26)	137.08	43.93	298.24	602.42	
Paid-up Equity Share Capital (Face value - ₹. 1 per share)	33.66	33.65	33.65	33.66	33.65	
Reserves excluding Revaluation Reserve as shown in the audited Balance Sheet				7,519.58	5,754.68	
Earnings per share (In ₹.) (Not Annualised)						
For Continuing operations						
(a) Basic	(0.47)	3.92	0.84	9.90	11.30	
(b) Diluted	(0.47)	3.92	0.84	9.90	11.30	
For Discontinued operations						
(a) Basic	-	-	(0.02)	0.04	5.16	
(b) Diluted	-	-	(0.02)	0.04	5.16	
For Continued and Discontinued operations						
(a) Basic	(0.47)	3.92	0.82	9.94	16.46	
(b) Diluted	(0.47)	3.92	0.82	9.94	16.46	

Exceptional items are adjusted in the statement of profit and loss in accordance with Ind-AS.

Key numbers of Audited Standalone Financial Results

(Amounts in ₹ Crore)

Particulars	Quarter Ended					Year Ended 31-Mar-20 Audited Restated (refer note 11)
	31-Mar-21 Audited (refer note 11)	31-Dec-20 Unaudited	31-Mar-20 Audited Restated (refer note 11)	31-Mar-21 Audited	31-Mar-20 Audited	
Turnover (Net Sales)	547.55	503.70	466.18	1,855.53	1,968.72	
Profit / (Loss) before Tax and Exceptional items	(41.51)	(34.89)	1.63	(108.87)	56.31	
Exceptional Items	-	-	(0.67)	1.27	(25.62)	
(Loss) / Profit Before Tax	(41.51)	(34.89)	0.96	(107.60)	30.69	
(Loss) / Profit After Tax	(41.45)	(34.89)	1.08	(107.54)	30.81	
Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) & Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	(39.66)	(34.94)	(0.43)	(106.78)	28.85	
Paid up Equity Share Capital	33.66	33.65	33.65	33.66	33.65	
Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserves)				1,492.64	1,596.99	
Capital Redemption Reserve					31.46	
Debtenture Redemption Reserve					1,448.59	
Net worth					1,552.93	
Outstanding Net Debt					2,963.13	
Debt/Equity Ratio					2,532.21	
Debt Service Coverage Ratio					1.94	1.55
Interest Service Coverage Ratio					0.84	0.63
Earning per Equity Share (EPS):-					0.84	1.48
Basic EPS	(1.24)	(1.04)	0.03	(3.20)	0.92	
Diluted EPS	(1.23)	(1.04)	0.03	(3.19)	0.92	

Notes:

- The above audited financial results which are published in accordance with Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations & Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and Regulation 52(4) as per SEBI circular No. SEBI/HO/DDHS/DDHS/CIR/P/2019/15 dated 22 October 2019 have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their meetings held on May 21, 2021. The financial results are in accordance with the Indian Accounting Standards (Ind-AS) as prescribed under section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the relevant rules thereunder. These results have been audited by the Statutory Auditors of the Company who have issued unmodified audit reports thereon.
- (i) The Company, consequent to the approvals received from the Board of Directors on May 17, 2019 and from the shareholders on June 25, 2019 consummated the sale of Natures Basket Limited (NBL) a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company to Spencer's Retail Limited (SRL) on July 04, 2019. Consequently, considering the provisions of Share Purchase Agreement (SPA) dated 17 May 2019 between the Company, NBL and SRL, ₹ 25.62 crore was recorded under exceptional items in the standalone financial results for the year ended March 2020. During the year ended March 31, 2021 exceptional gain of ₹ 1.27 crore is recorded due to recoveries from SRL pursuant to the SPA.
- (ii) On completion of Sale Transaction of NBL, the Group recognised net profit of ₹ 200.94 crore under exceptional items in the consolidated Financial Results during the year ended March 2020. During the year ended March 31, 2021 exceptional gain of ₹ 1.27 crore is recorded due to recoveries from SRL pursuant to the SPA.
- (iii) NBL had been classified as discontinued operations in the consolidated financial results.
- During the previous financial year, with the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, the business of Godrej Tyson Foods Limited, a sub-subsidiary company, was adversely impacted in sales and profitability. The last few weeks of the previous financial year witnessed a sharp drop in prices as well as demand for poultry and related products on account of false rumours linking COVID-19 to poultry consumption. This necessitated the subsidiary to take certain exceptional measures to mitigate losses on account of which inventory to the tune of ₹ 3 crore had to be destroyed and written off. The crash in prices towards end of March 2020 required the subsidiary to recognise a loss of ₹ 6.92 crore in respect of fair valuation of biological assets. This total loss disclosed under exceptional item is ₹ 9.92 crores for financial year 2019-20.
- The National Company Law Tribunal Mumbai Bench has, vide order dated September 14, 2020, sanctioned a Scheme of Arrangement ('the Scheme') of Wonder Space Properties Private Limited (subsidiary of Godrej Properties Limited with effect from April 05, 2019) with Godrej Properties Limited. The effective date of the Scheme is April 05, 2019. In accordance with the requirements of Para 3(iii) of Appendix C of Ind AS 103, the consolidated financial results of the Group in respect of prior periods have been restated from effective date. Increase / (Decrease) in previous periods published numbers are as below:

