CITY EDITION 14 pages • ₹10.00





States angry as Nirmala Sitharaman passes the buck on fuel rates



Opposition unity will not be affected, says Sushmita Dev



Sudoku maker Maki



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Kaji, who saw life's joy in puzzles, passes away India to face Pakistan in its T20 World Cup opener page 13

NEARBY



Attacked while hoisting national flag, say Dalits

NEW DELHI Members of the Dalit community at Jatav Mohalla in Delhi's Tughlakabad have accused "upper caste men" of attacking them when they tried to hoist the Tricolour on Independence Day near a statue of B.R. Amhedkar. The police said eight persons were injured in an altercation between two communities over a year-old land dispute. **CITY** ▶ PAGE 2

Delhi University first

cut-off likely on Oct. 1 Delhi University is likely to release the first cut-off list on October 1, said senior university officials on Tuesday. Earlier, DU had said the cut-off would be declared mid-September. Admissions to merit-based undergraduate programmes are likely to begin from October 4, the officials said. The registration process for UG courses will continue till August 31. **CITY** ▶ PAGE 2

属 FUTURE IAS) LIVE ONLINE **GS FOUNDATION BATCH** 93339-94449

OPPORTUNITIES PAGE 2

Taliban vow to honour women's rights but within Islamic law

Insurgents launch publicity blitz to convince wary citizens that they have changed

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Taliban vowed on Tuesday to respect women's rights, forgive those who resisted them and ensure a secure Afghanistan as part of a publicity blitz aimed at convincing world powers and a fearful population that they have changed.

Spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid, who had been a shadowy figure for years. promised that the Taliban would honour women's rights, but within the norms of Islamic law, though he gave few details. He said the group wanted private media to "remain independent" but stressed that journalists "should not work against national values". He said the insurgents would secure Afghanistan - but seek no revenge against those who worked with the former government or with foreign governments or forces. "We assure you that nobody will go to their doors to ask why they helped."

The capital of Kabul remained quiet for another day as the Taliban patrolled its streets and many residents stayed home, fearful after the insurgents' takeover saw prisons emptied and armouries looted.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8



Sense of relief: Government officials in Jamnagar welcoming Indian nationals on their arrival from Afghanistan on Tuesday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

India brings back Embassy staff

SUHASINI HAIDAR NEW DELHI

After a tense day when diplomats were turned back from travelling by Taliban guards, 140 Indians, consisting of 120 Indian Embassy staff and Indo-Tibetan Border Police personnel, 16 civilians and four mediapersons, flew back to New Delhi on board a military flight on Tuesday.

The flight, a C-17 Globemaster, was one of the two aircraft operated by the Indian Air Force for bringing home all Indian personnel from the Embassy. However, the government maintained that it had not "abandoned" Afghans, and launched a new e-visa category, especially for Afghan nationals wishing to come to India.

"We were a very large mission of 192 personnel, who were evacuated from Afghanistan within a period of three days in a very orderly fashion in two phases," said Indian Ambassador to Afghanistan Rudrendra Tan-

PM chairs meet PAGE 9 Plea from mother PAGE 9 Defiant Saleh PAGE 11

don, during a refuelling stopover at Jamnagar Gujarat.

On August 16, another C-17 brought back nearly 40 diplomats and other personnel, after the others were turned back from driving to the airport by Taliban guards in Kabul, who stopped the convoy, confiscated some equipment and forced them back to the Embassy.

According to sources, some difficult and uncertain hours followed, as Indian diplomats, led by Mr. Tandon, coordinated with the new militia now in control of the capital and other diplomatic missions to ensure the safe passage of the convoy out of Kabul, and then to the Hamid Karzai International Airport, currently under the control of the U.S.-led NATO troops.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

SC issues notice to Centre on pleas alleging snooping

'Won't ask to reveal anything compromising national security'

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday issued pre-admission notice to the Union government on petitions seeking an independent inquiry into allegations that the government used Israeli spyware Pegasus to snoop on citizens.

The court made it clear to the government that "none of us want to compromise the defence of the nation... but there are citizens, some of them persons of emi-



The court listed the case for hearing after 10 days.

nence, who have complained of hacking of their phones".

After issuing notice, a Bench of Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana, Justice Su-

ruddha Bose said that it would consider the further course of action, including the formation of a committee to inquire into the allegations, in due time. The court listed the case for hearing after 10 days.

rya Kant and Justice Ani-

The notice was issued after the government, represented by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, stood firm by its two-page affidavit denying "all and any" allegations.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 8

Over 88 lakh jabs in a day take India to a new high

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

India administered more than 88.13 lakh doses of CO-VID-19 vaccine on August 16, the highest-ever vaccination achieved in a single day, the Union Health Ministry said on Tuesday.

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya tweeted, "India achieves the highest single-day record in #CO-VID19 vaccine doses. Yesterday [Monday] will go down in the history of the world's #LargestVaccineDrive."

With nearly 50 lakh more doses administered till 7

p.m. on Tuesday, the cumulative vaccination coverage crossed the 56 crore mark, the Ministry said in a release. It added that 43.5 crore adult Indians had received the first dose, while 12.4 crore had got both dos-

"The vaccination drive has been ramped up through availability of more vaccines, 15 days advance visibility of vaccine availability to States and UTs for enabling better planning by them, and streamlining the vaccine supply chain," the Ministry added

'Odisha will sponsor hockey for 10 more yrs'

SATYASUNDAR BARIK BHUBANESWAR

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Tuesday pledged to sponsor Indian hockey for another 10 years following the teams' spectacular performance at the Tokyo Olympics.

Each player was awarded ₹10 lakh and each support staff ₹5 lakh by the State government. "You made us all so proud with your spirited fight at Tokyo," Mr. Patnaik said while felicitating the hockey teams here.

DETAILS ON ▶ PAGE 4



'Everything changed suddenly, silently'

Afghans in Delhi say people paying the price for trusting a govt. that ultimately 'fled'

SHINJINI GHOSH

People who arrived at the Embassy of Afghanistan on Tuesday for paperwork and other formalities, recounted how the situation in Kabul had taken a drastic turn for the worse over the last couple of days. With family members and relatives still in Kabul, some said the common citizen was paying the price for trusting a government that ultimately "fled".

For Mohammed, who reached the national capital from Kabul on August 8 with three of his family members, it had been a close shave. "When we left Kabul, the situation was not as bad and it started to deteriorate only a couple of days later. It just got worse by the day and people were scrambling to get

IAIDEEP DEO BHANI

Jawaharlal Nehru University

(JNU) is set to foray into of-

fering medical sciences

with the Academic Council

(AC) of the university, clear-

ing the decks for the esta-

blishment of a School of

Medical Sciences and an at-

blishment of the new field

was keeping in consonance

with the National Education

the hands of the Executive

Council of the university,

which is the highest deci-

sion-making body of the

The decision is now in

JNU said that the esta-

tached hospital.

Policy-2020.

university.



Afghan nationals waiting outside their Embassy in New Delhi on Tuesday. • SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

visas. We do not know how all of it happened so suddenly and silently. For a long time, we thought maybe the Taliban won't reach Kabul said the very soon," 32-year-old.

His sister is still in Kabul, Mr. Mohammed said. "She is a cancer patient and her husband is also out of town. She is now left with no access to

The Rector of JNU Rana P.

Singh said that the Academ-

ic Council had unanimously

approved, as per the provi-

sions of INU Act 1966, the

establishing of a School of

Medical Sciences and an at-

tached hospital with broad

and super speciality depart-

ments including supporting

and non-conventional de-

PhD, MD PhD, MD, MS, DM,

MCh and MBBS degree pro-

grammes, with an emphasis

on modern medicine inte-

grated with traditional med-

icine and knowledge sys-

tems from humanities and

Social Sciences." Mr. Singh

"This school will offer

partments on Tuesday.

money, as the banks have also closed. You cannot withdraw a single penny. We are worried about her and it is a horrific situation that people are going through."

The Kabul resident is currently stationed in Lajpat Nagar. "We remember the pre-2000 era and even if the situation back home improves, people might not be ready to leave as the scars will remain. The common citizens are the ones who are the worst sufferers. The Ashraf Ghani government also promised us many things but ultimately they fled. It is shocking to see people fall off planes."

