

Where Do We Go From Here? Amitav Ghosh on connecting the dots between colonialism,

capitalism and ecological imbalance in his new work **PAGES 12, 13, 14**



'VOTER BRIBERY' CASE Speaker, former BJP MLA, Patidar stir leader get

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE RAJKOT, OCTOBER 16

court relief

GUJARAT ASSEMBLY Speaker Nimaben Acharya, former BJP MLA Kantilal Amrutiya and Patidar quota agitation leader Manoj Panara got relief in a case related to alleged bribing of voters at an election meeting in Morbi town during the 2009 Lok Sabha election as the district and sessions court of Morbi on Saturday set aside a trial court verdict that pronounced them guilty.

The court of additional sessions judge MK Upadhyay on Saturday allowed separate appeals filed by Acharya, Amrutiya and Panara against the trial court conviction on February 12, 2018.

"The court concurred with our submission that the prosecution had erred in interpreting the law and therefore, the trial court's verdict convicting the accused was illegal, perverse and untenable in the eye of law and hence allowed our appeal," Anil Desai, Acharya's advocate, told The Indian Express.

Acharya and Amrutiya, then sitting BJP MLAs from Anjar and Morbi Assembly constituencies respectively, and Panara, then a BJP worker, were booked under Indian Penal Code sections 171-B (bribing voters), 188 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by a public servant) and 114 (abettor present when offence is committed) on March 25, 2009. The case was registered on the basis of a complaint filed by Arvind Patel, the assistant returning officer (ARO), Kutch Lok Sabha seat.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Singhu lynching: Second 'surrender' as Haryana reaches out to Nihangs



Sarabjit Singh was produced before a court in Sonipat on MORE REPORTS, PAGE 4 Saturday. PTI

VARINDER BHATIA, KAMALDEEP SINGH BRAR & PAVNEET SINGH **CHADHA**

CHANDIGARH, AMRITSAR, GURGAON, OCTOBER 16

A SECOND person "surrendered" Saturday in connection with the lynching of a 35-year-old at the farmer protest site in Singhu on the Delhi-Haryana border. Narain Singh, who is in the custody of the Amritsar Rural Police, is a Nihang Sikh like Sarabjit Singh, and also claimed Lakhbir Singh was killed as he had "desecrated" the Sikh holy book.

As the Haryana administra-

ceeded with caution, sources said the Nihangs had been persuaded to hand the accused over, as police did not want to provoke a reaction by making a search and arrest. The Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM), that has been spearheading the farm protests, also weighed in to ensure Sarabjit's arrest, in an effort to ensure that things didn't get out

Late on Saturday night, police detained two more Nihang Sikhs from the Singhu-Kundli protest site, and are questioning them. In a video clip, Nihang leaders claimed the men were going to "surrender" to police.

Sarabjit, who is said to have tion, wary of repercussions, pro-CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 Fertiliser stocks dip as global prices surge,

farmers are hit hard

HARISH DAMODARAN & **ANJU AGNIHOTRI CHABA** PANIPAT, JALANDHAR,

OCTOBER 16

"DAP BAZAAR mein nahi hai (there's no di-ammonium phosphate in the market)," says Pritam Singh Hanjra.

This farmer from Urlana Khurd village in the Madlauda tehsil of Haryana's Panipat district is, like many others, desperately searching for India's secroot establishment and growth, farmers mostly apply DAP as a basal dose before sowing.

"It is neither available at the nearby Madlauda and Safidon mandis nor the more distant ones at Karnal and Kaithal. Farmers who go to sell paddy (currently being harvested) normally bring back DAP for their next wheat crop on the same tractor trolleys to save on burning diesel. But this time, they are all returning empty," notes Hanjra.

Farmers require about 110 kg of urea, 50 kg of DAP and 20 kg of MOP (muriate of potash) for every acre of wheat. "The first dose of urea can be given 25-26 days after sowing. But DAP cannot wait and we need it well

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

PANDORA PAPERS - PART 13

AN INVESTIGATION BY THE INDIAN EXPRESS WITH INTERNATIONAL

Arrested, facing Rs 7,000-cr default, Kolkata's Nilesh Parekh went offshore

KHUSHBOO NARAYAN & **SWEETY KUMARI**

A KOLKATA-BASED businessman, who has been slapped with the biggest ever Foreign $Exchange\,Management$ Act (FEMA) notice of Rs 7,220 crore, opened offshore firms through Trident

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

PRANAV MUKUL

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 16

amid record fund flows.

A PANDEMIC-INDUCED boom in

the education-linked ed-tech sector has spurred a scramble for

deals among the top players,

of 2021, the ed-tech sector saw

mergers and acquisitions worth

During the first nine months

Pandora Papers investigated by

one of the top wilful defaulters,

the sole director of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Jewellery House in Kolkata.

3,772

2,224

968

831

191

two years - \$416 million in 2020

Similarly, PE-VC fundraises

and \$783 million in 2019.



Two more migrant workers, from Bihar & UP, killed in J&K

Top officials have been stationed in Valley

BASHAARAT MASOOD SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 16

A WEEK after a series of attacks on civilians, especially non-Muslims, set off alarm bells from Srinagar to Delhi, militants struck again on Saturday evening, killing two non-locals.

While Arvind Kumar Sah, a street vendor from Bihar, was shot in the head from pointblank range in Srinagar, reports came minutes later of Sageer Ahmad, a carpenter belonging to Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh, being fired at in Litter village of south Kashmir's Pulwama. Ahmad later succumbed to his

The attacks came barely

hours after IGP, Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said they had identified the "militants responsible for these (civilian) killings", adding that while two had been killed. they were close to "neutralising" three others. He also denied a security lapse, noting that police could not be expected to provide security to everyone.

The series of civilian killings in the Valley this month started with the shooting of prominent businessman Makhan Lal Bindroo, a Kashmiri Pandit who had stayed on in the Valley, at his CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

GEELANI GRANDSON DISMISSED FROM GOVT SERVICE PAGE 7

Poonch ops still on, Army death toll goes up to 9

ARUN SHARMA JAMMU, OCTOBER 16

THE OPERATION to flush out militants hiding in forests in the border district of Poonch in I&K has claimed the lives of nine Army personnel so far.

While the bodies of riflemen Vikram Singh Negi and Yogambar Singh were recovered Friday, those of Subedar Ajay Singh and Naik Harendra Singh were found in the Nar Khas forests in Mendhar area Saturday evening.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

CWC MEETING

Cong sticks to Gandhis: Sonia to stay on, clamour for Rahul's return

Rahul hints he may be ready; G-23 on defensive as Sonia says she is full-time



Sonia Gandhi arrives for the CWC meeting in New Delhi on RELATED REPORT, PAGE 5

MANOJCG

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 16

AT THE first meeting of the Congress Working Committee (CWC) in five months, Sonia Gandhi sent an unambiguous message that the reins of the party remain firmly in the family's hands, while indicating her disapproval of leaders of the G-23 who have been demanding "fulltime and effective leadership" for the party. Gandhi said she was "a full-time and hands-on Congress president", adding that she "always appreciated frankness" and

Status 👂 quo again THE CONGRESS has ensured there is status quo for one more year. Given the five-year tenure of the post, the organisational

elections would have been

held next year anyway.

and all major stores

"there is no need to speak to me through the media". CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BCCI asks



To apply for

DEVENDRA PANDEY MUMBAI, OCTOBER 16

THE BOARD of Control for

Dravid was in Dubai to update BCCI officials about the working of the National Cricket Academy (NCA), which he heads, when he was pressed to throw his hat in the ring.

Sources said this happened

the Indian board's difficulty in finding a suitable replacement for outgoing India coach Ravi Shastri, whose tenure ends once the World T20 gets over next month. Meanwhile, Indian skipper

Virat Kohli, speaking at a pre-World T20 event, said he was not

Dravid to be India coach



post which falls vacant after T20

Cricket in India (BCCI) has managed to convince former India captain Rahul Dravid to apply for the national team coach's post which will fall vacant after the T20 World Cup.

during his NCA presentation, on the sidelines of the IPL, to BCCI president Sourav Ganguly, secretary Jay Shah, treasurer Arun Dhumal and joint secretary Jayesh George. Dravid was apprised about

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

ond-most consumed fertiliser after urea. Containing 46% phosphorous, which is necessary for

CONSORTIUM OF INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISTS

MUMBAI, KOLKATA, OCT 16

Trust Company, records in the

The Indian Express reveal. Nilesh Parekh, promoter of

Shree Ganesh Jewellery House (I) Ltd, became

Chicory Holdings Limited in the BVI in December 2011 to hold assets primarily in the United Arab Emirates.

Boom in Ed-Tech gets bigger: M&As,

75

78

61

57

2021

2020

2019

2018

Source: Venture Intelligence

more than \$3.35 billion, more

than three times the consoli-

dated amounts raised in the last

At the Shree Ganesh

fundraises soar, way above 2-yr total by ed-tech firms totalled \$3.77 PE-VC INVESTMENTS IN EDUCATION, EDTECH FIRMS billion in the first nine months of 2021, far exceeding the cumula-Amount(\$M)

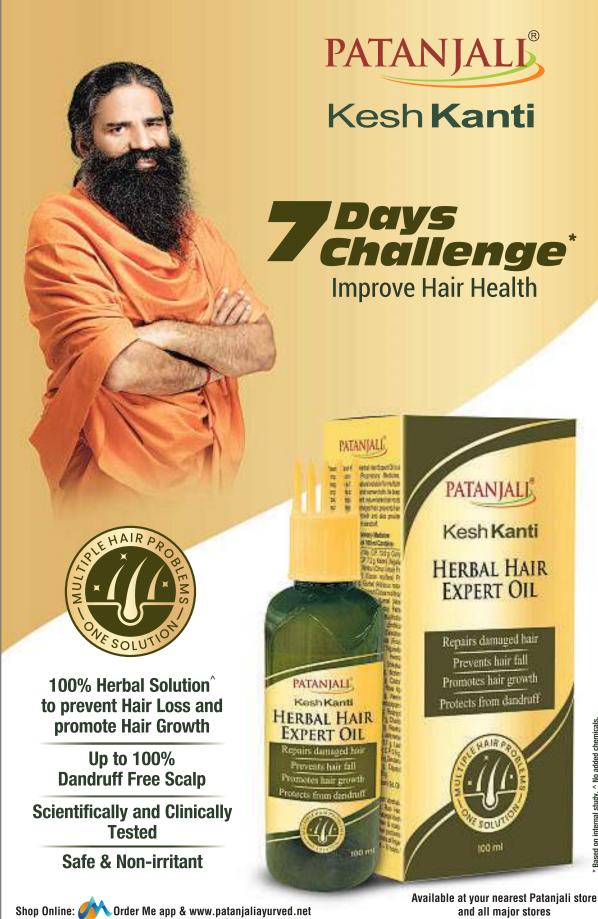
Venture Intelligence showed. Much of this funding activity is concentrated at the top, with larger companies like Byju's cornering a major chunk of the M&A activity.

tive \$2.22 billion and \$968 mil-

lion raised in 2020 and 2019 re-

spectively, data provided by

While in India, the fundraising amount for 2021 by the ed-tech CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Customer Care Number - 18001804108 | Email ID - feedback@patanjaliayurved.org | Website - www.patanjaliayurved.org

♦The Indian **EXPRESS**

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM



More news zero ads



POINT YOUR CAMERA TO GOTOTHEAPPSTORE VISUAL STORIES | DAILY BRIEFING

CUSTOMISED NEWS EXPERIENCE

EXPRESS TECHNOLOGY Apple CEO Tim Cook defends billion dollar deal with Google



A NEW SERIES OF PICTURE POSTCARDS EXPLORES CONVERSION AMONG THE KHASI

 $Tarun\,Bhartiya's\,set\,of\,100\,post cards\,show\,an\,uncomfortable\,story\,of\,conversion\,unfolding\,in\,the\,Khasi\,Hills$

TECH



LENOVO IDEAPAD SLIM 5I PRO (14-INCH) **REVIEW**

A premium computing experience

ENTERTAINMENT



SARDAR UDHAM MOVIE REVIEW

Sardar Udham is a turbulent slice of **India's colonial past** **3**THINGS

EXPRESS AUDIO

How Microsoft Teams drive collaborations at work

In this episode, Geeta Gurnani, Country Head of Modern Work at Microsoft India, joins host Nandagopal Rajan to discuss how Microsoft Teams is developing to support online workspaces, its new features, and its new devices for increased collaboration

FROM PAGE ONE

ALL-INDIA STOCK OF FERTILISERS

	2021	2020	2019	2018
Urea	5,245	5,590	6,885	6,896
DAP	2,075	5,023	6,596	4,798
NPKS	3,241	3,600	5,142	4,068
MOP	963	2,024	2,286	1,590

*As on Sept 30; in thousand tonnes Source: Department of Fertilisers

Fertiliser stocks

before sowing starts first week of November," he adds. The desperation is more for potato, where sowing is already underway in Punjab and extends from mid-October to early-November in UP. The fertiliser requirement, per acre, for it is around 110 kg urea, 90 kg DAP and 80 kg MOP

Harjinder Singh from Malliwal village in Shahkot tehsil of Punjab's Jalandhar district plans to cultivate potato on 85 acres. "I have just 30 bags (each of 50 kg) of DAP and 10 bags of 12:32:16 (a complex fertiliser containing 12% nitrogen or N, 32% phosphorus or P and 16% potassium or K). These will suffice for hardly a fourth of my area," he complains.

The picture projected by farmers – there are viral media videos of lathi charges and even trucks being raided – is consistent with the stocks position of key nutrients, as per the government's own data.

Opening stocks for this month were less than half of their year-ago levels in the case of DAP and MOP, and also lower for urea and NPKS complexes.

The main reason for the precarious stocks is surging global prices.

The Narendra Modi government, on October 12, approved an increase in the subsidy on DAP besides that on three NPKS complexes. The decision was taken to make it viable for fertiliser firms to import and also stop them from raising MRP too sharply, especially given the state elections.

But the main concern is availability: Has the higher subsidy come too late?

There would certainly be incentive to import now. I expect ships to start arriving by end-October. The government should undertake 24/7 surveillance so that the imported material is moved directly to the consumption centres rather than being stocked. Secondly, some kind of rationing is required," industry expert G Ravi Prasad told *The Sunday Express*.

Ed-Tech

sector is way above last year's amount, the overall global scenario has been comparatively slower on this front.

According to CB Insights data, ed-tech companies across the world raised \$8.27 billion till September 24 this year, and are expected to raise a total of \$11.03 billion by the end of this year, compared with \$12.63 billion raised last year. Most of this fundraising activity has come from early-stage start-ups, as seed, angel and Series A deals.

Almost half of the amount raised by edtech in 2021 so far, was cornered by Byju's. The company has raised over \$1.5 billion this year. In 2021 alone, Byju's, which is valued at \$18 billion, was involved in four out of the five $biggest\,M\&A\,deals\,in\,the\,ed\text{-}tech\,sector.$

"While much of the ed-tech boom that we are witnessing in India is outside of the school, more akin to private tutoring, there is a real opportunity in these start-ups and companies getting involved with governments and education boards to formulate curriculum suited for a digital world," a Bengaluru-based partner at an early stage venture capital firm said.

Industry experts have also pointed out the opportunity to look at the education sector as a for-profit sector that has spurred investment activity. "With ed-tech start-ups like Byju's, Unacademy or even a lot of smaller ones, PE and VC funds have a chance to make high returns on their investments," a VC fund manager said.

2 more killed

popular medical store in Srinagar on October 5. The same day, another street vendor from Bihar, Virendar Paswan, was shot in Lalbazar neighbourhood of Srinagar, while a local, Mohammad Shafi, was attacked at Hajin in Bandipore. Two days later, suspected militants barged into a school in Srinagar and killed two teachers -- the principal, a Sikh, and a $\operatorname{\mathsf{Hindu}}$ resident of Jammu.

There were reports of several Kashmiri Pandits leaving the Valley soon after, with the killings reviving fears of a repeat of the 1990s.

Director General of Police Dilbag Singh has said the recent killings are aimed at damaging communal harmony. Union Home Minister Amit Shah had held a high-level security review after the school shootout, and top R&AW, NIA and Intelligence Bureau officers have been stationed in the Valley since to oversee operations to trace the militants behind the killings. Before the fresh killings on Saturday, IGP

Kumar denied that the incidents were the result of a security lapse. "(The militants) attacked soft targets, whom we had not provided security. It is not possible to provide security to every soft target," he said.

On politicians talking about this (among others, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said there was an intelligence failure), Kumar, responding to a question, said: "It is the job of politicians to speak *ulta-pulta...* I know how to handle it and we will do it."

On Friday, police claimed to have killed two militants in gunfights in Srinagar and Pulwama, and named the two -as "collaborators" in the recent killings.

On Saturday, two more militants were reported killed in an overnight gunfight in Pampore. In the week since the civilian killings, the Valley has witnessed eight gunfights, in which 11 militants have been killed. Leaders across parties condemned the killings.

Court relief

In his complaint, the ARO said that at a meeting in Morbi town on March 18, 2009, Acharya had promised BJP workers that if elected, the party MP would allot Rs 5 lakh grant to the polling booth that records the highest voting in favour of the party candidate. Acharya also promised that the MP would allot Rs 2 lakh and Rs 1.51 lakh respectively to the booths that comes second and third, the ARO

As per the complaint, Amrutiya had promised that BJP MLAs in Kutch Parliamentary seat would allot Rs1.51 lakh to the "organisation" of the area in each Assembly from where the party candidate gets the highest lead in LS poll. The complaint alleged that Panara had applied for permission for the event but it went beyond the officially permitted time.

The trial court in Morbi that pronounced Acharya, Amrutiya and Panara guilty of violating IPC Sections 171-B and 114 in 2018, had sentenced them to one year simple imprisonment and fined Rs 1,000 each while acquitting $them\,of\,the\,charge\,under\,IPC\,Section\,188. The$ court allowed the convicts' plea for stayed operation of its judgement for 30 days so that they can approach the sessions court.

Acharya moved the Morbi district and sessions court on February 22, 2018 challenging the trial court verdict. Amrutiya and Panara, too, moved separate appeals. The sessions court subsequently stayed operation of the trial court judgement till pendency of appeals.

On Saturday, Acharya thanked the sessions court for "doing justice" to her. "I was not even an MLA from Morbi which would have allowed me to allot my (MLA Local Area Development Fund) grant in Morbi. Nor had we promised anyone money or had made any attempt to lure voters. All that we had done is to tell our workers to encourage people to vote in large numbers. But no one is above the law and one has to go through the procedure," Acharya told The Indian Express, adding, "The judgement has strengthened my faith in the judiciary."

Acharya was protem speaker of Gujarat Assembly when she was convicted in February, 2018. She was elected Speaker last month after incumbent speaker Rajendra Trivedi resigned.

During the hearing of the appeals, Desai and advocates of Amrutiya and Panara contented that Acharya and Amrutiya had not addressed any "individuals" but "party booth workers of the constituency. "Even those words do not fall within the ambit of Section 171-B of the IPC so as to attract the punishment U/S. 171-E of the IPC for the offence of Bribery," the sessions court notes the appellants as having argued.

"The prosecution never produced the VCD (video city disc) containing recording of the said event in trial court... In absence of material evidence, the prosecution's case rested on oral testimonies of seven witnesses. But we contented that all the seven witnesses examined by the prosecution were government servants and that there was no independent witness supporting the case hence the prosecution had failed to prove its case beyond reasonable doubt," Desai added.

In his judgement, judge MK Upadhyay underlined that the VCD was a vital piece of evidence but the prosecution failed to produce it. "In such a case the question arises as to why the Court should not draw an adverse inference against the Prosecution that if at all the said electronic evidence would have been produced before the Court, it would have definitely gone against the Prosecution Case... And hence inference can definitely be drawn against the Prosecution U/S. 114 of the Evidence Act," the judgement noted.

Rahul Dravid

aware about Dravid agreeing to replace Shastri. "Look, our ultimate goal is to win the World Cup and I honestly have no idea exactly what's happening on that front yet. We haven't had any detailed discussions with

anyone," he said.

Sonia to stay, clamour for Rahul's return

As per the schedule for organisational elections approved by the top decision-making body of the party on Saturday, Gandhi will continue as interim president for nearly a vear more, with polls for the post of AICC president to take place between August 21 and September 20, 2022.

Meanwhile, one leader after another made their wish clear Saturday as to who they wanted as the next president: Rahul Gandhi. When some like Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi and AICC general secretary Harish Rawat asked him to take over immediately without waiting for the organisational elections, Rahul reportedly said he would "consider" it and can't be "bullied".

What was clear was that Rahul, who had resigned as Congress president after the party's 2019 Lok Sabha election debacle, was now less reluctant to return to the helm. However, even as he is running the party for all practical purposes, he reportedly wants the takeover through "due process" and organisational elections.

"He does not want to take over just because some CWC members have asked him... If somebody wants to contest against him... they can do so," a leader close to him

In her address to the CWC, Sonia Gandhi was blunt. "I am, if you will allow me to say so, a full-time and hands-on Congress president," she said, adding that the party leadership in the last two years has "never let issues of public importance and concern go unaddressed". Sources said it was senior leader A K

Antony who began the chorus for Rahul. Almost every other leader -- including Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot, Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel, Ambika Soni and Randeep Singh Surjewala -- echoed Antony.

Rahul's assertiveness was reflected in his statement at the meeting that the media in Delhi "cannot dictate the party's politics and decisions", and that it was he who had informed Channi about the decision to appoint him as CM. "He broke down when I told him," Rahul said.

With party leaders clearly lining up behind the Gandhis, the G-23 leaders appeared much mellowed Saturday. The last CWC meeting, held in the wake of the party's defeat in the Assembly elections in May, had seen two of them, Ghulam Nabi Azad and Anand Sharma, questioning the electoral strategy. On Saturday, Azad, Sharma and the third G-23 member present, Mukul



Rahul Gandhi at the CWC meeting in New Delhi on Saturday. Praveen Khanna

Wasnik, were on the defensive as several leaders followed Sonia Gandhi's lead and attacked them.

After the meeting, AICC general secretary K C Venugopal indicated how smoothly matters had gone for the family, saving, "Some of the media reported there will be storm, thunder.'

Another important take-away from the CWC meeting was the lack of a discussion on Opposition unity, though the Congress urged all "democratic parties and forces" to join hands against the Modi government. While no one broached that topic, Dinesh Gundu Rao -- the AICC in-charge of Goa -expressed apprehension over the Trinamool Congress's push in the state.

Seeking Rahul's return as Congress president, Channi said he was "our property... Congress property". Priyanka said Rahul was their leader. Tariq Hameed Karra asked Rahul to be "kind" to his mother and not 'burden" her further. One leader said Rahul replied he would take his own "conscious decision".

Sonia Gandhi said: "In the past two years, a large number of our colleagues, particularly the younger ones, have taken on leadership roles in taking party policies and programmes to the people-- be it the agitation of farmers, provision of relief during the pandemic, highlighting issues of concern, atrocities on Dalits, Adivasis and minorities... destruction of the public sector.'

Gandhi added: "You are aware that I have been taking (issues) up with the Prime Minister as have Dr Manmohan Singh and Rahul ji. I have been interacting with likeminded political parties. We have issued joint statements... coordinated our strategy in Parliament."

She then said: "I have always appreciated frankness. There is no need to speak to me through the media. So let us all have a free and honest discussion. But what should

this room is the collective decision of the CWC...The entire organisation wants revival of the Congress. But this requires unity and keeping the party's interests paramount. Above all, it requires self-control and disci-

While Gandhi did not name anyone, it was clear she was hinting at the G-23 leaders. A fortnight ago, Kapil Sibal, among the most vocal of the G-23 leaders, had said at a press conference that, "In our party, at the moment, there is no president, so we don't know who is taking these decisions. We know and yet we don't know."

Sources said other leaders too, such as Jitender Singh, Ajay Maken and Surjewala, attacked the G-23 without naming them, asserting that public pronouncements by leaders were weakening the party.

Azad and Sharma replied that they had never questioned Gandhi's leadership. Sharma added that he was party to the CWC decision that had asked Gandhi to take over as Congress president after Rahul had stepped down. Sharma also pointed out that Rahul had abruptly resigned at the time, ignoring requests to reconsider.

Referring to the organisational elections, Gandhi said: "I am acutely conscious that I have been interim Congress president since the CWC asked me to return in this capacity in 2019. We had thereafter, you may recall, finalised a roadmap for electing a regular president by June 30, 2021. But the second wave of Covid-19 overtook the country and this deadline was extended... Today is the occasion for bringing clarity once and for all."

As per the schedule approved by the CWC, a membership drive will be held between November 1 and March 31, 2022, which will be followed by elections to presidents and office-bearers at the block committee, district committee and PCC levels from April 16, culminating in the election of AICC president between August 21 and September 20 next year.

An AICC plenary session for "election of CWC members and other bodies by AICC members" will take place in September/October.

On the forthcoming Assembly elections in five states, Gandhi said "our preparations began a while back... If we are united, disciplined and focus on the party's interests alone, I am confident that we will do well."

In her concluding remarks, Gandhi struck a conciliatory note, saying she was very happy at the frank discussions and that the meeting was held in an atmosphere of cordiality and bonhomie.

immovable and movable properties

brothers for allegedly defrauding 20 public

sector banks including State Bank of India.

Sources said that the Parekh family left India

before Shree Ganesh was declared a wilful

sive high-profile diamond lounge in Dubai

named Aastha Lounge that was inaugu-

by the CBI at the Mumbai airport while re-

turning to the country from Dubai.

Subsequently, in June 2018, Parekh was ar-

rested by the Directorate of Revenue

Intelligence (DRI) for diverting imported

2015, Parekh imported 35,746 kg of duty-

The DRI alleged that between 2005 and

duty free gold of over 1700 kg.

The Parekh brothers now run an exclu-

In May 2017, Nilesh Parekh was arrested

The CBI, too, is investigating the Parekh

abroad.

defaulter in 2015.

rated in 2018.

portedly honoured by the Nihangs before police took him away. Police officers said he had named four more people. He was remanded on Saturday to seven days' police Narain Singh, who "surrendered" at vil-

lage Amarkot in Amritsar, allegedly attacked Lakhbir on the leg. Like Sarabjit and Lakhbir, Narain is a *Mazhabi* (converted) Sikh.

Police said preliminary post-mortem had showed 37 injuries on Lakhbir. Police first came to know what had happened when videos went viral of men dressed in Nihang robes questioning an injured Lakhbir at the Singhu protest site over the "desecration". A case of murder was registered at the Kundli Police Station in Sonipat.

Both Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and Deputy CM Dushyant Chautala on Saturday broke their silence on the matter, condemning the killing and saying the SKM could not wash its hands of it.

Highly placed government sources told The Sunday Express police had identified at least 10 of the Nihang Sikhs present in videos of the incident, and that they were taking Sarabjit's version with "a pinch of salt". A senior officer noted, "Lakhbir was a Mazhabi (converted) Sikh and so is Sarabjit. It is not going to be a simple investigation.'

Mystery prevails over how Lakhbir came to be present at the Singhu site, with his family saying he was not part of the protests.

"Confessing to the killing", Narain, who

said he had been part of the farmer protests for 10 mosnths, told the media, "I informed police about my surrender and requested them to let me visit the Akal Takht Sahib first. However, police cordoned off our village." Giving details of Lakhbir's post-mortem,

Virender Singh, DySP, Law and Order, Sonipat, said: "His hand was chopped off, one foot was also cut, but it was not separated, and he had injuries all over." Singh said Sarabjit told them he saw

Lakhbir running away from Gurdwara Saheb of Moya Mandiwale, when he was caught. 'Sarabjit says he then took a sword and hacked the victim's hand for his act of sacrilege. The sword is yet to be recovered." Police said Sarabjit had named four peo-

ple and several unidentified persons, including Nihang Sikhs. "We sought Sarabjit's remand to arrest them from locations in Punjab, including Gurdaspur and Chamkaur Saheb." the officer said. Sarabjit had appeared before the media

Friday, claiming to have "punished" Lakhbir for the "desecration". While the Nihangs claimed he had "surrendered", police said Sarabjit had been "arrested". $Narain's\,son\,Love preet\,said\,there\,was\,no$

caste angle to his actions. "We are Rangreta Sikhs (Dalits). Sarabjit Singh is also a Rangreta Sikh. My father is head of the Bhai Baz Singh Taran Misl, which dates back to Baba Banda Singh Bahadur in the 18th century. This *misl* is of Rangrata Sikhs... This act was against sacrilege. Police and governments have failed to stop it."

Senior police officers have reportedly conveyed to the Nihangs that "there will be no compromise on law and order". Separately, the district administration has pressed upon farmer organisations the need to identify the perpetrators.

Khattar, who has vowed strictest action against those guilty, said Saturday: "What happened was very sad and condemnable." Saying the investigation would reveal the truth, the CM said if the SKM was distancing itself from the incident, they must "completely break away from the Nihangs. Then we can say the SKM has done its part."

Chautala also questioned the SKM. "Although one person has taken responsibility for the crime, there are around 40 heads of different organisations at Singhu border who should also take responsibility.'

Poonch ops

The four personnel had been missing ever since a fierce gunbattle with militants Thursday evening in the forests near Bhata Durian village along the Bimber Gali-Surankote road.

 $Army\,PRO\,Lt\,Colonel\,Devender\,An and\,said$ the bodies found Saturday had been identified as those of Subedar Ajay Singh and Naik Harendra Singh.

He said they were part of the search operations launched by security forces to flush out militants hiding in the forests.

"Relentless operations continued to neutralize the militants and to re-establish communication with the soldiers," he said, adding "Subedar Ajay Singh and Naik Harendra Singh were killed in action in the fierce fight and their bodies were recovered on Saturday evening.'

Officials said the militants are from the same group which had engaged security forces in the forests of Chamred in Poonch and adjoining Pangai in Rajouri district Monday. A JCO and four jawans were killed in the gunbattle.

Arrested, Kolkata's Nilesh Parekh went offshore

Chicory Holdings was set up in October 2010 with UAE-based Trinity Group Partners as administrator of the company. According to the BVI company formation document, Parekhowns 50,000 shares of \$1.5 each and the purpose of the firm is to "register a subsidiary, branch, representative office, limited liability company, free zone company" with bank accounts in the UAE.

"The company will invest in and hold assets in UAE or anywhere else in the world and hereby authorizes Mr Nilesh Parekh signing solely to represent the company and sign on behalf of the company on any and all documentation related to the investment, holding and sale/transfer of assets," said a resolution approved by Chicory Holdings in 2011.

The Indian Express team went to three addresses related to Nilesh Parekh in Kolkata but Parekh was not available at any.

While opening the offshore firm, Parekh listed his house address at Manikanchan building in Ballygunj, Kolkata. At this address, a person who identified himself as the domestic help of Parekh said he had no knowledge about Nilesh Parekh's whereabouts.

Parekh, his brothers Kamlesh and Umesh, along with the Indian firm, Shree Ganesh Jewellery, are accused of defrauding a consortium of 25 Indian banks of Rs 2672 crore and diverting export proceeds of over Rs 7000 crore.

Shree Ganesh was declared a wilful de-

been checking the availability of several po-

tential coaches before putting out a formal

advertisement, but the response they has

on board as interim coach, to get more time

for head-hunting. In Dubai, India's batting

Initially, the BCCI wanted Dravid to come

been lukewarm.

Document which shows Nilesh

Parekh is director of Chicory **Holdings Limited in the BVI**

faulter by banks as early as 2015. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) is probing two separate cases against Parekh.

In July 2020, the agency issued a showcause notice to Parekh and Shree Ganesh under FEMA "for resorting to unauthorized foreign exchange dealings, holding of foreign exchange outside India and willfully siphoning off Rs 7220 crore as export proceeds".

The ED is also investigating the company under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) for allegedly diverting the sale proceeds of gold exports to related firms in ne UAE, Hongkong and Singapore. Sources said the company has huge

outstandings from three UAE firms Al Marhaba Trading FZC; Sparkle Jewellery LLC; and Astha Jewellery LLC. All these firms are promoted by Parekh and his brothers. The ED alleged that Parekh has deployed funds siphoned from India in

senior team until 2023.

free gold through his firm in Manikanchan Special Economic Zone in Kolkata but exported only 34,041 kg of finished jewellery. As a result 1,705 kg of imported duty-free gold was unaccounted for. Parekh is currently out on bail.

Last year, the government approached the Supreme Court to vacate its interim relief granted to 44 people accused in various high-value economic offenses arguing that it affected the ability of investigative agencies to probe these cases. That list includes

WITH PARTHA PAUL, KOLKATA

great, who has worked with the national uteam... The discussion has been positive and 19 side, was requested to take charge of the we are hoping to see him on board when we advertise for a coach," a BCCI source said. "Dravid is the best choice at the moment

Singhu lynching He knows the players and has had a crucial role in creating a system where players have arrived at Singhu with a contingent of

had a smooth transition into the senior Nihang Sikhs in December last year, was re-

Ahmedabad

Over the past few weeks, the BCCI has

Owner of a private school at Khajuriya village near Khambhaliya town of Devbhumi Dwarka, Karu Bhan, was arrested late on Friday for allegedly forging marksheets of students of classes 10 and 12 in lieu of money, police said.

and is among the first fraud cases

in India to go on trial," the official

said adding that 36 entities were

involved in the Rs 900 crore bogus

billing racket that was being op-

erated out of a rented premises in

billing rackets in Gujarat operate

out of not only rented premises,

but also have been found operat-

ing from premises belonging to

some associate remotely con-

firms involved in defrauding tax,

there are companies that try to

use the bogus bills to inflate their

turnover. "This is largely done by

firms looking to go for a public list-

ing or those who are seeking loans

from banks," the official added.

When asked the reason behind

the bogus billing racket spreading

to smaller centres, an SGST official

said. "The mastermind in most of

these cases operate from bigger

cities and they spread their network to smaller towns."

Officials said apart from those

nected with the conspirator.

SGST officials said bogus

Ahmedabad city.

Surat coaching centre shut after

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE SURAT, AHMEDABAD. OCTOBER 16

GUJARAT REPORTED 22 new Covid-19 cases in the last 24 hours, the health department said Saturday. Of these 22, the most number of cases-nine -were reported from Surat, which included five students enrolled to a private coaching centre.

With this spike in cases in Surat, the health department officials have shut the coaching institute, where six students of classes 11 and 12 tested positive in a week, for 14 days.

As per the health department officials of Surat Municipal Corporation, the first case of a 16-year-old student of the institute testing positive was reported on October 9.