(Amounts in ₹ Crore)

Particulars	Quarter ended 31-Mar-20	Year ended 31-Mar-20
Profit before tax for the period / year attributable to		
a) Owners of the Company	0.96	0.96
b) Non-Controlling Interest	0.99	0.99
Profit after tax for the period / year attributable to		
a) Owners of the Company	0.65	1.63
b) Non-Controlling Interest	0.66	1.68
Net Worth		
Non Controlling Interest		1.63
Total Assets		1.68
(15.83)		

- The year ended March 31, 2021 was an unprecedented period due to the spread of COVID-19 pandemic across the globe, adversely impacting sales performance of the Group. While the operations have resumed for manufacturing locations in compliance with Government directives since April, 2020, the Group continues to closely monitor the situation and take appropriate action, as considered necessary in due compliance with the applicable regulations. As per the Group's current assessment, no significant impact on carrying amounts of inventories, goodwill, intangible assets, trade receivables, investments and other financial assets is expected, and we continue to monitor changes in future economic conditions. The eventual outcome of the impact of the global health pandemic may be different from those estimated as on the date of approval of these financial results.
- During the quarter ended September 30, 2020 the Company has issued 7,500 Unsecured Redeemable Non Convertible Debentures (NCD) of face value ₹ 10 lac each and during quarter ended December 31, 2020, the Company has issued 7,500 Unsecured Redeemable Non Convertible Debentures (NCD) of face value ₹ 10 lac each. The total value of NCD is ₹ 1500 crore. The NCD are listed on National Stock Exchange.
- I) The Company on March 25, 2021 acquired 20000 equity shares in Pyxis Holdings Limited. Consequent to the said acquisition, Pyxis Holdings Limited has become the subsidiary of the Company.
- During the quarter ended September 30, 2020, the Group has sold its equity stake in Astec Europe Spri (subsidiary of Astec Lifescience Limited) at a consideration of Euro 1.
- An application has been made to the RBI on April 5, 2021 to seek its approval for change in shareholding and change in Directors of Ensemble Holdings & Finance Limited (a subsidiary of the Company) by virtue of proposed transfer of shares from its existing shareholders (i.e. Godrej Industries Limited and its nominees) to Pyxis Holdings Limited, a subsidiary of the Company. The applications is under process with the RBI.
- During the quarter ended March 31, 2021, Employee Benefits expense includes provision for long term incentive for certain eligible employees for one of the subsidiary amounting to ₹ 121.11 crore recorded on achievement of certain parameters as at March 31, 2021 and certain parameters expected to be achieved during the financial year 2021-22 and 2022-23, subject to fulfilment of all the defined parameters and therefore the provision is recorded at its present value.
- During the current year, the managerial remuneration provided by Godrej Properties Limited (subsidiary of the Company), in relation to its Managing Director & CEO is in excess of the limits laid down under section 197 of the Companies Act, 2013, read with Schedule V to the Act by ₹ 37.94 crore. The subsidiary company has already obtained the shareholder's approval for ₹ 15 crore. The subsidiary company is in process of obtaining approval for making provision of ₹ 40 crore towards long term incentive for financial year 2020-2021 from its shareholders at the forthcoming annual general meeting, which will be payable during the financial year 2022-23 and 2023-24.
- A new section 115BA was inserted in the Income Tax Act, 1961, by the Government of India on September 20, 2019 vide the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Ordinance 2019 which provides an option to companies for paying income tax at reduced rates in accordance with the provisions/conditions defined in the said section. Accordingly:
 - The Company has elected to exercise the option, and has recognised provision for income tax for the year ended March 31, 2021 and re-measured its deferred tax balances on the basis of the rate prescribed in the said section.
 - Godrej Properties Limited a subsidiary company along with its certain wholly owned step-down subsidiaries have elected to exercise the option for the year ended March 31, 2021. The tax expense for the quarter ended increased by Rs 81.21 crore due to said change.
 - (iii) Godrej Agrovet Limited a subsidiary company elected to exercise this option during the previous financial year ended March 31, 2020.
- The figures for the quarter ended 31st March 2021 and 31st March 2020 are the balancing figures in respect of full financial year and the published unaudited year to date figures upto the end of the third quarter of the relevant financial year.
- Figures for the previous periods/year have been regrouped / restated wherever necessary to facilitate comparison.