Drastic change

Naweed Azimi, a 26-year-old documentary filmmaker who has been in the Capital for the last four years, said several of his relatives were still stuck in Kabul. "For the past few days, they have been trying to get a flight out of there, but it has become chaotic at the moment. Even a week back, things were better. Suddenly things changed drastically and now everything is shut and not safe at all."

HC seeks status report JNU to set up medical college and hospital in rape-murder case

SOIBAM ROCKY SINGH NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday sought a status report from the police on its investigation into the alleged rape and murder of a nine-year-old girl inside a crematorium in Delhi Cantonment earlier in August. Justice Yogesh Khanna,

who was hearing a plea by the parents of the victim, however, declined to pass, at this stage, any direction for a court-monitored Special Investigation Team (SIT) investigation into the case as an SIT had already been constituted by the Delhi Police Crime Branch.

The court also took on record statements made by the Delhi government's standing counsel Sanjay Lao that Section 302 (murder), Section 376 (rape), Section 3 (punishments for offences of atrocities) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, and Section 6 (sexual assault) Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act had been added in the FIR.

Advocate Jitendra Kumar Jha, representing the parents of the victim, stated that two of the accused had admitted to the crime. He said that the incident took place around 5.30 p.m. on August 1 but the police took more than five hours to reach the spot.

Attacked by 'upper caste men' while hoisting flag, say Dalits

Clash took place near Ambedkar statue; police say issue stems from a land dispute

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Members of the Dalit community at Jatav Mohalla in Delhi's Tughlakabad have accused "members of the upper caste" of attacking and ill-treating them when they tried to hoist the Tricolour on Independence Day near a statue of B.R. Ambedkar.

The police said an altercation took place between families of the Jatav community and the family of Jitender, who belongs to the Gurjar community. Eight people were injured in the clash and cross-FIRs have been registered, the police said, adding that the issue stems from a years-long land dispute.

According to cloth trader Chander Pal, 56, residents of Jatav Mohalla decided to hoist the national flag at 11 a.m. near a statue built on a piece of disputed land.

"That land was allotted for construction of a marriage hall for our community but the upper caste men objected to it. One particular family intervened and ensured a procedural delay.

Independence Day. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The hall has still not been constructed," he said.

Usage of land

Jitender and his family have allegedly laid claim over the plot for the past several years. The Jatav community said that they want to use the vacant plot for their community gatherings and social ceremonies. But Jitender's family allegedly started using the land to rear their cattle and to dump cow and buffalo dung.

Mr. Pal said that on April 15, the family installed a statue of B.R. Ambedkar "to appease us" but continued to use the land to their advantage. "There used to be cow dung everywhere and even close to the statue. It's disrespectful. Women from our community took to cleaning the area daily," he said.

On Independence Day, Mr. Pal said that when they gathered at the plot and hoisted the flag, the family objected to them using the area for the event. "It started as an argument but eventually a bunch of them gathered and started pelting stones at us. We somehow managed to flee," he said.

Mr. Pal said that the issue of usage of the plot has been an ongoing matter since 2013 and the community feels that they are not treated as equals. "We have houses measured in yards and they have acres," he said.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (South-East) R.P. Meena said a PCR call regarding the quarrel was received at Govindpuri police station.

"On reaching the spot, it was found that the family of one Jitender got into a quarrel with Mr. Pal and some residents of Jatav Mohalla over removal of tarpaulin and wood. This is an old dispute between the two sides," he said, adding that Mr. Pal alleged he was abused during the incident. On the other hand, Mr. Jitender said he was beaten up by the crowd.

During the clash, both sides suffered minor injuries and medical examination was conducted, the police added. Both parties make regular complaints against each other, an officer said. However, both the parties had settled the matter amicably. Further probe is on, the police said.

Delhi University first cut-off list likely on October 1

Delhi University is likely to release the first cut-off list on October 1, said senior university officials on Tuesday. Earlier, DU had said the cutoff marks would be declared from mid-September.

Admissions to meritbased undergraduate programmes is likely to begin from October 4, they added.

No.DSW(ICDS)G/103/2021/16

described in the Tender Document. Important dates of the tender

Tender publishing

Tender Download

Pre-Bid Meeting

Bid submission

ई-निविदा प्रसंग सं० :- RCD/GIRIDIH/926

कार्य का नाम

प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में)

कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि

निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि

एवं समय

वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशित

होने की तिथि एवं समय

नाम एवं पता

प्रोक्योरमेंट पदाधिकारी का

ई-प्रोक्योरमेट सेल का हेल्प

लाईन नं०

सम्पर्क नं०

Bid opening

Janasanyog/C/4539/21

Scheduled

No.

The registration process for undergraduate courses began on August 2 and is set to continue till August 31.

Due to the pandemic, the entire admission process is completely online and students are not required to visit college campuses for any admission related process.

According to data shared by senior DU officials, over 3.18 lakh registrations have

GOVT. OF ASSAM

DIRECTORATE OF SOCIAL WELFARE, ASSAM

UZANBAZAR, GUWAHATI

Notice Inviting Tender

Directorate of Social Welfare, Assam, Uzanbazar, Guwahati-1 invites e-tenders in two bid system affixing Court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 only, for supply of ICDS Pre-School Kits for Anganwadi Centres and Mini Anganwadi

Centres from manufacturer/ Registered firm for procurement under Integrated Child Development Services

Scheme during the financial year 2021-22. The terms & conditions and details of items to be supplied are

Start time

04:00 PM

05:00 PM

05:00 PM

11:00 AM

Tender documents may be downloaded from the official website https://assamtenders.gov.in.

taken place for undergraduate courses while 1.47 lakh have completed the process by making the payment.

Out of the total number of registrations, there were over 1.21 lakh students who applied from the CBSE Board. This is the highest number of applicants from a particular board, officials said.

Following the declaration of the CBSE Class XII results,

several teachers and officials had stated that the cut-off marks were likely to soar due to the increased number of students who scored above 95%. The university also saw over 8,000 registrations under the ECA category and over 5,000 under the Sports category, till date.

The registration process for PG admissions is set to continue till August 21.

THE HINDU

GENERAL



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EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION

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For further details please visit the link "Careers" of our website: www.meconlimited.co.in.



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY WARANGAL [MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA] HANUMAKONDA 506 004 (TELANGANA STATE) Date: 16.8.2021

Advt. No. 1/2021



Applications are invited for filling up the sanctioned posts of • Senior Medical Officer • Assistant Registrar • Assistant Engineer

Superintendent SAS Assistant

• Technical Assistant • Junior Engineer

Senior Technician

• Library and Information Assistant

Technician

 Junior Assistant Sd/-REGISTRAR, NIT WARANGAL

For all details visit **www.nitw.ac.in**. Last date 23.09.2021 upto 23.59 hrs.

यूनियन बैंक 🕼 Union Bank

Central Office, Union Bank Bhavan, 239, Vidhan Bhavan Marg. Mumbai - 400 021 **UNION BANK RECRUITMENT PROJECT 2021-22** SPECIALIST OFFICERS) RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION

Union Bank of India invites ON-LINE applications for recruitment to the following posts in Specialized Segment.

