*The Indian EXPRESS

JOURNALISM OF COURAGE

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2022, KOLKATA, LATE CITY, 14 PAGES

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SKIPPER OF BUTTERS!

Industrial production

growth at 8-month



ELECTIONS FOR 16 SEATS IN RAJYA SABHA

BJP wins in Karnataka, Cong in Rajasthan; delay in Maharashtra, Haryana

Claims, counter claims see rival parties knock on EC doors

BUSINESS AS USUAL **BY UNNY**

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

GURU AGAINST SHISHYA

BY APARNA POPAT PAGE 6

EXPLAINED

ENVIRONMENT INDEX AND INDIA PAGE 5

MANOJ CG & LIZ MATHEW

NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

UNION FINANCE Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Congress leader Jairam Ramesh and party spokesperson Randeep Surjewala were among eight candidates elected to Rajya Sabha Friday from Karnataka and Rajasthan, while counting of votes in Maharashtra and Haryana was delayed with rival parties trading charges.

Although the BJP faced an embarrassment in Rajasthan with one of its MLAs switching sides, its gamble in Karnataka paid off as its third candidate won because of cross-voting by a JD(S) MLA and an independent legislator. The BJP won three of the four seats in Karnataka while the Congress heaved a sigh of relief in party-ruled Rajasthan where all three of its candidates won, overcoming fears of crossvoting and horse trading.

The high-stake battle for 16 seats -- 6 in Maharashtra, 4 each in Karnataka and Rajasthan and 2 in Haryana -- turned out to be

NIRMALA JAIRAM SITHARAMAN



a nail-biting affair with the Congress and BJP trading charges, even approaching the Election Commission.

In Maharashtra, the victory of two of the BJP candidates --Union minister Piyush Goyal and former state minister Anil Bonde -- is certain. The same is the case with Shiv Sena's Sanjay Raut, NCP's Praful Patel and Congress's Imran Pratapgarhi. The contest is for the sixth seat -- the BJP has fielded former MP Dhananjay Mahadik and the Shiv Sena candidate is Sanjay Pawar.

For the ruling BJP and the Opposition, every seat in Rajya Sabha counts. The tally of the ruling BJP, which crossed the 100

mark in Rajya Sabha in April for the first time, is expected to come down to 92. The BJP is expected to win two seats in Maharashtra and at least one in Haryana. The party's strength can go up again when the President nominates fresh members as seven seats are vacant and nominated members can join any party in the Rajya Sabha within six months.

In Rajasthan, despite fears of cross-voting which prompted the Congress to sequester its CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

MORE REPORTS

WORLD

REMARKS AGAINST THE PROPHET

1 killed in Ranchi as protests erupt across country

Violence in Prayagraj, 136 arrested in UP; police station attacked in Howrah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

ONE PERSON died of a bullet injury in Jharkhand's Ranchi, where the police fired in the air to disperse a crowd pelting stones, as protests erupted across several towns and cities across the country on Friday against derogatory references to the Prophet made by former BJP CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

CURBS ON INTERNET

- Internet services suspended in parts of Jharkhand
- Don't go for TV debates which seek to ridicule Islam: AIMPLB ■We should stop
- demonstrating: Delhi Shahi Imam REPORTS, PAGE 8



During a protest in Kolkata on Friday. Partha Paul

PROTESTERS BLOCK ROADS

Internet suspended in rural areas of Howrah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

UNREST ERUPTED at several places in Howrah district for the second consecutive day on

Friday with protesters clashing with policemen, setting kiosks, two-wheelers and several vehicles on fire. In Uleberia and Panchla areas, local BJP party offices were also set on fire CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

high of 7.1% in April

AANCHAL MAGAZINE NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

FACTORY OUTPUT grew to an eight-month high of 7.1 per cent in April, despite a high base, powered mainly by higher electricity and mining output, according to data released by the Ministry of

Statistics and Programme

Implementation (MoSPI). On a sequential basis, industrial production recorded a decline of 9.2 per cent, with a contraction of 8.8 per cent in manufacturing output and 19.7 per cent contraction in mining output, the data showed.

The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) had grown 2.2 per cent in March 2022. Compared with pre-Covid levels of April 2019, industrial output recorded a growth of 6.8 per cent and com-



THERE ARE concerns over the durability of the industrial sector recovery, amidst surging inflation and an inclement external situation. The IIP is projected to surge further in May on the back of a favourable base linked to the second Covid wave.

pared with February 2020 level, it grew by just 0.7 per cent.

While there are continuing guestion marks over the durability of the industrial sector **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

In new policy, UP removes 60-yr age bar for release of life-term inmates

MANISH SAHU

LUCKNOW, JUNE 10

MAKING AN amendment to its prison policy, the Uttar Pradesh government has decided to consider the premature release of life-term prisoners even below 60 years of age

Under the new policy, the state government would consider the release of an inmate sentenced to life imprisonment for an offence like murder only after he has completed a jail term of 16 years without remission or 20 years with remission.

The UP Director General, Prison, Anand Kumar, said the new policy would benefit a large number of convicts facing life term and that it would help decongest crowded jails across the

The state government's previous prison policy had stipulated that prisoners facing life term must attain the age of 60 years before they could be considered for premature release. This was changed by the govern-

ment last month. The convicted prisoners in

UP are kept in central jails located in Prayagraj, Varanasi, Fatehgarh, Etawah, Bareilly and Agra. The district jails in the state, numbering 63, are also used to house convicted prisoners, said a senior jail official. The inmates with good records inside the prisons are sent to Model Jail in Lucknow. A woman central jail has also been opened in Bareilly.



GEN MUSHARRAF CRITICAL IN UAE: EX-MINISTER

PANEL BLAMES TRUMP FOR

Currently, there are around 1.14 lakh inmates in UP prisons CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

U.S. CAPITOL RIOT

'ATTEMPTED COUP'

Should present history in true form... who can stop us: Shah



Amit Shah at the book launch on Friday. Prem Nath Pandey

LIZ MATHEW

NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

URGING AUTHORS to focus on the stories of Indian kings who kept out foreign invaders, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Friday that "history cannot be created by the government" but "is built on actual incidents that took place" - and called for initiatives to present history in its "true form".

Lamenting that many battles fought by Indian kings against invaders have been forgotten, Shah said that those battles, such as the ones waged by Ahom kings in Assam and Chhatrapati Shivajiled Marathas, ensured that India reached where it has now.

Shah said that now, no one can stop the process of writing about these battles for the next generation. "It's a fact that some have distorted history. They have written whatever they had to. But who can stop us...nobody can stop us. History is not created by governments but built on true events," the senior BJP leader said while releasing the book, Maharanas: A Thousand Year War Dharma, authored by CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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Kolkata

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Industrial production growth at 8month high of 7.1% in April

recovery amidst festering inflation and an inclement external situation, the year-on-year growth in the IIP is projected to surge further next month on the back of a favourable base linked to the second wave of Covid-19.

In absolute terms, the IIP stood at 135.1 in April 2022, up from 126.1 in April 2021, but lower than 148.8 in March 2022. Manufacturing output, which accounts for 77.6 per cent of the weight of the IIP, grew 6.3 per cent in April, even as mining and electricity grew 7.8 per cent and 11.8 per cent, respectively.

In absolute terms, the index for electricity output was at an all-time high (2012 series) of 194.5, primarily driven by the sharp increase in electricity generation in the wake of shortages triggered by the heat wave that intensified across the country since late March. Experts said the base effect helped IIP reach an eight-month high, but the growth in consumer goods and capital goods output remained tepid relative to the pre-Covid

"Although it is still too early to rejoice the April 2022 performance as the resilience of the industrial sector amidst raging inflation and adverse global geopolitical situation, the start to the fiscal 2023 has certainly been on a positive note. A comparison of the latest data with the pre-Covid production level (February 2020) indicates that the aggregate industrial output is higher than the pre-Covid level albeit by just 0.7%. However, the output levels of three use-based segments -- capital goods, consumer durables and consumer non-durables -- are still below the pre-Covid level," India **Ratings Principal Economist** Sunil Kumar Sinha said.

Aditi Nayar, Chief Economist, ICRA said, "Consumption remains tentative on the whole, with underlying unevenness. Led by pent-up demand, we expect services to outperform the demand for goods in the near term, with the latter further constrained by elevated prices. The weak showing of capital goods output relative to the pre-Covid level confirms our view that the uptick in capacity utilisation in Q4 FY2022 will not trigger a rapid private sector capacity expansion in light of the uncertainties generated by geo-political developments.

Among the use-based components of industrial output, all the six segments recorded growth after a gap of eight months, with consumer durables - indicator of consumption demand - recording growth after six months of being in negative territory. Despite the high base, four segments — capital goods (14.7%), primary goods (10.1%), consumer durables (8.5%) and intermediate goods (7.6%) – recorded growth in April, with the double-digit growth in the capital goods segment likely to have benefitted from the capex push of the gov-

"The two segments namely consumer non-durables (0.3%) and infrastructure/construction goods (3.8%) appears to have suffered due to high base and recorded a tepid YoY growth. The paltry YoY growth in the consumer non-durables also alludes to the K-shaped recovery whereby households falling in the lower end of the pyramid are finding their real income being eroded disproportionately by the high inflation," Sinha said.

Should present history in true form... who can stop us: Shah

Omendra Ratnu, an ENT surgeon

According to Shah, efforts to bring out facts through new history books should be "bigger and more intense than those that spread lies" so that they "can be

FROM PAGE ONE

The RSS and BJP have always maintained that history books in India were crafted by Left-oriented authors who, according to them, ignored the contributions of Hindu kings and kingdoms.

Shah had earlier urged filmmakers to focus on unsung heroes. In April, he was present at an event to mark the screening of "Vidrohi", a TV serial based on the life of Odia freedom fighter Buxi Jagabandhu. Last week, he attended a special screening of Samrat Prithviraj, a movie on Prithvirai Chauhan.

On Friday, Shah warned that while books like "Maharanas", which is about "the resistance of Mewar kings for 1.000 uninterrupted years to Islamic invaders". will trigger debates through which youngsters will know about India's "glorious past", it will take a long time for them to get established.

"If we begin researching and writing history, it will start debates, and the younger generation will start discussions. But it's a long journey... Many significant events got forgotten as the dust of time has fallen on them. We have to unearth them and bring them before the people to awaken society," he said.

Shah urged authors to write on dynasties like Pandyas. Ahoms, Chalukyas, Mauryas, Guptas, etc, because those who wrote history "overlooked" and 'did not bother" to write about

"There are no reference books, either. I want to say, one should give up making comments on it but write on them to bring out the real history before people. This will gradually make the history, which we consider as false, disappear on its own," he said, adding that a number of authors are working in this direc-

Shah said that although the Government has started initiatives to document "actual history", the exercise will be successful only when society takes it up as a mission.

"Had Veer Savarkar not been there, I can tell you, the truth about 1857 would not have come out... revolutions, which might have been defeated at that time, have the potential to awaken the society and the people. Padmavati's sacrifice had given energy to women and men to live their lives, keeping their heads high... Documenting history is important because the outcome of events or revolts is immaterial...it should be weighed on the impact it has on people," he said.

"The invaders finished the language, culture and traditions of the regions they attacked, but they had to stop here in India... I can say with pride that whoever had fought for India and sacrificed for India would be resting in peace now because we are making them proud after so many years," he said.

The book's author, Omendra Ratnu, had earlier authored "The Hindus of Pakistan: A Genocide Forgotten".

Internet suspended in rural areas of Howrah

allegedly by protesters who demanded action against former BIP spokespersons Nupur Sharma and Naveen Kumar

The state government has temporarily suspended Internet services in rural areas of the Howrah district.

An order issued on Friday evening read, "In view of the recent events in some areas, Internet transmissions and Voice over Internet Telephony may be used for spreading rumours for unlawful activities in Howrah District over-the next few days; And whereas examination of the information received gives reason to believe that such unlawful activities are likely to occur in the absence of preventive measures; Now therefore in order to prevent obstruction, annoyance or injury to any person lawfully employed, or danger to human life, health or safety, or a disturbance of the public tranquillity, or a riot or an affray... it is promulgated that: Any data related message or class of messages to or from any person or class of persons relating to any particular subject, brought for transmis-

sion by or transmitted or received by any telegraph within the ambit of the India Telegraph Act, 1885, shall temporarily not be transmitted in the interest of maintaining public order and preventing incitement to the commission of any offence within the entire jurisdiction of the Howrah District (Howrah Police Commissionerate and Howrah Rural Police District)."

The government order shall come into force with immediate effect and remain valid till 6 am on June 13 (Monday). "However, no restriction is being imposed on voice calls and SMS and on newspapers, hence communication and dissemination of knowledge and information is not stopped in any way," the order said.

In Dhulagarh, protesters pelted stones at the policemen who tried to pacify them on Friday. When the protesters refused to budge, policemen used batons and fired teargas shells to disperse the crowd.

In Uluberia, protesters set fire on police kiosks, several twowheelers and vehicles. They also blocked the NH-6 for a few hours. In response, RAF and Combat Force personnel were deployed to control the situation.

Domjur Police Station in Domjur was allegedly attacked by the protesters while several vehicles were destroyed after policemen tried to stop them from agitating. Sources said 12 policemen were injured in the attack. The police have imposed section 144 of CrPC in several areas in Howrah district.

Similar protests were also reported in Panchla. The BJP claimed that two of its party offices were burnt down by protesters in Panchla and Uleberia

"We don't support any derogatory statements against any religious community. But we also don't support such acts of violence. I will appeal to the state government to take immediate action to restore peace in the state," said BJP state spokesperson Samik Bhattacharya.

In Kolkata, protesters blocked Park Circus seven-point crossing for over two hours.

In view of the situation, Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar summoned state chief secretary H K Dwivedi on Friday evening and urged him to take steps to restore law and order.

"While appealing for peace, WB Guv Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar has sought urgent personal update from CS @chief_west by 10 pm today over worsening law & order situation in the state since vesterday. Expect CM Smt. Mamata Banerjee to sternly warn law violators-they will not be spared," Dhankhar tweeted.

The police fired teargas shells to disperse the crowd indulging in vandalisation of property and throwing stones at police. A large number of arrests were made. The police, however, refrained

from sharing an exact number. 'Different pockets were attacked. There has been damage to property, no serious iniuries have been reported. The situation is being brought back to normal," a senior police officer, who did not wish to be named, told The Indian Express on Friday evening. The crowd have been dispersed and roads have been

eared, the officer added. On Thursday, protesters had blocked the NH-6 for over 11 hours at Domur area of Howrah district. The incident prompted Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to appeal to the protesters with folded hands not to resort to vio-

lence and lift the blockade. State Transport Minister and Kolkata Firhad Hakim on Friday urged the agitators to "protest in a democratic manner."

"Those who are doing this are not doing the right thing. One cannot agitate in such a manner which will cause inconvenience to others. Of course what Nupur Sharma said is highly condemnable. But that does not mean you come out on the roads and agitate. They must protest in a democratic manner. If needed, they should move the court seeking action against the persons who made such derogatory statements. There is no place for hooliganism," said Hakim.

Leader of the Opposition in the state Assembly Suvendu Adhikari demanded deployment of the Army to control the situation. "From Uleberia to Panchla, several vehicles have been burned. The law and order situation has gone out of the state's hands. As Leader of Opposition, I have appealed to the Governor to look into the matter of deploying the Army to protect public properties," said

1 killed in Ranchi as protests erupt across country

spokespersons Nupur Sharma and Naveen Kumar Jindal.

The protests also turned violent in ÛP's Prayagraj and West Bengal's Howrah. The protests in Delhi and parts of Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Bihar and Maharashtra were peaceful even as a shutdown was observed in Srinagar.

Internet services were suspended till 6 am on Saturday in Ranchi and 6 am on Monday in

In Delhi, the Shahi Imam distanced himself from the protest and called for reconciliation. The All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB), meanwhile, appealed to Islamic scholars and intellectuals to not participate in "those television debates in which the sole intention is to...insult Islam and Muslims". Sharma's comments were made during a TV debate. The protests came days after

the remarks of Sharma and Jindal were criticised by over a dozen countries, including the Gulf nations, with India responding that they "do not reflect the views of the Government". Sharma has since been suspended and Jindal expelled from

In Ranchi, the police fired in the air to disperse a gathering that pelted stones, injuring Ranchi SSP Surendra Jha, another officer, and a policeman. Jha suffered a concussion after a stone hit the helmet he was wearing. The district administration later imposed prohibitory orders in the Main Road area.

Speaking to The Indian Express, SP Ranchi (Rural) Naushad Alam said: "One of the protesters died of a bullet injury. Twelve others, who have been admitted to the Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences, have injuries caused due to stone-pelting as well as pellets." The condition of at least one of those undergoing treatment is said to be critical.

Police sources said the situaon escalated after a vehicle control." Kumar said. ploughed into a group of protesters. Police are also investigating how the bullet injury was caused, the sources said.

The protests also spun out of control in Prayagraj, where heavy stone-pelting resulted in minor injuries to several police personnel. Late in the evening, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath held a meeting with senior officials and directed them to take the "strictest action against those involved in incidents of violence and unlawful protests in the

"He has also asked officials to initiate recovery proceedings where damage was done to public property," said a state government spokesperson. The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Awanish Kumar Awasthi, UP DGP Devendra Singh Chauhan and other senior officials

The UP Police said that a total of 136 people were arrested over the protests, including 45 in Saharanpur, 37 in Prayagraj, 23 in Ambedkarnagar, 20 in Hathras, seven in Moradabad and four in Firozabad.

Prayagraj SSP Ajay Kumar said violence broke out within the Khuldabad police station limits when youths gathered on the streets long after the afternoon prayers were over. "There were many minors among them. We used light force to disperse them. Even after this, people kept coming out in lanes and raising slogans. Some minor injuries have been sustained by the

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EXPRESS AUDIO The art and science of recovery with

Shayamal Vallabhjee

Nandagopal Rajan speaks to sports scientist Shayamal Vallabhjee about how technological solutions can be used to help the body recover, the historical importance and roots of recovery, and how technology and human knowledge go hand-in-hand

BJP wins in Karnataka, Congress in Rajasthan; delay in Maharashtra, Haryana

MLAs in a resort in Udaipur, the party managed to get all its three candidates -- Surjewala, Mukul Wasnik and Pramod Tiwari -- elected. While BJP candidate Ghanshyam Tiwari won, media baron Subhash Chandra, the independent candidate it had backed for the fourth seat, lost.

In Karnataka, the results came as a boost for the BIP. Sitharaman and the BIP's second candidate, actor-politician Jaggesh, won. But the party's third candidate, outgoing MLC Lehar Singh Siroya, also won because of cross-voting by a JD(S) MLA and an independent MLA. While Singh got 33 votes, JD(S)'s D Kupendra Reddy, a former MP, got 30 votes. Although it did not have the numbers, the Congress too had fielded a candidate for the third seat. Its candidate Mansoor Ali Khan got 25 votes.

The JD(S) admitted that two of its MLAs did not vote in favour of its candidate. ID(S)'s Kolar MLA K Srinivas Gowda cast his vote for the Congress candidate, while Gubbi MLAS R Srinivas put a blank ballot paper into the box, which would be counted as invalid, JD(S) legislature party leader H D Kumaraswamy said.

While Gowda accepted he voted for the Congress candi-Srinivas rejected date. Kumaraswamy's claim and insisted he voted for his party's pick. Gowda, who had been maintaining distance from the JD(S), said, "I voted for Congress

forces. The situation is under

four companies of PAC have been

deployed. More force is going to

come here from other districts.

One rickshaw's tyre was set on

fire but it was doused. There was

also an attempt to set a PAC ve-

hicle on fire. Further action will

be taken as per investigation,"

Magistrate Akhilesh Singh, and

the police in Moradabad and

Firozabad, issued statements to

say that the protests were peace-

ful and the situation was under

blamed an incident of stone-

pelting in the Tanda area on

'nine youths in the age group of

15-20 years". "We used light

force and dispersed them. We

have identified the accused,"

In Hathras, the police said

"some people tried to hold a

protest without permission"

within the Sikandra Rau station

limits. "The police spoke to them

and sent them back...Further ac-

tion is underway," said the po-

ments remained shut in Srinagar

while authorities snapped mo-

bile internet services for most of

the day before restoring them

late in the evening. The protests

came a day after an indefinite

curfew was imposed in Kishtwar

district and Bhaderwah town in

Doda district while prohibitory

orders were imposed in the rest

of the Chenab Valley.

In J&K, all business establish-

In Ambedkarnagar, the police

said the SSP.

they said.

Saharanpur

"The Rapid Action Force and

because I love it... my future politics is with Congress. I was earlier a minister from Congress."

In Rajasthan, BIP MLA Shobharani Kushwah voted for Congress candidate Tiwari. prompting the party to issue a notice to her

Gehlot managed to break the RIP ranks and ensured that the two BTP MLAs, Raikumar Roat and Ramprasad Dindor, defied their party whip and voted for the Congress candidates. By ensuring the victory of the party's three candidates, Gehlot managed to send a message to the leadership that he is firmly in command. Earlier, senior leaders of the

place him with Sachin Pilot.

protest. In Maharashtra, peace-

ful protests were held in 14 dis-

tricts, with large gatherings re-

ported from Solapur, Navi

Aurangabad, Parbhani and Jalna.

protesters marched to the

Additional District Magisterate's

office where they handed over a

memorandum demanding the

arrest of Nupur Sharma. A simi-

lar memorandum was submit-

ported from Vadodara and

Ahmedahad where shops re-

mained shut in several areas.

Protests were also reported in

Bhojpur, Muzaffarpur and

prevailed outside the Mecca

mosque for a brief while as sev-

eral protesters gathered to raise

(ASADREHMAN/LUCKNOW

SANTANUCHOWDHURY/

ANGAD/RANCHI. NAVEED

IQBAL/SRINAGAR, ARUN

SHARMA/JAMMU, ARNAV

CHANDRASEKHAR/NEW

DELHI. VALLABHOZARKAR/

MUMBAI.IRAM SIDDIOUE/

AHMEDABAD, SREENIVAS

JANYALA/HYDERABAD&

In new policy,

UP removes

AGENCIES)

BHOPAL, VAIBHAV JHA/

KOLKATA. ABHISHEK

And in Hyderabad, tension

Nawada districts of Bihar.

anti-BJP slogans.

In Gujarat, protests were re-

ted in Vidisha, too.

In MP's Chhindwara district,

Nandurbar.

Mumbai.

BJP will have to face a similar defeat in the 2023 Assembly elections," he said in a Twitter

Chief Minister Ashok

Congress in Delhi had indicated that the party leadership would take a call on the simmering leadership issue in Rajasthan after the Rajya Sabha elections. "We cannot let the issue linger and make Raiasthan go the Puniab way. We have to take a decision either way and announce it," a senior leader had said -- the "either way' was whether to continue with Gehlot as Chief Minister or re-Gehlot called the win of the

Congress candidates a victory for democracy. "It was clear from the beginning that the Congress has the numbers to get its three candidates elected. But the BJP, by fielding an independent, tried to indulge in horse-trading. The unity of our MLAs is a strong answer. The

Sources said the MLAs

were brought to the Assembly in three buses with one of the candidates in each bus. The MLAs had to vote for the candidate who was with them in the bus. In Haryana, all MLAs bar-

> Balraj Kundu cast their votes for the two seats -- for which three candidates are in the fray. The ruling BJP has the numbers to get its candidate, former minister Krishan Lal Panwar, elected but the entry of media baron Kartikeya Sharma for the second seat against Congress's Ajay Maken injected an element of uncertainty. The highstakes battle got mired in conafter Sharma demanded that the votes of two of the Congress MLAs be declared invalid.

ring independent legislator

Sharma, who was backed by the JJP and BJP, claimed two MLAs of the Congress -- B B Batra and Kiran Choudhry -violated secrecy of the voting process. In his complaint to the EC, he claimed both "showed their ballot papers, apart from their authorized agent, to many others present in the Hall." The Congress hit back with Maken writing to the EC, saying the objection was "frivolous." He argued Sharma's complaint was an "unwarranted and illegal interfer-

A BJP delegation comprising Union ministers Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Jitendra Singh and Arjun Ram Meghwal met the Election Commission and demanded that the votes of Batra and Choudhry be declared invalid. Carrying Maken's letter, a Congress delegation led by AICC treasurer Pawan Kumar Bansal too approached the EC minutes later, saying the objection raised by Sharma and the BJP be rejected as it was "nothing but a weak and desperate attempt without any basis to disturb the pious election process.'

The BJP delegation demanded the cancellation of the votes of three MVA MLAs in Maharashtra as well for "compromising and vitiating" the Rajya Sabha poll process by openly displaying ballot papers. The BJP claimed that state

cabinet ministers Jitendra Awhad, Yashomati Thakur and Shiv Sena MLA Suhas Kande violated the model code for voting. It alleged that Awhad and Thakur handed over their ballot papers to their respective party agents instead of only showing them the ballots, while Kande showed his ballot to two different agents.

"Norms were thrown to the wind in Maharashtra and Haryana. We have appealed to ECI to disqualify the votes that were not polled as per the norms. ECI has told us that it will examine the facts," said Naqvi after meeting the EC.

In Delhi, the police said al- 60-yr age bar for release of lifeat Jama Masjid for Friday prayers after which nearly 300 staged a term inmates

against their collective capacity of 70,000, the jail official said. There are nearly 30,000 convicted prisoners, of whom about 12,000 have been facing life term.

In the first week of June, the UP Prisons Administration & Reform Services Department sent a letter to all the district and central jails, asking them to provide the details of inmates who would fall under the category of the new policy. Some jail authorities have sent such details to the Prison headquarters in Lucknow.

The state government had prepared a premature release policy for life-term prisoners in 2018, which did not set any age bar for them. In 2021, the government amended it to stipulate that a life-term convict would be eligible for premature release only after he attains the age of 60 years. This age bar has now been re-

moved. Like its 2018 and 2021 prison policies, the UP government's amended policy will also be applicable to those lifeterm murder convicts who have completed a jail term of 16 years without remission or 20 years with remission. Similarly, the new policy also makes it mandatory that the cases against such prisoners should not fall under the category of heinous crimes like terror and waging war against the state. The investigation of these cases should not be convicts should not have been booked under a central law. The inmates convicted for life term by a court of other state will also not be covered by the new policy.

Like the earlier policies, in the new policy too the government has decided to consider the release of inmates sentenced to life for offences such as kidnapping for murder, kidnapping in order to subject person to grievous hurt and slavery, selling and purchase of minor for purpose of prostitution, rape and others only after convicts have served the jail term for 20 years without remission and 25 years with remission. The convicts, sentenced to life for mass murder charge, would be released after he has served the jail term for 25 years without remission and 30 years with remis-

In the amended policy, the state government has also put a clause that the Release Proposal Committee, which will decide on the premature release of lifeterm convicts, may cancel the release of an inmate if it is found to cause any law and order problem.

Earlier, life-term convicts could be prematurely released on Republic Day, Women's Day, World Health Day, Labour Day, World Yoga Day, Independence Day and Gandhi Jayanti.

In the new policy, besides these seven days, the government has also added three more occasions - Teachers Day, International Human Rights Day and International Day for

Development not for elections but for people: PM in Gujarat

KAMAALSAIYED

NAVSARI, JUNE 10 PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi said his government's development projects were "not to win elections" but for the "good of the people". It is the "people who make us win elections", he said during the

Gujarat Gaurav Abhiyan event at Khudvel village of Chikhli taluka in Navsari district Friday.

"When we do work, some people taunt, saying (we are doing this) because of the upcoming elections. In our tenure, find one week, when we have not done one work of development... I am compelled to say this because in 2018,

when I announced this project, some people said-the Lok Sabha elections are coming in 2019. So Modi saheb has come to show us aamba-aamli (dreams)... but today, I am proud that we have proved them false and we have taken water to homes. If we had to do this to win elections, then we wouldn't do this magajmaari

(take the trouble) for 200-300 votes... we don't do this to win elections; we have come to do good for the people. It is the people who make us win elections," the PM said. Modi laid foundation stones, inaugurated and dedicated projects worth Rs 3,050 crore during his day-long visit to Gujarat.

The projects that Modi in-

augurated included a GMERS Medical College at Navsari, Astol water supply project for different villages in Kaprada and Dharampur taluka of Valsad district that covers nearly 4.5 lakh people.

He emphasised that members from the Adivasi community also have a right to clean drinking water. "It is for them

that I have taken up these campaigns; not to win elections, Modi stated.

The Prime Minister said the entire world was hit by Covid-19, but it was only India that provided such a large vaccine coverage of 200 crore doses. "It is in our culture to care for those living in the faraway jungles," Modi said.

Modi meets his primary school teacher in Navsari Navsari on Friday afternoon.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NAVSARI. JUNE 10

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi met his primary school teacher Jagdish Naik at the inaugural event of a Multispecialty and Cancer hospital complex at

Sources said that Naik was accompanied by his daughter and son-in-law who had VIP invitations. Naik had sent a word to PM Narendra Modi identifying himself as his primary school teacher when he was studying in a school at Vadnagar, said the source.

WEST BENGAL

Class 12 results announced, 88.44 pass percentage a record

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, JUNE 10

THE WEST BENGAL Council of Higher Secondary Education (WBCHSE) on Friday announced results for the higher secondary (Class 12) examination with a record 88.44 per cent of candidates clearing the exams.

A total of 7,44,655 students were enrolled this year, out of which 7,20,862 (96.8 per cent) appeared in the exam, while a total of 6,36,875 students (88,44 per cent) cleared the exam. The pass percentage among the male students is 90.19 while 86.58 per cent among the females. A total of 4,97,809 students scored 60 per cent and above marks.

This year, a record 272 students featured on the top-10 merit list, out of which 144 are males and 128 females.

However, just like the Class 10 board (Madhyamik) exam results, students from other districts outperformed their counterparts in Kolkata. Out of 272 students featured on the top-10 merit list, only 10 are from Kolkata. Adisha Debsarma from Dinahata Soni Debi Jain High School in Chooch Behar district in north Bengal topped the exam, scoring 498 out of the total 500 marks (99.6 per cent).