By Order of the Board
For Godrej Industries LimitedN. B. Godrej
Managing Director
DIN: 00066195

Commercial Engineers & Body Builders Co Ltd.

CIN: L28100MP1979PLC049375

Regd. office : 48, Vandana Vihar, Narmada Road, Gorakhpur, Jabalpur (M.P.) India - 482001

BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL

INDORE BENCH AT AHMEDABAD

C.A.(CAA)/8 (MP) 2021

In the matter of:

The Companies Act, 2013 - Sections 230 to 232 of the said Act and Rules made thereunder

And

COMMERCIAL ENGINEERS & BODY BUILDERS CO LIMITED, having CIN L28100MP1979PLC049375 a Company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 and having its registered office at 48, Vandana Vihar, Narmada Road, Gorakhpur, Jabalpur - 482001, Madhya Pradesh.

And...Applicant/ Transferee/Amalgamated Company

JUPITER WAGONS LIMITED, having CIN U35320WB2006PLC110822, a Company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 and having its registered office at 4

Tata AIA Life Insurance Company Ltd.(IRDA of India Regn. No. 110 • CIN: U66010MH2000PLC128403).
 Registered & Corporate Office Address: 14th Floor, Tower A, Peninsula Business Park, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai 400013.
 Call: 1-860-266-9966 (local charges apply) • Visit us at: www.tataaia.com



AUDITED FINANCIALS RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

FORM L-1A-A-RA
Revenue Account for the year ended March 31, 2021 [Policyholders' Account (Technical Account)]

(₹ in Lakhs)

Particulars	For the year ended March 31, 2021								For the year ended March 31, 2020							
	Total	Non-linked		Linked		Total	Non-linked		Linked		Total	Non-linked		Linked		Total
		Individual	Group*	Individual	Group		Individual	Group*	Individual	Group		Individual	Group*	Individual	Group	
PREMIUMS EARNED - NET																
(a) Premium	1,110,510	798,843	31,986	30,701	245,609	255	3,116	830,851	569,322	30,989	21,459	203,442	381	5,258		
(b) Reinsurance ceded	(32,584)	(22,569)	(1)	(9,438)	(576)	-	-	(20,314)	(12,655)	-	(7,099)	(560)	-	-	-	
(c) Reinsurance accepted	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SUB-TOTAL	1,077,926	776,274	31,985	21,263	245,033	255	3,116	810,537	556,667	30,989	14,360	202,882	381	5,258		
INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS																
(a) Interest, Dividend & Rent - Gross	160,256	129,807	6,539	3,222	17,511	436	2,741	134,746	103,427	4,730	3,381	19,244	1,117	2,847		
(b) Amortization of discount on Investments	17,152	11,772	142	842	4,352	17	27	11,597	5,931	90	743	4,718	2	113		
(c) Profit on sale / redemption of investments	196,764	72,671	2,088	133	114,801	1,966	5,105	127,429	40,045	1,312	26	78,735	3,600	3,711		
(d) (Loss) on sale / redemption of investments	(30,551)	(4,335)	(55)	(6)	(25,300)	(304)	(551)	(90,983)	(54,797)	(1,281)	(4)	(33,529)	(831)	(541)		
(e) Transfer/Gain on revaluation/ change in fair value	515,139	6,845	-	-	499,875	4,759	3,660	(177,745)	43,725	-	-	(213,355)	(5,267)	(2,848)		
(f) Other investment income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
OTHER INCOME	8,928	8,797	120	3	14	(6)	-	7,397	7,244	116	5	32	-	-	-	
Contribution from the Shareholders' account	17,571	7,853	-	4,408	5,310	-	-	16,745	10,034	-	3,405	3,306	-	-	-	
SUB-TOTAL	885,259	233,410	8,834	8,602	616,563	6,868	10,982	29,186	155,609	4,967	7,556	(140,849)	(1,379)	3,282		
TOTAL (A)	1,963,185	1,009,684	40,819	29,865	861,596	7,123	14,098	839,723	712,276	35,956	21,916	62,033	(998)	8,540		
Commission	105,724	92,821	555	167	12,181	-	-	83,881	73,743	538	67	9,533	-	-	-	
Operating Expenses Related To Insurance Business	173,399	144,387	1,346	3,373	24,224	8	60	159,167	125,393	1,252	4,720	27,738	18	46		
Goods and Service Tax on Premium	6,730	-	-	39	6,533	41	117	5,856	-	-	35	5,639	74	108		
Provision for doubtful debts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Bad Debts written off	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Provision for Income Tax	(33,812)	(32,786)	490	(611)	(905)	-	-	12,387	15,090	33	(580)	(2,156)	-	-	-	
Provisions (other than taxation)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
(a) For diminution in the value of investments (net)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(94)	(99)	-	-	5	-	-	-	
(b) Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL (B)	252,041	204,422	2,391	2,968	42,033	49	177	261,197	214,127	1,823	4,242	40,759	92	154		
Benefits Paid (Net)	277,651	116,294	4,645	13,753	131,030	6,033	5,896	236,746	86,368	3,279	11,358	114,811	13,841	7,089		
Interim Bonuses Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Change in valuation of liability in respect of life policies in force	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
(a) Gross	924,206	876,527	30,695	12,866	4,064	54	-	464,429	429,675	28,350	9,697	(3,201)	(100)	8		
(b) Fund Reserve **	693,216	-	-	-	684,564	791	7,861	(104,517)	-	-	(90,338)	(15,291)	-	-	-	
(c) Amount ceded in Re-insurance	(234,219)	(233,355)	-	(769)	(95)	-	-	(76,029)	(72,424)	-	(3,607)	2	-	-	-	
(d) Amount accepted in Re-insurance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL (C)	1,660,854	759,466\	35,340	25,850	819,563	6,878	13,757	520,629	443,619	31,629	17,448	21,274	(1,550)	8,209		
SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT) (D) = (A) - (B) - (C)	50,290	45,796	3,088	1,047	-	196	163	57,897	54,530	2,504	226	-	460	177		
Transfer from / (to) Linked Fund (Lapsed Policies)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Funds available for Appropriations (Current Year)	50,290	45,796	3,088	1,047	-	196	163	57,897	54,530	2,504	226	-	460	177		
Balance brought forward from Previous Year	61,387	55,115	6,272	-	-	-	-	-	10,393	6,241	4,152	-	-	-	-	
Total Funds available for Appropriations	111,677	100,911	9,360	1,047	-	196	163	68,290	60,771	6,656	226	-	460	177		