Officials took contact details of a total of 110 students studying in the coaching centre. The teams reached their homes and carried out RT-PCR tests of students and their family members.

On Saturday morning, five more students were tested positive. Sources in the SMC said that reports of 50 students are still awaited. The centre runs private coaching for students of classes 11 and 12 of both the Commerce and Science streams.

Deputy Health Commissioner Dr Ashish Naik said, "We have given notices to the coaching centre to keep it shut for 14 days and get the centre sanitised first. Till date, six students have tested positive. While going through the history of the first case, we have found that the Class 11 student's elder brother had gone on tour to Jaipur and Jaisalmer in Rajasthan with his three friends. He returned a couple of days ago and got his younger brother infected. Those who had gone on the tour had both taken jabs of Covid-19

"All six students who tested positive were asymptomatic and their conditions were stable and under home isolation treatment

EXPDESS NEWS SERVICE

a year as there were not many takers.

point will be near the arrival gate.

AHMEDABAD, OCTOBER 16

BRTS airport shuttle

tomorrow, says AMC

THE BUS Rapid Transit Service (BRTS) shuttle service to the

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport will resume

from October 18, the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation

(AMC) has stated. The AMC started the service from Karn-

avati Club to the SVPI Airport in 2017 but had to stop it after

tric buses will run on the Iskcon-RTO-Airport route from 6

am till 11 pm with a frequency of 15-30 minutes. The fare is

passengers close to the departure area while the pick-up

Ramdevnagar, ISRO, Star Bazaar, Jodhpur cross road,

Himmatlal Park, Andhjan Mandal, University, Memnagar,

Valinath Chowk, Sola cross road, Jaymangal, Shastrinagar,

Pragatinagar, Akhbarnagar, Bhavsar Hostel, Ranip Cross

roads, RTO Circle and Ahmedabad Domestic airport termi-

nal. The AMC stated that based on the response and demand,

This time, the shuttle service with air-conditioned elec-

The buses equipped with CCTV cameras will drop off

The 20-kilometre route will cover Iskcon cross road,

service to resume

COVID CASE TRACKER Confirmed Deaths 2,28,982 3,411 Ahmedabad 0 10,888 102 Amreli Anand 9,636 49 79 0 Aravalli 5,468 Banaskantha 13,659 162 Bharuch 11,449 118 0 Bhavnagar 21,729 301 0 **Botad** 2,217 42 0 Chhota Udepur 3,398 **Dahod** 9,590 38 0 Dang 866 18 12,937 82 0 Devbhoomi Dwarka Gandhinagar 205 20,847 0 **Gir Somnath** 8,551 67 0 478 Jamnagar 36,614 Junagadh 20,496 272 0 Kheda 10,407 48 12,541 145 Kutch 8,313 Mahisagar 72 177 Mehsana 24,288 6,502 87 Morbi 0 Narmada 5,980 15 Navsari 7,202 24

70

129

19

725

157

1,958

136

24

788

51

11,742

11,623

3,855

58,699

9,338

8,120

4,446

77,915

6,334

1,43,842

0

0

0

0

9

0

0

1

Other states	148		3	
Total cases: 8,34,544	New cases: 22	di	umulative scharge: ,15,98	Cumulative deaths: 10,086
First dose takers ti 4,39,54,158	lldate		Ily vaccina 27,63,7	ll date

They reside in different areas in Athwa zones," he said.

Panchmahal

Porbandar

Sabarkantha

Surendranagar

Patan

Rajkot

Surat

Vadodara

"We have told the coaching centre owner to run online classes, till the situation becomes normal. We are waiting for the report of other students, he added.

Besides Surat, Ahmedabad

and Valsad reported five and four fresh cases respectively. Junagadh saw two persons testing positive for Covid-19, while Navsari and Vadodara reported

one case each. The total number of Covid infections in the state has reached 8,34,544.

Total income from operations

Total comprehensive income

Paid-up equity share capita

Debenture redemption reserve

(Face value of ₹ 10 each)

Outstanding debt

Debt equity ratio

Place: Mumbai

Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax

Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax

Reserve excluding revaluation reserve

Basic earnings per share (₹) (not annualised)

Diluted earnings per share (₹) (not annualised)

Debt service coverage ratio (not annualised)

Directors at their meetings held on 16th October, 2021

14 Interest service coverage ratio (not annualise

CGPL

COASTAL GUJARAT POWER LIMITED

CASES ALSO REPORTED FROM BHAVNAGAR, MORBI

5 students test positive for Covid Ahmedabad, Surat becoming bogus GST billing hubs: Govt

AVINASH NAIR AHMEDABAD, OCTOBER 16

SINCE THE implementation of Goods and Services Tax (GST), Ahmedabad and Surat have become the hubs for bogus billing in Gujarat, while the web of illega transactions has also spread to rapidly industrialising districts like Bhavnagar, Rajkot, Morbi and Gandhinagar where a sizeable number of trading and business firms have been found involved in this racket

Both Ahmedabad and Surat districts account for almost 58 per cent of the Rs 3,094 crore worth of taxes involved in bogus billing rackets in the three years ending June 30, 2021, the state government stated in a written reply to an unstarred question asked by Congress MLA from Petlad, Niranjan Patel about bogus billing in GST during the recently concluded monsoon session of Gujarat Assembly.

While Ahmedabad reported the highest Rs 971 crore of tax involved in bogus billing, in Surat it was Rs 789 crore. Both Ahmedabad and Surat saw in-

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THREE PERSONS were electro-

cuted after a signboard they

were trying to haul over the ter-

race of Swagat Dining Hall

came in contact with an over-

head power distribution line in

Veraval town of Gir Somnath

Police said Hiralal Meena

(27), Vivek Meena (18) and

Mahesh Parmar were trying to

haul the signboard of the eatery

over the terrace for repairs and

Quarter

(110.29)

(110.29)

(111.21)

(11,270.43)

10,787.30

2.86

(0.14)

0.80

30-Sep-20 31-Mar-21

30-Sep-21

(863.08)

(863.08)

(863.08)

(12,348.07)

7,995.61

(1.08)

(1.08)

(2.24)

For and on behalf of the Board of Directo

Unaudited Unaudited

Year

Audited

6,989.0

(637.32

(637.32)

(635.09)

8,000.42

1,639.26)

6,980.34

(0.80)

0.68

district late on Saturday.

were killed on the spot.

RAJKOT, OCTOBER 16

Three electrocuted in Veraval

volvement of 250 and 196 firms each, respectively. GST came into effect from July 1, 2017. While this bogus billing racket is being reported from 18 of the 33 districts of Gujarat, smaller industrial clusters like Bhavnagar, Rajkot, Morbi and Gandhinagar are also reporting involvement of large number of firms in producing fake bills.

Bhavnagar has third highest quantum of tax (Rs 433 crore) involved, where a total of 104 trading units are under scrutiny.

Though the government in its written reply stated that no government officials have been found involved in the bogus billing cases till June 30, 2021, the situation changed the very next month.

Bhavnagar became the singular place in Gujarat where the state government stepped in and transferred 36 officials from one office of SGST department in connection with a Rs 1.000 crore bogus billing case unearthed in July.

Two of these SGST officials including a deputy commissioner were also suspended for their alleged involvement in the case. This is however the first time, the involvement of government officials have come to light.

Vivek was the brother-in-

law of the eatery's operator

Devendra Meena and was a

native of Madhya Pradesh, po-

lice said. Hiralal was a native

of Raiasthan while Parmar was

a resident of Vandravad village

of Junagadh taluka. Both

Hiralal and Parmar were em-

ployees of the eatery located

on ST Road in Veraval town,

police added.

Assembly also states that 1.037 trading and business firms were involved in generating bogus bills and smaller industrial locations like Rajkot (Rs 333 crore), Morbi (Rs 126 crore) and Gandhinagar (Rs 104 crore) emerged as centres for generation of fake GST bills.

SGST officials in Gujarat The

Sunday Express spoke to said that the bogus billing racket in the state involves a complex network of individuals who use these fake bills to illegally claim Input Tax Credit "This web of individuals could comprise of as many as 50 persons and are roughly categorised by us as initiator entities, pass-on entities and beneficiaries depending on the role they play while implementing the fraud," said an

SGST official. For instance, in the 2020 case involving one Paresh Chauhan from Ahmedabad, documents were sourced from gullible individuals and the same were used for registrations on GST portal. As the entire system is online, the spot verification of the registered address was not done (it has been made compulsory now). "Paresh was arrested in beginning of 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subodh More, residing at 402. Shri Ramway Plaza, Kharivav Road, Vadodara declare through this public notice that Original Sale Deed No. 680/1996 dated 23.02.1996 for the above property has got misplaced. lost if found inform within sever days at the below address. Dt. 16.10.2021, Vadodara.

Smita Verma (Advocate A/4 Bela Apartment, Behind Manisha Society, Vasna road Vadodara, M. 9408498208

ADMISSION NOTIFICATION 2021-22

Indian institute of Petroleum & Energy, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, an Institute of National Importance at par with IITs, IIMs, under Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Govt of India calls for admissions for the academic year 2021-22 for 4 year B.Tech (Petroleum Engineering and Chemical Engineering) programs. Aspirant students who got rank in IEE (Advanced) 2021 can go through the admission notification in the website of HPE - www.iipe.ac.in for the admission criterion and other details from 18th October, 2021 Onwards for applying online. Advertisement Release Date: 17th October, 2021



Raiiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology (An Institution of National Importance established by Goyt of India Jais, Amethi - 229304, U.P. Website: www.rgipt.ac.in

B. Tech. Admission Notice- 2021

Applications are invited for admission to various B. Tech programmes in (a) Petroleum Engg. (b) Chemical Engg. (c) Computer Science & Engg. (d) Electronics Engg. (e) Environmental Engg. (f) Information Technology (g) Mathematics & Computing (h) Renewable Energy Engg. and Integrated Dual Degree (IDD) programmes in (i) Computer Science and Engineering & Artificial Intelligence & (j) Geoscience & Engineering and Geophysical Technology/ Geological Technology for the Academic Year 2021-22. RGIPT is a centrally funded technical Institution, established by Government of India for teaching and research. The admission will be based on the IIT JEE (Advanced) rank of the candidate. More information on programme structure, eligibility and application process are available on the Institute's B. Tech./IDD admission webpage: https://rgipt.ac.in/en/page/BTech.

Last date of application: 26-10-2021

Date: 16th October 2021

The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board

The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly financial results filed with the Stoc

Exchange under Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements

Regulations, 2015. The full format of the quarterly financial results is available on the website of

the stock exchange www.nseindia.com and on the company's website www.tatapower.com

(2nd Floor, DRDA Building, Keonjhar-758001)

Advertisement No.1863 /DMF Dt. 16/10/21 Applications are invited from the eligible aspirants for filling up the following vacancies of Doctors in Keonjhar district

(חחח/	(DRH/SDRS/CRCs).							
SI. No.	Description of Posts	Vacancy	Essential Qualification	Monthly Consolidated remuneration				
1	2	3	4	5				
1	Medical Officer (MBBS)	30	MBBS*	Rs. 80,000/-				
2	Specialist in O&G	12	MS- O&G*	Rs. 1,50,000/-				
3	Specialist in Orthopedics	3	MS- Orthopedics *	Rs. 2,00,000/-				
4	Specialist in Medicine	7	MD- General Medicine*	Rs. 1,50,000/-				
5	Specialist in Skin/VD	3	MD-Skin/VD*	Rs. 1,50,000/-				
6	Ophthalmologist	1	MS- Ophthalmology*	Rs. 1,50,000/-				
7	Specialist in Pediatrics	10	MD- Pediatrics	Rs. 1.50.000/-				

Or equivalent, from an institution recognised by MCI The candidates are requested to submit their application in the enclosed format to the undersigned in the above mentioned address through Regd/Speed Post/E-mail only. The application form can be downloaded from district website "www.kendujhar.nic.in". The consolidated remuneration as mentioned above is negotiable and will be finalised during the **counselling session** to be held on **31.10.2021** at **10.30A.M.** at **the Durbar Hall, Collectorate Keonjhar.** Commensurately higher consolidated remuneration will be offered to the candidates passed out from Medical Colleges, candidates with higher experience and those willing to serve in rural areas

(SDHs/CHCs/PHCs only). The jobs offered are contractual for a tenure of 1 year only from the date of joining & agreement executed with the CDM & PHO. Thereafter, the contract may be renewed for another year after successful completion of agreemen period upon mutual consent. The general transfer rules of the State Government will not be applicable and or deployment, no subsequent transfer will be administered except on mutual consent.

The appointed doctors will be entitled to avail leave as par with regular employees of Govt. of Odisha. Other conditions of service shall be as such, as has been provided in the relevant recruitment rules. Interested candidates are requested to report at 10.00 AM on 31.10.2021 at Collectorate, Keonjhar for the above walk-in-interview along with their updated C.V., original and one set of self-attested copy of all certificates and testimonials. Candidates who are presently working in Health & Family Welfare Department either on regular/adhod or contractual basis, must submit "No Objection" certificate from the employer at the time of walk-in-interview The undersigned reserves the right to cancel or reject the advertisement without assigning any reason thereof. For any enquiry, candidates can also contact the following mobile numbers during office hours - 9437084590/9348363247.

Sd/-Chairperson-cum-Chairman & Managing Trustee District Mineral Foundation, Keonjhar FORM NO. CAA 2

[Pursuant to Section 230(3) of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rules 6 and 7 of the Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules, 2016] BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL CHENNAI BENCH CA(CAA)/23&40(CAA)2021

In the matter of Sections 230 to 232 of the Companies Act, 2013 And

In the matter of Scheme of Arrangement (Demerger) between Mothi Spinner Private Limited and Chendhoor Murughan yarn Tex India Private Limited And their respective Shareholders and Creditors.

Chendhoor Murughan yarn Tex India Private Limited,

Having its Registered Office at 422 Sekkumedu Vediyarasampalayam, Aghraharam (PO), Palliapalavam, Erode 638008

Advertisement of Notice of Meeting of the Unsecured Creditors of Chendhoor Murughan yarn Tex India Private Limited

Notice is hereby given that by an Order dated 04 October 2021, the National Company Law ribunal, Chennai Bench has directed a Meeting to be held of the Unsecured Creditors of Chendhoor Murughan yarn Tex India Private Limited ("the Company") for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit, approving with or without modification, the Scheme of Arrangement (Demerger) amongst Mothi Spinner Private Limited and Chendhoor Murughan arn Tex India Private Limited and their respective shareholders and creditors ("Scheme") n pursuance of the said order and as directed therein, further notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Unsecured Creditors of Chendhoor Murughan yarn Tex India Private Limited, the Company, will be held on **Saturday, 20th November, 2021 at 12.30 PM** at the registered office of the Company at 422 Sekkumedu Vediyarasampalayam, Aghraharam (PO), Palliapalayam, Erode , Tamil Nadu-638008, at which time and place; the Unsecured Creditors are requested to attend.

Copies of the said Scheme of Arrangement (Demerger), and of the statement under section 230 can be obtained free of charge at the registered office of the Company. Persons entitled to attend and vote at the meeting, may vote in person or by proxy, provided that all proxies n the prescribed form are deposited at the registered office of the Company at No. 422 Sekkumedu Vediyarasampalayam, Aghraharam (PO), Palliapalayam, Erode, Tamil Nadu 638008, not later than 48 hours before the meeting.

Forms of proxy can be had at the registered office of the Company.

The Tribunal has appointed Mr.C. Thirumurthy as the Chairperson andMrs. B.Veena, Practising Company Secretary (Membership No. F10050, Certificate of Practise No. 12919) as a Scrutinizer of the said meeting. The above mentioned Scheme, if approved at the meeting, will be subject to the subsequent approval of the Tribunal. Dated this the 16th October 2021

Sd/ C. Thirumurthy Chairman appointed for the Meeting

. Applicant/Resulting Compar

Govt to give Rs 5k for tribals taking Ayodhya pilgrimage

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE AHMEDABAD, OCTOBER 16

THE GUJARAT government will give Rs 5.000 as financial aid to each tribal person who undertook a pilgrimage to Ram Janambhoomi in Ayodhya, stated Purnesh Modi, state tourism minister in an official release here on Saturday.

The minister said the tribals were "descendants of 'Shabari Mata' who had met Lord Ram during his 14 year-long exile".

Addressing an audience at Shabari Dham" located at Subir village in tribal-dominated Dangs on Friday, Modi made the announcement for the financial aid which he said is in line with similar aid given for Kailash Mansarovar Yatra. Sindhu Darshan and Shravan Tirth Yatra.

The minister during a statelevel Dussehra celebration said the state government has started constructing a tourism circuit from Saputara in Dangs to Statue of Unity in Narmada district, the release added.

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT GWALIOR
Morena Link Road, Gwalior - 474015, (M.P.)

(An Institute of National Importance under Ministry of Education, GOI)

Admission to Full-Time/Part-Time PhD Programme, Session: 2021-22 nline applications are invited for admission to the full-time/part-time Phl ogramme in Engineering (Computer Science/Information Technology,

Electronics and Communication Engineering / Applied Sciences - Physics 8 Mathematics) and Management. For details visit Institute website. For a queries dial 0751-2449704/720/741 OR email to phdadmission@iiitm.ac.in. Online form submission opens 07 October, 2021 Online form submission closes 07 November, 2021

Written test/presentation/interview:

25/26 November, 2021

Joint Registrar (Academics)

FORM NO. CAA 2 [Pursuant to Section 230(3) of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rules 6 and 7 of the Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules, 2016]
BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL

CHENNAI BENCH

CA(CAA)/23&40(CAA)2021
In the matter of Sections 230 to 232 of the Companies Act, 2013 In the matter of Scheme of Arrangement (Demerger) between Mothi Spinner Private Limited and Chendhoor Murughan yarn Tex India Private Limited And their respective

Shareholders and Creditors. Nothi Spinner Private Limited (CIN:U17111TZ2000PTC009143) . Having its Registered Office at No.100, Komarapalayam Road,

Pallipalayam, Erode - 638006

Applicant/Demerged Compan

Mothi Spinner Private Limited

Notice is hereby given that by an Order dated 04 October 2021, the National Company La Tribunal, Chennai Bench has directed a Meeting to be held of the Unsecured Creditor of Mothi Spinner Private Limited ("the Company") for the purpose of considering, and i thought fit, approving with or without modification, the Scheme of Arrangement(Demerger amongst Mothi Spinner Private Limited and Chendhoor Murughan yarn Tex India Private nited and their respective shareholders and creditors ("Scheme"

n pursuance of the said order and as directed therein, further notice is hereby given tha a meeting of the Unsecured Creditors of Mothi Spinner Private Limited, the Company, wil be held on Saturday, 20th November, 2021 at 10.30 AM at the registered office of the Company at No. 100, Komarapalayam Road, Pallipalayam, Erode, Tamil Nadu - 638006 at which time and place; the Unsecured Creditors are requested to attend. Copies of the said Scheme of Arrangement (Demerger) and of the statement under section

230 can be obtained free of charge at the registered office of the Company. Persons entitled to attend and vote at the meeting, may vote in person or by proxy, provided that all proxie in the prescribed form are deposited at the registered office of the Company at No. 100 Komarapalayam Road, Pallipalayam, Erode, Tamil Nadu - 638006, not later than 48 hour before the meeting. Forms of proxy can be had at the registered office of the Company The Tribunal has appointed Mr.C. Thirumurthy as the Chairperson and Mrs. B.Veena Practising Company Secretary (Membership No. F10050, Certificate of Practise No. 12919 as a Scrutinizer of the said meeting. The above mentioned Scheme, if approved at the meeting, will be subject to the subsequent approval of the Tribunal

Sd/ C. Thirumurthy Chairman appointed for the Meeting

Public Notice for Title Report

All that piece and parcel of property bearing (office no.110 of Sutaria situated at nondh no.518/ t ward no.1, sub-district : City, District : Surat (2) office no.311 to 316 of Jaldarshan Tower situated at nondh no.668/A/1,670 of ward no.1 owned by M/s Poojara & Baxi a Partnership Firm and (3) office no.317 owned by Rajesh Shankarlal Poojar and **office no.318** owned by Ashim F.Baxi The said property owner have decided to mortgage the said property with my client Company Piramal Capital & Housing Finance. and after obtaining the title report from me the owners have informed that (1) **Original** Regi. receipt and Index-2 of Regi.sale deed Sr.No.2383 dtd.6/4/2002 (New regi no.6753 dtd.27/5/2005) (2) **Original** Regi. receipt of Regi.sale deed Sr.No.2521 dtd.31/3/2003 (New regi no.4390 dtd.5/6/2014) (3) **Original** Regi. receipt of Regi. sale deed Sr.No.2492 dtd.31/3/2003 (New regi. no.4452 dtd.7/6/2014 (4) **Original** Regi. sale deed Sr.No.13510 dtd.7/12/1988 with Regi. receipt and Index-2.(5) Original Regi. sale deed Sr.No.11138 dtd.11/11/1994 with Regi. receipt and Index-2 (6) Original Regi. sale deed Sr.No.13512 dtd.7/12/1988 with Regi. receipt and Index-2 (7) **Original** Regi. receipt of Original Regi. sale deed Sr.No.2491 dtd.31/4/2003 (New regi no.4389 dtd.5/6/2014) (8) **Original** Regi. sale deed regi no.10212 dtd.15/10/1994 with Regi. receipt and Index-2 (9) **Original** Regi. sale deed regi no.10213 dtd.15/10/1994 with Regi. receipt and Index-2 (10) **Original** Regi. receipt of Regi. sale deed regi no.2562 dtd.31/3/2003 (New regi no.4451 dtd. 7/6/2014).(11) Original Regi. receipt and Index-2 of Regi. sale deed regi no. 12966 dtd.24/11/1988 (12) **Original** Regi. receipt of registered color deed regi no. 2561 dtd.31/3/2003 (New regi sale deed regi no. 2561 dtd.31/3/2003 (New regi no.4391 dtd. 5/6/2014) (13) **Original** Regi. receipt and Index-2 of Regi. sale deed regi no.12967 dtd.24/11/1988 (14) **Original** Regi. Sale Deed Regi. No.12920 dtd. 22/11/1988 alongwith registeration receipt and Index-2 are lost and are not available with the owner. Hence if any Person, company/Bank, Government or semi-government body etc.. have any charge, lien etc on the said property then the same shall inform me within the 14 days of publication of this notice and if no objection is received against the same during the period of this notice then my client shall have every right to believe that nobody has any right, title, objection etc.. on above property and will proceed further with the loan proceedings.

A/1, Monalisa Apt., Athwagate, Surat. Ph.No. 2465961

Mitesh M. Shah **Advocate**

Ahmedabad

low Covid guidelines.

"Jungle safari in Gir forest started today, and we have restart," Ram told reporters.

park, which reopened on June 17 this year, has received a footfall of over 1.31 lakh tourists since then.



PRESSTRUST OF INDIA JUNAGADH, OCTOBER 16

Jungle safari

resumes in Gir

after 4 months

JUNGLE SAFARI to the Gir forest, the only abode of Asiatic lions, resumed on Saturday after remaining closed for nearly four months due to the Covid-19

Flagging off an open jungle safari jeep at Sasan Gir, Deputy Conservator of Forest (DCF), Sasan Gir. Mohan Ram. said tourists will have a different experience this year as the landscape has witnessed some unusual changes due to the delayed monsoon retreat, and appealed to them to fol-

ceived 100 per cent booking, all done online. This is a positive He said the Devaliya safari



DISTRICT MINERAL FOUNDATION: KEONJHAR

e-mail-dmfkeonjhar@gmail.com

	21.10/01.100/1			
SI. No.	Description of Posts	Vacancy	Essential Qualification	Monthly Consolidated remuneration
1	2	3	4	5
1	Medical Officer (MBBS)	30	MBBS*	Rs. 80,000/-
2	Specialist in O&G	12	MS- O&G*	Rs. 1,50,000/-
3	Specialist in Orthopedics	3	MS- Orthopedics *	Rs. 2,00,000/-
4	Specialist in Medicine	7	MD- General Medicine*	Rs. 1,50,000/-
5	Specialist in Skin/VD	3	MD-Skin/VD*	Rs. 1,50,000/-
6	Ophthalmologist	1	MS- Ophthalmology*	Rs. 1,50,000/-
7	Specialist in Pediatrics	10	MD- Pediatrics	Rs. 1,50,000/-
	Total	66		

Express Network

GUJARAT

POLICE TOLD TO FILE REMAND PLEA

Vadodara court takes accused in foreign funds misuse case into judicial custody

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE VADODARA, OCTOBER 16

A VADODARA court on Saturday took into judicial custody Salauddin Sheikh, managing trustee of AFMI Charitable Trust, and Umar Gautam of the Islamic Da'wah Centre in Delhi — both of whom were in judicial custody in Lucknow after being arrested by the Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) in an alleged case of "forced conversion racket".

The Lucknow police escorted Sheikh and Gautam to a Vadodara court, following a direction from the court to produce them in Vadodara in connection with a case filed by the Vadodara police against them. The Vadodara court has now directed the city police, which has booked a case against the two for alleged misuse of foreign funds of about Rs 20 crore, routed through AFMI trust, as well as alleged hawala transactions amounting to Rs 60 crores, to file a remand application to seek formal police custody of the accused.

On Saturday, following the direction of the Vadodara court to produce Sheikh — a resident and businessman of Vadodara — and Gautam before the court, the Lucknow police arrived with the two accused. Vadodara

Congress leader Jasuben Gamit and other members who

BJP wins majority in

local body as 5 Cong

members join party

VYARA TALUKA PANCHAYAT

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

FIVE ELECTED members of

Congress in the Vyara Taluka

Panchayat in Tapi district joined

BJP on Saturday thereby making

it the single largest party in the lo-

cal body, which was ruled by

Congress. This is the first time BIP

is coming to power in Vyara

Jasuben Gamit, law committee

chairman Ishwar Gamit, and three

other members, Silicaben Gamit,

Dayaben Gamit, and Sharmila

Gamit, joined BJP in the presence

of Minister of State for Energy,

Agriculture and Petrochemical

panchavat. Congress had 17 seats.

while BJP had three and after the

last election. However, two elect-

ed members of the Congress re-

signed from the party and another

to these seats which fell vacant

and BJP won all the three seats af-

The bypolls were conducted

member died due to Covid-19.

Out of 20 seats of Vyara Taluka

Mukesh Patel in Tapi

Taluka panchayat president

SURAT, OCTOBER 16

Taluka Panchavat.



Lucknow police escorts Salauddin Sheikh and Umar Gautam to a Vadodara court on Saturday. *Express*

Commissioner of Police Shamsher Singh said that the police had approached the local court after officers of the Special Investigation Team(SIT) were unable to get a transit remand of the two accused from a Lucknow court, in September.

Singh said, "Since the two accused were in judicial custody in Lucknow, the local court here directed the UP police to produce them here so that the Vadodara police could seek custody and continue with the probe into the alleged misuse of funds under the Foreign Contributions Regulation Act (FCRA) as well as the hawala transactions of AFMI."

October 5 taking its tally in the

members joining BIP, the saffron

party has 11 seats in the taluka

panchavat while Congress tally

is for the first time that BJP wins

majority in Vyara taluka pan-

chayat. These elected members

appreciated the development

works of the state government

and they decided to join BJP."

However, Congress alleged that

BJP "purchased" their members

members last night, but they were

not at their homes and even their

mobile phones were switched

off," Tapi district Congress presi-

worked with the Congress for the

past 40 years... We have joined BJP

because we want development in

our areas. The BIP is in power in

state and Centre and without their

support, we cannot bring devel-

Ishwarbhai Gamit said, "I

dent Bhilabhai Gamit said.

"We tried to contact the five

'secretly".

Minister Mukesh Patel said, "It

Now, with the five Congress

taluka panchayat to 6.

has been reduced to 9.

Assistant Commissioner of Police, Crime, DS Chauhan told The Sunday Express, "The SIT officials are in the court. We are filing the remand application through the Special Public Prosecutor tonight. If the court allows a late-night hearing, we will seek the remand of the two accused right away." Singh added that the Vadodara police have also written to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to look into the money laundering aspects of the

"The ED is already probing the case (filed by the UP police) and there is a possibility of a case of money laundering being booked

fund transfers.

against the accused," Singh said.
In July this year, ED had raided the office of the Islamic Da'wah Centre and residences of Gautam and other co-accused in the UP ATS case. Singh said that although the Vadodara police case has "common aspects" with the case filed against Salauddin and Gautam in Lucknow, the Vadodara city police is primarily probing the transactions of AFMI.

Singh said, "We are investigating a money trail of funds that were misused by the trust. Some of this was received through foreign funds for the specific use of the trust, which was siphoned off for other activities while the rest of the money was routed through Dubai via hawala. Most of this money was used for construction of mosques in different states as well as other Islamic activities, including legal aid to accused of Delhi riots and funding of anti-Citizenship Amendment Act protests.

According to Vadodara police 14 foreign trusts deposited about Rs 19 crore into the account of AFMI trust since 2017. The money has been siphoned off from the FCRA account of the trust for allegedly funding Gautam's Islamic Da'wah Center and Fatima Charitable Trust with Rs 10 crore in four years.

TRAINING CAMP IN SURAT

BJP leaders should study party's history, says Paatil

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE SURAT, OCTOBER 16

THE BJP on Saturday started its three-day residential training camp (Jilla Prashikshan Varg) for party members. The first camp was held in Surat where state BJP president C R Paatil, Minister of State for Home Harsh Sanghavi, and other party leaders remained present.

Addressing the gathering during the event, Paatil said, "BJP leaders should study the history of the party and during their public speeches they should share such information with the public. This will also help BJP workers and leaders, who are unaware of the party's history, to learn more about it..."

During the camp, the state BJP president spoke about the history and growth of BJP. Paatil said that the journey of BJP started by winning two Lok Sabha seats, and 30 years later,



At the residential training camp in Surat. Express

under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP came to power in the Centre with a full majority in 2014.

Paatil further discussed the work done by Union Home Minister Amit Shah and how BJP has made a record of having 11 crore members in it.

Among the various topics discussed during the day in the camp include the triple talaq Bill, abrogation of Section 370, construction of Ram temple, and the Citizenship Amendment Act.

Sanghavi stops convoy after woman 'jumped into river'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE SURAT, OCTOBER 16

GUJARAT MINISTER of State for Home Harsh Sanghavi on Saturday stopped his convoy on seeing a crowd after a woman allegedly jumped into the Tapi river from the Sadar bridge.

The minister got out of his vehicle and ensured a rescue team reach the spot immediately. They rushed the woman to BAPS hospital in Adajan area, where doctors declared her dead.

Talking to the Indian Express, Sanghavi said, "I was on my way from Athwalines area to Adajan and was crossing Sardar bridge on Tapi river when I got to know about the incident. I am sad that I could not save the woman's life... It is my duty to help people."

Adajan police head constable Chimanbhai Patel said, "We are tryingn to find the identity of the woman. She seems to be a local resident, around 35 years old. We have sent the body to New Civil hospital for postmortem."

Private varisty V-C to preside over Gujarat Vidyapith convocation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE AHMEDABAD, OCTOBER 16

IN A rare scenario, vice-chancellor of a private university will preside over the 67th convocation of Gujarat Vidyapith on October 18 with the name of Ahmedabad University V-C, professor Pankaj Chandra, being chosen for the same.

Professor Chandra is the former director of Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB). On the decision, Gujarat Vidyapith V-C Rajendra Khimani told The Sunday Express, "With his association with Gandhian philosophy along with his achievements makes him the right person... He was selected by the Chancellor (Elaben Bhatt) from among three-four names."

During the convocation to be held on the univresity campus in a dual mode after a gap of one year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, medals and rewards for two years will be handed over to students. A total of 126 medals — 62 for the year 2019-'20 and 64 for the year 2020-'21 — will be handed over, while 1,665 degrees will be awarded.

Arrangements have been at eight different campuses of Gujarat Vidyapith for students who want to take degrees in an offline mode. These are Mahadev Desai Gramseva Sankul Sadra, Mahadev Desai Gramseva Sankul Randheja, Kochrab Ashram Ahmedabad, Samajkarya Vistaran Kendra Ahmedabad, ITI Shahibaug Ahmedabad, Physical Education and Sports Science department Sahdra and Biogas Research and microbiology department Sadra.

Recruitment to SU: NSUI alleges favouritism

Rajkot: The National Students' Union of India (NSUI) on Saturday alleged favouritism in recruitment of 88 ad hoc faculty members for 23 academic departments on the campus of Saurashtra University (SU) in Rajkot and protested outside the office of SU vice-chancellor (V-C) professor Nitinkumar Pethani.

In a memorandum submitted to the vice-chancellor, NSUI demanded cancellation of the ongoing recruitment process alleging members of varsity's syndicate body and teaching staff having affinity to the BJP had created a WhatsApp group and finalised as to who should be recruited even before personal interviews of prospective candidates were conducted.

NSUI also shared screenshots of purported chats in the group and said meritorious candidates were meted out injustice and that students were not getting qualified faculties due to favouratims in recruitment.

After the protests, Education
Minister Jitu Vaghani tweeted
that he had spoken to SU V-C
over the issue and had directed
officers of education department to take appropriate action
to ensure recruitment was done
in a transparent manner. ENS

CELEBRATION TIME

Devotees pull the 'Palli' made from the wood of 'khijada' tree during the Ghee Palli festival, at Rupal village in Gandhinagar, Saturday. PTI

DELHI SEES MOVE TO STIR TROUBLE

ISKCON temple attacked, devotee killed in Bangladesh

SHUBHAJIT ROY NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 16

AN ISKCON temple in Bangladesh was vandalised and a devotee killed by a mob—this was the fifth death since Thursday—and there appeared to be growing realisation in New Delhi that a "coordinated" and "orchestrated" move was at work to stir up communal

tensions across "multiple loca-

tions" there.

South Block is worried over the spate of incidents which the Bangladesh authorities are unable to prevent or control despite heavy deployment of paramilitary forces in more than half of the administrative districts in the

The attack on the ISKCON temple in Noakhali shocked the Hindu community there, leading to protests on the streets. Sources said the possible involvement of Islamic extremist groups in Bangladesh trying to stir up trouble and cause communal conflict

between the two communities is being investigated. The ISKCON authorities

tweeted about the incident, putting out photographs of the vandalisation: "ISKCON temple & devotees violently attacked in Noakhali, Bangladesh. Temple suffered significant damage and the condition of a devotee remains critical."