Sayandip Samanta from Jalchak Nateswari Netaji Vidyayatan in West Midnapore district stood second with 497 marks (99.4 per cent). However, the third position was claimed by four students who scored 496 marks (99.2 per cent) each. They are Rohin Sen from Patha Bhawan in Kolkata, Soham Das from Hooghly Collegiate School in Hooghly district, Avik Das from Katwa Kashiram Das Institution

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

THE MONSOON Session of the

West Bengal assembly was ad-

after obituary references to em-

inent personalities who have

Making the obituary refer-

 $The \,opposition\,BJP\,boy cotted$

ences, Speaker Biman Banerjee

read out accounts of their lives

the proceedings in protest

against the suspension of its five

MLAs, including Leader of

Opposition Suvendu Adhikari.

suspended is unethical and un-

constitutional. That is why we

decided to boycott the House to-

day," said the party's chief whip

Manoj Tigga, who is among

those suspended on the last day

of the Budget Session on

Minister Partha Chatterjee al-

Affairs

Parliamentary

PRESSTRUSTOFINDIA

THE CALCUTTA High Court on Friday or-

dered the transfer of a defamation suit

filed by Trinamool Congress MP Abhishek

Banerjee against Leader of Opposition in

West Bengal Assembly Suvendu Adhikari

from Diamond Harbour court to City Civil

fore the Diamond Harbour court in South

24 Parganas district, alleging that Adhikari

had made "unsavoury remarks" against

him in a public meeting before the 2021

Adhikari moved the high court, seek-

ing transfer of the suit to the court of Chief

West Bengal Assembly elections.

Judge, City Civil Court here.

Banerjee filed the defamation suit be-

KOLKATA, JUNE 10

Court in Kolkata.

"The way the BJP MLAs were

including

KOLKATA, JUNE 10

passed away,

and work.

Bollywood singer KK.

MONSOON SESSION BEGINS

Day 1: House adjourned

after obituary references

A total of 7.44.655 students were enrolled this year, out of which 7,20,862 (96.8 per cent) appeared in the examinations. A total of 6,36,875 students (88.44 per cent) cleared the exam. Express

in East Burdwan district and Parichaya Pari from Jalchak Nateswari Netaji Vidyayatan in West Midnapore district.

Chief Minister Mamata Baneriee congratulated the successful students, their parents and teachers. "Congratulations to our successful students and rank-holders of Higher Secondary examination! Girls and boys of our districts have shown exemplary performance, while city students, too, make us proud. Kudos to the guardians, teachers, and schools. Results have been announced by the Council quickly. Next year's schedule is also declared. Those who have fared below expectations must resolve to try better in future," she said in a tweet. Districts which recorded above 90 per cent pass percentage are

Midnapore, West Midnapore, Jhargram, Purulia, Kalimpong, South 24 Parganas and Bankura. The pass percentage among the students belonging to minority communities is 85.59, while 88.35 per cent among the students belonging to

leged that the BJP has no respect

for democratic and constitu-

to come to the House, but they

decided to boycott. This is un-

precedented. We too have been

in opposition but never behaved

The session is likely to con-

Several bills of the Education

Department are likely to be

tabled during the session.

Among them is a bill to replace

Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar

with Chief Minister Mamata

Banerjee as the chancellor of

move Dhankhar as the 'Visitor'

of private universities in the state

and appoint Education Minister

Bratya Basu in his place is also

expected to be tabled during the

asked its MLAs to ensure "100 per

cent attendance" in the ongoing

session of the West Bengal

Meanwhile, the TMC has

An amendment bill to re-

"I appealed to the opposition

tional norms.

this way," he said.

tinue till June 17.

state-run varsities.

session.

Assembly.

HC orders transfer of defamation

suit against Suvendu to Kolkata

SC/ST communities.

WBCHSE president Chiranjib Bhattacharya announced the Class 12 state board results at a press conference. "The HS results have been declared in just 44 days after concluding the exam. In 2023, the HS exam will be held between March 14 and 27. The exams will be held on the full syllabus at external exam centres and not at home venues as was the case this year," said Bhattacharya.

This year, the exams were held from April 2 to 27 at the home centres due to the Covid-19 situation. In 2020, the Higher Secondary examinations could not be held due to the Covid 19 pandemic and marks were awarded based on the students' previous academic performance. Similarly, in 2021, the exam could not be held due to the pandemic and all enrolled students were declared successful.

The heads of the Higher Secondary Institutions can collect HS mark sheets, certificates and other relevant documents from their respective distribution camps starting at 11 am

Commodore

takes charge as

CMD of GRSE

Kolkata: Commodore PR Hari, IN

(Retd), took over as the Chairman

& Managing Director of Garden

Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers

(GRSE) Ltd on Friday, said

He has a vast experience

over 32 years in warship opera-

tions, maintenance, design and

shipbuilding. He has been in

charge of Production Planning of

all the new construction ships

built at the Shipyard since 2016

and assumed charge as Director

(Personnel) of the Company on

October 21, 2019, and headed the

Human Resources, Corporate

Planning and Technical functions

of GRSE including ERP and Yard

over 28 years in the Indian Navy,

where he served in senior ap-

pointments onboard warships

and at Naval Repair Organisations.

He also held important Staff

Appointments and also steered

the Indigenous Aircraft Carrier

project as Warship Production

Superintendent, Kochi, said

Commodore Hari served for

Modernisation, said sources.

P R Hari

GRSE sources.

This year, four students -

of online classes Rohin Sen, Soham Das, Avik Das, and Parichaya Pari – are sharing the third position, each scoring 496 out of 500 (99.2%). Rohin and Parichaya are students of Patha Bhavan (Kolkata) and

Jalchak Nateshwari Netaji

Vidhyatan (West Midnapore),

Students rejoice,

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE WEST Bengal Council of

Higher Secondary Education on

Friday declared the Higher

Secondary examination results

with 272 students featuring on

the top-10 merit list by overcom-

ing all hurdles coming their way

with sheer determination and

Adisha Debsarma, a student

of Dinhata Soni Debi Jain High

School, topped the examination

securing 99.6 per cent.

Debsharama is from Cooch

Behar district. Her father is a pri-

mary school teacher and her

mother is employed with the

health department. In her con-

versation with the Indian

Express on how the Covid-19

pandemic might have been a

hurdle in her education, she said,

"No, not really. I made most use

of the online education, but if I

had the chance to learn all that

physically, I might have scored

better. But, in the given situation,

West Midnapore secured the

second position with 497 marks.

Sayandip was a student of

Jalchak Nateshwari Netaji

Vidyayatan. Though he missed

the top rank by only one mark,

Sayandip did bag himself a glori-

Sayandip Samanta from

the school tried its best."

KOLKATA, JUNE 10

dedication.

say made the most

respectively. Avik Das, a student of Katwa Kashiram Das Institution and son of a primary school headmaster and a homemaker from East Burdwan, said, "My preparation mostly involved self-study as the school remained closed for most of the time. Now, my result is out. I'd like to pursue the medical field."

"The papers were moderately difficult this time. I mostly followed the textbooks and revised them several times," said Soham Das of Hoogly Collegiate

Soham, whose father is a high school assistant teacher of geography and his mother a primary school teacher of Bengali, aims to pursue mechanical engineering at IIT Delhi.

Somnath Pal of Bankura, a student of Bankura Goenka Vidvatan, stood fifth in the examination. The son of an ailing father and his mother, a "bidi" factory worker, scored a magnificent 494 out of 500 (98.9%). "I want to become a teacher. My parents work very hard to continue my education. I am happy with the result," said Pal.

CATTLE SMUGGLING CASE

Anubrata Mondal's bodyguard sent to CBI custody for eight days

KOLKATA. JUNE 10

SAIGAL HOSSAIN, the bodyguard of TMC Birbhum district president Anubrata Mondal has been remanded in CBI custody for eight days.

CBI arrested Saigal on Thursday night after nearly five hours of interrogation in the alleged cattle smuggling case. On Friday, Saigal was produced before a special CBI court in Asansol, which remanded him

According to CBI sources, the central agency has received information about six flats, including three in NewTown, owned by Saigal. Besides, a large amount of cash and gold were recovered from his flats, said sources. According to CBI officials, there were inconsistencies in almost all his statements and he failed to justify the source

of his income and wealth. Saigal is a constable with the state police and has been posted as a bodyguard of Mondal since 2012. The CBI has also been questioning Mondal in the case.

According to the officials. Saigal used to speak with Enamul Haque, the prime accused in the alleged cattle smuggling case, regularly, and they had exchanged several calls.

three-year-old daughter in a car The opposition had then

In April, Hossain lost his

called it a ploy to eliminate

Hossain and his family. After registering an FIR in September 2020, the CBI has, so far, arrested four persons -BSF Commandant Satish Kumar, Muhammad Enamul Haque, Anarul Sheikh and Gulam Mustafa — in the alleged illegal cattle trade. Mondal's name cropped up during the course of the investigation.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

to CBI custody for eight days.

Cop shoots self dead after killing woman, injuring two in Kolkata

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, JUNE 10

A POLICE constable allegedly went on a shooting spree, killing a woman and injuring two others before shooting himself dead with his service rifle in a broad daylight near the Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in central Kolkata's crowded Park Circus area on Friday, police said.

"Two persons, a woman and the policeman, died and two others suffered bullet injuries in the incident," confirmed Additional Commissioner of Police Praveen Tripathi.

The incident took place under the jurisdiction of Karaya police station around 2:30 pm a few hundred metres away from the Seven-Point Crossing where thousands of people had gathered to protest against the alleged inflammatory remarks made by suspended BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma, said police.

The on-duty constable identified as Chodup Lepcha of the Fifth Battalion of the Kolkata Armed Police - fired around 10-15 rounds from his Self-Loading Rifle (SLR) when a bullet hit the woman and she fell off the motorbike she was riding as a pillion and died on the spot due to excessive bleeding, said police.

The constable then shot himself in the neck after firing a few more rounds, they added. The rifle was found lying beside his body. The woman and the constable were rushed to National Medical College and Hospital where doctors proclaimed them dead upon arrival, said police. However, both injured – identified as Mohammad Bashir Alam and Mohammad Sarfaraz were undergoing treatment at



Police at the spot in Park Circus, Kolkata, on Friday. Partha Paul

SSKM Hospital and is out of danger, said police.

Police identified the woman as Rima Singh (28) from Dasnagar in Howrah, an art student who was to get married soon. Police said the woman happened to be passing through the area when a bullet struck her. 'The bullet pierced her spine," said an eyewitness.

Police said Lepcha was on leave and had joined duty outside the Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Park Circus on Friday only.

"He started firing indiscriminately and walked along Lower Range to AJC Bose Road-Beckbagan crossing. The incident had no connection with the protest at Seven-Point Crossing," the officer said

"We will investigate every aspect of the incident. He (the constable) had recently joined the Kolkata Police. Why he killed himself and opened fire on others will be probed. We will find out whether he was suffering from depression," said Kolkata Police Commissioner Vineet Goyal.

According to eyewitnesses, the constable was screaming in the middle of the road, but people thought it was a prank with

a fake rifle until his screams be-

come high-pitched and he

opened fire. Arafat Mollah, a local resident, said, "I was feeding a goat when I saw the policeman firing indiscriminately. I ran for cover

in a garage. The whole episode lasted for around five minutes," said a visibly shaken Bablu Sheikh, who claimed to have witnessed the

Collin Street resident Mohammad Bashir Alam was on his way to the office in Newtown, along Lower Range Road, on a bike. As he approached Lower Range No. 13, he heard gunshots. "A bullet hit him, too, but he kept riding for about a kilometre. As he reached Seven Point Crossing in Park Circus, policemen at the intersection spotted him with the bullet injury and he was rushed to National Medical College

Hospital. After initial treatment,

he was shifted to SSKM

Hospital's Trauma Care Centre.

According to hospital sources,

Bashir is out of danger," said a

police officer. -WITH PTI INPUTS

VISVA-BHARATI SANTINIKETAN



Advertisement No. 1/2022

dated 09.06.2022 Name of the posts: 1) Registrar(Karma-Sachiva) 2) Finance Officer(Vitta-Adhikari) For details log on to www.visvabharati.ac.in

Last date of Application 30.06. 2022

D) EMD (last date

E-Auction

punjab national bank पंजाब नैशनल बैंक (Govt. Of India Undertaking) (भारत सरकार का उपक्रम)

(S. V. R. Srinivas)

Metropolitan Commissioner

M.M.R.D.A

एक एम आरडी ए MUMBAI METROPOLITAN REGION

MMRDA Office new Building, Bandra-Kurla Complex,

Bandra (East), Mumbai- 400 051

Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority invites

application from eligible and experienced candidates for the

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in the Pay Matrix Level-S-29- ₹ 1,31,100-2,16,600 on

Selection basis. For detailed advertisement viz. eligibility

criteria, Terms & Conditions and other instructions, please visi

https://mmrda.maharashtra.gov.in

Name of the Account

Place : Kolkata Date : 11.06.2022

Date : 11/06/2022

Place: Mumbai

Website: https://mmrda.maharashtra.gov.in

DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

(A Govt. of Maharashtra Undertaking)

Oriental United

B) Outstanding Amount

BRANCH OFFICE: Zonal SASTRA, Kolkata Zone, United Tower, 3rd Floor, 11, Hemanta Basu Sarani, Kolkata-700001 Mob:9910099379 / 8787069506, E mail:zs8350@pnb.co.in E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of the Bank/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is' on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of its dues due to the Bank/ Secured Creditor from the respective borrower (s) and guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit will be as mentioned in the table below against the respective properties A) Dt. Of Demand Notice u/s A) Reserve Price Date/ Time Description of the 13(2) of SARFESI ACT 2002 Name of the Branch (ln ₹.)

Immovable

Lot. No.	Name & addresses of the Borrower/ Guarantors Account	Properties Mortgaged/ Owner's Name (mortgagers of property(ies)	as on 31.03.2019 C) Possession Date u/s 13(4) of SARFESI ACT 2002 D) Nature of Possession Symbolic/Physical/Constructive	of deposit of EMD) C) Bid Increase Amount	Details of the encumbrances known to the secured creditors
1.	PNB- Zonal Sastra Kolkata. Parent Branch: PNB LCB, Park Street Branch, Kolkata a) M/s Diamond Timber Industries, 11/12, L G Estate, Survey No 329, Sihor, District: Bhavnagar, Gujrat 364240 b) M/s Diamond Timber Industries, Corporate Office: 46C Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, Kolkata-700016 c) Mr. Prakash Kumar More, 46C Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, Kolkata-700016 d) M/s Mayur Ply Industries Pvt Ltd, 46C Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, Kolkata-700016	All the piece and parcel of Land ,Building and Plant & Machinery located at plot no 9, 11, 12 & 13, R.S no- 326, 329, Behind Garibshahphir Dargarh, Bhavnagar- Rajkot Road, Tal: Sihor, Dist-Bhavnagar, in the name M/s Diamond Timber Industries. Plant and Machinery situated at plot no 9,11,12, & 13 behind GaribshapirDargah, Taluka Sihor, Dist Bhavnagar of M/s Diamond Timber Industries.	A) 24.05.2018 B) ₹44,91,68,209.50 as on 31.03.2019 + further interest w.e.r 01.04.2019 (as per demand notice) C) 10.01.2019 D) Symbolic Possession	A) ₹894 Lakh B) ₹89.40 Lakh (29.06.2022) C) ₹5 Lakh A) ₹289 Lakh B) ₹28.89 Lakh (29.06.2022) C) ₹2 Lakh	30.06.2022 11.00 am to 3.30 pm Not Known
		TERMS AND (CONDITIONS		

The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to

The properties are being sold on 'AS IS WHERE IS BASIS and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS'

- The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatemer
- or omission in this proclamation. 3. If the borrower pays the amount due to the bank in full before the date of sale, auction is liable to be stopped. 4. In the event of any dispute arising as to the amount bid, or as to the bidder, the lot shall at once be again put up to auction.
- 5. The highest bidder shall be declared to be the purchaser of any lot provided always that he is legally qualified to bio and provided further that the amount bid by him is not less than the reserve price. It shall be in the discretion of the Authorised Officer' to decline acceptance of the highest bid when the price offered appears so clearly inadequate as
- to make it inadvisable to do so. 6. For reason recorded, it shall be in the discretion of the 'Authorised Officer' to adjourn/discontinue the auction. 7. The person declared to be the purchaser shall pay immediately after such declaration, a deposit of twenty-five
- percent of the amount of purchase money to the 'Authorised Officer' and, in default of such deposit, the property shall forthwith be put up again and resold.

 The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website https://www.mstcecommerce.com on 30.06.2022 @ 11.00AM to 03.30PM For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer www.ibapi.in, www.mstcecommerce.com

Authorized Officer, Punjab National Bank, Secured Creditor

Kolkata

Kolkata: West Bengal reported over a hundred new Covid-19 cases on Friday after three months, Health Department officials said. The state recorded 107 new cases in the last 24 hours, taking the tally to 20,20,034, they said.

crossed the century mark for the last time on March 11 when it reported 106 cases.

The new cases were detected after testing 7,689 samples — a positivity rate of 1.39 per cent, it said. PTI

that the defamation suit in the court of civil judge (junior division), 2nd Court, Diamond Harbour, be withdrawn and transferred to the court of the chief judge, City Civil Court, Calcutta for disposal. He directed the Diamond Harbour court judge to transmit the case records of the suit to the court of the chief judge, City Civil Court here immediately after receipt of a copy of the order.

Justice Samanta asked the chief judge of City Civil Court to "make all endeavour" so that the suit is disposed of as expeditiously as possible. It was submitted by the lawyers representing the Nandigram MLA that a similar defamation suit by the Diamond Harbour MP in 2021 was earlier transferred by a bench of the high court from a Burdwan court to the chief judge, City Civil Court here.

Justice Rabindranath Samanta directed

Over 100 new Covid cases after 3 months

The state's daily Covid-19 tally had

A PROUD NATION REMEMBERS RAJESH PILOT 10 FEBRUARY 1945 - 11 JUNE 2000

GOVT & POLITICS

Counting on hold in Haryana, Maharashtra

VARINDER BHATIA

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 10 BJP CANDIDATE Krishan Lal Panwar looked all set to enter the

Raiva Sabha from Harvana even as uncertainty prevailed over the second seat as the counting of votes was put on hold Friday after the saffron party nominee and the Independent candidate backed by the JJP urged the Election Commission to cancel the votes of two Congress MLAs.

Panwar and Independent candidate Kartikeya Sharma shot off a missive to the EC, alleging Congress MLAs Kiran Choudhary and B B Batra showed their ballot papers to unauthorised persons after marking them and that the episodes were "duly captured" by the camera installed for the purpose of election. The charge was denied by Returning Officer RK Nandal who said that he did not find any "breach of privacy/secrecy of ballot paper" by the two MLAs.

Congress candidate Ajay Maken, however, urged the chief election commissioner to declare the results, terming the allegations levelled by the BJP and the Independent candidate as "false and frivolous". Maken claimed

privacy by the two legislators of his party. He accused the BIP of trying to defeat the process of free and fair election and demanded that the Election Commission declare the poll results immediately.

A BIP and a Congress delegation separately met EC officials in the evening in Delhi.

Earlier, of the total 90 members of the Assembly, 89 cast their votes, at the end of the polling, which began at 9 am. Independent legislator Balraj Kundu abstained from voting. Objections against the votes Batra and Choudhry were raised in the first hour itself.

While the BJP fielded former minister Krishan Lal Panwar, former Union minister Ajay Maken is the Congress nominee. Media baron Kartikeya Sharma entered the fray as an Independent backed by the JIP and BIP.

While the BJP with 40 MLAs in the 90-member Haryana Assembly has nine more than the 31 first preference votes required for a straight win, the fight is for $the \, second \, seat. \, The \, Congress \, has$ 31 members in the state Assembly, just enough to help its candidate win a seat.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com Code of conduct violated: BJP, MVA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, JUNE 10

THE COUNTING for the six Rajya Sabha seats in Maharashtra was abruptly stopped on Friday after both the BJP and the ruling Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) objected to votes cast by each other, alleging violation of code of conduct rules.

The BJP urged the Election Commission of India (ECI) to declare the votes cast by Jitendra Awadh (NCP), Yashomati Thakur (Congress) and Suhas Kande (Shiv Sena) as invalid. The MVA, on the other hand, also moved the poll body seeking that the votes cast by BJP's Sudhir Mungantiwar and Independent MLA Ravi Rana be declared invalid.

The BJP claimed that Awadh, Thakur and Kande had shown their ballot paper to party leaders instead of polling agents, which was against the poll procedure. It also pointed that these candidates had tried to hand over their ballot paper to their party leaders present at the venue, violating rules.

Following this, the MVA made similar charges against



Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray arrives at the Legislative Assembly on Friday. ANI

Mungantiwar and Ravi Rana for allegedly displaying their ballot papers to non-polling agents. Seven candidates are in the

fray for six seats — Shiv Sena's Sanjay Raut and Sanjay Pawar, NCP's Praful Patel, Congress' Imran Pratapgadi and BJP's Piyush Goyal, Anil Bonde and Dhananjay Mahadik. The BJP, single largest party with 106 seats in the Assembly, had forced an election after it decided to field Mahadik from Kolhapur as its third candidate. A BIP leader said, "When Awadh, Thakur and Kande violated rules, we raised an alarm and

brought it to the notice of the election observer... But Congress and and Rana was an afterthought to settle political scores."

timidate members with ED threat. When they failed to do so and realised members voted for MVA, they are using this new tactic to get three members' votes invalid."

Sena's objections to Mungantiwar However, Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut, tweeted, "The BJP tried to in-

An officer said, "We have provided the video recording on the entire election process to the EC. After receiving its nod, counting will start."

In Karnataka, BJP bags three seats, Cong one amid cross-voting

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU, JUNE 10

THE RULING BJP in Karnataka bagged three of four Rajya Sabha seats for which elections were held on Friday after the Opposition, the Congress and the Janata Dal (Secular), failed to forge an alliance and on account of cross-voting by two JDS legislators.

While the BJP's primary candidates - Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and film star S Jaggesh – were elected comfortably, along with the Congress party's sitting Rajya Sabha MP Jairam Ramesh, the BJP's third candidate Lahar Singh Siroya, a BJP treasurer, won the fourth seat after winning the highest number of votes among three candidates.

Congress' Mansoor Ali Khan, son of former Congress Rajya Sabha member K Rahman Khan. and the JDS party's Kupendra Reddy, a former Rajya Sabha MP and a real estate businessman, couldn't make it through. In a field where a candidate required a minimum of 45 votes to win, the

Congress with 70 MLAs fielded two candidates. Sitting MP Jairam Ramesh got 46 first preference votes and Mansoor Ali Khan 25.

The one additional vote in the Congress kitty is reported to have come due to a cross-vote by the JDS MLA Srinivasa Gowda from Kolar in favour of the second Congress candidate.

The BJP which has 121 MLAs assigned 46 first preference votes for Nirmala Sitharaman and 44 votes for the Kannada film actor Jaggesh. The remaining 31 votes were allocated to Lahar Singh, a close associate of former CM Yediyurappa, the third BJP candidate in the fray.

While Sitharaman and Jaggesh garnered their assigned, Lahar Singh got 33 first preference votes reportedly on account of an Independent MLA H Nagesh and a JDS MLA Srinivas S R from Gubbi in Tumkur voting in favour of the third BIP candidate.

The cross-voting by the JDS candidates left party candidate Kupendra Reddy with only 30 votes leading to the victory of Lahar Singh.

In Rajasthan, BJP suspends MLA for cross-voting

HAMZAKHAN JAIPUR, JUNE 10

DHOLPUR BJP MLA Shobharani Kushwah was on Friday suspended from the party's primary membership for cross voting in favour of a Congress candidate in the Rajya Sabha polls.

She has been issued a notice seeking a response within seven days, asking why she shouldn't be expelled for indiscipline.

Meanwhile, the Congress successfully elected all three of its candidates to the Rajya Sabha from Rajasthan – Randeep Surjewala, Mukul Wasnik and Pramod Tiwari – while staving off a competition from BJP-backed media baron Subhash Chandra, who contested as an independent. BIP veteran Ghanshyam Tiwari was also elected to the Upper House from Rajasthan.

While Kushwah faces the risk of being expelled from the BJP, over five years ago, it was her husband whose Assembly membership was terminated and he was jailed, leading to Shobharani's election. Now, her cross voting is being linked to her husband's imprisonment.

Enforcement Directorate issues fresh summons to Sonia

New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has issued fresh summons to Congress president Sonia Gandhi to appear before the agency on June 23 in connec-

RFN INDRA

BAHADUR

case related to the National Herald newspaper.

Sources said she was supposed to appear on June 8 but she asked for more time on action with a money laundering count of Covid and now she has

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

On this day 5035748P Rfn Indra Bahadur

Tamang of 5/1 Gorkha Rifles made the

supreme sacrifice during 'OP CACTUS

LILY-1971' Eastern Sector in Jun 1971 in a

true act of valour and courage. The brave

soldier will always be remembered for his

enthusiasm. To this brave heart we pledge

that we shall always be guided by his

CO AND ALL RANKS, 5/1 GORKHA

RIFLES

contractual rate of interest plus penal interest, charges, costs etc. within 60 days from the date of the said notice.

of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules on the date mentioned herein after

Borrower / Guaranto

Both are at: Village - Danrai

P. O. - Amarshi, P. S. - Pataspu

V/o. & Legal heir of- Late Panchanan Santra

D/o. & Legal heir of- Late Panchanan Santra

District - Purba Medinipur, Pin - 721454.

219/1, Station Road East, New Barrackpore

Ward No. 3, P. O. - New Barrackpore
District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700131

Proprietor of - M/s. Loknath Textiles

New Barrackpore, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700131.

3. 1. Mrs. Baljit Niyogi
Wo. Abhijit Niyogi. 253, Block-B, Ground Flr.
Lake Town, P. O. & P. S. - Lake Town
District - Kolkata, Pin - 700089

Also at: Patipukur Township, Ground Floor Block No. A, 919, Lake Town, P. O. & P. S.

Lake Town, Ward No. 30, Kolkata - 700089

Also at: P-681, Block - A, Lake Town, South Dum Dum, North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700089.

. Mrs. Baljit Niyogi W/o. Abhijit Niyogi. 253, Block-B, Ground Flr. Lake Town, P. O. & P. S. - Lake Town District - Kolkata, Pin - 700980

Also at: Patipukur Township, Ground Floor Block No. A, 919, Lake Town, P. O. & P. S.

Lake Town, Ward No. 30, Kolkata - 700089

Also at: P-681, Block - A. Lake Town, South

Dum Dum, North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700089

1. Mr. Haripada Rana, S/o. Manoranjan Rana

Mrs. Gita Rana. W/o. Manoranjan Rana

District - Purba Medinipur, Pin - 721656.

Mr. Manoranjan Maity, S/o. Akhinchan Maity Village & P. O.- Basudeb Beriya

2. Mr. Rajib Maity, S/o. Manoranjan Maity Village & P. O. - Basudeb Beriya

. Mr. Asit Gharami

S/o. Amulva Gharami

Near Bayara Bazar

Pin - 743251

Date: 11.06.2022

Village + P. O. - Ghapatila P. S. - Bagdah

District - North 24 Parganas

P. S. - Contai, Purba Medinipur, Pin - 721444

P. S. - Contai, Purba Medinipur, Pin - 721444

All are at - Village - Dibakarpur

P. O. - Baraghuni, P. S. - Chandipu

. Mr. Gaurhari Rana, S/o, Manoranian Rana

Mr. Manoranjan Rana, S/o. Late Sudhir Rana

1. Mrs. Soma Santra

. Mrs. Shrabani Santra

I. M/s. Loknath Textiles

S/o. Parimal Sarkar

136/137/3. Madhumita Sarani

2. Mr. Sajal Sarkar

AXIS BANK LTD.

A. C. Market Building, 4thFloor,

(As per Appendix IV read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Axis Bank Ltd., under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and

whereas, the undesigned being the Authorised Officer of the Aris Baint Euch, indice in a Secunization and Reconstruction of Financian Assets air Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interes (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice calling upon the Borrower (s) / Guarantor (s) to repay the amount mentioned in the notice along with

The Borrower (s) / Guarantor (s), having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower (s) / Guarantor (s), in particular and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13 (4).

The Borrower (s) / Guarantor (s), in particular, and the public, in general, are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Axis Bank Ltd., for an amount mentioned in the notice along with interest thereon and penal interest, charges, costs etc. from date of demand notice.

The Borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub Section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 in respect of time available, to

Description of the Immovable Property

(Secured Assets)

All that piece and parcel of land admeasuring an area of about 4 Decimal, situated under Mouza – Brajalalpur, J. L. No. 132, Khatian No. 636, Dag No. 511, P. S. - Pataspur &

District - Purba Medinipur, together with the

All that piece and parcel of bastu land measuring about 1 Cottah, 4 Chittacks and

41 Sq. ft. along with pacca residential building measuring about 570 Sq. ft. standing thereon situated at Mouza - Aharampur, J. L. No. 35,

R. S. Nos. 97 and 98, R. S. Khatian Nos. 50 &

residential flat on the North-East side on the

ground floor of the G+3 storied building having

super built up area 830 Sq. ft. more or less

consisting of 2 bed rooms. Dining cum

drawing room, kitchen, verandah and toilet,

Patipukur Township of the Government being

All that complete finished self-contained

residential flat on the North-East side on the

ground floor of the G+3 storied building having super built up area 830 Sq. ft. more or less consisting of 2 bed rooms. Dining cum

drawing room, kitchen, verandah and toilet,

logether with undivided impartible

an area of about 17 Decimal, approx., situated under Mouza - Dibakarpur, J. L.

No. 104, Survey No. 1706, Khatian No. 1198, Plot No. 1256, P. S. - Chandipur & District -Purba Medinipur, together with the building

All that piece and parcel of land admeasuring an area of about 10 Decimal, approx., situated under Mouza - Basudebberia, J. L.

No. 428, Khatian No. 869, Plot No. 2690, P. S. - Contai & District - Purba Medinipur,

together with the building constructed upon the said land.

constructed upon the said land.