APPROPRIATIONS

Transferred to Shareholders' Account	10,246	5,788	3,052	1,047	-	196	163	6,903	5,656	384	226	-	460	177
Balance being Funds for Future Appropriations	101,431	95,123	6,308	-	-	-	-	61,387	55,115	6,272	-	-	-	-

AGEL arm transfers 74% stake of MSEL to Adani Tradecom

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, May 22

ADANI GREEN ENERGY(AGEL) on Saturday said its arm Adani Renewable Energy Holding Four has transferred 74% shareholding of Mundra Solar Energy to Adani Tradecom (ATLLP).

"7,400 equity shares are transferred to ATLLP at face value i.e. ₹10 each. Aggregating to ₹74,000," a BSE filing stated. It also said the deal is done for cash consideration.

Adani Renewable Energy Holding Four, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Adani Green Energy (AGEL), has transferred 74% shareholding of Mundra Solar Energy (MSEL) to ATLLP on May 21, 2021, it added.

The MSEL is step-down subsidiary of the company and the same has been transferred to ATLLP, which is a wholly-owned LLP of Adani Enterprises Limited, an entity falling under the joint control i.e. Adani Group. The transaction is done at



Mundra Solar Energy is incorporated to manufacture crystalline silicon solar PV cells, modules and ancillary operations, which is in a similar line of business undertaken by Adani Enterprises through its subsidiary namely, Mundra Solar PV

arm's length basis and shareholding transferred based on the basis of an independent valuation report. The MSEL is yet to commence its business operations.

The MSEL is incorporated to manufacture crystalline silicon solar PV cells, modules and ancillary operations, which is in a similar line of business undertaken by Adani Enterprises

through its subsidiary namely, Mundra Solar PV.

This acquisition will bring synergy in its current manufacturing operations and enhance the market share by its brand value, it stated.

The authorised share capital of the MSEL is ₹5,00,000 while the paid-up share capital is ₹1,00,000.

66 dead, 20 missing; Navy deploys diving teams for SAR

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
May 22

WITH NO TRACE of nine personnel from barge P305 and 11 from tugboat Varaprada six days after Cyclone Tauktae fury rendered the vessels adrift, the Navy on Saturday undertook an underwater search for the wreckage of the two vessels.

The death toll on P305 rose to 66 with the recovery of six more bodies during the day, a Navy spokesperson said.

The Navy also deployed specialised diving teams to boost the search and rescue operations (SAR) for the barge and the tugboat off the Mumbai coast.