POST CODE	POST	SCALE / GRADE	VACANCIES
01	Senior Manager (Risk)	MMGS -III	60
02	Manager (Risk)	MMGS - II	60
03	Manager (Civil Engineer)	MMGS - II	7
04	Manager (Architect)	MMGS - II	7
05	Manager (Electrical Engineer)	MMGS - II	2
06	Manager (Printing Technologist)	MMGS - II	1
07	Manager (Forex)	MMGS - II	50
08	Manager (Chartered Accountant)	MMGS - II	14
09	Assistant Manager (Technical Officer)	JMGS - I	26
10	Assistant Manager (Forex)	JMGS - I	120

Schedule of events

Start Date for submitting the ON-LINE application	12.08.2021,
and payment of fees/ intimation charges.	00:00 Hrs
Last Date for submitting the ON-LINE application	03.09.2021,
and payment of fees/ intimation charges.	24:00 Hrs

Interested candidates may refer to our Bank's Website www.unionbankofindia.co.in for full notification and to submit the application. Please click on the link "Recruitments">"Careers Overview" to access the Recruitment Notification

Date: 12.08.2021 Place: Mumbai

CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (HR)



RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION NO. 6/2021

IIM Indore invites online application for the post of

LIBRARIAN

For complete details and Hindi version. please visit career section of our website https://www.iimidr.ac.in

Last date to submit online application 17.09.2021

_ EFMD EQUIS





OSBI

State Bank of India Central Recruitment & Promotion Department Corporate Centre, Mumbai Phone: 022-22820427; Fax: 022-22820411

Recruitment of Specialist Cadre Officers On Regular/Contract Basis Applications are invited from Indian citizens for the following posts on

Sr. No.	Post	Grade	Vacancy	Advertisement No.
1	Circle Defence Banking Advisor, Hyderabad	Contractual	01	CRPD/SCO/CDBA/ 2021-22/11
2	Assistant Manager (Marketing and Communication)	(Regular) JMGS-I	04	CRPD/SCO/2021- 22/12
3	Assistant Manager Engineer (Civil)	(Regular) JMGS-I	36	CRPD/SCO/ENG/
4	Assistant Manager Engineer (Electrical)	(Regular) JMGS-I	10	2021-22/13
5	Deputy Manager (Agri Spl)	(Regular) MMGS-II	10	
6	Relationship Manager (OMP)	(Regular) MMGS-III	06	CRPD/SCO/ 2021-22/14
7	Product Manager (OMP)	(Regular) MMGS-III	02	

Eligibility criteria (age, qualification, experience, job profile etc.), requisite fees and other details are available under the detailed advertisement number mentioned above on Bank's website https://bank.sbi/web/careers OR https://www.sbi.co.in/web/careers along with a link for online submission of application as well as online payment of application fee. Candidates are advised to go through the detailed advertisement ensuring their eligibility and other details before applying and remitting

DATE FOR FILING ONLINE APPLICATION & PAYMENT OF FEES: 13.08.2021 TO 02.09.2021 For any query, please write to us through link **"CONTACT US"** ightarrow "Post

Your Query" which is available on Bank's website (URLhttps://bank.sbi/careers/psq.htm?action=pquery OR https://sbi.co.in/careers/psq.htm?action=pquery Place: Mumba

General Manager

REGIONAL APPOINTMENT

Advertisement No. 02/2021

BHEL requires Senior Medical Officers (Specialists) in E2 Grade. For details regarding Specialisation, Qualification, Experience and Online 28.08.2021 or visit our website https://careers.bhel.in Opening of Online Application 18.08.2021

RECRUITMENT OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

Closing of Online Application 07.09.2021 Important: Corrigenda/Amendments, if any, will be notified only on the bove Website and will not be published in any other media

Start date

16/08/2021

16/08/2021

23/08/2021

14/09/2021

झारखण्ड सरकार

पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, गिरिडीह

ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट सूचना

<u>(अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना)</u>

नेविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले का कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पथ

अतिरिक्त जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट पर देखें :—<u>http://jharkhandtenders</u>

पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, गिरिडीह PR.NO.251505 Road(21-22):D

STAFF REPORTER

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday rejected a plea challenging the decision to permit 100% seating in the Delhi Metro and buses plying in the Capital during the pandemic.

The Bench said if every user of public transport or citizen is permitted to raise such issues and challenge the government's decision, there

End time

NA

13/09/2021 04:00 PM

13/09/2021 | 05:00 PM

End Date

NA

No pre-bid meeting will be conducted due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Bidders

may sent the queries though email at directorsocialwelfareassam1@gmail.

com till 20/08/2021. If during tender period Covid 19 protocol allows to hold

such meeting in that situation matter will be notified in due course

दिनांक :- 16.08.2021

पारसनाथ हिल रोड (MDR-82) पथ

₹50 5,60,36,100.00

(पॉच करोड़ साठ लाख छतीस हजार

एक सौ रूपये मात्र)

०५ (पॉच) माह

31.08.2021 12:00 बजे दिन तक

18.08.2021 10:30 बजे पूर्वहन

निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, गिरिडीह।

06532 - 227054

0651 - 2401010

कार्यपालक अभियंता,

(कुल लबाई– 500 कि0मी0) का Renovation कार्य ।

would be no end to such petitions. "Today this petitioner is suggesting that metro and buses should run at 50% capacity, tomorrow another person will say no this is too much, make it 30% or 20%. This cannot be permitted," the court remarked, adding that the decision to fill all seats was a policy decision taken by the competent

Two held for trying to vandalise

authorities.

HC rejects plea against

100% seating in metro

mazar STAFF REPORTER

Two persons have been arrested for allegedly trying to vandalise a mazar in south Delhi's Mehrauli on Tuesday evening, the police said.

DCP (South) Atul Thakur said the accused have been identified as Ranjeet, who is pursuing industrial training, and Kanishk, a finalyear BBA student.

The police said a call was received at 5.40 p.m. regarding the incident.

A case under relevant sections of the IPC has been registered.

MADHYA PRADESH PUBLIC HEALTH MPPHISCL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD. Tilhan Sangh Bhawan, 01 Arera Hills, Bhopal

Director

Social Welfare Assam

Uzanbazar, Guwahati-1

Phone: 0755-2578915, URL: www.mpphscl.mp.gov.in Dated: 17.08.2021 **TENDER NOTICE**

Tenders for rate contracts of following items/Services shall be floated on websites & portal from 17.08.2021 to next 30 working

- 1. Online Tender Ref. No. T-224 for COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test Kits uploaded on date 17.08.2021 Portal
- Tender(S) For COVID-19 RT-PCR Test Kit Tender(S) For Tablet Paracetamol 500 mg & 650 mg
- Tender(S) For Hand Compressor Sprayer (PNEUMATIC HAND SPRAYER)

Prospective bidders are requested to visit 'www.mptenders.gov.in./www.mpphscl.mp.gov.in" for further details M.P. Madhyam/101668/2021 CGM (Technical)

Timings DELHI

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 18 RISE 05:53 SET 18:58 RISE 15:46 SET 01:10

THURSDAY, AUG. 19 RISE 05:53 SET 18:57 RISE 16:47 SET 02:09

FRIDAY, AUG. 20 RISE 05:54 SET 18:56 RISE 17:43 SET 03:12

Delhi Weather max Delhi City 28 Safdarjand 38

Delhi Palam Today 37°C Dry and warm weather likely over the area with partly cloudy sky. Thunderstorm may occur towards evening.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow 35°C A spells of light rain and thunderstorm may occur on a cloudy sky. Day would remian warm and humid

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2019 All rights reserved.

IN BRIEF

Delhi govt. renames school after Ravi Dahiya

NEW DELHI To honour Olympic silver medallist Ravi Dahiya, the Delhi government has renamed Rajkiya Bal Vidyalaya in Adarsh Nagar as Ravi Dahiya Bal Vidyalaya. Mr. Dahiya is an alumnus of the school

Delhi sees 93% fall in samples sent for genome sequencing

More samples should be sent even though cases are dropping, say experts

NIKHIL M BABU NEW DELHI

There is a 93% fall in the number of samples for which COVID-19 genome sequencing was done in June, compared to April, according to Delhi government data shared with The Hindu.

Lesser samples were sent for genome sequencing as new COVID-19 cases have also come down from an alltime high of 28,000 daily cases in April to less 100 cases in most days now, officials said.

Through genome sequencing, the government finds new variants of the virus and this helps them to form better strategies to fight the virus.

Delta variant

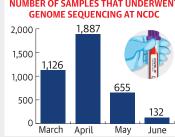
"Even lesser number of samples have undergone genome sequencing in July," a Delhi government official said. "The Delta variant is the dominant strain of the vi-

What is genome sequencing?