All that piece and parcel of land admeasuring an

area of about 1 Decimal, situated under Mouza -

Ghatpatila, J. L. No. 12, Khatian No. 1370, Plot No. 2090, P. S. - Bagdah & District - North 24 Parganas, together with the building constructed over the said land. **Boundaries**: North - Property

of Jogesh Biswas, South - Property of Brinda Ghosh, East - 3 feet wide passage, West - 3 feet

building constructed upon the said land.

immortal spirit and make his name proud.

been asked to appear on June 23. A few days ago, ED issued fresh summons to Congress Lok Sabha MP Rahul Gandhi, asking him to appear before the agency on June 13. **ENS**

E-Tender Notice No.: M NMP Welder

S. E. RAILWAY TENDER

on behalf of the President of India Divisional Mechanical Engineer/NMP or a period of 02 (Two) years. **Approximate** Closing of e-Tender: 30.06.2022 at 16:00 hrs. Website Particulars & Start Date: 16.06.2022. PR-203

Helper/KGP, Dated: 09.06.2022. For and Kharagpur, invites e-Tender for the ollowing work. Brief Description of lame of Work with its Location: Hiring of Welder & Helper at wagon Depot / NMP Cost of Work: ₹ 2.42.41,263.30; Earnest Money: ₹2,71,200.00; Date & Time for Details: www.ireps.gov.in. Bidding

A) Amount Due as of Notice Date

R) Date of Demand Notice

A) Rs. 25.41.407.97 only under the Loar

29.03.2022 (this amounts include

A) Rs. 31.03.235.65 (Rupees Thirty One

Lakhs Three Thousand Two Hundred
Thirty Five and Sixty Five Paise) under

Loan A/c. No. 916030074878377 due a

on 30 11 2019 (this amount includes

interest applied till 31.10.2019)

Forty Two) only under Loan A/c.

No. LTR031902629200 due as on

07.07.2021 (this amount includes

A) Rs. 8,62,828.00 (Rupees Eight Lakhs Sixty Two Thousand Eight Hundred

Twenty Eight) only under Loan A/c.

A/c No. 913030015122342 due as on

28.02.2022 (this amounts include

interest applied till 09-09-2021).

A) Rs. 8,83,358.70 only under Loan A/c. No. 912030034143529 due as on

25.02.2022 (this amounts include

B) 28.02.2022.

C) 09.06.2022

B) 25.02.2022

C) 09.06.2022

Rs. 42,594.93 only under the Loan

B) 18.02.2022

A) Rs. 11,66,442.00 only under the Loan A/c. No

917030045996577, due as on 18.02.2022 (this

amounts include interest applied till 30.04.2021) and

A/c. No. 917030045996551, due as on 18.02.2022 (this amounts include interest applied till 01.11.2021)

Authorised Office

No. LPR031902042634 due as on

21.05.2021 (this amount includes

interest applied till 21.05.2021).

interest applied till 07.07.2021).

interest applied till 31.10.2021)

B) 29.03.2022

C) 06.06.2022

51, Touzi No. 169, R. S. Dag No. 371, P. S. -Ghola, A. D. S. R. Barrackpore, District -North 24 Parganas, Municipal Holding No. 136 and 137/3 under Municipal Ward

No. 4 (Old) and 14 (new) within the limits of New Barrackpore Municipality. Boundaries North - 6' feet wide common passage, South - Land of Swapan Roy, East - 20 feet wide Madhumita Sarani, West-Land of Plot "C" / Land of others.

All that complete finished self-contained A) Rs 9 89 242 00 (Runees Nine Lakhs

together with undivided impartible proportionate share of land on the 3 Cottahs 11 Chittaks 44 Sq. ft. lying and situated at 12 C) 08.06.2022 (Physical Possession)

Plot No. 681, Block No. A. Sub Division - Barrackpore, North 24 Parganas, P. S. - Lake Towr

ADSRO- Bidhnanagar (Salt Lake City) being known, numbered and distinguished as Premises / Holding No. 470/54, at present 919, Lake Town, within the limits of South Dum Dum Municipality in Ward No. 22, at present Ward No. 30, Kolkata - 700089.

proportionate share of land on the 3 Cottahs
11 Chittaks 44 Sq. ft. lying and situated at
Patipukur Township of the Government being

Municipality in Ward No. 22, at present Ward No. 30, Kolkata - 700089.

Plot No. 681, Block No. A, Sub Division - Barrackpore, North 24 Parganas, P. S. - Lake Towr

ADSRO- Bidhnanagar (Salt Lake City) being known, numbered and distinguished at Premises/Holding No. 470/54, at present 919, Lake Town, within the limits of South Dum Dun

All that piece and parcel of land admeasuring A) Rs. 37,20,844.93 only under the Loan

A/c. No. 918030019004328, due as on

C) Date of Possession

IRCON INTERNATIONAL LIMITED ITEM (A Govt. of India Undertaking) Website : www.ircon.org, CIN-L45203DL1976GOI008171

e-Procurement Notice (National Competitive Bidding) e-Tenders are invited from bidders meeting qualifying requirements for the following works (i) e-Tender No.: IRCON/ELECT/5037-5038/NCRTC/AT02/0T/62 dated 07.06.2022

"Design, Manufacturing and Supply of Dry Type 33 kV/415V, Auxiliary Transformer including all accessories for the work of Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS Corridor of NCRTC (Package-19 Lot 1 & Lot 2)" Estimated cost of the work: Rs. 9,39,28,706/-Last Date & Time of e-Bid Submission for e-tender No. (i): 21.06.2022 upto 17.00 Hrs

(ii) - Tender No.: IRCON/ELECT/5037-5038/NCRIC/OHE Erection 5/2/0T/165 dated 10.06.2022

"Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 27.5 kV, AC Flexible Overhead Electrification work for Stage-2 of Lot-2 and all other allied works in connection with Delhi-Ghaziahad-Meerut RRTS Corridor of NCRTC (Package 19 - LOT 2)" Estimated cost of the work: Rs. 7,07,19,291/-Last Date & Time of a-Bid Submission for e-tender No. (ii) 01.07.2022 upto 17.00 Hrs

For further details, visit website https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app. Corrigendum, if any, would be Chief General Manager/Electrical, C-4 District Centre, Saket, New Delhi-110017

लददाख केंद्र शासित प्रशासन/THE ADMINISTRATION OF UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH लद्दाख स्वायत्त पहाड़ी विकास परिषद, लेह LADAKH AUTONOMOUS HILL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL LEH

सचिव का कार्यालय/OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY लेह स्वायत्त पहाड़ी विकास-अधीनस्थ सेवा भर्ती बोर्ड/LEH AUTONOMOUS HILL DEVELOPMENT-SUBORDINATE SERVICE RECRUITMENT BOARD No.DE&CCL/SSRB/Tender/1714-17

NOTICE INVITING TENDER NIT NO.: 01-LAHD-SSRB-2022 DATED: 11.06.2022

For and on behalf of Lt. Governer, UT Ladakh tenders are invited from eligible, reputed and ualified IT Firms with sound Technical and financial capabilities for Implementation and main enance of Computer Based System for conducting Recruitment/examination of LAHD-SSRB. Name of Item Specification | Period of contract Online examination (Computer Based Test): Conduct and Processing of Examinations of Three Years As per RFP

The RFP document can be downloaded from the website of Leh District at

athtps://leh.nic.in/and LAHD-SSRB at https://www.lahdssrb.in/as per schedule or dates given below:

Date of issue of Tender Notice 11.06.2022

Date of publishing of Tender 13.06.2022 (04.00 PM) Last date for pre Bid Queries 18.06.2022 (04.00 PM) Pre-Bid Meeting (link will be provided to the interested bidders) 24.06.2022 08.07.2022 (04.00 PM) Last date and time for bid submission Date of opening of Technical bid 11.07.2022 Date of opening of Financial bid To be communicated later, to the technically qualified bidders.

सचिव, लेह स्वायत पहाड़ी विकास-अधीनस्थ सेवा भर्ती बोर्ड/Secretary, LAHD-SSRB/ उप निदेशक/Deputy Director, जिला रोजगार एवं परामर्श केंद्र लेह/District Employment & Counselling Centre Leh

Bank of Baroda

Prevention of Misleading cessity or promotes illogical consuch as to develop negative sumerism shall be discouraged." agency. body image in children; (b) give The guidelines, issued under

HARIKISHAN SHARMA NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

AN ADVERTISEMENT for junk foods, including chips, carbonated beverages and such other snacks and drinks shall not be advertised during a programme meant for children or on a channel meant exclusively for children, say new guidelines noti-

misleading advertisements. guidelines for

fied by the Centre to curb

Advertisements **Endorsements for Misleading** Advertisements, 2022, had been notified by the Department of Consumer Affairs on Thursday and have come into effect.

While the guidelines provide for regulation of bait, free claims and children-targeted advertisements, it prohibits surrogate advertisements. The guidelines state: "An ad-

vertisement of any goods, product or service that addresses or targets children shall not – (a) be any impression that such goods, products or services are better than the natural or traditional food that children may be consuming.'

With focus on kids, govt curbs misleading ads

The guidelines, which have been finalised in consultation with the central ministries concerned, say: "Any advertisement that offers promotional gifts to persuade children to buy goods, product or service without ne-

the tender are as follows.

Tender Opening Date

www.mahatenders.gov.in

Tender No.: 01-BRT-2022

Date: 11/06/2022

Tender Sale

Pre Bid Meetina

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY - e-TENDER NOTICE

Tender No: 15/SE/PHCK/2022-2023 JJM 2021-22- WSS TO ATHIRAMPUZHA

PANCHAYATH- SUPPLYING AND LAYING DISTRIBUTION LINES AND

PROVIDING FHTCs PHASE 2-EAST SIDE OF RAILWAY LINE. EMD:

₹ 1,00,000/-. Tender fee : ₹ 7,500/- + gst18%-. It will be paid by the contractor

on reverse charge basis while filing his returns. Last Date for submitting

Website: www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in

E-tender Notice

PMPML are inviting the bids for 'Appointment of Operator for

Undertaking Installation and Maintenance Contract of Automatic

Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) based Access Control (Boon

Barrier) and Monitoring System on BRT Corridors.' The dates regard,

Tender Submission Date : 11/06/2022 to 01/07/2022 2:30PM

The Bid documents are available for purchase & submission on web site o

Online Tender Notice No: 07 of 2022-23

Sports Authority of Gujarat

Block No.14/3rd Floor, Dr.Jivraj Mehta Bhavan,

Gandhinagar

(TENDER-ID-530591)

Secretary, Sports Authority of Gujarat, Gandhinagar, Block no. 14. 3rd floor, Dr. Jivraj Mehta Bhavan, Sector-10. Gandhinagar invite Selection

of Project Management Consultant (PMC) For Providing Design

Consultancy Services and Project Management Services fo

Development of Libraries at various places for Sports Authority Gujarat

• The Last date of Submission of proposed will be dt-28/06/2022 18:00

The tender may be download from the website https://sycad.npro

For any further information contact to PIU Branch in the office of

Secretary, Sports Authority of Gujarat, Block no. 14, 3rd floor, Dr. Jivraj Mehta Bhavan, Gandhinagarin office hour.,or may contact on Ph-

Detail tender documents are available on above mention Tender id

🛌 Pune Mahanagar Parivahan Mahamandal Ltd

Tender: 23.06.2022, 03:00pm. Phone: 0481 - 2562745.

Consumer Protection Act, 2019, also bars Indian citizens living abroad from endorsing such advertisements that have been barred for Indian professionals living in the country.

Endorsers are required to disclose their material connection with the endorsed product or service, the guidelines say, besides specifying "duties" of manufacturer, service provider,

Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Kottayan

11/06/2022 to 01/07/2022 2:30PM

Chairman & Managing Director

Pune Mahanagar Pariyahan Mahamandal Ltd

16/06/2022 At 03:00 PM

: 04/07/2022 2:30PM

advertiser and advertising

"No surrogate advertisement or indirect advertisement shall be made for goods or services whose advertising is otherwise prohibited or restricted by law, by circumventing such prohibition or restriction and portraying it to be an advertisement for other goods or services, the advertising of which is not prohibited or restricted by law," states para 6 (1) of the guide-

GOLD SMUGGLING CASE

Congress protests across Kerala, demands Pinarayi resignation

SHAJU PHILIP THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,

THE CONGRESS-LED opposition in Kerala held protest marches to various district headquarters across the state demanding the resignation of Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan following allegations by a woman accused in the gold smuggling case that he had carried a bag of currency to the

UAE in 2016. The protest marches turned violent in Kottayam, Kollam, Kannur and Kochi where agitators clashed with the police. The marches were taken out to the offices of the district collec-

tors in various districts. Addressing the march in Kochi, Opposition leader V D Satheesan said Vijayan is in a panic over the allegation by Swapna Suresh, one of the accused in the case, that the Chief Minister had taken currency to Dubai with the help of a diplomat. "If the allegation is baseless, why can't Vijayan take legal action against Suresh?... Instead, the government is threatening the woman who had given a statement in court. Her allegations are very serious...," said Satheesan.

On Thursday, Suresh had alleged that she was under immense pressure to retract her statement and that her life was under threat. She also named a former journalist, Shaj Kiran, as having approached her claiming to be a representative of political higher-ups in the state government before asking her to withdraw her statement.

"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.

Kolkata

ROSARB KMR 🔾 वैंक ऑफ़ बड़ीदा

4, Brabourne Road, Kolkata - 700 001 E-mail: SARKOL@bankofbaroda.com

cure.com

07923254409

E-AUCTION

ANNEXURE-E

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES "APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6)] E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secure

Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis for recovery of below mentioned account/s. The details of Borrower/s/ Guarantor/s/ Secured Asset/s/ Dues/ Reserve Price/ e-Auction date & Time. EMD and Bid Increase

Sr./ Lot No.	Borrower/s /	Detailed description of the immovable property with known encumbrances, if any	Total Dues	Date & Time of E-Auction	a. Reserve Price, b. EMD amount, c. Bid Increase Amount	Status of Possession (Constructive / Physical)	Property Inspection date & Time
1.	M/s R S Construction (Proprietor: Supriyo Saha)	Equitable mortgage of all that piece and parcel of bastu land measuring about 3 cottahs 13 chittacks 0 sq. ft. More or less situated and lying at premises No. 180, 181, 204, Sarat Pally, Police Station — Regent Park (now Bansdroni), Kolkata — 700070 and also postal Premises No. 55, 55A, 55B Sarat Pally, at Mouza — Bansdroni, J. L. No. 45, L.O.P. No. 55, 55A, 55B in R. S. Plot/Dag No. 618 (P) under District 24 Parganas (South), within the jurisdiction of District Registry Office and Sub — Registrar Alipore, within the local limits of K. M. C. Ward No. 113, The residential property situated at Flat No. A-9, 3rd Floor South Western Side of the building at 180 Sarat Pally, Regent Park, Police Station — Bansdroni, Kolkata — 700 070 measuring area 1065 sq. ft. More or less is in the name of Mr. Supriyo Saha son of Mr. HariLal Saha.	Rs. 53,20,914/- as on 09.06.2022 and further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of payment.	28.07.2022 Time: 2.00 pm to 6.00 pm	a. Rs.26,00,000/- b. Rs.2,60,000/- c. Rs.10,000/-	Physical	21.07.2022 11.00 am - 3.00 pm Concerned Officer - Deepak.S 9895306505 (with prior appointment)

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction.htm and https://ibapi.in. Also, prospective bidders may contact the authorized officer on Tel No. 033-22254184 Mobile 8874153222. Name: Prem Prakash Date: 11.06.2022, Place: Kolkata Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda

Axis Bank Ltd Place : Kolkata

#ExpressExplained

INDIA: KEY INDICATORS

Rank

178

179

47

178

179

174 NA

129

139

174

151

171

53

countries, has been ignored, it said.

19.30

5.80

0.30

17.20

62.00

45.30

12.50

7.80

18.60

19.50

20.6

12.90

21.70

100.0

0.00

66.80

-2.10

-0.50

-7.80

NA

2.90

-5.10

7.10

4.3

0.60

-0.90

-5.70

44.7

NA

-6.20

NA

-38.00

If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

EVERYDAY HEALTH

INDIA'S FIRST COVID-19 VACCINE FOR ANIMALS: WHY THE NEED WAS FELT

ANONNA DUTT

NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

THE AGRICULTURE Ministry on Thursday unveiled India's first Covid-19 vaccine for animals. Developed by the Hisar-based National Research Centre on Equines, the vaccine, called Ancovax, can protect animals against the Delta and Omicron variants of SARS-CoV-2.

HOW IT WORKS: Ancovax can be used in dogs, lions, leopards, mice, and rabbits. It is an inactivated vaccine developed using an infectious part of the Delta variant. In addition, it uses Alhydrogel as an adjuvant to boost the immune response.

This is the first Covid-19 vaccine for animals developed in India. There were reports from Russia last year that that country, too, had developed a vaccine against animals such as dogs, cats, minks, and foxes.

THE NEED: There have been reports of Covid-19 infection in several animals, including dogs and cats. "The vaccine can protect animals in the zoo. It can also prevent transmission from companion animals to the humans," said Dr Jyoti Misri, senior scientist, Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

The risk of animals spreading the infection to humans is considered low, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The aim of the vaccine is to protect endangered animals such as lions and tigers. India reported at least nine Covid infections in Asiatic lions in Chennai zoo last year, with one of the lioness likely to have died of it. This prompted closure of tiger reserves for tourism. Other than that, a study by the Indian Veterinary Research Institute found at least three natural Covid infections in wild Asiatic lions, and a dead leopard cub was found dead and then tested positive for Covid-19.

"There have been a few cases reported in wildlife across the world, some from the zoo, and some in pets. However, percentage-wise, it is very low. The animals develop similar symptoms to humans cough, cold, fever, and lung lesions. However, since the disease is zoonotic [it can be transmitted from animals to humans], a vaccine would help. However, which vaccine we use has to be carefully decided," said Dr AB Shrivastav, former director, School of Wildlife Forensic and Heath, Jabalpur.

WHY TYPE MATTERS: While declining to comment on this vaccine specifically, Dr Shrivastav said a killed vaccine for wild animals is always better than a live-attenuated vaccine (where a weakened live virus

"We avoid live vaccine in wild animals. This is because a live vaccine might have been attenuated for one particular species, but it can still cause disease in another. Some 15 or 20 years back, a rabies vaccine developed for dogs was given to wolves in Africa and unfortunately the entire pack died. A killed virus vaccine will not harm

— THIS WORD MEANS———

CHELONOIDIS PHANTASTICUS

A giant tortoise species believed extinct for more than a century. Now, a surviving member has been identified.

A GIANT tortoise, found alive in 2019, has been confirmed to belong a Galápagos species long believed extinct. Named Fernanda after her Fernandina Island home, the tortoise is the first of her species, Chelonoidis phantasticus, to be identified in more than a century. Researchers has reported the confirmation in a paper in Nature Comunications Biology

Chelonoidis phantasticus means "fantastic giant tortoise". Commonly called the Fernandina Island Galápagos giant tortoise, the species was so far known only from a single individual, collected in 1906.

When Fernanda was discovered in 2019, many ecologists doubted that she was actually a native phantasticus tortoise. She differed in appearance from the male historical specimen, although scientists speculated that her stunted growth may have distorted her features, Princeton University said in a press release.

Although Fernanda was found on Fernandina Island itself, and although tortoises can't swim from one island to another, they can be carried from one Galápagos island to another during major storms. There are also historical records of seafarers moving the tortoises between islands.

"Like many people, my initial suspicion was that this was not a native tortoise of Fernandina Island," Princeton University quoted researcher Stephen Gaughran, a postdoctoral research fellow in ecology and



Fernanda at the Galápagos National Park's Giant Tortoise Breeding Center. Galápagos Conservancy via Princeton University

evolutionary biology at Princeton.

To determine Fernanda's species definitively, Gaughran sequenced her complete genome and compared it to the genome he was able to recover from the specimen collected in 1906. He also compared those two genomes to samples from the other 13 species of Galápagos tortoises — 12 living, one extinct. He showed that the two known Fernandina tortoises are indeed members of the same species.

"We saw - honestly, to my surprise that Fernanda was very similar to the one that they found on that island more than 100 years ago, and both of those were very different from all of the other islands' tortoises," Gaughran was quoted as saying.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE



SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

Environment index and India

India has guestioned its bottom ranking among 180 nations on the Environmental Performance Index. Who calculates this index, and how? What issues has India flagged? How real are the environmental concerns?

NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

The newly released Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2022, measured by Yale and Columbia universities, ranks India at the bottom position among 180 countries. The Environment Ministry has issued a rebuttal saying the indicators used in the assessment are based on "unfounded assumptions".

So, what is this index?

The EPI is an international ranking system of countries based on their environmental health. It is a biennial index, first started in 2002 as the Environment Sustainability Index by the World Economic Forum in collaboration with the Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy and Columbia University Center for International Earth Information Network.

EPI 2022 uses 40 performance indicators to assess and rank 180 countries. The report says it uses the most recent data, and the indicators "measure how close countries are to meeting internationally established sustainability targets for specific environmental issues". The 40 indicators are under the broad categories of climate change performance, environmental health, and ecosystem vitality. The 2022 EPI has included new parameters to its earlier assessments, with projections of progress towards net-zero emissions in 2050, as well as new air quality indicators, and sustainable pesticide use.

How poor is the EPI assessment of India?

With a rank of 180 and a score of 18.9, India has fallen from rank 168 and a score of 27.6 in 2020. India comes after Pakistan, Bangladesh, Vietnam and Myanmar, the poorest performers. Denmark tops the list with a score of 77.9.

India ranks close to the bottom on a number of indicators including ecosystem vitality (178th), biodiversity (179th), biodiversity habitat index (170th), species protection index (175th), wetland loss, air quality (179th), PM 2.5 (174th), heavy metals such as lead in water (174th), waste management (151st) and climate policy (165th) including projected greenhouse gas emissions (171st).

India has also scored low on rule of law, control of corruption and government effectiveness, according to the report.

What objections has India raised?

In a statement on Wednesday, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change: "Some of these indicators used for assessing performance are extrapolated and based on surmises and unscientific methods."

Ministry officials cited two major concerns - that baseline data does not seem to have been used, and that there has been no explanation for the weightages assigned to certain indica-

HOW INDIA IS RANKED vs OTHERS. AND ON WHICH COUNTS

Ecosystem

Biodiversity

vitality

Species

protection

Pesticide

Health

PM2.5

Air Quality

Household

solid fuels

Lead

Waste

Sanitation &

drinking water

Climate policy 165

Carbon dioxide 136

growth rate

arowth rate

Projected

2050

GHG per

Blackcarbon

GHG emissions.

Tree cover loss 75

Wetland loss 60



India ranks 151 on waste (and 121 on solid waste) management. File

TOP 8			
Country	Rank	Score	10-yr change
Denmark	1	77.90	14.90
UK	2	77.70	23.00
Finland	3	76.50	21.00
Malta	4	75.20	25.40
Sweden	5	72.70	15.80
Luxembourg	16	72.30	13.50
Slovenia	7	67.30	8.60
Austria	8	66.50	7.20
Воттом	8		
	8 Rank	Score	10-yr change
		Score 26.10	10-yr change 2.40
	Rank		, ,
Country Haiti	Rank 173	26.10	2.40
Country Haiti Liberia Papua New	Rank 173 174	26.10 24.90	2.40 -4.00
Country Haiti Liberia Papua New Guinea	Rank 173 174 175	26.10 24.90 24.80	2.40 -4.00 0.20
Country Haiti Liberia Papua New Guinea Pakistan	Rank 173 174 175	26.10 24.90 24.80 24.60	2.40 -4.00 0.20
Country Haiti Liberia Papua New Guinea Pakistan Bangladesh	Rank 173 174 175 176 177	26.10 24.90 24.80 24.60 23.10	2.40 -4.00 0.20 1.40 -1.90

tors. "It is not like comparing apples to apples but apples to oranges," said an official.

The Ministry said the shifting of weightage on many indicators has resulted in India's low ranking. For example, for black carbon growth, India's score actually improved from 32 in 2020 to 100 (the top score) in 2022, but the weightage of this indicator has been reduced to 0.0038 in 2022 from 0.018 in 2020.

The government has objected to calculations of greenhouse gas projections for 2050, which ties into countries' net zero goals. India has set a net zero target for 2070, unlike developed nations that have set 2050.

What is the objection with the projection? The government said the projection for

greenhouse gas emissions has been computed based on the average rate of change in emission of the last 10 years rather than modelling that takes into account a longer period, extent of renewable energy capacity and use, addi-

tional carbon sinks, energy efficiency etc. It said crucial carbon sinks that mitigate GHG, such as forests and wetlands, have not been taken into account. India's low emissions trajectory, unlike high historical trajectories of developed

The government has objected to the low weightage given to per-capita GHG emissions (2.6%). "No indicator talks about the renewable energy, energy efficiency and process optimization," it said.

Among other objections raised: the index emphasises the extent of protected areas rather than the quality of protection that they afford; the computation of biodiversity indices does not factor in management effectiveness evaluation of protected areas the index computes the extent of ecosystems but not their condition or productivity; indicators such as agro biodiversity, soil health, food loss and waste are not included even though they are important for developing countries with large

agrarian populations.

Do environmental scientists agree with the report?

Dr Navroz Dubash of the Centre for Policy Research, among the authors of the latest report of the International Report on Climate Change (IPCC), said the climate change parameter of the EPI report is "highly problematic".

"Of course weightages are the agency's discretion, but giving climate change such a high weightage is problematic. The EPI 2022 makes an assumption that every country has to reach net-zero by 2050 - whereas the understanding is that developing countries will need more time. GHG emissions will continue to grow in poorer countries for a time, unlike many developed countries which have peaked. We can't be expected to forgo energy for development. The EPI 2022 is neither ethically correct nor reflects the political reality. Moreover, the methodology that EPI has used for its 2050 projections, using last decade's emissions, is extremely crude," Dubash said.

In developing countries, of which many like India have low emissions trajectories, the contribution is not that emissions reduce but to "avoid locking into higher emissions trajectories". "That is what is expected of developing countries, but this methodology doesn't allow for that and the government is correct in pointing this out," he said. He said the EPI assumes every country is in the same position economically, developmentally and environmentally.

IIT Delhi professor and air pollution expert Dr Sagnik Dey said the low weightage given to per-capita GHG emissions automatically reduces the ranks of countries like India and China. "Even if air pollution declines steadily, in countries like India and China, by virtue of their large populations the overall figure of the health burden or DALY for instance, will always be high and therefore will always fall in the bottom of the pile, if per-capita GHG emissions are given lower weightage."

So, how seriously should the findings be

Dr Dey cautioned that despite the inconsistencies, the government should not ignore the fact that India was at 168th rank in 2020 and has never been in the top 150 countries since the index was started.

Dr Dubash said that despite issues with the EPI, India does have severe local environmental issues, which have been highlighted in the report and need to be addressed.

Dr Ravi Chellam, Coordinator, Biodiversity Collective, said: "Much smaller and poorer countries have done better. I don't think we should get carried away by only the rank. If other countries perform poorer, India's rank will improve. It is vital to focus on sustainable developmental pathways we need to immediately adopt."

The Sant Tukaram temple and its significance

PARTHASARATHIBISWAS

PUNE, JUNE 10

ON TUESDAY, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Sant Tukaram Shila Mandir in the temple town of Dehu in Pune district. Shila refers to a rock that is currently on the Dehu Sansthan temple premises, and that for centuries has been the starting point of Wari, the annual pilgrimage to Pandharpur.

The Shila Mandir

The Bhakti saint Sant Tukaram had sat on this piece of rock for 13 continuous days when challenged about the authenticity of the Abhyangs he had written. Nitin Maharaj More, president of the Jagatguru Sant Tukaram Maharaj Sansthan Dehu, said that prior to this, the saint had immersed his entire work in the Indrayani river; the work miraculously reappeared after 13 days, proving their authentic-

ity. "The very rock where Sant Tukaram Maharaj sat for 13 days is pious and a place of pilgrimage for the Warkari sect." More said.

On the Dehu Sansthan temple premises, the rock used to be covered by a silver cast with an image of Sant Tukaram, and devotees would pay obesiance. In 2008, the silver mask was stolen, and found on the banks of the Indravani after a few days. The Sansthan decided to replace the silver covering with an image of Sant Tukaram Maharaj on the Shila, with a temple housing both. "This is the temple the Prime Minister will inaugurate on Tuesday," he said.

The Warkari sect

Sant Tukaram and his work are central to the Warkari sect spread across Maharashtra. His message about a casteless society and his denial of rituals had led to a social movement. Sant Tukaram is credited with starting the Wari

The Wari sees lakhs of devotees congregat-



The newly built temple in Dehu, Maharashtra. Rajesh Stephen

ing in the temple towns of Dehu and Alandi to accompany the padukas of Sant Tukaram and Sant Dyaneshwar respectively as they start for Pandharpur. Participants finish their sowing before they set off. The pilgrims reach Pandharpur on the day of Ekadashi with the

Chief Minister performing the mahapuja. The pilgrimage is being resumed after a gap of two years.

Significance of visit This will be Modi's first visit to the temple.

Traditionally, the Warkari sect has been courted by all political parties. Various influential leaders of the sect had taken a stance on various issues but steered away from politics directly. Former President Prathibha Patil had visited the temple in 2009, and Modi would be the first PM to visit the temple in the current years.

Modi's visit comes ahead of elections to various local bodies this year. Ever since the NCP-Shiv-Sena-BJP came to power, the BJP has been trying to get back. Of the three bypolls held since 2019, BJP has won just one while the ruling alliance have won two. The newly created Dehu Nagar Panchayat

is ruled by the NCP.

The battle for IPL media rights: Reliance vs Disney-Star, no Amazon

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY KOLKATA.JUNE 10

AHEAD OF Sunday's e-auction for the Indian Premier League (IPL) media rights – linear and digital - Amazon has pulled out of the race. BCCI sources said Google didn't submit its technical bid either, choosing to opt out.