"So far, 66 mortal remains have been recovered. The SAR ops are continuing through the night. Underwater search for wrecks of barge P305 and tug Varaprada using specialised teams and equipment is in progress," the official said in a statement.

"To augment the ongoing SAR ops for the missing crew of Barge P305 and Tug Varaprada, specialised diving teams onboard INS Makar with side-scan



File photo of a man, who was stranded at sea aboard Barge P305, looking out of a bus window after he was rescued by the Indian Navy aboard the INS Kochi at Naval Dockyard. REUTERS

sonar and INS Tarasa sailed out early morning today from Mumbai," the spokesperson tweeted.

The Navy and the Coast Guard continued the search for the nine missing personnel from the barge and 11 from

Varaprada even as hopes of finding more survivors of the Cyclone Tauktae fury receded, an official said.

Of the 261 personnel who were on barge P305, 186 have been recovered so far, 66 are dead and nine are missing. Of the 13 persons on Varaprada, two have been rescued.

While all the 440 persons on barges Gal Constructor and Support Station 3 (SS-3) and drillship Sagar Bhushan were brought ashore to safety, Naval and Coast Guard vessels and aircraft scoured the waters off the Mumbai coast as the search and rescue operations entered the sixth day on Saturday.

Struggling to establish the identity of almost half the victims of the P305 barge tragedy, police have initiated the process of conducting the DNA testing of the bodies, an official said on Saturday.

A Mumbai police spokesperson said the Navy has handed over the bodies recovered so far to the city police.

Barge P-305, which housed personnel engaged in maintenance work of an offshore oil drilling platform of state-run oil and gas major ONGC, sank on Monday evening off the Mumbai coast during the cyclone. The barge had gone adrift in the cyclone fury before sinking.

Sundaram Home Finance plans to raise ₹2,500 cr for growth

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Chennai, May 22:

SUNDARAM HOME FINANCE, a wholly-owned subsidiary of non-banking finance company Sundaram Finance, is mulling to raise ₹2,500 crore to fund its growth plans, the company said on Saturday. Sundaram Home Finance has declared its financial performance for the fourth quarter ending March 31, 2021.

According to a statement, the net profit stood at ₹3660 crore during the period under review. The city-based company registered a net profit of ₹82 crore during the corresponding period last year

31, 2021, the net profit was ₹191 crore against ₹218 crore in the same period last fiscal. The net profit included the one-time exceptional item of ₹60 crore and the net profits for the two periods are not comparable.

The total disbursements made were ₹1,254.05 crore against ₹2,112.09 crore registered last year.

"To fund the growth plans, the company is looking to raise ₹2,500 crore this year through a mix of debt instruments and bank funding," the statement said. Commenting on the financial performance, Sundaram Home Finance MD Lakshminarayanan Duraiswamy said,

"While it was a gloomy

start to FY'21, marked by lockdown in the first couple of months, the latter half of the year panned out well and we saw a gradual but certain recovery." The real estate sector showed remarkable tenacity in 2020 against unprecedented odds, he said.

"Over the five-month period between November 2020 and March 21, we saw demand getting back to pre-COVID levels. The fourth quarter was the silver lining of the last financial year with return of customer confidence," he said. On the outlook, he said FY'22 was supposed to be the year of recovery.

April started out well in terms of disbursements but currently there is a great deal of uncertainty over the extent and intensity of the COVID second wave. "There will be a momentary halt in the upward trend as we are likely to witness truncated housing sales and scrapped property projects. However, as the recovery of 2020 showed, the market is likely to emerge stronger," he said.

For the year ending March

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April started out well in terms of disbursements but currently there is a great deal of uncertainty over the extent and intensity of the COVID second wave. "There will be a momentary halt in the upward trend as we are likely to witness truncated housing sales and scrapped property projects. However, as the recovery of 2020 showed, the market is likely to emerge stronger," he said.

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FRANK DIALOGUE

Biden, South Korea's Moon 'concerned' for North Korea

Moon said the two reaffirmed the strength of the nations' alliance and the common vision for developing it into an even stronger one

ASSOCIATED PRESS
Washington, May 22

PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN said he and South Korean President Moon Jae-in remain 'deeply concerned' about the situation with North Korea, and announced he will deploy a new special envoy to the region to help refocus efforts on pressing Pyongyang to abandon its nuclear weapons programme.

Moon, meanwhile, welcomed 'America's return' to the world stage and said both leaders pledged to work closely toward denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. Biden said he was dispatching career diplomat Sung Kim, who previously served as ambassador to South Korea, to serve as the special envoy to the region.

