

TEJASHWI SET TO BECOME DY CM
in Mahagathbandhan govt**NITISH: FELT SUFFOCATED IN NDA,**
the kind of atmosphere built**BJP: PERENNIAL PALTURAM...**
no one can trust him now

The Patna Powershift

Nitish dumps BJP, returns to Grand Alliance, stakes claim

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, AUGUST 9

FIVE YEARS after he resigned as Chief Minister and walked out of the Mahagathbandhan when RJD leader and Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav refused to step down in the wake of an alleged corruption case, JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar returned to the Mahagathbandhan and Tejashwi.

On Tuesday, Nitish ended his alliance with the BJP, resigned as the coalition Chief Minister, only to stake claim again hours later with Tejashwi as his deputy. He is all set to form a new government with the support of the RJD, Congress, CPI, CPI (M-L) and HAM (S) and an Independent – they together make a team of 164 MLAs in a House of 243.

Before Nitish submitted his resignation to Bihar Governor Phagu Chauhan in the afternoon, the JD(U) and RJD held separate meetings with their MLAs. The RJD reposed faith in Nitish's leadership and did not put any

pre-condition for extending him support to form a government. The Congress and CPI (M-L) had already offered their support to Nitish on Monday.

Nitish met the Governor again in the evening along with Tejashwi, carrying signed letters of support from all allies to form the next government. The Governor is yet to decide on a date for the swearing-in ceremony.

After emerging from the Raj Bhavan, Nitish said, "I have nothing much to say on how suffocated we felt in the NDA... There was a dominant view in the party about snapping ties with BJP. Now, the Grand Alliance has seven parties."

Taking a swipe at the BJP, he said, "Everyone knew what kind of atmosphere was being built. We will continue to work for Bihar."

Asked if he aspired to become a PM candidate, he said, "I have a mandate to work for Bihar."

Tejashwi said, "In the entire Hindi heartland, the BJP has no

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



JD (U) leader Nitish Kumar with RJD leaders Tejashwi Yadav and Tej Pratap Yadav at former Bihar Chief Minister Rabri Devi's residence in Patna on Tuesday. ANI

Double engine decoupled: Loss of JD(U)'s EBC bastion rattles BJP

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

IN PUBLIC remarks over Nitish Kumar's move to end their alliance, Bihar BJP leaders are calling it "good riddance". But the parting of ways with the JD(U), its only major ally in the NDA, has the BJP in a dilemma and the party's national leadership is nervous because the realignment in Bihar, a crucial Hindi heartland state, has the potential to jeopardize BJP calculations for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Although the Bihar unit of the BJP always had a grudge against Nitish and many there looked at him with suspicion, the party national leadership, sources said, maintained that the JD(U) chief would remain at the top post, irrespective of the arithmetic.

Bihar BJP president Sanjay Jaiswal with outgoing Deputy CM Tarkishore Prasad in Patna on Tuesday. PTI

metic in the alliance tally. The BJP leadership, sources said, was conscious of what the Kurmi leader could bring to the table in an electoral test.

The BJP top brass in Delhi did

not offer any immediate comment on the developments in Patna after Nitish made his move.

Some BJP leaders believe that Nitish may emerge as a binding

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

BREAK AND MAKE

Pre-2024, it may seem Opp has added numbers in Bihar but Nitish will need to work harder to stitch a shared story

PAGE 12

INSIDE



PAGE 6

Nitish Aayog: Is stage being set for him as Opp face against Modi?

MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

FOR MANY in Opposition, Nitish Kumar's decision to snap ties with the BJP was a coup – a payback in the same coin to the ruling party which they say is out to "destabilise" non-BJP governments in states. But was Kumar merely trying to save his party, Janata Dal (United), from a split, or is there more to his resignation than meets the eye?

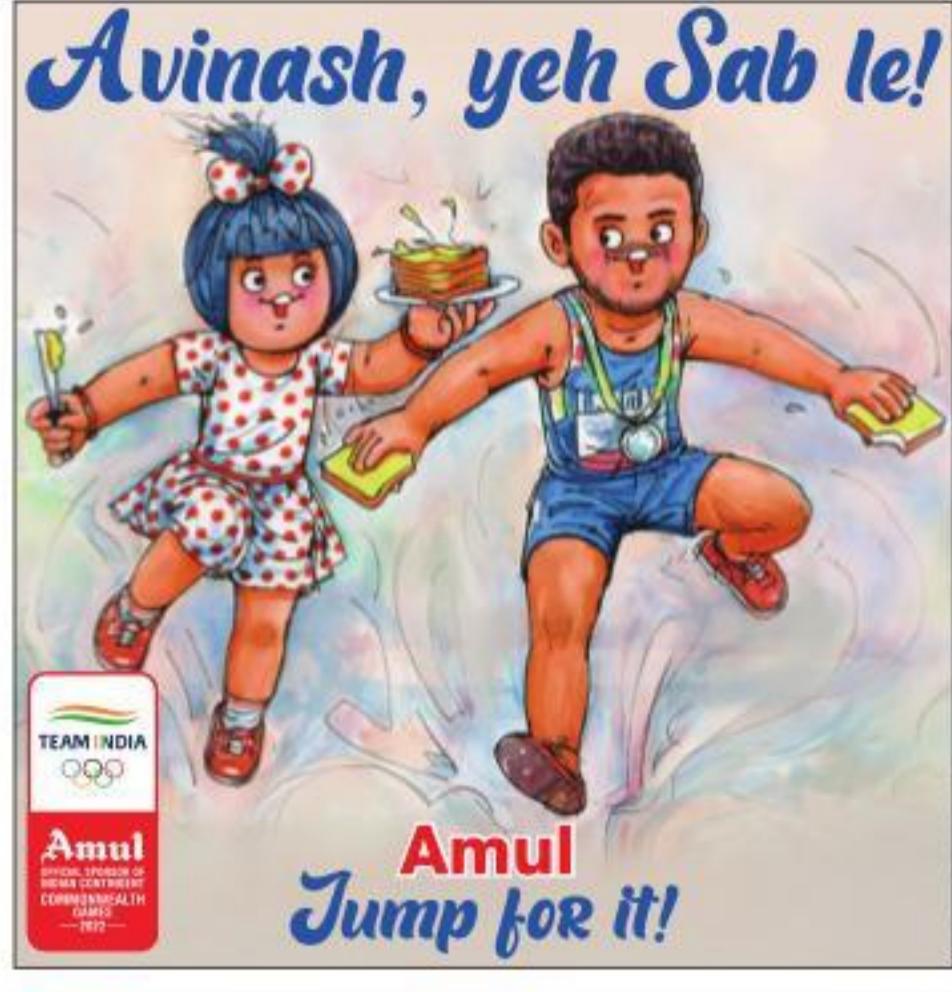
With less than two years for Lok Sabha elections in April-May 2024, Nitish Kumar emerging as a consensus candidate of a reconfigured alliance of Opposition parties to challenge Prime Minister Narendra Modi is a pos-

sibility many in Opposition are already discussing.

While leaders say it is early to link the JD(U)-BJP split with the Opposition strategy for 2024 – apart from the fact that the new RJD-JD(U)-Congress-Left alliance in Bihar can be a formidable front against the BJP – they reckon that Kumar's shift to the Opposition camp can act as a catalyst for anti-BJP parties. As a socialist veteran of stature, Kumar is perceived to be non-corrupt with a proven governance track record.

Kumar may be acceptable to many in the Opposition who are not comfortable with the Congress leading the grouping. NCP chief Sharad Pawar is an acceptable face, but he is past his

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Maharashtra gets a Cabinet after 40 days; 9 seats each for BJP and Shinde



Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari, CM Eknath Shinde and Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis with some of the new ministers in Mumbai on Tuesday. Amit Chakravarty

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, AUGUST 9

FORTY DAYS after he was sworn in as Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Eknath Shinde on Tuesday carried out the much-awaited expansion of the State Cabinet with Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari administering the oath of office to 18 ministers at the Raj Bhavan in Mumbai.

Reflecting the delicate balance in the new ruling coalition of Shinde's Shiv Sena faction and the BJP led by Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, the "first phase" of Cabinet expansion included nine ministers each from both sides.

Indicating the challenges involved in the exercise, Shinde said, "Today, we have done the first phase of expansion. In the second phase, we will certainly accommodate more candidates."

Similar assurances echoed from the BJP, which has 106 MLAs in the assembly that cur-

rently has 287 members. Shinde had obtained the support of 40 of the 55 Sena MLAs to win the confidence vote.

The ministers from the BJP include state party president Chandrakant Patil, Radhakrishna Vikhe-Patil, Sudhir Mungantiwar, Vijaykumar Gavit, Girish Mahajan, Ravindra Chavan, Suresh Khade, Atul Sawde, and Mangal Prabhat Lodha.

Those from the Shinde camp are Gulabrao Patil, Dada Bhusre, Sanjay Rathod, Sandipan Bhumre, Uday Samant, Tanaji Sawant, Deepak Kesarkar, Abdul Sattar and Shambhuraj Desai.

Apart from experience and seniority, the Cabinet composition reflects regional and caste equations. There are four representatives from north Maharashtra, four each from Marathwada and western

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

RELATED REPORTS
PAGE 7

Customs to airlines: Give details of foreign travellers for 'risk analysis'

AANCHAL MAGAZINE & PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

THE CENTRAL Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has asked airlines to mandatorily share PNR (passenger name record) details of all international passengers with the National Customs Targeting Centre-Passenger, 24 hours prior to departure of flights.

Airline officials said the move creates a standardised process of passenger data sharing with the Customs department, given that non-standard requests for passenger data could potentially lead to privacy infringements.

As per the CBIC notification issued on Monday, airlines will have to share 19 data points with the authorities, including name of the passenger, date of intended travel, all available contact details, all available payment or billing

information such as credit card numbers, travel status of the passenger that includes confirmation and check-in status, baggage information, seat information, and travel agency or agent from where the ticket was issued.

At present, airlines are required to share passenger information limited to name, nationality and passport details in advance with the immigration authorities.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

THE WORLD



PRESIDENTIAL RECORDS PROBE: FBI SEARCHES TRUMP'S HOME

TAIWAN MINISTER SAYS CHINA DRILLS GAMEPLAN FOR INVASION

PAGE 11

Shrikant Tyagi held, got 'vidhayak' sticker through S P Maurya: Police

MALAVIKA PRASAD
NOIDA, AUGUST 9

SHRIKANT TYAGI, who was booked by police last Friday after he was caught on video pushing and abusing a woman at the Grand Omaxe residential society in Noida, was arrested from Meerut on Tuesday.

Senior Uttar Pradesh Police officers said Tyagi, who was absconding since an FIR was



registered against him, kept changing locations and devices to evade arrest.

Noida Police Commissioner Alok Singh said Tyagi claimed that he had got the "vidhayak" (MLA) sticker on one of his vehicles "through" (former MLA) Swami Prasad Maurya".

Maurya, a former BJP MLA, joined the Samajwadi Party (SP) ahead of the Assembly elections earlier this year. He lost the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Chess Olympiad gold for Ukraine: 'But medal can't stop a war'

— an Olympiad gold no less — brought just fleeting relief.

Later, with a quivering voice and welled-up eyes, Ushenina put the triumph in perspective: "It's obviously a great feeling, but the medal can't stop a war."

There was a moment of stunned silence as her voice echoed across the packed room.

The 36-year-old Ushenina, her country's first women's world champion, is from Kharkiv, just 30 miles from the Russia border and one of the heavily shelled cities in the invasion. "It was a dreadful time because we were living so close to the border. As soon as we heard

the news that the Russians were marching, we had no other option but to flee with our family without any preparations," she says.

The seasoned player has not gone back home yet. Like most of her teammates. Everyone in the five-member team has a story of ordeal to narrate. The Muzychuk sisters, Anna and Mariya, made a harrowing escape from Lviv, a city in western Ukraine sharing a border with Poland, from where they travelled to Germany and Spain.

Although the news of an impending war was spreading, the sisters deliberated until the first



The team from Ukraine at the Chess Olympiad in Chennai

day of the full-scale invasion on February 24 before fleeing. "At around seven in the morning I woke up because I heard a siren, which was a bit of a shocker, because you don't know what's happening. I immediately picked up my mobile to check the news, and I saw — a disaster," Anna Muzychuk said in a podcast on the website chessbase.com.

By that time, Kiev was being bombed from Belarus. "They are bombing our ships in the sea. They are invading from the west, through the north, to the south. And then like: 'oh my God, this is a war, what should we do? Mariya, wake up, listen to the

sirens, the war has started, I told my sister,'" she said.

That night, with flights halted and trains full, the sisters reached the Polish border in a crammed bus with just a bag and a laptop.

"We were very sad, because we didn't want to leave. I love my city and my apartment, and we were leaving everybody behind. Our parents, our grandparents, most of our relatives. They are still in Ukraine," she said.

At the border, they had to wait for 15 hours in a queue to cross. But she says they were lucky as those crossing by bus had special lanes. "There were people who spent days in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

INDIA B SETTLE FOR BRONZE
PAGE 18

FROM PAGE ONE

Nitish Aayog

whether we win or the Left does. We have a fair chance of staging a comeback in Karnataka. In Telangana, the TRS also needs to be part of the national narrative to take on the BJP," he said.

As far as Bihar is concerned, the RJD, Congress and the Left frankly did not have much option but to back Kumar once he told them he had decided to end his alliance with the BJP. Tejaswi Yadav was not keen to join hands with Kumar again. But the political context has changed, a senior RJD leader said. The narrative was that there was an apprehension that the BJP was trying to engineer defections in JD(U), RJD and the Congress, similar to what happened with the Shiv Sena in experiment. "So there was not much of an option for us," he said.

Maharashtra

Maharashtra, and two each from the Vidarbha, Mumbai metro and Konkan regions.

Eight ministers hail from the Maratha community, five from OBCs, and one each from the brahmin, Marwari Jain and Muslim communities, apart from one tribal leader and an SC representative.

However, the inclusion of Sanjay Rathod and Abdul Sattar from the Shinde camp has raised eyebrows.

Rathod had to resign from the Uddhav Thackeray government in 2021 after the controversial suicide of a 22-year-old woman allegedly known to him. The BJP had then sought his resignation.

Sattar's two daughters were on the list of candidates debarred by the Maharashtra State Council of Exams for their alleged involvement in the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) scam. Their names cropped up a day before the Cabinet expansion.

"I think the induction of Sanjay Rathod could have been avoided," a national-level BJP leader, who did not wish to be identified, said. Party sources said that although Rathod represents the Shinde faction, his induction would affect the BJP's image too at a time when it has projected Fadnavis as "Mr Clean".

Their inclusion and the non-inclusion of women in the Cabinet drew criticism from the Opposition. The Leader of Opposition, NCP's Ajit Pawar, said, "The government should have exercised caution to keep controversial ministers out of the Cabinet." Pawar's party MP

Supriya Sule said, "It is unfortunate that there is not a single woman in the Cabinet."

Sources in the Shinde camp described the Cabinet expansion as an ordeal with the number of aspirants outnumbering the limited berths. The ten independents and smaller parties that had joined the Shinde-led revolt, which toppled the Thackeray-led MVA government, did not get a slot this time.

Shinde did not give a timeline for the next phase of expansion, with 23 of 43 slots still vacant. Sources in the BJP said, "The decision to have nine ministers each was to contain the unrest within the Shinde faction. But in the next expansion, the representation from BJP will be more...The formula that has been worked out is 60:40."

Fadnavis said, "We will work as a team. Our focus will be Mission Maharashtra. The development of Maharashtra, with special emphasis on backward regions, will be high on the government's agenda."

Airlines

In addition to the Customs department, law enforcement agencies or government departments of India or any other country can also get access to the data "on a case-to-case" basis, subject to maintenance of the same level of information protection, privacy and safeguards, provided the agencies specify the purpose of the information being sought.

The move to gather the data, which is being done by the CBIC with the objective of conducting "risk analysis" of passengers, comes close on the heels of the Centre junking its proposed personal data protection framework in favour of a new set of legislation, which effectively extends the time frame for establishing a rulebook for the protection of citizens' personal data.

The CBIC notified the 'Passenger Name Record Information Regulations, 2022', aimed at "risk analysis" of passengers to prevent economic and other offenders from fleeing the country as well as check any illicit trade.

According to information shared by the government in Lok Sabha in September 2020, 38 persons involved in cases registered by CBI related to financial irregularities with banks fled the country from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2019. Under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, applications for Red Corner Notices were filed against 20 persons, extradition requests were sent to various countries for 14 persons, and applications under Fugitive Economic Offenders Act,

2018 were filed against 11 persons.

With this, India joins a list of over 60 countries, including the US, that have regulations on sharing prior information with Customs and border control authorities. "The objective is to collect advance information on passengers for better risk profiling. Immigration data is available only after the arrival or departure of passengers," a senior CBIC official told The Indian Express.

The consent will be "manifested" by the person's registration in the passengers' list of the aircraft operator and the data will be recorded for prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of offences under the Customs Act.

Earlier this year, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) – a trade body representing global airlines – had written to the Ministry of Civil Aviation flagging non-standard requests raised by law enforcement and investigative authorities for seeking passenger details.

According to experts, this will provide a consolidated database on a government portal for risk analysis of passengers. "The objective is to obtain relevant passenger data for risk analysis to proactively prevent, detect, investigate or prosecute offences under the Customs law or any other domestic or international law. The onus of timely collecting and sharing such information has been put on the airline operators. Further, while strict privacy guidelines have been stipulated under the said regulations, the government should ensure that the same are duly enforced to prevent unauthorised usage," said Abhishek Jain, Partner, Indirect Tax, KPMG in India.

The move to gather the data, which is being done by the CBIC with the objective of conducting "risk analysis" of passengers, comes close on the heels of the Centre junking its proposed personal data protection framework in favour of a new set of legislation, which effectively extends the time frame for establishing a rulebook for the protection of citizens' personal data.

The CBIC notified the 'Passenger Name Record Information Regulations, 2022', aimed at "risk analysis" of passengers to prevent economic and other offenders from fleeing the country as well as check any illicit trade.

According to information shared by the government in Lok Sabha in September 2020, 38 persons involved in cases registered by CBI related to financial irregularities with banks fled the country from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2019. Under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, applications for Red Corner Notices were filed against 20 persons, extradition requests were sent to various countries for 14 persons, and applications under Fugitive Economic Offenders Act,

2018 were filed against 11 persons.

With this, India joins a list of over 60 countries, including the US, that have regulations on sharing prior information with Customs and border control authorities. "The objective is to collect advance information on passengers for better risk profiling. Immigration data is available only after the arrival or departure of passengers," a senior CBIC official told The Indian Express.

The consent will be "manifested" by the person's registration in the passengers' list of the aircraft operator and the data will be recorded for prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of offences under the Customs Act.

Earlier this year, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) – a trade body representing global airlines – had written to the Ministry of Civil Aviation flagging non-standard requests raised by law enforcement and investigative authorities for seeking passenger details.

According to experts, this will provide a consolidated database on a government portal for risk analysis of passengers. "The objective is to obtain relevant passenger data for risk analysis to proactively prevent, detect, investigate or prosecute offences under the Customs law or any other domestic or international law. The onus of timely collecting and sharing such information has been put on the airline operators. Further, while strict privacy guidelines have been stipulated under the said regulations, the government should ensure that the same are duly enforced to prevent unauthorised usage," said Abhishek Jain, Partner, Indirect Tax, KPMG in India.

The move to gather the data, which is being done by the CBIC with the objective of conducting "risk analysis" of passengers, comes close on the heels of the Centre junking its proposed personal data protection framework in favour of a new set of legislation, which effectively extends the time frame for establishing a rulebook for the protection of citizens' personal data.

The CBIC notified the 'Passenger Name Record Information Regulations, 2022', aimed at "risk analysis" of passengers to prevent economic and other offenders from fleeing the country as well as check any illicit trade.

According to information shared by the government in Lok Sabha in September 2020, 38 persons involved in cases registered by CBI related to financial irregularities with banks fled the country from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2019. Under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, applications for Red Corner Notices were filed against 20 persons, extradition requests were sent to various countries for 14 persons, and applications under Fugitive Economic Offenders Act,

2018 were filed against 11 persons.

With this, India joins a list of over 60 countries, including the US, that have regulations on sharing prior information with Customs and border control authorities. "The objective is to collect advance information on passengers for better risk profiling. Immigration data is available only after the arrival or departure of passengers," a senior CBIC official told The Indian Express.

The consent will be "manifested" by the person's registration in the passengers' list of the aircraft operator and the data will be recorded for prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of offences under the Customs Act.

Earlier this year, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) – a trade body representing global airlines – had written to the Ministry of Civil Aviation flagging non-standard requests raised by law enforcement and investigative authorities for seeking passenger details.

According to experts, this will provide a consolidated database on a government portal for risk analysis of passengers. "The objective is to obtain relevant passenger data for risk analysis to proactively prevent, detect, investigate or prosecute offences under the Customs law or any other domestic or international law. The onus of timely collecting and sharing such information has been put on the airline operators. Further, while strict privacy guidelines have been stipulated under the said regulations, the government should ensure that the same are duly enforced to prevent unauthorised usage," said Abhishek Jain, Partner, Indirect Tax, KPMG in India.

The Indian EXPRESS

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

DOWNLOAD APP
■ VISUAL STORIES
■ DAILY BRIEFING
■ PODCASTS
■ CUSTOMIZABLE NEWS EXPERIENCE

Indian Express ★★★★ 4.6
SCAN THIS QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE APP

EXPRESS AUDIO
Lost and Found: Girl No. 166, and the cop who didn't give up on her

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Mohamad Thaver and Smita Nair tell the story of how a 7-year-old girl went missing, how she was found, and the cop who simply refused to give up on her

Nitish dumps BJP, returns to Grand Alliance

ally now. It is all because the BJP tries to finish its ally...

Hamare purkhon ki virasat koi aur lega kya? (Can someone else hijack our legacy?)

I am happy Nitish Kumar decided to come back to us. We thank Lalu ji. He is the one who stopped LK Advani's rath. We will not allow the BJP to fulfill its agenda."

He called Nitish "the most experienced CM in the country". Asked if Nitish will be a PM candidate in the 2024 polls, he said: "I leave this question to Nitish Kumar ji... Bihar will continue to move forward under his leadership... We are chacha-bhatija, we fought each other and we are together again."

Earlier, as Nitish's car moved inside Raj Bhavan, a small group of JD(U) support-

ers, waving party flags, chanted slogans of "Desh ka Pradhan Mantri kaisa ho, Nitish Kumar jaisa ho."

He returned from Raj Bhavan within 15 minutes and made a brief statement to the media that he had tendered his resignation to the Governor.

Sources said Tejaswi will be the lone Deputy CM in the new government. Although the Congress also hopes to get a Deputy CM position, Nitish is unlikely to agree, sources said, adding that there could be too many power centres.

Dumped by Nitish a second time, the BJP pointed to his "habit" of political somersaults. BJP leader and Union Minister Ashwini Kumar Choubey said, "Nitish Kumar is a perennial 'Paltu Ram' (turncoat). No one can trust

sue of his involvement in fodder scam. In 2013, your personal dislike for Narendra Modi made you leave us and join hands with the RJD president," Prasad said.

"You left the RJD in 2017 after Tejaswi Yadav's name cropped up in a corruption case. You are now pushing Bihar back into the era of lawlessness and corruption which you claimed credit for bringing the state out of," alleged the Patna Sahib MP.

Speaking at the same press conference, state BJP president Sanjay Jaiswal alleged that Kumar was a "habitual betrayer" ("aadat-dhokhebaaz") who will be punished by the people of Bihar for betraying the "mandates of 2019 (Lok Sabha polls) and 2020 (Assembly elections)".

Heartland state loss, Nitish's EBC support pose problems for BJP

force for the Opposition since he has the potential to bring in more regional parties to a prospective alliance.

Nitish, who was said to have once nursed prime ministerial ambitions, could be pitted against Prime Minister Narendra Modi by the Opposition, BJP leaders said.

"Although he cannot match the popularity and acceptance of Prime Minister Modi, the Opposition, which is headless now, can re-emerge and gain strength. Whether it can win the electoral test is a different matter," a former BJP MP said.

With the JD (U) breaking away, the BJP's biggest fear will be its impact on the support base comprising the Most Backward Classes or Extremely Backward Classes, which

Nitish had brought in for the BJP in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections and the 2020 state elections. In Bihar, where caste still matters in electoral battles, the combination of Muslims and Yadavs (the traditional support base of the RJD) with the MBC, which is 17 per cent, can create a serious problem for the BJP.

In at least eight districts in Mithila and Magadh regions, the BJP had banked heavily on Nitish's goodwill to win the seats. The NDA won 39 of the 40 seats – 16 for JD (U), 17 for BJP and six for LJP – in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls.

Although the BJP maintains that the popularity of Prime Minister Modi and the welfare schemes initiated by his government at the Centre played key roles in NDA wins in the

two elections, senior party leaders admit that Nitish's departure can be "disastrous" if the BJP does not play its cards carefully in Bihar – it is the only eastern state where it has had the confidence of assured numbers, until now.

Sources indicated that a tough contest in Bihar could spoil the BJP's national strategies too. While the eastern and southern regions are difficult for the BJP to secure a sizable number of seats, the party will have to rely heavily on the northern and western regions in the general election.

For now, the JD (U)'s exit means the loss of one more state for the NDA, but it does not make any significant difference to it in the Lok Sabha where it has a brute majority. However,

in Raja Sabha, where even the Shiv Sena's three MPs are still with the Opposition, five members of JD (U) are expected to join the Opposition. The BJP does not have a majority in the Upper House.

According to party sources, the BJP national leadership will soon "review" the strategies. There could be appointment of a new general secretary in charge as well as a rejig in the state organisation, sources said.

"The BJP's advantage is that it is a strong organisation with roots at the ground level and it has the machinery and network to implement any fresh strategy in a short span of time. We have enough time to refresh ourselves and can go out with a fresh strategy," a senior BJP leader said.

to trace him. Although police were constantly on his tail, Tyagi would escape just 15-20 minutes before police would reach his last traced location, said sources.

"He went to Delhi airport and then left for Meerut on Friday. Next day, he changed all his devices, and left for Rishikesh via Haridwar. On Sunday, he re-entered UP. After Sunday evening, he changed his devices, and then was traced around Meerut, Baghpat and Muzaffarnagar. He kept moving around in different vehicles and was on the run for almost three-and-a-half days. Our teams kept tracking his movements and the various vehicles. We caught him from Meerut today," said Singh.

Police said they had received information that Tyagi would be travelling with an associate, Rahul, from Rishikesh to Noida via the Delhi-Meerut Expressway and would try to surrender before the court. Four teams intercepted his vehicle.

Three other men, identified as Rahul, Nakul Tyagi and Sanjay, were arrested with Tyagi. The Noida Police said Tyagi and Rahul were allegedly involved in criminal activities.

With the police and administration under fire for failing to take sufficient action against Tyagi and to protect residents of the Noida society, Singh said: "We have, for the past two-and-a-half years worked against organised crime and crimes against women. We have zero tolerance for crimes against women and will continue to serve the expectations of the people."

Meanwhile, an ANI report said that while being taken to court, Tyagi told the media: "I express my regret on the incident. She's like my sister. The incident is political and was done to politically decimate me." Additional DCP, Central Noida, Ankita Sharma said Tyagi has been sent to judicial custody for 14 days.

EXPRESS EDUCATION

HISTORY Optional

By Kumar SR

Renowned faculty

highly experienced with excellent results

Online Batches

Live and Recorded Classes

with Notes & Test Series

SR CLASSES

Call: 7888765278

E-mail : srclasseschd@gmail.com

Contact for Advt. Booking: M/s Friends Publicity Service

(M): 9212665841, 9212008155

CAO/Con/North EC Ry, MHX, Patna PR/0819/CON/ENGG/T/22-23/36

11771/HRY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

SR. NO. NAME OF BIDDER/CORP/AUTH NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE TIME AMOUNT (EMD APPROX.) IN RUPEES WEBSITE OF THE BIDDER/CORP/AUTH NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL

1 HAFED PANCHKULA HAFED INVITES SHORT TERM E-TENDERS E-AUCTIONS FOR PURCHASE OF 200 MT KACHCHI GHANI MUSTARD OIL (LOOSE) FOR HAFED OIL MILL, REWARI AND NARNAUL. THE DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE ON [HTTPS://ETENDERS.HRY.NIC.IN](https://etenders.hry.nic.in) AND [WWW.HAFED.GOV.IN](http://www.hafed.gov.in)

CLOSING DATE 17.08.2022

7 DEATHS, 2,495 CASES ON TUESDAY

Covid positivity rate crosses 15%, CM says don't panic

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

WITH THE Covid positivity rate in Delhi continuing to remain above 15%, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said the government was monitoring the situation closely. Delhi recorded 2,495 cases as per Tuesday's health bulletin at a positivity rate of 15.41%. Seven Covid patients died in 24 hours, the highest in around two months.