Amazon's departure nips in the bud a straight fight between the world's two richest persons — its owner Jeff Bezos and Mukesh Ambani representing Viacom18/Reliance. But the auction, likely to fetch the BCCI over Rs 45,000 crore, will still be intense. Disney-Star, the incumbent media rights holder, will be there, and according to sources, its battle with Viacom18/Reliance could be the highlight of the auction. Former Star India executive Uday Shankar is on Viacom 18's side this time.

Why has Amazon pulled out?

Amazon, which livestreams the English

Premier League, initially showed keen interest for the IPL digital media rights too. Gaining an edge over its rival Netflix Inc was an incentive. Amazon hasn't officially commented on the pullout, but it is learnt that following internal deliberations it decided not to pay over the odds for just online streaming rights. "Amazon has a great balance sheet but as a standalone, digital-only bidder, it would've had a challenge recouping such a big investment on streaming," Mihir Shah, vice-president and India head at Media Partners Asia, was quoted as saying by Bloomberg.

What is the base price?

For the 2023-2027 cycle, the BCCI has set the base price at Rs 32,890 crore. According to a top BCCI official, expectations are that the highest bid would go past Rs 45,000 crore. A BCCI insider said auction dynamics don't follow the simple profit-and-loss logic. It's about market share dominance and how much the companies are willing to fork out.

It is learnt that 11 companies had purchased the invitation to tender (ITT) documents but only seven, including Disney-Star, Viacom 18/Reliance, Sony and Zee have submitted the technical bids. The deadline for technical evaluation was 6 pm on Friday.

Some of the bidders, however, have expressed their displeasure over a sharp increase in the base price.

What explains the BCCI's confidence?

According to a BCCI official, the IPL as a product is "unrivalled": No other content attracts as many eyeballs. Chennai Super Kings chief executive Kasi Viswanathan agreed. "This year, maybe, was an aberration in the sense that you still didn't have home and away games. This was a reason for a dip in viewership. But if you look at the competitive cricket that is played in the IPL, everybody knows that this is the best T20 league in the world. And that probably is the reason why its media rights are so much in demand,"

Viswanathan told The Indian Express.

What's at stake in bagging digital rights?

Unlike last term, composite bids have been done away with. A company can separately put in bids for all three buckets. These include one for linear rights and two separate ones of digital rights, divided this way for the first time. The two digital rights buckets include one for all matches, and one for nonexclusive rights for 18 games every season, including the tournament opener and playoffs. This can attract companies that are willing to get a small share of the pie, fetching the Board big money in the process.

The addition of two new teams has raised the number of matches to 74, and contributed to the base price reaching almost twice the winning bid of 2017. The new teams have brought in new fans. For example, Gujarat Titans, the defending champions, can play in front of 100,000 fans. This is expected to rapidly increase TV/online viewership also. Two years ago, Forbes listed the IPL as the world's sixth biggest sports league. The global Indian diaspora following cricket adds to its appeal.

Has it drawn foreign investors earlier?

Last year, Manchester United's American owners, the Glazers, took part in the IPL franchise auction, as two new teams were brought to the fold. Not that the Glazers are big cricket fans, but they found the IPL's model attractive, and akin to the NBA and Major League Baseball – a closed-shop league without promotion and relegation and revenue guaranteed from certain quarters. NFL legend Larry Fitzgerald and double Olympic gold medalist basketball star Chris Paul have invested in Rajasthan Royals.

How intense is the competition between Reliance-Viacom 18 and Disney Star?

In 2017, as Star's chairman-cum-CEO. Shankar had secured the media rights for IPL 2018-22 for his erstwhile company for Rs 16,347 crore. Five years down the line, he is in the opposition camp, planning strategies for Viacom 18/Reliance, which has launched a sports channel, Sports 18.

Reliance and Viacom 18 have entered into a strategic partnership with Bodhi Tree, with the latter investing \$1.78 billion. This is an investment platform, run by media tycoon James Murdoch's Lupa Systems and Shankar. "James and Uday's track record is unmatched," Mukesh Ambani, chairman and managing director of Reliance Industries, had said following the tie-up. With 400 millionplus customers, Reliance's Jio is the country's largest telecommunications company.

At the same time, there's a feeling that Disney-Star could go for aggressive bidding to retain the media rights. Hotstar, the company's digital platform, reportedly gets 30% of its global revenue from India, with the IPL being the determining factor. For Amazon and Netflix. on the other hand, only 5-10% of their global revenue comes from India.

WORDLY WISE

A ROBOT MAY NOT INJURE A HUMAN BEING, OR THROUGH INACTION, ALLOW A HUMAN BEING TO COME TO HARM.—ISAAC ASIMOV

The Indian EXPRESS

Sounded By Sounded By

Ramnath Goenka

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

Guru against shishya

Young women enter sports with hope, sense of fun — those destroying that must be held to account



CORNERING A FRIEND

Nupur Sharma episode is also putting pressure on and shrinking room for India's allies abroad. Delhi must be mindful of this

NDIA LEARNT THIS week that its domestic politics does not exist in a silo separate and disconnected from its relations with the international community. On visits abroad, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has talked up this country as a plural, diverse and democratic nation, as if the open minority-baiting by his party men and women $did \, not \, exist. \, Not \, only \, have \, the \, remarks \, against \, the \, Prophet \, by \, two \, BJP \, leaders \, - \, one \, has \, been \, did \, not \, exist. \, Not \, only \, have \, the \, remarks \, against \, the \, Prophet \, by \, two \, BJP \, leaders \, - \, one \, has \, been \, did \, not \, exist. \, Not \, only \, have \, the \, remarks \, against \, the \, Prophet \, by \, two \, BJP \, leaders \, - \, one \, has \, been \, did \, not \, exist. \, Not \, only \, have \, the \, remarks \, against \, the \, Prophet \, by \, two \, BJP \, leaders \, - \, one \, has \, been \, did \, not \, exist. \, Not \, only \, have \, the \, remarks \, against \, the \, Prophet \, by \, two \, BJP \, leaders \, - \, one \, has \, been \, did \, not \, exist. \, Not \, only \, have \, did \, not \, exist. \, Not \,$ expelled and the other suspended by the party subsequently - made it difficult to sweep under the carpet the incivilities in the politics of the ruling party at the Centre, the fallout is also bringing home to Delhi that they can create problems for some of its best friends in the world, to the detriment of those friendships. What someone says in a television studio in India can fast turn into a political hot potato in another country, putting governments well disposed towards India on the defensive in their home turfs. Pakistan, of course, may need no excuse to have a go at India. But it was hoped that the United Arab Emirates, with whom India has excellent ties, would not follow its brother Islamic nations in upping the ante on the issue. That it did, one day after several other countries had expressed their condemnation, says a lot about how this incident has put pressure on governments around the world. Only in 2018, the UAE rulers had granted permission for the building of a Hindu temple in Sharjah, and its construction is proceeding apace. Iran, among the earliest to condemn the controversial remarks, did not cancel the visit by its foreign minister, Amir Abdollahian, but the differing readouts from both sides showed how important it was for the visiting functionary to signal to constituencies back home that the issue had come up in discussions, as much as Delhi tried to play it down.

If looking the other way as outrage swept the Gulf countries was not an option for authoritarian regimes in the UAE, Oman and other friendly nations, the political pressures in a democracy, even a small one like Maldives, can well be imagined. Indeed, Maldives, where protests against India are banned by presidential decree, tried at first to stave off the Opposition's attempts to force the issue. Like the UAE, the pro-India Solih government issued a statement much after many other countries, after it became clear that not doing so would carry significant political risk. Former president Abdulla Yameen, whose pronounced tilt towards Beijing had given India cause for worry during his term in office, hopes to make a comeback in the presidential election next year on the back of an anti-India campaign.

The more hardline sections of the BJP are making a case for standing up to the censure coming in from India's allies and friends abroad. Meanwhile, at home, the protests that erupted in several cities on Friday run the risk of leading domestic politics into the polarisation trap. After this episode, the responsibility of sobriety and restraint and course correction rests on the BJP government, of course. India is going to be watched by other countries, even and especially by its friends. But the larger imperative of keeping the calm also devolves on non-BJP groups and parties.

WE USUALLY ASSUME the sporting arena to be a safe space. We ask our kids to go out and play. For me, that's about enjoyment, as much as winning. But when young athletes are sexually harassed, basic safety becomes a big concern. It's just not fair that a person with experience can take the fun out of sport for them.

What happened in US gymnastics with Simone Biles and other top gymnasts shook me to the core. That it had been so obvious, and was reported but ignored, and that the US gymnasts are now suing the FBI is so unreal. They took on the US gymnastics establishment and went to the Senate. In other cases in America, athletes have taken on the bigwigs as well. That's possible in systems such as the one in America. But in the final analysis, what gets affected is women's sport. On the one hand, we are encouraging more girls to go out and become sportswomen. On the other hand, instances like the one involving the alleged harassment of a young cyclist by a national coach can make parents reconsider their daughters' participation in sport.

What has changed now is that athletes have more of a voice. They are more aware and there's greater conversation about women in sport. Avenues are now available — even if these are anonymous — to voice their concerns. Earlier, the process itself was a deterrent. But the underlying set of conditions that make harassment possible have not gone away: Trainees shift out of their homes when still young, there's homesickness and performance pressure, extensive travel for training and competitions — all of this makes them vulnerable.

While we encourage girls to participate in sport, we must remember that their dignity is more important than everything

else. We must educate them about what is okay and what isn't. The next step is to empower them to speak out when they feel uncomfortable about anyone during training or on the field. Finally, they must be provided with adequate redressal mechanisms. Even then, a young woman might win the battle but lose the war. The offenders might have some level of action taken against them but it is our duty to ensure that in the long term, complaining does not affect the sportsperson's career, and she can go on to fulfil her potential.

What is unique to sport is the age group of the victims — they are dependent on those in the system and around them. They are almost always very young. How will they even know what is to be done? The power differential between them and those around them is key.

Those dealing with these young athletes need to be sensitised against casual body-shaming or saying inappropriate things. I understand that at times such gestures can be unintentional but that does not make them acceptable. Hence, those who are around the athletes too should be provided with adequate guidance and there should be a forum to resolve such issues when they arise. India is culturally different because we take pride in the relationship of reverence between the "guru" and "shishya". We celebrate Guru Purnima, and are taught to be obedient. But that doesn't give anyone the license to do as they feel. Research shows that the best coach-athlete combinations work when there's mutual respect. Trust is all-important in creating champions. Once trust is taken away, and the bond based on mutual respect is broken, it harms performance. The dos and don'ts have to be strictly followed. You just can't cross the line.

In my time as an athlete, we just heard stories, nothing was verified or validated. But after hearing about the recent cases, I would encourage all parents of athletes to have a conversation with their daughters and encourage them to speak up if they feel uncomfortable. My constant dilemma is whether this means drawing the child's attention to something that's not there right now. Should we let it be? Will we be taking the fun out of the game for her by sowing this seed of possible doubt in her head and colouring her perception, when all we want is for her to enjoy sports? It's a hard conversation to have and a tough call to make.

Most of these instances happen during travel or at hostels or in camps where a parent isn't even at hand to gauge what's happening with the child. It breaks my heart that it's our beloved sport that exposes girls to this danger. Of course, sexual harassment is a larger crisis. #MeToo, casting couch revelations at the highest levels of administration and among corporates — women (and men) today face this scourge everywhere.

Sport is, by and large, an unorganised sector. The punishment for such offenders needs to be discussed. Dismissal of the offending coach, physiotherapist or official is what the institutions usually do, even where more legal action is necessary. But legal costs can be debilitating in case the latter course of action is adopted. A speedy resolution of such cases is imperative.

What is most important is to remember that the victims are often minors. There must be clear repercussions for the guilty.

The writer is a former national badminton champion

SCORING POINTS

TDP vs YSRCP in Andhra Pradesh over Class 10 results is a good face-off. It has pointers for other states, other parties

HE CLASS 10 examination results have triggered a war of words in Andhra Pradesh (AP) with the Opposition blaming the government for over two lakh students failing in the boards: The pass percentage of 67.26, coming in the wake of the pandemic, is the lowest in the last 20 years. On Thursday, TDP general secretary and son of former chief minister Chandrababu Naidu, Nara Lokesh Naidu, upped the ante and reached out to students and parents over Zoom, but was interrupted by ruling party (YSRCP) leaders, who accused the TDP of politicising school examinations and students. The TDP shut out the YSRCP voices and continued with the video conference. But the TDP initiative as well as the YSRCP challenge mark a good moment in public political discussion, in which issues such as school education usually take a backseat, if they figure at all. School education is far too serious a matter to be left to the bureaucracy; it ought to feature more in the agenda of political parties.

That the YSRCP, which has been sweeping elections at all levels in AP since the state was bifurcated in 2014, felt it necessary to intervene in the discussion over exam results, however, could also point to the traction the issue of education has traditionally had in Andhra society. In fact, education has been something of a possible gamechanger in elections in some of the southern states for some years now. If the socialisation of educational institutions polarised Kerala in the late 1950s, leading to a mass movement and the undemocratic dismissal of the CPI government in 1959, the AlADMK under MGR enhanced its pro-poor image and cemented its electoral appeal by introducing a mid-day meal scheme in Tamil Nadu in the early 1980s. In recent months, the DMK in Tamil Nadu has found in NEET, the entrance exam for medical and pre-medical courses, an issue to corner both the BJP and AlADMK. Elsewhere, Nitish Kumar in Bihar and Arvind Kejriwal in Delhi have cultivated constituencies by focusing on school students and their parents. Free schooling and bicycles for girl students have allowed Nitish Kumar to carve a niche in a polity defined primarily by caste whereas Kejriwal has made the work done by his government in schools a calling card as AAP seeks to expand beyond Delhi.

Hopefully, other political parties will take a cue from TDP, YSRCP, DMK, JD(U), AAP, and bring education to the forefront of political debate. It would be a necessary departure from the polarising talk on identity and religion that mostly dominates it.

THE SWEATY FINGER

Japanese scientists have invented a robotic digit with living skin. The dystopias of science fiction writers are set to come home

T IS, IN essence, just a set of mechanical joints, wrapped in collagen, human dermal fibroblasts and epidermal keratinocytes. Yet, the "slightly sweaty" finger developed by Japanese scientists — the first robotic digit with living skin — is a breakthrough that makes the utopias and dystopias of speculative fiction straddle the edge of prophecy. The small pink digit is a likely precursor to humanoid androids. Coupled with advances in AI and machine learning, it points to the question: What does the future hold for humanity's relationship with the machine-people it is on the path to creating?

Advocates for the machine-people argue that the more human-like they are, the more easily they can be useful as nurses, crossing guards, and for dangerous jobs. Making machines seem sentient is particularly important to traverse the "uncanny valley", especially to have them perform tasks that require human interaction. Simply put, the uncanny valley is the odd, unsettling feeling when machines and audio-visual simulations closely respected by the property of the traverse that tools that lead like us make humans uneasy.

semble humans. But there's a reason that tools that look like us make humans uneasy. Imagine an almost-sentient nurse. Just because its mind works through a code, does it not have personhood? Making it work without rights or payment will amount to slavery. Then there's the justifiable fear that futurists have raised for the better part of a century — the machines, as they become more human-like (in their behaviour as much as their look) are likely to take over. When it comes to the ruthless exercise of power, they will learn from the best — their creators. Finally, those who believe this pessimism in based on the unfounded suspicion of technology would do well to remember that social media began with the promise of "connecting people" in the ether, and is now, sometimes, a threat to democracy. A sweaty finger could be much more dangerous than an algorithm.

A Superhero Like Us

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How will they even know

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'Ms Marvel' is a break from South Asian representation in western films and TV shows

ABBAS MOMIN

IN THE 2008 blockbuster Iron Man - the movie that kickstarted the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) - there is a scene where Robert Downey Ir's character. Tony Stark, is abducted by a vaguely middle eastern-looking terrorist group and they're making a hostage video. In the scene, lead terrorist Raza played by Pakistani-American actor Faran Tahir is giving threats to the camera in Urdu. While he's doing so, the English subtitles at the bottom of the screen are completely at odds with what he is saying and to top it all, the movie refers to the language spoken as "Arabic". I distinctly remember bursting into laughter during this scene with a packed multiplex audience in Bangalore, most of whom, of course, understood Urdu due to its closeness to Hindi. Clearly, linguistic accuracy and representation were not the highest priority for the studio back then.

Fourteen years later, as I sat down with a huge grin on my face to watch the first episode of *Ms Marvel*, the same studio's web series with a Pakistani Muslim teenager as the lead, I couldn't help but marvel (pun fully intended) at how much things had changed

things had changed.
For me, this show is critic-proof. I have been unabashedly in love with the character of Kamala Khan (who later becomes the feisty superhero Ms Marvel) since she was created by writer G Willow Wilson and artists Adrian Alphona and Jamie McKelvie in the pages of a comic book back in 2013. A huge part in seeing Kamala come to life was also played by comic book editor Sana Amanat, herself a Pakistani-American. Amanat also serves as an executive pro-

Representation matters only when it is authentic. Though there have been sporadic bursts of South Asian representation in Hollywood films and TV shows in the past, a huge chunk of them suffered from being seen through the lens of western, most often white, filmmakers and creative teams. These stories and characterisations rarely went beyond the 'exotic' tag associated with Indian/Pakistani costumes and jewellery and collapsed under a muddle of cliches.

ducer on the show.

Representation matters only when it is authentic. Though there have been sporadic bursts of South Asian representation in Hollywood films and TV shows in the past, a huge chunk of them suffered from being seen through the lens of western, most often white, filmmakers and creative teams. These stories and characterisations rarely went beyond the "exotic" tag associated with Indian/Pakistani costumes and jewellery and collapsed under a muddle of cliches

And then of course there's the sour topic of the portrayal of Muslims and Islam in Hollywood and pop culture at large. One only needs to dial back the clock a little over a decade to see examples of TV shows like 24 and Homeland and films like American Sniper that almost built their identity around the harmful "cold-blooded Islamic terrorist" stereotype, sometimes going as far as to insinuate that even common, everyday Muslims with families had been brainwashed into believing an extremist ideology.

This is why it filled my heart with joy to see how colourful, ebullient, funny and positive *Ms Marvel* is. Iman Vellani, who plays the titular character of Kamala is a star in the making. Her face and personality light up a room. The first episode deals with a simple storyline of Kamala trying to convince her parents to let her attend "Avenger Con", a superhero convention, dressed as her favourite superhero Captain Marvel. Her mother thinks the superhero costumes are too skimpy and will lead her to do "haraam" activities. Throw in a mysterious amulet inherited from Kamala's

nani, some high-school shenanigans and you have yourself a spectacular adventure in the making. In an era where superheroes are getting darker and grittier, the show does not shy away from its comic book roots. The New Jersey graffiti comes alive, as do the drawings and sketches in the students' notebooks. The soundtrack is peppy and the emotions are heartfelt. The internal world of Kamala's house and family feels "lived in"

A show as mainstream as this also gives us the chance to see some glowing performances by desi talent. Zenobia Shroff is the perfect lovable yet stern mother, Mohan Kapur (where are my fellow '90s Saanp Seedhi fans?) gets to break the "angry desi dad" stereotype by playing an affable father and stand-up comedian Azhar Usman also makes an appearance. Occupying the director's chair are Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy and Meera Menon and, if message boards and rumours are to be believed, South Asian stars like Fawad Khan and Farhan Akhtar might show up soon.

In 1962, Marvel Comics writer Stan Lee and artist Steve Ditko created a teenage superhero who got bitten by a radioactive spider and struggled to balance the life of being a superhero while trying to satisfy his aunt and be a high schooler. That character was, of course, Spider-man and it brought Marvel Comics into the limelight. In 2022, I sincerely hope the youthful Kamala Khan does the same for the representation of South Asians in cinemas and on TV.

The writer is a podcast producer and stand-up comedian

JUNE 11, 1982, FORTY YEARS AGO

ANTULAY LOSES CASE AN APPEAL FILED by the former Chief Minister, A.R. Antulay, and the state of Maharashtra against the judgement of Justice B. Lentin in the cement case was dismissed by a division bench of the Bombay High Court comprising Justice S.K. Desai and Justice B.J Rele. Justice Rele's indictment was even stronger than Justice Lentin's judgement last January. Justice Desai was no less strong. He said that "the manner of allocating cement revealed, indicated and illustrated an assorted spectacle of unreasoned arbitrariness and capricious discretion resulting in unprincipled favouritism which remains unexplained and appears to be unjustified." The bench upheld that nexus and quid pro quo had been established between allotments of cement to certain big builders and the donations made by them to the trust floated by Antulay, and ruled that both the former chief minister and the state had acted in an illegal, arbitrary and capricious manner "while distributing cement from the Mantralaya".

FALKLANDS WAR

BRITISH PLANS FOR an assault on the main Argentine garrison at Port Stanley, the Falklands capital, received a setback when Argentine planes crippled two British landing ships in the first low-level air strike for 10 days. Two bombs hit the 4,470 tonne fleet auxillary, Sir Galahad. One exploded astern, rocking the vessel as thick black smoke billowed high above Fitzroy settlement, about

23 km south-west of Port Stanley, British reporters in the Falklands said.

ISRAEL PERSISTS

CONTINUOUS WAVES OF Israeli fighter-bombers pounded Palestinian and Syrian positions in Beirut and scattered leaflets warning that Israeli troops planned to seize the Lebanese capital within hours. Israeli land, sea and air forces continued to hammer at targets in and around Beirut long after the US President Ronald Raegan had called on Prime Minister Menachem Begin to order an immediate cease-fire in the five-day-old offensive. The state-run Lebanese television said Palestinians stopped the Israeli tanks at Khalde, 1.2 km south of Beirut international airport.

- GLOBAL TIMES, CHINA

THE INDIAN EXPRESS, SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2022

THE IDEAS PAGE

My grandmother's house

Summer vacations in Hyderabad connected me to my beloved grandmother, my family's journey, my roots. Those memories continue to shape who I am



OPENING ARGUMENT

By Menaka Guruswamy

AMMAMMA, MY MATERNAL grandmother, had a row of jasmine plants in her home in Hyderabad. One of my earliest memories is of sleeping outdoors with Ammamma in the summer. I would wake up in the early morning to the scent of jasmine flowers, "malle puvvu" as we call them in Telugu. The monsoon rains would arrive by early June, bringing down the temperature and leaving the jasmine flowers flecked with tiny water droplets. The beds would now be shifted back into the house and I would wake up and run outside to watch the aftereffects of the rain on the grass and plants outside, while Ammamma would be in her pantry warming up milk for me.

My grandmother lived by herself in this large old home, where she and my grandfather had raised their three children. All three eventually flew away to live in other towns and countries. But I would head back every year from a sizzling Delhi to spend the summer in Hyderabad. As an only child, with few cousins of my age in the city, my summer playmate was the old house itself. I spent my days making up games, cycling all over, and reading Tarzan comics. I would play tennis against the $side \, of \, the \, house \, - \, I \, was \, Martina \, Navratilova \,$ winning Wimbledon, or John McEnroe throwing a tantrum with the referee. I always beat the wall and developed a good forehand in the process. In the evenings, we would sit on the veranda where she would make me do exercises to improve my handwriting. Eat neatly and write neatly, she insisted.

My grandfather, a well-known criminal lawyer, built this large rambling home in the heart of the city, close to the high court. He had set up his office in one part and his home in the other — as many lawyers do. I never met him, for he passed away before I was born. My grandmother maintained her independence by living in her own home even after he passed away, refusing all requests from her loving children to move in with them.

At 1:00 pm exactly, I was expected to be at the table for lunch, where Ammamma and I sat at the same dining table that my mother ate at as a child. Black-and-white pictures of stern-looking ancestors watched over us. Over the summer, I would be fed a series of Hyderabadi delights: Shikampur -- little kebabs made of keema, channa dal, coriander and dahi. Ammamma also made a fine yakhni pulao and that quintessential Hyderabadi dish, muttila kebab. Everything was served along with the ubiquitous rasam that went with all foods. Life couldn't get beter than this!

One summer evening, her best friend Kamar Ahmed sent over a tray of badam ki jaali for me. Named for the old-style jaali architecture, badam ki jaali is an iconic Hyderabadi sweet. Ammamma and Kamar aunty had been best friends since primary school at Mehbubia Girls School on Abids Road. Kamar called Ammamma "Sharu", short for Sharada. Their long friendship spanned girlhood, marriage, the birth of children and grandchildren. They watched as



C R Sasikumar

India became independent, Operation Polo brought Hyderabad into the Republic and the city eventually became the capital of the newly-reorganised State of Andhra Pradesh.

Ammamma knew that those we love came with their own surprises. She adored me — her granddaughter who preferred t-shirts and shorts to dresses. She took me for my preferred short haircuts and indulged my love for the Bruce Lee films that played at Amravati, the local theatre. Those summer vacations connected me to my beloved grandmother, my family's history, my hometown, and my roots. Their teachings contributed to who I am.

My summers eventually changed. Ammamma's home is now a commercial building on a busy street. Andhra Pradesh was divided into Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, and the high court where my grandfather practised law is now the Telangana High

Ammamma's passing represented the end of one phase of my life. A life which children have with their grandparents, where we learn of the journeys that they have made — of migration, of their friendships and the evolution of our country

Court. In the summer of 1992, I went away to college to study law in Bangalore. Ammamma came to drop me off at the college hostel. She would die battling leukaemia in my second year of law school.

Ammamma's passing represented the end of one phase of my life. A life which children have with their grandparents, where we learn of the journeys that they have made -- of migration, of their friendships and the evolution of our country across generations. Those summer breaks of my childhood today have been replaced by the summer breaks of the courts, when we lawyers reflect on the year that passed and the court term ahead. We rest and recuperate. Importantly, today's summers always remind me of those of my childhood — for we are our memories.

The writer is a Senior Advocate at the Supreme Court

Building on common ground

"The normal cooperation project between China and Cambodia, which aims to 'strengthen Cambodia's naval capacity...' has been discredited, blocked and sabotaged by the US, becoming another typical case of Washington's 'coercive

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

Indo-Pacific Economic Framework presents opportunities, and also tough policy choices, like on data and taxation



diplomacy'."

KARTHIK NACHIAPPAN

The official launch of the Biden Administration's Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF), the US's de facto foreign economic policy for Asia, has been lauded and welcomed. Countries like India that hew close to the United States have ostensibly breathed a sigh of relief after months of waiting for the administration to deliver a regional economic strategy to accompany its security focus. IPEF proponents, which now include the US and a dozen Asian countries, extolits purpose and potential, particularly given some doubts over whether the US administration could sustain its focus in Asia as war broke out in Europe. Besides Ukraine, the IPEF's importance also owes to China's patent economic footprint across Asia that could be checked by an alternative economic paradigm that emphasises openness, flexibility, and integration. Can the IPEF deliver on its promise? What drives its logic? And can the framework yield gains for the United States, India, and other signatories?

The IPEF is not a trade or investment agreement between 13 signatories. It's a framework or a starting point for these Indo-Pacific countries to regulate trade and commerce across four key pillars: Digital economy, supply chains, clean energy, and governance. The IPEFs focus on these pillars reflects the Biden administration's desire to address constraints left by Covid-19 globally, namely inflation and supply chain shocks, and devise new standards to advance Biden's domestic economic agenda, specifically climate change, tax evasion, worker rights, and retaining America's technological primacy.

Globally, the IPEF signifies the first multilateral attempt to boost supply chain resilience to ease global inflationary pressures and mitigate effects of future disruptions, particularly key raw materials, critical minerals, and semiconductors. The IPEF also represents an effort to negotiate "high-standard" rules between like-minded countries to govern the digital economy, particularly data flows, propel climate mitigation through carbon removal purchasing commitments, and tilting power in the global economy toward workers through equitable global tax, antimoney laundering and anti-bribery provi-

The IPEF, in a nutshell, internationalises Biden's economic agenda to protect and prolong America's economic leadership across Asia while chipping away at China's ascendance through compelling signatories to negotiate domestic standards that comport with Washington's vision. Biden wants to play the long game — introduce a 21st century economic arrangement that reinforces adomestic growth agenda embracing labour rights, productivity, and using market incentives and fiscal spending to reduce inequal-

ity, deter environmental damage, foster digital openness and connectivity, and expand tax compliance.

Yet, the merits of Biden's economic agenda to uphold American primacy could dent how other signatories regulate their domestic economies. IPEF commitments and standards that other signatories like India have to accede to, while negotiating broad commitments and internalising them domestically as standards, will likely facilitate US MNCs' access to Asian economies at the expense of domestic preferences. The IPEFs pillars — climate, digital, supply chains, and governance reforms — could clash with and supersede these countries' policy preferences on such issues.

For instance, the US' preference to allow free and open data flows under the digital economy pillar will constrict India's ability to regulate data for domestic purposes. India's long delayed data protection legislation favours government regulation and handling of data despite recent concessions made to share this burden with foreign and domestic firms. Should US officials push for a liberal data flows standard, it will create a difficult choice for Indian officials given their inability to settle prevailing data governance quandaries. Nor are Indian officials generally open to syncing their tax policies to mesh with the Biden push for a global tax standard amongst US partners to mitigate tax avoidance and evasion despite calls that the measure would generate additional financial resources for developing countries. Qualms aside, the IPEF remains attractive for India given its flexibility and open nature, allowing Delhi to demonstrate its political commitment to the United States to jointly shape the rules governing the Indo-Pacific's economic future even as competitors lurk.

That said, tough policy choices, like the one on data and taxation, must be made by Indian officials while negotiating the terms of the IPEF accession without sufficient carrots from the US to draw in and sustain countries like India. The IPEF does not grant market access to the United States or include tariff reduction provisions, ostensibly due to the perils of trade politics in Washington. Instead, the IPEF empowers the Biden administration to shape rules across several critical pillars that will condition America's economic engagement in the Indo-Pacific amid competing economic paradigms, notably the Chinese through the BRI and Europe through a bevy of digital policies and standards.

What's clear is that the IPEF represents both a mirage and aspiration. Collectively, it represents a leap into an unknown that has to be negotiated amongst partners that share interests and some values. And individually, it will generate fierce regulatory battles amongst bureaucrats and regulators in each country to ascertain which commitments advance and which hurt domestic interests. Washington should hope that the conditions for the former trump the latter when the negotiations begin.

