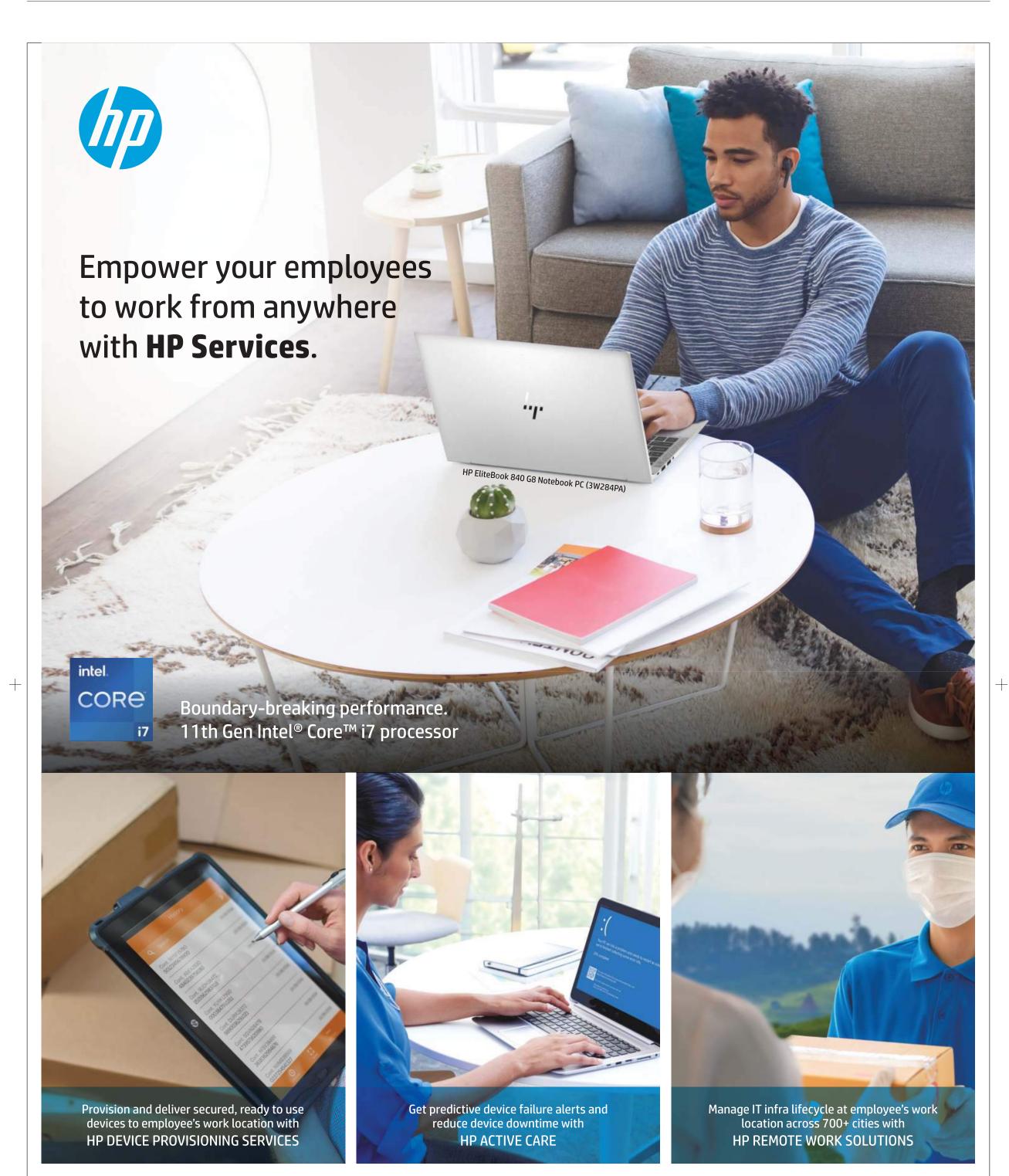


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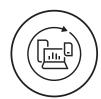


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# Parents Day

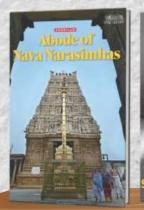
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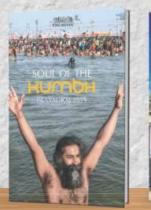
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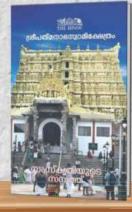


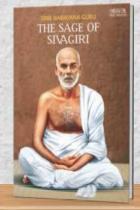










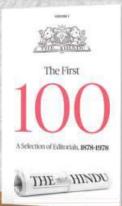


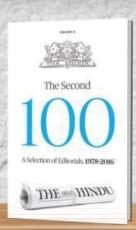


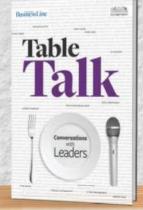






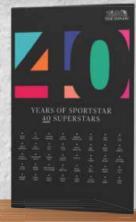




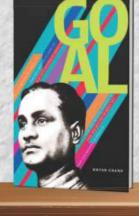


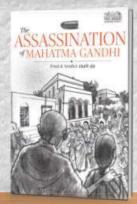




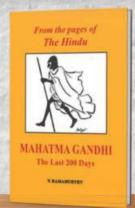




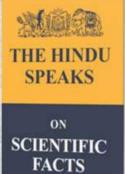


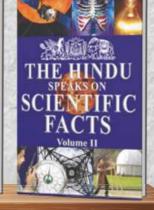






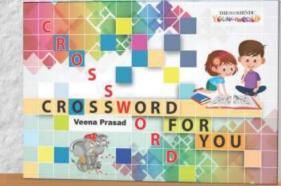


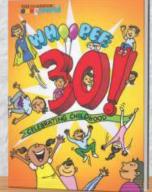




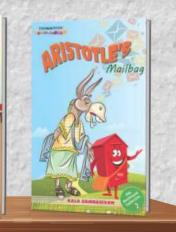












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Vece was part of the Indian hockey team at the 1972 Munich Olympics. Jennifer captained the Indian basketball team at the Asian Basketball Championship in 1980. They had a son. He won India's first medal in tennis at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. His name, as some of you might have guessed by now, is Leander Paes.

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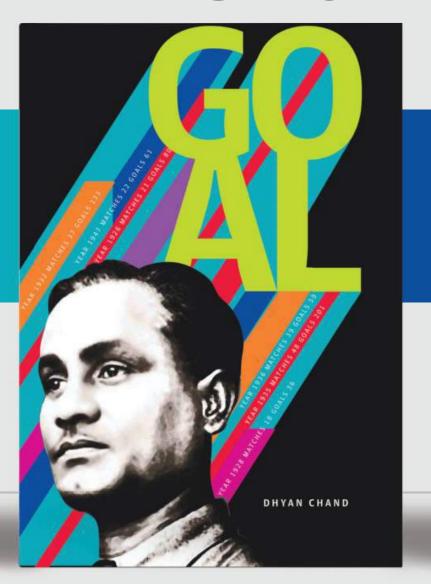
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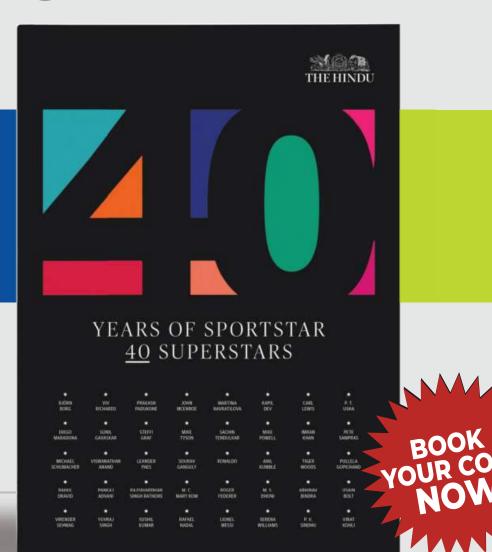
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FRIDAY JULY 30, 202



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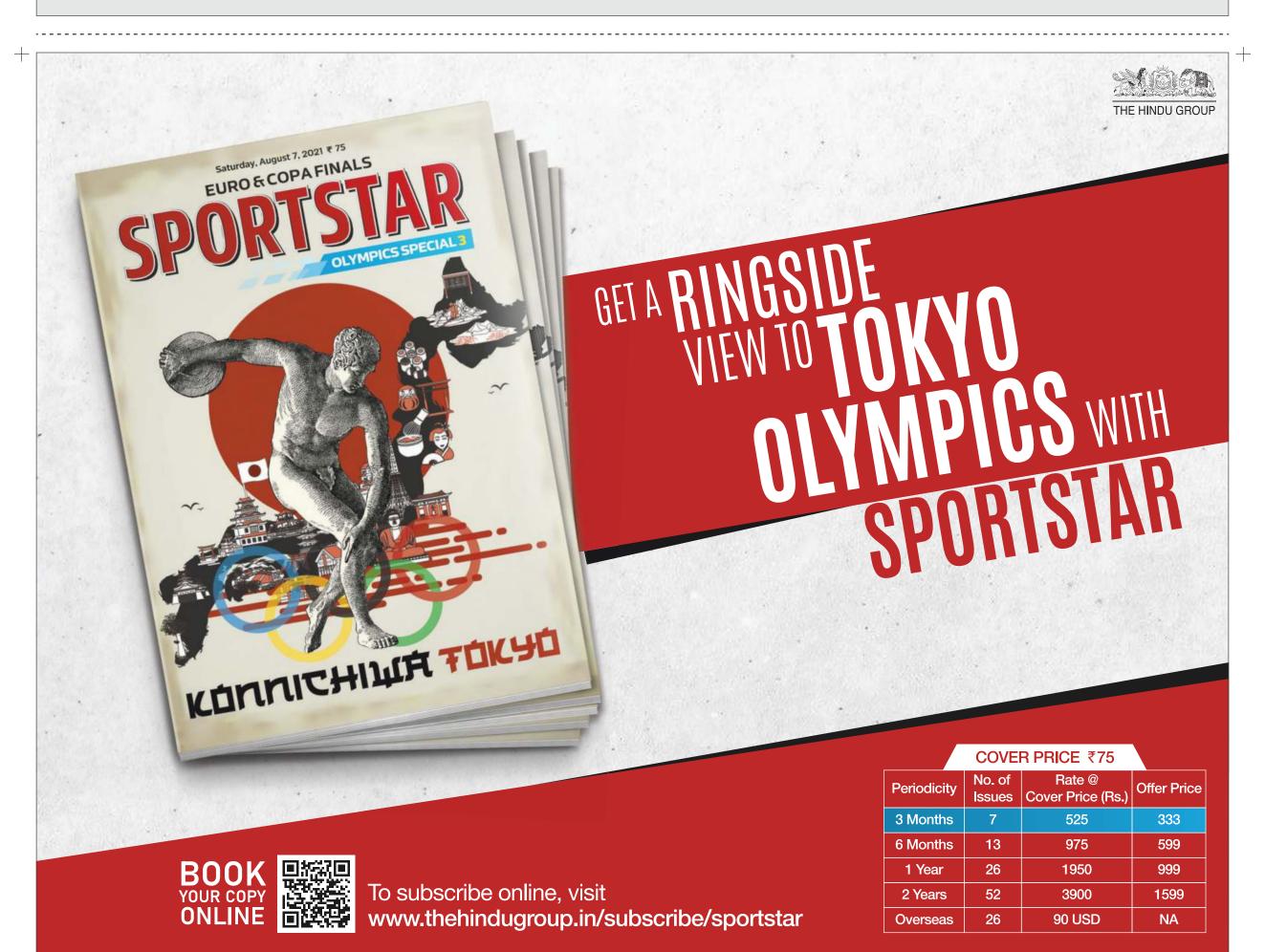


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Waiting to see results from the meeting with PM: Omar Abdullah Page 9



Om Birla 'deeply hurt' by behaviour of some Opposition members



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Turkey courts Biden with offer to protect Kabul airport Page 11

Mary bows out in dramatic fashion; Satish, Sindhu, Atanu advance

### **NEARBY**



Delhi HC objects to case against AAP legislator

The Delhi HC on Thursday slammed the Drugs Control Department for initiating proceedings against AAP MLA Praveen Kumar for distributing oxygen cylinders during the second wave. **CITY** ▶ PAGE 3

### **HC** extends relief for NewsClick founder

NEW DELH The Delhi High Court on Thursday directed the ED not to take any coercive action against NewsClick founder Prabir Purkayastha in a money laundering case, subject to his ioining the investigation. CITY ▶ PAGE 3

# Dhanbad judge killing: two, including auto driver, held

He was hearing two high-profile murders & a coal theft case

### SATYASUNDAR BARIK BHUBANESWAR

The Jharkhand police on Thursday arrested two persons, including the driver of the autorickshaw that "deliberately" knocked down fatally Uttam Anand, additional sessions judge, Dhanbad, on Wednesday morning.

The incident happened when he was jogging on an empty road about 500 m from his official residence. A passer-by took him to hospital but he was declared brought dead.

The judge was hearing two high-profile murder cases and one pertaining to the illegal transportation (theft)



Intentional act: CCTV footage shows the vehicle suddenly veering towards the judge. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Initially, it was thought to be a hit-and-run case. But after the emergence of closed circuit television (CCTV) footage, which has gone viral, it became clear that the hit was deliberate.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8 SC TAKES COGNISANCE ▶ PAGE 8

# 27% for OBCs, 10% for EWS in national quota medical seats

### AIQ introduced in 1986 under SC directions

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Union Health Ministry has announced 27% reservation for the OBCs (Other Backward Classes) and 10% quota for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in the all-India quota (AIQ) scheme for undergraduate and postgraduate medical and dental courses from 2021-22.

This decision, it said, would benefit every year nearly 1,500 OBC students at the undergraduate level (MBBS) and 2,500 such stu-

### The Quota story | A brief timeline of reservations under the all India quota (AIQ):

AIQ was introduced in 1986 for domicile-free merit-based opportunities to medical aspirants of a State to study in a college in

 On July 19, the Madras High Court said that the Centre cannot delay indefinitely the another State

• Under it, 15% and 50% of the UG and PG seats. in government medical colleges are allocated

dents at the postgraduate level, and around 550 EWS students in MBBS and around 1,000 such students in postgraduate courses.

implementation The AIQ was introduced in 1986 under the directions of the Supreme Court to pro-

vide for domicile-free merit-

based opportunities to stu-

reservation to OBCs

under the scheme. It

granted the Centre

a week's time to

and manner of

indicate the mode

In 2007, the Supreme Court

introduced reservation of 15% of

seats in the AIQ for the SCs and

implementation of

7.5% for the STs

seats in government medical colleges. Initially, there was no reservation in the AIQ. In 2007, the Supreme Court introduced reservation of 15% for SCs and 7.5% for STs in the scheme. When the Cen-

dents from any State aspir-

ing to study in a medical

college located in another

State. It comprises 15% of the

UG seats and 50% of the PG

tral Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act became effective that year, providing for uniform 27% reservation to the OBCs, the same was implemented in all the Central educational institutions.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8

# Asthana posting violates SC verdict: Delhi Assembly

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

On the first day of its monsoon session, the Delhi Assembly adopted a resolution expressing "strong disapproval" of the decision of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs to appoint IPS officer Rakesh Asthana as the Delhi Police Commissioner.

The MHA order was "in complete violation" of the Supreme Court's judgment in the Prakash Singh Vs Union of India 2019 case, the resolution said.

The judgment clearly laid down that no individual with less than six months of service left could be considered for appointment as the head of a police force.

Quoting the judgment, the resolution questioned the appointment of what it termed controversial Gujarat cadre officer" such as Mr. Asthana, who is scheduled to retire shortly.

On Mr. Asthana's appointment, the resolution said the post of Commissioner of Police in Delhi "belongs to the



Rakesh Asthana

AGMUT [Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram and Union Territory] IPS cadre" and argued that there had been "multiple inquiries on serious charges" against Mr. Asthana

in the past. It also questioned why an officer who was removed by the Central government from the post of Special Director CBI in October 2018 and not considered fit for the post of CBI Director only very recently, was being "imposed on Delhi Police".

"Given the past track record of this officer, there is a reasonable apprehension that the Central government will use him for foisting false cases on political rivals to create a reign of terror. Such a controversial individual

should not be heading the police force in the country's national capital," the resolution stated.

"This House directs the government of NCT of Delhi to convey to the MHA that the appointment order of Sh. Rakesh Asthana be immediately withdrawn and fresh process for the appointment of Commissioner of Police for Delhi be initiated in accordance with rules and regulations," it stated.

**BJP STAGES WALKOUT ▶** PAGE 3

# Chola idols among 14 art works to be returned by Australia

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI

The National Gallery of Australia (NGA) on Thursday announced that it would return 14 works of art from its Asian art collection to India.

The works being repatriated include 13 objects connected to art dealer Subhash Kapoor through his antique shop 'Art of the Past' in New York, and one acquired from art dealer William Wolff. They include six bronze or stone sculptures, a brass processional standard, a painted scroll and six photographs.

Three other sculptures, also sourced from 'Art of the Past', have been removed from the collection. After research to identify their place of origin, they will be repatriated, the NGA said.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8



One of the idols that is being returned. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

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### Five held for molesting women in Hauz Khas

STAFF REPORTER

Five persons have been arrested for allegedly molesting a 30-year-old woman and her friends in southwest Delhi's Hauz Khas village, the police said on Thursday.

The incident took place on July 18 and a case was registered on July 21, they said. DCP (South-West) Ingit Pratap Singh said the accused have been identified as Dinesh Ram from U.P.. Ashish Shivhare, Vikas Shivhare, Naveen Shivhare, and Ankit Shivhare - all residents of Chattarpur in Madhya Pradesh.

The incident happened when the accused were returning after visiting Vaishno Devi temple in Jammu and Kashmir. Their train to M.P. from Delhi was at 4 a.m. on July 19. Since they had time, the accused went to Hauz Khas village.

The woman alleged that the accused passed lewd comments at them when they were waiting for a cab.

# Constable, aide held for killing man, dumping body in canal

New Ashok Nagar SHO suspended for delay in registering FIR, says DCP

HEMANI BHANDARI NEW DELHI

A police constable and his accomplice were arrested for allegedly beating a 28-yearold man to death after a verbal altercation in east Delhi's New Ashok Nagar a month ago. The accused dumped his body in a canal in Uttar Pradesh.

New Ashok Nagar Station House Officer has been suspended for delay in registering an FIR, said DCP (East) Priyanka Kashyap.

The police said they have arrested constable Monu Sirohi, who was posted in Pandav Nagar police station and his accomplice Harish, a resident of Laxmi Nagar.

The duo has been accused of kidnapping and murder.

The victim – Aieet Kumar from New Kundli – was a vegetable vendor, an officer said.

Ms. Kashyap said a missing report of the victim was registered on June 13.

A case of abduction under



Victim Ajeet Kumar

Sections 365 and 34 of the IPC was registered on July 27. The accused were arrested on Wednesday.

Ajeet goes missing The victim's relative, who

didn't wish to be identified, said Ajeet went missing on Iune 4. They started looking for him and thought he must have gone to a relative's house. However, after not being able to locate him for days, they reported the matter to the police on June 13.

"The investigating officer had told us that he would come and look into the CCTV

STAFF REPORTER

north-east riots.

The Delhi High Court on

Thursday asked Delhi Police

to respond to a bail applica-

tion by former AAP council-

lor Tahir Hussain in a case

arising out of the city's

Justice Mukta Gupta di-

rected that the bail applica-

tion be listed before Justice

Yogesh Khanna, who is hear-

ing bail applications moved

by Mr. Hussain in other riots

NEW DELHI

A video of the incident was recorded by a local. We had also given the video to

VICTIM'S RELATIVE

footage of the area. But, he did not come. We continued to visit the police station and they kept ignoring us," he

the police, but no

action was taken

The victim's family said a video of the incident was recorded by a local. In the video, four persons can be seen thrashing two men. One of them managed to flee the

"We had also given the video to the police, but no action was taken," he said.

The accused were later identified as constable Monu, Vikas, Vineet and Harish. The victims were Ajeet and his friend Atul.

On June 15, the family told the police that they suspect

Senior Advocate Mohit

Mathur, appearing for Mr.

Hussain, said apart from the

FIR in question in the pre-

sent case, other FIRs have al-

so been registered against

the accused by police station

bail application be also

tagged along with the pleas

already pending before Jus-

STAFF REPORTER

A 19-year-old youth died

after his bike collided with

a bus in Dwarka, the pol-

The police said they re-

ceived a PCR call on Wed-

nesday at 10.30 p.m. re-

garding an accident on

Samaspur Road. On reach-

ing the spot, they found

the bike and the bus but

were informed that the in-

ice said on Thursday.

NEW DELHI

The present FIR pertains

Mr. Mathur urged that this

High Court seeks police response

on bail petition by Tahir Hussain

that Ajeet was abducted and killed. However, again, no action was taken.

When the video reached senior officers, an FIR was registered under Section 365 and 34 of the IPC and it was found that Monu was absconding. He was arrested from Bulandshahr, sources

During interrogation, he disclosed that on the night of the incident, he - in civil dress - was in his car with his three friends when they got involved in a fight with two passers-by - Ajeet and

**Both sides drunk** 

Both sides were drunk at the time of the incident. The constable allegedly thrashed Ajeet to death, put his body in the car and dumped it in a waterbody in Uttar Pradesh. The police said sections of murder and criminal conspiracy, including other relevant sections, have been registered against the accused.

to the alleged commission of

offences of rioting and des-

truction of public property

by Mr. Hussain in Dayalpur.

tain to the injuries suffered

by two people on account of

stones, throwing petrol

bombs and firing gunshots

from the terrace of Mr. Hus-

sain's house and allege com-

mission of offences of at-

tempt to murder and rioting,

iured was shifted to Rao

Tula Ram Hospital. The

victim - Rahul from Mi-

traun village - was de-

The police said the

bus was in its lane when

the bike collided with it.

The bus driver is on the

A case has been regis-

tered on charges of

causing death by negli-

gence and rash driving.

clared brought dead.

and violation of Arms Act.

Biker dies in road accident

The other two cases per-

riotous mob pelting

# Nurse arrested for thrashing 2-month-old boy in hospital

Accused suspected to be drunk at the time of the incident

HEMANI BHANDARI NEW DELHI

A nurse has been arrested on Thursday for allegedly thrashing a two-month-old boy in a hospital in Shahdara's Vivek Vihar, the police

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Shahdara) R. Sathiyasundaram said the accused has been identified as Somayya (24). During inquiry, it was revealed that she used to get drunk during the job. It is suspected that she was drunk on the night of the incident, police said.

The victim's father – Sabeeb (28) from Uttar Pradesh's Hathras - told the police that his wife delivered twins in May but one of their sons, Ahaan, fell sick on July 16. He then took Ahaan to a

local hospital where the doctors asked him to take the baby to Delhi for better treatment. He then got his son admitted to Care New Born & Child Hospital in Vivek Vihar on July 18. The complainant said he

was visiting the hospital daily. But on July 24, he received a call from the hospital that his son got injured. Mr. Sabeeb immediately

reached the hospital and found that Ahsan's hand was fractured and his face was

'Hand fractured'

Mr. Sabeeb alleged that the doctor refused to tell how the incident happened and also threatened him with dire consequences if he approached the police.

The complainant said he managed to watch the CCTV footage of the room where his son was admitted.

**CCTV** footage

In the footage, a nurse can be seen thrashing his son at around 4 a.m. on July 24, he alleged.

Mr. Sabeeb then approached the police on July 27. An FIR was registered under Sections 325 (punishment for voluntarily causing grievous hurt), 506 (criminal intimidation) and 34 (common intention) of the Indian Penal Code and under relevant Sections of Juvenile Justice Act on Wednesday night.

Further investigation is under way, the police ad-

A youth walks in rain in Bharat Nagar in the Capital on

# Capital gets heavy rain

Rain likely to continue today, says IMD

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Capital received heavy rain in several areas on Thursday with the Safdarjung – the official weather station of the city - recording 72 mm rainfall during the

Most affected areas

Waterlogging and traffic jams were reported from across the city, specially from areas in south Delhi.

The maximum temperature settled at 27.6 degrees Celsius, which was seven degrees below normal and the minimum temperature 24 degrees Celsius, three degrees below normal.

Rain is likely to continue in the city with the IMD fore-

casting a "generally cloudy sky with moderate rain" on Friday with the maximum and minimum temperature hovering around 32 and 25 degrees Celsius. The IMD has forecast clou-

dy weather with light to moderate showers for the next four days in the Capital. Temperatures are also likely to be kept in check with the maximum hovering around 30 degrees Celsius.

A bulletin issued by the IMD for the region said: "Current spell of widespread rainfall activity with isolated heavy to very heavy falls very likely to continue over Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Punjab and Haryana till July 30 and reduction thereafter."

### Exorbitant fee: DoE to take over school administration

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Directorate of Education (DoE) on Thursday said it will take over the management of Bal Bharti School, Rohini, after getting a go-ahead from the Lieutenant-Governor.

It said the Delhi government had issued orders several times to the school to withdraw the arbitrarily increased fees, but the school management did not to comply with the orders.

It said Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had approved the proposal of the DoE to take over the management of Bal Bharti School and the file sent to the L-G has been approved.

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia assured parents that the Kejriwal government will not allow schools to increase fees arbitrarily.

The DoE said it had conducted an in-depth inspection of the financial statements of Bal Bharti School and came to the conclusion that there is no need for the management to increase

GOVT. OF ASSAM, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICE, ASSAM

No. HSPB/02/Diet/2021/130

### **NOTICE**

The following corrigendum have been made in the Tender Document vide this Directorate e-tender No. HSPB/02/Diet/2021/113, Dated 20-07-2021 issued by this Directorate after pre-bid meeting held

- 1. Bidders have to quote a reasonable rate per patient per day as per day menu published in the Bid Document. Unreasonable rates will be rejected though it is found to be L-1.
- 2. A Financially Sound Certificate from Nationalized Bank may be submitted by the bidders instead of Bank Guarantee (Annexure IX of the Bid Document).
- 3. The bidder shall supply diet to the inpatient as per menu and time &day schedule as indicated in page-3 published in the Bid Document. The item list with quantity published in the Bid Document (Page-4) has been deleted.
- 1. No bidder can sublet the tender to any other person. If any bidder is found subletting, his tender will liable to be cancelled

This corrigendum will also be available in the portal http://assamtenders.gov.in

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Director of Health Services, Assam

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### PUBLICATION - DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Section 13(2) of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 - Sent on 11-06-2021 by Registered Post ment Due and the same was returned by all. Hence this

No.1) Mrs. Sarita, W/o. Rajinder Prashad, at WS-5B, Gali No.1, Sudampuri West, Babarpur Near Mother Dairy, Jafrabaj, Delhi - 110032. No.2) Mr. Rajinder Prashad, S/o. Marhipal at WS-5B, Gali No.1, Sudampuri West, Babarpur Near Mother Dairy, Jafrabaj, Delhi - 110032. No.3) Mr. Gagan, S/o. Rajinder Prashad, at WS-5B, Gali No.1, Sudampuri West, Babarpur Near Mother Dairy, Jafrabaj, Delhi - 110032. No.4) Mr. Pankaj Gahlat, S/o. Rajinder Prashad, at WS-5B, Gali No.1, Sudampuri West, Babarpur Near Mother Dairy, Jafrabai, Delhi-110032.

Dear Sir/ Madam Sub: Loan account / Overdraft with City Union Bank Limited, New Delhi Laxmi Nagar Branch in the name of Mrs. Sarita, W/o. Rajinder Prashad.

The Bank issued Notice under the SARFAESI Act on 11-06-2021 calling upon all of you to repay the outstanding amount of Rs.21,10,033/- (Rupees Twenty One Lakh Ten Thousand and Thirty Three Only) as on 03-06-2021 with further interest for 501312030019353 (SWAYAM GRIHA - SAL BR) at 11.25% plus 2.00% penal interest p.a. (not compounded) with monthly rests from 04-06-2021 till the date of repayment. The notice sent to you by Registered Post have been returned by all.

Therefore, we hereby once again call upon you all to pay Rs.21.10.033/- (Rupees Twenty One Lakh Ten Thousand and Thirty Three Only) with further interest for 501312030019353 (SWAYAM GRIHA - SAL BR) at 11.25% plus 2.00% penal interest p.a. (not compounded) with monthly rests from 04-06-2021 till the date of repayment within 60 days from the date of this notice failing which Bank will be Constrained to exercise its rights of enforcement of security interest as against the secured assets given in the schedule hereunder. This Notice is published/issued without prejudice to any other right/remedy available to the Bank.

### Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank (Property Owned by Mrs. Sarita, W/o. Rajinder Prashad)

MIG Flat No.G-1, Admeasuring 500 Sq.Ft. on Plot No.B-1/141 and Plot No.B-1/141 A, DLF Dilshad Ext.II, Village Brahmpura Urf Bhopura, Pargana Loni, Tehsil & District Gazhiabad, UP - 201005. Bounded as under : East - Road 30 ft. wide, West - Property No. B-1/142, North - Portion of Same Plot, South - Others' Property

Telephone No. 0435-2402322, Fax: 0435-2431746, Website: www.cityunionbank.com

Place: Kumbakonam, Date: 27-07-2021 **Authorised Officer** Regd. Office: 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, CIN - L65110TN1904PLC001287,

### NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY **E-Tender Notice**

Opened E- tender based on Singl Packet system (Tender Notice No. M/C&W/01/2021-22 dt. 28.07.2021 re invited by Divisional Rail Manager/Mech./C&W/Varanasi/N.E Railway for and on behalf of Presiden of India for following work:-

Description of works: Provision o Quick Watering System (QWS) Watering Hydrant & AMC of QWS stem at MAU Junction & prov of new watering Hydrant at CI, ARJ light repair shed and dismantling repair and relaying of existing atering Hydrant at BSBS, BCY and GCT station of Varanasi Division Approx. Value (Rs.)- 3,05,36,375.09 Earnest Money-Nil(Authority RI Letter no. 2020/CE-1/CT/3E/GCC/ Poliev dt. 30.12.20) Cost of Tende Paper- Nil (Authority RB Letter no. 2020/CE-I/CT/3E/GCC/Policy dt 16.07.2020) Period:- For Supply Installation & Commissioning, For QWS(Part I)- 180 days from the dt. of issue of LOA, For Installation of Hydrant dismantling, repair and elaying of Hydrants(Part II): 12 months from the date of Issue o OA, Warranty Period:- Minimun Eighteen Months from the date of Commissioning for OWS & Hydran Pipe line works. Comprehensiv AMC:- Two years from the Expiry dt. of warranty period for systems installed in OWS. Date and time o closing of E-Tender: 26.08.2021 at 14.30 Hrs. Date and time of opening of E-Tender: 26.08.2021 at 15.00 Hrs • Tenderers may submit their offers online up to 26.08.2021 at 14.30 Hrs. ● P1. go to the website www.ireps.gov.in to see the complete details and upload the tender. Sr. DME/C&W/BSB

CPRO/Mech.-20 N.E. Railway, Varanasi About any passenger amenity complain SMS on Mobile No. 09794845955

Never travel on roof and foot boards"

### **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways Government of India**

run

No. . PW-CE-NH-CTR-Tender Notice/Consultancy/2021-1474-81 Dated: <u>28-07-202</u>

Government of Himcahal Pradesh has been assigned the work of Project Managemen Consultancy services for Widening to 4-lane of NH-105 from Km 35/00 to Km 66/275

. Proposals are hereby invited from eligible Project Management Consultancy (PMC) firms for preparation of Detailed Project Report, Pre construction activity and Project supervision during construction as well as maintenance period for the work of Project Managemen Consultancy Services for Widening to 4-lane of NH-105 from Km 35/00 to Km 66/275 of Nalagarh Swarghat road in the State of Himachal Pradesh. The Letter of Invitation (LOI) and Terms of Reference (ToR) including Request for Proposal (RFP) is available online on e-tender portal of https://eprocure.gov.in. The document can also be downloaded from www.infracon.nic.in. Cost of the Document must be furnished in the form of a non refundable fee of INR 5,000 (Rupees Five Thousand only) by way of online payment only (payment through other modes shall not be accepted), through Bharat Kosh Portal(https://bharatkosh.gov.in) [Select (i)Purpose: Sale of Tender Documents (ii)Pay and Account officer:\_Regional pay & Account officer MoRTH( Chandigarh)and (iii) Drawing & Disbursing officer(DDO): Regional Officer, MoRTH, Shimla-171002. The online paymen receipt shall be submitted while submitting the proposal. The application form without proo of payment of application fee will be rejected without any intimation. Brief particulars of the

	0 40 101101101			
State	Name of the National Highway	Tentative length in km	Estimated PMC cost (in Rs. Cr.)	Assignment period
Himachal Pradesh	NH-105	32.00 Km.	8.00	96 months [10 months for DPR+ 8 months for preconstruction activity + 18 months for the construction + 5 years for Maintenance]

. All the bidders registered on Infracon shall form a Team on Infracon and which would

Highway(https://eprocure.gov.in) on or before 28.08.2021 at 17:00 hrs.

10.08.2021 at 15:00 hrs. Deadline for Submission of bids : 28.08.2021 at 17:00 hrs. Opening of Technical bids : 31.08.2021 at 11.00 hrs

Chief Engineer

: 07.08.2021 at 15:00 hrs.

# NGT dismisses petition against felling of trees for redevelopment project

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has dismissed a plea moved against the felling of trees – related to the redevelopment project of the General Pool Residential Accommodation (GPRA) colonies in the Capital.

The green panel observed that the Delhi High Court had held that the project was an integral

part of the GPRA redevelopment project. Noting that the petitioner had filed another plea on the same matter, a Bench headed by NGT chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel said a second petitioner on the same subiect was maintainable.

The green panel also stated that while the High Court had dealt with the project in Nauroji Nagar, the said project was an integral part of the GPRA redevelopment project and was governed by the same considerations.

"It is thus clear that the Tribunal has already taken the view that the matter having been dealt with by the Delhi High Court, any further order of the Tribunal will be in conflict with the same and is not permissible," the Bench said.

### **HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT E-Procurement Notice INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

1. The Executive Engineer HP.PWD Rohru Distt. Shimla H.P on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the online bids on item rates, in electronic tendering system, in 2 cover system for the under mentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/firms registered with HP.PWD Department.

Sr. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Starting Date for downloading BID	E/Money	Deadline for submission of BID
1.	C/O Targali Gangti Gola road KM 0/0 to 1/0 (SH:- C/O B/wall in wire crate at RD 0/860 to 0/880 & R/wall at RD 0/810 to 0/860)	Rs. 9,91,835/-	10-08-2021 1800 HRS	Rs. 20,000/-	17-08-2021 1800 HRS
2.	C/O link road from Bagi Khabal road to Bashla Denwari KM 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- F/C 5/7 mtr wide road at RD 0/405 to 0/705)	Rs. 9,68,483/-	10-08-2021 1800 HRS	Rs. 19,400/-	17-08-2021 1800 HRS
3.	C/O link road from Kundralu Bawadi to H.B. Shonthru km 0/0 to 4/0 (SH:- F/C 5/7 mtr wide road at RD 0/0 to 1/120)	Rs. 25,85,192/-	10-08-2021 1800 HRS	Rs. 46,300/-	17-08-2021 1800 HRS
4.	C/O Bakhirna Panu Thyantu road km 0/0 to 3/0 (SH:- F/C 5/7 mtr wide road at RD 2/505 to 2/900)	Rs. 11,42,475/-	10-08-2021 1800 HRS	Rs. 23,000/-	17-08-2021 1800 HRS
5.	C/O link road from Badiyara Manghara Pali Udhaypur road KM 0/0 to 1/325 (SH:- F/C 5/7 mtr wide road at RD 0/360 to 0/810)	Rs. 19,26,020/-	10-08-2021 1800 HRS	Rs. 36,400/-	17-08-2021 1800 HRS
6.	C/O Mehandli Tikkar road km 0/0 to 28/600 (SH:- C/O R/wall PCC 1:3:6 at RD 0/216.50 to 0/223)	Rs. 9,80,820/-	10-08-2021 1800 HRS	Rs. 20,000/-	17-08-2021 1800 HRS
7.	C/O Bhampar Jakhnoti Haunchali road km 0/0 to 5/200 (SH:- C/O HPC 900mm dia at RD 4/005 & 4/650)	Rs. 9,97,150/-	10-08-2021 1800 HRS	Rs. 20,000/-	17-08-2021 1800 HRS

The bidders are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website www.hptenders.gov.in. Executive Enginee B&R Divn. HPPWD, Rohru HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

### कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कायलिय पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, जमशेदपूर Email ID- eedwsd.jamshedpur@gmail.com

<u>शुद्धि पत्र</u>

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमंत्रित ई0 निविदा सूचना संख्या RWSS-20/JSR/2021-22 दिनांक 27.07.2021, जिसका PR No. 250337 (Drinking Water & Sanitation) 21-22 D में निम्नांकित संशोधन किया जाता है।

> House, R.C.C. Gangway 40 M long and 3.00 M wide, 1.00 MLD capacity Unconventional Water Treatment Plant, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir- (i) 2.30 Lakh Litre capacity with 18 M Staging, Staff Quarter, Compound wall,

Detailed survey, designing and drawing,

Construction of R.C.C. Intake Well cum Pump

Approach road, Supplying and laying Raw and Clear Water rising main and Distribution Network, House Connection, Supplying and Installation of VT and Centrifugal pump motor, Five years operation & maintenance with allied works etc. all complete job for Nutangarh & Adjoining village Rural pipe Water Supply Scheme under D.W. & S. Division Jamshedpur

on turnkey basis.'

निविदा की अन्य नियम एवं शर्ते यथावत रहेगी । PR 250416 Drinking Water and Sanitation(21-22).D

पूर्व में प्रकाशित

Detailed survey, designing and drawing,

Construction of 5.0 M dia RCC Intake well cum

pump house, Gangway 40 mtr. length and 3.00 mtr.

wide, 1.0 MLD capacity water Treatment Plant, 1

No. ESR, Infiltration Gallery, Compound wall,

Supplying and laying Raw/clear water rising main

& Laving Distribution Network, Supplying and

Installation of vertical turbine and Centrifugal

pump motor, 63 KVA & 63 KVA Power

transformer with Dedicated 11 KV Power line from

substation and two years Operation and

Maintenance with allied works etc. all complete job

for work of Nutangarh Rural pipe Water Supply

Scheme under D.W. & S. Division Jamshedpur on

turnkey basis.'

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, पेयजल एव स्वच्छता प्रमडल, जमशेदपुर

# **NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)**

1. The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways through Public Works Department, of Nalagarh Swarghat road in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

workar	WOIK are as follows.								
State	Name of the National Highway	Tentative length in km	Estimated PMC cost (in Rs. Cr.)	Assignment period					
Himachal Pradesh	NH-105	32.00 Km.	8.00	96 months [10 months for DPR+ 8 months for preconstruction activity + 18 months for the construction + 5 years for Maintenance]					

3. The RFP has also been uploaded on "INFRACON" (www.infracon.nic.in). As such before submitting the proposal, the PMC firms shall mandatorily register and enlist themselves (the firm and all key personnel), on the MoRTH portal "INFRACON" and furnish registration details along with its RFP. A copy of Infracon Operation Procedure is also enclosed fo

be assigned unique Infracon Team ID. Bidders while submitting the proposal shall quote the Infracon Team ID. . Bid must be submitted online at e-tendering portal of The Ministry Road Transport and

The following schedule is to be followed for this assignment : 28.08.2021 at 17:00 hrs Deadline for downloading of bids

Last date for submission of queries

Yours Sincerely Phone: 0177-2629416 Email: ce-nh-hp@nic.in National Highway, romorthshimla@gmail.com HPPWD, Shimla-2

HP / 2861/21-22

### Timings DELHI

FRIDAY, JUL. 30								
۱	RISE	05:42	SET 19:14					
	RISE	23:22	SET 11:31					

SATURDAY, JUL. 31 RISE 05:43 SET 19:13 RISE 23:53 SET 12:24 SUNDAY, AUG. 01 RISE 05:43 SET 19:13

RISE 00:00 SET 13:18

**Delhi Weather** max Delhi City Safdarjang 24

Delhi Palam Today 31°C Light to moderate rain and thundershower likely at

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow** 32°C Few spells of light rain and thundershower likely at some places with cloudy sky and gentle winds.

THEMAHINDU DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries is satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding n advertisement before responding to ny published in this newspaper. The UBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Worwer of this newspaper, does not vouch where of the authenticity of any advertisement a dvertiser of for any of the advertisers he owner. Publisher, Printer, Editor, Dir-ctor/s, Employees of this newspaper/ ompany be held responsible/liable in ny manner whatsoeyer, for any claims

any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in

### IN BRIEF

### Three arms traffickers held, weapons seized

NEW DELHI In two separate operations, a team of Special Cell has arrested an inter-State firearms traffickers and recovered 25 pistols and 75 live cartridges from their possession, said a senior police officer on Thursday. The arrested have been identified as Suraj Parmar from M.P. and Ravi Kumar and Pradeep Kumar from Uttar Pradesh, the police

### Woman dead, daughter injured as roof collapses

A 40-year-old woman died and her daughter was injured after the roof of their shanty collapsed due to heavy rains in south-east Delhi's Govindpuri on Thursday, officials said. The officers said Pooja (24), who got trapped under the debris suffered minor injuries, while her mother, Urmila was pulled out in an unconscious state and rushed to hospital. She was declared brought dead

### Removal of blockade at Tikri border sought

A Bahadurgarh industry body, representing around 9,000 units, has sought the intervention of Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal into encroachment on both sides of the NH passing through the city by agitating farmers. They said it has led to financial loss and hardships.

# HC objects to case against AAP MLA for helping COVID patients

'Won't permit prosecution of good Samaritans for providing aid when govt. failed'

### STAFF REPORTER

The Delhi High Court on Thursday slammed the Drugs Control Department of Delhi for initiating proceedings against Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MLA Praveen Kumar for procuring and distributing oxygen cylinders during the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A Bench of Justice Vipin Sanghi and Justice Jasmeet Singh said they could not permit prosecution of good Samaritans for helping society at a time when the authorities had failed to provide oxygen.

"If you initiate prosecution like this, you will have to pick up half the gurdwaras, temples, churches and all political parties as well. We won't allow this," the High Court remarked, adding it was "unfortunate that a tragedy is being used for political capital".

### **Gambhir case**

STAFF REPORTER

stood at 25,049.

active cases.

The Capital reported 51 new

COVID-19 cases in the past

24 hours, taking the total

cases to 14,36,144, as per a

bulletin released by the Del-

hi government on Thursday

the total number of deaths

There was no death and

A total of 67,368 tests

were done in a day and the

test positivity rate (TPR) was

0.08%. Of the total cases,

14,10,541 people have reco-

vered and there are only 554

The number of daily CO-

VID-19 vaccine doses admi-

nistered in the city was

slightly up on Thursday, as

A total of 57,752 doses of

vaccine were administered

in the city on Wednesday,

More vaccinations

per government data.

NEW DELHI

The High Court, however, drew a distinction between the AAP MLA's case and that of BJP MP from the East Delhi constituency Gautam Gambhir, who had procured, stocked and distribut-



leader Praveen Kumar for distributing oxygen cylinders during the second wave. • FILE PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

ed a large quantity of the FabiFlu medicine to CO-VID-19 patients.

The High Court remarked that Mr. Gambhir had "irresponsibly hoarded medicines" when people did not have access to them. Though Mr. Gambhir's intentions were "in the right place, it is not allowed", the High Court noted.

The HC gave time to the **Drugs Control Department** of Delhi to clear its stand on whether it wished to prosecute all such persons who had procured or distributed medical oxygen free of cost to needy COVID-19 patients and listed the case for further hearing on August

51 fresh infections, no deaths

reported; 554 active cases in city

Number of daily vaccine doses administered sees slight rise

**JAB** METER

25,59,591

VACCINATION

VACCINATION -

Female 42,14,605

Others 2,157

month.

DOSE 2

**DOSES** 99,09,664\*

Male 56,92,902

Tuesday, as per another bul-

letin. But it is still less than

half of vaccinations done on

many days earlier this

The number of daily vac-

cinations is expected to pick

up as people who are 18 and

above, who started getting

their first dose from May 1,

"Had we not said that you will not proceed against oxygen? If this is the way you are going to proceed, then you proceed against half of Delhi and also proceed against all the gurdwaras. How can you take such a hyper technical view," the Bench asked.

The High Court was informed by the Drugs Control Department of Delhi's counsel that prosecution had been launched against the Gautam Gambhir Foundation and AAP MLA Imran Hussain Kumar for alleged violations under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, and a trial court had on July 28 taken cognisance of the issue and issued summons to them for August 26.

Senior advocate Kailash

SITES CONDUCTING INOCULATION

45-60

47,93,638 31,98,102 19,17,924

23,65,730

second dose from this week.

Thursday morning would

last for four days and there

were 6,09,610 doses of Cov-

ishield vaccine and 2,17,030

doses of Covaxin, as per the

data. Till now, 98,37,195 dos-

es of vaccines have been ad-

ministered in the city.

The vaccine stock on

**VACCINATION BY AGE** 

Covidshield Covaxin

**VACCINE TYPE** 

75,10,481

compared to 37,825 doses on have become eligible for the

Private Total

Above 60

Sprutnik V

Vasudev, representing Mr. Gambhir, urged the court to grant him a hearing as he wished to make certain clarifications. He also requested the court to clarify in its order that the adverse observations made against Mr. Gambhir at the HC would not be used against him before the trial court at which prosecution had been initiated against him.

The High Court made it clear that the observations made by it earlier in these hearings would not come in the way of proceedings in the trial court.

### **COVID-19 medicines**

The HC was hearing a petition seeking the lodging of an FIR on allegations that politicians were able to procure COVID-19 medicines in huge quantities and distribute them even as patients were running from pillar to post to get them.

Earlier, the Drugs Control Department of Delhi had told the High Court that the Gambhir Foundation had been found guilty of unauthorised stocking, procurement and distribution of the FabiFlu medicine to CO-VID-19 patients.

# 'Coordinate to provide relief

STAFF REPORTER

jendra Pal Gautam on Thursday directed officials of District Child Protection units to work closely with the Revenue Department to provide financial assistance to children, who were orphaned due to the pandemic, authorities said.

On May 18, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had said that every child who lost both parents to CO-VID-19 will be provided free education and given ₹2,500 per month till the age of 25.

On July 6, the Chief Minister announced 'Mukhya mantri COVID-19 Pariwar Aarthik Sahayata Yojna', under which ₹50,000 will be given as a one-time compensation to all families who lost someone to CO-VID-19. This is in addition to the scheme for the or-

# to orphans'

Social Welfare Minister Ra-

phaned children.

# HC extends relief to NewsClick founder

It tells ED not to take coercive action

STAFF REPORTER

The Delhi High Court on Thursday directed the Enforcement Directorate (ED) not to take any coercive action against NewsClick founder and editor-in-chief Pra-Purkayastha connection with a money laundering case subject to

his joining the investigation. Justice Mukta Gupta extended the interim protection granted to Mr. Pur-

hearing on September 2. The High Court also recorded that the ED was yet from Worldwide to supply a copy of its Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) to the parties concerned.

On June 21, the court had directed the ED not to take coercive action against the news portal as well as its edwith the case.It had also iscopy of the ECIR lodged by



The money laundering case arises out of a Delhi Police FIR alleging that PPK kayastha till the next date of NewsClick Studio Pvt. Ltd. received Foreign Direct Investment of ₹9.59 crore Media Holdings LLC USA during the financial year 2018-19.

The FIR claimed that the investment was made by greatly overvaluing the shares of the petitioner company to allegedly avoid the cap of 26% of FDI in a itor-in-chief in connection digital news website. It further alleged that some of sued notice to the ED on the the investment was sinews portal's plea seeking a phoned off for various other

# HC asks govts. to reply on COVID-19 relief plea

Minors seek implementation of scheme

STAFF REPORTER

The Delhi High Court on Thursday asked the Centre and the AAP government to respond to the grievances raised by two minor siblings seeking implementation of scheme to give compensation to those who lost their breadwinner sole COVID-19.

Justice Rekha Palli granted three weeks' time to the authorities to submit their

affidavits while posting the case for further hearing on August 26. "Respondents pray for time to seek instructions on whether grievances of the petitioners can be ad-

dressed expeditiously. Respondents also granted three weeks' time to file counter," the court said.

### **Existing policy**

Delhi government's counsel said there was a policy in existence for families who have lost their bread earners to COVID-19.

tra for the minor siblings said that the plea was urgent in nature and a scheme under the name of Mukhyamantri COVID-19 Pariwar Aarthik Sahayata Yojana had already been launched by the Delhi government.

Advocate Bharat Malho-

The court was hearing a petition by the minor children of a 41-year-old man who died due to COVID-19.

The children's father was admitted to Jaipur Golden Hospital on April 18. He died on April 24 due

to lack of oxygen supply as he was allegedly provided very minimal support of oxygen due to the shortage, the plea said. The petition sought direc-

tion to the authorities to expeditiously implement the schemes of grant of compensation which have been proposed for the victims' families on account of death caused due to lack of oxygen supply or death due to CO-VID-19 and further release the amount expeditiously.

### **CHRI** allowed to utilise funds to pay salaries

STAFF REPORTER

The Delhi High Court on Thursday allowed Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI), whose registration has been temporarily suspended for alleged violations of foreign contribution law, to utilise a portion of its funds in the Central government's custody for payment of salaries to employees.

Justice Rekha Palli said that Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative made out a prima facie case to "utilise the amount lying in custody to the extent of 25% to meet expenses pertaining to salaries of employees and other personnel engaged in projects undertaken before passing of the impugned order [of suspension]".

The court's order came despite Central government standing counsel Anil Soni's request for more time to decide the CHRI's request as the authority concerned was awaiting the report of the field agency.

"How are these people going to be paid? I don't want to give you time," Justice Palli said adding, "Keeping in view CO-VID-19, the employees are finding it hard to meet ends...'

"In my view, the decision whether the petitioner can be permitted to use portion of foreign contribution in possession cannot depend on the field agency. It can at best be a material to take further appropriate action on the suspension order," the court said, while posting the matter for October 5.

### **TO ADVERTISE** PLEASE CONTACT

Mr. N SELVA KUMAR

PH: 9820350726 selvakumar.n@thehindu.co.in

THE HINDU

# BJP walks out over resolution against new Delhi Police chief

Asthana's appointment is within govt. rules, says Bidhuri

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The debate in the Delhi Assembly over the adoption of a resolution against the appointment of IPS officer Rakesh Asthana as city Police Commissioner saw a bitter exchange between AAP and BJP legislators. The Opposition MLAs staged a walkout and were allowed to return after the resumption of proceedings post-lunch.

The entire BJP legislature party, led by Leader of the Opposition Ramvir Singh Bidhuri, strongly protested against the resolution.

Mr. Bidhuri said the accusations against the appointment of the new Police Commissioner were baseless and did not violate any judgment

of the Supreme Court. "The appointment is within all the parameters laid down in government rules and in the coming days Delhi will witness the law and order situation improving tremendously, including crackdown on corruption and criminals," Mr. Bidhuri said.

Mr. Asthana, Mr. Bidhuri said, had served the nation with "full vigor and determiThose who are levelling allegations against [Rakesh] Asthana should know that he has been given a clean chit by the SC

RAMVIR SINGH BIDHURI Leader of the Opposition

nation" and was instrumental in exposing the Bihar fodscam, Godhra conspiracy, Purulia bomb explosions of 2008 and the probe into the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput.

### 'SC clean chit'

"Those who are levelling allegations against Mr. Asthana should know that he has been given a clean chit by the Supreme Court," he said.

"What is shocking is that instead of discussing the problems and issues faced by the people of Delhi, the AAP government is trying to divert attention from its failure by raising such frivolous issues," Mr. Bidhuri alleged.

BJP MLA from Rohini, Vijender Gupta, termed AAP "a despotic dispensation" fearful of people's voices after Opposition MLAs, including him were marshalled out of the House for raising "iscornering sues government". Prior to the MLAs being

marshalled out, Delhi Assembly Speaker Ram Niwas Goel told the Opposition legislators he was "anguished" at the fact that the powers and the rights of the Delhi Assembly had been snatched away by the Centre in reference to the MHA's notification on the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Act, 2021, which gives the Lieutenant-Governor more teeth in matters related to the administration of the city.

### **Honour for Bahuguna**

Later, the House unanimously passed a resolution to confer the Bharat Ratna posthuenvironmentalist Sunderlal Bahuguna. "I am delighted that the entire House and all parties are unanimously passing this resolution. I hope the Central government will pay heed to the demand of the country and honour Shri Bahuguna," Mr.

Keiriwal said.

# Cong. protests against 'govt. mismanagement'

Workers rally outside Assembly House

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

On the first day of the twoday monsoon session of the Delhi Assembly, the Congress protested outside the House against the mismanagement of COVID-19 in the Capital, price rise, water shortage, waterlogging and other issues pertaining to transport and pollution.

The party questioned AAP government's silence on the Pegasus spyware issue and the alleged snooping on people from the four pillars of democracy.

### Dispersed by police Delhi Congress workers

along with State party chief Ch. Anil Kumar attempted to surround the Delhi Vidhan Sabha when the session started and were stopped by the police who had to use water cannons to disperse the protesters.

Speaking at the protest, Mr. Kumar said that Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's incompetence was exposed during the pandemic as thousands of deaths could have been avoided had the Delhi government taken necessary precautions. He said



Congress workers protest outside the Assembly as the two-day monsoon session began on Thursday.

that Mr. Kejriwal was blaming everybody except himself for the COVID-19 fiasco in the Capital.

### 'Hollow promises'

The Delhi Congress said that Mr. Kejriwal has been touring other States making many hollow promises, including free power and water, even though Delhiites were thirsting for potable drinking water, and frequent power cuts have made life miserable in the city.

The Congress also alleged that free ration was reluctantly given at the fag end of the COVID-19 lockdown, only when the party raised the

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96001 00090 / 96001 00020



\* WAZIRPUR A-5, Near Richi Rich Banquet (Opp. Shalimar Bagh) JANAKPURI B-1/2, Main Najafgarh Road, Opp. Metro Pillar 543
 NOIDA, Nirula's Sec-2, Near Metro Station, Sec-15, Noida, UP LAJPAT NAGAR, 49, Main Ring Road, Adj. Haldi Ram, Near Moolchand Crossing

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Public at Large is informed that My husband Late Sh. Bhagwan Dass Rajora has passed away on 25° April,2021. I alongwith my three daughter namely Ms. Sushil Rajora. Ms. Asha Rajora (31yrs), Ms. Nedam Rajora (29) and son Narender Rajora are only LR's of my Husband. We are the joint owners of all the properties of him land my deputers have not authorised among

we are use junit owners or and the projectives or limit and my daughters have not authorised anyon for the same. Anyone dealing with property in amanner shall do so at his sown risk, cost and peril. Murti Devi, No AI,148, Maa Shakti Appartment Paschim Vihar, Near Gurudwara, Delhi-110063, #8802730301

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CHANGE OF NAME

I. SHREYAS S/O Sasi M Damodarar

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from Indian / International agencies for

functioning as a consultant for conduc-ting a Market Survey. For more details, Visit: www.svpitm.ac.in

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that Mr. Sanjay Sharma s/o Mr. Raghunandan Sharma hereinafter referred to as the said Mortgagors. Borrowers), is purchasing Property No. 10, HIG Duplex, admeasuring 156.495 Sq. Mtrs., Chander Nagar, Chazianad, (hereinafter, referred, to Shaziabad (hereinafter referred t Gnaziabad (nereinatier reterred to "said property") from Mrs. Swati Gupta, Mrs. Shikha Rai & Mrs. Shradha Gupta, who are it's absolute owners vide Sale Deed dated 08.05.2002 bearing Document No. 6999 read with Mutation Letter dated 10.63031 insued by CDA Mrs. 21.06.2021 issued by GDA. Mr. Sanjay Sharma will create mortgage in respect of the said property in favour of our clients IDFC First Bank Limited, 2nd Floor, Express Building, 9-10, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delbi; 410002 Delhi-110002.

Delhi-110002.

Any person, body, individual, institution having any claim and/or objection in respect of the said property by way of sale, exchange, lease, lien, mortgage, charge, encumbrance, gift, trust, easement, maintenance, inheritance, testamentary denosition or otherwise maintenance, inheritance, testamentary deposition or otherwise or having in their custody any title documents pertaining to the said property shall communicate the same to the undersigned at our address within 10 days from the publication of this notice with documentary evidence in support thereof, failing which all the claim, of such person shall be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned. Any objections raised after the completion of the 10 days shall not be binding upon the said property or my Client. P.K. Sinha (Advocate

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### men were sleeping for the past four-and-a-half-years," asked Mr. Cheema at a press conference here.

'Punjab govt.

an eyewash'

CHANDIGARH

Purchase

move on PPAs

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Leader of the Opposition in

the Punjab Assembly Har-

pal Singh Cheema on Tuesday termed Congress go-

vernment's decision of

ordering Punjab State Pow-

er Corporation Limited

(PSPCL) to cancel or revisit all the one-sided Power

(PPAs) with private compa-

the Assembly poll.

Agreements

# Gurdwara panel steps down after row over CM's visit

SGPC had ordered probe after allegations of ritual protocol violation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

All members of the managing committee of the Gurdwara Sri Nanak Mata in Uttarakhand have resigned amid allegations of violation of Sikh marvada (code of conduct) during Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami's recent visit to the gurdwara.

nies an 'eyewash' to fool The Chief Minister had visited people of State ahead of the gurdwara, earlier this week, where a programme to welcome "If by writing a letter to him was organised by the mathe PSPCL, the power naging committee. During the deals for Punjab could be event a dance performance by cancelled or reviewed, children was held and the recitathen where the Congresstion of the 'gurbani' was also reportedly interrupted. Following the allegation, a

three-member committee of Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak



Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami •

Committee (SGPC) - the body responsible for the management of Gurdwaras - was sent to investigate the incident to the Gurdwara Nanakmata on the directions of Akal Takht, the highest Sikh temporal seat.

SGPC president Bibi Jagir Kaur said, "The committee investigated the whole matter and recorded the statements of the

management. As per the demand of the Sangat (congregation), the present management committee of Gurdwara Nanakmata Sahib has resigned," said Ms. Kaur.

She said, after the resignation by the incumbent management committee, a five-member executive committee has been constituted by the SGPC, which includes Jarnail Singh, Sukhdeep Singh, Kuldeep Singh, Jasbir Singh and Amarjeet Singh, to look after the management of Gurdwara Nanakmata Sahib till further orders.

Ms. Kaur added that the enquiry team sent by the SGPC would soon submit its report to the Akal Takht and further action would be taken accordingly.