"Covid-19 cases are rising again and we are closely monitoring the situation. We will take actions as per the need of the situation. All cases are mild in nature. People are having normal fever-like symptoms and there is no need to panic," Kejriwal said.

The capital also recorded six deaths with the infection on Monday, which is the highest since June 25 when also six



At present, 507 Covid patients are hospitalised

E **Few patients in hospitals**

WHILE THE spike in Covid cases and positivity rate is higher than was seen in the past few months, officials in the government are assured that it will not lead to a big crisis as the number of patients being admitted to hospitals is still low. Since the omicron variant hit the city in January, overall case fatality ratio in the city has also dropped from around 1.7% to 1.3% now.

While there has been an uptick in cases and positivity rate over the past two weeks, the rise

in hospitalisation has been slower.

At present, 507 Covid patients, and 27 people suspected to have Covid are admitted in Delhi hospitals. Of these, 168 are in the ICU, 130 are on oxygen support and 16 are on ventilator support. 93 of these patients are not residents of Delhi. Of the 9,409 beds set aside for Covid patients in the city, 8,875 are vacant.

The spike in cases over the past two weeks is different from the two small spikes seen in April and June since Covid cases in the capital are continuing to increase. To compare, fewer than 1,800 cases and around 10% positivity was the highest recorded during the previous two spikes in infection. Experts said that these ups and downs in the infection is likely to continue for some time before settling into a seasonal pattern, unless there is a new variant that starts spreading.

CWG medalist hits back at AAP again, tells its MLA: 'Played for Delhi from 2011 to 2017'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

DAYS AFTER wrestler Divya Kakran said she had received no help from the Delhi government though she has been living in the city for 20 years and has been training here, she tweeted Tuesday that she played for Delhi from 2011 to 2017.

Kakran, who won a bronze medal in the recently concluded Commonwealth Games, was re-

sponding to AAP national spokesperson Saurabh Bharadwaj's comment on Sunday that she had not played for Delhi and had represented UP.

In her tweet on Tuesday, Kakran said: "I played for Delhi from 2011 to 2017. Here's the certificate from Delhi State! If you still don't believe this, should I upload certificates of 17 golds from Delhi State?" She uploaded a picture of a certificate from the Wrestling Federation of India from June 2019, which stated that she rep-

resented Delhi in freestyle and Greco Roman style, and the 19th Female Senior National Wrestling Championship held at Nandini Nagar, Gonda, Uttar Pradesh, from October 23 to 25, 2016, in the 63-kg weight category.

On Sunday, reacting to Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal congratulating her for the latest win, Kakran had tweeted: "I thank the honourable Chief Minister from the bottom of my heart for congratulating me. I have been living in Delhi for the past 20 years and

have been training here but till now I have not been awarded any money or received any help from the State government. It is my request that you honour me the way you honour players from Delhi who represent other States."

An official Delhi government response issued on Sunday said if Kakran "has played on behalf of Delhi, or has been part of any sports scheme in Delhi, or has applied for any such scheme, the state government will certainly look into what she has said".

BRIEFLY

CM unfurls 500th Tricolour at Mayur Vihar

New Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal Tuesday unfurled the 500th high-mast Tricolour at Mayur Vihar. He spoke about the row over 'freebies' and said free education, world-class healthcare and employment for all should be made fundamental rights of every citizen: "These are not freebies, waiving loans worth Rs 10 lakh crore for your friends is a freebie." The plan to install 500 national flags was part of the government's Deshbhakti budget (2021-22). Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Kapoor, meanwhile, hit out at the CM and said it was always his agenda to bring in freebies and loan waivers.

Students of SASTRA law school win 1st National ADR Tournament

New Delhi: Students of SASTRA Deemed University Law School won the 1st National ADR Tournament conducted by Indian Dispute Resolution Centre, in association with Latest Laws. The team, including students Fahima, Yugantara and Sashi Barathvaj, were awarded a cash prize of Rs 50,000. Yugantara was adjudged as the Best Researcher. Fahima was adjudged as the Best Speaker. Twenty teams participated in the National ADR Tournament. ENS

New deputy commissioner for excise dept

New Delhi: The Excise department, which is gearing up to revert to the old excise policy, has got a new deputy commissioner, officials said Tuesday. The Delhi government has appointed Jitendra Agrawal, a 1997-batch DANICS officer, as deputy commissioner, said an order by the services department. PTI

Bahadur Chand Investments Private Limited
CIN: U65921DL1979PTC331322; PAN: AAACB6706F
Registered office:- The Grand Plaza, Plot No.2, Nelson Mandela Road, Vasant Kunj- Phase-II, New Delhi- 110070
Correspondence Address: 37, Community Center, Basant Lok, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi - 110 057
Tel. No: 011-47619310 | Fax: 011-26152453 | E-mail: bcpil@gmail.com
Website: www.bahadurchandinvestments.com

Financial Results for the quarter ended June 30, 2022					
S. No	Particulars	STANDALONE			Previous Year Ended
		Quarter ended	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021	
		Un-Audited	Un-Audited	Audited	
1	Total income from operations	2,471.72	1,696.99	40,693.32	
2	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period before tax (before Exceptional and/ or Extraordinary items)	(5,920.82)	(6,646.99)	6,792.52	
3	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/ or Extraordinary items)	(5,920.82)	(6,646.99)	6,792.52	
4	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional items)	(6,393.43)	(7,132.52)	1,847.97	
5	Total Comprehensive Income/ (Loss) for the period (Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	(6,393.43)	(7,132.52)	1,847.97	
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital (face value Rs. 100/- per share)	-	-	17.06	
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	-	-	308,052.28	
8	Securities Premium Account	-	-	133,995.94	
9	Net worth	-	-	308,069.34	
10	Paid up debt capital / outstanding debt	-	-	-	
11	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	-	-	-	
12	Debt equity ratio	2.43	2.31		
13	Earnings/ (loss) per share on net profit after tax - face value Rs. 100/- each (in Rupees)	-	-	-	
a)	Basic	(37,471.73)	(41,803.54)	10,830.91	
b)	Diluted	(37,471.73)	(41,803.54)	10,830.91	
14	Capital redemption reserve	-	-	94.00	
15	Debtenture redemption reserve	-	-	-	
16	Debt service coverage ratio	NA	NA	NA	
17	Interest service coverage ratio	NA	NA	NA	

Notes:-

- The above is an extract of detailed format of the unaudited quarterly financial results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation, 2015. The full format of the financial results are available on the websites of the stock exchange at www.nseindia.com and the Company at www.bahadurchandinvestments.com.
- The above results for the quarter ended June 30, 2022 have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by Board of Directors at its meeting held on August 08, 2022.
- The financial results of the Company have been prepared in accordance with Indian Accounting Standards ('Ind AS') notified under the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 as amended by the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2016, prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 ('the Act') read with relevant rules issued thereunder and the other accounting principles generally accepted in India. Any application guidance/ clarifications/ directions issued by the Reserve Bank of India or other regulators are implemented as and when they are issued/ applicable.
- For the other items referred in Regulation 52 (4) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, pertinent disclosures have been made to the Stock Exchange and can be accessed at www.nseindia.com and at the Company's website at www.bahadurchandinvestments.com.

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors of Bahadur Chand Investments Private Limited
Sd/-
Suman Kant Munjal
Director

Place: New Delhi
Date: August 08, 2022

कार्यालय नगर पालिका परिषद् पीथमपुर, जिला धार (म.प्र.)

क्रमांक/4417/न.पा./22 पीथमपुर दिनांक :- 04/08/2022

द्वितीय ई - निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना :-

नगर पालिका पीथमपुर क्षेत्रान्तर्गत निनलिस्चित कार्य को निविदा सूचना ई-टेलरिंग पद्धति से ई-प्रोक्योरमेन्ट पोर्टल (www.mptenders.gov.in) पर आमंत्रित है। निविदा का विवरण निम्नानुसार है:-

क्र. सोर्टल क्र.	कार्य का नाम	अनु. लागत (लाख)	अर्नेस्ट मरी	समयावधि (माह)	फार्म शुल्क
1 2022_UAD_215269	वार्ड क्र. 28 में शमशान घाट पुलिया से भारीरथ कालोनी तक सी.सी.रोड निर्माण एवं नाली निर्माण	112.36	56180/-	04	12500/-

समय सारणी:-

- निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाइन क्रय करने की प्रारंभ दिनांक :- 05.08.2022 (प्रातः 11:00 बजे से)
- निविदा ऑनलाइन क्रय/बीड सबमिशन की अंतिम दिनांक :- 19.08.2022 (शाम 5:30 बजे तक)
- निविदा खोलने की दिनांक :- 22.08.2022 (प्रातः 11:00 बजे)

मुख्य नगर	(श्रीमती क्षमा सुमाय जायसवाल)	(श्री हंसराज पटेल)	(श्रीमती कविता संजय वैष्णव)
पालिका अधिकारी	प्रभारी लो.नि.वि.	नगर पालिका	अध्यक्ष-नगर
नगर पालिका परिषद	पीथमपुर	पीथमपुर	पालिका पीथमपुर



SHARDA UNIVERSITY
Beyond Boundaries

DISCOVER A UNIVERSITY WHERE

PADMASHRI AWARDED SCIENTISTS

AND FACULTY WITH EXPERIENCE IN

STANFORD, HARVARD, AIIMS, NASA & DRDO

ARE BUILDING A UNIQUE CULTURE OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATION.



1000+ Ph.D. SCHOLARS,
H INDEX 50

332 PUBLISHED &
26 GRANTED PATENTS

2600+ PUBLISHED PAPERS
(SCOPUS/SCI/PUBMED)

WHY STUDY@SHARDA

- 900+ faculty with global experience in top universities, hospitals and corporates
- 270+ tie-Ups with leading global universities for student exchange, credit transfer and collaborative research.
- Students from 95+ countries have experienced Sharda's world-class education
- 100+ Major Funded Research Projects worth crores are running in the University
- 4399 students are studying with Scholarship and Freeship worth Rs. 20.46 crore in 2021.
- 1200+ Beds teaching super specialty hospital on campus
- Sharda Skills to help students to prepare for various competitive exams like UPSC, CAT, GRE, GMAT, SSC, IBPS etc within the campus after University hours/weekends.

A TRULY MULTI-DISCIPLINARY UNIVERSITY OFFERING UG/PG/Ph.D. PROGRAMMES

SHARDA SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

B.Tech.

Computer Science & Engineering (CSE)

CSE- Block Chain Technology | Business Analytics

Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning | Banking & Insurance

Data Science & Analytics in association with Oracle

IoT and Application in association with Aries | Bioinformatics

Cyber Security & Forensics in association with Microsoft



VACCINATIONS IN LAST 24 HOURS

19,170

PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL: 534

OXYGEN SUPPORT: 114

VENTILATOR SUPPORT: 16

DELHI TOTAL CASES

19,73,394

HOSPITAL BEDS: 9,406

ICU BEDS: 2,119

Total Vacant: 9,033

Cases: 1,372

Recoveries: 1,927

Deaths: 6

Tests: 7,686

Aug 8

Aug 9

Total: 8,506*

19,38,545

26,337

3,96,42,039

*Total active cases in Delhi

NOIDA

Aug 8 Aug 9

Cases: N/A

Deaths: N/A

GURGAON

Cases: 302

Deaths: 0

0

TELLS SUPREME COURT

Can't call schemes meant for welfare of disadvantaged masses 'freebies': AAP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

OPPOSING THE plea seeking a ban on political parties promising 'freebies' to lure voters in the run-up to elections, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has told the Supreme Court that "schemes for socio-economic welfare of deserving and disadvantaged masses cannot be described as 'freebies'".

The party also accused the petitioner — who it said has "strong links" to the BJP — of "furthering a particular political agenda".

In an application seeking intervention in the PIL filed by advocate Ashwini Upadhyay, the AAP stated that the plea "clearly seeks judicial action against a particular model of economic development by exclusively targeting fiscal expenditure on socialist and welfareist measures for the masses".

But, AAP said, it "ignores the vast fiscal losses to the exchequer caused by tax rebates, subsidies and other such 'freebies' routinely provided to big industries and businesses by the Centre and various state governments".

"Instead, the petitioner

prefers that the burden of improving the fiscal health of the nation be imposed solely on the underprivileged masses," it said.

The application stated that the plea "neglects to acknowledge that a socialist and welfareist economic agenda is built into the Constitution of India by way of the Preamble and the Directive Principles of State Policy and is, therefore, the constitutional mandate of any elected government... By removing such socialist and welfareist agenda from electoral discourse, the petitioner seeks to advance the interests of a different, more parochial kind of politics reliant on caste and communal appeals instead of on appeals to people's welfare."

The party also raises questions of freedom of speech of the political parties, the application stated.

Giving a list of schemes such as free canteens, free and subsidised electricity and water, etc, AAP said they "are absolutely essential in an unequal society such as ours", and that "to describe them as 'freebies', despite their immense social utility and their impact on both the social and economic development of the country, is not just incorrect,



CM Arvind Kejriwal had said on Monday that people who call welfare schemes provided to ordinary citizens "free ki revdi (sweets)" are "traitors" to the country. Archive

but also an affront to our constitutional project..."

The party said that if a discussion has to take place on "freebies" and their connection to fiscal health of the country, then the discussion has to be first in respect of what is being given to politicians, ministers, MPs and MLAs. If the idea is resource-conservation within the nation, then it should not begin with the "deserving masses

who are constitutionally entitled to support in attaining a dignified standard of living, but the political and governing class which has, in the past and even now, been a significant beneficiary of the State's largesse, through, inter alia, free housing in prime areas of national and state capitals, given to Ministers/ Members of Parliament/civil servants, etc".

The AAP also stated that "the Petitioner because of his politics has consciously chosen not to flag the large amount of fiscal loss which the State and consequently the people suffer because of very selective benefits given to certain industrial sectors, the net effect of which is to benefit and enrich certain business houses".

The application stated that if fiscal responsibility is the concern, then "it is relevant to remember that fiscal issues are both complex and contingent on geography and time and are thus unamenable to strait-jacketed or binary solutions that any litigation may throw up", the application stated. It said enactments such as Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003, already exist, "which have the ef-

fect of legislatively restricting the deficits that a government can run".

It prayed that should the court go into the fiscal issue, "then the stakeholders could be directed to consider imposing a budgetary limit on free/subsidised services depending on the overall fiscal health of each State. This, in any event, is a far better solution than trying to restrict political parties from making electoral promises, which does not directly translate to outgo of funds".

Such promises, it said, are "only an example of electoral speech that is an instance of a process of democratic communication", and "restricting such speech will both be irrelevant to any fiscal reform, and also harmful to healthy democratic functioning of elections and policymaking".

With the Centre in favour of an end to freebies by political parties using public money, the Supreme Court, while hearing the PIL last week, had sought suggestions from petitioners and respondents on the composition of a committee which can go into the issue "dispassionately" and make recommendations.

LIQUOR POLICY ROW

Sisodia a 'desperate man trying to save his own skin': Former L-G Baijal

Delhi govt says former L-G 'diverting from actual issue'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

(Left) Former L-G Anil Baijal; Deputy CM Manish Sisodia

a desperate man to save his own skin." He added that the Deputy CM is trying to find some alibi for "his and his colleagues' acts of commission and omission".

Last week, Sisodia, who also holds the excise portfolio, said he had written to the CBI requesting a probe into what he claimed was a sudden change in former L-G Baijal's decision on opening vends in unauthorised areas. This caused "thousands of crores of losses" to the Delhi government, he alleged. He had also claimed the change in decision came "48 hours before implementation of the policy on ground" (on November 17, 2021).

Stating that facts are now in the public domain, Baijal said, "In the matter of not allowing liquor vends in non-conforming areas, (I) discharged my constitutional responsibility of upholding the laws of the land. No law in Delhi, even today, allows for opening of liquor vends in non-conforming areas."

Baijal added: "Raising doubts and levelling allegations against the L-G's decisions has been a norm ever since the AAP has formed the government in Delhi. The allegations now made by Manish Sisodia are baseless and motivated against me. They are nothing but blatant lies and falsehoods being perpetrated by

He said the committee on December 10 submitted its report and decided that with regard to 67 non-conforming wards, the excise department can consider allowing the licensee of such wards to open additional vends in conforming areas of such adjoining wards where conforming areas exist or any other ward allotted to the licensee. "Accordingly, no permission was granted for opening liquor vends in non-conforming areas," said the former L-G.

Responding to Baijal's statement, the Delhi government said: "Instead of diverting from the actual issue, the ex-L-G needs to answer what made him change his stand just 48 hours before opening of shops? Why did he deliberately cause so much loss to the government and give undue favours to selected licensees? Who forced him to take a stand against the policy passed by the cabinet and L-G himself?"

Baijal further said he has upheld constitutional values and laws of the land, in letter and spirit, during his entire tenure: "The record will speak for itself; I dismiss the claims made by the government and its excise minister in toto. Time and investigation will reveal the truth. As a public functionary, I have always worked with the highest degree of moral values and ethics."

Sisodia had announced on July 30 that the new excise policy would be rolled back. This came after current L-G VK Saxena recommended a CBI probe into the new policy over alleged irregularities, and Delhi Police's EOW launched a probe into the excise department.

Agent from pvt detective firm held for 'selling' call records

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

A 22-YEAR-OLD field agent from a private detective agency has been arrested for allegedly procuring call detail records (CDRs) illegally and selling them to individuals, police said Tuesday.

The court has passed the direction in a case alleging that a complainant was allegedly threatened and harassed by certain private people in front of police officials at Nabi Karim police station in May. The petition prayed for preservation of CCTV footage of the incident. The court was told CCTV cameras do not have the audio recording facility.

Advocate Sufian Siddiqui, representing the petitioner, had argued before the court, "To preserve and uphold the primacy of 'Rule of Law', to protect the sacrosanct fundamental rights of the common man and to restore their faith in the functioning of the Delhi Police, it is expedient that the court's directions are complied with on an exigent basis."

Police in its reply has told the court that following the Supreme Court's order, the Commissioner of Police had constituted a committee of senior police officers to examine the matter expeditiously and give its recommendations.

CCTVs currently at police stations don't have audio recording facility: Cops to HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

Rescue operations entered the third day on Tuesday at Gurgaon's Gadoli Khurd village. The body is yet to be found. Express

day. Since the drain is uncovered, water comes to our doorstep when it rains. My sister-in-law heard cries of people that Dishant was drowning. She, an aunt and some neighbours ran outside, but it was too late... he was struggling to remain afloat and was swept away in front of us. The incident took place due to the negligence of authorities. If they had covered the drain, this would not have occurred," alleged the boy's uncle, Sunder Ladot.

Officials said the drain is 26.5 km long of which a 6-km area, where the incident took place, is not covered. Waste from industrial effluents across the city is dumped into the drain, which flows to Badshahpur drain and eventually to Najafgarh.

"We just want to see our child one last time. We hope authorities locate his body soon. Bas body dhoond kar saap do humein (Just locate the body and hand it over to us)," he said, his voice breaking.

The boy's body is yet to be recovered as teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), police, fire department and civic agencies continued rescue efforts.

"The water level in the drain was high due to rain earlier that

After the incident, the family and villagers blocked the Gurgaon-Pataudi road at Umang Bhardwaj Chowk in protest for hours. The protest continued on Monday, with traffic being diverted. Police said the road was reopened Tuesday evening after consultations with the family and villagers.

The family also alleged their complaints about installing fences around the drain and concretisation were ignored.

Krishan, a resident, alleged: "We have been suffering for years... The authorities are now putting up fences. Some fencing was installed earlier, but it was stolen. Our main demand is that the drain is covered permanently. We also request some compensation for the family."

Vikram Singh, executive engineer, Infrastructure-2, GMDA, denied allegations of negligence. "Work on installing fences around residential areas along the drain started on Monday. Our teams are assisting in the rescue efforts," said Singh.

Ankita Choudhary, SDM, North Gurgaon, said rescue operations were on: "Teams are still locating the boy. The open area has been scanned multiple times by divers, but the body could not be located. The main issue that teams are facing is that a lot of waste is dumped in the drain, and the lack of oxygen in those parts."

The SDM added, "The drain is not completely covered due to some NGT guidelines and issues of land acquisition around it."

Justice Anu Malhotra in an order said it is "essential" that di-

rections passed by the SC in December 2020 are complied with, and listed the matter for hearing on September 27.

FOLLOWING THE Delhi Police's admission that CCTV cameras at its stations and posts in the national capital do not have audio recording facility, the Delhi High Court has sought a response from the MHA to ensure compliance of the Supreme Court order on installation of cameras in police stations.

In response to an order seek-

ing compliance of the apex court directions, police told the court that it had already installed 2,127 CCTVs having night vision capability with video storage capacity for up to 30 days in 192 police stations and 53 chowks. "Total 10 CCTVs are installed in each police station and 4/5 cameras in each police post, depend-

ing upon the size of the post, covering all essential places of the police station/police post building(s). However, the CCTV system already installed in police stations and police posts (chowks), presently, do not have audio recording facility," police said.

Justice Anu Malhotra in an order said it is "essential" that di-

rectives

ASI Amrita finds the situation amusing. "Even with Tulika, I wanted her to focus on studies. It's not like I pushed her to become a star. Now the younger one also wants to start shooting — I don't know what I will do!" she said.

But for all this, Tulika has maintained her humility, despite returning as a champion. Her mother said, "She was never one to go around talking about the various awards she had won. In fact, she's not very enthusiastic about crowds also, she is very down to earth. I think this is what makes her a star."

23-YEAR-OLD WON SILVER IN JUDO

Behind CWG medal, a mother's struggle: 'Took loan, withdrew pension'

ARNAV CHANDRASEKHAR
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

FROM THE outside, Commonwealth Games medalist Tulika Maan's Tagore Garden residence shows no sign of housing a champion. But just a few hours earlier, members of the neighbourhood had thronged the area to congratulate the 23-year-old judo silver medalist.

Tulika is not one to sit complacently on her laurels, according to her mother: "She regrets that she didn't win the gold medal." Tulika echoed this: "I made a mistake during a half-minute period in the fight. If not for that, it might have gone dif-

ferently."

When she's back home, Tulika usually likes to stay there, her mother said: "Her idea of a night out is hanging out with her friends on the roof." Those include her fellow judo competitors. "They are family — in fact they call me 'ma' and not 'aunty'. They stay here for many days sometimes," her mother said.

But it has been a hard journey to get here, with ASI Amrita raising her daughter alone after her husband passed away. "We got occasional help sometimes from authorities for travel tickets, but for the most part, I have



Judo silver medalist Tulika Maan being welcomed at the airport on her return from the games. Express

had to manage alone. I have even taken personal loans and withdrawn from my pension fund — I don't have a great deal of savings to speak of, after 31 years in the force," she said.

She had originally put Tulika into judo classes in 2006, when she got frustrated with being cooped up at home or being taken to the police station. Tulika has been competing in major tournaments since 2017.

One of Tulika's fans is her 11-year-old sister, Vanshika. Her mother said, "In fact, she knows much more about me than judo; I don't follow the sport much. Vanshika herself is interested in



world biofuel day

ADVERTORIAL



UNIVERSAL FORCES- ATMANIRBHARATA THROUGH BIO-FUEL PROJECTS.

UFI is a leading organization in providing technology for production of bio-fuels such as ethanol (sustainable green energy) to replace fossil fuels (coal, petroleum products etc.)



On the occasion of World Bio Fuel Day a focus on the contribution of UFI..

As we know that day by day the traditional energy resources like petrol, diesel are creating hazardous pollutants in the environment & are also becoming costly. These resources are also becoming scars which is forcing us to search for cleaner energy sources. After extensive research, Ethanol is found to be the most reliable & less polluting fuel. India is a part of this global endeavor.

Pradeep Dhokare the founder of UFI (Established on 1st May, 1996) was very passionate about working on his new innovative ideas about development of greener energy sources. With guidance from his elder brother working as an expert in conventional fossil fuel energy technologies guided him to focus on development of green energy technologies like biofuels which they saw as the future of energy field. Further efforts of Mr. Pradeep Dhokare resulted in very dynamic, technology oriented project company which has been providing total solution and greenfield projects with Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD System). Further ahead they also developed slop (distillery waste) fired incinerated boiler which is very reliable and has become an essential part of this industry.

That period was an era of Ethanol based projects. Soon UFI became a brand & completed its turnkey projects in wineries, distilleries, breweries, dairy etc. Later, Central Government of India took bold steps to design policies related to alternative fuel especially ethanol. The technology was rapidly evolving from mechanization to automation. It helped to save invaluable foreign exchange for the country. As prices of traditional fossil fuels skyrocketed, demand for alternative sources of energy was on the rise.

After getting well established in distillery business the application of alcohol switched to fuel. This motivated him to expand his business globally to meet the increasing demand of green energy sources. As rules for environment,



safety & protection became very stringent the need for usage of recycled water with minimum pollution became buzzword.

According to Mr. Pradeep Dhokare, founder of UFI, the former central minister encouraged production of alternative energy sources. Mr. Vilasrao Deshmukh, the former Chief Minister of Maharashtra took courageous decisions about alternative fuels & energy resources. With the technological support of UFI, Mr. Vilasrao Deshmukh encouraged to produce ethanol at Manjara Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited, Latur & made it available at a very subsidized rate to the Government of India. This path breaking decision was beneficial which resulted in increased production of ethanol in the country.

Under the leadership of Mr. Nitin Gadkari, Central Minister for Road, Transportation & Infrastructure usage of ethanol is again encouraged. In days to come, ethanol will be blended in petrol and diesel with a percentage of more than 25 or more, and will be used as a fuel either in the form of liquid or gaseous states in any type of automobile.

Biofuel has proven replacement against petrol and diesel. That's why it has bright future and also affordable to common people. This is how it has helped our nation to become Atmanirbhar Bharat.

By Dr. Dipak Bidkar

- India's 1st EPC company installing more than 5 green field distillery projects with ZLD and power generation by using all up to date & proven technologies. (Incineration Boiler, Spent wash Drying Plant and Bio-Fertilizer / Compost.)

- India's 1st company supplying distillery with ZLD & Power Plant with own updated design, engineering, manufacturing, erecting & commissioning.

- India's 1st company doing ZLD by using granular bio-fertilizers plant by spentwash drying.

- Universal is an instrumental partner of our honourable prime minister's dream project of producing ethanol by using bamboo i.e. 2G Ethanol Project.

26+	12+	12+	21+	100+	100+
Modern Distillery	Evaporation Plants	Biogas Plants	Fuel Ethanol Plants	Happy Customers	Experienced Staff

Success Mantra – 3 P's – Planning, Passion and Patience.

Expertise & Offerings -

1. Turnkey Plants and EPC Projects.
2. UNI-CON FERMENTATION – Updated technology on cane syrup and grain fermentation.
3. UNI-MOL ETHANOL – Having energy efficient modern smart technology especially for Ethanol.
4. UNI-THERM DISTILLATION – Updated design & engineering for production of RS, EQRS and ENA.
5. Energy Efficient Evaporation plants.
6. Waste to energy Bio-CNG plants.
7. Innovative technology for grain-based ethanol.
8. Technical Consultancy and Project Feasibility.
9. Process technology advancements and modern solutions.
10. Direct wash to MSDH ethanol plant by using alcohol vapours from RS Plant.
11. Advanced, Economical & Environment friendly ZLD plants.
12. Multi-feed fuel, efficient, ECO-friendly power plants. (Boilers)
13. Design, Engineering & Manufacturing of Super Critical Process Equipments.
14. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle process for water.
15. Single Umbrella for Distillery, Ethanol process plant, Bio-CNG, Evaporation, Boiler, ZLD and civil work.
16. ISO company having state of art of own manufacturing facility with top class certifications from IBR & ASME.
17. In house actual plant establishment for Research & Development.
18. Excellence in design by using latest world class plant design software like STAD, PV Elite, PDMS & CAD.
19. 3 decade background of running plant with no updatings with proven technology.
20. Free preparation of most effective layout. Free supply of various Yard & Battery limit piping, power connection.
21. Free full time Inplant training centres for customer staff.