The writer is Research Fellow at the Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore

Beyond damage control

India must do everything to protect its ties with nations in Islamic world

across generations.

K M Seethi

INDIA'S DIPLOMATIC DILEMMA over the outrage from the Muslim countries - in the wake of remarks on the Prophet by two BIP leaders, one of whom has been expelled and the other suspended - is unprecedented, but not quite unexpected. This is the culmination of a series of incidents in the country in the last decade when Muslims were targeted and accused of fomenting violence and fanaticism - in the name of love jihad or food and dress. Hate speeches and mob lynching were other traits of this communal frenzy. Yet, the country has not witnessed widespread communal violence or anti-Muslim outrage in the recent past, save a few cases during the anti-CAA agitation.

What apparently infuriated the regimes in the Muslim world, this time, was the text and context of the anti-Islamic slur. Representatives of the BJP made disgraceful references to the Prophet, which the regimes in these Muslim countries, irrespective of the sects in Islam (as the Saudi and Iranian responses clearly indicated), could not cope with. The context was equally important: The comments came from two responsible ruling party officials in the country's capital. That's why they attracted attention. Yet, the agencies to monitor such sensitive issues remained calm until Qatar and Kuwait stepped in by summoning the Indian envoys to protest. In response to the outrage, the BJP acted swiftly by suspending Nupur Sharma and expelling Naveen Jindal, both Delhi-based party functionaries. Later, the party also issued a notification reminding its rank and file to be cautious in public remarks on religious issues.

Meanwhile, social media platforms in India and the Gulf are abuzz with disparaging trolls and there are sickening calls for the boycott of Indian goods. There are also calls on social media for the boycott of Arab goods and services in India. But everyone knows that these are impulsive responses. We have seen such responses in the context of tensions with China. There was never any "exodus" of Chinese goods from India though there was a high-voltage campaign for several months against these goods and some Chinese anns were hanned.

Chinese apps were banned.
Campaigners (including a few GCC regimes) demand that Prime Minister Narendra Modi should tender an apology for all that happened. But New Delhi's stance is categorial and legitimate insofar as the Union government has nothing to do with such unsolicited comments. More importantly, the ruling party did what it was expected to do. Though belatedly, a case was also registered for hurting the sentiments of Muslims. The Gulf regimes have apparently understood the message behind these measures.

Even as the South Block's engagements with the Muslim countries continue — with damage-control exercises at different levels — there are countermoves to browbeat the Islamic world. Obviously, the ruling party is aware of the implications of this move for the upcoming elections in some states, besides the 2024 general elections. Hence, the party is likely to follow a carrot and stick policy on crucial political issues.

The Modi government knows that its foreign policy strategy — which includes strategic bargaining with regional and international actors — would fetch reasonable dividends. The response to its Ukraine war strategy has convinced South Block that it has adequate manoeuvrability in global affairs. Countries in West Asia and North Africa (WANA) region do not have a fixed position vis-à-vis India. Delhi has vibrant economic and strategic ties with almost all regimes in the region, irrespective of the brand of Islam or their relative ideological depth. That's precisely the reason these countries are unwilling to join the Islamabad-led chorus or go beyond passing resolutions. India's signing of a free trade agreement (FTA) with the UAE and the ongoing negotiations for a wider FTA with the GCC could be an eye-opener for the country's detractors.

Much has been said and written about India's energy dependence and trade inter-

dependence across the countries in WANA. As much as 40 per cent of oil and an equal share of gas requirements are met through India's strategic cooperation with the Gulf regimes. India and the WANA regimes know that there is a mutuality of interests in these transactions which cannot be substituted by any other segments of the world system. Equally important is the role of the more than eight million-strong Indian diaspora in the WANA region. The "Gulf remittance" is an important part of the Indian economy, as important as the Indian investment in the GCC and GCC investment in India.

In India.

India's External Affairs Minister, S
Jaishankar, has said that the Indian diaspora is "a unique living bridge between
India and the world and should be valued
accordingly". He also said that "from time
to time, their interests and well-being are
a subject of our conversation." New Delhi
should not stop engaging the countries, especially the ones in the WANA region, that
host a significant number of them.
Therefore, South Block must go beyond a
mere damage-control exercise.

The writer, an ICSSR Senior Fellow in Diaspora Studies, is the Director, Inter University Centre for Social Science Research and Extension (IUCSSRE), Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SAFETY FIRST

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Foul play' (IE, June 10). If we truly want to address the issue of abuse of young athletes by their coaches, we need to look critically and realistically at the different risks young athletes face in different sporting contexts. I believe two things are needed: parents should be provided tools and resources to educate themselves and their children about grooming and assault by predatory coaches; and simple and expedient mechanisms. The Sports Authority of India has rightly initiated firm steps aimed at protecting female athletes from falling prey to sexual harassment at the hands of their coaches. SS Paul, Nadia

TEAM WORK

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Two missions for change' (IE, June 10). The Supreme Court in its landmark judgment Maneka Gandhi v/s Union of India ruled that "life" under Article 21 meant more than a mere "animal existence". It would include the right to live with human dignity and all other aspects which made life meaningful and complete, covering within its ambit, the right to good health, clean environment and water. The Jal Jeevan and Swachh Bharat mission through collective efforts have made the realisation of the aforementioned rights and ideals possible.

Aditi Pangarkar, Kothrud

PATH BREAKER

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Mithali,

superstar' (IE, June 9). A big difference between Mithali Raj and Sachin Tendulkar with whom she is generally compared with respect to a long tenure studded with record-breaking performances, is that she began, struggled and flourished in her career when women's cricket was at its lowest ebb and lacked mass appeal in India. Her sterling batting and proactive captaincy helped attract public attention when she and her team started registering wins and breaking records in world cricket. Her self-belief was remarkable. When once asked who her favourite male cricketer was, she retorted, "Why don't you ask Virat Kohli which female cricketer is his favourite?" She is leaving a legacy of which she should be proud. The nation is.

Y G Chouksey, Pune

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Mithali, superstar' (IE, June 9). Women's cricket has come of age, and Indian Women's cricket has gone miles ahead of International teams as they are trying hard to emulate their men counterparts in achieving records. Just like Sachin Tendulkar, Mithali Raj became the highest run-scorer. It is a great victory. This record follows after Jhulan Goswami became the world's highest ODI wickettaker. Shantha Rangaswamy and Diana Edulji also made a break in women's cricket as batswoman and bowler respectively. Indian women's cricket is coming under the BCCI and we can expect more laurels coming our way in the days to come. She is an icon of Indian

Krishnan Ramanathan, Ghaziabad

Avoid TV debates meant only Bukhari: We should to insult Islam, says AIMPLB

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

THE ALL India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) issued an appeal on Friday to all Islamic scholars and intellectuals to "not participate in television debates whose sole intention is to mock and insult Islam and Muslims"

The appeal came amid protests in different parts of the country over remarks made against the Prophet by now-suspended BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma during a TV debate.

The AIMPLB statement said that in-

stead of being in service to Islam, by participation in such debates, Muslims "become the reason for their own direct insult by involving Islam and Muslims".

"The intention of these programmes is not to reach any conclusion through constructive discourse, but to ridicule and defame Islam and Muslims. To gather some legitimacy, these TV channels need Muslim faces in their debates... If we boycott such programmes and TV channels, not only will it affect their TRP negatively, but they will also fail in achieving their desired outcome through these debates,"the statement said.

TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD INVITATION OF BIDS-TWO COVER-ITEMWAR TENDER SYSTEM (E-Submis 06 & 07 /F.CWSS to 41 habs. /SDO II/ CW /2022/ Dt. 10.06.2022 IFB No. JJM Fund 2022-23 Eligibility Registered Class I Contractors (Civil) The Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Madurai - 625007 Tender Invitee 16.06.2022 to 15.07.2022 upto 17.45 hours Sale of Bid EMD Payable at 1. Executive Engineer, Urban Division, Tirunelvel Pre Bid meeting 04.07.2022 at 11.00 hours at the office of the Tender Invited **18.07.2022** before **15.00** hours at the office of the Tender Invitee. Digitally signed encrypted Tenders through E-Tendering website **www.tntenders.gov.in** Bid Submission Bid opening 19.07.2022 at 15.30 hours at the office of Tender Invitee through E-Tender Portal Appx, Value New Multi Village Scheme under JJM Providing CWSS to 41 habitations in Palayamkotta union in Tirunelveli District - (Construction Period : 12 months and paid Maintenance: 24 months) Providing CWSS to Vagaikulam and 12 Other rural Habitations in Ambasamudram union in Tirunelvel 8.00 District (Construction Period: 12 months and paid

DIPR / 2751 / TENDER / 2022 "Gergana a-liga gelightik yan-lifanik, erganar ufliga eflighik kan-lifanik"

DELHI JAL BOARD, GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE Addl. Chief Engineer (C)-06 THROUGH DEPUTY SUPERIENTENDING ENGINEER (PR) SR -I POCKET-D- 7, ROHINI SECTOR- 6, NEW DELHI-110085 Email:- eepsr11@gmail.com

Chief Engineer,

TWAD Board, Madurai

NIT No. 04(2022-23) RE-INVITE tender through e-procurement solution (iii) Time of op-of technical Bid. (iv) Time of opening of financial Bid. Name of work- CROSSING OF ROHTAK ROAD/NH-10 BY 450 MM DIA HDPE PIPE SEWER LINE THROUGH HDD METHOD BY TRENCHLESS TECHNOLOGY OPPOSITENEAR METRO PILLAR NO. 496 AND 548 FOR CONNECTING MUNDKA INDUSTRIAL AREA TO MUNDKA VILLAGE IN AC-08 MUNDKA ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCY DELIN

urther details in this regard can be seen at https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in SSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)



DELHI JAL BOARD : GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE CHEIF ENGINEER (WATER) PROJECT-I **EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (PROJECT) W-VIII** A-BUILDING, JHANDEWALAN, NEW DELHI-110005 -mail:- eeprojectw8@gmail.com



Sd/- (P.K. SHARMA)

(Horender Kumar) Dy. S. E (PR)SR-I

N.I.T. No. 03 (2022-23) Last date/time of receipt of Tender in eder through e- procureme solution Money(Rs.) procurement solution Fee (Rs.) viding and Laying of 700 mm dia water Rs. 69,47,359/ 10.06.2022 28.06.2022

Further details in this regards can be seen at https://delhi.govtprocurer

E.E.(Project) W-VIII Stop Corona (i) Wash your Hands, (ii) Wear Mask, (iii) Maintain Social Distance



PUNJAB TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY JALANDHAR

(Punjab State Govt. University) Jalandhar-Kapurthala Highway, Kapurthala.

Two Years Operation

& Comprehensive

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited through e-procurement process from eligible bidders for the following (seperate) works at IKGPTU Main Campus, Kapurthala: -

Two Years Operation & Comprehensive Maintenance of Variable Refrigorant Flow (VRF) Indoor and Outdoor Units of Air Conditioning System in Academic Block-1, Academic Block-II, Knowledge Resource Center& Seminar Hall-II

AND Comprehensive Maintenance of Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) Indoor and Outdoor Units of Air Conditioning System in

Nos. Sewage Treatment Plants (two of 30 Kld Capacity And One of 50 Ktd Capacity). Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Auditorium

Two Years Operation And Comprehensive daintenance of Air Conditioning System And Hot Water Generator (feeding G+3 And G+2 Building)

E-Tender documents and other details can be downloaded and uploaded by the bidders through the

Sr. No.	Description	Date & Time
-1	Last Date for E-Tender Submission	29-06-2022 (Wednesday) at 17:00 PM
	Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid	30-86-2022 (Thursday) at 14:00 PM



KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS **DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

49, 4th & 5th Floors, 'East Wing', Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560 001 Phone: 080-2265383, Fax: 080-22267901, e-mail: ceoemkiadb@gmail.com Website: www.kiadb.in No.: KIADB/HO/Allot/C.No. 35940/4092/2022-23 Date: 10.06.2022

NOTIFICATION

INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR ALLOTMENT OF AMENITY PLOTS IN THE INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPED BY THE BOARD

A Notification was issued inviting applications for allotment of amenity plots in the Industrial Areas Developed by the Board in Dharwad, Hubballi, Gadag, Belagavi, Raichur, Kalaburagi & Yadgir Districts vide No. KIADB/HO/Allot/C.No. 35940/17382/2021-22 dtd. 22.03.2022 by fixing the last date for submission of applications on or before 21.04.2022 and further extended the time up to 10.05.2022 vide No. KIADB/HO/Allot/C.No.35940/953/2022-23 dtd. 21.04.2022.

Among the amenity plots and nature of activity for which the application were invited, following amenity plots of Bagalakote District are included:

anno	amenity plots of Bagalakote Bistriot are included.					
SI. No.	District	Industrial Area	Plot No.	Extent in Acres	Nature of Activity	Category
1.	Bagalakote	Navanagar Agrotech Park	CA-1/Plot No. 109	6.00	Education/Skill Development Centre	General
2.	Bagalakote	Navanagar Agrotech Park	CA-3/Plot No.113-A	0.50	Hotel/Canteen	SC/ST

With the above insertion, the last date for submission of application only for the above said amenity plots is up to 09-07-2022.

All other terms and conditions indicated in the earlier Notification No. KIADB/HO/Allot/ C.No.35940/17382/2021-22 dtd. 22.03.2022 remains unaltered and applications shall be submitted as per the same norms

For further details you may contact KIADB Offices mentioned below:

KIADB Office	Phone No:
Bengaluru Head Office	080-22265383
Executive Engineer, Belagavi, KIADB Zonal Office, Belagavi	0831-2475963/2457243
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Applications which are either incomplete or not accompanied by Application fee shall not be considered and the Board has right to reject any application without assigning any reasons and decision of the Board in this matter shall be final and binding on every applicant.

Place: Bengaluru Sd/- Chief Executive Officer Date: 10.06.2022 & Executive Member

stop demonstrating

SUKRITA BARUAH NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

DISTANCING THE mosque committee from the protest held in front of the Jama Masjid Friday afternoon, Shahi Imam Ahmed Bukhari appealed for restraint and argued against demonstrations.

Speaking to The Indian Express, Imam Bukhari said he had been counselling people against demonstrations and that he could not identify those seen in photos and videos of the protest: "For around the last two days, there have been discussions on closing shops in markets but I had spoken to the people from the market saying the time is not right, the mahaul is not right and they had cancelled that programme. Apart from that, people from outside Delhi had also called me, and I had explained this to them as well. Police also had no information about any protest. On Fridays, the Jama Masjid has huge numbers of people coming for prayers and some 50-100 people must have come along for this. Who knows where they came from? They started the protest after prayers, they had papers and banners with them. Till now, we don't know who organised the protest."

He said that "to the best of my knowledge", the protesters are not from the vicinity. "Consider the mahaul in the country, circumstances. There should always be permission from the administra-



Security forces at Jama Masjid after Friday prayers. PTI

tion before a demonstration. If permission is denied, present the case before some other authority like the district magistrate. If there's a large gathering, there might be just 4-5 people who might start a fire or pelt stones. So before we start anything, we have to consider everything and be careful," he said.

"I think we should stop demonstrating. If there's something that needs to be addressed, talk to the government, form a delegation and talk to the home minister. But what is happening right now — with one issue after another — is harmful to the country and the community," he said.

Asansol Municipal Corporation Asansol

Notice Inviting E- Tender E-Tender Notice No. ET-91/WS/Eng/22 dated 09.06.2022

Memo No. 186/WS/Eng/2022 dated 09.06.2022 Name of the work: Supply of 20 (twenty) nos. Data Entry operato

www.wbtenders.govt.in.

(DEO) under Asansol Municipal Corporation. Please visit to website **www.asansolmunicipalcorporation.com** or

For details, intending contractors may also contact Eng. Dept. of this office and office notice Board.

Superintending Engineer **Asansol Municipal Corporation**



World Skill Center Mancheswar Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751007

Website: www.skillodisha.gov.in & www.worldskillcenter.org E-mail: tenders@worldskillcenter.ord

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR ARCHITECTURE Sealed quotation are invited from renowned architects for construction

of hostel and other facilities in Bhubaneswar, for WSC. Details regarding eligibility criteria, terms & conditions and the formats for submission of tender can be downloaded from the website www.skillodisha.gov.in & www.worldskillcenter.org Interested bidders shall submit the bids complete in all respects in the office of the Chief Executive Officer, First Floor, World Skill Center, Mancheswar, Bhubaneswar-751007.

Last date & Time for Submission of RFP	3.00 PM of 11th July, 2022
Date & Time of Opening of Bids	4.00 PM of 11th July, 2022
Contact Number	0674-2580079

Chief Executive Officer OIPR- 44009/11/0009/2223



GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER

RURAL WORKS CIRCLE: SUNDARGARH AT/PO-SANKARA, SUNDARGARH-770020, E-mail address-serw sundargarh@yahoo.cor

No. Tender Online- RWCCESNG-12 of 2022-23, Letter No. 1591/Dtd. 10.06.2022 e-Procurement NOTICE

Type of the Work : Bridge (BSY)

2. Class of Contractor: As specified in the column-6 of the Annexure

Time of Completion: As specified in the column-5 of the Annexure 4. Detail Projects : As per Annexure attached

Estimated Cost : As specified in the column-4 of the Annexure

Other details

Procurement	Bid on-line for bidding Tim		Last Date & Time of	Date & Time of opening of tender		
Officer	Identification No.	From	То	Seeking Tender Clarification	Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh	RWCCESNG- 12 of 2022-23		11.07.2022 5:00 PM	08.07.2022 5:00 PM	12.07.2022 11:00 AM	Will be intimated separately
Established a state of			da a considerada		al a sea a all a le	

Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in

Sd/- Chief Construction Enginee Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh OIPR- 25133/11/0017/2223



NOTICE INVITING BID Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMCL)

In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar -751 001

Tel.: (0674) 2380950, Website: www.osmcl.nic.in, Email: drugs-osmcl@gov.in

Bid Ref. No.: OSMCL/2022-23/SUT.SURG. & OTH)-DHS

(Re-Tender)/13 Date: 10/06/2022 Online Bids through e-Tender (https://tendersodisha.gov.in) are invited from eligible bidders for

supply of Surgical, Sutures, Syringes and Other items (Re-Tender) as per the particulars mentioned below: **Particulars**

1	Date & time of release of bid	10/06/2022, 3 PM			
2	Date & time for submission of queries by E-Mail id - drugs-osmcl@gov.in				
3	Date & time of Online bid	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time		
	submission	18/06/2022, 3 PM	07/07/2022, 6.00 PM		
4	Date & time for submission of				
	Tender Documents, Tender Document Fee of tender document	08/07/2022, 10 AM	15/07/2022, 11.00 AM		
5	Date & time of online Technical bid opening	15/07/2022, 11:30	AM		
6	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the	ne qualified bidders		

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process

including cost of bid document, Prequalification criteria and terms &

conditions are available in the websites: www.osmcl.nic.in and

https://tendersodisha.gov.in The Authority reserves the right to

accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any

Sd/-**Managing Director** OSMC Ltd., Odisha

PROTESTS OVER REMARKS AGAINST THE PROPHET

Internet shut in Ranchi following violence

ABHISHEK ANGAD RANCHI, JUNE 10

INTERNET SERVICES were suspended on Friday indefinitely in Ranchi district following violence during protests to condemn the recent remarks against the Prophet. One protester died of bullet wounds and another was on ventilator, while two police personnel were among about a dozen people in-

The protesters were demanding the arrest of suspended BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma for her remarks against the Prophet, police said.

jured in the violence.

SP Ranchi (rural) Naushad Alam said, "One of the protesters died of bullet injury. Twelve others who are admitted to the Raiender Institute of Medical Sciences and Hospital have injuries caused due to stone pelting as well as pellets."

According to police officials, the protest was continuing since morning and picked up tempo post-Friday prayers. Many shops and establishments kept their shutters down in protest against the remarks. Sources in the district admin-

istration said the protesters were marching on the 'Main Road' area of Ranchi between 2.30pm and 3pm when it became violent and the police were unable to control them. Police resorted to firing in the air to disperse the crowd.

Ranchi SSP Surender Jha suf-

No 1059 //

www.wbtenders.govt.in.

office and office notice Board.

Tender ID: 2022_MAD_384270_1

www.jangipurmunicipality.org

SI (A) Account Name

No (B)Account

Notice

Municipality



Carts set on fire during a protest in Ranchi on Friday. PTI

fered a concussion on the skull after a stone hit the helmet he was wearing. Ranchi City SP and another cop were hospitalised with injuries on their legs.

A press release issued by the Information and Public Relations Department said: "The district administration has invoked Section 144 (CrPC) on both sides of the Main Road starting from Sujata Chowk to Firaylal Chowk.

A source in the district administration said: "What triggered the entire sequence of events is a matter of investigation. Right now our priority is to check any kind of violence and the police are there at the spot.

Chief Construction Engineer

Executive Engineer

Asansol Municipal Corporation

Dt 10/6/22

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION

ENGINEER RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, ANGUL

Cancellation of Periodical Maintenance Tender

Due to some unavoidable circumstances in respect of the

tender for Bid Identification No.Maintenance Online-AGL

03/2022-23 invited by the Procurement Officer, Chief

Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Angul is hereby

Asansol Municipal Corporation

Notice Inviting E-Tender

E.Tender Notice No. ET-92/WS/Eng/22 dated 09.06.2022

Memo No. 187/WS/Eng/2022 dated 09.06.2022

Please visit to website www.asansolmunicipalcorporation.com o

For details, intending contractors may also contact Eng. Dept. of this

e-Tender Notice

Chairman, Jangipur Municipality

Name of the work: Supply, laying and fixing 250mm dia M.S. pipe

over Bhagirathi Bridge for ongoing water supply scheme within

Jangipur Municipality on Turn-Key basis under AMRUT Project.

Tender Ref No.: MAD/ULB/JM/AMRUT/NIeT30/22-23 (1stCall)

Last Date & Time of bid submission: 27/06/2022 up to 17 Hrs.

For details please visit https://wbtenders.gov.in or Jangipur

Board

Both police and the protesters have been injured and we are trying to figure out the number of injured. Some vehicles have also been damaged in the area."

CM Hemant Soren said: "I suddenly got to know and it is worrisome. In fact, the entire topic is worrisome as we are becoming targets of some force in a planned manner. I want to tell via the media that people of Jharkhand have tolerance. We all are passing through testing times, and we should lose our patience. Even constitution says the same thing that the oppressors should be punished. I will appeal to the public that no one should be part of any crime."

DC Ranchi Ranjan said: "I appeal to the people of Ranchi to maintain calm and not to believe in any kind of rumours and refrain from spreading one."

Government of West Bengal Department of Health & **Family Welfare** Malda Medical College & Hospital, Malda

NOTICE INVITING TENDER Rural Works Circle, Angul OIPR- 25180/11/0007/2223 MALDA MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL INVITES Tender Notic No- 2843/2844 MLDMMCH, DATE 10.06.2022, For supply of Equipment & Medicine "FOF DETAILS <u>www.wbhealth.gov.in</u> www.maldamedicalcollege.com or office of the Under signed MSVI Malda MCH

यूको बैंक 👔 UCO BANK

1st Floor, Saltlake City, Sector-I, Kolkata-700064 Notice Inviting Tender

UCO Bank, one of the leading Nationalised Bank, invites e-tender in two bid concept from eligible and experienced companies/ Private Security Agencies for hiring of three Customised Cash Vans along with driver, loader & armed guards for providing cash

remittance services to selected CCs &

oranches within the jurisdiction of Zona

The details may be collected from UCO Bank Saltlake Zonal Office having above address or can be downloade from Bank's www.ucobank.com. The last date for submission of application through e-tender is 02.07.2022. DGM & Zonal Manager, Saltlake Zone

ortgaged Property Details

(West Halder Para), PO & PS Gangarampur

Dist Dakshin Dinajpur, PIN 733124

and

पांजारावा कीव्हाकारन बैंस्क 💽 punjob netlonol bank

Chairman **Jangipur Municipality**

website

Recall Notice U/S 13(2)

Circle Sastra Malda, Nazrul Sarani, B.S Road, PO-Malda (WB), Pin-732101, Email: cs8275@pnb.co.in Date: 11.06.2022 RECALL NOTICE U/S 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and **Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002**

(B) Outstanding

Number (Type) As On Date (C) NPA Date (C)Branch Name (A) Maa Tara Atta Maa Tara Atta (Borrower) (A) ₹ 4,00,000.00 Equitable Mortgage of Land and Building in the ame of Sahadeb Sarkar S/o Jyotish Sarka ituated at Mouza Rajibpur, JL 84, LR Khatiar Prop Sahadeb 2. Sahadeb Sarkar S/o (B) ₹4.23.251.84 yotish Sarkar (Proprietor) Plus charges and (B) 1350250031383 B. Ganesh Halder S/o further interest w.e. No 3447, Plot No LR 26, RS 27 measuring total area 0.13 acre, classification Bastu, DSR Gangarampur, Deed No I-4573 (Area 0.09 Mahadeb Halder (Guarantor) 01.05.2022 Cash Credit) (C) Sukdebpur (C) 09.08.2021 acres), for the year 1992 & Deed No I-8820 (Area 0.04 acres) for the year 1985 at Rajibpur (135020) At- Raiibpur (West Haldar Para) PO & PS Gangarampur

(As delivery of Demand Notice sent vide post to all or any one of the above-mentioned borrower(s) guarantor(s) failed, hence this notice is being published)

Reg: Credit facilities availed by above mentioned borrowers

Dist Dakshin Dinajpur, WB,

with address

Borrower(s) Mentioned in above table have availed credit facilities (As described above) which was guaranteed by guaranto as mentioned above.

Due to non-payment of instalment/ interest/ principal debt, the account(s) has/have been classified as **Non-Performing Asse** as per Reserve Bank of India guidelines. We demand/recall the entire outstanding together with charges and further interest due under the above facilities. We are also invoking guarantee vide this notice.

against their name(s)/account(s):

We hereby call upon said borrowers/guarantors to pay the outstanding amount with charges and further interest at the contracted rate until payment in full within 60 days (sixty days) from the date of publication of this notice. In default, besides exercising other rights of the Bank as available under Law, the Bank is intending to exercise any or all of the powers as provide under section 13(4) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"). The details of the secured asset/s intended to be enforced by the Bank, in the event of non payment of secured debt by you are mentioned in above table against respective borrower(s)/guarantor(s)' name(s account(s).

Your attention is hereby drawn invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to you redeem the secured assets. Please take notice that in terms of section 13(13) of the said Act, you shall not, after receipt of this notice, transfer by way of

sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of business) any of the secured assets above referred to prior written consent of the Bank. You are also put on notice that any contravention of this statutory injunction/restraint, as provided under the said Act, is an offence. If for any reason, the secured assets are sold or leased out in the ordinary course of business, the sale proceeds or incom

realised shall be deposited/remitted with/to the Bank. You will have to render proper account of such realisation/inco We reserve our rights to enforce other secured assets. Please comply with this demand under this notice and avoid all unpleasantness. In case of non-compliance, further needfu action will be resorted to, holding you liable for all costs and consequences.

This notice is issued without prejudice to the bank taking legal action before DRT/Court, as the case may be. Yours faithfully For Punjab National Bank AUTHORISED OFFICER

Chief Manager, Circle Sastra Malda

EXPRESS NETWORK

President **Kovind reaches** Himachal on a two-day visit

ENS&PTI

SHIMLA/NEW DELHI. JUNE 10

PRESIDENT RAM Nath Kovind on Friday arrived at Dharamshala in Himachal Pradesh on a two-day visit to the state.

Security has been tightened in view of the President's visit with paragliding, flying of drones and hot air balloons being prohibited in Lahaul-Spiti and Kullu districts on June 11 when he is scheduled to visit Atal Tunnel Rohtang.

The President will preside over the sixth convocation of the central university in Dharamshala in Kangra district in the evening. He will visit Atal Tunnel Rohtang. which connects Kullu and Lahaul-Spiti districts, on Saturday. The prestigious tunnel was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 3, 2020.

Army Chief Gen Pande in HP, Uttarakhand

Army Chief General Manoj Pande reviewed the operational preparedness along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China in Pradesh Uttarakhand on Friday. This is his maiden visit to the central sector of the India-China border.

The Army said in a statement that Pande is on a three-day visit to the forward areas on the LAC in Himachal Pradesh Uttarakhand. "This is the maiden visit of the Army Chief to this sector," since he took over in May.

During his visits to the posts, Pande was briefed by the local commanders about the prevailing situation along the borders, and he held a "first-hand assessment of the operational preparedness in forward areas". The Army said that Pande "emphasised the need for vigil and alertness along the borders" and expressed satisfaction "on the rapid improvement of defensive posture and operational readiness of formation". He also appreciated the absorption of "modern technology in undertaking persistent surveillance.

SC rejects pleas seeking another round of counselling for **NEET-PG**

Says govt decision not arbitrary, but in interest of medical education, public health

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE SUPREME Court on Friday dismissed petitions seeking another round of counselling for vacant seats in the NEET-PG All India Quota, pointing out that eight to nine rounds had already been held and the Centre's decision to not hold another round of counselling is not arbitrary, but in the interest of medical education and public health.

A bench of Justices MR Shah and Aniruddha Bose said most of the 1,456 vacant seats are in non-clinical courses and that

"students cannot still pray for admissions for those seats remaining vacant after approximately one year of the academic session and remaining vacant after 8 or 9 rounds of coun-

Referring to the decisions of the apex court in two earlier matters that raised similar prayers, the bench said applying the law laid down by the court in those decisions to the facts of this case, the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC) and the Union of India "have to adhere to the time schedule for completing the admission

It added that "the current ad-

mission of NEET-2021 is already behind schedule and even after conducting 8-9 rounds of counselling, some seats of mainly non-technical courses remain vacant. Thereafter, when a conscious decision is taken by the Centre and the medical council not to conduct a further special stray round of counselling, it cannot be said that the same is arbitrary".

"The decision is in the interest of medical education and public health. There cannot be any compromise with the merit and the quality of medical education that will ultimately affect public health," the bench said, dismissing the petitions.