Later Saturday, it said: "Partha Das, an enthusiastic devotee, was brutally killed yesterday by a mob of over 200 people. His body was found in a pond next to the temple."

"We call on the Govt of Bangladesh to ensure the safety of all Hindus & bring the perpetrators to justice," ISKCON said. Bangladesh authorities have

Bangladesh authorities have imposed a nationwide security vigil while officials said that initial investigations have thrown up crucial evidence against the perpetrators of violence against the Durga Puja celebrations of the minority Hindu community.

The paramilitary Border

Guard Bangladesh (BGB) has expanded its vigil to 34 out of 64 administrative districts in the country.

The elite anti-crime Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) said it expects to arrest some of the key perpetrators of the violence which took place in the last three days.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal told reporters: "We expect developments of the investigations in the next one or two days."

Colonel KM Azad of RAB said: "The violence appeared to be part of a plot against inter-faith harmony and the perpetrators were involved in identical incidents in the past as well."

"We are preparing to take stringent legal action and arrest some of them very soon," he said.

What is worrying is that the incidents of violence took place hours after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued a stern warning Thursday after attacks on Hindu temples and Durga Puja venues in

Lakhbir Singh cremated — kin present, most villagers not

KAMALDEEP SINGH BRAR AMRITSAR. OCTOBER 16

LAKHBIR SINGH, the Dalit Sikh killed allegedly by Nihangs at Delhi's Singhu border on Friday, was cremated at his native village Cheema Khurd in Punjab's Tarn Taran district on Saturday evening in the presence of family members and a few villagers even as most villagers and relatives stayed

Police security was provided to avoid any untoward incident at the time of cremation.

There was a controversy over the cremation, as local residents had earlier declined to give space for Singh's cremation in the village. However, they agreed later on the condition that there will be no religious ritual during the cremation.

Sarpanch Awan Kumar said, "Earlier, villagers were opposed to Lakhbir Singh's cremation (in the village), as he had brought bad name to the village. He caused pain to his family and children when he was alive, and shamed the whole village with his act before his death. Later, we had left it to his sister to decide whether to bring the body back (to the vil-



Narain Singh, is brought before the media in Amritsar. PTI

lage). The village had decided to boycott the cremation due to Singh's involvement in the sacrilege case."

Some Sikh organisations had also opposed Lakhbir Singh's cremation.

Sources said the Punjab government and the local administration swung into action and convinced the villagers and Sikh organisations to soften their stand. "It was decided that villagers will not attend (the cremation), and there would be no religious cremation," the village sarpanch said.

"It is painful that no last prayer was read during the cremation. Some Nihangs and villagers objected to the last prayer (being read)," Lakhbir's brother-in-law Sukhchain Singh said. Cremation 'not allowed', chief of Scheduled Castes panel speaks to Punjab DGP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICENEW DELHI, OCTOBER 16

VIJAY SAMPLA, Chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes, on Saturday spoke to the Punjab DGP, seeking strict action against villagers for "not allowing" the cremation of the body of the Dalit farm worker who was found dead at the

Singhu border on Friday.

"This is against the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. The villagers are not allowing the last rites of the deceased. I have spoken to the DGP and asked him to take cognisance of the matter and take strict action against the perpetrators," he said. On Friday, Sampla had issued a notice to the Haryana DGP and Chief Secretary, asking them to furnish a report on the Singhu border incident.

Former Indian U-19 captain Barot dies of cardiac arrest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
RAJKOT. OCTOBER 16

AVI BAROT, the former Indian Under-19 captain and wicket-keeper-batsman who was part of Saurashtra's Ranji Trophy champions team, died of a cardiac arrest in Ahmedabad on Friday night.

Barot at his residence watching the Indian Premier League (IPL) final at the time of his demise.

mise.
His death comes just five days after he smashed 72 off 43 balls in the final of Reliance G-1 T20 tournament and helped Saurashtra team claim the title in Rajkot on October 10. He was 29 and is sur-

vived by his mother and wife. Saurashtra Cricket Association (SCA), in a release, said that each member of the cricket body was "deeply shocked and saddened" on "the untimely and extremely sad demise of Avi Barot, remarkable and notable Cricketer of Saurashtra."

"I was deeply shocked to receive the news just days after he scored so many runs in Reliance G-1 tournament which he was playing after coming out of an injury," SCA president Jaydev Sah said told The Indian Express.

Barot's 72 was the highlight of the Reliance G-1 T20 tournament final in Rajkot on October 20. Barot's knock had propelled Saurashtra to 200/4 and laid the foundation of the team's victory against his former team Gujarat in the summit clash.

A native of Ahmedabad, Barot had made his First Class debut as Gujarat Ranji player against Delhi in 2011.The same year, he was appointed captain of India U-19



Avi Barot was 29 and is survived by his mother and wife. Courtesy: SCA

team. From Gujarat, he moved to Haryana Ranji team but eventually returned to Gujarat and joined Rajkot-based Saurashtra Ranji team in 2016-17 season. Since then, he used to keep wickets and open batting for Saurashtra.

Barot played total 38 First Class matches and scored 1,547 runs at an average of 24.95, including one century and nine half-centuries. In 38 List A matches that he played, Barot scored 1,030 runs at an average of 28.61, including eight fifties.

shortest format of the game, scoring 717 runs in T-20 matches at an average of 37.73. He had one century and five half-centuries to his credit in T20 matches. He also used to bowl off-break and had claimed total 11 wickets across the three formats.

Barot represented Saurashtra

in 21 Ranji Trophy matches, 17 List A matches and 11 domestic T20 matches. He was part of the Saurashtra team which won the Ranji Trophy title in March last year by defeating Bengal in the finals in Rajkot. He had also grabbed headlines by smashing 122 off 53 balls in a match of Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, the BCCI's domestic T20 tournament.

SCA secretary Himanshu Shah said that Barod had been in good batting form for the past two seasons. "The way he was playing in T20, I was very hopeful that he would be picked in the new season of IPL," said the secretary.

The SCA president said that

Saurashtra will remember Barot

as a cheerful cricketer. "The best part about him was that he would always be in a happy state of mind," said Jaydev Shah. Incidentally, Jaydev Shah was captain of Saurashtra Ranji team when Barot joined it. "He was

Incidentally, Jaydev Shah was captain of Saurashtra Ranji team when Barot joined it. "He was great teammate and had great cricketing skill. In all recent domestic matches, he had performed remarkably well," the release quoted the SCA president as saying.

Saurashtra team coach

Sitanshu Kotak said, "A player dying at a young age of 29—this has never happened in the 50-yearlong history of the Saurashtra team. Our mind and heart go to his family."

In 3 cases NCB used panch witness who was known to its officers: Malik Malik tweeted that a person ficer to be used as panch witness

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, OCTOBER 16

KEEPING UP his attack on the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), state minister and NCP leader Nawab Malik alleged on Saturday that in three cases, the agency used a panch witness who was known to its officers.

As per law, a pancha, who attests to seizures made from a scene of crime, should be an independent witness.

has been named as a panch witness in three cases including the Rhea Chakraborty case, was known to NCB Zonal Director Sameer Wankhede. He also put up photographs of Fletcher with Wankhede and his sister Jasmine, a lawyer. Malik also put up photographs of panchnama in three cases where the name of Fletcher Patel is mentioned as a panch witness. Malik asked if it was legal for someone who is known to an of-

identified as Fletcher Patel, who

He demanded that the NCB hold a press conference and clarify how someone known to the officer was used as panch witness.

While Wankhede did not respond to the allegations, an NCB official said that Fletcher was connected to an Army veterans' group in the city. "The photograph in which he is seen with Wankhede was an Army event held at CST, where they had taken vows to eliminate the threat of narcotics from the country," the official said.

AFGHAN SITUATION

India moves to host meet coming week

SHUBHAJIT ROY

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 16

WITH SECURITY concerns pertaining to Afghanistan dominating Delhi's mind, moves are afoot to organise a conference on the country's current situation and the future outlook. National Security Advisor Ajit Doval's team is taking the initiative to hold an in-person meet with key countries in the region and the world.

The Sunday Express has learnt that the country's top security establishment, the National Security Council Secretariat, is taking the lead in organising the conference and feelers are being sent to Afghanistan's neighbours such as Pakistan, Iran, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and key players including Russia, China, US and European partners like the EU, France, Germany and the UK. Representatives from the UN are also expected to be invited.

It is learnt that Pakistan's NSA Moeed Yusuf is also likely to be invited for the conference, and if that works out it will be the first such high level visit from Pakistan since 2016. New Delhi is exploring dates in November for the conference, and this could be India's way to get a seat at the table to decide the future course of action on Afghanistan.

"When you are not at the table, you are on the menu... this conference is India's attempt to set the table, be on the table and decide the agenda," a source told The Indian Express, underlining the need to actively engage with the world to protect India's secu-

ficial channels.

Until the fall of Kabul, India had not engaged with the Taliban through publicly-announced of-

For Delhi, this is an important play since the government has made it clear that it has redlines on the new Taliban dispensation in Afghanistan - that it should not allow safe havens for terror on its soil, the administration should be inclusive and rights of minorities, women and children must be protected. But so far, the signs from the Taliban have not been encouraging. This has been the assessment shared by New Delhi with its interlocutors in the last month or so — ever since the Taliban formed its cabinet.

It's not yet clear whether representatives of the Taliban will be part of the conference in New Delhi. This comes days after India accepted a Russian invitation to join the Afghanistan talks in Moscow on October 20.



CHANGE OF NAME

I, Sana Tarique Malik, daughter of Mayyodin İbrahimbhai Desai, holder of Indian Passport No.P0142800, issued at Ahmedabad, Gujarat, on 05/05/2016, permanent resident of A-12 Unity Apt., Opp Shaikh & Co., Sarkhej Road, Ahmedabad 380055, and presently residing at 80 Absolute Ave Unit 1809, Mississauga ON L42 OA5, do hereby change my name from Sana Tarique Malik to Sana Desai, with immediate

RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION-AHMEDABAD

TENDER NOTICE

TENDER NO: RE-ADI-TR-GORINJA-BHANVAD Due date: 09.11.2021 Open e-Tender is invited by the Chief Project Director, Railway Electrification, Ahmedabad-380 019, for and on behalf of President of ndia for Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 66kV S/C line on S/C Tower with ACSR Panther conductor with GI Earthwire-7/3.15 mm from 66 KV Korada S/S to Gorinja TSS Dist Jamnagar, 66 KV Bhanvad S/S to Bhanvad TSS Dist Devbhumi Dwarka and other TSS-TR line under jurisdiction of RE Ahmedabad for 8 KM OH & 2 KM UG

1. Details are as under:- Estimated cost: ₹ 5,81,98,446.75; Earnest Money: ₹ 00.00 /-; Date & Time of Submission: Up to 09.11.2021 (15.00 Hrs.); Date & Time of opening of offer: 09.11.2021 (15:30) Hrs.; Submission of Tender: No manual offer shall be considered. Only e tender on web site portal of ireps (www.ireps.gov.in) shall be accepted.; Validity of offer: 45 Days from opening; Completion period: 03 months; (From the date of issue of LOA or date of actual commencement of work, whichever is earlier.); Maintenance period: 12 months from date of commissioning; Eligibility criteria: For eligibility criteria, please visit Website www.ireps.gov.in Or/and refer to our tender document.

For other details and to download the entire Tender Paper, please visit our website http://www.ireps.gov.in

Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer



TENDER NOTICE NO. 29/2021-22

Third And Forth Attempt Tender ID No- 487100, 487102, 487094, 487096, 487097, 487098, 487085, 487103, 487104, 487087, 487088, 487091, 487093, The Contractors Can take part in above said Tenders Who Are registerd in "D, E1 And E2" class and above.

invited by unit manager District water & sanitation management organization Wasmo Chhotaudepur on behalf of chairman village water & sanitation committee Chhotaudepur, Kawant, Naswadi And Jetpurpavi District Total-13 online E-tenders for various component like Bor, Pumping Machinery, Pump Cabine, ESR, Sump, Raising main, Distribution Pipeline, Cistern, House connection, Painting Board And Slogans, Estimated Amount of Rs.7.43 Lacs to Rs.56.10 Lacs Total Rs.341.00 Lacs Tender is sought Online. Last Date & TIme for

online submission of Bids: 25/10/2021 up to 18:00 Hrs. Last Date & Time for Physical submission of Documents: 26/10/2021 up to 15:00 Hrs. Physical submission of Documents will be Accepted only Through RPAD / SPEED POST / HAND TO HAND. (Bidders has to mention name of work and tender id number on cover). Agrrement, workorder And payment of the work bill will be done by the Village Water and Sanitation Committee of the concerned village Further information is available at Web site www.nprocure.com And www.statetenders.gujarat.gov.in If any modifications amendments required in tender can only be viewed online.

Note- To accept any tender And cancellation of all tenders shall be the right to Water Committee / District Water and Sanitation Committee or the above authority. From Any Queries & Complaint Regarding Drinking Water Supply You Can Contact Control Room Toll Free Number 1916.

(INF-VAD-853-21-22)

India has earned label of electoral autocracy under Modi govt: CWC

MANOJCG

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 16

LAUNCHING A scathing attack on the BIP-led NDA government at the Centre on Saturday, Congress president Sonia Gandhi and the Congress WorkingCommittee(CWC)alleged that India earned the "label of an electoral autocracy" under this government.

The party said there is a rapid deterioration in internal and external security of the country and argued that there are "unbridled and unchecked" "state-sponsored attacks" on



Punjab CM Charanjit Singh Channi at CWC meet Saturday. Parveen Khanna

people from Scheduled Castes. Scheduled Tribes and minorities communities, and on women.On the economic situation, the party said the "financial situation is in a terrible shape", as there is a continued slide in the economy.

In her address to the CWC, Sonia said the "only answer the government seems to have for economic recovery is selling off national assets built with great effort over the decades. The public sector has had not just strategic and economic objectives — it has had social goals as well as, for instance, empowerment of Scheduled Castes

and Scheduled Tribes and development of backward areas. But all this is in jeopardy with the Modi government's singlepoint agenda of 'becho, becho, becho (sell, sell, sell)."

There was no specific mention of the Air India stake sale. The CWC decided to hold a "public awareness campaign" in the second half of November to protest the rise in prices. It decided that a training programme for leaders and workers at all levels should be held to make them aware of the party's "ideology, policies, failure of present government and countering the propaganda."



(0265) 2312820, 2355292, Website: gsfdcltd.co.in CIN: U02005GJ1976SGC002927

TENDER FOR FURNITURE WORKS

Tender for Furniture Supplying & Installation work of newly constructed Regional Offices of Gujarat Pollution Control Board, at (1) Sarigam (2) Ankaleshawar (3) Surat is invited different tender in two parts (Tech. & Price Bid). Interested contractor having specific experience may submit tender with Tender (1) & (2) Fees of Rs.1,500/-, Tender (3) Fees of Rs.2,500/- through DD. Technical Bid submit physical at Vadodara office & Price Bid will be submitted on https://nprocure.com only. Schedule of tender is mentioned below.

49/BRC/21	MANAGING DIRECTOR		
Tender Opening Date :	03/11/2021	12:00 pm	
Tender Submission Last Date :	02/11/2021	06:00 pm	
Tender Pre-Bid Meeting Date :	22/10/2021	12:00 pm	
Tender Starting Date :	18/10/2021	10:30 am	

GUJARAT INDUSTRIAL Online Tender Notice No.18 of 2021-22 **DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION** GeM Tender Notice-GEM/2021/B/1602015

GIDC invites bids from reputed agencies for procurement of legal case tracking system which can be customized as per the GIDC's requirement to effectively monitor legal cases of its various offices within Gujarat through GeM portal. Details of the tender is available from our website www.gidc.gujarat.gov.in OR GeM portal.

Manager(S&A), GIDC, Gandhinagar



Tender ID No. 486596 (3rd Attempt), 486602 (3rd Attempt), 486605 (2nd Attempt) & 486602 (2nd Attempt),

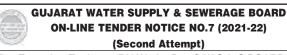
Unit Manager, District Water and Sanitation Unit WASMO Kheda, Nadiad Gujarat State Invites Online Tenders on behalf of Three Different Village Pam Samiti for in village water supply works like Pipeline Network, Household Connection, RCC ESR, RCC UG SUMP, Pumping Machinery, Compound Wall, etc under JAL JIVAN MISSION for total 04 no works at different villages of Kheda District.

Total Estimated Cost:- Rs.143.80 Lac.

Last Date of submission of Tender:- Dt.29/10/2021 up to 18.00 Hrs.

Last Date of submission of Physical Documents of Tender:up to 30/10/2021 up to 15.00 Hrs

Further information is available at website www.nprocure.com. Further clarifications if any will be uploaded online only. Control room is functioning at the state level for rural level water supply schemes where toll free Inumber 1916 can be contacted for water related complaints/suggestions INFO/NAD/393/2021-22



The Executive Engineer, P.H.Works Dn, G.W.S.& S.BOARD, Poet Shri Javerchand Meghani Baag, Station Road, Behind Govt. High School, Botad-364710. Phone No. (02849-251483 invites Online tender from The Registered contractors. Tender Details are as under

Tender	Name of work	Est.Cost
ID No.		Rs.In
		Lacs.
486705	Head work improvement at	Rs. 46.63
	Different Head works of	Lacs.
	Botad R.W.S.S. Under Head	
	improvement Programme	

Tender documents can be seen, down loaded & submitted on website https:://gwssb.nprocure.com The last date for submission of tender is Dt.29/10/2021 upto 18.00 hrs. Any Further amendments will be publish online only website of information department www.statetenders.com Toll free helpline no.1916 or 18002333944 of GWSSB for water supply related any complaints of villages.

Executive Engineer, INF/BVN/571/21-22 P.H.W.Division, Botad

matrimonials



GENERAL

38, 5'5, Slim, USA GC, Software Eng, Liberal. Contact pic/bio: shaadius8890@hotmail.com 0050185313-1

HINDU

47. 6'. America Return, Small Salary, Postgrad. Looking for suitable younger age spouse. Mom is also fine. 9820025460 WhatsApp. If my salary & property most important then plz excuse. 0050185483-1

RAJPUT

Beautiful and well educated match for Himachali Rajput boy, 30.01.1993, height 6 feet, Major in Indian Army, mother and father both Class-I Officers, Younger brother working in Corporate Sector. 9418157796

0040588062-1



KHATRIS/ARORAS

Match FOR HINDU KHATRI BEAUTIFUL HIMACHALI GIRL 5'-3", 22-08-1991, B ARCHITECTURE DOING PH.D. WORKING IN MULTI-NATIONAL COMPANY IN DELHI, UPPER CASTE NO BAR PHONE - 94211-55092, 94189-40744, 94181-62755 0020428239-1

OTHERS

SM4 Beautiful Delhites Nair Girl 31/5'2" Avitam, MBA HR, Employed Mother Central Govt Gztd OfficerLeaguepact@gmail.c om Contact 9868171827. 0040588066-1

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 enterting into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

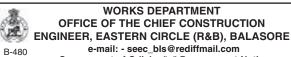
Capital project Division No-3, Gandhinagar

Executive Engineer Capital Project Division No.3, Patnagar Yojana Bhavn. BLock No-B. First Floor, Sector-16, Gandhinagar. Ph.-079-23259162 invites Online tender from the experienced Contractro who are eligible for this type of work and have experience in such type of work. (1) Est. cost (Rs), (2) EMD (Rs)

No.		(3) Tender free (Rs), (4) Qualification of B
		(1) 41,44,04,975.71
	NO.228 on Kalol-Pansar Road (PNU-ADI	(2) 41,44,100.00
	Section) (I.R 753/4-5 km)	(3) 18000.00
		(4) AA class & SP Cat-1 (Bridge) c
2.	Construction of R.O.B. in lieu of LC	(1) 35,13,27,818.70
	NO.230 on Gandhinagar-Vavol- Chhatral	(2) 35,13,300.00
	Road (PNU-ADI Section) (I.R. 756/4-5Km)	(3) 18000.00

(4) AA class & SP Cat-1 (Bridge) class The bid Documnet will be available on the Road & Building department's web site www.rnb.nprocure.com.up to Dt.10/11/2021, and can be doenloaded up to 16:00 hrs on Dt. 10/11/2021, And can be uploaded online till 16:00 hrs on Dt.10/11/2021. Earnest money deposite, Tender fee and other neccessary documents such as copy of Registration, Valid Bank Solveney Certificate, PAN No. GST number and al required documents and necessary documents mentioned in the tender must be scanned and uploaded with tender. Original DD(Tender fee) & EMD must be submitted on or before Dt.17/11/2021 during office hours in above mentioned office by

Any change ti Tender Notice will not published in newspaper but it will be mentioned on above website for further details & online submission of Tender please visit ou web site mentioneds above. INF/1308/21-22



Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice Bid Identification No. CCEEC-11/ 2021-22 No- 5338 / Dt. 07.10.21

Nature of work Road Workd & Building Work (Multipurpose 01 (One) Road Work & 07 (Seven) (Multipupose Number of works

Rs. 531.87 Lakh to Rs. 839.49 Lakh Amount put to Tender Class of Contractor "A" Class / "Special" Class/ "Super" Class Date & Time of availability of : Dt.16.10.2021 at 10:00 AM bid document in the portal

Last Date / Time of receipt of : Dt.02.11.2021 up to 05:00 PM bid in the portal Date of opening of bid : Dt.03.11.2021 at 11:00 AM

Chief Construction Engineer, Eastern Circle Office inviting bid (R&B), Balasore The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "http://tendersodisha.gov.in." All future

corrigendum will be available on ONLINE mode only Sd/ Chief Construction Enginee Eastern Circle (R&B) Balasore

OIPR- 34026/11/0011/2122

NAME CHANGE

I have changed

my name from

Mahendrakumar

Maganlal Thakkar to

MAHENDRA

MAGANLAL

THAKKAR

D-702, Iscon Platinum,

Nr. Samarpan Cross Road

Bopal, Ahmedabad.

I have changed

my Name from

MANISHA

KILLARIKAR to

KILLARIKAR

ADITI ANIL

Address: D - 601

Nilamber

Bellissimo-1, Near

Nilamber Circle.

Vasana-Bhayli

Road, Vadodara-

390007

BUSINESS

kode <mark>Core</mark>

Min. Monthly Billing 1500 USD

Projects Available

Hardbook Scanning

PDF To DOC Conversion

kodecore.com

40

Gamtal

Total

HTML Tagging

Classifieds

PERSONAL

CHANGE NAME I have changed

my name from Bhansali Sayam Kirtikumar to **BHANSALI**

SAIYAM KIRTIKUMAR 16, Amizara Society, Rambaug Road. Sabarmati, Ahmedabad.

NAME CHANGE I have changed my

name from Bhavanaben Mahendrabhai Thakkar to BHAVNABEN MAHENDRABHAI

D-702, Iscon Platinum, Nr. Samarpan Cross Road Bopal, Ahmedabad.

THAKKAR

PERSONAL

I, have changed my name,from Abdhesh chaudhry to Avdhesh Chaudhary, for all purposes, R/o-303, Narayan Residency, Near Jeevan-deep-Hospital, Dholka Ahmedabad-387810 0040588261-1

For booking Classifieds Ads Contact THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Ahmedabad : Phone: 079-26872482

8100177548, 6289641022 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 lossing 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 pefore sending any monies or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise actin

REVENUE DEPARTMENT **GOVERNMENT OF GUJARAT SECREARIAT. GANDHINAGAR** (The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition

NOTIFICATION

Rehabilitation & Resettlement Act, 2013) (30 of 2013) Dist:- Valsad

No:AM-2021-469-M-LBU-1221-323-GH Whereas it appears to the Govrenment of Gujarat that the land specified in the SCHEDULE annexed hereto, is likely to be required to "Mumbai - Ahemedabad High Speed Rail Project (hereinafter referred to as "The Requiring Body") for the public purpose for the purpose of construction of infrastructure project of "Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Project." (hereinafter referred to as "The public purpose Project").

. Now whereas, the Government of Gujarat, Revenue Department has, in exercise of the powers conferred, by section-10-A [inserted by section 3 of The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Gujarat Amedment) Act, 2016 (Gjarat Act No. 12 of 2016)] of The Right to Fair compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition Rehabilation and Resettlement 2013 (30 of 2013) (hereinafter referred to as "The Act") exempted, in public interest by Notification No. AM-2021-188-M-LBU-1221-323-GH dated 06/05/2021 published in the Extraordinary Gazette of Gujarat Government Dated 11/07/2019 the below mentioned Scheduled area of land, to be acquired for the infrastructure Project of The Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Project, from the application of the provisions of Chapter II and III of The Act, and

2. Now whereas, in exercise of the powers, conferred by subsection (1) of section-43 of The Act. The Government of Gujarat has appointed, by Notification No. AM-2021-269-M-LBU-1221-323-GH Dated: 02/07/2021 The Prant Officer, Valsad as the Administrator of Rehabilitation and Resettlement in respect of the scheduled land to be acquired for construction of the captioned infrastructure project, and

3. Now whereas, in exercise of the powers conferred by subsection (1) of section 11 of "The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (30 of 2013) (hereinafter referred to as the Act), the Government of Gujarat, has notified, vide their Notification No. AM-2021-269-M-LBU-1221-323-GH Dated 02/07/2021 that the said Scheduled land is required for the public purpose specified here above.

And whereas, the Government of Gujarat is satisfied after considering the report made by The District Collector, Valsad under sub-section (2) of section 15 of the Act, that the said land is needed to be acquired for "The Public Purpose Project" specified in the schedule hereto, and

5. Now therefore, in exercise of the power conferred by subsection (1) of section 19 The Act, the Government of Gujarat hereby declares that the said scheduled lands is required for the public purpose specified in the schedule hereto.

6. In exercise of the powers conferred by clause(g) of section-3 of The Act, the Government of Gujarat hereby appoints. Prant Officer. Valsad to perform the functions of a Collector, for all proceeding hereinafter to be carried out under The Act, in respect of the said scheduled lands

. The Plans of scheduled lands can be inspected at the Office of The Competent Authority Land Acquisition & Prant Officer, Valsad.

SCHEDULE

Dist.: Valsad 1) Village: Pariya Taluka: Pardi Sr. Type of Area House/Structure No. (Ha.Are.Sq.mtr. Number Land Gamtal 341 1/165 2 1/210 Gamtal 121 3 Gamtal 113 1/208 4 1/209 Gamtal 121 5 Gamtal 120 1/206 6 134 1/204 Gamtal 7 Gamtal 42 1/189/2 8 Gamtal 90 1/190, 1/202 9 Gamtal 13 1/201 10 Gamtal 15 1/200 11 1/199 Gamtal 11 12 Gamtal 11 1/198 13 11 1/197 Gamtal 14 Gamtal 22 1/196 15 22 1/195 Gamtal 16 Gamtal 05 1/194 Open Plot 17 415 Gamtal 18 Gamtal 126 3/178 19 Gamtal 16 3/177 20 Gamtal 3/175 21 Gamtal 13 3/175/1/1 22 100 Open Plot Gamtal 23 Gamtal 66 Open Plot 24 109 3/169 Gamtal 25 54 3/174 Gamtal 26 55 3/166 Gamtal 27 Gamtal 55 3/167 28 192 3/168 Gamtal 29 Gamtal 3/398 30 Gamtal 10 3/190 31 Gamtal 131 3/159 32 Gamtal 138 33 Gamtal 168 3/156 34 Gamtal 156 35 3/113 Gamtal 12 36 35 3/112 Gamtal 37 82 3/111 Gamtal 38 Gamtal 524 3/110/1 39 291 Gamtal 3/110/1

By order and in the name of the Governor of Gujarat, Sd/-

4978

(H. J. Rathod) No.INF/Valsad/413/2021 Under Secretary to Government

Ahmedabad

Open Plot

3H Pass

4H

Pass

Pass

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
At work and in all

when the carpet may be

You should be ready to

have another stab at a

week, but avoid all

unnecessary risks.

pulled from under your feet.

particular leisure activity. Monetary matters should do

well around the middle of the

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

others see just how upset or

view of rapid changes in mood, I'd advise you to wait

and see how the land lies after

a few more weeks. As far as romance is concerned, see the

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

arrangements and domestic

postponed, but rest assured

that this phase of uncertainty

moves may be delayed or

will not last long. Travel

become livelier.

prospects gain as the stars

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

auspicious alignments. Others have had

turn to sparkle. Yet, briefly, the

opportunity will, though, once again be within your grasp.

the recent past. This is wise of

them, for with Mercury and

Venus returning to their

former positions, you will

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

moment for talking may have passed. A financial

their say and now it's your

The stars move on, in their silent way,

bringing an array of

Not everything that

happens suits you.

but much of it does. Loved ones are now prepared to draw a veil over

It's a week of two

halves, one active, the other more

restful. Family

angry you are. But, in

world through other

people's eyes.

Feelings could be running high and

you can right over

the top and let

routine tasks vou

to press on, even

have no choice but

BRIDGE Dealer: West Vulnerable: None NORTH **♠** 964 WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH **♥**J1064 Pass Pass 2H ♦ AQ97

Pass Pass

♣A6

SOUTH

4

♣K105

♥AQ9832

South played in 4H after an opening 1S bid by West and a pass by East. West leads the queen of clubs. How can you make 4H, and what is your

The West Hand: S-AQ1087H-K5D-K82C-QJ2 The East Hand: S-K3H-7D-J10653C-98743

As soon as the dummy comes down you should be smitten with the fact that West flid not lead a high spade. If West had the ace and king he would have led spades. He did not lead spades so you know that East has something good in this suit. How about finessing in hearts?

It cannot work. East passed 1S and he is known to have a high spade. The heart finesse is offside. Best is to play a heart to the ace to see if the king is dropping. It does not drop. Both East and West play little hearts so the king is the only missing heart. This leaves you with a heart loser and three losir spades. What now?

The opening lead marked East with a spade honour and the bidding marked West with the rest of the high card points. You did not finesse in hearts be-cause you knew it would lose. But on the same line of thinking, you know that West has the king of diamonds and this finesse will win.

With no fear, South should take the diamond finesse, which is as close to a certainty as anything is at the bridge table, and discard a spade.

Dealer: South Vulnerable: North/South

JUMBLED WORDS

the answer for the given quip

KMAER

GHUOR

NORT ♠ Q8 •• 4 • 42 •• KJ	342	,	5 J109 1063
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1S		
Pass	2S	Pass	3S
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the queen of diamonds. East noted to himself that dummy was pretty good and might well have gone on to 4S. How should East defend?

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2343

QUICK CLUES ACROSS

- One of the Pandavas (5)
- Arrived at a logical conclusion (8)

 Somewhat hungry (7)
- Makes unhappy or distresses (7) 2018 FIFA World Cup finalists (7)
- 13. Chew the fat (7) 14. Instrument used to determine
- velocity (11)
 19. Arrived at (7)
- 21. Whim(7)
 23. People of Flanders?(7)
 25. Gymnastic garment (7)
- 26. Reels and nearly falls (8) 27. Foe (5)
- DOWN
- Expelling devices? (8) Sign up; enrol (6)
- Insolent, overbearing or
- supercilious? (4,6) Newts (4)
- Arid area (6) Viewpoint or outlook (6)
- Brilliant (7) Prefix for stars, as in ___-logy or ___
- -nomy?(5)

 13. Brought up the rear in a race,
- perhaps? (4,2,4)
 15. Reverberating "nice hog"
- anagram?(7) 16. Freed(8) Rough-voiced (5)
- 18. High period (6)
- 20. Warns (6) 22. Conventional (6) 24. Pay attention (4)

CRYPTIC CLUES

- Not outspoken if mouthed thus?
- Unwanted visitors from abroad (8) Moist disgruntled phasmid (7) Plunder the slope I'd adjusted (7)
- 12. Name of girl getting praise in secret service (7)13. I have a ball and Rufus is jumping
- round like mad (7)

 14. Have no fear! It's a powerful battleship (11)
- 19. Raced round one circuit
- and made a hit (7)
 21. Cricketer, villain about right (7)
- 23. A murder suspect, one hears? (7) 25. Make the plunge and do this
- yourself(7) 26. Being rather chicken-like, using this shading technique? (8)
- 27. Former Sodom refugee returns to
- Country of growing importance

SUDOKU

Difficulty Level 4s

To solve a Sudoku puzzle,

must appear in each of the

each of the nine horizontal

nine vertical columns, in

rows and in each of the

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy;

3s = Medium; 4s = Hard;

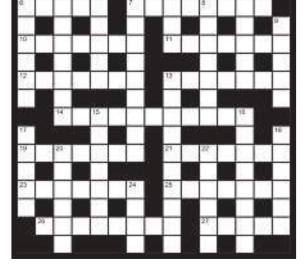
5s = Very Hard; 6s =

every digit from 1 to 9

Instructions

nine boxes.

Difficulty Level



- Lot's of 'em thwart my raid! (6) Overbearing attitude of one surrendering ? (10)
- Nothing on telerecording for poet
- In trouble, Roy or Ray up the creek!
- Plant yours truly in front of Richard
- In excavation, rash to shake cloth
- 9. God protect a girl who's taken in a

Solutions to 2342

QUICK CLUES Across: 1 Extracts, 5 Laredo, 10 Piccolo, 11 Debacle, 12 Rhone, 13 Glimmered, 14 Restrictions, 18 Introduction, 21 Millennia, 23 Orbit, 24 Useless, 25 Intrude, 26 Titbit, 27 One-sided. **Down**: 1 Expire, 2 Tycoon, 3 Above zero, 4 Thoughtfulness, 6 Album, 7 Escargot, 8 Overdose, 9 Administration, 15 Two months, 16 Dismount, 17 Stillest, 19 Absurd, 20 Attend, 22 Elemi. CRYPTIC CLUES Across: 1 Crawlers, 5 Benumb, 10 Hibachi, 11 Warhero, 12 Rioja, 13 Vacillate, 14 Single minded, 18 Disheartened,

21 Palmistry, 23 Otago, 24 Iberian, 25 Eskdale, 26 Etymon, 27 Grey seal. Down: 1 Cohort, 2 Albion, 3 Lucrative, 4 Reinvigorating, 6 Errol, 7 Use hands, 8 Book ends, 9 Twice

8

3 5

9

6

2

6

9

5

8

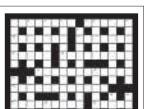
4

13. Pedestrian crossing (10)
15. Crime organisation broken by sanctimonious quack(7)

student(5)

16. Boldness is back, yet has merit 17. Like gardens not kept straight (5)

18. One in France thoroughly ill (6) 20. Pilot in marina out of place (6) 22. Hosts tending to be offensive (6) 24. A number get assistance from this servant (4)



every year, 15 Ice-hockey, 16 Adoptive, 17 Psaltery, 19 Damage, 20 Do well, 22 Inigo

4

6

8

3

9

5

4

If it's your Birthday

Sunday October 17

It's a bold day, just right for a celebration. But you're not sure of the next step. You'll be making up your mind early next week, so don't rush it.