Moon said the move by Biden 'reflects the firm commitment of the US for exploring diplomacy and its readiness for dialogue with North Korea'



US President Joe Biden and South Korean President Moon Jae-in at the White House REUTERS

Moon said the move by Biden 'reflects the firm commitment of the US for exploring diplomacy and its readiness for dialogue with North Korea'

spurred by China. Their meeting was only Biden's second in-person session with a foreign leader because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Moon said after the meeting the two had "a very frank dialogue like old friends" and emphasised the need for cooperation on security issues in the region. "The most urgent common task that our two countries must undertake is achieving complete denuclearization and permanent peace on the Korean peninsula," he said.

Moon said the two "reaffirmed the strength" of the nations' alliance and "affirmed the common vision for developing it into an even stronger one."

Their formal talks in the afternoon ran long, Biden said in earlier remarks, noting his staff interrupted repeatedly to

warn they were overtime. "But I enjoyed the meeting so much that it caused us to move everything back," Biden said, as he highlighted the two countries' long history of shared sacrifice.

Moon said, "The world is welcoming America's return," an oblique reference to former President Donald Trump's attempts to disengage on some aspects of American diplomacy.

The White House announced last month that it had completed a review of North Korea policy and Biden would veer from the strategies of his two most recent predecessors, rejecting both Trump's deeply personal effort to win over North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and Barack Obama's more hands-off approach.

But the administration has yet to detail what its third-way effort to try to prod the North to abandon its nuclear program will look like.

Moon started his day at the White House complex by meeting with Vice President Kamala Harris and top Biden advisers.

Moon also participated in a Medal of Honour ceremony for

Ralph Puckett, a 94-year-old Army veteran who was celebrated for his gallantry during the Korean War more than 70 years ago. "Without the sacrifice of veterans including Colonel Puckett... freedom and democracy we enjoy today couldn't have blossomed in Korea," said Moon, who hailed Puckett as 'true hero.'

Moon, who will leave office next May, is eager to resume stalled talks between Washington and Pyongyang and between Seoul and Pyongyang.

But the Biden administration, which confirmed in March that it had made outreach efforts to the North without success, has been less enthusiastic about the idea of direct negotiations in the near term.

Asked Thursday whether Biden was open to holding direct talks with Kim, as

Trump did twice, press secretary Jen Psaki demurred. "I don't expect that to be top on his agenda," she said of Biden.

Still, Moon made clear before the meeting that he would nudge Biden to renew diplomatic efforts with the North.

China says Martian rover takes first drive on surface of Red Planet

REUTERS
May 22

A REMOTE-CONTROLLED Chinese motorised rover drove down the ramp of its landing capsule on Saturday and onto the surface of Mars, making China the first nation to orbit, land and deploy a land vehicle on its inaugural mission to the Red Planet. Zhurong, named after a mythical Chinese god of fire, drove down to the surface of Mars at 10:40 am Beijing time (04:40 GMT), according to the rover's official Chinese social media account. China this month joined the United States as the only nations to deploy land vehicles on Mars. The former Soviet Union landed a craft in 1971, but it lost communication seconds later. The 240-kg (530-pound) Zhurong, which has six scientific instruments including a high-resolution topography camera, will study the planet's surface soil and atmosphere. Powered by solar energy, Zhurong will also look for signs of ancient life, including any subsurface water and ice, using a ground-penetrating radar during its 90-day exploration of the Martian surface.



China National Space Administration's (CNSA) image shows a ramp and the surface of Mars seen from a camera on the Chinese Mars rover Zhurong CNSA VIA AP

Nepal president dissolves Parliament, mid-term polls in November

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Kathmandu, May 22

NEPAL PRESIDENT VIDYA Devi Bhandari on Saturday dissolved the House of Representatives and announced mid-term polls on November 12 and 19 after she determined that both embattled Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli and the Opposition alliance were not in a position to form a government.

Bhandari's announcement came after Prime Minister Oli recommended the dissolution of the 275-member House following an emergency Cabinet meeting. A press statement issued by the Office of President said the Parliament was dissolved and dates of mid-term polls were announced in line with Article 76 (7) of the Constitution of Nepal.

The council of ministers has recommended conducting the first phase of the poll on November 12 and the second phase on November 19.

The move followed a notice from the Office of the President which said that it could appoint neither K P Sharma Oli, the incumbent prime minister, nor Sher Bahadur Deuba, Nepali Congress president, as claims made by both to form a new government were insufficient.

With four lawmakers in the 275-member House of Representatives dismissed by their party after they chose to be part of another party, a prime ministerial candidate requires the support of at least 136 lawmakers in Parliament to form a new government. Interestingly, both Oli and Deuba had claimed the support of some lawmakers, whose names were included in the list of both of them, according to Nepalese media reports.