Opposing the prayer for another round of counselling, the Centre had on Thursday told the Supreme Court that nine rounds of counselling had already taken place and that a large chunk of vacancies was a consequence of candidates not taking up nonclinical seats.

Additional Solicitor General Balbir Singh, appearing for the Centre and the MCC, said seats remaining vacant was a "structural issue" as many candidates who opted for non-clinical, paramedical or teaching seats ended up not taking admission. "There are some seats in private medical colleges too where fee is very high," he added.

Fear in Karnataka town after 4 die due to contaminated water

KIRAN PARASHAR BENGALURU, JUNE 10

"EVERY TIME we pick up a tumbler to drink water, we feel scared. We fear whether we are really drinking water or poison," says Mohammed Hafizullah, a resident of Raichur, a town in Karnataka where four people have died and hundreds have undergone treatment since last week due to consumption of contaminated water.

Raichur town, with a population of about 2.5 lakh people, is situated in a border district of north Karnataka. Since last week, the town has been facing a water contamination problem. with many still in hospital after suffering from diarrhoea and vomiting.

According to the locals, all 35 wards of Raichur town get drinking water from Rampuru reservoir. Locals allege that unfiltered water was supplied to the city, leading to health problems.

Raichur District Deputy Commissioner Chandrashekhar Navaka L told The Indian Express that the filtration units were not

led to the water contamination. "Now, we are supplying water by chlorinating it from overhead tank (OHT) and we are also checking pipelines to see if there re any problems," he added.

Sixteen-year-old Rajeshwari's mother Mallamma, 40, was one of the four people who died. "My mother died last week after drinking contaminated water. She used to work in the Roti Kendra and my father is a coolie worker. A lot of residents here fell sick and suffered from diarrhoea and vomiting," says Rajeshwari, an Indiranagar resident. "She passed away due to complications. The doctors indicated that it could have been due

Samreena, 22, who works in a private firm in Raichur, fell ill when she returned to her hometown. "I came home on Sunday and the next morning, I started vomiting and had diarrhoea. I got admitted as my grandmother was already admitted for the ame reason," she said.

to the polluted water."

Speaking to The Indian Express, Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) Director Dr Basavaraj V Peerapur said that 33 patients were under treatment there, including nine children. "Patients came to us complaining of diarrhoea, vomiting, dehydration and acute renal infection. We are giving them high fluids and in severe cases, some of them have undergone dialysis. This might be due to a bacteria or viral infection," he said.

Asked about the water supply for the hospital, Basavaraj said, "We have a reverse osmosis plant in the hospital and all the patients here use the same. There are filters on every floor and we have instructed the patients to use the same.'

Raichur District Deputy Commissioner Chandrashekhar Nayaka Ltold The Indian Express that the filtration unit was not cleaned for some time and it had led to the water contamination. "There are three sources for bulk water supply and we are looking at all the levels," he said. "The automated water filtration unit which was unveiled a couple of years ago is yet to be handed over to the town municipality as there are some technical issues but the old filtration units are being used. As it was not cleaned for some time, it led to an incident like this.'

Protest grows in Kerala against SC directive on ESZs

SHAJU PHILIP

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,

PROTEST IS mounting in the hilly regions of Kerala against the Supreme Court direction last week that every protected forest tract and wildlife sanctuary must have an eco-sensitive zone (ESZ) of one kilometre from its Idukki district observed a

dawn-to-dusk hartal on Friday, called by the ruling CPI(M), seektervention on the Supreme Court directive. The Congressled United Democratic Front (UDF) has also called for a hartal on June 16 in the district, which had witnessed a series of protests in 2013-14 against the $Kasturirangan\,committee\,report$ on the Western Ghats.

In Wayanad district, various political parties, farmers' outfits and trade bodies have charted out protests in the coming weeks. The CPI(M) and Congress are conducting separate protest marches in Wayanad on Friday.

Political parties and farmers' outfits in Kerala have been demanding that all human settlements be exempted from the ESZ. The new directive has come at a time when hilly regions in the state have been witnessing an unprecedented spurt in wildlife attacks.

Last Friday, a three-judge bench of the apex court directed all states to leave a mandatory eco-sensitive zone of one kilometre from the boundaries of national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and other protected forest land. The court was considering a public interest litigation for the protection of forest lands in the

Nilgiris in Tamil Nadu, Later, the scope of the petition was enlarged to protect such natural resources throughout the country.

Kerala forest minister A K Saseendran said the state wanted all human settlements to be excluded from the purview of the ESZ.

"In Kerala, there are 24 wildlife sanctuaries. The Supreme Court order came at a time when we have already submitted to the Ministry of **Environment**, Forest and Climate Change our proposals on the ESZ of 20 sanctuaries, completely excluding the human habitats from the buffer zone. If the court directive is implemented, it would impact farmers in the state's hilly regions. Besides, we have to start the process of demarcating the ESZ once again," he said.

Saseendran said the state government would move a review petition in the Supreme Court. The state would explore a suggestion in the apex court order, which said "the minimum width of the ESZ may be diluted in overwhelming public interest but for that purpose the State or Union Territory concerned shall approach the Central Empowered Committee and Ministry of Environment and

Forest and Climate Change". Kerala Independent Farmers' Association (KIFA) chairman Alex Ozhukavil said the court verdict would have far-reaching consequences. "The total extent of the wildlife sanctuaries in Kerala is eight lakh acres. If one km of ESZs is demarcated from their boundaries, around 4 lakh acres of human settlements, including farmlands, would come within that purview. This would be a matter of sheer survival of lakhs of people," he said.

lawyer kills self in Rajasthan; SDM, SHO booked

Protests after

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE JAIPUR, JUNE 10

PROTESTS WERE held in several districts in Rajasthan on Friday by advocates' organisations following the alleged suicide of a 40year-old lawyer in Sikar district's Chandela on Thursday.

According to the police, a sub divisional officer (SDO), along with the SHO of the local police station have been booked for abetment to suicide.

"Advocate Hansraj Mawaliya poured petrol on himself on Thursday before he self-immolated. After setting himself on fire Mawaliya entered the chamber of Khandela SDO Rakesh Kumar and tried to touch him. The SDO somehow managed to free himself but sustained burn injuries in the process. Mawaliya was taken to Jaipur but was subsequently declared dead. He had sustained around 70 per cent burn injurie said Ratan Lal Bhargava, additional superintendent of police, Nim Ka

According to the police, in a detailed suicide note, Mawaliya accused SDO Kumar of demanding bribes in revenue-related case hearing matters and accused Ghasi Ram, the SHO of Khandela police station of harassment.

"Based on complaints submitted by lawvers, we have registered an FIR against SDO Kumar and SHO Ram under section 306 (abetment of suicide) of the IPC. An FIR was also registered on the complaint of the SDO against Mawaliva for offences including those under section 307 (attempt to murder) of the IPC. Mawaliya, while himself on fire, had tried to drag the SDO too," said Additional SP Bhargava.

The death of Mawaliya resulted in massive protests by lawyers in several districts. In Jaipur, angry lawyers blocked roads and boycotted work.

HEAVY RAINS WREAK HAVOC IN PUNE

Heavy rains led to traffic snarls, uprooting of trees, wall collapse and water-logging in Maharashtra's Pune on Friday. Ashish Kale

CHHATTISGARH

10-yr-old boy falls into borewell; rescue ops on

ent on the spot. They had been

from the government said.

instructed by CM Bhupesh

Baghel to ensure the safe evacu-

ation of the child, a statement

ambulances were on stand by

and oxygen was being supplied

to Rahul using thin pipes inside

the pit, officials said. "Although

the pit is 80 feet deep, the boy is

possibly stuck at 60 feet," an of-

sued by the government, NDRF

teams had been mobilised from

Cuttack and Bilaspur on Friday

Bishnoi gang hired Maharashtra

shooters to kill Moosewala: police

According to statements is-

ficial at the spot said.

Excavating machines and

GARGIVERMA RAIPUR, JUNE 9

RESCUE ATTEMPTS were on in Chhattisgarh's Ianigir after a 10year-old boy fell into a borewell allegedly while playing behind

According to sources, Lala Sahu, a resident of Piharid village in Janigir-Champa district, had got a borewell dug behind his house. On Friday afternoon, his son Rahul allegedly fell into it.

The district collector and Superintendent of Police, along with other officials, were pres-

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE DELHI Police said on Friday

that Siddhesh Hiraman Kamble alias Saurav alias Mahakal, who was arrested in Pune earlier this week, had introduced two

Maharashtra-based shooters to the Lawrence Bishnoi gang,

which police say carried out the

murder of Punjabi singer-politi-

told them that he introduced the

shooters to Bishnoi's aide,

Vikram Brar, after which they

were hired for Rs 3 lakh each,

and that he also got Rs 50,000 for

Dhaliwal told the media in Delhi

that police gathered vital infor-

Special CP (Special Cell) H S

According to police, Kamble

cian Sidhu Moosewala.

the introduction.

NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

Cong reaches out to AAP, Opp parties over presidential

New Delhi: Keen on the Opposition coming together to

presidential election against the ruling NDA's nominee, the Congress has begun reaching out to various opposition parties. Apart from being in talks with its allies, the Congress has also reached out to the Aam Aadmi Party. Sources said Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, the Congress's point person for holding talks with parties in the Opposition, has spoken to AAP's Rajya Sabha leader Sanjay Singh. Sources said the AAP, too, is in favour of fielding a candidate against the ruling NDA's nom-

NHRC issues notices to Ministry, SAI over woman cyclist's charges

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

THE NATIONAL Human Rights Commissionhas sought a "detailed report" from the Union Sports Ministry and Sports Authority of India on allegations of "inappropriate behaviour" levelled by a woman cyclist against the national sprint team chief coach during a camp in Slovenia

The Commission which took suo motu cognisance of media reports dated June 7, 8, and 9 of the developments said that if what has been reported is true, it amounts to violation of the victim sportsperson's human rights.

Issuing notice to the Secretary, Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and the Director General, SAI, the Commission sought their responses in four

The "detailed report", it said, should include the status of phys-

ical and mental health of the vice tim, action, if any, taken against the responsible officer including

> An NHRC release on Friday said: "It is strange to know that instead of reining in the coach, the Sports Authority of India reportedly chose to bring the victim back to India thereby depriving her of training overseas for which she had been selected. The Right to Dignity of the victim has purported to have been violated...". The Commission said "if the allegations mentioned in the news reports are true and no action is taken by the authorities with regard to such incidents, other female sports persons will not only feel unsafe but will be reluctant to complain against perpetrators..."

> "The subject also falls under ambit of the Sexual Harassment of Women at work place (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act of 2013...", the re-

Mumbai logs 1,956 new Covid cases, highest since Jan

Maharashtra records 3,081 fresh infections on Friday; capital's test positivity rate stood at 12.74%

RUPSA CHAKRABORTY MUMBAI, JUNE 10

OF THE 3,081 new Covid-19 witnessed across Maharashtra on Friday, 1,956 infections were from Mumbai alone. For the first time since

January 23, Mumbai recorded Covid-19 cases as high as 1,956 on Friday. This is a 15 per cent surge, as the city had reported 1,702 cases a day before. The test positivity rate (TPR) – the number of positive cases out of the total tests conducted - reached 12.74 per cent in the city on Friday.

As the BMC had increased testing numbers to 17,145 on Tuesday, TPR had dropped to 7.2



A vaccination camp in Navi Mumbai on Friday. Narendra Vaskar

19,185 tests were conducted and tected. The TPR was then 9.1 per

surged by 42 per cent. On Thursday, testing numbers dipped to 17,648, with Mumbai recording 1,702 new cases with a TPR of 9.64 per cent.

The TPR climbed to 12.74 per cent on Friday, as testing figures further dipped to 15,346.

Between December 21-27, 2021 - the week before the third wave started in Mumbai - a whopping 2,45,538 tests were conducted in the city. An average of over 35,000 tests were conducted daily. Of these, 4,263 cases were detected with a TPR of 1.7 per cent. In a sharp contrast, the current TPR is hovering etween 9-13 per cent.

Health experts are concerned that low testing can lead to under-reporting of Covid-19 cases in Mumbai. Soumitra Ghosh from School of Health Systems Studies, TISS, said, "In any pandemic, testing holds the priority in surveillance and containment measures. Low testing can later overwhelm the health infra-

Despite repeated attempts, Sanjeev Kumar, BMC additional commissioner, was not available for comments.

However, as the severity of the infection is less, health experts overruled as blip the spec-

ulation about the advent of a fourth wave. Dr Ishwar Gilada, an expert in infectious diseases. said, "The only noticeable change has been the possibility of BA.4 and BA.5 sub-variants of Omicron driving the surge, coupled with low vaccination. So long as the demand for oxygen and hospital beds do not increase and deaths are not reported, there is no cause for concern.'

mation against four of the eight men who allegedly shot Moosewala. "Mahakal was interrogated and he told police that he had introduced two Maharashtra-based shooters, Santosh Jadhav and Navnath Survavanshi, to Brar," he said. "Brar is currently in Canada

He was earlier working with the gangster Anandpal of Rajasthan, but after Anandpal was killed in

an encounter, he joined Bishnoi's gang. More than two dozen cases are registered against Brar," a senior police officer said. Dhaliwal said Maharashtra

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann met Canadian High

Commissioner Cameron Mackay in Chandigarh on Friday.

nabbing gangsters allegedly operating from Canadian soil. PTI

The CM sought support of the Canada government for

Police is already probing the role of Brar in connection with a threat letter delivered to actor Salman Khan and his father. writer Salim Khan.

Police said Mahakal also revealed that Brar had taken the letter to Salim Khan. "Bishnoi had issued the letter to Salman Khan and his father Salim Khan. Three people from his gang had come from Jalore, Rajasthan, to Mumbai to drop off the letter and had met accused Mahakal," an officer said.

Dhaliwal had earlier said that Bishnoi, who is currently in Tihar Jail, was the mastermind behind Moosewala's murder on May 29.

per cent with 1,242 new cases being recorded. The next day,

cent and the daily caseload had 1,765 new infections were de-

10 REVIEWS CINEMA & MUSIC

In The News Today



TWO RIVAL TV channels, one which chases TRPs to the exclusion of all else, the other that veers towards credibility and caution. Intrepid reporters who work hard and party harder. Me Too scandals in Bollywood. Electoral bonds. Power-hungry politicians. And a dark organisation mining big data, which threatens to invade the privacy of billions of ordinary Indians. The Broken News, directed by Vinav Waikul, seems to have been cobbled together from headlines we have been living with for a while.

But just in case the web series is deemed 'too real', lots of highly-dramatised elements

are bunged in, which keep the series sliding into filmi territory. The Broken News comes off more like a crime thriller than what it promises at the outset — an exploration of how TV news is shaping everyday discourse in the country, and how news is not

just broken on TV, news TV itself is broken. Josh 24/7 is headed by Dipankar Sanyal (Jaideep Ahlawat), a supremely arrogant editor-anchor who is convinced that he runs the country; does his character remind you of someone? At the helm of Awaaz Bharati is Amina Qureshi (Sonali Bendre Behl), who is capable of making tough choices. Star reporter Radha Bhargava (Shriya Pilgaonkar) is after the truth all the time, even when she is conflicted personally and professionally. And then there is newbie Anuj Sharma (Taaruk Raina), who shuns integrity on the path to progress. Ahlawat is wholly convincing, managing

Director: Vinay Waikul Cast: Jaideep Ahlawat, Sonali Bendre Behl, Shriya Pilgaonkar, Taaruk Raina Streaming on: Zee 5

THE BROKEN NEWS

ers of channels declaring to their staff: I own this channel, so you will do as I say. Really? And this line, from one character to another: 'tum team ki moral compass ho'. Who says stuff like this? Others are made to talk about ethics and morality as if those things have never been said before. Maybe the team needs to spend time on a news floor to see how much drudge work goes into a 24-hour cycle: it's not all thundering anchors and their cowering

to leap over writing glitches with ease. And it

is good to see Bendre back. Pilgaonkar's conscientious reporter is too similar to her lawyer

in Guilty Minds: how about building in difference? Back-stabbing, stealing stories, stormy

edit meetings where prima donnas throw

tantrums, sycophantic yes-men, are all part

of the game, as we see how news is con-

structed. Some of it has a bit of a sting to it, es-

pecially the segment which features a sleazy

Bollywood star (Sharad Kapoor) who has

been a serial abuser of young aspirants, and

who does feel the burn when faced by accu-

sations from victims who have kept quiet

But much of it is a stretch,

especially for those who know

the news business. Colourful

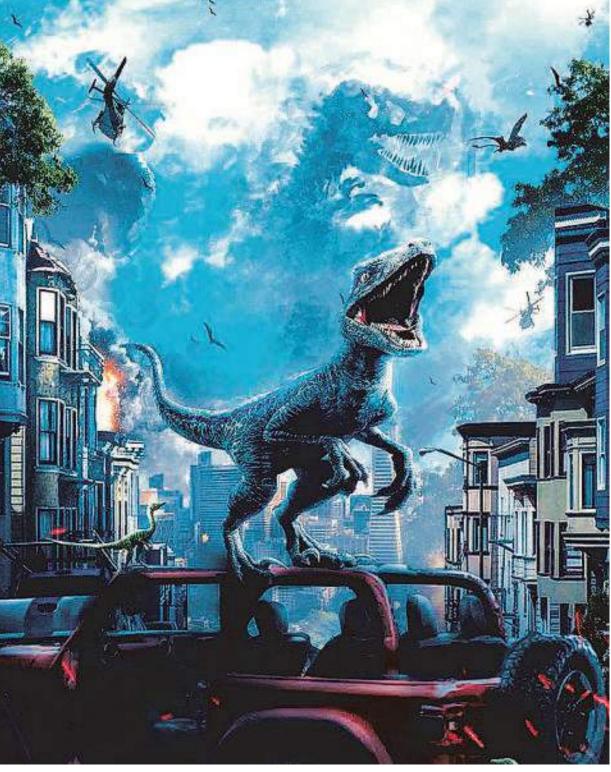
informants at the beck and call

of reporters, brave employees

calling out their bosses, own-

for years.

guests, and 'breaking news'. And, of course, none of it touches upon the real hot button subjects of bigotry and polar-



This is The Way it Ends

Point Taken

PRETTY MANOKAMNA Tripathi is a perfect candidate for a 'good match'. She also markets condoms. Straight away, that is a problem. How can a good Indian girl do such a 'ganda kaam' (dirty work)? By making a 'parivarik' (family) comedy out of it, that's what. Calling a condom a 'chhatri' (umbrella) is an old joke, but it is turned into a perky element in Janhit Mein Jaari, which uses humour well enough up to a point, to make its point — that it's no sin to talk up protection during sex.

To that end, we have a solid ensemble. Manokamna (Bharuccha) desires a paying job. The one she gets offered, by a good-natured distributor (Kala) of said condoms, has no strings attached, except a loyal lovelorn best friend (Tripathi). Along the way she acquires, at some speed, a boyfriend-whoturns-into-a-husband (Dhaka), a domineering father-in-law (Raaz), a grandpa-in-law (Anand), and a companionable clutch of sisters-in-law. There's the usual righteous uproar, and the fallout thereof, which we know

What makes this film, at least its first half, such good fun is the writing. It's light and funny, and the characters do their job well, as we see the Bollywood small town (clearly, Chanderi in MP is the new 'It' town) in the throes of a 'sasur-bahu' saga. Manokamna's parents' home is dubbed Condom Niwas, the father-in-law goes blue in the face when he discovers the true nature of his kamaau bahu's (earning daughter-in-law) job, the husband is more a dutiful son than a supportive husband, and barbs fly thick and fast.



JANHIT MEIN JAARI ★★★

Bharuccha, Anud Singh Dhaka, Paritosh Tripathi, Vijay Raaz, Brijendra Kala, Tinnu Anand, Ishtiyak Khan, Sapna Sand

Post-interval, the film becomes preachy. Condoms are not just for pleasure, says Manokamna to the groups of ladies she goes about addressing, they are also instruments that keep women from unwanted abortions, which in turn prevent untimely tragic deaths. That's not to say that this is not a valid argument, but it takes a brave-for-Bollywood, letus-have-some-fun-with-sex flick, and turns it into a lecture

If only we could get more of that fun, still considered taboo: the most hilarious part of the film is two women chatting about having it on. Films grown up enough to feature condoms also mean that they need to be grown up enough to talk about the act, right? Darr ke

SHUBHRA GUPTA

SO, AFTER nearly thirty years, here comes the last installment of a world we had never seen before. In 1993, Steven Spielberg's Jurassic Park introduced us to the different sizes and shapes of the dinosaurs we would become familiar with. It was a film perfectly tailored for wideeyed wonderment. It staggered our imagination. The adventures that followed, with their increasing levels of sophisticated computer graphics, never really matched up to that shock and awe we felt when we first set eyes on those unbelievably gigantic creatures which once roamed the earth.

In the new film, which will wrap one of the most lucrative franchises Hollywood has fashioned, dinosaurs are no longer confined to an island. They live alongside humans. But not everything, as they say, is hunky-dory. Just like not all humans are alike, dinosaurs also come with built-in characteristics. Cruel carnivores, gentle long-necked herbivores, chirpy infants, and, the Dominion specials, the ones built as targeted missiles: once they lock on to you, you are as good as dead.

No effort has been spared in making this one's canvas bigger, but that doesn't make the film necessarily better. We are reunited with the OG trio, Laura Dern, Sam Neill, Jeff Goldblum, all looking remarkably in good nick, and even more capable of managing stuff when the sxxt hits the fan. The bright-eyed Dern talks the amiable Neill into joining her searchofanewkindofpredatorylocustwhich the chase is so generic it makes your destroys everything except crops grown by an evil corporation. On a secret plant in which nestles the corporation's headquarters, far far away from prying eyes, is the very sleek Goldblum: is he enemy or ally?

There's also Jurassic World couple Chris Pratt and Bryce Dallas Howard as guardians of a very special little girl (Isabella Sermon). The bad guys want her, as well as a young dinosaur, who lives with its watchful mother in the forest nearby. Will this bunch,

JURASSIC WORLD

DOMINION ★★

Director: Colin Trevorrow

Cast: Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas

Howard, Laura Dern, Jeff Goldblum, Sam Neill, DeWanda

Wise, Mamoudou Athie,

BD Wong, Isabella Sermon

which includes a feisty pilot (DeWanda Wise) be able to save the girl and the young creature, and in so doing, the planet? Of course, dumdum: of what use is a story spilling over with the fearsome Giganotosaurus if it's not

humanity itself?

Sadly, except for the occasional flash, Dominion is a stodgy, too-constructed affair. And it is not even madly original. Some parts remind you of Spielberg's Raiders Of The Lost Ark. A sequence in which dinosaurs are being auctioned to the highest bidder feels like a Star Wars film clone, with all kinds of squigglysquaggly critters and humans scattered about. There's also a very Bond/Bourne vibe when Pratt goes careering through the lanes of a warm-toned Mediterranean town, with killer dinosaurs on his trail. These dinos are new, or at least that murderous trait of theirs is, but

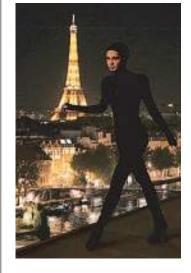
The raptors try and make up for it. A climactic dino-on-dino fight, featuring the 'two largest predators in existence', has some moments, especially when the humans on the run are frozen with fear as the rapacious snout-and-teeth hover inches off their faces. We stop breathing too. But how long can the braying beasts hold our attention? Even when it comes to facing down the blank-faced vil-

lain (Campbell Scott), busy inserting his fingers into precious animal and human genomes for pelf and profit, it feels like we've seen similar stuff before.

The film leaves us with the same message as its 2018 edition, that the only way out of our troubles is

to co-exist. Which is all well and good. Seeing a little girl pet a baby dino in a pastoral, urban, sanitised park-type setting, you can't help wonder: once this dino grows up, will he devour humans? You can't change the nature of the beast, can you? And if you do, aren't you interfering with the natural order of things? If 'Dominion' had been less scattershot, it may have seen this final messaging as a contradiction. And what would Michael Crichton, the author of the futuristic thrillers on which the franchise is based, think about this enterprise? Like us, not very much, I'd wager.

STREAMING WATCH



IRMA VEP

DISNEY+HOTSTAR Olivier Assayas and actor Alicia Vikander have come together for a television adaptation of the French filmmaker's 1996 movie Irma Vep. Mira (Alicia Vikander) is an American movie star disillusioned by her career and a recent breakup. She comes to France to star as 'Irma Vep' in a remake of the French silent film classic, Les Vampires. Set against the backdrop of a lurid crime thriller, Mira struggles as the distinctions between herself and the character she plays begin to blur and merge. Irma Vep reveals to us the uncertain ground that lies at the border of fiction and reality, artifice and authenticity, art and life. A new episode of the show drops every Tuesday at 7.30 am.



MONEYBOYS

Taiwanese-Austrian director CB Yi's debut feature Moneyboys is a drama about male prostitution that was screened in the Un Certain Regard section of the Cannes Film Festival last year. The movie explores a gay Chinese hustler's struggle to cope with the disapproval of his family in South China. The film follows the story of Fei (Kai Ko), who moves from a rural area to the city to support his family as a hustler. While the family takes his earnings, they can't come to terms with his sexuality.



NETFLIX

When a down-on-his-luck basketball scout finds a potential superstar in Spain, he sets out to prove they both have what it takes to make it in the NBA. In this Jeremiah Zagat-directed sports drama, Adam Sandler delivers an impressive performance as an NBA scout. It is a typical underdog movie that's engaging, especially for the basketball lovers.



LIONSGATE PLAY

Every family has its demons, but for this particular family, it may just be real. Pat Phelps (Courteney Cox) moves from a cramped Brooklyn apartment to an old mansion in Connecticut with her husband Terry (Greg Kinnear), in a last-ditch effort to save her marriage after her affair. The 'Phelps' try to save their marriage even as they deal with their disconnected teenage kids and live in a house haunted by spirits. - COMPILED BY ALAKA SAHANI

Where Every Street Has a Story to Tell

SHUBHRAGUPTA

LIKE MANY experimental films, Ghode Ko Jalebi Khilane Le Ja Riya Hoon is hard to reduce to a single descriptive. Anamika Haksar's nearly two-hour tour of Shahjahanabad is a mix of documentary, ethnography, magical realism, surrealism, fantasy,

folk tale, animation, with a bit of burlesque thrown in.

The film takes you deep inside old Delhi, and lets you wander, sometimes leading you by the hand down its crazily crowded gallis, sometimes pausing, leaving you to observe. And sometimes you feel the characters

want to turn around and look at you looking

It comes off as an interesting choice, designed to expand our vision. But I wasn't riveted all the way, simply because not all the film's moving parts exert equal power. Ghode Ko Jalebi... stretches and flattens its conceits as it goes along, and the wandering turns into meandering.

Meet the quartet, the minstrels of 'Dilli Chhe' – a pickpocket (Ravindra Sahu) who doubles up as a trumpeter in a local band, a

sweetmeat seller (Raghubir Yadav), a labour leader (K Gopalan), and a tourist guide (Lokesh Jain), who organises heritage walks. Of the four, we may have conceivably met or bumped into the spotless-white-chikankurta-clad walk organiser, who can lead you down the sanitised parts of Chandni Chowk, Parathe Wali Gali, and tourist-friendly eateries.

The '*jeb-katra*', in stark **GHODE KO JALEBI** contrast, can show you parts **KHILANE LE JA** of the same place which you do not want to see, or find hard to handle — a hole in the wall *thali* place that gives Director: Anamika Haksar you a plate for ten rupees. Cast: Raghubir Yadav, Ravindra people who share shatter-

RIYA HOON

Sahu, Lokesh Jain, K Gopalan

**1

leaves your average white tourist uncomfortable (and that includes us, the average Indian city dweller, as deracinated and as unaware of these histories as that foreigner), dead bodies lying by the side of the road — the living sniff glue to get by, the dead wait for the municipal cart to take their bodies away.

These sights of squalor and sadness do not feel designed, and that is where the film has weight. You can smell and see the filth. In these parts, the film is cocking a snook at those who romanticise the grunge, or try to get an 'expe-



rience' out of the miseries of the people who live and work in this part of the national capital, which seems sometimes to exist only in memory. I'd rather save polar bears, says one of the group being shown the sights. I don't want to hear these stories, says the foreign tourist. Haksar wants us to both see and hear. and bear witness. These are actual subaltern histories, and they are not put up for a show: the character who tosses off the term 'subaltern' in the movie is also one of us, deaf and blind to reality. You wait for the line to land, but it dissipates, just like the character.

It took Haksar seven years of documenting conversations with pickpockets, beggars, street vendors, daily wage labourers, sanitation workers, folk singers, to be able to capture old Delhi from the inside. There is occasional use of animation — a flag flapping against the face of a goddess, snakes crawling across a landscape, an abusive employer reduced to a midget, captured in a glass jar. At

Kamal Swaroop's films.

one point, the screen splits laterally into two,

reminding you of that other experimentalist

The most intriguing thing about the film is its title. If you smile with pleasure at the very specific wry, dry humour that used to be prevalent in the Hindustani-Urdu speaking North, not just Purani Dilli, it will immediately brand you as someone who either belongs to, or understands the many religious and cultural identities jostling amongst the residents who share their chhats (terraces) and walls, the fruits of their kitchens, their comings and goings. 'Kahaan mini Pakistan mein ghoomte rehte ho', asks a bystander of the walking tour guide nastily, and you know how far we have left that syncretic India behind.

A ghoda (horse) eats ghaas (grass), not jalebi, and anyone who says that they are taking their horse to feed it jalebis is having you on, basically telling you he doesn't have the time of day for you. Maybe, on the way back, once the horse and his master are done with their business, they may stop off, listen to your qissa, give you a ride, share a moment. The title is droll, celebrating a tehzeeb which has nearly vanished. You wish there was more of it in the film — the sort of sharp drollery that doesn't mask or hide anything the filmmaker wishes to show, but buttresses it.