Monday October 18

Surprising news is about to arrive from an unexpected source, and when it does you'll see that what once appeared normal is now outrageous, and what once seemed beyond the pale, is now quite acceptable.

Tuesday October 19

I think that you have the edge over others in the coming weeks, and you may not be in a mood to compromise. But there's also a chance that friends come to you with important offers so don't blow it.

Wednesday October 20

The more you dabble in different activities, the better your prospects should be. Sure, there's a slight risk that you may spread yourself too thin, but it may be worth it.

Thursday October 21

Both your monthly and daily cycles focus on cash concerns. That's not bad because while your domestic costs could be increasing, the way is opened to a windfall.

Friday October 22

You'll be tempted to tackle all the details yourself. That could be a good thing if you're dealing with people who don't really know what's going on.

Saturday October 23

The Moon's motions are imaginative and you're still in with a chance of making a dream come true. But, if your wishes come to pass, there are a number of surprises.

6 7 1 2 5 3 4 9 8

5 8 9 7 6 4 2 1 3

7 4 8 3 1 9 5 6 2

2 3 6 8 4 5 9 7 1

1 9 5 6 2 7 8 3 4

9 1 2 4 7 6 3 8 5

3 5 4 9 8 1 7 2 6

8 6 7 5 3 2 1 4 9

4 2 3 1 9 8 6 5 7

again be in control. VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23) general tide of events is moving in your favour, a special opportunity may be snatched from your grasp. If

so, don't worry about it. Appreciate the fact that you are being given another few weeks to consider your future.

YOUR WEEK AHEAD

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23) Emotional stars rise over your horizon.

Don't allow your feelings to cloud your judgment. Any confusion is purely the result of chaotic celestial movements and there is no reason why you should be concerned. Set yourself up at the beginning of the week by making sure that you have as many friends and allies as you need.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23) This is the perfect moment to make

decisive moves. Employers, partners and people in authority have now dropped their guard and the last thing they are expecting is a return bout. As far as love is concerned, you may begin to make amends for any past mistakes.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22) It's an intriguing

second look.

week in many respects, and you have much to gain. Something that took place on the work front appears to have been beyond the pale, but the fact that various planets are behaving so strangely is sufficient reason to take a

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20) Everything is thrown into the melting pot, travel plans, legal

questions,

educational schemes and financial ventures. This doesn't mean that you're facing difficulties, only that you're changing your mind. A financial scheme will be delayed, with helpful results.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19) Somebody you



strange how the past keeps coming back to haunt you, but your planetary cycles do make this inevitable. It's important to understand, everything has a reason, usually a good one.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) The current time



definition of reality is considerably different from the norm. Go ahead with a financial risk as long as you have obtained the necessary expert support.

Answer: Real glory springs from the silent conquest of ourselves - Joseph P. Thompson SOLUTION: MAKER, ROUGH, CALLON, CALLEY

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to

AGNOLI

AELLGY

the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get

___springs from the silent conquest of ourselves - Joseph P. Thompson (4,5)



Martyr on 17 th October 2004 Hav Sohan Singh, SM, (21 Sep 1964-17 Oct 2004) On this day we salute and pay homage to this gallant soldier who laid down his life for the Nation while protecting the Territorial Integrity of India, in Jammu & Kashmir in the finest traditions of the Indian Army. May your Soul attain Moksha.

Commanding Officer and All Ranks 3 GRENADIERS

GUJARAT STATE ELECTRICITY CORPORATION LTD

GS CL TALUKA: KHAMBHAT, DIST: ANAND, PINCODE-388610 Ph.No. 02698-242618, Fax No. 02698-242619 e-mail id: cedtps.gsecl@gebmail.com Web site: www.gsecl.in CIN: U40100GJ1993SGCO19988

Tender Notice No.49A and 49B n Procure Tender ID No. 486645, 487153, 487155, 487158, 487159

Chief Engineer(Gen), Gujarat State Electricity Corporation Limited, Gas Based Power Station Dhuvaran invites e-Tenders & Web Tenders for supply of various materials and for various

The Tender documents of above e-tenders(ECV of Rs.5 Lacs and above) are available on website, www.nprocure.com (for view, down load and on line submission) and on website, www.gsecl.in (for view only).

The Tender documents of above web-tenders (ECV of Rs. Below 5 Lacs) are available on website www.gsecl.in (for view and down load). Interested Vendors may surf the above website and may down load the said tender from our website for physical submission of your tender before due date and time. Note- Be in touch with above websites till opening of Tender. Sd/-

Chief Engineer (Gen), **GBPS Dhuvaran**



GUJARAT WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD TENDER NOTICE No. 13 OF 2021-22

E-Tender ID No. :- 486753

Online Tender through E-Tendering are invited for the following works by Executive Engineer, P. H. W., Dn., Dahod-389151, (A) Name of Works :- (1) Under Actin plan work of Garadu Regional Water Supply Scheme (1) Survey, Soil Investigation, Detailed Survey Work, Providing, Supplying, Lowering, Laying and Jointing PVC /G.I. Pipeline from Village Level RCC Sump to Faliya, Constructing of RCC ESR, Approch Road, Staff Quater, Compund wall Pumping Machinery & Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Pumping Machineries at Existing U/G Sump Including Operation & Maintenance (For 60 Months). Dist.:-Dahod, Gujarat Estimated Cons Rs. Action Plan 2021-22 (1) 4356.44 Lacs Last Date of online submission of Tender Document: 09/11/2021 (upto 18:00 hrs) Further detail can be available from website: www.gwssb.nprocure.com "About the problem of drinking water in rural areas, GWSSB The Board's helpline number 1916 is requested to contac the public."

INF/Dahod/201/2021

DISTRICT WATER & SANITATION UNIT -SABARKANTHA (Govt. of Gujarat Undertaking) **TENDER NOTICE NO: - 11 OF 2021 - 22**

Unit Manager, D.W.S.U - Sabarkantha, Jal Bhavan, Nr. Circuit House Bye pass Road, Himatnagar Mob. 8141306115 Invites tender for below mentioned work by 'E-tendering System. For work Tubewell with solar system, U/G Sump, Providing & Supplying & Fixing PVC Pipe Line, House Connection, Pumping Machionary Work As per Mention in Tender I.D 486560 (Third Trial), 486567 (Third Trial). 486583, 486586(Third Trial), 486589(Third Trial), 486590(Tlird Trial), 486592(Third Trial), 486593(Third Trial), 486595(Third Trial), 486595(Third Trial), 486600(Third Trial), 486610(Third Trial). Last Date for Tender dt.20/10/2021 upto 18.00 hours and last date for physical document submition date: 21/10/2021 upto 15.00 hours by RPAD / Speed Post / Courier to reached at office. Amout of work is Rs. 17.63 to Rs.219.71 laks. The Concern villages pani samiti reserves the right to cancel on or all tenders without giving any reason. Tender documents available or website. http://www.wasmo.nprocure.com. for detailed information of tender & conditions, contact office mentioned above during office hours and is binding to all. Any Amendment regarding this tender will be shown / publish on Website only. Drinking Water Supply Helpline for Rural Area: 1916, 18002333944 INF/HMT/385/2021

पश्चिम रेलवे – दाहोद **ई–टेण्डिरिंग नोटिस** निविदा संख्या: M247_MECH_TENDER_21-22_08, दिनांक: 11/10/2021 अनुमानित लागत कार्य का नाम Rs. 10,58,601.00/-1) मेम मोटर, मेम देलर कोच और डेम देलर कोच को बिना

डी-पेटिंग के पैट करना और मेमू व डमू कोचो की अंदर से पूरी सफाई करना) पीओएच के दौरान 8-द्दीलर टॉवर वेगेन की पेंटिंग । 3) पीओएंच के दौरान मेमू/डेमू कोचों (PU पेंट्स वाले प्राप्त कोच की पेंटिंग)।

कार्य समापन अवधि :12 माह के लिए ।निविदा देने व खोलने की दिनांक व समय : दिनांक 10/11/2021 को 15:00 बजे तक जमा करना एवं उसी दिन 15:30 बजे को खोलना। वेबसाईट क पता व स्थान : वेबसाईट : www.ireps.gov.in, मुख्य कारखाना प्रबन्धक का कार्यालय, रोलिंग स्टॉक कारखाना पश्चिम रेल्वे फीलेंडगंज दाहोद - 389 160 । **सामान्य निर्देश** : चंकि कार्य एक श्रम जन्मख कार्य है, इसलिए केंद्र/राज्य सरकार की नवीनतम प्रचलित दरों के अनुसार श्रमिकों को न्युनतम मजदूरी के मंगतान (निविदा की अंतिम तिथि पर जो भी अधिक हो) के मापदंडों को परा नहीं 'करने वाले ऑफर के अस्वीकार मानते हुये निरस्त किया जाएगा । **अनिवार्य व प्रासंगिक दस्तावेज** : निवदाकर्ता को अनिवार्य दस्तावेज जैसे Annexture-C, Annexture-D, Annexture-F, Annexture-G, जमा करना होंगे ओर साथ ही निविदा दस्तावेज के Annexture-A. के Tender form (second sheet) के Clause

के प्रकार को निर्दिष्ट करता है, अपनी निविदा के साथ जमा करने होंगे। अनिवार्य और प्रासंगिक दस्तावेजें की प्रति प्रस्तुत न करने पर उसकी / उनकी ऑफर को अस्वीकार मानते हुए **निरस्त किया जाएगा।** कृते मुख्य कारखाना प्रबंधक, रोलिंग स्टॉक कारखना, पश्चिम रेल्वे. दाहोद हमें लाइक करें : 🚯 facebook.com/WesternRly | हमें फॉलो करें : 🖸 twitter.com/WesternRly

14.15 और 18 में उल्लिखित प्रासंगिक दस्तावेज जो स्पष्ट रूप से इस निविदा दस्तावेज में वर्णित फर्म

GUJARAT WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD TENDER NOTICE No. 11 OF 2021-22

E-Tender ID No. :- 486750

Online Tender through E-Tendering are invited for the following works by Executive Engineer, P. H. W., Dn., Dahod-389151, (A) Name of Works :- (1) Under Actin plan work of (1) Chilakota Ta. Limkheda Const. of Carrying out level Survey, Soil Investigation, Detailed Survey Work, Providing, Supplying, Lowering, Laying and Jointing PVC /G.I. Pipeline from Village Level U/G Sump to Faliya Constructing of RCC ESR/ HGLR/ Cistern at Faliya Level Mini Scheme, Pumping Machinery & Supply, Installation Testing & Commissioning of Pumping Machineries at Existing U/G Sump etc. under Faliya Connectivity of Different Water Supply Scheme. Including Operation & Main Maintenance (For 60 Months). Dist.:-Dahod, Gujarat Estimated Cons Rs. Action Plan 2021-22 (1) 803.54 Lacs Last Date of online submission of Tender Document: 09/11/2021 (upto 18:00 hrs) Further detail can be available from website: www.gwssb.nprocure.com "About the problem of drinking water in rural areas, GWSSB The Board's helpline number -1916 is requested to contac the public." INF/Dahod/202/2021

SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF COUTERRE TELANGANA LTD.

e-Procurement Tender Notice (Paper Notification)

SSPDCL intends to float tenders for procurement of (a) 11 KV 3 Core 300 Sq. mm XLPE UG Cable (t
CX70+16-50 Sqmm XLPE AB Cable (c) 11 KV 24V LV VCB with CTs & CR Panel (d) 11KV CTPT Set 10/
asso 2.25 accuracy (e) 11KV CTPT Set 20/5 class 0.25 accuracy (f) 11KV CTPT Set 40/5 class 0.25 accuracy (f) 11KV CTPT Set 60/5 class 0.25 accuracy d) not the CTS & CR Panel
n e-procurement platform

e-procurement platform. or further details of each item above, please visit <u>www.tssouthe</u> ww.tender.telangana.gov.in and www.auction.telangana.gov.in. none: 040-23431319, 1035, 1033, 1026, 1360 DIPR NO: 16942-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2021-22

Dakshin Gujarat Vij Company Ltd. Regd. & Corp. Office: 'Urja Sadan', N.V. Road, Kapodara Char Rasta, Surat 395 006 GUJARAT

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4626

For Supply of Various Materials in DGVCL DGVCL intends to invite purchase tenders for the year 2022-23 for

DGVCL Toll Free No. 19123 (0r 1800 233 3003)

various items on annual basis in huge quantity. As per GUVNL Purchase Policy, intended suppliers who want to bid for tendered items must have a valid 'Vendor Registration Certificate' from its subsidiary company within prescribed deadline. The details regarding procedure for Vendo Registration and the tentative list of items to be purchased by DGVCL are available on DGVCL website www.dgvcl.com. For further information, interested suppliers may contact DGVCL, Corporate Office, Surat in person/through phone or e-mail. **CE (P), DGVCL, Surat**.

Install MCB/ELCB/RCCB & Prevent Electric Shocks/Electrical Accidents

ON LINE TENDERING Road & Building Department Government of Gujarat.

TENDER NOTICE No 09 OF 2021-22 n the name and on behalf of Governor of Gujarat State the Executive Engineer, (R&B) Division, Rajpipla Dist. Narmada. Phone No. 02640-222939 invites online tender Sr. No. 01 to 04 Tender In B-1 Form in From R&B Dept. & NWR & WS Dept. registered contractors. Estimated cost of the work is Rs.8.00 Lac to 98.10 Lac.

The Bid documents will be available on web site https://rnb.nprocure.com And also on information Department website:www.statetendrs.com further particular please visit above mentioned website up to 18.00 hours or Sr.No,01 to 04 works dated 20-10-2021. Scanned copy of Demand Draf for Tender fee, F.D.R. for EMD, EMD Exemption certificate copy, BANK SOLVENCY & REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE shall have to be submitted online as per the e-tender notice para 5.1 to 5.5 otherwise tenders shall be considered non responsive. While true copies of of these documents are to be submitted for work No.O1 to 04 to the Executive Engineer Rajpipla (R&B) Division, Rajpipla from Dt: 21-10-2021 to Dt.: 27-10-2021 hv R.P.A.D. / Speed post. INF/NARMDA/255/2021-22

GUJARAT WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

TENDER NOTICE No. 08 OF 2021-22

E-Tender ID No. :- 486752

Online Tender through E-Tendering are invited for the following works by Executive Engineer, P. H. W., Dn., Dahod-389151, (A) Name of Works :- (1) Under Actin plan work of Navagam Saliya RWSS (1) Survey, Soil Investigation, Detailed Survey Work, Providing, Supplying, Lowering, Laying and Jointing PVC /G.I. Pipeline from Village Level RCC Sump to Faliya, Constructing of RCC ESR, Approch Road, Staff Quater, Compund wall Pumping Machinery & Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Pumping Machineries at Existing U/G Sump etc. under Faliya Connectivity of Different Water Supply Scheme. Including Operation & Main Maintenance (For 60 Months). Dist.:-Dahod, Gujarat Estimated Cons Rs. Action Plan 2021-22 (1) 1685.69 Lacs Last Date of online submission of Tender Document: 09/11/2021 (upto 18:00 hrs) Further detail can be available from website: www.gwssb.nprocure.com "About the problem of drinking water in rural areas, GWSSB The Board's helpline number -1916 is requested INF/Dahod/203/2021 to contac the public."

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER AND DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURAL MARKETING

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE E-procurement T.No.SE(AM)/AP/GNT/Ep/24/2021-22, Dated: 14-10-2021

Online tenders are invited by the Superintending Engineer (AM) Guntur from the registered vil contractors & Reputed firms for cosntruction of Multi Purpose Facilitation Centers (500 1000MT Capacity Godowns) along with drying yards at RBK level, constructional works a various Market Yards and Rythu Bazar works costing of Rs. 82,80,11,010/- approximatel procurement site opens on Dt. 21-10-2021 at 4.00 P.M. Any other information can be had rom the www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in or from the office of the Super Engineer (AM) Guntur. Contact Nos. 9182361421. 9182361369 & 9182361199.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (AM), O/o. Commissioner and Director of Agrl. Marketing, Govt. of A.P, Guntur

TENDER NOTICE NO. 13 (Second Time) OF 2021-2022

Nanpura, Surat Ph.No- 0261-2464162 has in invited Tender from bid-

1612 1	is for work shown in the schedule given below.				
Sr.	Name of work	Est. cost			
١o.		Rs. [In Lacs]			
2.	Construction of Category-A Type (21 unite)	349.35			
	Common pool Quarters in place of old				
	dismantled A Type Quarters at				
	Navasari Bazar, Surat				

up to 18.00 hrs on work date 21/10/2021 Only notice will be available on the website of state Government www.statetenders.gujarat.gov.in For further details please visit our web site mentioned above. INF/SURAT/741/2021

GUJARAT STATE ELECTRICITY CORPORATION LIMITED KUTCH LIGNITE THERMAL POWER STATION GS ECL

GSECL www.gseb.com-E&P Dept-GoG http://guj-epd.gov.in

S.K.V. Nagar, Panandhro, Kutch, Gujarat-370 601

TENDER-NOTICE no: e-Tender KLTPS-19/2021-22. Tenders for Supply of various materials and other works are put on website: https://gsecl.nprocure.com, www.gseb.com/ www.gsecl.in For Tender above Rs. 5.00 Lacs. Vendors / Manufactures and contractors are requested to view, down load, participate and submit online from https://gsecl.nprocure.com. Tender below Rs. 5.00 Lacs may be view, download & participate only from www.gseb.com / www.gsecl.in

Chief Engineer (G), KLTPS. GSECL.



Executive Engineer, Public Health Works Division, Mamlatdar Office Compound, DEESA-385535, District: Banaskantha. Phone No-;02744-220031 invites E-Tender of civil work as under,

(1) Name ofwork:- Operation, Maintenance.and repair of Electro-Mechanical Works, civil structures, Rising main, gravity main, Equipments etc. of Head Works sites including proper supply of water to 13 villages for 24 Months of Taluka Deesa & Dantiwada District Banashkantha of JEGOL RWSS (2) Estimated cost Rs. 32.74 Lakhs

(3) Eligibility of contractor:- Bidder having Registration with PWD/R&B/GWSSB/Irrigation in "E1" Class and above, however the bidder will have to post qualify as per Financial & Technical criteria given in the bid documents.

(4) Last date of submission of tender:- 01/11/2021 up to 18.00 Hrs. GWSSB reserves the right to accept/ reject any or all tenders

without assigning any reason. For detail information & conditions, contact office mentioned above during office hours and is binding to all & website www.statetenders.gujarat.gov.in www.gwssb.org & www.gwssb.nprocure.com "GWSSB Toll free Help line 1916 for Drinking Water Supply

for Rural Area" No.DDI/PAL/371/2021-2022

Ahmedabad

Road & Building Department Government of Gujarat. The Executive Engineer, Surat (R&B) Division No.1, Opp. Davalii Baug.

Bid documents will be available on website: www.rnb.nprocure.com

Ankit Das and two

aides denied bail in

farmer deaths case

Awadesh Kumar Singh said

Meanwhile. UP Police's

Special Investigation Team (SIT)

probing the Lakhimpur Kheri

deaths and violence is conduct-

ing raids at multiple sites to trace

Sumit Jaiswal, the complainant

in one of the two FIRs lodged in

connection with the October 3

incident, when four farmers and

a journalist were allegedly run

over by a convoy of SUVs, which

included a Mahindra Thar

owned by Ajay Mishra. Three

others were killed in the subse-

After the incident, Jaiswal

told the media that the incident

occurred after miscreants hiding

behind farmers attacked the ve-

hicles passing through the area.

Jaiswal went absconding after a

video emerged on social media,

purportedly showing that the

vehicle ran over silent protesters.

aiswal would bring more clarity

in the probe. It is alleged that

Jaiswal was in the Thar SUV.

Police said questioning

quent violence at Tikonia.

LAKHIMPUR KHERI

MANISH SAHU

LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 16

A COURT in Lakhimpur Kheri on

Friday rejected bail applications

of former Union minister

Akhilesh Das's nephew Ankit

Das and his two associates, who

are accused in the case of

protesting farmers being run

over in the district on October 3.

had rejected the bail application

of prime accused Ashish Mishra,

who is the son of Union Minister

Ankit Das, his driver Shekhar

Bharti and security guard Lateef

came a day before their three-

of Lucknow; Lateef comes from

jected their bail applications, we

will soon move the sessions

court against it," defence lawyer

Das and Bharti are residents

"Since the lower court has re-

day police custody was to end.

The rejection of bail pleas of

of State Ajay Mishra.

Lakhimpur Kheri.

On Wednesday, the court

Mob forces girl to take off burkha

Bhopal: A girl was forced to remove her burkha and face covering by a group of people in Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh on Saturday afternoon after suspecting that the man on whose scooter she was riding pillion was a Hindu, police said.

No case has been registered in the connection with the incident that took place in Islam Nagar and a video of which went viral soon after, but preventive action had been taken under section 151 of IPC against two persons, "who were let off with a warning", an official sad.

In the video, a man from the group, who is apparently shooting the video, is heard telling the girl her act was disgracing "our" community, while some women can be seen trying to force her to show her face.

"Some people stopped them and asked the girl to take off her burkha and show her face. It is suspected that the people believed the man was Hindu and the girl Muslim," Intkhedi police station in charge RS Verma said.

Pragya terms man who shot her kabaddi video as 'Ravan'

Bhopal: After a viral video showed her playing kabaddi, Bhopal's BJP MP Pragya Singh Thakur, who was confined to a wheelchair for a long time and had obtained bail in the 2008 Malegaon blast case on medical grounds, described the man who shot and circulated the clip as "Ravan" and said his old age and next birth will get spoiled.

Earlier, another video of the Bhopal MP taking part in a Garba dance during the just-concluded Navratri festival had emerged.

State Congress spokesperson KK Mishra said, "Those who follow the ideology of Ravan, see the demon king everywhere."

Navy's top commanders to meet next week

New Delhi: The Navy's top commanders will hold their biannual meeting next week to discuss the force's operational, logistical and material preparedness and future plans. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat and Navy Chief Admiral Karambir Singh will address the Navy commanders, along with the chiefs of the Army and the Air Force.

The Navy said in a statem Saturday that the second edition this vear's Naval Commanders' Conference will take place between October 18 and October 22.

4 CRPF staffers injured as fuse box explodes

Raipur/New Delhi: Four CRPF personnel were injured when an ammunition fuse box exploded when it was being loaded on a train at the Raipur station on Saturday, according to an official statement.

On Saturday , the 211 Company of the CRPF was in the train when ammunition was being loaded, it said. The special train was scheduled to carry the CRPF personnel to Jammu from Raipur, police in Raipur said. PTI

5 killed, at least 15 missing as rain lashes parts of Kerala; red alert issued in 6 dists

SHAJUPHILIP THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OCTOBER16

 $SIX\,PEOPLE\,were\,killed\,and\,at\,least$ 15 others are missing after extremely heavy rain triggered massive landslides in central Kerala's Kottayam and Idukki districts on Saturday.

The Kerala government sought the assistance of Army, Navy and Air Force for rescue operations as several towns were flooded and hundreds of houses inundated, with rivers overflowing and reservoirs inching to maximum storage level.

After the Met department predicted heavy to extremely heavy rains across the state on Saturday night, the government has sounded a red alert in six districts, banned entry to tourist destinations and warned against travelling to hilly regions. Shutters of nine dams have been lifted while a blue alert (second stage) has been declared in the state's largest reservoir Idukki, where the water level is 2,393 ft as against the full reservoir level of 2.403 ft.

At Koottickal village in



A bus partially submerged at Poonjaar in Kottayam on Saturday. PTI

were washed away in a landslide. A five-member family has gone missing in the calamity after their house was washed away in the flash flood. Three bodies have been recovered from the region and search is on for those trapped in the sludge and debris.

In another landslide at Kokkayar at high ranges of Idukki, at least seven people are missing after five houses were washed away.

Rescue operations have been delayed as roads leading to the landslide-hit areas were flooded.

in the region.

After a high-level meeting, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan suggested various departments to evacuate people from areas prone to landslides and floods.

"The situation in the state is

grave, but the weather forecast has said the situation would not get worse. The monthly pilgrimage to Sabarimala temple, which was slated to begin on Sunday, would be abandoned till October 19" said Vijayan. Colleges and higher education institutes, slated to reoper on October 18 after the second lockdown, will now open on October 20, the CM said.

A defense spokesperson said the Indian Air Force and Indian Army stationed in Kerala have deployed their assets for rescue operations. All the bases under Southern Air Command have been put on high alert in view of the prevailing weather situation. Mi-17 and Sarang helicopters are already in standby mode. One column of the Army has moved to Kaniirappally in Kottavam for res-

DrS Abhilash, of Department of Atmospheric Sciences, CUSAT, said a mini cloudburst-like event has caused the flash floods and landslides. "A similar cloudburst-like event had occurred at Nilamburregion in Malappuram in 2019, causing a major landslide," he said.

In an official statement, the IMD said an intense spell of rainfall activity over south peninsular India is likely to continue till October 17.

The southwest monsoon for Kerala, from June to September 30, has been normal for the state with a deficiency of 16 per cent. In the northeast monsoon season, from October 1 to December 31, the normal rainfall for Kerala is 491.6 mm. However, in the last two weeks ending on October 16, the state has already recorded 331.4 mm rain as against the actual normal rainfall of 164.1 mm during the period. Hence, the state has already got large excess rainfall in the last two weeks.

Former Poonjar MLA PC George, whose home came under floodwaters on Saturday, said he had never seen such a catastrophic WITH INPUTS FROM

VISHNU VARMA IN KOCHI

TRACKING THE SECOND SURGE **NEW CASES: 13,711**

ACTIVE CASES: 1,96,696

VACCINATIONS: 97,23,77,045

TESTS TODAY: 9,12,992 | TOTAL TESTS: 59,07,48,250 WEEKLY POSITIVITY: 1.40% | OVERALL POSITIVITY: 5.77%

STATES REPORTING MOST CASES

STATE	NEW Cases	ACTIVE CASES	WEEKLY Positivity	TOTAL VACCINATION
■ Kerala	7,955	91,399	10.94%	3,70,61,667
■Maharashtra	1,553	29,627	1.69%	9,07,87,384
■Tamil Nadu	1,233	15,022	0.93%	5,26,62,885
■Mizoram	932	12,597	14.77%	11,92,964
■ West Bengal	443	7.445	2.43%	6.56.14.967

STATES REPORTING MOST DEATHS

STATE	TODAY'S DEATHS	TOTAL DEATHS	WEEKLY CFR	OVERALL CFR
■ Kerala	57	26,870	0.66%	0.57%
■ Maharashtra	26	1,43,357	1.60%	2.19%
■ Tamil Nadu	15	35,884	1.02%	1.35%
■ West Bengal	10	18,963	1.41%	1.21%
■ Andhra Pradesh	7	14,302	0.82%	0.70%

FULL REPORT ON

Kottayam district, three houses Assistance from the Navy has been sought for airlifting those trapped

TELGI CASE PROBE Maharashtra files reply to Jaiswal's plea against strictures passed 15 years ago

MOHAMEDTHAVER MUMBAI. OCTOBER 16

FIFTEEN years after current CBI director Subodh Jaiswal approached the Bombay High Court against strictures passed against him by a Pune court in 2007, the Maharashtra government for the first time filed a reply to Jaiswal's petition last month, effectively reviving a matter that had gone dormant.

In 2007, when Jaiswal had approached the HC, the strictures passed against him in connection with the probe in the Abdul Karim Telgi case were stayed, and the case remained there since then.

Now, with the Maharashtra government's reply, with the prayer that the "hearing be expedited", the case could be taken up again, for a decision on whether the strictures against Jaiswal should be expunged

On September 27, the state government through Assistant IG (law and order) M Ramkumar. filed an affidavit in the appeal filed by Jaiswal to expunge strictures against him.

Advocate Shyam Dewani, the lawver for the intervener R S Sharma, a former Mumbai Police Commissioner who was arrested in the Telgi case and eventually discharged, said, "The matter had been lying dormant for years. Earlier this vear, we brought it to the attention of the court and the state that a reply had not been filed. Last month a reply was eventually filed."

The two paragraphs containing the strictures in the Pune court order of 2007 say that Jaiswal who headed the SIT - had made no significant recovery of stamps or printing machines using which fake stamp papers were printed. He had neglected to recover mobile phone of a constable using



CBI director Subodh Jaiswal



Sour ties with MVA

RELATIONS BETWEEN Subodh Jaiswal and the Maharashtra government have been tense since he spoke up against alleged lobbying for postings by IPS officers with then state Home Minister Anil Deshmukh. Recently, things went further downhill when the CBI under him issued summons to Maharashtra Chief Secretary Sitaram Kunte and state DGP Sanjay Pandey. Mumbai Police in turn issued summons to Jaiswal to appear before them in connection with the FIR registered in the data leak case, where purported call recordings of IPS officers lobbying for posts were leaked

which the latter had alerted others of a police raid, the order said. It further said that some arrests were not made by Jaiswal and those who apparently helped Telgi were named as witnesses instead of accused.

Asked for comment, Jaiswal did not respond to The Sunday

Many freedom fighters did not get their due: Shah to build a memorial here.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 16

HOME MINISTER Amit Shah Saturday claimed that several freedom fighters, including Netaii Subhash Chandra Bose and VD Savarkar, were not given their due in independent India. Shah, who was visiting the

Andaman and Nicobar islands, said the government had decided to rechristen Mount Harriet island in the Union Territory as Mount Manipur in the memory of those who sacrificed their life for the country from the northeastern state. "Manipur had a significant

contribution in resisting the British in the entire Northeast during the 1857 Revolution and also in 1891... Manipuri war hero Yuvraj Tikendrajit and General Thangal were publicly hanged in Fida, Imphal. The British thought that by hanging them, they had crushed the freedom movement, but it did not happen. After that Maharaja Kulchandra Dhwaja Singh and 22 freedom fighters were sent to Kala Pani and they

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

DRONE WARFARE is a challenge

for which police forces need to

upgrade themselves. National

Security Guards (NSG) chief MA

Ganpathy said Saturday on the

sidelines of the 37th raising day

of the country's elite counter ter-

NSG's garrison in Manesar,

Haryana, Union Minister of State

(Home) Nityanand Rai also said

the forces need to acquire state-of-

the-art technology to meet new

that they belong to India, says Bhagwat

challenges on the security front.

Speaking at the event at the

rorism force.

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 16



Shah inaugurated various projects on Ross Island which has been renamed as Netaji Subhash Island. Twitter/AmitShah

were kept here on Mount Harriet. Today in his memory, we would like to honor his contribution by naming Mount Harriet as Mount Manipur," Shah said. He said the Manipur government also wants

Police need to upgrade to face

drone challenge: NSG chief

Shah is on a three-day visit to Andaman and Nicobar. On Saturday, he inaugurated various development projects on Ross Island which has now been rechristened as Netaji Subhash Island. According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shah said Bose did not receive as much importance as he should have. "But now the time has come

that everyone should find their proper place in history, those who contributed and sacrificed their lives, they should find their proud place in history, and that is why Prime Minister Modi decided to name this island after Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose," the MHA quoted him as having said. The Union Home and

Cooperation Minister said that similar injustice has been done to Sardar Patel. Shah said that 14 projects

worth Rs 299 crore and foundation stones of 12 projects worth Rs 643 crore have been inaugurated in Andaman and Nicobar Islands on Saturday.

www.indianexpress.com

"Drone warfare is a new chal-

lenge. Drones are an easy way to

create mischief, to drop bombs

and payload like weapons and

ammunition... We have done

quite a bit and every security

force needs to upgrade itself for

counter-drone technology,"

quire latest technology and ex-

pertise, and developing internal

capacity. "He expressed pleas-

ure that NSG has acquired lat-

est weapons and equipment

and is one of the best counter

terrorism forces in the world,"

the National Security Guards

said in a statement.

Rai stressed the need to ac-

Ganpathy said.

Vaccine mixing safe, offers better immunity: ICMR limited study

ANURADHA **MASCARENHAS** PUNE, OCTOBER 16

A LIMITED study conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) among 18 participants has found that a combination of Covishield and Covaxin shots is safe and, in fact, offers better immunogenicity than two doses of the same vaccine.

The researchers, however, have made it clear that the evidence is very limited and called for multi-centre randomised clinical trials to conclusively prove the findings.

"The reactogenicity profile of the participants of the heterologous group demonstrated that mixing of the two vaccines derived from different platforms is safe," said the study, conducted by ICMR- Regional Medical Research Centre and ICMR-National Institute of Virology. It has been accepted

for publication in the International Journal of Travel This study comes months af-

ter several people in Uttar Pradesh received Covishield as the first dose followed by inadvertent administration of Covaxin as the second dose. Dr Rajni Kant, director of

ICMR's Regional Medical Research Centre, Gorakhpur, and lead author, told The Indian Express that this was a small study involving 18 participants.

They received a vaccination regimen of Covishield followed by Covaxin. The participants did not report any adverse event following immunization and demonstrated high antibody response. "The humoral response and neutralizing antibody titres in the heterologous group were significantly high in neutralizing Variants of Concern - alpha, beta and delta variants of the SARS- CoV2 virus," the researchers found.

Geelani grandson's Must inculcate sense among Kashmiris service terminated

BASHAARAT MASOOD SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 16

THE J-K government on Saturday terminated the services of Anees-ul-Islam, the grandson of separatist ideologue Syed Ali Shah Geelani, in the "interest of the security of the state". Islam was working as a Reserach Officer at the Sheri Kashmir International Convention Centre.

He has been terminated under the Article 311(2)(C) of the Constitution that gives the administration the power to terminate the services of a government employee without constituting an inquiry against them.

"And whereas the Lt Governor is satisfied under sub clause (c) of the proviso to clause (2) of Article 311 of Constitution of India that in the interest of the security of the state, it is not expedient to hold an inquiry in the

case.... Accordingly, the Lt Governor hereby dismisses Mr Anees-ul-slam... from service with immediate effect," reads the government order.

While the Article 311(2) says that no government employee shall be dismissed or removed or reduced in rank except after an inquiry, the sub section (C) says that this clause shall not apply where the President of the Governor, as the case may be, is satisfied that in the interest of the security of the State, it is not expedient to hold such an inquiry.

