



No landless farmers in national database, says Narendra Singh Tomar



Dholavira becomes 40th Indian site with World Heritage tag

Biden, Kadhimi seal agreement to end U.S. combat mission in Iraq Lovlina stays on course for a medal in boxing; Sharath bows out

Page 13









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NEARBY



Notice to Centre, Delhi on vaccine for homeless

The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the Union and the Delhi governments about the steps taken to vaccinate the homeless. A Bench led by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud refused to take an "elitist view" to "restrain beggars, vagabonds and the homeless" from begging at traffic junctions, markets and public places. NEWS ▶ PAGE 10

Man ends life after brawl

at vaccination centre GHAZIABAD The son of a local RSS functionary in Baghpat district of Uttar Pradesh allegedly ended his life on Monday night after a brawl with policemen at a vaccination centre. Eleven policemen, including one SHO, have been sent to police lines. Five of them have been booked for abetment to suicide and other sections of the Indian Penal Code.

NORTH & EAST ▶ PAGE 5



OPPORTUNITIES PAGE 2

Basavaraj Bommai will be new Karnataka CM

BJP opts for safe choice of BSY loyalist and Lingayat

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BENGALURU

In a choice that underlined a keenness to protect the Lingayat vote base rather than indulge in risky experiments, the BJP on Tuesday chose 61-year-old Basavaraj Bommai as the next Chief Minister of Karnataka.

Significantly, he is not from the RSS stable and was earlier associated with the Janata Dal (United); Mr. Bommai joined the BJP only in 2008. This makes him an exception among BJP Chief Ministers in the State. He is a moderate face not known to take a hardline Hindutya stance and an amenable man across party lines.

Mr. Bommai met Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot to stake his claim to form the government late on Tuesday and will be sworn in alone on Wednesday at 11 a.m.

No surprises

Though there had been intense and wild speculation on the possibility of the BJP throwing a up "surprise" choice, the saffron party played it safe by going with Mr. Bommai, who does not disrupt the caste calcula-

Significantly, he is seen as a man who is close to the Lingayat strongman and outgoing Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa, which implies



New leader: Basavaraj Bommai, third from left, showing the victory sign after being elected CM. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

A man of the middle-path

Basavaraj Bommai, chosen by the BJP as the next Chief Minister of Karnataka, is known as a man who treads the middle path in a right-

was a troubleshooter for the BJP during the legislature stalemate. > PAGE 5

that the latter still holds sway.

Seers from the Lingayat-Veerashiva community had interpreted Mr. Yediyurappa's ouster as an "insult" to the community, and the choice of Mr. Bommai would assuage these hurt sentiments at least partially.

Mr. Bommai also meets the long-pending demand for a person from north Karnataka to be at the helm of affairs in the State.

Also, Mr. Bommai is only the second Chief Minister whose father (S.R. Bommai)

just as JD(S) father-son duo of H.D. Deve Gowda and H.D. Kumaraswamy.

wing party. Known as a man

who is not easily ruffled, he

The decision on the next Chief Minister came just a day after 78-year-old Mr. Yediyurappa resigned with tears in his eyes, at an event organised to mark the second anniversary of his tenure - a bumpy ride marked by dissidence, allegations of corruption and nepotism. Mr. Bommai, in contrast, will be seen not only as young and educated, but also non-controversial.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

'Jabs for children as early as August'

Final trial results are awaited, says Mandaviya

NISTULA HEBBAR BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN NEW DELHI

Vaccination of children against COVID-19 may start as early as August, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya told a meeting of the BJP parliamentary party on Tuesday.

India was on its way to becoming the largest producer of vaccines as his Ministry would expedite more licences to Indian companies, he said. He also spoke about the

15 crore doses expected in August, says V.K. Paul

The Union government expects to have 15 crore vaccine doses available for administration in August, V.K. Paul, Chairman of the National Expert Group On Vaccine Administration for COVID-19, said on Tuesday. "We have a visibility of about 15 crore doses," Dr. Paul said at a press briefing. ▶ PAGE 10

government's efforts to fight COVID-19 and ramp up vaccination. The Minister's statements are in line with what the government told the Delhi High Court in early July that vaccines for those between the ages of 12-18 would

Right to health has taken back seat: plea in SC

The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the Union government to respond to a petition that said the fundamental right to health had taken a back seat as patients were forced to choose between expensive private care and an "inadequate" public health sector, especially during the pandemic. ▶ PAGE 10

be available soon, and that a policy to regulate the vaccination programme would be spelt out soon.

Giving more details, Lav Aggarwal, Joint Secretary, Health Ministry, said at a press conference that both

cines for the 12-18 age group were being looked into. "Final trial results are awaited and after due scrutiny, the vaccines will be made

Bharat Biotech's Covaxin

and Zydus Cadila's DNA vac-

available for children. We hope to make the vaccine available in the near future," he added. A senior Health Ministry

official said while the Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA vaccine had been tested and approved in the European Union for use in those aged 12-15, India was looking at an indigenous vaccine.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

Sarma talks tough on Mizoram border row

Assam will abide by any law enacted by Parliament, says Assam Chief Minister

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA SILCHAR

Assam will abide by any law enacted by Parliament that makes it even cede its land to another State but till then it will not allow even an "inch to be encroached upon", Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma asserted on Tuesday, amid the border row with Mizoram.

Mr. Sarma's comments came a day after six Assamese people - five police personnel and a civilian were killed and over 50 injured in the border clashes.

He also said Assam will move the Supreme Court seeking protection of the In-



Himanta Biswa Sarma

nerline Forest Reserve from destruction and encroachment and deploy three commando battalions in Cachar, Karimganj and Hailakandi districts bordering Mizoram to strengthen security. As-

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Committees on Subor-

dinate Legislation, Lok Sab-

ha and Rajya Sabha, has

been requested to grant

sam has declared a three-day State mourning following the incident.

'Centre's responsibility' "It is the responsibility of the Centre to define the boundary and we will abide by it... if tomorrow the Parliament enacts a law by which our land can be given to another State, we will do so but till then we will protect our constitutional boundary," Mr. Sarma told a press conference.

He also visited the Silchar Medical College and Hospital and met police personnel injured in the attack.

Centre seeks more time for CAA rules

the rules under the Citizen-

ship (Amendment) Act, the

Union Home Ministry told

ment) Act was notified on

The Citizenship (Amend-

the Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

"We hope that the Mizos

regret that they have fired at fellow countrymen but we are leaving it to their wisdom and conscience. This is a dispute between two States and not a fight between countries. But the video evidence that we have of the Mizo forces celebrating after attacking our people has saddened and hurt us," he said.

The Chief Minister said that satellite images have shown that roads are being constructed and forests cleared for jhum cultivation (shifting cultivation) which cannot be allowed.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

Mamata terms meeting with PM a courtesy call

I sought more doses of vaccines: CM

SOBHANA K. NAIR

A united Opposition against the BJP ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election is a given, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Baneriee said minutes after meeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi here on Tuesday. She has also demanded a judicial probe into the Pegasus cyber snooping row.

Ms. Banerjee's visit to the Capital, her first visit in two years, comes after her victory in the Assembly election for a third time. During her five-day visit, she will be meeting a host of Opposition leaders.

Buoyed by her victory, especially in the face of a resurgent BJP, her meetings with the Opposition parties

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

With the tourism industry

among the hardest hit due to

the pandemic, it is estimated

that about 21.5 million peo-

ple working in the sector lost

their jobs during the nine-

month period from April

2020-December 2020, as per

the data shared by the go-

In a written reply to the

Rajya Sabha, Tourism Minis-

ter G. Kishan Reddy said a

significant number of jobs

were lost in the tourism sec-

tor once the lockdown was

during Q1, 5.2 million during

Q2 and 1.8 million jobs dur-

ing Q3 were expected to have

been lost as compared to an

estimated 34.8 million jobs

in the pre-pandemic period

of 2019-20 [direct jobs]," he

said. Mr. Reddy said this was

one of the key findings of the

"About 14.5 million jobs

vernment on Tuesday.

implemented.

NEW DELHI



Mamata Banerjee

are being seen as a definitive sign that the TMC wants to play a larger role in national politics. "Opposition unity will automatically happen," Ms. Baneriee said. Asked if she will lead such a consortium of Opposition parties, she said, "India will lead and we shall follow."

Slow revival: Visitors walking to the Taj Mahal in Agra on

Tuesday as the tourist attraction has reopened. • PTI

study done by the National

Council of Applied Economic

Research for the Ministry of

Tourism to assess the extent

As per the report, due to

overall economic slowdown

during 2020-21, tourism eco-

nomy or tourism direct gross

value added (TDGVA) saw a

fall of 42.8% in April-June

2020, 15.5% in July-Septem-

ber 2020 and a fall of 1.1% in

October-December 2020.

of losses to the sector.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

Rakesh Asthana appointed Delhi Police Commissioner

Gujarat cadre officer gets inter-cadre deputation, extension

SAURABH TRIVEDI NEW DELHI

Days before his superannuation, Gujarat cadre IPS officer Rakesh Asthana was on Tuesday appointed Delhi Police Commissioner.

Mr. Asthana, a 1984-batch IPS officer, was to retire on July 31. According to the Ministry of Home Affairs order, Mr. Asthana, who was serving as Director General, Border Security Force, will join as the Delhi Police Commissioner with immediate effect.

On July 1, Balaji Srivastava, a 1988-batch IPS officer, was given the additional charge of Commissioner of Delhi

While clearing Mr. Asthana's appointment as CP, Del-

"Due to significant drop in

tourist arrivals and hence

tourism expenditure, during

the pandemic, it is estimated

that TDGVA plummeted by

as much as 93.3% in Q1 of

2020-21 over its level in the

same quarter of the previous

year," the Minister stated, ad-

ding that it picked up slightly

to post a decline of 79.5% and

64.3% in the second quarter

and the third quarter

respectively.



Rakesh Asthana. • FILE РНОТО

itially for a period of one year beyond the date of his superannuation or until further

instances when an IPS officer outside of the AGMUT cadre has been appointed as the Delhi Police chief. Mr. Asthana had earlier

served as the Special Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation. He was the Narcotics Control Bureau chief when actor Rhea Chakraborty was arrested in a drugs case in Mumbai.

During his stint in the CBI in 2018, Mr. Ashtana was engaged in an unsavoury spat with the then CBI Director Alok Verma. Both the officers were removed from the central probe agency and Mr. Asthana was subsequently cleared of the charges.

(With inputs from PTI)

CAREERWILL IAS

further extension of time up December 12, 2019, and

to January 9, 2022, to frame came into force on January

CONTACT : 708 - 218 - 97 - 97

10, 2020, the Ministry re-

plied to a question from Congress leader Gaurav Go-

goi on what steps were be-

ing taken to frame the CAA

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Highest July rain in Delhi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Safdarjung, the official weather station of the city, received 100 mm of rain in just three hours before 8.30 a.m. on Tuesday. Palam received 68 mm before 8.30 a.m. and 59.4 mm during the day.

With Tuesday's downpour, the Capital has recorded 381 mm of rain so far this month, which is the highest in July since 2003, according to figures shared by the Met Department. The rain led to a fall in the maximum temperature, which settled five degrees below normal at 29.4 degrees Celsius.

DETAILS ON ▶ PAGE 2

hi, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the inter-cadre deputation from Gujarat to AGMUT cadre. The ACC also extended Mr. Asthana's service in-

order, whichever is earlier.

in 18 years

Heavy rain lashed the Capital on Tuesday, causing waterlogging and traffic snarls in several areas.

pdf was originally uploaded to Brills Express Official (https://t.me/The_Hindu_Express) before anyone else. Don't forget to join backup channel @Thehind

'21.5 mn lost jobs in tourism sector' Significant job loss was due to lockdown, Minister Kishan Reddy tells Rajya Sabha However, Mr. Reddy added that the Ministry did not maintain data on revenue generated from tourism. Replying to another qu-

> increase in COVID-19 positive cases after the second wave. Further, Mr. Reddy said that as per the Bureau of Immigration, the number of foreign tourist arrivals in India stood at 10.93 million in 2019, declining to 2.74 million in 2020 and about 0.42 million till June 2021.

> ery, the Minister said no for-

mal study had been institut-

ed by the Ministry to assess

whether the movement of

people from all States in-

creased at tourist places,

which might raise fears of an

According to the data compiled by the Ministry of Tourism, domestic tourist visits during the calendar year 2019 stood at 2,321.98 million while those in 2020 stood at 610.21 million.

This is one of the very few

Delhi receives 4 lakh doses of Covishield

STAFF REPORTER

After nearly two weeks of vaccine shortage, the city received around 4 lakh doses of Covishield, as per Delhi government data. The vaccine stock on Tuesday morning would last for three days, it said.

Earlier this month, the Health Minister had said 500 vaccination centres were shut due to the shortage. On Tuesday morning, the city had only 4,39,870 doses of Covishield vaccine and 2,04,360 doses of Covaxin, as per the data. Till now, 97,41,588 doses of vaccines have been administered in the city.

The city reported 77 fresh COVID-19 cases in 24 hours, taking the total cases to 14,36,026, the government bulletin stated on Tuesday. There were two deaths reported and the total number of deaths stood

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Chief Minister Arvind Kejri-

wal on Tuesday announced

that the Delhi government

will only nominate doctors

and healthcare workers for

will be on the basis of citi-

zens' suggestions, which the

government will seek till In-

The decision has been ta-

ken to honour the service

and sacrifice of the medical

community during the CO-

VID-crisis, said Mr. Kejriwal

during a digital briefing. He

further thanked the doctors

and healthcare workers for

"relentlessly" doing eve-

rything possible to save lives

during successive waves of

PR 250280(Transport)21-22*D

क्रमाक

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Memo No:- VLTD /suchibaddh-29/2021-(R.S)-/286

the pandemic.

dependence Day.

He said the nominations

this year's Padma awards.

NEW DELHI

Khalid cannot claim parity with other accused in riots case, police tell court

Agency opposes his bail plea citing Supreme Court order

STAFF REPORTER

Delhi Police on Tuesday informed a local court here that former JNU student Umar Khalid, arrested in connection with the north-east Delhi riots, cannot claim parity with other accused such as Devangana Kalita, Natasha Narwal and Asif Iqbal Tanha, who were recently released on regular bail.

Mr. Khalid was arrested on September 13, 2020 in northeast Delhi riots case being investigated by Special Cell where charges under the antiterror law Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act had been

In response to Mr. Khalid's bail application, Delhi Police said that the Supreme Court while hearing the appeal filed by it against the judgments granting bail to Kalita, Narwal and Tanha, has clarified that these judgments "shall not be treated as a precedent and

"Now is the time to tell

our doctors and healthcare

workers how grateful we are

and how much we respect

them. Every year, the coun-

try honours a select few

with the Bharat Ratna and

the Padma awards. The

Centre gives these awards to

people who have done ex-

cellent work in their field,"

he said. For all three Padma

Government of Jharkhand

Department of Transport (Lead Agency, Road Safety)

NOTICE FOR CANCELLATION OF Eol

(Reference PR No:- 247850)

EoI No-VLTD/suchibaddh-29/2021-(R.S)-/216, Dated:-11/06/2021.

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https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in.The bidder(s) should have necessary portal enrolment with their own

being cancelled due to some unavoidable circumstances.

ई.निविदा सूचना संख्या:-RWSS - 20/JSR/2021-22 दिनाक:-27.07.2021

विवरणी

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निविदा करने वाले कार्यालय का संपर्क संख्या

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नोटः—1. केवलई—निविदाहीस्वीकार किया जायेगा **।**

Subject: Cancellation of "Expression of Interest for Registration of AIS

With reference to the above EoI, It is hereby informed that the EoI is

Delhi govt. to nominate doctors for Padma awards



may not be relied upon by any

Hearing on August 7 Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat adjourned the hearing of bail application for August 7 on the request of his

so said that the present case pertains to a "larger conspiracy". "In total 21 accused have been arrested in the case till date, out of which chargesheet of 18 accused has been filed including the present applicant [Mr. Khalid]," the reply said. It said further investigation is on. "The application filed by

Delhi Police, in its reply, al-

the applicant has no merits as would be revealed and demonstrated before this court by reference to the chargesheet filed before this court... The prosecution would demonstrate the "prima facie" case against the applicant by reference to and relying upon the chargesheet filed before this court," Delhi Police said.

The HC while granting bail to Tanha, Narwal, and Kalita in the UAPA case, said the State blurred the line between the right to protest and terrorist activity in anxiety to

Capital sees highest amount of rainfall in July since 2003

Waterlogging, road cave-in disrupt traffic; Safdarjung gets 100 mm rain in 3 hours

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Heavy rain lashed the Capital on Tuesday causing waterlogging in several areas which further led to traffic

Safdarjung, the official weather station of the Capital received 100 mm of rain in just three hours before 8.30 a.m. on Tuesday after which it received 1.8 mm of rain. Other weather stations like Palam received 68 mm before 8.30 a.m. and 59.4 during the day.

With Tuesday's rainfall, the Capital has recorded 381 mm rainfall so far this month which is the highest in July since 2003, according to figures shared by the MeT Department. It is also the heaviest spell of rain recorded in a day since 2013 when Delhi received 123.4 mm rainfall on July 21.

The rain led to a fall in the temperature which settled five degrees below normal at 29.4 degrees Celsius. The minimum settled at 25 degrees Celsius, two degrees below normal.

Over 200 complaints

The Public Works Department (PWD) was flooded with almost 200 waterlogging complaints. According to the department, over 11 complaints were received by the PWD control room every hour, totalling to as many as 188 complaints being received from across the city between 1.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday.

A senior PWD official said Pul Prahladpur underpass was among the affected areas in addition to MB Road, Saket, Sher Shah Suri Marg and Bindapur DDA

Delhi Police Commissioner Balaji Srivastav directed the senior traffic police offic-

agement after traffic congestion was witnessed neat Traffic also had to be di-

verted after a road caved in at Rafi Marg. The Delhi police took to Twitter asking commuters to avoid certain

At snail's pace: Heavy rain

traffic congestion at Vikas

struggle on a waterlogged

ers to ensure proper man-

and waterlogging cause

Marg; (right) motorists

road in New Delhi on

Tuesday. • R.V. MOORTHY

Parliament.

Mr. Srivastav through his official Twitter handle tweeted, "Daily heavy traffic jam enroute to Parliament near Rail Bhavan. Needs attention at senior levels of DTP @dtptraffic and proper traffic management."

Bus breakdown

A senior traffic officer, however, cited the ongoing construction work and a breakdown of a DTC bus at Red Cross Road on Tuesday morning, as the reason for the traffic jam in the area.

The officer said that a deep sewer work is being carried out at Red Cross Road. Half of the road is half of the stretch is available for vehicular traffic. Delhi Metro trains did not

blocked and only the other

stop at Saket metro station for a few hours as the area outside the metro station was flooded and passengers could not enter or exit the station conveniently. Mathura Road, Moti Bagh,

Vikas Marg, Ring Road, Rohtak Road, Sangam Vihar and Kirari, were among other places to witness waterlog-Traffic crawled at ITO, un-

derneath Moti Bagh metro station, Dhaula Kuan underpass, near Pragati Maidan, Mathura Road, Vikas Marg, Ring Road near IP Flyover and Rohtak Road. To decongest the roundabout at Rail Bhawan, the traffic police said they had already diverted buses approaching the road but traffic could not be diverted completely because MPs also travel on the same road to reach Parliament Gate no. 2.

The forecast for July 28 reads "generally cloudy sky with moderate rain/thundershowers". The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to settle between and 25 respectively.

Monsoon arrived late in the Capital on July 16 missing its normal date of arrival on June 27 but has led to the wettest July with 14 rain



of the parties in any of the proceedings". "So, these judgments cannot be cited and relied upon by the applicant or accused [Mr. Khalid] in the instant case," Delhi Pol-

lawver, who received the prosecution's reply earlier during

Kejriwal says citizens have time till Independence Day to submit suggestions awards: Padma Shri, Padma can be sent to padmaa-Bhushan, and Padma Vibhushan, Mr. Kejriwal said "A 'Search and Screening the Centre asks for nomina-

> During the pandemic, doctors, healthcare workers, and para-medical staff helped save many lives, said Mr. Kejriwal. He added that he knew many doctors and healthcare workers who did not go home for days as well as those who got infected while tending to patients and were unfortunately

tions of people who they

think deserve the honour.

martyred on duty. He said the government wanted the people of Delhi to come forward with names of doctors and healthcare workers along with a description of why they deserved the honour. Names

Dated:-26-07-2021

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Lead Agency, Road Safety,

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कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, जमशेदपुर

0657 - 2371051

0651 - 2480345

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता

पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल

जमशेदपुर

wards.delhi@gmail.com.

Committee' has been set up under Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia. It will decide the names for recommendations. The last date for sending names to the Centre is September 15," Mr. Kejriwal said.

'No relief for families' Meanwhile, the BJP asked

the Delhi government why it was making families of over 150 front-line workers who lost their lives in the line of duty wait for the ₹1 crore compensation as had been announced. Delhi BJP spokesperson Harish Khurana said the Delhi government had only compensated 17 families of front-line workers.

HC rejects IMA president's plea against court order

He was told not to propagate religion

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday dismissed plea of Indian Medical Association (IMA) president Dr. J.A. Jayalal challenging an order of a local court here asking him to not use the platform of IMA for propagating any religion.

The local court had passed its order on a complaint by Rohit Jha, who claimed to be "hurt by the malicious and defamatory campaign started by defendant [Mr. Jayalal] against a particular religion i.e. Hindu religion by way of promoting Christian religion in India in the garb of proving

superiority of allopathic medicines over ayurveda medicines in treatment of COVID patients".

Mr. Jha had alleged that an article on March 30, 2020 published in Nation World News read with TV debate of Mr. Jayalal with Baba Ramdev on various TV news channels on May 2021 have seriously disparaged and denigrated his "reputation in the society be-

ing a Hindu". Mr. Jha said that Mr, Jayalal through his article and subsequent "raising the issue of "allopathic vs. ayurveda" has deliberately attempted to defame the Hindu religion.

Provide details of vaccine drive in jails, HC tells govt.

Bench wants to know plan for 2nd dose

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday asked the city government to give details about its COVID-19 vaccination drive, which is going on in the jails on the existing inmates and the newcomers.

A Bench of Chief Justice D.N. Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh asked the government to submit an affidavit highlighting the authorities' plan for administering second dose on the prisoners.

The court also asked the government to highlight how periodically health check-up is conducted on the inmates.

Next hearing on Sept. 16 The court posted the case for further hearing on September 16.

The court's direction came while hearing two pleas seeking vaccination of all the prisoners who were out on bail or parole before they surrender so as to prevent the spread of COVID inside prisons.

The High Court observed that all those lodged in jail shall get the vaccines and those who are coming to prison from outside shall also be vaccinated.

Sept. 20-23 SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

be held from

JNUEE to

The National Testing Agency on Tuesday announced it will be conducting the Jawaharlal Nehru University Entrance Examination for 2021-22 admission in Computer Based Test-mode from September 20-23

The online registration for the examination and submission of examination form will open on July 27 and will close on August 27. The last date for successful fee transaction is 11.50 p.m. on August 27.

The NTA said the examination will have a duration of 180 minutes and will be a multiple choice question LAN-based test.

The university prospectus will be available on the

Delhi Board to be launched in 30 schools

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party government on Tuesday announced that the Delhi Board of School Education (DBSE) will be launched at 30 government schools in the academic session 2021-22, out of which 20 will be Schools of Specialised Excellence (SoSE) and 10 will be government schools.

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said the general body of SoSE approved the launch of 20 schools by August 15 in the first phase. It will cater to students of Classes 9 to 12 who have special aptitude in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM); Humanities; Performing and Visual Arts; and Highend 21st Century Skills.

Himachal Pradesh Jal Shakti Vibhag *** NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER *** On line bids on item rate basis are invited by the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division Arki o

pehalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh, in electronic tendering system in two covers for the under mentioned works from the contractor/Firms of appropriate class enlisted with HP Ja Shakti Vibhag. Tender document and other instruction shall be downloaded or viewed online from the portal http://hptenders.gov.in by the firms/individual registered on the website which is

Sr. No.	Description of work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Time	Cost of form
1.	Annual operation, running and maintenance of sewerage scheme Kunihar Area in Tehsil Arki Distt. Solan HP (SH:- Deployment of labour/staff for operation running and maintenance of 0.90 MLD capacity STP including sewerage network system to Kunihar Area for the year 2021-22, 2022-2023 and 2023-24).	1,40,11,641/-	1,72,700/-	Three Years	1,500/-
2.	Remodeling of Lift Irrigation Scheme Giana in G.P. Giana in Tehsil Arki Distt. Solan (HP) (SH:- Providing laying and jointing of HDPE pipe of various dia in distribution system, Construction of RCC out lets 8 Nos., Repair of Pump House, Laying and jointing of 125mm dia G.I. Pipe (Medium Class) for rising main and Supply and Errection of Centrifugal Pumping Machinery with allied accessories).	15,56,442/-	30,900/-	Six Months	400/-

all	ieu accessories).					
Key da	tes:-					
- 1	Date of online publication.	24-07	7-2021 at 1	10:00 AM		
II	Bid submission Start date and time.	From	24-07-202	1 at 10:0	00 AM.	
III	Bid Submission end date and time.	Up to 02-08-2021 at 11:00 AM				
IV	Earnest Money and Cost of tender document submitted online.	02-08	3-2021 at	11:00 AM		
V	Date of opening Bid i.e eligibility criteria	02-08	3-2021 at	11:30 AM		
VI	Date of opening of financial bid	Shall	be intimate	d separa	tely.	

Last date of filling/uploading the tender through e-tendering 02-08-2021 up-to 11.00 AM and will be opened on 02-08-2021 at 11.30 AM. The tender forms and other detailed conditions can be obtained from the website www.hptenders.gov.in Telephone No. 01796-220774,

Email:ipharki@gmail.com

Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Division HP / 2745/21-22 HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

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GENERAL

Banks Board Bureau

An Autonmous Body of Government of India invites application for the position of

Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer **Punjab National Bank** The Institution: Established in 1894, Punjab National Bank is today the second

largest Public- Sector Bank in the country. After amalgamation of Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank of India. PNB has now a network of over 10.760 branches, 103,000 employees and global business of Rs. 18,45,739 crore. The MD & CEO bears responsibility of creating value for all customers, investors and employees, and of making it the first choice for all stakeholders. You will be expected to position PNB as the "Most Preferred Bank" for customers, the "Best Place to Work In" for employees and a "Benchmark of Excellence" for the industry. The MD & CEO shall hold the office for a term of three years from the date of joining, subject to a maximum age of 60 years. Eligibilities:

(A) The candidate should be in the age group of 45 to 57 years as on 19- Sept

(B) should have a minimum experience of 15 years in mainstream banking or which at least one year should at the Board Level as on 19-Sept-2021. For details of the other eligibility terms and conditions, please see th advertisement on https://www.banksboardbureau.org.in/ under the "Vacancies" tab

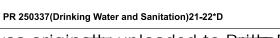
How to apply: Interested candidates can apply online through the link

available on https://www.banksboardbureau.org.in/ under the "vacancies" tab or directly at https://www.research.net/r/MDCEOPNB.

