



Nirav Modi can appeal against extradition order: U.K. High Court

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Lok Sabha passes three Bills in 20 minutes amid protests over Pegasus

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Taliban press on, take two more Afghan provincial capitals

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India's Tokyo Olympics medallists arrive to a grand reception

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NEARBY



Prefer Akhilesh as CM over Adityanath: Rajbhar

LUCKNOW
OBC leader and Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party president Om Prakash Rajbhar has said he prefers Akhilesh Yadav as the next Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and not Yogi Adityanath. "Yogi is a sadhu baba. He should stay in a temple. Akhilesh Yadav is a neta (leader)," Mr. Rajbhar told reporters in Varanasi.

NORTH & EAST PAGE 5

Delhi schools to have staggered timings

NEW DELHI
The Delhi government on Monday issued a set of guidelines and a standard operating procedure for the reopening of schools for students of Classes X to XII. Students can now visit the schools for admission-related work, counselling and practicals. Safety measures include staggered timings to ensure there is no crowding at the gates and a quarantine room for emergencies.

CITY PAGE 4

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IPCC report forecasts a future of severe weather

Global warming to trigger extreme rain in South India, it says

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI
The Indian Ocean is warming at a higher rate than other oceans, said the latest report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released on Monday, with scientists warning that India will witness increased heatwaves and flooding, which will be the irreversible effects of climate change. The current overall global warming trends are likely to lead to an increase in annual mean precipitation over India, with more severe rain expected over southern India in the coming decades.

Alarm bells

A look at some of the observations and forecasts made by the panel on climate change

- Heatwaves and humid heat stress will become more intense and frequent over Southeast Asia during the 21st century
- Both annual and summer monsoon precipitation will increase, with enhanced interannual variability over Southeast Asia
- Heat extremes have increased while cold extremes have decreased, and these trends will continue over the coming decades
- Glacier run-off in the Asian high mountains will increase up to mid-21st century, and subsequently run-off may decrease due to the loss of glacier storage
- Relative sea level around Asia increased faster than global average, with coastal area loss and shoreline retreat. Regional mean sea level will continue to rise

The authors of the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report, "Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis", said the warming of the ocean would lead to a rise in sea levels, leading to frequent and severe coastal flooding in low-level areas. With a 7,517-km coastline, India would face significant threats from the rising seas. Across the port cities of Chennai, Kochi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Surat and Visakhapatnam, 28.6 million people would be exposed to coastal flooding if sea levels rise by 50 cm. Monsoon extremes are likely to increase over India and South Asia, while the frequency of short intense rainy days are expected to

rise. Models also indicate a lengthening of the monsoon over India by the end of the 21st century, with the South Asian monsoon precipitation projected to increase. Stating that human activities are causing climate change, the report said the planet was irrevocably headed towards warming by 1.5 degrees Celsius over pre-industrial times in the next two decades. Keeping global warming below 2 degrees Celsius of pre-industrial levels by the turn of century

and endeavouring to limit it to 1.5 degrees Celsius was at the heart of the 2015 Paris Agreement. Unless extremely deep emission cuts are undertaken by all countries immediately, these goals are unlikely to be met. The report recommended that countries strive to achieve net zero emissions – no additional greenhouse gases are emitted – by 2050.

(With inputs from PTI)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8
DEATH KNELL PAGE 11

Working to solve border row: Himanta

Assam Chief Minister says his priority is to protect the interests of the State

VARGHESE K. GEORGE
NEW DELHI
A return to the 19th century border demarcation as being demanded by Mizoram may be impractical but a resolution can be found to the border dispute between the two States, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said. Six policemen and a bystander were killed on July 26 during clashes between the police forces of the two States arising out of the dispute. Two conflicting demarcations of the borders between communities on both sides – one in 1875 and another in 1933 – are at the



root of the dispute. The Mizos want the 1875 demarcation to prevail.

'Not provocative'
Talking to *The Hindu* ahead of his meetings with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday, Mr. Sarma rejected the suggestion that his statements on the conflict were provocative. "I spoke only after the killing of our policemen. If I do not speak for them, I would be letting them down. You must understand that the Assam police have been fighting the ULFA and other insurgencies

the State. We are in touch with Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh. At some point, I will also speak to Mizoram CM, with whom I have a good personal relationship," he stated.

The ambiguities regarding the boundaries between Assam and States such as Meghalaya and Mizoram were allowed to fester for a long time and now the issues had become more complicated. "These issues should have been resolved decades ago. Now that we are here, we have to be careful that our attempts to solve the problems should not lead to worse problems," he said. "I came only two months ago."

HEALING TOUCH PAGE 9

No transaction with Pegasus maker: MoD

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
The Ministry of Defence (MoD) on Monday said it did not have any transaction with NSO Group Technologies, the Israeli company that developed the Pegasus spyware, in the first pointed reference to the company since the snooping controversy broke. The government had so far shied away from mentioning the company.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

PM sets out framework for maritime security

Five points outlined at UNSC debate

President Vladimir Putin, President of Kenya Uhuru Kenyatta and Premier of Vietnam Pham Minh Chinh. The UNSC adopted a 'Presidential [India's] Statement' which reaffirmed that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) establishes the legal framework for maritime activities.

The debate, titled, 'Enhancing Maritime Security – A Case for International Cooperation', had heads of state or government in attendance, including Russian

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

CPI(M) plans age limit for Central panel

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
In a bid to revamp its ageing leadership, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) has decided to set a retirement age of 75 for all its members. Once the proposal is endorsed at the party's 23rd Congress, scheduled to be held in Kannur, Kerala, in April 2022, the age limit will become applicable.

DETAILS ON PAGE 9

Jharkhand judge death: SC not happy with CBI report

'Your people have not indicated the motive... We wanted something concrete,' says Chief Justice

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
The Supreme Court on Monday said there was no word in the CBI's "sealed cover" report about the motive behind the murder of Jharkhand district judge Uttam Anand, whose death saw Chief Justice of India (CJI) N.V. Ramana voice his concern over the mounting attacks on judges and total disregard shown by Central agencies and State police forces to these criminal acts which threaten judiciary's independence. "You have filed a report in

a sealed cover. It says 'we went there', 'we went here', etc. But your people have not indicated the motive... We wanted something concrete," the CJI expressed the court's dissatisfaction to Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the CBI. Mr. Mehta said two persons had been arrested in the case. "They are under interrogation... cannot reveal anything now." The top court directed the CBI to file a weekly status report on the investigation with the Chief Justice of the Jharkhand High Court.



"The Chief Justice of the High Court will monitor every week," the CJI said. The gravity of the matter, that is, the murder of a sitting judge, required the CBI to report to

the Chief Justice of the High Court, he stated. The previous hearing had seen the CJI lash out at Central agencies such as the CBI, the Intelligence Bureau and State police forces for ignoring complaints from judges about abusive messages and threats even as attacks on the judiciary were on the rise. The court, which has taken suo motu cognisance of the rising number of attacks on judicial officers and even High Court judges, suggested the formation of a special force to protect judges, espe-

cially trial judges who decide criminal cases involving high-profile accused. "We have seen that in criminal cases involving high-profile people, there is a new trend of maligning judges. There is no freedom for judges to work. The CBI, the police, the IB do not help the judiciary. I am making this statement with some sense of responsibility..." the CJI orally observed on August 6. The court had blamed the Jharkhand government's "negligence" in providing adequate security to Judge Anand.

SC seeks Centre's reply on vaccine data

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI
A judicial order to publish data on clinical trials of COVID-19 vaccines and post vaccination side effects may feed vaccine hesitancy amid the pandemic, the Supreme Court said on

Monday. "Do you really think this is in the larger public interest? Fifty crore people have been vaccinated... By asking us to launch an enquiry now, are you not throwing doubts into the minds of people about the vaccines,"

Justice L. Nageswara Rao asked senior advocate Prashant Bhushan. "But if you don't have transparency, there is more reason for vaccine hesitancy," Mr. Bhushan replied.

DETAILS ON PAGE 10

'Nation First, Always First' theme for I-Day events

Olympic medallists invited to Red Fort

SAURABH TRIVEDI
NEW DELHI
'Nation First, Always First' will be the theme of India's 75th Independence Day celebrations at the Red Fort from where Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the nation on Sunday. All the Olympians who won medals at the 2020 Tokyo Games have been sent special invites for the event. Like 2020, this year's event will be restricted for the public and no cultural performance will be staged by children. A group of NCC cadets will attend the event, said an officer. From paintings to floral arrangements, all aspects of the programme will bear 'Nation First, Always First' theme, said Delhi police sources.



Containers placed in front of the Red Fort as part of the security arrangements ahead of the I-Day celebrations. *SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

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Police lodge case over hate slogans

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Delhi Police on Monday registered a case in connection with a video in which people can be heard chanting anti-Muslim slogans allegedly during a 'Bharat Jodo' event at Jantar Mantar.

The video, showing people raising slogans against the Muslim community and threatening them, had gone viral on social media.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (New Delhi) Deepak Yadav said, "We received a video and we are examining it. A case has been registered under relevant sections and an investigation is in progress."

Shipra Srivastava, media in-charge of 'Bharat Jodo Aandolan', said a protest was held on Sunday at Jantar Mantar under the leadership of advocate and former BJP spokesperson Ashwini Upadhyay.

Unknown people

"The protest was held against colonial laws and demanding to abolish 222 British-era laws. We have seen the video, but have no idea who the people are. The police should take strict action against the persons who raised the slogans," Ms. Srivastava said.

Hundreds of people had attended the protest in New Delhi on Sunday.

'Bharat Jodo' event organiser seeks action against sloganeers

We did not call anyone who talks about dividing the country: Ashwini Upadhyay

HEMANI BHANDARI
NEW DELHI

Supreme Court lawyer and former Delhi BJP spokesperson Ashwini Upadhyay, who organised the 'Bharat Jodo Movement' rally where inflammatory anti-Muslim slogans were allegedly raised on Sunday, said that the videos appearing on social media "fail our movement".

Strongly disassociating himself from the crowd which raised slogans, he said, "If the videos are genuine, then they are made to fail our movement. In our event, we did not call any person who talks about dividing the country," he said.

Sharing his opinion on the content of the videos, he asserted, "I have filed more than 100 public interest litigation and none of them are against or for any particular community. The movement is about united India and not dividing India".

In videos shared by Mr. Upadhyay himself on social media, he is surrounded by a crowd chanting "Jai Shri Ram" and "Bharat Mata Ki Jai". In another video he shared of the event, Mr. Upadhyay, wearing a saffron turban and scarf along with a *rudraksha* band on his hand, is joined by actor Gajendra



Women take part in the farmers' parliament at Jantar Mantar on Monday. ■ SANDEEP SAXENA

Chauhan and people clad in saffron clothes.

The advocate, however, said he came for the event around 11 a.m. and left around noon as he realised the crowd was growing.

"It started raining heavily which also became a reason to leave," he said, adding that those who chanted anti-Muslim slogans "probably did it later in the afternoon".

Mr. Upadhyay has filed a complaint with Delhi Police demanding action against those who associated him with the raising of anti-Muslim slogans. "There are people who are sharing these videos in my name on social media. I don't know these people, I haven't met them

and I hadn't called them. To gain publicity, some people tend to share inflammatory videos," he said, adding that the legitimacy of this video along with the time it was shot should be investigated.

"Strict action should be taken against those in the video if it's real and if it's not, then action should be taken against those who are sharing the video," he said.

"On August 8, 1942, the Quit India Movement was launched... therefore, on August 8 this year, we started the Bharat Jodo Movement [Unite India Movement]," he said, adding that his fight was against "colonial-era laws".

"This event was not political, social, or religious... it

was to demand new laws instead of those laid down by the British," he said.

Fear psychosis

Demanding action against the hate sloganeering, Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind's general secretary Maulana Hakimuddin Qasmi met senior police officers and submitted a complaint stating that "highly objectionable and threatening speech and slogans" were raised at the event. "It has created a fear psychosis among the Muslim community and peace-loving people across all communities".

In the letter addressed to Delhi Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana, the organisation's president Mahmood Madani wrote: "I would like to recall your statement when you joined as Commissioner of Delhi Police, you affirmed that communal harmony and fairness will be your top priority". They also hoped that strict action will be taken against those calling for "massacring Muslims".

"I am apprehensive about the situation in Delhi. Law and order is being put at risk by extremist groups once again and situation like the 2020 riots may occur if such people are not apprehended in time," the letter stated.

I-Day celebrations in city start with a run

Event aims to raise spirit of patriotism

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

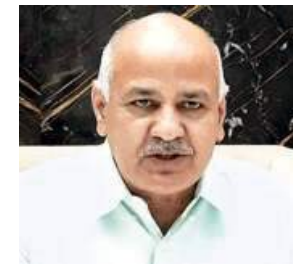
The Delhi government kicked off the 75th Independence Day celebrations on Monday. The event started with a run which was flagged off by Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia.

Around 200 employees of the Delhi Secretariat participated in the run, the government said.

"We are all entering the 75th year of Independence and to celebrate the occasion, we are all gathered for 'Delhi Celebrates Freedom@75'. The run organised today signifies that even though India has turned 75, our hearts and spirits are still young and full of energy. I can see how the faces of our officers and colleagues present here are lit up with joy and enthusiasm. The Delhi government is stepping up with the 'Delhi Celebrates Freedom@75' celebrations. The city will be filled with the spirit of patriotism and colours of freedom," Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said in a statement.

Deshbhakti budget

On March 9, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia had presented the "Deshbhakti Budget" to celebrate the



The run organised on Monday signifies that even though India has turned 75, our hearts and spirits are still young and full of energy

MANISH SISODIA
Deputy Chief Minister

75th year of Independence.

Allocation of funds

Under the budget, ₹10 crore each was allocated to conduct programmes to honour Bhagat Singh and Babasaheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar.

Also, ₹45 crore was set aside to install national flags, similar to the tall one at Connaught Place, at 500 locations across the city.

On March 12, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had kicked-started the government's 75 week-long celebrations, as announced in the budget, with an event which was held at Connaught Place.

Go out only if needed, court tells Unnao rape survivor

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Monday directed the Unnao rape survivor, who has been provided security by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), to step out only when necessary until the case is over and inform her personal security officers before going out.

Security officers

District and Sessions Judge Dharmesh Sharma issued the directions on an application filed by the rape survivor in which she alleged harassment by the personal security officers.

She also told the court that they were curtailing her movements and not allowing her to enjoy her liberties. Taking note of her submissions, the judge said, "Inform them [security officers] before going out. They are deputed for your security. You must plan in a way that you don't have to venture out every day. Go out only when necessary. You must take precautions until the case is over."

The court also noted that the survivor and her personal security officers have agreed to amicably resolve the issue. The judge added, "For now, the prosecutrix is impressed upon to ensure that whenever she or family members wish to go outside Delhi in connection with any pending case, they would communicate it to CRPF Assistant Commandant so that proper security arrangements and escorts could be made."

The woman was kidnapped and raped by expelled BJP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar in 2017 when she was a minor.

AAP alleges graft in U.P. water schemes

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party on Monday alleged corruption to the tune of thousands of crores in the water distribution schemes in Uttar Pradesh and demanded a court-monitored probe into it.

"The government is engaged in the work of corrup-

tion in such a big ambitious plan. I want to tell the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath, and his Minister that, if you do not get this corruption probed by the CBI and the entire matter is not investigated by the SIT under the supervision of the High Court, then I will complain about the same, similar

to the complaint in the case of Lord Shri Ram's temple donation," AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh said.

He added that he had earlier complained to the Lokayukta about alleged corruption in ventilators and had gone to court about it and he is ready to go to court on the current issue too.

Protests over 'suspension' of Rahul's Twitter account

Youth Congress, NSUI say Modi government is 'conspiring to suppress voice'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The National Students' Union of India (NSUI) and the Indian Youth Congress (IYC) on Monday organised protests in the Capital against the "temporary suspension" of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's Twitter account.

The microblogging site had flagged a tweet of the leader in which he shared a photo of his meeting with the family of a nine-year-old Dalit girl who was allegedly raped and murdered.

IYC national president Srivas B.V. alleged that the Narendra Modi government was conspiring to suppress the voice demanding sympathy and justice for the victim. The NSUI said that they organised the protest so that Mr. Gandhi could continue to "unveil the truth" in front

of the world.

The IYC protested outside an office of the microblogging site in Qutub. The protesters were detained. The NSUI tried to march from its headquarters on Raisina Road to Shastri Bhawan and were also detained.



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Man, 2 others held for killing live-in partner

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 22-year-old man has been arrested along with two of his friends for allegedly killing his live-in partner in South Delhi's Maidangarhi on Sunday, the police said.

DCP (South) Atul Thakur said that the accused has been identified as Anuj, resident of Fatehpur Beri, and his friends Ramzan (32) and Naushad (21). Ramzan himself called the police to inform about the incident.

The police said that a PCR call was received on Sunday evening regarding a woman's body lying in the jungle behind Rajpur Khurd village. The police found the woman to have been strangled.

"Initially, the caller Ramzan stated that he is an alcohol addict and came to jungle to drink. When he was drinking, he noticed that two unknown persons allegedly took the woman to the jungle and murdered her. The caller was in great fear and ran away to his house and after that he made the PCR call," Mr. Thakur said, adding that there were discrepancies in his version.

The police said that closer examination of CCTV footage showed the caller also going towards the spot. During sustained interrogation, he stated that he knew the victim and she was his friend Anuj's live-in-partner who he had married in a temple also.

During inquiry, it was revealed that Anuj liked a woman, however, due to lockdown, she had left the city. Anuj then met the victim and started living with her.

Another woman, he had earlier met and liked, came back a few months ago and the two got in a relationship. Anuj then decided to kill his live-in-partner and roped in his two friends.

Notice for cancellation of plots allotted 30 years ago must be taken back: BJP

Bidhuri says AAP govt. had no right to send such notices

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Leader of the Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Ramvir Singh Bidhuri on Monday demanded that the notice for cancellation of plots allotted 30 years ago after land consolidation should be immediately taken back.

It warned the Delhi government that the BJP would fight it tooth and nail against it.

Mr. Bidhuri said these plot allotments were done in accordance with all norms and rules and the AAP government had no right to send cancellation notices. He was speaking during a Kisan Panchayat held at Kanjhawala village.

He said when Sahib Singh Verma was the Chief Minis-



Ramvir Singh Bidhuri

ter, land consolidation was done and farmers were given land for their residential purposes.

However, he alleged, the Revenue Department led by the SDM had served notices on the people warning that it would proceed with plot cancellation.

"How can this be done. After 30 years of the exercise of land consolidation,

notices are being served to cancel the plots. This is totally unjustified, and these notices should be taken back with immediate effect," Mr. Bidhuri said.

The Panchayat also discussed the issue of assimilation of private land in Gram Sabha land and it was stated that according to the orders of the Lieutenant-Governor, such land will be considered private only.

The Panchayat was also of the view that the Gram Sabha land should only be used for purpose and welfare of villager people on which Mr. Bidhuri said such land should only be used for construction of schools, colleges, hospitals, and other development-related activities.

DU skips trials for sports, ECA quota admissions this year too

University holds virtual open day session for UG aspirants

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Delhi University (DU) on Monday conducted a virtual open day session on sports and ECA (extra-curricular activities) admissions for undergraduate aspirants.

This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, admissions under these categories will be based on certificates and no trials will be held.

Past four years

The university had earlier announced that aspirants will be permitted to upload certificates from the past four years instead of preceding three years only.

They said that this modification was brought about this year to ensure that students who were unable to participate in events last

year, are also able to upload their three best certificates.

"Keeping in view the pandemic and in order to give students a wider chance, we have permitted them to upload certificates dated between May 1, 2017 and April 30 this year. The best three certificates can be uploaded by the students," said an official at the session.

Admissions are completely centralised and will be conducted online, officials added.

14 categories

There are around 27 sports listed and 14 categories under the ECA quota in the university, officials said.

"Some of the categories under the ECA quota also have sub-categories. We are giving several choices to stu-

dents who want to apply for the various courses under this category. When students apply for a course under the ECA category, they should ensure that the course is available in the college they are applying to," said Deepthi Omcherry Bhalra, Dean Music Faculty in Delhi University.

Anju Srivastava, principal of Hindu College said, "For us also, it is difficult to not be able to see you perform and then realistically do the admissions is a real challenge. For each seat that there is in a college, there are thousands of applications. To be able to wade through and give a collective assessment and keep things fair and transparent, a whole set of rules and guidelines have been put forth to you."

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Registered and Corporate Office: 9, Cathedral Road, Chennai, 600086, Tamil Nadu, India; Tel: + (91) 44 28128500; Contact Person: M Raman, Company Secretary and Compliance Officer; Tel: + (91) 44 28128722; E-mail: grd@sanmargroup.com; Website: www.chemplastsanmar.com; Corporate Identity Number: U24230TN1985PLC011637

OUR PROMOTER: SANMAR HOLDINGS LIMITED

INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING OF UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 5 EACH ("EQUITY SHARES") OF CHEMPLAST SANMAR LIMITED (THE "COMPANY" OR THE "ISSUER") FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹ [●] PER EQUITY SHARE (INCLUDING A SHARE PREMIUM OF ₹ [●] PER EQUITY SHARE) ("OFFER PRICE") AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 38,500 MILLION (THE "OFFER") COMPRISING A FRESH ISSUE OF UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 13,000 MILLION BY OUR COMPANY (THE "FRESH ISSUE") AND AN OFFER FOR SALE OF UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 25,500 MILLION, COMPRISING AN OFFER FOR SALE OF UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 24,634.40 MILLION BY SANMAR HOLDINGS LIMITED ("SHL" OR THE "PROMOTER SELLING SHAREHOLDER"), AND UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 865.60 MILLION BY SANMAR ENGINEERING SERVICES LIMITED ("SESL" OR THE "PROMOTER GROUP SELLING SHAREHOLDER"), AND TOGETHER WITH THE PROMOTER SELLING SHAREHOLDER REFERRED TO AS "SELLING SHAREHOLDERS" AND SUCH OFFER FOR SALE BY THE SELLING SHAREHOLDERS, THE "OFFER FOR SALE"). THE OFFER WOULD CONSTITUTE [●] % OF OUR POST-OFFER PAID-UP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL.

Non-Institutional Portion: Not More Than 15% of the Offer

Retail Portion: Not More Than 10% of the Offer

QIB Portion: Not Less Than 75% of the Offer

Price Band: ₹ 530 to ₹ 541 per Equity Share of face value of ₹ 5 each.

The Floor Price is 106.00 times the face value of the Equity Shares and the Cap Price is 108.20 times the face value of the Equity Shares.

Bids can be made for a minimum of 27 Equity Shares and in multiples of 27 Equity Shares thereafter.

ASBA #

Simple, Safe, Smart way of Application!!!

Applications supported by blocked amount (ASBA) is a better way of applying to issues by simply blocking the fund in the bank account, For further details, check section on ASBA below.

Mandatory in public issues. No cheque will be accepted.



UPI-Now available in ASBA for Retail Individual Bidders ("RIBs") applying through Registered Brokers, Syndicate, DPs and RTAs. RIBs also have the option to submit the application directly to the ASBA Bank (SCSBs) or to use the facility of linked online trading, demat and bank account.

Bidders are required to ensure that the bank account used for bidding is linked to their PAN.

ASBA has to be availed by all the investors except anchor investors. UPI may be availed by Retail Individual Bidders. For details on the ASBA and UPI process, please refer to the details given in ASBA form and abridged prospectus and also please refer to the section "Offer Procedure" on page 483 of the RHP. The process is also available on the website of Association of Investment Bankers of India ("AIBI") and Stock Exchanges in the General Information Document. ASBA bid-cum-application forms can be downloaded from the websites of BSE Limited ("BSE") and National Stock Exchange of India Limited ("NSE"), and together with BSE, the "Stock Exchanges") and can be obtained from the list of banks that is displayed on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in. List of banks supporting UPI is also available on the website of www.sebi.gov.in. ICICI Bank Limited has been appointed as Sponsor Bank for the Offer, in accordance with the requirements of the SEBI UPI Circular dated November 1, 2018 as amended. For Issue related grievance investors may contact: ICICI Securities Limited, Shekhar Asnani/Kristina Dias, Tel.: +(91) 22 2288 2460, E-mail: chemplast.sanmar@icicisecurities.com; Axis Capital Limited, Sagar Jatakiya Tel.: +(91) 22 4325 2183, E-mail: chemplast ipo@axiscap.in; Credit Suisse Securities (India) Private Limited, Abhishek Joshi, Tel.: +(91) 22 6777 3885, E-mail: list.chemplastsanmaripo@creditsuisse.com; IIFL Securities Limited, Vishal Bangard /Aditya Agarwal, Tel.: +(91) 22 4646 4600, E-mail: csl.ipo@iiflcap.com; Ambit Private Limited, Nikhil Bhiwapurkar /Miraj Sampat, Tel.: + 91 22 6623 3000, E-mail: csl.ipo@ambit.co; BOB Capital Markets Limited, Ninad Jape/Arpita Maheshwari, Tel.: +(91) 22 6138 9300, E-mail: csl.ipo@bobcaps.in; HDFC Bank Limited, Harsh Thakkar /Ravi Sharma, Tel.: +(91) 22 3395 8233, E-mail: sanmar.ipo@hdfcbank.com; IndusInd Bank Limited, Priyanka Shetty, Tel.: +(91) 22 7143 2206, E-mail: csl.ipo@indusind.com; YES Securities (India) Limited, Sachin Kapoor/Nidhi Gupta, Tel.: +(91) 22 6507 8131, E-mail: chemplast.ipo@ysil.in. For UPI related queries, investors can contact NPCI at the toll free number: 18001201740 and Mail ID: ipo.upi@npci.org.in; ICICI Bank Limited at Tel: + 91 22 6681 8911/23/24 and Email: kmr.saurabh@icicibank.com; and the Registrar to the Offer at Tel: +(91) 40 6716 2222, E-mail: chemplast.ipo@kfintech.com

Risks to Investors

1. The 7 Global Co-ordinators and Book Running Lead Managers and 2 Book Running Lead Managers (Collectively the "Lead Managers") associated with the Offer have handled 45 public issues in the past three years, out of which 12 issues closed below the offer price on listing date.
 2. Average cost of acquisition of Equity Shares held by the Promoter Selling Shareholder is ₹ 1.72 per Equity Share and by the Promoter Group Selling Shareholder is ₹ 30.14 per Equity share and Offer Price at upper end of the Price Band is ₹ 541 per Equity Share.
 3. Weighted Average Return on Net Worth for Fiscals 2021, 2020 & 2019 is NA*.
- *NA since network is negative

BID/OFFER PROGRAMME

BID/OFFER OPENS TODAY

BID/OFFER CLOSES ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2021

*UPI Mandate end time and date shall be at 12:00 pm on August 13, 2021.