• Like other viruses, COVID-19 is also constantly changing and genetic variations occur to the virus over time,

leading to new variants Scientists use a process called genomic sequencing to decode the genes and learn more about the virus

NUMBER OF SAMPLES THAT UNDERWENT



rus in Delhi at this moment. It has seen a steady rise in the past few months. Also, till now, Delta Plus variant has not been detected in Delhi,"

the official said. In April, 1,887 samples from Delhi underwent genome sequencing at NCDC, whereas in June, there were

out and that led to a severe second wave. If we had done sequencing allows scientists to identify COVID-19 genome sequencing of more samples, then we would have and monitor how understood that proportion it changes over of Delta variant was really time into new high and could have prevariants. It helps pared accordingly," said Juthem understand gal Kishore, head of Comchanges affect the munity characteristics of Department, the virus, and use

how these

this information to

better understand

health, according

to the Centrers for

Prevention, U.S.

genome sequencing is done

samples should be sent for

genome sequencing even

though cases are dropping.

Experts said that more

at NCDC, officials said.

only 132 samples.

Hospital. He said that the government follows a policy of dohow it might impact ing genome sequencing of 5% of COVID-19 positive sam-Disease Control and ples. "With everything opening up, there are chances of SOURCE: DELHI GOVT, DATA newer variants spreading faster. So, the government should ideally be doing more Apart from the NCDC, genome sequencing is also genome sequencing. They done at ILBS, but majority of should be doing 10-15% or

"With Delta variant, we

Medicine

Safdarjung

took a lot of time to figure it

even more," Dr. Kishore said. The city reported 38 new COVID-19 cases and four deaths in the past 24 hours, as per a bulletin released by the Delhi government.

Ajay Kothiyal is AAP's CM face in Uttarakhand, says Kejriwal

'There is overwhelming response in support of retd. Colonel

STAFF REPORTER

Aam Aadmi Party chief Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday announced that retired Colonel Ajay Kothiyal will be the party's chief ministerial face for the upcoming Assembly election in Uttarakhand.

"In the upcoming Assembly election, AAP's CM candidate will be retd. Colonel Ajay Kothiyal. Earlier, when Manish Sisodia had come to Uttarakhand, he had announced that the AAP will ask for the opinion of people of Uttarakhand on our CM face. Since the party has been diligently conducting surveys asking who should the Aam Aadmi Party make their CM candidate. We received an overwhelming response in support of Col. Ajay Kothiyal's name," Mr. Kejriwal said at a press conference in Dehradun.

'Deshbhakt Fauji'

The AAP chief alleged that since Uttarakhand was formed, parties and politiAAP chief Arvind Kejriwal with retd. Col. Ajay Kothiyal (in black shirt) in Dehradun on Tuesday. •PTI

cians have been busy looting his body'. Uttarakhand and the people. "Such is the courage and "They spared no one and valour of this braveheart they ransacked the State. who wants to bring a change The people here have had it in Uttarakhand. When the with politicians. They don't politicians were busy looting want to elect politicians to the people of Uttarakhand, power this time. This time, retd. Col. Ajay Kothiyal was they want a 'Deshbhakt Faufacing bullets on the border ji'. They want such a person to protect the people of Uttawho cares for the people of Uttarakhand, who believes in the development of the State. They want a person who doesn't want to fill his

rakhand," he said. Mr. Kejriwal said that Uttarakhand is called "Devbhoomi" and the AAP chief ministerial face will make the State the spiritual capital of Hindus across the globe.

The AAP chief said that Mr. Kothival had faced the Retd. Col. Ajay Kothiyal is fondly known as 'Bhole Ka bullets of Pakistan and ene-Fauji' for his dedication for mies of India and even today there are 'two bullets inside redeveloping Kedarnath.

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BOOKING OF COMMEMORATIVE COIN SETS

India Government Mint, Mumbai (A unit of Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd.) is pleased to notify booking of commemorative

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Theme	Proof (Rs.)	UNC (Rs.)
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The booking period will be from 18.08.2021 to 30.09.2021. The coin sets can be booked online on our website igmmumbai.spmcil.com. Alternately, the coin sets can be ordered offline by submitting an order form available on our website or by giving details on plain paper viz Name and full address in capital letters, details of coin sets required along with the prescribed price as stated above

The payment for offline booking is to be made by Demand Draft only drawn on any scheduled bank in favour of 'INDIA GOVERNMENT MINT (UNIT OF SPMCIL) COLLECTION A/C' payable at Mumbai. The coin will be delivered through India Post within six (6) months from the date of closure of booking and no cancellation is allowed before 6 months Grievances of non-receipt of coin should be brought to the notice of concern department within one year for early resolution. The Mint will not be responsible for the delay or loss of the coin sets dispatched by post and the claim for substitute coin sets will not be undertaken unless and until the postal authorities refund the insured amount. For other detailed terms and conditions and online booking please visit

customer corner section of our web site: igmmumbai.spmcil.com

Dy. General Manager (Marketing) For Chief General Manager

VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAMA LIMITED

(Government of Karnataka Enterprise) Office of the Executive Engineer VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division, No.3 Arasikere Ph: 08174233111 e-mail: eeypd3ask@gmail.com Tender Notification No: EE/YP/VJNL/DIV-03/YGC/TN/2021-22/ Dated:16.08.2021

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION No: 02/2021-22 Dtd:16.08.2021

(TWO COVER SYSTEM) (Only through E-procurement system) Tenders in electronic mode on "PERCENTAGE BASIS" are invited on behalf of Managing Director, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigama Limited, Bangalore by the Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division No.3, Arasikere, Hassan District in two cover system (Cover I and Cover II) from thefrom the Category-I contractors enrolled under VJNL for the work of "Construction of Box culvert for Yettinahole gravity canal crossing National Highway NH-206 at CH 96.040km, CH 126.024km and CH 133.418km". The amount put to tender is Rs1801 lakhs. Details for submission of bids/EMD/ tender conditions/Prequalification criteria/ Pre bid details and other information related to above said workcan be obtained through eportalwww.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Intending bidder can access the tender document from 23.08.2021 through e-portal. The authority competent to accept the tenders shall have the right of rejecting all or any of the tenders without assigning any reasons and will not be bound to accept the lowest tender. Corrigendum/addendum will be published in the e-portal. Any further information required may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, VJNL, Y P Division, No.3 Arasikere

I, Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin...

RISING TAMIL NADU 100 DAYS THAT SPELL THE NAME

own pockets," he said.



100 Days of **Government of Tamil Nadu...**

- Saving people from Corona pandemic
- · Rs.4,000 and 14 grocery items to 2.07 crore family rice cardholders
- Petrol price reduced by Rs.3 per litre. Aavin milk price reduced by Rs.3 per litre
- Free bus travel for women, differentlyabled and transgenders
- A Multi-Speciality Hospital at a cost of Rs.250 crore in the campus of King Institute, Chennai
- "Kalaignar Memorial Library" with modern facilities at a cost of Rs.70 crore in
- 49 Industrial Projects through "Investors First Destination - Tamil Nadu". Rs.28,508 crore investment, 83,482 employment opportunities
- "Health at the Doorsteps Scheme" First in the Country
- Appointment of Archagars from all castes
- Poojas in "Annai Thamizh" in Temples
- 10.5% Special Reservations for Vanniars, Seermarabinar Tribes and other MBCs
- "Separate Annual Budget for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare" - First in the State
- Fixed Deposit of Rs.5 lakh and Rs.3 lakh to children who lost their parents due to Corona disease



- Journalists announced as frontline workers. Rs.10 lakh compensation to the families of those who die of Covid-19
- Financial allocation of Rs.4,508.23 crore to Free Electricity Scheme



- Re-introduction of "Anna Marumalarchi" and "Namakku Naame" Schemes
- "Kalaignarin Anaithu Grama Orunginaintha Velaan Valarchi Thittam" at a cost of Rs.1,245.45 crore



- Financial allocation of Rs.1,149.79 crore for the "Welfare of Fishermen"
- "Kalaignar Urban Development **Scheme**" at a cost of Rs.1,000 crore
- Rs.2,756 crore loan to Women Self Help Groups waived. Rs.20,000 crore loan assistance
- "Thagaisal Thamizhar Award" constituted for eminent persons who contribute to Tamil Nadu and Tamils
- "Economic Advisory Council" with World renowned Economists
- "Singara Chennai 2.0" to improve Chennai to the international standards



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Union Ltd., No. P.1

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Last Date for

Submission:01.09.2021

before 11.00 A.M.