The candidates who had applied for the position vide our advertisement issu earlier in June 2021, <u>need not</u> apply again, as their application is already with Last date of application: 17:00 hours IST on 10-Aug-2021.

Further details / corrigendum shall be published on the Bureau's website.

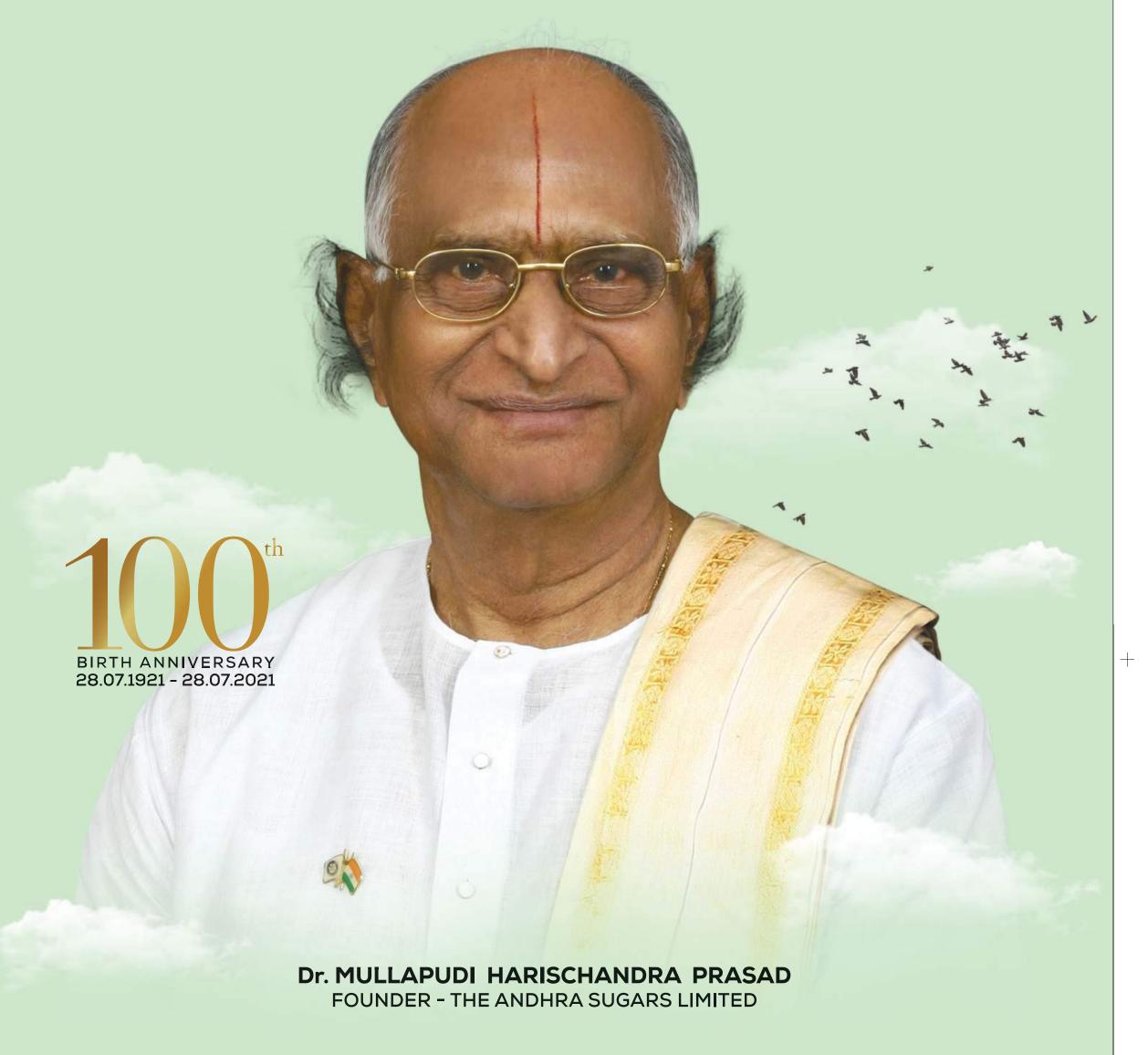




3. प्राक्केलित राशि एवं अग्रधन की राशि घट-बढ सकती हैं।

2. विस्तृत विवरणी बेबसाईट—https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

COMMEMORATING THE VISIONARY WHO SHAPED OUR PAST AND INSPIRES OUR PRESENT



The Andhra Sugars Limited takes pride in commemorating the birth centenary of Dr. Mullapudi Harischandra Prasad, the visionary who built the organization.

From a small-scale sugar processing plant in Tanuku, Andhra Pradesh, The Andhra Sugars Limited has grown to become a name that is trusted in diverse sectors including Organic & Inorganic Chemicals, Fertilizers, Bulk Drugs and Power.

Behind the success of the Company lies the grand vision, dedication and discipline of our Founding Father, Dr. Mullapudi Harischandra Prasad, whose eternal values guide us to this day.

On the momentous occasion of the Birth Centenary of our leading light, we pledge to abide by his eternal values and make him proud of his enduring legacy.

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The Andhra Petrochemicals Limited
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Jocil Limited Dokiparru Sree Akkamamba Textiles Limited
Venkatarayapuram

Sree Satyanarayana Spinning Mills Limited
Venkatarayapuram

OTS:ASL:TH:28:07:

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI A 62-year-old man was shot dead in his sleep outside his house in Dwarka's Palam Extension in the small hours of Tuesday, the police said.

DCP (Dwarka) Santosh Ku-

mar Meena said the victim has been identified as Ajeet Singh. The police said they received information about the incident at 7.30 a.m. from the victim's son Rajesh.

"He had a bullet injury on the forehead. An empty car-

Ph.D.

• Two Year LLM

Child Protection

• Executive Diploma in IPR

PR.NO.250322 Law(21-22):D

W0109

corrigendum etc.

Job

No.

15/DGM/SM

SM(NTC)/

S.

No.

tridge was found on the house renovation work. bed," Mr. Meena said.

Rajesh told the police that an argument had broken out between his father and his

After dinner on Monday, Singh took his charpoy outside the house where he dead. The police said the family suspects the involvement of Kishan's family.

The suspected family was not found at their residence. Teams are looking for them, an officer added.

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MARKETING

UNITED NEWS Of India Registered Office: 9 Rafi Marg, New Delhi - 110 001 (Company Registered under Section 8 of the Company Act, 2013) Invites application for the following position General Manager (Operations & Marketing): Management position, who should be responsible stitori, who should be responsible for successful leadership and to stir company's operations, administrative & marketing. Eligibility: More than 10–15 years of experience in a media/New Agency organisation shall be given preference. Remunerations: Shall not be constraint for the right candidate. straint for the right candidate. Interested candidates should send their CVs at uninet2009@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that GIAN RAM S/o LATE OTAM RAM R/o 19/2-A, SECOND FLOOR, TILAK, NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110018 OF AFGHANISTAN is applying to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Home Affairs for Naturalization and that uny person who knows any reason why Naturalization should not be granted should send a written signed statement of the fact: o the said Secretary.

JASCH INDUSTRIES LTD EGD OFFICE : 502, Block-C, NDM-2 NSP, Pitampura, New Delhi 110034 Phone 0130-2216666

ed in this newspaper earlier, the dates of closure of Register of Members and Share Transfer Books of the Company may kindly be read as 07-08-2021 to 09-08-2021 (both days inclusive). Further, the process of sending notices of the AGM through ed email ids of the Members now expected to be completed by 10-08-2021 instead of 05-08-2021 earlier. All other contents of the earlier public notice remain unchanged. for Jasch Industries Ltd SONIPAT sd/- (S.K. VERMA) 27-07-2021 Company Secretary

A GREETING TO REMEMBER

an academic accomplishmen or even a promotion. Now you can surprise your loved ones by wishing them on

CLASSIFIEDS



'Argument with uncle'

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF STUDY

AND

RESEARCH IN LAW, RANCHI

National University of Study and Research in Law,

DATE: 27/07/2021

ADMISSION NOTIFICATION

• Full time/Part-time Ph.D. in Law & Inter-disciplinary

One—Year Post Graduate Diploma in Tribal Law(PGDTL)

Executive Diploma in Laws relating to Child Rights and

Last Date for submission of applications: 23rd August 2021.

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from firms/contractors registered

with UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against

which bids can be uploaded and same shall be

opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The

details and conditions of all tenders are available on NOIDA

Authority's official website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com

& https://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to

see these websites for any changes / amendments &

Name of

Work

Annual P/L Thermoplastic

& P/F Road Safety Items on

Different Locations in WC-4, 5

Road between Sector-51 & 50

(NTC)/2021-22 Paint on Speed Breaker, Zebra

& 6 Noida.

2 | 35/DGM(NTC)/| P/L Thermoplastic paint on

ENTERPRISE CONNECT

SJVN Launches 14th Mobile

Medical Unit under CSR initiative

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority

nistrative Building, Sector-6, NOIDA-201301 (U.P.)

Ranchi invites applications for the following courses:

Two-Years' Master's Programme in Law & Policy

• Executive Diploma in Mines and Minerals Law

For further details visit www.nusrlranchi.ac.in

• Undergraduate Diploma in Cyber Law

• P.G Diploma in Animal Welfare Laws

uncle Kishan's family over

Sd/- Registrar

Amount

8763311.60

4502702.40

Kishan's son Rajbir had allegedly threatened to kill

usually slept. In the morn-

ing, Singh's wife found him

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that one unknown male S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown, Age about 20/25 years. Height 5'5", Complexion Wheatish, Face Oval, Built Medium, Wearing Grey colour T-shirt and blue colour jeans pant was found dead at between KM Pole No. 2/32 to Down Railway Line Near Mother Dairy South Ganesh Nagar, Delhi on 21.07.21.

In this regard a DD No. 14-A dated 21.07.21 U/S 174 Cr.PC has been lodged at PS Anand Vihar Railway Station, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved in Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital Mortuary, Delhi for 72 hours for Post Mortem & Identification. Any person having any information or clue about this male deceased may be kindly inform to the undersigned.

SHO PS: Anand Vihar Railway Station, Delhi DP/189/RLY/21 Ph.: 011-22145601/02, 9810647278, 8750871314

DEPARTMENT OF SPACE CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP (CMG) SPACE APPLICATION CENTER (SAC), JODHPUR TEKRA, AMBAWADI VISTAR P.O. AHMEDABAD -380015 Ph.No.:(079)26914909 / 4926 / 4901. FAX No: (079) 26915853 CORRIGENDUM NO: 1 Dated 26.07.2021

E-Tender Notice No.: SAC/CMG/CPHD/C/e/18/2021-22 Dated 07.07.2021 The due dates are modified for the following work.

Title of Work

No.		Cost	Completion					
18	Miscellaneous Civil maintenance	Rs. 19.42	06 Months					
	works at Delhi Earth Station (DES)	Lakhs						
	in New Delhi.							
The r	evised detai is are as below							
Perio	d during which the tender	Extended up t	o 17.00 hrs					
docu	ment can be downloaded	on 02.08.2021						
Bid C	Clarifications	Extended up to 17.00 hrs						
		on 03.08, 202	1					
Last	date & time for Submission of	Up to 17.00 h	rs on					
tende	ers	04.08.2021						
Due date & time of Opening of tenders								
Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting Tender								
(NIT)	from website(s) www.isro.gov.in o	r www.sac.gov	in for further					

details and Purchase of tender documents visit www.tenderwizard.com/ ISRO. Tenderers may contact Mr. Sunil Patel (representative from M/s. ITI Ltd) at Mo. No. 9714881992 in case of difficulty. All other conditions stipulated in the above NIT wi II remain unaltered.

04.08.2021 at 11.00 am. Dy. General Manager **Noida Traffic Cell CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA**

Which can be uploaded by date 03.08.2021 upto 5.00 pm.

Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date

Estimated Period of

A Business Initiative

GROUP DIRECTOR

CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP

Sh. Nand Lal Sharma, Chairman

& Managing Director launched a Mobile Health Van at SJVN Corporate Headquarters, Shimla for providing free medical facilities to people of Shimla and surrounding areas under CSR initiative of SJVN Foundation - Satluj Sanjeevani Sewa. On this occasion Smt. Geeta Kapur Director (Personnel) Cum NBCC INKS MoU WITH IIT Chairperson SJVN Foundation MADRAS along with other senior officials were present. Addressing the gathering, Sh. Nand Lal Sharma said that SJVN is pledged to fulfill its societal commitment and always strives to enhance the quality of life of the stakeholders through its CSR programs. Satluj Sanjeevani Sewa program under the umbrella of SJVN CSR Foundation was launched in the year 2012 for providing free medical consultancy services and medicines at the doorsteps of the local communities through 14 Mobile Health Vans. Sh. Sharma further informed that 13 Mobile Health Vans were already being operated in States of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar & Maharashtra covering 11 Districts, 101 Gram Panchayats and 197 Community Locations wherein treatments have been administered to more than nine lac people. Every Mobile Health Van is being manned by a qualified medical team comprising of a Doctor, Pharmacist and allied staff and is also equipped with basic diagnostic test equipment. SJVN Way Engineers (ARPWE) - *Multi-Foundation is working on various verticals i.e. Healthcare & Sanitation including financial assistance against the fight of COVID-19,

Empowerment of

infrastructure

community development and rural

for various initiatives undertaken in health sector.

NIT.

On 19th July 2021, in the esteemed presence of Shri PK Gupta, CMD NBCC, company inked MoU with IIT Madras for construction of Lab space at Thaiyur Campus, IIT Madras under its CSR activity. This initiative shall meet the growing infrastructure needs of the Institute and will provide better infrastructural platforms for students as well. The MoU was signed by Shri Debasis Satapathy, GM (HR), NBCC and Professor Mahesh Panchagnula, Dean of Alumni and Corporate Affairs, IIT Madras. Smt. BK Sokhey, Director (Finance) NBCC; Sh. Rajendra Chaudhari, Sr. ED (Co-ord.), NBCC; Professor Ligy, Dean - Planning IITM; Dr. Siuli Mitra from Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser, Gol & Senior Officers from both the organizations were present during the event.

ARPWE MPAD inaugurated by Member infrastructure Railway

board Unique safety publication of Association of Railway Permanent purpose ARPWE DIARY(MPAD)* released in Railway board. On *MEMBER July 2021, 15th INFRASTRUCTURE (in Centre) Education and Skill Development, Shri Sanjeev Mitta**l*** Vulnerable with *Additional Member Civil section of society, Sustainable Engineering (AMCE) Shri Rajesh Development, Preservation and Argal and Additional Member/L&A promotion of Culture, heritage Shri O. P. Singh* released the and iconic places, promotion of ARPWE's most awaited unique sports, measures for benefits safety publication I. e. MPAD of armed forces veterans, war in his office at Railway Board. widows & their dependents, relief Member Infrastructure verv during natural disasters/calamities, much appreciated the ARPWE development, Publication Committee's unique approach of Publishing MPAD. development. SJVN has been ARPWE Founder member & Core awarded with many prestigious Committee members, Er. R. K.

awards in recognition to its efforts Uppal (National Convener), Er. P towards creating positive impact K. Sharma (National President) and on the society through innovative Er. Dushyant K. Sharma(National & sustainable CSR initiatives. The Finance Secretary) along with Company has been awarded with their Board colleagues Er. Praveen CIDC Vishwakarma Award 2021 in Gupta and Shri Dinesh Sood the category of CORONA Warriors. welcomed Board members with It has also been conferred with planters and presented MPAD for 'Gold Plate Award' by Helpage India release. They assured Member Infrastructure for safety and safe workings on railway track. They also apprised Member Infrastructure about the important issues of P. Way Engineers of Indian Railways and requested for consideration .MPAD will help Indian Railways P. Way Engineers in day to day needs of technical support and daily notes.

Railway Central commences loading of cement from Dadri

ICD Dadri is the most important loading point for NCR yielding significant revenues for Railways. On 18th July 2021 the cement rake was loaded for Alwar. Cement bags were loaded as bagged consignment in 21 BCN wagons giving a revenue of Rs 4.61 Lakh to NCR. As a result of marketing efforts of NCR Business Development Unit (BDU), Inland Container Depot Dadri (ICDD) of Prayagraj Division received nod from Railway Board to commence outward loading of cement thereby fulfilling the long standing requirement of a cement loading point near the industrial hub of NOIDA and Greater NOIDA. ICD Dadri has been an important loading point for NCR with an average loading of 6 container rakes per day. Average monthly revenue accrued to Railways from loading of container rakes is approx 17.5 crores.In view of demand explored as a result of aggressive marketing by North Central Railway for loading of other commodities in addition to the containerised traffic, ICD Dadri was given the status of **Brownfield Private Freight Terminal** on 12.03.2021. This has paved way for loading of non containerized traffic also. Commencing of outward loading of cement from Dadri is not only a significant success gained by Business Development Unit of NCR but is also expected to generate additional local employment in the

'Hold 5 sittings in upcoming session'

It will help MLAs raise critical issues, BJP tells Delhi Speaker

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Delhi BJP Legislative Party on Tuesday met Speaker Ram Niwas Goyal and demanded that the Monsoon session, beginning on July 29, should have a minimum of five sittings instead of the scheduled two.

This, the BJP argued, was required so that the MLAs could raise important issues of citizens. Leader of Opposition Ramvir Singh Bidhuri said BJP MLAs had given notices for discussions under Rule 55 on important issues.

"Delhi is currently faced with a severe water crisis, the government schools are faced with a massive shor-

OBITUARY &

REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

OBITUARY

Mrs. Hamsa Mani

(ex HM EED/ Orient Fans) ssed away on 27-07-2021 at 4.30 AM

Pessed away 011 27-07-2021 at 4:30 AM.

<u>Deeply grieved by</u>
her devoted and ever-caring husband,
loving children (Sandhya, Vidhya, Priya,
Sridhar and Jai Kumar), doting
grand children, loving sisters/brothers,
friends and relatives.

tage of teachers, old-age pension is not being distributed for some strange reason, we are facing a breakdown situation in the public transport system," Mr. Bidhuri said.

"All these issues are very important and need urgent attention and we requested the Speaker to allow discussions on such issues. We feel that all this cannot be taken up and discussed in a twoday session and therefore requested the Speaker to at least have five sittings during the Monsoon session," he also said.

The other BJP MLAs and members of the legislative party present included Vijender Gupta, Mohan Singh

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

10th ANNIVERSARY

NAVALPAKKAM

RAJAGOPALAN

(Retd. Sirsilk Ltd.)

D.O.B - 10.11.1916 D.O.D - 28.07.2011

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Radha & Selvakumar

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APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

25.07.2021 abandoned in front of Shiv Dharm Kaanta.

Ghazipur Dairy Farm, Delhi-96. In this regard a GD

No.47A, dated 25.07.2021 has been lodged at P.S.

If any one having any clue about deceased male may

kindly inform the undersigned and contact on following

General Public is hereby informed

that an unidentified dead body of a

male Namely Unknown S/o

Unknown, R/o Unknown Age: 35

(approx.) years, Height: 5'7",

Complexion: Wheatish, Face:

Long, Built: Thin, Wearing: Military

Coloured shirt and Blue coloured

lower, was found dead on

laaghavan & Sudha

Bisht, Om Prakash Sharma, Jitender Mahajan, Anil Bajpai, Ajay Mahavar and Abhay Verma. Mr. Bidhuri said they raised the issue of BJP MLAs not being given permission or their notices not being accepted for discussion on important issues.

"It is strange that on whatever issue the BJP wants to take up discussions in the House, those notices get rejected. This Vidhan Sabha is a forum used by the ruling AAP to either condemn the Centre or the three civic bodies just to promote its selfish interests. I have also written a letter to the Speaker on these important matters," he said.

IN BRIEF

Minister tells officials to resolve pending projects

Social Welfare Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam on Tuesday directed officials to resolve all pending projects in their respective districts in a time-bound manner, failing which may invite legal action. "I conducted surprise inspections across various district offices and found massive pendency in pension cases dated since 2017. This is unacceptable," he said.

Timings DELHI

WEDNESDAY, JUL. 28 RISE 05:41 SET 19:15 RISE 22:22 SET 09:41 THURSDAY, JUL. 29

RISE 05:42 SET 19:15

RISE 22:53 SET 10:36 FRIDAY, JUL. 30 RISE 05:42 SET 19:14

RISE 23:22 SET 11:31

Delhi Weather max min 25 Delhi City 29 Safdarjang 29 25 30 Palam

Delhi Palam Today 30°C Few spells rain and thundershower with isolated

moderate likely at some places with cloudy sky and gentle **Delhi Palam Tomorrow** 32°C Warm and humid

thunderstorm may occur with

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weather likely. Light rain and

THEMAHINDU

verify and make appropriate enquines to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher &

Ghazipur, Delhi.

DP/616/ED/2021

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER,

P.S. Ghazipur, Delhi

Ph.: 011-22610068

Mob.: 8750870685

SHO

Government of Odisha, "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE

LOWER SUKTEL IRRIGATION PROJECT, BALANGIR, AT-LALTIKRA,

DIST :- BALANGIR, PIN-767002. email-Id- ccelsp@gmail.com

	Bid Identification No	o. 01/2021-22 of CCE, LSP, Balangir
i	Name of Work	Construction of Cement Concrete Main road in Larkipali & Sadeipali R.R.Colony of LSIP, Balangir.
ii	Estimated Cost	Rs.3,65,31,807.25
ii	Period of Completion	6 (Six) Calendar Months
iv	Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal	29.07.2021 at 10 AM
٧	Last date/time for receipt of bid in the portal	17.08.2021 up to 5.30 PM
vi	Name & Address of the Officer Inviting Bid	Chief Construction Engineer, Lower Suktel Irrigation Project, Balangir, At-Laltikra, P.O. Rajendra College, Dist.: Balangir, PIN - 767002

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal http://tendersodisha.gov.in." Any corrigendum / addendum / cancellation will be displayed in the Govt. Website only. Chief Construction Engineer, Lower Suktel Project, Balangir.

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गुमला। rdsdgumla123@gmail.com

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना ई- निविदा सूचना संख्या - RDD/SD/GUMLA/05/2021-22

1.कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणीः

ग्रुप० सं०	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रू० में)	अग्रधन की राशि(रू० में)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रू० में)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	अनुसूचित जनजाति आवासीय बालिका उच्च विद्यालय चापाटोली, बिशुनपुर, गुमला का जीर्णोद्धार / मरम्मति	2,80,11,00 0.00	5,60,500.00	10,000.00	12 माह

वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि — 16.08.2021

ई—निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय — 24.08.2021 अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक I

ग्रामीण विकास विशेश प्रमंडल, गुमला / मुख्य अभियता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विषेश प्रक्षेत्र, एफ० एफ० पी० भवन धुर्वा, राँची में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रधन की राशि, Bank Credit Certificate एवं Affidavit जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय 25.08.2021 अपराहन 05:00 बजे तक |

निविदा खोलने का स्थान – मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रक्षेत्र, एफ0 एफ0 पी0 भवन, धुर्वा, राँची । निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय — 26.08.2021 अपराहृन 2:00 बजे ।

निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता :— कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गुमला। ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ट का दरभाष सं० - 9430154806 (संबंधित कार्यपालक अभियंता का दूरभाष नम्बर)

निविदा शुल्क राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक द्वारा निर्गत ड्राफ्ट या बैंकर्स चेक जो कार्यपालक अभियता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल गुमला के पदनाम से देय हो देना होगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाईट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in एवं कार्यालय की सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गुमला। PR 250226 Rural Development(21-22)D

Published by N. Ravi at Kasturi Buildings, 859 & 860, Anna Salai, Chennai-600002 and Printed by S. Ramanujam at HT Media Ltd. Plot No. 8, Udyog Vihar, Greater Noida Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. 201306, on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Group Editorial Officer: Krishna Prasad. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).



Oscar Fernandes undergoes surgery

MANGALURU Doctors in Mangaluru successfully conducted a surgery to remove a clot in the brain of the former Union Minister and Rajya Sabha member Oscar Fernandes on Tuesday. The Congress leader was admitted to Yenepoya Hospital here on July 19.

Mobile phone, laptop sent to Gujarat: Aisha

Filmmaker Aisha Sultana, against whom a sedition case has been registered, has said her mobile phone and her brother's laptop were seized by the Kavaratti police a month ago but not produced in the court. They were sent to a forensic lab in Gujarat via a special messenger "to do something against" her.

A man who treads middle path

Newly elected CM Bommai was troubleshooter for BJP during House stalemate

KARNATAKA BUREAU BENGALURU/HUBBALLI

Sixty-one-year-old Basavaraj Bommai, chosen by the BJP as the next Chief Minister of Karnataka, is known as a man who treads the middle path in a right-wing political

Known as a man who is not easily ruffled and has good parliamentary skills, he is known to be a troubleshooter for the BJP during the legislature stalemates as he also has cordial relationship across political affiliations. Even during the turbulent times in the faction-ridden BJP, Mr. Bommai did not have many political detractors.

Politics and administration are not new to him, as he is the son of Janata Parivar stalwart the late S.R Bommai, who had served as Chief Minister of the State and also Union Minister.



Change of guard: Karnataka in-charge Arun Singh felicitating CM-elect Basavaraj S. Bommai in Bengaluru on Tuesday. • ANI

In fact, Mr. Basavaraj Bommai's migration from a socialist party such as the Janata Dal (United) to the BJP in 2008 had raised many eyebrows, particularly in the wake of his father being a follower of Marxist M.N. Roy. But the junior Bommai managed to assimilate into the BIP and also became its soft

and progressive face.

He earned the goodwill of the BJP high command for staying with it when his mentor and BJP veteran B.S. Yediyurappa left the party in 2012. But that did not spoil his relationship with Mr. Yediyurappa as he remained his trusted lieutenant when the veteran leader returned to the BJP fold and also went on to become its Chief

Hailing from Hubballi in north Karnataka, Mr. Basavaraj Bommai is one of the few prominent leaders from the region who have made it big in the State's political landscape.

Mr. Basavaraj Bommai served as political secretary to the then Chief Minister J.H. Patel in 1996-97.

In 1997, he was elected to the Legislative Council for the first time from the Local Bodies Constituency (Dharwad, Haveri, and Gadag area) and then went on to retain it in 2003.