In case of any revision to the Price Band, the Bid/Offer Period will be extended by at least three additional Working Days after such revision in the Price Band, subject to the Bid/Offer Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. In cases of force majeure, banking strike or similar circumstances, our Company and the Selling Shareholders may, in consultation with the GCBRLMs and BRLMs, for reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the Bid / Offer Period for a minimum of three Working Days, subject to the Bid / Offer Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. Any revision in the Price Band and the revised Bid/Offer Period, if applicable, will be widely disseminated by notification to the Stock Exchanges, by issuing a public notice, and also by indicating the change on the respective websites of the GCBRLMs and BRLMs and at the terminals of the Syndicate Member(s) and by intimation to the Designated Intermediaries and the Sponsor Bank, as applicable.

This is an Offer in terms of Rule 19(2)(b) of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules, 1957, as amended ("SCRR"), read with Regulation 31 of the SEBI ICDR Regulations. The Offer is being made through the Book Building Process in terms of Regulation 6(2) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations, wherein not less than 75% of the Offer shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Qualified Institutional Buyers ("QIBs") (the "QIB Portion"), provided that our Company and the Selling Shareholders in consultation with the GCBRLMs and BRLMs may allocate up to 60% of the QIB Portion to Anchor Investors on a discretionary basis, ("Anchor Investor Portion") out of which one-third shall be reserved for domestic Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received from domestic Mutual Funds at or above the Anchor Investor Allocation Price, in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations. In the event of under-subscription, or non-allocation in the Anchor Investor Portion, the balance Equity Shares shall be added to the net QIB Portion. Further, 5% of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Mutual Funds only, and the remainder of the QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to all QIB Bidders (other than Anchor Investors), including Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price. However, if the aggregate demand from Mutual Funds is less than 5% of the QIB Portion, the balance Equity Shares available for allocation in the Mutual Fund Portion will be added to the remaining Net QIB Portion for proportionate allocation to QIBs. If at least 75% of the Offer cannot be Allotted to QIBs, the Bid Amount received by our Company shall be refunded. Further, not more than 15% of the Offer shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Non-Institutional Bidders and not more than 10% of the Offer shall be available for allocation to Retail Individual Bidders ("RIBs") in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations, subject to valid Bids being received from them at or above the Offer Price. All potential Bidders (except Anchor Investors) are mandatorily required to utilise the Application Supported by Blocked Amount ("ASBA") process by providing details of their respective ASBA accounts and UPI ID in case of RIBs using the UPI Mechanism, as applicable, pursuant to which their corresponding Bid Amount will be blocked by the Self Certified Syndicate Banks ("SCSBs") or by the Sponsor Bank under the UPI Mechanism, as the case may be, to the extent of the respective Bid Amounts. Anchor Investors are not permitted to participate in the Offer through the ASBA Process. For further details, see "Offer Procedure" on page 483 of the RHP.

Bidders/Applicants should note that on the basis of the PAN, DP ID and Client ID and UPI ID (for RIBs bidding through UPI Mechanism) as provided in the Bid cum Application Form, the Bidder/Applicant may be deemed to have authorised the Depositories to provide to the Registrar to the Offer, any requested Demographic Details of the Bidder/Applicant as available on the records of the Depositories. These Demographic Details may be used, among other things, for unblocking of ASBA Account or for other correspondence(s) related to the Offer. Bidders/Applicants are advised to update any changes to their Demographic Details as available in the records of the Depository Participant to ensure accuracy of records. Any delay resulting from failure to update the Demographic Details would be at the Bidders'/Applicants' sole risk.

Contents of the Memorandum of Association of the Company as regards its objects: For information on the main objects of the Company, please see the section entitled "History and Certain Corporate Matters" on page 162 of the RHP and Clause III of the Memorandum of Association of the Company. The Memorandum of

Association of the Company is a material document for inspection in relation to the Offer. For further details, please see the section entitled "Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection" on page 507 of the RHP.

Liability of the members of the Company: Limited by shares

Amount of share capital of the Company and capital structure: The authorised, issued, subscribed and paid-up share capital of the Company as on the date of the RHP is as follows: The authorised share capital of the Company is ₹ 2,000,000,000 divided into 400,000,000 Equity Shares of face value of ₹ 5 each and 3,500,000 Preference Shares of ₹ 100 each. The issued, subscribed and paid-up share capital of the Company is ₹ 670,400,000 divided into 134,080,000 Equity Shares of face value of ₹ 5 each. For details, please see the section entitled "Capital Structure" beginning on page 76 of the RHP.

Names of signatories to the Memorandum of Association of the Company and the number of Equity Shares subscribed by them: The names of the signatories of the Memorandum of Association of the Company are N Sankar, T. V. Padmanabhan, M. S. Shekhar, K Sundara Raman who subscribed to two equity shares each bearing face value of ₹ 10 each and T. R. Krishnaswamy and P. U. Aravind who subscribed to one equity share each bearing face value of ₹ 10 each.

Listing: The Equity Shares, once offered through the Red Herring Prospectus are proposed to be listed on the Stock Exchanges. Our Company has received an 'in-principle' approval from the BSE and the NSE for the listing of the Equity Shares pursuant to letters dated May 27, 2021 and June 11, 2021, respectively. For the purposes of the Offer, the Designated Stock Exchange shall be NSE. A signed copy of the Red Herring Prospectus has been filed with the RoC in accordance with Section 32 of the Companies Act, 2013 and the Prospectus shall be filed with the RoC in accordance with Section 26(4) of the Companies Act, 2013. For further details of the material contracts and documents available for inspection from the date of the Red Herring Prospectus until the Bid / Offer Closing Date, see "Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection" on page 507 of the RHP.

Disclaimer Clause of the SEBI: The Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI") only gives its observations on the offer documents and this does not constitute approval of either the Offer or the specified securities or the offer document. The investors are advised to refer to page 457 of the RHP for the full text of the Disclaimer Clause of SEBI.

Disclaimer Clause of BSE: It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by BSE should not in any way be deemed or construed that the RHP has been cleared or approved by BSE nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the RHP. The investors are advised to refer to page 460 of the RHP for the full text of the Disclaimer Clause of BSE.

Disclaimer Clause of NSE (Designated Stock Exchange) : It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by NSE should not in any way be deemed or construed that the RHP has been cleared or approved by NSE nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the RHP. The investors are advised to refer to page 460 of the RHP for the full text of the Disclaimer Clause of NSE.

General Risks: Investments in equity and equity-related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest any funds in the Offer unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their entire investment. Investors should read the risk factors carefully before taking an investment decision in the Offer. For taking an investment decision, investors must rely on their own examination of our Company and the Offer, including the risks involved. The Equity Shares in the Offer have not been recommended or approved by the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI"), nor does SEBI guarantee the accuracy or adequacy of the contents of the Red Herring Prospectus. Specific attention of the investors is invited to "Risk Factors" on page 32 of the RHP.

GLOBAL CO-ORDINATORS AND BOOK RUNNING LEAD MANAGERS

ICICI Securities	AXIS CAPITAL	CREDIT SUISSE	IIFL SECURITIES	AMBIT	BOBCAPS
ICICI Securities Limited ICICI Centre, H.T. Parekh Marg, Churchgate, Mumbai - 400 020 Maharashtra Tel.: +(91) 22 2288 2460 E-mail: chemplast.sanmar@icicisecurities.com Investor grievance e-mail: customercare@icicisecurities.com Website: www.icicisecurities.com Contact Person: Shekhar Asnani/ Kristina Dias SEBI Registration No.: INM00001179	Axis Capital Limited 1st Floor, Axis House, C-2 Wadia International Centre, Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Mumbai - 400 025 Tel.: +(91) 22 4325 2183 E-mail: chemplast.ipo@axiscap.in Investor grievance e-mail: complaints@axiscap.in Website: www.axiscapital.co.in Contact Person: Sagar Jatakiya SEBI Registration No.: INM000012029	Credit Suisse Securities (India) Private Limited 9 th Floor, Ceejay House, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Mumbai - 400 018. Tel.: + 91 22 6777 3885 E-mail: list.chemplastsanmaripo@credit-suisse.com Investor grievance e-mail: list.igcellimernbrkg@creditsuisse.com Website: https://www.credit-suisse.com/in/en/investmentbanking-apac/investment-banking-in-india/ipo.html Contact Person: Sagar Jatakiya SEBI Registration No.: INM000011161	IIFL Securities Limited 10 th Floor, IIFL Centre, Kamala City, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400 013 Tel.: +(91) 22 4646 4600 E-mail: csl.ipo@iiflcap.com Investor grievance e-mail: ig.ipo@iiflcap.com Website: www.iiflcap.com Contact Person: Vishal Bangard / Aditya Agarwal SEBI Registration No.: INM000010940	Ambit Private Limited Ambit House, 449, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai - 400 013, Maharashtra, India Tel: + 91 22 6623 3000 E-mail: csl.ipo@ambit.co Investor grievance e-mail: customerservice@ambit.co Website: www.ambit.co Contact Person: Nikhil Bhiwapurkar/ Miraj Sampat SEBI Registration No.: INM000010585	BOB Capital Markets Limited Parinee Crescenzo, 1704, B Wing, 17 th Floor, Plot no. C-38/39, G Block BKC, Bandra East, Mumbai-400 051, Maharashtra , India Tel.: +(91) 22 6138 9300 E-mail: csl.ipo@bobcaps.in Investor grievance e-mail: investorgrievance@bobcaps.in Website: www.bobcaps.in Contact person: Ninad Jape/ Arpita Maheshwari SEBI Registration No.: INM00000926

GLOBAL CO-ORDINATORS AND BOOK RUNNING LEAD MANAGERS	BOOK RUNNING LEAD MANAGERS	REGISTRAR TO THE OFFER	COMPANY SECRETARY AND COMPLIANCE OFFICER	
HDFC BANK We understand your world HDFC Bank Limited Investment Banking Group Unit No. 401 & 402, 4th Floor, Tower B, Peninsula Business Park, Lower Parel, Mumbai - 400 013 Maharashtra, India Tel: +(91) 22 3395 8233 E-mail: sanmar.ipo@hdfcbank.com Investor grievance e-mail: investor.redressal@hdfcbank.com Website: www.hdfcbank.com Contact Person: Harsh Thakkar / Ravi Sharma SEBI Registration No.: INM000011252	IndusInd Bank Limited 11 th Floor, Tower 1, One Indiabulls Centre, 841, Senapati Bapat Marg, Elphinstone Road, Mumbai - 400 013, Maharashtra, India Tel.: +(91) 22 7143 2206 E-mail: csl.ipo@indusind.com Investor grievance e-mail: investmentbanking@indusind.com Website: www.indusind.com Contact person: Priyanka Shetty SEBI Registration No.: INM000005031	YES SECURITIES YES Securities (India) Limited 2 nd Floor, YES Bank House, Off Western Express Highway, Santacruz East, Mumbai - 400 055 Maharashtra, India Tel: +(91) 22 6507 8131 E-mail: chemplast.ipo@ysil.in Investor grievance e-mail: ig@ysil.in Website: www.yesinvest.in Contact Person: Sachin Kapoor/ Nidhi Gupta SEBI Registration Number: INM000012227	FINTECH KFin Technologies Private Limited Selenium, Tower B, Plot No- 31 and 32, Financial District, Nanakramguda, Serilingampally, Hyderabad, Rangareddy - 500 032, Telangana, India Tel: +(91) 40 6716 2222 E-mail: chemplast.ipo@kfintech.com, Investor grievance e-mail: einward.ris@kfintech.com Website: www.kfintech.com Contact Person: Murali Krishna SEBI Registration No.: INR000000221	M Raman Chemplast Sanmar Limited, 9, Cathedral Road, Chennai - 600086, Tamil Nadu, India Tel: +(91) 44 2812 8722, E-mail: grd@sanmargroup.com Investors can contact the Company Secretary and Compliance Officer of the Registrar to the Offer in case of any pre-offer or post-offer related problems such as non-receipt of letters of Allotment, non-receipt of Allotted Equity Shares in the respective beneficiary account, non-receipt of refund orders or non-receipt of funds by electronic mode, etc. For all offer related queries and for redressal of complaints, investors may also write to the Global Co-ordinators and Book Running Lead Managers and Book Running Lead Managers.

AVAILABILITY OF THE RHP: Investors are advised to refer to the RHP and the Risk Factors, contained therein before applying in the Issue. Full copy of the RHP is available on website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in, website of the GCBRLMs, i.e. ICICI Securities Limited, Axis Capital Limited, Credit Suisse Securities (India) Private Limited, IIFL Securities Limited, Ambit Private Limited, BOB Capital Markets Limited and HDFC Bank Limited at www.icicisecurities.com, www.axiscapital.co.in, https://www.credit-suisse.com/in/en/investment-banking-apac/investment-banking-in-india/ipo.html, www.iiflcap.com, www.ambit.co, www.bobcaps.in and www.hdfcbank.com, respectively and the websites of the BRLMs, i.e. IndusInd Bank Limited and YES Securities (India) Limited at www.indusind.com and www.yesinvest.in, respectively and on the websites of BSE and NSE at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, respectively.

AVAILABILITY OF BID CUM APPLICATION FORMS: Bid cum Application Forms can be obtained from the Registered Office of Chemplast Sanmar Limited, Tel: + (91) 44 28128500; GCBRLMs : ICICI Securities Limited, Tel.: +(91) 22 2288 2460; Axis Capital Limited, Tel.: +(91) 22 4325 2183; Credit Suisse Securities (India) Private Limited, Tel.: +(91) 22 6777 3885; IIFL Securities Limited, Tel.: +(91) 22 4646 4600; BOB Capital Markets Limited, Tel.: +(91) 22 6138 9300 and HDFC Bank Limited, Tel.: +(91) 22 6138 9300 and YES Securities (India) Limited, Tel.: +(91) 22 6507 8131 and Syndicate Members : Ambit Capital Private Limited, Tel: + 91 22 6623 3000 and HDFC Securities Limited, Tel: 022 3075 3400; at the select locations of the Sub-syndicate Members (as given below), SCSBs, Registered Brokers, RTAs and CDPs participating in the Offer. ASBA Forms will also be available on the websites of BSE and NSE and the Designated Branches of SCSBs, the list of which is available at websites of the Stock Exchanges and SEBI.

Applications Supported by Blocked Amount (ASBA): Investors (other than Anchor Investors) have to apply through the ASBA process. For details on the ASBA process, please refer to the details given in ASBA form and abridged prospectus and also please refer to the section "Offer Procedure" on page 483 of the RHP. ASBA form can also be downloaded from the websites of BSE and NSE. ASBA Account Form can be obtained from the list of banks that is available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in.

Sub-Syndicate Members: Achievers Equities Ltd., Almondz Global Securities Ltd., Ambit Capital Pvt. Ltd., Amrapali Capital & Finance Services Ltd., Anand Rathi Share & Stock Brokers Ltd., Anand Share Consultancy, ANS Pvt. Ltd., Ashwani Dandia & Co, Axis Securities Ltd., Bajaj Financial Securities Ltd., Bansal Investment, Centrum Broking Ltd., Centrum Wealth Management Ltd., Choice Equity Broking Pvt. Ltd., Dalal & Broacha Stock Broking Pvt. Ltd., DB(International) Stock Brokers Ltd., Edelweiss Broking Ltd., Eureka Stock & Share Broking Services Ltd., G Raj & Co. (Consultants) Ltd., Hem Securities Ltd., IDBI Capital Markets & Securities Ltd., Jhaveri Securities, JM Financial Services Ltd., Jobanputra Fiscal Services Pvt. Ltd., Kalpataru Multiplier Ltd., KJM Capital Market Services Ltd., Kotak Securities Ltd., LKP Securities Ltd., Inventure Growth & Securities Ltd., Marwadi Shares & Finance, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd., Next Billion Technology Pvt. Ltd., Nirmla Bang Securities Ltd., Nomura Financial Advisory and Securities (India) Pvt. Ltd., Panthomath Capital, Patel Wealth Advisors Pvt. Ltd., Prabhudas Liladhar Pvt. Ltd., Pravin Rattal Share and Stock Brokers Ltd., RKSV Securities India Pvt. Ltd., RR Equity Brokers Pvt. Ltd., Safal Capital (India) Ltd., SBICap Securities Ltd., Sharekhan Ltd., SMC Global Securities Ltd., Systematic Shares and Stocks (India) Ltd., Tanna Financial Services, Trade Bulls Securities (P) Ltd., UBS Securities India Pvt. Ltd. and Zerodha Broking Ltd.

Escrow Collection Bank, Refund Bank, Public Offer Account Bank and Sponsor Bank : ICICI Bank Limited

All capitalized terms used herein and not specifically defined shall have the same meaning as ascribed to them in the RHP.

Place: Chennai
Date: August 9, 2021

CHEMPLAST SANMAR LIMITED is proposing, subject to applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, receipt of requisite approvals, market conditions and other considerations, to make an initial public offering of its Equity Shares and has filed the RHP with RoC on August 2, 2021. The RHP is available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in, websites of the Stock Exchanges i.e. BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, respectively, and is available on the websites of the GCBRLMs, i.e. ICICI Securities Limited, Axis Capital Limited, Credit Suisse Securities (India) Private Limited, IIFL Securities Limited, Ambit Private Limited, BOB Capital Markets Limited and HDFC Bank Limited at www.icicisecurities.com, www.axiscapital.co.in, https://www.credit-suisse.com/in/en/investment-banking-apac/investment-banking-in-india/ipo.html, www.iiflcap.com, www.ambit.co, www.bobcaps.in and www.hdfcbank.com, respectively and the websites of the BRLMs, i.e. IndusInd Bank Limited and YES Securities (India) Limited at www.indusind.com and www.yesinvest.in, respectively. Investors should note that investment in equity shares involves a high degree of risk and for details relating to such risk, please see the section entitled "Risk Factors" on page 32 of the RHP. Potential investors should not rely on the DRHP filed with SEBI for making any investment decision.

The Equity Shares offered in the Offer have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended ("U.S. Securities Act") or any other applicable law of the United States and, unless so registered, may not be offered or sold within the United States, except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act and applicable U.S. state securities laws. Accordingly, the Equity Shares are being offered and sold (i) within the United States only to persons reasonably believed to be "qualified institutional buyers" (as defined in Rule 144A under the U.S. Securities Act) pursuant to Section 4(a) of the U.S. Securities Act, and (ii) outside the United States in "offshore transactions" in reliance on Regulation S under the U.S. Securities Act and pursuant to the applicable laws of the jurisdiction where those offers and sales are made. There will be no public offering of the Equity Shares in the United States.

For Chemplast Sanmar Limited
On behalf of the Board of Directors
S/-
Company Secretary and Compliance Officer

Timings
DELHI
TUESDAY, AUG. 10
RISE 05:48 SET 19:05
RISE 07:15 SET 20:35
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 11
RISE 05:49 SET 19:05
RISE 08:16 SET 21:10
THURSDAY, AUG. 12
RISE 05:49 SET 19:04
RISE 09:17 SET 21:43

Delhi Weather	max	min
Delhi City	33	25
Safdarjung	33	25
Palam	34	27

Delhi Palam Today
35°C Warm day with occasional partly cloudy sky and moderate gusty winds likely, passing rain may occur.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow
35°C Moderate winds would continue with partly cloudy sky. Day would remain warm and mainly sunny.

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Nangal case: BJP demands AAP govt. give ₹1 crore to kin

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI
The Delhi BJP on Monday protested outside Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's residence demanding that the city government pay ₹1 crore compensation to the family of the nine-year-old girl who was allegedly raped and murdered in Nangal village.
State unit vice-president Rajiv Babbar said the Delhi government must also give a job and a house to the family. "Instead of caring for Delhiites, the Kejriwal government's focus seems to be more on AAP's campaign and expansion in other States at Delhi tax payers' money," Mr. Babbar alleged.

HC seeks govt. reply on petition challenging home delivery of liquor

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI
The Delhi High Court on Monday asked the city government to reply to a plea by BJP MP Parvesh Sahib Singh Verma challenging the provision in the new excise policy of 2021, which allows home delivery of liquor. A Bench of Chief Justice D.N. Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh listed the petition for further hearing on September 20.
Senior Advocate Abhish-ek Manu Singhvi, representing the Delhi government, submitted that "₹10,000 crore has been earned by Delhi, pursuant to the new excise policy amid the ongoing pandemic."
Mr. Verma, in his petition, has challenged Rule 66(6) of the Delhi Excise (Amendment) Rules of, 2021, which he stated suffered from various constitutional illegality and is not sustainable under law.
"The new policy undermines the ban on the consumption of liquor in public places by making it possible to deliver alcohol to public places... The Rules enable the possibility of delivery of alcohol to hospitals and schools. It lacks any consideration to the safety of those delivering the liquor," the petition stated.
The plea further said that home delivery of liquor was against Article 47 of the Constitution, which makes it the duty of the State to improve public health.

Schools to have quarantine rooms, staggered timings

Delhi govt. issues guidelines for reopening of schools for students of Classes X-XII

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Delhi government on Monday issued a set of guidelines and a standard operating procedure (SOP) for the reopening of schools for students of Classes X-XII.
Students can now visit the schools for admission-related work, counselling, guidance and practical activities related to Board examinations.
Safety measures include staggered timings to ensure there is no crowding at the entry and exit gates of the campus. Also, there needs to be a minimum gap of one hour between the exit of students in morning school and the next batch coming in the evening, at schools that run on double shifts.
A quarantine room will have to be created in each school for emergencies.
The schools will have to ensure that written consent



A student sanitises her hand at the entry gate of a government school in Delhi on Monday. •SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

is obtained from parents of all students who are willing to visit the school, and heads of schools will have to make a specific schedule as per the capacity of the classroom/labs following COVID-appropriate behaviour.
An order from the Directorate of Education said, "All required measures/precautions like social distancing, wearing of face mask,

etc. need to be observed by everyone at all times."

The government has mandated that all employees and students will have to go through thermal scanning before entering school premises, and anyone having cold/cough/fever or flu-like symptoms shall not be allowed to attend school. Students will be told not to share station-

ery and books.
It added that online classes/digital distance learning shall continue and those students who wish to continue their studies through online classes shall be allowed to do so. Health checkups and referral services situated on school premises, or conducted from there, can also resume, the order stated. The heads of schools have been asked to ensure that all teachers and employees are vaccinated on priority. Schools have been directed to upload daily status of vaccinated staff on a link.

No fresh admissions
There will be no fresh admission this session in Classes VI, VII and XI in Rajkiya Pratibha Vikas Vidyalayas, which are in the process of being upgraded to Schools of Specialised Excellence, according to the DoE.

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a person (depicted in the photo), **Namely: Buddha Rabha S/o Dhaneswar R/o H. No. 308, Old Post office wall gali, Chhota Bazar, Shahdara, Delhi** has been missing since 04.08.2021 from the area of P.S. Farsh Bazar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide DD No. 10A dated 05.08.2021 has been lodged at PS Farsh Bazar, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

BUDDHA RABHA
Age : 50 Years, Height : 5'6", Complexion : Shallow, Face : Long, Built : Medium, Wearing : Red colour T-shirt and Blue colour lower & Green colour sleeper in feet.
Any person having any information/clue about this missing person, may inform SHO, Farsh Bazar, Delhi at E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in or website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

SHO P.S. Farsh Bazar, Delhi
Shahdara Distt., Delhi
Ph. No. 011-24368638, 24368641
Ph. No. 011-21210833, 7065036028

Department of Tourism, Government of Kerala
Tourism Directorate, Park View, Opp. To Museum, Thiruvananthapuram, PIN-695033, Phone: 0471-2560400
www.keralatourism.org, planning@keralatourism.org

Open Tender - Notice Inviting Competitive Bids

Name of work	Selection of consultant for preparation of Detailed project report for Development of Literary Tourism Circuit in Malabar Region, Kerala State
Tender Reference Number	P7-6793/2021
Tender ID	2021_TOUR_434087_1
Documents to be downloaded from	09.08.2021, 5:00 p.m. to 08.09.2021, 3:00 p.m.
Pretender Clarification from	09.08.2021, 5:00 p.m. to 08.09.2021, 12:00 p.m.
Bid Submission from	09.08.2021, 5:00 p.m. to 08.09.2021, 3:00 p.m.
Date of Bid opening	09.09.2021, 3:00 p.m.
Tender Fee	INR 5,900/-
EMD	INR 2,50,000/-

Tender website: <https://etenders.kerala.gov.in>

Date: 09/08/2021 Sd/-
Thiruvananthapuram Director

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON
See Section 82 Cr. P. C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Prakash @ Chuha S/o Jhabba Lal R/o H.No. 20/196R, 20/189 2nd floor Kalyanpuri, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under case **FIR No. 166/21, U/s 379/411/34 IPC**, has been registered at **P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said, **Prakash @ Chuha** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said, **Prakash @ Chuha** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused, **Prakash @ Chuha** of **FIR No. 166/21 U/s 379/411/34 IPC** required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 21.10.2021.