### झारखंड सरकार स्कूली शिक्षा एवं साक्षरता विभाग

झारखण्ड शिक्षा न्यायाधिकरण, राँची के शिक्षाविद् सदस्य एवं प्रशासनिक सदस्य के रिक्त एक–एक पद पर नियुक्ति हेतु निम्नलिखित योग्यतानुरूप शैक्षणिक एवं प्रशासनिक क्षेत्र में अनुभव वाले भारत के नागरिकों से विहित प्रपत्र में आवेदन आमंत्रित

2. उपर्युक्त आवेदन पत्र संयुक्त सचिव, स्कूली शिक्षा एवं साक्षरता विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची, एम०डी०आई० बिल्डिंग, धुर्वा, राँची के कार्यालय में दिनांक—31.08.2021 कार्यालय अवधि तक स्पीड पोस्ट / निबंधित डाक द्वारा जमा किया जा सकता है | 3. निर्धारित तिथि के बाद प्राप्त आवेदन स्वीकार नहीं किये जायेगें।

4. शिक्षाविद् सदस्य हेतु अहर्ता-

(क) वह किसी विश्वविद्यालय का कुलपति हो या रहा हो।

(ख) वह किसी विश्वविद्यालय का विगत 5 वर्षों से प्रोफेसर हो या 5 वर्षो तक प्रोफेसर रहा हो।

(ग) वह किसी शिक्षा सेवा वर्ग—1 का पदाधिकारी 15 वर्षों से हो या 15 वर्शों तक रहा हो | (घ) सामाजिक, आर्थिक, राजनीतिक किसी भी क्षेत्र में विशेशज्ञ इस प्राधिकरण का सदस्य हो सकता है।

 प्रशासनिक सदस्य हेत् अहर्ता— कोई भी व्यक्ति न्यायाधिकरण का प्रशासनिक सदस्य नहीं हो सकता जबतक की वह दो वर्शो तक कम से कम झारखण्ड राज्य के अपर सचिव के पद एवं वेतनमान अथवा केन्द्र सरकार या राज्य सरकार में झारखण्ड सरकार के कम से कम अपर सचिव के वेतनमान के पद पर कार्यरत न रहा हो तथा उसे समुचित प्रशासनिक अनुभव न रहा हो।

झारखण्ड शिक्षा न्यायाधिकरण के सदस्य का कार्यकाल योगदान की तिथि से 3 वर्शो का होगा | 6. झारखण्ड शिक्षा न्यायाधिकरण अधिनियम–2005 के कंडिका–6 के अनुरूप नियुक्त सदस्यों को वेतन–भत्ता देय होगा।

नोट:– (1) आवेदन केवल विहित प्रपत्र में और उचित माध्यम से प्राप्त, ही स्वीकार्य होंगे।

(2) शिक्षाविद एवं प्रशासनिक सदस्य के लिए अलग–अलग आवेदन ही मान्य (3) विभाग द्वारा गठित स्क्रीनिंग समिति के माध्यम से अभ्यर्थियों का चयन किया

(4) विहित प्रपत्र विभागीय वेबसाईट http://education.jharkhand.gov.in से डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। सरकार के संयुक्त सचिव। PR 250456 School Education and Literacy(21-22)D

### Widow to get pension benefits after 11 years

STAFF REPORTER

The Orissa High Court has directed the State government to pay postretirement benefits to the widow of a teacher 11 years after his death.

Prafulla Chandra Mohanty, who retired as a primary school teacher in Odisha's Cuttack district in 1986, had moved court against the nonconsideration of higher scale to which he was entitled, before his superannuation.

Though he won the case in the High Court in 2004, the Odisha government went in appeal in the Supreme Court in 2008. As the court battle drew on, Mohanty died in

The apex court dismissed the Special Leave Petition in 2018.

### **Notice**

Last date of receiving E.O.I. invited vide E.O.I. no-01/2021 dated on 07.07.2021 for hiring of hostel accommodation for ST working men & women separately at Delhi(NCR), Shillong, Guwahati, Pune and Bangalore is hereby extended up to 09.08.2021 other terms & conditions of E.O.I. remain unchanged.

> **Chief Executive Officer** TTAADC:Khumulwng

Extension of Water Supply Line, Reconstruction of

Damaged Drain, Repair of ESR at Pandeydih and

PHED Campus and construction of Boundary Wall at

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TTAADC/ICA&T/C-25/2021

E-Procurement Cell

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

URBAN DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING DEPARTMENT

NAGAR PANCHAYAT JAMTARA, JHARKHAND. e-Procurement Notice (Double Bid) E-Tender Reference No.- NPJ/SBD/02/2021-22 Date:-29/07/2021

# **FOR MISSING**



General public is hereby informed that one male namely Mohd. Naushad Ansari, S/o Maqdoom Ansari, R/o: Village-Jamuatand, P.O. & P.S. Pukhra District Giridih, Jharkhand, Age: 24 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Long, Built: Medium. wearing White colour Shirt, Blue colour Jeans Pant and Hawai Chappal in feet,

has been missing from his Shop No. 120, Kabutar Market Jama Masjid, Delhi since 22.07.2021. In this regard a DD No. 67A dated 24.07.2021 has been registered at P.S. Jama Masjid, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the male but no clue has come to light so far. If any one naving any information about him please inform undersione

Website: http://cbi.nic.in E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Fax: 011-24368639

SHO P.S. Jama Masjid Delhi

Ph. No.: 011-24368638. 24368641 Ph. No.: 011-23261625, 23269777 DP/902/CD/2021

### UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LTD. (A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking) Victoria Cross Vijeta, Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun-248001 Telephone-0135)-276327-6, Fax. (0135)-276028 Website: www.uktenders.gov.in Corporate Identity No. VA40109UP 20018 GC02587/2358 **CORRIGENDUM TO E-TENDER NOTICE**

This office e-tender specification no. CCP-II/3/2021-2022 invited previously for supply of Single Phase Two Wire (10-60A) (DLMS) electronic meter with box is hereby extended due to unavoidable reasor The e-tender can be purchased and submitted upto 17:00 hrs o 10.08.2021. Part-1 of the e-tender shall be opened on 11.08.2021 a 15:45 hrs. Other terms and conditions will remain same as per original tender notice. For further details, please visit our website www.uktenders.gov.in.

Www.uktenders.gov.in.

No. 288/EE(cm)/UPCL/A-2 Date : 28.07.2021

Superintending Engineer
Corporate (Contract & Procurement-II) SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATIONS Use LED Bulb Save Electricity

### NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY S.No.-5, Description of works: Balance E-Tendering Tender Notice No.: 34/202 Divisional Railway Manager(Engg.

North Eastern Railways Izatnagar fo and behalf of president of India invites "OPEN" e-tender through on Line (E-Tendering) for the following work. S.No.-1, Description of works (1) Ramganga-Kasganj Through GRSP Renewal-99 Km & Through GFN Liner Renewal-19.3 Km (2) BC-LKU Section-TRR(S) with 52 Kg S/H rails in BC Line no. 4 & 5 = 1663.82 m and BPR line no. 5 = 630 m. Total-2.294 Fig. 10. 3 – 650 lin. 10tal-2.294 Km (3) TRR(S) with 52 Kg S/H Rails at IZN Line No.4 = 541.03 Track m, Transfer line no. 7, 8 & Diesel shed line no.1 to 4 = 1702 Track m and CBJ emu Shed siding=1901 Track m. Total 1.144 TKm. Approx. Value (Rs.) ₹1,12,67,809.88, Completion time/Period from the date of issue of acceptanc letter: 03 Months. S.No.-2, Description of works: Provision of Foot Ove Bridge at BTRI in jurisdiction of ADEN /L/IZN (under sanctioned work Provisio of First Foot Over Bridge (MQP, UJI & BTRI = 03 Nos.) in IZN Div. Approx. Value (Rs.): ₹ 58,32,975.83 Completion time/Period from the date of issue of acceptance letter: 09 Months. S.No.-3, Description of works (1) Renovation of Canteen and toilet a Mechanical workshop Izatnagar.
(2) Improvement in exiting drainage system for smooth functioning of effluent treatment plant at Diesel shed Izatnagar Approx. Value (Rs.): ₹ 1,24,25,716.90 Completion time/Period from the date of issue of acceptance letter: 06 Months. S.No.-4, Description of works: Design Development, Supply & Installation of Complex at Kathgodam station (Under sanctioned work-Design, supply commissioning of Water treatment & Recycling plant (WRPS) including its operation and maintenance for 5 Year at KSJ, KGM &RMR coaching complex.)

Divisional Railway Manager (Engg. CPRO/W-127 Izatnagar Approx. Value (Rs.): ₹ 1,17,01,117.93, completion time/Period from the date

50 Toilets) at various level crossing in RMU-LKU-KGM section in Jurisdiction of ADEN/KPV (Under Sanctioned work: Construction of toilet (238 units) rovision of hand pump (130 manne level crossing) as part of swachh Bhara Mission in IZN Division.). Approx Value (Rs.): ₹ 54,79,681.42, Completion ime/Period from the date of issue of acceptance letter: 04 Months. S.No.-6 Description of works: Balance work o Construction of Toilets and Hand pum (Total 21 Hand pumps and 46 Toilets) a various level crossing in MB-RMR and LKU-KPV section in Jurisdiction o ADEN/KPV and BPR-PBE-TPU Section in Jurisdiction of ADEN/PBE (Unde Sanctioned work-Construction of toile (238 units), provision of hand pump (130 manned level crossing) as part o wachh Bharat Mission in IZN Division. Approx. Value (Rs.): ₹ 53,37,762.91 Completion time/Period from the date of issue of acceptance letter: 04 Months 5.No.-7, Description of works Supplying & stacking of 65 mm size machine crushed track stone ballas (40000Cum) as per latest RDSO's ballas specification with up to date correction slips and loading of the same in to all type of Railway wagons at Mendu station. (Under sanctioned work FBD KSJ between TBR-41Km.) Approx Value (Rs.): ₹ 4,42,35,200.00 Completion time/Period from the date of issue of acceptance letter: 06 Months.

Note: E.M.D. Money for Sl. No. 01 to 07: Nil, Cost of Tender Forms fo Sl. No. 01 to 07: Nil. Water Recycling Plant for Coahing Complex at Kathgodam station (Under to 15:00 hrs. of dated 20-08-2021

work of Construction of Toilets and

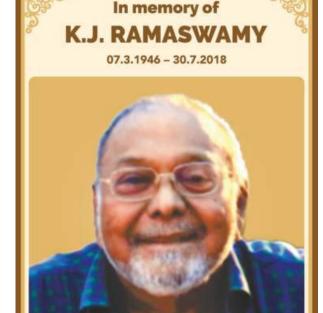
Hand pump (Total 16 Hand pumps and

(2) For Full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railway IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in

About any passenger amenity complain SMS on Mob. No.: 09794845955

### OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

# **DEATH ANNIVERSARIES**

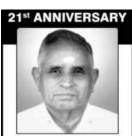


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REMEMBRANCE

### **DEATH ANNIVERSARIES**

SRI.G.KUMARASWAMY (Retd. IOW, Southern Railway) DOB: 25-08-1931 DOD: 30-07-2000

சிறுமளஞ்சியில் பிறந்து — - i#(Ribid##8)



Gowri, Rajan & Bhavani, Kailash

### Earnest Money Deposit Rs. 4,47,000.00 (Rupees Four Lakh FourtySeven Thousand only) 10,000.00 (Rupees Ten Thousand only) BID document fees (Non-Refundable) Date of Publication of Tender on website 04/08/2021 11:00hrs Closing date/Time for receipt of Tender on website 17/08/2021 17:00 hrs

18/08/2021 (11:00 hrs to 13:00 hrs) at Nagar Panchayat Date & Place of Receiving of Hard Copy Tender Fee/EMD/Copy of all uploaded Documents Office Jamtara. 18/08/2021 15:00hrs Opening date/Time for Technical Bid of Tender on website Name & address of office Inviting tender Office of Executive officer, Nagar Panchayat Jamtara. +91 9431257594 Contact no. of Procurement officer Helpline number of e-Procurement cell +91 94317 27140 Note: Authority reserves right to cancel tender without assigning any reason thereof.

Further details can be seen on website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in PR 250412(Urban Development and Housing)21-22\*D

Tender Value

Time of Completion

**Executive officer** Nagar Panchayat Jamtara

# e-Procurement Cell BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT, JHARKHAND, RANCHI

		Short ler	<u>'m e-Pro</u>	<u>curement Notice</u>	<u>e</u> Date :29	-07-2021	
	Sl. No	Tender Reference No.		Work Name	Amount in	Completion	
					(Rs)	Time	
	1	BCD/Lohardaga/02/2021-22	Proposed C	onstruction of SDO Office	8,22,33,040/-	15 Months	
			Building a	t Lohardaga, Jharkhand.			
	2	BCD/Chatra/03/2021-22		Construction of SDO Cum	10,41,51,049/-	18 Months	
Pı	evious			idential & A,B,C,D Types			
_	r.No-		~	Police Barrack at Simaria			
2	48046		Ch	natra, Jharkhand.			
3	Da	te of Publication of Tender on	Website	07.08.2021 at 11:00 AM			
4		Start Date of Submission of I	Bids	07.08.2021 at 11:00 AM			
5	I	ast Date/Time of Submission of	of Bids	28.08.2021 at 05:00 PM			
6	Last	Date/Time of Submission of Ba	id Security	31.08.2021 upto 11:30 AM			
		Money and Tender Fee					
7		Date/Time of opening of B	id	31.08.202	1 at 12:00 PM		
8	Name & Address of office Inviting tender e-Pr			e-Procur	urement Cell,		
			Building Construction Department, Project Building,				
				3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Room No-	326, Jharkhand,	Ranchi.	
9	Н	elpline Number of e-procureme	ent Cell	0651-	2446166		
		1 XX7 1 44 4	// 11 1				

e-Procurement Cell Building Construction Department, Jharkhand, Ranchi. PR 250471(Building)21-22\*D

Any change can be seen on Website http://Jharkhandtenders.gov.in. Any other information can be seen on <u>http:// Jharkhandtenders.gov.in.</u> **Nodal Officer** 

> of issue of acceptance letter: 06 Months.

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated

places over Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand,

Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Sikkim, West Bengal, Bihar,

Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Konkan &

Goa. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over

Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura

### IN BRIEF



empower people: Jagan

Releasing an amount of ₹693.81 crore towards the second tranche of the 'Jagananna Vidya Deevena' Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy said, "We believe that education alone can empower people. We have spent ₹5,573 crore on fee

### TRS-BJP cadre clash over WhatsApp chat

HYDERABAD Supporters of Telangana Rashtra Samiti and Bharatiya Janta Party clashed at Huzurabad over a leaked WhatsApp chat where a relative of BJP leader Eatala Rajender had apparently made derogatory comments against a group of Dalits. The chat screenshots that went viral were, however, termed fake by Mr. Rajender's

# Demand for Sivankutty's ouster rejected

UDF boycotts Kerala Assembly accusing Pinarayi of disputing court's verdict on 2015 ruckus in House

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Members of the Opposition Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) boycotted the Kerala Assembly on Thursday.

They accused Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan of setting a wrong precedent by "attempting to pick holes" in the Supreme Court's decision to quash the government's move to withdraw the criminal case registered against six Left Democratic Front (LDF) leaders for "creating disorder and destroying public property" in the Assembly on March 13, 2015 during the UDF rule.

Mr. Vijayan rejected the Opposition's demand for the resignation of General Education Minister V. Sivankutty, who is among the accused in the case. The Chief Minister that the Supreme Court had neither mentioned the Minister by name



**Strident protest:** The police using water cannon to disperse those demanding the resignation of V. Sivankutty. •s. MAHINSHA

mark against him.

Speaker M.B. Rajesh rejected the adjournment notice moved by Congress legislator P.T. Thomas to discuss the matter, prompting UDF legislators to raise anti-government slogans and troop out of the House in protest.

Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan said parliamentary privilege did not

cover criminal acts. The immunity was only for debating and voting on issues without fear or favour.

"March 13, 2015, will be a Black Friday that will live in infamy in Kerala's legislative history. The LDF maliciously prevented then Finance Minister K.M. Mani from presenting the budget on an unrelating to the reinstatement of annulled bar licenses," he

Kerala Congress (M) legislators should quit the LDF if they had any self-respect or regard for their founder. They would soon realise the ruling front's embrace was a stranglehold, he added.

Mr. Thomas said Mr. Sivankutty was no role model for students or teachers. The images of the Minister running riot in the Assembly remained vivid in public

### 'Double jeopardy'

Mr. Vijayan said the court's duty was not to "re-appreciate" a public prosecutor's request for withdrawing a case. The judiciary's responsibility was limited to verifying whether the prosecutor had exercised his mind independently. The Chief Minister said upheavals in society often echoed in the Assembcosm of the State.

Pointing out that the Speaker had suspended the LDF MLAs in 2015 for causing uproar in the House, he said further prosecution of the then LDF legislators would be tantamount to double jeopardy.

Mr. Vijayan said the Oommen Chandy government in 2015 had crossed a line by unjustifiably pushing a political protest in the Assembly into the realm of criminal prosecution.

The UDF had attempted to dismantle the protections of parliamentary privilege granted to MLAs to raise issues in the Assembly without fear of punishment or legal

Similar turmoil had occurred in other legislatures in the country. However, no government had ensnared protesting members in criminal cases. Instead, they had allowed the respective

# Bhubaneswar..... 0.3....28.0....24.2

Allahabad.

.32.9....22.8 . 12.8....21.6....17.4

RAIN MAX MIN ... 0.9....29.0....26.1

. 0.5....25.0....22.8

.30.0....24.0

....22

11 .14 .40 ....53 .114 ..2 .61 .18 ....15 ...36

3.2....30.9....26.7 0.9....25.3....22.1 Srinagar.

### (Rainfall data in mm: temperature in Celsius)

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Udupi, Karnataka recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 133 (AQI) score of 133 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 13

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI) 502: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues

NO2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause

lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced

# B.Y. Vijayendra not to be Karnataka Deputy CM

'BJP sensitive about dynastic politics'

STAFF REPORTER

B.Y. Vijayendra, son of former Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa, who was reportedly being groomed as his successor, may have to wait longer for his rehabilitation. The BJP does not want to be seen as offering a bargain for Mr. Yediyurappa's exit, especially since it is sensitive to the charge of dynastic politics.

While the father-son duo reportedly lobbied for him to be made a Deputy Chief Minister in the new Cabinet, that is not on the table now, party sources said. "The

party's central leadership has only assured Mr. Yediyurappa that they will take care of his son's political future and haven't promised anything specific. He is presently vice-president of the State unit of the party, in which capacity he will continue to function for now," a senior party functionary

Mr. Vijayendra aspired to be general secretary of the State unit in 2020, but was snubbed and made one of the 10 vice-presidents. Sources close to Mr. Vijayendra said he was keen on entering the legislature.

# HC grants relief from arrest to ex-DGP

Sreekumar is accused in the ISRO spy case

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Kerala High Court on Thursday directed the CBI not to arrest till August 2 former Gujarat DGP R.B. Sreekumar, one of the accused in the espionage case related to hatching a conspiracy to frame former ISRO scientist Nambi Narayanan.

Justice K. Haripal passed the order on an anticipatory bail petition moved by Mr. Sreekumar. The court also ordered that the petition be tagged with other anticipatory bail petitions filed by two former Kerala police officers



R.B. Sreekumar

and a former IB official, which had been posted for hearing on August 2.

The Gujarat High Court had earlier ordered the CBI not to arrest him till July 29 on a petition filed by the former top police officer seeking temporary transit

bail until he obtained anticipatory bail from the court concerned in Kerala.

### ISI's involvement

Opposing the bail petition, Additional Solicitor General (ASG) S.V. Raju, appearing for the CBI, argued that the case was a serious matter involving national security. The false case was foisted on two leading scientists at the behest of the ISI.

The CBI strongly believed that Pakistan was involved in the case. It was done to derail ISRO's programme to develop a cryogenic engine. The scientists were arrested, humiliated and tortured and were not allowed to carry out work on the programme, he argued.

ponsible for cooking up false charges against the former ISRO scientists. He was part of the conspi-

The Supreme Court-ap-

pointed committee found

that the petitioner was res-

racy to derail the ISRO programme. If the petitioner was granted bail, it would drastically affect the investigation, he argued. Senior counsel S. Sreeku-

mar submitted that the petitioner, who was working as Deputy Director, Intelligence Bureau, Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau (SIB) at Thiruvananthapuram at that time, had not interrogated Mr. Narayanan. Nor was there any allegation by Mr. er had harassed him.

# Maharashtra to transfer ₹10,000 into every flood victim's account

District officials told to complete damage assessments within eight days: Minister

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE

Though the Maharashtra government is vet to announce a package for the rain-ravaged Konkan and western region, its Relief and Rehabili-Minister Wadettiwar on Thursday said that the State would be transferring ₹10,000 into the account of every flood-hit victim as emergency aid.

Mr. Wadettiwar said that the direct transfers to help the flood victims till the government came up with a comprehensive package would begin on Saturday.

"Often, in the aftermath of such natural disasters, there are allegations and apprehensions of money being misappropriated or not having reached the intended recipient. We do not want to fall into that trap and hence the relief money will be directly credited to the flood victims' account," he said.

Mr. Wadettiwar said that all district authorities had been instructed to complete their damage assessments within eight days and that the report would be sent to the Centre as well.

More than 210 people and 20,000 livestock have lost their lives in landslides and other rain-related accidents in the last one week and more than two lakh people have had their homes and properties destroyed by the floodwaters. More than four lakh hectares of cropland in eight districts have been damaged besides staggering losses to rural infrastruc-

Former Chief Minister and Bharatiya Janata Party Leader of Opposition Devendra Fadnavis criticised the State government for its tardiness in declaring a package.



Back to business: Local shopkeepers clean their shops after the floodwater receded, in Sangli. • FILE РНОТО

# Centre's relief package for 2020: Pawar

STAFF REPORTER

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar on Thursday said the relief package of ₹701 crore announced by the Central government has no relation whatsoever with the ongoing flood, but amounts to the 2020 relief package.

"Maharashtra faced natural calamity in 2020 as well. The State had then demanded ₹3,700 from the Centre. The relief package of ₹700

crore announced by Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Tomar belongs to that demand," Mr. Pawar told reporters on Thursday.

He said Agriculture Minister Dadaji Bhuse has already given an explanation regarding the aid announced and the State has not received any assistance from the Centre regarding the ongoing flood situation in which 200 people died.

"Loss assessment is under way and soon a comprehensive report will be sent to the Centre. However, the Centre can sanction a financial package without the assessment report as it did for Gujarat by sanctioning ₹1,000

Mr. Pawar also slammed Union Minister Narayan Rane who used derogatory terms against Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray saying everyone should keep political and personal differences aside during natural calamities.

### Govt. mulls allowing those fully vaccinated to use local trains

State's recoveries outpace new cases

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)** 

The Executive Engineer, (B&R) Division, HPPWD, Baijnath on behalf of Governor of Himacha

Pradesh, invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system from the eligible and approve

Karnathu via Taras Shilla Nallah road Km. 0/0 to 6/255 (SH: Improvement road, Passing

entre Building at Girtholi Tehsil Baijnath ( SH: Construction of Main Building i/c Water

Supply and Sanitary Installation .Sptic Tank and Rain water Harvesting System

The bidders are advised to note other details, of tenders from the department website

Places, R/Walls, Missing C.D. works, GSB, WBM-II, WBM-III, Tarring work ,B.M. CC

class of contractors registered with HPPWD for the works as detailed in the table

date for

avement, side Drain and Parapets. Under NABARD (RIDF-XXVI)

5.21.52.979/- 12.08.2021

lownload

STAFF REPORTER

The Maharashtra government was mulling opening up local train services to people who had taken both doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, State Health Minister Rajesh Tope said on Thursday.

However, Mr. Tope said that any decision on the proposal, which was currently under discussion, would only be taken by Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray.

The State government is also planning to ease CO-VID-19 restrictions in 25 districts where the case positiv-

Sr. Name of work Estimated

1. Construction

of Harer to

of Health Sub-

HP / 2843/21-22

Cost Rs.

ity rate and fatalities are low.

Meanwhile, Maharashtra reported robust recoveries on Thursday, with 11,124 patients being discharged against 7,242 new COVID-19 cases as the State's active case tally dipped to 78,562.

As many as 190 deaths pushed the State's cumulative fatalities to 1,32,335 with the case fatality rate climbing to 2.1%.

Mumbai reported 341 new cases to take its total tally to 7,34,112 while the active count dipped to 6,921. Thirteen fatalities took the city's death toll to 15,873.

Limit

10.44.000 Eighteen 28.08.2021

Deadline for Cost o

of bid

Executive Engineer

Baijnath Division HPPWD Baijnath

### NIT No: CMRL/O&M/MU-01/2021 e-procurement Tender **National Competitive Bidding** Tender No: CMRL/O&M/MU-01/2021

CMRL invites digitally signed tender through e-procurement portal from reputed, experienced, financially sound, eligible applicants, who fulfil the qualification criteria as mentioned

Stations) for maintenance of Phase-I & Phase - I Extension Corridors of Chennai Metro Rail Project". For further details, please visit e-procurement website:

https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app for tender documents www.chennaimetrorail.org for NIT

DIPR/2255/Tender/2021

**General Manager** (Contract Management)

# GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT Buildings (C&M) circle, Madurai – 625 002. EXTENSION NOTIFICATION NO. 1-15E/B(C&M)C /MDU/2021-2022, DATE: 29.07.2021 Last date for submission of Pre-Qualification application (Two cover system) mentioned in NOTIFICATION NO: 15E/B(C&M)C /MDU/2021-22/ Dt: 13.07.2021

Superintending Engineer, PWD Buildings (C & M) Circle, Madurai

Last date for availability of pre-qualification application - up to 12.08.2021, 5.45 pm. Last date for submission of pre-qualification application - 13.08.2021, 3.00 pm. Pre-qualification opening date Further details may be downloaded from the following websites: <a href="https://www.tnenders.gov.in">www.tnenders.gov.in</a>

### **Himachal Pradesh** Jal Shakti Vibhag **CORRIGENDUM**

The Online tender bearing online ID 2021\_HPIPH\_50047\_1, for the work "Providing Decentralized Community Owned stand alone Solar Powered Water Supply Scheme in various villages (under Jal Jeevan Mission) of Paonta Constituency in Tehsil Paonta Sahib Distt. Sirmour HP", called vide this office NIT No. JSDP-CB-TA/E-Tender/2021-22- 5641-5740 Dated 16/07/2021, due to be opened on 26/07/2021, extended upto 02/08/2021 vide this office corrigendum No. 6099-6198 dated 24/07/2021, the following amendments are made and hereby

In Item No. 7 the foundation of the supporting structure will be paid separately. However, the "steel tower for elevated M.S. Tank 7.5-meter height along with foundation in cement concrete" for the BOQ Item No.7 of steel work was the heading only which was erroneously entered in the same cell.

Shed for protection of solar control panel is not required and has not been asked However, Solar Control Panel shall be encased in an M.S. Almirah type box panel to be installed with in steel tower structure proposed for supporting M.S

Solar Panel shall be designed by the bidder and installed on elevated water storage tank tower. The tower shall be planned and designed accordingly. The supporting structure for panels shall be paid separately in the item No. 7. The multiplication factor for work done in qualifying criteria shall be applicable

@7% per year as CPWD Manual The quantity mentioned for item No. 8 may be read as "77 No." instead of "258

Rest of the terms and conditions as well as contents of BOQ and Notice Inviting Executive Engineer

M ND-NDE

HP / 2834/21-22 HIM SUCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

# 'BJP cannot contemplate alliance with MNS'

STAFF REPORTER

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) will never contemplate an alliance with the Raj Thackeray-led Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) unless the latter discarded its practices of regional chauvinism and softened its antagonism towards 'outsiders' from other States, said former Chief Minister

Fadnavis.

"The BJP and the MNS' thoughts are very different... be it the question of north Indians, or the MNS' discriminatory practices on the basis of language, the BJP cannot think of an alliance unless the MNS discards these practices. While we welcome the fact that the MNS has latched on to Hindutva on late, there scan be and senior BJP leader Devendra no question of any alliance if

there is not an 'inclusive' Hindutva in practice," clarified Mr. Fadnavis, who was touring rain-ravaged Sangli district. In response, Mr. Thackeray,

who is in Pune, said that his stance has always been "very clear" from the very beginning and that if outsiders did not act in an overbearing manner towards Maharashtra's citizens, his party would not bother them.

TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD ADDENDUM/CORRIGENDUM

Extension of Tender Notice No. 02-1 / F.O&M/ Outsourcing of CWSS/ DO I/2021/Dt. 26.07.2021

Sub: SI.No.1. Outsourcing of Operation and Maintenance of CWSS to 134 Coastal habitations in Nagapattinam District for the period from 01.08.2021 to 31.03.2022

SI.No.2. Outsourcing of Operation and Maintenance of CWSS to Pudukkottai Municipality, and CWSS to 43 Outskii habitations in Pudukkottai District for the period from 01.08.2021 to 31.03.2022— Extension of tender Notice – rec  $\textbf{Ref:} \ \ This\ Office\ IFB.No.02/F.O\&M/Outsourcing\ of\ CWSS/DO1/2021/Dt.10.07.2021$ The sale period, Last date of receipt and opening of tender in the reference 1st cited for the above work is hereby extended a

 
 1
 The last date for Sale of Tender
 10.08.2021 up to 5.45 P.M

 2
 The last date for receipt of Tender
 12.08.2021 up to 3.00 P.M
 3 Date & Time of opening of Tender 12.08.2021 at 3.30 P.M conditions already published remain unaltered

SAVE WATER, CONSERVE WATER, EVERY DROP COUNTS

Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Thanjavur

Narayanan that the petition-

**TENDER NOTICE** 

Dated: 30.07.2021

in the tender under Single Stage Two envelope (Technical & Financial) System for the works as detailed below: Tender No: CMRL/O&M/MU-01/2021:-"Grouting of Leakage Seepage points in underground sections (Tunnels &



### Shared values

India and the U.S. have a lot in common, but it is the differences that need attention

.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken's day-visit to Delhi this week was heavy on discussions and understandably light on deliverables. The visit, the third by a senior U.S. official of the Biden administration, was meant to prepare the way for more substantive meetings in Washington later this year, including the U.S.-India "2+2" of Foreign and Defence Ministers, the Quad summit of its leaders, and a bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and U.S. President Joseph Biden. Public statements by Mr. Blinken and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, and readouts, indicate that most of their conversations are focused on Quad cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, Afghanistan, and in discussing the state of democracy and rights. On the Quad, they showed full convergence. On Afghanistan, Mr. Jaishankar said that there were "more convergences than divergences" on the common positions that there is no military solution to conflict, and that neither country would recognise a Taliban regime that takes Kabul by force. However, the divergences are more troubling for India, given that the fallout of the U.S. withdrawal will mean a less secure region. The U.S. continues to engage the Taliban in talks for a powersharing arrangement, despite the Taliban leadership's refusal to enforce a ceasefire, and stop attacks against civilians in areas they take over. The militia is also trying to squeeze trade and financial supply chains to the Afghanistan government. Perhaps the greatest worry for India is the U.S.'s refusal to hold Pakistan to account for having given shelter to the Taliban, as this will only embolden Islamabad if the Taliban advance in Afghanistan. New Delhi tiptoed around the U.S.'s announcement of a new "Quad" with Uzbekistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan on connectivity, but this is another cause for worry.