He was elected Deputy Opposition Leader of the Upper House from 2000 to 2004. He is representing Shiggaon constituency in Haveri district in the Assembly for the third time in a row after joining the BIP.

Hurt over suicide, says Yediyurappa

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Acting Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa expressed hurt and disapover the pointment reported suicide by one of his admirers in Gundlupet on July 27 following his resignation. The deceased, Ravi, was a resident of Bommalapura village in Gundlupet taluk, Chamarajanagar district.

The BJP leader took to Twitter to share his grief over Ravi's passing away with his family members, and appealed to his followers to keep their admiration within acceptable limits. Pointing out that "ups and downs" are natural in politics, he said ending one's life for such things is unacceptable.

(People in distress can seek help at suicide prevention helpline 104).

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Gilgit-Baltistan, Muzaffarabad, Punjab, Nagaland, Bihar, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, central Maharashtra and Konkan & Goa. Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning likely at isolated places over Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal

rtala	34.128.1	Kozhikode	0.8	30.8	24.
nedabad	1.830.525.6	Kurnool		34.5	25.
wl	– – –	Lucknow	4	33.6	27.
habad	34.627.4	Madurai		39.5	25.
galuru	27.720.1	Mangaluru	23.4	29.0	23.
pal	. 19.524.923.2	Mumbai	4	31.3	26.
baneswar	0.529.426.3	Mysuru		27.5	20.
ndigarh	3.432.427.8	New Delhi	100	29.4	25.
nnai	1436.025.6	Patna	0.4	30.4	27.
nbatore	31.222.6	Port Blair	20	31.1	23.
radun	1330.524.1	Puducherry		36.7	24.
gtok	3321.218.3	Pune	7	28.4	21.
- 	831.225.3	Raipur	25.4	27.6	24.
vahati	1434.326.6	Ranchi	10	28.0	23.
balli	27.021.0	Shillong	4	26.5	18.
erabad	231.923.0	Shimla	11	24.0	20.
hal	1126.722.2	Srinagar		34.6	24.
ur	2229.225.6	Thiruvananthapuram		31.0	24.
hi	5 28.8 23.6	Tiruchi		37.9	27.
ima	833.618.0	Vijayawada		35.0	27.
кata	6831.725.6	Visakhapatnam			
		•			

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

SO₂ **NO**₂ **CO PM2.5 PM10 CODE** ...8 ...— 27 ...106 .109 69 .10 .-63 .103 13 .21 4933 ...82 Visakhapatnam 14 .41 4042 ...98

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 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 lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks. heart attacks and prematur

TDB to seek consensus on priests issue

HC moved against inviting applications only from Malayala Brahmins

K.S. SUDHI

The Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) plans to hold consultations with stakeholders to evolve a consensus on the contentious issue of reservation of the Sabarimala temple priesthood for Malayala Brahmins.

While a section of the non-Brahmin priests have moved the Kerala High Court seeking to quash the notification inviting applications only from Malayala Brahmin priests, a few others have approached the board seeking to continue the practice.

"As demands for continuing the practice and modifying it have come up, the board will discuss the issue.

Changes in temple practices can be introduced only after holding discussions with all the stakeholders concerned. The board is yet to decide who are to be invited for discussions and when to hold it," N. Vasu, president of the TDB, said on Tuesday.

Court case

On the ongoing litigation before the High Court, Mr. Vasu said the board would seek to maintain the status quo regarding priesthood. However, the board was bound to implement the court decisions, he said.

The court is likely to con-Wednesday.

Meanwhile, the board re-

jected the applications of six non-Brahmin priests who had applied for the posts of Melsanthi in Sabarimala and Malikappuram as they failed to meet the caste criterion.

"My application was rejected as I did not belong to the Malayala Brahmin caste. My application was rejected on the same ground earlier as well, though I am amply qualified to be appointed as the Melsanthi," said C.V. Vishnunarayanan, one of the priests who moved the High Court.

The Akhila Kerala Thantri Mandalam, a collective of Brahmin chief priests, suggested continuing the tempractice regarding

Priests from other Hindu castes have been serving in Bhadrakali temples at Vellayini, Mulankadakam and Kodungalloor.

It is also the case with the Padmanabhaswamy temple.

Thiruvananthapuram. Centuries-old practices cannot be changed in one stroke, said Mandalam general secretary S. Radhakrishnan Potti.

Any change in temple practices shall be introduced only after consultations with stakeholders, including the representatives of priests, vedic experts, judges, Devaswom boards, and the Hindu community organisations,

Statue row: A.P. BJP chief, workers held

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Andhra Pradesh BJP president Somu Veerraiu and several workers of the party were arrested by the Kadapa district police in Proddatur town on Tuesday when they were staging a protest against the installation of a statue of Tipu Sultan.

The police put up barricades on the main roads on Monday night to prevent the entry of Mr. Veerraju into

On Tuesday, BJP activists led by Mr. Veerraju staged a demonstration protesting the move to install the statue. When the issue went out of control, police took the protesters into custody. Local legislator Racha-



mallu Sivaprasad Reddy laid the foundation stone for the statue recently, to which the BJP raised an objection, dubbing it an 'unconstitutional move'. The MLA laid the foundation stone allegedly without taking the necessary approval from the District Statues Committee headed by the Collector.

They are losing sleep, says Mayawati

OMAR RASHID

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati on Tuesday accused her opponents of using various tactics to impede her party's outreach among the Brahmin community in Uttar Pradesh.

On July 23, under the leadership of BSP Rajya Sabha member Satish Chandra Mishra, the party kicked off a fresh outreach programme among the Brahmins.

The BSP's campaign started from Ayodhya with Mishra offering prayers at the makeshift

Ram Janmabhoomi Mandir and Hanumangarhi temple.

'Faith in BSP'

Ms. Mayawati said the "enthusiastic participation" in the Brahmin Sammelan was proof that the community had faith in the

Her opponents had "lost sleep" due to the success of the programmes and were using various tactics to "stop" them, she added. She, however, did not name which party and nor did she specify how they were trying to impede her campaign.

'Opponents trying to stop our Brahmin outreach' Will forge third front at national level: Chautala

Centre is anti-farmer and anti-people, says INLD chief

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHANDIGARH

Terming the BJP-led government at the Centre as "antifarmer and anti-people", former Chief Minister and Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) chief Om Prakash Chautala on Tuesday said he would soon start meeting political leaders towards forging a

'third front'. "People are upset due to anti-people policies of the BJP government and want a change. For this, I'll make efforts to make a strong third front. I'll establish contact



O.P. Chautala •

with the leaders of all the Opposition parties at the national level and form a strong third front," he said.

Mr. Chautala said he will try to meet the people of all Opposition parties before September 25, the birth anniversary of former Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal.

"I have plans to meet Bihar CM Nitish Kumar. When two political people sit together, there will be a political discussion," he said. Mr. Chautala said the Centre's farm laws are against the farming community and would only benefit the corporate. "Seeds are not available to the farmer, prices of fertilizers, medicines and diesel are rising sharply... every section of society is suf-

fering."

Over 60 tourists stranded in Kinnaur after landslips block roads

SHIMLA
About 60 to 80 tourists are stranded in two villages —Chhitkul and Rakshak — of Himachal Pradesh's Kinnaur district after multiple landslips on July 25 blocked roads, Kinnaur Deputy Commissioner Abid Hussain Sidig said. The district administration is facing difficulty in clearing the heavy boulders from the road. The owners of apple orchards are objecting to the boulders being dumped near their orchards located down the road, he said. Mr. Sidiq said he hoped the road would be opened for traffic by Tuesday evening. Nine tourists were killed on Sunday. PTI

झारखण्ड सरकार ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी रोड, राँची

ई-निविदा आमत्रण सूचना ई-निविदा संख्या:- 26/2021-22/RWD/BOKARO दिनाक: - 27.07.2021

्रे मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement द्वति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र0	आईडेन्टी फिकेशन	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित	राशि (रूपये में)	कार्य समाप्ति				
सं0	संख्या / पैकेज संख्या	काय का नान	अंक में	अक्षर में	की तिथि				
1.	RWD/ BOKARO/02/ 2021-22	साड़म बुटवरिया टोला के समशेर सिंह के घर से स्वांग गेस्ट हाउस तक पथ का सुदृढ़ीकरण कार्य (लं– 5.515 कि0मी0)	1,93,97,200.00	एक करोड़ तिरानवे लाख संतावने हजार दो सौ रू0 मात्र	12 माह				
2	2. वेबसाईट में निविदा एकाशन की विधि :— 04.08.2021								

3. ई—निविदा प्राप्ति की अतिम तिथि एवं समय :– 16.08.2021 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे।

4. जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, रांची में निविदा शूल्क, अग्रधन की राशि, शपथ पत्र के मूल प्रति एवं अपलोड किये गये

तकनीकी योग्यता दस्तावेज की एक प्रति जमा करने की तिथि:- 17.08.2021 पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से अपराह्न 3.30 बजे तक । :- 18.08.2021 पूर्वाहन 11.30 बजे I निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय

6. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता :— मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी चौक, राँची, झारखण्ड, पिन— 834001

ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं0- 0651-2207818

8. निविदा शुल्क झारखण्ड राज्य में अवस्थित भारतीय स्टेट बैंक / अन्य राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक द्वारा निविदाकार के नाम / अकाउंट से ही निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में कार्यपालक अभियता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमंडल, बोकारों के पक्ष में एवं बोकारों में भुगतेय होगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है। नोडल पदाधिकारी, ई-प्रोक्युर्मन्ट सेल PR.NO.250324 Rural Work Department(21-22):D

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल,देवघर अति अल्पकालीन ई- निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या - RDD/SD/DEOGHAR/31/2021-22

1.कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणीः परिमाण अग्रधन की करने की प्राक्कलित राषि कार्य का नाम विपत्र का अवधि मुल्य देवघर जिला के पालोजोरी प्रखंड अन्तर्गत प्रखंड विकास पदाधिकारी –सह– अंचलाधिकारी / पर्यवेक्षीय 4,64,68,500.00 10,000.00 12 माह 9,29,400.00 /तृतीय/चतुर्थ वर्ग कर्मचारी आवास निर्माण तथा प्रखंड परिसर

का विकास एवं विविध कार्य। 2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि — 05.08.2021

ई—निवेदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय — 12.08.2021 अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक

कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, देवघर/मुख्य अभियंता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रक्षेत्र, एफ0 एफ0 पी0 भवन, धुर्वा, राँची में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रधन की राशि, Bank Credit Certificate एवं Affidavit जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय 18.08.2021 अपराहन 04:00 बजे तक निविदा खोलने का स्थान – मुख्य अभियंता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रक्षेत्र, एफ० एफ० पी० भवन, धुर्वा, राँची

निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय — 23.08.2021 अपराहृन 2:00 बजे निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता :-- कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, देवघर ।

9. निविदा शुल्क राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक द्वारा निर्गत ड्राफ्ट या बैकर्स चेक जो कार्यपालक अभियता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल देवघर के पदनाम से देय हो देना होगा।

ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ट का दूरभाष सं०- 8709623131 (संबंधित कार्यपालक अभियंता का दूरभाष नम्बर)

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाईट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in एवं कार्यालय की सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है। कार्यपालक अभियंता ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, देवघर। PR 250323 Rural Development(21-22)D

Man ends life after brawl at vaccination centre

Eleven policemen sent to police lines SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The son of a local RSS functionary in Baghpat district of western Uttar Pradesh allegedly ended his life on Monday night after a brawl with policemen at a vaccination

Eleven policemen, including one SHO, have been sent to police lines. Five of them have been booked for abetment to suicide and other sections of the IPC.

The Trinamool Congress is

planning to send a party de-

legation to Tripura after al-

leged confinement of its sur-

vey team at a hotel here.

Senior Cabinet Ministers of

West Bengal Moloy Ghatak

and Bratya Basu, and party's

labour organisation leader

SYED SAJJAD ALI

AGARTALA

Sources said Akshay, 22, and his mother had gone to a vaccination centre in Ranchad village of Binauli police station in Baghpat on Monday morning. There, he allegedly got involved in an argument with two policemen who were stationed to manage the crowd. Police sources said Aksh-

ay wanted his mother to

jump the queue and when

the policemen stopped him,

he slapped one of the consta-

bles, leading to a brawl.

Akshay's family member-

sclaim that he pointed out

TMC team for Tripura to 'rescue' I-PAC employees

Ritabrata Banerjee will be

The police are allegedly

not allowing 23 employees

of I-PAC of election strategist

Prashant Kishore from going

out of their hotel citing CO-

VID-19 restrictions. West

Tripura Superintendent of

Police Manik Das claimed

that the police found a large

part of the team.

booth and it led to the fracas. Case registered

After the incident, the police registered a case against Akshay for preventing an official from doing his duty and raided his residence and ransacked the premises. In the night, Akshay's body was found hanging from a tree. The deceased's father Srinivas, a block sanghchalak, lodged a complaint wherein he said police harassment and excess forced his son to

take the extreme step.

number of people at a city

hotel and advised them not

to move out till their RT-PCR

test reports were made avail-

able. Mr. Das refuted that the

I-PAC team was confined

and prevented from travell-

ing. I-PAC employees had ar-

rived here for a survey to ex-

plore TMC's prospects in

mismanagement at the Demanding action against the policemen, the villagers protested and refused to give the body for post-mortem.

Abhishek Singh, Superintendent of Police, Baghpat said, "On the basis of the family's complaint about police excess during the raid, 11 policemen have been sent to

> Investigation is on." Suicide prevention helpline: Sanjivini Society for Mental Health, Telephone: 011-40769002, Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-7.30 p.m.

police lines. The body has

been sent for post-mortem.

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3rd Corrigendum

Tender Notice No. RDSO/TMM/GPR/2021/01 dated 05-05-2021 Name of Work: Monitoring health of ballast bed with the help of ground

penetration radar technology for through ballast renewal (TBR) and rehabilitation on Indian Railways

The date of opening of tender is changed to 17-08-2021 instead of 28-07-2021 (Rahul Singh) File No. : TM/IM/87(GPR Tender) Director/TM-2

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Assembly polls. Date: 27.07.2021



Dangerous conflagration

The clash between Assam and Mizoram's

police forces was clearly avoidable ollowing a dangerous and avoidable escalation of → an otherwise dormant border dispute, five policemen and a civilian from Assam were killed in the Mizo border town of Vairengte in clashes between police from the State and their counterparts in Mizoram, on Monday. The sequence of events, beginning October 2020, suggests that what began as skirmishes between residents close to the disputed border between Assam's Cachar and Mizoram's Kolasib districts has snowballed into a violent confrontation between police and residents. The events point to a failure of the constitutional machinery, empowered to de-escalate tensions at the border. The presence of central paramilitary forces should have helped maintain the peace, but it is curiously not the case. Besides, Assam and Mizoram are governed by the BJP and its ally, the Mizo National Front, respectively, and are part of North-East Democratic Alliance, of which the Assam Chief Minister, Himanta Biswa Sarma, is a founder-convenor. The political bonhomie should have allowed the respective Chief Ministers to tamp down border tensions and to return to the status quo through joint fact-finding teams, involving the administrative officials in maintaining the peace over the border issue. Instead, both Chief Ministers have been exchanging allegations on Twitter, seeking the intervention of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and using videos to tell a story that suited their version of the events – a farcical means of communication. This also occurred just days after both Chief Ministers (along with others) met with Mr. Shah to discuss the resolution of inter-State border disputes. The unfortunate loss of lives has led to hardened stances, with Mr. Sarma announcing that Assam would deploy "4,000 commandos to guard its border", even as Mizoram's Chief Minister Zoramthanga has maintained that the casualties followed from the Assam police's actions.

Sectarian tribalism has been the bane of the Northeastern States, with underdevelopment acting as a catalyst in complicating knotty issues over land and other issues in the region. There is no sure-shot and quick solution possible to the border disputes between various States without a spirit of give and take and a civic engagement brokered by the Union government. But for that to happen, governments should, first, not condone violence of any kind and restrain partisans engaging in such activity in their respective States. A resort to oneupmanship will only prolong the disputes and harden stances. The Home Ministry must ensure that the Assam-Mizoram border situation is first subject to de-escalation and steps taken to return to the status quo that prevailed before the skirmishes began in October 2020 with the cooperation of the respective States.

Crisis in Tunis

Parliament's suspension seems a power grab by President, not a response to public anger

unisian President Kais Saied's decision to sack the Prime Minister and suspend Parliament, amid wi-■ despread anti-government protests, has triggered the worst political crisis in the country since the Arab Spring protests. Among the countries affected by the Arab street protests, Tunisia was the only one that managed to successfully transition from dictatorship to parliamentary democracy. But the North African country's elected rulers never managed to ease its economic woes, or offer stable governance. Tunisia has had nine governments since 2011, with its crisis-hit economy being battered further by the COVID-19 outbreak - last year, its GDP contracted by 8.8% in real terms. The trigger now is the government's poor handling of the pandemic. The country of 11.8 million has recorded nearly 18,000 COVID-related deaths so far – one of the highest per capita death rates in the world. Only 7% of the population are fully vaccinated. Last week, the government's move to speed up vaccination by opening it for all above 18 years ended in stampedes and violent incidents. Prime Minister Hichem Mechichi sacked the Health Minister, but public anger refused to subside. On July 25, Tunisia's Republic Day, protests broke out and the offices of the ruling party, Ennahda, stormed. This allowed the President to sack the government.

President Saied says he stepped in to "save the state". But in a country where the wounds of decades-long dictatorship are yet to heal, his move to dissolve an elected government would raise concerns rather than comfort. Both the President and Parliament are popularly elected. Mr. Mechichi had the backing of Ennahda, the largest party in the suspended Parliament. President Saied, who is an independent, has had a testy relationship with Ennahda and the Prime Minister. While the Mechichi government has clearly failed in tackling the COVID-19 pandemic, the President's move to dissolve Parliament appears more a power grab than a genuine attempt to address the country's problems. Ennahda and at least two other parties have accused Mr. Saied of orchestrating a coup. If they resort to protests, it would pitch the parties that control Parliament against the President, deepening political instability. The 2014 Constitution has called for a constitutional court to settle crises like these, but the court has not been formed yet. Under the Constitution, the President oversees only the military and foreign affairs, while the Prime Minister is in charge of the day-to-day affairs of governance. So to avoid a constitutional crisis, the President will have to appoint a Prime Minister, who should win the confidence of the Assembly of the People's Representatives. Mr. Saied should act within his constitutional limits, recall Parliament and allow the formation of a legitimate government, which could take steps to address Tunisia's economic and health-care woes.

Needed, a more unified Asian voice for Afghanistan

Afghanistan's future will impact Central Asia and South Asia more than the distant global powers involved with it now



SUHASINI HAIDAR

s the United States and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) end their presence in Afghanistan and set off a churn in the neighbourhood, Central Asia is emerging as a key player that the global Troika of the United States, Russia and China are turning to. Three meetings this month, of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) contact group on Afghanistan and SCO Defence Ministers in Tajikistan, and the Central and South Asia conference on regional connectivity in Uzbekistan, are turning the spotlight on the region's role in dealing with the situation in Afghanistan, and how India could build on that.

Factoring in the Taliban Put plainly, events of the past few years, and the decisions of the Troika have kept India out of a leading role in Afghanistan. Since 2019, the Troika has met with Pakistan (Troika plus) in order to discuss Afghanistan's future, one in which the Taliban – with which New Delhi has had no ties – gains an important if not controlling role in Kabul. The same powers that invaded Afghanistan post 9/11, and declared the Taliban leadership as United Nations Security Council-designated terrorists, are now not only advocating talks with the Taliban, entreating their Pakistani hosts of the past two decades to help, but actively paving the way for the Taliban's return to

India's efforts to build on trade with Afghanistan, shore up development projects and increase educational and training opportunities for Afghan youth have been appreciated, but these can-

not grow bigger due to a number of factors. New Delhi's original hesitation in opening talks with the Taliban, which even Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani had suggested, has cut India out of the current reconciliation process. The end of any formal dialogue between India and Pakistan since 2016 and trade since 2019, have resulted in Pakistan blocking India's over-land access to Afghanistan. India's alternative route through Chabahar, though operational, cannot be viable or cost-effective also long as U.S. sanctions on Iran are in place. India's boycott of the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in 2017, and now tensions at the Line of Actual Control after the Chinese aggression in 2020, make another route to Afghanistan off-li-

Meanwhile, the U.S. has announced a new, surprise formation of a "Quad" on regional connectivity

U.S.-Uzbekistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan that does not include India, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is conducting trial runs of truck convoys from Tashkent to Karachi and back. With so many doors slamming shut, the hope is that the Central Asian window, with the "Stans" (as the five Central Asian republics of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan are sometimes referred to) will open new possibilities, but here too, there are some caveats.

Uzbekistan's view

To begin with, it is clear that Tashkent (Uzbekistan) sees the rise of the Taliban in a different light from New Delhi. After a whirlwind round of negotiations in his own region since coming to power in 2016, where he mended relations and ended border disputes with each of the other Central Asian States, and outreaches to the U.S. and China to shift the traditional

President Shavkat Mirzivovev has made purposeful moves on Afghanistan. In 2018, his government became one of the first countries to publicly invite a Taliban delegation from Doha, Qatar to visit, while at the same time he has promoted a number of ambitious trade and connectivity initiatives the Ashraf Ghani government.

A push for connectivity

Speaking at the Central and South Asia conference in July, Mr. Mirziyoyev spelt out his plans for a modern version of the "the ancient northern trade route known as the Uttara Patha, connecting the Indo-Ganges Plain with the southern territories of the Eurasian continent through the historical cities of Takshila, Gandhara and Termez." He spoke of the old Silk Routes that once bound Central and South Asia together, and called Afghanistan the key link in "practical connectivity" for them. Significantly, while he mentioned the salience of the Termez-Mazari-Sharif-Kabul-Peshawar railroad, the Trans-Afghan railroad to connect to China's BRI, and the International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC) via the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas as key elements of the "architecture of connectivity", he did not mention the Chabahar route that India has espoused. The Uzbekistan-Pakistan memorandum of understanding on Transit Trade – or the Agreement between Uzbekistan and Pawas also signed the same day, which would give Uzbekistan access to the Pakistani seaports of Gwadar and Karachi, rather than Iranian ports.

Uzbekistan's calculations, and by extension, those of its other Central Asian neighbours, are three-fold: the first is that prosperity for these land-locked countries can only flow from access through Afghanistan to the closest ocean, i.e. the Indian Ocean. Second, that all transit through Afghanistan depends on guarantees of safe passage from the Taliban, backed by the group's mentors in Pakistan. Third, each of the "Stans" are now a part of China's BRI, and tying their connectivity initiatives with Beijing's will bring the double promise of investment and some modicum of control over Pakistan.

Shared concerns

Given the odds, New Delhi's room for manoeuvre with these five countries on Afghanistan appears limited but not without hope. To begin with, India and the Central Asian States share common concerns about an Afghanistan overrun by the Taliban and under Pakistan's thumb: the worries of battles at their borders, safe havens for jihadist terror groups inside Afghanistan and the spill-over of radicalism into their own coun-

It is necessary for India to work with them, and other neighbours to shore up finances for the government in Kabul, particularly to ensure that the government structure does not collapse. It is only a matter of time before the CO-VID-19-weary international economies tire of funding Afghanistan, as the last donors conference in Geneva (November 2020) showed.

As part of the SCO's Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS), India must also step up its engagement with the Central Asian countries on fighting terror. While the Narendra Modi government has made it clear it will not send In-

dian boots to the ground in Afghanistan, it can support the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) where it needs it most: in terms of air power. India's previous gift of a few helicopters is far from adequate, given commitments made as Afghanistan's first Strategic Partner 10 years ago, and there must be more that New Delhi can support, especially in conjunction with other countries that depend on Soviet-made arms, including helicopters and planes, weaponry, ammunition and spare parts.

Dealing with Pakistan

Finally, South Asia must learn from Central Asia's recent example in knitting together this region more tightly, a task that can only be completed with better ties between India and Pakistan. New Delhi's furtive discussions with the Taliban leadership in Doha make little sense unless a less tactical and more strategic engagement with Pakistan is also envisaged.

Most importantly, countries of Central Asia and South Asia need to find a more unified voice, as they have in recent weeks. Afghanistan's future will affect both regions much more than it will the distant global powers that currently dominate the debate.

Travelling to Kazakhstan in 2015, Prime Minister Modi spoke of why the Silk Road that connected the two regions faded away. The end of the Silk Road did not just come about from the rise of sea-based trade of the new European powers," he said, "It also happened because Central Asia was no longer a bridge between regions, but the new fault line between great empires to the east, west and south." Ensuring a similar rupture is not wrought in Afghanistan is essential, which today has the potential to become that bridge or the biggest boulder between Central and South Asia.

Weighing down the private unaided college teacher

As a survey in Tamil Nadu shows, the working conditions, welfare of teachers may have only worsened in the pandemic



KISHOREKUMAR SURYAPRAKASH

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected every sector in the economy in India and across the globe as well. Relatively, the education sector has managed to maintain its revenue. Both schools and colleges have transitioned to the online education mode to serve their students. Under the pretext of providing online education, most private institutions have managed to collect fees in full.

Survey and findings

Though the revenue of private educational institutions has not taken a huge hit, the same cannot be said about the livelihoods of teachers in private unaided colleges. During the novel coronavirus pandemic, layoffs and pay cuts have forced several private-unaided college teachers to take up odd jobs to provide for their families. The example of an assistant professor in Tamil Nadu who suffered a pay cut in a private-unaided college following the pandemic and who died while climbing a palm tree he had taken to cutting the leaves of palm trees to make a living pushed us to survey private-unaided college teachers and to understand the impact of the pandemic on their working and living conditions. We surveyed 194 teachers

working in private-unaided colleges that are affiliated with the University of Madras, Chennai. The survey was conducted between June 13 and June 26, 2021.

The findings show that even before the pandemic, private-unaided college teachers received below-par salaries and many did not enjoy any social security benefits. Among 194 respondents, 137 fulfilled the University Grants Commission (UGC) qualifying criteria (has PhD or National Eligibility Test or State Eligibility Test) to be an assistant professor; 72% of these qualified teachers received less than ₹25,000 per month and 5.1% received less than ₹10,000 per month, while according to the Seventh Pay Commission entry-level consolidated monthly salary for an assistant professor is

In our survey, we found that only 38% and 42% had Employee State Insurance and paid leave, respectively. This deplorable condition of private-unaided college teachers can be attributed to the absence of any State regulation of private higher educational institutions, including on matters relating to the working conditions of teachers and other employees.