By Order,
Sh. Kapil Kumar, Ld. MM,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/1387/N/2021

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one person namely **Vikram @ Vicky S/o Raj Singh, R/o H. No. WZ-153/2, Shadipur, Delhi** has been missing since 09.03.2021 from his house. In this regard a case vide **DD No. 43-A dated 21.07.2021** has been Lodged at PS. Ranjit Nagar, Delhi.

The description of missing person is as under : Age : 37 yrs., Built: Normal, Height : 6', Face : Round, Complexion : Wheatish, Wearing : Blue colour jeans, light blue Colour shirt and sports shoes in feet.
If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform to the following:-
SHO P.S., Ranjit Nagar, Delhi
Ph: 011-25704008
25704009, DP/929/CD/2021

CORRIGENDUM NOTICE

Tender No. OP2/08/2021-22 - for the replacement of existing old/outlived/burnt ACSR with ACSR 103mm2 in Ram Darbar, Phase-I & II for improvement of LD System under electricity 'op' S/ Divn. No-5, Indl. Area, Ph-I, U.T. Chandigarh.

The subject cited tender due to be opened on dated i.e. 09.08.2021 at 16.00 Hrs. is hereby extended upto 16.08.2021 at 14.00 Hrs. for uploading and opening date i.e. 16.08.2021 at 16.00 Hrs. due to administrative reason.

All the other terms and conditions shall remain the same.
Executive Engineer,
Electricity (OP) Division No. 2 Chandigarh, U.T.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THE PUBLISHING PVT. LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

Active COVID-19 cases in the Capital fall below 500

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The city reported only 39 fresh COVID-19 cases over 24 hours, taking the total to 14,36,800, as per a bulletin released by the Delhi government on Monday.
There was one death reported and the total number of deaths stood at 25,067. A total of 46,447 tests were done in a day and the test positivity rate (TPR) was 0.08%.

Of the total cases, 14,11,235 people have recovered and there are only 498 active cases. In early May, there were as many as 99,361 active cases.

No vaccine shortage
Meanwhile, the Delhi government on Monday said the COVID-19 vaccine stock in the city would last for seven days. There were 4,30,350 doses of Covishield and 3,55,820 doses of Covaxin, as per another bulletin. Only 11,099 vaccinations were administered on Sunday, as government-run vaccination centres are closed on Sundays.

'Delhi govt. not prepared for third COVID-19 wave'

AAP did not improve health sector: BJP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Delhi government is not prepared for a possible third wave of COVID-19 since the city's health infrastructure has not been improved by the AAP since it came to power, the BJP alleged on Monday.

Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta said while Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal may make tall claims of making Delhi world-class, the fact remained that only 628 new beds had been added in government hospitals since the past year.
Referring to an RTI reply, Mr. Gupta alleged that when the Aam Aadmi Party came to power in Delhi, there were about 9,000 beds in city hospitals. By March 30, 2021, this number had gone up to 10,10,993.
"The AAP, in its 2015 manifesto, had said the number of beds will be raised from 10,000 to 40,000. In all these years, forget 30,000 more, the Kejriwal



government could not even add 700 new beds," Mr. Gupta said.

'False propaganda'
"The government is running on the basis of falsehood and propaganda. It had promised that as per international norms, there would be five beds available per 1,000 citizens," the senior BJP leader said.
Mr. Gupta added the city was in for a grave crisis if the Delhi government continued with the same "laxity and negligence" shown by the Kejriwal-led government during the first and second wave of the epidemic.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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Phone : 011-2216666
Website : www.jaschindustries.com, Email : skverma@jasch.biz

35TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & E-VOTING
The process of sending emails containing link for Annual Report for 2020-21 (AR) and notice of 35th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Company, scheduled to be held on 03-09-2021 at 10.00 hours through Video Conference/Other Audio Visual Means (VCOAVM) has been completed on 05-08-2021. Members who have not provided their email id or did not receive our email, may download the same from the above website of the Company under the link "Filings & Disclosures/Annual Reports" or that of BSE.
Information as to user id & password and instructions for participating in the AGM through VCOAVM and remote electronic voting (e-voting), are contained in the aforesaid notice and are equally applicable to persons who have become Members of the Company after despatch of notices. Members who have not provided their PAN to the Company/their DP so far are urged to provide the same within seven days hereof as, in some cases, it will be necessary to generate their password for logging in for e-voting/attending AGM.
A Member may participate in AGM even after exercising his right to vote through e-voting but shall not be entitled to vote again. Members present at the AGM, who have not already voted electronically, may cast their vote through remote e-voting during AGM.
Cut-off date for entitlement to remote e-voting is 20-08-2021. E-voting portal opens at 10:00 hours on 31-08-2021 and closes at 17:00 hours on 02-09-2021, after which e-voting will not be allowed. Result will be declared within the time permitted by law and will be posted at the above website of the Company under the link "Notices".
Grievances, if any, relating to non-receipt of the above notice or e-voting may be sent to by email to ramap@alankit.com.

for Jasch Industries Ltd Sd/- (S.K. VERMA)
Vice-President & Company Secretary

Sonipat 06/08/2021

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BATCH 3 : Topic Wise Test Series. Registration Date : 10th - 11th Aug-2021. Download Reader IAS App

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH
PREMNATH SETH
passed away peacefully at home on the evening of 5th August 2021 at the age of 97.
He will be deeply missed.
Vikram, Shantum and Aradhana Seth
Usha Seth
Gitanjali, Nandini and Anamika Seth

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES
FIRST ANNIVERSARY
Dr. V. KRISHNAMURTHI
Chairman DGSEA
VILVARAYANALLUR, Madurantakam
DOB: 10.8.2020
A doyen of education, who taught - the needy thought - service & brought - changes & brought - changes to redefine the lives of many
Remembered by: DGSEA Family Members, Well Wishers & APEX CLUB OF MADRAS

36th Death Anniversary
Mr. V.G. KARTHA
Born: 18/8/1931 | Died: 10/8/1985
ELDEST SON OF P.E.G. KARTHA & KAMLA KARTHA
Chennai / Mysore
DGM (Material Management & Marketing) VZAG STEEL PLANT
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Sons, Daughters, Sons in law, Daughters in law & Grandchildren
Shobana Kartha, Prasanna Biebrer

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WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITATION TENDER DIVISIONAL RAILWAY MANAGER, KOTA
Date: 05.08.2021
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, West Central Railway, Kota on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders separately for each station under Single Packet tendering System, from the Public sector Bank/ Scheduled commercial Indian Banks for installation AUTOMATIC TELLER MACHINES (ATMs) 31 location at 28 stations over Kota Division for a period of 5 (Five) years. (1) Category of Station - NSG-2, Name of Station - KOTA, No. of ATM Proposed - 1, Area of Each ATM - 6ft. x 6ft., Location- PF 1 Side circulating area Near Booking Office - 01 No. (2) Category of Station - NSG-2, Name of Station - KOTA, No. of ATM Proposed - 1, Area of Each ATM - 6ft. x 6ft., Location- PF 4 Side circulating area - 01 No. (3) Category of Station - NSG-2, Name of Station - KOTA, No. of ATM Proposed - 1, Area of Each ATM - 7.5 sq.mt., Location- DRM office Opposite Kota Jn-01 No. (4) Category of Station - NSG-3, Name of Station - SAWAIMADHOPUR, No. of ATM Proposed - 1, Area of Each ATM - 6ft. x 6ft., Location- PF 1 Side Circulating area - 01 No. (5) Category of Station - NSG-3, Name of Station - SAWAIMADHOPUR, No. of ATM Proposed - 1, Area of Each ATM - 6ft. x 6ft., Location- PF 4 Side Circulating area - 01 No. (6) Category of Station - NSG-3, Name of Station - BHARATPUR, No. of ATM Proposed - 1, Area of Each ATM - 6ft. x 6ft., Location- PF 1 Side Circulating area (7) Category of Station - NSG-4, Name of Station - HINDAUN CITY, GANGAPUR CITY, RAMGANJ MANDI, BUNDI, DAKANIYATALAV, No. of ATM Proposed - 1, Area of Each ATM - 6ft. x 6ft., Location- PF 1 Side Circulating area. (8) Category of Station - NSG-5, Name of Station - BHAWANI MANDI, BAYANA, SHAMGARH, SHRI MAHABIRJI, BAARAN, VIHARAM GARH ALOT, CHAUMAHLA, SUWASRA, UNDERGARH, SUMERGANJ MANDI, CHUNDA, GUJOR, LAKHERI, JHALAWARCITY, No. of ATM Proposed - 1, Area of Each ATM - 6ft. x 6ft., Location- PF 1 Side Circulating area. (9) Category of Station - NSG-6, Name of Station - MAHIDPUR ROAD, MORAK, KESHORJI PATAN, MALARNA, NARAYANPUR TATWARA, ANTAH, ATRU, SALPURA, No. of ATM Proposed - 1, Area of Each ATM - 6ft. x 6ft., Location- PF 1 Side Circulating area, Type of Tender: Open E-Tender (Single Packet tendering System) through IREPS. E-Tender Notice No. & Date: 05/ATM/25/2021 Dated: 05.08.2021. Name of the Work - Installation and operation of ATMs at different locations/stations of KOTA division as per list enclosed for a period of five years. Cost of E-Tender Document (Non-Refundable & Non-adjustable) : Rs. 5,900/- (including GST). 500 + 900 @ 18 % GST) Cost of tender shall be accepted only through online net banking or E-payment gateway. Earnest Money Deposit : Rs. 10,000/- Cost of Earnest Money Deposit shall be accepted only through online net banking or E-payment gateway. Reserve Price per year for each ATM: Tenders may be invited without any Reserve Price Bank quoting highest Annual License Fee shall be awarded the ATM location. (As per format is attached as annexure - D). Last Date and Time for Submission of E-Tender: 27.08.2021 up to 15:30 Hrs. through online website www.ireps.gov.in only. Time and Date for Opening of e-Tender: 27.08.2021 at 16:00 Hrs. Validity of Offer from Date of e-Tender Opening: 45 Days, Address for Correspondence: Senior Divisional Commercial Manager Divisional Railway Manager's Office West Central Railway, Kota - 324002. Note: (1) Tender should be submitted by the tenderer from their own ID only. The detailed application form with terms and Conditions can be downloaded from the website www.ireps.gov.in and For Further details you may contact the undersigned office on any working day. Sr. Divisional Commercial manager, WCR, Kota
वेकीन लगवार्, जीवन के सफर को सुरक्षित बनायें।

SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF A.P. LIMITED
Corporate office: H.No.19-13-65A, Srinivasapuram, Tiruchanoor Road, Tirupati-517503

Tender Notice (AP e-Procurement) CGM/Projects/04/2021-22, Dt. 09.08.2021
Sealed bids through "e-procurement" are invited from the eligible bidders for the following works under YSR Uchita Vyavasaaya Viduyut Padhakam.

S.No.	Name of the Work
1	Supply, Configuration and Integration of 11 Lakh Nos. of 3φ, (10A-60A, Class 1.0) whole current Smart Energy Meters as per IS 16444 part-1/3φ, (10A-60A, Class 1.0) whole current Energy Meters as per IS 13779 with Local Communication (IRDA/Bluetooth) with Modern and Relays along with required software (HES, MDMS, MDAS) etc. with 5-Years online meter readings collection and comprehensive Annual Maintenance with CAPEX cum OPEX Mode.
2	Supply and installation of Allied materials like SMC Meter Boxes etc. for Providing of 11 lakh Nos. of 3φ, (10A-60A, Class 1.0) Energy meters with Modems in 5-Districts of APSDCCL with 100% CAPEX mode.

Download start date : The tender will be made available from 23.00 Hrs on 11-08-2021 onwards in the website: www.apecprocurement.gov.in
Chief General Manager / Projects
APSPDCCL-TIRUPATI
Phone No. 8322999180 & 8332999985

Only one student fails in Karnataka SSLC exams

STAFF REPORTER BENGALURU
As many as 157 students have secured 625/625 marks in the SSLC examination held last month in Karnataka. Of the 8,71,443 candidates who appeared for the Class 10 examination, all barring one were deemed as pass. The pass percentage was 99.99%.

The pass percentage in 2020-21 was 71.8%. While the Department of Primary and Secondary Education had announced that all SSLC students would be declared as pass, one private candidate failed the examination as she had allegedly indulged in impersonation.

This year, the pattern of the examination was changed due to the second wave of COVID-19. Students had to attempt multiple choice questions for all six exams that were held over a span of two days. Each subject paper was for 40 marks that was later converted to 100 marks, while the first language marks were converted to 125 marks.

Grace marks given

Announcing the results on Monday, Primary and Secondary Education Minister B.C. Nagesh said 9% of the students were able to clear the SSLC examinations as grace marks were awarded to them.

"Experts had estimated that the numbers would be higher than this and a large percentage of students would pass only because of grace marks, but only a small percentage of students were benefited."

The Minister said the highest grace marks given for a subject was 28 and 13 students had got it.

TV journalist killed, constable arrested

The A.P. scribe exposed policeman's alleged involvement in gutka sale, gambling

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT KURNOOL

A police constable and his brother were taken into custody on Monday on charges of murdering a journalist of a local news channel, EV5, at Nandyal in Andhra Pradesh's Kurnool district, late on Sunday night, allegedly for exposing the illegal activities of the policeman.

Venkatasubbaiah, a constable attached to the Two Town police station in Nandyal, and his brother, Nani, reportedly killed the reporter Chennakeshavalu, 35, to a place in NGO Colony to discuss the news telecast by him regarding the illegal sale of tobacco products (gutka) and the gambling (matka) activities carried on by the constable, according to Superintendent of Police Sudheer Kumar Reddy.

When Mr. Chennakeshavalu arrived at the appointed



Journalist Chennakeshavalu who was stabbed on Sunday night. At right, journalists submitting a representation to Kurnool SP Sudheer Kumar Reddy in Nandyal. *U. SUBRAMANYAM

place, the constable and his brother allegedly stabbed him with a screwdriver and fled. "Passers-by immediately took the journalist to the hospital about 11 p.m., but he died," the SP added.

Suspended last week

Mr. Venkatasubbaiah was suspended last week for his alleged involvement in gutka and matka activities, re-



portedly exposed by Mr. Chennakeshavalu.

The journalist is survived by his wife, one-year-old daughter and parents.

The Nandyal police registered a case under Sections 302, 34 of the IPC on a complaint by the journalist's wife. The SP said that since the victim belonged to the Scheduled Caste, relevant Sections of the SC/ST Pre-

vention of Atrocities Act were also included.

The SP visited the crime scene before interacting with the family members. The victim's family members were assured of assistance and protection.

The Andhra Pradesh Union of Working Journalists and the APWJ Federation have expressed dismay at the turn of events.

IPI calls for quick action by A.P. govt

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The International Press Institute (IPI), a global network of editors, media executives and journalists, called upon the A.P. government to immediately arrest those responsible for murdering EV-5 TV reporter Chennakeshavalu.

"This terrible killing underscores the threat that Indian journalists face when they expose corruption involving government officials and people in power. Impunity for crimes against journalists is extremely high in India and several journalists' murders have not been thoroughly investigated," IPI Deputy Director Scott Griffin said.

Extend cooperation, river boards tell A.P., Telangana

Telangana abstains from meets of Krishna, Godavari boards

B. CHANDRASHEKHAR HYDERABAD

The Krishna and Godavari River Management Boards (KRMB and GRMB) have made it clear that the two member-States - Andhra Pradesh and Telangana - are duty-bound to extend their unreserved cooperation to the Boards towards the implementation of various clauses of the gazette notification issued notifying their purview in "letter and spirit" and as per the prescribed timelines.

As informed to the Boards already, Telangana stayed away from the joint meeting

of the two Boards held here on Monday, citing its prior commitments in the National Green Tribunal (NGT) and the Supreme Court, where made its goal was to defeat the BJP in 2022 and ruled out any alliance with it.

The way forward

The joint meeting of the river Boards was organised to discuss and chalk out the way forward towards imple-

mentation of the notification. The emergency meetings of the two Boards were held with the agenda aimed at timely implementation of the actionable clauses.

The Boards' officials raised the clauses on the deployment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel at all projects, reservoirs, dams, and other structures mentioned in the notifications, on financial liability pertaining to court and tribunal cases, on the infrastructure required, and on seed money of ₹200 crore each to be deposited by the two States.

Kerala police raid tribal leader's house

BJP chief allegedly paid her ₹50 lakh

STAFF REPORTER KALPETTA

The Crime Branch of the Kerala police raided the house of tribal leader C.K. Janu at Panavalay in Wayanad district on Monday.

The raid was in connection with the charge that BJP State president K. Surendran had paid the Janadhipathya Rashtriya Party leader ₹50 lakh to ensure her support to the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). "We seized three mobile phones and bank details from the house," Crime Branch Dy.SP Manoj Kumar, told *The Hindu*.

The Sulthan Bathery police had registered a case



C.K. Janu

against Mr. Surendran and Ms. Janu a few weeks ago following an order of the First Class Judicial Magistrate here on a complaint which alleged that Mr. Surendran had paid Ms. Janu ₹50 lakh to contest as an NDA candidate in the Sulthan Bathery segment in the recent Assembly election.

Prefer Akhilesh as Chief Minister over Adityanath, says Rajbhar

SBSP chief indicates willingness to tie up with SP, rules out alliance with BJP

OMAR RASHID LUCKNOW

Amid speculation over his next move following his meeting with a senior BJP leader, OBC leader from Purvanchal Om Prakash Rajbhar has said he prefers Akhilesh Yadav as the next Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and not Yogi Adityanath.

With this fresh statement, Mr. Rajbhar, president of the Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP), has indicated he prefers an alliance with the Samajwadi Party (SP) even though the door was also open for the BSP and the Congress.

"Yogi is a *sadhu baba*. He



SBSP chief O.P. Rajbhar

should stay in a temple. He is not a *neta* (leader or politician). Akhilesh Yadav is a *neta*," Mr. Rajbhar told reporters in Varanasi.

While praising the work done in U.P. by Mr. Yadav during his government from

2012 to 2017, Mr. Rajbhar said, "Akhilesh should become the CM."

Mr. Rajbhar also said that his goal was to defeat the BJP in 2022 and ruled out any alliance with it.

However, recently he met State BJP president Swatantra Dev Singh in Lucknow and the two OBC leaders discussed politics. Though even then Mr. Rajbhar dismissed prospects of an alliance with the BJP in 2022, he laced it with a condition that if the BJP fulfilled five demands laid down by him he would think about a tie-up.

One of his main demands was that the BJP nominate a

Chief Minister from the OBC community, which indirectly meant he did not accept Mr. Adityanath as Chief Minister as he was born into the dominant Thakur caste.

Former BJP ally

A former ally of the BJP, Mr. Rajbhar turned rebel before the 2019 Lok Sabha election and was subsequently sacked as a Cabinet Minister in the State government following the results in which the BJP overcame a joint SP-BSP fight. Since then, Mr. Rajbhar formed the Bhagdari Sankalp Morcha, a group of small parties each with a base in some OBC caste.

Odisha govt. to build 89 stadiums

SATYASUNDAR BARIK BHUBANESWAR

The Odisha government stepped up efforts to strengthen the sports infrastructure in the State by deciding to build 89 indoor stadiums, which can be used as hospitals during health emergencies and shelters during natural disasters.

A Cabinet meeting, chaired by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, approved the proposal at an estimated cost of ₹693.35 crore.

The indoor stadiums would be constructed at places where modern sports infrastructure is not available. All these stadiums, to be christened as Biju Patnaik Indoor Stadium, will come up within next 18 months.

Government being run by big corporates, says Rakesh Tikait

'Farmers should be wary of the divisive politics of BJP'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT GHAZIABAD

The demands made by farmers against the agriculture reform laws are not being heeded by the Narendra Modi government as it is being run by big corporates, Bharatiya Kisan Union national spokesperson Rakesh Tikait said on Monday. He was addressing farmers at a panchayat in Modinagar, ahead of the scheduled mahapanchayat in Muzaffarnagar on September 5.

He alleged that the government did not want to bring in a law on the minimum support price because it wanted to safeguard the interests of its corporate friends. "They want to do business of hun-

ger. If you want to save your land, you have to give the BJP the same treatment that farmers of Bengal administered it in the recent Assembly election," he added.

He said farmers should be wary of the divisive politics of the BJP. "In Uttar Pradesh, they pit Hindus against Muslims, in Gujarat they put Patels against non-Patels, in Haryana, they make it Jats versus non-Jats and in Maharashtra, Marathas are propped up against non-Marathas. It is time to see through their tactics of dividing us to rule," he said.

Invoking names of BJP leaders like L.K. Advani and Murali Manohar Joshi, Mr. Ti-

kait said it seemed those who talked of Swadeshi had been asked to keep their mouths shut.

"This is the party that talks of cows and cow dung. They promised to implement the M.S. Swaminathan report in their manifesto. It seems even the manifesto has been reduced to *jumblebaazi*," he said.

Gujarat claimed

Mr. Tikait alleged the government was trying to bring in the Gujarat and Brazil model of land acquisition and said in future farmers would be reduced to labour working for big corporates on the farms.

Punjab on high alert after bomb found in tiffin box

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA CHANDIGARH

The Punjab police said on Monday that the State was on high alert after a tiffin box bomb, packed with over 2 kg of RDX, was recovered from a village in Amritsar which they suspect was dropped by a drone flying in from Pakistan.

Director General of Police Dinkar Gupta said the bomb could be set off through a remote device or a timed mechanism.

"The tiffin box bomb can be described as an Improvised Explosive Device. The

IED was created in a double-chambered tiffin box with attractive pictures on it. Last evening, the recovery was made near Dalake village under Lopoke Police Station in Amritsar," Mr. Gupta told media persons.

"Our assessment is that this bomb has been delivered through a drone across the border," he added.

According to police, some hand grenades and cartridges were also found from the bag containing the tiffin bomb days ahead of Independence Day.

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS DEPARTMENT
7TH LEVEL, C-WING, DELHI SECRETARIAT,
I.P. ESTATE, NEW DELHI
E-mail: arupdate@nic.in
F.No. 14/09/2020/AR/Pt. File-II/3540 Dated: 09/08/2021

PUBLIC NOTICE
Subject:- Extension of Last Date of Submission of online application for Fellows and Associate Fellows-reg.
The Government of NCT of Delhi had invited online applications for engagement of Fellows and Associate Fellows under Chief Minister's Urban Leaders Fellowship programme for 2021-23. The last date of submission of online applications was 09/08/2021.
In order to give ample opportunity to the desirous aspirants, the last date of submission of online applications has been extended to 16/08/2021.
For more details and to apply, visit ddc.delhi.gov.in/ CMULF.
Deputy Director-I (AR)
Administrative Reforms Department
Govt. of NCT of Delhi
DIP/Shabdarth/0224/21-22

TRIPURA RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
(Department of Power, Government of Tripura)
email-tredaagartala@gmail.com, URL: www.treda.nic.in
PNle-T No.F.6(294)/TREDA/NCES/2021/1953 Date 09/08/2021
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
On behalf of Tripura Renewable Energy Development Agency (TREDA), Joint Director, TREDA invites e-tender for design, manufacture, supply, erection, testing and commissioning of 5 KwP Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant including establishment of micro grid in Tripura vide Nle-T No.F.6(294)/TREDA/NCES/2021/1951, dated 09/08/2021.
The tender papers may be downloaded from e-procurement portal <http://tripuratenders.gov.in> and the deadline for submission of online e-bid is 31/08/2021 upto 02:00 PM.
(D S DAS)
Joint Director

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Sikkim, sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala, Mahe and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Odisha, coastal Andhra Pradesh and Karaikal

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	4	33.1	26.0	Kozhikode	5	31.0	24.2
Ahmedabad	36.0	27.1	Lucknow	0.2	36.1	26.2	
Aizawl	3	25.8	22.0	Mangaluru	3	31.6	27.2
Allahabad	31.2	27.0	Madurai	40.2	26.4		
Bengaluru	0.6	30.7	21.7	Mysuru	0.4	28.4	23.8
Bhopal	7	29.3	24.4	Mumbai	0.5	32.5	25.1
Bhubaneswar	22.7	34.9	27.8	Mysuru	31.0	22.2	
Chandigarh	30	34.5	26.4	New Delhi	15	33.4	25.1
Chennai	36.1	28.6	Patna	28	33.2	25.6	
Coimbatore	33.3	22.6	Port Blair	5	30.5	25.7	
Dehradun	27	31.2	22.0	Puducherry	35.4	25.6	
Gangtok	0.2	22.0	18.6	Raipur	30.8	21.7	
Goa	31.0	24.7	Ranchi	35.0	25.2		
Guwahati	0.5	35.0	27.0	Ranchi	30.6	22.6	
Hubbali	27.0	22.0	Shillong	14	25.3	18.0	
Hyderabad	34.0	24.2	Shimla	15	25.3	16.6	
Imphal	7	30.2	22.7	Srinagar	29.5	16.6	
Jaipur	35.2	26.5	Thiruvananthapuram	1	32.2	24.0	
Kochi	31.0	24.4	Tiruchi	39.5	26.6		
Kohima	26.6	17.7	Vijayawada	4	35.6	27.8	
Kolkata	5	34.7	27.3	Visakhapatnam	35.4	28.4	

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO ₂	NO ₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE	Yesterday
Ahmedabad	42	43	19	65	96	■	
Bengaluru	3	46	160	38	48	■	In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Chandigarh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 166 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 12
Chennai	15	14	35	43	51	■	
Delhi	9	14	32	272	134	■	
Hyderabad	7	23	40	65	65	■	
Kolkata	11	24	19	62	75	■	
Lucknow	12	14	74	53	87	■	
Mumbai	14	66	36	40	70	■	
Pune	32	15	47	68	60	■	
Visakhapatnam	21	34	35	40	67	■	

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO₂: 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 and monuments.