On the subject of democratic freedoms, both sides maintained there were "shared values". However, Mr. Blinken began his meetings with a "civil society roundtable" wherein internal Indian issues such as minority rights, religious freedoms and curbs on the media and dissent were discussed, making it clear that these were important areas for the Democrat administration. In his rebuttal to a question about the "backslide" in India's democracy, Mr. Jaishankar had a three-pronged response, reiterating that the same standards apply for the U.S. and India, that policies that have come in for international criticism such as the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, the Article 370 amendment, and anti-conversion laws were part of the Modi government's attempt to "right historical wrongs", and that freedoms cannot be equated with "lack of governance". Despite the attempt from both sides to paper over the cracks, this is an issue that they will grapple with in the future even as they build upon the strong "Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership" that the world's oldest and most populous democracies continue to share.

# Vaccinating the young

India must continue to prioritise vaccination of the adult population

s India's vaccination drive chugs along with sporadic bursts of frenetic inoculation, there are **L**possibilities of administering vaccines to children soon – as early as next month. At present, two Indian vaccines may be eligible for administration to children. Zydus Cadilla's ZycoV-D, a three-dose plasmid DNA vaccine, with a 66.6% efficacy in phase-3 trials, has also been tested in adolescents (12-18 years), data for which has been submitted to the regulator. The companv has also requested permission to test in children over five. Covaxin's Bharat Biotech is also testing the vaccine in a cohort of children below 12. Though none of these studies has been completed, the expectations are that these vaccines may be ready by September. Pfizer's mRNA vaccine has been authorised in those above 12 and Moderna's too may be similarly approved in the U.S. Both companies are reportedly in discussions with the Indian government. Young children are at the least risk of hospitalisation and death from COVID-19 but are capable of being infection carriers and putting older caregivers at risk. This undergirds the difficult decision by governments to continue with school closures that has brought forth unprecedented challenges such as denying many Indian children access to quality education.

From the global experience so far, the broad principle is that if an effective vaccine is available, it must be administered irrespective of age. However, it is also true that the vaccines are far more effective at protecting from disease than infection. Because children and adults respond to the virus differently, it still remains to be seen whether vaccinating children as a pre-requisite to opening schools actually brings down overall rates of infection. Countries that have vaccinated those above 12 and have fully opened up are also those boasting high rates of adult vaccination. In India, only around 10% of all adults have been fully vaccinated. India already has a challenging target of fully inoculating all adults - 94.4 crore – by the end of the year. A key constraint has been Covaxin; its manufacturer has been unable to ramp up monthly production to its stated nearly six crore doses. Put together, this implies that if the aim of universal vaccination is to protect from disease, then the thrust must be on prioritising adults over children. Government and independent experts have advised that schools can open in a staggered fashion. This again underlines that reopening should not be contingent on vaccination alone. There is also the worry that prioritising vaccines for children would mean diverting already limited stocks. Rather than blindly emulate the West, India must decide on what policy works best for its entire population, including children.

# The wings of Pegasus, the epoch of cyberweapons

With their use not only during a conflict but even during peacetime, matters have reached a tipping point



M.K. NARAYANAN

raging controversy across the world on the misuse of Pegasus spyware – a great deal of which is mired in facts, suppositions, false trails, allegations and counter-allegations, but nevertheless contains more than a kernel of truth – has reignited a debate on the role of cyber weapons. From an occasional and sporadic instance of a cyberattack previously, cyberattacks on institutions such as banks and on critical infrastructure have proliferated to an alarming extent, signalling the emergence of the cyber weapon epoch.

The Pegasus spyware is by no means the ultimate cyberweapon. It has, however, compelled nations to emerge from their deep slumber about the threat posed by such new age weapons, even though it has been quite a few decades since the world saw the advent of cyberweapons, albeit more primitive than those in vogue

### An evolution

One of the earliest instances of this kind occurred in the 1990s when Yahya Abd-al-Latif Ayyash, who served as the chief bomb maker for Hamas, was assassinated by Israel's domestic Intelligence Agency, Shin Bet, using a doctored phone containing explosives, when he responded to a call from an unknown person. Many daring exploits of the past, which took months of effort, and the utilisation of large numbers of people and resources to achieve, are, in the cyber era, possible with far less effort and resources; the destruction of the Vemork power station (in Norway) during the Second World War which took months of planning, and the extensive resources of the Allied Powers (and involved loss of lives), for instance, could be achieved in 2019 with a fraction of this effort. In 2019, Norsk Hydro, aluminium

and energy producer, became the victim of a cyberattack which was accomplished remotely and anonymously, and in the shortest possible time, but with the same tell-

What is noteworthy is that while all of these rate as among the madramatic transformations brought about by cyber technologies since the turn of the century, what merits contemplation is that while Moore's Law democratised access to computing, and the Internet opened a whole new avenue for communication, all this is coming at a price. Privacy has been eroded and the Internet true to its origins in Cold War strategy - has become a powerful weapon in the hands of those seeking to exploit its various facets.

### Now, a preferred weapon

Cyber is often touted as the fifth dimension of warfare – in addition to land, sea, air and space. However, it needs to be understood that cyber, as the domain of military and national security, also co-exists with cyber as a domain of everyday life. It is the same domain. The war is no longer out there. It is now directly inside one's drawing room, with cyberweapons becoming the weapon of choice.

Israelis, though not the cyber pioneers, today dominate the cyber domain along with the Chinese, Russians, Koreans and, of course, the Americans. Already by the first decade of the 21st century, cyberspace had graduated from being merely the new domain of warfare, into becoming fundamentally a civilian space. From its very inception, cyberweapons ranked as special weapons, not unlike nuclear devices of earlier times. Following the joint U.S.-Israeli effort in unleashing the Stuxnet Worm in 2010 - which helped disable several hundred centrifuges at the Iranian nuclear facility in Natanz - it became still more apparent that mankind had indeed unleashed a new weapon, and had in a sense crossed the Rubicon.

The linkage between sabotage and intrusive surveillance is but a short step. There are many stories in circulation of the employment of the Pegasus spyware well before the present controversy, for in



2019, WhatsApp had sued NSO over allegations that several hundreds of its users were the targets of the Pegasus spyware. The Israeli company's claim that the spyware is sold only to governments and official agencies is, however, unproven. Israel, for its part, identifies Pegasus as a cyberweapon, and claims that its exports are con-

### Work in progress

The Pegasus spyware it is stated can copy messages that are sent or received, 'harvest photos and record calls, secretly film through the phone's camera, or activate the microphone to record conversations. It can potentially pinpoint where you are, where you have been, and whom you have met. Once installed on a phone, the spyware can harvest more or less any information or extract any file'. Ongoing efforts by the NSO Group, the makers of Pegasus, are devoted to making the spyware difficult to detect.

An earlier version of Pegasus, identified as far back as 2016, infected phones mainly through 'spearphishing'. Since then, its capabilities have vastly increased, and it currently employs 'zero click' attacks, which do not require any interaction on the part of the phone owner. It is used to exploit certain 'zero day' vulnerabilities found in operating systems about which the manufacturers themselves are unaware. Where 'spearphishing' or a 'zero click' attack cannot succeed, the Pegasus spyware can be installed over a wireless trans-receiver located near a target. Essentially, the Pegasus virus seeks what are termed as 'root privileges' – that enable communication with its controllers through an anonymised network on Internet addresses and

A brief survey of the more da-

maging cyberattacks during the past decade-and-a-half with or without the Pegasus spyware can be revealing. Beginning with the 2007 devastating cyberattack on Estonia's critical infrastructure, this was followed by the Stuxnet worm attack a few years later on Iran's nuclear facility. The Shamoon virus attack on Saudi Aramco occurred in 2012. Thereafter, followed the 2016 cyberattack on Ukraine's State power grid; the 2017 Ransomware attack (NotPetya) which affected machines in as many as 64 countries; a Wannacry attack the same year on the United Kingdom's National Health Service; and the series of attacks this year on Ireland's Health Care System and in the United States such as 'SolarWinds', the cyber attack on Colonial Pipeline and JBS, etc.

### **Grave threat**

With cyberweapons becoming the weapon of choice not only during a conflict but even during peaceping point. Cyberweapons carry untold capacity to distort systems and structures - civilian or military – and, most importantly, interfere with democratic processes, aggravate domestic divisions and, above all, unleash forces over which established institutions or even governments have little control. The Pegasus spyware is all this and more. For the present, it is hiding behind a cloak of anonymity, and the unwillingness of those to whom it has been sold to to acknowledge its misuse, but the reprieve is likely to be only temporary. Cyber methods which undermine capabilities can remain anonymous only for some, but not for all time. For the present, it may remain unrecognisable, but this will be only for a limited period.

Meanwhile, we must be prepared for, and guard against, a new epoch of cyber threats, employing newer, state-of-the-art cyberweapons, which will further intensify cyber insecurity across the board. As more and more devices are connected to networks, the cyber threat is only bound to intensify, both in the short and the medium term. What is especially terrifying is that instruments of everyday use can be infected or in- a U.K.-U.S.A. cyber security joint venture

filtrated without any direct involvement of the target. The possibilities for misuse are immense and involve far graver consequences to an individual, an establishment, or the nation. It is not difficult to envisage that from wholesale espionage, this would become something far more sinister such as

### Need for analysis

Dealing with the cyber threat, hence, deserves careful analysis and assessment. Plunging headlong into so-called solutions which have little rationale or depth is hardly the answer to critical threats posed by sophisticated spyware such as Pegasus. Dealing with 'zero day' vulnerabilities require far more thought and introspection than merely creating special firewalls or special phones that are 'detached' from the Internet. What is needed is a deeper understanding of not only cyber technologies, but also recognising the mindsets of those who employ spyware of the Pegasus variety. and those at the helm of companies such as the NSO. Short-term remedies are unlikely to achieve desired results.

With the advent of cyber weapons such as Pegasus, technology which is perceived as a friend could well become a matter of despair. At the pace at which cyber technology is evolving, erecting proper defences will prove difficult. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is often seen as a kind of panacea for many of the current problems and ills, but all advances in technology tend to be a double-edged sword. If truth be told, AI could in turn make all information warfare – including cyber related - almost impossible to detect, deflect or prevent, at least at the current stage of development of AI tools. Meanwhile, easy access to newer cyber espionage tools will add to the existing chaos. All this suggests that security in the era of ever-expanding cyberweapons could become an ever-receding horizon.

M.K. Narayanan, a former National Security Adviser and a former Governor of West Bengal, is currently Executive Chairman of CyQureX Pvt. Ltd.,

# The long road to winning the battle against trafficking

Anti-trafficking policy exists in India, but where the system is found lacking is in the implementation of the laws



MADAN B. LOKUR & SHRUTI NARAYAN

Tuly 30 is United Nations World Day against Trafficking in Per-**J** sons (https://bit.ly/3iaMdpN and https://bit.ly/2VkP6uV). It is also a time to reflect on India's human trafficking crisis. Between April 2020 and June 2021, an estimated 9.000 children have been rescued after being trafficked for labour, according to a child rights non-governmental organisation (NGO). In other words, 21 children have been trafficked every day over nearly 15 months. The Childline India helpline received 44 lakh distress calls over 10 months. Over a year, 2,000 children have arrived at its shelter homes and 800 rescued from hazardous working conditions.

### **Increased vulnerability**

The media frequently publishes individual stories of trafficking. Children as young as 12 are trafficked across States to work in factories in appalling conditions, where owners are turning to cheap labour to recoup their losses from the novel coronavirus pandemic. In November 2020, four children, between 12 and 16 years, died after being trafficked for labour from Bihar to Rajasthan; some of them had injuries from

Child marriages are also rampant - over 10,000 cases were tracked between April and August 2020. In Madhya Pradesh, about 391 child marriages were stopped in April-May 2021, while in Odisha, 726 child marriages were prevent-

A child rights NGO, working with the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights has highlighted the problem of rampant child labour. In a certain stretch within the national capital, at least 120 children can be seen working. The factors causing increased vulnerability are identifiable. Its report states: "The [coronal virus has resulted in loss of income and economic crisis, causing families' reduced capacity to care for children in the long-term. It has also caused, in some instances, loss of parental care due to death, illness or separation, thereby placing children at heightened risk for violence, neglect or exploitation." These factors are compounded by an erosion of some of the checks against child labour and child marriage provided by law, as well as the scrutiny of schools and society.

The increase in Internet access in current times has also led to cyber-trafficking. An August 2020 report by a member of a child rights group in India notes that popular social media platforms and free messaging apps are often used to contact young people. Often, the trafficker or middleman lures the person to a place under the pretext of offering him employment. Once removed from their locality, they face challenges of limited resources, unfamiliarity with the area and perhaps the local language. Threats of violence from the trafficker, and, importantly, the absence of any identifiable authority to approach other than the police – who are often seen as threats themselves – make



it nearly impossible for trafficked

persons to report the incident. A recent report by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the effects of the pandemic on trafficking echoes these findings. It says, traffickers are taking advantage of the loss of livelihoods and the increasing amount of time spent online to entrap victims, including by advertising false jobs on social media. In addition, there is an increased demand for child sexual exploitation material online due to lockdowns.

### Scant data, other gaps

The Government admitted in Parliament as recently as March 2021 that it does not maintain any national-level data specific to cyber trafficking cases. The efficacy of certain schemes launched by the Ministry of Home Affairs to improve investigation and prosecution of cyber crimes remains to be

seen (https://bit.ly/3iajGR6). India is still classified by the U.S. Department of State as a Tier-2 country in its report on global hutrafficking (https:// bit.ly/3zKBfgA). This means that the Government does not fully meet the minimum standards under U.S. and international law for eliminating trafficking, but is making significant efforts to comply. The lack of implementation is illustrated by the state of the Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs). vernment officials. In 2010, it was envisioned that 330 AHTUs would be set up (https://bit.ly/3rEwouF). RTI responses in August 2020 showed that about 225 AHTUs had been set up, but only on paper.

If properly staffed and funded, AHTUs could provide crucial ground-level data on the methods and patterns of traffickers, which in turn can strengthen community-based awareness and vigilance activities. Global practices such as in Nigeria, Africa, should be encouraged in India, in consonance with a larger framework to protect women and children by incentivising education and creating safe employment opportunities.

### Draft Bill, judicial issues

With focus now shifting to the new draft anti-trafficking Bill (https:// bit.ly/3rEEzqP), the point to be highlighted is that there is no shortage of anti-trafficking policy in India. Where the system is found lacking is in the implementation of the laws. Significant discussion is required on the provisions of the Bill, particularly with respect to bringing in the National Investigation Agency and increasing the punishment for offences, including the death penalty as an option in some cases. It is not proven that more stringent laws, particularly the death penalty, have any greater deterrent effect on crime. The draft Bill also provides for AHTUs/ committees at the national, State and district levels, but as noted, their effective functioning cannot be taken for granted. Legislating without the political will to implement and monitor effectiveness is

Special attention must also be AHTUs are specialised district task paid to the challenges prosecutors es. There were 140 acquittals and only 38 convictions in 2019, according to government data. This points to a failure of investigation and cannot be solved by the draft Bill's provision that accused traffickers must be presumed guilty unless they can prove the contrary. Further, trials can drag on for years, with victims sometimes withdrawing their complaints after being intimidated by traffickers. Proper case management must be introduced to give meaning to the "fast track" courts. Other problems include the low number of beneficiaries of monetary compensation and the lack of consistent access to psychological counselling. Parts of the draft Bill recognise the importance of rehabilitation, but implementation is

> Most victims of trafficking are from low-income communities for whom the novel coronavirus pandemic and lockdowns have caused long-term financial distress. With schools continuing to be closed in much of India and no definite end to the pandemic in sight, it cannot be assumed that incidents of trafficking will decline with a return to "normalcy". That apart, the failure of existing institutional mechanisms to foresee the present crisis should spur the Government and other stakeholders to take preventive action now. July 30 should be the beginning of the end of human trafficking in India.

Justice Madan B. Lokur, a former judge of the Supreme Court of India, is presently a judge of the Supreme Court of Fiji Shruti Narayan is a Delhi-based lawyer

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

### **Opposition unity**

A grand alliance of Opposition parties is a failed experiment and there is no perceptible evidence that the political scenario has turned propitious for the birth of its new avatar (Page 1, "United opposition can make a difference in 6

months: Mamata", July 29). It is amusing that a regional leader who has the dubious record of denying political space to opponents in her fiefdom, has chosen to don the mantle of democracy's saviour. The clash of political ambition among Opposition leaders and the

mismatch between parochial goals and national interest are formidable barriers to building an alliance against the BJP. Slogans like 'Modi versus India' reflect Mamata Banerjee's poverty of imagination and political shortsightedness. It takes

moral capital and not political animosity to galvanise a national anti-Modi wave. V.N. MUKUNDARAJAN, Thiruvananthapuram

Language switch It was heart-warming to read the report, "CJI

switches to Telugu to ensure peace between couple" (Inside pages, July 29). It is time that the top court as well as the other courts considered appointing official translators to help in such cases. Given how language is being used a weapon in

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politics, this report is a fine lesson to understand that language is just a means of communication to achieve a beneficial end for all concerned. V.V. KOUSHIK, Chennai



# Are the Taliban returning to Kabul?

PARLEY

The Taliban have captured the rural areas, but the Afghan Army is pushing back

After 20 years of fighting, the U.S. is set to end its military operations in Afghanistan by August 31. Since May 1, when U.S. troops started withdrawing from Afghanistan, the Taliban have made rapid territorial gains in the country. They have taken control of dozens of northern districts and several of the country's key border crossings, mounting pressure on the Ashraf Ghani government. In a conversation moderated by Stanly Johny, Jayant Prasad and Avinash Paliwal discuss the Afghan situation, India's options, and the prospects for a peaceful settlement. Edited excerpts:

The American media reported that there is an intelligence conclusion that Kabul could fall within six months once the U.S. troops are out. Do you think that's happening?



make great progress in occupying

major cities. The Taliban have taken

large tracts of rural areas and are

now poised outside the cities. But

they will remain thus till the begin-

ning of September, when all the fo-

reign forces pull out. September,

October and November will be the

big test for Afghanistan. If the go-

vernment can hold off the Taliban

during that period, then anything

can happen next year, because then

the Taliban will know that taking ov-

er Afghanistan is not as easy as it

might have appeared some time

ago. If they realise that, then the



**Jayant Prasad** 



Avinash Paliwal is Deputy Director of the SOAS South Asia Institute, London



listen to the full interview online

is peace process may have a better in chance next year.

How did Afghanistan come to this point? Can we say that the U.S. could have negotiated a better deal with the Taliban that would have also addressed the question of political settlement between the insurgents and the government, or did it just want to exit Afghanistan?

Avinash Paliwal: There are two aspects to the possibilities that could have existed between the U.S. and the Taliban when they began talking in Doha a few years ago. One is the war, the way it has been executed, and the effect of that execution on any potential negotiation. The Americans and the larger security umbrella provided by the West were not fighting a comprehensive, wellthought-out, long-term campaign to support the current state in a fundamental way. This debate about whether they were there for counterterrorism purposes or nationbuilding was never resolved. The West was essentially torn in what it actually wanted. That had a structural impact on how it went ahead with the dialogue with the Taliban and what it could have potentially reaped out of that.

This takes me to the second point of the negotiations itself. There were two moments in the past when the Americans were serious about talking to the Taliban directly. One was sometime around 2012 during the term of the government of President Hamid Karzai in Kabul. That was perhaps a little premature because they had given a deadline by which they wanted to leave. So, the talks when they began or when they were supposed to begin in 2012 really put off the Kabul government in a political sense, and there was a lot of pushback by President Karzai that you cannot enter into a direct communication with the Taliban because that would fundamentally undermine the political experiment in Afghanistan that had begun at the end of 2001. During the next round of conversations beginning 2017-18, under U.S. President [Donald] Trump, the ground shifted domestically within America. The Ameri-



cans did not want to continue fighting and losing soldiers and resources in Afghanistan, given the strategic priorities that they had with an assertive China in the horizon. There was also a clear sense that given how they actually fought this war – aimlessly perhaps – they could not have bargained better than a withdrawal agreement.

This was not a deal in which they were settling the fate of Afghanistan. The Americans made sure that they would extricate themselves without further losses and in the process, legitimise the Afghan Taliban diplomatically for the world to deal with. The outcome has been that the Taliban are being assertive. They have been using the talks with the Afghan government in Doha as a tactic to assert themselves, buy time and continue pressing for their legitimacy the world over. If there was any appetite for a political solution among the Taliban, I think we would have seen the importance of that, but unfortunately, we haven't.

Ambassador, how do you look at the recent developments from an Indian point of view? What does India want in Afghanistan? And what can it do to achieve those objectives?

**IP:** What India wants in Afghanistan is very simple. Our short-term strategic objective will be served fully if the Afghans have a government that stands on its own feet in terms of decision-making – who it can be friends with, cooperate with, and so on. All these years, we were faced with incessant experimentation by Afghanistan's military allies. They were not just the U.S. and NATO, but also other countries friendly with the U.S. When I left in 2010, there were members of 44 armed forces in Afghanistan. Even if the coalition that supports the Afghan authorities today falls to half that number, that

India's short-term strategic objective will be served fully if the Afghans have a government that stands on its own feet in terms of decision-making.

is enough to sustain an independent Afghan government. I don't think we were looking for an Afghanistan inimical to Pakistan. Rather, we would welcome good relations. But Afghans, at least in my time, and I hope in the future as well, will refuse to be subservient to anybody.

I had a little bit of hope when a high-level Afghan team went to Doha to talk to the Taliban delegation led by Mullah Baradar. But Abdullah Abdullah, who led the Afghan side, came to Delhi and said that nothing had changed with the Taliban. They are playing for time. And they are playing a game of 'good cop, bad cop'. Mullah Baradar and Suhail Shaheen, the spokesperson of the Taliban in Doha, keep talking about peace. If they want peace, they should stop killing Afghans, whether they are from the armed forces or civilians. The message from the field commanders and the military commanders of the Taliban is completely to the contrary.

This is disquieting for India. We'll have to be dexterous and support those Afghan communities which are willing to fight for their rights, an Afghan Constitution, Afghan sovereignty and independence, and Afghan republicanism, which is all there in the present Constitution.

Dr. Paliwal, you have argued that India should hold talks with the Taliban. Why should the Taliban engage with India?

**AP:** When I say India should engage with the Taliban, the idea is not to give in to the Taliban's demands or give up on India's existing allies in

Afghanistan; it is that India must have channels with Taliban representatives, whether they are in Doha or elsewhere in Afghanistan, to make sure that in any eventuality of a Taliban takeover, either in Kabul or different parts of the country, India's interests are not harmed. And this is keeping in perspective the fact that a stronger Taliban is not necessarily going to be subservient to the Inter-Services Intelligence. This is something that needs to be appreciated as a long-term phenomenon. This is in the space of principalagent relationships, where the principal is Pakistan and the agent, the Taliban. Political interests and strategies don't always align. There is considerable discontent within the Taliban about its relationship with Pakistan. That's what I mean when I say that India must have a channel open to at least be aware of what the thinking is within the Taliban.

Second, the Taliban have always been interested in talking to India. Between 1996, when the Taliban came to power, and December 1999, when the IC-814 hijacking incident happened, there have been multiple signals by the Taliban leadership to India and other countries to engage with them. At that point, their sole desire was to be officially recognised by the rest of the world. They had official support only from three countries – Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Pakistan - and they wanted a wider set of relationships in the international fora. That calculus remains till today. From a regional perspective, the Taliban are very clear that they do not want to get in between the India-Pakistan crossfire, and I think that's the message that they have tried to send.

The question is whether they can sustain that kind of an outreach given the dependence on Pakistan. In the light of Pakistan's clear messaging that it would not want Indian presence to be as sizeable as it had been, that's a test for the Taliban. And that's something that we need to see whether they can pull off, if they come to power. There is no clear sign in practice that it will happen. This is concerning. But there are constituencies within the Taliban who would want to have a stable relationship with India even if powerful factions, especially the Haqqani network and its allies such as Jaish-e-Mohammed and Lashkare-Taiba, will not let that happen. So, it's not just a dilemma for India

whether or not to talk to the Taliban; it's a more acute dilemma for the Taliban to decide whether to talk to India and to what extent.

Suppose the Afghan government holds on to its position and serious talks begin, what kind of a political settlement is possible?

JP: There are serious discussions between the Taliban and the Afghan government. Despite the breakdown in Doha, they are continuing to talk to each other. But whether these talks will be productive or not, we don't know. The Taliban are playing for time. They postponed the discussions on the future makeup of the Afghan state, that of the Constitution - of how Islamic it would be, because Afghanistan is an Islamic Republic. What the people in Afghanistan don't want right now is for it to become an Islamic Emirate. So, the other fundamental contradiction is that the Taliban, in the best of times, will not accept democratic elections easily. But if they were to accept it, then the Afghans would be ready to compromise on the Constitution, I guess. Because it would mean the end of four decades of fighting and every Afghan wants peace and stability. So, the problem is, just as I feel that Pakistan is very important to a future settlement in Afghanistan, it's very difficult to imagine that it would change course, especially when it thinks that the Taliban is winning.

Dr. Paliwal, what are your views on how to end the conflict in Afghanistan?

**AP:** I just hope that the Kabul government is able to bring about some political coherence within the coming weeks. There is clear intent being demonstrated by Kabul in terms of standing up to Pakistan, in terms of not letting the low morale of the Afghan national security forces bog them down. They have been making progress on the ground but they're also fractured from within.

If there is a stalemate in the next four to six months, I hope both sides and Pakistan realise that it is time to figure out a political solution because the pain that will be inflicted by violence in Afghanistan will not just hurt Afghanistan but be detrimental to Pakistan's social, economic and political health.

# In the interest of the public

Compulsory vaccination is legal and does not violate anyone's fundamental rights

SHUBHAM JANGHU

In Registrar General v. State of Meghalava, the Meghalava High Court ruled that the State government's order requiring shopkeepers, local taxi drivers and others to get the CO-VID-19 vaccines before they resume economic activities is violative of the right to privacy, life, personal liberty. and livelihood. In response to the court's order, the State government released a new order stating that the requirement of vaccination was merely directory and not mandatory. The case raises important questions of how the government can overcome widespread vaccine hesitancy and bring the pandemic to an end.

### Court's reasoning

The court reasoned that forcing people to vaccinate themselves vitiates the "very fundamental purpose of the welfare attached to it". It ruled that the government's order intrudes upon one's right to privacy and personal liberty as it deprives the individual of their bodily autonomy and bodily integrity, even though the intrusion is of minority intensity. It ruled that the government's order affects an individual's right "significantly" more than affecting the general public. It found that the government's order is not maintainable in law as there is no legal mandate for mandatory vaccination. It relied on the Central government's frequently asked questions, which specify that COVID-19 vaccination is voluntary. The court concluded that the State, rather than adopting coercive steps, must persuade the people to get themselves inoculated.

Compulsory vaccination has often been deployed in India and abroad. The Vaccination Act, 1880, allowed the government to mandate smallpox vaccination among children in select areas. Similarly, several State laws, which set up municipal corporations and councils, empower local authorities to enforce compulsory vaccination schemes. Contrary to the High Court's opinion, compulsory vaccination has passed the muster of judicial review in several national and international courts abroad. In a recent judgment in *Vavřička and Others v.* 

Czech Republic, the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) said that the compulsory COVID-19 vaccination scheme is consistent with the right to privacy and religion. The ECtHR cites case laws in France, Hungary, Italy, the U.K., among others to show that several constitutional courts have validated compulsory vaccination and ruled that it has an overriding public interest.

### Right to life and privacy

The main bone of contention is that compulsory vaccination violates bodily integrity and takes away decisional autonomy from people, thereby violating their right to life and privacy. It is a well-established principle that no right is absolute; rather rights are subject to reasonable restrictions. According to the order in *Justice Puttaswamy v. Union of India*, a restriction on privacy can be justified if it passes a three-prong test.