PROMISING STEPS TOWARDS BIOENERGY

UNIVERSAL
Wishes you A Very happy
WORLD BIOFUEL DAY



#we biofuel

For a healthier, happier and better life, we must embrace the goodness of biofuel



PATNA POWERSHIFT

Constant sparring, communication gap, poaching shadow: Why Nitish quit NDA

MANOJ G
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

NITISH KUMAR's decision to walk out of the NDA and join hands with rival RJD marked a bitter end to his tenuous relationship with the BJP after returning to power in November 2020 as Chief Minister heading the coalition government.

Those who have interacted with Nitish said he was "not at all comfortable" from Day One. "He believed the BJP belittled him using Chirag Paswan (of LJP). When you lose (votes), you start believing in such things. He did not want to be Chief Minister but reluctantly agreed after Prime Minister Narendra Modi requested. But he was not at all comfortable," a leader said.

Over the last year, equations between the two parties deteriorated drastically. Here are the key reasons why, according to sources in the JD(U) and BJP:

FIRST DISAPPOINTMENT: The BJP's decision to keep former Deputy CM Sushil Kumar Modi out of the Cabinet. The two shared a good relationship, and Sushil Modi could have ironed out any difference between the two parties. Nitish was not at ease with the BJP's new Deputy CMs, Tarkishwar Prasad and Renu Devi.

CONSTANT SPARRING: The past year saw a constant war of words between leaders of the BJP and the JD(U). Several BJP leaders, including its state president Sanjay Jaiswal, spoke publicly against the government. From the JD(U) side, Upendra Kushwaha returned fire. Despite this friction, there was no intervention from the BJP central leadership, which gave Nitish the feeling that the sniping against him and the government was part of a plan.

COMMUNAL ISSUES: Nitish was visibly



JD(U) leader Nitish Kumar after a press conference in Patna on Tuesday. PTI

Legislative Assembly centenary celebrations did not go down well with Nitish. Although Modi praised him at the function, sources said he felt BJP leaders were trying to bypass him. "His point was, 'how could the Prime Minister visit his state at somebody else's invitation? He felt hurt," a leader said.

POACHING SHADOW: In March, the BJP poached all the three MLAs of Vikashin Insaan Party and became the largest party with 77 MLAs in the Assembly, sending another signal. Then came the RCP Singh episode – suspecting that the JD(U) leader in Delhi had grown close to the BJP; Nitish denied him a Rajya Sabha berth in May. Sources said he suspected a poaching bid by the BJP using Singh.

AGNIPATH PROTESTS: The violent protests in Bihar over the Agnipath military recruitment scheme was the final nail in the coffin. Bihar BJP chief Jaiswal made several statements against the state government. BJP leaders said Nitish had neither condemned the violence nor appealed for peace for several days. The Centre's decision to provide 'Y' category security to several BJP leaders in the state angered him further. It was seen as a sign of no confidence in the state's law-and-order machinery.

NATIONAL AMBITION: His critics also attribute the split to Nitish's national ambitions. "We thought he would gracefully exit from politics in 2025 when his term ends. He would be 75 then. He perhaps has bigger plans. He is in no mood to exit," a BJP leader said. The sense among some leaders is that he felt the BJP would ditch him and the JD(U) in 2025. His decision to snap ties with the BJP has automatically catapulted him to be a contender for the Prime Minister's post, a leader said. "But whether he will really become a challenger to Modi, no one knows," one leader said.

COMMUNICATION GAP: Sources said Modi's visit to Patna at the invitation of the Assembly Speaker Vijay Kumar Sinha to attend the concluding function of the Bihar

upset over communal issues. JD(U) leaders said issues like "love jihad" and the controversy around loudspeakers at mosques unsettled him. Sources said he felt the controversies were "manufactured" to show him in a bad light. Talk of BJP wanting to replace him as Chief Minister angered him further. He even said once that he would not mind going to the Rajya Sabha.

Rabri Devi greets Nitish Kumar in Patna on Tuesday. PTI

BJP had been trying to subsume JD(U), too. But we are socialists. Nitish Kumar is our senior, and we alone should hold on to his legacy," the RJD leader said on Tuesday.

This perhaps is the most striking and discernible difference between the Mahagathbandhan of 2015 and of 2022. If Nitish needed the alliance seven years ago to regain his political supremacy after the 2014 Lok Sabha poll drubbing, he needs it now for political longevity, to remain a stakeholder beyond the 2025 Assembly elections.

When he first snapped ties with BJP in June 2013, Nitish perhaps believed he could try branching out on his own. He had already taken a very public anti-Narendra Modi stance, and with the latter on the ascendant, saw very little space for himself in the NDA. However, Nitish's confidence – resting on his image of being Bihar's vikas purush – had been busted. From winning 20 seats as part of the NDA in the 2009 Lok Sabha elections, the JD(U) had been reduced to 2 in 2014.

The animosity towards Modi, plus the realisation that the JD(U) vote bank needed an extra hand to go over the majority mark, was the reason that prompted Nitish to tie up with Lalu Prasad and the RJD.

Together, the Mahagathbandhan, including the Congress and Left, won 178 seats out of 243 in the Bihar Assembly. The BJP, despite the all-out campaign by Modi, could get only 53 seats, down from its 2010 tally of 91.

The lesson Nitish drew was that, in Bihar at least, social combinations and permutations carried more weight in elections than a high-pitched personality-driven campaign, even if faced with patriotism and Hindutva.

What pushed the Mahagathbandhan apart were the pulls and pressures from the RJD on the government, especially in trans-

fers of police officers and lower bureaucracy.

Lalu, then in better health, also took keen interest in matters of governance. The RJD leader's constant reference to Nitish as his "chhote bhai (younger brother)" is also believed to have rankled the JD(U) leader who saw himself as having entered the big league.

Eventually, CBI raids on Lalu's residence in the IRCTC case gave Nitish a plausible cause, and he snapped ties with the RJD over "corruption". By mid-2017, he returned to the NDA.

All in all, while the Mahagathbandhan 2022 might prove an administrative minefield again, Nitish is hoping that the RJD will shoulder as much of the blame for this in elections to follow. With 79 MLAs, the RJD is, after all, the largest party in the Assembly. Lalu is out of the picture due to failing health, and Tejashwi has matured from his years in politics.

Sources said Nitish and Tejashwi are now in step with each other's plans. The younger leader is apparently looking to take over sooner rather than later, as Nitish finally makes that national jump. In statements across the board, there were ample indications of the same on Tuesday.

FULL REPORT ON

www.indianexpress.com

Mood swings among comma, question mark, exclamation mark

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, AUGUST 9

ON TUESDAY afternoon, as people across the country sat up, trying to figure the big picture of Nitish Kumar's decision to part ways with NDA, it was business as usual at the BJP office at Bir Chand Patel Path, in the heart of Patna. Inside, functionaries of BJP's various wings were at work, although keeping a keen eye on the fast-changing political developments.

There seemed no element of surprise in what Nitish had just done – "woh kisi ke nahi ho sake hain (he cannot be trusted)," said one party functionary – and the common refrain seemed to be one of "good riddance". Most people at the office said the party's state unit had long wanted to come out of Nitish's shadow.

In one corner, the Tricolour was being distributed to party workers in preparation for the "Har Ghar Tiranga" programme. No visibly anxious faces were around. In fact, some of them congratulated each other. If there was one regret, it was that some state ministers from BJP, including Syed Shah Nawaz Husain (industry) and Nitin Mabin (road construction), were "doing very well".

Just over 2 km ahead, the excitement was palpable outside Lalu Prasad's residence at 10, Circular Road – Nitish stays close by at 7, Circular Road. There was a huge gathering of SUVs and cars, parked on either side of the road, and traffic snarl was visible. Supporters shouted slogans to hail Lalu, Nitish and Tejashwi. The lane had come alive after five years.

However, the CM's residence at 1, Anne Marg did not have the same level of excitement after Nitish had pulled out of the NDA in 2013, and the Grand Alliance in 2017. Several non-supporters passing by wondered why Nitish did what he did, and why he does that so often.

"... today, the day when slogan of 'Bharat chhoro' was given against British. If the slogan of 'BJP bhagao' is coming from Bihar... in other states also, parties will stand against BJP."

DEREK O'BRIEN,
TRINAMOOL CONGRESS

"... today, the day when slogan of 'Bharat chhoro' was given against British. If the slogan of 'BJP bhagao' is coming from Bihar... in other states also, parties will stand against BJP."

AKHILESH YADAV,
SAMAJWADI PARTY

OPP TARGETS BJP: 'WHAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN'

"In March 2020, Modi Sarkar postponed Covid lockdown to engineer fall of Kamal Nath govt in Madhya Pradesh. Now, it cuts short the Parliament session knowing its coalition govt in Bihar is going. What goes up must come down!"

JAI RAM RAMESH,
CONGRESS

"They are getting a taste of their own medicine after what they did in Maharashtra."

SITARAM YECHURIY
CPI(M)

"... today, the day when slogan of 'Bharat chhoro' was given against British. If the slogan of 'BJP bhagao' is coming from Bihar... in other states also, parties will stand against BJP."

AKHILESH YADAV,
SAMAJWADI PARTY

'Nitish Kumar's ultimate aim is to finish the RJD'

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

What would you say about Nitish Kumar's move today?

The BJP has been talking about industrial development, people's welfare and new schemes. Development with dignity for people has been the theme we were talking about. But for the last three or four months, he (Nitish) was talking with Tejashwi Yadav. He went and attended the iftar programme of Tejashwi. But the most interesting part was, he was always asking us what happened to the cases against RJD leaders.... Now with Bhalo Yadav (Lalu Prasad's former aide) arrested, and evidence against the family, Nitish thought it was the right time to destroy RJD.

He thinks once the leadership is gone, RJD voters will come to JD(U). His ultimate aim is to finish RJD.

Does BJP have a face to pitch against Nitish Kumar in next polls?

BJP is a karyakarta-based party and our party does not fight elections

with one leader. Once the election is won, our Parliamentary board picks the leader. There are many leaders in Bihar BJP better than Nitish Kumar and Tejashwi Yadav.

Some of your party leaders said it's a good riddance. Why?

We helped Nitish Kumar when he had only six seats in 1998. When he had 33 and we had 67 seats, we put him at the top. In 2005, too, when we won more seats, we put him as the Chief Minister. His party was not ready to make him CM (but) BJP leaders like Pramod Mahajan, Sushma Swaraj and Arun Jaitley pitched him for the post.

FULL INTERVIEW ON

www.indianexpress.com

Do you see a possibility of Nitish Kumar becoming the leader of the Opposition pitches against Modi?

How can a leader who cannot even (win) one-third seats in his state on his own be pitched against Narendra Modi? He has become a habitual Paltu Ram (turncoat) – Lalu Prasad had coined that word, and he was right...he (Nitish) keeps jumping from one alliance to another.

Does BJP have a face to pitch against Nitish Kumar in next polls?

BJP is a karyakarta-based party and our party does not fight elections

with one leader. Once the election is won, our Parliamentary board picks the leader. There are many leaders in Bihar BJP better than Nitish Kumar and Tejashwi Yadav.

Some of your party leaders said it's a good riddance. Why?

We helped Nitish Kumar when he had only six seats in 1998. When he had 33 and we had 67 seats, we put him at the top. In 2005, too, when we won more seats, we put him as the Chief Minister. His party was not ready to make him CM (but) BJP leaders like Pramod Mahajan, Sushma Swaraj and Arun Jaitley pitched him for the post.

FULL INTERVIEW ON

www.indianexpress.com

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, PATNA, AUGUST 9

WITH THE game of numbers set to begin in Bihar, the one man whose actions will be most closely watched is Speaker Vijay Kumar Sinha. The BJP MLA – who has had run-ins with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in the past – has already given one sign of what might be coming when, amidst much raised eyebrows, he was reported to be Covid positive when the JD(U) and RJD made their first moves on Monday, only to report Covid-negative within 24 hours as the dice appeared to have been rolled.

Then, on Monday night, following his fast-track recovery from Covid, one of the first people Sinha met was members of the Ethics Committee of the Assembly, headed by BJP leader Ram Narayan Mandal. While Mandal declined to divulge details, sources in the BJP said the report was about an incident of March 2021, when RJD MLAs had held the Speaker "hostage" and police had to be called to the Assembly. Sources said the report involved about 18 MLAs.

As per procedure, these MLAs will receive a notice on the advice of the Speaker, who may decide further action, and even order disqualification. With 79 MLAs, the RJD is the single-largest party in the Assembly. Any change in numbers will, of course, have repercussions on which government takes over.

The incident dates back to March 23, 2021, when the Assembly had passed the Special Armed Police Act, giving more powers to police to search people, without a warrant, and make arrests, amid protests by Opposition MLAs. RJD MLAs had rushed to Speaker Sinha's chair, torn papers and laid siege to his chambers, virtually holding him hostage inside. Police had to be called in, to remove the protesting MLAs, with many them dragged and carried out on stretchers.

In the latest instance of tension between them, Nitish had taken exception to Sinha omitting his name in the invitations sent out to mark anniversary celebrations of the Bihar Vidhan Sabha. As per JD(U) sources, that was one of the triggers for Nitish to end his alliance with the BJP.

However, before that too, the Assembly was witness to an unusual showdown between the usually calm Chief Minister and the Speaker. On March 14, a heated exchange took place between the two on whether a matter being probed by the government, which had also been referred to a privilege committee, could be raised on the floor of the House time and again.

Following the altercation with Nitish, Sinha had excused himself from the Chair, with the CM later meeting him for a reconciliation. The next day, the Speaker had said the "kaala adhyaya (dark chapter)" must be forgotten. However, Sinha has often rubbed own party leaders the wrong way. In March 2021, Deputy CM Tarkishore Prasad had accused the Chair of extending patronage" to Tejashwi, the Leader of Opposition. Sinha reacted, saying: "Those who resolve to act in a transparent manner, can't keep all happy."

FULL REPORT ON

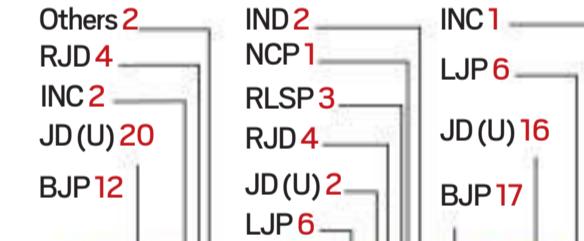
www.indianexpress.com

BIHAR: TOGETHER AND APART, WHERE THE PARTIES STAND

As election results have shown over the years, alliances matter in Bihar's politics divided by caste and class. As JD(U) turns the clock back five years, and poll discussions look forward to 2024, a look at how the parties have fared electorally in the last few years:

LOK SABHA ELECTIONS

Total number of seats: 40



SEATS WON

Vote Share (%)

winning alliance

JD(U): 24

BJP: 13.9

RJD: 19.3

INC: 10.3

IND: 12.1

RLSP: 6

IND: 2

9 from Shinde camp inducted; smaller allies, women left out

Women will get appropriate representation in Cabinet soon, says Fadnavis

VALLABHOZARKAR
MUMBAI, AUGUST 9

EVEN AS all the nine rebel Shiv Sena MLAs, who were ministers in the earlier government, were inducted in Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's Cabinet on Tuesday, the 10 Independent and small party MLAs who also joined the Shinde camp have been left out. Women too failed to find representation.

The Cabinet expansion saw 18 MLAs inducted on Tuesday, nine each from the Shinde camp and the BJP. Those from the Shinde camp who made it are Uday Samant, Sandipan Bhumare, Gulabrao Patil, Dada Bhuse, Shamburaj Desai, Abdul Sattar, Tanaji Sawant, Deepak Kesarkar, and Sanjay Rathod -- all of them have been ministers earlier.

Independents and small party MLAs, however, were left out even though some of them were sitting ministers, such as Bachchu Kadu and Rajendra Yadavkar. Kadu, a minister in the earlier MVA government, said there must



Leader of Opposition Ajit Pawar interacts with Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis during the oath-taking ceremony at Raj Bhavan on Tuesday. Amit Chakravarty

be representation of small parties and the Independents and that the government would not run without them. He said he has been promised a place in the next Cabinet expansion in September. "I was promised that I will get a ministry but it looks like there were some issues. I have been promised that I will get it in the next expansion," he said. Yadavkar, who was minister of state in the MVA government, said, "I don't know why a ministry was not

given to me. There could be some issues. Neither am I complaining nor do I have expectations. If it has to happen, it will happen."

Speaking to reporters in Pune, Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis said women will get appropriate representation in the Cabinet. "The objection that there is no woman minister in the newly formed Cabinet will be addressed soon. Women will get appropriate representation in our Cabinet," he said.

On criticism from Opposition

leaders, the BJP leader said the previous MVA government did not have a single woman in the Cabinet during its initial days and hence, "they do not have any right to comment on Shinde government". As per a senior leader in the Shinde camp, former Sena ministers on their side were given a priority in this expansion because some of them had left their ministerial positions in support of the new coalition.

Opposition parties slammed the government over induction of controversial ministers and non-inclusion of woman legislators in the Cabinet. "I am happy that many of our former colleagues are now part of the new Cabinet. But it also proves that allegations made by the BJP against them earlier were baseless," said Leader of Opposition and NCP leader Ajit Pawar. He said women played an important role in development of Maharashtra. "It is extremely sad that no woman was part of the cabinet expansion," he said.

WITH ENDS, PUNE

Behind BJP's U-turn on Sanjay Rathod for minister: Need for a Vidarbha face

ZEESHAN SHAIKH
MUMBAI, AUGUST 9

WHILE THE induction of rebel Shiv Sena MLA Sanjay Rathod in the Maharashtra Cabinet on Tuesday took many by surprise, given the BJP's protests against him earlier, political expediency appears to have won over any qualms the party has. Rathod is an influential leader of the Banjara community from the Vidarbha region, where the Shiv Sena traditionally has not been strong.

The BJP had held a series of rallies when the Uddhav Thackeray Sena was in power, demanding Rathod's expulsion from then government, over alleged links with the suicide of a 22-year-old woman in Pune. The protests had forced Rathod to step down as Forest Minister, becoming the first minister of the MVA to resign.

The four-term MLA from Digras in Yavatmal district, Rathod, 50, was the only Sena minister from the Vidarbha region in the MVA government. He was also a minister in the previous BJP-Sena government led by Devendra Fadnavis, as Minister of State for Revenue.

Rathod has a reputation for



MLAs Sanjay Rathod and Abdul Sattar (right) take oath as ministers at Raj Bhavan on Tuesday. Amit Chakravarty

EXPLAINED

being an aggressive leader with a large following among his Banjara community, helping him climb the ladder up to district president to minister.

Rathod had run into a controversy after a resident of Parli Vaijanath in Beed district, Pooja Chavan, had died on February 8 after reportedly jumping off the balcony of a flat in Pune's Hadapsar area. Soon after her death, photos and audio clips had surfaced purportedly linking Rathod to it. Though Chavan's family had not pressed any charges and no FIR was filed, the BJP protested, saying police were under pressure.

State BJP president Chandrkant Patil, who was on

Tuesday sworn in as minister, accused CM Uddhav Thackeray of trying to protect Rathod.

With the BJP hitting the streets, threatening 20,000 rallies against "criminalisation of politics" under the MVA government, Rathod had resigned on February 28, reportedly after he was nudged by CM Uddhav.

As questions were raised about Rathod's induction in the new ministry, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde said: "Police has conducted an investigation into the allegations levelled against Rathod. Nothing was found against him and they have given him a clean chit."

However, Maharashtra BJP vice-president Chitra Wagh, who was at the forefront of the protests against Rathod, said she was dis-

appointed at his becoming a minister. "It is unfortunate that former minister Sanjay Rathod, who caused the death of Pooja Chavan, has been given the post. I will continue my fight against him," Wagh said after the swearing-in.

The induction of three-time MLA from Sillod in Aurangabad, Abdul Sattar, has also raised eyebrows after the names of two of his daughters appeared among the list of candidates who were debarred by the Maharashtra State Council of Exams for their alleged involvement in the teacher eligibility test scam. Their names cropped up a day before the cabinet expansion.

Shinde reportedly assured Sattar of a ministerial berth while urging Shiv Sena MLAs to rebel against Thackeray, which means that in spite of the allegations, Sattar found a place in the cabinet. He is the lone Muslim face in the state cabinet.

Sattar won the 2019 elections on a Sena ticket. He, however, started his political career with the Congress, winning for the first time in the 2009 Assembly polls. He was a minister of state in the previous Maha Vikas Aghadi government as well as the Congress-NCP government.

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



WILL HE, WON'T HE

WITH NITISH Kumar's JD(U) snapping its ties with the BJP and walking out of the NDA, there is a question mark on the continuation of Harivansh as Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha. Harivansh is an MP from the JD(U). So, will he step down or continue in his post and do a Somnath Chatterjee on his party? Chatterjee had refused to step down as the Lok Sabha Speaker in 2008 after the CPM and the Left bloc withdrew outside support to the UPA-I government. The CPM, of which Chatterjee was an MP, had asked him to resign but he did not oblige saying as Speaker he does not represent any political party in the discharge of his duties and functions, and that his election to the high office was unanimous as all political parties proposed his name. The CPM expelled him days later.

KEEPING TRACK

UNION HEALTH Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya takes meetings of senior officers mostly on a Monday or a Tuesday. In the weekly meeting, which at times continue for over three hours, a range of topics are discussed with precise action points and timelines set. Mandaviya has now introduced a dashboard called 'Epitome' through which he monitors the progress and timelines in real time.

CURRICULUM CALL

IN APRIL, the Department of School Education and Literacy had reached out to various ministries seeking inputs on the ongoing exercise to revise the country's school curriculum. Now, the scope of consultations has been expanded further, with suggestions also being sought from the Election Commission of India, Defence Research and Development Organisation and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, among others. On Tuesday, the Education Ministry held a meeting on this issue with representatives from these organisations.

STATE PARTY IN GOA MONSOON SESSION

Kejriwal: AAP will be a national party if one more state recognises

Adjournment before schedule on MPs' request: Pralhad Joshi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

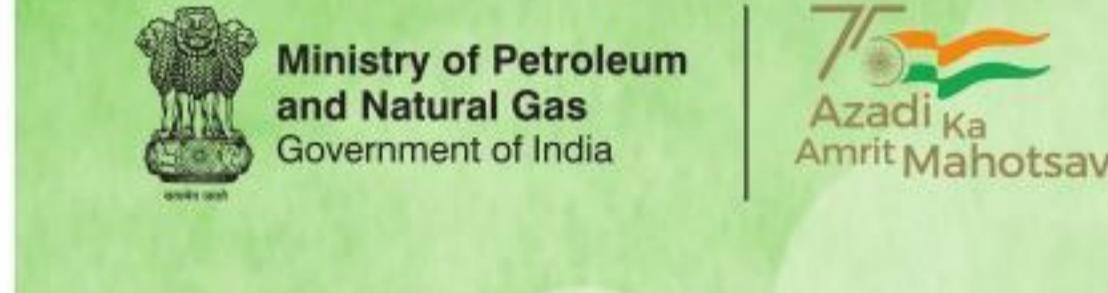
AFTER RECEIVING state party status in Goa, Delhi Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener Arvind Kejriwal said on Tuesday that the "Broom" party will soon become a "national" party. The Election Commission of India (ECI) declared AAP a state party in Goa, after reviewing its performance in the February Assembly polls.

Congratulating party workers, Kejriwal posted a communication the party received from the Election Commission and said, "After Delhi and Punjab, AAP is now a state recognised party in Goa too. If we get recognised in one more state, we will officially be declared a national party." He further added, "I congratulate each and every volunteer for their hard work. I thank the people for reposing faith in AAP."

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS Minister Pralhad Joshi on Tuesday said the Monsoon session of Parliament was adjourned two days ahead of schedule and not four, and the decision was taken after requests from MPs, including from the Opposition.

After the Congress described the session as "highly disappointing", Joshi posted a series of tweets saying the Opposition's agenda was only disruption and boycott. "Monsoon Session was not adjourned 4 days in advance, but only 2 days ahead of schedule. This decision was taken on the request of MPs including those from Opposition," Joshi said. He said the Opposition could have raised any issue through calling attention, Rule 377, Zero Hour and Question Hour.



A CLEANER ENVIRONMENT AND PROSPEROUS FARMERS. BIOFUEL MAKES IT POSSIBLE!

→ Dedication to the Nation of IndianOil's ←

2G Ethanol Plant at Panipat Refinery

Project Highlights

- Production of clean energy from agricultural residues
- Increase in the income of farmers
- Direct benefit to 1 Lakh farmers
- No need to burn the leftover crop
- New employment opportunities
- Reduction in CO₂ emissions of about 3 million tonnes annually
- Production of 100 kilolitres of ethanol per day
- Investment of ₹900 Crores

by

Shri Narendra Modi

Prime Minister

(through Video Conference)

In the august presence of

Shri Bandaru Dattatreya
Governor, Haryana

Shri Narendra Singh Tomar
Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Govt. of India

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri
Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas &
Housing and Urban Affairs, Govt. of India

Shri Rameswar Teli
Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas &
Labour and Employment, Govt. of India

Shri Sanjay Bhatia
Member of Parliament

Wednesday, 10th August 2022, 4.30 pm

To watch the live webcast please log in to

<https://pmindiawebcast.nic.in/>

The above program's live telecast can be watched on 'DD News channel'



Azamgarh youth planning to carry out I-Day blast arrested: UP ATS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, AUGUST 9

THE ANTI-TERRORISM Squad (ATS) of the UP Police on Tuesday said they have arrested a 25-year-old man from Azamgarh, adding that he was associated with Islamic State (IS) group and was planning to carry out a blast during Independence Day. He was also planning to target RSS members, the ATS claimed.

According to the ATS, Sabahuddin Azmi, a resident of Mubarakpur area of Azamgarh, worked as an electrician. The ATS claimed to have recovered a pistol, cartridges and "materials used for preparing IED such as PVC wire, Chinese nails and wire-cutter" from him.

"During our initial probe, it has come to light that Sabahuddin was in touch with IS recruiter Abu Umar, who was giving him (Sabahuddin) training to prepare hand grenades, bombs and IEDs through social media.

They were also allegedly planning to build a mujahideen organisation to establish an Islamic state in India. Their aim was to establish Islamic rule and introduce Shariah law in the country," said an ATS officer, adding that he has been brought to Lucknow for further questioning.

"We found evidence that Sabahuddin was linked to Telegram channel, AL-SAQIR media, which is used by the IS to brainwash Muslim youth for terror and jihad," the ATS said in a press note. "During questioning, Sabahuddin said that he came in contact with one Bilal through Facebook and they used to talk about jihad and alleged atrocities being done on Kashmiri mujahideen. Bilal gave Sabahuddin the telephone number of IS member Musa alias Khatab.

According to the ATS sources, they recently came to know that a man in Azamgarh was spreading Jihad ideology with the help of his associates through different social media platforms.

9 killed in Bengal accident as bus hits autorickshaw

PM announces ex gratia of Rs 2L each for victims' families

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, AUGUST 9

NINE PEOPLE, including eight women passengers and the driver of the autorickshaw they were travelling in, were killed when their vehicle collided head-on with a state transport bus on the Raniganj-Morgram National Highway 60 in Bengal's Birbhum district on Tuesday.

Birbhum district Superintendent of Police Nagendra Nath Tripathi said the eight women were passengers of the three-wheeler and the ninth victim was its driver.

Police said the women, all believed to be labourers, were on their way home after paddy plantation when the accident happened.