Islam's father, Hurriyat leader Altaf Ahmad Shah, was arrested by the National Investigation Agency in an alleged terror funding case and is lodged in Tihar jail.

The government has also terminated the services of Farooq Ahmad Butt, a teacher in Government Middle School Kathawa Doda in Jammu under the same clause.

VIVEK DESHPANDE NAGPUR, OCTOBER 16

RASHTRIYA Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat on Saturday said the repeal of Article 370 has removed obstacles in the "integration" of Jammu and Kashmir with India, but only the inculcation of a sense of belonging in the minds of the people will lead to real integration. Speaking at a book release

function in Nagpur on Saturday, Bhagwat said, "The present government took the bold step to repeal Articles 370 and 35(A), which nobody had thought would be possible. And this was done by Parliamentary debates and procedure. People are also experiencing benefits of development reaching them. But there are still a large number of

people there, particularly in



'Article 370 wasn't a danger per se. But what engendered it was the real danger

Kashmir valley, who feel that independence (from India) is more desirable. So, efforts will have to be made to integrate them with the rest of the country, like all parts of the body are integrated with each other."

The RSS chief released two books, Adhunik Laddakhche Nirmata Ekonisave Kushok Bakula and Jammu Kashmir:

Aitihasik Paripreykhme Dhara 370 Ke Sanshodhan Ke Uprant. Claiming that the repeal of Article 370 "has removed the

At the NSG 37th Raising Day

in Gurgaon on Saturday. PTI

fear of terrorism", Bhagwat said, praise of those giving stones, instead of book in the hands of boys, has stopped. "Article 370 wasn't a danger

per se. But what engendered it was the real danger. There is a small section which considers Indian nationality as its nationality. A large section is happy that corrupt leaders have gone to jail. It is also happy as development has been ushered in, but still feels that it is better if Kashmir becomes independent. The Kashmir problem arose because of lack of feeling that we are nobody if we are not Indians. We will have to inculcate the sense among them that they belong to India and that we will not be there if India will not be there," said Bhagwat.

Bhagwat also called for the return of all those who had been forced to leave Kashmir, "The sense of belonging must be on display from both sides," he said

Speaking about 19th Kushok Bakula, a spiritual leader of Ladakh from yesteryears, the RSS chief said that issues of human rights were putting the Army into "a witness box on technical issues".

Lauding Bakula's contribution to the unity and integrity of India, Bhagwat said, "Bakula was instrumental in organising patriotic Ladakhi youths towards repulsing the armed invasion by Pakistani tribesmen. He took it as his duty, without waiting for anyone to authorise him. He had told the then Sadar-e-Riyasat Sheikh Abdullah that Ladakh wants to stay a part of India, but he was sent to Mongolia. He continued his work there till Mongolia became free.'

RSS culture wing leader, a 'voice of artistes', dies of Culture on the approach and

DIVYAA NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 16

AMIR CHAND, national general secretary of RSS's cultural wing Sanskar Bharati, died on Saturday while travelling to Arunachal Pradesh's Tawang on organisational duties.

According to information, his oxygen level dipped suddenly. Chand was 56. As a representative of the Sangh's cultural wing. he guided and advised all organisational heads for the Ministry

direction to follow in keeping with the RSS agenda. Sanskar Bharati was very vocal about day-to-day activities

pertaining to arts and culture. During the pandemic, Amir Chand had vociferously urged both the Centre and state governments to take care of artistes whose livelihoods had been affected by Covid-19. He had even said that Sanskar Bharti would provide financial assistance to over 1 lakh artistes to help them overcome the crisis

ON SEPTEMBER 30, the day Amit Khare re-

tired from the civil services, he had a visitor:

his former boss in the Education Ministry, Smriti Irani, now the Minister of Women and

Child Development, who had dropped by at

his office in Shastri Bhawan to wish him luck.

It was a rare gesture from the minister.

ministries, Education and Information &

Broadcasting, Khare was known to have

been the quintessential bureaucrat - clear-

headed and cautious, adept at "reading the

mind of his bosses" and achieving the "de-

sired outcome", qualities that made him

indispensable to his ministers, across po-

So last week, when Khare was appointed

advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi (in

addition to Bhaskar Khulbe), many saw it as

a logical career trajectory for a bureaucrat

who has helmed at least two of the most

high-profile government policies in recent

times – the National Education Policy, 2020;

and the Information Technology

(Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media

Jharkhand cadre, Khare had two stints at the

Centre – from August 2008 to April 2015,

and later from June 2018 until his retirement last month. In between, he was Principal

Secretary and Additional Chief Secretary

Khare holds a post-graduate degree from IIM

Ahmedabad. His wife Nidhi Khare is

Additional Secretary in the Ministry of

Consumer Affairs. They have two children.

secretary at the HRD Ministry (as the

Education Ministry was then called), Khare

enjoyed the confidence of his UPA-2 minis-

ters Kapil Sibal and Pallam Raju, as well as

Fertilisers Ministry, he was repatriated back

to his parent cadre state, Jharkhand.

Following a brief stint in the Chemicals &

Khare first shot into prominence in the

1990s, when, as District Commissioner of Chaibasa in undivided Bihar, he was in-

strumental in unearthing the fodder

Rakesh Asthana, who as a CBI SP

Chaibasa when the scam was first detected

by then Finance Secretary of Bihar, who or-

dered all district commissioners to investigate. Mr Khare took the lead and was the first

to raid the Animal Husbandry Department

in Chaibasa, detect irregularities and get an

FIR registered. He withstood all the pressure.

Sources said when the trial began, Khare

Shunted out after the scam and posted as

Managing Director of the Bihar State Leather

Corporation for almost a year, Khare told *The*

Sunday Express: "It was a defunct body that

probed the case till 2002 and is now

Delhi Commissioner of Police, told *The*

Sunday Express, "Khare was DC of

scam in which RJD supremo Lalu Prasad

the NDA's Smriti Irani.

was convicted.

extremely crucial.'

even deposed before the court.

couldn't even pay salaries."

During his first stint at the Centre, as joint

A BSc graduate from St Stephen's College,

(Finance & Planning) in Jharkhand.

A 1985-batch IAS officer from the

Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, or the IT Rules.

litical regimes.

As Secretary in charge of two crucial

SUNDAY STORY

THE SUNDAY PROFILE

THE MAN IN THE CORNER OFFICE

Amit Khare, who has helmed at least two of the most high-profile govt policies in recent times, the NEP and IT Rules, has now been appointed advisor to the PM. RITIKA CHOPRA on how Khare's reputation as a "doer" who could "read the mind of his bosses" saw him straddling key ministries, roles.

With KRISHN KAUSHIK & DEEPTIMAN TIWARY



The reputation he gained then, of a His critics point to this very livers what is expected of him," says a former colleague, on the "secret" of Khare's ca-

reer longevity. Speaking at Khare's farewell function, his last boss in the Education Ministry, Dharmendra Pradhan, sources said, recalled his first meeting with Khare about six years ago, when he was Principal Secretary

'bureaucratic quality" — of being someone who got the job done for the ministers, as opposed to someone who would argue on merits or stand his ground

(Finance) in Jharkhand. Minister and was trying to execute the Ujjwala Yojana. He recalled how he was struck by Khare's willingness to arrange for funds to implement the programme in Iharkhand, given that finance secretaries are almost always reluctant to loosen the state's purse strings," said an officer present at the function.

quality" - of being someone who got the job done for ministers, as opposed to someone who would argue on merits or stand his ground - has been Khare's biggest strength, and drawback. Asked about this, Khare says, "If I were always on the right side of the boss, I would not have exposed the fodder scam. I was a collector appointed by Lalu Prasad, the powerful CM of the state."

His critics say this very "bureaucratic

Critics also point to his "cautious approach" towards possibly controversial issues. Ironically for someone who is known to be taciturn, Khare was the man in charge of devising a communication strategy for both the NEP and the IT Rules.

While Khare did not author the new IT Rules, he played a key role in coordinating with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, which handled the technical aspects of the IT Rules.

"When you have a rule which is going to be administered by two ministries, there has to be coordination, synthesis and logic. That coordination - talking at secretary- and minister-level — was done by Khare," said an officer in the I&B Ministry.

Similarly, the officer said, when the allocation of business rules was changed last year — to bring all online content under the ministry – Khare spoke to his counterparts in other ministries to explain that I&B has the domain understanding for how content should be regulated, whether online or offline.

Even when the NEP was being released, though much of the groundwork had been prepared by his predecessor R Subrahmanyam, Khare ensured that the communication policy was in place for "the right narrative", a colleague said.

Khare's colleagues also credit his rise in the current regime to his stint as the I&B Secretary, a role that saw him becoming one of Prime Minister Modi's trusted people for all communications strategies. "He doesn't speak much during meetings. However... it was evident (from what he said) that he had direct knowledge of what the PM wants," said a senior officer part of meetings with Khare.

"The I&B role gave him relatively better access to the PMO. He seems to have made a solid impression during this time," said a bureaucrat currently serving as Secretary in the

Union government. His success in this role can be gauged by the fact that he was called back to the I&B Ministry within six months of becoming the Higher Education Secretary in late 2019 and maintained its additional charge almost till his superannuation. During this time, he was also tasked with the government's communication strategy for the pandemic.

cles were abuzz with rumours of Khare getting posted in the PMO. While he dismissed such speculation, Khare's speech at his farewell on September 30 offered a broad indication of his future role. "He said in his speech that he is superannuating, not retiring. Maybe he always knew there was something waiting for him," said an officer.

=TAKE5= **DRONES & POLICE**

DIG SATHYAPRIYA, KANCHEEPURAM RANGE



A drone being deployed for the Oct 10-11 search. Express

'With specific details, we looked for man in a red shirt'

On October 10, after two robbers snatched a chain on the Chennai-Bengaluru highway, police deployed 300 personnel and drones to catch them — perhaps the first such deployment to catch small robbers. One of them was shot. They were migrants from Jharkhand

ARUN JANARDHANAN

■ Why the big • operation?

There have been several recent thefts, and one person was shot in one such attempt. The woman robbed on October 10 had raised an alarm immediately, telling us the two men were armed and giving us details about how they looked and that one of them was wearing a red shirt. We saw an opportunity to catch the two and deployed three advanced drones that could help spot the men.

2 Did the operation continue

through the night?
Personnel were deployed at multiple points to sandwich the duo. (Failing to spot them till morning), senior officers feared the two might have escaped the dragnet. Then, at 7 am October 11, we spotted a man coming out of the lake bed, covered in dirt. He told us where the main accused was

How often are drones deployed thus?

The first such use in Tamil Nadu was in February 2014. Following the murder of a software engineer near Chennai, investigators used drone footage to make a 3D image of the scene and look for evidence... Drones have also been used for monitoring crowds.

How did drones help during the lockdown?

Police used drones to make sure people stayed at home. In a hilarious episode, police spotted a group playing carrom in Tirupur in April 2020. When the drone approached them, people started running.

5 Have police acquired the drones?

The government allocated Rs 90 lakh for acquiring three drones for surveillance purposes.

HARIKISHAN SHARMA

Jagti Township

in 2011 by then

PM Manmohan

was inaugurated

=india75=**NUMBER PLATE**

₹1,181 crThe value of banknotes in circulation in India, Pakistan in August 1947 at the time of Independence. This had risen to ₹1,304 crore by March 1948. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) functioned as the Central bank for Pakistan too till June 1948.

PAKISTAN

The share of ₹10 in the gross value of notes in circulation in 1947 – which was the highest. It was followed by the ₹100 note, which accounted for 40.7% of the total notes. (Source: RBI Report on Currency and Finance for 1947-48.)

₹28,26,863 cr The total value of banknotes in

circulation at the end of March 2021. In value terms, the share of ₹500 note was the highest -68.4%. It was followed by ₹2,000 note (17.3%) and ₹100 note (6.7%). (Source: RBI Annual Report for 2020-2021)

1%

The share of ₹10 note in the value of all notes in circulation at the end of March 2021.

How far is my Valley

A LETTER FROM

JAGTI TOWNSHIP,

JAMMU

JAMMU& KASHMIR

The scare of those days, the memories of the flight at night have returned to settlements where Kashmiri Pandits first arrived in the 1990s. The recent killings have dashed hope, that was rekindled post-Aug 5, 2019, of going back

ARUN SHARMA

THEY LEFT at 3 in the night, Dr T K Bhat recalls. His elder brother went to the Pampore Highway to find a truck driver that would take them at that hour, with no one watching. "We only halted to use the toilet after crossing the Jawahar tunnel (marking the entry into Jammu)... When we got down at Banihal, we realised our mother Koushalya Devi was wearing a chappal on one foot and a shoe on the other."

That day in 1990, Bhat, then in his mid-30s, a doctor in the Animal Husbandry Department, became one of the first Kashmiri Pandit migrants to make Jammu his home. Bhat says theirs was one

of 12 Pandit families among the 700 in Newa village of Pulwama.

In Pandit settlements across Jammu, especially the largest one, Jagti Township - inaugurated by then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in 2011 — the nightmare of those days is back with the recent targeted killings of civilians in Kashmir.

While the government denies it, people in the settlements say many of the over 3,000 Kashmiri Hindu employees serving in the Valley under the PM's 2008 employment package, have returned to Jammu - 250-300 of them to Jagti alone. The 4,200 two-room flats in the town-

ship, near Jammu city, house 6,500-7,000 families. One of the residents. Naveen Gosani. says the power situation has now improved from one-two hours a day, but the water remains unfit for human consumption. However, the township, and the strength

in numbers, provides security — which, as Bhat recalls in vivid detail 30 years later, came to elude them in what had

been their home for generations He felt the first sense

of unease during an innocuous conversation in April-May 1989, Bhat says. "I was constructing a house and had given the

carpenter a design. The windows were not how I wanted and when I asked, the carpenter who was my neighbour laughed, 'Panditji, it's not like you are going to stay here'.'

The situation turned bad quickly, as protests spread against the "rigged" 1987 Assembly polls. Deployed to perform magistrate duty, Bhat recalls one evening when he was going to Awantipora with an assistant sub-inspector and two policemen. "I jokingly asked what we would do if we came



INDIA

Srinagar

across protesters. The ASI said they would surrender their weapons to them. 'We are vith you only because of our duty', he said."

Neighbours and colleagues started withdrawing money from "Indian banks" and putting it in "our own bank (Jammu and Kashmir Bank)", Bhat says

Then came the incident at Charar-e-Sharief, a shrine revered by both Hindus and Muslims. In November-December 1989, an estimated 10-15 lakh people marched towards the shrine on a call by the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front; many of them brandishing AK-47s. It ended in an anti-climax when a bridge they were to use collapsed in heavy rain, but the scale of what



had transpired chilled the Pandits.

Around a month later, Bhat's neighbour Moti Lal was killed, along with his driver Ghulam Mohammad. Then, the militants came for Bhat's cousin's husband, a reputed doctor. At his cremation, masked men threatened to kill the entire family. "The same night, my brother got the truck.

In Jammu, the Bhat family spent a fortnight at a shelter with other Pandit families. The government later put up tents on the banks of the Tawi at Nagrota and in Udhampur. Bhat now lives in his own house. among the few Pandit families to have man-

Bhat has visited his native place in

Singh. Arun Sharma Kashmir only twice since, "in 1995, when there was a blast at my parent's house, and last year. The house I constructed is in ruins...

I couldn't control my tears.' Gosani, now employed with a private company, arrived at the Purkhoo refugee camp as a boy of 13, with his parents and two sisters, from Kulgam. He recalls an area crawling with snakes and scorpions. There was no electricity, and off and on, the government would deliver kerosene for lamps. Community toilets barely managed as the numbers grew to 6,000 families.

Bhat says that cramped in their small quarters, they struggled with everything, "the weather, our eating habits, lifestyle, language". One complete generation of Pandits spent the rest of their life battling with the change, he says.

On paper, the Jagti Township has all the amenities - schools, dispensaries, community halls, parks. However, residents, who were allotted apartments following verification, complain of shoddy construction.

Rajesh Bhagati, the Camp Commandant of the B-Zone of the township, admits the residents have issues. "People make com-

plaints and we redress them," he says. Bhat dreams of returning to the home he grew up in, and fears he will take these to his grave. "When Article 370 was abrogated, the Pandits felt they could return. However, the

killings have destroyed all that was achieved.' Deepanshu Bhat, a student, believes even without the killings, the "trust deficit" has widened. "If we are able to make an ordinary Kashmiri Muslim student feel safe elsewhere in the country, do not discriminate against him, why would he get radicalised?" he says. Instead, Deepanshu adds, under the Modi government, the narrative has become

harsher. "They tom-tom that Article 370 has been abrogated and Kashmiri Pandits have been rehabilitated. However, the narrative in the rest of India and in Kashmir is very different. This makes the youth pick up guns as they do not see a solution coming from either side."

Across **THE AISLE**



PCHIDAMBARAM

Website:pchidambaram.in Twitter@Pchidambaram IN

In the last over three years, the PM has not uttered a word on the human rights of the prisoners in the Bhima Koregaon case nor on the prolonged delay in even framing the charges. Needless to say, the trial has not started. I agree with the PM when he said "Such mindset harms human rights a lot"

Mindset that harms human rights

THE PRIME Minister is reported to have said, "In recent years, some people have begun interpreting human rights in their own ways, prioritizing their interests. They see human rights violation in one incident but cannot see it in another incident of a similar nature. Such mindset harms human rights a lot." He is absolutely correct.

In 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). The document articulated the rights and freedoms to which every human being is equally and inalienably entitled.

BECOME WORSE

The Preamble to the document captured the reality of the world in 1948 and justified the need to document the UDHR because "disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind...." What was true in 1948 is true in 2021; it may have become better in some countries but it has certainly become worse in some other countries, including India.

Let's start with what happened on October 3, 2021, in a place called Lakhimpur Kheri in Uttar Pradesh. Farmers were protesting against three agriculture-related laws enacted by actually rushed through — Parliament. A convoy of vehicles (of which at least two have been identified) driven at great speed behind the marching farmers mowed down four protesters. Violence followed. Three occupants of

the car were caught by the enraged crowd and beaten to death. A journalist also died. The lead vehicle belonged to the Minister of State (MoS) for Home in the Central government. It was alleged that his son was one of the occupants of the vehicle.

Human rights were violated in the incident. Article 19 of the UDHR declares that "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference...." Article 20 declares that "Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association." The protesting farmers had assembled peacefully and the march was an expression of their opinion on the farm laws. Article 3 declares that "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person." The speeding vehicle snuffed out

three lives instantaneously. On the violation of human rights in Lakhimpur Kheri, the Prime Minister has remained silent until this day.

ACTIVISTS ARE Terrorists!

Let's go back to 2018 and to an incident in Bhima Koregaon, Maharashtra. On June 6, 2018, five social activists were arrested by police on charges of instigating caste violence in Bhima Koregaon in January 2018. The five included a lawyer, an English professor, a poet and publisher, and two human rights activists. They are still in prison; their applications for bail have been repeatedly rejected. (On August 28, 2018, five more social activists were arrested.)

The lawyer, Mr Surendra Gadling, asked to be allowed to study 'cyber law and human rights'. His request was rejected. The English professor, Ms Shoma Sen, after a year of complaining, was given a chair in her cell. Despite her arthritis, she has been forced to sleep on a thin mattress on the floor. In the initial months, she was kept with convicts. The rights activist, Mr Mahesh Raut, has been refused Ayurvedic medicines brought by his family for his ulcerative colitis. The poet and publisher, Mr Sudhir Dhawale, has not been allowed to meet his colleagues and friends because they are not blood relatives.

On January 2, 2021, a journalist, Mr Prateek Goyal, documented 16 violations of law in the criminal proceedings against the accused in the Bhima Koregaon case. These included egregious excesses such as search and seizure without a warrant; whisking away a prisoner without an order of transit remand; denial of a lawyer of the prisoner's choice; refusal of the State to bear the cost of hospital treatment of a prisoner; refusal to give medical reports to a prisoner; refusal of a commode chair to a prisoner suffering from arthritis; refusal of a full-sleeve sweater; refusal of books by Swami Vivekananda; arbitrary withdrawal of the case from the Maharashtra Police and its transfer to the National Investigation Agency (under the Central government, tasked with investigating terrorist acts and crimes) two days after a new government replaced the BJP government in Maharashtra; refusal of parole to a prisoner to attend his mother's funeral; and

PUNISHMENT BEFORE TRIAL

The relevant Articles of the UDHR read, inter alia, as under —

Article 5: No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrad-

ing treatment or punishment. Article 9: No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 10: Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him.

Article 11: Everyone charged with a penal offence has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial....

To the best of my knowledge, in the last over three years, the Prime Minister has not uttered a word on the human rights of the prisoners in the Bhima Koregaon case nor on the prolonged delay in even framing the charges, in a case prosecuted by the agency under his charge, the NIA. Needless to say, the trial has not started.

I entirely agree with the Prime Minister when he said "Such mindset harms human rights a lot.'

Is it yet an era for Dalit leadership?



GENERAL KNOWLEDGE questions used to be one of those adventurous intelligencetesting rounds — the capital cities of states and countries; names of presidents, heads of states... However, one question trumped me. It was 'Name the state with the highest percentage of Scheduled Castes'. It was probably the easiest to answer for me, I thought; the question being right up my alley. Maharashtra, of course, I said, in a mix of boast, pride and surprise. "Wrong!" replied the questioner. It was Punjab. I refused to believe it. How could it be? Maharashtra, with its wide stretch of lands and large population, that has SCs across towns, cities and villages, should be the correct answer. I went to my father, who worked in the BAMCEF movement (started by Kanshi Ram), to cross-check. He confirmed it: SCs comprised 32% of Puniab's

Punjab is an uneasy state. It continues to be in discussion for its proximity to Pakistan, its Sikh history, its brush with radicalism, and now the farmers' protests on the borders of the Delhi durbar. Punjabis have a special attachment to their land, with a back story that includes politics, religion, capital and culture. Any story related to Punjab makes national headlines: there is a buzz, at least a discussion or protest, including among the diaspora abroad. However, this time a major political shift happened and there was not much discussion, barring among Dalit organisations abroad.

population, against 11% in Maharashtra.

Charanjit Singh Channi was appointed the 17th Chief Minister of Punjab. Amidst the fight between two Jat leaders of the Congress, former CM Amarinder Singh and its Punjab chief Navjot Singh Sidhu, Channi was picked by Rahul Gandhi.

His CV is as impressive as one can find in a politician. Born into a poor family, Channi has several degrees under his belt. A self-made man, he served as a Councillor for three terms, later becoming the president of a Municipal Council, and then moving on to the Punjab Assembly as an Independent in 2007. Elected thrice as MLA, he was leader of the opposition in 2015-16.

People close to the Gandhis confirm that Rahul picked Channi as he had proved to be a meritorious leader with tested acumen. However, another reason, and perhaps the more pragmatic one, was the BSP-Akali Dal alliance, which is going to pose a challenge to the mono-caste hegemony of the political elites in Punjab.

The numerical strength of poor people doesn't easily convert into political stability. Or else, the question of Dalit land rights and social justice would have been addressed early on. The political pundits who arithmetically calculate the political consequences of Indian democracy have miserably failed to explain Punjab and Dalit vulnerability. The Jats in Punjab are a mere 20% of the population but control the land and resources, with the Dalits struggling to match. The last non-lat CM of the state was Giani Zail Singh, in 1977. Ever since, landed Jats under the garb of their Sikh identity have been promoting a neo-Brahminical model, subverting the egalitarianism of the Guru Granth Sahib.

Like Channi, there are popular, charismatic Dalit leaders across parties. Mallikarjun Kharge, Sanjay Paswan, Arjun Ram Meghwal, D Raja, in effect, harmonise Indian democracy. It is to the credit of these leaders that their parties have found a firm grounding. All these leaders, including those of the ST and OBC communities, have risen on account of the anti-caste consciousness nurtured in politics by Kanshi Ram and the BSP.

However, Brahminical parties, from the right, centre and left, tend to see Dalits as subcategories and not as a unified whole. That is why sub-castes of popular Dalit leaders are repeated in loop. This treatment is not given to any other non-Dalit political persona.

Channi's elevation as CM may be no more than an act of symbolism and charity, but there is also hope that it can throw up a challenge to the caste dominance in politics. The BSP is the elephant in the room, having created a politics around representation and fair share. The Congress, BJP and the likes have to join the queue. Is it yet an era for Dalit leadership?

> The writer is the author of Caste Matters and curates the fortnightly Dalitality column





THIS IS not the first time that Lakhimpur Kheri is in the news for a kisan agitation. The district made headlines in the past too, though never for this sort of brutality.

In 1970, the Communist Party of India (CPI) launched an agitation for landless agricultural labourers to occupy surplus land of large farmers. Though it was a countrywide agitation, the centre of attention was Lakhimpur Kheri, where, on Independence Day that year, the then CPI chairman S A Dange himself was to lead a jattha of landless labourers to occupy Birla Farm.

The 1970s were a decade of political, ideological and economic upheaval in India. The divide between the Left and the Right was dissolving. The ruling Indira Congress was now championing the Left programme of nationalisation and land reforms. Even the Jana Sangh, which stood on the extreme right of the political spectrum, had taken a Left turn, calling for strict implementation of land ceiling laws, among other issues.

There was one man who stood solidly ainst land ceiling laws — Charan Singh the Bharatiya Kranti Dal leader, who was then heading a coalition government with the Indira Congress in UP. He believed that lower ceiling limits would make agricultural holdings uneconomical.

Charan Singh hated the Communists for calling him a kulak — Russian for a large landowning farmer — and a 'lat leader'. which he felt narrowed his stature as a kisan leader. The CPI's 'land grab' call sounded inflammatory to Charan Singh. He ordered his home secretary and the police chief to deal with the agitation with a strong hand.

On August 14. Dange — a veteran of many a trade union battle in then Bombay city - reached Lucknow to address a rally. But the local administration promulgated Section 144. Dange decided to hold a press conference instead in a room at the CPI office, but that too was not acceptable to police. He was taken into custody and whisked away to Sitapur jail. The CPI announced that despite Dange's detention, thousands of Communist workers would converge at Birla Farm the next day. The CPI call aroused interest not only in the country but in the West too because many saw it as Indira Gandhi's test balloon to see if she would move further towards a Soviet Union-style authoritarian socialist regime.

Several newspaper correspondents and photographers, including some represent-

A farm agitation, once upon a time in Kheri





Charan Singh (left) ensured agitation led by CPI leader S A Dange didn't take off

ing foreign newspapers, arrived in Lucknow that evening. I was there too. I was then working as a special correspondent with the Patriot daily and weekly Link News magazine. On the morning of August 15, all of us left for Lakhimpur in a convoy of hired cars.

The CPI had designated the land near one particular gate of Birla Farm for occupation by its workers. Yet, no one was sure where the real action would occur. I joined two other senior journalists on a car journey to the main gate of Birla Farm. The police bandobast all along the way was extremely strict. Besides the regular police force, the Provincial Armed Constabulary had been summoned. Policemen carrying guns and machine guns roamed the roads in jeeps. Others with guns and lathis stood at numer-

ous barriers and check posts. The policemen were conducting deep searches to ensure no one was hiding a red flag on his person. Men wearing red shirts or undergarments, and women with a tinge of red on their saris were questioned to ascertain if they could be Communists intending to go to Birla Farm. Many CPI workers found wearing undershirts made out of red flags and men carrying sattu or chiwra in red rags were detained by the roadside.

What baffled the policemen at a check post was a processions of villagers carrying idols of Hanuman, each with a red cloth around the idol's waist. The policemen did not know whether detaining the processionists would amount to detaining Hanumanji himself! Some of the cops stood up from their roadside chairs to bow before the idol and received prasad of laddoos. The only thing they could do was to request the processionists not to go to the Birla Farm which was, anyway, quite a distance away. We reached Birla Farm an hour before

noon. For a long time there was no sign of CPI workers. A little after noon, we saw some constables walking towards us with a group of villagers wearing soiled, knee-length dhotis and ragbags flung across their shoulders. The hands of some were tied with a rope with the policemen holding the other end The policemen said their captives were Communists and were hiding in bushes.

After a while, the policemen sat under a tree and began sharing a meal of sattu with their captives from the very red package that had caused their detention in the first place!

Though the CPI's land grab agitation aroused much worldwide interest in the plight of the landless labourers, it fizzled out soon, at least, in UP where the landowner kisans unleashed a wave of reprisal against the landless who had joined the agitation. Elsewhere, in West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh, the Naxalites, now organised as the CPI-ML, took over the initiative, rattling not only the Congress but also the two Communist parties. In UP, the Charan Singh government collapsed in two months as the Congress, sympathetic to Dange, pulled the rug out from under Charan Singh's feet, ending the uneasy coalition.

The writer is a senior journalist

Fifth TAVLEEN SINGH

Human rights are sacred

IN A week when the son of a Bollywood superstar spent Dussehra in jail without being formally charged with a crime, it was surreal to hear the Prime Minister lecture us about how human rights activists are using this issue to 'malign' India. It is a real issue, Prime Minister. Clearly more real than you think. Aryan Khan's daddy is rich and can afford the best lawyers. But our jails are filled with hundreds of thousands of young men who spend months and years in jail simply because they cannot afford the price of Indian justice. Most Indians, including your columnist, baulk at the price lawyers charge for an appearance in court. So that most important of human rights, the right to justice, remains unavailable to nearly all Indians. It is this and the absence of other rights, that are taken for granted in democratic countries, that make India look bad. Not the noise made by human rights activists.

The Prime Minister expounded on his human rights misgivings at the 28th anniversary of the National Human Rights Commission. He said it was dangerous for democracy when human rights are 'selectively targeted'. Then he said something that was both intriguing and worrying. Human rights mattered only to people who already had the basics of life. He said, "A poor person who has to seek a recommendation to get a gas connection gets dignity when the connection reaches him through the Ujjwala Yojana." Here I agree with Mr Modi. If what he meant was that poverty is the worst violation of human rights, I am in full agreement. Where I part company with him is when he says that human rights do not matter to people who live in extreme poverty.

Has he totally forgotten the Emergency? Has he forgotten that the reason why Indira Gandhi and son lost their own seats in 1977 was because ordinary, very poor Indians felt that their rights had been taken from them when their men were carted off to be sterilized and when their homes were bulldozed to smithereens because Sanjay Gandhi wanted to beautify Delhi? Had these two policies not defined the Emergency in northern India, it is possible that Indira Gandhi would have won. We must not forget that in 1977 she won in the southern states where Sanjay's policies of family planning and 'resettlement' did not exist.

Human rights may not matter to the average Chinese because China has never been a democratic country. They matter very much in India because the roots of democracy have deep roots and if Mr Modi is angry about the 'bad image' that India has got, he has himself to blame. Since he became Prime Minister, he has shown that his government has no qualms about keeping students, dissidents, comedians and journalists in jail simply because they disagreed with his policies. When a judge in a Delhi court released some young people who have been in jail for more than a year without charges or a trial, he passed strictures against the Delhi Police for not doing their job well. Last week he was transferred to a lower court.

When it comes to using preventive detention laws as a weapon, the Prime Minister's favourite Chief Minister, Yogi Adityanath, has gone ahead of him by not just jailing people who disagree with him but confiscating their properties as well. Some of the people who lost their properties were those who saw the Citizenship Amendment Act as discriminatory and took to the streets to protest. In view of the horrific incident on the Singhu border I hesitate to mention farmers, but they have been treated as criminals in both Uttar Pradesh and Haryana before last week's horror.

In Modi's 'new India', Bollywood is viewed as a den of vice. It has been under attack since last year when a young woman's life was destroyed because her boyfriend, Sushant Singh Rajput, committed suicide. When they could not pin murder, robbery and abetment to suicide on Rhea Chakraborty, both she and her brother were jailed by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) for purchasing and consuming banned substances. After spending some weeks in jail, they were quietly released. Aryan Khan could be in deeper trouble because the NCB is now trying to make the case that he had links with international drug traffickers. Has it occurred to the sleuths of this hyperactive bureau that international drug traffickers would try to stay as far away from the son of a Bollywood superstar as possible to keep attention away from their nefarious activities?

Last week, a spokesman of the NCB said that when it came to offences related to drugs, the laws of justice were reversed. Aryan is presumed guilty till he can prove his innocence. When I tweeted about the absurdity of this, I was immediately attacked by venomous trolls who said that I should know that this was a law made in Rajiv Gandhi's time. Well, it is time for it to be changed. If the Prime Minister is truly concerned about India's image in the world, he needs to be seen as a leader who cares about the protection of human rights. not as someone who sees them as an excuse to malign him. Human rights are more important in democratic countries than almost anything else for the simple reason that without sacrosanct human rights, there is no democracy.

Ahmedabad

IN THE very entertaining Netflix show Sex Education, a mother cautions her 17-yearold son before he leaves for a party, that he should "buddy up" (have a responsible friend around) if he is planning on doing any "drugs". The very practical advice, dispersed so casually, acknowledges the mundane reality of illicit substances in all our midst. The show makes room for the viewer to consider that dabbling may even be necessary to discovering who you (don't) want to be. The big story, the arrest of Shah Rukh Khan's son and several others for allegedly consuming unspecified narcotics, has kickstarted a national conversation on a usually fraught topic — smoking up.

What the Aryan Khan episode tells us

It's too easy to subscribe to the lazy stereotype, and dismiss weed and other party drugs as a problem of dissolute, aimless kids. Marijuana, especially, is everywhere, across strata, the familiar, acrid aroma floating in the air in gatherings of old and young alike, whether the outdoors of a Delhi mall or on Holi (the slang for it is Shivii ka prasad). References to marijuana in popular culture are impossible to miss; on That 70s Show or the news recently, that a state in the US incentivised college students to take Covid vaccine by handing out free ioints. Tech icon Elon Musk unwittingly legitimised pot by smoking during a press conference, upending stoner cliches of users being chronic underachievers. However, social sanction from peers is meaningless

while the law criminalises usage. Whether you have grown up ensconced in layers of privilege or hail from middle-class origins, slander is devastating – and a prison stint is likely to be a (unpleasant)transformative experience. A day in jail lasts an eternity in the absence of stimulation to alleviate the cruelly meticulous passing of time. One way to see it, at least in the case of the young Khan, is that it is an ordeal he will be none the worse for, the bizarre episode a brutal lesson that systems created to ensure fairness don't necessarily work. The collateral damage is more for the other young people arrested with Khan, their names and faces flashing across TV channels over the last fortnight. Due process and the rule of law — innocent till proven guilty - means nothing, faced with the juggernaut of social media that so cunningly amplifies our negatives. Google doesn't let a past die and this incident is

bound to resurface through their lives at the most inopportune of moments.