Following neoliberal policies, the Indian state has withdrawn from providing higher education. This has resulted in the enormous growth of private higher educational institutions. According to the All-India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE), 2020 report, at all India level, 65% of the total colleges are private unaided colleges. Tamil Nadu, which is one of



the few States that privatised higher education in the early 1980s, has 77% private unaided colleges. This shows the dominance of profit-maximising private-unaided colleges in higher education.

Online education as burden

It is against this background that we must understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the livelihood of private-unaided college teachers. Private-unaided college teachers have made every effort to provide service to students in the online mode. In our survey, 88% of the respondents noted one or more of the following as the reason(s) for the difficulty they faced in online teaching lack of Internet, lack of room/ space, and lack of quality equipment. Further, every respondent had to incur an expenditure to purchase Internet service. Of the 194 teachers surveyed, 132 had to incur an expenditure to purchase one or more of the following items: a phone, computer, headphones. And, 107 respondents reported experiencing high emotional distress during this period linked to online teaching work. All

these show that these teachers had to physically, emotionally, and monetarily exert themselves to provide online education during this pandemic. Despite this valorising effort by private-unaided college teachers, they have not been rewarded by their management. Instead, they have been punished with severe pay cuts during the pandemic.

The survey data revealed that through the first half of 2020-21, less than a third of teachers received the full salary they were entitled to. Sadly, 10% of our respondents did not receive any salary during April to June 2020. As colleges have transitioned to online mode, one can argue that the operational costs of these colleges must have declined drastically. Further, it is a well-known fact that private colleges have collected fees from students. Therefore, there is no justification for reducing the salary of teachers during this pandemic. Private-unaided colleges have used the pandemic as an excuse to rob teachers who have worked hard to teach under very difficult conditions, incurring considerable monetary expenses and experiencing much stress during this period.

Making ends meet

The arbitrary pay cuts have forced several of our respondents to work in additional jobs and/or borrow money from informal sources to survive. These jobs were mostly manual informal jobs such as construction work, farm labour, mechanic work, food delivery, etc. While the pandemic may have worsened the livelihood conditions of private-unaided college teachers, their working conditions were deplorable even in 'normal' times because of the complete absence of regulations by the State in this regard. The Government of Tamil Nadu should consider taking some immediate measures in this regard. Some of these are: pay complete arrears salary to private unaided college teachers that have been siphoned off by the management: reinstate teachers laid off without any cause; reimburse the expenditure incurred by teachers for online teaching during the pandemic.

In 2018, Kerala fixed ₹1,750 per day and ₹43,750 per month as a standard salary for guest lecturers with UGC qualification and ₹1,600 per day and ₹40,000 per month for those without UGC qualification in aided private colleges. The Tamil Nadu government may consider implementing something along these lines. Further, the Tamil Nadu Private Colleges (Regulation) Act 1976 needs to be reviewed and amended to equip monitoring agencies such as the Directorate of Collegiate Education and the Regional Joint Directorate of Collegiate Education to safeguard the welfare of teachers and non-teaching staff in unaided private colleges.

A.P. Arun Kannan is Director at the Loyola Institute of Vocational Education (LIVE), Lovola College, Chennai Kishorekumar Suryaprakash is a PhD Scholar at the Department of Economics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, U.S. The views expressed are personal

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

Politics in India, by and

Change in Karnataka large, is either caste-centric, cinema world-driven or family-oriented. None can dispute that the Bharatiya Janata Party blossomed in Karnataka under Mr. Yediyurappa's leadership. His community, the Lingayats, has a strong presence in Karnataka and this fact cannot be ignored. It is a bit surprising that in his farewell speech he mentioned that the Centre did not give him a free hand to effectively discharge his duties and did not allow

Tirupur, Tamil Nadu

decisions.

The RE I have had the privilege of being an invitee and active participant in a 'Readers' Meet' held in Hyderabad a few years ago. As the end of the term of Mr. A.S. Pannerselvan as the Readers' Editor, The Hindu, draws near, I cannot help but conclude that he has been quite successful in evolving his own approach to ensure that "The Hindu does not stray from its core principles and editorial values".

withstanding much interrogation by readers. SESHAGIRI ROW KARRY, Hyderabad

He stood his ground

■ The very thought that we will be missing his thought-provoking, proactive, pragmatic and incisive epistles on Monday, often highlighting the latest of what is happening in the world of journalism, is sad. A reason many of us turned the pages to read his column is the excellent command he has over the language. I had the privilege of being invited by him to readers'

greatly enriched. THARCIUS S. FERNANDO,

■ As an ombudsman, Mr. Panneerselvan added a new layer of transparency and accountability to the editorial functioning of the daily. Despite the value they bring to news organisations, ombudsmen are still relatively rare in the Indian media. His column provided insights into journalism. R. SIVAKUMAR,

Jewel of the forest As a student of forestry in Dehradun and an avid

India a number of times. On one such visit, in Tamil Nadu, I happened to spot a rare species of snake, the Golden or Paradise Flying Snake. It was on the forest floor constricting a gecko, and I was lucky enough to document the entire process. It would be interesting to know whether there have been other sightings. RAHUL THARUN.

wildlife photographer too, I

visit the forests of Southern

Planned township

Dehradun, Uttarakhand

Coorg, as a region, is a part

blessed with a range of biodiversity. All this now stands threatened by a township project that is coming up in Hoskeri village of Arekaad panchayat. The proposed project is to come up under the cover of a 'world environmental school' by a Delhi-based firm. The proposed project started its paperwork in 2018, the year when Coorg experienced a catastrophic landslide. The destruction of the environment would be grave.

N.U. NACHAPPA CODAVA,

of the mountainous terrain of the Western Ghats and is

meets and have left them him to take independent pdf was originally uploaded to Brills Express Official (https://t.me/The_Hindu_Express) before anyone else. Don't forget to join backup channel @Thehind

Let's make room for the river

The floods in Europe are a wake-up call for us to adopt the Dutch mantra, 'live with water, build with nature'



VENU RAJAMONY

"There are no words in the German language for this devastation... it is a surreal, eerie situation," German Chancellor Angela Merkel said when she visited the regions in Germany hardest hit by the floods which occurred as a result of heavy rains between July 12 and 15.

No escape for any country

A month's rain poured in just 24 hours in the worst-affected areas of Germany and Belgium. This caused multiple rivers to burst their banks and flood parts of the two countries as well as the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Switzerland. It is believed that these areas of Europe have not witnessed such heavy rainfall for more than a century. The floods showed that climate change spares none. Even if a country has adequate resources and advanced infrastructure (physical as well as organisational), it can find no escape from extreme climatic events. Reports say the death toll in Germany and Belgium has crossed 214. Hundreds more are unaccounted for, and authorities are still struggling to restore normalcy. A shocked flood victim told a reporter that he thought such disasters happened only in Asia.

Heavy rainfall within a short period of time resulted in overflowing rivers, canals, and other water bodies flooding many towns and cities. The scenes of roads being washed away, houses getting inundated, and stranded people being evacuated by helicopters, earth movers and lifeboats were no different from what is normally witnessed in India during such disasters. It bore uncanny resemblance to what Kerala experienced in August 2018. Not surprisingly, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan reacted to the situation in Europe. He expressed condolences and asked the Indian community in Europe to stand in solidarity with the flood victims. He also recalled with gratitude the technical assistance extended by the Netherlands to the State following the 2018 floods and the visit of the Dutch King and Queen to Kerala in 2019 when they perso-



nally reviewed the joint efforts under way for long-term flood resilience.

Superior organisation, better preparedness and an advanced flood management system helped the Netherlands, with its centuries of experience in dealing with floods, to avoid casualties. But many towns were submerged. Thousands of people had to be evacuated. Floodwaters breached a dike and entered the town of Meerssen. The Dutch military, however, managed to close the breach using hundreds of sandbags.

Chancellor Merkel, Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte and other leaders were quick to attribute the cause of the floods to climate change and call for urgent action to arrest global warming. Experts say the more CO₂ the world emits into the atmosphere, the warmer will be the air temperature. Warmer air holds more moisture and results in excess rainfall, which leads to flooding. Additionally, increasing temperatures at the poles result in slower movement of storms in the mid-latitudes. As a result, storms linger longer at a specific place. The combination of a slowmoving storm and the presence of surplus moisture in the atmosphere results in intense rainfall in one location within a short period of time. In 2018, Kerala, for example, witnessed 414 mm of rain in just three days between August 15 and 17. Rainfall for the period of August 1 to 19, 2018, in Kerala was 164% more than normal.

Several have asked: what did the Netherlands do right in dealing with the floods and what did the others do wrong? The advanced flood warning system of Germany (which includes a network of sensors to measure river water levels in real time) did forecast heavy rains and the possibility of floods. But local authorities were unable to respond rapidly enough and

communicate the warnings to the wider population. The rain and floods happened so fast that there was no time to evacuate all residents to safety and fully deploy the formidable rescue and relief infrastructure that they possessed. There are already demands that such warnings must be communicated to the general public in simple language. Rather than forecast the millimetres of rain expected, conveying specific information regarding the extent of damage to property and life would likely encourage affected communities to re-

Lessons for India

main alert and respond quickly.

The floods in Europe call attention to the global need for countries to implement ecologically sensitive flood protection measures. The Dutch have gone beyond their conventional dependence on dikes, dams, walls and gates to protect themselves from floods. Their current disaster resilience mantra is to live with water, build with nature and make room for the river. They champion creating adequate space for rivers to overflow by protecting floodplains from human interference, deepening riverbeds and creating alternate channels for excess water. After two major floods in 1993 and 1995, the Dutch embarked on several projects to widen riverbanks and reshape the areas around rivers.

The floods in Europe serve as a wake-up call to us in India to adopt pragmatic policies and practices that are nature friendly. We must recognise that we will have to learn to live with water in the long term. Floodprone areas should be identified, and projects initiated on an urgent basis to create room for rivers. Low-risk areas such as playgrounds, maidans, or agricultural fields should be ear-

marked to store excess rainwater. Drains must be built for diverting water into these storage units. This will relieve the stress on the existing drainage infrastructure. The stored water can later be discharged back into the drainage channel once the high water subsides. The United Nations Development Programme-World Bank-European Union Post Disaster Needs Assessment report prepared for Kerala after the 2018 floods pointed out that the drainage capacity of the rivers and canals of the State must be increased by creating more room for the water to flow. It called for removing obstructions and encroachments from existing water channels, the proper maintenance of such channels and creating additional channels for water to flow.

In the short term, strengthened disaster readiness, planning and preparation will help us deal with sudden, intense rain and consequent floods. Climate change and global warming will continue to cause extreme climatic events. Across the world, countries are being confronted with situations of either too little or too much water and droughts interspersed with floods. Rainfall has become unpredictable. While national and State disaster management authorities have grown in expecompetence professionalism, there is need for a higher degree of coordination and preparation across all levels of government. Practice drills need to be conducted in flood-prone areas. We need to test the effectiveness of flood warnings. The warnings should be in

local languages and in simple terms. Today, many are wondering how they can learn from the Dutch experience in preparing for floods and dealing with their aftermath. But the Dutch themselves are wisely not permitting themselves any complacence. Conscious of their vulnerability to water, they maintain a spirit of eternal vigilance to floods. Reflecting this approach, the Dutch Prime Minister has exhorted his countrymen to learn from the recent disaster and see what more can be done rather than stay satisfied that major damage and loss of lives was prevented.

Venu Rajamony is former Ambassador of India to the Netherlands and co-author of 'What We Can Learn from the Dutch: Rebuilding Kerala Post 2018 Floods'. This article has been written with inputs from Rakesh N.M., an architect in the Netherlands

Dalits' fist of fury

Recent portrayals of Dalits in cinema are agnostic to Ambedkar's political principles and social ethics



HARISH S. WANKHEDE

Portraying a Dalit character as the protagonist is a significant development in Tamil cinema. Dalits are now shown as courageous men performing fantastic heroic deeds. In *Kabali*, the Dalit is the leader of Malaysian migrants. In Kaala, he is the good-hearted mafia don who challenges the authority of the ruling class in Mumbai. In *Asuran*, he is an angry man who uses violence to protect his family against feudal lords. In Karnan, he is a village rebel who kills a police inspector in a revengeful act of justice. These are violent stories about Dalits' social struggles, aspirations and quest for justice. In these films, the Dalit characters emerge as the equal claimants of popular heroic virtues.

A beautiful metaphor

In Pa Ranjith's Sarpatta Parambarai, the hero Kabilan (Arya) stands distinct from earlier Dalit protagonists. We see Kabilan first as a part of an audience at a boxing game. Then from an underdog boxer he overcomes social obstacles to become the ultimate champion of the game. The film thus escapes the typical social burden of the Dalit hero and shows Kabilan as a young sportsperson who plays the game with dedication and grit. Kabilan does not use violence for revenge. Instead, the competitive game of boxing emerges as a beautiful metaphor to represent social conflicts, clan pride and personal passions. Kabilan is not a revenge-hungry young man but a committed disciple of his clan's boxing coach Rangan (Pasupathy) and enters the ring only to protect the dignity of his people. Though the violence in the boxing ring showcases raw masculinity, it is utilised only to suggest that even ghettoised people can enter into any game and emerge victorious. Kabilan's punches demonstrate that human spirit and passion cannot be imprisoned by any class or community.

The new Dalit hero as an aggressive man is different from the stereotypical representations of him as brutalised. However, these new films only change the social location of the conventional hero; they don't radically alter the idea of the popular hero. The Dalit hero appears as an improvised version of the mainstream hero as he is also depicted as a tormented man. Though these characters often play under the shadows of Dalit symbols like B.R. Ambedkar's photograph or Buddha's statue, we are yet to see an authentic portrayal of a Dalit protagonist who can represent Ambedkarite cultural aesthetics and Dalits' political vision on screen.

The recent portrayals supplement the populist attributes of Tamil cinema and stand agnostic to Ambedkar's political principles and social ethics. After the Russian revolution, while many western educated elites were influenced by Marxist political ideology and wanted to test socialist ideas in Indian conditions, Ambedkar showed only a passive appreciation towards it. He appreciated the socialist, transformative agenda to address class inequality; however, he disassociated himself from the advocates of revolutionary or anarchic violence against the state or the dominant elites. He understood that the Dalits were the most powerless among the Hindus and any violent challenge to the ruling classes would only invite further alienation, subjugation and brutal repression.

More than imagining a violent conflict between the Dalits and upper caste Hindus, Ambedkar wanted to build a democratic dialogue to achieve a better conception of the modern state and civil society. His primary task was to bring an enlightened consciousness amongst the Dalits so that they can cherish their rights as citizens and claim various entitlements. Ambedkar's greater goal was not to eliminate the social elites or defeat them in physical battles but to introduce the ideals of liberty, equality and fraternity in society. The Dalit social and political assertion must be peaceful, ethical, and engaged with the principles of social justice. In the post-Ambedkar period, Kanshi Ram used constitutional and democratic apparatuses to mobilise the Dalit-Bahujan people for bringing about political change. However, such powerful figures and their movements are yet to find respectable presence on the silver screen. Instead, the recent Dalit protagonists we see are of macho males furiously fighting evil caste supremacy.

Ambedkar's political ideas stand distinct from the violent masculinity that has been idealised in Indian cinema's action genre. The emerging Dalit's heroic avatar too appears as a tacit mimicry of the masculine male fantasy that mainstream Tamil cinema has produced all these years. While there are Dalit characters in cinema now, most portravals endorse the dominant cultural narrative that celebrates hedonistic aspirations, militant violence and male superiority. The emerging Dalit cinematic genre can do better if it also challenges the populist narrative structure and liberates cinema from its patriarchal gaze. Sarpatta Parambarai is not an ideal addition here but it is a promising move towards breaking the Dalit hero's fantasy for violence and revenge.

Harish S. Wankhede is an assistant professor at the Centre for Political Studies, JNU, New Delhi

Needed: an anti-trafficking law

Human trafficking is a crime in itself, but it is also the propeller of several other crimes

KAILASH SATYARTHI

Sita was 13 years old when she was trafficked. Her parents worked in a tea garden in Assam for meagre wages. She was trafficked to a placement agency in New Delhi, and bought for about ₹20,000 as a domestic worker by a couple. Sita was not paid a single rupee. Instead, she was re-trafficked, raped, and exploited by employers and traffickers. Sita's father and I found the young girl trapped in a house in Delhi three years later. But she did not step out when we found her. She hid behind a wall, crying. "I cannot show my face to my father. I am impure now. I want to kill myself," she said.

This is the reality of thousands of women and children from the poorest sections of our society. No nation can call itself civilised if it tolerates the buying and selling of its daughters. Of what meaning is the wealth, power or progress of a nation if its children are traded as though in medieval slave trade, at a lower price than cattle?

A comprehensive Bill

Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA) and various civil society groups have campaigned for decades for a strong law to end this menace of human trafficking. In 2017, Sita and thousands of survivors like her marched in the Bharat Yatra alongside students, governments, the judiciary, multifaith leaders, businesses and civil society to demand for such a law. We covered 12,000 km with over 1.2 million people on foot with the single demand that India must pass a comprehensive anti-trafficking legislation. The passionate chants of these brave hearts who survived trafficking still reverberate in my ears, "Bikne ko taiyaar nahi hum, lutne ko taiyaar nahi hum (We are not ready to be sold, we are not ready to be stolen)".

The Government of India has proposed the Trafficking in Persons (Prevention, Care and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2021. This Bill aims to tackle all aspects of trafficking including the social and economic causes of the crime, punishment to traffickers, and

survivors. This is achievable if the Bill has the necessary checks and balances against potential misuse of power by agencies, periodic reviews of the law, and adequate allocation of resources for effective implementation. The government must include these crucial provisions in the Bill and facilitate its smooth passage in the current session of Parliament.

A problem worsened by COVID COVID-19 has further intensified the need for the law. Traffickers are taking advantage of prolonged school closures and loss of family livelihood. BBA with government agencies has rescued almost 9,000 children from trafficking since the first lockdown. In comparison, about half this number of children were rescued during the same time period of 14 months preceding the pandemic. The gravity of the situation cannot be undermined. We will not recover from the effects of the pandemic without the wherewithal to address its human

impact, which comes with this law

and its associated budgets. Human trafficking is a crime in itself, but it is also the propeller of several other crimes. It creates a parallel black economy which fuels child labour, child marriage, prostitution, bonded labour, forced beggary, drugrelated crimes, corruption, terrorism and other illicit businesses. The architects of our Constitution established the severity of the crime of trafficking by making it the only offence punishable under the Constitution of India itself, besides untouchability. A strong anti-trafficking law is the moral and constitutional responsibility of our elected leaders, and a necessary step towards nation-building and economic progress. It is nonnegotiable for the realisation of an India that our Constitution-makers envisioned, our freedom fighters struggled for, our soldiers die for, and our children deserve. India is stepping into its 75th year of Independence. There can be no greater gift to India than the freedom of our children. I call on Parliament to urgently

pass a strong anti-trafficking law.

DATA POINT

Highly effective in a

A study of 1.59 million healthcare and front-line workers of the Indian armed forces who had taken Covishield showed that there was a 93% reduction in COVID-19 infections amongst them. The study was conducted from Jan 16 to May 30 among candidates who were 99% male with a mean age of 27.6 and had minimal comorbidities. By the end of the study, 95.4% were partially vaccinated, and 82.2% were fully vaccinated. The number of cases per million observed in the non-vaccinated. partially vaccinated, and fully vaccinated groups were 512.9, 25.4 and 26.2, respectively



EXPLAINING THE STUDY | The first graph shows how the vaccination drive progressed between Jan 16 and May 30. The second and the third graphs show the daily incidence of cases per million and deaths per million among various groups - UV (unvaccinated), PV (partially vaccinated) and FV (fully vaccinated). The number of new COVID-19 infections per million in the UV, PV, and FV groups was 512.9, 25.4 and 26.2, respectively. During the study period, absolute deaths in the UV, PV and FV groups were 37, 16 and 7, respectively

Partially vaccinated Unvaccinated 1.2

GRAPH 1 - PROGRESS OF THE STUDY

Fully vaccinated 0.8 0.6 0.4 0.2 Feb. 1, 2021 Apr. 1, 2021 May. 15, 2021 **GRAPH 2 - INCIDENCE OF CASES** Unvaccinated 2000 Partially vaccinated Fully vaccinated 1500 1000 per 500 Feb. 1, 2021 Apr. 1, 2021 May. 15, 2021 **GRAPH 3 - INCIDENCE OF DEATHS** Unvaccinated Partially vaccinated Deaths Apr., 2021 Feb. 1, 2021



vaccinated group, conclusions could not be drawn regarding the effectiveness of the vaccine against death

who joined the study did not drop out mid-way but

■ It is important to note that the results of this study cannot be generalised across the entire population, which includes the elderly, children, women and those with comorbidities

RESULTS OF THE STUDY | The first table shows an overview of the study. The second shows vaccine effectiveness among various groups. The third compares the results with the those of other studies around the world. They show that Covishield is 94.3-95.1% effective against infection in partially vaccinated individuals and 91.8-94.9% effective in fully vaccinated persons. The overall efficacy is around 93%

TABLE 1 - IMPACT OF VACCINATION ON CASES AND DEATHS

Parameter	Un- vaccinated	Partially vaccinated	Fully vaccinated
Numbers at start of study	15,95,630	0	0
Numbers vaccinated	-	15,23,347 (95.4%)	13,12,938 (82.2%)
Total cases	10,061	1,159	2,512
Total deaths	37	16	7
Corrected incidence rate (cases per million)	512.9	25.4	26.2

TABLE 2 - VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS Among partially vaccinated 94.35% - 95.13% 91.81% - 94.93% Among fully vaccinated

TABLE 3 - COVISHIELD EFFICACY STUDIES

Country Reduction of 95.4% India 15,95,630 in cases Reduced odds of U.K. 1,56,930 73% in cases, 43% in admissions U.K., Brazil Reduction of 62.1% and South 11,636 in cases Reduction of U.K. 13,31,993 hospitalisation by Reduction of 21.9% South cases against Beta

The Man Kindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Apollo-15 and Moon landing

The Apollo-15 Astronauts successfully fired their main spacecraft engine for one second in a special test to-night [Space Centre, Houston, July 27] clearing the way for a lunar landing attempt on Friday. There is a short circuit somewhere in the engine's electrical system. If the engine had not fired, astronauts David Scott, James Irwin and Alfred Worden would have abandoned the landing goal and conducted an alternate lunar orbit scientific mission. Mission Commander David Scott sounded jubilant and relieved. Mission Control said the test proved that the trouble with the engine system was only something "which might be a little annoying." Slightly more than half-an-hour before the firing, Apollo-15 passed the half-way point of its outward journey, when it was 209,354 km. from both earth and moon. Experts at Mission Control will need time to evaluate the engine burn. But Flight Director Glynn Lunney said earlier to-day that if the power plant fired as planned, the astronauts would press on with the landing. Astronauts Scott and Irwin are to land at the base of the Apennine mountains, the tallest on the moon, to search for clues to the birth of the solar sys-

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 28, 1921

Sub-Inspector Bula Singh's appeal against

Alleged bribery

his conviction for bribery was rejected in the Sessions Court to-day [Amritsar, July 26]. In an elaborate judgment dealing minutely with the facts of the case the Sessions Judge finds that the direct evidence of witnesses as to demanding and payment of bribe is correct and reliable, and that circumstantial evidence clearly supports the statement of direct witnesses and that the offence charged against the applicant has been clearly established. As to the sentence the Sessions Judge says: - Considering the applicant's certificates of character and his position, responsibility and duty as a Sub-Inspector in charge of a Police station, the sentence passed by the Lower Court is suitable viz. nine months rigorous imprisonment and Rs. 1,000 fine or in default three months rigorous imprisonment. The accused has however been admitted to bail of Rs. 5,000 by the High Court, Lahore, pending the deci-

the protection and rehabilitation of Kailash Satyarthi is a Nobel Laureate sion of the revision application. pdf was originally uploaded to Brills Express Official (https://t.me/The_Hindu_Express) before anyone else. Don't forget to join backup channel @Thehind

FROM PAGE ONE

Basavaraj Bommai will be new Karnataka CM

In a day of dramatic developments, the BJP Legislature Party (BJPLP) meeting was convened and central observers dispatched from Delhi. At the late evening meeting, the name of Mr. Bommai was proposed by Mr. Yediyurappa and seconded by former Deputy Minister Govind Chief

The choice was announced by central observer Dharmendra Pradhan. Speaking after staking his claim, Mr. Bommai thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the party, besides Mr. Yediyruappa whom he

described as his mentor.

"I have been chosen unanimously by the BJPLP. I will not fail the expectations of Mr. Modi, the party, Mr. Yediyurappa, and will give a pro-people administration," said Mr. Bommai.

Vaccination of children as early as August: govt.

"The exact timeline for this vaccine's procurement and the quantity available is still not certain, so details can be given out only after the fineprint has been decided upon," he stated.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration previously gave Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine emergency use authorisation for children. This vaccine requires two injections given 21 days apart. The European medicines' watchdog has also approved the use of Moderna's vaccine for children aged 12 to 17.

Suresh Kumar Panuganti, consultant paediatric critical care, Yashoda Hospitals, Hyderabad, said prevention is better than cure and various diseases could be prevented in children by using vaccines. Dr. (Maj.) Manish Mannan, HoD, Paediatrics and Neonatology, Paras Hospitals, Gurgaon, pointed out that vaccines have a great role in preventing the severity of illness, comorbidity and mortality.

The Union Health Ministry on Tuesday said vaccine doses were supplied to the States and Union Territories as per advance allocation and advance information to

Assam CM Sarma talks tough on border row

"We will move the Supreme Court to ensure that the forests are protected," he said.

"The dispute is not regarding land but encroachment of reserved forests is the issue. We have no settlements in the forest areas and, if Mizoram can give evidence, we will immediately carry out eviction," he said.

The Assam Chief Minister said in the last few months several attempts were made to encroach Assam's land in Hailakandi, Karimganj and Cachar districts in five sectors and the police foiled each attempt.

Mamata terms meeting with Modi a courtesy call

The Lok Sabha elections are still some time away, she said but the preparations have to begin right away.

On Pegasus, she urged the BJP government to call COVID-19 vaccine for Benan all-party meeting to clear the air on its role in the issue. "The Prime Minister should call an all-party meeting and consult us. There should be a Supreme Court monitored probe."

On meeting Mr. Modi, she said it was a courtesy call and that she was following the Constitutional protocol. "I had asked for an appointment with the PM to seek his blessings after winning the

Bengal Assembly polls for the third time." During the brief meeting, she said she has urged the Prime Minister to ensure more doses of gal. "I am not against giving vaccines to other States, but considering the population of Bengal we need more doses," she said.