First, the restriction must be provided in the law. State governments have the authority to mandate vaccines under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, which allows them to prescribe regulations to prevent the spread of an epidemic disease. Second, the restriction must have a legitimate aim. Compulsory vaccination pursues the legitimate aim of protecting the public from COVID-19. Third, the restriction must be proportional to the object pursued. With more than four lakh reported deaths and a looming third wave, the current scenario counts as a pressing social need. Violations of rights from mandatory administration of a vaccine cannot be termed so grave so as to override the health rationale underlying the government's order. Nevertheless, the government could provide appropriate accommodation for persons based on genuine medical reasons. Even if the court felt that the consequences of non-compliance with the order (i.e., non-resumption of economic activities) was excessive, the government could have been ordered to replace it with less stringent consequences, such as a moderate

Shubham Janghu is a practising lawyer in

### DATA POINT

The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) data show that the amount of work available for workers in India reduced substantially in the period coinciding with the national lockdown during the first COVID-19 wave. Underemployment was more pronounced in the urban parts compared to the rural areas. In April-June 2020, about 26% of urban employees worked for 36 hours or less a week compared to the 13% a year earlier. The decrease in the available hours of work was recorded across India, with very few exceptions. By Vignesh Radhakrishnan, Jasmin Nihalani and Sumant Sen

ALL WORKERS
The bar graph shows
the share of workers
distributed across the
number of hours they
worked in a week
in April-June 2020

and April-June 2019 ...
The dot plot shows the share of workers who worked less than 36 hours a week in April-June 2020 (•) and April-June 2019 (•) in major States

URBAN WORKERS
The bar graph shows
the share of urban
workers distributed
across the number of
hours they worked
a week in April-June
2020 ■ and April-June
2019 ■. The dot plot
shows the share of
urban workers who
worked less than 36
hours a week in AprilJune 2020 (●) and
April-June 2019 (●) in

major States

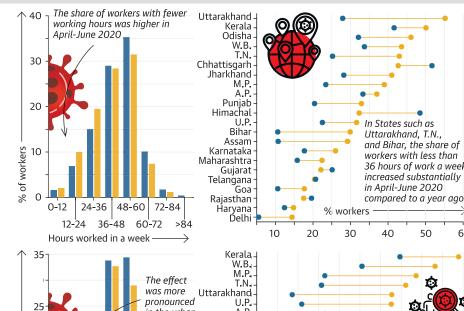
RURAL WORKERS
The bar graph shows
the share of rural
workers distributed
across the number of
hours they worked in
a week in April-June
2020 and April-June
2019 The dot plot
shows the share of rural
workers who worked
less than 36 hours in
a week in April-June
2020 and

Source: Periodic Labour Fource Survey 2019-20

Hours worked in a week

April-June 2019 (•) in

major States



in the urban Odisha Chhattisgarh In States such as Maharashtra Kerala, W.B., M.P. T.N., and U.P., the share of urban workers with less Jharkhand Karnataka than 36 hours of work a week increased Telangana substantially in April-June 2020 compared Himachal Bihar to a year ago 0-12 24-36 48-60 72-84 Delhi Haryana 12-24 36-48 60-72 >84 20 30 Hours worked in a week Uttarakhand The effect was muted in the Odisha Chhattisgarh

M.P. Himachal In States such as Bihar Uttarakhand and Bihar, the share of rural work Karnataka ers with less than 36 Assam hours of work in a week Telangana increased substantially Gujarat in April-June 2020 com aharashtra 72-84 pared to a year ago 24-36 48-60 Rajasthan Haryana 36-48 60-72 >84

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FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 30, 1971

Pak. rejects Thant's suggestion

The Pakistan Government has rejected a proposal made by the United Nations Secretary-General, U Thant, that the East Bengal problem be referred to the Security Council for a solution [Islamabad, July 29]. U Thant had made the proposal to Pakistan's President, Gen. Yahya Khan, as the escalation of tensions between Pakistan and India is threatening the security of the sub-continent, and could lead to a great power confrontation. He thinks the question of East Bengal refugees in India, the border clashes and the whole range of problems in that region merit the consideration of the Security Council. In saying "no" to U Thant, Pakistan has pointed out that the Secretary-General's other proposal - the posting of U.N. observers on both sides of the East Bengal border to encourage the return of the refugees – is an adequate solution. India has, however, turned down this suggestion. According to Indian sources here, the posting of U.N. observers sidesteps the major issue of a political settlement in East Bengal that would satisy all sections of its population and enable all categories of refugees to return.

# A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 30, 1921 The Mail's comment.

Commenting on our article on the Madras Corporation and the Mill Strike and with special reference to our statement that "the (Labour) Union has accepted the Corporation Committee's offer of mediation" and that "if the employers refuse they will put themselves in the wrong in the eyes of the general public," the Mail writes: "In these two sentences we have the genesis of the movement for the formation of the Committee. It was a move, not to secure a fair hearing for both sides and an equitable settlement, but to force the employers into a false position." In making the absurd suggestion that it is "political extremists" that dominate the counsels of the Corporation and that it is their influence that is responsible for the appointment of the Committee, the Mail has over-reached itself. For one thing, it is poor compliment to the Non-Brahmin majority in the Corporation, which we suppose the Mail is not bent upon discrediting, to say that it has been hypnotised by extremists into taking the step it took in the matter. For another, the initiative was taken by a European missionary, the Rev. Mr. Leith, who it was that moved for the appointment of the Com-

CM VK

### FROM PAGE ONE

# 27% for OBCs, 10% for EWS in national quota

These included Safdarjung Hospital, Lady Harding Medical College, Aligarh Muslim University and Ban-Hindu University among others. However, this was not extended to the AIQ seats of State medical and dental colleges.

"The OBC students from across the country shall now be able to take the benefit of this reservation in AIQ to compete for seats in any State. Being a Central scheme, the Central List of OBCs shall be used for this reservation. Around 1,500 OBC students in MBBS and

2,500 in postgraduation will be benefited through this reservation," said the Ministry in a release.

In the last six years, the MBBS seats in the country have increased by 56%, from 54,348 seats in 2014 to 84,649 seats in 2020, and the number of PG seats by 80%, from 30,191 seats in 2014 to 54,275 seats in 2020. In the same period, 179 new medical colleges have been established and now the country has 558 medical colleges – 289 government colleges and 269 privately

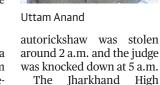
### Judge killing: 2, including auto driver, arrested

The footage shows the autorickshaw suddenly veering towards the judge, who was jogging along the extreme left side of the road, and hitting him. After postmortem, his body was sent to his home in Hazaribag district for last rites.

The footage found resonance in the Supreme Court.

### SIT formed

The police constituted a special investigation team (SIT) under Dhanbad Superintendent of Police (City) R. Ramkumar to probe the case. Addressing a press conference, Dhanbad's Senior Superintendent of Police Sanjeev Kumar said: "We managed to arrest Lakhan Verma, the autorickshaw driver, and another person, Rahul Verma." The two had previous involvement in petty theft cases, he stated. Police sources said the



Court has taken suo motu cognisance of the matter. "The incident is condemnable. The government is very sensitive to the issue. What appears from the footage is that it was a case of murder. The culprit will not be spared," said Jharkhand Advocate General Rajiv Ranjan. The progress of the probe would be submitted in the High Court.

# Chola idols among 14 art works to be returned

Following this action, along with the repatriation of works in 2014, 2016 and 2019, the NGA will no longer hold any works acquired through Subhash Kapoor in its collection.

The decision to return the works is the culmination of years of research, due diligence and an evolving framework for decision-making that includes both legal principles and ethical considerations, the Gallery said in a media release.

The NGA Director Nick Mitzevich said, "As the first outcome of this change, the Gallery will be returning 14 objects from the Indian art collection to their country of origin. This is the right thing to do, it's culturally responsible and the result of collaboration between Australia and India.'

Mr. Mitzevich said the Gallery would continue its provenance research, including for the Asian art collection and resolve the status of any works of concern. The Indian High Commis

sioner to Australia, Manpreet Vohra, welcomed the decision by the Australian government and the NGA to return the art works. The works being returned are: child-saint Sambandar, dancing child-saint Sambandar of 12th century belonging to Chola dynasty, processional standard [alam], from Hyderabad, arch for a Jain shrine (11th-12th century), seated Jina, 1163 from Mount Abu region, Rajasthan, the divine couple Lakshmi and Vishnu [Lakshmi Narayana] (11-12th century), and Durga Mahisasuramardini, from Gujarat.

# Mizoram says ready for lawsuit on border issue

Deputy CM denies encroachment

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

AIZAWL Mizoram Deputy Chief Minister Tawnluia on Thursday said his government was ready to face any lawsuit over claims that it had encroached on neighbour Assam's territory.

The Deputy Chief Minister's remarks came as a rebuttal to the "encroachment" charge levelled by Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Tuesday, who said his government would move the Supreme Court over the issue. Speaking to reporters here on Thursday, Mr. Tawnluia denied any encroachment by Mizoram on the neighbouring State's territory.

"We are ready and well prepared to be tried in a law court. We have valid documents to substantiate our

stand," he said. He said that Mizoram was merely protecting the territorial integrity of the State.

The two States have differing interpretations of their territorial border. While Mizoram believes that its border lies along an inner line drawn up in 1875 to protect tribals from the influence of plainsmen, Assam goes by a district demarcation survey done in the 1930s.

Mr. Tawnluia, who heads the boundary commission constituted by the State government last week, said the commission will deal with the boundary issue and its decision on issues related to the border with neighbouring States would be final.

He claimed that the commission has obtained important documents on boundary issue.

Earlier on Tuesday, Mr. Sarma had told reporters in Silchar that his government would move the Supreme Court over encroachment by the neighbouring State.

# SC swings into action after judge's death

CJI is said to have discussed the issue with Jharkhand Chief Justice; HC initiates investigation

NEW DELHI

The higher judiciary swung into action on Thursday after a chilling video of an autorickshaw fatally hitting additional sessions judge Uttam Anand, while he was on a morning jog in Dhanbad, Jharkhand, surfaced online.

Chief Justice of India (CJI) N.V. Ramana is said to have informed the Supreme Court Bar Association president, senior advocate Vikas Singh, that he had discussed the issue with the Jharkhand Chief Justice. The Jharkhand High Court has, in turn, taken cognisance of the video and initiated an investigation.

As soon as the top court started on Thursday, Mr. Singh made an urgent oral mention before a Bench of Justices D.Y. Chandrachud and M.R. Shah, stating that the alleged murder of the judge was a "shocking and brazen attack on the independence of the judiciary".



Tragic incident: A forensic team inspecting the autorickshaw in Dhanbad, Jharkhand, on Thursday. • ANI

The video, Mr. Singh said, showed the vehicle suddenly swerving off the road and slamming into the judge from behind on a lonely stretch early on July 28. He was found bleeding on the road and taken to the hospital, where he was left unidentified for hours.

The police finally traced the body after the family gave a missing person's complaint. His family, who initially thought the cause of the death to be a hit-and-run

accident, has filed a complaint of murder. Mr. Singh said the video footage was evidence and should be taken on record.

Justice Chandrachud had advised Mr. Singh to make a mention after sending an email to the CJI and the Registrar in charge of mentioning process in the court.

"Our judicial officers should be protected. If judiciary has to be independent, we have to come in very sternly," Mr. Singh submitted. Justice Chandrachud asked Mr. Singh to take up the issue with the CJI.

"I had then mentioned it before the CJI, who said he has already talked to the Iharkhand Chief Justice. I was informed that the issue was taken up by the High Court on the judicial side. I am demanding a CBI inquiry into the incident," Mr. Singh

### July 22 judgment

Judge Anand's death comes close on the heels of a July 22 judgment, authored by Justice Chandrachud, that turned the spotlight on the "appalling work conditions" of the district judiciary. The observations in the judgment concerned an order passed by a trial judge in Madhya Pradesh revealing that he was facing threats in a murder case in which the husband of a Bahujan Samai Party (BSP) MLA was the

The Supreme Court, in its judgment, had highlighted how "judges are targeted simply for standing up for what is right, and sadly, a subservience to the administration of the High Court for transfers and postings which

renders them vulnerable". The apex court had said the "independence of the judiciary is the independence of each and every judge". The judgment had also pointed to a larger malaise of the application of political pressure on trial judges.

"Judicial independence of the district judiciary is cardinal to the integrity of the entire system. The courts comprised in the district judiciary are the first point of interface with citizens. If the faith of the citizen in the administration of justice has to be preserved, it is to the district judiciary that attention must be focused as well as the 'higher' judiciary," Justice Chandrachud had said.



Trinamool MP's alleged remarks on Bihar flayed

BJP MP Nishikant Dubey's allegations that Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra called him a "Bihari goonda" thrice during a meeting of the Standing Committee on Information Technology (IT) on Thursday invited condemnation from political parties in Bihar. "The people of Bihar are hard-working and it has been a land of saints. So, if someone makes such comments, we feel sorry for it," Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav said.

### **Bombay HC seeks Hany** Babu's medical report

MUMBAI The Bombay High Court on Thursday directed a private hospital to submit the latest health report of Hany Babu, associate professor with Delhi University who is under arrest in the Elgaar Parishad case. Babu was shifted to Breach Candy hospital following a HC order in May. The court is hearing a petition filed by Babu's wife seeking his bail on health grounds. PTI

### **Gujarat ATS nabs** key drug peddler

AHMEDABAD

The Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) of the Gujarat Police on Thursday nabbed Shahid Kasam Sumra, a key drug peddler allegedly involved in smuggling 530 kg of heroin worth around ₹2,500 crore into the country via sea route from Pakistan on different occasions. He was arrested at the Delhi airport as soon as he landed from abroad.

### Number of villages in Odisha may go up

BHUBANESWAR The number of villages in Odisha is likely to increase by 4,000 as the State government is set to declare several hamlets as revenue villages. The identification of revenue villages assumes significance as new villages will get the benefits of government schemes upon formal declaration. At the district level, more than 3,500 proposals for creation of new villages are pending. In a letter to all Collectors, State Revenue and Disaster Management Secretary of instructions for converting

hamlets into revenue villages

# 'Convergence in U.S., India positions on Afghanistan'

New Delhi won't accept outcome decided by force: Jaishankar

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Thursday told the Rajya Sabha that India would not accept any outcome in Afghanistan that was decided by force and that there was "strong convergence" on this between India and the United States.

Mr. Jaishankar replied to a starred question by Samajwadi Party (SP) MP Rewati Raman Singh about the relationship with the U.S. and then a supplementary question posed by nominated MP Swapan Dasgupta about the situation in Afghanistan. Mr. Jaishankar said he had a good discussion with U.S. Secretary of State Anthony Blinken during his visit to Delhi this week.

**Detailed discussion** 

"We had a very detailed discussion on Afghanistan. I articulated our position at a press conference jointly held with the visiting Secre-

'Sachar report

Hindus' rights'

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A petition filed in the Su-

preme Court has accused former Prime Minister

Manmohan Singh of acting

on a "whim" and setting up

the Justice Rajinder Sachar

Committee over 15 years

ago to inquire into the so-

cial, economic and educa-

tional status of the Muslim

The petition filed by a

few residents of Uttar Pra-

desh asked the court to

stop the government from

implementing the recom-

mendations. They said the

report "infringes" on the

Assam notice

on travelling

to Mizoram

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

GUWAHATI/AIZWAL/SILCHAR

The Assam government on

Thursday issued a travel

advisory asking people not

to travel to Mizoram. It also

advised people from the

State staying there to "exer-

ed accusations over the de-

ployment of security forces

along the inter-State bor-

der on Thursday, three

days after both sides were

locked in a gun battle near

the boundary that left six

policemen and a civilian

dead.

The two States also trad-

cise utmost caution".

rights of Hindus.

community.

infringes on



External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar with U.S. Secretary of State Anthony Blinken in New Delhi on Wednesday. • AFP

tary. We were very clear that there must be negotiated political settlement in Afghanistan. There cannot be a military solution, there cannot be a takeover by use of force. We will work with the international community to ensure that political negotiations for a settlement are pursued seriously and we would never accept any outcome that is decided by force. I think there was a very strong convergence in our and positions –India and the Un-

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Rescue operations resumed

on Thursday morning to

trace around 19 missing peo-

ple of Honzar village in

Kishtwar in the Jammu re-

gion, where a cloudburst

triggered massive flash

floods and left seven dead

resumed early Thursday

morning. Senior Superinten-

dent of Police, Kishtwar,

Shafqat Hussain, is camping

at Honzar to oversee the res-

cue operations," Mukesh

Singh, Additional Director-

General of Police, Jammu,

Besides the policemen,

officials of the district admi-

nistration, personnel of the

Army and the State Disaster

Response Force (SDRF) were

"The rescue operations

on Wednesday.

ited States – on this matter," the Minister said.

In response to Mr. Singh's assertion that India was being compared with Russia and China in terms of human rights violations, Mr. Jaishankar said the observation was "not an accurate

He said India was seeking to "right historical wrongs" and freedom should not be treated as "non-governance abdication

Kishtwar cloudburst: rescue

Officials said several houses had turned into debris

civilians at Honzar in

Kishtwar on Thursday. ■PTI

busy removing the rubble.

However, the Indian Air

Force (IAF) could not fly a

chopper to shift the injured

out of the area due to the in-

Around two dozen hous-

es and cowsheds were dam-

aged by gushing waters af-

ter the cloudburst, which

occurred in the intervening

clement weather.

operation resumes to trace 19

# Tharoor says privilege motion has 'no validity'

BJP MP moved it against IT panel chief

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Lok Sabha member Shashi Tharoor, who heads the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology (IT), on Thursday claimed that the privilege motion moved against him by BJP MP Nishikant Dubey had "no validity" as it didn't follow "constituted procedure".

Without naming Mr. Dubey, he said "some elements" in the panel had reduced it to a "ping-pong match" that went against the spirit of Parliament and its committees.

### 'Extremely amicable'

Recalling his previous stint as the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on External Affairs for five years, Mr. Tharoor said members worked in an extremely amicable and cooperative spirit even though that committee, too, had "a strong BJP majority".

Asked about Mr. Dubey's allegation that a Trinamool Congress MP had resorted

night of July 27-28.

cording to locals.

Officials said several hous-

es have turned into a mound

of debris. There were wo-

men among the missing, ac-

and then houses started cav-

ing in near the nallah

[stream]. There were four

houses on one side of the

bank and it's a flat surface

now. It was like doomsday,"

Muhammad Jamal, a resi-

An official said camps

were set up at Dangadooru

and Soundar areas for the af-

fected people. The govern-

ment has announced an ex

gratia of ₹5 lakh each for the

next of kin of those who lost

their lives, and ₹50,000 and

₹12,700 under the State Dis-

aster Relief Fund (to the grie-

(strategic partnerships and

vously injured).

dent of Hunzar, said.

"There was a huge sound

panel members assembled for the meeting on Wednesday, Mr. Tharoor pleaded ignorance. "How can I tell you about

to name-calling when the

a meeting that never happened? I am completely unaware if somebody allegedly said something at a meeting that never took place to somebody who was not there. How am I to be concerned about it?" he asked. Though BJP members

were present at the meeting venue, they refused to sign the register and the meeting had to be cancelled due to a lack of quorum. On Wednesday, Mr. Dubey moved the privilege motion against Mr. seeking Tharoor,

Senior Congress leader Abhishek Singhvi told presspersons, "I have had the privilege of being a former Chairman of a committee... I have never heard of 10 people of a ruling party saying that we are present, but not marking our attendance... If is collectively an insult to all

# 'Declare moratorium on use of Pegasus'

Open letter urges CJI to take action

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court of India must declare a moratorium on the export, sale, transfer and use of the Pegasus spyware in India and investigate the snooping scandal, women's rights activists, human rights defenders and concerned citizens have urged Chief Justice of India (CJI) N.V. Ramana in an open letter to him.

'We believe that the Supreme Court can only instil confidence in people's, and particularly women's minds by transparently demanding and making public all answers relating to the use of Pegasus in India. Above all, we look to the Supreme Court to declare a moratorium on the export, sale, transfer and use of Pegasus in India," said the open letter with over 500 signato-

The signatories include Ayesha Kidwai, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Professor; Romila Thapar, historian; Harsh Mander, human rights activist; Kavita Krishnan, secretary, All India Progressive Women's Association; Vrinda Grover, senior lawyer; and Lillette Dubey, actor and director.

### Ranjan Gogoi issue The open letter also raised

the issue of the woman who accused former CJI Ranjan Gogoi of sexual harassment being snooped on as well as



The letter called the episode an act of "state-sponsored cyberterrorism".

10 mobile numbers linked to her family members being

### 'Deeply troubling'

"If the complainant was under such criminal duress at the time, can the proceedings of the In-House Committee really have been free and fair? The silence of the Supreme Court as an institution on these revelations is deeply troubling for women in India," it stated.

The open letter called the hacking episode an act of "state-sponsored cyberter-

It further asserted that the "Pegasus project and information in public domain raises concerns for the integrity of constitutional authorities, including the independence of the Supreme Court. The investigation starkly discloses that the rights and freedoms of peoples, of which the Supreme Court is the guardian, are under grave risk".

# Careers in investment management

STAFF REPORTER

The CFA Institute and The Hindu BusinessLine will conduct a webinar on careers in investment management titled 'Gaining an edge in the post-COVID investment industry'.

It will be held on August 1 at 12 p.m. The panellists for the webinar are Saurabh Mukherjea, founder and CIO, Marcellus Investment



Managers; Nisha Awasthi, managing director, Black-Rock; Vaibhav Jain, head

sales), WealthDesk; and Vidhu Shekhar, country head (India), CFA Institute. It will be moderated by Parvatha Vardhini C., head, Research Bureau. To register for the webinar, please vi-

sit: https:// bit.ly/CFA-BLE the scan QR Code.

# 'We are waiting to see the follow-up from the meeting with the PM'

Recent measures suggest that there is a disconnect between what the PM says and what the L-G administration does, says the former Jammu & Kashmir CM

PEERZADA ASHIQ

More than a month after the meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and leaders of political parties from Jammu and Kashmir, National Conference vice-president and former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah expressed disappointment at its outcome. Excerpts:

It is over a month since you met Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the multi-party meeting in New Delhi. How fruitful has the meeting been to create a conducive atmosphere for the dialogue process?

■ The meeting was a first step. It was also important that the first step was taken by New Delhi because they were the ones who were instrumental with regard to the August 5, 2019 move [removal of J&K's special status] and all the detentions thereafter, particularly of the mainstream leaders. So, the onus was on them to take the first step. But no meeting is successful without any follow-up. So, we are waiting to see what the follow-up is from the meeting that took place with regard to addressing the issues that was brought before PM Modi. All we want to see is how the PM and his government plan to move forward on the words, 'Dilli saey doori aur dil ki doori' [the distance from Delhi and the distance between hearts], where the PM himself acknowledged these gaps. We are waiting to see what is going to be done to reduce these gaps.

Were any specific demands made before the PM?

■ There were specific demands made, some political and some administrative in nature. There were various people who put demands before the PM. I haven't seen

any evidence of any of them being met so far.

Immediately after the meeting, the J&K administration decided to end the tradition of shifting of capitals, 'Darbar Move', terminated 11 government employees and booked a **National Conference activist** under the Public Safety Act. Are these measures hinting at the Delhi-Srinagar dialogue hitting a deadlock?

■ The measures, individually and collectively, are problematic. First the termination of government employees without being given the right to explain. There has to be a due process. Even under the law, you are innocent till proven guilty. The new laws that they framed for J&K are able to terminate at will without any due process. Where is it right to hold someone responsible for omissions or commission of parents? Some are terminated for their political lin-



Suppressing people's anxieties and concerns is a recipe for disaster.... it blows up at some point or the other

kages. The BJP conveniently forgets that a lot of people were accommodated in the government services by the then Governor (Jagmohan) in early 1990s because the private schools of the Falahe-Aam trust (of the Jamaat-e-Islami) were banned. It's strange and difficult to comprehend that the policy of (then J&K Governor) the late Jagmohan, a lifelong BJP member, at least for the last two decades, is being twisted

Regarding the detention of the NC activist in Banihal, he was part of a public protest on a governance-related issue. There seems very little appetite for any criticism. We saw what happened in Ganderbal where a gentleman was arrested because he spoke the truth. J&K still has two capitals.

So, even the move to downsize the 'Darbar Move', if not end the tradition, has bothered people of Jammu more than Kashmir. Traders and shopkeepers in Jammu city do the lion's share of their business when the Kashmiri employees and their families move to Jammu in the winter. The same cannot be said of the traders in Srinagar. It's the people in Jammu who are up in arms against curtailing the 'Darbar Move'.

Is there a deadlock between

■ These measures suggest that there is a disconnect

between what the PM says and what the L-G administration does. The L-G was present at the multi-party meeting where the PM clearly talked about 'Dilli saey doori aur dil ki doori', then it is the responsibility of the L-G to steer his administration in a way in which these differenc-

es are reduced and not to

You said after the meeting that you do not expect the Modi government to return the pre-August 5 position to J&K. What is the engagement all about?

increase.

■ Foremost for the NC, in terms of political agenda, is the reversal of August 5, which is connected to a host of other things that can be resolved in the interim. Not every conversation has to be about the August 5. The fact that we don't expect the PM to reverse the August 5 decision does not mean we cannot express our anger and disappointment over what

happened. We made it very clear that a majority of people of J&K and Ladakh do not accept what happened on August 5. They are deeply bitter and disappointed by it.

Members of Parliaments of the NC have decided to be a part of the Delimitation Commission. Is the process going in the right direction?

■ The MPs were not involved

in the process that took place here when the Delimitation Commission visited J&K. That again raised some questions in our mind because we are convinced what happened the other day was an informal exercise. The entire Delimitation Commission was not there. It is not only made up of the main members but also the associate members, three MPs from Kashmir and two from Jammu. They were not included in the process. This is simply an informal exercise conducted and has no statutory or legal bearing whatsoever.

The L-G administration suggested that the situation has improved in J&K, as protests and stone pelting have come down. Has it?

■ The law and order situa-

tion is better. Is that because

of the way in which people are being arrested and detained without due process? Artificially suppressing people's anxieties and concerns is a recipe for disaster. We have seen it in the past as well. It's much better to go out and address peoples' concerns and anger rather than suppress it. Ultimately, it blows up at some point or the other. While the L-G may be satisfied with the numbers given by the police on protests showing a slide, he may have to dig deeper and satisfy himself. On unemployment, the L-G and his administration need to come out of the security bubble and talk to youth. Unemploy-

(Full interview bit.ly/OmarAbdullahInt)

ment has gone up.

# Trinamool sees opening in I-PAC team's detention

Leaders in Tripura for pre-poll work

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Trinamool Congress sees the detention of the 23member team of its political advisory firm, I-PAC, in Tripura as an opportunity to build its presence in the State, party leaders said.

The I-PAC team, which reached the State on July 20, was detained on Tuesday and later booked under Section 188 of the IPC (disobedience to order promulgated by the public servant) for allegedly flouting COVID-19

The party so far has been an insignificant force in the State, except for 2016, when six Congress MLAs joined the Trinamool Congress making it the lead Opposition party. But this was only a blip. Currently, the party's State unit is dysfunctional.

### **Elections in 2023**

In 2018, the BIP won 36 eight, while the CPI(M)'s tally was reduced to 16 and the Congress and the Trinamool

By making noise about I-PAC team, Tripura CM has indirectly conceded that we are a force to reckon with

SENIOR TRINAMOOL LEADER

drew a blank. The next Assembly poll is due in 2023.

"This is an opportunity gifted directly by Biplab Kumar Deb (Tripura CM). By making noise about the I-PAC team, he is indirectly conceding that we are a force to reckon with," a senior Trinamool leader said.

After its third consecutive victory in West Bengal, the Trinamool is now keen to expand its footprint to give it a greater national presence. "We will go in for a win or be the lead Opposition. We are no longer in the game to be a minor player," a top Trinamool leader said.

Trinamool MPs Derek O'Brien and Kakoli Ghosh seats and the IPFT won Dastidar are already in Agartala. Party general secretary Abhishek Banerjee will also be reaching on Friday.

# LS passes 2 Bills without debate

Will take strict action against those who repeatedly disrupt proceedings: Speaker

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Amid continuous Opposition protests, the Lok Sabha on Thursday passed two Bills before it was adjourned for the day.

The Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA) Amendment Bill, 2021, and the Inland Vessels Bill, 2021, were passed in the din without debate.

Opposition members kept protesting over the Pegasus snooping issue and the three farm laws despite Lok Speaker Om Birla cautioning them that he would be forced to take strict action against those who "repeatedly disrupt the proceedings".

When the House began at 11 a.m., Mr. Birla said he was deeply hurt by the Wednesday incident, when some members tore papers and threw at the Chair and Treasury benches. "If you don't take care of the parliamentary practices, then how will the parliamentary process strengthen? My endeavour is that all members get adequate time to raise their issues



For the farmer: Congress MPs protesting against the farm laws outside Parliament in New Delhi on Thursday. • PTI

and give them their due respect," he said.

Minister seeks apology When Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi de-

manded an apology, Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury said Opposition members were not able to put forth their views because of the "stubborn" attitude of the government.

Amid continuous sloganeering, Mr. Birla adjourned the House until 11.30 a.m.

The BIP's Raiendra Agra-

wal ran the Question Hour proceedings for some time but had to adjourn twice in an hour. In between the interruptions, Business Advisory Committee members met to discuss the agenda. When the House reconvened at 2 p.m., Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, who was in Chair, took up the two Bills.

Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia moved the AERA Amendment Bill for passage after some scathing remarks on the Opposition benches. "During the pandemic, instead of discussion, the House is witnessing sloganeering... We will convert this crisis into an opportunity and provide all possible facilities to farmers and people... Let the people of the country know what great work the Prime Minister is doing and what they [Opposition] are doing," he said.

The amendment will allow the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA) to regulate tariff and other charges for aeronautical services for not just airports with annual passenger traffic of more than 35 lakh but also a group of airports. Once the Bill becomes a law, the government will be able to club profitable and non-profitable airports as a package for privatisation as envisaged in this year's Budget speech.

Soon after, Ports and Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal moved the Inland Vessels Bill that seeks to introduce a uniform regulato ry framework for navigation across the country. To prevent pollution, the Bill also specifies safety standards.

# List issues that couldn't be taken up: Venkaiah

Rajya Sabha bulletin gives an account

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

With the functioning of the Upper House curtailed for eight consecutive days due to protests by Opposition parties seeking clarification from the government on the Pegasus snooping issue, the Rajya Sabha Secretariat will now list all the issues that could not be taken up due to the disruptions.

Rajya Sabha Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu directed the Secretariat to list out all Zero Hour submissions and special mentions permitted by him, which members could not raise because of adjournments forced by the protests, in the House bulletin that records the business transacted in a day.

Members can raise issues of public importance during the Zero Hour and via the special mention submissions. "Rajya Sabha bulletin is to give a brief account of what has been transacted during the day, but in the prevailing situation, it has been decided to give an ac-



M. Venkaiah Naidu

count of what couldn't be transacted due to disruptions," a senior Rajya Sabha official said.

Wednesday's bulletin was the first one to make this change. "Due to continuous disruptions in the House, 14 +matters to be raised with permission (Zero Hour submissions) and 15 special mention notices permitted by the Chairman on matters of public importance could not be taken up," it read.

So far, three Bills have been passed in the Rajya Sabha without discussions Mr. Naidu on Monday said 90 members had been denied opportunity to raise issues of public importance.

# 'No database on rent paid by govt. offices'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

There was no centrallymaintained data on the amount spent by various government establishments for renting office space in the National Capital Region, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Kaushal Kishore informed the Lok Sabha on Thursday.

In his written response to a question raised by members Dipsinh Shankarsinh Rathod and Mohanbhai Kalyanji Kundariya, Mr. Kishore said: "The details of rental premises/area-wise hired by the various establishments of government and expenditure incurred on those private rental premises/area-wise since their origin of lease agreement are not centrally maintained."