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 premature death in people with heart or lung disease

NORTH & EAST

Assam govt. eases COVID curbs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA GUWAHATI

The Assam government on Monday relaxed curfew timings in view of improvement in the COVID-19 situation.

Curfew will be enforced between 6 p.m. and 5 a.m. across the State, an order is-

sued by Chief Secretary Jishnu Barua, in his capacity as the chairperson of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority, said.

The order will come into force from 5 a.m. on August 10 in both urban and rural areas.

DNP LTD.
(A Govt. of Assam Undertaking)
DULIAJAN-786602
CIN: U51410AS2007SGC008410
TENDER NOTICE
No. NPL/DNPL/12/80/PT-II/130
Date: 05/08/2021
DNP Ltd. (DNPL), a Govt. of Assam Undertaking invites e-tender for Hiring Operation & Maintenance Services from Reputed Experienced Parties for DNP Gas Compressor Station at Madhuban, Duliajan, Dist: Dibrugarh, Assam. Interested parties may visit the NIC/e-tender portal www.assamtenders.gov.in or company web www.dnpl.co.in for details of the tender. Any subsequent addendum/corrigendum will be uploaded in the aforementioned e-tender portal/website only.
Sd/-
Director, DNP Ltd.
Duliajan, Assam

Karnataka State Medical Supplies Corporation Limited (R)
Public Helath Institute, Sheshadri Road, Opp. S.J.P. College, K.R. Circle, Bengaluru-560001.
E-mail: ad.kdlws@gmail.com, md.ksmscl@gmail.com
No.: HFV/KSMSCL/Covid-19/REK Manual/49/2021-22 Date: 09.08.2021
TENDER NOTIFICATION
Ref.: 1. Tender Notification No. HFV/KSMSCL/Covid-19/REK Manual/49/2021-22, Date: 09.08.2021.
2. Tender Notification No. HFV/KSMSCL/Equip/Covid-19/Re-TND/RTPCR/40/2021-22, Date: 09.08.2021.
Nationwide Tender is invited through e-mail KSMSCL Website under KTRP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 4(a) for the following tenders:
1. Tender for supply of RNA Extraction Kit Manual for Covid-19.
2. Tender for supply of RTPCR Kit for Covid-19.
The tenderers who are interested can participate in the IFQ through e-mail KSMSCL website <https://www.ksmscl.kar.nic.in> in bidders may participate through IFQ e-mail KSMSCL website system.
Details regarding specification, Terms and Conditions and other information is available in the through IFQ form the e-mail idskdlws@ksmscl.com from 09.08.2021. The eligible tenderers shall submit their documents through e-mail under KSMSCL website platform for above mentioned tenders. Further information if any may be obtained from this office.
Sd/-, Managing Director
KSMSCL, Bengaluru
DIPR/DDU/1117/2021-22
STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene



Road ahead from Gogra

While disengagement happens, a long-lasting solution along the LAC remains a challenge

After the talks on July 31, India and China have taken one more step towards restoring peace and normalcy on the LAC by disengaging at Gogra. It is, however, only one step, and the road ahead towards returning to the status quo of April 2020, before the tensions of last summer upended years of a carefully managed even if uneasy peace along the LAC, remains uncertain. It has taken 12 rounds of military-level talks to see both sides disengage and put in place buffer zones in the Galwan Valley, the site of the June 2020 clash that marked the worst violence since 1967, Pangong Lake, and now Patrolling Point 17 in Gogra. The disengagement process at PPI7 took place on August 4 and 5, with a return to permanent bases. The next round of talks will discuss PPI5 in Hot Springs. Demchok, where China has transgressed in relatively smaller numbers than the deployments seen in Pangong Lake, also remains unresolved. Beijing has appeared unwilling to discuss the strategically significant Depsang plains, where the Chinese side has been blocking Indian patrols. The buffer zone model, where both sides temporarily cease patrolling in disputed areas, has appeared to work so far in keeping the peace. It is, however, only a temporary measure, and one that India should not accept as permanent as it would prevent India from enforcing its territorial claims and favour the PLA, which can deploy faster in larger numbers owing to more favourable terrain and better logistics.

The next step will be full de-escalation, and a withdrawal of some of the new forward deployments that have come up close to the LAC. India has signalled that it is prepared for the long haul; its message: relations cannot return to normal without a full restoration of normalcy on the borders. While the strategic motivations of China's border deployments last year are not clear, the tactical objectives are not difficult to ascertain. Since the 2017 Doklam crisis, China has consistently stepped up building new permanent airbases and air defence units closer to the LAC, with at least 13 new positions coming up since then, according to an analysis of satellite images from Stratfor. India has been moving to rapidly upgrade its own infrastructure to close the gap. The result is an entirely changed security dynamic along the LAC. There is a need to come up urgently with new protocols and confidence-building measures, as both sides gradually resume patrolling in the buffer zones. The multiple transgressions by China and the violence of last year have set back years of efforts to carefully manage the borders and thrown into doubt whether the four agreements regulating the behaviour of both sides still remain valid. While the recent moves towards restoring the peace are certainly welcome, finding a more long-lasting solution to ensure peace along the LAC will present a taller challenge.

Code red

IPCC's warning on climate points to a small window of opportunity that still exists

The IPCC has issued arguably its strongest warning yet on impending catastrophe from unmitigated global warming caused by human activity, lending scientific credence to the argument that rising wildfires, heatwaves, extreme rainfall and floods witnessed in recent times are all strongly influenced by a changing climate. In a stark report on the physical science basis of climate change contributed for a broader Assessment Report of the UN, the IPCC's Working Group I has called for deep cuts to carbon dioxide emissions and other greenhouse gases and a move to net zero emissions, as the world would otherwise exceed 1.5°C and 2°C of warming during the 21st century with permanent consequences. Climate change is described by many as a far greater threat to humanity than COVID-19, because of its irreversible impacts. The latest report is bound to strengthen the criticism that leaders in many countries have stonewalled and avoided moving away from coal and other fossil fuels, while even those who promised to act, failed to influence the multilateral system. The new report attributes catastrophic events to sustained global warming, particularly the frequency and intensity of hot extremes, marine heatwaves, heavy precipitation, agricultural and ecological droughts, proportion of intense tropical cyclones, reductions in Arctic sea ice, snow cover and permafrost. A phenomenon such as heavy rainfall over land, for instance, could be 10.5% wetter in a world warmer by 1.5°C, and occur 1.5 times more often, compared to the 1850-1900 period.

More than five years after the Paris Agreement was concluded, there is no consensus on raising ambition to reduce emissions, making access to low carbon technologies easier, and adequately funding mitigation and adaptation. COVID-19 had the unexpected effect of marginally and temporarily depressing emissions. The IPCC's analysis presents scenarios of large-scale collapse of climate systems that future leaders would find virtually impossible to manage. Heatwaves and heavy rainfall events experienced with increasing frequency and intensity are just two of these, while disruptions to the global water cycle pose a more unpredictable threat. Also, if emissions continue to rise, oceans and land, two important sinks and the latter a key part of India's climate action plan, would be greatly weakened in their ability to absorb atmospheric carbon dioxide. The new report sets the stage for the CoP26 conference in November. The only one course to adopt there is for developed countries with legacy emissions to effect deep cuts, transfer technology without strings to emerging economies and heavily fund mitigation and adaptation. Developing nations should then have no hesitation in committing themselves to steeper emissions cuts.

Saudi Arabia, Iran and the possibilities of détente

Recent pronouncements from Riyadh and Tehran could be supportive of peace and security in the Gulf littoral



HAMID ANSARI

Individuals and human collectives have memories and time spans. The two do not converge but at times overlap. The latter are infrequent yet meaningful. Prudence, if not wisdom, lies in using them. One such occasion betides the Gulf region at this juncture.

The Persian Gulf is a nearly 990 kilometre-long body of water that separates Iran from the Arabian Peninsula. Seven member States of the United Nations lay claim to washing their hands or feet in its waters. At its narrowest point, in the Strait of Hormuz, it is only 54 km wide and the main shipping channels that pass through it are 30km-35 km wide and 8km-12 km wide. They are critical to the transportation of crude oil and LNG to global markets.

For over a century till the early 1970s, the Persian Gulf was a British lake. The imperial withdrawal propelled the United States to step in as the guarantor of the sub-region with its Twin-Pillars (Iran-Saudi Arabia) policy. An abortive effort was also made by Oman through the Muscat Conference in November 1976; it floundered on the obstinacy of Baathist Iraq. Bilateral efforts were also made by King Faisal of Saudi Arabia and the Shah of Iran; King Faisal initiated his Islamic solidarity policy in 1964 and visited Iran in December 1965; in 1966 Saudi Defence Minister Sultan bin Abdulaziz described the Iranian-Saudi friendship as a

perfect example of Islamic brotherhood and neighbourly relations; the two States were also active members of the Five Power 'Safari Club' for intelligence sharing.

Impact of unrest

The Iranian Revolution of 1978-79 disturbed the strategic balance in the region and put an end to efforts to develop a regional consensus on security issues. Over the next decade, and particularly during the period of the Iraq-Iran war, the effort of the Gulf monarchies and of their western supporters was to destabilise and wish away the revolutionary regime. The formation of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) in 1981 was part of the effort to reassure the Gulf sheikhdoms. The end of the war and the cooling of tensions allowed saner perceptions to emerge. These were spelt out among others by the Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister in the Manama Dialogue in December 2004. In 1996, Iranian President Mohammad Khatami told the Saudi Defence Minister that a defence pact would be mutually beneficial. Crown Prince Abdullah attended the Islamic Summit conference in Tehran in December 9-11, 1997. This was seen in Tehran as 'a good beginning for removing misunderstandings'. Subsequent developments in the region relating to Syria and the Hezbollah on the one side and the Saudi intervention in the Yemen on the other conflict pushed back, even reversed, the developing perceptions in Riyadh.

Yemen in particular has been critical to Saudi perceptions of national security. The clash of viewpoints dates back to the 1930s when King Abdulaziz ibn Saud was expanding the boundaries of the



Kingdom of Najd to incorporate the western and southern parts of the Arabian Peninsula. Conflict developed over the southern region of Najran and resulted in a Saudi military victory and the Treaty of 1934. This maintained peace till the Egyptian Revolution and Gamal Abdel Nasser's 'intoxicating blend of nationalism and radicalism' that set the region alight. It led to the Yemeni coup of 1962, the Egyptian military intervention in Yemen and the souring of Saudi-Egyptian relations that lasted till the Arab-Israeli war of 1967. This suited the interests of the United States; military assistance programmes and the stationing of U.S. troops during the Kuwait war of 1990 followed. The Trump era and the jettisoning of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action witnessed a qualitative strengthening of ties between them.

The key issues

The last few years have witnessed geopolitical tensions in the Gulf littoral. Most States have been affected adversely by the historically low oil prices and by COVID-19. The GCC has become inoperative with the focus on the boycott of Qatar that is now being reversed. There are new tensions between the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia. Riyadh's access

to the Oval Office in Washington is now not what it was in the Donald Trump era. The Abraham Accords between Israel, the UAE and Bahrain have qualitatively influenced the Arab-Israeli calculus in the Persian Gulf States and in the wider Arab world.

More recently, the U.S.'s decision to withdraw forces from Afghanistan and reduce commitments in Iraq has been the subject of discussions on policy options among knowledgeable observers in Washington. One expert has observed that "on balance, the American ground-force base in Kuwait, the Fifth Fleet naval base in Bahrain, [the] Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar, Al Dhafra Air Base in the UAE and the access arrangements in Oman provide the U.S. with a politically and financially sustainable military presence" in the region. Another view is that "the post-COVID-19 environment is going to be unfriendly to Saudi Arabia perhaps more than any other leading power in the Gulf". The Saudi failure to subdue the Houthis and to close the Yemen conflict on their terms has become a source of concern. The U.S.'s inability to subdue Iran on its terms has also become evident. Others have drawn attention to the Saudi Crown Prince's remark in April that his country wants good relations with Iran and to the Iranian reaction of welcoming it. It is evident that policy options are being explored.

Security is the concern

The impact of these recent developments on Saudi Arabia-Iran relations needs to be assessed in this context. The effort to impart a sectarian orientation to the divide does not seem to hold. Their prim-

ary concern is security in the Gulf littoral and the security of the waterway for the transportation of their hydrocarbon exports.

In January 1987, the then U.S. Secretary of State said the Gulf has become 'critical to the economic health of the West'. A good part of the rest of the world can with justice be added to it.

For this to be given practical shape, its essential ingredients would need to be: freedom of access to, and outlet from, Gulf waters through the Strait of Hormuz; freedom of commercial shipping in international waters in the Persian Gulf; prevention of conflict that may impinge on the freedom of trade and shipping; freedom to all States of the Gulf littoral to exploit their hydrocarbons and other natural resources and export them; ensure conditions of peace and stability in the individual littoral States, and ensure that regional or extra-regional conditions do not impinge on any of these considerations.

Could the achievement of such an arrangement, or a part of it, be the beginning of a much desired and reassuring development? Overtime, it may address itself to bring forth answers to questions such as security for whom, by whom, against whom.

The recent pronouncements from Riyadh and Tehran do tend to suggest an inclination to be supportive of some of these suggestions. This is to be welcomed since from an Indian viewpoint the requirement is and will continue to be stability in the littoral States, freedom of navigation and safety of sea lanes.

Hamid Ansari is the former Vice President of India, 2007-2017

The shaky foundation of the labour law reforms

It could be a long wait before employers and workers enjoy the so-called benefits extended by the labour codes



K.R. SHYAM SUNDAR

The National Democratic Alliance government enacted the Code on Wages (<https://bit.ly/3fMralj>) in August 2019 and the other three Codes, viz., the Industrial Relations Code, the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code and Code on Social Security (CSS) in September 2020. Later, it had framed the draft rules albeit incompletely under all the codes – incompletely because the rules have not covered some aspects of the Codes, e.g. rules regarding recognition of central trade unions have not been framed so far.

A rushed exercise

Controversies surround the processes of the enactment of codes and the framing of rules. The Government has held only symbolic and partial consultation with the central trade unions. The three codes were passed in Parliament even as the Opposition parties, otherwise insignificant, boycotted the proceedings. The tearing hurry in which the Government carried out the reforms even during the COVID-19 period gave tremendous hope to employers and potential investors. It announced its intentions of implementing the Codes from April 1, 2021 even as State governments were completely unprepared with the rules. Further, the major political parties reallocated their energies to regional elections rather than the

implementation of codes. Symbolically, labour law reforms have been affected and the government can boast of it. Since the Government has not shown serious intent to implement the codes, the NDA government effected reforms to boast that it has executed the long-pending reforms; simply put, it is more symbolic rather than a meaningful act.

Court directives

The central government has deferred the possible date of implementation to October 1, 2021, again tentatively. In the meanwhile, the Supreme Court of India has exerted pressure on both the central and the State governments to implement a 'one nation, one ration card' (ONOR) scheme and register all the unorganised workers under the National Database for Unorganised Workers (NDUW), which was to have been done by July 31, 2021. Government agencies are rushing to comply with both the directives. In ONOR, Aadhaar seeding and the universal availability of an electronic point of sale (EPOS) system are necessary. And for the NDUW, it has to register each of the approximately 400 million workers, a conservative figure.

Perhaps, the Supreme Court passed such an extraordinary perhaps impracticable order following the hesitancy in early 2020 to provide relief to suffering migrant workers following the national lockdown. The governments did not honour the Supreme Court's orders relating to the registration of construction workers for many years. So, it has a bad track record. One is not sure when governments would comply fully and well with the Supreme Court's orders. Unor-



ganised workers including migrant workers will continue to be deprived of their promised and extended entitlements.

Government's line vs reality

The Government said the codes would extend universal minimum wages and social security, enable enhanced industrial safety and the provision of social security to gig workers, among other things. The Industrial Relations Code provides for recognition of trade union(s) by employers, a labour right that eluded workers for seven decades. On the other hand, employers celebrated the extension of tremendous flexibility to them, even those unskilled, such as relief from framing standing orders for most firms. But do they enjoy these benefits?

On August 3, 2021, I browsed the Simpliance website (a law portal) to assess the record of State governments regarding rules under the codes. It was a revelation to find that major States such as Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Haryana and Delhi have not issued the draft rules under any codes. Karnataka, Gujarat and Jharkhand have framed Rules for the Code on Wages and the Industrial Relations Code. Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pra-

desh, Uttarakhand and Punjab have framed rules for all the codes. Even though the Code on Wages was enacted in August 2019, it was only in March 2021 that the central government notified the constitution of an advisory committee. On June 3, 2021 it also announced an expert committee with a tenure of three years to advise it on minimum wages. Then, on July 12, 2021, it announced that the wage index's base year would be shifted from 1965 to 2019 to use the revised wage index to determine minimum wages. The Government seems to be clueless regarding the implementation of minimum wages.

Poor safety record

The incidence of major industrial accidents has remained undiminished even during the COVID-19 period. For instance, IndustriAll reported that between May to June, 32 major industrial accidents occurred in India, killing 75 workers (<https://bit.ly/3ApvxRV>). The media reported four accidents in Vizag during 2020. Safe in India's annual reports, CRUSHED, for 2019 and 2020, provide a disturbing picture of industrial accidents in the automobile industry in the Gurgaon region (<https://bit.ly/3Cxpfwv>). Industrial safety continues to be a grave concern even after the enactment of the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code.

According to several research reports, COVID-19 intensified informality, led to the withdrawal of workers from the labour market, reduced earnings, increased unemployment and widened inequality. The non-statutory floor level minimum wage remains a meagre ₹178 still even as Whole-

sale Price Index-inflation rates have galloped to 12% in June 2021. The Government's relief measures to workers, especially unorganised and migrant workers and even to the so-called organised sector workers, are too meagre to make any difference. It did not implement the widely endorsed measure of direct benefit transfer at least for low-income families.

In perspective

Thus, we see two aspects concerning labour market governance in India. One, the Government has failed to provide legal visibility to millions of unorganised and migrant workers, even after decades, and despite direction by the highest court in the land. Two, despite the gazetting of four Codes, age-old laws are in force. Thus, they reflect poorly not only on the governance abilities of the governments but also on the countervailing power of the Opposition parties. Were the labour law reforms rushed with little or no debate and consultation whatsoever, only to remain in the gazette books? Employers and workers cannot enjoy the so-called benefits extended by the codes.

Given the facts mentioned above, the legislative impasse continues; one does not know how long it would be. However, India would score impressively on the ease of doing business exercise by any agency including the World Bank by the mere execution of labour reforms without them being implemented: what else then is needed!

K.R. Shyam Sundar is Professor, HRM Area, XLRI - Xavier School of Management, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand. The views expressed are personal

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

Vaccine mix

Ever since the worldwide devastation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the heterologous prime-boost concept of vaccination has been in the purview of scientific research, discussion and debates. Preliminary small clinical trials using a mixed regimen of Pfizer-BioNTech and Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccines in the U.K. (Com-COV), Spain (Combivacs), and Germany (Charite and Saarland studies), have all shown a boost to the immune response, with none or minor side effects, when compared to those who got both jabs of the same

vaccine (Page 1, "Covishield-Covaxin mix gives better protection, says ICMR", August 9). Safety, reactivity, efficacy and immunogenicity of these combinations are the fundamentals for their use on a large scale. Until long-term follow-up studies are conducted and the data peer-reviewed and substantiated, the use of such combinations of vaccines remains in the realms of speculation. The results of the study in the Philippines, combining the inactivated vaccine CoronaVac, with six other approved vaccines, and the CMC Vellore mixed vaccine trial of Covaxin and Covishield will shed more

light on the mix-and-match benefits of COVID vaccines.

Dr. BIJU C. MATHEW, Thiruvananthapuram

Vaccine trial volunteers

I would like to draw attention to the challenges being faced by a particular group, namely, the volunteers of the Covishield vaccine trial of 2020. I am a doctor, 64, and volunteered at my alma mater, KEM hospital, Parel, Mumbai, for the ICMR/Serum Institute sponsored phase 2/3 double blind Covishield vaccine safety and effectivity trial. I received my two doses in September and October 2020. On my request in early 2021, the

randomisation was unblinded, and I was informed in February 2021 that I had received the vaccine and not the placebo. We, vaccine trial volunteers, face the following challenges: the ICMR/Serum Institute have not yet issued us a proper vaccination certificate. The KEM authorities have issued us a letter, which may not be valid nationally or internationally for our travel. We vaccinated volunteers do not appear as COVID-19 vaccinated on the Co-WIN App or government records, linked to our Aadhaar number. New variants of the virus have since been detected and we

are exposed to them constantly, during the course of our work. A year has passed since our vaccination and despite reminders, there have been no efforts made by the ICMR/Serum Institute to check our antibody levels or guide us regarding a booster dose of the vaccine. We volunteered in good faith, to be of help to others in this pandemic, especially at a time when all sorts of negative messages were floating around. I urge the ICMR/Serum Institute/Government to understand our challenges and evolve appropriate measures.

Dr. SURESH SUNDAR, Mumbai

Game changer

The Olympics gold medal in javelin by Neeraj Chopra is a game changer and is sure to inspire a new generation of Indians, who could then go on to dominate in the international sporting arena. I am confident many youngsters will now be interested in javelin throwing as well as the other track and field events such as hammer throw, discus and shot put. Cricket may have some competition now. There could be a quantum jump from the spade work done by earlier stalwarts.

A.V. NARAYANAN, Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

Misinformation through a feminist lens

Sexism and online harassment prevent women from taking vocal stands and hinder progress



POOJA CHAUDHURI

The online world amplifies the social norms of the physical world. Women face aggressive and offensive trolling on the Internet, designed to undermine and discredit them professionally and shame them into silence. A perfect example is the 'Sulli Deals' app recently created on GitHub that auctioned Muslim women. The active participation of vocal women, especially from minority communities, is resisted by those who do not wish the social order to be disrupted. This isn't to say that men are not targeted online, but the attacks faced by both sexes are vastly different. Misinformation/disinformation also targets men and women differently and unsurprisingly so, especially in India where gender disparity among Internet users is high.

Gendering misinformation

Take, for instance, the type of misinformation used against Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi who come from the same socio-economic and political background. Mr. Gandhi is referred to as 'Pappu' by his critics. The usual misinformation targeting him questions his intellect. But the same cannot be said for his mother. Whether it's Hollywood actresses sporting bikinis misidentified as Ms. Gandhi or a morphed photo that shows her sitting on a man's lap, she is portrayed to be an 'indecent' woman to undercut her politics. Ms. Gandhi's position of power does not shield her from vulgar misinformation.

A report by Amnesty International last year said that 95 female politicians out of 724 received nearly one million hateful mentions on Twitter between March and May, one in five of which was sexist or misogynistic.

But misinformation like other forms of abuse has inter-sectional challenges. While actor Swara Bhaskar receives some of the most sexist troll attacks, activist Safoora Zargar is targeted for being a woman as well as a Muslim. After her arrest for participating in protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, pornographic videos were shared in Ms.



ISTOCK PHOTO

Zargar's name on social media. Organised disinformation and sexism intersect with Islamophobia, casteism, religious bigotry and other forms of discrimination to threaten vocal women from minority communities.

The harassment is so rampant that more often than not, women are asked to either ignore the abusers or block such handles. As always, women are expected to take precautionary measures instead of men being asked to behave. We also seldom question Twitter on its failure to stop the spread of pornographic content. The women of Shaheen Bagh were targeted in a similar fashion. Surely a social media giant has the ability to detect and purge nudity, especially when shared with hateful captions?

Gendering misinformation should be a part of the feminist discourse. The world has drastically changed after the advent of the Internet and the digital space has the power to impact democracies. But women do not get an equal opportunity to make themselves heard because they are shut down with sexism or, worse, the threat of sexual violence. Former Jawaharlal Nehru University Students' Union leader Shehla Rashid was forced to delete her Facebook account after receiving rape threats for speaking in favour of interfaith marriage. Journalist Rana Ayyub has also complained several times of rape threats making their way into her Twitter messages. A report that I wrote in 2018 revealed how thousands of men on a closed Facebook group, 'Sharing is Caring', sold Instagram and Facebook pages featuring young women. Many of these metamorphosed into political pages after gaining a substantial following. I was targeted with sexist attacks after the

trashed on television and on social media – both spaces dominated by men – as a 'gold-digging seductress'. The whole episode was a reminder of deep-rooted internalised misogyny in the country. Women also participated in propagating Ms. Chakraborty as the 'culprit' and rejoiced when she was arrested. Why did they not show solidarity? Because patriarchal norms, while subordinating women, also give them the power to oppress women more vulnerable than them.

A symbiotic relationship

Misinformation and sexism have a symbiotic relationship. Misinformation piggybacks on sexism to discredit vocal women and sexism uses misinformation to reinforce patriarchal norms. While organised misinformation and trolling affect women on a personal level, the issue that is often ignored is the effect they have on democracy. A healthy democracy is participatory and promotes gender inclusiveness. Sexism and misinformation intimidate women from taking vocal stands and are antithetical to a progressive society.