She will be meeting Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Wednesday. Ms. Banerjee also said she will be meeting Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav in the next few

erations and consultations

with party workers, there

are five priority areas on

which the government must

act upon immediately from

the

The key demands include

punishing the main culprits

behind the sacrilege of Guru

Granth Sahib and the police

firing incidents at Kotkapu-

ra and Behbal Kalan and the

arrest of the big fish behind

drug trafficking as men-

tioned in the Special Task

The letter also says: "Our

government must fulfil your

2017 election promise by

cancelling faulty power purchase agreements." On the

"three black farm laws", the

Congress leaders demanded

that the Punjab government

reject

the key issues of concern

raised by the party leader-

ship were already in ad-

vanced stages of resolution

by his government, which

The Chief Minister said all

18-point

amongst

Key demands

Force report.

completely.

agenda.

Act immediately on five priority areas, Sidhu tells CM Amarinder

My govt. has implemented most of the promises: CM

VIKAS VASUDEVA

Punjab Congress president Navjot Singh Sidhu along with four working presidents on Tuesday asked Chief Minister Amarinder Singh to fulfil the 18-point agenda of the party 'high command,' pointing out that the State needs stern, decisive, inclusive and compassionate leadership more

than before. "Today, Punjab needs a stern, decisive, inclusive and compassionate leadership more than ever before to fulfil genuine demands of every Punjabi," said the letter, which the team handed over to the Chief Minister. Working presidents Kuljit Singh Nagra, Sangat Singh Gilzian, Sukhwinder Singh Danny and Pawan Goel accompanied Mr. Sidhu to their first meeting with the Chief Minister since taking

had been working on them over the reins. in close coordination with

Assam-Mizoram border areas

Rahul Gandhi targets Amit Shah for fighting, says Minister has failed the country

Cong. team to visit violence-hit

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Congress on Tuesday announced a seven-member committee that will visit the areas affected by the violence over the Assam-Mizoram border dispute.

The panel is expected to prepare a report after visiting the areas on Wednesday.

Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi, in a tweet, targeted Union Home Minister Amit Shah for the escalation of violence that resulted in the death of six Assam police personnel. "Heartfelt condolences to

the families of those who've been killed. I hope the injured recover soon. HM has failed the country yet again by sowing hatred and distrust into the lives of people. India is now reaping its dreadful consequences," Mr. Gandhi tweeted.

The Congress said people in the area were living in an



Hospital call: Congress leader Sushmita Dev talking to an injured policeman at a hospital in Silchar on Tuesday. • PTI

become situation".

MP demands probe Lok Sabha member from As-

sam Gaurav Gogoi, who had moved an adjournment motion to discuss the issue in Parliament, said, Home Minister should take

"atmosphere of fear as it has the responsibility as the police build-up didn't take place overnight but has been going on for months. Such a situation has been developing between Assam and Arunachal, Meghalaya and Nagaland. Tomorrow, our team will go to the spot to get a sense of the real situation. Accepting responsibility, the

Home Minister should order an inquiry" Besides Mr. Gogoi, the

Congress team includes Lok Sabha member Pradyut Bordoloi, Mahila Congress chief Sushmita Dev, Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) chief Bhupen Bora and Leader of the Opposition in the Assam Assembly Debabrata Saikia.

One more

policeman dies

A policeman of Assam, who

was critically injured in

Monday's exchange of fire

between the police forces

of the State and Mizoram

on the inter-State border,

death toll to seven, Chief

Minister Himanta Biswa

Shyamprasad Dusat. PTI

was identified as

Sarma said. The deceased

died on Tuesday, taking the

'Centre will help to mediate border rows'

It seeks more time for CAA rules

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Committees on Subordinate Legislation, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, had been requested to grant further extension of time up to January 9, 2022, to frame the rules under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, the Union Home Ministry told the Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

In a question on another topic from Haji Fazlur Rehman (BSP), the Ministry said there were disputes arising out of demarcation of boundaries and claims and counter-claims over territories between Haryana and Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Mizoram.

"Occasional protests and incidents of violence are reported from some of the disputed border areas...the approach of the Central government has consistent-

putes can be resolved only with the cooperation of the State governments concerned and that the Central government acts only as a facilitator for amicable settlement of the dispute in the spirit of mutual understanding," said the written reply.

The CAA was notified on December 12, 2019 and came into force on January 10, 2020, the Ministry replied to a question from Congress leader Gaurav Gogoi on what steps were being taken to frame the CAA

The passage of the CAA, apart from the issue of National Register of Citizens, had triggered widespread public protests for several weeks in the country. Several Opposition parties opposed the Act. The law aims to grant citizenship to undocumented migrants belonging to six non-Muslim communities from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh who entered India on or before December 31, 2014.

IN BRIEF

'Combat politics of fear

Rashtriya Lok Dal president

Tuesday that if the politics of

combatted, a progressive and

development-oriented vision

Jayant Chaudhary said on

religious lines needs to be

fear and polarisation on

needs to be spelt out for

voters in Uttar Pradesh, Mr.

Chaudhary was speaking at

Sankalp 2022 Committee

that will oversee its

the launch of the party's Lok

with progressive agenda'

Centre to meet top State officials

Home Secretary to discuss violence

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

The Centre has called a meeting of the Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of Assam and Mizoram on Wednesday in the wake of the violence along their shared border, where five Assam Police personnel were killed, officials said. Union Home Secretary

Ajay Bhalla will chair the meeting to discuss the sudden escalation of violence along the Assam-Mizoram The meeting of the Chief

Secretaries and the Directors General of Police is expected to work on a peace formula so that there is no repeat of the violence, a Home Ministry official said.

The Central government is in regular touch with the Assam and Mizoram governments and trying to calm



A protest in front of Mizoram House in Guwahati on Tuesday. • RITU RAJ KONWAR

down the situation, officials said, adding that CRPF has been deployed in the violence-hit area.

Five Assam Police personnel, along with a civilian, were killed and more than 50 others, including a Superintendent of Police, were injured when Mizoram Police opened fire on a team of Assam officials on Monday.

CRPF faces flak over border clash

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

A day after a violent clash and exchange of fire between the police forces of Assam and Mizoram left at least six people dead and over 50 injured, the CRPF deployed along the disputed inter-State border on Tuesday faced criticism from various quarters for allegedly failing to carry out its "responsibility" as a neutral force.

A Mizoram Minister, the local MLA and the village council chief alleged that the CRPF were unable to prevent "Assam policemen and civilians" from entering and overruning security forces' camps inside Mizoram near Veringte on Monday. Mizoram Minister Lalruatkima alleged the CRPF did not restrain police personnel and civilians from Assam from intruding into Mizoram territory.

'Assam, Mizoram can approach SC, Centre'

Impose President's Rule, says Dave

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The long-standing border dispute between Assam and Mizoram can be resolved either by the Supreme Court or the Centre, legal experts said on Tuesday. One of the experts called

the brewing border dispute "a failure of the Constitutional machinery". While senior advocate

Rakesh Dwivedi and Assam's standing counsel Debojit Borkakati said the Centre should intervene and take steps for a peaceful settlement, another senior lawyer Dushyant Dave was of the view that both the States should be put under President's Rule.

Mr. Dave said there was a failure of the Constitutional machinery in both the States and the violent incident was the ugliest manifestation of the insurrection between the States since Independence.

He said these north-eastern States had conducted themselves poorly and the incident justified sacking both the governments and keeping the States under the President's Rule through Governor.

'Litigation takes time' Mr. Dwivedi, a Constitution-

al law expert, said the two States could avail themselves of two options; one was to approach the Central government and ask it to resolve the problem in an appropriately agreed manner through a legislation. "They can also move the Supreme Court under Article 131 of the Constitution, but litigation takes time. Meanwhile. the Centre can form a highlevel committee, sit down with the States, and sort out the issue," he said.

declaration of manifesto. Navy joins exercise

along east African coast Indian Naval ship Talwar is participating in the Exercise Cutlass Express, 2021, being conducted from July 26 to August 6, along the East Coast of Africa. "The exercise focusses on East Africa's coastal regions and is designed to assess and improve combined maritime law enforcement capacity, promote national and regional security," a Navy

Youth shot dead by gunmen in Srinagar

statement said on Tuesday

A youth was shot dead by unidentified gunmen in Srinagar on Tuesday. The gunmen opened fired from a close range on Mehran Ali Pathan, 25, in Nawa Kadal area. "Pathan was shifted to a hospital, but he died of his injuries," an official said. Pathan, a resident of Safa Kadal, suffered multiple bullet wounds in the incident that took place around 11.30

3 foreigners held in U.P.

on trafficking charges LUCKNOW The Uttar Pradesh

a.m. at Bulbul Lanker lane,

according to officials.

Anti-Terrorism Squad said it had arrested three men - one Bangladeshi and two Myanmar nationals - on charges of trafficking people from these countries and getting them work through fake documents. The ATS said it apprehended five persons, including the three men, at Ghaziabad while they were on a train journey to Delhi. Two girls aged 16 and 18 were sent to a government home in Lucknow.

No landless farmers in new database

New data policy being framed: Tomar

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Centre's new National Farmers Database will only include land-owning farmers for now as it will be linked to digitised land records, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar told the Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

A data policy was being prepared specifically for the agriculture sector in collaboration with the Ministry of **Electronics and Information** Technology (MeitY), he said. This exclusion of landless

and tenant farmers becomes significant in light of the fact that, when asked whether the database would be used to select beneficiaries of government schemes, Mr. Tomar said, "Government can make use of the database for targeted service delivery with higher efficiency and in a focussed

and time bound manner." Mr. Tomar was responding to questions from the Telugu Desam Party's Jayadev Galla, raising concerns about data protection and farmer inclusion in the Centre's new Agristack initiative to create a digital ecosystem for agriculture.

The database would be

linked to the digital land record management system and would thus only include farmers who were legal owners of agricultural land. "In future, the possibility of including others may be considered in consultation with State governments and other stakeholders," Mr. Tomar said, in response to a query about the large number of landless farmers in the country.

Asked about the involvement of private companies and the kind of data that was being shared with them, Mr. Tomar claimed that "no private sector companies are involved as far as building of the Agristack is concerned". However, the first step for the initiative was a "federated farmers' database that would serve as the core of the Agristack."

Dholavira in Gujarat on **UNESCO** World Heritage list

Harappan site has been on tentative list since 2014

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI/AHMEDABAI

The Harappan city of Dholavira, in present-day Gujarat, was on Tuesday named the 40th Indian site on UNES-CO's World Heritage list.

UNESCO's announcement came just days after another site, Ramappa Temple in Telangana, was admitted to the list on Sunday.

"The ancient city of Dholavira is one of the most remarkable and well-preserved urban settlements in South Asia dating from the 3rd to mid-2nd millennium BCE (Before Common Era). Discovered in 1968, the site is set apart by its unique characteristics, such as its water management system, multilayered defensive mechanisms, extensive use of stone in construction and special burial structures," UNESCO

A range of artefacts of copper, shell, stone, jewellery, terracotta and ivory had been found at the site.



Building blocks: An aerial view of the Dholavira archaeological site in Kutch district. ■ PTI/TWITTER

"The two newly inscribed World Heritage Sites offer great insight into the knowledge and ways of life of earlier societies, customs, and UNESCO communities,"

Located in the Kutch district, Dholavira is the larger of the two most remarkable excavations of the Indus Valley Civilisation dating back to about 4,500 years ago. The site had been on UNES-CO's tentative list since 2014 and India had submitted its dossier in January 2020, a Culture Ministry statement said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a series of tweets that he was delighted by the development.

"Dholavira was an important urban centre and is one of our most important linkages with our past. It is a must visit, especially for those interested in history, culture and archaeology. I first visited Dholavira during my student days and was mesmerised by the place," Mr. Modi said.

Kashmir has turned a new leaf, says President of India. Violence, which SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR

President Ram Nath Kovind, who is on a four-day tour of Jammu and Kashmir, on Tuesday said Kashmir had turned a new leaf.

He stressed that democracy had the capacity to reconcile all differences and bring out the best of the citizens' potential. "Kashmir is happi-

ly realising this vision," he "As Kashmir has turned a

new leaf, exciting new possibilities are opening up. The whole of India is watching you with admiration and pride. Kashmiri youth are scaling new heights in a variety of sectors, from civil service exams to sports and

he stated. Mr. Kovind was addressing the 19th Annual Convocation of the University of Kashmir in Srinagar amid tight security.

Appeal to youth He called upon the younger

generation of Kashmir to learn from J&K's rich legacy. "Kashmir has always been

a beacon of hope for the rest

was never part of 'Kashmiriyat', became the daily reality. It is alien to Kashmiri culture and an aberration, a temporary one like a virus that attacks the body and needs to be purged," he observed. J&K was witnessing a new beginning and making efforts to regain its lost glory, he said.

APPEAL

Name of Patient: Prince Akash Kewalramani, 3 years. Hospital Name: Mazumdar Shaw Medical Center. Diagnosis: Thalassemia Major and B Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (a type of Blood Cancer). The only curative treatment for both these conditions is Bone Marrow Transplant. The estimated cost of the transplant at this hospital is approximately Rs. 35,80,000/-. We request Kind Hearted Philanthropists to save him. Kindly send donation by Cheque/D.D/M.O favouring Save Poor Lives and on the back of Cheque write A/c Prince Akash Kewalramani. Our Account Details: S/B Account No. 20000913487, State Bank of India, Raja Annamalaipuram Branch, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855. You can donate Google Pay. No.984607377, UPI Id: sbsmani134@oksbi which is exempted under 80G of I.T. Act. Contact: SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, (ADMIN DIVISION) Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No.76, Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai-600028. Ph: 044-42044165, Mobile: 9884607377, E-mail: savepoorlives@gmail.com Our website: www.savepoorlives.com Donation sent to various hospital in July month for Rs. 2,48,306/-Donation sent to various hospital in July month for Rs. 2,48,306/-

The letter said after delibthe party. entrepreneurial ventures," pdf was originally uploaded to Brills Express Official (https://t.me/The_Hindu_Express) before anyone else. Don't forget to join backup channel @Thehind

Opposition unrelenting in Parliament

Parties continue protest over Pegasus and farm laws, causing multiple adjournments in both Houses

NEW DELHI

Both Houses of Parliament saw multiple adjournments on Tuesday, the Lok Sabha as many as 10, before being adjourned for the day as the Opposition continued with its protests against the government on the Pegasus issue and the three controversial farm laws.

The Rajya Sabha, like the Lok Sabha on Monday, managed to pass the Marine Aids to Navigation Bill, 2021 with a voice vote amid sloganeering and protests by the Opposition. The Lok Sabha cleared the Factoring Regulation Bill, 2020 and the National Institutes of food Technology and Management Bill, 2021 in a similar manner on Monday.

Rajya Sabha chairperson M. Venkaiah Naidu, amid dis-



Calling attention: Members protesting in the Rajya Sabha in New Delhi on Tuesday. ■PTI

ruptions during Zero Hour, said he would not be forced "like this" through "undemocratic method" to give in to Opposition demands.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla told Opposition members who kept up protests in the House through all its 10 adjournments, that MPs

should not be "competing to raise slogans" and that they should raise issues pertaining to people.

assurances by Mr. Birla and While members of the subsequent Chairs Bhratru-Congress, CPI, CPI(M) and hari Mahtab and Rajendra the Trinamool Congress Agarwal that members were protesting over the would be given ample opporsnooping row, the Shiromani tunities to raise issues, the Akali Dal, Bahujan Samaj protests continued.

top Opposition leaders, including Mr. Gandhi, met on Tuesday evening at the Congress Parliamentary Party office.

Plan for adjournment motion

SANDEEP PHUKAN

would be moving

Former Congress chief

Rahul Gandhi and nine

other Opposition leaders

Lok Sabha to discuss the

all other regular business.

This was decided after

Party, and the Samajwadi

Party raised slogans against

the three farm laws. Despite

adjournment motions in the

Pegasus issue by suspending

Among those present were Kanimozhi and T.R. Baalu (DMK), Supriya Sule (NCP), Arvind Sawant (Shiv Sena) and Hasnain Masoodi (National Conference).

Long after the Lok Sabha had adjourned for the day, two Congress MPs from Punjab, Ravneet Bittu and Gurjeet Singh Aujla, continued to protest in the House for the scrapping of farm laws. "They were persuaded to leave a little before 9 p.m.," a Lok Sabha official said.

Settle OBC quota issue in medical seats soon: PM

On July 26, Centre told HC that it will be resolved in a week

"Under current condi-

NISTULA HEBBAR

In a significant development, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has directed that the issue of reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBC) in the all-India quota in medical seats in State government-run medical colleges be resolved "on top priority" and out of court by the Ministries involved.

This was conveyed to Ministers for Education and Health Dharmendra Pradhan and Mansukh Mandaviya and secretaries of their Ministries as well as senior officers of the Ministries of Law and Social Justice at a meeting presided over by Mr. Modi on Monday even-

tions, 15% of undergraduate and 50% of postgraduate seats in State government medical colleges are earmarked as all-India quota. For admission, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have reservation in this quota but there is no reservation for OBCs. Prime Minister Modi wants that this longstanding demand by OBC students be resolved soon, even as several cases are pending before different courts across the country for many years now," said a government official privy to

the meeting. At the meeting, Mr. Modi also directed the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to implement reservation for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in medical education. He asked the Ministry to review the status of implementation of EWS quotas in various institutions of medical education.

DMK petition

The meeting and the urgency with regard to resolving the OBC quota issue comes even as the Centre told the Madras High Court on Monday that the matter will be resolved in a week's time.

The court was hearing a contempt of court petition moved by the DMK, in which it pointed out that there was a delay in carrying out the court's earlier order that the quota be implemented in the academic year 2021-22.

Bengal govt. sees bias in NHRC report

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The West Bengal government, in an affidavit submitted in the Calcutta High Court. has refuted the allegations made by the committee of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on post-poll violence in the State as "sweeping homilies, absurd, and false".

"I state that the members of the Committee have close association with the BJP and/or the Central government. Such members have been deliberately chosen who have an inherent bias against the ruling dispensation and accordingly predisposed to give a negative report about law and order situation in West Bengal," the affidavit said.

The matter is likely be heard again by the High + Court on July 28.

N. Ram, Sashi Kumar move SC

Petition seeks probe into snooping row and full disclosure from the government

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

Senior journalists N. Ram and Sashi Kumar have moved the Supreme Court seeking an independent probe headed by a former or sitting judge of the court into the alleged mass surveillance of over 142 potential "targets", including journalists, lawyers, Ministers, Opposition politicians, constitutional functionaries and civil society activists, using military-grade Israeli spyware Pegasus.

The petition said, "Such mass surveillance using a military-grade spyware abridges several fundamental rights and appears to represent an attempt to infiltrate, attack and destabilise independent institutions that act as critical pillars of our democratic set-up".

It sought a full disclosure from the government on

Such mass surveillance using a military-grade spyware abridges several fundamental rights and appears to represent an attempt to infiltrate, attack and destabilise independent institutions that act as critical pillars of our democratic set-up

whether it had authorised snooping which, it said, seemed to be an attempt to muzzle free speech and to chill dissent. The government had still not given a straight answer to whether the illegal hack was done with its blessings, it noted.

N. RAM & SASHI KUMAR SENIOR JOURNALISTS

"Respondents [Ministries of Home, Information Technology and Communications] have not categorically ruled out obtaining Pegasus licences to conduct surveillance in their response, and have taken no steps to ensure a credible and independent investigation into these extremely serious allegations," it highlighted.

'Civilians targeted'

The spying had caused serious dents on the rights to free speech and privacy. It had no legal basis. In fact, the legal regime for surveillance under Section 5(2) of the Telegraph Act had been completely bypassed. Civilians had become targets, it stated.

"Surveillance/interception is justified only in cases of public emergency or in

the interests of public safety, and the existence of such conditions must be inferred reasonably and cannot be determined solely on the assessment of the government... The hack/interception/decryption occasioned by the Pegasus spyware constitutes a criminal offence," it pointed out.

The software, manufactured by Israeli cyberarms firm NSO Group Technologies Limited, is "extremely advanced and capable of infecting a mobile phone/device without any interaction with the owner". "It can conduct extremely intrusive surveillance, including tracking and recording calls, reading text and WhatsApp messages, collecting passwords, reading emails, accessing photos and videos, activating camera and microphone and enabling them to record events," the petition noted.

Media network wants Blinken to flag threats to press freedom

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

A global network of editors, media executives and leading journalists, the International Press Institute (IPI), on Tuesday called on United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken to raise the issue of press freedom with Indian leaders during bilateral meetings.

The IPI wrote to Mr. Blinken, who is visiting India this week, to bring to his notice "the stifling press freedom environment in which independent media is operating in India, amidst threats and legal harassment by the government at the Centre and in the States ruled by the Bharatiya Janata Party"

The IPI letter noted that 18 attacks on journalists, eight arrests and 20 cases of "legal harassment" of journalists had been recorded by



Antony Blinken

the IPI so far this year.

"The government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has displayed complete intolerance to criticism and resorted to legal harassment to punish those journalists and media organisations who are critical of its policies and speak truth to power... The recent revelations that some 40 journalists were targeted with the Pegasus spyware shows the extent to which the government has gone to invade the professional and private lives of journalists in order to stifle press freedom and human rights in the country," the letter stated.

Dainik Bhaskar raids

The IPI also highlighted the raids by the Income Tax Department on the offices of Dainik Bhaskar. "The newspaper has ex-

tensively covered the impact of the health crisis and published photos of dead bodies floating in the river, which offended the government. We, therefore, urge you to raise the issue of press freedom during your bilateral meetings with Indian leaders," the letter, which was signed by IPI executive director Barbara Trionfi, said.

Seven parties seek Kovind's intervention

Cong., Trinamool, DMK not among petitioners

Seven Opposition parties have written to President Ram Nath Kovind seeking his intervention to direct the government to debate the farmers' issues and Pegasus row in the ongoing monsoon session.

"We Members of Parliament of various political parties are writing to you to seek an appointment to apprise you of two disturbing developments including the complete stonewalling of demands of the peasantry to repeal the three agricultural laws as well as use of Israeli spyware Pegasus to tape telephones of politicians, journalists and activists," said the letter, signed by Akali Dal leader Harsimrat Badal, NCP's Supriya Sule, BSP's Ritesh Pandey and Danish Ali, CPI (M)'s P.R. Natrajan, CPI's M. Selvaraj, erstwhile BJP ally Rashtriya Loktantrik Party leader Hanuman Beniwal and National Conference's Hasnain Masoodi.

None of the major Opposition

parties, including the Congress, the Trinamool Congress or the DMK signed the letter.

"You would appreciate that a human tragedy is unfolding on the borders of Delhi with more than 550 farmers already having lost their lives during the course of the ongoing 'Kisan Andolan' [farmers' agitation]. The livelihoods of millions more are at stake due to the three agricultural laws which have been made with the express purpose of handing over the agriculture sector to corporations," the letter to the President said.

The letter also flags the Pegasus spyware cyber attack. The use of Pegasus software "to tape telephone numbers of politicians as well as journalists and activists besides known detractors of the NDA government has sent shockwaves amongst civil society," it said. "Despite these revelations, the Union government is refusing to disclose why it had used this software against its own citizens," it said.

Expose Opposition parties, Modi tells BJP legislators

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

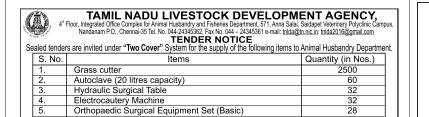
As both Houses of Parliament continued to see protests by the Opposition and frequent adjournments, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday told the BJP MPs to "expose" the Opposition parties for disrupting proceedings when the government had repeatedly said it was willing to discuss any issue.

Addressing a meeting of the BJP's parliamentary party, Mr. Modi said the Congress's attitude was reflected in the fact that it did not turn up for the all-party meeting chaired by him on the COVID-19 pandemic and the vaccination policy of the government. Sources present at the meeting said he asked party MPs to go to their constituencies on August 15 and convey this message.



PM Narendra Modi and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh leaving after the BJP meeting on Tuesday. •PTI

He also asked the BJP MPs to mark 75 years of Independence by organising programmes in every village of their constituencies, according to Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Arjun Ram Meghwal, who briefed the media after the meeting.



Individual tender documents with full details can be downloaded free of cost from www.tenders.tn.gov.in up to 26.08.2021, 5.00 P.M. Pre-Bid Meeting on 10.08.2021 ast date for submission of tenders: 27.08.2021, 11.00 A.M Corrigendum/Addendum to this publication, if any, would appear only on the above website.

IPR/2213/TENDER/2021

Chief Executive Officer

Bulk Liquid Nitrogen Storage Silo – 3000 Litre capacity

ODISHA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ADVERTISEMENT NO.10 of 2021-2022

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CUTTACK **SECRETARY** DATE: 27.07.2021 ODISHA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, CUTTACK



Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited

(A group company of IndianOil)

Regd. Office: 536, Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai 600 018 Tel: 044-24346807 / 24349959 E-Mail : shankarp@cpcl.co.in Website: www.cpcl.co.in; CIN: L40101TN1965GOI005389

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CONVENING 55TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THROUGH VC / OAVM

Notice is hereby given that, the 55th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the members of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited ("Company") will be held on Friday, the 20/08/2021 at 03:00 p.m. (IST) through Video Conferencing ("VC") / Other Audio-Visual Means ("OAVM"), in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and the rules notified there under and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 read with all applicable circulars on the matter issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs ("MCA") and the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI") to transact the business set out in the notice calling the AGM.

The VC / OAVM facility for the meeting shall be provided by KFin Technologies Pvt. Ltd. ("KFTPL"), to transact the business set out in the Notice convening the AGM. The members can attend and participate in the AGM only through VC / OAVM as no provision has been made to attend the AGM in person. The attendance through VC / OAVM will be counted for the purpose of reckoning the guorum for the AGM.

In compliance with the MCA & SEBI Circular(s), the Notice setting out the business to be transacted at the AGM together with the Annual Report of the Company for the year 2020-21 is being sent electronically to those members whose email address is registered with the Company / Depository Participant(s). No physical copies of the Notice and the Annual Report would be sent to any member. The Notice of the AGM and the Annual Report will also be available on the Company's website at www.cpcl.co.in and on the website of the $Stock\ Exchange\ s,\ i.e.\ BSE\ Limited\ and\ National\ Stock\ Exchange\ of\ India\ Limited\ at\ \underline{www.bseindia.com}\ and\ solves and\ s$ www.nseindia.com, respectively, and on the website of KFTPL at https://evoting.kfintech.com.