ECONOMY



Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of June 9

⊙ ₹60,914

SENSEX: 54,303.44 ▼ 1,016.84 (-1.84%) NIFTY: 16,201.80 ▼ 276.30 (-1.68%) NIKKEI: 27,824.29 ▼ 422.24 HANG SENG: 21,806.18 ▼ 62.87 FTSE: 7,383.18 ▼ 93.03 DAX: 14,029.28 ▼ 169.52

SECTOR WATCH INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

US, Germany ease Covid test norms for flyers but some caveats stay put



Logan Airport, Boston. The US will lift its requirement that international air travellers take a Covid test within a day before boarding their flights. AP

PRANAV MUKUL NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

EVEN AS Covid caseload is once again on a rise in India, countries are easing requirements for international travel into their jurisdictions. Friday, the German Embassy in New Delhi updated its travel advisory to say that all Covid 19 restrictions for entry into Germany will preliminarily be lifted effective June 11, 12pm CET. "From that date, travel from India to Germany will be permitted for all travel purposes (including tourism and visits). For entry into Germany no proof of vaccination, recovery or testing is required any longer," the advisory noted.

However, it added that "some venues in Germany may require proof of vaccination for access". Last month, the country had announced acceptance of its recognition of Covaxin for travel to Germany starting June 1.

Separately, as per a report by Associated Press, the Biden administration is lifting its requirement that international air travellers to the US take a Covid test within a day before boarding their flights, easing one of the last remaining government mandates meant to contain the spread of the coronavirus. The report said, citing a senior administration official, that the mandate will expire Sunday at 12:01am EDT, adding that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention determined it is no longer necessary

These decisions have come at a time when the number of Covid-19 positive cases are rising. India reported a total of 7,584 new Covid infections in the 24 hours preceding Friday evening, taking the total number of cases in the country to 4,32,05,106, according to the Union Health Ministry. Delhi alone on Friday recorded 655 fresh Covid cases and two more deaths, making it the second consecutive day when daily cases were in excess of 600. Over the last few months,

several other countries have also eased requirements for travel into their jurisdictions. Effective May 2, Switzerland lifted nearly all its entry restrictions that it had introduced to curb Covid spread. Similarly, effective May 1. Thailand had removed RT-PCR testing requirements for international travellers, while introducing two different entry schemes for vaccinated and unvaccinated travellers.

SENSEX DIVES 1.8% AS FOREIGN PORTFOLIO INVESTORS EXIT

Inflation, rate hike worries pull down markets; Rupee dives to record low

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU MUMBAI, JUNE 10

THE RUPEE on Friday tumbled 11 paise to close at a lifetime low of 77.83 against the US dollar as rising crude oil prices earlier in the day and unabated foreign capital

outflows soured sentiment. A sell-off in equity markets, rising US bond yields and stronger greenback overseas also weighed on the domestic unit which fell to a low of 77.87 in intra-day trading, forex traders said.

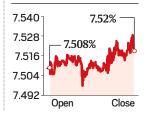
Domestic stock markets plunged by 1.84 per cent as rising inflation worries and Covid cases hit sentiment. The Sensex lost 1,017 points to 54,303.44 and the NSE Nifty Index fell 276 points to 16,201.80 in the bear rally, led by foreign investors. Foreign investors pulled out Rs 3,973 crore from the market on Friday. On the other hand, benchmark 10-year government bonds rose by 2 basis points to 7.52 per cent.

The rise in crude prices towards three-month highs owing to supply tightness is further acNIFTY50 Intra-day 16,312.82 16.350 16,300 16,250 16,200

centuating inflation concerns and inflicting damage on the global economy, already strained by the monetary policy tightening path of the major central banks and the Russia-Ukraine crisis, said Sugandha Sachdeva, vice president, Religare Broking Ltd.

Besides, the World Bank has slashed its global growth forecast to 2.9 per cent as against its previous estimate of 4.1 per cent in January. Meanwhile, rising inflation fears gripped the domestic stock market leading to heavy sell-off ahead of the release of US inflation data and Federal Reserve policy meet next week. The inflation data will be crucial to sense

10-YEAR BOND YIELD



the quantum of a rate hike. European Central Bank in its policy meeting signalled to start rate hike from next month and a large change in September.

Moreover, the number of Covid cases rapidly rising in India may prove to be a dampener. The RBI policy announced this week put the focus on normalisation of liquidity and withdrawal of accommodative policy, which may have a negative impact on the Thomas said. markets. Meanwhile, Fitch Ratings revised up its outlook on India to stable from negative while affirming BBB- rating. Full report

on www.indianexpress.com

85% SHARE OF INDIA'S DEPENDENCE ON

IMPORTS TO MEET ITS OIL

LOCAL PUMP RATES ARE

BENCHMARKED AGAINST

NEEDS, DUE TO WHICH

At 8.6%, US price rise hits 40-yr high in May

Wall St tumbles 2% intra-day

REUTERS WASHINGTON, JUNE 10

US CONSUMER prices accelerated in May as gasoline prices hit a record high and the cost of food soared, leading to the largest annual increase in nearly 40-1/2 years, suggesting that the Federal Reserve could continue with its 50 basis points interest rate hikes through September to combat inflation.

In the 12 months through May, the CPI increased 8.6 per cent. That was the largest yearon-year increase December 1981 and followed a 8.3 per cent advance in April.

The inflation report was published ahead of an anticipated second 50 basis points rate hike from the US Federal Reserve next

US stock indices slid on Friday as consumer prices rose more than expected in May, dashing hopes that inflation is peaking and fanning worries about more aggressive steps by the Federal Reserve to tame it.

At 2:53 pm ET, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 677.90 points, or 2.1 per cent, at 31,594.89, the S&P 500 was down 94.88 points, or 2.36 per cent, at 3,922.94, and the Nasdaq Composite was down 347.03 points, or 2.95 per cent, at 11,407.20. Benchmark 10-year yields reached 3.152 per cent, the highest since May 9.

Meanwhile, Brent fell \$1.1, or 0.9 per cent, to \$121.95 a barrel at 2:29 pm EDT. US West Texas Intermediate crude fell \$0.9, or 0.7 per cent, to \$120.61 a barrel.

After 2 years, Fitch raises India outlook to 'stable'

BANIKINKAR PATTANAYAK NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

FITCH RATINGS on Friday revised up its outlook for India's long-term foreign currency Issuer Default Rating (IDR) to 'stable' from 'negative' after a gap of two years. However, it has retained its sovereign rating for India at the lowest investment grade of 'BBB-' for 16 years now.

The agency's improved outlook follows its assessment that downside risks to medium-term growth have diminished due to the nation's "rapid economic recovery and easing financial sec-tor weaknesses", despite nearterm headwinds from the global commodity price shock. With this, Fitch joins its peers S&P and Moody's in assigning similar ratings and outlook for India.

However, the rating agency trimmed its FY23 India growth forecast to 7.8 per cent from 8.5 per cent announced in March. stating that elevated inflationary pressure dampened growth momentum. This estimate will still be way above the agency's 3.4 per cent median growth projection for similar-rated peers. FE

'Indian crude oil basket hits 10-yr high; petrol, diesel unchanged'

The Indian crude hit a decade high of \$121 a barrel, but retail prices of petrol and diesel continue to remain frozen, as per Oil Ministry data



State-owned fuel retailers Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum

Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL)

are supposed to adjust petrol and diesel prices daily in line with the cost.

but they have been since November 2021 moderating pump rates

INTERNATIONAL PRICES \$103.44/bbl: Average price between March 30 and April 27

International oil prices held near a 13-week high on Thursday, underpinned by robust demand from key buyers like the US

Inflation control: Sources said local pump rates are benchmarked to around \$85 crude price but oil firms haven't changed rates as they aid the government in trying to control inflation, which already is ruling at an almost 8-year high of 7.8%

Ministry/PTI

CERT-In may float portal for cybersecurity incidents

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

THE COUNTRY'S cybersecurity agency is expected to soon come out with a fresh set of clarification on its recent cybersecurity directive, people in the know said. During a meeting with a select group of stakeholders Friday, the **Indian Computer Emergency** Response Team (CERT-In) is learnt to have assured clarifications on the six-hour timeline to report cybersecurity incidents, know-yourcustomer norms, and storage of customer logs, among others.

The rules will kick in from June 27. The meeting took place after CERT-In's cybersecurity norms were met with widespread pushback by a range of industry stakeholders. It was attended by and IT Rajeev Chandrashekhar, CERT-In chief Sanjay Bahl, and representatives from industry bodies like Internet and Mobile Association of India, Confederation of Indian Industry, US-India Business Council, US-India Strategic Partnership Forum, American Chamber Commerce, FICCI, BSA|The Software Alliance, ITI Council, and Cellular Operators Association of India. Digital rights groups like Access Now also participated.

One of the most contentious issues between the government and stakeholders was the requirement to report cybersecurity incidents within six hours, which the industry believes is too short

PUNE, JUNE 10

owned subsidiary of Bajaj Auto,

at Akurdi in Pune, Bajaj said there

are at the most 10 large ICE (inter-

nal combustion engine) manu-

facturers in India, but in electric

vehicles (EVs), there is one new

them upstarts. I am amazed that

people with no R&D, no engineer-

ing, no real purchase function in

the engineering sense, nothing

more than just half an assembly

facility, are importing stuff that

has not been really validated for

the marketplace and are putting

it out," he said on Friday, the birth

anniversary of Bajaj Auto's late

chairman Rahul Bajaj, who cre-

"You call them startups. I call

company every day.

MEETING HELD

■The meeting took place after CERT-In's cybersecurity norms were met with pushback bystakeholders

and stringent. During Friday's meeting, stakeholders, it is learnt, were told that MeitY or CERT-In will not offer any relaxations in terms of the required reporting timelines. Instead, the agency may come up with a prescribed format for reporting cybersecurity incidents, "CERT-In may also come up with a specific portal for reporting such incidents so that entities have clarity on how much information they have to share with

the agency," a source said. hour reporting timeline to make it seem less burdensome, Bahl told stakeholders that they are only required to intimate the agency within six hours after discovering such an incident. "CERT-In only expects you to drop in an email within six hours alerting us about a cybersecurity incident,' he is learnt to have said. A formal clarification is expected soon on this, sources said.

While a large part of the meeting was centred around reporting timelines, which also led to CERT-In's assurance to issue clarifications, the topic of some virtual private network (VPN) pulling out of India did not draw such assurances, sources said. The rules re-

Bajaj: EV startups are upstarts,

with no R&D, no engineering

quire VPNs to save an extensive amount of user information for five years. "We want VPNs to store data for five years because sometimes it takes a very long time for cyber incidents to be investigated," Bahl is learnt to have clarified at the meeting. VPN providers like Surfshark and ExpressVPN have shut down their India servers in response to the norms. Queries sent to the IT Ministry remained unanswered until the time of going to press.

CERT-In, it is learnt, may also soon issue a clarification on how entities can come up with an effective KYC process. The rules require that crypto exchanges and wallets must maintain KYC details and records of financial transactions for five years. Industry stakeholders at the meeting pointed out that it was difficult to validate processes, sources said. "A discussion on Aadhaar as a KYC document came up during the meeting and the ministry will mull on some KYC models that can be effective," a person said.

During the meeting, which lasted over an hour, the agency also tried to assuage privacy concerns and told stakeholders that it will not ask for user logs that contain personal identifiable information of individuals, instead it will only need incident-specific logs. Small companies and startups could be given a leeway as they may need more time than bigger corporations to adjust to the rules, it is learnt. Full report on

www.indianexpress.com

RBI, SFBs

BRIEFLY —

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday advised small finance banks (SFBs) to continue to evolve in tune with the differentiated banking licence given to them with proportionate growth in their capital base. It said, "In the meeting held today, the emphasis on according due importance to these themes for sustainable growth of SFBs, particularly their business model and governance, was reiterated after taking stock of the developments in the sector." ENS

Forex kitty falls

Mumbai: After rising the last two weeks, forex reserves fell \$306 million to \$601.057 billion in the week ended June 3, as per RBI data. PTI

UK, tech cos

London: UK's Competition and Markets Authority plans to probe market dominance of Apple and Google's mobile browsers, and Apple's curbs on cloud gaming via its app store. It will also act against Google's app store payment practices. **REUTERS**

CIDCO project

New Delhi: Maharashtra's and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO) said all 3,070 structures in the Navi Mumbai International Airport project area have been evicted, with rehabilitation of over 5,000 families from these villages near completion, and that the 1,160 hectare site has been handed over to the concessionaire. ENS

REGULATOR IRDAI EXTENDS PROCEDURE TO LIFE INSURERS

'Use & file': New life insurance products sans nod

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU MUMBAI, JUNE 10

INSURANCE WATCHDOG Irdai on Friday extended the 'use and file' procedure for most life insurance products, thereby allowing insurers to launch new products without the regulator's prior approval.

However, the 'use and file' system will not be allowed in individual savings, individual pensions and annuity schemes. The Insurance Regulatory

and Development Authority of India (Irdai) had earlier extended similar relaxations to health insurance products as well as general insurance covers.

Irdai said it has extended the

Tailor-made

products THE 'USE and file'

method is expected to help insurers design customised insurance products for the embedded insurance space much faster, thereby manufacturing niche products for various customer segments.

'use and file' procedure for most of the life insurance products in its continuous endeavour towards the reform agenda taken

up towards having a fully insured India.

"This means now the life insurance companies can also launch these products without prior approval of Irdai," the regulator added.

Earlier when the industry was in its nascent stage, it was mandatory for insurance companies to take prior approval of Îrdai before launching any life insurance product.

However, with the maturity attained by the industry, it is envisaged that necessary relaxations may be allowed, Irdai said. 'This move will enable life Insurers to launch most of the products (except individual savings, individual pensions and annuity) in a timely manner according to the dynamic needs of the market," it said.

According to Irdai, the relaxation will result in improving ease of doing business for insurance companies as well as lead to expansion of the choices available to policyholders.

"The life insurance industry is expected to use this opportunity to respond faster to the emerging market needs, in terms of designing and pricing of insurance products resulting in more choices for the policyholders, which will further help in increasing the insurance penetration in India," it said.

The life insurers are expected to have a board-approved product management and pricing policy, Irdai added.

FM: Divestment 'Meta probing for CPSE efficiency

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

FINANCE MINISTER Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said the principle of the government's disinvestment programme is not to shut down any unit or company but to make them more efficient

and professionally driven. Highlighting that public sector enterprises which were privatised between 1994 and 2004 are being driven by professionally run boards, the Minister said these companies have only improved. Addressing the iconic week celebrations of DIPAM as part of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav', Sitharaman said privatisation of CPSEs is intended at ensuring that these companies are run efficiently and cost effec-



LIC fall: Govt 'concerned'

New Delhi: The government on Friday said it was "very concerned" about the sharp decline in the LIC stock after the insurer's listing, and said its management will look into all aspects of the fall, said DIPAM Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey. **FE**



BENGALURU, JUNE 10

LAWYERS ARE investigating Meta Platforms Inc's outgoing operations chief Sheryl Sandberg's use of company resources over several years, the Wall Street Journal reported on Friday, citing people familiar with the matter.

Several employees have been interviewed in connection with the investigation by Facebookparent Meta, the WSJ reported, adding that the probe has been underway since at least last fall. Meta and Sandberg did not immediately respond to Reuters

requests for comment. Among the activities being



scrutinised is the work of Meta employees support Sandberg's foundation, Lean In, and towards writing and promotion of her second book, "Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience, and Finding Joy", the report added.



RAJIV BAJAJ

ated the Chetak brand 50 years ago. He blamed the current environment for promoting the rush of new players, and said there are only two types of EVs in the market — those which have caught fire and those which are going to

Bajaj also said relevant authorities have deliberately diluted the norms for EVs. He said under the guise of low-speed vehicles, one could bring any junk from anywhere and put it on the roads so such incidents were to be expected and so the people concerned should reflect on it, he said. FE

May PV wholesales slow, under 2018 levels

New Delhi: With the semicon-

ductor shortage easing a bit, the

wholesale despatches of passenger vehicles (PVs) in May improved over the same month in 2019, which was a non-Covid year. However, sales were still lower than the level achieved in 2018 when the segment was witnessing a handsome growth.

The two-wheeler wholesale despatches last month were not only far off from the volumes achieved three years ago, they were even below the figures attained nine years back. Wholesale despatches of PVs rose 10.61 per cent to 2,51,052 units in May from 2,26,975 in the same month in 2019, data from Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) on Friday showed. **FE**

Kolkata

tively. WITH PTI



CALLING STARTUPS manufacturing electric two-wheelers "upstarts", Bajaj Auto managing director Rajiv Bajaj blamed them for the recent fire incidents and said they had no business to be in the Speaking at the inauguration

of an electric two-wheeler plant MD, Bajaj Auto of Chetak Technology, a wholly-

12 THE WORLD



MALALA JOINS FRIDAY CLIMATE PROTEST

Speaking outside the Swedish parliament, the Nobel Peace laureate said the fight against climate change is also a fight for education of girls, millions of whom lose access to schools due to climate-related events.



Anthony Albanese and Jacinda Ardern in Sydney, Friday. Reuters

SYDNEY New Zealand, Aus 'in lockstep' on Pacific

AUSTRALIA AND New Zealand vowed on Friday to take their ties to "a new level" through greater collaboration on climate and regional security. Australian PM Anthony Albanese said the two countries shared concerns about the Pacific as China pushes to expand its influence in the region. "We're in lockstep on the Pacific," Albanese told reporters in Sydney. Ardern, the first foreign leader to visit Australia since its election, said: "... we are very eager to work alongside our Pacific partners on this significant threat." REUTERS

PAKISTAN

Pak announces Rs 1,523 bn for defence

PAKISTAN ON Friday announced to allocate Rs 1,523 billion for defence, an increase of over 11 per cent than last year, as Finance Minister Miftah Ismail presented a Rs 9,502 billion annual budget in Parliament for the 2022-23 fiscal. The total current expenditure for the next year would be Rs 8,694 billion, which is 15.5 per cent higher than last year's budgeted figure. The powerful Pakistan Army, which has ruled the coup-prone country for more than half of its nearly 75 years of existence, has hitherto wielded considerable power in the matters of security and foreign policy.

SYRIA

Israel strikes halt flights to Damascus

SYRIA HALTED flights to and from Damascus International Airport on Friday, the transport ministry said, a few hours after Israeli air strikes hit south of the capital. A Syrian military official quoted by the state news agency said Syrian air defences intercepted the Israeli missiles, downing most of them, but that the early morning attack caused one civilian injury and some material damage. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said on Friday the Israeli bombing had damaged the runway after targeting "warehouses of Iranian militias" near the **REUTERS**

Russia defends death sentences in Donetsk, Ukraine says attempt to force talks on West

AGENCIES BAKHMUT (UKRAINE), LONDON, JUNE 10

UKRAINE AND the West denounced a pro-Moscow court that sentenced two British citizens and a Moroccan to death for fighting for Ukraine, calling the proceedings a sham and a viola-

tion of the rules of war. The court in the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic in Ukraine found the three fighters guilty of seeking the violent overthrow of power, an offense punishable by death in the unrecognized eastern republic. The men were also convicted of mercenary activities and terrorism.

SHANGRI-LA DIALOGUE

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHINA'S DEFENSE minister

complained to his American

counterpart on Friday about the

latest US arms package for

Taiwan and warned of a possible

conflict over the self—governing island that China claims as its

Chinese Defense Minister,

General Wei Fenghe told US

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin in

a meeting in Singapore the sale

"seriously undermined China's

sovereignty and security interests,"

according to state broadcaster

military will "resolutely smash

any Taiwan independence plot

and resolutely safeguard the re-

unification of the motherland,"

meeting, Defense Ministry

spokesperson Col. Wu Qian

quoted Wei as saying China

would respond to any move to-

ward formal Taiwan independ-

ence by "smashing it even at any

Austin, according to the US

Department of Defense, said the

US remains committed to its pol-

icy on Taiwan and "reaffirmed

the importance of peace and sta-

bility across the (Taiwan) Strait,

opposition to unilateral changes

to status quo, and called on

(China) to refrain from destabil-

ising actions toward Taiwan.'

price, including war."

In a further readout of the

The Chinese government and

CCTV's military channel.

SINGAPORE, JUNE 10

own territory.

China warns US on

any price, even war

Taiwan: Ready to pay

Russian state news agency RIA Novosti reported that the defendants – Aiden Aslin, Shaun Pinner and Brahim Saadoun will face a firing squad. They have a month to appeal. Ukraine has alleged Russia

wants to use the three foreigners as "hostages" to put pressure on the West over peace negotiations.

The separatist side argued that the three were "mercenaries" not entitled to the usual protections accorded prisoners of war. They are the first foreign fighters sentenced by Ukraine's Russian-backed rebels.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said the three men had committed crimes on the territory of the self-proclaimed state trying to break away from Ukraine.

General Wei Fenghe after

Let's see: China

on UN action

over N Korea

United Nations: China's

UN envoy has said Beijing

does not want to see

North Korea carry out a

new nuclear test, which is

partly why China vetoed

a US-led bid to impose

new UN sanctions on

Pyongyang over renewed

But Ambassador

Zhang Jun warned

against making presump-

tions on how Beijing

might react at the UN if

North Korea goes ahead

happen, but I think we

should not prejudge what

will happen with a nu-

clear test,"Zhang said

REUTERS

"Let's see what will

with its nuclear test.

missiles

ballistic

launches.

Thursday.

the meeting with Lloyd



Britons Aiden Aslin, Shaun Pinner and Moroccan Brahim Saadoun in a courtroom cage in Donetsk. Reuters File

Lavrov said: "At the moment, the trials you mentioned are being held on the basis of the legislation of the Donetsk People's

Republic, because the crimes in question were committed on the DPR's territory."

Ukrainian Foreign Ministry

spokesman Oleh Nikolenko, however, condemned the proceedings as legally invalid. He said all foreign citizens fighting as part of Ukraine's armed forces should be considered Ukrainian military personnel and protected as such.

Britain's Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said on Twitter: "They are prisoners of war. This is a sham judgment with absolutely no legitimacy.

Saadoun's father, Taher Saadoun, told the Moroccan online Arab-language newspaper Madar 21 that his son is not a mercenary and that he holds Ukrainian citizenship. Aslin's and Pinner's families have said the two men were long-serving members of the Ukrainian military.



A video of President Trump speaking during a rally on January 6, 2021, being played at the hearing. Reuters

2021 U.S. CAPITOL RIOTS

Democracy in danger: Panel blames Trump for 'coup bid'

ASSOCIATED PRESS WASHINGTON, JUNE 10

THE HOUSE panel investigating the January 6 insurrection at the US Capitol laid the blame firmly on Donald Trump Thursday night, saying the assault was hardly spontaneous but an "attempted coup" and a direct result of the defeated president's effort to overturn the 2020 election.

With a never-before-seen 12-minute video of extremist groups leading the deadly siege and startling testimony from Trump's most inner circle, the 1/6 committee provided gripping detail in contending that Trump's repeated lies about election fraud and his public effort to stop Joe Biden's victory led to the attack and imperiled American democracy

"Democracy remains in danger," said Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., chairman of the panel, during the hearing, timed for prime time to reach as many Americans as possible.

"Jan. 6 was the culmination of an attempted coup, a brazen attempt, as one rioter put it shortly after Jan. 6, to overthrow the government," Thompson said. "The violence was no accident."

Testimony showed Thursday how Trump desperately clung to his own false claims of election fraud, beckoning supporters to the Capitol on Jan. 6 when Congress would certify the results, despite those around him insisting Biden had won the election.

The former president's daughter, Ivanka Trump, testified to the committee that she

A damning indictment

THE INDICTMENT outlined against Trump is perhaps the most damning in the US's 246-year history. Many see it potraying Trump as a would-be autocrat willing to do anything to hang onto power. Analysts say the panel's investigation will, however, be just for public record ahead of the midterm elections as Trump seeks another White House run.

respected Barr's view that there was no election fraud. "I accepted what he said.

Others showed leaders of the extremist Oath Keepers and Proud Boys preparing to storm the Capitol to stand up for Trump. One rioter after another told the committee they came to the Capitol because Trump asked them to.

There was an audible gasp in the room when Cheney read an account that said when Trump was told the Capitol mob was chanting for Vice President Mike Pence to be hanged for refusing to block the election results. Trump responded that maybe they were right, that he "deserves it."

JAPAN OPENS FOR TOURISM

Austin in Singapore. Reuters

A Geisha woman in traditional Japanese 'kimono' walks along a shopping street in Tokyo on Friday. Easing travel restrictions amid waning Covid, Japan has begun accepting applications from tourists, but only those on guided package tours and willing to follow Covid norms. AP

At Americas summit, Biden rolls out plan to tackle migration crisis

Los Angeles: The United States on Friday unveiled a long list of measures to confront the migration crisis as President Joe Biden and fellow leaders prepared to issue a joint declaration thrashed out at a fractious Summit of the The White House touted a se-

ries of actions, including programs to take in more guest workers and to provide legal pathways for people from poorer countries to work in richer ones.

The Biden administration, faced with a record flow of ille-



Joe Biden at a dinner for visiting leaders. Reuters

gal migrants at its southern border, pledged hundreds of millions of dollars in aid for region, renewed processing of family-based visas for Cubans and Haitians and eased the hiring of Central American workers. The plan caps a summit

Venezuelan migrants across the

hosted by Biden that was designed to reassert US leadership and counter China's growing economic footprint in the region. However, that message was

clouded by a partial boycott by leaders, including Mexico's president, to protest exclusion of Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua **REUTERS** from the event.

UK to introduce Bill next

week to breach Brexit deal

Pak ex-dictator

India provides Lanka \$55 mn credit for fertilisers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA COLOMBO, JUNE 10

INDIA HAS provided a USD 55 million Line of Credit to crisishit Sri Lanka for the import of fertiliser, in a bid to help the island nation tide over its worst economic hardships, the Indian High Commission said on Friday. Prime Minister Ranil

Wickremesinghe had recently warned of a food crisis in the island nation due to the ongoing economic crisis.

Sri Lanka had requested a credit facility from India for the importation of urea fertiliser of



The island nation is facing a food crisis. Reuters file

65.000 metric tonnes (MT) in order to cater the immediate requirement of during the Yala cultivation season, the Indian

Secretary to the Ministry of Finance M Siriwardena signed an agreement with the EXIM Bank of India to obtain a Dollar

NEW MINISTRIES TO HANDLE CRISIS

Colombo: President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has created two new ministries to handle the economic crisis, officials said. ministry The 'Technology

Investment Promotion' will promote FDI and private sector investment, and promote economic potential. The other one is 'Ministry of Women, Child Affairs and Social Empowerment'.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON, JUNE 10

THE BRITISH government said Friday it will introduce a bill next week to override parts of the Brexit trade treaty it signed with the European Union before the UK quit the bloc in 2020. The move will be a major escalation in a festering UK-EU dispute over trade rules for Northern Ireland. British Prime Minister Boris

Johnson's spokesman, Jamie Davies, said "the bill has been agreed by the relevant cabinet committees and will be introduced to Parliament on Monday."

The legislation, if approved by lawmakers, would scrap parts of a trade treaty with the EU that Johnson signed less than two years ago, by removing checks on goods entering Northern Ireland from the rest of the UK.

The EU has threatened to retaliate, raising the spectre of a trade war between the two major economic partners.

Some legal experts say the move is unlawful but the UK government says it will "publish a summary of the legal advice" it has received about the legislation.

the failure of a referendum on

whether Australia should elect

its own head of state. The pro-

posal was defeated in part be-

cause of disagreement over

whether an Australian head of

state should be appointed or

Gen Musharraf critical in UAE: **Ex-minister**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA LAHORE, DUBAI, JUNE 10

PAKISTAN'S FORMER military dictator General Pervez Musharraf is critical and on a ventilator support at a hospital in the UAE, his close aide and former information minister Fawad Chaudhry said on Friday.

Gen. Musharraf, 78, ruled Pakistan from 1999 to 2008. "Musharraf is critical as he is

on a ventilator," Chaudhry said. Chaudhry, who was the information minister in the Imran Khan government, was once a media spokesperson for Musharraf. He said that he spoke to Musharraf's son who confirmed his illness. "I have just spoken to Gen Musharraf's son Bilal in Dubai who confirmed that he (Musharraf) is on ventila-

Reacting to reports, Ifzaal Siddique, the President of the All Pakistan Muslim League (APML) Overseas – founded by Musharraf - said that the former president is little bit ill but fully alert.

tor," Chaudhry said.

"General Pervez Musharraf is at home (a little) bit ill though, but fully alert as usual, please don't listen to fake news. Just pray for his good health, Ameen," Siddique said.

Musharraf, a fugitive in former PM Benazir Bhutto murder case, has been living in Dubai since 2016.

CHANGE ON THE WAY?

Australia's baby steps toward severing ties with the Queen

YAN ZHUANG

MELBOURNE, JUNE 10

FOR DECADES, many Australians have found it a curious thing that the country's head of state is a queen sitting on a distant English throne. Occasionally, in times of controversy, they have even batted about the idea of cutting Australia's final monarchical ties. But more pressing issues have inevitably prevailed.

Now, change is on the way.

Anthony Albanese, the newly elected prime minister, is an

avowed republican. He has appointed the country's first ever "minister for the republic" – a position intended to begin the transition to an Australian head of state. Polling shows that a slim majority of Australians would support a republic if they had to choose yes or no.

But that does not mean that constitutional change on the republican front is anywhere near the top of Albanese's agenda. The new ministerial position — an assistant minister — is a comparatively minor one, and its role will be limited, at least for the near term, mostly to conversation starter and weather vane. "I think the republican senti-

ment," said Ben Wellings, a senior lecturer in international relations at Monash University in Melbourne, "has settled on this passive republicanism - they're pleased that we don't have all those trimmings of monarchy, but at the same time, not motivated enough to really change the current setup, which is like a pale imitation of that."