Police identified the deceased as Yashomati Hembra (50), Hopenkuri Besra (30), Hopen Hembra (35), Makhu Hembra (18), Sondi Hembra (40), Sakila Hembra (54), Lakh Hansda (35), Basanti Soren (35), and Sitaram Hembra (22), the auto driver — all believed to be residents of Parkandi village in Rampurhat Block 1.

The bodies have been taken to Arambagh hospital, where the postmortem would be conducted, the SP said.

Police said they are yet to ascertain the exact cause of the accident.

"The bus driver is absconding. We have impounded the bus, and a case has been registered. An investigation is on," the SP told *The Indian Express*.

Meanwhile, expressing grief over the loss of lives, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced ex-gratia of Rs 2 lakh for next of kin to the victims.



At the accident site in Birbhum district on Tuesday. Express

The bodies have been taken to Arambagh hospital, where the postmortem would be conducted, the SP said.

Police said they are yet to ascertain the exact cause of the accident.

"The bus driver is absconding. We have impounded the bus, and a case has been registered. An investigation is on," the SP told *The Indian Express*.

Meanwhile, expressing grief over the loss of lives, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced ex-gratia of Rs 2 lakh for next of kin to the victims.

"Anguished by the loss of lives due to a tragic accident in Birbhum district of West Bengal. Prayers with the injured. Rupees 2 lakh from PMNRF would be given to the next of kin of each deceased and the injured would be given rupees fifty thousand each," tweeted PM Modi.

Leader of Opposition Suvendhu Adhikari also expressed condolences to the bereaved families and demanded compensation from the state government for the victims' families.

WITH PTI INPUTS

IN SRINAGAR NIA COURT

UAPA case: Supplementary chargesheet filed against PDP leader Para, 12 others

NAVEED IQBAL
SRINAGAR, AUGUST 9

NEARLY TWO-and-a-half months after the J&K High Court granted bail to PDP leader Waheed-ur-Rehman Para underlining the "sketchy" evidence on record, the Counter Intelligence unit of the Jammu and Kashmir Police on Monday filed a supplementary chargesheet against him and 12 others before an NIA court in Srinagar.

Para is the only accused alive out of 13 against whom the supplementary chargesheet has

been filed in a 2020 case registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), and sections 120-B

(criminal conspiracy), 121 (waging, or attempting to wage war, or abetting waging of war,

against the government of India), 121A (conspiracy to commit offences punishable by section 121), and 124A (sedition) of the IPC. Para, who was granted bail by the J&K High Court on May 26 this year after spending 17 months in jail, is accused of

"...establishing clandestine connections and relations with different Pakistan-supported ter-

rorist and secessionist organisations operating in J&K".

Quoting statements from the staff and security officials attached with Para at his official residence when the PDP was in power before June 2018, the chargesheet states that Para, despite being a protected person, was not allowing frisking of the people visiting him at his Gupkar residence.

The chargesheet makes a note of how all, except Para, accused in the case were killed in various anti-militancy operations of the security forces in J&K. It mentions "meetings" of slain militants Umai Ahmad Sheikh and Irfan Ahmad Sheikh with Para before they joined militancy. It also states that Para had close links with two foreign LeT terrorists Abu Dujana and Abu Qasim, who were accused of being involved in a series of killings of security/police personnel and other subversive activities. They were killed in encounters with security forces/police on October 29, 2015 and August 2, 2017, at Kulgam and Pulwama, respectively.

While granting him bail in May, the J&K High Court had termed the evidence produced against Para to be "sketchy".

MANIPUR

Govt restores Internet as student outfits continue protest

JIMMY LEIVON
IMPHAL, AUGUST 9

THE MANIPUR government Tuesday restored internet service across the state, officials said, even as an economic blockade led by tribal student groups continued to remain in force amid confusion.

Citing a tense communal situation, the government had snapped mobile internet services across the state Saturday, after two vehicles were torched in separate incidents of arson that came as tribal student bodies intensified their agitation to demand the release of the five leaders.

They had been arrested on charges of leading a shutdown in the state's hill districts to demand the passing of the Manipur (Hill Areas) Autonomous District Council Bill 2021, as recommended by Hill Areas Committee.

Haryana seeks share in Panjab varsity, passes resolution

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 9

THE HARYANA Vidhan Sabha on Tuesday unanimously passed a non-official resolution seeking state's share in the Chandigarh-based Panjab University.

The non-official resolution was moved by Congress MLA Geeta Bhukkal. "Haryana's share in PU was granted under the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966, and colleges and regional centre of Haryana were affiliated to PU. Presently, Haryana has no share in the PU. Haryana government should submit a request before the Chancellor of the PU, that is India's Vice President, for the affiliation of colleges and granting the due share to Haryana by amending rule to restore the state's share in PU," read the resolution.

St Xavier's univ prof quits: 'Forced to do so over Insta photos'

SANTANU CHOWDHURY
KOLKATA, AUGUST 9

A FORMER professor of St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, has decided to move the Calcutta High Court against the university authorities months after she was "forced" to tender her resignation following complaints from a parent over her "objectionable" photographs on Instagram. According to the woman, a writ petition against the university authorities will be filed at the court concerned by next week.

The woman, who wished not to be named, told *The Indian Express* that a "kangaroo court" was held on October 7 in the presence of Vice-Chancellor (V-C) Felix Prashant Kumar said.

According to the ATS sources, they recently came to know that a man in Azamgarh was spreading Jihad ideology with the help of his associates through different social media platforms.

Raj, registrar Asish Mitra where she was "intimidated, bullied and taunted with sexually coloured remarks" and "objectionable insinuations" without any provocation or justification.

"I was told that a parent of an undergraduate student had found that his son was looking at my photographs from my personal Instagram account which he found objectionable and bordering on nudity. There were two pictures of me in a blue swimsuit taken in my room which I had posted as an Instagram story last year, several weeks months before joining the university. There was no way those photos could be still accessible since an Instagram story, by default, is live for only 24 hours. Moreover, my Instagram

profile is 'private' and not 'public' ... Those two pictures could not have been viewed by the student weeks later," she said.

She joined the university in August last year. She said that on October 7, 2021, she received a call from the Vice-Chancellor's office asking that she be present for a meeting with V-C Felix Raj at 4 pm the same day.

"It is a mystery to me how the university accessed those pictures. I felt so distressed and humiliated at that moment that I couldn't bear to examine the rest of the pictures. I was in a meeting where my private pictures were being circulated among people unknown to me, without my consent. The only way in which such Instagram stories can be accessed

by other parties is by hacking or if someone took screenshots of the pictures when they had been posted and subsequently circulated them..." the woman says in her police complaint.

The letter from the parent, which was read to the professor in the October 7 meeting, said, "Recently, I was appalled to find my son looking at some pictures of Prof [...] where she has posed in a sexually explicit way causing deliberate public exposure ... It is obscene, vulgar and improper for a 18-year-old student to see his professor dressed in scanty clothes exhibiting her body on a public platform."

The academic, who holds a doctorate from two European universities, responded to calls and messages to their mobile numbers on Tuesday.

which she was made to resign amounted to "sexual harassment". Her resignation letter, addressed to the V-C, said, "You have not offered any explanation about how the photographs – which were posted months before I joined the institution and which were shared with a select, tightly-controlled audience for 24 hours only – were accessed, neither have you provided any assurance that the photographs will be destroyed. Instead, arbitrary and primitive standards of 'morality' have been used to shame and objectify my photographs and my body..."

Neither Vice-Chancellor Felix Raj nor registrar Asish Mitra responded to calls and messages to their mobile numbers on Tuesday.

'The rupee is a better-performing currency against the dollar on a trade-weighted basis'

Sajid Chinoy, Chief India Economist, JP Morgan and part-time member, PMEAC, on tackling challenges of rupee depreciation, getting rid of the obsession with the rupee-dollar rate and RBI's role. The session was moderated by Executive Editor P Vaidyanathan Iyer

EXPRESS explained.Live

Associate Partner

YOJNA IAS

On how the rupee fared in the larger global perspective of currency markets

Before the global financial crisis, it was Rs 40 to a dollar. A year into the crisis, the rate jumped to Rs 50 and then in the taper tantrum of 2013, the rate swung between Rs 55 and Rs 70. Then in 2018, the rupee moved down further by 10 per cent because of US exceptionalism, Fed rates and oil prices going up. In short, as the global environment gets more adverse, the rupee tends to gap down. But this is the narrow view because it concerns a relative price and we deal with hundreds of prices in the goods and financial markets. Yet this gets everybody animated.

First, the US dollar is the reserve currency of the world. The US economy has an exorbitant privilege and has actually strengthened 15 per cent over the last year against advanced economies. As a consequence of the strengthening dollar, all emerging markets and advanced economies have weakened. The dollar has strengthened because the US Fed got into a pretty aggressive rate hiking cycle. The notion that inflation was transitory in the US proved untrue and once market participants understood just how sticky and broad-based inflation was and how much work the Fed had to do, the dollar began to strengthen. I'm going to use the beginning of 2022 as a marker and you will see India is actually one of the better performing currencies against the US dollar. So, when we say we're down six and a half to seven per cent, it's against the backdrop of a dollar index that's up 15 and you know most emerging markets, including China have weakened further.

Second, India's trade basket is very diversified (we export and import from the European Union, China, the UAE and 40 countries), so why are we so fixated on the dollar? We need to look at how our exchange rate has done vis-a-vis all our trading partners. The US constitutes about



AUDIENCE QUESTIONS

On cost of foreign travel

Economists tend to take a more production-related approach. This is a very complicated series of global shocks. We've come out of a pandemic, we're in a war, we've got a stagflationary situation, the dollar is strengthening and the component price is elevated. The rupee is one of the shock absorbers. Had it not been for the rupee, you would have had to see perhaps tighter monetary policy and higher interest rates that would have affected you sharply.

12 per cent of our trade weight and 18 per cent of our export weight. Now a lot of goods are invoiced in the US and maybe the weight of the dollar in the basket needs to be higher than the direct share but we should not get so obsessed with one currency. The rupee has moved down only as much as our trading partners have against the dollar.

Third, we need to be looking at real, not nominal quantities. Let me give you an example. Let's assume a pen costs Rs 75 in Mumbai and one dollar in New York. Let's assume, for the sake of argument, that India has a five per cent inflation rate and the US has zero inflation. After one year, the same pen in India will cost Rs 78.75 because our inflation rate is five per cent while in the US it's still one dollar. Now you'd rather import this pen from the US, pay one dollar and not buy the Indian version. Put differently, India will be un-

On steel duty to curb inflation

When you're facing domestic shortages, around the world countries try and restrict exports. Over time, if every country were to reduce exports, the global shortage problem becomes more acute. Ideally, we want to avoid that. Hopefully, these interventions are understandable and can be reversed. Also, you don't want regulatory uncertainty, you want exporters to be able to plan ahead. That's why you don't want the rupee to be too volatile.

able to export these pens because when converted to dollars, they will cost more than a dollar. Not only do you want to look at effective exchange rates, you want to look at real exchange rates which adjust inflation differentials. When you peel all the layers of the onion, on a trade weighted basis, the rupee has actually strengthened over 17 years.

The debate we should be having is about exchange rate appreciation in real terms, warranted by fundamentals. In 2013, India was easily the weakest-performing emerging market currency; the rupee had depreciated almost 20 per cent in four months. Today we're talking about a seven per cent depreciation in seven months and we're among the better performing emerging market currencies. There is no crisis that's imminent given the quantum of reserves the RBI has and given the fact that India's external debt is actu-

ally lower now compared to 2013.

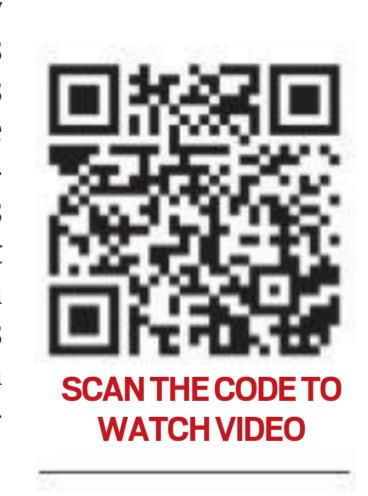
On RBI interventions

Intervention is very much an art rather than a science. I think the RBI's stated position is that it intervenes to reduce volatility. Now the trade-off here is that exchange rates typically overshoot. So, what central banks and emerging markets tend to do is lean against the wind because one of the worries is that if there's runaway depreciation, weakness begets more weakness. If you worry that the rupee is going to weaken even further, you will have capital flows leaving to beat the depreciation. In doing so, you induce the very depreciation that you were wary of.

Exporters will stop selling and wait for the rupee to get weaker. Importers will front load and those very dynamics will cause more weakness. That's why it's perfectly understandable why central banks intervene and the RBI has done so. Now the balancing act here is to prevent overshooting without interfering with the currency's adjustment to fundamentals. The RBI also intervened in 2020 when India had massive capital inflows to prevent rupee appreciation. This I thought was the right thing to do because the Indian rupee is not cheap on a trade weighted basis.

On trade deficit and imports outpacing exports

Let's say the RBI estimates that with every one rupee depreciation of the dollar-rupee rate, inflation picks up by about eight to ten basis points. Of India's current inflation rate of seven per cent, 50 to 70 basis points are attributable to the weaker exchange rate, a very small fraction.



SCAN THE CODE TO WATCH VIDEO

On a weaker rupee helping exporters who don't pass on the surplus

One can never really prove that. It's like saying if profits went up in the last year for corporates, how much of that was used as retained earnings, how much was invested and how many jobs were created. What we can show is export volumes did go up when the rupee depreciated and then think of the counterfactual that had the rupee not depreciated, maybe those export-oriented sectors would have shut down and people would have lost jobs. A lot of jobs are in labour-intensive sectors. I am not for a moment saying the exchange rate is the only thing that matters for exports, it is one of the many variables. Arguably what's more important are productivity, growth, reforms, infrastructure, trade agreements and so on.

"IMPORTANT"

Whilst care is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore recommend that readers make necessary inquiries before sending any monies or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL EDUCATION, ASSAM
SIXMILE, KHANAPARA, GUWAHATI-22,**

No. DME/PMU/138/2021/16491

Recruitment of Project Management Specialist (PMS) position for setting up of Project Implementation Unit (PIU) at Directorate of Medical Education, Assam for the JICA funded "Assam Health System Strengthening Project"

In continuation of this Directorate Advertisement No. DME/PMU/138/2021/11191, Dated: 18/05/2022, Director of Medical Education on behalf of Project Director, JICA Health Project invites applications to fill up the following position on contractual basis for a period of 11 (eleven) months initially.

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of vacancy
1	Project Management Specialist (PMS)	1 (one) position

Filled up application form along with all necessary documents should reach the office of Director of Medical Education, Assam, Sixmile, Khanapara, Guwahati-22 on or before **18th August, 2022**. No applications shall be received after the last date of submission.

The detailed advertisement along with the application form are uploaded in our official website <https://dme.assam.gov.in>

The Candidates, who have applied and shortlisted vide Notice No. DME/PMU/138/2021/15827, Dated 28-07-2022 need not apply again.

Director of Medical Education, Assam
Janasanyog/D/10198/22

Advertisement No: 92/2022

Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of

**Director (Technical)
in
Numaligarh Refinery Limited**

Last date of receipt of applications in PESB is
by 15:00 hours on 29-09-2022.

For details login to website
<http://www.pesb.gov.in>

आई आरडैनिंग (इंडिया) लिमिटेड

IREL (India) Limited

(formerly Indian Rare Earths Limited)

A Govt. of India Undertaking - Dept. of Atomic Energy

CIN: U1500MH1950GOI100817

Rare Earths Division, Kochi, Kerala, email: purchase-red@irel.co.in

An ISO 9001, 14001 & 45001 Company

TENDER NOTICE

IREL (India) Limited, Rare Earths Division invites tender for the following item/job description:

Description Availability of tenders in the website

Civil-ARC-Repair & Painting work 05.08.2022 14.00 Hrs: Closing date: 22.08.2022

Civil-ARC-Maintenance works 10.08.2022 14.00 Hrs:

Utility-Operation & Maintenance 11.08.2022 14.00 Hrs:

Electrical-Operation & Maintenance of sub-station 12.08.2022 14.00 Hrs:

ARC-Supply of Hydrochloric Acid 16.08.2022 14.00 Hrs:

ARC- Supply of Caustic Soda Lye 17.08.2022 14.00 Hrs:

Bidders may download the tender documents from websites <http://bit.ly/mstcirel>, <http://bitly/cppirelli.wirel.co.in/tender-information>

Any corrigendum/extension to the above tenders shall be hosted in the above websites only.

Date: 10.08.2022

Davp-48129/12/0027/2223

GM & Head, RED

CONCOR

CONCOR invites E-Tender in single Packet System of tendering for the following work:-

Tender No. CONC/ENT/IV/2022/66350

Name of Work Development of container staking area on Railway leased land area (8500 Sqm) for Indian agri merchandise export Centre at Naujanwa Railway Station, (Gorakhpur) Uttar Pradesh.

Estimated Cost Rs. 220.20 lakhs

Completion Period 06 Months

Earnest Money Deposit Rs. 2,60,103/- (through e-payment).

Cost of Tender Document NIL

Tender Processing Fee Rs. 4000/-plus GST (as applicable) (through e-payment).

(Non-refundable)

Date of Sale of Tender (online) 10/08/2022 (11:00 hrs) to 29/08/2022 (up to 17:00 hrs)

Date & Time of Submission of Tender 30/08/2022 up to 17.00 hrs.

Date & Time of Opening of Tender 31/08/2022 11:30 hrs.

For financial eligibility criteria, experience with respect to similar nature of work, etc. please refer to detailed tender notice available on website www.concorindia.com, but the complete tender document can be downloaded from website www.tenderwizard.com. Further, Corrigendum/Adendum to this Tender, if any, will be published on website www.concorindia.com, www.tenderwizard.com and Central Procurement Portal (CPP) only. Newspaper press advertisement shall not be issued for the same.

Group General Manager (Engg.)

CONCOR

Navratna Company (A Govt. of India Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING E - TENDER

CONCOR invites E-Tender in single Packet System of tendering for the following work:-

Tender No. CONC/ENT/IV/2022/66350

Name of Work Development of container staking area on Railway leased land area (8500 Sqm) for Indian agri merchandise export Centre at Naujanwa Railway Station, (Gorakhpur) Uttar Pradesh.

Estimated Cost Rs. 220.20 lakhs

Completion Period 06 Months

Earnest Money Deposit Rs. 2,60,103/- (through e-payment).

Cost of Tender Document NIL

Tender Processing Fee Rs. 4000/-plus GST (as applicable) (through e-payment).

(Non-refundable)

Date of Sale of Tender (online) 10/08/2022 (11:00 hrs) to 29/08/2022 (up to 17:00 hrs)

Date & Time of Submission of Tender 30/08/2022 up to 17.00 hrs.

Date & Time of Opening of Tender 31/08/2022 11:30 hrs.

For financial eligibility criteria, experience with respect to similar nature of work, etc. please refer to detailed tender notice available on website www.concorindia.com, but the complete tender document can be downloaded from website www.tenderwizard.com. Further, Corrigendum/Adendum to this Tender, if any, will be published on website www.concorindia.com, www.tenderwizard.com and Central Procurement Portal (CPP) only. Newspaper press advertisement shall not be issued for the same.

Group General Manager (Engg.)

CONCOR

Navratna Company (A Govt. of India Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING E - TENDER

CONCOR invites E-Tender in single Packet System of tendering for the following work:-

Tender No. CONC/ENT/IV/2022/66350

Name of Work Development of container staking area on Railway leased land area (8500 Sqm) for Indian agri merchandise export Centre at Naujanwa Railway Station, (Gorakhpur) Uttar Pradesh.

Estimated Cost Rs. 220.20 lakhs

Completion Period 06 Months

Earnest Money Deposit Rs. 2,60,103/- (through e-payment).

Cost of Tender Document NIL

Tender Processing Fee Rs. 4000/-plus GST (as applicable) (through e-payment).

(Non-refundable)

Date of Sale of Tender (online) 10/08/2022 (11:00 hrs) to 29/08/2022 (up to 17:00 hrs)

Date & Time of Submission of Tender 30/08/2022 up to 17.00 hrs.

Date & Time of Opening of Tender 31/08/2022 11:30 hrs.

For financial eligibility criteria, experience with respect to similar nature of work, etc. please refer to detailed tender notice available on website www.concorindia.com, but the complete tender document can be downloaded from website www.tenderwizard.com. Further, Corrigendum/Adendum to this Tender, if any, will be published on website www.concorindia.com, www.tenderwizard.com and Central Procurement Portal (CPP) only. Newspaper press advertisement shall not be issued for the same.

Group General Manager (Engg.)

CONCOR

Navratna Company (A Govt. of India Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING E - TENDER

CONCOR invites E-Tender in single Packet System of tendering for the following work:-

Tender No. CONC/ENT/IV/2022/66350

Name of Work Development of container staking area on Railway leased land area (8500 Sqm) for Indian agri merchandise export Centre at Naujanwa Railway Station, (Gorakhpur) Uttar Pradesh.

Estimated Cost Rs. 220.20 lakhs

Completion Period 06 Months

Earnest Money Deposit Rs. 2,60,103/- (through e-payment).

Cost of Tender Document NIL

Tender Processing Fee Rs. 4000/-plus GST (as applicable) (through e-payment).

(Non-refundable)

Date of Sale of Tender (online) 10/08/2022 (11:00 hrs) to 29/08/2022 (up to 17:00 hrs)

Date & Time of Submission of Tender 30/08/2022 up to 17.00 hrs.

Date & Time of Opening of Tender 31/08/2022 11:30 hrs.

For financial eligibility criteria, experience with respect to similar nature of work, etc. please refer to detailed tender notice available on website www.concorindia.com, but the complete tender document can be downloaded from website www.tenderwizard.com. Further, Corrigendum/Adendum to this Tender, if any, will be published on website www.concorindia.com, www.tenderwizard.com and Central Procurement Portal (CPP) only. Newspaper press advertisement shall not be issued for the same.

Group General Manager (Engg.)

CONCOR

Navratna Company (A Govt. of India Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING E - TENDER

CONCOR invites E-Tender in single Packet System of tendering for the following work:-

Tender No. CONC/ENT/IV/2022/66350

Name of Work Development of container staking area on Railway leased land area (8500 Sqm) for Indian agri merchandise export Centre at Naujanwa Railway Station, (Gorakhpur) Uttar Pradesh.

Estimated Cost Rs. 220.20 lakhs

Completion Period 06 Months

Earnest Money Deposit Rs. 2,60,103/- (through e-payment).

Cost of Tender Document NIL

Tender Processing Fee Rs. 4000/-plus GST (as applicable) (through e-payment).

(Non-refundable)

Date of Sale of Tender (online) 10/08/2022 (11:00 hrs) to 29/08/2022 (up to 17:00 hrs)

Date & Time of Submission of Tender 30/08/2022 up to 17.00 hrs.

Date & Time of Opening of Tender 31/08/2022 11:30 hrs.

For financial eligibility criteria, experience with respect to similar nature of work, etc. please refer to detailed tender notice available on website www.concorindia.com, but the complete tender document can be downloaded from website www.tenderwizard.com. Further, Corrigendum/Adendum to this Tender, if any, will be published on website www.concorindia.com, www.tenderwizard.com and Central Procurement Portal (CPP) only. Newspaper press advertisement shall not be issued for the same.

Group General Manager (Engg.)

CONCOR

Navratna Company (A Govt. of India Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING E - TENDER

CONCOR invites E-Tender in single Packet System of tendering for the following work:-

Tender No. CONC/ENT/IV/2022/66350

SHAURYA CHAKRA AWARDEE MURDER**Man who supplied weapons to shooters among three held**

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
TARN TARAN, CHANDIGARH,
AUGUST 9

THE PUNJAB Police Tuesday arrested three persons, including a key accused in the murder case of Shaurya Chakra awardee Balwinder Singh Sandhu, from Tarn Taran.

Those arrested have been identified as Gurwinder Singh alias Baba, who played a pivotal role in Sandhu's killing, and his two aides – Sandeep Singh alias Kala and Gurpreet Singh alias Randhawa. One hand-grenade, one RDX-IED(improvised explosive device), two .30 bore pistols along with magazines and 13 live cartridges, 635 grams of heroin, 100 grams of opium, Rs 36.90 lakh cash and a car were seized from their possession, a senior police official said.

Sandhu was shot dead by unidentified assailants in Tarn Taran in October 2020. He was awarded Shaurya Chakra in 1993 for fighting Khalistani militancy in Punjab.

Punjab Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav said Gurwinder Singh, who is a proclaimed offender, had provided weapons to shooters.

June 3 violence: Kanpur cops file chargesheet, 47 named as accused

MANISH SAHU
LUCKNOW, AUGUST 9

The DGP said a probe revealed that Gurwinder Singh is a close associate of notorious gangsters Sukhpreet Singh alias Harry Chatha and Sukhmeetpal Singh alias Sukh Bikhariwal — a prime suspect in Sandhu's murder case.

Preliminary investigations indicated that the seized explosives and arms and ammunition were to be used to disrupt peace and harmony and create terror in Punjab on or around Independence Day, the DGP said.

IGP, Ferozepur Range, Jaskaran Singh said following reliable inputs that Gurwinder Singh, along with Sandeep Singh, is on the way to Khadoor Sahib, the Tarn Taran police intercepted a car in which both were travelling and arrested them. Two pistols with loaded magazines, 635 grams of heroin, 100 grams of opium and Rs 3.90 lakh drug money were seized from the car, he said.

Following disclosures of Singh, police also recovered one hand grenade, one RDX-IED and Rs 33 lakh drug money from a location pinpointed in the area of Batala, the IGP said.

Preliminary probe suggest the recovered explosives, arms and drugs were smuggled via drones from Pakistan, he added.



NDRF team carries out rescue operation. Express

Kapurthala: Toddler falls into drain, rescue ops on

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JALANDHAR, AUGUST 9

A RESCUE operation is underway to find and rescue a two-and-a-half-year-old boy trapped inside a drain in which he fell on Tuesday afternoon. The incident took place in the Shalimar Garden area of Kapurthala city, police said.

The rescue operation, led by a team of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), was on at the time of this report going to the print with district administration saying it will not be called off till the child is located.

As per the officials, the incident took place when the boy, identified as Dehan, along with his five-year-old sister was crossing the drain covered by concrete slabs. The boy reportedly slipped

through a gap between the slabs and was trapped in the 10-foot-deep drain. Officials said that the boy was stuck somewhere near the T-Point of the drain, which is choked with garbage.

As he fell, his sister raised an alarm following which people from surrounding areas gathered to locate the child. The child's mother also jumped into the drain to save her child but failed to find him. The wailing woman was forcibly pulled out of the drain by the locals.

In the evening, Kapurthala DC Vishesh Sarangal requisitioned a 29-member team of NDRF from Bathinda for carrying out the rescue operation.

Officials said the boy and his family originally hail from Bihar and live in the jhuggis near the Shalimar Garden area.

Inter-ministerial Secretaries to finalise calendar for G20 meetings on August 17

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9



G-20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant urged Secretaries to attend it personally.

Barthwal (Labour), Leena Nandan (Environment), K Sanjay Murthy (Higher Education), Alok Kumar (Power), Rajesh Bhushan (Health), BVR Subramanyam (Commerce), Arvind Singh (Tourism), Indevar Pandey (Women and Child Development), Anurag Jain (DPIIT), Dr Srivari Chandrasekhar (Science & Technology), S Somnath (Space), Manoj Joshi (Housing & Urban Affairs), and Sanjay Kumar (Youth Affairs).

According to sources, India's G-20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant has called an inter-ministerial meeting of around 20 Secretaries on August 17. The meeting is expected to be attended by Secretaries from the key ministries and departments, officials from Lok Sabha Secretariat, and Comptroller and Auditor General, sources said.

The sources said that among the Secretaries who have been asked to attend the meeting are – Ajay Seth (Economic Affairs), S Radha Chauhan (DoPT), Manoj Ahuja (Agriculture), Govind Mohan (Culture), Alkesh Kumar Sharma (Electronics and IT), Kamal Kishore (NDMA), Sunil

The source said, the G-20 Sherpa has desired that the calendar should be "fully finalised" on or before August 17, 2022.