This comes even as the government has said that the ongoing Central Vista redevelopment project, which includes the construction of 10 new Secretariat buildings, would lead to a saving of ₹1,000 crore a year in the form of rent for government

# Lakha gets anticipatory bail

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

A Delhi court on Thursday granted anticipatory bail to gangster-turned-activist Lakha Sidhana in a case related to his alleged involvement in the violence at the Red Fort on Republic Day, saying no case is made out against him.

"The IO is unable to respond why custodial interrogation of the accused is further required in the probe," Additional Sessions Judge Kamini Lau said.

**LOOK OUT NOTICE** Sri. Arun @ Arun Varikkoli, Age 27, S/o. Anirudhan age-24, Kuttiyil House, Vallikunnam Muri, Vallikunnam Village, W-3, Alappuzha District who is the accused in Cr. 284/2021, U/s 120(B), 143, 144, 147, 148, 149, 341, 323, 324, 326, 307, 302 IPC of Vallikunnam Police

crime. If any clue or information is obtained about him that may be intimated immediately to Vallikunnam Police Station SHO, Deputy Superintendent of Police Chengannur, District Police Chief Alappuzha. Contact number:

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA** 

Odisha Community Tank Development and Management Society

Station, he is absconding after the commission of the

ISHO, Vallikunnam DySP, Chengannur District Police Chief, Alappuzha - 9497996982

Date of opening of bid (s)

Name/ Address of the OIT

- 9497961187 - 9497990043

1216/F2/2021/I&PRD\_

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**TENDER ALERT** 

01)E- Tender Notice No.CPC-05/2021-22: Construction of boundary wall at 400/220/33kV GIS Meramundali-B due to expansion of NH-55 (750 meter long) at an estimated cost of the Package for Rs.93.57 Lakh in Angul district of Odisha on "Turnkey Contract Basis". Bidding documents will available from 02.08.2021.

02) E-Tender Notice No.09/2021-22: Supply of 33kV, 1CX95 mm<sup>2</sup> Aluminum conductor, XLPE U/G cable with flat armour as per tender specification. Bidding documents will available from

For details please visit: www.optcl.co.in & www.tenderwizard.com/OPTCL.

NMDC Limited



CAD-741

**CONTRACTS DEPARTMENT** 

NMDC Limited, A "NAVARATNA" Public Sector Company under Ministry of Stee Govt. of India, invites **Offline bids** from experienced domestic bidders for the followings tender enquiry with start and end date as below for 3.0 MTPA Integrated Steel Plant at Nagarnar, near Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh state. Name of the work: Outsourcing of Lime transportation of Sinter Plant.

30.07.2021 Last date of submission: 30.08.2021. Name of thework: Operation & Maintenance of BF Water System & utility services, GCP, ETP, & SGP water system and Chemical dosing of BF & GCP water system. Tender no & Date: NISP/CONTRACTS/M&C/253/O&M-16/2020/243 Dated: 30.07.2021 | Last date of submission: 30.08.2021.

Tender no & Date:NISP/CONTRACTS/M&C/252/O&M-04/2020/242 Date

Name of the work:Outsourcing of Maintenance Contract for Gas Analyser Tender no & Date: NISP/CONTRACTS/M&C/254/O&M-53/2020/244 Dated 30.07.2021|Last date of submission: 30.08.2021. Name of the work: Job Contract For Housekeeping and Material Handling in By-Product Plant Including Effluent Treatment Plant. Tender no 8 Date:NISP/CONTRACTS/M&C/255/O&M-27/2020/245 Dated: 30.07.2021 | Last date of submission: 30.08.2021.

The detailed NIT and Bid documents can be viewed and / or downloaded from NMDC websitehttp://www.nmdc.co.in, and Central Public Procurement portal (CPP PORTAL) http://www.eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app. The Bidders, on regular basis are required to visit the NMDC's website / CPP Porta websites for corrigendum, if any, at a future date. For further clarification, please contact HOD(Contracts) Emai

HOD(Contracts)

# GOVT. DOON MEDICAL COLLEGE DEHRAKHAS, PATEL NAGAR, DEHRADUN - 248001, UTTARAKHAND Tel: 0135-2726020, 2726021

Latter No.- GDMC/Advt./JR/2021/6118

**WALK IN INTERVIEW FOR THE POST OF JUNIOR RESIDENT** A Walk-in-Interview for Junior Resident will be held in the office of Principal, Government Doon Medical College, Patel Nagar

AM to 01:00 PM) vacancies are filled. The detail about the vacancies in various departments are uploaded in the website of Govt. Doon Medical College

Dehradun on every working day from 05 August, 2021 from (10:30

www.doonmedical.org. Principal, Govt. Doon Medical College, Dehradun

**KERALA WATER AUTHORITY - e-Tender Notice** 

DATED: 23.07.202

# Tender No : 08/2021-22/KWA/PHC/D2/TVM/RT1. KIIFB - Kizhakkanmala drinking wate supply project - Construction of 10mld WTP at Kizhakkanmala, Construction of substation and office building, Supplying and laying of Raw water pumping and clear water transmission main using DI pipes, construction of 8LL OHSR at Pazhamala and Kizhakkanmala Rehabilitation of tanks at Mylachal, Dalumugham and Chilambara and its interconnection

works, weir at Moonnattinmukku, rising of floor and roof slab of existing well at Moonnattinmukku, supply and erection of raw water and clear water pumpsets, transformer etc including road restoration works. EMD : Rs. 5,00,000.\* Ended fee : Rs. 15000.\* Last Date for submitting Tender : 25-08-2021 03:00:pm. Phone : 0471-2322303. Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in.

KWA-JB-GL-6-278-2021-22 Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Thiruvananthapuran

OFFICE OF PROJECT DIRECTOR, SPMU, ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA

GROUND WATER DEPARTMENT, JAIPUR 72-B, JHALANA INSTITUTIONAL AREA, JHALANA DOONGRI, JAIPUR EMAIL ID:-PD.ATAL@RAJASTHAN.GOV.IN CONTACT US: 0141-270379

NO.F.2(22)/ATAL/PO/SPMU/JPR/2021/521 CORRIGENDUM No. 1

corrigendum is hereby issued with reference to the e-Tender for "Selection of Distric Implementation Partners to Support in implementation of Atal Bhujal Yojana (Atal Jal) Notic ated 11.07.2021 and Pre bid meeting dated 22.07.2021. Corrigendum may be se www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in & http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in.

UBN: GWD2122SLOB00108, GWD2122SLOB00109, GWD2122SLOB00110, GWD2122SLOB00111 GWD2122SLOB00112, GWD2122SLOB00113, GWD2122SLOB00114, GWD2122SLOB00115 PROJECT DIRECTOR

### ANDHRA PRADESH MEDICAL SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Plot No.9, Survey No.49, IT Park, Mangalagiri-522503 email: aphmhidc@gmail.com & ed.apmsidc16@gmail.com Tender Notice No.12/APMSIDC/2021-22, Dated: 28-07-2021

PMSIDC invites tenders through e-procurement platform for **Equipment Wing: 1)** Procure and supply of equipment for establishing Whole Genome Sequencing Lab at VRDL Lab GMC, Guntur. **2)** RFP for identification of service provider for providing the Human resources to the various Govt. Hospitals in A.P. 3) Procure and supply of balance Equipment under Dr. YSRAHCT Scheme. 4) Procure and supply of Medical Equipment to Ayush Dept. 5) Procure and supply of Dental items to RIMS Kadapa. 6) Procure and supply of Skill Lat

items to SVMC Tirupati. 7) Procure and supply of Medical Equipment to Dr. YSR

Kantivelugu Program. 8) Procure and supply of Equipment to various Govt.

Hospitals in A.P under different schemes of NHM Funds for PIP 2021-22. APMSIDC will reserve the right to cancel the tenders at any time without assigning any reasons.

Sd/- Managing Director DIPR 294PP/CL, Dt: 29-07-2021

### **Amended Factoring** Regulation Bill passed

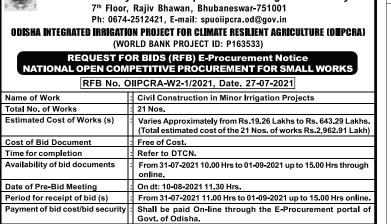
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI The Rajya Sabha on Thursday passed the Factoring Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2021, while the Opposition continued its protest against the government over the alleged use of Pegasus spyware and the farm laws passed last year.

The Bill, which Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said would benefit micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME), was passed just around 15 minutes after it was introduced, with a brief discussion and members opting to table their views instead of speaking amid the din.

The Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on Monday.

Ms. Sitharaman said the Bill would enable MSMEs to access about 9,000 NBFCs (nonbanking financial companies), an increase from the current seven available to them.



On dt: 01-09-2021 at 15.30 Hrs onwards.

www.tendersodisha.gov.in

E-mail: spuoiipcra.od@gov.in

Available in web site of www.dowrodisha.gov.in and

Project Director, OCTDMS, Odisha, Address: 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Rajiv Bhawan, Bhubaneswar, Dist: Khordha, PIN: 751001

**Project Director, OCTDMS** 

OIPR-32188/11/0001/2122



### West Bengal allows cinema halls to open

The West Bengal government pandemic restrictions till August 15 but allowed cinema halls to open with not more than 50% seating capacity. A notification issued during the day allowed State government programmes that are held indoors with 50% seating capacity. The notification restricted the movement of people and vehicles from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m., except for emergency and

### Man dies in Prayagraj after assault over video

essential services.

A man died in Prayagraj district of Uttar Pradesh after being assaulted by members of another community who were allegedly offended by a "casteist" video he uploaded as his status on Facebook recently, the police said on Thursday. Four persons were arrested on a complaint by the victim's family, said the

### Woman stabbed to death by brothers in U.P.

A 20-year-old woman was stabbed to death by her two brothers near a police station in Budaun district while she was on her way to record her statement regarding a case lodged by her family on her alleged elopement, the police said. Her brothers, aged 19 and 24, intercepted her and stabbed her in the neck, said Datagani SHO Aiit Kumar. They have been arrested and investigation is on.

### Sidhu meets partymen, lists 'five priorities' again

Punjab Congress chief Navjot Singh Sidhu on Thursday again flagged the five 'key issues' faced by the State, days after being told by Chief Minister that his government was close to resolving them. Addressing party workers in Jalandhar Mr Sidhu said the Congress high command's 18-point programme will be implemented. He also called for the "rejection" by the Congress-ruled State of the three farm laws. PTI

### **ED** arrests Ambience Mall owner Raj Genlot

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday arrested Raj Singh Gehlot, the owner of Gurugram-based Ambience Mall, on money laundering charges. According to the ED, a sizeable portion of over ₹800 crore taken in loans from a consortium of banks for a hotel project was diverted and round-tripped via a web of companies. Some employees of the Ambience group and associates of Mr. Gehlot were allegedly appointed as directors or proprietors of such entities but he was the "authorised

signatory".

# Key nasal vaccine data likely in 2 months

Bharat Biotech says clinical trials are under way, but does not commit to a timeline for rollout

N. RAVI KUMAR

Bharat Biotech founder and CMD Krishna Ella said on Thursday that the company was expecting significant data on its intranasal COVID-19 vaccine in about two months.

"In another two to twoand-a-half months, we are going to have significant data," he said, without committing to a timeline by which the nasal vaccine, whose clinical trials are under way, is likely to be rolled out.

Perceived as a game changer in the battle against the virus, the vaccine from the makers of Covaxin promises to deliver multiple benefits, from being more effective, since it is expected to gener-



**Single spray:** There are nasal vaccines available for diseases such as H1N1 influenza but none yet for COVID-19. • FILE РНОТО

ate immune responses at the site of infection (respiratory mucosa), to ease of administration and production. "It is also easy to scale it up... can produce 100 million doses a

month," Mr. Ella told a FICCI Capital Markets Conference.

The company is also awaiting permission to conduct clinical trials using a combination of Covaxin and

the nasal vaccine doses. "We have applied for clinical [trial] permission," he said. In September, Bharat Biotech had announced a licensing agreement with Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis for the "novel chimp adenovirus" single-dose intranasal vaccine for COVID-19.

### **BSL-3 facilities**

On Covaxin, Mr. Ella said manufacturing of the inactivated vaccine, unlike the vector or M-RNA vaccines, was challenging. However, Bharat Biotech's existing BSL-3 production facilities, which are required to make inactivated vaccines, helped it overcome the challenge.

Noting that the safety pro-

file of Covaxin was the best Mr. Ella said clinical trial of the vaccine for children between the age of two and 18 was nearing completion.

He said the possibility of a third wave of COVID-19 in India would be determined by the people's behaviour or in other words, their conforming to COVID-19 appropriate guidelines.

"My feeling is until Deepa-

vali, if no epidemic comes, we are through as a country. Also with different vaccines coming, we can take care of society at large. We are well geared up now... there was a little delay but now we have caught up," he said, expecting everyone in India to be vaccinated by March next

### As cases surge, Central team to visit Kerala

It will work with local health officials

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Union Health Ministry on Thursday decided to depute a high-level multi-disciplinary team to Kerala to collaborate with the health authorities there in instituting effective public health measures for COVID-19 management in view of the significantly enhanced number of daily cases there.

The Ministry said in a release that the six-member team would be headed by S.K. Singh, Director, National Centre for Disease Control. It would reach Kerala on Friday and visit a few dis-

It would work closely with the State Health De-

partment, take stock of the ground situation and recommend necessary public health interventions to contain the large number of cases being reported.

### **Active caseload**

Kerala, with an active caseload of 1.54 lakh, is contributing 37.1% of the total active cases in the country, with a growth rate of 1.41 in the past seven days.

The average daily cases being reported in the State are above 17,443.

The State has also reported a high test positivity of 12.93% cumulatively and 11.97% weekly. Six districts are reporting more than 10% weekly positivity.

# SC not to review order on exams for private students

CBSE has proposed scheme to hold physical tests

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court has refused to review its June 22 order agreeing with a CBSE scheme to hold physical exams for private, compartment and patrachar (distance education) candidates of Class 12.

The students of these three categories had sought parity with the regular CBSE students.

The Board had cancelled the physical exams for regular CBSE Class 12 students in view of the pandemic. It had devised an objective assessment scheme to evaluate their performance. The Supreme Court had given its

private/patrachar/



compartment candidates subsequently proached the court. They wanted the court to direct the CBSE to frame a similar scheme for them.

Instead, the Supreme Court, on June 22, agreed with the CBSE plan to conduct exams for the private, compartment and patrachar candidates some time

between August 15 and September 15. The CBSE had made it clear that their results would be declared at the earliest "so that even these students would be in a position to pursue their further education". Clause 29 of the "Policy

for Tabulation of Marks for Class XII Board Examinations 2021" framed by the CBSE had specified that the examination would be conducted for private, patrachar, second chance compartment candidates and so on by the Board as and when the conditions become conducive.

In their plea before the court, students had contended that the decision may endanger their lives.

# Engineering course in 11 languages

PM says 14 colleges in eight States will offer it in five Indian languages now

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The All India Council of Technical Education is creating a database of resources to allow colleges to offer more programmes in regional languages and has developed a tool to translate engineering course content into 11 languages, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday.

He was speaking at an event to mark the first anniversary of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, which placed a strong emphasis on education in the mother tongue.

Though there has been little progress on one of the NEP's most controversial recommendations to teach all children in their mother tongue or home language until



New thrust: Efforts are on to promote technical education in regional languages. • FILE РНОТО

been taken to promote regional languages in technical education. "I am glad that 14 engineering colleges in eight States are going to start engineering studies in five Indian languages: Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi and Bangla," Mr. Modi said.

Teaching in regional languages will offer access to higher education for students from rural, low-income families who may not be fluent in English, said the Prime Minister, adding that this would help prevent language-based discrimination. He also announced the

launch of Indian Sign Language as a regular language subject in secondary schools, promoting inclusivi-

challenged students. As reported earlier, the Prime Minister rolled out several other NEP initiatives such as an academic credit bank and a three-month play module to prepare children to enter Class 1.

Mr. Modi emphasised that the NEP was a key component of nation building, and a future-oriented exercise preparing today's youth to help build tomorrow's India. A four-hour training programme on artificial intelligence developed by the Central Board of Secondary Education and Intel India would also contribute to a digital-driven economy, he said.

The programme aims to introduce artificial intelligence to 10 lakh people in its first year, and is available in 11 languages.

# 391 complaints of sexual harassment, says Centre

They were filed on SHE-Box portal

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A total of 391 complaints have been filed by employees of Central government Ministries about sexharassment workplace, the government Parliament Thursday.

These complaints were filed on the government's SHe-Box portal, which was launched in 2017 for effective implementation of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.

The portal is meant for government as well as private sector employees.

"Of the 391 complaints,

150 were received since January 1, 2020," Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Irani said in the Rajya Sabha in response to a question.

However, an analysis of 36 cases filed through SHe-Box by employees of the Ministry of Women and Child Development showed that there were only two cases of sexual harassment of women at workplace.

Nearly 32 cases were "in the nature of public grievances on various matters relating to violence against women, dowry harassment, misbehaviour, suggestions, etc." and the remaining two were repeat

# Maken continues interactions with MLAs

He sought their views on changes needed to ensure Cong. victory in Assembly poll

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

All India Congress Committee general secretary Ajay Maken continued his interactions with the Congress MLAs for the second consecutive day here on Thursday to get their feedback on the State government's perfor-

Mr. Maken also sought their views on the changes needed to ensure the ruling party's victory in the next Assembly elections.

Mr. Maken held one-onone discussions with 52 legislators from 20 districts in the State Assembly building. The Tonk district was covered through the interaction with the MLAs representing Deoli-Uniara and Niwai constituencies, in the

SCAN TO PLAY



Cong. leader Ajay Maken •

absence of Tonk MLA and former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot.

Mr. Pilot had met Mr. Maken in New Delhi on Tuesday, a day before his visit to Jaipur, and discussed the party's roadmap reportedly prepared for the State. Mr. Maken met 66 MLAs, including the Independents supporting the Congress, on Wednesday in the Assembly The sources in Congress 'Cong. tradition'

said that several of the MLAs expressed dissatisfaction with some Ministers, accusing them of being inaccessible and not resolving people's grievances. Some legislators, especially those belonging to the Pilot camp, also raised the issue of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and minorities not being adequately represented in the State Cabinet.

There were speculations that the State Cabinet might be reshuffled and expanded early next month. This is likely to be followed by appointments to various boards and corporations as well as nominations to the block and district units of the ruling party.

Congress chief whip Mahesh Joshi told reporters outside the Assembly that the exercise to get the views of MLAs on different aspects of governance would strengthen the ruling party. "It is a tradition in Congress to keep taking such feedback. Every MLA has a right to convey his or her opinion to the top leadership in the party," he said.

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot hosted dinner for Mr. Maken, who is the AICC incharge of Rajasthan, and the MLAs at his official residence here on Thursday

### **HC orders** verification of prawn farms

STAFF REPORTER

The Orissa High Court has ordered the immediate saaquaculture being taken up around the Bhitarkanika wetland in Kendrapara district.

The Division Bench of Chief Justice S. Muralidhar and Justice B.P. Routray has said that it would hear the matter in a special sitting on August 14.

"The amicus curiae points out that the satellite verification in Kendrapara district has still not been undertaken despite the directions issued by this court on May 31, 2021," the Division Bench stated on July 27.

# TH CROSSWORD+ 13313

@ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn 15 A club facing mounting unrest, it's like a slaughterhouse (8) 18 Force to do and set out with Mike the handyman (8)

We are digital now. Come solve online!

19 River Danube – meandering, undeniable (4) 22 Free to come together after it flips (5)

24 Animal like trend, not even condemned (9)

26 Pressure as playing team often gets stuffed for consumption (9) **27** Commotion about gunners found in the trench (5)

28 Time to go through line, in goes the lever (7) 29 Soldier's uniform, right? (7)

### DOWN

1 Niche found in rest of school (6)

2 In Australia they're nuts to use this on roads bordering Indonesia (9)

**3** One covering a story, isn't it strange? (5)

4 Matter resolved – allowed to complain over this terrible woman (9)

**5** Live with a bishop over an unknown church (5)

**6** Explain measures to retain the glow (9) 7 One keeps constant in air (5)

8 Nine finally, almost close (6)

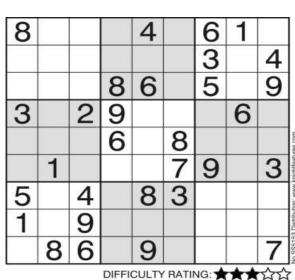
14 Bird went first as the river rose, it's documented (5,4) 16 Masters brought in to transform the old school (4,5)

17 Exposed film, alas, kid's feeling nervous (3,2,4)

**20** Polish movie is hit (6) **21** Young man becomes a party to rising crime (6) 23 Brief intersection? (5)

24 A mathematical group involving, say, a subject (5) 25 It's gone bad, left out or brought in? (5)

**SUDOKU** 



### Solution to puzzle 13312 Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

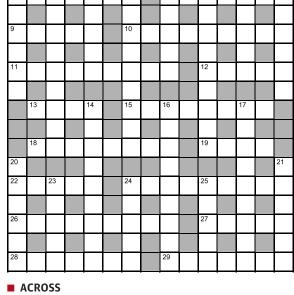
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### **FAITH**

### One must control senses

Vamana tells Mahabali that all He wants is land equal to what He can measure with three steps. This seems so insignificant a request, that Mahabali begins to advise Vamana, said Kidambi Narayanan, in a discourse. Mahabali says, "You look like a highly educated boy, but with Your words, You have shown that You are still childlike in Your innocence. You do not know what is good for You. I am Emperor of the three worlds. I have the capacity to give you an entire island. I was happy when You said You wanted something from me. But now You have asked for something so petty – land measured with three steps. How can I now say You are intelligent? As far as I am concerned, if someone comes to me for something, he must never have to go to anyone else for it, for I can give everything a man may desire."

Vamana replies: "A man is happy only if he controls his indriyas. The mind is like a monkey. Even if you train it, it will remain restless. But, if you control your indriyas, even if you have desires, you will not go astray. If a man has not conquered his indriyas, even if you give him all the things available in the three worlds, he will still not be satisfied. A person who is not happy with a small plot of land, will not be happy even if he were to come into possession of a larger plot of land. He will want seven islands. Contentment leads to happiness, and this happiness is possible, only if you have control of the *indriyas*. Expectation burns like a bright fire. But this fire will never be put out. If an educated man is content with what he has, then he will have Brahma tejas. You may have the capacity to give a lot. But I want nothing more than a small piece of land. We must know what we need, and to know this, we must know who we are."



1 God's role is to provide protection (7) **5** Pointed as one got up (7)

**9** Cat iron clad law for these plants (5) **10** Repeal in two parts — no one opposed disobedience (9)

11 Arden's yet to move, still... (9)

12 ... a Belgian returning some of the spores (5)

13 Issue as part of the remittances (4)

# 'Iran nuclear talks can't go on indefinitely'

Antony Blinken says U.S. is committed to negotiations, but wants Tehran to come back into compliance

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Thursday that nuclear talks with Iran "cannot go on indefinitely' but that Washington was "fully prepared" to continue negotiations.

The U.S. is indirectly involved in Iran's talks with world powers to revive a nuclear deal that gave Iran some relief from international sanctions in exchange for limits on its nuclear programme.

The deal was torpedoed in 2018 by then U.S. President Donald Trump, who unilaterally withdrew from the agreement and imposed punishing sanctions.

"We're committed to diplomacy, but this process cannot go on indefinitely... we look to see what Iran is ready to do or not ready to do and remain fully prepared to return to Vienna to



Ready for talks: U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken during a press conference in Kuwait City on Thursday. • AFP

Blinken said during a visit to Kuwait on Thursday.

"We have clearly demonstrated our good faith and desire to return to mutual compliance with the nuclear agreement ... The ball remains in Iran's court and we will see if they're prepared to make the decisions necessary to come back into

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani's government has been holding talks with major powers in Vienna since April on bringing Washington back into the agreement.

But a deal seems unlikely until he hands over power to President-elect Ebrahim Raisi early next month.

Mr. Raisi is an ultraconser-

port for the nuclear talks, arguing Iran needs an end to

Iran's ultraconservative camp, which deeply distrusts the U.S., has repeatedly criticised Mr. Rouhani over the 2015 deal.

Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Wednesday that experience has shown "trusting the West does not work", referring to the U.S. withdrawal from the deal and its fallout.

Mr. Raisi has said his government will support talks that "guarantee national interests", but will not allow negotiations for the sake of negotiations. One of the major criti-

cisms of the 2015 deal raised by Mr. Trump was its failure to address Iran's ballistic missile programme or its alleged interference in region-

But Tehran has always rejected bringing non-nuclear which is known formally as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

'Guarantee our interests' Mr. Khamenei also criticised the U.S. for refusing to "guarantee that (it) will not violate the agreement in the future" by pulling out

unilaterally, as Mr. Trump

did in 2018.

Mr. Trump's successor Joe Biden has signalled his readiness to return to the nuclear deal and has engaged in indirect negotiations with Iran alongside formal talks with the agreement's remaining Britain, China, parties, Germany France,

Iran's chief negotiator Abbas Araghchi said this month that the talks must "await our new administration" as Tehran is "in a transition period". A sixth round of talks concluded on June 20 and dates for the next round have

# Turkey courts Biden with offer to protect Kabul airport

It is a lifeline for Embassy staff, humanitarian aid delivery

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE ANKARA

Turkey is offering to protect Kabul's strategic airport after the U.S. forces leave, in what experts view as a highrisk bid to improve Ankara's strained Washington.

Keeping the air hub safe from advancing Taliban forces became a major issue after U.S. President Joe Biden called an end to Washington's 20-year involvement by ordering all troops out of Afghanistan by the end of next month.

Hamid Karzai International Airport offers the safest route for Embassy staff and humanitarian aid to reach the war-torn country. Its fall could leave Afghanistan largely cut off from the world.

Ankara's surprise proposal gave Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan a chance to build a rapport

Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul. • AFP

with Mr. Biden during their first meeting at a NATO summit in June.

The offer meets two of the Turkish leader's objectives: warm chilly ties with Western allies and avert an influx of refugees by keeping aid routes open.

"Turkey has a vested interest in Afghanistan's stability," said Magdalena Kirchner, Afghanistan director at German foundation Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung.

Turkish officials play down the diplomatic aspects of the mission and stress the importance of relieving the suffering in Afghanistan.

"Our objective is to make sure Afghanistan is not closed to the outside world, that it is not isolated," a Turkish diplomatic source said.

The United Nations this month said 18 million people or half the Afghan population - needed assistance, while half of all children under the age of five suffered from acute malnutrition.

### **U.S.** sanctions

While Washington still views Turkey as an important ally in a volatile part of the world, relations have been bedevilled by disputes, including Ankara's acquisition of a Russian missile defence system.

U.S. sanctioned Ankara for the purchase last year.

# China accuses U.S. of 'meddling' in its affairs

Beijing slams Secretary Antony Blinken's meeting in Delhi with the Dalai Lama's representatives

ANANTH KRISHNAN

China on Thursday accused the U.S. of "meddling" in its "internal affairs" after Secretary of State Antony Blinken met with a representative of the Dalai Lama in New Delhi his visit on during Wednesday.

Mr. Blinken had met with the Director of the Bureau of the Dalai Lama in Delhi, Ngodup Dongchung, on Wednesday morning. He separately also met with a group of civil representatives, which included Geshe Dorji Damdul, Director of Tibet House in New Delhi.

Asked by Chinese media to comment on the meeting, the Foreign Ministry in Beijing on Thursday hit out at the U.S., saying "Tibetan affairs are purely China's internal affairs that allow no foreign interference."

"China firmly opposes any form of contact between foreign officials and the Dalai Lama," spokesperson Zhao Lijian said. "Any form of contact between the U.S. side and the Dalai clique is a violation of the U.S. commitment to acknowledging Tibet being part of China, to not supporting 'Tibetan Independence', and to not sup-

porting attempts to separate China. The U.S; side should honour its commitment, stop meddling in China's internal affairs under the pretext of Tibetan affairs, and offer no support to the 'Tibetan independence' forces to engage in anti-China separatist activities. China will take all necessary measures to de-

fend its own interests." The Foreign Ministry earlier this month surprised observers when it did not issue any response to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's telephone call with the Dalai Lama on his 86th birthday, which marked the first time Mr. Modi had publicly confirmed speaking with the Tibetan spiritual leader since 2014. Among the differences between China and the U.S. is the question of the Dalai Lama's succession, which the Tibetan leader said he would address when he turns 90.

The Biden administration said earlier this year it was of the view the Chinese government "should have no role in the succession process of the Dalai Lama". The Tibet Policy Support Act passed by the U.S. Senate in December 2020, and backed by the then Trump administration, said Washington would oppose any moves by Beijing to interfere in the succession or identification of Tibetan Buddhist lamas including the Dalai Lama.

Beijing, however, in May issued a white paper affirming that the ruling Communist Party and the government in Beijing would approve the reincarnation of the Dalai Lama and other Living Buddhas, saying a procedure of "drawing lots from the golden urn" would be followed and "the selected candidate would be subject to approval by the central government of China".

### 'Pakistan is not the Taliban's spokesperson'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ISLAMABAD

The Pakistan government is not a spokesperson for the Taliban and Islamabad cannot be held responsible for the actions of the insurgent group in Afghanistan following the withdrawal of soldiers from the U.S. and its allies, Prime Minister Imran Khan has said.

In his comments to Afghan media representatives that were aired on Thursday, Mr. Khan also said that Pakistan will have good relations with whoever the Afghans choose.

# Taliban surge poses existential crisis: report

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

The Afghan government faces an "existential crisis" after the Taliban doubled their attacks following the February 2020 U.S. deal with the insurgents, a report said on Thursday.

The report said Taliban attacks surged from 6,700 in the three months up to the Doha agreement to 13,242 in the September-November 2020 period.

Attacks have stayed above 10,000 in each subsequent three-month period, according to the report by the U.S. Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR). The report makes clear

that the Doha agreement. instead of propelling Taliban-Kabul talks, unleashed an offensive that caught government unprepared.