Process for registration of email address for obtaining Annual Report for e-voting and updation of bank account mandate for receipt of dividend:

Physical Holding | Send a request to the RTA i.e. KFin at karisma.kfintech.com providing Folio No., Name of member, scanned copy of the share certificate (front and back), PAN (self-attested scanned copy of PAN card), AADHAR (self-attested scanned copy of Aadhar Card) for Following additional details need to be provided in case of updating Bank Account

a) Name and Branch of the Bank in which you wish to receive the dividend,

Bank Account Number allotted by their banks after implementation of Core

9 digit MICR Code Number,

e) 11 digit IFSC Code Scanned copy of the Cancelled Cheque Leaf bearing the name of the first member

Please contact your Depository Participant (DP) and register your email address and

bank account details in your demat account, as per the process advised by your DP.

Further, those members who have not registered their email addresses and mobile nos. and in consequence could not be served the Annual Report and Notice of AGM, may temporarily get themselves registered with

 $KFin, by \ clicking \ the \ link \ \underline{https://ris.kfintech.com/email_registration/} for \ sending \ the \ same.$ ${\bf Manner\,of\,casting\,vote(s)\,through\,e\text{-}voting\,and\,joining\,the\,AGM\,through\,VC/OAVM:}$

Members will have an opportunity to cast their vote(s) on the business as set out in the Notice of the AGM through remote e-voting facility ("remote e-voting"). The facility for e-voting will also be made available during the AGM to those members who could not cast their vote(s) through remote e-voting. The detailed procedure

for e-voting before as well as during the AGM is provided in the Notice of the AGM. Members may send their requests for Change / Updation of Address, Nominations:

Place : Chennai

Dated: July 28, 2021

For shares held in dematerialized form - to their respective Depository Participant For shares held in physical form - to the RTA, M/s. KFin Technologies Private Limited, Selenium. Tower B, Plot No.31 & 32, Financial District, Gachibowli, Hyderabad – 500032 or at the registered office

Members are requested to carefully read all the notes set out in the Notice of the AGM and in particular. instructions for joining the AGM and manner of casting vote through remote e-voting and e-voting at the AGM.

For Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited

P. Shankar Company Secretary M.No. A7624

Right to health has taken back seat: plea in SC

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the Union government to respond to a petition that said the fundamental right to health had taken a back seat as patients were forced to choose between expensive private care and an "inadequate" public health sector, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

A Bench led by Chief Justice of India (CJI) N.V. Ramana issued notice on the petition filed jointly by Jan Swasthya Abhiyan, Patients' Rights Campaign and Gopakumar K.M. for the proper implementation of the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act of 2010, the Clinical Establishment (Central Government) Rules of 2012 and the Patients' Rights Charter. "The regulation of standards in clinical establishments adopted as a national policy goal by Government of India nearly two decades ago is yet to be effectively implemented across the country. This is, therefore, a denial of the right to a dignified life," the petition, represented by senior advocate Sanjay Parikh, said.

15 crore vaccine doses expected in Aug.: Paul

India likely to miss the target of 51 crore doses for July

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Union government expects to have 15 crore vaccine doses available for administration in August, V.K. Paul, Chairman of the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for CO-VID-19 (NEGVAC), said on Tuesday.

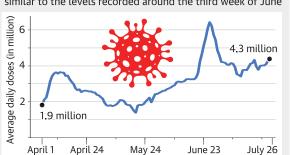
"We have a visibility of about 15 crore doses," Dr. Paul said at a press briefing. "We produce and we inject. A part of what we produce goes into testing and the batches are released in a certain way." About 25% of the population has received at least one dose and 7% is fully inoculated.

Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya had said last week that 2.5 crore doses of Covaxin would be available in July and 3.5 crore in August. The earlier estimates were that at least six crore doses of Covaxin would be available from July. India's target was to administer 51 crore doses by July. So far, 44 crore doses have been administered.

Based on the supply, it is improbable that the target will be reached in the next

Slight uptick

On July 27, the seven-day rolling average of daily vaccinations in the country stood at 4.3 million, which was similar to the levels recorded around the third week of June



four days.

The government has said it plans to inoculate all adults - about 94.4 crore persons – by the year-end. For that, nearly one crore doses have to be administered a day, while India has generally averaged about 0.5 crore for most of this month.

Of the vaccines administered so far, Covaxin comprises about 15%.

Bharat Biotech said in May that it took four months for a batch of Covaxin to be manufactured and readied for supply. Thus, production of batches of Covaxin that were initiated during March

this year would be ready for supply only in June, the company had said in a statement. At that point, about 2-2.5 crore doses of Covaxin had reportedly been supplied. That implies that only the batches produced in April would be ready for supply by July.

At Tuesday's briefing, Joint Secretary, Health Ministry, Lav Agarwal said participants who had participated in the clinical trials for Covaxin would get certificates only if they had not been administered a placebo and the trial was unblind-

SC mulls PM CARES Fund for orphans

Report raises fears of trafficking among 75,000 children hit by the pandemic

I was talking to the district judicial officers... They said

they keep getting frantic calls from

the children asking them to be taken back to observation homes.

These children should not be left

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

Over 75,000 children have been orphaned, abandoned or have lost a parent during the COVID-19 pandemic, and many of them may become victims of human trafficking rackets or descend into crime, a report in the Supreme Court said on Tues-

An affidavit filed by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) on July 26 showed that 6,855 children had been orphaned between April 1, 2020 and July 23, 2021. The Commission pointed out that each of these children

in a position where they have to fend for themselves L. NAGESWARA RAO, SC JUDGE had their own individual sothe Prime Minister's Citizen

children may not work. The Bench of Justices L. Nageswara Rao and Aniruddha Bose orally asked the

cial backgrounds. A one-Assistance and Relief in size-fits-all scheme for all **Emergency Situations Fund** (PM CARES Fund) could be extended to children orphaned during the COVID-19 months and not just those Union government whether whose parent or guardian died due to the virus.

The scheme originally proposed to fund the educational requirements, in the form of uniforms, textbooks, etc. The scheme would also offer financial help to children for their higher educa-

The Supreme Court also questioned West Bengal's claim that only 27 children had become orphans during the COVID-19 months. The court even threatened to order a separate probe. It directed the District Magistrates to collect information.

The Bench was hearing a suo motu case on children impacted by the pandemic.

Notice to Centre, Delhi on vaccine for homeless

We expect a response on what steps are being taken to vaccinate them, SC says

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the Union and the Delhi governments about the steps taken to vaccinate the homeless.

A Bench led by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud refused to take an "elitist view" to "restrain beggars, vagabonds and the homeless" from begging at traffic junctions, markets and public places.

The court said several soproblems cio-economic drove people into begging. Their poverty could not be wished away by passing an order to remove them from the streets. It, however, took a serious note of a petition by Kush Kalra, represented by advocate Mohit Paul, that the government should take measures to ensure that the homeless were vaccinated.

It recorded in its order,

"We are issuing notice to Union of India and Delhi government at this stage, since the immediate issue is of vaccinating the homeless in Delhi and to ensure medical facilities. We expect a response from the Union of India and GNCTD [The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi] on what steps are being ta-

ken to deal with this human

Mr. Kalra submitted that the homeless, in case they were ill, had no place to quarantine themselves.

Many were not aware of social distancing protocols. If affected by COVID-19, they were a danger to themselves and to others.

The court has sought the assistance of Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta in the case. The Bench posted the case after two weeks.

Bihar seeks details of wards of bureaucrats studying in govt. schools

Move follows directive by Patna HC

AMARNATH TEWARY

The Bihar government has sought details of children of bureaucrats studying in government schools in all the 38 districts of the State.

The move follows an interim order issued by the Patna High Court on July 13, asking the Bihar government to furnish details of the wards of IAS, IPS and Class-1 and II officers in the State services studying in government schools. The court directive came on a writ petition filed by guest schoolteachers terminated.

The Additional Chief Secretary of the State Education Department, Sanjay Kumar, said in view of the court order, he had written to all District Magistrates (DMs), Superintendents of Police (SPs) and district education officers to collect the details.

Review meeting

ACROSS

1 Order staff meeting (7)

13 Over-seers' growth? (8)

5 Heartaches from unlimited crossword-solving (7)

11 Basically, this reproduces like a copier, maybe? (10)

14 Swingers training near Mulund vigorously, start to sweat (9)

10 Nutritious cereal dip with head of oregano (4)

12 Story by Indian state footballer (6)

The State Chief Secretary will hold a review meeting through videoconference with all the DMs and SPs on August 4, he said. The court is scheduled to hear the case on August 16.

Earlier, while responding to a counter-affidavit filed by the Chief Secretary in the case, Justice Anil Kumar Upadhyay of the Patna High Court had observed: "The Chief Secretary has made tall claims and highlighted the steps taken for improvement in the quality of education but those policies and schemes are only glorifying the records where these policy documents are maintained to understand the qualitative change and improvement. The court is of the considered view that improvement in the system can be gauged by the faith of people towards the system."

"Let the Chief Secretary convene a videoconference of DMs of all the districts of the State to solicit the information from them as to how many wards of the IAS and IPS and Class-I and II officers in the State services are undergoing studies in the government-run elementary and other schools. The CS shall file an affidavit, furnishing details of wards of the elite class studying in government-run schools, as it will instil confidence in society," the court said.

BJP MPs walk out of Standing Committee on IT

Move comes hours after Union Minister Bhupender Yadav holds 'informal' meet for party lawmakers

SOBHANA K. NAIR

BJP members on Tuesday staged a walkout from the meeting of the Standing Committee on Information and Technology, headed by Congress leader Shashi Tharoor, claiming that the rules did not permit committee meetings to be held while Parliament was in session. The committee was also set to discuss the Pegasus case on Wednesday.

Hours before the BJP MPs walked out of the meeting, Union Environment and Labour Minister Bhupender Yaday had called for an "informal" meeting of the BJP



Bhupender Yadav members of the IT panel.

Awkwardly, the invitation for the meeting also went to

CPI(M) MP P.R. Natarajan. "Around 1 p.m., I got a call from Mr. Yadav's office saying that the Minister wants to meet. I was surprised, since I had not sought any appointment with him," Mr. Natarajan told The Hindu. At 2 p.m., Mr. Natarajan

went to Mr. Yadav's room in the Parliament. "He asked me if I was a member of the IT committee? I said yes. Then he asked me which party I was from. When I told him I was from the CPI(M), he apologised and said it was a meeting only for the BJP members," Mr. Natarajan

At 4 p.m., the Standing Committee of IT met on the agenda: "To hear the views of the individuals/stakeholders/organisations in connection with the examina-

functioning of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC)' relating to Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in context of the draft 'Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill, Right at the outset, BJP MP

Nishikant Dubey, according

tion of the subject 'Review of

to multiple sources, said committee meetings can't be held during a Parliament session. It was pointed out to him that five other committee meetings were held on Tuesday. He then said the agenda was not notified in time. He, along with five other BJP MPs, walked out of the meeting.

didn't get the agenda. And when Parliament is in session, our work is to run the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. To hold a meeting at such a time is not appropriate. The Chairman is arbitrarily running his own writ." Mr. Natarajan said it was

Later, speaking to CNN

IBN, Mr. Dubey said, "We

only after the BJP MPs' walkout that he realised that the meeting called by Mr. Yadav was to organise the protest. 'This clearly shows that

the BJP high command decides how a member should behave in a standing committee that is a non-partisan platform," he said.

Sunanda case: court order adjourned

STAFF REPORTER

A Delhi court on Tuesday adjourned its order on the framing of charges against Congress leader Shashi Tharoor in connection with the death of his wife, Sunanda Pushkar, till August 18.

Special judge Geetanjli Goel, who was scheduled to pronounce the order on +Tuesday, adjourned the matter for three weeks to allow the prosecution to submit additional documents. The MP, who was at the videoconference hearing, is on bail in connection with the case.

Railway personnel told not to use private email for official work

S. VIJAY KUMAR CHENNAI

The Ministry of Railways has directed officials across its network to use @gov.in or @nic.in domain email services only for all formal communications. The instructions follow an alert issued by a Central law enforcement agency to the Chairman, Railway Board, which specifically prohibited the use of private email services such as Gmail and Yahoo for

official communications. In an advisory sent out to

the General Managers of all Zonal Railways, heads of production units and other Railway establishments, the Railway Board said the initiative was part of measures taken by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to secure government websites, "considering the increased threat perception in the cyber

SCAN TO PLAY

Insisting on the use of government domain email identities and reiterating an earlier order, which also emphasised the use of @gov.in/@nic.in services for uninterrupted services and security reasons, the advisory added that to secure web portals and prevent any sniffing attacks, the websites, both Internet and intranet and other sub-domains of respective Railway units, should obtain secure

socket layer (SSL) certification at the earliest.

Private entities

It was noticed that websites of a number of field units were designed, developed and hosted through private entities that did not conform to the Guidelines for Indian Government Websites (GIGW) Version 2.0, 2019. Many such websites were not hosted on .gov.in or .nic.in domain, it added.

Urging the authorities concerned to ensure that any website developed and/ or owned by any of the field units should conform to GIGW Version 2.0 standards and use only .gov.in or .nic.in domains allotted exclusively and restricted to government websites, the Railway Board underlined the need for strict compliance to the alert.

The GIGW Version 2.0 was developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) in 2019 and adopted by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension, as an 'Integral part of Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure'.

Railway officials were also directed to initiate urgent steps to ensure that the information available on all Railway websites was "current" and "fully updated".

TH CROSSWORD+ 13311

16 Detective grilled Spooner after Queen disappeared (5) 17 Order stout with asparagus starter (5)

19 Gifted academic challenged Federer without hesitation (9) 23 Champion Barty, when on a trip, packs leggings and expensive tops (8)

Display keystrokes of genius.

Type your answers in our online grids.

@ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

24 Tips from announcements and quotes at the opening circulating in stock exchange (6) 26 In African city, student is killed by one boy who waited in vain for

his Dad's command (10) 27 Go-slow blocks capital (4) 28 Every child has a public image (7)

29 Avtaar sorted out clothes for film technicians (7)

2 An egg, stuffed with batter and topping of dried chamomile's root, stewed with veggies in gravy (1,2,4) 3 Ridiculous way of celebrating an event without alcohol (5)

4 North Carolinian belt leather (7) 6 Office's opening tenders for building arches (6)

7 Shift and Back-space (9) 8 Show how drunk could be these VIPs (4,3)

9 Drug dealer who delivers fast? (5,8) 15 File transfers coded on DOS wanting authentic, digitally licensed

sources (9) 18 Hazarded a guess, finally, about introduction to title scene in a

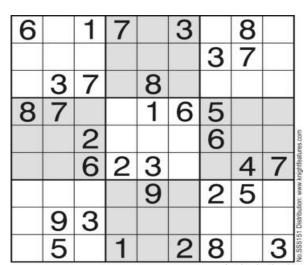
film (2,5) 20 Faraday's upcountry place in Europe (7)

21 Atelier used Amazon, say (1-6)

22 In Borneo, lauraceous, ant-proof ironwood tops, perhaps? (6)

25 Rant about replacing police chief in probe (5)

SUDOKU



Solution to puzzle 13310 Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★公公公公

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FAITH

Rama's truthfulness

Rama's sterling qualities drew the whole of Ayodhya to Him. His auspicious qualities attracted not only His subjects, but also Azhvars and Acharyas, said Akkarakkani Srinidhi, in a discourse. Nampillai, for instance, would quote extensively from the Ramayana while giving philosophical explanations. Nampillai's discourses were well attended, while those of Naduvil Thiruveedhi Pillai Bhattar also known as Vagvijaya bhattar were not. This was not relished by Vagvijaya bhattar. One day Vagvijaya bhattar went to the king's court to obtain the gifts the king gave to learned men. The king would usually ask a question and if satisfied with the answer, he would give the scholar a gift. He asked Vagvijaya bhattar the following question: "Rama Himself declared that He was a mortal. Yet He said Jatayu would attain moksha. How could a mortal grant moksha to anyone?"

Vagvijaya bhattar did not know how to answer the question, for both the king's observations were true. Rama had indeed said that He was a mortal, and He had also given moksha to Jatayu. So what was the answer? Vagvijaya bhattar turned to a disciple of Nampillai for help, and asked him how Nampillai would have answered the question. The sishya said, "Rama never once uttered an untruth. When such a person says something, the truthfulness of the person will ensure that whatever he says comes true. So Rama's truthfulness would have been enough to give moksha to Jatayu."

Vagvijaya bhattar gave this reply to the king and he was honoured by the king with gifts. He took the gifts to Nampillai and said they rightfully belonged to him, for it was his disciple's answer which had pleased the king. From that day onwards, Vagvijaya bhattar became an ardent devotee of Nampillai.

China's sea claims have no basis, says U.S.

We don't seek confrontation with China, but won't flinch when our interests are threatened: Pentagon

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Pentagon chief Lloyd Austin said on Tuesday that Beijing's expansive claims in the South China Sea have "no basis in international law", taking aim at China's growing assertiveness in the hotly contested waters.

Mr. Austin's broadside came at the start of his first trip to Southeast Asia as U.S. Defence Secretary, as he seeks to rally allies in the region as a bulwark to China.

President Joe Biden's administration wants to reset relations with Asian countries and build alliances to face Beijing, after the turbulence and unpredictability of the Donald Trump era.

Speaking in Singapore, Mr. Austin criticised China's actions in the disputed sea, where Beijing has overlapping territorial claims with several Southeast Asian



Territorial dispute: A file photo of Chinese vessels anchored at Whitsun Reef in the South China Sea.

"Beijing's claim to the vast majority of the South China Sea has no basis in international law," he said in a speech hosted by the International Institute for Strategic Studies think tank.

"That assertion treads on the sovereignty of the states in the region," he said, adding that the U.S. would support countries in defending

China claims almost all of resource-rich sea, through which trillions of dollars in shipping trade passes annually, with competing claims from Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam. Beijing has been accused of deploying a range of military hardware, including anti-ship missiles and surface-to-air missiles there, and ignored a 2016 international tribunal decision that declared its historical claim over most of the

Rising tensions

Tensions have escalated in recent months between Beijing and rival claimants.

waters to be without basis.

Manila was angered after hundreds of Chinese boats were spotted inside the Philippines' Exclusive Economic Zone, while Malaysia scrambled fighter jets to intercept Chinese military aircraft that appeared off its

Mr. Austin said on Tuesday the U.S. "will not flinch when our interests are threatened" - but he insisted Washington does "not seek confrontation" with China.

REUTERS

WASHINGTON

advisory role.

U.S. President Joe Biden and Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa

al-Kadhimi sealed an agree-

ment on Monday formally

ending the U.S. combat mis-

sion in Iraq by the end of

2021, but American forces

will still operate there in an

The agreement comes at a delicate time for the Iraqi go-

vernment and could be a

boost for Baghdad. Mr. Kadhimi has faced increasing

pressure from Iran-aligned

parties and paramilitary

groups who oppose the U.S.

military role in the country.

mi met in the Oval Office for

their first face-to-face talks

as part of a strategic dia-

logue between the United

to be available, to continue

to train, to assist, to help and

to deal with ISIS as it arises,

but we're not going to be, by

the end of the year, in a com-

bat mission," Mr. Biden told

reporters. There are cur-

rently 2,500 U.S. troops in

Iraq focusing on countering

the remnants of Islamic

State. The U.S. role in Iraq

will shift entirely to training

and advising the Iraqi mili-

For Mr. Biden, the deal to

end the combat mission in

Iraq follows decisions to car-

ry out a withdrawal from Af-

ghanistan and wrap up the

U.S. military mission there

tary to defend itself.

"Our role in Iraq will be ...

States and Iraq.

Mr. Biden and Mr. Kadhi-

"I am committed to pursuing a constructive, stable relationship with China, including stronger crisis communications with the People's Liberation Army."

The U.S.-China relationship has deteriorated over a range of issues from cybersecurity and tech supremacy to human rights in Hong Kong and Xinjiang.

Mr. Biden has largely kept the hawkish stance on China of Mr. Trump, describing the Asian power as the pre-eminent challenge to the United States, but has lowered the temperature and instead emphasised working with allies and working at home to compete better. After Singapore, Mr. Austin will visit Vietnam and the Philippines, and will seek to underline that the U.S. is a "stabilising force" in Southeast Asia, said a senior

Israeli war crimes apparent in Gaza assault, says HRW

ASSOCIATED PRESS IERUSALEM

Human Rights Watch on Tuesday accused the Israeli military of carrying out at-"apparently that amount to war crimes" during the 11-day war in May against the Hamas militant

The human rights organisation issued its conclusions after investigating three Israeli air strikes that it said killed 62 Palestinian civi-

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

One person died and three

were missing after an explo-

sion rocked a chemical park

in the western German city

of Leverkusen on Tuesday,

officials said, but a warning

for residents to stay indoors

was lifted several hours

injured in the incident at the

Chempark complex, three

of them seriously, city auth-

orities said in a statement.

All those affected worked at

the site. The cause of the

huge blast, which was heard

several kilometres away and

sent a column of black

smoke into the air, was not

app sent an "extreme dan-

Germany's NINA warning

Another 31 people were

1 dead, 31 injured in blast

at German chemical park

Three staffers missing, say officials

lians. It said "there were no evident military targets in the vicinity" of the attacks.

The report also accused Palestinian militants of apparent war crimes by launching more than 4,000 unguided rockets and mortars at Israeli population centres. Such attacks, it said, violate "the prohibition against deliberate or indiscriminate attacks against civilians". The report, however, focused on Israeli actions during the fighting, and the group said it would issue a separate report on the actions of Hamas and other Palestinian militant groups in August.

"Israeli forces carried out attacks in Gaza in May that devastated entire families without any apparent military target nearby," said Gerry Simpson, associate crisis and conflict director at HRW. He said Israel's "consistent unwillingness to seriously investigate alleged

Man convicted

in Hong Kong

under new law

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

crimes", coupled with Palestinian rocket fire at Israeli civilian areas, underscored the importance of an ongoing investigation into both sides by the International Criminal

The HRW report looked into Israeli air strikes. The most serious, on May 16, involved a series of strikes on Al-Wahda Street, a central thoroughfare in downtown Gaza City. The strikes destroyed three apartment buildings and killed a total of 44 civilians, HRW said, including 18 children and 14 women. Twenty-two of the dead were members of a single family, the al-Kawlaks.

In its investigation, HRW concluded that Israel had used U.S.-made GBU-31 precision-guided bombs, and that Israel had not warned any of the residents to evacuate the area ahead of time. It also found no evidence of military targets in the area.

Tunisia's biggest party calls for talks to end crisis

It asks supporters to avoid protests

A Hong Kong court convicted a former waiter of terrorism and inciting secession on Tuesday in the first trial conducted under a national security law that was imposed by China to stamp out dissent. Tong Ying-kit, 24, was

charged with terrorism for driving a motorbike into three police officers and secession for flying a protest flag during a rally on July 1 last year, the day after the national security law was enacted.

The flag read "Liberate Hong Kong, revolution of our times", a ubiquitous slogan during the huge and often violent pro-democracy protests that convulsed the city two years ago.

supporters through party branches not to resume a sit-in outside Parliament and to avoid protests. Though some senior party members wanted to retain a street presence, its leaders decided to avoid any further escalation and allow a period of calm, two Ennahda officials said earlier on

The area outside the Parliament building, the site on Monday of confrontations between hundreds of supporters of Ennahda and Mr. Saied, was empty on Tuesday morning. Ennahda's supporters left on Monday evening and have not returned. Tunisia is facing its biggest crisis since the 2011 revolution that introduced democracy.

REUTERS

Tunisia's biggest party, the moderate Islamist Ennahda, on Tuesday called for a national dialogue to get the country out of crisis after it accused the President of a coup when he dismissed the Prime Minister and suspended Parliament. In a reversal of a call early

on Monday to its supporters to take to the streets against President Kais Saied's actions, Ennahda urged dialogue and efforts to avoid ci-

"The movement ... calls on all Tunisians to increase solidarity, synergy and unity and to confront all calls for sedition and civil strife," it said in a statement.

Ennahda had already told

Tuesday.

REQUIREMENT OF ADHOC FACULTY. Online interview for the following position of this institute will be conducted from 10.00 AM onwards on 4th Aug. 2021.

Position: Adhoc Faculty in in CSE & ECED - Interdisciplinary reas -on Contract for six months - Extendable Areas on contract to its at months - Extensione Emoluments: Rs.65,000/- (Consolidated) per month Interview: 10.00 AM onwards on 4th Aug. 2021.

Mode of application: Online through www.iiitkottayam.ac.i

efore 05.00 pm on 03rd Aug. 2021.

E-No:ED/199/UBV/2021(P-2)

DIPR/DDU/JA/952/2021-22

Reaching a pact: U.S. President Joe Biden with Iraqi PM

Mustafa al-Kadhimi, left, in the Oval Office on Monday. • AFP

by the end of August. Together with his agreement on Iraq, the Democratic President is moving to formally complete U.S. combat missions in the two wars that then-President George W. Bush began under his watch nearly two decades ago.

Biden, Kadhimi seal deal to end

American forces will still operate there in an advisory role

U.S. combat mission in Iraq

A U.S.-led coalition invaded Iraq in 2003 based on charges that then-Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein's government possessed weapons of mass destruction. Saddam was ousted from power, but such weapons were never found. In recent years, the U.S. mission was focused on helping defeat the IS militants in Iraq and Syria. U.S. diplomats and troops

in Iraq and Syria were targeted in three rocket and drone attacks earlier this month. Analysts believed the attacks were part of a campaign by Iranian-backed militias.

Mr. Kadhimi, who is seen as friendly to the U.S., has tried to check the power of Iran-aligned militias. But his

government condemned U.S. air strikes against Iranaligned fighters along its border with Syria in late June, calling it a violation of Iraqi sovereignty. In remarks to reporters after the talks, Mr. Kadhimi stressed that his government was responsible for responding to such attacks. He acknowledged that he had reached out to Tehran to address them. "We speak to Iranians and others in an attempt to put a limit to these attacks, which are undermining Iraq and its role."

Move welcomed

Several powerful pro-Iran groups in Iraq welcomed the announcement by the U.S. Conquest Alliance, the political wing of Iraq's Hashed-al-Shaabi paramilitary network, said it considered Mr. Biden's announcement "to be a positive step towards the full sovereignty of Iraq". "We hope that it will materialise on the ground."

(With AFP inputs)

NATO chief urges 'negotiated settlement' in Afghanistan

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg on Tuesday reiterated calls for a "negotiated settlement" with the Taliban in Afghanistan, admitting that the country faced a "deeply challenging" security situation as foreign troops leave.

"The security situation in Afghanistan remains deeply challenging, and requires a negotiated settlement. NA-

Afghanistan, including with funding; civilian presence; and out-of-country training," Mr. Stoltenberg wrote on Twitter after speaking to Afghan President Ashraf Since early May, violence

has surged as the Taliban launched a sweeping assault just days after U.S.-led NATO forces began a withdrawal which is now almost complete.

strong force have already pulled out of the country after a decision by President Ioe Biden to bring Washington's troops home after two decades.