Historically, feminist movements have led to democratisation. Women empowerment cannot be separated from a modern society. Savitribai Phule could reform modern education in the 1800s because her husband Jotirao Phule, a 'Shudra' himself, equipped her with knowledge restricted for the Brahmin community. Jotirao was also fortunate to receive education in the first place because of the foresight of his widowed aunt. Menaka Guruswamy and Arundhati Katju, the only openly gay women lawyers in India, reformed the LGBTQ movement in the country by winning the landmark case in 2018 that decriminalised gay sex. These women went against the social norms of their time to make India more democratically sound. There is no extent to the reforms that women are capable of bringing and progress can happen faster with solidarity. But women who don't conform to social norms are almost never supported and the intersection of sexism and misinformation justifies their abuse. While social media gives a platform for women to raise issues, repeated abuse takes away that freedom. Social media, the place that bolstered the #MeToo movement, is the same place used to shut women down.

Pooja Chaudhuri is Senior Editor at Alt News

Unsteady in the CM's chair

West Bengal could face a crisis if Mamata Banerjee doesn't get elected within six months of Assembly polls



SANJAY KUMAR & AASTHA

The space of discussion on electoral politics was disproportionately occupied by West Bengal before the Assembly elections and continues to be the case after Mamata Banerjee took oath as Chief Minister. While the Trinamool Congress won with a massive mandate, Ms. Banerjee lost to Suwendu Adhikari in Nandigram. Going by the provisions of the Constitution and in a normal situation, it should have been possible for the Election Commission of India (ECI) to hold by-elections to the seven vacant Assembly seats in West Bengal by now. But there is also a provision by which by-elections can be deferred for six months. If by-elections are held on time, Ms. Banerjee may find it quite easy to get elected from one of the seven seats, but if that does not happen, she will have to resign from the post of Chief Minister. This will cause her major embarrassment even if the State does not face a political crisis.

What the law says

Section 151A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, mandates the ECI to file the casual vacancies in the Houses of Parliament and State Legislatures through bye-elections within six months from the date of occurrence of the vacancy, provided that the remainder of the term of a member in relation to a vacancy is one year or more. While the ECI cannot cancel a national or State election, it can cancel an election to a seat in case of a death or an offence as this generally does not impact Assembly formation in the Centre or the State. Under Section 153 of the Act, read with Article 324 of the Constitution, the ECI can extend the time for completing any election, but such extension should not go beyond the six months. Article 172(1) states that in case of a state of Emergency, an election can be postponed for one year at a time in addition to a period of six months after the Emergency is lifted. It is important to note that Emergency here refers to a threat to the security and sovereignty of the nation, not a pandemic.

The Kolkata municipal elections, which were to be held before the Assembly elections, have also not been held yet. Given the strictures passed by the Madras High Court on the ECI at the time of the West Bengal Assembly election, the ECI would like to play it safe. If by-elections are not held within six months of the stipulated time, Ms. Banerjee will have to resign from her post. This is be-

cause Article 164(4) the Constitution states that "a Minister who for any period of six consecutive months is not a member of the Legislature of the State shall at the expiration of that period cease to be a Minister". The Supreme Court reaffirmed this in a 2001 ruling in the case pertaining to the re-appointment of Tej Prakash Singh notifying that if a non-MLA has served as minister for six months without getting elected to the Assembly, he cannot be reappointed as minister during the same term of the House. The son of the assassinated Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh became a minister without being elected to the Assembly for six months and then resigned and again became a minister in 1995-96. The case brought the spotlight back on Jayalalithaa as she had managed to pull off another term as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu despite having been disqualified to contest elections. Ms. Banerjee, thus, has three more months to get elected as an MLA to continue in the Chief Minister's chair.

No Upper House in West Bengal

If Ms. Banerjee is forced to resign, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) will likely take the moral high ground by remarking that the Trinamool appointed a leader who didn't win the election as Chief Minister when the BJP itself has faced similar situations. In 2017, the BJP appointed Manohar Parrikar as the Chief Minister of Goa, who was then the Union Defence Minister, when Laxmikant Parsekar lost his Assembly seat. In 2014, the BJP's Chief Minister front-runner, Arjun Munda, lost the election while his party won in the State. The party appointed Raghubar Das as the Chief Minister of Jharkhand. When Yogi Adityanath became the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh in 2017, he was not a member of the U.P. Assembly. He was elected an MLC within six months of taking oath as Chief Minister. Both his deputies, Dinesh Sharma and Keshav Prasad Maurya, entered the political fray through the Upper House along with him within six months. Uddhav Thackeray opted for the same route in 2019 in Maharashtra. But this route is not available to Ms. Banerjee as West Bengal has no Upper House. Though the Trinamool has passed a resolution for the Upper House to be reinstated in West Bengal, this seems unlikely to fructify because it also requires the approval of both Houses of Parliament. Both Rajasthan and Assam also passed resolutions in their Assemblies, in 2012 and 2010, respectively, for the same, but these resolutions are pending in the Rajya Sabha. West Bengal faces uncertainty and possibly a political crisis.

Sanjay Kumar is Professor at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS) and Aastha is a Researcher with Lokniti, a research programme of CSDS. Views are personal

A circular economy for plastic

The India Plastics Pact will benefit society, the economy and the environment

JAMSHYD N. GODREJ

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has long been at the forefront of addressing issues challenging the well-being of society. Of the many sustainability challenges that impact societies, climate change and plastic waste have a special significance. A 2019 report by the Center for International Environmental Law suggests that by 2050, greenhouse gas emissions from plastic could reach over 56 gigatonnes, 10-13% of the remaining carbon budget. However, viewed from the angle of livelihoods, post-consumer segregation, collection and disposal of plastics make up about half of the income of 1.5-4 million waste-pickers in India.

A 2021 report commissioned by Google, Closing the Plastics Circularity Gap, suggests that unless large-scale global interventions are made, "we should expect to mismanage more than 7.7 billion metric tonnes of plastic waste globally over the next 20 years... [which is] equivalent to 16-times the weight of the human population..." Among the many applications of plastic, plastic packaging is the largest.

The solution

For India, the solution must be multi-pronged, systemic, and large scale, to create a visible impact. The Plastics Pacts model offers such a solution and is active in a number of countries including the U.K., South Africa, and Australia. It is now being brought to India by CII and WWF India.

The Plastics Pacts are business-led initiatives and transform the plastics packaging value chain for all formats and products. The Pacts bring together everyone from across the plastics value chain to implement practical solutions. All Pacts unite behind four targets: to eliminate unnecessary and problematic plastic packaging through redesign and innovation; to ensure all plastic packaging is reusable or recyclable; to increase the reuse, collection, and recycling of plastic packaging; and to increase recycled content in plastic packaging.

The India Plastics Pact, the first in Asia, will be launched in September

at the CII Annual Sustainability Summit. It can be expected to boost demand for recycled content, investments in recycling infrastructure, jobs in the waste sector, and beyond. The first Plastics Pact was launched in the U.K. in 2018, by WRAP, a global NGO based in the U.K., in partnership with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation. The U.K. Pact helped channel over £120 million worth of investments in recycling infrastructure resulting in 300,000 tonnes of new recycling capacity. The Pact will support the Extended Producer Responsibility framework of the government and improve solid waste management as envisioned in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. Integral to the Pact's framework is the involvement of the informal waste sector crucial to post-consumer segregation, collection and processing of plastic waste. The India Plastics Pact is supported by WRAP, which supports many Pacts globally. This association will ensure access to expertise and knowledge from different Pacts worldwide.

The India Plastics Pact

The India Plastics Pact focuses on solutions and innovation. Members' accountability is ensured through ambitious targets and annual data reporting. The Pact will develop a road map for guidance, form action groups composed of members, and initiate innovation projects. While the India Plastics Pact will be active in India, it will link globally with other Plastics Pacts. Many Indian businesses and organisations have expressed an interest in signing up to the Pact. Deeper and long-lasting benefits will be felt across the supply chains of these businesses, most of which comprise MSMEs. The Pact will encourage development and maturing of the entire plastics production and management ecosystem. Apart from benefits to society and economy, delivering the targets will drive circularity of plastics and help tackle pollution. They will lead to significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

Jamshyd N. Godrej is past President, CII

DATA POINT

High dropout among SC/STs

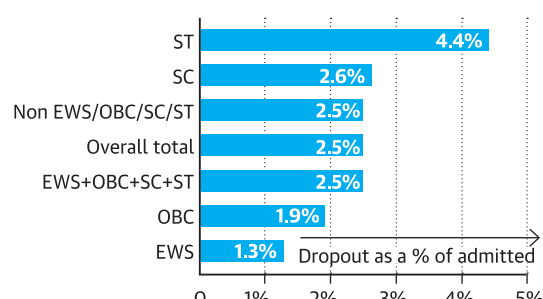
The dropout rate among Scheduled Castes (SC)/Scheduled Tribes (ST) students was disproportionately high in India's 72 centrally funded technical institutions between 2016 and 2020. While only 23% of those admitted were from the SC/ST communities, 31.5% of those who dropped out were from these communities. Also, ST students who dropped out formed 4.4% of ST admissions in the period while the overall average was 2.5%.

By Sumant Sen, Jasmin Nihalani and Vignesh Radhakrishnan

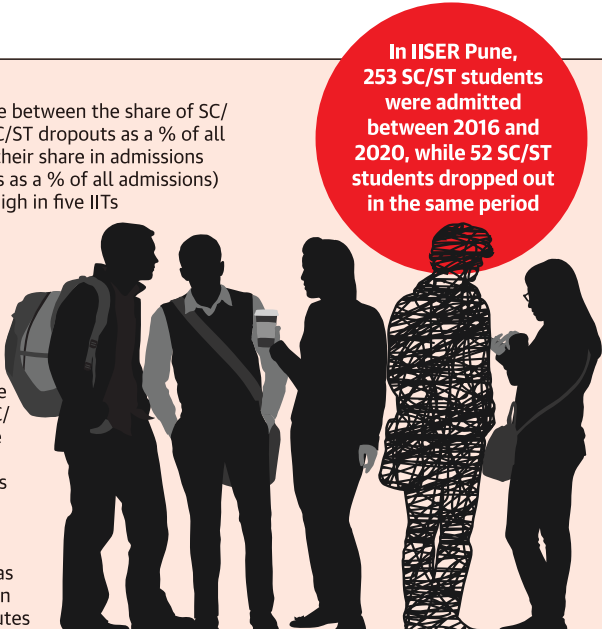
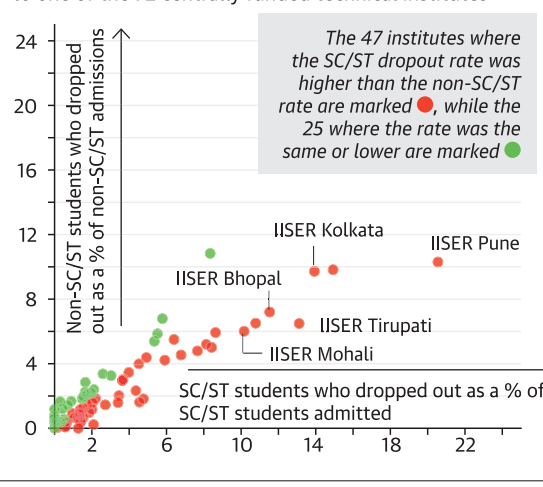
■ The difference between the share of SC/ST dropouts (SC/ST dropouts as a % of all dropouts) and their share in admissions (SC/ST students as a % of all admissions) was relatively high in five IITs

■ The difference between the SC/ST dropout rate (dropouts as a % of admissions in the same category) and the non-SC/ST dropout rate was relatively high in the IISER institutes

1. DROPOUT RATE | The chart depicts the students who dropped out between 2016 and 2020 as a % of students who were admitted in a category in the same period. For instance, 16,789 ST students were admitted between 2016 and 2020. In the same period, 743 ST students dropped out, which is 4.4% of those admitted



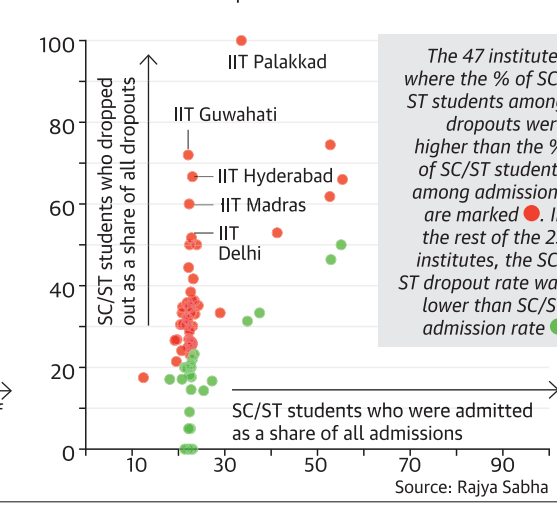
2. DROPOUT RATE COMPARISON | The horizontal axis depicts the SC/ST students who dropped out between 2016 and 2020 as a % of students admitted in that category in the same period. The vertical axis depicts the same for non SC/ST students. Each dot corresponds to one of the 72 centrally funded technical institutes



3. DROPOUT PROPORTION | The table lists the students from a category as a % of total admissions between 2016 and 2020 and the dropouts from a category as a % of total dropouts in the same period. For instance, 9% of students admitted in the period were ST, while 16% of students who dropped out were from the community. A minor disproportion was also observed among the SC students

Category	A: Share of total admissions	B: Share of total dropouts	A-B (% points)
EWS	3.9%	2.0%	1.9%
OBC	28.1%	21.8%	6.3%
SC	14.7%	15.5%	-0.9%
ST	9.0%	16.0%	-7.0%
EWS+OBC+SC+ST	55.7%	55.3%	0.3%
Non EWS/OBC/SC/ST	44.3%	44.7%	-0.3%

4. DROPOUT PROPORTION COMPARISON | The vertical axis plots the SC/ST students who dropped out as a % of all dropouts between 2016 and 2020. The horizontal axis plots the SC/ST students who were admitted as a share of all admissions in the same period



The Hindu

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 10, 1971

Indo-Soviet Defence Treaty signed

India and the Soviet Union to-day [New Delhi, August 9] signed a 20-year treaty of peace, friendship and co-operation which offers credible assurances to India of Soviet assistance in the event of an attack by China or Pakistan. The historic treaty provides that if either country is attacked – or threatened with an attack – the two contracting parties will immediately enter into mutual consultations to take "appropriate effective measures" to remove such threat and ensure their peace and security. The treaty does not specifically mention China or Pakistan but the wording of the mutual assistance provisions and the context in which it has been signed make it abundantly clear that it is directed against them. And it has been made equally clear to the United States that this virtual Indo-Soviet alliance is the direct consequence of its overtures to China and support to Pakistan. India and the Soviet Union have an understanding under this treaty to abstain from providing any assistance to any third country that engages in armed conflict with either of them. They will not also enter into or participate in any military alliance directed against each other.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO AUGUST 10, 1921

Dr. Tagore's message

The message delivered by Dr. Tagore in his lectures (said Mr. Bomanji) was one of harmony and peace. He strove to show that the Indian way of life, thought, and religion was not one of war. The materialistic civilisation of the West had found its fruition in militarism and imperialism – both radically the same; but what the war-worn world now needed was the spirituality and mysticism of the East, which could alone give lasting peace. The peace of the West was no real peace. As expressed in the Treaty of Versailles it was not worth the paper written on. To rise superior to the nationalism of the West, which was barbarism and cannibalism, the peoples must find spiritual unity with Nature and with the life of God in all humanity. Hitherto the West had gone to the East merely to exploit its material resources; whereas Dr. Tagore now invited the West to send its foremost minds to the East to acquire all that was best there of Eastern culture, and in return to offer all the intellectual fruits of the West.

FROM PAGE ONE

IPCC forecasts a future of severe weather

In the most ambitious emissions pathway, the projection is that the globe would reach the 1.5 degrees Celsius scenario in the 2030s, overshoot to 1.6 degrees Celsius, with temperatures dropping back down to 1.4 degrees Celsius at the end of the century. India has not yet committed to a net zero timeline.

The Sixth Assessment Report has been finalised and approved by 234 authors and 195 governments and updates the scientific consensus on extreme weather, human attribution, the carbon budget, feedback cycles, and charts the future state of the climate since the Fifth Assessment Report of 2014. The 3,000-plus-page report said warming is already accelerating sea level rise and worsening extremes such as heatwaves, droughts, floods and storms.

Tropical cyclones

Tropical cyclones are getting stronger and wetter, while Arctic Sea ice is dwindling in the summer and permafrost is thawing. All these trends will get worse, the report said.

India is currently the world's third largest greenhouse gas emitter, but per capita emissions are much lower. The U.S. emitted nearly nine times more greenhouse gases per capita than India in 2018. Based on existing commitments by countries to curb their emission, the world is on track for global temperature warming by at least 2.7°C by 2100, predicts the report, calling it 'Code red for humanity'.

The latest scientific as-

essment will influence discussions on the Conference of Parties meeting in Glasgow later this year where countries are expected to announce plans and steps they have taken to curb emissions. The report release follows a two-week long plenary session held virtually from July 26 to August 6, 2021, in which the report was scrutinized line-by-line for approval by government representatives in dialogue with report authors.

Hot extremes

Alok Sharma, COP26 President, said in a statement: "The science is clear. The impacts of the climate crisis can be seen around the world and if we don't act now, we will continue to see the worst effects impact lives, livelihoods and natural habitats. Our message to every country, government, business and part of society is simple. The next decade is decisive, follow the science and embrace your responsibility to keep the goal of 1.5C alive. We can do this together, by coming forward with ambitious 2030 emission reduction targets and long-term strategies with a pathway to net zero."

"Developed Countries have pursued far more than their fair share of the global carbon budget. Reaching net zero alone is not enough, as it is the cumulative emissions up to net zero that determine the temperature that is reached. This has been amply borne out in the IPCC report. It vindicates India's position that historical cumulative emissions are the source of the climate crisis that the World faces today," Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav said in a statement.

No transaction with Pegasus maker: MoD

"Ministry of Defence has not had any transaction with NSO Group Technologies," Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt said in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha to a question from V.

Sivadasan of the CPI(M). However, the response is specific to the Defence Ministry and does not exclude other Ministries or agencies that may have engaged with the firm.

PM sets out framework for maritime security

Prime Minister Modi outlined a five-principle framework for the debate. The first was removing barriers to maritime trade. In this context, Mr. Modi highlighted SAGAR ("Security and Growth for all in the Region") – a 2015 Indian framework for regional maritime security.

Second, Mr. Modi said, maritime disputes "should be resolved peacefully and in accordance with international law," adding that this was "extremely important for promoting mutual trust and confidence, and ensuring global peace and stability".

"It was with this understanding, and maturity, that India resolved its maritime boundary with its neighbour Bangladesh," the Prime Minister said.

Mr. Modi underlining the need for maritime disputes to be resolved peacefully is presumably aimed at China's actions in the South China Sea, where it has militarised islands and unilaterally enforced its claims over disputed waters.

The third principle Mr. Modi proposed at Monday's debate was that countries jointly tackle maritime threats from non-state actors and natural disasters.

Fourth, he said the maritime environment and marine resources needed to be conserved, highlighting pollution from plastic waste and oil spills.

Fifth, Mr. Modi called for responsible maritime connectivity, saying a structure was required to boost mari-

time trade, with the development of global norms and standards.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar chaired the meeting after Mr. Modi.

Blinken-Putin spat

Mr. Putin was the only Head of State/ Government of the Permanent-5 members of the UNSC who participated in the discussion.

"Russia has always played an important role in global maritime security. It is an important player in global security, safety and prosperity," Mr. Modi said after Mr. Putin's remarks.

This was in sharp contrast to U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken's comments on Russia later in the debate.

"In the Black Sea, Kerch Strait, the Sea of Azov, we see continued aggressive actions against Ukraine with dangerous incursions on the sea and in the air, and the harassment of vessels, which are disrupting commerce, and energy access," Mr. Blinken said, in a reference to Russia.

He suggested China was violating maritime laws and he held Iran responsible for the attack on *MV Mercer Street*.

The U.S. has not ratified UNCLOS but recognises it as international law.

China was represented by its Deputy Representative to the UN, Dai Bing, who said, "The UNSC is not the right platform for a discussion on the South China Sea."

(With inputs from Ananth Krishnan)

Glaciers will keep shrinking: IPCC report

'Fall in snow cover in Hindu Kush Himalayan region'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Glaciers in the Hindu Kush Himalayan (HKH) region will keep shrinking and the snow cover will retreat to higher altitudes, the latest IPCC report said on Monday.

The Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), approved by 195 member-countries, warned that extreme precipitation is projected to increase in major mountainous regions with potential cascading consequences of floods, landslides and lake outbursts in all scenarios. One of the authors of the report, Krishna Achuta Rao, said that in the HKH region, the snow cover had reduced



Bleak picture: The report warns that extreme precipitation is projected to increase in mountainous regions. ■ FILE PHOTO

since the early 21st century and glaciers had thinned, retreated and lost mass since the 1970s. However, he said, the Karakoram glaciers had either slightly gained mass or were in an approximately balanced state.

"Snow-covered areas and snow volumes will decrease

during the 21st century, snowline elevations will rise and glacier mass is likely to decline with greater mass loss in higher greenhouse gas emission scenarios. Rising temperatures and precipitation can increase the occurrence of glacial lake outburst floods and land-

'We need to act now'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The impact of climate crisis can be seen around the world and not acting now will destroy lives and livelihoods, environmental experts warned on Monday.

"The Indian government is sanguine about doing more than other countries in terms of comparable action to reduce CO2 emissions. But we have no

measurable targets to reduce emissions. This is why we are doing well – our nationally determined contribution is to reduce not absolute emissions but the emission intensity of our economy," CSE Director General Sunita Narain said. "Despite warnings for so many years, the world did not listen. We need to act now," said Inger Anderson, Executive Director of UNEP.

Another author of the report, Swapna Panickal, who is a scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, said human influence was responsible for the retreat of glaciers since the 20th century and that was not only the case in the two poles, but also for mountain glaciers.

Nirav Modi can appeal, says U.K. High Court

Judge refers to 'risk of suicide'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LONDON

A U.K. High Court judge here on Monday granted fugitive diamond merchant Nirav Modi permission to appeal against a magistrates' court order, in favour of extradition to India to face charges of fraud and money laundering before the Indian courts, on mental health and human rights grounds.

Justice Martin Chamberlain delivered his verdict remotely under COVID-19 rules concluding that the arguments presented by the diamond merchant's legal team concerning his "severe depression" and "high risk of suicide" were arguable at a hearing.

"At this stage, the question for me is simply whether the appellant's case on these grounds is reasonably arguable. In my judgment, it is. I will grant permission to appeal on Grounds 3 and 4,"

the ruling notes.

Grounds 3 and 4 relate to Article 3 of the European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR), or the right to life, liberty and security, and Section 91 of the U.K.'s Criminal Justice Act 2003 related to fitness to plead.

The judge notes an overlap between both grounds as they both rely principally on the appellant Mr. Nirav Modi's mental ill health.

"I will not restrict the basis on which those grounds can be argued, though it seems to me that there should be a particular focus on whether the judge was wrong to reach the conclusion he did, given the evidence as to the severity of the appellant's [Nirav Modi's] depression, the high risk of suicide and the adequacy of any measures capable of preventing successful suicide attempts in Arthur Road prison," the ruling notes.

Rahul Gandhi arrives in Srinagar

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday evening arrived in Kashmir on a two-day visit, first since the Centre has revoked J&K's special constitutional position on August 5, 2019.

Mr. Gandhi was received by party supporters in Srinagar. He will visit the Kheer Bhawani temple, one of the revered temples of Kashmiri Pandits, in Ganderbal on Tuesday and will address a function at the party office.

On the draw



Cong. plans celebrations for 75th year of Independence

It blames govt. for recent blocking of Rahul's Twitter handle

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

On August 15, when India enters the 75th year of Independence, the Congress will announce a series of steps, including forming committees that will plan year-long celebration of the Independence movement, Congress general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal said on Monday.

The party will organise a public event to honour the freedom fighters and their families, and freedom marches at block and district levels. Every Pradesh Congress Committee will prepare two-minute videos as part of social media campaign to highlight the events of freedom movement in their State.

"Despotic and autocratic individuals and organisa-



K.C. Venugopal

their overt and covert agenda," Mr. Venugopal said in a statement.

The party also said the recent blocking of former party chief Rahul Gandhi's Twitter handle and that of Indian National Congress TV were "part of the Modi government's agenda to curtail freedom of speech".

Members of the Indian Youth Congress and the Mahila Congress even took to the streets to protest against Twitter and alleged that they were being pressured by the government.

The issue was also discussed at a meeting of general secretaries, States in-charge and PCC presidents.

The atrocious stance is nothing but another instance of anti-Scheduled Caste and anti-women mindset, Mr. Venugopal said.

NSD to hold festival on freedom fight

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The National School of Drama on Monday announced it would hold a three-day festival on its campus from Thursday as part of the government's "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" to celebrate 75 years of Independence.

The festival will start with the staging of *Jagamba* performed by Rohini Hattangadi and directed by Pratima Kulkarni. *Bapu* by Natyamandap Patna will be staged on Friday, and *Pehla Satyagrahi* by the NSD Repertory on Saturday.

Passes will be issued on the campus free of cost from Tuesday on a first come, first served basis. Only one pass allowing entry to two will be issued to a person. The event is being organised as part of the events in the run-up to Independence Day in 2022.

At Sibal's dinner meeting, Oppn. leaders call for unity

Senior leaders call upon Cong. to end internal differences

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Opposition leaders across party lines, at a private dinner hosted by senior Congress leader Kapil Sibal on Monday, talked of the need to jointly take on the BJP and the Narendra Modi government.

And a start should be made in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly election, where a victory could give the Opposition the much-needed momentum, the leaders argued.

Several leaders, a source told *The Hindu*, stressed on the Congress party resolving its "internal problems".

Among the leaders who attended the dinner were Nationalist Congress Party chief Sharad Pawar, Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) patriarch Lalu Yadav, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, Sitaram Yechury of the CPI-M, D.