Over January-March of 2020, there were only 510 civilian deaths and 709 casualties, the report said. After that the numbers surged, hitting 1,058 deaths and 1,959 injured in the third quarter that year. The latest data, for April and May this year, showed 705 civilian deaths and 1,330 casualties.

# + Tunisia's President Saied launches graft crackdown

460 businessmen come under lens

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Tunisia's President Kais Saied accused 460 business men of embezzlement as he launched a crackdown on corruption, days after grabbing power in what his opponents have dubbed a "coup".

Mr. Saied, who suspended parliament for 30 days and seized all executive on Sunday, slammed the "bad economic choices" made in recent years, during a meeting with a leader of the employers' federation UTICA.

In his comments late on Wednesday, the president singled out for criticism "those who plunder public money".

Mr. Saied accused 460



businessmen of owing 13.5 billion dinars (\$4.9 billion) to the state, citing the findings of a commission of inquiry into graft under former dictator Zine El Abidine Ben Ali.

"This money must be returned to the Tunisian people," he said, adding that he intends to offer the busi-"judicial nessmen arbitration".

# Armenia to seek Russian military deployment

Tensions rise on border with Azerbaijan

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said on Thursday he would request the deployment of Russian border guards along his country's frontier with Azerbaijan to prevent further escalation after new clashes.

Last year Armenia and Azerbaijan fought a sixweek war over the breakaregion Nagorno-Karabakh.

The conflict claimed some 6,500 lives and ended with a Russian-brokered ceasefire that saw Armenia cede territories it had controlled for decades.

In recent months tensions have been running high over the two countries' shared border.

On Wednesday, three Armenian soldiers were killed in fresh border clashes with Azerbaijani forces, in some of the heaviest fighting between the Caucasus rivals since last year's war.

Addressing a Cabinet meeting on Thursday, Mr. Pashinyan said he wanted to ask Moscow for more help. "I think it makes sense to

consider the question of stationing outposts of Russian border guards along the entire stretch of the Armenian-Azerbaijani border," he said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin's spokesman declined to comment on Mr. Pashinvan's planned proposal. "Contacts with Yerevan are continuing, I have nothing more to say," Dmitry Peskov told reporters.



ТОИ	NOTICE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ("EOI")								
S.	Title of package	Short description							
No.		of scope of work							
1	operate and transfer The Wings (A mixed-use development consisting of Convention & Exhibition	"Proposals to finance, design & build, operate and transfer The Wings (A mixed-use development consisting of Convention & Exhibition Centre, Hotel & Offices) for Bengaluru Airport City							

Information on the EOI can be obtained from the BIAL's website www.bengaluruairport.com (https://www.bengaluruairport.com/corporate/ engage-with-us/tenders.html). Bidding Process is through e-tendering Applicants shall register on https://www.bialtenders.in/ as per the e Tendering instructions provided with the information document on th

Applicants shall view/download the EOI document from https://www.bialtenders.in/ (Event ID: 1629) from 0900 hrs IST on 30th July 2021 to 2000 hrs IST on or before 6th August, 2021. Response to EOI must be submitted by uploading supporting documents online at https://www.bialtenders.in/ on or before 1600 hrs IST on 26th August, 2021 Consortium/joint venture participation is permitted.

Note: Any further Addendums/Corrigendums to this EOI shall be mad available on https://www.bialtenders.in/

Contact Details: **Head - Procurement & Contracts** 

**BANGALORE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LIMITED** Alpha 3, Administrative Office, Kempegowda International Airport,

Devanahalli, Bengaluru - 560 300 Contact person email: ramesh.heade@bialairport.com

Phone No: 95388 82203 | www.bengaluruairport.com

BEFORE THE HONOURABLE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM W.A. No. 2453/2019, W.A. No. 15/2020, W.A. 136/2020, W.A. No. 576/2020,

W.A. No. 694/202, W.A. No. 745/2020 and W.A. No. 872/2020 NOTICE

Whereas notices issued to: (1) the 1st respondent in W.A. No. 2453/2019 - Sri. Ummer Rafeeq Aboobacker o. Aboobacker, Managing Director, Unilog Transporting Co. Pv. Ltd., Thirumala hayar, Oulgarate, Villianur Road, Puducherry-605110,

(2) the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent in W.A. No. 15/202, Sri. Akhil Ahsan Marakkat Shaik M.P.K. Traders, MMC No. V/114-A, Mahe, (3) the 1st and 2nd respondent in W.A.

maging, Plot No. 2 & 3, Siva Vishnu Nagar, Velrempet, Puducherry, India 605004, (Represented by V.C.Vipin, Managing Partner), (ii) The Assistant Registering Authority, Puducherry-605001,

(4) the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> respondent in W.A. No. 576/2020 - (i) ARTZ Source Technology Services Private Limited, No. 33, 5th Cross, Kurinji Nager Extn

J.Aneesh Kumar, S/o. Jayakumar, (ii) The Assistant Registering Authority Puducherry-605001. (5) the 1st respondent in W.A. No. 694/2020 - Sri Mohammed Sabah, S/o.

Dulgarate, Villianur Rd, Puducherry-605001 (6) the 2<sup>nd</sup> respondent in W.A. No. 745/2020 - Sri. Farook. F.M, S/o loosa.A.M, Proprietor, R.F.Exports, 91, Villianur Main Road, Arumparthapura

Puducherry-605110. (7) the 1st respondent in W.A. No. 872/2020 - M/s. EVM Autocraft India Pvt. Ltd, Registered Office at New No. 8, Old No. 36/2, 1st Floor, Cuddalo

Thavalakkuppam, Ariyankuppam, Commune, Pondicherry-605007 Represented by its Managing Director, Sabu Johny, have been returned and whereas the Hon'ble High Court by order dated 28.01.2021 directed the appellants to take out notice to these respondents by paper publication, the above respondents may take notice that the above Writ Appeals stand posted for hearing on 24/08/202° and that if they fail to appear by themselves or through Advocates or someone authorized by law to represent them on that day, the said Writ Appeals will be neard and disposed ex-parte in their absence

1246/F4/2021/IPF

SPL. GOVERNMENT PLEADER (TAXES)

# Palestinian shot dead in clashes with Israeli troops in West Bank

ASSOCIATED PRESS JERUSALEM

Israeli troops shot and killed a 20-year-old Palestinian man, Palestinian health officials said, during clashes that erupted in the occupied West Bank following the funeral of a Palestinian boy killed by Army fire the previous day.

The Palestinian Health Ministry said the man, identified as Shaukat Awad, was

shot in the head and abdomen during Thursday's unrest in Beit Ummar, a town near Hebron.

protesters Palestinian hurled stones at Israeli troops after the funeral of Mohammed al-Alami, 12, who residents say was killed by Army fire while riding in a car with his father on Wednesday. The Israeli military confirmed that it had used live fire against the crowd.

Earlier, the Israeli military said it launched an investigation into deadly shooting of the boy.

A military statement said that senior commanding officers and military police who investigate suspected misconduct by troops were also looking into the incident. It said soldiers fired at a car that failed to stop at a checkpoint after they fired warning shots.

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI EXECUTIVE ENGINEER(NORTH EAST)-I

2142 JANTA FLATS G.T.B. ENCLAVE DELHI - 110093 "Stop Corona; Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

PRESS NIT NO-23 (2021-22)

(1	(1) Detail of the work:								
8	6. No.	Name of work		Date of release of tender in E-Procurement solution	Last date/time of re- ceipt of tender through E-Procurement solution				
1		Re-Constructions of damaged UGR at A and B Pocket, Dilshad Garden in AC-63 in NE-I	70,36,919.00	28-07-2021 2021_DJB_206313_1	10-08-2021 2:10PM				

Further details in this regards can be seen at https://delhi.govtprocurement.cor ISSUED BY P.R.O.(WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 223(2021-22)

Ex. ENGINEER (NORTH EAST)-I

# TVS MOTOR COMPANY LI

Regd office: "Chaitanya", No. 12, Khader Nawaz Khan Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai 600 006 Website:www.tvsmotor.com Telephone No. (044) 28332115 Fax No. (044) 28332113 Email:contactus@tvsmotor.com CIN:L35921TN1992PLC022845

### STATEMENT OF STANDALONE & CONSOLIDATED UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30<sup>™</sup> JUNE 2021

(Rs. in Crores)

			Standalone		Consolidated			
S.	Particulars	Quarte	r ended	Year ended	Quarte	r ended	Year ended	
No	Faiticulais	30.06.2021	30.06.2020	31.03.2021	30.06.2021	30.06.2020	31.03.2021	
		(Unaudited)		(Audited)	(Unau	idited)	(Audited)	
1	Total income	3,935.95	1,434.32	16,783.51	4,692.03	1,946.35	19,468.04	
2	Net Profit / (Loss) (before Tax, Exceptional items)	102.33	(189.60)	826.24	33.37	(240.87)	830.99	
3	Net Profit / (Loss) before tax (after Exceptional items)	72.17	(189.60)	826.24	(3.37)	(240.87)	821.63	
4	Net Profit / (Loss) (after tax, Exceptional items)	53.15	(139.07)	612.04	(14.72)	(182.79)	607.50	
5	Total Comprehensive Income / (Loss) for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax)							
	and Other Comprehensive Income/(Loss) (after tax)]	55.70	(101.52)	719.13	7.83	(133.90)	723.24	
6	Equity share capital (Face value of Re.1/- each)	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51	47.51	
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	-	-	4,123.44	-	-	3,779.10	
	Earnings Per Share (Face value of Re. 1/- each) (not annualised) (i) Basic (in Rs.)	1.12	(2.93)	12.88 12.88	(0.22)	(3.78)	12.51 12.51	
	(ii) Diluted (in Rs.)	1.12	(2.93)	1∠.00	(0.22)	(3.78)	12.51	

The above is an extract of the detailed format of financial results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the financial results are available on the Stock Exchange websites (www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com) and on Company's website (www.tvsmotor.com).

For TVS Motor Company Limited Place: Chennai Date : 29th July 2021 Chairman

awaspet, Pondicherry-605008. Represented by its Managing Director

N.P. Ummer, Director, Unilog Transporting Co. Pvt. Ltd., Thirumalai Thayar

Dated, this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2021.

	29-07-2021	% CHANGE
Sensex	52,653	0.40
US Dollar	74.29	0.12
Gold	46,992	0.83
Brent oil	75.54	0.99

Brent oil	75.54	
NIFTY 50		
111 77 30	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	659.65	5.75
Asian Paints	2997.45	-6.65
Axis Bank		
Bajaj Auto		
Bajaj Finserv	14599.05	628.50
Bajaj Finance	6400.10	138.10
Bharti Airtel	567.15	0.75
BPCL	449.10	4.35
Britannia Ind	3405.60.	18.50
Cipla	883.10	6.80
Coal India	142.15.	1.90
Divis Lab		
Dr Reddys Lab	4672.65	59.10
Eicher Motors	2528.15	22.25
Grasim Ind	1544.60	11.05
HCL Tech	1007.60	24.50
HDFC	2414.80	11.00
HDFC Bank	1418.25	0.95
HDFC Life	662.65	2.20
Hero MotoCorp	2745.70	32.00
Hindalco		
Hind Unilever	2334.75	26.65
ICICI Bank	687.50	2.45
IndusInd Bank	992.05.	0.70
Infosys	1617.00	11.40
Indian OilCorp	103.90	0.10
ITC	206.05.	3.05
JSW Steel		
Kotak Bank	1641.65	11.20
L&T		
M&M	731.45	2.75
Maruti Suzuki	6993.50	171.55
Nestle India Ltd	17914.75	107.80
NTPC	116.75	-0.05
ONGC	114.75	0.40
PowerGrid Corp	167.40.	3.68
Reliance Ind	2053.25	15.90
SBI Life	1128.85	-4.55
State Bank	441.55.	16.05
Shree Cement	. 27638.95.	147.50
Sun Pharma	703.00	15.20
Tata Consumer		
Products Ltd.	751.20	3.70

# TT BUY TT SELL

US Dollar	74.09	74.41
Euro	87.98	88.37
British Pound	103.40	. 103.85
Japanese Yen (100)	67.45	67.74
Chinese Yuan	11.47	11.52
Swiss Franc	81.54	81.90
Singapore Dollar	54.72	54.96
Canadian Dollar	59.41	59.67
Malaysian Ringitt	17.47	17.55
Course Indian Bank		

IN BRIE



Biocon's insulin Semalee

Inc said the U.S. (FDA) had biosimilar product for the treatment of diabetes. This substitution and better affordability and access to Semglee, a biosimilar product, said executive chairperson Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw.

### stake in Tejas Networks

BENGALURU Tata Sons subsidiary Panatone Finvest Ltd. has signed a definitive agreement to acquire a 43.3% stake in Bengaluru-based telecom equipment firm, Tejas Networks, for ₹1,850 crore. The agreement includes a preferential allotment of 1.94 crore equity shares at a price of ₹258 per share aggregating to ₹500 crore.

### **Windlas Biotech IPO**

### TAFE unveils tractors for paddy cultivation in A.P.

TAFE Ltd. introduced Massey Ferguson 244 DI puddling special tractors in the 44 hp range for paddy cultivation The tractor comes in two variants viz. MF 244 DI PM that excels in dry land or shallow puddling and the MF 244 PD for deep-mud puddling, it said. These tractors have been exclusively introduced in Andhra Pradesh, the

# High fiscal borrowings won't crowd out private sector: CEA

SEBI member asserts 'no doubt' borrowings are crowding out corporate bonds

VIKAS DHOOT

Concerns about high government borrowings crowding out the private sector's fundraising efforts were misplaced and not based on evidence, Chief Economic Advi-Krishnamurthy Subramanian asserted on Thursday reacting to comments made by a member of

the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). "It's a very tempting argument to make but the data

does not support it," he said. On the contrary, the government's increased capital spending would impart a 'crowding-in effect' spurring more investment, Dr. Subramanian contended.

The U.S. economy grew so

lidly in the second quarter,

but the pace was below ex-

pectations as robust con-

sumer spending and busi-

equipment were tempered

by a sharp inventory draw-

down amid supply chain

Gross domestic product

rose at a 6.5% annualised

rate last quarter, the Com-

merce Department said on

The economy grew at a

6.3% rate in the first quarter,

revised down from the pre-

viously reported 6.4% pace.

The National Bureau of

investment

REUTERS

constraints.



Lending a leg-up: Infrastructure, especially government-led spending has a crowding-in effect: CEA. • E. LAKSHMI NARAYANAN

Earlier, addressing an Assocham event on the productive use of financial resources, SEBI whole-time member G. Mahalingam stressed that bond markets had an important role in supporting the economy's

U.S. GDP climbs 6.5% buoyed

Growth tempered by supply chain constraints on inventory

Economic Research, the ar-

biter of U.S. recessions, de-

clared last week that the

pandemic downturn, which

started in February 2020, ended in April 2020.

Economic expansion is

expected to remain solid for

the remainder of this year. A

resurgence in COVID-19 in-

fections, driven by the Delta

by consumers, businesses

rebound at a time when banks were 'overburdened from the overhang of nonperforming assets'.

"No doubt, a good part of the bond market gets crowded out by the government issuances of close to about ₹14-

variant, however, poses a

risk to the outlook. Higher

inflation, if sustained, as well

as ongoing supply chain dis-

ruptions could also slow the

economy. President Joe Bi-

den's administration provid-

ed \$1.9 trillion in pandemic

relief in March. That brought

the amount of government

aid to almost \$6 trillion since

the pandemic started in the

Almost half of the popula-

tion has been vaccinated

against COVID-19, allowing

Americans to travel, fre-

quent restaurants and at-

tend sporting events among

services-related activities

that were curbed early in the

U.S. in March 2020.

15 lakh crore," asserted Mr. Mahalingam. "That crowds out all the corporate bond market, no doubt about it all," he added.

"The flaw with this argument is that it relies on the pool of savings being static," the CEA responded. "There is now evidence that savings are pro-cyclical with growth. When you have a pool that is growing and the government takes a rupee out today for capital expenditure, and thereby push growth and increase savings, the pro-cyclical behaviour of savings kicks in. So this is the crowding-in effect of infrastructure, especially governmentled, capital spending," Dr. Subramanian observed.

### Rupee rises to 3-week high on Fed's stance

REUTERS MUMBAI

The Indian rupee strengthened to its highest level in more than three weeks against the dollar on Thursday as the U.S. Federal Reserve's dovish stance was a drag on the greenback, with gains in domestic equities also contributing

The rupee was trading at74.25/26 per dollar at 0845 GMT, compared with its close of 74.38. The unit touched 74.23 earlier, its strongest since July 6.

"The Fed meeting outcome was largely in line with what was expected but the commentary was still dovish which should help the rupee," a currency trader at a bank said.

# TVS Motor earmarks ₹1,000 crore for EVs

'Manufacturing under separate vertical'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Chief Economic Adviser

(CEA) Krishnamurthy Subramanian acknowledged on

Thursday that some parts of

the economy may be wit-

nessing a K-shaped recovery,

as smaller firms and urban

poor had been hit harder by

the pandemic, but stressed

that India's overall economic

rebound remains V-shaped.

would slip below 6% this

month or in August, but

would remain rangebound

at 5%-6% in the near future,

he said, adding that India's

growth would pick up to 8%

after stabilising at 6.5%-7%

over the coming years.

"There has been a V-shaped

recovery in the last year," Dr.

Also, retail inflation

TVS Motor (TVSM) has lined up several new products during the current fiscal in the mid to premium seg-ment, said CMD Venu Srinivasan. "This is the the gap that

needs to be filled, and will also lead to the volume growth," Mr. Srinivasan told shareholders. Electric vehicle (EV) adoption in India is being accelerated with significant policy interventions and rising fuel costs, he said. TVSM was aggressively ramping up to establish a dominant presence in EV segment by earmarking ₹1,000 crore to manufacture two and three wheelers ranging from 5 kW to 25 kW



'Upturn V-shaped but small

firms, urban poor hit harder'

Inflation to dip below 6% soon, but stay in 5-6% range: CEA

Subramanian said at FICCI's

capital markets conference.

"Yes, when you start un-

packing across sectors, large

and listed firms have done

really well and deleveraged

and their bottom lines are

firms are impacted more. Si-

milarly, people at the bot-

tom of the pyramid, espe-

cially the urban poor have

"But some of the smaller

improved.

under a separate vertical, he said. Joint MD Sudarshan Venu said that EVs were going to be "very important for the future and TVSM is really investing behind."

The company has returned to black by posting a standalone net profit of ₹53 crore for Q1 of FY22 against a net loss ₹139 crore in the year-earlier period.

ded. "Some commentators may say therefore, this is a Kshaped recovery. But that is more at the sectoral level... at the macro level, there has been a V-shaped recovery." The CEA also projected

been impacted more," he ad-

that a third COVID-19 wave, if it occurred, may be of a low intensity with a much lower economic impact as India would get closer to herd immunity, based on the government's target to vaccinate the entire adult population by December.

"Inflation should be rangebound going forward, despite the rise in commodity prices. It's likely to be between 5% and 6% but certainly within the [RBI's] tolerance range," he said.

### Cognizant net rises 42%; firm raises outlook

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

Cognizant reported a 41.8% rise in June quarter net income to \$512 million (about ₹3,801.7 crore), and said it expected to hire about one lakh people this year as the firm looks to arrest high attrition rates.

company also raised revenue growth guidance for 2021 to 10.2-11.2% on the back of strong booking momentum. It had previously guided for 7-9% growth. Revenue rose 14.6% to \$4.6 billion.

Cognizant also expects to onboard about 30,000 new graduates in 2021. It plans to make 45,000 offers to freshers in India where headcount is 2 lakh - for 2022 onboarding.

### TechM Q1 net **jumps** 39% to ₹1,353 crore

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Tech Mahindra on Thursday posted a 39% increase in its consolidated net profit to ₹1,353.2 crore for the quarter ended June 30.

Revenue from operations rose almost 12% to ₹10,197.6 crore.

"We continue to build on our profitability journey and have reported highestever quarterly revenue and profit after tax this quarter," said Milind Kulkarni, CFO, adding that delivery excellence would be the cornerstone of improving the company's operational and financial metrics as it looks to capitalise on the incremental digital spends over the course of the year.

The company said its total headcount stood at 1,26,263 at the end of the quarter, up by 5,209 on a sequential basis.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A Federation of Automobile

Dealers Association (FADA)

survey has found that deal-

ers of Kia India are the most

satisfied in their dealings

with original equipment

among various mass-market

association with PremonA-

sia, sought responses from

about 2,000 dealers on

OEM-dealer relationships

across factors such as viabil-

ity and policy, product,

marketing, sales, aftersales.

and training. The survey

highlighted that business

viability remained a highly

critical aspect where auto-

manufacturers

The survey, conducted in

(OEMs),

manufacturers

four-wheeler makers.

'Kia tops poll for dealer

satisfaction with OEMs'

# Festivals, weddings to bolster gold sales: WGC

Jewellery demand rose 29% in Apr.-Jun.

REUTERS

to recover in the second half of 2021 from 35% below the pre-pandemic five-year average in the first half, as festivals and weddings are likely to boost retail purchases in the fourth quarter, the World Gold Council (WGC) said on Thursday.

Indian gold demand is likely

Higher demand from the world's second-biggest gold consumer could support global prices that have corrected almost 4% so far in 2021, although a rise in imports of the precious metal would widen India's trade deficit and weigh on the rupee.

"Consumer demand is trying to make a recovery. It will spike once normalcy is restored on the COVID-19 front," P.R. Somasundaram, regional CEO of WGC's In-



dian operations, Reuters.

Demand for gold during the April-June quarter rose 19.2% in India to 76.1 tonne, according to the council's

In value terms, demand increased 23% to ₹32,810 crore while total jewellery demand increased 25% to 55.1 tonne. In value terms, total demand for jewellery rose 29% to ₹23,750 crore. (With inputs from Lalaten-

### APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that one male was found dead from Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi on Dated 27.07.2021, In this regard a DD No. 08A, Dated 27.07.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi. The description of the person is given as under:

Unknown, Age: about 26 years, Height: 5'6"

Feet, Complexion: Shallow, Built: Thin, Wearing: Black Colour T-Shirt and Blue Colour Lower.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the information about the dead male but no clue has come to light so far. If any one is having any information about this dead male please inform at website: http://cbi.nic.in, E-mail: ciccbi@cbi.nic.in or Fax No.: 011-23011334, Tel. No. 011-23014046 (Direct), 011-23015229, 2301528,

P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi DP/757/SW/2021 Ph.: 011-24106346, 24106345, 8700925582



physical description is as under: Height: 5' Feet, Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Strong, Clothing: Red Colour Suit, Golder Colour Salwar and Chapple in her feet.

General public is hereby informed that one girl

(depicted in the photo), Namely: Sonali, D/o:

Sh. Rattan Lal Yadav, R/o: H.No. 360, Gali No.

15, Surender Colony, Part 1st, Jharoda Mazra

Delhi, Aged: 24 years, has been missing since

26.05.2021 from her house. In this regard a

case vide DD No. 79A, Dated 26.05.2021, has

been registered at P.S. Wazirabad, Delhi. Her

Any person is having any information/clue about this missing girl, may inform SHO, Wazirabad, Delhi at E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.nic.in or

SEARCH OF MISSING

website: http://cbi.nic.in Tele No.: 011-24368638 or 24368641

DP/1275/N/2021.

P.S. Wazirabad, Delhi Ph: 011-23810069, 23810073

Sonali

### APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

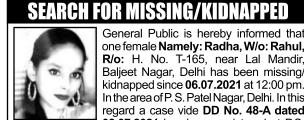
The general public is hereby informed that an unidentified person about 50 years of age whose name, residence, and family is unknown had been found dead on footpath, opposite LNJP Hospital, Gate No. 1, JLN, Marg Darya Ganj, Delhi. In this regard, a vide has been registered with DD No: 60A, dated: 26.07.2021 at PS Darya Ganj, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by

the local police to identify the deceased person, but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the UIDB is as under: Sex: Male, Age: 50 Years, Height: 5'7", Complexion:

Dark, Face: Long, Built: Thin, Wearing: White colour t-shirt and white colour pajama. If anyone has any information about his relatives, kindly

inform the SHO/Darya Ganj, Delhi. E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 Fax : 011-24368639

P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi. Ph. No. 011- 23279331, 23274683



one female Namely: Radha, W/o: Rahul, R/o: H. No. T-165, near Lal Mandir, Baljeet Nagar, Delhi has been missing/ kidnapped since 06.07.2021 at 12:00 pm. In the area of P.S. Patel Nagar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide DD No. 48-A dated 08.07.2021 has been registered at P.S. Patel Nagar, Delhi. The description of the

missing female are as under: Age: 22 years, Height: 5', Face: Long, Complexion: Shallow, Built: Thin, Wearing: Green colour kurta, golden colour legging and black & chocolate colour sandal in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing female but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this missing female kindly inform to the following.

Website: http//cbi.nic.in E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 Fax No. 011-24368639 DP/907/CD/2021

P.S. Patel Nagar, Delhi

Tel.No. 011-25872637, 8750870434

### SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



DP/911/CD/2021

kidnapped since 08.06.2021 at 06:00 PM from her house. In this regard a FIR No. 397/21, dated 08.06.2021 has been Registered at P.S. Wazirabad, Delhi.

information about this girl but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following.

P.S. Wazirabad, Delhi Ph. 011-23810076, 8750870131

one male Namely: Zahid Ali@Zahed, S/o Nasir Ali, R/o: H.No. 1682, Gali Sayedan Pahari Bhojla, Turkman Gate, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped from his house since 24.01.2021 at 06:30 pm from the area of P.S. Chandni Mahal, Delhi In this regard a case

General Public is hereby informed that

24.07.2021 has been registered at P.S Chandni Mahal, Delhi. The description of the missing/ kidnapped

Website: http//cbi.nic.in E-mail ld - cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641

P.S. Chandni Mahal, Delhi Ph.: 011-23279338, 8750870423

### **SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRL**



General public is hereby informed that this girl Name: Laxmi, D/o Sh. Ramesh, R/o H.No. 220, Gali No. 19, Wazirabad, Delhi, Age: 15 years, Height: 5 feet 1inch, Complexion: Shallow, Face: Oval, Built: Normal, Wearing: Light Green Kurta & White Colour Pajami and Slippers in feet has been missing/

E-Mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Website: http://cbi.nic.in Fax: 011-24368639 Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out

DP/1263/N/2021

# vide FIR No. 214/2021 u/s 365 IPC, dated

male is as under: Age: 35 years, Height: 5'10", Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Built: Medium, ID Mark: mentally disabled Wearing: White colour T-shirt, black & red colour jacket, black colour pant and black & green colour slipper in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the male but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this male kindly inform to the following.

Fax No. 011-24368639 DP/904/CD/2021

8.45 ....93.60 Tata Steel

UltraTech Cement



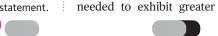
Biocon Biologics and Viatris long-acting insulin injection, as the first interchangeable would allow pharmacy level

### Tata Sons to buy 43.3%

# to open August 4

The initial public offering (IPO) of Windlas Biotech Ltd., a maker of pharma formulations, will open on August 4. The price band has been fixed at ₹448 to ₹460 per equity share of the face value of ₹5. Bids can be made for a minimum of 30 shares and in multiples of 30 shares thereafter. The IPO comprises fresh issue of up to ₹165 crore and an offer for sale of up to 5.142.067 shares by selling investors.

company said in a statement.



mobile



wheeler mass-market segment, Kia India (879 points), was followed by MG Motor and Toyota Kirloskar Motor with 778 points each, Renault (767), Tata Motors (729), Hyundai (711), Maruti Suzuki (699), Mahindra (687), Ford (669) and Honda Cars (562). In the luxury segment, Mercedes-Benz and BMW dealers were most sa-

lowed by Audi (649 points).

# Business viability, a key aspect: FADA

tisfied (707 points each) fol-

### Laurus Labs Q1 net rises 41% to ₹242 cr.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Drugmaker Laurus Labs consolidated net profit rose almost 41% to ₹241.61 crore for the quarter ended June. On a sequential basis, however, the net profit declined by 19%.

The year-on-year increase in net profit came on a more than 30% increase in revenue from operations at ₹1,278.50 crore. In the March quarter, the company had reported

₹1.411.93 crore in revenue from operations. Sustained strong momentum across all business segments, particularly FDF and Synthesis was behind the growth in revenue, it said. Shares on Thursday

closed 2.29% lower at

₹604.65 apiece on the BSE.

# Mary Kom makes a dramatic exit from Olympics

The legendary boxer, unaware she had lost, celebrates after her bout against Valencia; Satish beats Brown's challenge



SHYAM VASUDEVAN

A smiling M.C. Mary Kom raised her hand in celebration at the end of her 51kg pre-quarterfinal bout against Ingrit Valencia. It was only later, while skimming through social media, did Mary finally realise that her Tokyo 2020 Olympic journey was

The referee had declared her Colombian opponent the winner in a 3-2 split verdict.

The six-time World champion and 2012 London Olympics bronze medallist was left shellshocked. The 38year-old, who won her last



It's me! Mary, right, exults without realising that the verdict had gone in favour of Valencia. Right: Satish won with ease. • PTI

two rounds, seemed to have done enough to keep her Olympics dream alive, but otherwise.

Mary was upset with the verdict later. She told journalists that she had no inkling about her loss.

"The decision was very unfortunate. I thought it was a clear win for me. I came out and gave an interview and didn't realise the decision had gone against me. I thought I would come back with a medal, but I don't know what went wrong. We can't appeal as the organisers don't have a provision this time. I still can't believe I have lost the bout," said an emotionally distraught Mary.

Valencia took Mary by surprise, darting at her as soon as the bell rang and took the fight to the Indian in the

opening round. Mary took time to gauge her opponent's tactics, while Valencia was on the attack right from the start. The Colombian won the round 4-1.

Mary came back strongly and threw some ferocious punches to pocket the second round. And despite winning the third, the final decision did not go in her favour.

### In control

Satish Kumar won his bout to advance to the +91kg quarterfinals. The first Indian super heavyweight boxer to qualify for the Olympics, Satish gave a good account of himself to beat Pan American Games bronze medallist Ricardo Brown 4-1.