The move is significant as the Prime Minister had urged the Chief Ministers to develop a mass movement around the G-20 at a meeting of the NITI Aayog last week.

"The PM said we should develop a mass movement around G-20," said a statement issued by the NITI Aayog after the meeting on Sunday. "The PM also spoke about India's G20 Presidency in 2023 and called it a unique opportunity to show the world that India is not just Delhi—it is every state and Union Territory of the country," the statement said.

"This will allow us to identify the best talent available in the country. He also said there should be a dedicated team for G20 in the states to derive the maximum possible benefit from this initiative," the statement said.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, who gave a presentation to NITI Governing Council on the upcoming G-20 meeting, said that the presidency presents a "great opportunity and a great responsibility".

MAHARASHTRA WAKF BOARD CASE

AG writes to SC on change of counsel, attempts to prevent him from appearing

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

ATTORNEY GENERAL K Venugopal has written to the Supreme Court Secretary General, registering his protest against the "sudden change" of the special counsel in a case concerning the Maharashtra State Waqf Board, and

KK Venugopal ...It seems that whoever is behind the events that have transpired, whether it is the beneficiaries of the transfer or anyone else, is bent upon ensuring that AG does not argue this case," he said in his August 8 letter, seeking adjournment citing ill health. The AG had earlier written to the SC Registrar over the developments in the case that involves an appeal against a 2011 Bombay HC order which held that the state Waqf Board was illegally constituted and permitted the transfer of land to various beneficiaries by the Charity Commissioner.

The letter said that on July 14, following a mention by Senior Advocate Harish Salve, who raised the question, "is every case where a charitable be set up by Muslim

be only a Waqf or can the general law of charity outside a Waqf be applicable", the matter was listed for hearing. On July 30, Advocate Javed Sheikh was orally informed about his removal as special counsel in the matter, the AG said, adding "this was indeed shocking as no reason was given for this sudden change". On August 1, Sheikh got the letter cancelling his appointment.

9 APPLICANTS BARRED IN 2 YEARS: NGO

Blacklisted, Gujarat RTI applicant to move HC

SOHINI GHOSH
AHMEDABAD, AUGUST 9

THE GUJARAT Information Commission (GIC) has blacklisted and barred at least nine applicants in the last two years from filing applications under the Right to Information (RTI) Act, according to an analysis by an NGO, Mahiti Adhikar Gujarat Pahel (MAGP).

One of the applicants barred, Manojkumar Sarapadadiya (47), who was blacklisted for lifetime by a 2020 order, has now decided to move the Gujarat High Court.

The GIC had ordered that Sarapadadiya could not seek information under RTI Act from any officer of any department in the state for lifetime, citing that information sought by him is not on par with the objective of RTI Act.

Sarapadadiya said he filed nearly 150 RTIs between 2016 and 2018 only with GSRTC, "pertaining to corruption at multiple levels", although the state information commissioner's order notes that he has filed nearly 170 RTIs and 140 first appeals.

"I also filed several complaints within the department and various authorities in this period on ongoing corruption within the department based on information provided under RTI, but no tangible action has been taken till date," he said.

Former bus conductor with Gujarat State Road Transport Corporation, Sarapadadiya, a res-

ident of Amreli, was dismissed from service following a departmental inquiry in 2017 on allegations of ticket misappropriation. Currently unemployed, he said, "Along with some others who now stand blacklisted by information commissioner's orders, I plan to approach the Gujarat High Court..."

A Central Information Commission (CIC) official on condition of anonymity said, "It is correct that there is indeed no direct provision in the Act to penalise applicants but in my experience, we see applicants coming with a motive of taking

revenge, or to blackmail some officer in the name of public interest. It (RTI) is not a platform to settle scores.... Blacklisting is not new and the CIC, too, did it twice in the last five to six years."

To cite one instance, MAGP's analysis shows that Information Commissioner K M Adhvaryu

ordered that all educational institutes run by Sarva Vidyalay Kadi and District Education Officer of Gandhinagar should "not give any information" to now-blacklisted applicant Amita Mishra – "now or in future".

As analysed by MAGP, while rejecting information, PIOs cited reasons such as an applicant repeatedly asking for the same information being "habitual of putting false allegations", applicants not having paid electricity bills, or not having paid electricity bills, an applicant taking "revenge" for an institute taking action against applicant for misconduct, etc.

The letter said that on July 14, following a mention by Senior Advocate Harish Salve, who raised the question, "is every case where a charitable be set up by Muslim

be only a Waqf or can the general law of charity outside a Waqf be applicable", the matter was listed for hearing. On July 30, Advocate Javed Sheikh was orally informed about his removal as special counsel in the matter, the AG said, adding "this was indeed shocking as no reason was given for this sudden change". On August 1, Sheikh got the letter cancelling his appointment.

PUBLIC NOTICE

EDCL (India) Limited

(A MINI RATNA Category-1 CPSE, GOVT. OF INDIA)

EDCL Bank Limited, 18A, Sector 16A, NOIDA - 201301 (U.P.)

Tel.: 0120-4156001-02, 4154003 & 297106-207 Fax No. 0120-2970209

E-mail: edclupsupport@edcl.co.in

Invitation for Bids

EdCL (India) Limited, A Mini Ratna Category-1 CPSE, Govt. of India invites Bids from eligible bidders for the following work:

S.No. NIT No. Name of the Tender

1. EdCL/OTAS/ Services/ 2022AS Empangement of Agencies to provide Ancillary Services on turnkey basis during Pan India Computer Based Test being conducted by EdCL (India) Limited

Note: The Tender document is available on <http://www.edclindia.co.in>, <http://www.tenderwizard.com/edcl> and Central Public Procurement website only and no separate press advertisement will be issued.

S.N. NIT No. Name of the Tender

1. EdCL/OTAS/ Services/ 2022AS Empangement of Agencies to provide Ancillary Services on turnkey basis during Pan India Computer Based Test being conducted by EdCL (India) Limited

Note: The Tender document is available on <http://www.edclindia.co.in>, <http://www.tenderwizard.com/edcl> and Central Public Procurement website only and no separate press advertisement will be issued.

S.N. NIT No. Name of the Tender

1. EdCL/OTAS/ Services/ 2022AS Empangement of Agencies to provide Ancillary Services on turnkey basis during Pan India Computer Based Test being conducted by EdCL (India) Limited

Note: The Tender document is available on <http://www.edclindia.co.in>, <http://www.tenderwizard.com/edcl> and Central Public Procurement website only and no separate press advertisement will be issued.

S.N. NIT No. Name of the Tender

1. EdCL/OTAS/ Services/ 2022AS Empangement of Agencies to provide Ancillary Services on turnkey basis during Pan India Computer Based Test being conducted by EdCL (India) Limited

Note: The Tender document is available on <http://www.edclindia.co.in>, <http://www.tenderwizard.com/edcl> and Central Public Procurement website only and no separate press advertisement will be issued.

S.N. NIT No. Name of the Tender

1. EdCL/OTAS/ Services/ 2022AS Empangement of Agencies to provide Ancillary Services on turnkey basis during Pan India Computer Based Test being conducted by EdCL (India) Limited

Note: The Tender document is available on <http://www.edclindia.co.in>, <http://www.tenderwizard.com/edcl> and Central Public Procurement website only and no separate press advertisement will be issued.

S.N. NIT No. Name of the Tender

1. EdCL/OTAS/ Services/ 2022AS Empangement of Agencies to provide Ancillary Services on turnkey basis during Pan India Computer Based Test being conducted by EdCL (India) Limited

Note: The Tender document is available on <http://www.edclindia.co.in>, <http://www.tenderwizard.com/edcl> and Central Public Procurement website only and no separate press advertisement will be issued.

S.N. NIT No. Name of the Tender

1. EdCL/OTAS/ Services/ 2022AS Empangement of Agencies to provide Ancillary Services on turnkey basis during Pan India Computer Based Test being conducted by EdCL (India) Limited

Note: The Tender document is available on <http://www.edclindia.co.in>, <http://www.tenderwizard.com/edcl> and Central Public Procurement website only and no separate press advertisement will be issued.

S.N. NIT No. Name of the Tender

1. EdCL/OTAS/ Services/ 2022AS Empangement of Agencies to provide Ancillary Services on turnkey basis during Pan India Computer Based Test being conducted by EdCL (India) Limited

Note: The Tender document is available on <http://www.edclindia.co.in>, <http://www.tenderwizard.com/edcl> and Central Public Procurement website only and no separate press advertisement will be issued.

S.N. NIT No. Name of the Tender

1. EdCL/OTAS/ Services/ 2022AS Empangement of Agencies to provide Ancillary Services on turnkey basis during Pan India Computer Based Test being conducted by EdCL (India) Limited

Note: The Tender document is available on <http://www.edclindia.co.in>, <http://www.tenderwizard.com/edcl> and Central Public Procurement website only and no separate press advertisement will be issued.

S.N. NIT No. Name of the Tender

1. EdCL/OTAS/ Services/ 2022AS Empangement of Agencies to provide Ancillary Services on turnkey basis during Pan India Computer Based Test being conducted by EdCL (India) Limited

Note: The Tender document is available on <http://www.edclindia.co.in>, <http://www.tenderwizard.com/edcl> and Central Public Procurement website only and no separate press advertisement will be issued.

S.N. NIT No. Name of the Tender

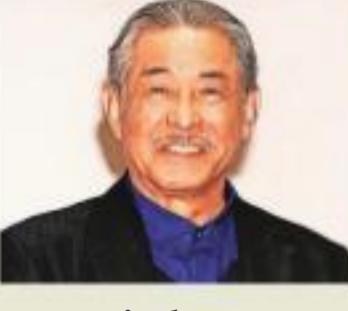
1. EdCL/OTAS/ Services/ 2022AS Empangement of Agencies to provide Ancillary Services on turnkey basis during Pan India Computer Based Test being conducted by EdCL (India) Limited

Note: The Tender document is available on <http://www.edclindia.co.in>, <http://www.tenderwizard.com/edcl> and Central Public Procurement website only and no separate press advertisement will be issued.

S.N. NIT No. Name of the Tender</

THE WORLD

TOP OF THE
WORLD



Issey Miyake was fighting cancer. AP

JAPAN

Famed fashion designer Issey Miyake dies

Tokyo: Issey Miyake, who built one of Japan's biggest fashion brands and was known for his boldly sculpted, signature pleated pieces, has died. He was 84. Miyake died August 5 of liver cancer, Miyake Design Office said Tuesday. Miyake defined an era in Japan's modern history, reaching stardom in the 1970s among a generation of designers and artists who reached global fame by defining a Japanese vision that was unique from the West. Miyake's origami-like pleats transformed usually crass polyester into chic. He also used computer technology in weaving to create apparel. His down-to-earth clothing was meant to celebrate the human body regardless of race, build, size or age. AP

RUSSIA

Moscow launches Iranian satellite

Moscow: A Russian rocket on Tuesday successfully launched an Iranian satellite into orbit. The Soyuz rocket lifted off as scheduled at 8.52am Moscow time Tuesday from the Russia-leased Baikonur launch facility in Kazakhstan. About nine minutes after the launch, it placed the Iranian satellite, Khayyam, into orbit. Iran has said the satellite fitted with high-resolution camera will be used for environmental monitoring and will remain fully under its control. AP

CHINA

New zoonotic virus infects 35 people

Beijing: A new type of animal-derived Henipavirus has so far infected 35 people in Shandong and Henan provinces of China, official media reported on Tuesday. The new type of Henipavirus was found in throat swab samples from febrile patients in eastern China. The infected people have symptoms, including fever, fatigue, cough, anorexia, myalgia, and nausea. PTI

PAKISTAN

Four soldiers killed in suicide bombing

Peshawar/Islamabad: At least four Pakistani soldiers were killed and seven other people injured in a suicide attack in North Waziristan tribal district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, the military's media affairs wing said on Tuesday. A rickshaw hit the vehicle of the security forces near Patti check post in Mir Alitshil region, killing four soldiers and injuring seven, including two civilians, ISPR said. PTI

AUSTRALIA

NSW to ban Nazi swastika

Sydney: Australia's most populous state took a major step toward banning Nazi symbols on Tuesday when the New South Wales Parliament's lower house passed a bill that would criminalise their display. The bill must pass the upper chamber to become law. Victoria in June became the first in Australia to pass a law banning the public display of Nazi swastikas. AP

OVER 23,000 STUDENTS WAITING TO RETURN TO COLLEGES

First batch of Indian students stuck at home will arrive very soon: China

K J M VARMA
BEIJING, AUGUST 9

CHINA ON Tuesday said it has started the process for the return of Indian students stuck back home due to the Covid-19 visa restrictions and the first batch may arrive soon, raising hopes for the thousands of students waiting to rejoin colleges in this country.

"We are working intensively for the return of foreign students to China and this process for Indian student's return has begun," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin told media briefing when asked about social media posts by some Chinese diplomats about

Imran's top aide held for making 'seditious' remarks

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD, AUGUST 9

A CLOSE aide of Pakistan's former PM Imran Khan was on Tuesday arrested after pulling a private TV channel off air for airing his interview considered as seditious and threatening to national security.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Shehzad Gill, who is also a spokesperson of Khan, participated in an ARY News programme on Monday and criticised the Shehzad government for trying to pitch Khan against the Army.

A spokesperson of the Islamabad police said Gill has been arrested for "making statements against the state and inciting people to rebellion." Gill had alleged that the government was trying to provoke the lower and middle tier of the Army against the PTI, claiming that the families of such "rank and file" support Khan and his party "which is fuelling rage within the government". Meanwhile, PTI chairman Khan has termed Gill's arrest as an "abduction".

China drills part of a gameplan for invasion: Taiwan

REUTERS
TAIPEI, AUGUST 9

TAIWAN'S FOREIGN minister said on Tuesday that China was using the military drills it launched in protest against US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit as a gameplan to prepare for an invasion of the self-ruled island.

Joseph Wu, who offered no time-table for a possible invasion of Taiwan, which is claimed by China as its own, said Taiwan would not be intimidated even as the drills continued with China often breaching the unofficial median line down the Taiwan Strait.

"China has used the drills in its military play-book to prepare for the invasion of Taiwan," Wu told a news conference in Taipei.

"It is conducting large-scale military exercises and missile launches, as well as cyberattacks,

NEPAL BARS ENTRY OF INDIAN TOURISTS AFTER FOUR STUDENTS TEST COVID-POSITIVE

Kathmandu: Nepal has stopped the entry of people coming from India into the country after four Indian tourists tested positive for Covid-19 and were sent back, amid a sharp surge in the number of Covid cases in the Himalayan nation. The four

opening of a new visa policy for all the foreign students soon.

"We believe we will see the return of the first batch of Indian students very soon and will continue to pursue it with relevant

turn, he said the relevant information will be released soon. China is currently processing the list of hundreds of Indian students wanting to return to the country to rejoin their colleges.

Over 23,000 Indian students, mostly studying medicine, are reportedly stuck back home due to Covid visa restrictions.

China is also permitting flights from different countries but yet to work out opening of flights between the two countries. The flights between India and China, which were halted at the height of the coronavirus pandemic two years ago, remain suspended. Officials say the two countries are in talks to restore limited flights. PTI

work while ensuring the safety against Covid," Wang said.

Asked at what stage is the process of the list provided by the Indian Embassy about the Indian students wanting to re-



KENYA LINES UP TO ELECT ITS PRESIDENT

Maasai people wait in line to cast their votes at a polling station at Niserian Primary School, in Kajiado County, Kenya Tuesday. The top candidates are Raila Odinga and Deputy President William Ruto. Results must be announced within a week. AP

IN ALBUQUERQUE, RACE TO FIND WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE

In New Mexico, 4 killings spark fear in Muslims

ASSOCIATED PRESS
AUGUST 9

FIRST WAS the killing of a Muslim man from Afghanistan late last year. Then came two more slayings in the last two weeks — men from Pakistan who attended the same mosque in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Those deaths were followed Friday by the city's fourth homicide of a Muslim man in nine

months. Together the killings have sent ripples of fear through Islamic communities in New Mexico and beyond and fueled a race to find who was responsible.

Authorities on Monday identified the latest victim as they sought help searching for a vehicle believed to be connected to the slayings. The common elements were the victims' race and religion, officials said.

Naeem Hussain was killed Friday night, and the three other



NINE KILLED

RECORD-SETTING RAIN INUNDATES SEOUL Some of the heaviest rainfall in decades struck the Seoul area overnight, flooding homes, streets and subway stations, and killing at least nine people, South Korean officials said. Nearly 17 inches of rain poured down in southern Seoul between early Monday and early Tuesday weather officials said. In one district, 54 inches fell in a single hour, breaking an 80-year-old Seoul record.

WITCH HUNT MUST BE STOPPED, HE SAYS

FBI searches Trump's Florida home as part of presidential probe

Search on for official records he removed from White House

REUTERS
PALM BEACH, AUGUST 9

FORMER US President Donald Trump on Tuesday tried to turn the news of an FBI search of his Florida estate to his benefit, citing the investigation in text messages and emails soliciting political donations from his supporters.

The unprecedented search of the home of a former president marked a significant escalation of the federal investigation into whether Trump illegally removed records from the White House as he was leaving office in January 2021. Trump tried to paint the search of his Mar-a-Lago club in Palm Beach as a politically motivated move by President Joe Biden's administration.

"As they watch my endorsed candidates win big victories and see my dominance in all polls, they are trying to stop the raid took place," Trump said in a fundraising email on Tuesday. "The lawlessness, political persecution, and witch hunt, must be exposed and stopped."

Trump on Monday an-



Outside Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate. AP

nounced the search of his club in a statement, saying that a "large group of FBI agents" had carried it out. The FBI's headquarters in Washington and its field office in Miami both declined comment.

Trump said the estate "is currently under siege, raided, and occupied." He did not say why the raid took place. "After working and cooperating with the relevant Government agencies, this unannounced raid on my home and witch hunt, must be exposed and stopped."

Trump on Monday an-

EXPLAINED
Will Trump be barred from future office?

SPECIFICALLY, THE law in question — Section 2071 of Title 18 of the US Code — makes it a crime if someone who has custody of government documents or records "willfully and unlawfully conceals, removes, mutilates, obliterates, falsifies or destroys" them. The statute says, if they are currently in a federal office, they "shall forfeit" that office, and they shall "be disqualified from holding any office under the US."

Eric Trump, one of Trump's adult children, told Fox News on Monday the search concerned boxes of documents that his father brought from the White House. A source familiar with the matter confirmed the raid appeared to be tied to Trump's removal of classified records from the White House.

High Commissioner today. The meeting focused on strengthening ties between the people of India and Sri Lanka and promoting tourism as an instrument for economic recovery," the Indian High Commission tweeted.

Responding to the tweet, Jayasuriya on Tuesday thanked Baglay for agreeing to meet him.

"Sri Lanka's newly appointed tourism brand Ambassador, cricket legend @Sanath07 met

Snapchat app introduces first parental controls

THE NEW YORK TIMES
SAN FRANCISCO, AUGUST 9

SNAPCHAT, the ephemeral messaging app, introduced its first parental controls on Tuesday, as social media platforms face increasing scrutiny for exposing young users to harmful content.

Snap, Snapchat's parent company, said in a blog post that its new tools would let parents see whom their teenagers were friends with on the app and whom they had communicated with in the previous seven days.

Parents will also be able to report accounts that their children are friends with if they violate Snapchat's policies. Parents will not be able to see their children's conversations on the app.

Our goal was to create a set of tools designed to reflect the dynamics of real-world relationships and foster collaboration and trust between parents and teens," Snap said in the blog post.

Local witnesses told Reuters they heard at least 12 explosions around 3.20 pm local time from the Saky air base near Novofedorivka on Crimea's western coast. They described a final blast around 30 minutes later as the loudest.

Russia's defence ministry said the "detonation of several aviation ammunition stores" had

caused an explosion, Russian news agencies reported, but that there had been no injuries.

However, the head of Crimea's health department said five people had been injured, including one child, according to the state-run news agency TASS.

No comment was immediately available from Ukraine.

The Russian governor of

Crimea, Sergei Aksyonov said, "Ambulance crews are working on site ... it is too early to talk about victims."

The defence ministry said there had not been any kind of attack and that no aviation equipment had been damaged. Moscow said further measures were being taken to establish the causes.

POP SINGER AND 'GREASE' STAR, SHE AMASSED 4 RECORDS THAT SOLD OVER TWO MILLION COPIES EACH

Olivia Newton-John, darling of the masses, passes away at 73

JIM FARBER
AUGUST 9

OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN, who sang some of the biggest hits of the 1970s and '80s while recasting her image as the virginal girl next door into a spandex-clad vixen — a transformation reflected in miniature by her starring role in "Grease," one of the most popular movie musicals of its era — died on Monday at her ranch in Southern California. She was 73.

The death was announced by her husband, John Easterling. She had lived with a breast cancer diagnosis since 1992 and in 2017 announced that the cancer



Olivia Newton-John at a concert in Hong Kong. Reuters File

had returned and spread. For years she was a prominent advocate for cancer research, starting a foundation in her name to support it and opening a research and wellness center in metropolitan Melbourne, Australia. English-born, she grew up in Australia.

Newton-John amassed No. 1 hits, chart-topping albums and four records that sold more than two million copies each. More than anything else, she was likable, even beloved.

In the earlier phase of her career, Newton-John beguiled listeners with a high, supple, vibrato-warmed voice that paired amiably with the kind of swooning middle-of-the-road pop that,

First came "I Honestly Love You," an earnest declaration co-written by Peter Allen and Jeff Barry, followed by "Have You Never Been Mellow," a feather of a song written by the producer of many of her biggest albums, John Farrar.

"I Honestly Love You" also won two of the singer's four Grammys, for record of the year and best female pop vocal performance. The combination of Newton-John's consistently benign music and comely but squeaky-clean image caused many writers to compare her to earlier bold ingenues like Doris Day and Sandra Dee. "Innocent, I'm not," Newton-John told Rolling Stone in 1978. "People still seem to see me as the girl next

door. Doris Day had four husbands," she said, yet she was still viewed as "the virgin."

An entry into movies in 1978 aimed to put the singer's chaste image behind her, starting with "Grease." Her character, Sandy, transformed from a pigtailed square smitten with John Travolta's bad-boy Danny to a gum-smacking bad girl. "Grease" became one of the highest grossing movie musicals ever, besting even "The Sound of Music." Its soundtrack was the second best-selling album of the year, beaten only by the soundtrack for "Saturday Night Fever".

The "Grease" soundtrack spawned two No. 1 hits, both

sung by the co-stars, including the manically lusty "You're the One That I Want" and doo-wop romp "Summer Nights." A ballad Newton-John sang alone, "Hopelessly Devoted to You," earned the film's lone Oscar nomination.

In May 2017, she disclosed that her cancer had returned. She published a memoir, "Don't Stop Believin,'" in 2018. To the ends firmly believed in her audience-friendly approach to music. "It annoys me when people think because it's commercial, it's bad," she told Rolling Stone. "It's completely opposite. If people like it, that's what it's supposed to be." NYT



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

BREAK AND MAKE

In run-up to 2024, it may seem Opposition has added numbers in Bihar but Nitish will need to work harder to stitch a shared story

NITISH KUMAR HAS switched sides yet again. With that quick and easy indictment out of the way, look again, at a complex and bristling story. It's a story about Bihar, a fertile state known for its backwardness, and also for being the crucible for social and political movements that reverberate through the country. It's a story of a leader who played a historic role in braiding the agenda of social justice with the language and infrastructure of development — in Bihar, the cleavage and even outright antagonism between "samajik nyaya" and "vikas" had been the unfortunate left-over of Lalu Prasad's 15-year rule which gave the backward castes a political voice. But the leader who scripted "Nootan Bihar" where "sushasan (good governance)" was given its due place remained, despite his great achievements, afraid to go it alone. And at some point, his asserting and writhing in the alliances he struck with others overshadowed his plateauing governance story. Nitish's latest about-turn, walking out of the alliance with the BJP after walking back into it in 2017, after walking out of it, 17 years on, in 2013, also comes at a time when a larger story is unfolding — in the national Opposition space, to break the prolonged standstill in the time of Modi.

Nitish's resignation as chief minister, his march to Raj Bhawan alongwith Tejashwi Yadav, his staking of claim to form another government, inaugurates a new chapter that is likely to resonate as much outside Bihar as inside it. With the next parliamentary election only two years away, and with Bihar still the north Indian state where the BJP has considerable scope to grow, unlike in next-door UP, where it has all but peaked, what happens in Patna could well be crucial for what happens in Delhi. Nitish's reputation and legacy so far, despite his stop-start equations with the BJP and RJD, and in spite of the signs of his government running of ideas, manifested in the ham-handed enforcement of prohibition, rest on several past laurels — the bicycle scheme for girls, the small initiative that wreaked large change; reservation in Panchayat bodies for women and for Extremely Backward Castes (which had been relegated by the dominant groups among OBCs); the building of roads in a state where travelling time between point A and B depended on hours taken, not distance in km; the improvements in law and order; and, overall, the restoring of the authority of the state. In Nitish raj, the wheels of social justice turned further, included groups that had still remained excluded in Lalu raj, and large sections, especially of the weak and vulnerable, felt touched by the state.

A JD(U)-RJD alliance has taken on the BJP once before — the Mahagathbandhan romped home in the 2015 polls. But the BJP, in Bihar, as elsewhere, is constantly learning, evolving and strategising to conquer. The Modi model is layered and it is making deeper inroads, using social engineering where it must, the delivery scheme where it can, and the powerful idea of Hindutva everywhere. In the run-up to 2024, then, it may seem that the Opposition has added weight in terms of numbers in Bihar. But it will need to work much harder to stitch a shared story that speaks to the people and lifts it off the ground.

MORE THAN MEDALS

At CWG, India's track and field athletes made a mark, women's cricket and hockey teams showed they are on right track

ANOTHER EDITION OF the Commonwealth Games is over, and though some would term it a relic of the past and an anachronism, Birmingham showed it remains relevant. Colonial legacy and history are sensitive subjects — in the UK as well as the erstwhile outposts of the British Empire — and many argue that nations don't need to be reminded that they were once subjugated. But giving a sporting platform for elite athletes to showcase their prowess is a good enough argument for these Games, even if the level of competition in many sports is a few rungs below what is seen at the Olympics, the World Championships or even the continental Games.

For India, the Commonwealth Games give a chance to assess how they are likely to fare when tougher assignments come along. In Birmingham, the performance of India's track and field athletes came as a breath of fresh air. Triple jumper Eldhose Paul and 3,000m steeplechaser Avinash Sable showed they can mix it with the best in the world. The latter took on, and left behind, a few Kenyans, considered the royalty in middle- and long-distance races. Weightlifting, table tennis and badminton were other sports which provided big medal hauls to India. And though, on the mat, the competition was arguably weaker than what is seen in domestic trials, there were other commendable achievements.

At 40, paddler Sharath Kamal continues to mint medals, while a sport previously unknown in India, lawn bowls, also added to the country's gold tally. Boxer Nitu Ghanghas, whose father has been on unpaid leave for three years and is facing a departmental inquiry for long absenteeism to look after his daughter's blooming career, showed the kind of sacrifices needed for sporting glory at the elite level. They didn't necessarily have to win gold to point to a bright future. The women's cricket and hockey teams showed that they are on the right track to be considered one of the best in the world. Any such event is a kaleidoscope of emotions and memories, and one of them that will stay is the bonhomie shared by Pakistani weightlifter Muhammad Nooh Dastgir Butt and India's Gurdeep Singh, both of whom finished on the podium in the 109kg-plus category. The camaraderie and affection they displayed proved that sport can indeed be a vehicle to bring people closer. That's what adds to the relevance of the Commonwealth Games.

SANDY FOREVER

Olivia Newton-John was a singer, Hollywood star and cancer activist. For her fans, though, she'll always be the girl from Grease

WITH HER SWEET singing voice and general air of wholesomeness, Olivia Newton-John was a natural candidate for the status of America's Sweetheart. The UK-born Australian singer and actor, who died in her home in California on Monday at the age of 73 after a long battle with breast cancer, became a global star with her role in the 1978 smash-hit musical *Grease*. Her performance as the goody-two-shoes Sandy who falls in love with the leather-clad Danny as well as her sizzling chemistry with co-star John Travolta, set the template for musicals and romantic comedies for years to come.