Contact: 0413-2271607,

9942994112

e-mail id: ponlaitmd@gmail.com

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Date: 18,08,2021

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PUBLIC NOTICE

I. R Shrivatsan Son of R Raghuraman R/o: 24 C, Block U3, Dhawalgir Apartment, Sector 11. Noida, Gautam Buddh Nagar - 201301, hereby undertake that I want to change my name to Triinetraa Raghuraman and gender as female. I, R Shrivatsan henceforth be known as Triinetraa Raghuraman D/o R Raghuraman.

n the Cummins make 500 KVA PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Bolbam Kewat S/o Amirdass Kewat R/o

Ward no.08, Garhpura, Begusarai, Bihar-848204, have disowned/debarred his son Dhruv Kumar and his wife Nitu Kumari from all his movable-immovable properties and ceased all relations with them. If anybody dealing with them, shall do so at his/her their own risk, cost and responsibility. Land my family will not responsible in any

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

A limb has fallen from the family. I hear a voice that says: "Grieve not for me, remember the good time, the laughter, the song. The good life I lived while I was strong. Continue my heritage.'



We regret to announce the passing away of

Mrs. ANITA NAPPOLY

On 8th August, 2021 in Chennai.

Deeply missed and mourned by **Husband:** C J Nappoly, Sons: Reuben and Benjamin Daughters-in-Law: Renata and Anjum Ph No: +91-9790428946

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PUBLICATION - DEMAND NOTICE

CUB

Notice under Section 13(2) of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 – Sent on 18-06-2021 by Registered Post with acknowledgement due and the same was returned by all. Hence this

1) Mr. Amit Rao, S/o, Mr. Balaji Rao, at No.934, Janta Flats, GTB Enclave, Nandnagari Jhilmil, East Delhi, Delhi - 110095. 2) Mrs. Maya Devi, D/o. Mr. Dori Lal, at No.934, Janta Flats, GTB Enclave, Nandnagari, Jhilmil, East Delhi, Delhi - 110095. Dear Sir/ Madam,

Sub: Loan account / Overdraft with City Union Bank Limited New Delhi - Laxmi Naga Branch in the name of Mr. Amit Rao.

The Bank issued notice under the SARFAESI Act on 18-06-2021 calling upon all of you to repay the outstanding amount of Rs.14,12,545/- (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Twelve Thousand Five Hundred and Forty Five Only) as on 03-06-2021 with further interest for 501312030017186 (SWAYAM GRIHA BUS BR) at 11.25% plus 2.00% penal interest p.a (not compounded) with nonthly rests from 04-06-2021 till the date of repayment. The notice sent to you by Registered ost have been returned by all.

Therefore, we hereby once again call upon you all to pay Rs.14,12,545/- (Rupees Fourtee Lakh Twelve Thousand Five Hundred and Forty Five Only) with further interest fo 501312030017186 (SWAYAM GRIHA BUS BR) at 11.25% plus 2.00% penal interest p.a (no compounded) with monthly rests from 04-06-2021 till date of repayment within 60 days from the date of this notice failing which Bank will be Constrained to exercise its rights of enforcement of security interest as against the secured assets given in the schedule hereunder. This Notice is published/issued without prejudice to any other right/remedy available to the Bank

(Property Owned by Mr. Amit Rao, S/o. Mr. Balaji Rao) Flat No.G-11, LIG, Ground Floor, without Roof rights, Backside, on Plot No.B-1/73, DLF Dilshad Extension - 2, Village - Bhopura, Ghaziabad, U.P.- 201005, <u>Boundaries</u>, East - Plot No. B-1/74,

West-Plot No.B-1/72, North - Plot No. B-1/53, South - 30 ft. wide Road. Place: Kumbakonam, Date: 11-08-2021

Regd. Office: 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, CIN - L65110TN1904PLC001287, Telephone No. 0435-2402322, Fax: 0435-2431746, Website: www.cityunionbank.com

'Odisha will support Indian hockey for another 10 years'

Our teams worked hard, emerged victorious: CM

SATYASUNDAR BARIK

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Tuesday announced to sponsor Indian hockey for another 10 years following the teams' spectacular performance at the Tokyo Olympics. Each player was awarded ₹10 lakh and each support staff ₹5 lakh by the State government.

"You made us all so proud with your spirited fight at Tokyo. These are deeply emotional moments for India to witness the revival of Indian hockey. For nearly four decades, the hockey fans have been yearning to see India grab a medal at the Olympics," Mr. Patnaik said felicitating the hockey teams here.

"The way the entire country was glued to the screens to watch the teams' matches, it is quite evident there is something more to hockey than just sports. In the background of the pandemic, it is remarkable that our teams have worked so hard in spite of all challenges and emerged victorious," he said.

Stating that in these crisis times, the teams have brought smiles on the faces of crores of Indians, Mr. Patnaik said, "We, in Odisha, are elated that our partnership with Hockey India has led to this great achievement for the country. I be-

WESTERN RAILWAY

CORRIGENDUM

Corrigendum to Sr. No.

786 of Tender Notice No.

S/28/2021 dt. 21.07.21

Tenderer may please note

that 'E' Procurement ADVT

Tender (VRLA Batteries of

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19.08.2021 is closed. ₀₃₅₃

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lieve Odisha and hockey are destined to become synonymous. Odisha will support the Indian hockey teams for 10 more years."

After Sahara's sponsorship to Indian hockey ended, Odisha through its public sector unit - Odisha Mining Corporation – came forward to sponsor national teams (men/women, junior/senior) in 2018. The sponsorship support was ₹140 crore over a five-year period

Awards presented

Mr. Patnaik gave away 13 different awards. While Harmanpreet Singh won the player with maximum number of goals scored, PR Sreejesh was given for saving most number of goals. Each team presented a framed jersey autographed by the players to the CM. The government also awarded ₹50 lakh to Hockey In-

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Patnaik and the people of Odisha for showing their love for the sport. With your continued support, Indian hockey will look to build on the achievements from the Tokyo Olympics, and continue this steady rise to take it back to the elite level where it belongs," said Narinder Dhruv Batra, president, Indian Olympic Association.

Resolution to rename Aligarh SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GHAZIABAD

The Zila Panchayat Parishad of Aligarh on Monday passed a resolution seeking to rename Aligarh as Harigarh. The meeting was attended by BJP-supported members only.

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT **INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

The Executive Engineer HPPWD Division Hamirpur Distt. Hamirpur H.P on behalf of Governor of H.P invites

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SI. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Starting date for down- -loading Bid		Deadline for submission of Bid
1.	C/o Room for PSA Plant (500 LPM) & Manifold system and Tubing system for civil Hospital Nadaun. (SH:- C/O room for PSA plant for manifold system for civil Hospital Nadaun)	1589862.00	18.08.2021	30200.00	26.08.2021
	1111				

The bidders are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website www.hptenders.gov.in.

HIM SUCHANA

Executive Enginee Hamirpur Division, HPPWD, Hamirpur. Pin Code 177001 Telephone No. 01972-222510, e-mail: ee-ham-hp@nic.i On behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesl

HP / 3403/21-22 AVAM JAN SAMPARK

Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department e-procurement Notice

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Executive Engineer, HP.PWD. Division Sarkaghat H.P. on behalf of Governor of HP.invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system, for construction of each of this following works from the eligible Class of contractors registered with HP.PWD for the work

ı	asu	letailed below.					
	Sr. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	EMD	Cost of tender	Time limit	Eligible class of contractor.
	1.	Annual Maintenance of Dali Rakhoh Jandhru Kothi Road	1945127	39000	500	Two Months	Class- C
		Km. 0/0 to 11/600 (SH:- Providing and applying track of	coat bitumin	ous cond	rete 30mr	n thick in	Km. 3/435 to

- Date of release of invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 21.08.2021 Starting and Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-tendering w.e.f
- 21.08.2021 at 11:00 A.M. to 31.08.2021 up to 11.00 A.M. The bidder are advised to note other details of tenders form the departmen
- website www.hptender.gov.in The Executive Engineer reserves the right to accept /reject any tender/application or