UN warning

CENTRAL POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

(A Govt. of India Society, Ministry of Power)

Post Box No.8066, Prof. Sir. C.V.Raman Road

Sadashivanagar Post Office, Bangalore - 560 080

CPRI invites applications for three positions of Project

Engineers and one position of Project Associate on purely

temporary basis, initially for a period of one year. Interested

candidates may refer website https://cpri.res.in for details regarding eligibility criteria, educational qualification, experience

The United Nations warned on Monday that Afghanistan could see the highest number of civilian deaths in more than a decade if the Taliban's offensives across the

ELSEWHERE

immediately clear.



Nearly 970 Mediterranean migrants have died: UN

GENEVA

The deaths of 57 migrants off the Libyan coast brings the number of lives lost on the central Mediterranean crossing route this year to around 970, the United Nations said on Tuesday. At least 57 migrants drowned after their boat sank off Libya, said the UN's International Organization for Migration — the latest tragedy on the dangerous Mediterranean Sea crossing to Europe. Among those missing are at least 20 women and two toddlers, the IOM said in Geneva. AFP

Bhutan vaccinates most of population after donations

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

above the chemical park in

Leverkusen on Tuesday. • AP

ger" alert to residents, tell-

ing them to stay home and

shut doors and windows.

The explosion happened

around 9.40 a.m. at Chem-

park's waste incineration

site in Leverkusen's Buerrig

district, according to site

operator Currenta.

Bhutan has inoculated most of its eligible population with second doses of CO-VID-19 vaccinations in a week, in a speedy roll-out hailed by UNICEF on Monday as a "success story" for international donations.

More than 4,54,000 shots were administered over the past week – just over 85% of the eligible adult population of more than 5.3 lakh people – after a recent flood of foreign donations. UNICEF's Bhutan representative, Will Parks, hailed the vaccination drive as a "great success story for Bhutan".

The tiny nation had quickly used up most of the 5.5 lakh AstraZeneca doses

donated by India in late March and early April for first jabs, before New Delhi halted exports.

Faced with a growing time gap between the first and second doses, Bhutan launched an appeal for donations. Five lakh Moderna doses donated by the U.S. via Covax and another 2.5 lakh AstraZeneca shots from Denmark arrived in mid-July. More than 1.5 lakh Astra-Zeneca, Pfizer and Sinopharm shots are also expected to arrive in the nation of 7.7 lakh people from Croatia, Bulgaria, China and other countries. The government has meanwhile bought 2 lakh Pfizer doses that are expected to be deli-

vered later this year. Slain President's security chief held

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE PORT-AU-PRINCE

The Haitian police said on Monday they had arrested the head of Jovenel Moise's security as part of the ongoing investigation into the President's July 7 assassina-

Security chief Jean Laguel Civil is suspected of involvement in the plot that saw

the middle of the night by armed commandos, who bypassed the President's guards without firing a shot. Civil had already been

placed in solitary confinement at a prison in Delmas, near Port-au-Prince.

"I can confirm that Jean Laguel Civil was arrested on Monday by the police as part

of the investigation into the Moise killed at his home in assassination of President Jovenel Moise," police spokeswoman Marie Michelle Verrier said. Port-au-Prince commissioner Bed-Ford Claude had already ordered

immigration authorities to prohibit four police officers who were responsible for Moise's security from leaving the country.

MALABAR CEMENTS LIMITED (A Government of Kerala Undertaking), An ISO 9001 :2015, 14001:2015 Company Walayar Post, Palakkad-678624-Kerala, Email: materials@malabarcements.com/bulkmcl@gmail.com

Visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in for Online Submission of Bids for:

Collection & Transportation of packed cement from Malabar Cements Ltd., Walayar to various locations in Coimbatore district with in radius of 100KM

Supply of 2000MT wet fly ash on MCL Walayar basis.

Gunniting of damaged RCC structures of Pre-heater and Coal Mill building at Plant.

Procurement of 3000MT Iron flue dust on for MCL Walavar basis Supply, Erection and Commissioning of solid Flow Feeder 120 TPH

Disposal of Scrap, thro: 'MSTC' - 1. Disposal of Chrome Steel Scrap 2. Disposal of 2.53 MW Multi Fuel Captive Powe

Plant, FOR DETAILS ABOUT SCRAP & DISPOSAL PLEASE VISIT: www.mstcindia.co.i

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS:TIRUPATI MARKETING DEPARTMENT e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE e-tender cum e-Reverse auction is invited for pr Marketing Department, T.T.D. Tirupati **Download Starting** Name of item Quantity

and Ending Dates 42,000 21.00.000/ AGEB Variety Kgs. 10-08-2021 For tender notice and details log on to the web site http://www.tirumala.org and https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in. For further 0877-2264079, 2264555, Fax No. 0877-2264554. Roc.No.PR4/13932/Adv.No.105/PR0/2021/Dated:27-07-2021 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

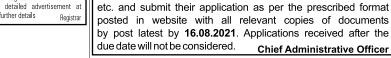


Ref: AU/DRD/RUSA 2.0/EMMC/ Equipment/Tender/05/2020-21 //TENDER NOTIFICATION//

For and on behalf of Annamalai University, sealed tenders are invited for supply and installation of Equipment for establishing Educational Multimedia Centre in the Faculty of Education, Annamalai University, Annamalainagar from the Indian Companies of Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM)/Authorized Dealers.

Tender document can be downloaded from the website of Annamalai University www.annamalaiuniversity.ac.in and www.tenders.tn.gov.in

a)	Tender Fee	Rs.2,100/-
b)	Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.40,000/-
c)	Last date and time for receipt of tender	18.08.2021 - 5.00 p.m.
d)	Date, Time and Venue of Opening of tender	19-08-2021 - 10.30 a.m. Syndicate Room, Examination Wing Annamalai University Annamalainagar - 608 002.
ND / 00	40 (FENDED)0004	Registrar i/c



HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

M.S.Building, Bangalore

Date: 27.07.2021

Selection of Vice-Chancellor of Bengaluru North University 1. The Government of Karnataka invites applications for the selection of Vice-Chancellor o

Bengaluru North University, Kolar as per sec. 14(2) of Karnataka State University Act, 2000 from eligible and distinguished Academicians/Professors with following credentials i) A person of the highest level of competence, integrity, morals and institutional commitment;

ii) A distinguished academician, with a minimum of ten years' of experience as Professor in a University or ten years' of experience in a reputed research and / or academic adminstrative organization with proof of having demonstrated academic leadership;

iii) As provided in the sec 14(5) and 14(6) of Karnataka State University Act, 2000, the Vice-Chancellor shall, subject to the pleasure of the Chancellor, hold the office for a maximum period of 4 years or until he attains the age of Sixty Seven years whichever is earlier Consequently, a person to be appointed as Vice Chancellor shall have clear four years of

Persons interested in submitting their candidacy for the Vice-Chancellor of Bengaluru North University, should make hard copies of the application in triplicate duly filled along with the academic, research credentials and administrative experience, achievements & other details in the proforma prescribed by the UGC within 15 days at the latest from the date of publication of this advertisement, to:- Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Higher Education

Department, 6th Floor, Gate No:02, M.S.Building, Banglore-560 001 Single soft copy of the application in PDF format should be mailed to e-mail kgsheduni2020@gmail.com

. In support of unblemished career and undoubted integrity, the applicant who is retired from service, should file a self attested certificate to the effect that no departmental/criminal enquiry is instituted/pending against him or no enquiry is culminated in penalties and he is neither having the tainted service history nor the appointment dispute. Whereas, in case of applicant in service, he should file a certificate of his employer in this regard.
The concerned will be subjected to stringent action if certificates are found to be false. Further, the applications not accompanying the above mentioned certificates will not be considered and processed

i. The application proforma is available on the website of Bengaluru North University, Kolar. 6. Incomplete applications and applications received after the stipulated time limit will not be

entertained. This office is not responsible for postal or other kinds of delays. . The candidature of those who indulge in undue influencing on the selection process through unethical means will stand cancelled

Additional Chief Secretary to Government Higher Education Department.

Maintain Hand Hygiene Follow Physical Distancing

US Dollar	74.26	74.58
Euro	87.54	87.93
British Pound	.102.36	102.81
Japanese Yen (100).	67.41	67.71
Chinese Yuan	11.41	11.46
Swiss Franc	81.00	81.36
Singapore Dollar	54.56	54.81
Canadian Dollar	59.02	59.28
Malaysian Ringitt	17.53	17.63
Source:Indian Bank		

IN BRIEF



Droom to raise \$200 mn in pre-IPO round

Droom Technology Private Ltd., a marketplace for used cars, bikes and other mobility products, is planning to raise \$200 million in pre-initial public offering (IPO) round to invest in growth plans, said founder and CEO Sandeep Aggarwal. Of the planned \$200 million, Droom had already raised some capital, he said and added that the company would go public within 6 to 18 months.

ESAF Small Finance Bank files ₹998-cr. IPO papers

ESAF Small Finance Bank has filed preliminary papers with capital markets regulator SEBI to raise ₹998 crore through an initial public offering (IPO). The ₹997.78-crore public issue comprises fresh issue of equity shares worth ₹800 crore and an offer for sale of ₹197.78 crore by existing selling shareholders, the draft red herring prospectus filed with SEBI showed. PT

Hatsun founders repay loans, freeing pledge

CHENNAI Promoters of Hatsun Agro Product have repaid loans availed against a portion of their shares and released the entire pledge, the company said. Chairman R.G. Chandramogan had pledged 6 lakh shares representing 0.28% of share capital to Kotak Mahindra Bank, while MD C. Sathyan had pledged 18.7 lakh shares representing 0.87% of share capital to Aditya Birla Money Ltd.

IndusInd Bank net profit doubles to ₹1,016 crore

IndusInd Bank on Tuesday reported doubling of its consolidated net profit to ₹1,016.11 crore in the June 2021 quarter, aided by healthy growth in retail loans and lower NPA provisioning. The bank had posted a net profit of ₹510.39 crore in the corresponding quarter of the previous financial year. Total income rose to ₹9,362.76 crore from ₹8.682.17 crore in the year-earlier period. PTI

Panel raps govt. over MSMEs, urges larger economic package

Parliamentary committee moots steps to boost cash flows for micro, small units

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A Parliamentary panel has pulled up the government for offering inadequate relief measures for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) that were worst-affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. It mooted fresh measures to help them stay afloat, including a doubling of the 90-day limit for banks to classify their loan dues as problematic

Offering loans and longterm measures - as the government had done over the past year - instead of improving the cash flow to generate demand as immediate relief, have put small enterprises in a grim situation, the panel said in its report ta-



Flip priorities: Policies must be framed with a focus on small enterprises, not larger firms, the panel says. • M. PERIASAMY

bled in Parliament on

The second COVID-19 wave this year 'even more vigorously ripped the economy, particularly the MSME sector' just as it was recovering from the initial lock-

downs of 2020, the panel said. "The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Government should immediately come out with a larger economic package aimed at bolstering demand, investment, exports and em-

ployment generation to help economy, including MSMEs to recover from the pandemic fallout," said the report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry.

Chaired by TRS member of parliament K. Keshava Rao, the committee's report sought a detailed study of the actual losses suffered by small enterprises since the onset of the pandemic, noting that no such intensive assessment had been done by the MSME Ministry.

Arguing that most policies were formulated keeping medium and large enterprises in mind, the panel said the position should be 'contrary' with a focus on micro and small enterprises

Flipkart goes to SC in CCI probe matter

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

Online retailer Flipkart has approached the Supreme Court challenging a Karnataka High Court decision allowing an antitrust probe against it and another ecommerce major, Amazon.

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) had in January decided to open a probe into the companies for allegedly entering into anti-competitive ments in violation of the Competition Act of 2002.

The firms had denied the allegations and wanted the probe quashed.

The CCI had acted on a complaint by Delhi Vyapar Mahasangh, which had alleged that Amazon and Flipkart were giving preference to select sellers and offering deep discounts via anti-competitive accords.

IMF cuts emerging Asia, India growth forecasts

Fund sees India GDP growth at 9.5%

REUTERS

The International Monetary Fund on Tuesday cut this year's economic growth forecast for emerging Asia, including India, as a spike in coronavirus cases from new variants and slow vaccinations cloud the region's recovery prospects.

The downgrade, which contrasted with an upward revision in the IMF's forecast for advanced nations, highlights the divergence emerging across countries on the pace of recovery from the pandemic's hit.

In an update to its World Economic Outlook (WEO), the IMF forecast emerging Asia will grow 7.5% this year, down 1.1 percentage points from its projection in April.

That was a much bigger downgrade than a 0.4 point Growth prospects in India have been downgraded following the severe second

COVID wave mark-down for emerging economies across the globe

"Growth prospects in India have been downgraded following the severe second COVID wave during March-May and expected slow recovery in confidence from that setback," the IMF said.

"Similar dynamics are at work in the ASEAN-5 group... where recent infection waves are causing a drag on activity," it said.

The IMF cut this year's growth forecast for India by 3 percentage points to 9.5%. China's forecast for 2021

was revised down 0.3 point

Adani Ports issues bonds, raises \$750 mn

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd. (AP-SEZ) has raised \$750 million through issue of bonds, including 20-year unsecured bonds, from the global markets.

The firm claimed that it has become the first infrastructure company in India to successfully raise 20 years money from international markets. According to a statement, the coupon rates for the 10.5-year and 20-vear dual-tranche bonds were fixed at 3.8% and 5%, respectively.

"The issuances were oversubscribed by over 3

IndiGo net loss widens on fuel, COVID impact

'May, June revenues lower than April's'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Low-cost carrier IndiGo on Tuesday reported a loss of ₹3,174 crore for the quarter ended June, wider than the ₹2,842-crore loss a year earlier. Total income almost tripled to ₹3,170 crore. Passenger ticket revenue

and ancillary revenue surged fourfold to ₹2,297 crore and ₹668 crore, respectively.

Total expenses climbed 59.2% to ₹6,344 crore.

"Fuel was a negative driver as, year-over-year, fuel price has doubled," said CEO Ronojoy Dutta. "The second large factor was the severe impact that the CO-



VID-19 second wave had on revenues in the quarter." He highlighted the second wave impact by pointing out the dip in monthly revenue.

The figures came to ₹1,540 crore in April, ₹670 crore in May and ₹960 crore in June. The airline, however, expects revenue in July to recover to April levels.

Vedanta plans ₹6,611-cr. Balco expansion

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Vedanta on Tuesday said it would invest ₹6,611 crore over the next 18-24 months in expansion of smelter capacity at group firm Bharat Aluminium Company.

In addition, the company said its carbon plant adequacy business in Odisha would set up a new facility at ₹635 crore.

"Balco's expansion is a very important project for us. We hope to ramp up the smelter capacity over the next 18-24 months," Group CEO Sunil Duggal said. "Post this expansion, Vedanta's aluminium capacity will increase to 2.8 million tonnes," he added.

Dr. Reddy's net slides 36% on charge; faces SEC subpoena

Drugmaker sets aside ₹193 cr. after losing arbitration in U. S.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Dr. Reddy's Laboratories (DRL) on Tuesday reported first-quarter consolidated net profit fell 36% to ₹380.4 crore after the company accounted for an additional expense of ₹193 crore in the wake of the loss of an arbitration award in the U.S.

Revenue rose almost 12% to ₹4,945.1 crore in the three months ended June, as per results prepared to Indian Accounting Standards.

The arbitration ruling required one of DRL's subsidiaries to pay \$46.25 million (₹340.1 crore) to Hatchtech



ny was carrying \$20 million (₹147.1 crore) as provision towards this litigation, an additional expense of \$26.25 million (₹193 crore)... was recognised during the three months ended June 30," the company said.

DIPR No.: 2019-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2021-22

Period of Completion

Sale of Tender

Earnest Money Deposit

Shares of DRL tumbled 10.4% to close at ₹4,844.35 on the BSE after the company also said it had received a subpoena from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) earlier this month asking for documents pertaining to certain CIS geographies over a complaint pertaining to alleged corrupt practices in Ukraine.

A U.S. law firm is probing the matter at the instruction of a committee of DRL's board. The company said it had disclosed the matter to the U.S. Department of Justice, SEC and Securities and Exchange Board of India.

Canara Bank Q1 net profit triples to ₹1,177 cr.

'Fall in bad loans helped boost profit'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Canara Bank reported an almost threefold jump in net profit to ₹1,177 crore for the quarter ended June 30 from more than ₹406 crore in the year-earlier period.

Reduction in bad loans helped net profit grow substantially, the lender said. Gross NPA ratio stood at

8.5% in the April-June quarter as against 8.93% in the previous quarter and 8.84% in June 2020 quarter, MD & CEO L.V. Prabhakar said on Tuesday.

Net NPA ratio stood at 3.46% as against 3.82% in the last quarter and 3.95% in the June 2020 quarter. Total income increased marginally to ₹21,210 crore from ₹20,686 crore in the yearearlier period. Operating profit stood at ₹5,751 crore, up by 34.18% year-on-year.



ness increased by 9.38% yo-y to ₹17,06,422 crore. Global deposits stood at ₹10,21,837 crore, a 12.34% yo-v increase, while global advances grew 5.23% to ₹6,84,585 crore. Domestic deposits stood at ₹9,70,481 crore, an 11.6% y-o-y growth.

According to Mr. Prabhakar, the bank's retail lending increased by 9.57 % (y-o-y) to ₹1,15,291 crore, with both home and vehicle loans making a huge comeback.

Ramco Cements Q1 net rises 54%

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Ramco Cements reported a 54% increase in standalone net profit for Q1 of FY22 to ₹168.98 crore. The company attributed the rise to implementation of tight costcontrol measures in manufacturing operations.

Revenue from operations rose 18% to ₹1,205 crore. Cement sales increased 11% to 21.41 lakh tonnes. The company incurred a capex ₹397 crore.

Demand for individual housing declined marginally in the south, while infrastructure and commercial segments looked up. Lockdowns dampened demand in May and June.

In the Eastern region, individual housing saw good growth and there was pickup in infrastructure and commercial segments, the company said.

(AHS) for 2021-22 Academic year will be based on the merit score of National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (UG) [NEET(UG)] 2021 to be conducted by NTA JIPMER will not conduct any separate Entrance Examination for the admission to the aforesaid courses for 2021-22 Academic year

· Medical Counselling Committee (MCC), DGHS, MoH&FW will conduct MBBS Counselling.

JIPMER will conduct B.Sc. counselling.

Visit www.jipmer.edu.in after the publication of NEET (UG) results for application and counselling procedure details. DEAN (ACADEMIC)

HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD **NOTICE**

Date of Preliminary Examination of Direct Recruitment to the U.P. Higher Judicial Service-2020

Type) of Direct Recruitment to the U.P. Higher Judicial Service-2020 (which was earlier scheduled on 04th April, 2021) is 05th September, 2021 (Sunday) and the same will be held at **Prayagraj** (Allahabad) only.

Selection and Appointment/Seniority



Date of commencement of online applications : 28.07.2021 Last date for receipt of online applications Last date for receipt of hard copy of applications: 10.09.2021 CSIR-IICT a Premier Research Organization under CSIR, invites ONLINE APPLICATIONS ONLY for 10 Scientists positions from candidates with a

Designation	No. of posts & Reservations	Pay Matrix (7th CPC)	*Total Emoluments	**Upper age Limit not exceeding as on 27.08.2021
Scientist	05 posts (03-UR; 02-OBC)	Level – 11	₹1,03,681/-	32 years
Senior Scientist	02 posts (UR)	Level – 12	₹1,19,332/-	37 years
Principal Scientist	03 posts (UR)	Level – 13	₹1,81,795/-	45 years

*Total Emoluments means approximate total emoluments on minimum of scale

Information & Conditions).

For further details please visit our website http://www.iict.res.in and apply through the online application form available there. The detailed advertisement, terms and conditions and instructions to the candidates are available on the website.

Sd/- Sr. Controller of Administration

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Kerala), a Government of Kerala Company, invites EoI from Prospective Training Agencies/Organizations/Industries to Impart Skill Training in various sectors

For more details: www.asapkerala.gov.in

material. Tender Forms with full details of work and Tender conditions can be obtained from the Secretary, IIHFW, Hyderabad between 10-30 AM and 5-00 PM from the date o Publication/website: www.iihfw.in. The last date for submission of Tender forms is

Post Bag no. 1. Yelwal, Mysore 571 130 Telephone : 0821-6724/6418 Fax:0821-240306 NOTICE INVITING e- TENDER Date: 22.07.2021

Chief Engineer, BARC, Mysuru, invites for & on behalf of President of India on line item rate tenders from experienced Contractor with sound financial & technical capacity for following work(s):

Tender Reference No. | BARC/MYS/ CES/01/2021-22 Architectural & Structural Design, Drawings Supply, Fabrication, Erection & Commissioning of two numbers of Pre-Engineered Buildings Name of work (PEB 1 & PEB 2) along with Civil, Electrical and surrounding development works at BARC Projec site Mysuru **Estimated Cost** ₹ 2,00,00,000.00 (Rupees Two Crore Only)

(18.00 Hrs) nterested tenderers may please refer detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT for eligibility criteria and other details, which can be downloaded from web sit www.tenderwizard.in/dae and www.barc.gov.in

12 (Twelve) months

Chief Engineer, BARC For & on behalf of President of India

From 28.07.2021 (11:00 Hrs) to 11.08.2021

NTPC Limited

NTPC is inviting domestic expression of interest from Discoms / Bulk Consumers/ Corporates/ Industrial Consumers for supply of electricity from NTPC on round the clock/ specific hours of the day basis on short term/medium term/long term basis.

'NTPC Limited' a leading power generation company, has been ranked No#2 Independent Power Producer (IPP) in the world as per Platts (2020). The company is listed in stock exchange with a market capitalization of NTPC produces around 300 Billion units of electricity annually through its

cluster of gas, coal, hydro and RE based power stations of more than 66 GW capacity spanning across the country. NTPC meets 25% of the country's power requirement through operation of diversified fleet of the generators for more than 45 years and has been supplying reliable and affordable power to the customers. NTPC plans to achieve target capacity of 130 GW by 2032 including RE capacity of 60 GW.

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contact the interested buyers for further processing. Registered Office: NTPC Bhawan, SCOPE Complex, 7, Institutional Area,

Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003, CIN: L40101DL1975GOI007966

Leading the Power Sector

With cotton prices rising,

Ashwin Chandran said in a press release that the increase of ₹3,800 a candy of cotton over the past 15 days by the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and the 10% import duty on cotton were affecting the entire textile value chain. It had made textile exports 'expensive' in

Though the CCI offered three months' lock-in for bulk purchase, textile mills could not benefit due to a liquidity crunch and uncertainty in cotton prices, he



CMD, CCI, said international cotton prices and MCX prices had risen by ₹7,500 and

Textile exports turn expensive: SIMA

ternational price.

Price increases by CCI are less than

encouraged price speculation, he claimed. For some varieties, prices of Indian cotton had exceeded the in-

Cotton prices rise, textile trade seeks zero duty

said. The import duty has

the jump seen in

Pradeep Kumar Agarwal,

₹6,000 a candy, respectively, in the last one-and-a-half months. But, he pointed out, CCI had raised prices by ₹2,200 to ₹2,500 a candy for the same period, except for 1-2 varieties where it is higher. In the last one month, 40% of the cotton sold by CCI were purchased by textile mills directly.

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plaint against siblings' firms SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Kirloskar files

Sanjay Kirloskar-led Kirloskar Brothers Ltd. filed a complaint with the Securities and Exchange Board of India against four firms led by his brothers Atul and Rahul Kirloskar, alleging they had misled investors and usurped its more-thana-century-old legacy.

The complaint is against

Kirloskar Oil Engines, Kirloskar Industries, Kirloskar Pneumatic Company and Kirloskar Ferrous Industries, which earlier this month announced a new logo and branding for their new mission 'Kirloskar Limitless'. In a statement, a Kirloskar Industries spokesperson said, "The said letter contains a large number of factual inaccuracies and misstatements."

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

the textile industry has sought removal of 10% import duty on the produce. Southern India Mills' Association (SIMA) chairman

the global market, he said.

Impressive Lovlina battles past Nadine

A win against Nien-Chin in the quarterfinals will assure the Indian boxer of a medal



Y.B. SARANGI

Two-time World Cham-I pionships bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain proan impressive performance to beat accomplished German boxer Nadine Apetz 3-2 in a keenly contested women's 69kg pre-quarterfinal bout of the Tokyo Olympics on Tuesday.

After Mary Kom, Lovlina became the second Indian boxer to register a win in Tokyo.

The 23-year-old, who received a first round bye, will meet third seed Nien-Chin Chen of Chinese Taipei in the



quarterfinals on Friday.

Having done her homework well, Lovlina - who had secured her first Worlds

bronze medal alongside Nadine in Delhi in 2018 - used her long reach to land punches against the strong

German, who used her left jabs to good effect in the opening round.

The Indian, however, took

the first round with a split 3-2 verdict.

Anticipating that Nadine, also a double Worlds bronze medallist and a two-time European bronze medallist, would step up her attack, Lovlina preferred to stay safe and come up with a punch

The German fought well but could not execute her plans against the tactically superior Indian.

Unable to catch up

After claiming the first two rounds by identical 3-2 margins, Lovlina continued to throw punches from a distance even as Nadine tried in vain to catch up with her taller rival. Lovlina, who had lost to

Nien-Chin in the 2018 World Championships semifinals, needs to win her last-eight bout against the former World champion in order to ensure an Olympic medal.

India gets its act together

Rupinder's brace highlights 3-0 win over Spain

HOCKEY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dragflicker Rupinder Pal Singh scored a brace as India cruised past Spain 3-0 for its second win in men's hockey at the Tokyo Olympics here on Tuesday.
Drubbed 7-1 by Australia

in its last match, India produced a spirited performance against World No. 9 Spain and scored through Simranjeet Singh (14th minute) and Rupinder Singh (15th and 51st).

India, ranked fourth in the world, had earlier defeated New Zealand 3-2. Spain, on the other hand, is yet to register a win.

The Indians will play reigning Olympic champion Argentina on Thursday.

Spain steadily got into the groove and secured its first penalty corner in the 12th minute, but wasted the chance.



Well done, mate! Mandeep Singh, left, congratulates day's hero Rupinder Pal Singh. • AP

In the 15th minute, the Spain defence was caught off-guard by Amit Rohidas' pass and an unmarked Simranjeet just tapped the ball in. Rohidas was playing in his 100th match for India.