The new assistant minister position is "a way of testing the waters," he said. "He's got three years" — the time until the next federal election — "to see what



Queen Elizabeth, the longest-ruling British monarch, has been on the throne for more than 70 years. AP

sort of enthusiasm there would be for such a change.' In one small corner, at least —

the Australian republican movement – enthusiasm is already

The appointment of Matt Thistlethwaite, a longtime Labor politician, as the new assistant minister of the republic "is the biggest breakthrough for the republican movement in 30 years," said Peter FitzSimons, chairman of the main republican organi-

The movement has been waiting years for a spark. It suffered a heavy blow in 1999, with

elected. Now, he said, "let the record show we now have a 'minister of the Crown' devoted to removing the Crown. Thistlethwaite, for his part,

describes his role in less stirring terms. It is, he said, "initially one of educating the Australians about our current constitutional arrangement...'

Sindhu, Lakshya bow out of **Indonesia Open Super Series**



Jakarta: Double Olympic medallist PV Sindhu and rising star Lakshya Sen made quarterfinal exits in their respective singles events, ending India's challenge in the Indonesia Open Super Series 500 tournament here on Friday. Sen was first to be eliminated as the 20-year-old went down fighting and forced a decider against his higher-seeded Chinese Taipei rival Chou Tien Chen 21-16 12-21 21-14. India's last hope then rested on Sindhu but the former world champion went down without a fight to her old foe Ratchanok Intanon 12-21, 10-21 in a match lasting a little over half an hour. The 27-year-old was at her dominating best and looked at ease with both in attacks and defence and the Indian was never able to fightback and suffered her fifth straight loss against her Thai rival.

After pocketing the first game easily, Intanon looked even more furious in the second and raced to a 10-point lead before sealing the issue in 33 minutes to improve her head-to-head against Sindhu to 9-4. Sindhu, who made a semifinal exit in the Thailand Open last month, had earned a hard-fought victory over Gregoria Mariska Tunjung to enter the quarterfinals.

Sable aims at next record mark

New Delhi: Buoyed by the success in his maiden Diamond League appearance in Morocco, where he smashed the national record in men's 3000m steeplechase yet again, Avinash Sable is now aiming for a subeight minute time. "When I first started competing in steeplechase way back in 2018, I regularly used to clock somewhere around 8.29-30. I never thought I would reach a stage where I could rise to the margin of 8.12 at any point. "That said, I think a sub-eight minute mark is definitely possible, Sable said. PTI

Rosberg barred from paddock

Baku: Former world champion Nico Rosberg has not been allowed to enter the Formula One paddock this season because he isn't vaccinated against COVID-19. Rosberg has been working as a commentator and pundit on TV after he won the F1 title in 2016 with Mercedes and retired from racing shortly thereafter. Rules for this season issued by F1's governing body, the FIA, require anyone entering the paddock, where the teams are based, to be fully vaccinated or hold a medical exemption. PTI

Anand loses to Mamedyarov

Stavanger (Norway): Indian maestro Viswanathan Anand's campaign at the Norway Chess tournament suffered a setback after losing to Azerbaijan's Shakhriyar Mamedyarov in the ninth round even as Norwegian star Magnus Carlsen shot into sole lead with a win over Frenchman Maxime Vachier-Lagrave. Anand showed impressive form with a victory over Carlsen to lead the standings after the fifth round but was outgunned by Mamedyarov in 22 moves in the Classical match.

India aim consistency

Antwerp: Consistency will be high on Indian men's and women's hockey teams' agenda as they resume their respective FIH Pro League campaigns against Belgium on saturday as pre-cursor to Commonwealth Games. While the Indian men's team is scheduled to play Belgium (June 11 and June 12), followed by games against the Netherlands (June 18 and June 19), the women will play Belgium (June 11 and June 12), Argentina (June 18 and June 19) and the United States (June 21 and June 22). PTI

Javelin's Next Gen: Yashvir eyes elusive 85m mark

Haryana youngster recorded his personal best of 82.13m last month

ANDREW AMSAN

CHENNAI, JUNE 10

INDIA'S LATEST entrant in the 80m club, javelin thrower Yashvir Singh's father Rai initially didn't want his son to pursue athletics. When Yashvir was around 12, the family moved from Bhiwani to Delhi so that he could be admitted to a private school and progress academically.

"Someone told me that the school produced a lot of CBSE toppers so we sent him there," says Rai. But Yashvir not only failed to make progress but barely cleared his exams. Both Yashvir and his father were convinced it was time to return to what he was good at sports. "Padai hui nahi, aur sports toh khun mein heen hai. (He couldn't do much in academics but he's got sports in his genes)," says Rai, a former national-level athlete who is now a coach. Yashvir, who breached the 80m mark at the Indian Grand Prix last month, belongs to the new crop of talent. Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra, who is now 24, is at a different level altogether. He breached the 80m-mark when he was just 17 back in 2015.

With Shivpal Singh (his personal best 86.23m) and Davinder Singh (84,57m) having their run-ins with dope suspensions, the focus has shifted to the younger crop - Sahil Silwal, Rohit Yadav, DP Manu and Yashvir. "It is really a great thing for javelin throw in India. You really need good competition to bring out the best in you. Off the field, we all are really good friends but on it, we are fierce competitors," says Yashvir who recorded his personal best of 82.13m just a fortnight ago in Bhubaneswar, Yashvir first came into limelight when he rewrote Neeraj's U-20 Fed Cup meet record last year with a 78.68m throw. He was distraught at missing the 80m back then.

"Breaching the 80m mark was very important to me," Yashvir says as his father shakes his head in disapproval. Coach Rai, who has higher expectations from his son, dismisses 80m as "just a number". "I recently got a call from someone congratulating me for Yashvir's entry into the 80m club. But it's no big deal," says the hard taskmaster. When Yashvir realised that academics weren't his cup of tea, he returned to Jaipur where his Railways employee father is now settled. "I initially played basketball just to get fit and then started off with a bamboo javelin. Once I picked up the technique, I switched to a standard javelin," he says.

'Nothing special'

Yashvir and his father don't like to complicate things. The duo believes in a simple

Yashvir Singh has already made the cut for 2022 Commonwealth Games.

80 M-PLUS & COUNTING

DP MANU (82.43M): The 22-yearold trains under coach Kashinath Naik who has worked with a lot of top throwers like Neeraj, Shivpal and Annu Rani. The Karnataka athlete has challenged the notion that Southern India doesn't produce top throwers.

YASHVIR SINGH (82.13): The

confident Haryana athlete, 21, took a while to breach the 80m mark after knocking on its doors a couple of times in his career. His next target is the elusive 85m

ROHIT YADAV (81.83M): He is the most consistent of the lot, producing three 80m-plus throws so far. The once skinny 21-year-old has spent a lot of time in the gym strengthening his upper body.

SAHIL SILWAL (80,65M): Sahil,22, currently trains under Neeraj Chopra's first coach Jaiveer. Sahil is not a bulky athlete but relies on his natural elasticity to wind up for the big throws.

motto: "hard work yields results".

"There is nothing special in our training. We spend a lot of time training, and eat right. When I was an athlete. I made a lot of mistakes and I just ensure that my son doesn't go down the same road," says Rai.

Yashvir says his father is a touch "harsh" during training and doesn't hold back in giving him an earful when he errs. "Bahut gali padti hai. (He scolds me a lot). But that's only during training and only for practice. Otherwise, he never yells at me for anything. He's a very nice person," he says while exchanging a quick glance with his father sitting next to him.

Rai admits he's a tough taskmaster but feels his son needs a dose from time to time. "I have to do it. I have to correct my son. He couldn't do well in academics and now sports is the only option he has and we can't be lax in any way." Yashvir feels his arm strength and explosive release set him apart from other throwers. "I also have a good run-up, good release angle," he adds. Any weak areas? "None," he replies with a cheeky smile.

"He needs to improve his throwing speed," his father adds quickly.

Having already made the cut for the Commonwealth Games, Yashvir is now targeting a throw close to 85 metres (qualification mark for the World Championships) at the Interstate Meet. "It (85m) isn't a huge thing. We have been training well and I am pretty confident. Maybe I will land that mark here in Chennai itself," he says.

Chhetri in focus again as India face Afghanistan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA KOLKATA, JUNE 10

THE INSIPIRATIONAL Sunil Chhetri would look to continue from where he left against Cambodia as India face Afghanistan in their second match of the Asian Cup Qualifiers here

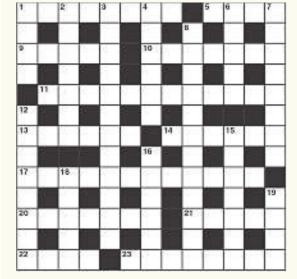
On an evening of missed opportunities, the 37-year-old veteran struck a goal in each half to give Igor Stimac's side all three points, ensuring the group hosts keep ahead of Hong Kong on goal difference after Jorn Andersen's team won 2-1 over Afghanistan in the first match on Wednesday. Seeking to make a second successive Asian Cup Finals, the Chhetriled India would look to bring out their best, especially up front with the likes of Liston Colaco, Manvir Singh, Udanta Singh, Ashique Kuruniyan and Roshan Singh hoping to improving their finishing abilities.

All of them got ample opportunities but failed to make an impact as far as scoring was concerned and it was once again left to the veteran to settle the nerves with his brace that took his international tally to 82 goals, behind Cristiano Ronaldo (117) and Lionel Messi (86). "I'm tired of answering this question," Stimac said when asked about life after Chhetri. "When he's (Sunil) with us, I don't care if others are not scoring. If he's not here, then others will start scoring. Why look for someone else when he's scoring two goals every day?" he asked. From Afghan's point of view it will be a do-or-die match and the physically stronger team would look to make it count against the Indian backline of Roshan Singh, Sandesh Jhingan, Anwar Ali and Akash Mishra, who impressed the most in their outing against Cambodia. In such a scenario, the onus would be on the attacking line-up to "kill the contest" by scoring early goals, something that buried Afghanistan against Hong Kong.

The fitness of Roshan has been a concern after their outing against Cambodia and Stimac said they would assess his niggle on the sidelines of their training. "Of course this match will be much more difficult. There's a lot of quality movements against Hong Kong. They kept changing positions and made many crosses into the box.

"We have to be clever and very good at attacking. We have to win more aerial duels. We have to concentrate well, remain composed. I've full confidence of a win," Stimac added. India, who enjoy a 6-1 record on headto-head from 10 meetings against the 'Lions of Khorasan', however, have not won against them since January 3, 2016 in the SAFF Championships. Since then the Blue Tigers have endured two 1-1 draws in the World Cup Qualifiers, something that was highlighted by Afghanistan coach Anoush Dastgir, who said they are in search of 'revenge' at the

CROSSWORD 4765



ACROSS Turn out a lunatic marine

- Highlight of the Cresta Run
- Returning United Kingdom party's prestige
- Winding up very rich (7) 11 They clear some of the main hazards
- 13 One is privileged to have them(6)Rare dismay shown about Conservative leader
- 20 A festive drink for the nymph
- Sea air adds a little weight to
- one(5) Founder of a place of iniquity
- Counters chaos to put it into plain English (8)

DOWN

- Eastern relatives turn up to see victory
- Ruin the opening?
- Examination panel look first and speak later
- New wars or old weapons
- Twist in wet coils (5) Sign in and make an
- impression(8) Rows about a hundred
- (12)12 Cunningly see and grasp
- warnings (8)
 15 Sounds like a private bitterness (7)
- 16 Starchy food dad is about to turn to (6)
- New angle on an ancient
- physician(5) 19 Apportion food say? (4)

Solutions Crossword 4764: Across: 1 Dreamboat, 8 Affix, 9 Intense, 10 Stream, 11 Chilli, 12 Lion's den, 15 Gadarene, 18 Roosts, 20 Realms, 21 Bulldog, 22 Excel, 23 Exonerate. **Down**: 2 Ranch, 3 Age-old, 4 Bastille, 5 Tartan, 6 Effendi, 7 Examiners, 11 Conger eel, 13 Overturn, 14 Advance, 16 Rumble, 17 Collar, 19 Trout.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis









CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson









MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



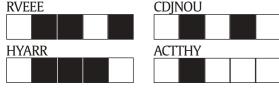




JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \left($ the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

-Steven Wright (3.3.4)



Steven Wright Answer: I have an existential map. It has 'You are here' written all over it SOLUTION: REEVE, HARRY, JOCUND, CHATTY Difficulty Level 2s Instructions To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9

SUDOKU

must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s =

	- 1	1000		3			0	
		2		1		4		
9			3		8			4
		1				6		
6			1		9			5
		9		5		7		П
	2			5			3	
		8	9		6	5		

SOLUTION SUDOKU 486 8 9 6 7 2 1 3 5 4 5 4 3 9 6 8 1 7 2 5 3 4 8 9 6 1 7 6 7 4 2 8 5 9 3 1 3 8 5 6 1 9 2 4 7 2 1 4 7 3 6 8 5 5 9 3 4 2 7 6 8 4 6 2 8 9 7 5 1 3 7 3 8 1 5 6 4 2 9

DAY TODAY

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) The Moon is about to pose one or two interesting questions, such as

what is the best thing to do about a family or domestic dilemma. It's a day to think your problems through rather than resorting to raw emotion or Arien impatience. You don't want to upset anyone, do you?

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21) Money matters occupy your mind

today. Splash out, but also get all your insurance claims, investment plans or fancy profit-making schemes. Traditional entertainments suit the mood best, so resist attempts to persuade you to do something

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) The Moon is raising the prospects of a busy, though happy, home-based weekend. The choice is yours

out-of-character.

as to whether you spend a restful time with family members or busy yourself on tasks. The guiding principle seems to be that whatever you do benefits others.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) When Mercury and Venus speak to each other, they create

Such delicate influences obviously appeal strongly to the subtle Cancerian personality, and may lead you to dream of exotic places or future wealth.

Partners may not make much

sense, though. LEO (July 24 - Aug 23) There is every

opportunity for you to make the most of vourself socially this weekend. The stars are urging you to take the initiative and get out as much as possible. A little play would be a good thing after a hardworking week. After all, you

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23) Listen carefully to what other people

occasionally do have to look

say, and admit they

have the best ideas. This is not to say that you are wrong, only that there are aspects of the current situation that you have failed to consider. And, that's a failure you'll have to remedy

BY PETER VIDAL

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

The Sun is soon to

form a very delicate

and inspired relationship with Neptune, which means that dreams and thoughts of romance are prominent this weekend. Yet a money muddle may intervene along the way. And, when it does, you'd better

take the cautious way out.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23) There is every sense in which it is right

for you to argue your case. It does seem now as if you have the edge over other people when it comes to a sound reason for what it is necessary to do. At

supporting you emotionally. SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22) Mercury and Venus

least lunar alignments are still

both make significant adjustments in their positions over the current period, the result being that your mood should become

much lighter, frivolous and frothy, even. Certain problems will soon be pushed into the background, so don't waste CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

You are now entering a financial cycle in which

partnerships will

hold the key. Relationships with women seem to be potentially the most profitable, while luxuries are more desirable than necessities. It's a day to indulge your day-dreams.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19) The weekend is here at last,

bringing all its abundant opportunities for peace and relaxation. With the Moon determined to bring out the lighter side of your character, there is plenty of scope for

putting pain and problems to

one side. And take advantage

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) Mercury adjusts its position. inaugurating a

of an offer of help.

period during which your mind will be on peak form. You will have no trouble persuading others that your plans, arrangements and ideas are by far and away the best. But, next week it may look very different.

PLAYING TONIGHT

AFC Asian Cup Qualifiers: India vs Afghanistan 8.30pm, Live on Star Sports Network

Not eye-catching, but effective

Van der Dussen's batting may not be attractive, but his grit and determination has taken him a long way

SANDIPG JUNE 10

AT ONE juncture of South Africa's chase, Rishabh Pant was heard yelling playfully at Avesh Khan: "Isko strike par rakh, Miller ko mat dena (keep him on strike, not Miller)." The Indian'keeper-captain was referring to Rassie van der Dussen, who at that precise moment was in the middle of an ordeal, frozen like a man who had stepped onto Alaska in beachwear. His timing was awry, the placement offkilter, and as the required run rate got steeper, Pant's playful instruction to Khan rang true. At the other end, though, there was Miller, in crushing touch.

Van der Dussen had just crawled to 29 off 30; a rate that even in the 50-over game is considered unsatisfactory. But Pant's quip/banter/genuine tactic didn't age well; in the next 15 balls, he plundered 45 runs. As if, in the twitch of a second, he transformed from an Everyman to a Superman, though sweating incessantly in the Kotla heat, each stroke leaving its strain on his face and limbs. No stroke of his stood out, no frame of his celebration would endure, and as the memory of the game wears on, he would be relegated into the role of an accomplice of Miller on a scorching Delhi summer night.

But that perception of anonymity sums up van der Dussen's career. He's the fastest to 1,000 runs in ODIs, boasts an average of 71 in the 50-overs version, has rattled out his 1,008 T20I runs at an average of 42 and a strike rate of 132. Yet, the name van der Dussen strikes no fear in the mind of bowlers or captains, or awe in the eyes of spectators or commentators. To the extent that when he often introduces himself back home, he's promptly asked if he indeed was the former Springbok rugby coach and player Rassie Erasmus.

But he relishes the absence of fanfare. In his teenage years, he was supposed to be the least talented of the four brothers of the Dussen household in Pretoria. His brother Adrian was the boy with the blue chip, but ended up as a



Van der Dussen scored an unbeaten 74 off 46 balls in South Africa's run chase. PTI

journalist before switching to digital marketing. The two other brothers could not progress beyond club level.

But in backyard games, he was the most obdurate of all four to dislodge. The deal among the brothers was that those who got out early were assigned household chores. "I don't think Rassie once made coffee for us because he would just bat forever," brother Nico told The Stumped. After matriculation, which he finished a year earlier, he told his father that he wanted to do a post-matriculation, so that he could get some proper cricket coaching. He joined Affies, the alma mater of Faf du Plessis and AB de Villiers, among others, even though he had to take classes. There, Affies coach Deon Cotes told him that his game was not polished enough to play at a professional level. "But he took the advice in the right direction and worked really hard to reach a higher level," the coach had once told this paper.

Then on, he began to train like a maniac. "I tried to live my life in a way that I thought could improve me in terms of my training, in terms of my diet and all the aspects that went into it. I started reading up on previous players and how they dealt with being professional sportspeople and tried to learn lessons that way. I sort of tried to work it out for myself as I went on," he told The Stumped in an interview. To improve his concentration, he strung an obstacle

path around his house and tried to trace that

path balancing three balls, looking not to drop

the ball as long as he could. Van der Dussen kept racking up runs in the school circuit and caught the attention of the Titans, his home team. But a profusion of talented top-order batsmen meant they refused a contract and he switched to North West. From there, he was snapped up by Lions. A lifechanging moment, as he met coach Geoff Toyana, who repurposed him from an opener to a middle-order batsman.

Of all the attributes, Toyana was most impressed with van der Dussen's calmness in dealing with setbacks, "His mental strength is one of his best attributes. When he got runs a couple of years ago, the national selectors ignored him, but he kept working hard because he knew his opportunity would come. It's all

about what he does behind the scenes. He hits a lot of balls, understands his strengths and weaknesses, and works on those weaknesses. His hunger and work ethic are incredible," Tovana told The City Press.

Journeyman cricketer

During the years of snub, he packed off to distant shores to experience different cultures and get exposure to different conditions. This wanderlust took him to Canada and the Netherlands, apart from the Caribbean and the UK. "He does all these without any complaints or fuss. Someone else could have quit, but he is a fighter," Cotes told this paper after his unbeaten 41 in the series-winning chase in the Cape Town Test against India at the start of this

The fighting spirit has embodied most of his outings, not least during the Kotla heist on Thursday. In that sense, van der Dussen symbolises the spirit of Temba Bavuma's team. His is a team without superstar batsmen, no one with the towering persona of de Villiers or du Plessis, or Graeme Smith or Dale Steyn. This is a South Africa team sans the machismo that has been the tragic flaw of more gifted Proteas sides, according to coach Paddy Upton, "I think machoness is a problem in non-Asian countries. Trying to pretend you are too tough. I do think that South Africans generally tend to act more macho than what they actually are and that bites them in pressure moments. As opposed to being real, authentic and having the correct level of acceptance of vulnerability."

It's a bunch that has waddled through failures and copped criticism. Quinton de Kock, whatever he does, feels he is grossly underappreciated as well as misunderstood. Aiden Markram was once considered a T20 misfit; Miller, out of depression, had once thought of quitting the game; Bavuma has eternally worn the flattered-to-deceive millstone around his neck. But this band of the snubbed and rejected can win matches and have a knack of throwing up unseemly matchwinners. Like van der Dussen — in many ways the pin-up hero of this South African side. Under-rated and unassuming, until he starts to sting.

Amazon withdraw from IPL media rights auction

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY

e held on Sunday.

AMAZON HAS pulled out of the Indian Premier League media rights auction race, leaving the field to its rivals - Walt Disney Co., that owns Disney-Star, and Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd. through Viacom18/Reliance. A top BCCI official confirmed the development, as it is learnt that Jeff Bezos' Amazon communicated with the Indian cricket board in this regard early on Friday (India time), ahead of the evaluation of the technical bids. The e-auction is going to

Over the last few days, India's cricket and commercial circles were abuzz with a straight fight between the world's two richest men – Bezos and Ambani - for the IPL media rights for the 2023-2027 cycle. Amazon's pull-out nips this in the bud and now it could be a three-way race between Disney-Star, Viacom18/Reliance and Sony, Amazon's investment in India is in excess of \$6 billion. Initially, they showed keen interest in having the digital media rights of the world's most popular cricket league. From that perspective, their eleventh-hour withdrawal came as a surprise. Some reports claim that Amazon's chief executive officer Andy Jassy decided to pull the plug after internal deliberations, but the e-retail & content giant hasn't officially commented on it. Amazon livestreams the English Premier League. Recently, it inked a deal to broadcast Thursday Night Football in the United States at \$1 billion-a-season until 2033. Securing the IPL's digital streaming rights would have made them a big player in cricket broadcasting as well.

No official comment from the company has given rise to speculation, with some sources claiming that they read the writing on the wall, an impending defeat against Ambani's Reliance, while there's another school of thought that Amazon decided against paying over the odds. The BCCI has set the base price for the IPL media rights at Rs 32,890 crore, irking some of the bidders. Sony Pictures Networks India's managing director and CEO NP Singh called the base price "very aggresA race between Viacom & Disney?

IN 2017, Uday Shankar, as Star's chairman-cum-CEO, had secured the IPL media rights for his erstwhile company for Rs 16,347 crore. Five years down the line, he is in the opposition camp, masterminding strategies for Viacom18/Reliance, which has launched a sports channel, Sports 18. Indian conglomerate Reliance and Viacom 18 have entered into a strategic partnership with Bodhi Tree, an investment platform, run by media tycoon James Murdoch's Lupa Systems and Shankar. At the same time, there's a feeling that Disney-Star could go for aggressive bidding to retain the media rights. Hotstar reportedly gets 30 per cent of its global revenue from India, with the IPL being the deter-

sive". Still, by a conservative estimate, the BCCI expects the media rights to fetch north of Rs 45,000 crore to its coffers, while some are predicting it to reach even Rs 60,000 crore.

mining factor.

Recouping the money only through digital streaming rights could have been a problem for Amazon. Unlike Disney-Star, Viacom18/Reliance or Sony, the company doesn't have a dedicated sports/TV channel. "Amazon has a great balance sheet but as a standalone, digital-only bidder, it would've had a challenge recouping such a big investment on streaming," Mihir Shah, vice-president and India head at Media Partners Asia, was quoted as saying by Bloomberg.

The pull-out, though, is unlikely to be a setback for the BCCI. The IPL's valuation, according to Duff & Phelps, was \$5.9 billion two years ago. Now, with the inclusion of two new teams and more matches, its valuation has risen considerably. Little wonder then that the BCCI is eyeing an unprecedented windfall.

splash with a six into fan's beer glass on Day 1

REUTERS

NOTTINGHAM, JUNE 10

DARYL MITCHELL scored an unbeaten 81, and splashed a six into a spectator's pint of beer, as New Zealand cruised to 318-4 from 87 overs at the end of the opening day of the second test against England at Trent Bridge on Friday. Needing a win to level the threematch series after a stinging five wicket defeat at Lord's last weekend, and without captain and leading batsman Kane Williamson, the Black Caps started by losing the toss and being put in to bat.

The absence of Williamson, in isolation after testing positive for COVID-19 on the eve of the match, proved less of a setback than expected as the visitors reached 108-2 at lunch and 195-4 at tea. They were helped on a day of entertaining cricket by England's fielders missing plenty of chances.

Dropped chances Joe Root dropped one catch and Zak

Crawley let slip another chance after England, unchanged from the first test, had grabbed back-to-back wickets just before lunch. New Zealand's opening stand was the highest in a test at the ground since 2005 but both openers departed in the space of two balls. England captain Ben Stokes provided the

breakthrough, taking the ball and having Will Young caught for 47 by a diving Crawley at second slip. New Zealand had been 84-0 and it was 84-2 when stand-in captain Tom Latham fell to Matthew Potts off James Anderson at midwicket.

The visitors morning score was still a vast improvement on the 39-6 at lunch on the opening day of the first test at Lord's.

Anderson and Stokes each took a pair of wickets, with the captain's two for 40 coming from 12 overs.

New Zealand were 161-3 when Ben Foakes caught Henry Nicholls (30) behind off Stokes and the Black Caps slipped to 169-4 after the wicket keeper repeated the feat with Devon Conway (46) from an Anderson delivery. Crawley dived across Root in a failed bid to catch Nicholls and Root missed an easier offering from Mitchell when the batsman was on one.

Mitchell, who provided a light-hearted moment when he smashed a six clear into the stands with the ball landing with a splash in someone's beer, ended the day on an unbeaten 149 partnership with Tom Blundell.

England's Barmy Army supporters' club said on Twitter the Black Caps had bought the female fan a replacement pint.

BRIEF SCORES: New Zealand 318/4 (D Mitchell 81*, T Blundell 67*, W Young 47, D Conway 46; B Stokes 2/40, J Anderson 2/42) vs England

Mitchell makes a Knee injury scuppers Mary Kom's CWG farewell plans

NIHAL KOSHIE

THE COMMONWEALTH Games in Birmingham was to be a celebratory farewell parade for six-time world champion Mary Kom. Now the 39-year-old, five months short of her 40th birthday, which is the cut-off age for amateur boxing at major events, could walk into the sunset without a final testimonial tournament podium photo.

Fate had a cruel twist in store for the box-

At the trials for the CWG, the London Olympics bronze medalist lost her footing early as she swayed away in the first round of the semifinals (48 kg) against two-time Youth Olympics champion Nitu Ghanghas. Mary shrieked as she fell and slowly got back on her feet. But she struggled to move freely. was in pain again and clutched her knee. Had she continued, it would have been foolhardy.

Nitu was declared the winner via refereestops-contest. The anticipated bout between the 21-year-old upcoming star and a veteran

nearly double her age came to a premature end. Soon Mary limped out of the IG Stadium with support, got into her SUV and left. Mary doesn't need a second CWG medal - she won gold at Gold Coast in 2018 — at the fag end of her career. But once she overcame the disappointment of a pre-quarterfinal exit at the Tokyo Olympics, her competitive spirit had been rekindled. She had trained, first in Manipur and then in Delhi, like she had everything to prove. The CWG was a clear target in her mind.

Over a two-decade long career, Mary had always overcome the odds, made comebacks after motherhood and bounced back from injury to win medals at the highest level. She had skipped the World Championship trials to make way for younger boxers. But at nearly 40, her knee let her down when she wanted one final shot at glory in the ring.

Just two days ago Mary had posted a weight training video of her on Twitter with the caption: If you want a good result, TRAIN HARDER.

Chhote Lal Yadav, her long-time coach, says there was no hype in her social media post. She had sparred against boxers in higher-weight categories ahead of the trials.

"She would train and spar against those who were in the 54 kg and 57 kg category. She had been working really hard to prepare for the Commonwealth Games trials. She didn't have any injury issues currently. In training, she had shown the hunger to give her best. She trained smartly because she had to be mindful of her age. Mentally too she was positive," Chhote Lal said.

To keep an unwavering focus on training, Mary, a mother of three, took the difficult decision to cut down on family time.

Once her term as Rajya Sabha MP ended recently, she moved to the hostel at the IG Stadium as her training intensified and the



Mary Kom got injured in the first round of the semifinals on Friday. BFI

Nitu will fight Manju Rani in the final on Saturday for a place in the Commonwealth Games squad (in 48kg category)

CWG trails got closer. "She took the decision to stay away from her children. It was not easy for her," Chhote Lal added.

Best possible preparations

Among those who were keeping a close eve on the trial bouts was chief national coach Bhaskar Bhatt. Mary, according to Bhatt, was looking good till the injury oc-

"For the past month and a half, her intensity during training was as high as I have ever seen. But one can't plan for something like an injury. It can happen to anyone. But in Mary's case, age is also a factor. I don't think she has ever had a major knee injury. But at 40, such things can happen even if you train as hard as you want and prepare well," Bhatt said.

It was too early in the bout to make a judgement on who the better boxer was on the day — Mary or Nitu? "Mary has all the experience and she is very smart in the ring. She would have only expended as much energy as was needed. Nitu is a very good boxer too and is the future. It would have been a good bout. But it is unfortunate how it ended" the chief national coach said.

Nitu will fight Manju Rani in the final on Saturday for a place in the Commonwealth Games squad.

As for Mary, there was no official communication on the nature of the injury.

Chhote Lal said a clearer picture would emerge once Mary's injury assessment is complete in a day. "Hopefully, it is not as bad as it looks. I don't know what Mary has in mind (future competition), but this can't be the way she leaves a ring for the last time. Her story deserves a good ending." A final waltz around the ring where she danced all her life on quick feet, not a plume of smoke left behind by a retreating SUV.



In association with

A discussion on



Reema Kagti, Filmmaker

in conversation with

Shubhra Gupta, Film Critic, The Indian Express

Webinar Discussion

Date: 20 June 2022 | Time: 5:30 PM

We recommend that you watch the movie and join us for the discussion. The film is available on Netflix & Amazon Prime Video

Join us on Zoom

To register, scan the **QR Code** or SMS - IEFILM <space> "FA" <space> "your name & email id" to 56161



Kolkata



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