Subsequently, she also broke free from her squeaky clean image to someone a little more complicated. In *Grease*'s finale, Sandy has a pastel skirt-to-leather pants makeover, which Newton-John carried off-screent when, later that year, she released her album *Totally Hot*. The makeover reached its pinnacle with her bestselling 1981 album *Physical* — the album's eponymous, Grammy-winning track, with an aerobics-inspired video, was banned in some markets for its sexually suggestive lyrics. The transformation that *Grease* helped launch was one of many. Newton-John had first made a name in the early 1970s singing crowd-pleasing pop numbers, followed by a stint as a country music star. She won a country Grammy in 1974.

Post-*Physical*, Newton-John's career was in the doldrums after successive projects failed. In 1992, after a breast cancer diagnosis, her music took a more spiritual turn and she became an activist for cancer awareness, founding the Olivia Newton-John Foundation to fund research. Hers was a life and career of many acts, but for her legions of fans, she will be Sandy forever.

Step back from water's edge



ARUN PRAKASH

REPORTS ABOUT THE impending visit of a Chinese "spy ship", Yuan Wang-5, to the Sri Lankan port of Hambantota, created a major flutter in the Indian media. Citing the ship's "lethal capabilities" and "aerial reach of more than 750 km", fears have been expressed that "atomic research centres within Indian borders could be snooped upon". Reflecting concerns at the "highest levels" in New Delhi, social media fired unkind comments about India's emergency economic assistance to an "ungrateful Sri Lanka".

Reports that Sri Lanka has asked for a delay in the Chinese ship's arrival may temporarily calm the waters and provide respite for a dispassionate examination of the issue through legal, military and diplomatic lenses. But before that a quick look at the ship's provenance is in order. Yuan Wang is the generic name given to a flotilla of seven to eight ships belonging to the Chinese PLA's Strategic Support Force. These large "survey/research" vessels carry optical, laser, passive-radar and radar devices whose large dish-antennae enable tracking of ballistic-missile trajectories, monitoring of satellite and space vehicle launches, and gathering of technical intelligence.

From the legal perspective, the 1982 UN Convention for Law of the Seas permits unfettered freedom of navigation on the high seas and a foreign warship has as much right to be in the Indian Ocean as a similar Indian vessel would in the South China Sea. Even in the 200-mile exclusive economic zone, there exists the conditional right of "innocent passage" for all vessels, including warships. Entry into foreign ports, especially for warships, has to be with prior consent. But even in wartime, the 1907 Hague Convention permits entry for warships of belligerents into neutral ports for limited durations. Given its cordial diplomatic relations, and its economic dependence on China, there could be no plausible reason for Sri Lanka to deny entry for Yuan Wang 5, especially into Hambantota on which China has a 99-year lease.

Viewed from the security angle, the presence of a research ship like the Yuan Wang 5, bristling with multi-spectral surveillance and eavesdropping devices, in India's vicinity, cer-

tainly calls for vigilance and caution. However, in this age of transparency, regular electronic "snooping" by ships, aircraft and satellites — both friendly and hostile — happens all the time. Our armed forces and other agencies are aware of this, and precautionary policies and procedures relating to electronic emissions and missile-firing trials are in place. One can also be sure that the position and movements of Yuan Wang 5, as long as she is in our waters, will be closely followed by the Indian Navy's maritime domain awareness matrix.

Coming to the diplomatic aspect, observers have harked back to the September 2014 visit of a PLA Navy's (PLAN) Type-039, a diesel submarine which had docked in Colombo, to be followed a few weeks later by a port-call by a Type-091 nuclear-powered attack submarine. The Sri Lankan government had then brushed aside India's concerns describing the ship-visits as "usual practice", while a Chinese communiqué had (with unintended flippancy) stated that the submarines were en route to the Gulf of Aden "for anti-piracy duty". Some in India have viewed the forthcoming visit of the Chinese "spy ship" to Hambantota as an infringement of the 1987 Indo-Sri Lankan Accord, which calls upon the two countries not to allow their respective territories to be used for "activities prejudicial to each other's unity, integrity and security". However, Colombo has often acknowledged that the security and economic interests of both India and Sri Lanka are inextricably interlinked and any deliberate actions that harm Indian interests will eventually rebound on it.

As we await further developments, there is a need to reflect on Sri Lanka's current political meltdown and dire economic crisis.

Given its geographic proximity and ethnic connection, India cannot allow Sri Lanka to sink. New Delhi has already rendered substantial help, but with the best of intentions, India has neither the economic wherewithal nor political capital to pull Sri Lanka out of the abyss. Therefore, apart from the IMF, China will have to lend a hand for Sri Lanka's economic recovery. For this to happen, Colombo will need to kowtow to Beijing, and India

must show diplomatic forbearance. Some other issues, germane to this discussion, need to be noted by India's decision-makers.

First, India must face the reality that with its 350-warship strong (and growing) battle force having overtaken the US Navy, China has achieved its ambition of becoming a "maritime Great Power". China's 2019 Defence White Paper charges the PLA navy with the responsibility of safeguarding Xi Jinping's prized Maritime Silk Road that spans the Indo-Pacific and includes the China-Pakistan economic corridor. The string of ports, created by China, in India's neighbourhood, are meant to undergird this endeavour.

Thus, until India can bolster its economic and maritime power and, perhaps, enforce its version of a "Monroe Doctrine", it will have to live with frequent PLAN presence in the Indian Ocean. We must also prepare for the day when the Taiwan situation permits China to station an aircraft-carrier battle-group in our waters.

The second issue that deserves our attention is the intense activity of China's space programme, which has planned 50 space-launches for 2022. In mid-April, three Chinese astronauts returned to earth, after spending six months aboard their 11-year-old space-station. In early June 2022, another spacecraft took a team of three astronauts to dock with the under-construction Tiangong-3 space station. During such space activity, survey/research ships need to be positioned for control and tracking as well as rescue tasks in dispersed oceanic locations ranging from mid-Pacific and south Indian Ocean to the coast of Africa. While the actual mission of Yuan Wang 5 is not known, it is just possible that she may be on such a legitimate space-related assignment.

Finally, let us remember that ISRO also has an ambitious manned space programme underway and DRDO is, or will be, undertaking test flights of its Agni series of inter-continental ballistic missiles over distant oceanic stretches. India, too, will seek to deploy "research" vessels in distant waters/ports in days ahead.

The writer is a retired chief of naval staff



RIA SINGH SAWNHEY AND SUGANDHA YADAV

A FULLER RIGHT

SC offers hope that right to abortion won't be restricted by a woman's marital status

ON JULY 21, a three-judge bench of the Supreme Court of India delivered a significant order, clarifying that the right to a medical abortion that was available to married women could not be denied to unmarried women. The case highlights a legal anachronism that requires women to get the state's permission to exercise their constitutional right to an abortion. The SC's order granting permission to undergo an abortion was passed in the case of a petitioner who was in a consensual relationship, and whose partner deserted her.

A July 15 order of the Delhi High Court denied the petitioner's right to terminate her pregnancy. The Division Bench held that since she was an unmarried woman whose pregnancy arose out of a consensual relationship, her case was "clearly not covered" by the applicable rules. Rule 3B of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Rules 2003, lays down the categories of women who are eligible for termination of pregnancy up to 24 weeks: Survivors of sexual assault or rape or incest; minors; where there is a change of marital status during the ongoing pregnancy (widowhood and divorce); women with physical and mental disabilities, women with pregnancies in humanitarian settings; foetal "malformations" that have a substantial risk of being incompatible with life, or which, if the child is born, may cause it to suffer from a serious physical or mental handicap. The High Court found that the petitioner had not undergone a "change in marital status".

The SC found that prima facie, the High

Court had been too restrictive in its approach, and that the term "change in marital status" should be given a purposive interpretation. It based this finding on the 2021 Amendment to the MTP Act, which no longer restricts itself to an unwanted pregnancy between a "husband" and "wife", but to a woman and her "partner", by marriage or not.

The Supreme Court found that prima facie, the High Court had been too restrictive in its approach, and that the term 'change in marital status' should be given a purposive interpretation. It based this finding on the 2021 Amendment to the MTP Act, which no longer restricts itself to an unwanted pregnancy between a 'husband' and 'wife', but to a woman and her 'partner', by marriage or not.

Court had been too restrictive in its approach, and that the term "change in marital status" should be given a purposive interpretation. It based this finding on the 2021 Amendment to the MTP Act, which no longer restricts itself to an unwanted pregnancy between a "husband" and "wife", but to a woman and her "partner", by marriage or not.

The MTP Act 1971, was intended to provide a remedy for the scores of women who faced serious health risks because of unregulated abortions. Section 312 of the Indian Penal Code which continues to be on the books, criminalises anyone, including the woman carrying the pregnancy, who voluntarily causes a miscarriage.

The Court relied on three key judgements: The 2010 *Kushboo* case, which recognised the legality of live-in relationships and pre-marital sex; the 2009 *Suchita Srivastava* case, which recognised that a woman's right to make reproductive choices is part of the "personal liberty" guaranteed under Article 21 and the 2017 *K S Puttaswamy* case, which reaffirmed that women's right to bodily integrity is part of the fundamental right to privacy. The Court observed: "The statute has recognised the reproductive choice of a woman and her bodily integrity and autonomy. Both these rights embody the notion that a choice must inhere in a woman on whether or not to bear a child. In recognising the right to terminate a pregnancy arose straight out of the right to purchase and use contraception. In turn, those rights led, more recently, to rights of same-sex intimacy and marriage. They are all part of the same constitutional fabric, protecting autonomous decision making over the most personal of life decisions..."

As permissive as the Indian legal regime may seem by contrast, a woman is forced to go before a medical board and a Court for a decision that should be between her and her medical practitioner. The case is expected to be heard on August 10 to decide the final interpretation of the provisions in question under the MTP Act. The Court's judgment will prove decisive, whichever way it decides. The order of July 21 is reason to be hopeful.

The writers are advocates practising in New Delhi



AUGUST 10, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

TWO LOK DALS

TWO LOK DALS emerged on the political scene following the formalisation of the fourth and biggest split in Charan Singh's party. The rebels led by Madhu Limaye, George Fernandes, Biju Patnaik, Devi Lal and Kumbha Ram Arya removed Charan Singh as president and elected Karpoori Thakur in his place. They declared themselves the "genuine" Lok Dal. Later at a workers' convention, Fernandes was declared as the general secretary of the party which the convention felt should strive to unite the opposition to build a national alternative to the "authoritarian" Congress (I). The claims and coun-

terclaims of the Singh and Thakur factions could not be immediately verified as they continued to woo each other's supporters.

SOUTH ASIAN UNITY

FOREIGN MINISTERS OF seven South Asian nations will meet in the middle of next year to give a political direction to the evolving concept of South Asian cooperation. The foreign secretaries of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Maldives reaffirmed in a joint communiqué the concept of South Asian regional cooperation. The meeting is likely to take place between May and September 1983.

ASSAM TALKS RESUME

THE TRIPARTITE TALKS on the foreign nationals issue in Assam would resume on August 25, Home Minister RVenkataraman, announced in the Rajya Sabha. He said he was optimistic about a "breakthrough".

AMITABH 'SERIOUS'

FILM ACTOR AMITabh Bachchan's condition continued to be "serious" but he did not need respiratory support, a medical bulletin issued by the Beach Candy hospital said. According to some nurses attending to him, Amitabh has been showing signs of recovery.



Notes from the House

Old Parliament building is filled with memories of political jousts, wit and warmth.

Will they find their way into the new Parliament?



LIZ MATHEW

YESTERDAY AS THE Monsoon Session concluded, a sombre mood dawned on me as I walked out of Parliament House. If the powers that be are to be believed, this session – as stormy as several others in the recent past – will be the last to be held in this magnificent building, 100 years old. The Winter Session in November-December is expected to be held in the new building, which is coming up at a rapid rate, and fast overshadowing the majestic structure designed by Edwin Lutyens and Herbert Baker. But nothing can erase the history created in this edifice.

I began my career in journalism in Delhi, literally growing up professionally in Parliament House. Like the 144 pillars in this marvellous piece of architecture, I too witnessed the major political events of the last 25 years in its confines. (The only big event I missed was the 2001 terror attack which happened when I was out of Delhi.)

As I walked out of the premises, I was filled with mixed feelings about the new building. Many share my sentiments. The question that is weighing heavily on everyone's mind is: Will the atmosphere of the Central Hall, the focal point of many a churning in national politics, be replicated in its new address? Some say that in its place there could be a frugal lounge that could deprive members, their immediate families, senior politicians, including chief ministers who visit Delhi, and journalists of the convivial atmosphere that was the signature of the Central Hall.

The BJP in its current avatar does not seem to have an emotional connection with the Central Hall – senior cabinet members rarely visit it. In the past, even prime ministers used to spend time there. This change in political culture, exacerbated by the pandemic and its restrictions, has diminished the ethos and activities of Parliament. The duration of sessions has reduced, and the fourth estate has become almost invisible. Central Hall is a "no entry zone" not just for journalists but for former MPs as well. Senior journalists now get nostalgic about spending hours with politicians, often sipping hot coffee or soup in the Central Hall, where the fans are installed upside down.

I came to Delhi when national politics was undergoing a churning of sorts. The aristocratic politician was giving way to the leader from the grass roots. Speeches in clipped English were being replaced with oratory in Hindi dialects from mofussil centres. But Parliament still brimmed with warmth and camaraderie. The veterans had accepted the leaders emerging from Mandal and Mandir politics.

Despite the intense schisms, one could see members from both sides having a friendly chat over snacks from the Coffee Board-run outlet. At least four ideologies were in full play – the Congress trying to retain its foothold, the socialists raising Mandal politics, the Left still steady under a credible leadership and the BJP. This social space shared by different ideologies was later used by Atal Bihari Vajpayee to stitch a rainbow coalition. As I watched regimes change – from



Vajpayee's 13-day ministry to the uncertain United Front days of H D Deve Gowda and I K Gujral and the relatively stable but eventful decade with Manmohan Singh at the helm of affairs – my experiences at Parliament House also underwent transformations. We used to carry bundles of papers – answers to MPs' questions, panel reports. Now, a paperless Parliament is becoming a reality.

What I miss the most are high quality debates. I have seen and heard Vajpayee, L K Advani, Madhavrao Scindia, Rajesh Pilot, Chandrashekhar, Somnath Chatterjee, Indrajit Gupta, S Jaipal Reddy, George Fernandes, Sitaram Yechury... the list is long. The success and productivity of a Session used to be measured through the depth and width of debates, not just the hours spent on the bench or bills passed. I could get a sense of the nuances of Indian politics by listening to politicians like Pramod Mahajan, K Karunakaran, Arjun Singh, Pranab Mukherjee and Arun Jaitley. Even the transformation of the BJP into a ruling party was best seen on the floor of the House.

I remember Vajpayee leading a group of 161 BJP MPs as a solitary general – the political isolation that the BJP faced was described as "untouchability" by some leaders. In 1996, he faced the inevitable with dignity. I remember his passionate speech: "If breaking up political parties is the only way to form a coalition that stays in power, then I do not want to touch such a coalition with a barge pole". He ended by saying, "Adhyaksh mahoday mein apna tyag patra rashtrapati ko dene jaa raha hun" (Respected Speaker, I am now leaving to tender my resignation to the President). With debates going on till late evening, all that would keep us awake was the tea, with a drop of milk, served at Panditji's tea point.

During Vajpayee's second stint, the BJP was dependent on the J Jayalalithaa-led AIADMK to stay in office. After 13 months, when Jayalalithaa decided to end the alliance, Vajpayee was unusually peeved. On April 17, 1999, when the screens inside the Lok Sabha showed the tally of the no-confidence motion at 269–270 – he lost the majority by one vote – the House was briefly silent before the Opposition broke into celebrations. But I could sense the sympathy and awe Vajpayee had evoked in many on the other side when he looked at the result and raised his hand to his forehead in a mock salute.

But this Parliament also witnessed the BJP, stunned after losing power in 2004, seemingly in denial about the Congress-led

The BJP in its current avatar does not seem to have an emotional connection with the Central Hall – senior cabinet members rarely visit it. In the past, even prime ministers used to spend time there. This change in political culture, exacerbated by the pandemic and its restrictions, has diminished the ethos and activities of Parliament. The duration of sessions has reduced, and the fourth estate has become almost invisible. Central Hall is a 'no entry zone' not just for journalists but for former MPs as well. Senior journalists now get nostalgic about spending hours with politicians, often sipping hot coffee or soup in the Central Hall, where the fans are installed upside down.

UPA's rise to power. In the initial sessions, its 138 MPs disrupted proceedings. They created uproarious scenes even when Prime Minister Manmohan Singh introduced his cabinet. The UPA years were the last time Parliament saw the Prime Minister in attendance regularly.

The press gallery has its share of amusements. The members speak different languages and wear various outfits – there is no official dress code. Varkkala Radhakrishnan, a former speaker of the Kerala assembly, was a stickler for the rules in the Lower House. He drew tremendous respect from the treasury benches during Vajpayee's time. Once he berated the (then) Union Minister Dasari Narayan Rao for keeping the top buttons of his shirt open while replying to questions.

Then there's former Rajya Sabha MP Vakkachan Mattathil, who was amused when Vajpayee told him in one of the restrooms that "you are lucky to use the facilities with the Prime Minister of India." If Shashi Tharoor is a social media sensation today for his English vocabulary, Jaipal Reddy was the wordsmith for an earlier generation. Reddy – then in the Janata Dal – took exception to the Vajpayee government's favourable stand in the Supreme Court on allowing puja at the disputed site in Ayodhya. About Vajpayee, he said: "There is a humongous hiatus, a gigantic gap and a gargantuan gulf between his public image and private reality."

The changes after liberalisation were reflected inside the Parliament complex. From a time when very few MPs had cars – Ambassadors or Fiats – a plethora of imported vehicles now lays siege to the complex.

Today, there is a widening gulf between political parties. The convention – honoured by all political parties – was that the Rajya Sabha would go ahead with debates even if there is conflict or pandemonium in the Lok Sabha.

But this Monsoon Session – presumably the last in this building – was almost a washout!

I have spent more time in this building than at my home in Kerala. The friendships I made in the corridors of power endure. Many of the staff in the building have seen me coming to Parliament since my early 20s – switching jobs, getting married and as the mother of twin girls who are grown up now. This Parliament House has been a constant figure in my life over the last 25 years. I do not know if the old sense of warmth will find its way to the new building.

liz.mathew@expressindia.com

Why Nitish worries BJP

He has a formidable record on governance, social justice and communal harmony



GHANSHYAM TIWARI

"JO PARTY ya parivar nahi balki apne dum par zameen se uttha hai, vo satta-bahattar saal par jakar pradhan mantri banne ka maazboot devadarban payega" (the one who rises from the grass roots, not through a family or party, but on his own steam, will, in his seventies, become a strong candidate for prime minister). Nearly 10 years later, I remember these prophetic words by Nitish Kumar, from a dinner event in honour of Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz who was visiting Bihar.

In 2010, Bihar was going in for an election that would set a new template for its politics. Nitish Kumar, then widely credited for building a new grammar of developmental politics, was up for re-election. Chandrababu Naidu's unexpected defeat a few months earlier in Andhra Pradesh was reinforcing the impression that development doesn't win votes. Nitish was set to belie that story. The visible transformation of law and order alongside the beautiful sight in village after village of girls riding cycles to school and the relentless building of roads laid the foundation for the Nitish-led Bihar model. He led the Centre-state public finance dialogue for Bihar with support from his deputy, the BJP's Sushil Modi. To his credit, the then Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh, understood the needs of Bihar and respected the mission of Nitish Kumar, even if he was with the NDA. This was a gentleman-statesman era of Indian politics, now fast disintegrating.

Nitish Kumar won the 2010 assembly election with a thumping majority. At that time, as a student at Harvard University, I led the Bihar Leadership Project which focused on data analytics, developmental messaging, and systematic monitoring of the campaign. The chief minister invited me to return to Bihar after graduating from Harvard to work with him and I readily accepted. Over the next five years, I was assigned key roles in several ambitious missions such as the Harit Bihar Abhiyan and the Special Category Status for Bihar Campaign. Starting 2012, the race for prime ministership in 2014 became an open contest. Nitish vs Modi and Bihar Model vs Gujarat Model became the most engaging conversation in many parts of the country. In reality, Nitish never cast himself in the race. It was his many successes in governance that put the spotlight on him. He shocked the country by breaking the alliance with the BJP in 2013. Powered by unmatched campaign machinery, the BJP and Narendra Modi bulldozed the Nitish model in 2014 with a thumping victory in Bihar. Taking moral responsibility, Nitish resigned as chief minister and announced Jitan Ram Manjhi as his successor. Seeing an opportunity to vanquish Nitish, the BJP played every trick in the book. Manjhi was the first Eknath Shinde but he would not be the last. By all accounts, RCP Singh has turned out to be the latest missionary for the BJP.

In 2014, when Nitish Kumar resigned as

the CM, I was working as Country Economist for the London School of Economics. I resigned to serve as chief of staff for the ex-CM. In this role, I came face to face with the person behind the image. For example, Nitish moved into a new house that was barely functional – all it had was a telephone. I ordered the modem and laptop based on the allowance he would get as part of his salary.

The e-commerce delivery person was amused to learn that the ex-CM was ordering such products online. I was able to bring Nitish up-to-speed with platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and digital news. In no time, he was able to see the way the BJP had used social media to replace his narrative of development with false propaganda. He decided to set the record straight by conducting a "Sankalp Yatra" across Bihar, where he would play during his speeches the now popular set of audio bytes of false promises made by Narendra Modi that I had collated for him.

It is a magnificent achievement that Nitish defeated the BJP not only to reclaim the chief ministerial seat from Manjhi but also build an alliance with Lalu Prasad. Together, they routed the BJP in the 2015 elections. An unrelenting BJP struck back to force Nitish to break the alliance in less than a year, much to the disappointment of all who saw him as a self-made leader who could be prime minister. Notwithstanding this, the BJP's anger against

Nitish did not subside. Chirag Paswan became its instrument to deceptively counter Nitish in the 2020 Bihar elections. Once again, the BJP failed to vanquish Nitish Kumar. As the RCP Singh story unfolds, it is clear that the BJP has not given up.

What makes Modi and the BJP nervous about Nitish Kumar? Whether he was an ally or enemy, they made countless deceptive attempts to "finish" Nitish (in the words of a Union minister). Nitish comes from a family of freedom fighters. Unlike Modi, he is neither a multiplier nor a divider of public narratives. His moves are incremental but concrete. Unlike BJP leaders, Nitish is not a religious person. He is a man of wisdom and spirituality. Nitish's most used line is "jo kahte hain, kar ke dikhata hain (we do what we say)". He has a socialist lineage and is unaligned to and un-hyped by corporate lobbies, not powered by media and social media propaganda, and uncompromising on communal harmony, political decency and the constitutional framework of the country.

At a time when the common man is slipping into poverty, caught in daily debates of communal hatred and anger, and cynical about bullet trains, Nitish Kumar promises a cycle ride of progress with harmony and social justice.

The writer, with the JD(U) from 2010 to 2015, is national spokesperson, Samajwadi Party

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"[Imran] Khan's relentless vilification of the opposition in language that ill behoves a national leader has contributed much to the polarisation that manifests itself in the vitriol spewed on social media. When such ugliness is unleashed, everyone at some point suffers the fallout."

—DAWN, PAKISTAN

Talking to the new voter

Unique digital characteristics of demographic of first-time voters will require creative approaches for political engagement ahead of 2024 elections



SHASHI SHEKHAR VEMPATI

THE RECENTLY released IAMAI Kantar, Internet in India, ICUBE2021 study has some interesting findings on how the country is fast emerging as one of the world's largest markets for internet-based apps and services. The report was released around the same time India witnessed significant bidding for the 5G spectrum. At the intersection of both of these lies perhaps the world's most unique digital polity of first-time, non-English internet users who think, act and transact "mobile first". Their numbers will soon reach a billion as India focuses efforts on expanding rural 4G access and high-speed internet. With anywhere between two to eight hours of daily usage, the Indian internet user is the ideal test case for any platform or app-based service looking to tap a global audience. Little wonder that we have witnessed over the years intense efforts to sway the Indian internet user through borderless activism in the name of "saving the internet", "online free speech", and "data surveillance".

The unique digital characteristics of this demographic of first-time voters will require creative approaches for political engagement ahead of the 2024 elections. The Election Commission of India recently announced further liberalisation of the voter registration process with 17-year-olds being able to register a year ahead of being eligible to vote, apart from opening up the voter registration process once every quarter. Creative engagement of this digital-first generation would perhaps require interactive live streaming on platforms like Twitch apart from volunteer engagement efforts through "servers" on Discord. How India approaches digital regulations would be of utmost importance to this cohort. It will necessitate a sustained dialogue on the government's approach to technonationalism as a counter to the borderless activism that has sought to skew digital policy debates in India.

India is not alone in its pursuit of technonationalism. We are already witnessing a wave of regulatory moves from Indonesia on just controlling online gaming apps and services but also actively promoting indigenously developed gaming apps. While China requires licences for online games by a dedicated gaming regulator, Indonesia requires formal registration to be compliant with local laws governing what are called "private electronic systems". From Kenya to Brazil we are also witnessing preemptive actions to insulate the electoral processes of their respective democracies from the spread of viral fake news and disinformation on WhatsApp.

While the 2009 elections saw the advent of blogs in the political debate, the 2014 elections were the first time internet streaming played a significant role in disintermediating broadcast media. The 2019 elections were marked by the extensive role played by social media platforms such as Facebook and WhatsApp. With the unique demographic characteristics of first-time voters, perhaps the 2024 elections will see algorithms and gaming apps and services play an influential role.

From securing semi-conductor supply chains to regulating data flows, technonationalism is on the political agenda of western democracies and eastern nations alike. Over the next two years as the government seeks to put in place a comprehensive digital regulatory framework governing data, privacy, apps and algorithms, engaging the first digital generation of new voters on technonationalism will be crucial at every step.

The writer is former CEO of Prasar Bharati, India's Public Broadcaster

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POLITICS & FREEBIES

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Let's debate freebies' (IE, August 9). In a market economy, income inequality is bound to increase and the schism between the rich and marginalised is bound to widen. That's why we need policies for food security and other social welfare schemes. But at the same time, the rot in politics cannot be denied. We need to therefore make sure that announcements of freebies do not influence election results and also remain vigilant against polarisation of voters on religious grounds.

Dev Athawale, Amaravati

A COMMON GROUND
THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Centre with states' (IE, August 9). The latest engagement between the Centre and states at the seventh meeting of the Governing Council of the NITI Aayog is a step in the right direction. Cooperative federalism is a key principle of the NITI Aayog's founding document. The agency has time and again provided guidelines and roadmaps to states. However, the Prime Minister's claim that India's cooperative federalism is a "model for the world" seems far-fetched. The Centre has time and again encroached on the states' domain in the recent past. GST, though a reformative idea and a gradually improving practice, has stripped states of crucial revenues. The alleged weaponisation of central agencies to silence opposition party members has eroded India's democratic fabric. Debates and discussions

on platforms like the Niti Aayog will help the Centre and state understand the concerns of each other.

Dewang Ganesh Thosar, Raigad

ISRO'S TASK

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Air pocket' (IE, August 9). Isro's record on maiden launches has been less than perfect. The SLV, ASLV and the other reliable workhorse PSLV had bad starts. The immediate task may be to analyse the failure rather than try to fix what Isro has admitted as "unusable satellites". Small satellite launch vehicle operations are lucrative business. Clusters of such satellites are being placed in orbit regularly by private players in the US. But ISRO's goal has to be higher than competing with such entities. It must establish its position as an eminent research institution in the emerging field.

SS Paul, Noida

WELL DONE INDIA

THIS REFERS TO the report "Shuttles land three gold medals in final flourish, lift India to fourth in CWG tally" (IE, August 9). The Indian contingent deserves kudos for a remarkable showing at the Commonwealth Games. Coming up next year are the Asian Games, which China will be hosting for the third time, and Indians will find the competition much tougher there, especially in the disciplines like wrestling, boxing and badminton.