Executive Engineer all tender without assigning any reason Sarkaghat Division HP.PWD.Sarkaghat For behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, PWD **NAGAON & HOJAI ROAD CIRCLE, NAGAON** No.SE/NRC/TB/NIT/12/2021-22/06

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

PRESS NOTICE INVITING Re-TENDER

The Superintending Engineer, PWD, Nagaon & Hojai Road Circle Nagaon on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites bid from Assam PWD registered contractors for 1 (One) no. of work under SOPD-G for the year 2020-21 under Morigaon LAC in Morigaon District amounting to Rs.172.09 Lakhs (approx.). Details may be seen at website http://assamtenders.gov.in and also at the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Superintending Engineer,PWD Nagaon & Hojai Road Circle, Nagaor

Janasanyog/CF/973/21

THEMAHINDU

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(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking) #49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road Bengaluru - 560 001. website : www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/PMC/EPTND-EP-04/5881/2021-22 Date:17.08.2021

NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR PROVIDING PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY SERVICES

(Through GOK e – Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB is inviting tender for providing consultancy services for Project Management Consultancy Services from Consulting Firms under two cover system for the following works of (1) Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Construction of KIADB Zonal Office Building at Antharasanahalli Industrial Area 1st Phase, Tumakuru District. (2) Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Construction of Restaurant Building cum Dormitory at Japanese Industrial Township, Vasanthanaraspura Industrial Area 3rd Phase, Tumakuru District. (3) Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Construction of Plug and Play Facilities Building in Plot No.AM-3-P4 at Aerospace Park, Devenahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District. (4) Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Formation of Industrial Layout Including Formation of 45M Wide Rigid Pavement & 24M, 18M & 15M Wide Asphalt Roads, Construction of RCC Side Drains, Ducts, RCC Cross Drainage Works, RWH & HDPE dual water supply pipeline at Hi-Tech, Defence & Aerospace Park Phase-II Industrial Area, Devenahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District.

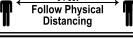
The last date and time of receipt of tender is: 02.09.2021 upto 04:00 pm

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Sd/-

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DIPR/DDU/Zen/R.O:1208/2021-22







Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

Kendriya Vidyalaya Air Force State Chandinagar, Baghpat (U.P.) - 250615

KV AFS Chandinagar Baghpat

invites tender from agencies for the Security Services, Gardener and Conservancy. Tender document, terms and conditions and other details can be downloaded from Vidyalaya Website

(www.afschandinagar.kvs.ac.in) Principal

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE FOR

Sr. No. (1) E-Tender No.: DRM ENGG-BSP-T-61-21-22, Date

06.08.2021. Work: Balance work for Extension of platform, approach road and Drains in connection with cabin between Katora and Suraipu stations uder the jurisdiction of Assistant Divisional Engineer Manendragarh, Tender Value: EMD: 0.00 4.66.24.858/-. Completion Period: 12 Months. Start Date of Submission o From 11.00 hours on 19.08.2021. Last Date of Submission of Tender: Upto 11.00 hours on 02.09.2021.

e-Tender Notice is available ove vebsites: http://www.ireps.gov.ir Bids other than e-bids shall not be accepted against above Tender. Divisional Railway Manager(Engg) CPR/10/127 S.E.C.Rly., Bilaspur. FSouth East Central Railway & @secrail

The complete information of above

ENTERPRISE CONNECT PNB celebrates 75th Independence Day

Punjab National Bank (PNB), a leading public sector bank, celebrated 75th Independence Day at its corporate headquarters in New Delhi. Shri CH.S.S. Mallikarjuna Rao, Managing Director & CEO of the Bank, unfurled the National Flag in the presence of Executive Directors, Chief General Managers and General Managers, following all Covid-19 guidelines. Shri CH.S.S. Mallikarjuna Rao honoured the sacrifice made by freedom fighters and soldiers martyred defending the country. He said, "there were several milestones in our prolonged struggle for freedom, from mong the Swadeshi Movement is close to our hearts. It eminds us of the government's emphasis on self-reliant India and strengthening the domestic industry, post the Covid-19 crisis," "Post the pandemic, Banks would be key catalysts in reviving the economy. Banks have to address the needs of businesses that are struggling and get them back to normalcy. We remain steadfast in our role as the backbone of the Indian economy. While Corporates, MSMEs and entrepreneurs have proven to be resilient lot having shown the competitive spirit, vith the support from banks, I am sure that they will sail through innumerable challenges, successfully", he added. During the celebration, MD & CEO along with EDs and CVO paid tribute to Shri Lala Laipat Rai - freedom fighter and founder of PNB - by garlanding his bust. This was followed by Shri Sanjay Kumar,

Executive Director of PNB, administering the national Pledge to the participants Petronet LNG Ltd reports profit before Tax of

During the guarter ended 30th June, 2021 (current quarter), Dahej terminal processed 194 TBTU of LNG as against 181 TBTU processed during the corresponding quarter ended 30th June, 2020 and 204 TBTU processed during the previous guarter ended 31st March, 2021. The overall LNG volume processed by the Company in the current quarter was 209 TBTU, as against the LNG volume processed in the corresponding and previous quarters, which stood at 190 TBTU and 218 TBTU respectively. The Company has reported PBT of Rs 851 Crore in the current quarter, as against Rs 697 Crore in the corresponding nuarter and Rs 856 Crore in the previous quarter. The PAT for the current quarter was reported at Rs 636 Cr as against the PAT of the corresponding quarter and

previous quarter of Rs 520 Crore and Rs 623 Crore Powergrid presented with certificate appreciation for valuable contribution in combating COVID-1

Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), a Maharatna CPSU under Ministry of Power, Government of India has been presented with a certificate of appreciation for valuable contribution in combating COVID-19 pandemic by district administration Gurugram. Powergrid at the 75th Independence Day celebration in Gurugram. POWERGRID had commissioned an Oxygen Plant for Haryana Government in Gurugram at a cost of ₹2.88 Crore under its CSR initiative. The plant can cater to 100 COVID patients or fill up 250 jumbo Oxygen cylinders per-day. During the lockdown, due to COVID pandemic about ₹1.5 Crores worth dry ration and PPE kits were also distributed among the migrant labourers and needy people in Haryana.

ONGC declares results for Q1 FY'22, posts net

profit of ₹ 4.335 crore In its 341st Meeting held on August 13, 2021 ONGC Board approved the results for First Quarter (Q1) of FY 2021-22 and declared net profit of Rs. 4335 Cr.lt has also been declared as India's Best Employers among Nation-Builders during a virtual ceremony organized by the Great Place to Work on 18 June 2021. The Energy Maharatna also got featured in GPTW "Wall of Fame" for its commitment to securing India's energy availability. In recognition of its efforts to give back to society, ONGC has been conferred with the AIMA Project Excellence Award in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) for its 300-bed Swargdew Siu-Ka-Pha Multi-Specialty Hospital in Sivasagar district of Assam. The organization ranked first in CSR non COVID category at the 8th Business Responsibility Summit and Project Excellence Contest and Award held on 5 – 6 August 2021.Adding more feathers to its llustrious cap, ONGC shined at the Governance Now 8th PSU Awards on 28 July, 2021. It clinched six awards

PSPCL purchases 302 MW power at a record low price from Power Exchange

PSPCL CMD Shri A.Venu Prasad disclosed that while availing the advantage of low prices of power at Power exchange Punjab State Power Corporation Limited has purchased 302 MW of Power from Power exchange at the rate Rs 2.22 per unit with a total

quantity of 70.22 lac units on August 1,2021.Shri A. Venu Prasad disclosed that whenever, opportunity arises PSPCL is purchasing power at cheaper rates

in its endeavour to reduce cost of supply for its consumers. While sharing details of power purchase from open market ,CMD informed that PSPCL has procured 355 MUs of power from the open market @ Rs 3.06 per unit wie f 10.06.2021 i.e. onset of paddy season to 30.06.2021, while during the July, power purchase of 503 MUs has been made @ Rs. 3.24 per unit. He added that the arrival of monsoon coupled with resulted into comfortable power supply position in the State.CMD also added that the PSPCL has procured huge quantity of Power from Power Exchange due to failure of Talwandi Sabo Power Ltd. (TSPL), Mansa in the paddy season. He further added that the TSPL remained out for continuous three days in July month He added that presently, only two units of Talwandi Sabo Power Ltd. are operational. These factors have caused huge power shortage in the Punjab. In order to save guard the commercial aspect, PSPCL has also enhanced the available transfer capability (ATC) Limit to 7700 MW to facilitate more power purchase from various sources located outside the State. This has

by 30 to 40 paise in the year 2021-22. Sh Rajeev Sharma joins Bureau Of Indian Standards as Deputy Director General

encouraged PSPCL in reducing overall purchase cost

Rajeev Sharma, Scientist F, has joined new Deputy Director General of Bureau of Indian Standards, Northern Regional Office situated in Sector 27, Chandigarh. Besides having served as Head, Bureau of Indian Standards, Northern Regional Office Laboratory, he has been associated with varied activities of Bureau. He said that it will be his priority to achieve the targets of Northern regional Office. Haryana Branch Office, Chandigarh Branch Offices-1 & 2. Parwanoo Branch Office. Dehradun Branch Office nu Branch Office, Faridabad Branch Office and Panipat Branch Office are also covered under Northern Regional Office.