The goal rejuvenated the Indians, as they secured three back-to-back penalty corners in the final minute of the first quarter. In the third set-piece, Harmanpreet's flick found the body of a defender, resulting in a penalty stroke. Rupinder stepped up and made no mistake in doubling India's lead. He was on target once again in the 51st minute, scoring off a penalty corner.

P.R. Sreejesh, who had a nightmarish outing against Australia, had a brilliant game, pulling off some fine

Sharath goes down guns blazing

The 39-year-old fights Long tooth and nail

TABLE TENNIS

AMOL KARHADKAR

. Sharath Kamal played This heart out for 46 minutes before going down to Ma Long of China in a men's singles round of 32 contest on Tuesday. Long won 11-7, 8-11, 13-11, 11-4, 11-4. Long, the second seed

here, is one of the greatest paddlers in the modern era, having won three consecutive World Championships and the singles gold in Rio

Raising his level

Even against a rusty Long, Sharath had to raise his level to be competitive. The Indian, choosing to play close to the table, managed just that, his top-spin returns from both flanks and flicks while returning the side-spin serves unsettling Long.

After losing the first game, Sharath opened up an 8-4 lead. Long closed it down to 8-7, forcing India coach Sou-



Determined display: Sharath Kamal pushed defending champion Ma Long. ■REUTERS

myadeep Roy to call for a time-out. The next point witnessed the longest rally of the match, with Long levelling scores after a 12-shot exchange. However, Sharath produced three consecutive winners to make it 1-1.

With either player unable to open up a sizeable gap in the third game, Sharath saved two game-points at 8-10 to take it into an extended tie-break

After Sharath came up with two successive backI said before leaving for the Olympics that this will be my best Games as I am in the best physical and mental shape. And I was right

hand top-spins on his serve. at 12-11, Long took a timeout, broke Sharath's rhythm and sealed the game. Though the next two games saw Long run away with it, the 39-year-old Sharath had every reason to be pleased with his performance.

Saurabh-Manu pair loses the plot after a bright start

Tops qualification 1 but finishes seventh; other shooters fail

SHOOTING

SHYAM VASUDEVAN

The Indian shooting contingent's barren run at the Tokyo Olympics extended into the mixed 10m events on

While the duo of Saurabh Chaudhary and Manu Bhaker made it to the mixed 10m air pistol second qualification round, none of the three other teams got past the first hurdle.

The teenage duo was in dazzling form in the first qualification round, topping the standings with a score of 582, studded with 26 inner 10s. Saurabh shot 98, 100 and 98, while Manu registered 97, 94 and 95.

However, in the second qualification round, Saurabh shot 96 and 98 but Manu managed only 92 and 94. The two finished seventh



Misfiring: Manu and Saurabh buckled under pressure in the second qualification round. • PTI

with a score of 380 while China's Ranxin Jiang and Wei Pang led the pack with

The Chinese beat the ROC team of Vitalina Batsarashkina and Artem Chernousov 16-14 in the final.

The second Indian pair of Abhishek Verma and Yashaswini Deswal finished 17th in the first qualification round. India's challenge in the mixed 10m air rifle ended tamely as both pairs were not even close to qualification. Elavenil Valarivan and Divyansh Singh Panwar totalled 625.6 to be placed 12th, while Deepak Kumar

and Anjum Moudgil shot

623.6 to finish 18th.

Period of ransom is over: NRAI president

SHYAM VASUDEVAN

National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) president Raninder Singh said everything "humanly possible" was done to prepare the shooting team for the Tokyo Olympics, admitting that he has been perplexed by the performance of the shooters so far.

Raninder said the "period of ransom is over" and he would take a closer look at the role of the coaches after the Games.

About the alleged conflict between coach Jaspal Rana and Manu Bhaker, he said the two had worked together and achieved fabulous results in the last few years.

No accreditation While many Indian coaches were sent to Tokyo, Jaspal was not given accreditation.



Raninder Singh. ■ GETTY IMAGES

Raninder conceded that Jaspal's presence would have helped Manu in Tokyo. Despite efforts to resolve the discord, the situation was beyond repair, especially with Manu's family expressing reservations.

The NRAI president revealed that he had to bring in Ronak Pandit to guide Manu as he was good in both the 10m and 25m events.

MEDAL EVENTS ON WEDNESDAY

23 Golds will be on offer at the **Games on Wednesday** 3x3 Basketball: Men and

Artistic Gymnastics: Men's All-around. Cycling Road: Men's and wo-

men's individual time trial. Diving: Men's synchronised 3m springboard. Dressage **Equestrian:**

individual. Fencing: Men's sabre team. Judo: Men's 90kg, Women's

INDIAN ODYSSEY

Badminton: Men's doubles

(group stage): Satwiksairaj

Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty bt

Sean Vendy & Ben Lane (GBr)

21-17, 21-19. The Indian pair

lost out on a quarterfinal berth

Boxing: Women's welter-

weight (round of 16): Lovlina

Borgohain bt Nadine Apetz

Hockey: Men (Pool A): bt

Sailing: Women: Laser Radial:

Nethra Kumanan (33rd overall

after six races); Men: Laser:

Vishnu Saravanan (22nd over-

49er: K.C. Ganapathy and Va-

on game difference.

Spain 3-0.

Rowing: Men's & Women's double sculls, Men's & Women's Four, Men's & Women's quadruple sculls.

Rugby Sevens: Men.

Swimming: Women's 200m freestyle, Women's 1500m freestyle, Women's 200m ind. medley, Men's 200m butterfly, Men's 4x200m freestyle

Weightlifting: Men's 73kg.

run Thakkar (18th in Race 1).

Shooting: 10m air pistol mixed

team: Qualification stage 2: 7.

Manu Bhaker and Saurabh

Chaudhary, Did Not Qualify

Qualification stage 1: 1. Manu

Bhaker and Saurabh Chaud-

hary, 17. Yashaswini Singh Des-

10m air rifle mixed team:

Qualification stage 1: 12. Ela-

venil Valarivan and Divyansh

Singh Panwar, 18. Anjum

Moudgil and Deepak Kumar.

(DNQ) for medal round.

wal and Abhishek Verma.

GOLD MEDAL WINNERS ON TUESDAY



Sublime: Chen and Zhang extended China's winning streak in 10m synchronised platform. • AP

Russia: Artistic gymnastics: Wo-Ricarda Funk (Ger): Canoe Slalom: Women's kavak

mountain bike: Women's cross-country Chen Yuxi & Zhang Jiaqi (Chn):

Germany: Equestrian: Dressage

Table tennis: Men's singles (third round): Sharath Kamal lost to Ma Long (Chn) 1-4. do: Women's 63kg



Takanori Nagase (Jpn): Judo:

Jolanda Neff (Sui): Cycling

Diving: Women's synchronised 10m platform

Estonia: Fencing: Women's epee Clarisse Agbegnenou (Fra): Ju-

Men's 81kg Yang Qian & Yang Haoran (Chn): Shooting: 10m air rifle mixed

Ranxin & Pang Wei Jiang (Chn): Shooting: 10m air pistol Japan: Softball Italo Ferreira (Bra): Surfing:

Carissa Moore (USA): Surfing: Kaylee McKeown (Aus): Swimming: Women's 100m backstroke

Lydia Jacoby (USA): Swimming:

Women's 100m breaststroke Tom Dean (GBr): Swimming: Men's 200m freestyle Evgeny Rylov (Rus): Swimming: Men's 100m backstroke Vladislav Larin (ROC): Taekwondo: Men's +80kg Milica Mandic (Srb): Taekwondo: Women's +67kg

Flora Duffy (Ber): Triathlon:

Women's individual

Kuo Hsing-Chun (Tpe): Weightlifting: Women's 59kg Maude Charron (Can): Weightlifting: Women's 64kg

Heartbreak for the Satwik-Chirag duo

Loses out on quarterfinal berth

BADMINTON

RAKESH RAO

I ton doubles team of R. Satwiksairaj and Chirag Shetty won their last league match against Great Britain's Ben Lane and Sean Vendy 21-17, 21-19 but lost out on an Olympic quarterfinal berth following a dramatic three-way tie for the two qualifying spots from Group A on Tuesday.

The Indian men's badmin-

What broke the hearts of the Indians was the threegame upset of the top-seeded Indonesian pair of Marcus Fernaldi Gideon and Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo by the third-seeded Chinese Taipei duo of Lee Yang and Wang Chi-lin. Since Satwik and Chirag

had beaten Yang and Chilin, they must have been hoping that the Indonesians After a three-way tie, the two bowed out with a

game difference of 4/3

would win the last match. However, it was Yang and Chi-lin who posted a 21-18, 15-21, 21-17 victory over Gideon and Sukamuljo. The result left the pairs from Indonesia, Chinese Taipei and India tied with a 2-1 record.

In game difference, Indonesia was 5/2, Chinese Taipei 5/3 and India 4/3.



INDIANS IN ACTION



Archery (1/32 eliminations): Men's individual: Tarundeep Rai vs Oleksii Hunbin (Ukr), 7.30 a.m.; Pravin Jadhav vs Galsan Bazarzhapov (ROC),

Women's individual: Deepika Kumari vs Karma (Bhu), 2.10 Badminton (group stage):

Women's singles: P.V. Sindhu vs Cheung Ngan Yi (Hkg), 7.30 a.m.; Men's singles: B. Sai Praneeth vs Mark Caljouw (Ned), 2.30 p.m.

Boxing: Women's middleweight (round of 16): Pooja Rani vs Ichrak Chaib (Alg), 2.30 p.m.

Hockey: Women (Pool A): vs Great Britain, 6.30 a.m. Rowing: Men's lightweight double sculls (semifinal A/B 2): Arjun Jat and Arvind Singh, 8 a.m.

Sailing: Men: 49er (from 8.35 a.m.): K.C. Ganapathy and Va-

Osaka crashes out **MEDALS RACE**



ROC: Russian Olympic Committee

TENNIS

DNQ for stage 2.

SPORTS BUREAU Tapanese star Naomi Osa-

J ka's dreams of a home Olympic gold were crushed by a 1-6, 4-6 loss to Marketa Vondrousova on Tuesday. "I definitely feel like there

was a lot of pressure for this. I think it's maybe because I haven't played in the Olympics before and for the first year (it) was a bit much," said Osaka. After looking assured in the first two rounds after her eight-week hiatus, Osaka made a dreadful start at a rain-hit Ariake Tennis Park and never recovered. **Indian challenge ends**

The Indian challenge officially ended on Tuesday after the Sania Mirza-Sumit Nagal combine failed to make it to the 16-team mixed doubles competition.

With a combined ranking of 153 going into the Olympics, the Indian duo needed a miracle, and it duly fell short of the ranking cut-off for an event which saw a team with a combined ranking of 49 qualify 16th.

Russian women end USA's reign; Biles withdrawn

ROC completes a men's and women's double; star gymnast pulled out for 'medical issue'



Unfortunate: Simone Biles had a disappointing opening vault before 'medical issues' forced her out. •PTI

GYMNASTICS

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Russia's women gymnastics team capitalised on the dramatic departure of Simone Biles from the USA team to team title on Tuesday.

The US team withdrew Biles from the final after a disappointing opening vault and Russia went on to beat the champion from the last two Games and emulate the men's team which had won 24 hours earlier. Competing under a neu-

tral banner due to the country's doping suspension, Russia ended the domination of the US women in World and Olympic finals stretching

I have to do what's right for me and focus on my mental health and not jeopardise my health and my well-being

cause of a "medical issue" and would be assessed daily to determine whether she can continue in the Games. TV PICKS

back to 2011. USA Gymnastics

said Biles was withdrawn be-

TNPL 2021: Star Sports 2 (SD

& HD), 3.30 p.m. & 7.30 p.m. Sri Lanka vs India: 2nd T201, Sony Ten 1, 3 & Sony Six (SD & HD), 8 p.m. **Tokyo 2020**: Sony Ten 2, 3 &

Sony Six (SD & HD), 4 a.m. onwards (Thursday)

Gritty Dean springs a huge surprise

Russian 1-2 in men's 100m backstroke: Jacoby, McKeown take gold on debut

SWIMMING

A. VINOD

The form book took anothf I er beating as little-known Briton Tom Dean won the men's 200m freestyle gold in Tokyo on Tuesday.

The 21-year-old mechanical engineering student, who represented his country in the 200m individual medley at the 2019 World Championships in Gwangju, showed no sign of nerves as he rallied to win in 1:44.22s.

Dean's teammate Duncan Scott and Lithuanian Danas Rapsys were the favourites for the race.

Dean, who had contracted the coronavirus twice last year, made his move in the final lap. Scott ensured a 1-2 for Britain with a late rally.

This is the first time since London 1908 that Great Britain has won two medals in



Grabbing attention: Lydia Jacoby put in the shade defending champion and world record-holder Lilly King. • GETTY IMAGES

the same event. Scott, who took the silver in 1:44.26s, pushed Brazilian Fernando Scheffer (1:44.66s) to the third

Russian Evgeny Rylov, with a strong finish, claimed the

men's 100m backstroke title with a new European record of 51.98s. Rylov had won the silver at Rio 2016.

The 24-year-old was placed second behind teammate Kliment Kolesnikov in the initial

finishing in 52s flat. American Ryan Murphy was a distant third in 52.19s.

stages of the two-lapper be-

fore surging ahead. Kolesni-

kov made it a 1-2 for Russia,

Australia's Kaylee McKe-

own, making her Olympic debut, powered to victory in the women's 100m backstroke, clocking 57.47s, a new Games record. The 20-year-old, who finished fifth in Gwangju, was lying third before moving to the top.

No flash in the pan

McKeown proved that her world-record effort of 57.45s at the Australian trials was no flash in the pan.

McKeown was expected to be given a tough fight by Canadian Kylie Masse and American Regan Smith. However, Masse took the silver in 57.72s and Smith the bronze at 58.05s. The United States grabbed the other gold of the day, as another Games debutant, the precocious Lydia Jacoby shocked South African Tatjana Schoenmaker, and defending champion and world record-holder Lilly King in the women's 100m breaststroke.

Ferreira and Moore create history

The Brazilian and American bag maiden surfing medals

M.R. PRAVEEN CHANDRAN

🕽 razil's Italo Ferreira and **D**USA's Carissa Moore claimed historic gold medals in the shortboard surfing event of the 2020 Olympics at the Tsurigasaki Surfing Beach in Tokyo on Tuesday.

Ferreira overcame a broken board in the first wave to outclass Kano Igarashi of Japan 15.14-6.60 in the men's final.

Moore defeated South African Bianca Buitendag 14.93-8.46 to take the gold in the women's section.

Igarashi, who had upset favourite K. Andino of the USA in the quarterfinals, struggled while Ferreira notched up good scores to take an early lead in the fi-

Owen Wright (Australia) overcame World No. 1 Gabriel Medina 11.97-11.77 to

bag the bronze. Bianca Buitendag, who



Italo Ferreira. • AP

did well to beat seven-time World champion Stephaine Gilmore in the quarterfinals and prodigy Caroline Marks in the semifinals, finally met her match in Moore.



The American established an early lead that Buitendag could not bridge.

Japan's Amuro Tsuzuki took the bronze beating Marks 6.80-4.26.

TOKYO TITBITS

individual gold in six different Games, also extended her record haul of Olympic medals to 11. **Duffy gives Bermuda**

its first-ever gold Flora Duffy won Bermuda's first-ever Olympic gold medal when she delivered a dominating run leg to convincingly triumph in the women's triathlon on a stormy Tokyo course on Tuesday.





Owen Wright... triumphing

Wright puts brain injury behind him to bag bronze Australian surfer Owen Wright, who suffered a traumatic brain injury in 2015 after a training wipeout and had a memory loss, crowned his remarkable comeback with a bronze medal

A proposal she couldn't refuse!

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Argentine fencer Maria Belen Perez Maurice accepted a marriage proposal from her long-term partner and coach in front of TV cameras on Monday, the second time he had posed the question in similar fashion.

The athlete, after a firstround exit in her third Olympics, was answering questions from reporters when her coach, Lucas Saucedo, appeared behind her with a piece of paper in his hand reading "Do you want to marry me?"

In 2010, Saucedo tried a similar stunt at the World championships in Paris, but with far less luck

Krunal tests positive, second T20I postponed to Wednesday

INDIA IN LANKA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA COLOMBO

The second T20 International between India and Sri Lanka on Tuesday was postponed by a day after Krunal Pandya tested positive for COVID-19.

"The second T20I between Sri Lanka and India originally scheduled to be played on July 27 has been pushed forward by a day and will now take place on Wednesday, July 28," said BCCI secretary Jay Shah in a media statement. "Following the Rapid

Krunal Pandya. • AP

Antigen Tests conducted ahead of the match on Tuesday morning, Krunal Pandya was found to be positive. The Medical Teams

have identified eight members as close contacts," the release added. The release also said the entire contingent

underwent a RT-PCR test to ascertain any further outbreak in the squad. The match was to be played at the R. Premadasa

Stadium here. Now there will be back-to-back matches on Wednesday and Thursday. India won the first T20I and it is quite baffling as to how Krunal, who has been a

part of the strict bio-bubble

for the past one month,

contracted the virus.



Hendrick passes away

Former England bowler Mike Hendrick has died aged 72, his old county Derbyshire announced on Tuesday Hendrick had been suffering from bowel and liver cancer for some time. Renowned for his accuracy.

Hendrick took 87 wickets in 30 Tests at an average of 25.83 from 1974 to 1981. He also played in 22 ODIs and was the leading bowler at the 1979 World Cup, with 10 wickets from five matches

TTFI to consider action against Manika Batra

AMOL KARHADKAR

Isabell Werth rides to a

Isabell Werth became the

equestrian Olympic gold

the team dressage title in

Tokyo on Tuesday. The

52-year-old, who has six

team titles and one

medals when Germany took

first rider to win seven

seventh Olympic gold

Annoyed by Manika Batra's coach Soumyadeep Roy, the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) secretary-general Arun Banerjee said that the Executive Committee will decide, during its next meeting, on whether to take action against Manika.

"It is grossly unfair on her to go after the national coach. national coach," Banerjee told The Hindu from Tokyo on

of 32, Manika, in an interview to The Hindu, had expressed

The Hundred: early days yet

disappointment over not bepersonal coach could also sit for my matches, it would have riving in Tokyo that it was impossible for her coach Sanmay Paraniape to be in the arena

Vantika wins women's national online title

CHESS

Delhi's Vantika Agarwal stunned a strong field to win the National women online

Ninth seed Vantika scored 9.5 points from 11 rounds. Her victims included Bhakti and P. V. Nandhidhaa, seeded three and five. Arpita Mukherjee, seeded 18, took the second spot

Sreeja Seshadri topped a three-way tie at 8.5 points to take the third spot.

The rapid time-control used in the championship was 15-minute, plus five-second increment (per-move), for each player.

Raahul on song

ner V. S. Raahul (9.5 points) led Tamil Nadu's sweep of the top four spots.

category, Bengal's Mitrabha Guha took the lead with 6.5 points from seven rounds.

from a defeat earlier in the day to share the second spot

at six points. Leading standings: (from 11

rounds):

Women: 1. Vantika Agarwal (Del, 9.5 points), 2. Arpita Mukherjee (Ben, 9), 3-5. Srija Seshadri (TN), Soumya Swaminathan (Mah), R. Vaishali (TN) (8.5 each), 6-11. N. Priyanka (Andhra), Mary Ann Gomes (Pet), P.V. Nandhidhaa (TN), Tania Sachdev (Del), Padmini Rout (Odi) and Mrudul Dehankar (Mah) (8 each).

Junior boys: 1. V.S. Raahul (TN, 9.5 points), 2. Bharath Subramanium (TN, 9), 3-8. P. Iniyan (TN), G.B. Harshavardhan (TN), Mitrabha Guha (Ben), Subhayan Kundu (Ben), V.S. Rathanvel (TN) and M. Pranesh (TN) (8 each).



Aussie bowlers engineer ODI series win



We did it! Ashton Agar, left, and Matthew Wade saw Australia home from a rather tricky situation. • AFP

AUSTRALIA IN WI

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Australia's bowling attack dominated the West Indies batting line-up on way to a series-clinching six-wicket victory in the decisive final fixture of the three-match ODI series here on Monday.

Opener Evin Lewis played a lone hand with an unbeaten 55 as the tourists bundled out the home side for 152 off 45.1 overs batting first with Mitchell Starc leading the rout with figures of three for 43.

Fellow new-ball bowler

Josh Hazlewood was at his most miserly in claiming two for 18 while the trio of spinners Adam Zampa, Ashton Agar and Ashton Turner combined for the other five wickets.

Matthew Wade's unbeaten 51 (52b, 2x6, 5x4) led Australia to the target with almost 20 overs to spare.

The scores: West Indies 152 in 45.1 overs (Evin Lewis 55 n.o.; Mitchell Starc 3/43) lost to Australia 153/4 in 30.3 overs (Alex Carey 35, Mitchell Marsh 29. Matthew Wade 51 n.o.). Toss: West Indies. MoM: Agar;

MoS: Starc.

Australia won the match by six wickets and the three-match

Noble gesture by Hamilton

Australia series

REUTERS

Bangladesh has ruled out

The money will support ment said.

brand partners and spon-

contributing.

my commitment to create real change within this community," said the Briton, who could celebrate a record-extending 100th career win at this weekend's Hungarian Grand Prix.



indistinguishable from what we already

Yes. Sutirtha (Mukheriee) coach to be in her corner for trains at his academy but Sou-"outburst" against national singles matches. "Our national coach here (Soumyadeep Roy) myadeep has been appointed

weanesaay. On Tuesday, after exiting the women's singles in round

ing allowed her personal is Sutirtha's personal coach, so it helped her. I think if my

helped a lot," Manika had said. Banerjee, however, said for her matches.

"I don't understand the need to go after Soumvadeep. I will put forward the Team Leader's (M.P. Singh) report to the Executive Committee during our next meeting and it will decide the future course

Manika knew even before ar-



BETWEEN WICKETS

SURESH MENON

uestions might be asked about the need for yet another format in cricket, its fourth, but The Hundred in England has been about Jemimah Rodrigues so far. With two quite incredible knocks, 92 from 43 balls and 60 from 41, she guided Northern Superchargers to victories. Clearly this is one

Indian who loves the format. But the questions remain. Does lopping off 20 deliveries, giving bowlers 10 deliveries per stint (or five; there are no 'overs') and a 25-ball PowerPlay make The Hundred a) all that different b) easier to understand or c) more likely to bring in a new set of fans who can't watch sport without music, colourful graphics and strategic timeouts? More importantly, will the new fans come in at the cost of the existing ones, thus merely retaining the numbers if not ac-

tually reducing them? Wisden said when the idea was mooted that "The Hundred hung over the English game suspended only by the conviction of a suited few...

Feeling left behind

The England and Wales Cricket Board which probably felt left behind by the IPL and Australia's Big Bash League, appears keen to give the world its own home-grown franchise cricket. I can't see a World Cup for The Hundred happening anytime soon; to be honest, there shouldn't be one anyway.

As at least one writer has pointed out, the complaint is not that it is unlike anything before, but that it is virtually

have. The decimalisation of cricket (100 balls, change of ends after 10 balls, a bowler's limit of a maximum of 20 balls) can be carried too far. Will the 22 yards be changed into 20 metres (21.87 yards), the 30-yard circle into 25 metres (27.34 yards) and so on pointlessly? Perhaps even a 10-member team rather than 11, to round things off. Somehow it is difficult to believe that what is keeping England's youth from the game is the want of a decimal system.

Artificial respiration Cricket-lovers in India have always found it hard to believe that the game needs artificial respiration. When the 40-over and then 60-over formats were introduced to bring the crowds back into the grounds in England, Indians didn't see the need for such gimmicks

1975, India participated like a team under protest. This wasn't the cricket they knew; in any case, crowds were not an issue in India which then had packed houses for Ranji and Duleep games. Likewise with T20. One cricket board official was quoted as saying, "We will

When the first World Cup was held in

never play Twenty20 cricket." It was a sentiment reflected across the country What changed everything were the World Cup victories, the 50-over in 1983, and T20 in 2007, followed by the

The Hundred is only a few games old, but gimmicks aside, doesn't look different from its 120-ball cousin. Cricket has made the mistake before of changing its essential nature and then throwing huge amounts of money at the new product rather than strengthening what exists already. The message administrators thus send out is: No, we don't believe in the game either.

The new audience – the reason un $derlying \ the \ change-is \ setting \ itself \ up \qquad there \ are \ more \ questions \ than \ answers.$

for bewilderment at any other cricket match. After all that 10-or-5 balls stuff, they will then be exposed to the regular six-ball over and wonder where they (or the umpires) have gone wrong. Shortformat cricket at least had the advantage, perhaps the decency even, of ensuring the game looked and felt the

The Hundred may or may not work as a domestic tournament and if it does. England might be tempted to push for it to be accepted at the international level. It might be tactically more complex, especially for the fielding captain. And you can wear jeans in the Lord's pavilion which must count as a major

It is proving noteworthy in one area, however, and that's in women's cricket. Women aren't paid the same amounts as the men, but they play their matches first followed by the men's.

Live television has already given someone like Jemimah Rodrigues a wider audience, and the teams the exposure they continue to need.

Huge TV audience

The opening match, between Oval Invincibles and Manchester Originals drew the largest television audience for women's cricket in the UK.

debut innings with Brendon McCullum's 158 that gave the IPL its stamp of acceptance. We should resist the temptation to over-interpret. Is this cricket's future? Is this the best format for the Olympics or will some

bright suit figure out that a 10-over tour-

Many have compared Rodrigues's

nament would be ideal? Thanks to the television deals with both BBC and Sky, is The Hundred too big to fail? Most importantly, will it be England cricket's saviour or ruin? Right now

RAKESH RAO

chess title.

with nine points.

In the junior section, win-

Meanwhile, in the open

Top seed Abhijeet Gupta (Petroleum) bounced back

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Mushfigur,

Liton to miss

batsmen Mushfigur Rahim and Liton Das for a Twenty20 series against Australia next month after they left the team's coronavirus bubble, a top official said on Tuesday. Mushfiqur and Liton left

a recent tour of Zimbabwe early because of family emergencies and must isolate before rejoining the squad, said Bangladesh Cricket Board chief executive Nizam Chowdhury.

GENERAL

Seven times Formula One champion Lewis Hamilton made a personal pledge of £20 million on Tuesday as he launched a new foundation, Mission 44, supporting under-represented young people in Great Britain.

organisations and programmes that narrow the gap in employment and education through partnerships, collaborations, grant giving and advocacy, a state-The Mercedes driver's

"Mission 44 represents

"In my early life, I expe-

rienced first-hand how coming from an under represented background can affect your future but, luckily for me, I was able to overcome those odds through opportunity and support. I want to ensure that other young people from similar backgrounds are able to do the same," he added.