Sanjay Chopra, Mohali

FBI raid on Trump home: the law, the action, the politics

RAGHU MALHOTRA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

FORMER UNITED STATES President Donald Trump said on Monday that FBI agents had raided his Mar-a-Lago home in Palm Beach, Florida, and had even broke into his personal safe. American media reported the search was part of an investigation into the potential mishandling of presidential documents that Trump had brought to his residence after leaving office in January 2021.

The unprecedented FBI search of a former President's residence comes at a time when the US Department of Justice is putting the heat on Trump in a separate investigation into his alleged attempts to overturn the result of the 2020 presidential election, and his role in the subsequent January 6 attack by his supporters on the US Capitol.

What were the agents looking for?

The FBI had not, until late on Tuesday evening India time, released an official statement detailing the reasons for the search. But the Justice Department has been investigating the former President's handling of White House records, after the US National Archives

stated in February that it had found classified information in 15 boxes of records that it had retrieved from Trump's lawyers.

The New York Times reported that the focus of the search seemed to be on material that Trump had brought to Mar-a-Lago after leaving office. CNN said the agents were seeking to examine the boxes of documents that had been taken from the White House, and to determine where they were kept. CNN quoted the former President's son Eric Trump as telling Fox News that the "the purpose of the raid... (was) to corroborate whether or not Donald Trump had any documents in his possession."

The FBI's investigation might reveal a violation of the Presidential Records Act, which requires all official presidential documents to be preserved.

What is the Presidential Records Act?

In 1978, the US Congress passed the law that made the President's documents that were previously considered to be the office-holder's property, into the property of the US government. According to a Congressional Research Service report cited by The New York Times, the law was introduced after it emerged that President Richard Nixon had



Supporters of former US President Donald Trump and protesters calling for his arrest rally outside Trump Tower in New York, Tuesday. Reuters

attempted to destroy White House recordings that documented his response to the Watergate scandal.

The Presidential Records Act requires that all official documents of the President, apart from personal documents like diaries and journals, be given to the US National Archives at the end of the presidential term. The National Archives has the authority to select

which documents need to be preserved, made public, or redacted, The Washington Post reported. Those that are considered suitable are made available to the public 12 years after the President leaves office.

Has Trump violated the law?

The House Oversight Committee, the chief investigative committee of the lower

house of Congress, had earlier said that Trump's handling of documents seemed to constitute a "serious violation" of the law. The NYT had reported in February.

Other than taking classified documents owned by the US government, Trump has also been accused of destroying documents and using his personal cell phone, instead of the White House switchboard, to allegedly conceal his role in the January 6 riot.

On August 8, Axios published photographs of paper flushed down toilets in the White House, allegedly bearing the handwriting of Trump. The pictures are part of a forthcoming book, Confidence Man, by The NYT correspondent Maggie Haberman. She told Axios that White House staff occasionally found wads of paper in the toilet, which was "an extension of Trump's term-long habit of ripping up documents that were supposed to be preserved under the Presidential Records Act".

However, both The NYT and The Washington Post reported that even if he is found guilty of violating the law, there is no real enforcement mechanism in place to punish him. What could instead cause trouble for Trump was a federal law called 18 US Code 2071, reported Vox.

Under this law, anyone who "willfully and unlawfully conceals, removes, mutilates, obliterates, or destroys, or attempts to do so, or, with intent to do so takes and carries away" federal documents, can be fined or imprisoned for up to three years or both. Such a conviction would put Trump's potential presidential run in 2024 under a cloud.

What are the political ramifications?

In his statement, Trump said the FBI action amounted to "prosecutorial misconduct", and claimed he was being targeted by the Democratic Party so that he is unable to run for President in 2024. FBI Director Christopher Wray, who approved the search, was appointed by Trump in 2017.

Many Republican Party leaders condemned the FBI action as politically motivated, and suggested that they could retaliate against Democrats and enforcement agencies if they came to control Congress after November's midterm elections. Republican House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy vowed to "conduct immediate oversight" of the Justice Department and an investigation against Attorney General Merrick Garland if the party gained control of the House.

EVERYDAY GLOBAL

WHAT IS AGM-88 HARM, THE NEW US MISSILE SUPPLIED TO UKRAINE



The AGM-88 HARM missile. Wikimedia Commons

MAN AMAN SINGH CHHINA
CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 9

UNITED STATES Under Secretary of Defence for Policy Colin Kahl confirmed Monday (August 8) that Washington has supplied some "anti-radiation missiles" to Ukraine, which could be fired from some Ukrainian Air Force aircraft. The statement has put meat on Russian allegations that an American anti-radar missile, AGM-88 HARM, which is part of NATO's inventory, has been used in the theatre of conflict.

The weapon

The acronym 'HARM' in the AGM-88 HARM air-to-surface missile stands for High-Speed Anti-Radiation Missile. It is a tactical weapon fired from fighter aircraft, and has the capability to detect and home in on radiation emitted by hostile radar stations that have surface-to-air detection capabilities.

The AGM-88 HARM is 14 metres in length, but only 10 inches in diameter. It weighs around 360 kg, and carries a fragmentation-type warhead that is optimised for radar targets. It has an anti-radar homing seeker broadband RF antenna and receiver, and a solid state digital processor. The missile has a range of more than 100 km.

The missile was originally developed by the Dallas-headquartered Texas Instruments, but is now produced by the major American defence contractor Raytheon Corporation. An advanced version of the weapon is manufactured by Dulles, Virginia-based Northrop Grumman. Several NATO aircraft in Europe -- including the Tornado ECR, F-16CM Block 50, and F/A-18-EA-18G -- can fire the AGM-88 HARM missiles.

Use in Ukraine war

For the past several days, Russian social media users have been sharing open-source information on Telegram to the effect that remnants of the AGM-88 HARM have been found near a Russian surface-to-air missile site.

The pictures of the seeming remnants of the missile appeared to show genuine serial numbers, which were traced to AGM-88 HARM by open source intelligence analysts. The statement by the US has now confirmed these deductions.

A CNN report noted that the Russia-Ukraine war is the first in which the weapon has been confirmed to have been used by a military other than the US. The report also said that given Ukraine does not have aircraft known to be compatible with the missile, there is speculation that the missiles may have been fired by NATO aircraft secretly supporting the Ukraine military in combat roles.

Theoretically, however, it may be possible to use the AGM-88 HARM in a limited mode in a Russian-origin aircraft.

VAJIRAM & RAVI
INSTITUTE FOR IAS EXAMINATION

Online & Classroom Programmes
• General Studies • Optional Subjects • CSAT

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

The PESA Act, and the reason behind parties trying to woo tribals in Gujarat

ADITI RAJA
VADODARA, AUGUST 9

AAM Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Arvind Kejriwal Sunday (August 7) declared a six-point "guarantee" for tribals in Gujarat's Chhota Udepur district, including the "strict implementation" of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act.

The PESA Act was enacted in 1996 "to provide for the extension of the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution relating to the Panchayats to the Scheduled Areas". Other than Panchayats, Part IX, comprising Articles 243-243T of the Constitution, contains provisions relating to municipalities and cooperative societies.

Under the Act, Scheduled Areas are those referred to in Article 244(1), which says that the provisions of the Fifth Schedule shall apply to the Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes in states other than Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram. The Fifth Schedule provides for a range of

special provisions for these areas.

The PESA Act

The PESA Act was enacted to ensure self-governance through Gram Sabhas (village assemblies) for people living in the Scheduled Areas. It recognises the right of tribal communities, who are residents of the Scheduled Areas, to govern themselves through their own systems of self-government.

The Act empowers Gram Sabhas to play a key role in approving development plans and controlling all social sectors. This includes the processes and personnel who implement policies, exercising control over minor (non-timber) forest resources, minor water bodies and minor minerals, among other things.

Ten states -- Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Telangana -- have notified Fifth Schedule areas that cover (partially or fully) several districts in each of these states.



After the PESA Act was enacted, the Union government circulated model PESA Rules. So far, six states have notified these Rules.

PESA in Gujarat

Gujarat notified the State PESA Rules in January 2017, and made them applicable in 4,503 gram sabhas under 2,584 village panchayats in 53 tribal talukas in 14 districts.

This was announced in Chhota Udepur

by then CM Vijay Rupani ahead of the last Assembly polls.

Five years later, current CM, Bhupend Patel, Tuesday told a rally in Dahod that all tribals had been covered under the Act and empowered under its provisions. Legal experts, however, say the Act has not been enforced in letter and spirit.

Implementation gaps

In November 2020, Gujarat notified the Status of Unity Area Development and Tourism Governance Authority (SoUADTGA) to administer villages around the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel statue in Narmada, a tribal district.

This gave SoUADTGA powers to override panchayat decisions.

Simultaneously, the district administration issued an order based on a central notification to declare forest area in 121 Narmada villages as 'eco-sensitive'. The district revenue department also moved to include 'state government' as the 'second owner' of land in these villages.

After stiff opposition, including from BJP's Bharuch MP Mansukh Vasava, authorities decided to drop the "second owner" mention.

However, the eco-sensitive zone notification remains in force. The SoUADTGA has also taken charge of its command area that includes six tribal villages.

In March this year, the Centre was forced to scrap the Par-Tapi Narmada (PTN) river

linking project as tribals held protests.

Tribal votebank

Gujarat is among the 10 states that have Schedule Areas, and accounts of 8.1% of the ST population. The tribals are concentrated in the eastern districts, along the Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra borders. There are 11 major tribes in Gujarat, the largest being Bihil which is nearly 48% of the state's total tribal population.

The tribals have been a loyal voters of the Congress. In 2017, of the 27 reserved ST seats, the BJP won eight, Congress got 16, and its alliance partner, the Bharatiya Tribal Party (BTP) bagged two. One Congress rebel won as an Independent. Since then, Congress's three tribal MLAs have joined the BJP. The Independent MLA was disqualified, and BJP won the bypolls in 2021. This time AAP is also targeting this constituency and has allied with the BTP. However, the BJP does not see the implementation of the Act as an election challenge as several Congress states are yet to implement it.

SENSEX: 58,853.07 ▲ 465.14 (0.80%) NIFTY: 17,525.10 ▲ 127.60 (0.73%) NIKKEI: 27,999.96 ▼ 249.28 HANG SENG: 20,003.44 ▼ 42.33 FTSE: 7,478.18 ▼ 4.19 DAX: 13,522.08 ▼ 165.61



GOLD

₹52,490

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of August 5



RUPEE

₹ 79.63/USD



OIL

\$ 95.81



SILVER

₹ 58,465

SECTOR WATCH INSURANCE

Fueled by LIC, new premium income of life insurers up 91%

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 9

LIFE INSURANCE companies posted an impressive 91 per cent growth in new premium income last month at Rs 39,078.91 crore, data released by insurance regulator Irdai showed.

In July 2021, all the 24 life insurance companies in the country recorded a collective new business — or the first year premium income — of Rs 20,434.72 crore.

Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) — the nation's largest life insurer — registered a more than two-fold jump in new business premium income to Rs 29,116.68 crore this July, compared to Rs 12,030.93 crore in the year-ago month, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) data showed.

The remaining 23 insurers in the private sector witnessed an almost 19 per cent increase in their combined new premium income to Rs 9,962.22 crore in July 2022.

Premium income of the private players rose by 39 per cent in April-July of FY23 to Rs 35,435.75 crore. **WITH PTI**

EXPLAINED
E Two-fold rise for LIC

THE FIRST year premium income of LIC, which has a commanding 68.6 per cent share of the Indian life insurance market, grew 142 per cent, which catapulted the sector's overall new business income in July by 91 per cent.

against Rs 8,403.79 crore in the year-ago month.

On a cumulative basis, the first year premium of all the insurers grew by 54 per cent to Rs 1,12,753.43 crore during the April-July period of FY23 as against Rs 73,159.98 crore in the same period of FY22.

For LIC, the cumulative new premium in the first four months of the current fiscal was up by over 62 per cent to Rs 77,317.69 crore.

Premium income of the private players rose by 39 per cent in April-July of FY23 to Rs 35,435.75 crore. **WITH PTI**

COMMERCIAL PAPER, CORPORATE BOND ISSUANCES FALL

'Bonds & loans realignment bumps up credit growth'

SHRITAMA BOSE
MUMBAI, AUGUST 9

A REALIGNMENT in bank loans and debt market borrowings amid rising bond yields may be bumping up the loan growth figure for the banking system.

Last Friday, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das said that bank credit growth has accelerated to 14 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) as on July 15, 2022 against 5.4 per cent a year ago.

However, an analysis by economists at HDFC Bank of data on credit and commercial paper (CP) issuances showed that CP issuances have fallen 64% y-o-y to ₹94,599 crore in July 2022

SHIFT IN CORPORATE BORROWING STRATEGY

■ An analysis by economists at HDFC Bank of data on credit and commercial paper (CP) issuances showed that CP issuances have fallen 64% y-o-y to ₹94,599 crore in July 2022

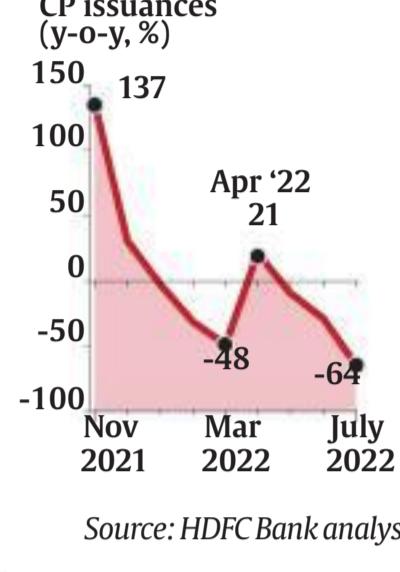
■ Similarly, corporate bond issuances in Q1FY23 fell 19% to ₹77,275 crore from ₹95,303.5 crore in Q1FY22, as per data from Sebi

panied by a jump in credit growth implies a rejig in corporate borrowing strategies.

Stripping off the impact of the shift could make loan growth look a tad slower.

Banks confirmed the trend. Prashant Kumar, managing director and chief executive officer, Yes Bank, said that more than the effect of a lower base, rising yields have driven corporate borrowers to bank loans.

Since banks are major investors in CPs and bonds, the drop in market issuances accom-



to raise very cheap funds overseas or from the local markets. Both have become very costly now. So they have to come back to banks," he said.

The trend of deleveraging balance sheets, which was on for the last two years, has also started to reverse, thus supporting loan growth, Kumar added.

State Bank of India (SBI) Chairman Dinesh Khara said after the bank's Q1 results that the utilisation of sanctioned loans

and working capital limits has started to improve.

"Capacity utilisation in the economy is at about 75 per cent, and we have got a situation where we expect more corporates to be looking at us for availing credit facilities as compared to options available in the past for raising funds from the securities market," he said.

In a report dated August 4, analysts at Jefferies said that in addition to higher demand for working capital, bank credit is being lifted by a contraction in the bond market, where the stock was down 1.5 per cent between March and June, 2022, even as it rose 9 per cent y-o-y.

"Bank credit growth may have peaked here as commodity prices have retraced — metals/oil/wheat down 20-30% from peak and as yields stabilise, corporate bonds will also make a come-back," Jefferies said.

Banks can still retain 11-12 percent y-o-y growth, led by festive season demand and industries holding large inventories in the wake of geopolitical uncertainties, the report added. **FE**

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal. **File**

However, he added that the commerce ministry does not have enough resources to simultaneously negotiate free trade pact with more nations. GCC is a union of six countries in the Gulf region, namely, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE. EFTA members are Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. Five-nation EAEU comprises Russia, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. The minister was speaking at Vyapari Udyami Sammelan here. He asked the domestic traders body to focus on quality of products and work in a unity. Goyal informed that the government is taking steps to reduce compliance burden. **PTI**

WhatsApp to roll out three new features to maintain user privacy

No dominant position abuse by WhatsApp'

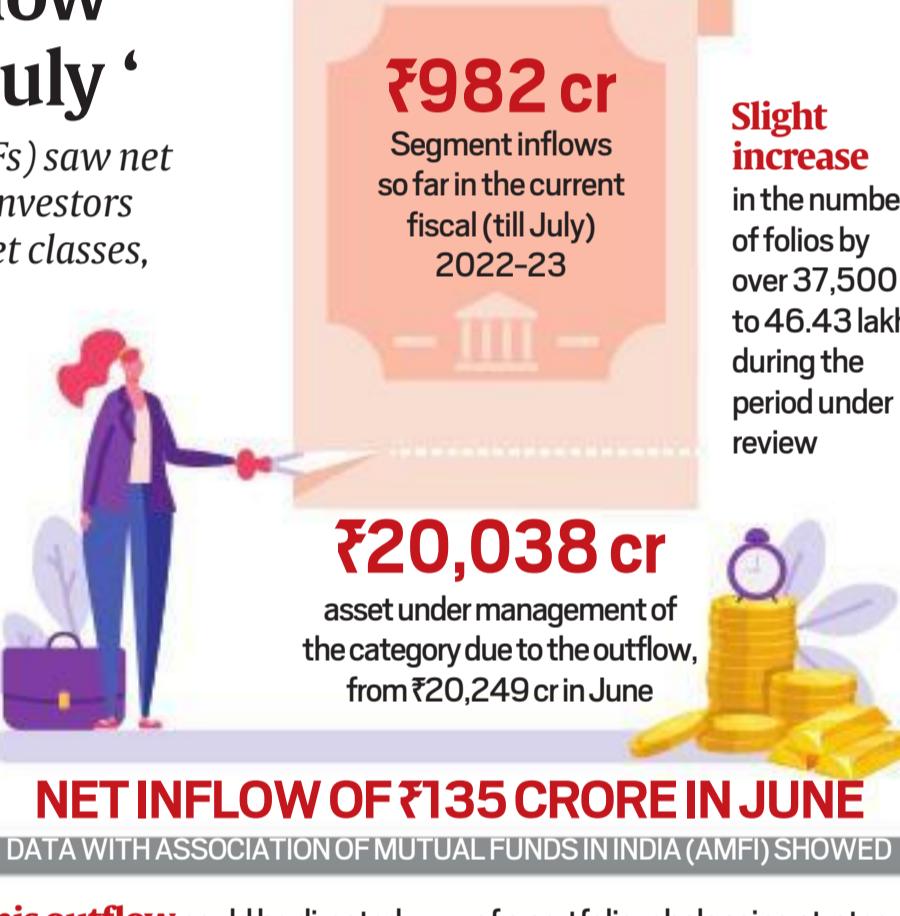
New Delhi: The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal has set aside a petition and upheld a 2017 Competition Commission of India order that dismissed a complaint of predatory pricing against WhatsApp. It said WhatsApp has a "dominant position" but it has not "abused its dominant position". **PTI**

TUSHAR GOENKA
BENGALURU, AUGUST 9

WHATSAPP USERS can now check their messages without displaying if they are online. They can also exit a group without other members knowing about it. Only the group admin will get to know about the member's exit in such cases.

While these two features will be rolled out this month itself, the third feature — which the messaging platform will be introducing once it's tested — is the users' ability to block the screenshot option for the view once messages sent by them, the Meta-owned company said in a statement on Tuesday.

The company said that the new privacy related features are being introduced on the basis of



of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

One gold ETF unit is equal to 1 gram of gold and is backed by physical gold of very high purity. They combine the flexibility of stock investment and the simplicity of gold investments

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part

of a portfolio rebalancing strategy

Source: Amfi/PTI

This outflow could be directed toward money being diverted from gold to other asset classes as part</p

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I Mohd Irfan Alvi alias Irfan Alvi S/o Mohd Yusuf R/o 3746, Khalique Manzil, Churi Walan, Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Irfan Alvi for all purposes.

0040626289-1

I Aayush Vij alias Arnav Vij S/o, Raj Kumar Vij R/o 701, Amrapali Platinum Sector-119, Noida, 201301, Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, have changed my name to Aayush Vij for all purposes.

0040626375-1

I Manoj Kumar Tiwary S/o Bijoy Kumar Tiwari, Dob 20.04.1975, R/o Flat No. C/9/206, SRS Residency, Sector-88, Faridabad-121002, Haryana have changed my name and shall hereinafter be known as Manoj Kumar Tiwari

0040626095-1

I SUSHIL KUMARS/O RAMESH CHAND R/o-364, POCKET-3, JANTA FLATS, PASCHIM PURI, PUNJABI BAGH, DELHI-110063, have changed my name to SUSHIL.

0040626324-10

I, Pramod Arora S/o-Bishambher Lal Arora R/o.H.No.5, Anmol Vatika Choukhandi Road Tilak Nagar, Delhi, have changed my name to Prince Arora.

0040626402-4

I, Karan Bisht S/o Dinesh Kumar, R/o B-6/409, F/F, Nand Nagri North East Delhi - 110093, India, have changed my name Karan Bisht to Karan Kumar, for all the future purposes

0040626402-2

I, Avneet Kaur Saini W/o Mishal Phool R/o.13/14-B,Tilak Nagar Delhi have changed my name to Avneet Kaur Phool.

0040626402-3

It is for general information that I, MOHAMMAD SHUAIB, S/o MOHAMMAD MUNEER, R/o H.No.1564, Gali Masjid Meer Karoora, Ballimaran, North Delhi, Delhi-110006, declare that name of mine and my wife has been wrongly written as MOHD. SHUAIB and RASHIDA in my minor daughter KOREEN SHUAIB aged 14-years in her School-Records. The actual name of mine and my wife are MOHAMMAD SHUAIB and RASHIDA KHATOON respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

0040626330-7

I, Yogesh S/o Harish Kumar R/o.131-C-GH2, Paschim Vihar Delhi-63, changed my name to Yogesh Uchit, for all Purposes.

0040626330-4

I, YOGESH NAGER S/O VIJAY PAL SINGH NAGAR, R/o 168-22, Sector-Gamma-2, Grater Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar(UP) have changed my name to YOGESH NAGAR.

0040626330-6

I, Shabnam D/o, Amar Singh R/o.52, New Roshanpura, Village Nangar, Delhi-43 have changed my name to Soniya for all Purposes.

0040626419-3

I, Seema Mehndru/Seema Sekhri, W/o Sanjay Mahendra R/o-36, Ram Nagar Krishna Nagar Delhi-110051, have changed my name to Seema Mahendru for all purposes.

0040626324-4

I, Sarvesh Kumar, S/o-Shri Uday Singh, R/o-C-72, First Floor, Pandav Nagar, Delhi-110092, inform that Sarvesh Kumar & Sarvesh Chauhan, both name are same person. My correct name Sarvesh Kumar, for all future purposes.

0040626234-7

I, Naveen Gupta S/o Satish Chander R/o Flat No. 12, Block No. 17, Raj Niwas Marg, Rajpura Road, Civil Lines, North Delhi, Delhi-110054 have changed the name of my minor daughter Akshara aged 13 years and she shall hereinafter be known as Akshara Gupta. 0040625970-5

I, SUSHIMTA DEVI, W/O VIRENDRA SINGH, R/o R-44, SECTOR-12, PRATAP VIHAR, GHAZIABAD, U.P. 201009, changed my name to SUSHIMTA DEVI. 0040626419-2

I, SUNITA KUMARI, W/o-NAVIN KUMAR SINGH, R/o-FLAT NO.-0515, BLOCK LIMEWOOD MAHGUN MYWOODS, PLOT NO.-GH-04, SEC-16C, GAUR CITY-2, GREATER NOIDA, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH-201306, have changed my name from SUNITA SINGH to SUNITA KUMARI, for all future purposes. 0040626324-6

I, Rajasolanki Solanki S/o Shiv Singh Solanki, R/o 18/1, Village Nunera, Ward No.02, P.O. Dohla Nunera 204, Daulah, Gurgaon(Haryana)-122103, have changed my name to Raju Solanki.

0040626402-8

I, Raghav Mehra, S/o Shri Amber Mehra R/o-M-81, Greater Kailash-II, New Delhi-48 have changed my name to Raghav Mehra, for all purposes.

0040626330-1

I, PAWAN S/O DAYANAND SINGH R/o/HNO.3030, FREEHOLD, BEHIND POLICE CHOWKI, SECTOR-2, BAHDURGARH, HARYANA-124507, HAVE BEEN CHANGED MY NAME TO PAWAN KUMAR. 0040626419-1

I, PAWAN KUMAR TALUJA, S/o LATE NAM LAL TALUJA, H.NO.296, 3RD FLOOR, GAGAN VIHAR MAIN, SHAHDARA, DELHI-110051, changed my name to PAWAN TALUJA.

0040626324-2

I, Manju Sehta W/o Paramjeet Sehta R/o. House No.25, DA-Block near Max Hospital, Shaifam Bagh Delhi-110088, have changed my name to Manju Sehta.

0040626402-6

I, Joy Chauhan S/o Karan Singh Chauhan, R/o.C/1/201, Uniworld City, Sector-30, Gurgaon(Haryana)-122001, have changed my name to Joy Singh Chauhan, for all purposes.

0040626402-7

I, Jagdish Chandra S/o LAXMI DATT R/o KH.NO.820/1, FIRST FLOOR, RIGHT PORTION, BABA COLONY, BURARI, DELHI-110084, have changed my name to Jagdish Chandra Pant.

0040626324-9

I, Inderpreet Singh Bhatia, R/o.Flat-No.1701, Sector-B, Pocket-1, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070, have changed my Minor-Son name, from Arshnoor Singh to Arshnoor Singh Bhatia, for all future purposes.

0040626419-6

I, Gurpreet Kaur W/o Inder Pal Singh Pasi, R/o.M-409, 2nd Floor, Guru Harkishan Nagar, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110087, have changed my name to Gurpreet Kaur.

0040626324-5

I, Gulshan Kumar Sachdeva, S/o Chan Lal Sachdeva, R/o-M-504, Jaipuria Sunrise Greens, 12A Ahinsa Khand-1, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad-201014 U.P., have changed my name to Gulshan Kumar.

0040626419-8

I, Gayatri Mehra W/o Shri Amber Mehra R/o-M-81, Greater Kailash-II, New Delhi-48, have changed my name to Gayatri Mehra, for all purposes.

0040626330-3

I, Gajender Kumar Bidhuri S/o Duli Chand R/o 883, Sector-37, Faridabad, Haryana-121003, have changed my name to Gajendra Kumar Bidhuri.

0040626419-7

I, Govind Dass S/o LALA RAM BHAJ R/o-68, 1st-FLOOR, MAURYA ENCLAVE, PITAMPURA, DELHI-110034, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO GOBIND DAS.

0040626324-3

I, Dinesh Bisht S/o Ganga Ram, R/o-B-6/409/F, Nand Nagri, North East Delhi-110093, India, have change my name Dinesh Bisht to Dinesh Kumar, for all the future purposes

0040626402-1

I, Sanmeet Singh S/o Harbindir Singh Malli, R/o-22/10, Punjabi Bagh-Extn., New Delhi-110026, have changed my name to Sanmeet Singh Malli.

0040626330-5

I, DISHA KHUTTER D/O DANESH KUMAR, HOUSE NO.194, RAM BAZAR, NEAR CLOTH MARKET, SONIPAT, HARYANA-131001, have changed my name to DISHA KHATTER.

0040626324-8

I, DHARAMVEER S/O:SATPAL/R-O:ADD-H.NO.-17/49/THIRD FLOOR, GEETA COLONY, EAST DELHI, DELHI-110031, changed my name to DHARMVEER KAPOOR.

0040626419-5

I, Amber Mehra S/o Late Sh. Ashok Mehra R/o-M-81, Greater Kailash-II, New Delhi-48, have changed my name to Amber Mehra for all purposes.

0040626330-2

I, Alok Srivastava, S/o Madan Bihari Lal Srivastava, R/o 19 Nilagiri Sindh Enclave Shaha Ganj Agra, U.P. 202810, have changed my name to Alok Kumar Srivastava.

0040626324-1

I, Yash Gupta S/o Manoj Kumar Gupta, R/o Gt. Road, Pakka Talab, Nagar Panchayat, Khaga, Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh-212655, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Adarsh Gupta.

0070798624-1

I, Vikas S/o Sudershan Lal Mahajan R/o WZ-309, Second Floor, Sri Nagar, Shakur Basti, Delhi-110027, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Adarsh Gupta.

0040626408-2

I, Sudershan Lal S/o Giridhari Lal R/o WZ-309, Second Floor, Sri Nagar, Shakur Basti, Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Geeta for all future purposes.