When I look around and see the pressures adolescents and young people face today, I can't help but feel relief that I grew up in the '90s when nobody knew what I did, where I went and whom I met. Mercifully, there is no evidence, and the beauty of anonymity is never having to explain or correct preconceived notions that so casually deem you guilty by association. It's something this generation of youngsters will never know, since their lives mirror The Truman Show, the Jim Carrey film where the sweet, unsuspecting protagonist discovers his every move is beamed to the entire country for entertainment. You could spend the rest of your days tracing events back to one evening of revelry, long after you have grown out of sampling trendy intoxicants, wondering how fate placed you at the centre of a vicious plan to derail a beloved superstar.

As Aryan Khan and all other human beings invariably learn over the course of life, there are times when you have no choice but to sit still patiently and wait it out. It's surprising the clarity one gains in isolation, as we all discovered in small ways this Covid year, mainly that power and control are largely illusions. A way to rationalise a disaster is to recognise that everyone has their own dramas going on, whether illness, financial insecurities or a failing relationship. Much as we aim for perfection, life can't only be good, we would get sick of it. Occasional setbacks create their own awakenings.

The writer is director, Hutkay Films

OIL RISES TO THREE-YEAR HIGH

London: Oil prices settled at a three-year high Friday, boosted by forecasts of a supply deficit in next few months as easing of coronavirus-related travel curbs spurs demand. Brent rose to \$84.70, US WTI crude jumped to \$82.23 per barrel. REUTERS

BILATERAL TRADE UP 49.4% IN JAN-SEPT 2021, SHOWS CHINESE GOVT DATA

Chinese imports defy self-reliance push, border issues; input products remain key

KARUNJITSINGH

NEW DELHI OCTOBER 16

DESPITE INDIA'S efforts to reduce amid an increased emphasis on self-reliance as well as escalating tensions along the border, the country's bilateral trade with China has grown 49.4 per cent in the first nine months of 2021 as against the same period in 2020, as per Chinese government data.

India's imports from China rose to \$68.46 billion in the first nine month of 2021, up 51.5 per cent from the corresponding period in 2020, which was impacted by Covid-19 related restrictions. according to data from the China General Administration of Customs. Imports were up 21.6 per cent over the same period in 2019, which was not impacted by the pandemic.

The sharp uptick in imports has pushed India's trade deficit with China to \$46.55 billion in the first nine months of 2021, up from \$29.86 billion in the year-ago pe-

INDIA CHINA TRADE	JAN-SEPT (in US\$ billion)				
Year	Total	Export	Import	Deficit	
2019	69.66	13.349	56.311	-42.962	
2020	60.4898	15.312	45.1782	-29.8662	
2021	90.375	21.913	68.462	-46.549	

riod and \$42.96 billion in the corresponding period in 2019. India's official statistics on bilateral trade with China are updated only till July 2021. India's total trade with China was \$90.38 billion in the January-September period, and is on track to cross \$100 billion by the end of the year.

According to Commerce Ministry data, China was India's top trading partner in the April-July period, followed by the US, UAE, Saudi Arabia and Singapore.

Source: China General Administration of Customs Some of India's key imports from China include components for smartphones and automobiles, telecom equipment, plastic

and metallic goods, active phar-

maceutical ingredients (APIs), and

other chemicals. Experts said that even though imports from China have increased, it was important to note whether the rise was due to intermediate or finished goods. Vinod Sharma, managing director of Deki Electronics and chairman, CII

committee said that India would need to boost the manufacture of components and share of electronic goods designed in India to boost self reliance and potentially cut imports.

"It is clear that the (mobile and electronics) industry has a long supply chain," said Sharma adding that there has been an increase in the share of intermediate goods such as PCBs (Printed Circuit Boards) in imports relative to finished goods such as mobile

Sharma added that the fact that India was still largely involved only in the assembly of electronic goods meant that Indian firms do not have discretion on sourcing components.

He added that there was a need for the government to boost the use of Indian components in products through "a nudge in terms of market access.'

Officials at the Commerce Ministry have however pointed out that growth in India's trade with other key trading partners Australia was even higher than the growth in trade with China. India is currently in the process of negotiating Agreements (FTAs) with the UAE, EU, UK and Australia.

In June 2020, Indian and Chinese militaries clashed in Ladakh's Galwan Valley. Soon after, the Power Ministry imposed a de facto ban on the import of power equipment from China citing cybersecurity concerns.

The government also asked state-owned telecommunication companies, BSNL and MTNL, to exclude Chinese telecom equipment firms including Huawei and ZTE from its network upgrading

The government also modified foreign direct investment (FDI) rules making the Centre's approval a must for any FDI in Indian firms from neighbouring countries - apparently aimed at opportunistic preventing takeovers of domestic firms by Chinese companies during the pandemic.

the quarter under review grew by 12.1 per cent to Rs 17,684.4 crore from Rs 15.776.4 crore in the yearago period. Advances saw a growth of 15.5

per cent, reaching new heights driven through relationship management, digital offering and breadth of products. Core net in-

YOSHITASINGH

NEW YORK, OCTOBER 16

INDIA'S RECENTLY launched Rs

100-lakh-crore infrastructure

master plan, digitisation and the 'Make in India' initiative were

among the main topics discussed as Finance Minister Nirmala

Sitharaman connected with the world's leading business officers

at the Big Apple here on Saturday. Sitharaman arrived here late

Friday after her visit to

Washington DC where she participated in the Annual Meetings of

the World Bank and the

International Monetary Fund. She

met Mastercard Executive

Chairman Ajay Banga and

Mastercard CEO Michael Miebach

towards #financialinclusion and

#DigitalTransformation formed

part of the discussion," the

Ministry of Finance said in a tweet.

Corporation President and Chief

Operating Officer (COO) Rai

Subramaniam, discussions fo-

cussed on the recently launched

of

Infrastructure Master Plan 'Gati

Shakti' and India's third largest

start-up ecosystem and the uni-

corn base (start-up companies

Narendra Modi launched the Rs

100-lakh crore national master

plan for multi-modal connectiv-

On October 13 Prime Minister

reaching a high valuation).

National

initiative

In her meeting with FedEx

"The initiatives and progress

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU

HDFC Bank on Saturday posted a

standalone net profit of Rs 8,834.3

crore for the September quarter of the ongoing fiscal, an increase of

17.6 per cent from Rs 7,513.11 crore

(NPAs) of the private sector lender

were Rs 16,346 crore — 1.35 per

cent of advances in the second

quarter of FY22 — as against Rs

11,304 crore (1.08 per cent) in

interest income plus other in-

come) increased by 14.7 per cent

to Rs 25,085.2 crore for the

September quarter, compared

with Rs 21,868.8 crore for the

quarter ended September 2020.

earned less interest expended) for

Net interest income (interest

The bank's net revenues (net

September 2020.

Gross non-performing assets

in the same period a year ago.

MUMBAI, OCTOBER 16

17.6%; gross NPAs rise on-year gains in

AT ₹8.834 CRORE AGAINST ₹7.513.11 CRORE IN YEAR-AGO QUARTER

HDFC Bank Sept qtr profit up

WITH ADVANCES reaching new heights at Rs 11,98,837 crore, as well as deposits being a focus area, HDFC Bank managed to keep a healthy liquidity cover ratio of 123 per cent in the recently concluded quarter. These factors, coupled with adequate provisions for contingencies, position the private lender to carry forward its momentum

terest margin was at 4.1 per cent. "New liability relationships added during the quarter were at an all-time high. This continued focus on deposits helped in the maintenance of a healthy liquidity coverage ratio at 123 per cent, well above the regulatory requirement, which positions the bank favourably to capitalize on the opportunities that would arise as the econ-

Gati Shakti, digitisation, Make in India in focus as

FM meets global CEOs

during the festive months.

festive months," HDFC Bank said.

Provisions and contingencies for the quarter under review were Rs 3,924.7 crore (consisting of specific loan loss provisions of Rs 2,286.4 crore, and general and other provisions of Rs 1,638.3 crore) as against Rs 3,703.5 for the quarter ended September 2020.

Total provisions for the current quarter included contingent provisions of Rs 1,200 crore.

The bank said it held floating provisions of Rs 1,451 crore and contingent provisions of Rs 7,756 crore as on September 2021.

Total provisions (comprising specific, floating, contingent and general provisions) were 163 per cent of the gross non-performing loans as on September 2021.

Total advances as of September 2021 were Rs 11.98.837 crore, an increase of 15.5 per cent a year ago. Retail loans grew by 12.9 per cent, commercial and rural banking loans grew by 27.6 per cent and other wholesale loans grew by 6.0 per cent. Overseas advances constituted 3.5 per cent of total advances

On Thursday, shares of HDFC Bank closed 2.86 per cent higher at Rs 1,685.90 on the BSE.

RBI WATCH

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Reserves overcome slump, rise \$2.03 bn to hit \$639.5 billion

FUELED BY CORKENCY ASSETS		
	Oct 1 2021	Oct 8 2021
Foreign currency assets	575,451	577,001
Gold	37,558	38,022
SDRs	19,240	19,268
Reserve tranche position	5,228	5,225
Total	637,477	639,516
in million US dollars; source: Reserve Bank of India/Reuters		

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 16

came their poor run to rise by \$2.039 billion to \$639.516 billion during the week ended October 8, as per date from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

In the previous week ended October 1, the foreign exchange — forex — reserves had slid by \$1.169 billion to \$637.477 billion. The forex kitty had surged by \$8.895 billion to a life time high of \$642.453 billion in the week

ended September 3. During the reporting week ended October 8, the rise in the reserves was on account of an increase in the Foreign

BRIEFLY —

L&T official

New Delhi: Larsen & Toubro

(L&T) has appointed

Sabyasachi Das as chief ex-

ecutive officer of L&T

EduTech, the company's

new business initiative into

virtual learning and capabil-

MM Forgings

New Delhi: Auto compo-

nents maker MM Forgings

Ltd (MMF) on Saturday said it has acquired CAFOMA

Autoparts for a total consideration of Rs 33 crore. The

acquisition will help the

company reach 60,000 ma-

chined crankshafts per

Supermarts, which owns

quarter ended September

2021. The company had

posted a net profit of Rs

198.53 crore in the October

quarter a year ago. PTI

Avenue

ity building space.

Currency Assets (FCAs), RBI data on Friday showed.

FCA rose by \$1.55 billion to \$577.001 billion in the report-

Expressed in dollar terms, FCA include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and ven held in the foreign exchange reserves.

Gold reserves were up by \$464 million to \$38.022 billion in the reporting week.

The special drawing rights (SDRs) with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) rose by \$28 million to \$19.268 billion.

The country's reserve position with the IMF declined by \$3 million to \$5,225 billion in the reporting week, the data showed. WITHPTI

BENGALURU, OCTOBER 16

SQUARE INC Chief Executive

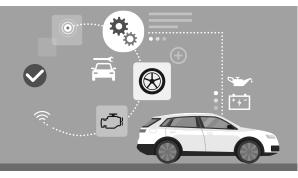
Officer Jack Dorsey said on

Friday the fintech firm is look-

ing to build a bitcoin mining

'Cars with lower running costs may gain higher traction'

Cars with higher fuel efficiency and lower maintenance costs are likely to gain higher traction among buyers, an HSBC Global Research report said



70% of India's passenger vehicle (PV) market is still accounted for by vehicles under Rs 10 lakh, a development that augurs well for market leader Maruti Suzuki India Ltd (MSIL) **FUEL NOW ACCOUNTS FOR**

AROUND 40% of a compact PVs's life-time cost compared with 30% in mid-2020

MSIL CONTINUES TO SCORE WELL, remaining the market leader in fuel efficiency and total cost of ownership, both in absolute terms and relative to competition

Source: HSBC Global Research/PTI

Customers are increasingly becoming considerate of the recent rise in fuel prices, with fuel prices having gone up 35% over the past 15 months, impacting overall vehicle running costs

IMF: Govt response to Covid 'swift, substantial': outlook remains clouded

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 16

THE INTERNATIONAL Monetary Fund (IMF) has said that India continued with labour reforms and privatisation despite the pandemic, calling the government's response to the Covid-19 pandemic situation as "swift and substantial"

The IMF in its report based on 'consultations" among members, however, sounded a note of caution saving that the economic outlook remains "clouded" due to pandemic-related uncertainties, contributing

system based on custom silicon

This would add to Square's

and open source for individu-

existing bitcoin-focused proj-

ects including a business to

build an open developer plat-

form, as well as a hardware

als as well as businesses.

to both downside and upside In its "Article IV" consulta-

tions report, it further said that a persistent negative impact of COVID-19 on investment and other growth drivers could prolong the economic recovery. On the Indian government's

handling of the pandemic, the multilateral agency said it was "swift and substantial...has included fiscal support, including scaled-up support to vulnerable groups, monetary policy easing, liquidity provision, and accommodative financial sector and regulatory policies".

"Despite the pandemic, the

wallet for the cryptocurrency.

our hardware wallet model:

build in the open in collabora-

tion with the community,'

Dorsey said in a tweet.

"If we do this, we'd follow

A team led by Square's hard-

ware lead, Jesse Dorogusker,

Dorsey looking to build bitcoin mining system

authorities have continued to introduce structural reforms, including labour reforms and a privatisation plan," the report said.

The IMF has projected India's economic growth at 9.5 per cent in FY2021-22 and 8.5 per cent in

"The economic outlook remains clouded due to pandemic-related uncertainties contributing to both downside upside risks. A persistent negative impact of COVID-19 on investment, human capital, and other growth drivers could prolong the recovery and impact medium-term growth," it said. WITH PTI

will investigate requisites for

Square to take on the project to

build a bitcoin mining system.

also said that silicon design or

chip design is too concentrated

into a few companies, leading

to supply constraints.

In his Twitter thread, Dorsev

ity that aims to develop infrastructure to reduce logistic costs and boost the economy. PM Gati Shakti targets to cut logistic costs, increase cargo handling capacity and reduce the

turnaround time, Modi said at a function to launch the plan. The plan aims to lend more

power and speed to projects by connecting all concerned departments onto one platform.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with Ajay Banga, executive Chairman, Mastercard, and Michael Miebach, CEO of Mastercard, in New York, on Saturday. via Twitter @FinMinIndia

Sitharaman talks recovery with World Bank chief

Washington: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman discussed the post-pandemic economic recovery, India's major role in the global fight against Covid-19 and preparations for the upcoming Climate Change Conference among other issues during her meeting with World Bank President David Malpass. She met Malpass at the World Bank headquarters in Washington DC on Friday.

"Both sides discussed various issues including #COVID #vaccination. #economicrecovery. preparations for #CoP26, initiative of #WBG for increasing lending space for India, IDA 20 replenishment, knowledge partnership with @WorldBank," Finance Ministry said in a series of tweets.

During the meeting, Sitharaman shared the measures being taken by India to contain the spread of the second wave of Covid-19 pandemic, including the major role played by India on the global Covid-19 effort, the ministry said. She appreciated the World Bank Group for their initiative for increasing lending space being taken by India to contain the spread of the second wave of Covid-19 pandemic

FM shared measures

for India to enhance availability of finance for development.

She "highlighted three broad suggestions, including strengthening #LighthouseIndia. #technology and special focus on #FinancialSectorReforms and #infrastructure sector to strengthen the knowledge partnership with #WBG," it said.

'US welcomed reforms'

Sitharaman also said that the President Joe Biden administration as well as leaders from the corporate sector in the United States have welcomed as a very positive step the reforms undertaken by the Indian government, particularly the withdrawal of the retrospective tax. PTI

SCION ASSET MANAGEMENT SAID IT HAD PUT OPTIONS ON 800,100 TESLA SHARES

'Big Short' investor Burry not 'betting against Tesla'

REUTERS

REUTERS

BENGALURU, OCTOBER 16

INVESTOR MICHAEL Burry of "The Big Short" fame said he was no longer betting against Tesla Inc and that his position was just a trade, CNBC reported.

Burry's Scion Management said in a regulatory filing in mid-May it had put options on 800,100 Tesla shares as of the end of the first quarter. Details on the strike price of the puts, their value and whether they were part of a broader trade were not available.

Based on Tesla's closing price of \$667.93 at the end of the first

shares would have been about \$534 million. The actual value of the options position was not

Put options give investors the right to sell shares at a certain price in the future.

Options analysts said at that time it was possible the puts disclosed in the filing might be part of a larger trade that would curb losses if the put position went against the fund.

"No, it was a trade," Burry was quoted as saying in an email to CNBC on Friday, when asked whether he was still shorting

"Media really inflated the



Based on Tesla's closing price of \$667.93 at the end of the first quarter, the value of that many shares would have been about \$534 million. Reuters file

short tens or hundreds of millions of any of these things through options, as was reported. The options bets were extremely asymmetric, and the media was off by orders of magnitude," Burry told CNBC.

One of the investors profiled in the book "The Big Short" and the film of the same name for betting more than \$1 billion against the US housing bubble, Burry has previously been skeptical of Tesla's sky-high valuations.

Tesla and Scion Asset Management did not immediately respond to Reuters requests for comment.

Chinese property execs ask regulators for 'appropriate loosening'

REUTERS

BEIJING, OCTOBER 16

REPRESENTATIVES FROM 10 Chinese property companies met government regulators to ask for an "appropriate loosening" on policy restrictions, financial news outlet Yicai reported late on Friday.

In the meeting, senior executives urged authorities to loosen regulations with the goals of stabilizing market expectations, providing support for genuine home buyers rather than speculators and making adjustments in land prices, Yicai reported, citing unnamed people

The meeting was attended by senior executives from developers including China Vanke Co Ltd and Sunac Holdings, along with the Director of the Real Estate Department of the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development and the Director of the China Real Estate Association (CREA), Yicai reported.

A number of Chinese property firms are facing a liquidity crunch amid weak demand and tightening regulations. Property firms have been affected by loan caps imposed by the government in order to contain rampant borrowing.

Ahmedabad

and operates retail chain D-Mart, saw a increase in its consolidated net profit to Rs 417.76 crore for the second

month, MMF said.

D-Mart Q2

New Delhi:

THE WORLD



KOALAS TO BE GIVEN CHLAMYDIA VACCINE

Around 400 Australian koalas will be vaccinated against chlamydia as part of a trial that researchers say they hope could play a significant role in the longer-term survival of the animals. Chlamydia, a sexually transmitted disease also found in humans, has spread widely among Australian koalas, affecting half the animals in some areas.

TOPOFTHE _ WORLD



Dave Chappelle

USA

Netflix employee fired amid furore over Chappelle's comedy special

NETFLIX SAID Friday that it had fired an employee for disclosing confidential financial information about what it paid for Dave Chappelle's comedy special The Closer, which some condemned as being transphobic. The employee, who wasn't named, shared "confidential, commercially sensitive information outside the company," a Netflix statement said. "We understand this employee may have been motivated by disappointment and hurt with Netflix, but maintaining a culture of trust and transparency is core to our company," the statement said. It said the information was referenced in a Bloomberg article, which reported that Netflix spent \$24.1 million on The Closer, which first

INDONESIA

aired last week.

11 kids drown in river cleanup

ELEVEN STUDENTS drowned and 10 others were rescued during a school outing for a river cleanup in Indonesia's West Java Province, officials said Saturday. Local officials said 150 students from an Islamic junior high school were participating in the cleanup Friday along the banks of the Cileueur river bank when 21 of them slipped into the water. "Those children who drowned were holding each others' hands. One of them slipped and the others followed," said Deden Ridwansyah, chief of the Bandung search and rescue office. "The weather was good and there was no flash flood.'

IRAN

Central bank ex-chief gets 10-yr sentence

A FORMER governor of Iran's Central Bank, Valiollah Seif, was sentenced on Saturday to 10 years in prison on corruption charges involving the mismanagement of millions of dollars, the judiciary said. Seif and two of his deputies, who also received jail terms, were found guilty of "disturbing the foreign exchange market, the country's economic climate and mismanagement," a judiciary spokesman was quoted as saying by state **REUTERS**

Brazil Covid probe to recommend Bolsonaro face 11 criminal charges

RIO DE JANEIRO, OCTOBER 16

A BRAZILIAN Senate probe into the government's handling of the Covid-19 pandemic will recommend in its final report due next week that President Jair Bolsonaro face 11 criminal charges, the senator leading the inquiry said on Friday. But it remains unlikely that he will face a trial on any such charges, because that would have to be sanctioned by the Lower House.

Renan Calheiros said during a radio interview that the investigation launched in April has collected evidence to show that Bolsonaro should be formally charged with genocide against the country's indigenous population, malfeasance, irregular use of public funds, violation of sanitary measures, incitement to crime and forgery of private documents, among other crimes.

The far-right president, who himself was infected with the coronavirus in July 2020, has railed against lockdown measures, pushed unproven cures, sowed vaccine doubts and downplayed the severity of Covid-19.

The report is scheduled to be released by the Senate investigative panel next Tuesday.



Brazil President Jair Bolsonaro



Britain's Labour Party leader Keir Starmer, Prime Minister Boris Johnson, Speaker of the House Sir Lindsay Hoyle and Home Secretary Priti Patel arrive at the scene where MP David Amess was stabbed to death during a meeting with constituents at the Belfairs Methodist Church, in Leigh-on-Sea, England. Reuters

UK MP's killing a terror attack, say police; leaders visit church where he was stabbed

PETER NICHOLLS & BEN MAKORI

LEIGH-ON-SEA, OCTOBER 16

BRITISH PRIME Minister Boris Iohnson on Saturday laid flowers outside the church where a lawmaker was stabbed to death a day earlier, in what police say was a terrorist attack probably linked to Islamist extremism.

The attack on David Amess, from Johnson's Conservative Party, comes five years after the murder of Jo Cox, a lawmaker from the opposition Labour Party, **Rising worry** over MPs'

THE STABBING of Amess has renewed concerns about the security of MPs who regularly meet their constituents with little or no security. These sessions can get heated, and in 2016 another MP, Jo Cox, was killed during such an event. In 2010, MP Stephen Timms was injured in a stabbing.

and has prompted a review of the security of elected politicians.

Amess, 69, was knifed repeatedly in the attack at about midday on Friday in Leigh-on-Sea, east of London, during a meeting with constituents.

Police arrested a 25-year-old British man at the scene on suspicion of murder, adding it is believed he acted alone.

In a statement on Saturday, police said the early investigation had revealed a potential motivation linked to Islamist extremism. Johnson, interior minister Priti

Patel, and Labour Party leader Keir

Starmer were among those to lay flowers in tribute to Amess at the scene of the murder. "To the memory of Sir David

Amess MP, a fine parliamentarian and a much-loved colleague and friend," Johnson said in a hand-written note placed in the flowers, adding in a Twitter post that his thoughts were with Amess' family and friends.

Johnson and Starmer stood side by side in a moment of silence before leaving. Other politicians, police representatives and members of the public came to lay flowers and pay respects. **REUTERS**

IS claims Afghan mosque attack; Taliban pledge to step up security

REUTERS

KABUL, OCTOBER 16

TALIBAN AUTHORITIES pledged to step up security at Shia mosques as hundreds of people gathered on Saturday to bury the victims of the second Islamic State suicide attack on worshippers in a week.

Hardline Sunni group Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attack on the Fatima mosque in Kandahar that saw a group of suicide bombers shoot their way into the mosque before blowing themselves up among the worshippers during Friday prayers.

Taliban officials said the death toll from the attack stood at 47 dead and 70 wounded but could rise further.

On Saturday, large crowds gathered to bury the whiteshrouded victims in a mass grave in the southern city of Kandahar.

The head of Kandahar police said units would be assigned to protect the Shia mosques which have so far been guarded by local volunteer forces with special permission to carry weapons.

"Unfortunately they could not protect this area and in future we will assign special security guards for the protection of mosques and Madrasas," he said in a statement posted on Twitter by a Taliban spokesman.

The attack on the Fatima mosque, the largest Shia mosque n Kandahar, also known as the

US offers to pay family

botched Kabul strike

of those killed in



A Taliban fighter stands on the top of the mosque after attack, in Kandahar Friday. AP

Imam Bargah mosque, came a week after a similar attack on a mosque in the northern city of Kunduz, which killed as many as

Attacks on Shia mosques and targets associated with the Hazara ethnic minority, who make up the biggest Shia group in Afghanistan, were regular occurrences under the former Western-backed government.

There has been deep shock as the attacks have continued since the Taliban seized power in August, tarnishing the movement's claim to have brought peace to Afghanistan after decades of war.

Since the takeover, Islamic State has conducted dozens of operations, from small scale attacks on Taliban targets to largescale operations such as Friday's suicide bombing, killing scores of civilians.

Myanmar junta leader excluded from ASEAN summit in rare move

AIN BANDIAL BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, OCTOBER 16

SOUTHEAST ASIAN countries will invite a non-political representative from Myanmar to a regional summit this month, deivering an unprecedented snub to the military leader who led a coup against an elected civilian

The decision taken by foreign ministers from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) at an emergency meeting on Friday night, marks a rare bold step for the consensusdriven bloc, which has traditionally favoured a policy of engagement and non-interference.

Singapore's foreign ministry said on Saturday the move to exclude junta chief Min Aung Hlaing was a "difficult, but necessary, decision to uphold ASEAN's credibility".

The statement cited a lack of progress made on a roadmap to restore peace in Myanmar that the junta had agreed to with ASEAN in April.

A spokesman for Myanmar's military government blamed "foreign intervention" for the decision. Junta spokesman Zaw Min Tun told the BBC Burmese news service that the United States and representatives of the

other ASEAN member states. "The foreign interventions can also be seen here," he said.

European Union had pressured



Myanmar's junta chief Senior **General Min Aung Hlaing**

"We learned that some envoys from some countries met with US foreign affairs and received pressure from EU.'

More than 1.000 civilians have been killed by Myanmar security forces with thousands of others arrested, according to the United Nations, amid a crackdown on strikes and protests which has derailed the country's tentative democracy and prompted international condemnation.

The junta says those estimates of the death toll are exaggerated.

ASEAN's current chair Brunei said a non-political figure from Myanmar would be invited to the October 26-28 summit, after no consensus was reached for a political representative to attend.

"As there had been insufficient progress... as well as concerns over Myanmar's commitment, in particular on establishing constructive dialogue among all concerned parties, some ASEAN Member States recommended that ASEAN give space to Myanmar to restore its internal affairs and return to normalcy," Brunei said. REUTERS

NASA's asteroid hunter Lucy soars into sky with diamonds

MARCIA DUNN

CAPE CANAVERAL, OCTOBER 16

A NASA spacecraft named Lucy rocketed into the sky with diamonds Saturday morning on a 12-year quest to explore eight asteroids. Seven of the mysterious

space rocks are among swarms of asteroids sharing Jupiter's orbit, thought to be the pristine An Atlas V rocket blasted off before dawn, sending Lucy on a

roundabout journey spanning nearly 6.3 billion kilometres. Researchers grew emotional describing the successful launch – lead scientist Hal Levison said it was like witnessing the birth of a



A rocket carrying the Lucy spacecraft lifts off from Cape **Ĉanaveral, Florida.** AP

child. "Go Lucy!" he urged. Lucy is named after the 3.2 That discovery got its name from the 1967 Beatles song Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds, prompting NASA to send the spacecraft soaring with band members' lyrics and other luminaries' words of wisdom imprinted on a plaque. The spacecraft also carried a disc made of lab-grown diamonds for one of its science instruments.

million-vear-old skeletal remains

of a human ancestor found in

Ethiopia nearly a half-century ago.

is the first to aim for Jupiter's socalled Trojan entourage: thousands - if not millions - of asteroids that share the gas giant's expansive orbit around the sun. Some of the Trojan asteroids precede Jupiter in its orbit, while

Vaccine mandates: US cities, police clash Seattle's police department

BOBBY CAINA CALVAN & JOHN SEEWER OCTOBER 16

POLICE DEPARTMENTS around the US that are requiring officers to get vaccinated against Covid are running up against pockets of resistance that some fear could leave law enforcement shorthanded

and undermine public safety. Police unions and officers are pushing back by filing lawsuits to block the mandates. In Chicago, the head of the police union called on members to defy the city's Friday deadline for reporting their Covid-19 vaccination status.

sent detectives and non-patrol officers to emergency calls this week because of a shortage of natrol officers that union leaders fear will become worse because of vaccine mandates.

The standoffs are playing out at a time when many police departments already are dealing with surging homicide rates and staff shortages unrelated to the vaccine. Cities and police leaders are now weighing the risk of losing more officers to resignations, firings or suspensions over their refusal to get vaccinated.

Chicago's mayor on Friday filed a complaint in court against

the leader of the local Fraternal Order of Police, accusing him of "engaging in, supporting and encouraging work stoppage or strike" by saying the city's more than 12,000 uniformed officers should ignore the order to report

their vaccination status. On Thursday, Mayor Lori Lightfoot said officers would not be sent home if they showed up to work Friday and refused to provide their information. Instead, she said, they would be put on unpaid leave after the weekend, because confirming compliance would take a few days. Refusing to provide the information, Lightfoot said, would be an act of insubordination. AP

ERIC SCHMITT WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 16 THE PENTAGON offered unspecified condolence payments this week to the family of the 10 civil-

who the military has acknowledged were mistakenly killed on August 29 in the last US drone strike before American troops withdrew from Afghanistan. In a statement released late

Friday, the Pentagon also said it was working with the US State Department to help surviving family members relocate to the US.

The offers were made in a virtual meeting on Thursday between Colin H Kahl, the under secretary of defence for policy, and Steven Kwon, the founder and president of Nutrition & Education International, the aid organisation that employed Zemari Ahmadi, the driver of a Toyota sedan that was struck by the US drone.

The Defence Department and military leaders conceded last month that Ahmadi had nothing to do with the Islamic State, contrary to what officials previously asserted. Ahmadi's only connection to the terrorist group appeared to be a fleeting and innocuous interaction with people in what the military believed was an Islamic State safe house in Kabul,

In the land of the godfather

comes a ban on the tradition



father and fiancé both died in a US drone strike in Kabul, NY7

an initial link that led military analysts to make misjudgments while tracking Ahmadi's movements for the next eight hours.

"Dr Kahl noted that the strike was a tragic mistake and that Mr Zemari Ahmadi and others who were killed were innocent victims who bore no blame and were not affiliated with ISIS-K or threats to US forces," said the statement from John F. Kirby, the Defence Department's chief spokesman.

Kirby said Kwon had recounted Ahmadi's work with the aid group over many years as an electrical engineer, "providing care and lifesaving assistance for people facing high mortality rates in Afghanistan.'

The Pentagon statement came after Ahmadi's family members in Kabul complained that American officials had not contacted them about relocating to the US or offering condolence payments. NYT

THE APP, HAILED AS FB'S GROWTH ENGINE, PRIVATELY WRESTLED WITH ENGAGING TEENS

Instagram struggles with fear of losing young users

SHEERA FRENKEL & RYAN **MAC AND MIKE ISAAC** SAN FRANCISCO, OCTOBER 16

WHEN INSTAGRAM reached one billion users in 2018, Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook's chief executive, called it "an amazing success." The photo-sharing app, which Facebook owns, was widely hailed as a hit with young people and celebrated as a growth engine for the social network.

But even as Zuckerberg praised Instagram, the app was privately lamenting the loss of teenage users to other social media platforms as an "existential threat", according to a 2018 marketing presentation. By last year, the issue had be-



come urgent, according to internal

Instagram documents obtained by

The New York Times. "If we lose the

teen foothold in the US we lose the

pipeline," read a strategy memo,

from last October, that laid out a

In the face of that threat,

Instagram left little to chance.

marketing plan for this year.

Facebook had long hoped Instagram would bring more young people to its entire family of apps. NYT

Starting in 2018, it earmarked almost its entire global annual marketing budget — slated at \$390 million this year — to targeting teenagers, largely through digital ads, according to planning documents and people directly involved in the process. Focusing so

singularly on a narrow age group is

highly unusual, marketers said, though the final spending went beyond teens and encompassed their parents and young adults. The Instagram documents.

which have not previously been reported, reveal the company's angst and dread as it has wrestled behind the scenes with retaining, engaging and attracting young users. Even as Instagram was heralded as one of Facebook's crown jewels, it turned to extraordinary spending measures to get the attention of teenagers. It particularly emphasised a category called "early high school," which it classified as 13- to 15-year-olds. Any slip by Instagram could

have larger consequences for

Facebook. The firm hoped that

Instagram would entice more young people to all of its apps, replenishing Facebook's aging user base, according to the documents.

The disclosures underscore how much is at stake for Facebook as it seeks to address an outcry in Congress and from the public over Instagram's effects on users' mental health. According to separate documents from a Facebook whistle-blower, Frances Haugen, which The Wall Street Journal published, Facebook has known that some teenage girls reported feeling worse about their body image when using Instagram, Haugen testified at a Senate hearing this month that Facebook deliberately kept people, including children, hooked to its services.

JASON HOROWITZ CATANIA, OCTOBER 16

THE MOTHER had prepared everything for the baptism. She dressed her infant son Antonio in a handmade satin suit with tails and a matching cream-coloured top hat glittering with rhinestones. She hired the photographers and bought the baby a gold cross.

But as the parish priest in the Sicilian city of Catania went through the usual liturgy, calling on the family to renounce Satan and ladling holy water on the squirming baby's head, one major part of the ritual went missing.

There was no godfather. In October, the Roman Catholic diocese of Catania en-



Antonio Sparti was baptized this month at a church in Catania, Italy. NYT

acted a three-year ban on the ancient tradition of naming godparents at baptisms and christenings. Church officials argue that the once-essential figure in a child's Catholic education has lost all spiritual significance. Instead, they say, it has become a networking opportunity for families looking to improve their gold necklaces and make advantageous connections, sometimes with local power brokers who have dozens of godchildren. God parenting, church offi-

fortunes, secure endowments of

secular custom between relatives or neighbours - many "deficient in faith" or "living in sin". And sometimes it is used for strengthening mob ties, too.

cials said, had fallen to earth as a

Italian prosecutors have tracked baptisms to map out

how underworld bosses spread influence. It is a transgression most associated with, well, The Godfather, especially the baptism scene when Michael Corleone renounces Satan in church as his henchmen whack all of his enemies

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS MAGAZINE



POINTOFVIEW
The Men Who Built Delhi

He might be synonymous with the architecture of the nation's seat of power but there were others beyond Edwin Lutyens who shaped the Capital



ARTS etc

'Printmaking is growing

Artist pedagogue Anupam Sud on her ongoing exhibition, the influence of mythology on her printmaking process and why she detests labels



WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

MATHIFLIGENON

Paromita Chakrabarti

ROUND THE time that Amitav Ghosh's new book of non-fiction, The Nutmeg's Curse: Parables for a Planet in Random House, Rs 599), released in India this week, reports threw up alarming new data on the spiralling global climate crisis. Months after the "code red for humanity" sounded by United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and ahead of the COP26 climate change summit in Glasgow, Scotland, which begins on October 31, the Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA) released its report, "World Energy Outlook 2021", on October 13. In it, IEA highlighted how the bid for economic recovery in a pandemic-ridden world has seen "a large rebound in coal and oil use". "Largely for this reason, it is also seeing the second-largest annual increase in CO2 emissions in history," the report said.