This is the second time President Bhandari has dissolved Parliament on the recommendation of Prime Minister Oli following a political crisis. Last year on December 20, President Bhandari had dissolved Parliament but later it was reinstated by the Supreme Court in February. Nepal's political crisis had



President of Nepal Bidya Devi Bhandari REUTERS

including 27 lawmakers from the Khanal-Nepal faction of the CPN-UML. The president apparently told the Opposition leaders that she would take a call after consulting constitutional experts, The Himalayan Times reported.

However, a dispute emerged after a few lawmakers from the Madhav Nepal faction put out statements claiming that their signatures were misused and that they did not sign any paper to install Opposition leader Deuba as the prime minister against their own party chief, the report said.

Soon after the mid-term elections were announced, major political parties slammed Prime Minister Oli and President Bhandari for their unconstitutional moves. Bishwa Prakash Sharma, Nepali Congress spokesperson, said, "People are fighting the pandemic, and this is the gift to the people?....the PM is riding on his imaginary highway of dictatorship. A collective raping of the Constitution will prove costly."

Barsha Man Pun, Maoist Center leader, said, "This is a midnight robbery. Gyanendra Shah used to choose Fridays and midnights for similar moves. K P Oli is a stooge for those who did not like our Constitution, and this is an attack on democracy and our Constitution." Shekhar Koirala, senior Nepali Congress leader, termed the late development as unconstitutional.

Musk tweets support for crypto in battle against fiat currencies



Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk AP

BLOOMBERG

May 22

ELON MUSK IS again tweeting about technology and cryptocurrencies, and this time he's clear on where his support is at.

In a thread started by Musk himself comparing magic to technology where someone asked what he thought about people "who are angry at you because of crypto," the Tesla Inc. CEO tweeted that the "true battle is between fiat & crypto. On balance, I support the latter." Bitcoin rose after Musk's post to hit Bitcoin believers still fearing after one-time proponent Elon Musk did an about-face and criticised the token for its energy usage.

almost as bad as fiat money."

In February, he elaborated to say that "when fiat currency has negative real interest, only a fool wouldn't look elsewhere."

Earlier in the week, Musk had tweeted that he won't be selling any Dogecoin and he also posted a cryptic image of a dollar bill with a Shiba Inu dog replacing the face of a former US president. Bitcoin ended the week in volatile territory after a new warning from Chinese officials over cracking down on cryptocurrencies.

The earlier sell-off on Friday hit Bitcoin believers still fearing after one-time proponent Elon Musk did an about-face and criticised the token for its energy usage.

Greta Thunberg aims to change how food is produced

REUTERS
Stockholm, May 22

SWEDISH CLIMATE ACTIVIST

Greta Thunberg has set her sights on changing how the world produces and consumes food in order to counteract a trio of threats: carbon emissions, disease outbreaks and animal suffering. In a video posted on Twitter on Saturday, Thunberg said the environmental impact of farming as well as disease outbreaks such as Covid-19, which is believed to have originated from animals, would be reduced by changing how food was produced. "Our relationship with nature is broken. But relationships can change," Thunberg said in the video marking the International Day of Biological Diversity. A focus on agriculture and linking the climate crisis to health pandemics is a new angle for Thunberg who has typically focused her ire on policy-makers and carbon emissions from fossil fuels.

"The climate crisis, ecological crisis and health crisis, they are all interlinked," she said. Thunberg said the spillover of diseases from animals to humans was caused by farming methods, adding that a move to a plant-based diet could save up to 8 billion tonnes of CO2 each year. The World Health Organi-



Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg REUTERS

Thunberg said the spillover of diseases from animals to humans was caused by farming methods, adding that a move to a plant-based diet could save up to 8 billion tonnes of CO2 each year

sation has said the coronavirus was probably transmitted from bats to humans through another animal, while scientists say 60% of the infectious human diseases that emerged from 1990 to 2004 came from animals. Meanwhile, demand

for alternatives to regular meat is surging worldwide due to concerns about health, animal welfare and the environment. More than two dozen firms are testing lab-grown fish, beef and chicken, hoping to break into an unproven segment of the alternative meat market, which Barclays estimates could be worth \$140 billion by 2029. The Global Center on Adaptation, which works to accelerate climate resilience, said in January climate change could depress global food production by up to 30%, while rising seas and more intense storms could force hundreds of millions of people in coastal cities out of their homes.