Kapil Sibal

Raja of the CPI, Omar Abdullah of National Conference, Sanjay Raut of Shiv Sena, Pinali Misra of the Biju Janata Dal, Derek O'Brien of Trinamool Congress, Tiruchi Siva of the DMK, and Naresh Gajral of the Akali Dal.

Aam Aadmi Party, Telangana Rashtra Samithi, Telugu Desam Party, YSR Congress Party, Rashtriya Lok Dal were also part of the gathering.

The source claimed that 20 of the Congress's group of

23 dissenters (G-23) were also in attendance along with a few other senior party leaders.

Though the dinner was a private affair to celebrate Mr Sibal's 73rd birthday, leaders made their political observations. The ball was set rolling by Mr. Sibal who spoke of how the BJP was targeting democratic institutions. Thereafter, he is said to have invited all the senior leaders to share their views.

Mr. Pawar is said to have pointed out how the Congress-NCP-Sena was working together in Maharashtra, and stressed on the need for Opposition unity. Mr Yechury pointed out that Mr Sibal's official residence, 8 Teen Murti lane, used to be the home of former CPI-M general secretary Harkishan Singh Surjeet, one of the architects of the United Front government in mid-1990s.

IN BRIEF



Renaming of award is petty politics: Sena

PUNE The Shiv Sena and the BJP traded barbs on Monday over the renaming of the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award – the country's highest sporting honour – as the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award after the former accused the BJP-led Centre of petty politicising with this move. "Major Dhyan Chand could have been honoured without insulting the sacrifice made by late [Congress Prime Minister] Rajiv Gandhi," said an edit which appeared in the Sena mouthpiece *Saamana*.

RJD leader's statement on jeans invites criticism

PATNA RJD workers have criticised a statement by RJD Bihar president Jagdanand Singh that "those who wear jeans, can't be leaders of our party". Peeved over the statement, Tej Pratap Yadav, RJD MLA from Hasanpur constituency and elder son of party chief Lalu Prasad, called Mr. Singh "Hitler who wants to run the party on his whims and discipline". Akash Kumar, State president of the RJD student's wing, said, "I don't think his statement is justified... politics has nothing to do with wearing jeans or uniform."

HC extends stay on proceedings in INX case

NEW DELHI The Delhi High Court on Monday extended the stay on proceedings in the CBI's INX Media corruption case before a trial court here in which Congress leader P. Chidambaram and his son Karti are accused. The High Court was hearing the CBI's challenge to a March 5 order passed by the trial court allowing inspection of documents kept in 'Malkhana' (room keeping case properties) by the accused and their counsel. It allowed the CBI's counsel to go through to a Supreme Court decision on the issue while posting the case for August 27.

Webinar on outlook for poultry sector

Focus on post-COVID sector outlook

STAFF REPORTER
CHENNAI

A webinar on the "Post-pandemic outlook for the poultry sector", presented by Godrej Agrovet and *The Hindu BusinessLine*, will be held from 4 p.m. on August 12.

The webinar will focus on the poultry sector's outlook and performance post COVID-19, the pre-pandemic scene, and the lessons learnt from the problems the sector faced in 2020 and 2021. It will shed light on steps to modernise the poultry sector.

Balram Singh Yadav, Managing Director, Godrej Agrovet, will deliver the special address, and M. Angamuthu, Chairman, APEDA, the keynote address.

Prashant Vatkar, Chief Executive Officer, Godrej Tyson Foods; Suresh Chitturi, Managing Director, Srinivasa Farms, and Chairman, In-



ternational Egg Commission; and G. Chandrashekar, senior journalist and policy commentator; will also speak at the webinar, to be moderated by M.R. Subramani, Commodities Editor, *The Hindu BusinessLine*.

To register for the webinar, visit <https://bit.ly/BLGODREJ> or scan the QR code given.

IT rules draconian: plea in HC

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

The new IT Rules sought to monitor and censor speech on the Internet and was the most draconian law on free

speech of recent times, the Bombay High Court was informed on Monday. A Division Bench was hearing a petition filed by legal news website *The Leaflet*.



APPEAL

Mast. Mathan is a 12 year old boy hailing from a poor family. He is suffering from Ebstein Anomaly and needs Rs. 2,00,000/- for the Cone Procedure (Heart Surgery) at Public Health Centre, Chennai. Kindly help him to have a new life. The donations sent through Ch.V.D./NEFT Transfer & GOOGLE PAY (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C. No: 60182010063310, IFSC. No: CNRB0016018) favouring WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE is exempted under 80G IT. (Please do not mention patient name on the cheque). All Correspondence is done through WWS, Regd. Public Charitable Trust, Flat No. GF 1, Cordell Apartments, O.No. 13, N.No. 29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 28235324/7338978027. E Mail ID: womenswelfare@syndicate@gmail.com. Website: www.womenswelfare.org WWS

‘Tokyo games to be etched in history’

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Rajya Sabha Chairman Venkaiah Naidu said that the recently concluded Tokyo Olympics would be etched in the history as the ‘first moment of national awakening in sports’ in Parliament on Monday.

The Tokyo games, he said turned out to be the best Olympic moment for our nation in the last 121 years of its Olympic journey. He applauded the Narendra Modi government for mobilising its best effort through manifold increase in the spending, identifying and nurturing talent besides providing holistic professional and scientific support required.

Over 40% of our Tokyo contingent came from Haryana and Punjab. These two States deserve appreciation for putting in place a right eco-system of sports, he said.

“Five of the 9 medal winners in the last two Olympics were women, a matter of celebration. Particularly so, when our women have to overcome orthodoxies and prejudices that restrict them from taking to sports,” Mr. Naidu said.

I am here for a healing touch, real development: Himanta

‘Curbs on beef, encouraging smaller families are for promoting social harmony’

VARGHESE K. GEORGE
NEW DELHI

Measures taken by his government to restrict beef sale and consumption, encourage smaller families among Muslims, and protect indigenous faiths and culture in Assam were meant to promote social harmony, says Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, rejecting suggestions that they were advancing Hindutva politics.

“I am talking from a different perspective... Not the rightist connotations that are being alleged...When I am talking of protecting indigenous culture, I am talking of the impact, not only of conversions but also of Sanskritisation... Koran, Vedas or Bible... whatever it may be...We have to ensure that the traditional cultures do not get erased,” Mr. Sarma told *The Hindu* in an exclusive interview.

Population control

“I am here to offer a healing touch... A real kind of development. That development can be impeded by large fa-



“We are not stopping anyone from eating what they eat. By bringing in these restrictions, we are trying to stop the conflicts arising out of beef... Far from creating any communal tension, the new law will ensure communal harmony.”

family sizes and Muslim leaders are completely in agreement with me on this. Statistics and projections are ok, but we know the ground situation, that large sizes of families to come out of poverty,” Mr. Sarma, whose campaign speeches ahead of the Assembly elections earlier this year were highly combative, remarked.

Mr. Sarma left the Congress for the BJP in 2015. His politics has sought to make a distinction between Assamese-speaking indigenous Muslims and the Bengali-speaking ones. The restrictions on beef were intended to bring down communal tensions. A recent law in the State criminalised slaughter and consumption of beef in the

Hindu, Jain and Sikh majority areas and within a five-km radius of their places of worship.

Stopping conflicts

“We are not stopping anyone from eating what they eat. By bringing in these restriction, we are trying to stop the conflicts arising out of beef. The feedback that we have as of now is that all communities are happy [about the new law]. Far from creating any communal tension, the new law will ensure communal harmony,” he stressed. Miscreants routinely used beef as a ruse to trigger conflicts, he asserted.

The reverification of the controversial National Register of Citizens (NRC) that was promised during campaign would be considered only after the pandemic was over, he added.

The exclusion of 18 lakh people from the NRC remains a contentious issue and Mr. Sarma had promised 10-20 reverification of the entire exercise to identify wrongful inclusions and exclusions.

Tribals in Rajasthan seek more panchayats in scheduled areas

This will facilitate control over minerals, forest produce

MOHAMMED IQBAL
JAIPUR

The tribal outfits in Rajasthan have demanded inclusion of over 165 village panchayats of seven districts in the scheduled areas under the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) to facilitate the control of local communities over minor minerals and minor forest produce as well as development activities in the region. It will also ensure statutory protection of the tribal population.

On the occasion of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples on Monday, the tribal groups said the population of Scheduled Tribes in these panchayats had crossed 50%, making them eligible to be declared as scheduled areas. Consequently, the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996, will apply to these areas.

The scheduled areas that present comprise 5,697 villages in southern Rajasthan, having a tribal population of more than 50%, as notified in 2018. As per the 2011 Census, the total population of

scheduled areas was 64.63 lakh, in which the tribals were 45.57 lakh, making up 70.43% of the population.

Separate State

The tribal groups have also been spearheading a movement for creation of a separate State, Bhil Pradesh, to be carved out of the tribal-dominated areas of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. The issue has gained strength after the victory of two Bharatiya Tribal Party (BTP) candidates in the 2018 State Assembly election.

In addition to the BTP, the tribal groups also submitted memorandums addressed to the President on this subject in several districts in the four States last month. BTP State president Velaram Ghogra said the tribals were not getting full benefit of reservation in the TSP areas despite forming the majority. “The government should stop its drive to bring the tribals to the so-called mainstream, because they are living in harmony with nature and taking care of precious natu-

ral resources,” he said.

Former civil servant Satyanaryan Singh, who earlier served as the TSP Director, told *The Hindu* that the demand for creation of Bhil Pradesh was not practicable. “The allocation of funds and implementation of development programmes in the TSP areas have benefited tribals,” he said.

The demand is also apparently linked with political developments last year, when the BTP withdrew its support to the ruling Congress over the latter allegedly blocking the election of a BTP-backed independent candidate to the post of Zila Pramukh in Dungarpur during the panchayat elections.

As an ally of the ruling party, the BTP had voted for the Congress' candidates in the Rajya Sabha elections held in June last year and backed Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot during the subsequent political turmoil. BTP MLAs Rajkumar Roat and Ram Prasad supported the Congress during the confidence vote on the floor of the State Assembly on August 14, 2020.

LS passes three Bills in 20 minutes

Opposition members question government's commitment to democratic norms

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha on Monday passed three Bills in 20 minutes as disruption by Opposition members over the Pegasus snooping controversy and the farms continued into the last week of the monsoon session of Parliament.

The government also introduced three Bills in the din, prompting Congress leaders Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and Manish Tewari to question the government's commitment to democratic norms.

RSP's N.K. Premachandran had also objected to the manner in which Bills were being passed in the House without a debate. The exact expressions used by the members, however, were later expunged by the Chair.

The three Bills passed are the Limited Liability Partnership (Amendment) Bill 2021, The Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (Amendment) Bill 2021 and The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment)



Protests continue: A view of the Lok Sabha during the Monsoon Session of Parliament, in New Delhi on Monday. ■ PTI

Bill 2021. However, following a meeting of 15 parties, Opposition leaders agreed that they would cooperate in the passage of the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Seventh Amendment) Bill, 2021 that is slated for debate on Tuesday. The Bill seeks to restore the power of State governments to identify Other Backward Classes (OBC) that are socially and economically backward after the Supreme Court, in a May 2021 order, had empowered only

the Centre for such identification. The amendment has been necessitated after the Supreme Court in its Maratha reservation ruling upheld the 102nd Constitutional Amendment Act that inserted Articles 338B and Article 342A (with two clauses) after Article 342. Though there were protests right from the beginning of the day's proceedings started at 11 a.m., at the time of the introduction of the Bill, Opposition MPs briefly stopped sloganeering and

returned to their seats, allowing the Minister for Social Justice Virender Kumar as well as the Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury to speak on it.

Sonia attends

For the first time since the pandemic, Congress president Sonia Gandhi attended Parliament and was seen exchanging greetings with fellow parliamentarians.

When the House met for the day in the morning, Opposition members sought to raise various issues, including the Pegasus spyware controversy and started shouting slogans. Speaker Om Birla first paid tributes to those who had participated in the Quit India Movement and then congratulated the medal winners for India at the just-concluded Olympic games in Tokyo. When the name of Neeraj Chopra, who won the gold medal in the javelin throw at the Olympics, was mentioned, members were seen thumping their desks.

Parliament passes Bills on tribunal reforms, taxation

Bill to set up new Central university in Ladakh also cleared

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Parliament on Monday cleared three Bills to abolish several appellate tribunals, to end retrospective tax on indirect transfer of Indian assets, and create a new Central university in Ladakh. The three Bills were cleared by the Rajya Sabha, having been passed by the Lok Sabha earlier in the ongoing Monsoon Session of Parliament.

The first of the three Bills to be cleared, the Tribunals Reforms (Rationalisation and Conditions of Service) Bill, 2021, will replace an ordinance. During the discussion on the Bill, Biju Janata Dal's Sujet Kumar, who was the first speaker, said that the legislation would help in removing an extra layer of adjudication. He, however, pointed out that there were still some key flaws in the Bill, including the fact that short tenures of the mem-



Nirmala Sitharaman

bers would ensure executive hold on the tribunals. Also age criterion set in the Bill was meaningless. “If you can become a High Court Judge at 40 years, it is not logical that to be a member of tribunals as per the Bill you have to be 50 years old,” he said.

The Opposition utilised the opportunity to speak on the Bill to raise the Pegasus cyber attack issue. DMK MP N.R. Elango said, “I oppose the Bill. The government wants to remove certain tribunals, which will increase the burden of the High

Courts. Rather, I would demand that the government establish a tribunal to investigate Pegasus cyber attack.”

In her response, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman questioned the Congress for raising concerns about judicial independence, being a party that curtailed the same during the Emergency. She said the government fully respected the independence of the judiciary, but also respected the power of the legislature.

The House then took up and returned the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021, after the Opposition staged a walkout over what they termed was the last-minute inclusion of the Bill in the day's list of business.

Ms. Sitharaman said the amendment would undo the 2012 amendment that brought in retrospective taxation. India's sovereign right would not be diluted by the Bill, she said.

Oppn. stages walkout in Rajya Sabha

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Opposition MPs in the Rajya Sabha staged a walkout on Monday saying additional Bills, including an important one on taxation, were added in the supplementary list of business for the day at the last minute, depriving them of the time needed to prepare for the discussions.

As the Upper House reconvened at 3.30 p.m. after a 15-minute adjournment due to disruptions, Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge raised a point of order. He said the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021 and the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2021, were added in the supplementary list of business and members received the revised list at 2.15 p.m. He questioned how members could argue on such important Bills with just one or two hours' notice. “We don't support such wrong things so we walk out,” Mr. Kharge said.

CPI(M) plans age limit for Central Committee

Party congress has to endorse it

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

In a bid to revamp its ageing leadership, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) has decided to set a retirement age of 75 for all its members.

Once the proposal is endorsed at the party's 23rd Congress, scheduled to be held in Kannur, Kerala in April 2022, the age limit will become applicable.

The Central Committee is the highest decision-making body of the party which, in turn, elects the Polit Bureau (PB) from its members.

“Our decision is that those who have crossed 75 years will be relieved from the Central Committee. The State Committee normally has a lower age ceiling but we have left it to them to decide it,” party general secretary Sitaram Yechury said at a press conference on the conclusion of the Central Committee meeting from August 6 to 8.

A few exceptions

If the rule is scrupulously applied, then 76-year-old Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan who is also a member of the Polit Bureau, will have to step down.

“Last time also, we made exceptions for certain people. The party will decide for those holding key positions. But in principle, the decision is to fix 75 years as the retirement age,” Mr. Yechury added.

An exception was made in 2018 Party Congress for Polit Bureau member S. Ramachandran Pillai. The retirement age was 80. But Mr. Pillai, who was 81 at that time, was retained. In the current 17-member Polit Bureau, Mr. Ramachandran is the oldest member and 64-year old Mohammed Salim and Nilotpal Basu are the youngest.

First step

The first step towards reducing the average age of members in the decision-making bodies was taken by the West Bengal State Committee. Currently, the State Committee has decided not to induct any member over the age of 60.

The age-ceiling will be applied in a two pronged way. First, the retirement age will be fixed at 75 for members in all the CPI(M)'s bodies including the Polit Bureau; second no new member above a certain age will be inducted in any of these forums.

Government of Kerala Published Tenders from 02-08-2021 to 08-08-2021 Department of Printing Tender ID: 2021 DPR 432534 1 * Director of Printing. * Re E tender for the supply of A1 size four colour sheetfed o * Closing Date: 24-Aug-2021 * PAC: Rs53500000 Kerala Fire and Rescue Services Tender ID: 2021 FRS 432846 1 * Director General * Purchase of 2 Nos of Turn Table Ladders * Closing Date: 22-Sep-2021 * PAC: Rs280000000 Visit https://etenders.kerala.gov.in for more details. Ro.No:02-08/Aug/2021/PRD/(N)11

TELANGANA STATE CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LIMITED (A STATE GOVT. UNDERTAKING) Regd. Office: "B" Block, # 63-65/11A, Civil Supplies Bhavan, Somajiguda, Hyderabad - 500 082, Telangana e-TENDER NOTICE e-Tender Reference No. Mktg/M2/703/TG/2021-22, Date: 09-08-2021 Tenders are invited for appointment of separate transport contractors for transportation of gunnies from Jute Mills & Godowns located in (1) Vizianagaram/Srikakulam District, AP State (Tender-I) (2) Eluru District, AP State (Tender-II) (3) West Bengal Sector-I (Tender-III) to various places in the Districts of Telangana State (4) West Bengal Sector-II (Tender-IV) to various places in the Districts of Telangana State (5) West Bengal Sector-III (Tender-V) to various places in the Districts of Telangana State (6) Chhattisgarh State (Tender-VI) to various places in the Districts of Telangana State. (1) Technical Bid Opening: 20-08-2021 at 12:00 Noon (2) Financial Bid Opening: 21-08-2021 at 12:00 Noon. The e-tender notification can be viewed in the e-procurement web site of Telangana State at https://tenders.telangana.gov.in/ and TSCSCL Official site at https://tscscl.telangana.gov.in/. Tenders should be filed online https://tenders.telangana.gov.in. Sd/- For Vice Chairman & Managing Director

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EASTERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF A.P. LTD Corporate Office, P&T Colony, Seethammadhara, Visakhapatnam - 13. TENDER NOTICE Open tenders are invited through E-Procurement for the works of "Supply of 3Phase Energy Meters with GAXEX cum OPEX Model under 'SR' Uchita Vyavasthaya Vidyat Padhakam in All Districts of APEDPCL". 1. Vizianagaram: Bid No. CGM/O&CS/APEPDC/VSP/VZM/14/2021-22. 2. Visakhapatnam: Bid No. CGM/O&CS/APEPDC/VSP/VSP/15/2021-22. 3. Rajahmundry: Bid No. CGM/O&CS/APEPDC/VSP/RJY/16/2021-22. 4. Eluru: Bid No. CGM/O&CS/APEPDC/VSP/ELR/17/2021-22. 5. Construction of Compound wall at 33/11KV SS Kothavasa in Vizianagaram Division/Vizianagaram Circle. Further details can be viewed in www.apereprocurement.gov.in. Sale of Tenders starts on 12-08-2021 @ 4PM. Contact Phone No. 0891-2582200, 9440812567 Chief General Manager/OCS & Civil Advt-62

Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (A Government of India Enterprise - Mini Ratna) CIN: L74899DL1995G0101707 (a) NOTICE INVITING Open E-TENDER- SZ/RNP/Raw Materials NIT/2021/2 dated 10.08.2021 Rail Near Panipat/Palar: GGM/SZ invites Open E-Tender (through two parts system) for Raw materials Viz., LDPE Shrink Roll and HDPE Caps. S.No. Tender Document downloading and participation Last Date & Time for submission of E-Tender 1 10.08.2021 onwards 02.09.2021 at 11:00 hrs. (b) Notice Inviting Open E-Tender - SZ/NIT/FP-FPU/2021-22/01 dated 10.08.2021 GGM/SZ invites Open E-Tender (through two bids system) for setting up of Food Plazas (FP) & Fast Food Units(FUU) at Stations over Southern & South Western Railways. S.No. Tender Document downloading and participation Last Date & Time for submission of E-Tender 1 16.09.2021 21.10.2021 at 15:00 hrs. Tender document downloading & participation can be done on website:- www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC In case of any corrigendum/addendum issued on the above advertisement, it will be published only on IRCTC's website < www.irctc.com >

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राज्य स्वास्थ्य प्रधिकरण, उत्तराखण्ड राज्य स्वास्थ्य प्रधिकरण, उत्तराखण्ड सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य सेवा, आर्इटीएल, सहकारिता रोड, देहरादून ई-मेल: ceo-shauk@uk.gov.in Letter No SHAUK/2021-22/ Implementation Support Agency/1043 Dated : 09 August, 21 ई- प्रोक्वोरमेंट निविदा सूचना, उत्तराखण्ड सरकार 1. कार्य का नाम- राज्य स्वास्थ्य प्रधिकरण के अन्तर्गत Selection of Implementation Support Agency for providing support services for the implementation of Health Scheme comprising of AB PMJAY AAUY and SGHS run by State Health Authority Uttarakhand के सम्बन्ध में। 2. निविदा प्रपत्र पोर्टल में उपलब्ध होने की तिथि एवं समय- दिनांक 09.08.2021 अपराह्न 1:30 बजे। 3. पोर्टल से निविदा प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय- दिनांक 03.09.2021 सांघ 8:00 बजे। 4. निविदा आमंत्रित किये जाने वाले अधिकारी का नाम एवं पता- मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी, राज्य स्वास्थ्य प्रधिकरण, उत्तराखण्ड, देहरादून। 5. इस सम्बन्ध में किसी भी प्रकार के परिशिष्ट/संशोधन/निरस्तोकरण आदि की सूचना वेबसाइट http://uktenders.gov.in से प्राप्त की जा सकती है। 6. पोर्टल रजिस्ट्रेशन - समस्त इच्छुक निविदादाताओं को निविदा में प्रतिभाग करना चाहते हैं वे पोर्टल में रजिस्ट्रेशन करने हेतु अपने पास वैध व्यक्तिगत/कार्यालय के ई-मेल को अपना login id बनाकर अपने वैध Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) का उपयोग कर उसे unique login id बना सकते हैं। 7. किसी अन्य जानकारी के लिए निविदादाताओं से आग्रह है कि वे E-mail ID - ceo-shauk@uk.gov.in द्वारा जानकारी/सम्पर्क कर सकते हैं। मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी

The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd. (A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking) (An ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001 & SA 8000 Certified Company) Sankaramangalam, Chavara, Kollam-691 583, Kerala, India Ph: +91 476 2651215 to 2561217 CKAJ460K19755G00299 Fax: 91 0476 2680101, 2686721 E-mail: contact@kmm.com, URL www.kmm.com Competitive Tenders are invited for following. For more details please visit the E-Tendering Portal, https://etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.kmm.com S.No. Tender ID Items 1. 2021_KMML_432272_1 For the supply of CS Pipe 2. 2021_KMML_433382_1 For supply of Gear box 3. 2021_KMML_433365_1 For fabrication and supply of 12 Nos Process Vessel 4. 2021_KMML_433693_1 For the supply of SS Pipe 5. 2021_KMML_432248_1 For the supply of SS Pipe Chavara 09.08.2021 Sd/- DGM (Mts) For The Kerala Minerals And Metals Ltd 6. 2021_KMML_433632_1 Design, Engineering, Procurement, S.I.T.C of firefighting system at the unloading Jetty near MSV of KMML 7. 2021_KMML_433569_1 Fabrication, Painting and Erection of structural stacker for cable tray & pipelines feeding to new Cooling Tower at TP unit of KMML 8. 2021_KMML_432943_1 Design, Supply, Installation, testing & commissioning of new clarifier mechanism with automatic flocculant dosing system at KMML TP Unit, Sankaramangalam, Chavara, Kollam, Kerala, India Sd/- HOU(T) For The Kerala Minerals And Metals Ltd Chavara 09.08.2021 Our products: Titanium Dioxide, Titanium Tetra Chloride, Nano Titanium, Titanium Sponge, Rutile, Zircon & Sillimanite

Taliban press on, capture two more cities

Sar-e Pul official says the city has been under siege for weeks with no reinforcements being sent

ASSOCIATED PRESS
KABUL

The Taliban took control of two more provincial capitals in Afghanistan on Monday, an official said. Their fall marked the latest development in a weeks-long, relentless Taliban offensive as American and NATO forces finalize their pullout from the war-torn country.

The militants have ramped up their push across much of Afghanistan, turning their guns on provincial capitals after taking large swaths of land in the mostly rural countryside. At the same time, they have been waging an assassination campaign targeting senior government officials in the capital, Kabul.

The sweep comes despite condemnations by the international community and warnings from the UN that a military victory and takeover by the Taliban would not be recognised. The Taliban have also not heeded appeals to return to the negotiating table and continue long-stalled peace talks with the Afghan government.

Two lawmakers from



On safe ground: Internally displaced Afghan families from Kunduz and Takhar province taking rest in Kabul. • AFP

northern Samangan province – Hayatullah Samangani and Mahboba Rahmat – said the provincial capital Aybak fell to the Taliban on Monday afternoon without resistance. They said government officials fled to another district.

Another provincial lawmaker from Samangan, Ziauddin Zia, said some government installations were still under government control as security forces resisted Taliban fighters.

According to Mohammad

Noor Rahmani, the council chief of northern Sar-e Pul province, the Taliban overran the provincial capital after a week of resistance by the Afghan security forces, after which the city of Sar-e Pul collapsed. The government forces have now completely withdrawn from the province, he said.