PNB honours employee and Olympic

medallist, Shamsher Singh

Shri. Shamsher Singh, who was part of the national hockey team that returned with an Olympics bronze medal, was felicitated by the Punjab National Bank. At the felicitation programme held at the bank's headquarters in Delhi, Shamsher Singh, an employee of PNB, was recognized for his achievement. Shri CH S.S. Mallikarjuna Rao, MD and CEO of Punjab National Bank, lauded the Indian hockey team's brilliant show at the world's most premier sports event. He said, " Shamsher Singh is Jewel of PNB and entire country's citizens are indebted to your contribution. Winning a medal at the Olympics is the pinnacle of achievement, wherein I am sure your spirit and hard work will bring more such laurels in the future. You are a proud membe of PNB Parivar and your achievement is one among the seven medals won by the country, which really highlights the importance of your accomplishment. Shri Shamsher Singh expressed his gratitude towards PNB for supporting and training many young hockey players in the country, thereby complementing the government's efforts to promote and strengthen the sports culture in India. "The good performance by both the men's and women's teams at the Olympics points to a resurgence of the game in India," he quoted. Shri Vijay Dubey, Executive Director of PNB, said, "While PNB has been boarding, training and nurturing talent youngsters in the sports arena." Extending a vote of thanks Shri Swarup Kumar Saha, Executive Director of PNB, said, "nearly after four decades, it is a proud moment for us to witness a brilliant show by Shri. Samsher Singh and the Indian hockey team at the world's top sports event.".The Indian hockey team had rmany 5-4 to lift the bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics, the country's first one in hockey in 41

Mr. Subodh Gupta, Director (Finance), BHEL conferred BW 'Best CFO PSU' Award

New Delhi, August 16: Mr. Subodh Gupta, Director CFO PSU' Award. Mr. Gupta has won the award for his exemplary achievements and professional contribution as CFO of the company. The BW Best CFO Award was presented to Mr. Subodh Gupta in a virtual ceremony at the 5th edition of the CFO & Finance Strategy Summit & Awards 2021.Mr Gupta was unanimously selected for the prestigious award by an independent jury comprising industry leaders - Mr. Rajnish Kumar, former Chairman, SBI, Mr. Sethurathnam Ravi, former Chairman, BSE, Mr. Ravinder Singh Dhillon, CMD, PFC; Ms. Usha Sangwan, former MD, LIC; Mr. Sunil Srivastava, former Dy. MD, SBI; Mr. P.S. Viswanath, MD & CEO, Randstad India; Mr. Vinod Gupta, MD, VG

A Business Initiative Learning Destination and other eminent personalities The award is presented to CFOs whose strategies and

planning can make the difference between a crisis and an opportunity in a dynamic business environment. TRIBES INDIA Launches 75 new tribal products on the occasion of India's 75th Independence

As India celebrates its 75th year of independence there are various initiatives being launched and events being started to commemorate this landmark day through the Amrit Mahotsay, an initiative fuelled by th spirit of Atmanirbhar Bharat. Atmanirbhar Bharat is a mission that TRIFED continues to strive towards as a part of its continued endeavour to support and sustain tribal incomes and livelihoods. In a small contribution to recognize the craftsmanship of the tribal artisans and provide a filip to their livelihoods, TRIFED has beer procuring and marketing of tribal art and craft items through its network of Tribes India retail network - both offline and online.

POWERGRID under CSR initiative installs PSA Type Oxygen generation Plant

Powergrid, a Maharatna PSU under Power, Government of India under its CSR initiative n Northern Region-I had undertaken the project fo Supply and Installation of PSA Type 2x50 Nm3/hi Oxygen Generation Plant with bottling facility at Tau Devi Lal Stadium, Sector-38, Gurugram, Harvana a an estimated cost of Rs. 2.87 Crores. Due to Covid situation a stiff deadline of commissioning the oxyger plant before 15th August was set. A special project team was constituted which executed the works and commissioned the oxygen plant under the advice and guidance of Sh. A.K Mishra, Executive Director Northern Region -I, POWERGRID, on 14th August. The Oxygen plant is now equipped to supply oxygen to the attached 100 bedded hospital within the premises of Tau Devi Lal Stadium. This Oxygen Plant would greatly enhance the medical infrastructure of Gurugram District and would play a vital role in the preparedness of the district authorities for augmenting facilities in the wake of likely third wave of COVID-19. The plant is not only equipped to supply oxygen to the attached Hospita but is also capable of supplying Oxygen to other Government/Private health facilities. The operation and maintenance of the Plant would be undertaken by the

District Authority, Gurugram. Central Warehousing Corporation organises 3rd on-site Covid Vaccination Camp

CWC organised 3rd on-site Covid Vaccination Camp where staff of CWC, NAFED, CRWC , WDRA, DFPD and Outsourced Manpower, Security Guards and their family members were administered Covishield Vaccine at Corporate Office, New Delhi on 14.08.2021. Total 329 persons got vaccinated out of which 87 have received their first dose whereas 242 persons received their Second dose. Covid Appropriate Behaviour was ensured for successful organising of the camp where M/s Apollo Hospital Administered Covishield Vaccine Till now 1294 CWC staffs have been vaccinated at Pa India. Understanding the social responsibility towards the Country and safety in this pandemic, CWC will ensure that each & every staff are vaccinated. Further it is also to mention that warehousing activities have been carried out without any hindrance even during the lockdown thereby ensuring the Food Security of Nation

Harvana Vidyut Prasaran Nigam & Harvana Power Generation Ltd jointly organised 23rd Foundation Day On the joint initiative of Haryana Vidyut Prasarar

Nigam Limited and Harvana Power Generation Limited 23rd Foundation Day was organized at Red Bishop Panchkula. Addressing as the chief guest on the occasion, Haryana Additional Chief Secretary Power PK Das said that this year the highest ever demand of electricity was 12120 MW supplied during the peak demand period. Apart from this, Haryana Power Utilities has also set a new benchmark of success by ensuring the availability of 1000 MW electricity. He said that Haryana performed better than its neighboring states. He said that during the lockdown in differen units of power generation, the production of oxyger during the transition period of covid-19 has set a living example of human protection. While praising all the units of Haryana Power Utilities, he said that while on one front, the transmission loss has come down, or the other front, under Hamara Gaon Jagmag Gaon Abhiyan, 70 percent of the rural areas of Haryana have been provided 24x7 power supply. Mr. Das said that we have provided defense equipment for the technical security staff. Under the scheme of CSR, libraries and sports nurseries are being set up at many places. In the welcome speech, Managing Director H.P.G.C.L. Mohammad Shayin said that keeping in view, the demand for power supply, Haryana Power Generation Limited has increased its generation capacity from 864 MW to 2582 MW.