In India, Adivasis in Chhattisgarh launched a 300-km march to the state capital of Raipur to protest against the land-acquisition process and the mining projects in the Hasdeo Arand forests of central India; the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change proposed amendments to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, that would ease diversion of forest land and offer exemptions to certain developmental activities from governmental clearance, even as state governments warned of an impending electricity crisis if coal stocks are not urgently replenished.

In Ghosh's compelling narrative, such ruptures arrange themselves into a discernible pattern of violent aggrandisement that dates back to the arrival of the first European colonisers on foreign shores, and adopted since by governments and corporates around the world. Ghosh begins with the story of the nutmeg, a spice that had, for centuries, been grown and traded in the Banda Islands (now in Indonesia) in the Indian Ocean. The arrival of the Dutch colonisers in the 16th century and the violent profiteering project that takes shape destroys the islands and its indigenous community. Over the next several centuries, this model of rapacious appropriation would, quite literally, reshape, or as Ghosh contextualises it, "terraform" the Earth, and birth acquisitive cultures that thrive on narratives of unbounded growth.

Yet, writes Ghosh, "As we watch the environmental and biological disasters that are now unfolding across the Earth, it is becoming even harder to hold on to the belief that the planet is an inert body that exists merely in order to provide humans with resources. Instead, the Earth's responses are increasingly reminiscent of the imaginary planet after which the Polish science fiction writer Stanislaw Lem named his brilliant novel Solaris: when provoked by humans Solaris begins to strike back in utterly unexpected

Writer Amitav Ghosh on the clear and present danger that is climate change and connecting the dots between colonialism, capitalism and ecological imbalance in his new work of non-fiction

and uncanny ways."

Taking off from his 2016 work of non-fiction, *The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable*, Ghosh, 65, offers an intriguing examination of the mounting climate crisis, through a prism of history, politics, economy and philosophy to show how a colonial, capitalist culture of discrimination and violence in Asia and the Americas has led to this precipitous moment of ecological imbalance.

In this email interview, he speaks of stumbling upon the story of the nutmeg on a visit to the Banda Islands, the link between climate change and ethno-nationalism and the flawed principle of climate elitism. Edited excerpts:

You have been writing about the Indian Ocean for a very long time. Do you remember what first sparked your interest in its history and geopolitics?

I, too, have sometimes wondered why the Indian Ocean has loomed so large in my imagination. Maybe it has something to do with the years I spent in Sri Lanka as a child. Sri Lanka may be a small country but it occupies a central position in the history and geography of the Indian Ocean. Indeed, as you will have seen in *The Nutmeg's Curse*, small islands, like those of the Banda Archipelago, have played a key part in the history of the Indian Ocean.

When did you first become aware of the clear and present danger that is climate change?

I started to become aware of the effects of climate change while writing about the Sundarban in *The Hungry Tide* (2004). Even back then, 20 years ago, some of the impacts of climate change, such as salt-water intrusion, were visible there. Since then, the devastation of the Sundarban, by a series of cyclones such as Aila (in 2009), made it clear that the dangers were indeed clear and present.

You write in this book how you became immersed in the history of the decimation of the indigenous community in Banda during the pandemic. How did you arrive at the story itself, given how little was known of this event?

My awareness of this story came from my visit to the Banda Islands in 2016. Before that visit, I knew almost nothing about what had happened there, because very little has been written about it. One of the reasons for this, perhaps, is that the Banda Islands came to be absorbed into the Dutch Empire, the history of which tends to be much less discussed than the British, or even the Portuguese and Spanish empires.

How did it help you to connect the dots between market fundamentalism and colonialism?

Writing the book was indeed a process of connecting dots. And in this, I must say, the is-



lands themselves played a significant part. It was in thinking about the terrible events that doomed the people of the Banda Islands — essentially because the Earth had given them a tree of matchless value — that I began to understand the connections between colonial conquests, race, extractivism and capitalism.

One of the most fascinating accounts in the book is the story of eco-migrations. I remember at the time of *Gun Island* (2019), you'd mentioned how during the course of your travels in Italy you'd come across a migrant camp in Caltanissetta where the many Pakistani immigrants had moved because of the various floods that had taken place in their country. Yet, somehow, when we think of the refugee crisis, we usually tend to look at



WIKIMEDIA COMMO

NOTES FROM A CATASTROPHE (Clockwise from top) Writer Amitay Ghosh

(Clockwise from top) Writer Amitav Ghosh; the spice that spurred on a colonial invasion; the nutmeg tree; Banda Islands in Indonesia

it from a political lens and rarely from an ecological perspective.

Ecological impacts are, of course, very important drivers of the migrations that are currently underway around the planet. But, I think, we have to be careful not to be reductive in considering the causes of these migrations. As I've said in The Nutmeg's Curse, in my travels I did not meet a single migrant who was willing to describe themselves as a 'climate migrant'. Their journeys were driven by many factors of which ecological impacts were just one. It is important to remember that communications technology plays a very important role in the migrations of today. Pre-existing networks also play a very important part in enabling these movements. So, for example, among the migrants who are crossing the Mediterranean and the Balkans, there are many Bangladeshis and Pakistanis, but very few Indians. This is, I think, largely because the clandestine networks that enable migrants to move are not as extensive, or as deeply rooted in India as they are in Bangladesh and Pakistan. Both Bangladesh and Punjab have long histories of sending young, workingclass men abroad, so the pre-existing migrant networks in these regions are very strong. In India, by contrast, overseas migrants generally tend to be middle class, except in Punjab, which is more akin to the Pakistani and Bangladeshi pattern. However, I think this will change, and similar networks will soon spread through India.

In one of his first interviews after his Nobel Prize for Literature win this year, Abdulrazak Gurnah spoke of how the Western imagination of migration is limited by a belief that 'there isn't enough to go around' and that there could be a way around it if one could conceive that these people have something of value to offer in return. This limitation of the Western imagination is something you address, too, in your writing. But you serve a warning note when you say that it could spur on eco-fascism or ethnonationalism if left unchecked.

Migration tends to create a strange kind of double-think in places that become destinations for migrants. Once migrants start working in a certain sector, it often happens that local people stop doing those jobs. So, for example, in Italy, the caregivers who look after elderly people are almost all migrants; native-born Italians just don't do that kind of work anymore. That's also true of some kinds of agricultural work. In the US too, native-born Americans (including the children of migrants) have stopped doing certain kinds of agricultural work. I met a Midwestern farmer recently who told me stories about how, in his teenage years, he would work on a farm for pocket money. He said that today it's almost impossible to get American teenagers to do that kind of work, even if you pay them well. They would rather work indoors, as cashiers in a supermarket chain. I've seen this pattern evolve also in Goa, where the workers and labourers are now mainly from Bengal, Chhattisgarh and Odisha. Many native-born Goans are reluctant to do certain kinds of work now, like gardening, masonry or waiting in restaurants. Yet, these very regions, which have become completely dependent on migrant labour, also often generate nativist movements, calling for the exclusion of migrants. The UK is a good example: the nativists thought that after Brexit, British people would rush to take the jobs that migrants once held. But this has not proved to be the case, as they have found to their cost.

How do you see this ethno-nationalism play out within nations with regard to climate change?

climate change?

That dynamic is visible everywhere, even in India, where Bangladesh is constantly being vilified in relation to migration. Yet, Bangladesh now has a higher per capita GDP than India, and has better social indicators as well. In fact, India is hardly an attractive destination for Bangladeshi migrants. In Europe (and also in India), hostility to migrants is often superimposed on religious divisions, creating a really toxic mix.

Countries such as India, with their traditionally animistic approach to nature, could have chosen a different approach to conservation. Where did we falter?

In India, as elsewhere, vitalist beliefs have largely been kept alive by people who have a close connection with the land. These people are generally those who live in forests or belong to disadvantaged castes. In India, many of these people are under attack by middleclass urbanites who are intent, not only on destroying their ways of life but also in seizing their lands. What we are seeing, essentially, in India, and in other parts of Asia, is the wholesale adoption of settler-colonial practices by political and economic elites.

Do you see the history of violence that shaped the Americas play out in a new form but with similar results in Asia, now that the coloniser's focus on 'terraforming' has been adopted by corporates and governments?

Yes, sadly this is absolutely the case. Throughout Asia now, there is a mania for building dams, for instance. Yet, in America, where dams have been used extensively to terraform the terrain, it is now becoming clear that dams will exacerbate the effects of climate change. Indeed, many dams are now being dismantled in the US. Unfortunately, this lesson has not been widely absorbed.

Two things that have emerged out of this pandemic are the erosion of public trust in institutions and a heightened awareness of the deep inequality that exists in society today. In India, for instance, the sight of migrant workers walking back to their villages when the lockdown was declared remains emblematic of the first phase of the pandemic. What do you foresee as its impact in the coming days, given that climate elitism relies on the belief of the survival of the richest?

What happened in India in relation to migrant workers was completely horrific: it was an all-out declaration of a class war, waged by elites against the poor. The long-term effects will be terrible, in terms of climate resilience. One of the things that this pandemic has shown is that an absence of social trust creates terrible outcomes. So, for instance, the US, which led the way in coming up with vaccines, has been unable to vaccinate large sections of its population, simply because of a lack of social trust. In general, the countries that have been worst hit by the pandemic are those with high rates of inequality, and low social trust — most notably the US, Brazil and India.

In *The Great Derangement*, you'd written that future generations would hold not just leaders and politicians accountable for their failure to address the climate crisis, but also artists and writers because 'the imagining of possibilities is not, after all, the job of politicians and bureaucrats.' Do you see writers addressing this crisis of writing better since?

of vision better since?
Yes, there has been significant change in the literary and artistic worlds in the last few years. Many more writers and artists are paying attention to climate change. Nowadays, I receive books and manuscripts every day that say 'this book was inspired by *The Great Derangement*.' I wish I could read all of them but the sheer volume is overwhelming.

DOWN IN JUNGLELAND



Ranjit Lal Ranjit Lal is an author, environmentalist and bird watcher

Eat, Kill, Conquer

Loyalties and family affections are seldom found in the animal world

NIMAL LOVERS (myself included) often think that animals live unblemished lives. Certainly, many of them have issues with us but take a Look at how some of them behave with each other — members of their own kind or different species:

Lions are supposed to be the regal kings of the jungle and good kings have to be just, wise, and merciful. Look at a lion's noble profile and you will see all these qualities shine through. Yet, what is the first thing His Majesty does when he (sometimes, with the help of his brothers) ousts a rival king? Massacre that liege's adorable, fluffy cubs, leaving their mothers distressed — but ah, not for long. For these ladies quickly change affections and start flirting outrageously with the murderers of their kids! This sort of behaviour happens among males of a whole lot of species, even the venerable and worshipped langur.

Elephants, too, are known for their sagacity (apart from occasionally getting drunk on mahua) and live peaceably in matriarch-led herds. But their treatment of the trees they feed on is appalling. If they can't knock them over to get to the tender-most new leaves on top, they'll lacerate and rip off huge strips of bark.

Sloth bears, honey badgers and Tasmanian wolves are renowned for their tinderbox tempers and simply selfcombust: taking panga is their calling and they don't care with whom or what, or how big the enemy is.

Wolves, seals, walruses, antelope of various species, and hippos have harems and they guard their ladies ferociously, preventing them from making eyes at other honcho hunks. Chimpanzees and ants go to war - raiding rival camps, killing and eating babies, taking females (chimps) hostage and keeping slaves (ants).

The birds are no less. Crows, gulls and other raptors happily help themselves to the eggs of other birds (a bird-eat-egg world!) and some of the nastier gulls even kill the chicks of smaller birds, to say nothing of committing daylight robbery in the skies. Ask puffins what happens when they are chased by skuas after a successful fishing trip. Members of the corvid clan (crows, magpies and jays) are famous for conducting search-



Lions are known to massacre rivals and their cubs

and-destroy missions on the homes (and babies) of smaller birds like warblers and doves. Cuckoos (like koels) have their shocking dalliances, and when there's trouble the lady coolly jettisons her responsibility in the nests of (often smaller) chick-loving species and continues with her wanton ways. Her babies are equally diabolical — ridding the nursery of its rightful babies, by tossing out the eggs or the squirming squabs.

In many avian families, sibling rivalry is literally cutthroat — with the eldest chick stabbing its younger sibling to death (and, sometimes, eating it), while mom and dad coolly look on.

Something equally terrible happens deep underwater, where the first-hatched of a sand tiger shark will dine on its smaller siblings and even eggs, while still in its mom's womb. Reptiles and insects are no less. Mercifully, the queen king cobra will leave her nest as soon as her babies arrive, else she may just eat them.

Some insects and other creepy-crawlies do. A spider mom will eat her babies and her babies will eat each other and their mom if they are hungry enough.

We are berated for our treatment of farm animals but get this: many wasp species lay their eggs on anesthetised caterpillars or spiders. When the eggs hatch, the larvae slowly begins consuming its host alive — in such a way that the vital parts are eaten last (so the "meat" remains fresh longest!)

Spider and praying mantis ladies are even worse: they have a reputation for eating their consorts during the honeymoon itself. (It appears the praying mantis has been recently exonerated of this charge.)

Some males you would think deserve this treatment: have you watched ducks trying to mate? Often it's nothing but gang rape and waterboarding. Male zebra longwing butterflies hang around the chrysalis of a female, waiting for her to emerge before pouncing on her — and fighting each other — for the privilege of being the first to do so. (And then they plug her up to make sure she has only the victor's babies.) Inside a fig where fig-wasp eggs have been laid, little boy fig-wasps (really insignificant) hatch first and will barge into the boudoirs (egg cases) of the girls to be the first to mate, even before they emerge.

Sanctimonious crowds must be holding their heads by now, but wait a minute — as the most "evolved" species on Earth, we've been there and done it all for thousands of years. And while the poor fool animals behave thus, without a trace of malice, we do the same with grim premeditation and malicious aforethought.

Super Men and Silent Heroes

There are architects beyond Edwin Lutyens who have shaped the making of the Capital

VER THE years, the name of Edwin Lutyens has become so strongly associated with the Rashtrapati Bhavan that we tend to ignore the contribution of many others who have shaped this building. The tendency to deify Lutyens has reached such levels that the area around the Rashtrapati Bhavan, with its heritage homes, is called Lutyens Bungalow Zone (LBZ). Interestingly, Lutyens did not design even a single bungalow there except for the houses within the President's Estate.

Although King George V laid the foundation stone on December 15, 1911, in what is now Kingsway Camp, the actual site for the construction of New Delhi and the Rashtrapati Bhavan was not decided then. A town-planning committee was formed under the chairmanship of Captain George Swinton, with engineer John Brodie and Lutyens as members, and one of its first tasks was to review all available options and recommend a suitable site. In March 1913, the committee submitted its report abandoning the northern site where the foundation stone had been laid and favoured a site south of the existing city of Delhi. However, they disagreed over the site for the Rashtrapati Bhavan. While Brodie favoured Raisina Hill, Lutyens and Swinton preferred Malcha. Finally, Lord Charles Hardinge backed Brodie's choice.

Hardinge, who was viceroy from 1910 to 1916, was a key figure in the planning and execution of the project to build the Rashtrapati Bhavan. Lutyens was keen on being the chief architect, but Hardinge was hesitant because they differed on its architectural style. Hardinge was clear that the government house had to be a synthesis of Western and Indian elements. Lutyens, on the other hand, was keen on an Edwardian Neoclassical building. In an attempt to make Lutyens appreciate traditional Indian architecture, Hardinge had him visit Mandu, Indore, Lucknow and Kanpur, but to no avail. Lutyens, in a letter to his wife in March 1912, wrote, "I do not believe there is any real Indian architecture or any great tradition.

There are just spurts by various mushroom dynasties with as much intellect as there is in any other Art Nouveau.'

Hardinge had discovered, meanwhile, that Herbert Baker, an architect who had designed government buildings in Pretoria, South Africa, shared his views on synthesising Indian and Western architectural elements. Realising that Baker could be the counter he needed, Hardinge approved the se-

lection of Lutyens on the condition that he tic height of the building, towering like the

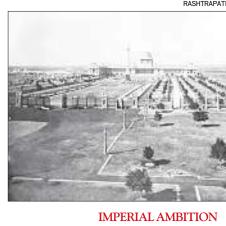


on a third architect. Swinton Jacob, as an advisor. Jacob had been chief engineer in Jaipur and was a known admirer of the Indo-

Saracenic style. He had designed buildings such as the Albert Hall Museum in Jaipur, Laxmi Niwas Palace in Bikaner and Daly College Indore, each with predominant Indian features. However, Jacob had a fallout with Lutyens and soon resigned, but his contribution is important. He recommended that the Rashtrapati Bhavan should be constructed on a raised plinth of over 10 ft instead of building it on ground level. This led to the majes-

would collaborate with Baker. He also insisted Greek Parthenon over the new city of Delhi.





(Left) Charles Hardinge; images of the Rashtrapati Bhavan

under construction

Hardinge played a crucial role in ensuring that this would not be just an imperial project. In one of his letters to Lutyens, he wrote, "It must be remembered that it is not a British administration building the new city, as was the case when Calcutta was built, but a British Indian administration that is charged with the task." Today, the only British statue that still exists in the Rashtrapati Bhavan is the bust of Lutyens. One wonders whether Hardinge should have been given this place of recognition instead.

The major role during the construction was that of Teja Singh Malik, who became the first Indian chief engineer of the Public Works Department and co-founded the Delhi Golf Club. Lutyens paid only short visits to the construction site, spending the hotter months in London. He had initially envisaged the government house in white marble much like the Taj Mahal. But, he was overruled by the geological department who recommended the red sandstone we see today.

The nitty-gritty of the construction was handled entirely by Indians. The main contractor was Seth Haroun al-Rashid from Sindh. The contract for the forecourt was given to Sardar Sobha Singh. Singh had already made a name for himself in the construction of the Kalka-Shimla railway line and was one of the four chosen contractors for building the new city of Delhi. Author Kushwant Singh, son of Sobha Singh and son $in\hbox{-law}\, of\, Malik, recounted an incident about}$ his father's experience. When the decision to build at Raisina Hill was taken, Singh was given a secret task to shift the foundation stone laid by King George V from Kingsway camp. He did this in the dead of the night, transporting the stone on a bullock cart. In return, he was paid Rs 16 for a job well done. Sobha Singh would invest his profits from the construction contracts in buying land around the government house. Soon his holdings had grown to such an extent that he came to be known as aadhi Dilli ka maalik; both Malik and Sobha Singh received knighthoods.

For the construction of the government house, a special railway line was built. This line, called the Delhi Imperial Railway, didn't carry passengers but stones quarried from Dholpur. Khushwant Singh mentions in his book Not a Nice Man to Know (Penguin, 2019) that the stone and marble were supplied by Dharam Singh, who became one of the wealthiest men in Delhi. His palatial home on Iantar Mantar road now houses the All India Congress Committee office.

The Mughal Gardens were also not Lutyens' choice. He had initially planned a more sedate English garden. The gardens were landscaped and planted by WR Mustoe, director of horticulture, and Walter Sykes George, an English architect, who made India his home and designed St Stephen's College and the Regal theatre in Delhi (coincidentally, Regal was built by Singh).

But more than anyone else, the Rashtrapati Bhavan owes its existence to the thousands of unknown workers who toiled for almost two decades, living in makeshift tents in the barren Raisina landscape amid the heat, dust, cold and rain. The stone craftsmen who created the delicate features of the dome, the chajjas, chattris and jaalis, were recruited from Delhi and Lahore. The stonemasons or sang-tarashs were descendants of the Mughal-era masons, and came from both Agra and Delhi. Apart from the skilled workmen, there were about 30,000 unskilled labourers who came from Rajasthan.

Lutyens had hoped that his work would gain him architectural immortality. The historian Thomas R Metcalf in his book, An Imperial Vision (OUP, 2002), recounts how Baker in his early days of association flattered Lutyens, saying that he might become a great architect of the empire. In the end, the Rashtrapati Bhavan did not signal the start of a Lutyens tradition but rather the end of an imperial one.

Praveen Siddharth is private secretary to the

The Art of Letting Go

Living History

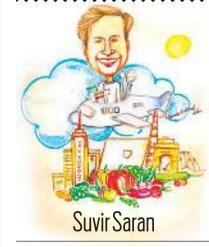
An Indian Express

COLLABORATION WITH THE

RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN

We can either let our hurt, our past impede our growth, or choose to forgive, forget and look towards a tomorrow full of possibilities

SLICEOFLIFE



Suvir Saran is a chef, author, educator and world traveller

WHEN I was 20, I fell in love with an Australian artist in NYC. He moved in with me, and five months later, I came home to an empty apartment. I soon realised my student loan and any meagre savings had vanished with him. He left me broken, betrayed, and full of anger and regret. He also left me with a choice. Would I opt to live in a body and mind drowning in a cesspool of depressive emotions? Or, would I choose to let go of the hurt and move on to love again?

All of us have been hurt by someone. A classmate, a sibling, a parent, a partner, an in-law, a friend. We all have self-inflicted wounds that fill us with shame. I can allow

one happening, one bad relationship or one memory to keep me from realising all that I have come onto this Earth to achieve and discover, or I can choose to forgive and forget, to keep living and loving, dreaming and hoping, believing and aspiring – knowing that tomorrow is a new day with new opportunities and new possibilities.

One of the most important things I have to do is to take into account what is happening in the life of the person who has hurt me. What were they suffering at that moment, what were their realities? What circumstances led them to become vulnerable, to let down their guard and act badly?

The Golden Rule comes into play here. I need to give to another the consideration that I would like them to give to me in my bad moments, when I am most susceptible to censure and condemnation. If I want to be considered a civil and decent person, then I won't cast aspersions on others in situations where there are two people involved, two emotions, two minds, two reactions and two versions of truth. I won't try to sell my interpretation as the only verity. If I want a second, third, fourth, and fifth chance, I must give others the same. I know I have done wrong, and I know people have forgiven me. And so I want to forgive.

I must also grow up and own what has happened. I have to accept who I am and the role I played in the situation. Once I do this, I come out stronger, I come out empowered. I can move forward and get on with my life. I don't hide what has happened, but I own it. I don't allow it to own me. I forgive myself and appreciate that even though I was broken by something yesterday, I must be healthy today, because tomorrow is a new day. One that demands I come to it with mindful presence, a hunger to grow, and a desire to make peace with the world as it is.



THE GOLDEN **RULE**

If I want a second, third, fourth, and fifth chance, I must extend to others the same generosity

I remind myself that I must do my own work in goodness and kindness and grace and that pointing fingers and blaming others will not get me where I need to be.

Two or three days ago, an ex-employee of mine from my restaurant Devi in New York wrote to me. He said, "I'm so sorry, Chef, that when I worked for you, our relationship wasn't very good. I have come to respect you over the years. My customers tell me that what I am doing is a reflection of Suvir Saran, that my style reminds them of you. I want to thank you for what you've taught me." I wrote back to him, "I hold no grudge against you. When someone hurts me, I react in the moment. I don't take it to bed.'

 $Iremember\,the\,good\,days\,and\,I\,disregard$ and forget the bad ones, not because I'm a great person, but because I need to go to sleep without being broken. And, so, when I receive an email 15 years after a bruised relationship ends, I have no ill feelings or regrets that dictate my response.

The smartest among us are those who learn from their mistakes and don't try to hide them. The most gallant are parents who use their missteps as examples for their children to learn from. They can admit "I was rude, I was harsh, I was not as intuitive or responsive to a situation as I should have been."

Perhaps, they were wronged, or perhaps, they did wrong, but they let bygones be bygones. They don't live in the past, and are not torn or tormented by it.

When someone wrongs me, what have they gotten from me? They haven't gotten me, they haven't gotten my mind, they haven't gotten my talents, they haven't robbed me of my peace of mind or my sleep at night or my heart or my soul. The day my affiliation ends with someone is the last day I think about what if something had been different between us. I'm not injecting the people around me with more poison than the original incident inflicted on me. By looking forward, not backwards, I can open myself to experiencing new love, new life, new delectations, new successes, and new interpersonal relationships that make the old one fade away into a part of my life I can come back to when I need to, but it's not the mainstay of my existence. It doesn't define me.

Life, like all journeys, has its ups and downs, its discoveries, its lessons, its joys, its sorrows, its challenges, its victories. The beauty of life is in living it looking forward, with eyes that are wide open and a heart that is ready to feel, a mind that is ready to reflect, and a consciousness that is conscientious about beholding a future full of possibilities.

 ${\tt Ahmedabad}$



Vandana Kalra

Your exhibition 'Germination', currently at Delhi's Art Konsult gallery, features graphics from your student days in the '60s, to the '90s. How would you define these three decades of your oeuvre?

Several of the works in the exhibition are printing proofs. These were not complete works but different stages that offered possibilities. For me, these were steps to achieve a work. When you are young, you want to try new things and my work developed further from these. All of us have different experiences and it is important for a work of art to have different thematic interpretations and that is what gives it life.

What are your thoughts on being described as a 'feminist' artist?

People give tags for their own convenience and I don't like being labelled. Everyone knows what is the philosophy behind feminism, and the description is given so that they can relate the work with that. I don't want to carry anybody's flag. I am an individual and can think for myself. In fact, I am against some of the things done by feminists in the past. For instance, some feminists said we won't wear bras. Why not if it gives us comfort? On other occasions, some

feminists walked naked on the streets to voice their demands. I will not endorse any of these things. I never felt deprived, I fought for my rights. In my family, women handled the daily expenses. My grandfather was a lawyer and would discuss cases with my grandmother. There were distinct domains where each - men and women were important. At some level, feminism has come to India from the West and we need not ape it — not all the issues taken up

by them were absolutely relevant for our problems, we have a different society and our own concerns that need to be dealt with.

You spent a lot of your childhood with your grandfather in Shimla. Do memories of those times influence your work?

Your upbringing and culture at home is bound to influence you. When I was growing up, there was a strong nationalistic movement and even today if someone says anything

CHIAROSCURO

(Clockwise, from

top) Anupam Sud;

Mono print, 1970;

Nest, collograph,

1969; Monoprint,

1970; Collograph,

colour trial, 1968

against India, I can't stand it. The mythological references (in her work), perhaps, also come from recollections of mythological stories told to us by my mother and grandmother. My mother would share with us episodes from not just Valmiki's Ramayana, but also the one written by Tulsidas, and numerous other interpretations. Years before the play Andha Yug (1954), she told me how Gandhari covered her eyes because she felt it was unfair to have wed-

ded her to a blind king, and she did not want to show the world to him through her eyes. Religion wasn't mere rituals; it was a philosophy. I went to a convent school, and then a regular one, later taught in a Sikh institution, all of those experiences have also influenced my work.

You have often responded to the sociopolitical surroundings in your work. including the 2012 Delhi gangrape case and the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks. Would you make a work on

what is happening in India now?

Like everyone, I get affected by what is happening and have an opinion. Some things prolong, while others fizzle out. Look at how some people were pleading for mercy for some of the boys in the gang-rape case. My reaction even when the incident happened was that not a lot will change in the coming years. I don't know if I will make a work on what is happening now, things keep churning. At a subconscious level, various things affect you and your work. Someone once asked me if I'm a socially-committed artist, and I said, 'no'. Though I am a part of society and get affected, my aim is not to improve society through my work. If I take that responsibility, I will give up being an artist: I will instead make an effort to improve society more directly.

As a student, you were averse to pursuing printmaking. What made you change your mind? Was it also because of your teacher Jagmohan Chopra?

It was perhaps destiny. Printmaking was a challenging medium and I would see my seniors struggle with all the equipment and

chemicals. But, gradually, I began to feel that when an image is transferred from the plate to paper, it is like magic. Jagmohan Chopra was a great teacher, but it wasn't just about meeting him, it was also about him providing us the opportunity and facility to continue working after college. The summer before graduating, I remember asking him where would we make prints now. Unlike painting, it requires machines, certain equipment and a proper setup. Soon, he set up a makeshift studio in the living room of his house, which led to the establishment of Group 8. It was the works I made there that fetched me a scholarship to go to Slade School of Fine Art (in University College of London, the UK). I would send letters to him from

London, telling him about the chemicals used for printmaking. I also sent him details of the Aquatint box, and he designed one for the College of Art (Chandigarh) that so many printmakers have told me is the best in India.

Did a long teaching career at College of Art have an impact on your art practice?

It was extremely important for me to be independent and not ask my father for money, and teaching allowed that. Within the first three years. I became a compulsive teacher. I realised teaching is not an easy job.

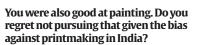
If you want to be a true teacher, it is important that students understand you and you know what their needs are. New students would often be warned (by the seniors) that I was very strict, but that was because of the nature of printmaking where so many potentially hazardous chemicals are used. Of course, students understood that later. I also learnt a lot from my students; observing them offers you different perspectives. I fell in love with teaching and neglected my own practice for years, till I began to feel I am starving. Since I thought it was unethical to study during my teaching time, I applied for permission to work after college. Unless I practised, I couldn't do justice to teaching the

subject that is still growing in India. To be able to give information to the students, I had to be 10 times better than them.

A lot of your work explores the way light falls on male and female figures.

Light creates an edge,

which leads to lines and I love to draw that. To me, it does not matter whether it's a male or female figure. I treat both in the same manner and neither, for me, is a sexual object. Vulgarity only creeps in when you objectify things. For me, what God has made is glorious, the human body is such perfect machinery, and I want to celebrate that. When you are working, if you get one good line, you experience a supreme feeling. I like sketching and drawing, which I still do.



If I ever felt like drawing or painting, I would just do that. Printmaking is definitely in a much better position than earlier and several artists are doing very good work. More people are setting up studios for themselves because they can afford it, and there are also more studios where artists can practise across the country. The medium encourages experimentation and there are limitless possibilities, printmaking is still growing.

EYESPY EVERY FORTNIGHT, WE PICK, YOU WATCH



Shubhra Gupta

Shubhra Gupta is film critic with The Indian Express

Trigger Point

Natesh Hegde's Pedro brings things to a roiling boil in a 'calm' village



The director's father, Gopal Hegde, plays the titular role

Shubhra Gupta

EDRO IS the kind of film where nothing seems to happen for the longest time: the frame is still, letting us observe the bounties of nature — dense, tall trees piecing the sky, thickly falling rain, the sound of water meeting sodden earth, the muted rumble of a car bouncing along rutted roads. And then, something does happen, the thing that the film has been steering the lead character named Pedro, and us, towards. It is a climactic moment which holds up a mirror, and those complicit faces are us.

In the far distance, we see two men walking. They skirt along the edge of the frame, disappear, and then appear again. One climbs what looks like an electric pole; the other walks away, picks up his phone, makes a call. We don't hear what he says, but we know, with dawning dread, the fate of the man we left behind, on that pole.

Natesh Hegde's debut Kannada feature runs a compact 108 minutes. It is about a man and matters and consequences, but this very generic description turns into something very specific through the 25-year-old selftaught filmmaker's singular vision. "For me, space is primary. I'm fascinated by the internal rhythms of a place, and I've used elements from my life and my father's life (Gopal Hegde, who has acted in all his son's films, plays Pedro) to tell my story," says Hegde, over a phone call on a patchy network from Busan, where the film has had a "full-house" premiere followed by an animated discussion on the film's "characters, tone, and mood".

The killing of a cow pushes a man, already unravelling through too many years of perilous electrical work and harsh personal circumstances, over the edge. Pedro's tiny village is a compendium of the complex social layers that are visible in pockets all over India: religious and class differences colliding with rising bigotry have become increasingly combustible. "I wanted to see how far will a mob go, and what is the trigger point." In Hegde's deceptively calm universe, which also pointedly questions toxic masculinity, all things come to a roiling boil, leaving you stunned.

Born and raised in the same village near Dharwad in north-west Karnataka that the film is set in (as are his two short films, the disturbing The Crab, 2019, and Distant, 2018), Hegde, who studied journalism at Dharwad University, started off as a short-story writer. Discovering the cinema of Iranian maestro Abbas Kiarostami was a defining moment, and he jumped into filmmaking, none the worse for not having had formal training. His work's striking realism comes from the deep connection his characters exhibit with their living space: when the little boy in The Crab delightedly picks up a wriggling little creature from a pond, or when Pedro slithers down a treetrunk, knowing exactly where the grooves are, you know that this is their life.

After Busan, the film will travel to film festivals in London and Pingyao. A theatrical release back home is on the cards, too. "Pedro will definitely be out soon," says a confident Hegde. Amen to that.

Advantage, Friendship

Writer-director Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari on the Paes-Bhupathi docu-series, why the story had to be told in their own words, and her debut novel

Alaka Sahani

KNOWN FOR directing films such as Nil Battey Sannata (2015), Bareilly Ki Barfi (2017) and Panga (2020), with regular, "flawed" people for characters, Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari's latest directorial outing is Break Point, an insightful docu-series (on Zee5) about the legendary partnership. friendship and fallout of tennis champions Leander Paes and Mahesh Bhupathi. Prior to this, this year, came her scathing yet optimistic short film on the loneliness of a migrant in a big city, for the recent Netflix anthology Ankahi Kahaniya, and her first novel. In Mapping Love (Rupa Publications, Rs 295), the advertising professional-turned-filmmaker lyer Tiwari, 41, explores the complexities of relationships through the story of a girl named Oorja. Edited excerpts:

How did the docu-series on Paes-Bhupathi come about?

In March 2020, Vijay Subramaniam of Collective Artists Network called to ask if Nitesh (Tiwari) and I would be interested in telling the story of Leander and Bhupathi. That's the fastest 'yes' we've said. The proposal came as a hope during the lockdown when we could put our creative energy into



DEUCE COURT

(Above) The poster of Break Point; (right) Iyer Tiwari; her novel Mapping Love

developing something challenging. We started with the thought: 'Let's make something which hasn't been done before and make it world-class.' We were talking about

two legends who made India proud. It was important to tell the story in their own words, where they are the heroes and they are sharing for the world to listen to what went wrong.