Wine grapes uprooting trees in 'Green Great Wall' in China

BLOOMBERG
May 22

SPRINGTIME, AND GRAPE

grower Hao Ling and her husband are busy digging the mounds of sandy soil that protected their vines during the long, cold winter of the Gobi Desert. It's a busy season for the couple, who have been growing wine grapes here for 15 years, but this time they are preoccupied with another matter: their 2.8 acre vineyard may be destroyed by the Chinese government.

They rent the land from Yangguan Forestry Farm, which hit the headlines in China after local media accused the state-owned company of allowing hundreds of acres of forest to be illegally felled and replaced by vineyards—trees that were part of the so-called Green Great Wall designed to hold back the desert. It's the old struggle in China between a central government imposing grand plans to meet a long-term national agenda and local officials trying to maximize revenue to meet the goals of the latest five-year plan. But in this case the conflict goes much deeper, embracing some of the nation's most intractable structural problems

as it tries to undo decades of environmental degradation, curb the world's worst emissions and stem an unrelenting migration to overcrowded eastern cities.

This particular episode began as far back as 1963, when Yangguan Forestry Farm was established on about 1,900 acres of land in one of China's first afforestation projects. Its location was hardly promising.

The trees were planted near Dunhuang, an ancient oasis on the Silk Road famous for its caves of a thousand Buddhas, sandwiched between the Kumtag Desert in Xinjiang and the shifting sands of the Gobi in Gansu. When China launched its Green Great Wall in the 1970s (officially called the Three-North Shelter Forest Program), Yangguan's trees were incorporated into the 87 million acres of planned forest.

But in 2006, the Yangguan farm started to lease some of its land to private companies and farmers for agriculture and tourism. Farmers quickly discovered that one crop that thrived in this remote spot was grapes. Today vines cover 775 acres—more than half of the original forestry farm.

Yuan Longping, who helped feed China, dies at 91



Yuan Longping AP

REUTERS
Shanghai/Beijing, May 22

YUAN LONGPING, A Chinese agronomist known for developing the first hybrid rice varieties in the 1970s and staving off hunger for millions died at the age of 91 in the central province of Hunan on Saturday, the official Xinhua News Agency said. Yuan helped China cultivate the high-yielding hybrid rice needed to feed nearly one-fifth of the world's population with less than 9% of its arable land. He died of organ failure in hospital in central Changsha city, local media reported.

Yuan was highly respected in China, whose vast population was ravaged by food shortages in the mid-20th century.

Inside the Discovery-AT&T deal: Cute emails, a big loan and now, a media giant

THE NEW YORK TIMES
May 22

IN THE PREDAWN hours of April 1, David Zaslav, the chief executive of Discovery, arrived at a rented townhouse in Manhattan's Greenwich Village — decorated with photos of rock stars and one of the actor Steve McQueen in sunglasses holding a gun — to prepare for a meeting that would soon reverberate across the American media industry.

Sworn to secrecy, Zaslav's lieutenants snacked on a breakfast of artisanal doughnuts from a 24-hour bakery as they finalised their pitch. Just before 8 am, ahead of schedule, their quarry arrived: John Stankey, the AT&T chief executive who controlled the WarnerMedia assets

that Zaslav coveted.

A journey that began with an informal, emoji-speckled email exchange in February was now fully underway. The covert discussions would eventually last three months, stretching from Dallas to the Denver suburbs to downtown Manhattan, where a war room was established in the cramped garden level of the rented townhouse. To prevent leaks, bankers used maritime nicknames like "Columbus" and "Magellan." Even the chief executive of WarnerMedia was kept in the dark while his company was being negotiated out from under him. It would culminate on Monday with the announcement of a blockbuster media deal that combined AT&T's WarnerMedia, including HBO, CNN and the Warner Bros. film



President and CEO of Discovery David Zaslav REUTERS

Like many a modern romance, the marriage of two of the country's biggest media companies started with an emoji

romance, the marriage of two of the country's biggest media companies started with an emoji

you like to chat?" Their initial conversation lasted several hours.

Zaslav invited Stankey to visit him in New York on March 2. Zaslav lives in Conan O'Brien's former apartment on Central Park West, but he bought a townhouse in Greenwich Village after his wife, Pam, grew weary of Zaslav's impromptu meetings at their home. That townhouse was under renovation — so Zaslav rented another one, where he eventually met with his potential partner from AT&T. As the conversations gathered intensity, Zaslav looped in his Discovery brain trust for the April 1 meeting with Stankey, where he needed to excise themselves and leave the room to take it. Campbell spent a good part of the next four weeks pacing around an adjacent kitchen island talking on the phone. The townhouse was decorated with vintage photos of rock stars and movie idols like Bob Dylan, the Rat Pack and a 1960s photo of McQueen wielding a revolver.

Zaslav was joined by two associates: Gunnar Wiedenfelds,