After the Indian took the first round 5-0, the Canadabased Brown stepped up his attack. Satish, despite getting medical attention for a cut above his left eye, battled with determination and won the second 4-1.

Satish continued to elude Brown's grasp and delivered some fine counters in the third. The 32-year-old Indian will now clash with top seed and World champion Bakhodir Jalolov of Uzbekistan.

# 'I thought I had won'

SHYAM VASUDEVAN

Mary Kom's Olympics campaign turned from joy to despair during a candid conversation with coach Chhote Lal Yadav.

The 2012 London Olympics bronze medallist thought that she had won her bout against Colombia's Ingrit Valencia, but was taken aback when told that she had lost 2-3 in a split verdict.

The six-time World champion had, in fact, lifted her hand when the result was announced loud and clear: 'in the red corner, Valencia.' But Mary, somehow, did not hear it. She left the ring with a big smile.

"Inside the ring also, I thought they had declared me the winner. I came out and gave interviews, thinking I had won. I did not realise I had lost. They took me for doping

(check) and then also I did not realise it. Chhote was with me and he told me "Mary, you are a winner. Don't worry."

"I said, what do you mean? I was only winning, no? and he told me that she (Valencia) had won 3-2," said Mary, three hours after her initial interaction with the media.

The boxer from Manipur said she intended to go on despite the heartbreak. "I have been fighting for 20 years. I'm a mother, I have four kids and have been fighting continuously and achieving much. I will play till I am 40," she said.

The official age guidelines of the boxing federation will not allow her to participate in the next Olympics. The current age cap is set at 40 and Mary will be 41 by the time the 2024 Games are held in Paris.

### **GOLDIES**

Sunisa Lee: Artistic Gymnastics: Women's All-around Jessica Fox (Aus): Canoe sla-

Fencina: Women's foil team Shori Hamada (Jpn): Judo: Women's 78kg Aaron Wolf (Jpn): Judo: Men's 100ka

Martin Sinkovic & Valent Sin-

**Russian Olympic Committee:** 

kovic (Cro): Rowing: Men's Grace Prendergast & Kerri

Gowler (NZ): Rowing: Wo-Paul O'Donovan & Fintan

McCarthy (Ire): Rowing: Men's lightweight double sculls Federica Cesarini & Valentina Rodini (Ita): Rowing: Women's lightweight double sculls Jiri Liptak (Cze): Shooting:

Men's tran Zuzana Rehak Stefecekova (Svk): Shooting: Women's trap Zhang Yufei (Chn): Swim-

butterfly China: Swimming: Women's 4x200m freestyle relay Caeleb Dressel (USA): Swimming: Men's 100m freestyle Robert Finke (USA): Swimming: Men's 800m freestyle Izaac Stubblety (Aus): Swim-

Chen Meng (Chn): Table ten-

nis: Women's singles

# India seals quarterfinal berth

Late goals help Manpreet's men stun Argentina

### HOCKEY

SHYAM VASUDEVAN

The Indian men's hockey team secured its spot in the quarterfinals of the Tokyo Olympics with a 3-1 win over defending champion Argentina in a Pool A game at the Oi Hockey stadium on Thursday. The side, hammered 7-1

by Australia in its second game, has bounced back with two wins on the trot and will take on Japan in its last group game on Friday. Fresh from a 3-0 win over

Spain, Graham Reid's team played with gusto and looked composed throughout. The transition from attack to defence was seamless, with Amit Rohidas acting as a bridge between the two ends of the pitch.

India nearly went ahead in the 25th minute as Nilakanta Sharma's defencesplitting pass found a diving Simranjeet Singh, but the latter's attempt went wide.



Breaking through: Varun is the toast of his teammates after putting India ahead. • PTI

goalkeeper P.R. Sreejesh, untested for most part, made his first save in the 27th minute, with a sharp block to his left.

Manpreet Singh's men began to find some success in the circle only after the 40th minute – winning seven penalty corners in quick suc-

The opening goal came off the third when Varun Ku-

mar sounded the boards (43rd). Argentina struck back in the 48th through Maico Casella, who found the target off the side's first penalty corner.

India was rewarded for its relentless aggression as Vivek Sagar Prasad turned in Dilpreet Singh's cross in the 58th, A minute later, Harmanpreet fired home a drag flick to seal the issue.

### **INDIAN ODYSSEY**

Archery: Men's individual: 1/ 16 eliminations: Atanu Das bt Oh Jin-Hyek (Kor) 6-5; 1/32 eliminations: bt Deng Yu-Cheng (Tpe) 6-4.

**Badminton: Women's singles** (round of 16): P.V. Sindhu bt Mia Blichfeldt (Den) 21-15,

Boxing (round of 16): Men's super heavyweight: Satish Kumar bt Ricardo Brown (Jam); Women's flyweight: Mary Kom lost to Ingrit Valencia (Col). Golf: Men's individual (round

1): Anirban Lahiri Udayan Mane (60).

Hockey: Men (Pool A): bt Argentina 3-1.

Rowing: Men's lightweight double sculls: Arjun Jat and Arvind Singh (5th in final B, 11th overall).

Sailing: Men: Laser: Vishnu Saravanan (23rd overall after eight races); 49er: K.C. Ganapathy and Varun Thakkar (17th overall after six races). Women: Laser Radial: Nethra Kumanan (31st overall after eight races).

Shooting: Women's 25m Pistol (qualification precision): Manu Bhaker, 25. Rahi Sarnobat.

Swimming: Men's 100m Butterfly: Sajan Prakash (46th overall). DNQ for semifinals.

# Atanu's Oh! moment in Tokyo

Indian's perfect 10 in shoot-off stuns 2012 gold medallist

### **ARCHERY**

Y.B. SARANGI

World No. 9 Atanu Das held his nerve to stun former Olympic champion Jinhyek Oh of South Korea and advance to the third round of the men's individual event on Thursday.

After getting past Chinese Taipei's Yu-Cheng Deng 6-4 (27-26, 27-28, 28-26, 27-28, 28-26) in the first round, the Indian eliminated third seed and London Olympics gold medallist Oh 6-5 (25-26, 27-27, 27-27, 27-22, 28-28, 10-9) in a nerve-wracking shootoff in the second round. Interestingly, Atanu had

beaten the Korean heavyweight 6-5 through a shootoff to pocket the bronze in the Asian championships in Bangkok in November 2019. After a below-par perfor-

mance in the men's team event, the 29-year-old Atanu - egged on by his wife and ace archer Deepika Kumari from the stands - shot con-



Sensational show: Atanu kept his nerve to outlast Oh. • AFP

sistently good scores to keep Oh, 10 years elder to him, under pressure, and notch up a morale-boosting win.

Atanu, who lost the first set after scoring two 8s, staged a strong comeback to strike six consecutive 9s in the next two sets and shared the spoils.

Trailing 2-4, Atanu needed to win the fourth set to stay in the contest. With Oh shooting a 7, Atanu seized the opportunity to score a perfect 10 and levelled the scores. Both recorded identhe fifth set to take the contest into a tie-breaker. In the shoot-off, Oh shot a 9 while Atanu fired a 10 to script a memorable win. The Indian will take on Takaharu Furukawa of Japan on Saturday. Earlier, Atanu had won a

tical series of 10, 9 and 9 in

match of fluctuating fortunes against Yu-Cheng. The Indian took the first and third sets, while the Chinese Taipei archer won the second and fourth. Atanu shot 10, 9 and 9 in the decider, and Yu-Cheng 10, 9 and 7.

# Sindhu cruises past Blichfeldt

World champion takes on Yamaguchi in the quarterfinals

### **BADMINTON**

RAKESH RAO

D.V. Sindhu, looking ready for tougher challenges, got past a tricky rival in Mia Blichfeldt 21-15, 21-13 for a place in the quarterfinals of the Olympics badminton competition on Thursday. On Friday, Sindhu plays

fourth-seeded home favourite Akane Yamaguchi, who defeated 12th-seeded Korean Kim Gaeun 21-17, 21-18. Sindhu's fifth victory over

the Danish rival in six encounters was also her easiest in terms of points conceded.

Sindhu dropped the first two points but never trailed thereafter. Barring a brief



On her toes: Sindhu's focus on shorter returns close to the net paid dividends against Blichfeldt. • REUTERS

period during the first game when she let Mia rally from 6-13 to close the gap to 15-16, Sindhu stayed in control.

In fact, the decisive swing in the contest came when Sindhu won the last five points of the first game and the first five points of the se-

The 10-point streak underlined Sindhu's resolve and severely dented Mia's

wan revealed that there was

an option of not playing the

ries," said Dhawan at the

presentation

### INDIANS IN ACTION

Archery: Women's individual: Deepika Kumari vs Ksenia Perova (ROC), 1/8 eliminations, 6 a.m.; quarterfinals, 11.15 a.m.; semifinals, 12.15 p.m.; bronze medal match, 1 p.m.; gold medal match,

Athletics: Men: 3000m steeplechase (round 1, heat 2): Avinash Sable, 6.15 a.m.; 400m hurdles (round 1, heat 5): M.P. Jabir, 8.25

Women: 100m (heats, 8.10 a.m., tentative): Dutee Chand. 4x400m mixed relay (round 1, heat 2): Alex Antony, Sarthak Bhambri, V. Revathi, V. Subha, 4.40 p.m.

Akane Yamaguchi (Jpn), 1.15 p.m. Boxing: Women: Lightweight (round of 16): Simranjit Kaur vs Sudaporn Seesondee (Tha), 8.15 a.m.; Welterweight (quarterfinals): Lovlina Borgohain vs Chen Nien-chin (Tpe), 8.45 a.m

Badminton: Women's singles (quarterfinals): P.V. Sindhu vs

Equestrian: Eventing Dressage Day 1 (session 1 from 5 a.m.; session 2 from 2 p.m.): Fouaad Mirza Golf: Men's individual (round 2): Anirban Lahiri (5.20 a.m.),

Udayan Mane (7.35 a.m.). Hockey: Women (Pool A): vs Ireland, 8.15 a.m. Men (Pool A): vs

Japan, 3 p.m. Sailing: Women: Laser Radial (from 8.35 a.m.): Nethra Kumanan; Men: 49er (from 8.35 a.m.): K.C. Ganapathy and Varun Thakkar; Laser (from 11.05 a.m.): Vishnu Saravanan.

Shooting: Women's 25m Pistol: Manu Bhaker, Rahi Sarnobat. Qualification rapid, 5.30 a.m.; Final, 10.30 a.m.

Straka leads, Lahiri T8

Down and up! Anirban Lahiri started off a little dodgy

before settling into a good rhythm. • REUTERS

RAKESH RAO

nirban Lahiri had a fine beginning to his second Olympic Games campaign as he shot a three-under 68 to be tied eighth with three others at the Kasumigaseki Country Club on Thursday.

Teammate Udayan Mane occupied the last spot in the 60-player field with a 76. Austria's Sepp Straka was

the surprise leader with a card of eight-under 63 - a shot ahead of Thailand's Jazz Janewattanaond.

India's Diksha Dagar will play in the women's competition beginning on August 5. She qualified after South Africa's Paula Reto withdrew and Austria declined to make a reallocation for Sarah Schober.

### MEDAL EVENTS

21 Gold medals are on offer

Archery: Women's individual Athletics: Men's 10.000m

**Badminton:** Mixed doubles Canoe Slalom: Men's kavak

Cycling BMX Racing: Men &

Fencing: Men's epee

Judo: Women's +78kg, Men's

Rowing: Men's & Women's single sculls, Men & Women's

Shooting: Women's 25m pistol Swimming: Women's 100m

freestyle, Women's 200m breaststroke, Men's 200m backstroke, Men's 200m ind.

Table Tennis: Men's singles

Tennis: Men's doubles Trampoline gymnastics: Wo-

# Hasaranga spins a web around the Indian batsmen as Sri Lanka wins series 2-1

The leg-spinner makes it a memorable 24th birthday with a match-winning spell of four for nine as the visitors are restricted to 81 for eight

### INDIA IN LANKA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

India's young batsmen stood exposed in the face of some spirited bowling and fielding by Sri Lanka, which restricted its Asian neighbour to 81 for eight in 20 overs before overhauling the target with seven wickets remaining and 33 balls to spare in the third and final T20I here on Thursday. The win gave the hosts a

Leg-spinner Wanindu Hasaranga (four for nine) made the Indians dance to his tune on his 24th birthday, while Akila Danajaya too troubled the Indians and gave away just 11 in his four overs. Skipper Dasun Shanaka returned

2-1 victory in the series.

with figures of two for 20 in his four-over spell.

aged double digits, with No. 7 Kuldeep Yadav's 23 being the highest score. Such was the dominance of the home bowlers that India hit only

Pacer Dushmantha Chameera hit the deck hard to get one to fly, which Shikhar Dhawan (0) could not connect properly, just managing an edge that was taken in

Devdutt Padikkal, who looked in good touch, and Ruturaj Gaikwad, played some fluent shots before the hosts suddenly turned the heat on the Indians. And the Indians slid from there. India captain Shikhar Dha-

Only three Indians man-

T20I series after losing nine players to COVID-19, but the team management chose to continue despite having only five specialist batsmen. "It was a difficult situation four boundaries in 20 overs. for us, but as a team, we decided to stay and play the se-

> ceremony. "Both teams played in great spirit and that's a beautiful feeling. The Sri Lanka captain and players wanted to know about the process I follow. So I told them and I hope they enjoyed listening

post-match

"The wicket was slow and our spinners bowled really well," said Hasaranga.



### **SCOREBOARD**

India: Ruturaj Gaikwad lbw b Hasaranga 14 *(10b, 2x4)*, Shikhar Dhawan c de Silva b Chameera O (1b), Devdutt Padikkal lbw b Mendis 9 (15b, 1x4), Sanju Samson lbw b Hasaranga O (3b), Nitish Rana c & b Shanaka 6 (15b), Bhuvneshwar Kumar c Shanaka b Hasaranga 16 (32b), Kuldeep Yadav (not out) 23 (28b), Rahul Chahar c Minod b Shanaka 5 (5b, 1x4), Varun Chakaravarthy c Karunaratne b Hasaranga O (2b), Chetan Sakariya (not out) 5 (9b); Extras (w-3): 3; Total (for eight wkts. in 20 overs): 81.

Fall of wickets: 1-5 (Dhawan, 0.4 ov), 2-23 (Padikkal, 3.6), 3-24 (Samson, 4.4), 4-25 (Ruturaj, 4.6), 5-36 (Rana, 8.6), 6-55 (Bhuvneshwar, 14.5), 7-62 (Rahul Chahar, 15.6), 8-63 (Varun, 16.4). Sri Lanka bowling: Chameera 4-0-16-1, Karunaratne 2-0-12-0,

9-4, Akila 4-0-11-0, Shanaka 4-0-20-2. Sri Lanka: Avishka Fernando c & b Rahul Chahar 12 (18b, 1x4), Mi-

Mendis 2-0-13-1, Hasaranga 4-0-

nod Bhanuka lbw b Rahul Chahar 18 (27b, 1x4), Sadeera Samarawickrama b Rahul Chahar 6 (13b), Dhananjaya de Silva (not out) 23 (20b, 2x4), Wanindu Hasaranga (not out) 14 (9b, 1x4); Extras (lb-4, w-5): 9; Total (for three wkts. in 14.3 overs): 82. Fall of wickets: 1-23 (Avishka,

5.5), 2-35 (Minod, 7.6), 3-56 (Samarawickrama, 11.6). India bowling: Bhuvneshwar 2-0-9-0, Varun 3.3-0-15-0, Warrier 3-0-23-0, Rahul Chahar 4-0-

15-3. Kuldeep 2-0-16-0. Toss: India; MoM & MoS: Hasaranga; Sri Lanka won by seven wickets with 33 balls to spare

and clinched series 2-1.

# Dressel takes sprint crown in Games record time

China's 200m quartet springs a major surprise and a World mark; Zhang swims 200m butterfly in third fastest time ever

### TOKYO OLYMPICS

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

US superstar Caeleb Dressel flew faster than Kyle Chalmers to add the Olympic 100m freestyle crown to his two world titles on Thursday, as China's women sparked a huge upset with a new world record to win the 4x200m

Dressel missed out on the sprint medals at Rio in 2016, but has since exploded, winning an incredible 13 titles over the past two World Championships to be an imposing force.

### **Digging deep**

He was in front at the turn in Tokyo but had to dig deep to hold off a storming Chalmers and hit the wall in a new Olympic record time of 47.02s. The Australian took silver in 47.08s ahead of Russia's Kliment Kolesnikov in

Meanwhile, in a major shock, neither the United States nor Australia won the women's 4x200m relay for





Queen quartet: China's Li Bingjie, Yang Junxuan, Tang Muhan and Zhang Yufei

the first time since the event was added to the Olympic programme in 1996.

### **SWIMMING**

Instead, China's Yang Junxuan, Zhang Yufei, Li Bingjie and Tang Muhan dominated, leading all the way to clock an incredible 7:40.33 ahead of the United States (7:40.73)

and Australia (7:41.29).

All three teams were under the previous world time of 7:41.50 set by Australia in 2019. Li held off a charging Katie Ledecky over the final leg to clinch the title. Zac Stubblety-Cook became the first Australian to win the Olympic 200m breaststroke crown in 64 years.

Arno Kamminga went out

hard but was overpowered by Stubblety-Cook in the final 50m, touching in a new Olympic record time of 2:06.38s ahead of the Dutch ace and Finland's Matti Mattsson.

Earlier, China's Zhang was untouchable in the women's 200m butterfly, blasting to gold in the third fastest time ever, adding to the silver she won over 100m. The 23-yearold hit the wall in a new Olympic record time of 2:03.86s.

### Finke's feat

The men's 800 freestyle was making its Olympic debut this year and American Robert Finke became the first winner, overhauling Italy's Gregorio Paltrinieri over the dving stages to post 7:41.87s. Ukrainian Mykhailo Romanchuk took bronze.

### Sajan Prakash out

Sajan Prakash, meanwhile, failed to qualify for the men's 100m butterfly. He finished second in Heat 2 clocking 53.45s just 0.06s behind the winner. Sajan was 46th overall out of 55 swimmers.



Eat for jeet!

Let's Olympick ourselves up!

**TENNIS** 

REUTERS

Switzerland's Belinda Bencic set up a final against Naomi Osaka's conqueror Marketa Vondrousova with a marathon victory over Kazakh Elena Rybakina in the women's singles semifinals on Thursday.

Bencic, who also reached the women's doubles final with Viktorija Golubic, had to dig deep to edge out Rybakina 7-6(2), 4-6, 6-3.

Vondrousova, the 2019 French Open runner-up, stands in her way on Saturday after thrashing Elina Svitolina 6-3, 6-1.

In the men's section, Novak Djokovic maintained his Golden Slam bid by thumping Japanese hope Kei Nishikori to reach the semifinals, while Daniil Medvedev was dumped out by Pablo Carreno Busta.



Belinda Bencic..on course for a double. • GETTY IMAGES

Djokovic, who has won three Majors this year, brushed aside Nishikori 6-2, 6-0. The 34-year-old Serb, whose won a bronze medal in 2008, will face German Alexander Zverev in the last four on Friday after the fourth seed's 6-4, 6-1 win over Jeremy Chardy.

Spaniard Carreno Busta set up a semifinal with Russian Karen Khachanov, by beating an out-of-sorts Medvedev 6-2, 7-6(5).

# Bromell eyes Bolt's throne, Fraser-Pryce history

Many of world's leading athletes are on their best legs; Neeraj Chopra carries India's hopes



is the favourite for the blue riband 100m gold. • FILE РНОТО

With the worst behind

### **ATHLETICS**

The planet may have struggled with COVID-19 for the last couple of years but surprisingly, many of the world's leading athletes are on their best legs. Athletics at the Tokyo Olympics begins on Friday and there will be plenty to look forward to.

All eyes will be on American Trayvon Bromell as he looks set to take over the throne left vacant by Jamaican legend Usain Bolt who won the men's 100m gold at

the last three Olympics. The 26-year-old Bromell recently clocked 9.77s, the seventh fastest time in history, and he has won 15 of his last 16 races. Jamaica's Shelly-Ann Fras-

er-Pryce – the second fastest in history with her recent 10.63s - will be looking to become the first woman to win the 100m at three Olympics.

### Stiff challenge

In control: Sunisa Lee continued USA's domination of the

Woman paddler

Chen Meng reigns

China's Chen Meng defeated

compatriot Sun Yingsha to

win the women's singles

Thursday, as the country

the sport. Chen won 9-11,

11-6, 11-4, 5-11, 11-4, 11-9 to

grab her first Games gold.

Chinese women have won

every Olympic gold medal in

reasserted its supremacy in

table tennis title at the

Tokyo Olympics on

women's all-around event. ■REUTERS

Sunisa succeeds Biles as

Sunisa Lee became the fifth

straight American gymnast

to claim the Olympic title in

the women's all-around. The

18-year-old edged Rebeca

Simone Biles watched from

Melnikova earned bronze

to gold in the team final.

two days after leading ROC

the stands. Russian Angelina

Andrade of Brazil in an

entertaining final as

defending champion

all-around champion

Her last came nine years ago in London and the 34-yearold could face a stiff challenge from compatriots Elaine Thompson-Herah and Shericka Jackson.

TOKYO TITBITS

Early last month, Dutchwoman Sifan Hassan shattered the 10,000m women's world record by a massive 10s at Hengelo. That lasted just two days as Ethiopia's Letesenbet Gidey produced another sensational run on the same track in the Nether-

Sifan, World champion in 1500 and 10,000m, has been entered in three events including the 5000m and will have to do a smart juggling act. Gidey will be running only the 10,000m despite being the World record holder in

Pole vaulter Kendricks out

Two-time World pole vault

Kendricks was ruled out of

coronavirus. Argentine pole

vaulter German Chiaraviglio

also revealed he had tested

positive and would not take

part in the Games.

Japan continues to

dominate the budokan

Japanese judokas Aaron

Wolf (men's 100kg) and

Shori Hamada (women's 78

kilogram) swept both golds

available on Thursday at the

budokan (martial arts hall).

The host has so far won

weight classes.

eight golds, one silver and

one bronze from the first 12

Spain, Slovenia in last eight

points as World champion

Spain defeated Argentina

Ricky Rubio scored 26

81-71 to join Slovenia in

quarterfinals of men's

qualifying for the

champion, and 2016 Rio

bronze medallist, Sam

after testing positive for

with virus infection

man Johannes Vetter has produced a series of 90m-plus throws this season. India will be watching the

Sweden's Armand Duplan-

tis is likely to be in a world of

his own after taking the pole

vault record to a new high

(6.18, indoors) in June and

the scene could be the same

in men's shot put, where

world record holder Ryan

Crouser has been unbeaten

since the 2019 Doha Worlds,

and javelin throw where Ger-

javelin closely and will be hoping that Neeraj Chopra brings its first-ever athletics medal in the Olympics.

basketball on Thursday.

Earlier, NBA star Luka

Japan 116-81.

Doncic scored 25 points as

Slovenia comfortably beat

Jessica Fox makes history

Australia's lessica Fox has

Tokyo Games as the first

gold medallist in women's

made Olympic history at the

canoe slalom. It is one of the

18 new events introduced to

the Olympics this year in a

push for gender equity.

Jessica Fox. ■AFP

# Duda ends Vidit's run

### **CHESS WC**

RAKESH RAO

Vidit Gujrathi's gallant campaign in the chess World Cup ended after Poland's Jan-Krzysztof Duda inflicted a 50-move defeat in the second game of their quarter-

nnai ciash on Thursday. Vidit, playing black, sacrificed a knight for three pawns but could not make any headway.

The game appeared to be heading for a draw until Vidit erred in judgement by advancing his rook on the 34th move.

Duda seized his chance and tightened the grip.

The queens returned on the board but Duda held the upper hand to complete a 1.5-0.5 triumph when Vidit

facing checkmate, resigned. He next plays World champion Magnus Carlsen.

# Kadhe in semifinals

### **INDIANS ABROAD**

SPORTS BUREAU SEGOVIA (SPAIN)

Arjun Kadhe and Goncalo Oliveira defeated John Echeverria and Alejandro Mendonza 6-1, 6-4 in the quarterfinals of the €66,640 Challenger here.

Other results: €66,640 Challenger, Segovia: Doubles (prequarterfinals): J.C. Aragone (USA) & Nicolas Barrientos (Col) bt Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan & Purav Raja 2-1 (retd.) \$52,080 Challenger, Lexing-

the spotlight on the impor-

tance of mental well-being.

No one could have imagined

this would happen at the

Biles, the ultimate show-

"I want to focus on my

stopper, had stopped the

show all right, but not on ex-

well-being. There is more to

life than just gymnastics. It's

very unfortunate that it has

to happen at this stage, I

wanted the Olympics to go

better. It's the Olympic

Games, it's so big, but at the

end of the day we wanna

Olympics.

pected lines.

ton, USA: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Christian Harrison & Dennis Novikov (USA) bt Vijay Sundar Prashanth & Ramkumai Ramanathan 4-6, 6-3, [10-5].

\$15.000 ITF. Monastir. Tunisia: Men. doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Mattia Bellucci & Erik Crepaldi (Ita) bt Rimpei Kawakami (Jpn) & Siddhant Banthia 6-2, 6-4. Women, first round: Mariana Drazic (Cro) bt Humera Baharmus 6-3, 1-0 (retd.); Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Valerie Quiceno (Col) & Humera bt Beatrice Laura Pirtac (Irl) & Vineetha Mummadi

# Biles' withdrawal thrust the spotlight on mental well-being

A strong advocate of prioritising health, she revealed that she was 'struggling with some issues'

### **GYMNASTICS**

SHYAM VASUDEVAN

Silence prevailed in the arena after Simone Biles' uncharacteristically substandard vault attempt at the Tokyo Olympics on Tuesday. The announcer at the

Ariake Gymnastics Centre introduced the next athlete and talked about the four other events that were going on, but everyone's eyes trailed Biles' every move. She stepped off the mat and left the floor with a coach.

Reporters scrambled for updates. One suggested she had sprained her ankle, while another said he heard it was a mental issue. And a video doing the rounds on social media showed Biles mouthing the words "I can't



Shock exit: There is more to life than just gymnastics, said Simone Biles after the unexpected development. • AP

get up there."

The USA Gymnastics then put out a statement on Twitter that said Biles had withdrawn from the competition due to a "medical issue" and her run in the mixed final was over. But Biles remained

by her teammates and played the role of a coach and even broke into a little dance with Jordan Chiles on an instrumental version of Ed Sheeran's mega-hit song Shape of You. The injury evi-

dentially was not physical.

The USA returned with a silver medal and Biles, a strong advocate of prioritising mental health, revealed that she was "struggling with some issues.' She subsequently pulled

out of the women's allaround event on Wednesday despite what was at stake an opportunity to win six gold medals in Tokyo and become the most successful woman Olympian since Soviet gymnast Larisa Latynina's nine gold medals between 1956 and 1964.

### Similar occasion

made a similar statement three months ago when she refused to go through with media requirements at the French Open citing mental health reasons.

Tennis star Naomi Osaka had

Biles's withdrawal thrust

walk out of here not be dragged out of here on a stretcher," she said on Tuesday.

"We're not just athletes but humans... We have to focus on that, even if it means taking a back seat from whatever sports we're doing."

### TV PICKS

TNPL 2021: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 7.30 p.m. **Tokyo 2020**: Sony Ten 2, 3 & Sony Six (SD & HD), 4 a.m. onwards (Saturday).

### First T20I abandoned

### PAKISTAN IN WI

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

BRIDGETOWN Persistent rain forced the abandonment of the first T20I of a four-match series between the West Indies and Pakistan as a no-result here on Wednesday.

After steady rain delayed the start of play by almost three hours and reduced the match to nine overs-perside, West Indies totalled 85 for five batting first. Kieron Pollard top-scored with an unbeaten 22 while seamer Hasan Ali led the bowling effort for the visitors with two for 11 off two overs.

# As a result, the playoff

RAKESH RAO NEW DELHI

Tamil Nadu's B. Savitha Shri champion on Thursday.

velopment, the All India Chess Federation's Fairplay Panel suspected the 'winner' Maharashtra's Prachiti Chandratreya of using unfair means during the 11round competition that concluded on Wednesday.

rounds were held to decide the first four places, instead of the originally planned second to fifth places. At the end of six rounds

of playoffs, Savitha and Vantika were tied at 3.5 points, followed by K, Priyanka and Arpita Mukherjee at two Meanwhile, following the

playoffs to decide second to fifth places in the open section of the National online event, Abhijeet Gupta (four points), A.R. Harikrishnanan (three), Sayantan Das and Sidhant Mohapatra (two each) finished in that order.

# Speed merchant: Bromell, who has won 15 of his last 16 races,

# her, Dutee is 'relaxed now'

SHYAM VASUDEVAN

Dutee Chand has been India's fastest woman runner for the better part of the last five years. But when she returned to the track in November 2020, she ran the 100m in 20 seconds. "I was so worried! I thought "aise kaise ho gaya (laughs) (how could this happen?)." For

The 25-year-old – India's only sprinter at the Games will be in action in the 100m heats on Friday and will be competing against global superstars like Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, Olympic champion Elaine Thompson-Herah and Dina Asher-

context, her personal best is

### Smith.

**Glaring gulf** The gulf in timings, however, is glaring – Fraser-Pryce recently became the second-fastest woman in history by running the 100m in 10.63 seconds, while Elaine and Dina have personal bests of 10.70 and 10.83s, respectively.

The athlete from Chaka Gopalpur in Odisha, though, is unfazed as she has run against all of them at Focused: Dutee Chand will look to give off her best in

some point in her career. "My preparations have gone well, and I'm fully geared up. It's time to race," she said from her room in the athletes' village.

The lack of training had left her lighter by six kgs and resulted in a severe dip in muscle mass. "I looked fit, but I had actually lost my muscle mass. My haemoglobin, Vitamin D and Calcium levels were very low. I had to change my diet and eat more food and supplements.'

# Savitha is champion

### **CHESS**

defeated Delhi's Vantika Agarwal in the Armageddon game to become the National junior girls' online chess On a day of dramatic de-