Without a fight

Several pro-government local militia commanders also surrendered to the Taliban without a fight, allowing the

'Pakistan to host regional conference on Afghanistan'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan is likely to host a regional conference on Afghanistan as part of a diplomatic push to prevent a civil war in the war-torn neighbouring country, according to a media report on Monday.

"We are planning to host Foreign Ministers of the key

regional countries on the Afghan situation," the *Express Tribune* quoted a senior Pakistani official as saying.

Foreign Ministers of the neighbours of Afghanistan, including Russia, China, Iran and other stakeholders like Turkey would attend the conference, according to sources.

insurgents to gain control of the entire province, Mr. Rahmani added. The cities of Aybak and Sar-e Pul join three other provincial capitals now fully under Taliban control: Zaranj, the capital of western Nimroz province, the city of Sheberghan, the capital of northern Zawzjan province, and Talaqan, the capital of another northern province with the same name.

The Taliban are also fighting on for control of Kunduz city, the capital of northern

Kunduz province. On Sunday, they planted their flag in the city's main square.

After billions of dollars spent in aiding, training and shoring up Afghan forces, many are at odds how to explain the Taliban blitz that has threatened – and by now taken – several of the country's 34 provincial capitals.

Mr. Rahmani said the provincial capital had been under siege by the militants for weeks, with no reinforcements being sent to the over-stretched Afghan forces.

'Climate report must be death knell for fossil fuels'

Can't delay ambitious climate action any longer: Blinken

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

A bombshell climate science report "must sound a death knell" for coal, oil and gas, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said on Monday, warning that fossil fuels were destroying the planet.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change concluded that the 1.5 degrees Celsius temperature goal of the Paris Agreement would likely be breached around 2030 – a decade earlier than it itself projected just three years ago.

"This report must sound a death knell for coal and fossil fuels, before they destroy our planet," Mr. Guterres said in a statement.

World leaders, green groups and influencers reacted on Monday to the "terrifying" UN climate science report with a mix of horror and hopefulness as the scale of the emergency dawned on many.

"This moment requires

world leaders, the private sector and individuals to act together with urgency and do everything it takes to protect our planet," U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said in a statement.

"We cannot delay ambitious climate action any longer," he added.

U.S. Presidential envoy on climate John Kerry said the IPCC report showed "the climate crisis is not only here, it is growing increasingly severe".

Britain's Boris Johnson, whose government is hosting a crucial climate summit in November, said the assessment "makes for sobering reading".

"I hope today's IPCC report will be a wake-up call for the world to take action

now, before we meet in Glasgow in November for the critical COP26 summit," he said.

Former Maldives President Mohamed Nasheed said the 3,500-page assessment confirmed that climate vulnerable nations were "on the edge of extinction".

French President Emmanuel Macron called for a deal at the Glasgow conference. "The time for outrage is behind us... In November, in Glasgow, let's seal a deal that matches the urgency," he wrote on Twitter.

Climate wunderkind Greta Thunberg said the report was a "solid (but cautious) summary" of the state of the planet. "It doesn't tell us what to do," she said on Twitter. "It is up to us to be brave and take decisions based on the scientific evidence provided in these reports. We can still avoid the worst consequences, but not if we continue like today, and not without treating the crisis like a crisis."

Ex-Cuomo aide details groping allegations

ASSOCIATED PRESS
ALBANY

A former aide who filed a criminal complaint against New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo last week alleging that he had groped her appeared in a television interview on Monday, speaking out publicly for the first time.

Brittany Comisso reported Cuomo to the Albany County sheriff's office last week, days after an investigation by the Attorney General's office found she was among 11 women whom the Governor had allegedly sexually harassed.

She told CBS News: "The governor needs to be held accountable... What he did to me was a crime. He broke the law."

Catholic priest murdered in France by suspected arsonist

He walks into a police station and confesses the crime

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

A Rwandan refugee suspected of causing a major fire that ravaged the cathedral in the French city of Nantes last year murdered a Catholic priest in western France on Monday, the Interior Minister and a source close to the investigation said.

"All my support for the Catholics of our country after the dramatic murder of a priest in the Vendee region," Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin wrote on Twitter.

A source close to the investigation, who asked not to be named, said a man had earlier gone to police in the town of Mortagne-sur-Sevre

and declared he had killed a priest. The man was already under judicial control over the fire at Nantes cathedral in July 2020, the source added.

The source added that the priest, aged 60, had been welcoming the man into his church for several months.

Cathedral fire

The man, named as Emmanuel A. has confessed to being behind the fire at the Gothic Nantes cathedral that horrified France on July 18, 2020.

He had initially been placed under arrest before being freed under judicial control.

Far-right leader Marine Le Pen, who accuses the government of being weak on immigration, sought to seize on the incident, saying that in France "you can be an illegal migrant, set fire to a cathedral, not be expelled and then reoffend by murdering a priest".

Mr. Darmanin immediately accused her of "making a polemic without knowing the facts", saying the man could not be expelled from France so long as he was under judicial control.

Immigration is set to be a major issue when Ms. Le Pen challenges centrist President Emmanuel Macron for the presidency next year.

Opposition was plotting coup: Lukashenko

He slams rivals on the first anniversary of election that triggered massive protests

ASSOCIATED PRESS
KIEV

Belarus's authoritarian leader on Monday charged that the Opposition was plotting a coup in the run-up to last year's presidential election that triggered a months-long wave of mass protests demanding his resignation.

President Alexander Lukashenko held his annual press conference on the one-year anniversary of the vote that handed him a sixth term in office but was denounced by the Opposition and the West as rigged.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Lukashenko defended the election and accused the opposition of preparing a coup.

"We back then carried out preparation for the election

and the election itself in the conditions of total transparency and democratization of political life," Mr. Lukashenko said. "The difference was only that some were preparing for fair election, and others called for bashing the authorities – for a coup."

Belarus was shaken by months of protests triggered by Mr. Lukashenko's re-election, the largest of which drew up to 2,00,000 people. Belarusian authorities responded to the protests with a relentless crackdown that saw more than 35,000 people arrested and thousands beaten by police. Leading opposition figures have been jailed or forced to leave the country.

Mr. Lukashenko, who has ruled Belarus with an iron



Alexander Lukashenko

fist for 27 years, has denounced his opponents as foreign stooges and accused the U.S. and its allies of plotting to overthrow his government.

The authorities have ramped up their crackdown on dissent in recent months, targeting independent jour-

nalists and democracy activists with raids and arrests and sometimes going to extremes such as diverting a plane to the capital of Minsk and arresting a dissident aboard.

The pressure on dissents has elicited international outrage, and the U.S. and EU have slapped Belarus with sanctions that target top government officials and key sectors of the country's economy.

In response to the sanctions, Mr. Lukashenko has said his country will not try to stem a flow of illegal migrants to the EU.

Lithuania in recent months has faced a surge of mostly Iraqi migrants that has blamed on Mr. Lukashenko's government.

Australia signals democracies' trade swing from China to India

'It's in everyone's interests that India take its rightful place'

ASSOCIATED PRESS
CANNBERRA

Australian special envoy and former Prime Minister Tony Abbott said a free trade agreement between his nation and India would signal the "democratic world's tilt away from China."

Mr. Abbott visited New Delhi last week as Australia's special trade envoy for India as the Australian government gives priority to sealing a bilateral trade deal.

In an opinion piece likely to anger Beijing that was published in *The Australian* newspaper on Monday, Mr. Abbott said the "answer to almost every question about China is India."

"With the world's other emerging superpower becoming more belligerent almost by the day, it's in eve-



Tony Abbott

ryone's interests that India take its rightful place among the nations as quickly as possible," Mr. Abbott wrote.

"Because trade deals are about politics as much as economics, a swift deal between India and Australia would be an important sign of the democratic world's tilt away from China, as well as boosting the long-term prosperity of both our countries," Mr. Abbott added.

Mr. Abbott was Prime Minister when China and Australia finalised a bilateral free trade deal which took effect in 2015. He also hosted a state visit by Chinese President Xi Jinping a year earlier.

Relations have since soured over issues, including Australia banning Chinese telecom giant Huawei from major communications infrastructure projects, outlawing covert foreign interference in Australian politics and calling for an independent investigation into the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Abbott accused Beijing of "capricious boycotts" of Australian exports including coal, barley, wine and seafood that demonstrated Chinese use of trade as a "strategic weapon."

Elsewhere



China punishes officials for pandemic lapses

More than 30 Chinese officials have been fired or received punishments over accusations they failed to respond properly to the latest surge of COVID-19. Among those fired were a Vice Mayor, heads of city districts and health commissions, and staff in hospital management, airport and tourism departments. • AP

Suspected jihadists kill 51 civilians in Mali

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BAMAKO

Suspected jihadists massacred 51 civilians in northern Mali and killed 12 troops in an ambush in neighbouring Burkina Faso, the authorities said on Monday, highlighting the security crisis gripping the two fragile states.

"Terrorists" on Sunday invaded the villages of Karou, Ouatagouna and Daou-tegeft near Mali's border with Niger, a military officer said, using a term officials

use to designate jihadists. "(They) massacred everyone," the source said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

A document by the local prefecture said 51 people had been killed in the attacks, homes had been looted and cattle stolen.

The assailants arrived on motorbike, taking the villagers by surprise, a local official said.

An official at a fourth vil-

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA e-mail ID - supenger_rbjyp@yahoo.co.in; Phone No.-06854-231528; Fax No-06854-231528
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, JEYPORE (R&B) CIRCLE, JEYPORE.
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)
Bid Identification No. C.C.E.J.C (R&B)-05/2021-22
No. 2981, Date. 30.07.2021

- Nature of the Work : ROAD WORK
- Total No. of Works : 01 (One) No.
- Estimated Cost : Rs.301.72 Lakhs
- Period of completion : 06 (Six) Months
- Cost of Bid Document : Rs.10,000/-
- Bid Security (EMD) : Bid Security Declaration (Schedule-K)
- Class of Contractor : "A" & "Special" Class
- Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal. : from 10.00 hours of 10.08.2021 to 17.00 hours of 23.08.2021.
- Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the Portal. : 17.00 hours of 23.08.2021.
- Opening date of Bid : 10.00 hours of 24.08.2021
- Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid : Chief Construction Engineer, Jeypore (R&B) Circle, Jeypore.

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.
B-282: Chief Construction Engineer, Jeypore (R&B) Circle, Jeypore. OPR-34108/11/0005/2122

ODISHA MINERAL EXPLORATION CORPORATION LIMITED **OMECL**
3rd Floor, Boyan Bhawan, Bhubaneswar-751001, Odisha www.omecl.in

E-Procurement Notice Date : 10.08.2021

NIT No: 07/OMECL/e-PROC/2021

1	Name of the work	Selection of Drilling Agency/Company to carry out drilling work in various districts of Odisha for OMECL
2	Availability of tender documents on the e-tendering portal of Government of Odisha	Date : 10.08.2021; Time : 5:00 PM (IST)
3	Type of Tender	Open Tender
4	Last date for sending queries to OMECL	Date: 23.08.2021; Time: 5:00 PM (IST); queries may be sent by email to omecloffice@gmail.com
5	Pre-bid meeting	Date: 26.08.2021; Time: 11:30 AM (IST); Venue: To be held via Video Conferencing (VC) - Link shall be shared via email with the prospective bidders
6	Issue of responses to pre-bid queries, addendum / corrigendum, if required.	Date: 01.09.2021
7	Bid Due Date	Date : 21.09.2021; Time : 5:00 PM (IST)
8	Opening of Technical Bid	Date : 22.09.2021; Time : 2:30 PM (IST)
9	Opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the Technically Qualified Bidders
10	Tender document fee (non-refundable) including GST	Amount: INR 11,800 (Rupees Eleven Thousand and Eight Hundred only) including GST@18% Payable online on the e-tender portal of Government of Odisha (www.tendersodisha.gov.in)
11	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Amount: INR 18,00,000 (Rupees Eighteen lakhs only)- exclusive of GST Payable online on the e-tender portal of Government of Odisha (www.tendersodisha.gov.in)

All other details can be seen from the Tender Document available on the e-procurement portal of the Government of Odisha (www.tendersodisha.gov.in) and on the website of OMECL (www.omecl.in). OMECL reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.
sd/- Director (Geology) OMECL
CAD-833: OPR-30024/11/0006/2122

Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited
In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar-751001
Tel.:(0674) 2380660; Website: www.osmcl.nic.in; Email: logistics.osmcl.od@nic.in

NOTICE INVITING BID
Bid Reference No.:OSMCL/2021-22/COVID/30

Online Bids through e-Tender portal (<https://tendersodisha.gov.in>) are invited from eligible bidders for Supply of COVID-19 Item (D33226 - Inj. Tocilizumab, 400mg / Vial) as per the particulars mentioned below:

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date and time
1.	Date & time of release of bid	09/08/2021, 3 PM
2.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time End Date & Time 10/08/2021, 11 AM 19/08/2021, 11 AM
3.	Date & time of Online Technical bid Opening	19/08/2021 11:30 AM
4.	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the qualified bidders

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: www.osmcl.nic.in and <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>. OSMCL reserves the right to reject or modify any conditions of the tender or cancel the tender or cancel the issued purchase order at any stage without assigning any reason thereof.
SD/- Managing Director, OSMC Ltd., Odisha
OIPR-10112/11/0043/2122

ODISHA MINERAL EXPLORATION CORPORATION LIMITED **OMECL**
3rd Floor, Boyan Bhawan, Bhubaneswar-751001, Odisha www.omecl.in

E-Procurement Notice Date : 10.08.2021

NIT No: 06/OMECL/e-PROC/2021

1	Name of work	Notice Inviting Tender from Mining Software Consultancy Organizations for Design, Development & Implementation of Mineral Exploration Database Management System (MEDBMS)
2	Availability of tender documents on the e-tendering portal of Government of Odisha	Date : 10.08.2021; Time : 5:00 PM
3	Last date for sending queries to OMECL	Date: 24.08.2021; Time: 5:30 PM; queries may be sent by email to omecloffice@gmail.com
4	Pre-bid meeting	Date: 27.08.2021; Time: 11:30 AM; Venue: To be held via Video Conferencing (VC) - Link shall be shared via email with the prospective bidders
5	Issue of responses to pre-bid queries, addendum / corrigendum, if required.	Date:02.09.2021
6	Bid Due Date	Date : 23.09.2021; Time : 5:00 PM
7	Opening of Technical Bid	Date : 24.09.2021; Time : 2:30 PM
8	Opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the Technically Qualified Bidders
9	Tender Paper Fee (non-refundable) including GST	Amount: INR 11,800 (Rupees Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred only) including GST@18% Payable online on the e-tender portal of Government of Odisha (www.tendersodisha.gov.in)
10	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Amount: INR 1,100,000 (Rupees Eleven lakhs only)- Payable online on the e-tender portal of Government of Odisha (www.tendersodisha.gov.in)

All other details can be seen from the Tender Document available on the e-procurement portal of the Government of Odisha (www.tendersodisha.gov.in) and on the website of OMECL (www.omecl.in). OMECL reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.
sd/- Director (Geology) Odisha Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. (OMECL)
CAD-834: OPR-30024/11/0007/2122

MARKET WATCH		
	09-08-2021	% CHANGE
Sensex	54403	0.23
US Dollar	74.26	-0.14
Gold	45391	-2.53
Brent oil	69.16	

NIFTY 50		
	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	699.90	-10.80
Asian Paints	2992.55	26.10
Axis Bank	755.50	14.65
Bajaj Auto	3855.15	7.30
Bajaj Finserv	14242.90	237.25
Bajaj Finance	6193.15	-31.15
Bharti Airtel	599.25	-8.65
BPCL	452.50	-3.10
Britannia Ind	3636.10	32.10
Cipla	918.65	7.35
Coal India	143.25	-2.85
Divis Lab	4905.70	-10.30
D Reddys Lab	4838.50	32.30
Eicher Motors	2729.00	-18.35
Grasim Ind	1512.15	-18.85
HCL Tech	1050.55	0.60
HDFC	2623.90	-4.20
HDFC Bank	1503.90	11.25
HDFC Life	667.00	-6.40
Hero MotoCorp	2836.30	2.50
Hindalco	434.70	-7.45
Hind Unilever	2384.50	13.00
ICICI Bank	702.85	5.20
Indusind Bank	1042.80	13.30
Infosys	1663.30	13.10
Indian Oil Corp	104.40	-1.50
ITC	213.80	-0.45
JSW Steel	747.35	-10.00
Kotak Bank	1780.90	3.70
L&T	1597.45	-12.90
M&M	774.95	-16.70
Mazda Suzuki	7081.75	-19.05
Nestle India Ltd.	18202.30	181.65
NTPC	116.70	-0.95
ONGC	115.00	-1.65
PowerGrid Corp	176.45	1.45
Reliance Ind	2077.15	-11.90
SBI Life	1136.45	-14.25
State Bank	433.40	-2.25
Shree Cement	28272.95	-113.65
Sun Pharma	788.80	3.60
Tata Consumer		
Products Ltd.	764.85	-16.50
Tata Motors	298.10	-1.95
Tata Steel	1412.20	-16.65
TCS	3322.70	12.90
Tech Mahindra	1287.45	22.85
Titan	1799.15	11.40
UltraTech Cement	7495.65	-32.00
UPL	778.10	-0.80
Wipro	596.80	-1.20

EXCHANGE RATES		
	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	74.06	74.38
Euro	87.06	87.44
British Pound	102.84	103.29
Japanese Yen (100)	67.22	67.52
Chinese Yuan	11.43	11.48
Swiss Franc	80.76	81.12
Singapore Dollar	54.61	54.85
Canadian Dollar	59.03	59.30
Malaysian Ringgit	17.51	17.60



MG Motor unveils 7-seater at ₹37.28 lakh

NEW DELHI
MG Motor India on Monday unveiled the 7-seater version of SUV Gloster Savvy at an ex-showroom price of ₹37.28 lakh. The vehicle is powered by a 2.0 Twin Turbo Diesel Engine generating 200 PS power and 480 Nm of peak torque. It comes with multiple driving modes enabled with Advanced Driver Assistance System, among other features.

TPL Q1 net profit jumps fivefold to ₹55 crore

CHENNAI
Tamil Nadu Petroproducts Ltd.'s standalone net profit for Q1 of FY22 has grown by almost five times to ₹55 crore. Revenue from operations more than doubled to ₹464 crore, the company said. TPL said TN Principal Secretary N. Muruganandam has been appointed as its non-executive chairman, and Pankaj Kumar Bansal and R. Bhuvaneshwari as non-executive directors.

upGrad raises \$185 mn; enters unicorn club

BENGALURU
upGrad, a higher edtech firm, became the latest unicorn in the India market when it received a total of \$185 million from Temasek and International Finance Corporation at a market valuation of \$1.2 billion. "We will announce more updates on M&As and unlocking value as they unfold," said Ronnie Screwvala, chairman and co-founder, upGrad, in a statement.

Tata Group eyeing chip manufacture: chairman

MUMBAI
Tata Group is looking to foray into semiconductor manufacturing, chairman N. Chandrasekaran said on Monday. Pegging the market opportunity of high-tech manufacturing of electronics at \$1 trillion, he said the Tata Group has already set up a business to seize the opportunity. His remarks come days after the group announced entry into 5G equipment manufacture.

Economic activity nears level seen pre-pandemic: Nomura

'Prospect of surge in people mobility triggering third wave is a key risk'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India's economic activity reached its highest level, in the first week of August, since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic last year, as per a business resumption index.

The Nomura India Business Resumption Index (NIBRI) rose to a record high of 99.4 for the week ended August 8, from 94.0 in the previous week, near the pre-pandemic level of 100, and surpassing the pre-second wave peak of 99.3 in February 2021. The Nomura index is compiled using mobility data from Google and Apple, power demand and the labour force participation



Sliver of hope: Power demand rose 5.3% week on week, after contracting for 3 consecutive weeks, economists say. ■ REUTERS

rate, with February 2020 as the base. While the latest index estimate suggests a swifter-than-expected recovery from the second wave continues, Nomura said the prospect of a surge in mobility triggering a third wave is the

key risk to be monitored. "After briefly plateauing, mobility picked up sharply, with Google workplace, retail and recreation and Apple driving index rising... Power demand also rose 5.3% week on week, after contracting

for three consecutive weeks, while the labour participation rate rose to 41.5% from 39.8% previously, pushing up the unemployment rate to 8.1%," the firm noted.

'Varied impact'

While COVID-19 cases remain flat at about 40,000 per day, Nomura economists Sonal Varma and Aurodeep Nandi noted that there are State-wide divergences on the sero-prevalence rate, infection cases, vaccinations and the lockdown situation.

"Some States are doubling down on restrictions (like Karnataka and Tamil Nadu), while others like Maharashtra are easing further," they pointed out.

SAT gives split verdict in PNB HF deal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Securities Appellate Tribunal on Monday delivered a split verdict on the tussle between PNB Housing Finance and markets regulator SEBI over the lender's proposed ₹4,000-crore deal with Carlyle Group. SEBI had contested the deal over valuation issues. The tribunal also said its interim order passed in June, wherein PNB Housing Finance was restrained from disclosing the results of shareholders' vote on the deal, would continue.

The two-member bench of Justice Tarun Agarwala and Justice M.T. Joshi delivered a split verdict on the matter. This means that the fate of deal remains uncertain for now.

July auto retail sales see strong growth: FADA

'Chip shortage, third wave pose threat'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Domestic automobile retail sales made a strong comeback in July, recording positive growth across vehicle categories, Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) said.

However, it cautioned that semiconductor shortage and the possibility of a third wave of the pandemic continue to remain a threat to the recovery of the sector.

Retail sales saw a year-on-year growth of 34% to over 15.56 lakh units last month. FADA noted that even when compared with July 2019, a regular pre-COVID month, "recovery is visible as the deficit reduced to low double digits of -13.22%."

In July, passenger vehicle



sales rose by almost 63% to more than 2.61 lakh units, while two-wheelers and commercial vehicle sales grew 28% to more than 11.32 lakh units and 166% to 52,130 units. Tractor sales rose 7% to 82,388 units.

"July saw robust recovery in retail sales across all categories. The low base effect also continues to play its part," said Vinkesh Gulati, president, FADA.

MRF net leaps to ₹161 crore as sales climb

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Tyre major MRF Ltd. reported that standalone net profit surged almost 10-fold in the first quarter to ₹161 crore on higher sales.

Revenue from operations rose almost 70% to ₹4,128 crore and other income more than doubled to ₹92 crore. Profit before tax surged almost eightfold to ₹217 crore, MRF said in a regulatory filing.

On May 27, MRF fully redeemed the listed secured redeemable non-convertible debentures aggregating to ₹180 crore.

On a consolidated basis, net profit rose to ₹166 crore from ₹13 crore, while revenue from operations jumped to ₹4,184 crore (₹2,461 crore).

Won't intervene in CCI probe against Amazon, Flipkart: SC

Firms must voluntarily agree to such enquiry, says court

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday refused to intervene in an anti-trust investigation ordered by the Competition Commission of India against online giants, Flipkart and Amazon.

A three-judge Bench led by Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana said the court expected big companies like the two e-commerce players to voluntarily agree to such a preliminary enquiry.

"You have to submit... enquiry should be permitted," Chief Justice Ramana orally addressed Flipkart and Amazon, represented by senior advocates A.M. Singhvi and Gopal Subramaniam, respectively, during the virtual



court hearing. The firms had appealed to the Supreme Court after the Karnataka High Court confirmed the Competition Commission of India (CCI) decision of January last year to open a probe into the companies for allegedly entering into anti-competitive agreements in violation of the Competition Act of 2002. The companies had denied any mischief and

wanted the probe quashed. "We see no reason to interfere with the orders passed by the High Court of Karnataka dismissing the writ appeals of the petitioners (Flipkart, Amazon). Special leave petitions are dismissed," the order recorded.

The court referred to Mr. Singhvi's submission that the time to reply to the notice issued by the Office of the Director General, CCI, was going to expire on August 9.

Mr. Singhvi had sought more time. "Time to reply to the notice is extended by a further period of four weeks from today. It is made clear that no further extension of time would be granted for the purpose," the court noted.

Amazon, Catamaran will end venture next year

Seller Clouttail is a subsidiary of JV

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BANGALORE/NEW DELHI

Amazon and N.R. Narayana Murthy-led Catamaran on Monday said they would not continue their joint venture (JV), Prione Business Services, beyond May 2022. The venture is up for renewal on May 19 next year.

The announcement came just hours after a Supreme Court decision that allowed the Competition Commission of India to continue its probe against Amazon and rival Flipkart in a case that alleged preference for select sellers, offering of 'deep discounts' and 'anti-competitive' agreements.

Clouttail, among the biggest sellers on Amazon India, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Prione. Clouttail's

revenue grew from ₹1,45 crore in FY15 to more than ₹8,900 crore in FY19, the company's website showed. The two firms did not give a reason for the decision to end the JV, which was formed in 2014.

'Violating the law'

Praveen Khandelwal, secretary general, Confederation of All India Traders, alleged the move by the two firms was a "cover up" and that Amazon was 'violating the law and FDI policy' via Clouttail.

"Certain questions are bound to arise for which Clouttail has to give answers [during CCI's investigation]... Both Amazon and Clouttail are two faces of a single coin," he added.

'Centre saved 10% in cost via GeM purchase'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Government e-Marketplace (GeM) has resulted in a 10% savings in public procurement cost in five years, but has still tapped only 5% of India's total government purchases of about ₹20 lakh crore a year, Commerce Secretary B.V.R. Subrahmanyam said.

"Procurement, traditionally, was riddled with allegations of corruption, and governments have been infamous for very slow procurement processes," he said.

"The GeM has given us more bang for the buck, with a savings of ₹10,000 crore in the cumulative procurements of ₹1 lakh crore facilitated through the portal in five years."