What was the immediate task for you? Unlike a documentary, we and our co-

writer Piyush Gupta created a structure beforehand. We had to ensure the emotional graph was intact and focussed on their humanness. We were telling the story not just from the perspective of two champions, but also talking to sportspersons and sports lovers about the dos and don'ts of a great partnership.

How did you make them open up in front of the camera?

Mahesh opened up first. Leander took a little longer. First, they needed to trust us, to know that they were going to tell a story from their perspective, a story that's emotionally binding, and talk about the ups and downs in their lives. That we weren't interrogating them. Once they knew we weren't going to be judgemental, they spoke frankly.

When we got Leander and Mahesh together on the same screen during a video call, they did not know we were asking the questions together. It was during the initial days



of making the series. Leander was in tears. This was the first time after many years, in spite of living minutes away from each other's home, they were talking on screen. It was healing. MAPPING

All the interviewees had to go down memory lane. So many people were a part of their journey. Mahesh's father (CG Krishna Bhupathi) and Leander's father (Vece Paes) went through similar emotions. A lot of the time, we had to make decisions in the moment.

Tell us about co-directing the series with your filmmaker-husband Nitesh Tiwari. We've been working together for a long

time, whether it's in advertising or co-writing a feature. We've focussed on our strengths. While working on Break Point, we

knew who was taking up which responsibility. When Nitesh asked the questions, I was behind the monitor, listening in and looking into other aspects, like the art and lighting. It was pretty organic.

During the pandemic, you published a novel, made a short film and now this series.

It is important to keep evolving and innovating as a storyteller with new stories and formats. The world is moving fast in terms of technology. You can see various kind of movies from across the world. We should be on a par with it. Next, I will be working on my web-series.

At what point did you feel strongly about writing Mapping Love? Tell us about the cannonball flower on its cover.

People always tell me even when I'm writing a synopsis, it's like writing a novel. I write 20-30 pages synopsis with details. For films, I write character sketches which run into pages. I want to know everything about the person their food habits, the music they like, the kind of friends they have. I would have been a good anthropology student. When I started writing this story, I felt it cannot be a film. I always dreamt of writing a novel, I didn't know it would take shape so early.

Ishare a deep connection with the unusual flower. My maternal grandmother's building oremises (in Sion, Mumbai) has an old cannonball tree. What fascinates me is that the flowers are so layered. You take out a part and you'll discover something beautiful within. Then, something else within that. It is like peeling off layers o reveal secrets and dissecting relationships.

For the many roles you juggle, do you follow a routine?

Developing a ritual is necessary for any creative pursuit. A screenplay has to be written before a film is made. Writing a novel is tougher because you aren't writing one-liners. You know your start and end and are trying to find your middle. I write between 4 and 7 pm. I don't go back to what I've written, else I keep correcting. I keep writing till I finish and then revise it

The six-nation Nordic group of European soccer federations have detailed their opposition to FIFA's push to stage the World Cup every two years. Increasing the number of World Cups would "cannibalize" existing competitions, make European Championships "obsolete" and marginalize women's tournaments, the federations wrote in a co-

Saurashtra's Avi Barot dies of cardiac arrest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

AVI BAROT, the former India Under-19 captain and wicketkeeper-batter who was part of Saurashtra's Ranji Trophy champions team, died of a cardiac arrest while watching the Indian Premier League (IPL) final at his residence in Ahmedabad on Friday night. He died just five days after he smashed 72 off 43 balls in the final of Reliance G-1 T20 tournament and helped Saurashtra team claim the title in Rajkot on Sunday. He was 29 and is survived by his mother and wife

"Everyone at Saurashtra Cricket Association deeply shocked and saddened on very shocking, untimely and extremely sad demise of Avi Barot, remarkable and notable Cricketer of Saurashtra. He left for heavenly abode in the evening of 15th October 2021 due to severe cardiac arrest," Saurashtra Cricket Association (SCA) said in a release.

SCA president Jaydev Sah said the Association and teammates are in deep shock. "It's a very sad news. He suffered a sudden cardiac arrest at his residence in Ahmedabad at around 10 o'clock last night and didn't survive. This is unbelievable. Twenty-nine is nothing and he was demonstrating it while playing in front of us all just a few days back. I was deeply shocked to receive the news just days after he scored so many runs in Reliance G-1 tournament which he was playing after coming out of an injury," Shah told *The Indian Express*.

Barot's 72 was the highlight of the Reliance G-1 T20 tournament final in Rajkot on October 20. Barot's knock had propelled Saurashtra to 200 and laid the foundation of the team's victory against his former team Gujarat in the summit clash.

A native of Ahmedabad, Barot had made his First Class debut as Gujarat Ranji player against Delhi in 2011. The same year, he was appointed captain of India U-19 team. From Gujarat, he moved to Haryana Ranji team but eventually migrated back to state of Guiarat and joined Rajkot-based Saurashtra Ranji team in 2016-17 season. Since then, he used to keep wickets and open batting for Saurashtra.

Barot played 38 First Class matches and scored 1547 matches at an average of 24.95, including one century and nine half-centuries. However, he excelled in the shortest format of the game, scoring 717 runs in 20 T20 matches at an average of 37.73.

SCA secretary Himanshu Shah said that past two seasons. "Since the last two seasons, he was in extremely good form. The way he was playing in T20, I was in fact very hopeful that he would be picked in the new season of IPL. But it's extremely tough to take this. I really couldn't believe my ears when I heard the news of his death. This is an unbelievable tragedy. Just a few years back, he had lost his father in a similar manner when he was just 42 or 43," said the secretary.

Yours simply, MS Dhoni

By applying cricket's good-old basic principles, he has mastered the format which glorifies radicalism

SANDEEP DWIVEDI OCTOBER 16

PADDY UPTON in his book Barefeet Coach talks about his eye-opening short interaction with Mahendra Singh Dhoni very early in his stint as India's mental conditioning coach. After one longish meeting, where the mind guru seemed to be making a habit of addressing the boys, Dhoni put an arm around his shoulder and said: "Upton, I don't feel that you always have to say something." It was a subtle message, the South African coach writes, to keep things simple. From that moment to his last day in office, when India won the 2011 World Cup, Upton had a better idea about his word limit, and the India skipper.

Jasprit Bumrah's favourite Dhoni story is about his India debut in Australia. From the time he touched down in Sydney as a late replacement, Bumrah was anxious about his expected one-on-one with the skipper. Would the talk be about team ethics, dressing room decorum, game plan or a plain pep talk? Will it happen on match eve, inside the dressing room, during the warm-up or just after the toss? On Dhoni's watch, conventions get trampled upon on a daily basis. It was only when a nervous Bumrah was entering the field, the big man walked up to him. "Do whatever you know. Whatever fields you want, we will give." Again, nothing complicated; simple words, simpler advice. India went on to win that game and the rookie pacer ended up as the best bowler.

Upton's moved on, Bumrah's moved up, but India's favourite strong-and-silent cricketer continues to diligently practise what he, in his subtle way, preaches. An ardent practitioner of tactical conservatism, Dhoni, by being loyal to cricket's good-old basic principles, has mastered the format which feverishly explores possibilities, glorifies radicalism, celebrates all inane innovations and is of late getting over-eager to borrow ideas from other sports. However hard T20 cricket tries to run away from the mother sport, Dhoni keeps dragging it back home.

In Dubai on Friday, he lifted the IPL trophy for the fourth time. CSK's consistency in a notoriously unpredictable format, that is unforgiving of even a minor slip-up, is a tribute to a leader whose greatness lies in the simplicity of his cricketing engagement. Dhoni follows a set pattern, banks on his regulars, along with long-time coach Stephen Fleming. The two aren't known to be waylaid by seasonal trends and other excesses on the T20 playlist.

For his opponents, the match-eve brainstorming sessions aren't about guessing the surprise that Dhoni would throw at them; they are mostly about thinking of ways to stop CSK's usual suspects executing their very well-known winning plan.

Case in point is the text-book bowling sequence which Dhoni has followed for years now. It has a very predictable pattern. Take this season. For the first six ov Aussie quick Josh Hazlewood with pacers slower than him. Left-arm spinner Ravindra Jadeja gets the ball after the Powerplay. Just around the half-way mark, the team's fulcrum, the clever trundler Dwayne Bravo gets in the mix. He has spinners for company in the middle overs and pacers at the death. Pacers-spinners-pacers, this wheel was invented for Tests and later fitted to ODIs. Dhoni doesn't show the restlessness to rein-



Leading CSK's bunch of conventional cricketers is the wise-old oracle, cricket's Chanakya and Chandragupt rolled into one - Dhoni.

CSK's consistency in a notoriously unpredictable format, that is unforgiving of even a minor slip-up, is a tribute to a leader whose greatness lies in the simplicity of his cricketing engagement.

vent it for T20 cricket.

Tried, tested, trusted Most CSK regulars are old-school crick-

eters. The now iconic canary yellow jersey is rarely seen on those globetrotting T20 specialists - the six-hitting muscular mercenaries or the mystery spinners who treat the cricket ball as a carrom striker. Those who delivered for him in the final - Faf du Plessis. Hazlewood, Jadeja and Moeen Ali - have proven Test pedigree. Others who played bit parts - Ambati Rayudu, Robin Uthappa, Shardul Thakur, Deepak Chahar – have long

The find of this season and IPL's top rungetter, Ruturaj Gaikwad is a 24-year-old with four first-class centuries. He is no flashy slogger but an opener with a refined all-format technique. Like many IPL upstarts drafted into the Test side lately, Gaikwad, it's being predicted, wouldn't look ridiculous in India whites. And leading this bunch of conventional cricketers is the wise-old Oracle, cricket's Chanakya and Chandragupt Maurya rolled into one - Dhoni.

Captains with Dhoni-like qualities, and CVs, have been historically indulged; they get their way and the team they want. But not in IPL, the high-stakes tournament with a brand valuation of around Rs 48,000 crore. Cricket's corporatisation has changed the power equations. IPL owners as a species are known to have inflated egos, scissor-hands and long pointed noses that sniff in areas where they don't have expertise.

CSK, the only IPL franchise with a rich cricketing legacy, thankfully hasn't moved with the times. The original owner and influential BCCI office-bearer N Srinivasan has run multiple teams in Chennai's local leagues, seen intense club rivalry, scooped big-ticket transfers and dealt with players of every hue. He didn't whistle podu into cricket yesterday. Srinivasan has been around to know that supporting cricket needs a philanthropist's mindset; it's not an investment that gives regular annual dividends.

Not to be seen as a virtue, but at CSK the players and owners have stuck to each other through thick and thin. At the peak of the spot-fixing controversy, when Srinivasan's the dugout, CSK closed ranks, declared an omerta. No whistle-blower, no mutiny, no exodus. Even when his meticulously-crafted reputation was at stake, Dhoni remained loyal to his franchise. It was never in doubt that he would return home, the Chepauk Stadium, once CSK served its two-year ban. The franchise, in turn, reciprocated.

Last year when CSK veteran Suresh Raina, one fine night before the start of the bubbled

IPL, flew back home, the team lost a vital cog. CSK lost balance and collapsed. It proved to be their worst season. Dhoni looked over the hill, the squad looked jaded. Any other franchise would have reacted. There would have been finger-pointing, gas-lighting, planted stories about the captain losing the confidence of the team and owners.

In contrast, at Chennai, there was no acrimony, no witch-hunt, not even a postmortem. Raina was welcomed back. What's one season between old associates who have guarded each other's backs for over a decade.

Like an old family-run institution, there were no panic decisions. Instead, the core remained unshakeable. At CSK, they know the drill. Unlike other teams, among CSK's travelling party are a handful of Srinivasan loyalists, all Tamil Nadu Cricket Association old hands from the era when cricket administrators didn't stay at five-stars. It's a travelling group that's unlike an IPL team, it's so Ranji Trophy-like. There's a father figure manager and an old hand, who is everyone's best friend, looks after the logistics. The MBA-kinds haven't yet infiltrated the CSK top management since the men at the top know their cricket. They understand his is a funny game that need

Made for each other

Dhoni brings the same rationale to the field. He's open to change but not in a hurry to wipe out the wisdom availed over the years. By sticking to the old route to victory, the 40-year-old might appear outdated at times but he will never be seen as a wannabe. To be celebrated as the in-vogue out-of-thebox thinker, Dhoni wouldn't avoid taking the Even when his meticulouslycrafted reputation was at stake, Dhoni remained loyal to his franchise. It was never in doubt that he would return home, the Chepauk Stadium, once CSK served its two-year ban.

tried and tested right option.

He's not the prototype aggressive leader whose natural nerve-busting expression can sell India-Pakistan grudge games. Dhoni's communication is understated. He's not into riveting inspirational dressing-room speeches - those work better in the final quarter of sports movies. His captaincy approach is functional and realistic. He guides youngsters to negotiate forked paths, and more importantly makes them aware about the game's inevitabilities.

Unlike Virat Kohli, Dhoni doesn't make his pursuit of a win obsessive. He remains are of a possible uncontrollable twist in the tale and the subsequent unfavourable result. It's this balance which makes him better prepared to face defeats, bounce back and be India's most celebrated captain in the game's most-fickle format.

The non-secret of his success is his simplicity and clarity which comes from the selfrealisation that he can't have all the answers. Dhoni knows in cricket, like in life, you can't

Mourinho demands respect ahead of return to Juventus

Rome: Jose Mourinho says a lack of respect led to his famous 'cupped ear' reaction to Juventus fans while he was in charge of Manchester United, as the Portuguese prepares to return to Turin in charge of AS Roma

Mourinho walked into the centre of the Allianz Stadium pitch with his hand cupped over his ear towards Juve fans after his United side won a Champions League game there in November 2018.

The 58-year-old was asked what reaction he expected to receive from the home crowd when his Roma side, who are fourth and four points clear of Juve in seventh, take to the

'Today was just not my day': Zverev regrets shock defeat

Indian Wells: Olympic champion Alexander Zverev admitted he blew the chance to win the Indian Wells tournament after Friday's shock quarter-final defeat by American Taylor Fritz and said he just wants to return home. Zverey, who was aiming to win his third ATP Masters 1000 title of the season, lost 4-6 6-3 7-6(3) after Fritz fought back from 2-5 down in the final set and saved two match points to stun the German in the California desert. "Today was just not really my day, to be honest. I was close to winning, but the level of tennis was just not quite there for me," world number four Zverev told reporters. "Today mentally is not easy for

I don't know," Mourinho told a news confer-"When I reacted at the end of the game

"Maybe the same as always, or different,

last time in a way that was criticised, I thought it was a bit strange.

"People remembered the 10 second emotional reaction and forgot 90 minutes of the game. Today we talk about respect but in those 90 minutes that was all forgotten."

Mourinho and Juve coach Massimiliano Allegri have clashed in the past, and the Italian called his counterpart "pathetic" on Italian television in 2011, but the Roma manager insisted there is no bad blood between

Sharma, Bhullar miss cut at **Andalucía Masters**

 $\textit{Valderrama:} \ Indian \ golfers \ Shubhankar$ Sharma and Gaganjeet Bhullar failed to live upto their own expectations, making an early exit from the Estrella Damm NA Andalucía Masters after missing the halfway cut in the European Tour event, Bhullar, who had an 82 in the first round, improved by 13 shots with a 69 and totalled nine-over but was still way off the cut line, which fell at sixover. Sharma (79-75) was even further down. Romain Langasque carded a second consecutive round of 69 to take a one-stroke lead into the weekend. The Frenchman carded 15 pars, a birdie, and his second eagle of the week, dropping just one shot. He is four-under par for two rounds.

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY

India have brought back Ravichandran Ashwin to the T20I fold to be a game-changer in the World Cup. This has been a paradigm shift in thought process for a side that has kept rightarm off-spin at arm's length in white-ball cricket since the 2017 Champions Trophy. But as Virat Kohli said at the ICC's pre-T20 World Cup media event on Saturday, limited-overs cricket is constantly evolving and Ashwin has been bowling with courage.

'One thing that Ashwin has really improved on is bowling with a lot of courage in white-ball cricket. We saw in the IPL in the last couple of years, he has bowled those difficult overs, he bowled against top players, powerhitters, and not being shy to put the ball in the right areas. Spinners mostly get intimidated against power-hitters, but Ashwin believed in his skill-sets," said the India captain.

Ashwin last played for India in T20Is in July, 2017. The selectors sprang a surprise by recalling the 35-year-old offie for the showpiece event. "We felt that the way he is bowling, his variations and his control over pace is... again, a lot of experience, a guy who has played a lot of international cricket and now he is at his confident best. These guys can go in there and change the game with their spells. Hence, I think Ashwin has been rewarded for reviving his white-ball skills altogether," Kohli observed.

The Indian team management gradually shifted towards wrist-spin after the 2017 Champions Trophy final, where Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja were taken to the cleaners by Pakistan's Fakhar Zaman. Jadeja came back by dint of his better allround ability, but for more than four years, Ashwin wasn't in the scheme



Ashwin rewarded for reviving white-ball skills: Kohli

Ashwin's experience and 'courage' in the IPL helped him make a comeback. iplT20.com

of India's white-ball things. Kohli spoke about the shorter formats being constantly evolving.

"Wrist-spinners were in demand mostly through that middle period, but now fingerspinners with accuracy have come back into the game. I think we also have to evolve as a team, with the evolving trends of the game, and Ash and Jadeja are performing beautifully. It augurs well for the team.'

Ashwin didn't have a very fruitful IPL with Delhi Capitals this term, taking seven wickets from 13 games. To an extent, he wasn't properly used by the DC team management. Ashwin revels in a lead role and responsibility, which came to the fore while bowling the final over against Kolkata Knight Riders in the Oualifier 2. With two consecutive wickets, he almost pulled off a heist.

At the World Cup, KKR's Varun Chakravarthy would be his nearest rival as regards to a playing-eleven spot. Varun was one of the showstoppers in the tournament, bagging 18 scalps from 17 games at an economy rate of less than seven runs per over. Varun, however, can be found out in batting and fielding, and the Indian team management has a tricky call to make.

If Ashwin's inclusion was unexpected. Yuzvendra Chahal's omission from the World Cup squad was debatable. Chahal had been groomed for four years for the big event, but at the end, Rahul Chahar trumped him. Chahal's

"His eye for intricate details and practical advice will help improve the game by one or two per cent. Absolutely delighted to have him. (His) presence will not only boost morale but also increase confidence that we already have."

-VIRAT KOHLI ON DHONI AS TEAM MENTOR

excellent performance in this year's IPL - 18 wickets in 15 games – threw up questions about his non-inclusion, but the Indian team wanted a leggie to bowl quicker through the

"It was a challenging call (to drop Chahal), but we decided to back Rahul Chahar for a reason. He has bowled amazingly well in the last couple of years in the IPL (He is) a guy who bowls with pace. He did really well in Sri Lanka recently. And against England at home as well, he was someone who bowled those difficult overs," Kohli said, adding: "We believe that heading into this tournament, the wickets are going to get slower and slower and guys who probably bowl with a lot more pace, as you saw in the latter stages of the tournament (IPL) as well, were the ones to trouble the batsmen the

India's tournament opener is against Pakistan on October 24, but Kohli is shutting out the hype. "Right now the value of those tickets are ridiculously high. It's probably the only change that I experience from any other game. But apart from that, I don't think we make anything extra out of this game. For us, it's just a game of cricket that has to be played in the right way."

Vol. XX No. 30 RNI No. GUJENG/2002/21854, Printed and Published by Hareshkumar K Bhagdev on behalf of The Indian Express Private Limited. Published at: 3rd Floor, Sambhav House, Bodakdev, Ahmedabad 380 015. Phone (Board): 26872481-82-83, Fax No. 26873950. Printed at: Bhaskar Print Planet, Survey No. 148P, Changodar-Bavla Highway, Tal. Sanand, Dist. Ahmedabad. Chairman of the Board: Viveck Goenka, Chief Editor: Raj Kamal Jha, Editor: Unni Rajen Shanker, Editor: (Gujarat) Leena Misra (*Responsible for selection of News under the PRB Act) Copyright: The Indian Express Private Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, electronic or otherwise, in whole or in part, without prior written permission is prohibited. The Sunday Express®

SPORTSLINE

Wrestler-philosopher

Tokyo silver medallist Ravi Dahiya has fought adversity on the mat and off it, gaining new perspectives in sport and life

PRESSTRUSTOFINDIA MALE (MALDIVES), OCTOBER 16

title, Chhetri

equals Messi

TALISMAN SUNIL Chhetri equalled the iconic Lionel Messi with his 80th international strike as an inspired India blanked Nepal 3-0 for their eighth SAFF Championship title on Saturday.

India beat Nepal

to win 8th SAFF

India extended their domination in the regional tournament thanks to second half goals from Chhetri (49th minute), Suresh Singh (50th) and Sahal Abdul Samad (90th). With his strike, the 37-year-old Chhetri equalled Messi and became the second highest gaol-scorer in international football among active players.

Suresh Singh and Saha then added to the tally and paved the way for India's title triumph, a much-needed one after a series of mediocre outings. Sahal made it 3-0 when he dribbled past a few defenders after receiving the ball on the left flank at the stroke of the final whistle. India dominated possession in the first-half but failed to break the deadlock. However, Chhetri put India ahead minutes into the second half and even before Nepal could down settle down, Suresh made it 2-0.

This is the Indian football team's first title triumph under head coach Igor Stimac, who faced criticism in recent times for his side's inability to win enough games.

However, when it mattered the most in this edition of the regional tournament, Stimac's players delivered the results the team's fans had been waiting for.

Stimac also became the third foreign coach after Jiri Pesek (1993) and Stephen Constantine (2015) to clinch the title with the Indian team.

Chhetri gave India the lead after he charged in to neatly head in a delivery from Pritam Kotal on the right flank, leaving the Nepalese goalkeeper with no chance to come to his team's rescue. Barely a minute after Chhetri's opener, another attack by India caught Nepal completely off-guard as Suresh found the back of the net after Yasir Mohammad brilliantly cut it back for the mid-fielder.

Their tails up after two quick strikes, India pressed hard for more but could not add to the tally for a while before Sahal fond the back of the net with his solo effort.

India entered the game with the psychological advantage over the Himalayan country as historical or recent statistics cleared favoured Stimac's side to lift the title yet again.

Having endured a topsy-turvy start to their campaign, India ended it in style against the first-time finalists.

The final was the 12th for India in 13 editions, showing the domination of the Blue Tigers in this regional tournament.

MIHIR VASAVDA

OCTOBER16

"STRUGGLE," RAVI Dahiya says, "is continuous. Sometimes, it's external. Mostly, it's within."

The Olympic silver medallist turns philosophical while talking about his job-hunting

The story goes something like this: in 2015, after Dahiya started winning medals at junior Asian- and world-level tournaments, the Army approached him with a job offer. But the thenteenaged wrestler rejected it flat out, hoping to get aboard the Railways, like so many of his peers. "My target was Railways so that I could keep wrestling with a free mind," Dahiya says. "Fauj mein lag jaata (could have got into the Army), but I said no to them."

As luck would have it, however, soon after he snubbed the Army's offer, Dahiya says Railways came up with a notification which made only 12th-pass candidates eligible for recruitment. For Dahiya, who had to sacrifice formal education to focus on his wrestling career, this was bad news, and also the beginning of a series of unfortunate incidents.

 $In 2016, while \, making \, a \, come back \, from \, an \,$ injury, Dahiya broke his finger. As he recovered from that, he was down with typhoid. For a wrestler whose game is dependent on strength, the bout with the bacterial infection left him vulnerable: "I lost in the junior nationals, in the selection trials... nothing was going my way."

Desperation slowly crept in. On the mat, his career seemed to be headed nowhere. Off it, he had nothing to fall back on. So, Dahiya approached the Army to see if their offer was still open. "Aap hi le lo (Please take me), I pleaded with them." But that train, it turned out, had long left the station. "They replied, 'nahi, ab nahi le sakte aapko (we can't take you now)," Dahiya laughs, pauses for a bit as if to introspect, and adds, "you see, we get what we deserve."

Meet Ravi Dahiya, the wrestler-philosopher.

Dahiya talks about one of his toughest phases with the same lightness and simplicity with which he wears the tag of being an Olympic silver medallist, After he dragged himself to the podium in Tokyo, sullen and sombre-faced, Dahiya wondered 'what was the point of a silver medal. Two months later, his sentiment remains the same. "Theek hai, jeet gaye toh jeet gaye (It's ok, I won)," he says. "But how much should we celebrate just one medal? It's not as if there is nothing left to

achieve anymore. This is only the beginning."



Ravi Dahiya talks about the tough phases in his life with the same lightness and simplicity with which he wears the tag of being an Olympic silver medallist. PTI

The 23-year-old is shy to the point of being dismissive about his achievement but in reality, he has busted almost every myth that many Indian athletes often seek shelter in to justify their under-performance. As a little-known teenager, he gate-crashed the 57kg weight class, one of the most fiercely competitive categories in India. He upset some established names from Haryana, Delhi and Maharashtra to break into the team for the 2019 World Championship, where he won a bronze medal in his maiden appearance and secured an Olympic berth.

In Tokyo, Dahiya shattered the notion that it's tough to medal at debut Olympics. But he didn't care for reputations, showed zero nerves and bulldozed past some of the world's top wrestlers, including a cinematic takedown of Asian champion Nurislam Sanayev, before ultimately losing to two-time world champion Zavur Uguev in the gold-medal match.

Come to think of it, Dahiya is still a sophomore in world wrestling. Yet, his opponents dread him because he 'keeps coming back at you', irrespective of the match situation. And

of legends, at least in Indian wrestling. Ask Dahiya about this and he quips, "bas, maalik ka aashirwad aur mehnat (Just the Almighty's blessings and hard work).

It's almost impossible to tell what Dahiya is thinking on the mat. And he is inscrutable off it. But the morsels of profound philosophy he throws are a window into the thought process of one of Indian sport's most interesting minds.

"How we think depends a lot on the company we keep," Dahiya says. "I am surrounded by family and friends who keep drilling sense into me. You know, after I got the silver, they told me, 'okay, you won a medal in your first Olympics but if let this get to your head, you'll be left behind. So, remain grounded."

That, he adds, comes naturally to him. "I have reached this far after years of struggle, which has made me humble," Dahiya says. "Luckily for me. I had people who held my hand and showed me the right direction at crucial

DAHIYA SAYS

"Theek hai, jeet gaye toh jeet gaye (It's ok, I won). But how much should we celebrate just one medal? It's not as if there is nothing left to achieve anymore. This is only the beginning... If I want to continue competing for long and win more medals, I'll have to live a normal life"

ON THE OLYMPIC SILVER MEDAL

"How we think depends a lot on the company we keep. In my case, I am surrounded by family and friends who keep drilling sense into me. You know, after I got the silver, they told me, 'okay, you won a medal in your first Olympics but if let this get to your head, you'll be left behind. So, remain arounded"

ON KEEPING GOOD COMPANY

His 'biggest period of struggle', Dahiya says, was in 2010-11. It had been a couple of years since the young boy had left his home in Harvana's Nahari village to join the akhara at Chhatrasal Stadium, a wrestling nursery in North-West Delhi. This was the time when there was a huge uptick in wrestling around these parts after Sushil Kumar, a Chhatrasal product, won the bronze medal at Beijing 2008. And in the glut of wrestlers, Dahiya was lost.

"I had absolutely no results to show and my family had also lost patience," Dahiya says. They came to the stadium one day and said, 'chalo ghar (let's go home).' My bags were packed and I was just about to leave when one of my earliest mentors, Arun, stepped in."

It helped that Arun was from the same village as Dahiya and somehow, he convinced his parents to let him stay back. Then, Arun took Dahiya for some tests, which revealed that he had massive iron deficiencies. "We course-corrected and there was an instant improvement in my performance. I won gold at nationals. then in Asia... things were starting to work out." leged murder, it is said that the two-time Olympic medallist has an unerring eye for talent. In 2015, Sushil recommended Olympic Gold Quest (OQG) to sign Dahiya along with another wrestler, Deepak Punia, who came agonisingly close to winning a bronze in Tokyo.

when Sushil spots you. Now behind bars for al-

"Sushil called him an exceptional talent, and praised his work ethic," OGQ's chief executive Viren Rasquinha says. "Ravi was so shy that when Sushil and I had a meeting with him in 2015, he would look down while talking and did not speak more than a word or two."

Gradually, Dahiya forged a reputation of being a no-fuss wrestler. But on the mat, he was never satisfied no matter what he achieved.

"It's something a motivator, this person named Vikrant, has instilled in me. I have been in touch with him for a couple of years, and he's always pushed me to achieve more," Dahiya says. "One line he said after the 2019 World Championship has stayed with me: 'be happy with what you achieve, but don't be satisfied."

The Tokyo silver has been life-altering. The challenge, he says, is to continue the simple lifestyle. So far, he's balanced it well. His rustic charm has made him a showstopper at a fashion show. He has spoken to students about the importance of education. And he has travelled to holy cities for some solitude, his idea of a vacation. But now, he is back where he belongs: on a mat at the Chhatrasal Stadium, where his medal has lifted the gloom that had settled following the incidents of violence earlier this year.

Munesh Kumar, Dahiya's physiotherapist, says one glance around Chhatrasal is enough to understand the impact he has had on the young wrestlers. "For the wrestlers, it was tough to focus on training after the incident. But Ravi's medal lifted everyone's spirits," Kumar says.

Chhatrasal is also where Dahiya's job search finally ended. In 2019, he did get his dream job with the Railways. But after the Olympics, he was offered the post of assistant director at the stadium, which he calls his home. Dahiya isn't interested in occupying the seat just for the sake of it. If he gets free time, he wants to educate himself properly to become a 'good mentor'. just like he's had over the years. "A good athlete can get a good post. But you also need the knowledge to be of help to others," Dahiya says. "Whatever you do, your target has to be clear."

Right now, though, his target is just one. "In Tokyo, I had no doubt that I would win a medal. Just that, I had targeted a gold. I am not saying my opponent did not deserve it. But I just hope that in Paris, I will be more deserving.'

ADVFRTORIAL

The Sun God shines again

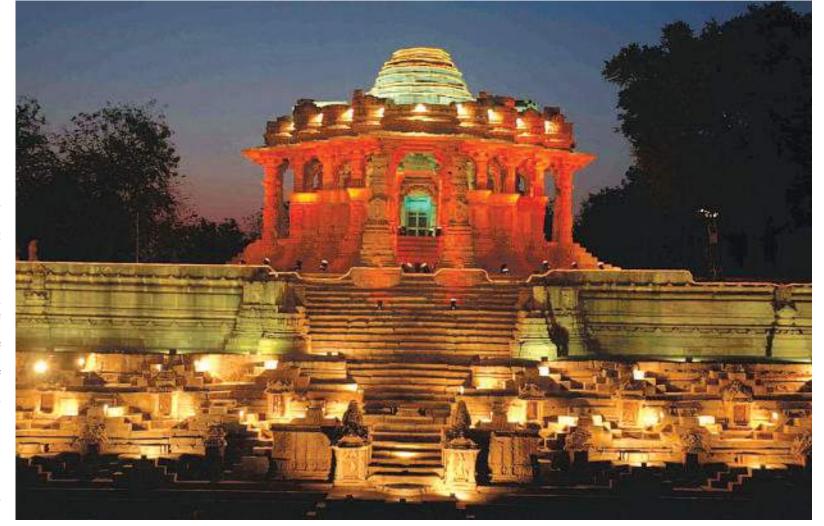
The Modhera temple will be lit up at night by innovatively harnessing solar energy. A perfect draw for tourists during Diwali



owhere would you experience an ode to the Sun God and our ancestral heritage of nature worship speaking to you across time than at the Sun temple in Gujarat's Modhera. As you walk up its Sabha Mandap or the assembly hall, you would find 12 representations of the sun god, known as Aditya, carved in stone and stilled for posterity. It is believed that the 12 forms of Aditya trace the sun's passage across 12 months. Aditya is believed to be the son of Aditi, the goddess of Infinity and the only constant within the inter-connectedness of the universe.

Little wonder then that Prime Minister Narendra Modi chose the Modhera Sun Temple in the heart of Gujarat's Mehsana district to renew the nation's pledge to harness the power of the sun and demonstrate how living in harmony with nature would empower India's future. In August 2021, he inaugurated a 6MW solar power facility three kilometres away from Modhera to provide 24x7 power to the village. As a result, till Diwali this year the temple will be lit by an innovative method using solar energy. Enthusiasts can visit the shrine from 6 pm to 9 pm to experience the temple lit up in all its grandeur. They can also marvel at the three components of the Sun Temple, which consists of a Gudha mandapa (the shrine hall), the Sabha mandapa (the assembly hall) and a kunda

The temple was built in such a way that every equinox, a diamond placed on the head of the Sun God's idol would split the first ray of the morning sun and illuminate the shrine. Visitors can now feel the same incandescence at night. The solar project at Modhera uses a South Korean technology







in such a manner that the electricity generated is passed on to the grid without storing it anywhere.

Built in 1026-27 CE by Bhimadev Solanki I of the Chaulukya dynasty, the Modhera sun temple was constructed to commemorate the efforts of the 20,000 Chaulukya soldiers against Mahmud of Ghazni's invasion of 1024-25 CE.

The structure is made using sandstone and has intricate carvings, both inside and outside. The temple represents the golden age of the Chaulukyan rule from 942 to

The remains of the Sun Temples at Modhera are a testament to the times gone by when people revered the natural elements of fire, air, earth, water and sky and manifested them as Vedic gods. They were considered the primal energy of our life cycle.

The Tourism Corporation of Gujarat even organises the Uttarardha Mahotsav, that venerates the rotational cycle of the earth around the Sun, at Modhera with an annual three-day dance festival in January. This yearly event is aimed at giving classical Indian dance an atmosphere akin to the ones they were originally performed in.

One can inquire with a nearby priest to learn about the tales which have been depicted in the intricate carvings on the 52 pillars of the temple. There are two types of pillars of the Sabhamandapa — the short ones that rest on the walls support the roof while the tall ones rise from the floor. There are close to 108 small shrines in the temple complex. There are various shrines that show various mudras of Lord Shiva that are arranged along the steps leading down to the base of the kund. The temple is protected by the Archeological Survey of India and no worship is offered

Utmost care is taken of tourists by providing them with special services like cafeteria, well-designed seating arrangements, modern & attractive lighting and clean restrooms