0070798573-1

I, Faisal Ahmad S/O Ateeque Ahmad Burney, R/o Hno-84, Mohalla- Madersa Street, Maman Choki, Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh-203001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Faisal Ahmad Burney.

0040626408-3

I, Shri Krishan Bindal s/o Satnaraian, R/o H-27, Karimpura, New Delhi-110015 have changed my name to SRIKISHAN.

0040626419-2

I, Raghav Mehra, S/o Shri Amber Mehra R/o-M-81, Greater Kailash-II, New Delhi-48 have changed my name to Raghav Mehra, for all purposes.

0040626330-1

I, PAWAN S/O DAYANAND SINGH R/o/HNO.3030, FREEHOLD, BEHIND POLICE CHOWKI, SECTOR-2, BAHDURGARH, HARYANA-124507, HAVE BEEN CHANGED MY NAME TO PAWAN KUMAR.

0040626419-1

I, Sangita Arora, D/o Bishamber Lal Arora R/o.H.No.5, Anmol Vatika Choukhndl Road Tilak Nagar Delhi, have changed my name to Sangita Arora.

0040626402-5

I, SAROJ BALA GUPTA, W/O RADHEY LAL GUPTA/R/O HOUSE NO.1220, SECTOR-6, BAHDURGARH, JHAJJAR, HARYANA-124507, have changed my name to SAROJ RANI GUPTA

0040626419-4

I, Rishi Ghildiyal S/o Dharma Nand R/o-67/A, Sec-1, Kamna Vaishali Ghaziabad-201010, have changed my name to Rishi Balabh for all future purposes.

0070798583-1

I, Rajni Kaur D/o Sh. Kirpal Singh R/o-D-42, DDA Flats, Shivaji Enclave, Raghbir Nagar, Tagore Garden S.O., West Delhi, Delhi-110027 have changed my name to Shweta Kaur for all purposes.

0040626419-5

I, Rajesh Kumar S/o Bhagwan Dass R/o H.No.13-14, Block-B, Pocket-8, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Rajesh Garg.

0040626408-1

I, Raj Kumar S/o Yad Ram, R/o/Puniska 56, Rewari, Haryana-123101, have changed the name of my minor daughter Baby Two of Sheetal Kumari aged about 3 Years and She shall hereafter be known as Chavi

0040626324-9

I, Bhunder Singh S/o Sh. Zile Singh R/o House No. 179, V.P.O. Dariyapur Kalan, Delhi 110039 have inform that in my Son's Karandeep Sehrawat School records my name & his mother name has wrongly mentioned as Bhupinder Singh & Rajani instead of Bhupender Singh and Rajani.

0040626419-6

I, Raj Kumar Chauhan S/o Ganeshi R/o. House No.188, Village-Chhlera, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-121005, also known as Prashanta Devi and Parshant Devi and Parsons Rani, All are same persons. I shall hereafter be known as Parsons Devi.

0040626291-3

I, Rachna Bansal, W/O Prem Bansal R/o House No-49, Punjab Puri Delhi Road Meerut Uttar Pradesh-250002, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Archna Bansal

0070798629-1

I, Avish Khatri S/o Sh. Sukhbir Singh R/o Flat No.58, First Floor, Pocket-13, Sector-A-5, Narela, Delhi-110040, hereby declare that my father's real name is SUKHBIR SINGH, which wrongly mentioned as SUKHBIR KHATRI in my class X certificate.

0040626289-3

I, Anjali Maurya D/o Ram Lagan Maurya R/o 40/2, Gal No.16A, Jai Vilas, Phase 3A, Harphool Vihar Baprola, New Delhi-110043 want to inform that my father's name is mentioned in my 10th and 12th school certificates as R.L. Maurya instead of Ram Lagan Maurya. Both are the same person.

0040626291-9

I, Amrit Lal S/O Shri Jogi Ram R/o C-13/9, Sector-3 Rohini, Delhi-110085, have Changed my name to Amrit Lal Mittal.

0040626348-1

I, KM. Payal W/O Ajit Kumar, R/o 3rd Floor, B2 & B3, Block Phase 1, Aya Nagar, Near Little Genius Play School, New Delhi 110047. have changed my name to Payal Kumar.

0070798553-1

I, Mansi Sharma D/o Tarun Kumar Sharma R/o House No-216, First Floor, Near Kuki Ki Dukan, Sultanpur Colony, Mewrauli, Gaddi Pur, Delhi-110030, that name of my father has been wrongly written as Tarun Sharma in my Secondary and Senior Secondary Certificate cum Marksheets. The actual name of my father is Tarun Kumar Sharma

<div data-bbox="330 698 377

Making of the showstopper, Birmingham's raging bull

Used during CWG opening ceremony, it took 2.5 tonnes of aluminum and fibreglass, 50 designers, 5 months to create, combining puppetry and software

SHIVANI NAIK
BIRMINGHAM, AUGUST 9

AT THE Birmingham Commonwealth Games, the city's matador motif The Bull, has assumed iconic status from the Opening Ceremony. It now stands — snorting nostrils plus grappling hook tail and all — at the Centenary Square.

While the original fiery Bull was freed from its metaphorical shackles and calmed down during the ceremony, the actual prop that was used has triggered a campaign to save it from the scrapyard and find a permanent home in Birmingham. The jury is still out.

"Discussions are ongoing about the onward life of this project," Phil Batty, Director of Ceremonies, Culture and Queen's Baton Relay, said.

"We are delighted with the public's response and emotional outpouring for our bull, one of the undisputed stars of our spectacular Opening Ceremony," Batty said.

"The bull has now journeyed to Centenary Square, standing proudly in the heart of the city as a temporary public installation for the duration of the Games. The public will have the opportunity to get up close to this incredible construction, a cornerstone of the rich cultural programme for Birmingham 2022," he said.

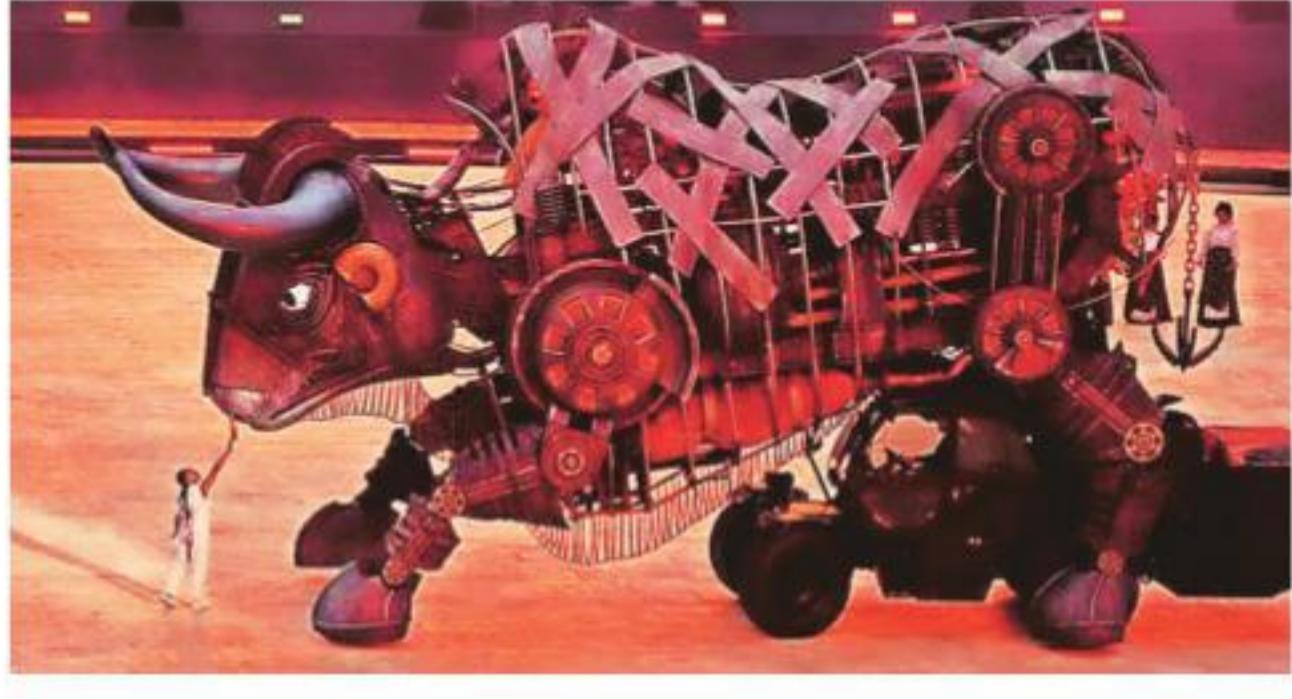
Providing details of the making of the Bull, UK's SFX major company, Artem, said putting together the 10-metre, self-propelled prop, which combines animatronics and puppetry, started in late January 2022 and took a team of about 50 people to design, build, mechanise and paint over a five-month period.

"It was made at Artem's workshop. Individual parts were welded, shaped, moulded or soft fabricated in our workshops but once the frame of the bull was mounted on the telehandler (a jeep-like vehicle with a forklift), most of the work continued outside as it was too large to remain inside," a spokesman said.

While creative heads fleshed out the story of Birmingham's history, Artem got down to assembling the piece de resistance.

Made of lightweight aluminium tube, forming a huge space frame, and moulded in fibreglass, the Bull was clad in Plastazote foam shapes to keep the weight to a minimum, just 2.5 tonnes. It was powered by a mounted one-tonne, three-phase generator although the telehandler, or telescopic handler, could lift 10 tonnes. The arm of the telehandler was linked up to the design, helping the Bull bend forward.

The Bull's legs had four axes of movement,



The bull that assumed iconic status now stands at the Centenary Square. AP

The mothership – an aluminium truss box structure – had everything attached to it for controls with the four legs mounted on the corners and the head plopped onto the central axis.

from hoof joint to hip like a real bull, as it walked, ran, stooped, kneeled, pawed at the ground in anger and reared up most naturally – driven by powerful motors and gearboxes, with the chain drive operated by Artem's electronics and CAD technicians delivering power to each joint.

Sensors guided the telehandler's speed as the Bull impressed with remarkable agility and mobility for what was essentially a machine.

What started with old-style pencil sketching assumed the form of a sculptor's clay maquette model. But as supply chain delays of motors and gearboxes posed a threat, Artem went through three prototypes before being happy with the final structure.

The mothership – an aluminium truss box structure – had everything attached to it for controls with the four legs mounted on the corners and the head plopped onto the central axis.

Aluminium tubes formed the ribs within which were fixed walkways and handrails so that puppeteers and special-effects technicians could access the parts and animate the head to move up/down and left/right with an extending neck.

A dense foam formed the outer skin, and

Victorian/steampunk dressing – think Jane Austen corsets and coats and Victorian gowns – in industrial material made up the covering. The wheels of the telehandler, weighing 17 tonnes and brought from Europe, were stuffed with foam to prevent it from bouncing. The Bull itself stayed light enough while withstanding the winds that blustered a tad on the day of the opening ceremony. Artem informed that the animation, which brought to life the face and a tail, was crucial to depict Birmingham's rough journey – a central theme – even as smoke from the body and nostrils, tears of blood, and lighting from within, were the centrepieces of the visual effects. Armed with a KUKA 7-Axis robot arm, as well as 3D printing, and lathes and turret mills, the animatronics were achieved through a mix of puppetry and software. Artem is known for its props, atmospherics, prosthetics, models and miniatures, pyrotechnics, mechanical rigs, animatronics and special costumes.

It has worked on several well-known movie projects – "Trigger Point", "The Man Who Fell To Earth", "Pennyworth 2", "Cinderella", "Peter Rabbit 2", "The Great", "DEVS", "Paddington 2", "Macbeth", "T2 Trainspotting", "The Foreigner", "Bodyguard" and the Harry Potter franchise's "Cursed Child".

But no 3D theatre experience came close to watching a giant bull with luminously alive eyes walking through the Alexander Stadium, and imprinting UK's second city on the global audience. The messaging signified freedom and not bull-baiting of yore, and that was technology's biggest victory of the night. The Centenary Square awaits a verdict on the Bull that will outlive the Games.

But no 3D theatre experience came close to watching a giant bull with luminously alive eyes walking through the Alexander Stadium, and imprinting UK's second city on the global audience. The messaging signified freedom and not bull-baiting of yore, and that was technology's biggest victory of the night. The Centenary Square awaits a verdict on the Bull that will outlive the Games.

I didn't want him to be a mason like me: Arshad Nadeem's father

NITIN SHARMA
CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 9

AT THE Commonwealth Games in Birmingham on Sunday, Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem won the javelin throw gold and underlined his status as a world class athlete. With his effort of 90.18 m, Nadeem crossed a barrier that even India's Olympic gold medalist Neeraj Chopra hasn't. While Chopra missed these Games because of injury, in the coming days the healthy on-field rivalry between the two friends is expected to intensify – both egging the other to throw the javelin further. Chopra's best is 89.94 m.

On his way to the gold, Arshad Nadeem broke the record and even pushed the World Championship gold medalist Grenada's Anderson Peters, who threw 88.64 m, to the second spot.

The town of Mian Channu in Pakistan's Punjab stayed up late to catch the historic occasion. His father Muhammad Ashraf, a mason by profession, despite the late hour was awake to witness the biggest moment of his son's career.

Nadeem taking up javelin throw had a lot to do with his father's passion for Pakistan's very popular rural sport Nezabazi – tent pegging. Like most men in the town, Nadeem, after a tiring day's work, would head to the ground to watch horsemen show their daredevilry. His son too would accompany him. On his father's insistence, Nadeem would take up Nezabazi and would train every day. This would make the young boy a regular at the town's sprawling grounds and expose him to different outdoor sports.

Nadeem would soon switch to playing tape-ball cricket but it was a school athletics event where the tall youngster's javelin throw talent was identified. Under coach Rasheed Ahmad Saqi that Nadeem would train to throw the spear.

Third eldest of eight siblings, Nadeem's father would make sure that his sporting son always got his share of milk and ghee. "I used to earn 400-500 per day on contract labour at that time and it was tough to manage things for all the children. But I made sure that Nadeem would get milk and ghee to become a well-built youth. I did not want him to work like me and I always wanted him to lead a good life, which he has ensured with his performances," says the father.

Nadeem had modest goals when he started to pursue javelin throw seriously. Looking for a government job to support his family, he attended the sports quota trials for Pakistan Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA). There his throw of 55m would catch the attention of five-time Pakistan national champion and former Asian medallist javelin thrower Syed Hussain Bukhari.



Arshad Nadeem won the CWG javelin gold with a throw of 90.18m. AP

Chopra have helped us achieve the dream," remembers the coach.

Within three years of crossing the 70 m mark in 2015, Arshad crossed the 80 m mark with a throw of 80.75 m in Asian Games in Jakarta in 2018. The last four years have seen Arshad crossing the 85 m mark four times with a best of 86.38 m throw in Imam Reza Cup in Iran last year.

Bukhari remembers the first time Nadeem and Neeraj competed against each other. "It was in the 2016 South Asian Games in Guwahati that Neeraj and Nadeem competed against each other where Neeraj won the gold and Arshad won the bronze. Later, it was in the Asian Championships in Bhubaneswar in 2017 that they competed together.

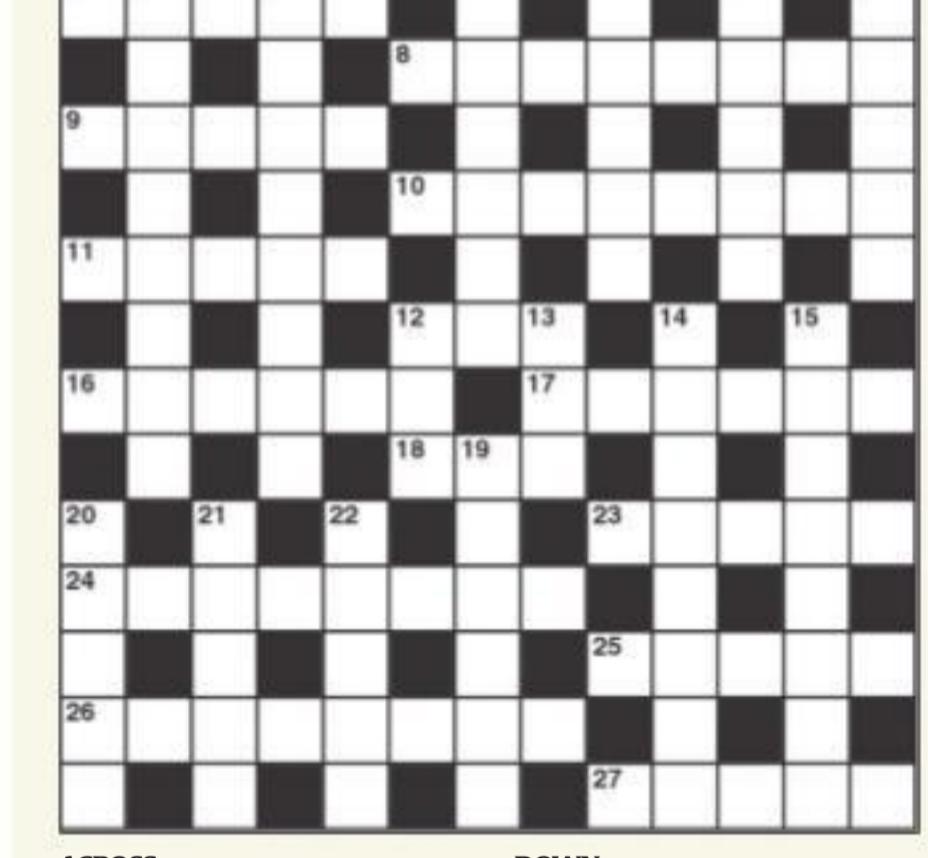
"Javelin throwers in Pakistan as well as your country India are well-knit and each one of us would observe each other. It was the same with Arshad watching Chopra. When Arshad won the bronze medal in Asian Games in Jakarta and Neeraj Chopra congratulated him, he was not only giving him respect as a Pakistani athlete but also as a javelin thrower," says Bukhari.

"Whatever Neeraj achieved post the junior world gold is due to his sheer hard work and we Pakistanis also appreciate that. When Neeraj topped his respective qualification group in Tokyo and Arshad topped the second qualification group, the talk was about Neeraj versus Arshad. And this also helps in creating more awareness among youth for javelin whether one sees it as a competition or a healthy rivalry."

While Bukhari remained in Lahore due to a last minute decision by the Pakistan Olympics Association, he hopes the CWG medal will create the same ripple effect in Pakistan as Chopra's gold medal did in India. "After Arshad's Asian Games bronze and Tokyo Olympics qualification topping, I can say I get to see 30-40 javelin throwers in almost each training ground in Lahore. In recent months, I have seen youth coming from the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and from near the Pakistan-China border areas come to enquire about trials at Lahore. What Neeraj did for India, Arshad's Olympic participation and today's record can do the same in Pakistan," says the coach.

And with his ward now crossing the 90 m mark and Chopra too getting closer to the 90 m, the coach has one desire. "Most of the time, Arshad trains at the Jinnah Stadium in Islamabad and Lahore too, my wish is to see Arshad and Neeraj compete at a packed stadium in Lahore or Islamabad. Neeraj is also like our son. I as a Pakistani promise you that if Neeraj wins, we will shower him the same love we showered on Milkha Singh Ji when he won against Abdul Khalique in Lahore in 1960. Athletes share a common bond of love for the sports," says Bukhari.

CROSSWORD 4816



ACROSS

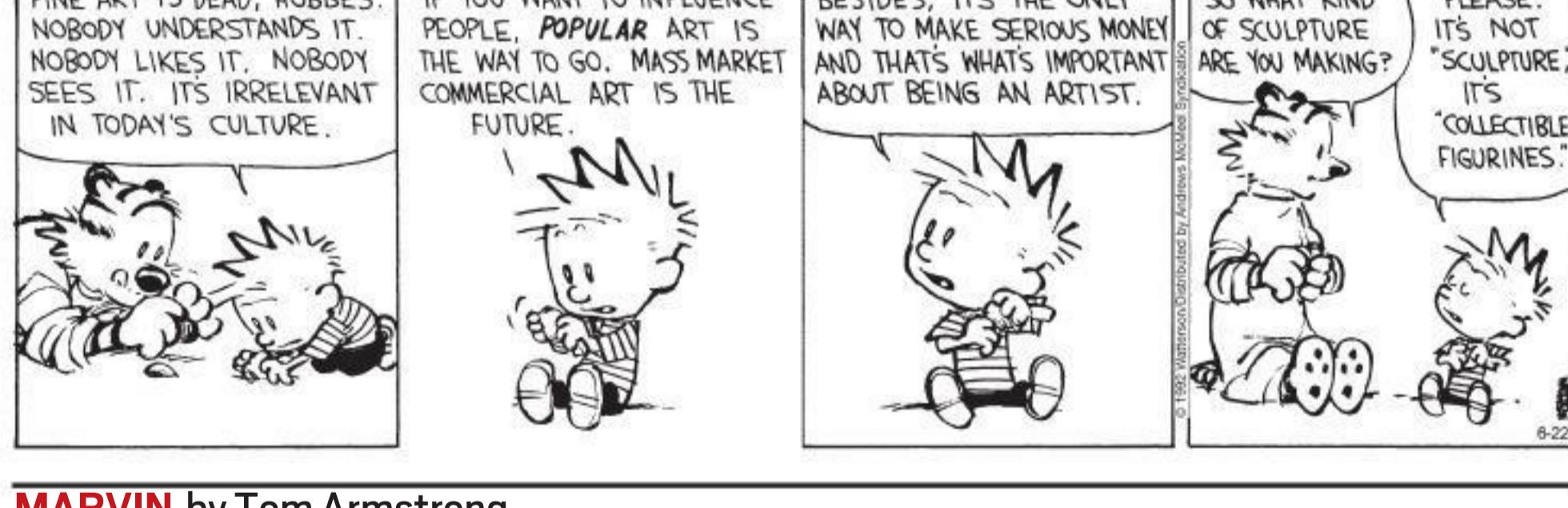
- 1 A point about wood for burning (5)
- 2 Someone called after one? Sam Keane possibly (8)
- 3 Eve is upset by this riddle (5)
- 4 Made case out for literary colleges (8)
- 5 Pest possibly slain in the garden (5)
- 6 Badly in need of medical care (3)
- 7 A refuge from bedlam (6)
- 8 False description of the Tower of Pisa (6)
- 9 Boxer dog? (3)
- 10 Alec's fresh mount (5)
- 11 Infantry consisting of a thousand bowmen (8)
- 12 Robin Goodfellow's game (5)
- 13 Don't allow to come out (8)
- 14 Stone used in constructing an entrance (5)

Solutions Crossword 4815: Across: 1 Periodical, 6 Clef, 10 Niche, 11 Thumbnail, 12 Castanet, 13 ideal, 15 Aligned, 17 Dragon, 19 Ontario, 21 Cresset, 22 India, 24 Trustees, 27 Shapeless, 28 Rebel, 29 Ewan, 30 Esplanades. Down: 1 Pans, 2 Racialist, 3 Over, 4 Intoned, 5 Abutted, 7 Leave, 8 Full length, 9 Abdicate, 14 Major issue, 16 Narrates, 18 Oyster bed, 20 Outlets, 21 Counsel, 23 Diana, 25 Turin, 26 Plus.

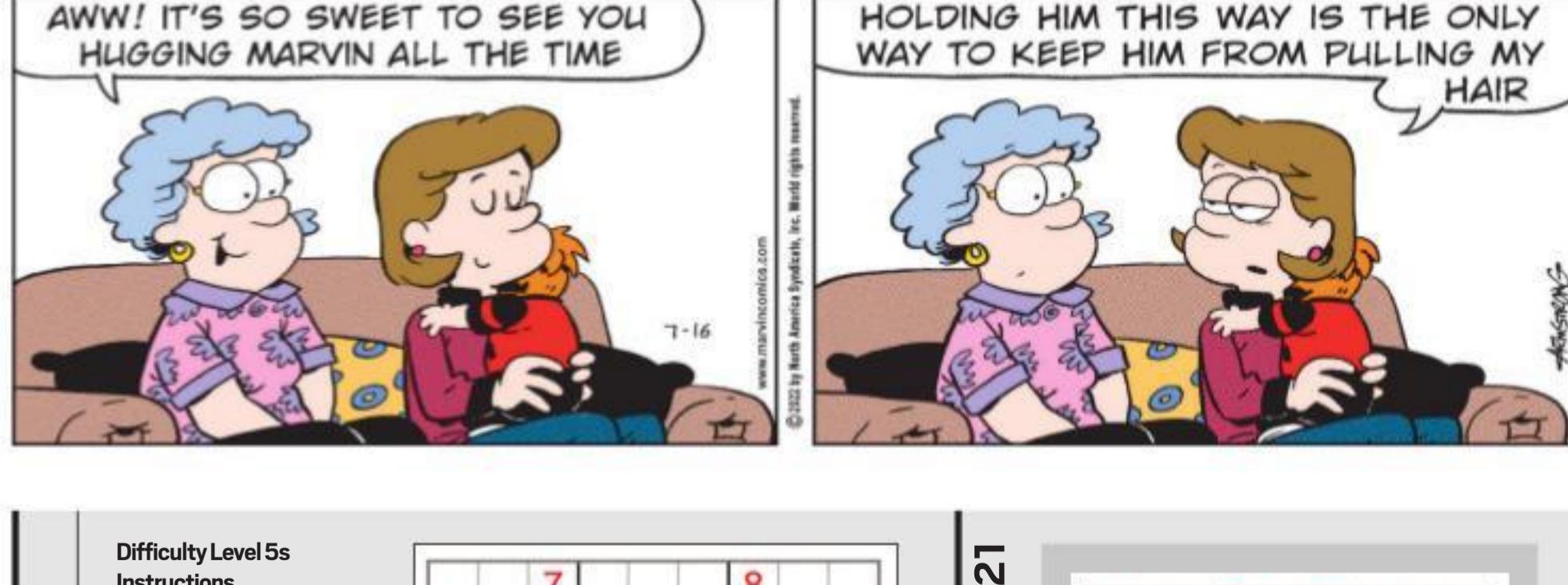
OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

There's only one conclusion to be drawn from Mercury's series of celestial connections: you're on peak form creatively. But where's your wicked sense of humour? This is still a prosperous period in spite of appearances to the contrary.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Your mid-week stars favour lively developments at home. If you're stuck in a rut, or otherwise bored by routine, try a little lateral thinking. With the right attitude you'll be able to cut through the mass of emotional dross that's holding you back.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Loved ones could have problems they simply cannot discuss, so you may have to understand that someone must be left in peace. It would be worth your while seeking the company of people who support your ideas. You see, someone somewhere, has the advice you need, but you won't know who unless you search them out.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

You should not be at all surprised if loved ones are acting out of character. The fact is that many people just don't know what they want and it's quite natural that they should lead you a merry old dance. Mind you, I am quite sure that you can give as good as you get.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

It looks as though one particular arrangement may have to terminate soon. As yet, you may not be sure what is going on. Indeed, it may be next week before you have all the answers. All you need to know now is that partners are likely to agree to one thing, one day, another, the next.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Your wonderfully mischievous sense of humour should be well to the fore over the coming few days. It's often the most serious people, such as you, who are best able to see the funny side of things. And after all that has happened recently, you just have to laugh.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

You're a fan of justice and you love to do the right thing. What is said or done

now may seem terribly unfair.

However, please try to

understand that, while the

planets are inclining you to be

rather self-pitying, they are

also challenging you to rise

above such petty feelings.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

You will derive long-term benefits from a proposed upheaval, but it seems that there will be a little actual change just yet. You are

advised to lay the ground carefully before rushing ahead.

And, in love, you'll keep

partners fully informed of all

your feelings.

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

What you do, the way you think, makes you ____ — Scott Westerfeld (9)

BZAEI

LLPPUU

AEMLTT

AELLBF

SOLUTION: BIZARRE, METAL, PULLUP, BEAUTIFUL — Scott Westerfeld

SUDOKU 4922

Difficulty Level 5s

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

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

7			8					
	5	6	2					
9				4				
6	8			9	7			3
5								
	3	9			4	5		