'India mulls sharp cuts in EV levies after Tesla push'

'May lower import duty to 40-60%'

REUTERS
NEW DELHI

India is considering slashing import duties on electric cars to as low as 40%, two senior government officials told Reuters, days after Tesla Inc's appeals for a cut polarised the country's auto industry.

For imported electric vehicles (EVs) with a value of less than \$40,000 including the car's cost, insurance and freight, the government is discussing slashing the tax rate to 40% from 60% presently, the officials told Reuters. For electric vehicles valued at more than \$40,000, the government is looking at cutting the rate to 60% from 100%, they said.

The government is in favour of a cut if it can see companies such as Tesla



providing some benefit to the domestic economy — manufacture locally, for example, or give a firm timeline on when it would be able to, one of the officials said.

"Reducing import duties is not a problem as not many EVs are imported in the country. But we need some economic gain out of that. We also have to balance the concerns of the domestic players," the official said.

Sundaram Finance Q1 net rises 16%

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Sundaram Finance Ltd. (SFL) reported standalone net profit rose 16% for the first quarter to ₹192 crore.

Total revenue from operations grew marginally to ₹950 crore. Disbursements more than doubled to ₹2,060 crore. Deposit base stood at ₹4,078 crore, representing a net accretion of ₹57 crore, Sundaram Finance said in a statement.

Gross NPAs rose to 4.59% from 2.78% and Net NPAs to 3.38% from 1.79%.

"While uncertainties around third wave remain, the pace of vaccination and our own readiness in adjusting to a post-COVID-19 world gives us optimism and confidence about the journey ahead," said MD Rajiv C. Lochan.

'July equity MF inflows surge to ₹22,583 cr.'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The strong inflows in new fund offers helped equity mutual funds (MFs) to log a staggering net investment of ₹22,583 crore in July, making it the fifth consecutive monthly infusion, amid a stock market rally.

The net inflow stood at ₹5,988 crore in June, as per data from the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI). "RBI's accommodative stance, healthier earnings growth, vaccination-driven containment of the pandemic and liquidity is driving equity markets to historic highs," said N. S. Venkatesh, CEO, AMFI.

"Taking cue, retail investors too are participating in the equity rally," he added. (With inputs from Lalendu Mishra in Mumbai)

LIC turns out to be a drag on life insurers' July show

Pvt. firms' first-year premium rises 8%

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

First year premium of life insurers stood at ₹20,434.72 crore in July, or 11% lower compared with the year-earlier period.

Market leader Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) weighed heavily on the overall performance with a 20.7% decline in first-year premium to ₹12,030.93 crore, the new business statement of the 24 life insurers released by insurance regulator IRDAI showed.

Private insurers together managed a 7.53% increase in first-year premium to ₹8,403.79 crore despite four of them reporting a decline in the new business.

For the four months ended July, a period marked by the second wave of the pan-



demic and lockdown restrictions, life insurers' first-year-premium was 1.16% higher at ₹73,159.98 crore.

However, they are yet to report a year-on-year increase consecutively for two months this fiscal. In April, the first year premium mobilised was 44.76% higher at ₹9,738.79 crore while for May it declined 5.55% to ₹12,976.99 crore, only to register a 3.95% increase to ₹30,009.48 crore in June.

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India breaks new ground, rekindles hope

Neeraj's historic launch of the javelin and men's hockey team's bronze struck an emotional chord



The sparklers: Neeraj, Mirabai, Dahiya, the men's hockey team, Sindhu, Bajrang and Lovlina made it an Olympics to remember. ■ AFP

ASHWIN ACHAL

With an almighty heave, Neeraj Chopra made history. His 87.58m throw in the men's javelin event gave independent India her first Olympic medal in track and field.

Chopra's gold also ensured India's highest-ever medal tally at the Games (seven total), one better than the previous best achieved at London 2012.

No Olympic sport captures the imagination of the nation quite like hockey. Nationalistic fervour reigned when the men's team defeated Germany to win bronze – India's

first hockey medal since V. Baskaran's men clinched gold in Moscow 1980. The women nearly made it a perfect outing, before suffering heartbreak at the hands of Great Britain in the third-place playoff match.

Mirabai Chanu provided the ideal start to the campaign, winning a weightlifting silver on the opening day. It was sweet redemption for the Manipuri athlete, who finished a bitterly disappointing 11th at Rio 2016.

Boxer Lovlina Borgohain may have entered Tokyo in the shadow of her illustrious compatriot Mary Kom, but her bronze finish thrust her

into the spotlight. The 23-year-old from Assam already has her sights set on gold at Paris 2024.

P.V. Sindhu cemented her place among India's greatest ever athletes by winning her second Olympic medal. Her bronze at Tokyo made her only the second Indian, after wrestler Sushil Kumar, to medal twice in individual events. The badminton boom in India is set to continue.

Ravi Kumar Dahiya's epic comeback win against Nurislam Sanayev in the men's 57kg wrestling semifinal was one for the ages. Trailing 2-9 with just 90 seconds left, Dahiya closed the gap to 5-9 before

pinning his Kazakh opponent to seal a dramatic win. Dahiya, who lost the final to two-time world champion Zaur Uguev, became the second Indian wrestler to win an Olympic silver after Sushil.

If Dahiya needed to dig deep, Bajrang Punia's 8-0 victory over Daulet Niyazbekov in the men's 65kg wrestling bronze medal playoff was a one-sided masterclass. India's proud record in the sport, kindled by K.D. Jadhav's bronze in Helsinki 1952, remained intact.

Aditi Ashok came close to pulling off the impossible, finishing just outside the medal

bracket in the women's golf tournament. A consistent Aditi started the final round in second spot, but a few missed putts and outstanding final flourishes from her rivals robbed her of the chance to gain India's first ever Olympic medal in the sport.

Much was expected from the strong shooting contingent, led by Manu Bhaker and Saurabh Chaudhary. The group, however, returned empty-handed. These are worrying times for the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI), which had faced criticism when the shooters similarly drew a blank at Rio 2016.

Don't fear anyone, says Neeraj

India's Tokyo medallists felicitated by Sports Ministry

KAMESH SRINIVASAN
NEW DELHI

Olympic gold medallist javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra conveyed an important message to all athletes as he recalled his sterling performance in Tokyo. "Give your 100% and don't fear anyone," said Neeraj at the felicitation function organised by the Union Sports Ministry here on Monday.

The function, scheduled to be held at the Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, had to be shifted to a hotel owing to wet weather conditions.

The golden boy Neeraj said he knew that his second attempt in the final was a "special throw" and that's why he celebrated immediately after it. The 87.58m effort eventually won him the gold. "I felt the effort in my shoulder and elbow next morning," he said cheerfully.

When Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur asked Neeraj about the hardships faced by young athletes, he said that the shortcomings

faced by the athletes made them more determined to achieve their goal and become an inspiration.

Former Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju made an emotional speech, praising the women's hockey players for making the whole country cry with them. "You played great, you won hearts," he said.

Rijiju was equally proud about India winning seven medals in six disciplines, emphasising that there was no event bigger than the Olympics for the whole world. He was happy that Neeraj had dedicated his medal to Milkha Singh.

India's men's hockey goalkeeper P.R. Sreejesh diverted the praise showered on him to the women's hockey goalkeeper Savita Punia.

Wrestling silver medallist Ravi Dahiya said he was inspired by the deeds of Sushil Kumar and Yogeshwar Dutt, and wanted to perform like them. Hockey captain Manpreet Singh acknowledged the overwhelming support of the Sports Authority of In-

dia (SAI) and the government, stressing that the entire team was like an extended family.

"We will get back together soon, as we have the Asian Games and Commonwealth Games next year. We will focus on them," Manpreet said.

Lovlina Borgohain, who won bronze, said she was "feeling very good after coming home." The boxer assured that her focus would stay on winning the gold in the Paris Games in 2024.

Weightlifting silver medallist Mirabai Chanu and badminton star P.V. Sindhu had earlier arrived to a rousing reception.

Many firsts
Thakur said that the Tokyo Olympics witnessed many firsts for India and assured that the government would work with the federations to help the Indians shine more in the next two editions in 2024 and 2028.

Nisith Pramanik, Union Minister of State for sport, was also present.



Honouring the champs: Bajrang, Lovlina, Neeraj and Dahiya with Thakur, Rijiju and Pramanik at the felicitation function in New Delhi on Monday. ■ SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

World records set at the Tokyo Olympics



Event	Competitor	New	Previous (year)
Cycling (Track): Men's Team Pursuit	Italy (Consonni, Ganna, Milan, Lamon)	3:42.032	3:42.307 (2021)
Cycling (Track): Women's Team Pursuit	Germany (Brause, Brennauer, Klein, Kroeger)	4:04.242	4:06.166 (2021)
Cycling (Track): Women's Team Sprint	Bao Shanju & Zhong Tianshi (Chn)	31.804s	32.034s (2015)
Shooting: Men's 50m Rifle 3 Positions Final	Zhang Changhong (Chn)	466.Opts	465.3pts (2018)
Shooting: Women's Trap Qualification	Zuzana Rehak Stefecekova (Svk)	125pts	123pts (2019)
Shooting: Mixed Team 10m Air Rifle Qualification	Qian Yang & Haoran Yang (Chn)	633.2pts	631.7pts (2020)
Sport Climbing: Women's Speed	Aleksandra Miroslaw (Pol)	6.84s	6.96s (2020)
Swimming: Men's 4x100m Medley Relay	USA (Murphy, Andrew, Dressel, Apple)	3:26.78	3:27.28 (2009)
Swimming: Mixed 4x100m Medley Relay	Great Britain (Dawson, Peaty, Guy, Hopkin)	3:37.58	3:38.41 (2020)
Swimming: Men's 100m Butterfly	Caeleb Dressel (USA)	49.45s	49.50s (2019)
Swimming: Women's 200m Breaststroke	Tatjana Schoenmaker (RSA)	2:18.95	2:19.11 (2013)
Swimming: Women's 4x200m Freestyle Relay	China (Yang, Tang, Zhang, Li)	7:40.33	7:41.50 (2019)
Swimming: Women's 4x100m Freestyle Relay	Australia (Cate & Bronte Campbell, McKeon, Harris)	3:29.69	3:30.05 (2018)
Track and Field: Women's 400m Hurdles	Sydney McLaughlin (USA)	51.46s	51.90s (2021)
Track and Field: Men's 400m Hurdles	Karsten Warholm (Nor)	45.94s	46.70s (2021)
Track and Field: Women's Triple Jump	Yulimar Rojas (Ven)	15.67m	15.50m (1995)
Weightlifting: Men's +109kg (Total)	Lasha Talakhadze (Geo)	488kg	485kg (2021)
Weightlifting: Men's +109kg (Clean and jerk)	Lasha Talakhadze (Geo)	265kg	264kg (2019)
Weightlifting: Men's +109kg (Snatch)	Lasha Talakhadze (Geo)	223kg	222kg (2021)
Weightlifting: Men's 73kg (Total)	Shi Zhiyong (Chn)	364kg	363kg (2019)

Note: In rowing, due to the huge variability that weather conditions can have on times, there were multiple World Bests recorded

Is Neeraj's gold India's greatest triumph across sports?

Worlds' bronze medallist Anju says yes, gold-winning captain Baskaran feels it is unfair to compare

STAN RAVAN

Anju Bobby George believes Neeraj Chopra's Olympic gold is the country's greatest triumph across sports.

"This is the best triumph across all sports because athletics is the centrepiece event. We can compare athletics medals with something like World Cup football medals, otherwise there is no comparison between an athletics medal and any other medal," said the 2003 World championships long jump bronze medallist in a chat with *The Hindu* on Sunday.

"We are competing with multiple opponents, from more than 200 countries. It's a common sport, anybody can compete in this. So, the competition will be that much higher."

Great hockey record
India has had a magnificent record in hockey at the Olympics, winning eight golds including a hat-trick of triumphs in 1928, 1932 and 1936 a phase when Dhyan Chand mesmerised the world.

Then there had been a semifinal entry in football at the 1956 Melbourne Olym-



Olympic legends: Neeraj Chopra lifted the spirits of the nation with an incredible performance, becoming only the second after Abhinav Bindra to bag an individual gold. Dhyan Chand, the magician, dazzled at the Games. ■ GETTY IMAGES/THE HINDU ARCHIVES

pics, during which Neville D'Souza scored a hat-trick, and in 1960 tennis great Ramanathan Krishnan made it to the last-four stage in the Wimbledon men's singles.

Then there's the 1983 cricket World Cup triumph which changed the face of the sport in the country.

P.V. Sindhu's 2019 World Championship badminton gold, chess legend Viswanathan Anand's and boxer Mary Kom's multiple World titles and shooter Abhinav Bindra's 2008 Olympic gold are the country's first in individual sport. And there are Pankaj Advani's multiple titles in cue sport and many more.

Does Neeraj's gold in jave-

lin throw fly high above all these?

"Just check the number of countries taking part and the amount of competition we have to do. Athletics is a global sport, football is a global sport. To win an athletics medal is the toughest.

"I'm not saying that their triumph is in any way less, but competition-wise, toughness-wise and acceptance-wise, Neeraj's gold is the biggest," says Anju.

V. Baskaran, who led India to the hockey gold at the 1980 Moscow Olympics, disagrees. "We cannot compare this and that, I will not do that. As a gold medallist, I can't say that this is higher than that. That would be un-

fair to the others," said Baskaran, who was also a leading Madras University sprinter decades ago.

Learning process
"But Neeraj won it with authority in his first Olympics and ended a 120-year wait for an athletics medal. (Abhinav) Bindra went through two Olympics before winning gold in his third.

"This win by Neeraj is a learning process for those who have come close to a medal and lost, how an athlete should train and compete.

"This is a new generation, our athletes showed a brave, confident new face. Like golfer Aditi Ashok, who was

ranked 200 in the world but narrowly missed a medal and finished fourth, like the hockey teams who fought so well and the men's 4x400m relay team that broke the Asian record. The only events where our confidence level looked low were archery and shooting."

Meanwhile, cricketer Harbhajan Singh feels that Neeraj's gold should be celebrated in a massive way.

"Cricket is a sport played by 12 to 15 countries while the competition is much more at the Olympics. This victory should be celebrated 50 times more than how we celebrated our cricket World Cup triumph," said Harbhajan in a television interview.

Tokyo heroes arrive



In the arclights: The women's hockey team, the medallists at the Sports Ministry event, Neeraj, Lovlina and the men's hockey squad sent the shutterbugs into a frenzy in New Delhi on Monday. ■ PTI/SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

TV PICKS

Cricket: TNPL, Qualifier 1, Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 7.30 p.m.

IN BRIEF



Petkovic ends six-year title drought

CLUJ-NAPOCA (ROMANIA) Germany's Andrea Petkovic won her seventh career title and first in six years with a comfortable 6-1, 6-1 victory over Egypt's Mayar Sherif here on Sunday. The former World No. 9, now ranked 91, needed just over an hour to see off her 119th-ranked opponent who was bidding to become Egypt's first WTA champion. **AFP**



Sinner downs McDonald, takes Washington crown

WASHINGTON Italy's Jannik Sinner, the ATP's top-ranked teen, captured his third career title on Sunday, outlasting American Mackenzie McDonald 7-5, 4-6, 7-5 in the Citi Open final. World No. 24 Sinner, a 19-year-old who won at Sofia last year and Melbourne in January, took the top prize of \$350,755. **AFP**



Collins gets into the winning habit

SAN FRANCISCO American Danielle Collins grabbed her second WTA Tour title, just two weeks after claiming her first, beating Russian Daria Kasatkina 6-3, 6-7(10), 6-1 in San Jose on Sunday. Collins had lost her two previous matches to Kasatkina. **AFP**

Second day of Bengaluru races postponed, third day races cancelled

BENGALURU Due to administrative reasons, the Stewards of the Bangalore Turf Club Ltd. have decided to postpone the second day races scheduled to be held on Aug. 13 (Friday) to Aug. 22 (Sunday). The third day races, scheduled to be held on Aug. 14 (Saturday), has been cancelled and the rescheduled date will be published later.

Ashwini-Sikki duo ends runner-up in Denmark

ESBJERG Ashwini Ponnappa and N. Sikki Reddy finished runners-up at the Denmark Masters badminton losing to top seeds Amalie Magelund and Freja Ravn of Denmark 21-15, 19-21, 14-21 on Sunday. **PTI**

Former champion surfers

CHENNAI: On the opening day of The Covelong Classic 2021 National Surf and SUP championships, past winners Ramesh Budihal and D. Manikandan moved onto the third round in the men's open category on Monday.

In the Groms under-16 category, D. Srikanth, Naveen Kumar and Kishore Kumar were some of the groms moving into the quarterfinals with Srikanth taking the highest scoring wave of the day.

Three categories

Surfers from across the country have registered for the event that has three categories for surfing - Groms and under-16, men's Open and the women's Open. The Men's SUP (Stand Up Paddle) 6km race is scheduled for Tuesday.

Team MRF Tyres wins Rally Arezzo

Campedelli and Rappa make it double podium for team

MOTOR SPORTS

SPORTS REPORTER
CHENNAI

Team MRF Tyres put up a dominant display in the fourth round of the Italian Rally Championship - first and third-place finish in the Rally Citta di Arezzo - on August 7 and 8.

Leading the charge Paolo Andreucci and Rudy Briani led the charge for Team MRF Tyres in their Skoda Fabia Rally2 Evo.

Andreucci took three stage wins on Saturday taking a 13.2-second lead into the following day.

On Sunday, they held on to the lead throughout.

Simone Campedelli and Gianfrancesco Rappa made it a double podium for Team MRF Tyres by taking



Gainful outing: Rudy Briani, left, and Paolo Andreucci with team representatives after the fourth round of the Italian Rally Championship. **•SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT**

the third position in their Orangel Racing VW Polo R5.

Campedelli and Rappa were involved in a tight battle for third place after day

one on Saturday, going into the overnight service in the fourth spot.

However, on Sunday, they ran a faultless rally to



Roughing it out: The Andreucci-Briani pair was in control throughout Sunday's race. **•SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT**

secure another podium for Team MRF Tyres, their third of the Italian gravel season.

The other Team MRF

Tyres team of Tamara Molinaro and Giancarlo Capolongo, in their Citroën C3 Rally2, won in the Female and under-25 category.

Shakib shines as Bangladesh wins 4-1

AUS IN BANGLADESH

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
DHAKA

Shakib Al Hasan took four wickets as Bangladesh skittled out Australia for their lowest ever T20I total of 62 to seal the series 4-1 on Monday.

Chasing 123 for victory, Australia crashed out in 13.4 overs with Shakib returning figures of 4/9 with his left-arm spin in the 60-run rout in the fifth match of the series in Dhaka.

Australia's previous low-

■ Australia was bundled out for its lowest ever T20I total of 62

est was 79 all out against England in 2005.

Twinn strikes

Pace bowler Mohammed Saifuddin combined with Shakib to rattle Australia with twin strikes in one over to send back Alex Carey and Moises Henriques.

Shakib wiped off the tail with the wickets of Nathan Ellis and Adam Zampa with

nine of the 11 batsmen getting scores in single digits.

Earlier Mohammad Naim made 23 in Bangladesh's 122 for eight after electing to bat.

Dan Christian and Nathan Ellis took two wickets each.

Bangladesh had secured their first series win over Australia after winning the opening three matches.

The scores: Bangladesh 122/8 in 20 overs (Nathan Ellis 2/16, Dan Christian 2/17) bt Australia 62 in 13.4 overs (Nasun 2/8, Saifuddin 3/12, Shakib 4/9).

Toss: Bangladesh; **MoM & MoS:** Shakib.

Bangladesh won by 60 runs.



On a roll: Shakib Al Hasan celebrates with teammates after dismissing Matthew Wade, one of his four victims. **•REUTERS**

Rajitha dares to dream big

Chosen for the Nairobi World junior athletics

ATHLETICS

V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM
HYDERABAD

K. Rajitha has had a remarkable journey so far.

The 18-year-old athlete, groomed by SAI athletics coach N. Ramesh and sponsored by Gopi Chand-Mytrah Foundation, will be running the 4x400m relay at the Nairobi World junior athletics meet to be held from August 17.

Rajitha lost her father, a daily-wage labourer in Rama-

chandrapuram of Kunavaram mandal (East Godavari), when she was very young.

Even today she helps her mother, who makes a living gathering and selling firewood, whenever she is in her village.

Rajitha, picked by a selection panel headed by P.T. Usha, has reset her goals now.

"I wasn't expecting to be selected. I was just keen to give my best," Rajitha told *The Hindu* from Patiala.

Some of her major results are 400m silver at the South

Zone meet and the Khelo India Games. For someone who is so short (just over 5 feet), she has a remarkable burst of speed and like many of those who come from such a background, she is a spirited athlete willing to go the extra length in training," says coach Ramesh.

The talented athlete's journey started in 2018 when she joined the Tenvic Sports Academy in Nellore with Vamsi Sai Kiran as the first coach and then trained under Krishna Mohan before moving to

SAAP Centre of Excellence in Guntur to be trained by Mike Russell.

During the lockdown Ramesh, at the behest of Krishna Mohan, decided to take her under his wing among other athletes sponsored by the Gopi-Mytrah Foundation.

Assistance

Rajitha is also beholden to her Mathematics teacher Naganender who provides her with a monthly assistance of ₹10,000. "Only recently, Gopi (Chand) presented ₹25,000

to each of the 10 girl athletes being groomed by us," Ramesh said.

Meanwhile, Rajitha, inspired by Neeraj Chopra's gold at the Tokyo Olympics, is looking far ahead.

"When I heard the National Anthem played when Neeraj was presented the gold, I was excited and left wondering whether I can ever reach that level," she said.

Her role model, however, is Hima Das, for the simple reason that she too "has come up the hard way".

Sift Kaur tops 50m rifle prone

SHOOTING

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Sift Kaur Samra of Punjab topped the 50m rifle prone event, open for both men and women, in the National shooting selection trials at the Dr. Manik Singh Range, Tughlakabad, on Monday.

The second spot was also taken by a woman, Ashi Chouksey of Madhya Pradesh, while Sanskar Havelia of Uttar Pradesh shot 618.1 to take the third place, and the first among men.

In the 25m standard pistol event open for men and

women, Harsh Gupta topped with a score of 575. The 17-year-old Rhythm Sangwan was fifth and the first among women in the field, with 561, the same score shot by Anish Bhanwala who was placed fourth thanks to more number of inner-10s.

Since both are not Olympic events, they do not feature the final.

The results: **25m standard pistol: Open:** 1. Harsh Gupta 575; 2. Vijayveer Sidhu 566; 3. Rajkanwar Singh Sandhu 564.

50m rifle prone: Open: 1. Sift Kaur Samra 622.6; 2. Ashi Chouksey 618.7; 3. Sanskar Havelia 618.1.

Mandeep wins second pro bout

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
TAMPA (USA)

Indian boxer Mandeep Jangra won his second professional bout, clinching a technical knockout against American Devon Lira here on Sunday.

The 27-year-old, silver medalist at the 2013 Asian Championships and the 2014 Commonwealth Games, turned professional in March this year.

The Indian won on technical knockout in the second round of the light-weight contest.

He had beaten Argentina's Luciano Ramos in his debut bout on May 8.

Indian football team's camp to return to Kolkata after 15 years

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The national football team's camp will be held in Kolkata after 15 years when initial 23 probables assemble at the 'City of Joy' on August 15 to prepare for next month's international friendlies.

The training sessions will start from August 16, the AIFF said in a statement.

This will be the first time Blue Tigers' camp will be held in Kolkata after 2006, when they assembled for the FIFA World Cup Qualifier against Saudi Arabia.

The camp will be conducted under a secured bio-

bubble adhering to the laid-down health parameters in wake of the current COVID-19 pandemic situation. The contingent will also be undergoing regular testing.

The probables: Goalkeepers: Dheeraj Singh Moirangthem, Vishal Kaith. **Defenders:** Ashish Rai, Seriton Fernandes, Adil Khan, Chinglensana Singh, Narender, Rahul Bheke, Akash Mishra, Mandar Rao Dessai.

Midfielders: Jalengmawia, Glan Martins, Jeakson Singh, Anirudh Thapa, Brandon Fernandes, Sahal Abdul Samad, Halicharan Narzary, Bipin Singh, Yasir Mohammed. **Forwards:** Rahul KP, Farukh Choudhary, Ishan Pandita, Rahim Ali.

Deepika blames it on medal pressure at Olympics

High time I see my game from a different perspective, says the ace Indian archer



Learning curve: We've to see all games equally, be it World Cup, World Championships or the Olympics, says Deepika. **•PTI**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KOLKATA

Ace Indian archer Deepika Kumari on Monday confessed that she needs to stop buckling under the pressure of performance at the Olympic Games and approach the biggest sporting stage from a different perspective to deliver desired results in future.

In the form of her life after winning five World Cup medals this year, the 27-year-old carried the hopes of 1.3 billion Indians to get the sport their first Olympic archery medal in Tokyo.

But it turned out to be an-

ti-climatic as she fizzled out without putting up a fight in both her individual and mixed pair quarterfinal encounters to cap yet another horror Olympic campaign.

"Woh paanch ring ka pressure, haavi ho ja raha hai - pressure of the five Olympic rings is becoming a bit too much," confessed Deepika in an exclusive interview after returning to Kolkata.

Deepika said she has understood that instead of running after the medals, they need to work on 'enjoying the moment' at the Olympics, something they lack.

"Everyone keeps saying

we don't have a medal, we don't have a medal. We think of it a thousand times there, and it dominates our psyche. It's a mental blockade and goes on affecting our techniques.

Need to introspect

"It's high time that I introspect into my game and see it in a different perspective now. There are certain things we are lacking too much. Basically we need to change the perspective of our games. We've to see all games equally, be it World Cup, World Championships or the Olympics.