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Between word and intent

Chief Justice's remarks on legislative debates flag need for clarity in law-making

The disquiet over the absence of adequate debate or discussion in Parliament is quite widespread. Concerned citizens and sections of the Opposition bemoan the evident haste with which laws are pushed through; presiding officers fret over the low productivity due to time lost amidst unruly protests; and even government representatives may worry that their legislative agenda is not being carried out in time. The Chief Justice of India, Justice N.V. Ramana, has added a new dimension to this sense of discontent by pointing out the absence of any help from parliamentary debates when the courts are faced with ambiguities or lacunae in laws. His description, of a "sorry state of affairs", would resonate as crucial pieces of legislation are indeed passed without sufficient debate, and often with nothing more than a Minister's brief reply or a mere assurance in response to any concern raised by some members. The CII's concern was possibly occasioned by some specific law such as the Tribunals Reforms Bill, recently passed with a few clauses struck down by the Supreme Court. However, the import of his observation, at a celebration to mark the 75th Independence Day, was that when the courts were unable to fathom the intent behind some laws, the parliamentary record could throw some light if the debates were sufficiently enlightening. He referred to the illuminating debate on the Industrial Disputes Act as an example.

It is quite true that a fuller debate in the legislature would provide greater insight into the intent behind laws, but a situation that requires a scrutiny of such intent ought not to arise in normal circumstances. Legislation should be drafted clearly and the letter of the law should not stray much beyond its purpose and scope. A purposive interpretation of statute is normally required only when the wording of the law is unclear. Otherwise, reliance on House committee reports or parliamentary debates is only an extrinsic aid, and not fully determinative of a law's meaning. In a recent example, the Supreme Court ruled that the 102nd Amendment to the Constitution ousted the power of State governments to identify backward classes, even though it was vehemently argued by the Government that it was not Parliament's intention. It highlights the need to have the wording of the law fully reflect the legislative intent. More than the quality of debate, it is the scope for detailed discussion that imparts clarity and a much-needed proximity to the original intent and purpose to any statute. For this, it is vital that important pieces of legislation are scrutinised by standing committees, which will have the advantage not only of eliciting replies from the executive but also inputs from the wider civil society, before the statute is framed.

Doctor at the door

Doorstep health-care delivery can mitigate the effects of disruption caused by pandemics

ong before the pandemic struck, health experts had warned of a health epidemic – one that in volved non-communicable diseases (NCDs). The last two years, however, managed to expose the frailties of even robust health systems in the country that saw not one, but two debilitating waves of COVID-19. It also exposed the chinks in what was traditionally believed to be the armour of health care - institution-based treatment. When access to these institutions was severed all of a sudden, States had to introspect about how they could bolster their health-care set-up in ways that would protect it from such disruptions. For Tamil Nadu, this introspection resulted in its 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' scheme, a community-based intervention to tackle and treat NCDs and to address the crucial issues of prevention and early detection. Inaugurated by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin earlier this month, it involves a tentative budget in excess of ₹250 crore. It includes population-based screening for the 18-plus population for 10 common conditions - hypertension, diabetes, oral, cervical and breast cancers, TB, leprosy, chronic kidney disease, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, mental health – and the delivery of hypertension/diabetes drugs to patients aged 45-plus besides to those with restricted or poor mobility. The State, which has a high burden of NCDs, also acted on data that indicated very low community control rates for hypertension (7.3%) and diabetes (10.8%) among patients.

Once the tenacious link between NCDs such as uncontrolled diabetes and hypertension, and COVID-19 outcomes was apparent, it became clear that control of these health parameters was paramount and would necessitate uninterrupted access to health-care services. According to the India: Health of the Nation's States report, in 2016, 55% of the total disease burden in India was caused by NCDs, with the burden of NCDs increasing across all States from 1990 to 2016. The disruption of access to health care during the pandemic did affect compliance to drug regimens, and led to uncontrolled disease, with implications for quality of life too. It is ideal that nations prepare themselves to face further epidemics that might occur and cause similar disruptions in society by arming themselves to overcome such drawbacks. The Tamil Nadu initiative is a well-meaning notch in trying to address this; the efficacy of its chosen method of door delivery of drugs has been proven earlier with the supervised drug regimen, or DOTS therapy used in tuberculosis control. Ultimately, the success of a well-conceived programme rests in the proper implementation of each of its components. If Tamil Nadu is able to demonstrate, with this scheme, that it is possible to maintain the continuum of care even in the most trying of circumstances, then, here is a model that could inspire other States to follow suit.

The script of the new endgame in Afghanistan

This is a moment of tragedy for Asia as well, with the U.S. leaving the country in a worse situation than when it came in



M.K. NARAYANAN

The rapidity with which Afghanistan has unravelled has shocked and surprised everyone. The fall of Kabul, and the ignominious end of any resistance to the Taliban within six weeks of the U.S. forces vacating the Bagram airbase (near Kabul) on July 2, reveals how brittle the vaunted Afghan Security Forces were. The departure of Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani and almost the entire top political leadership of Afghanistan to safer havens, removes the last vestige of hope that the Taliban can be checked. Like a 'house of cards', Afghanistan has fallen apart the moment foreign forces vacated the country.

Taliban's duplicity

The enormity of the current situation is only now beginning to be evident to much of the outside world. The Taliban's duplicity in projecting, at one level the image of a mature group during the Doha talks while at another, perpetuating violence of the most ferocious kind, is clearly evident as events unfold. The worst is, perhaps, yet to come. Afghanistan today is in a condition that is far worse than what existed when the Russians withdrew in the 1990s.

At that time, there was at least a titular leader around whom those opposed to the Taliban could hope to mobilise and put up a fight. Moreover, the 'retreat' of the United States from Afghanistan in 2021 is far more humbling than the Russian withdrawal in the 1990s, for the latter at least had to contend with the actions of a superpower, like the U.S. This time the Taliban having played fast and loose with

the U.S. has left the 'superpower' with not even the fig leaf of a honourable withdrawal. U.S. President Joe Biden's decision to set a date for the withdrawal of the American forces, and treat this decision as one carved in stone irrespective of the situation within Afghanistan without any consideration of the consequences – clearly enabled the Taliban to

After the Russian withdrawal in the 1990s, Afghanistan still had a future, for in the final years of the 20th century, the world was intent on making efforts to prevent Afghanistan from becoming a 'black hole' that would create mayhem across a vast region that bordered Iran, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and China. In the 1990s, moreover, the Taliban were a band of outlaws. Today, it is recognised may be with different degrees of disdain – by powers such as the U.S., Russia and China, and is on the brink of gaining a country. For a regulated international order that most countries across the world seek, there could be no greater tragedy than the emergence of a 'rogue' state under the Taliban.

Paving the way for terror

The Afghan Establishment seemed to give up the fight against the Taliban earlier on by ceding authority to private militias, former Afghan warlords and a rabble of disparate armed groups. To expect that this kind of armed rabble would resist the Taliban was clearly a mistake. As the Afghan state implodes, one should now expect a wider cleaving between Pashtuns, Uzbeks, Tajiks, Hazaras and the myriad other clans that populate Afghanistan. The virtual death of the Afghan nation, approximates as it were to the 'end of history'.

The collapse of organised resistance to the Taliban within Afghanistan, together with the group being courted by Russia, China

and quite a few other nations, apart from Pakistan - not excluding the U.S. – marks the saddest day in the history of a proud nation. This is also a moment of tragedy for Asia as a whole. It virtually spells the death-knell of any possible Afghan renaissance in the near future. Instead, the situation is far more likely to encourage erstwhile terror groups, such as the one led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar – a one-time client of Pakistan and a traditional opponent of the Taliban – to return to their erstwhile hunting grounds.

Afghanistan versus Syria

References to Afghanistan becoming another Syria are again misplaced. At the worst of times, Syria had a relatively strong President (Bashar al-Assad), while Afghan President Ghani can hardly be compared to him. The territory of Afghanistan is also very different from that of Syria. Afghanistan's borders, with Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, unlike that of Syria are extremely porous and almost impossible to guard or protect. More to the point, the end-game in Afghanistan has little in common with the power equations witnessed in Syria. In Afghanistan, the Taliban is intent on keeping absolute control and is counting on China, Russia, and Pakistan to do so. All of them are more intent on keeping out the U.S., and in effect India.

Indulging in a blame game at this time may appear inappropriate. However, the U.S. cannot shrug off a major share of the res-

ponsibility for Afghanistan's current plight. Apart from the decision of Mr. Biden not to alter the last date for the exit of U.S. troops in Afghanistan – which sent a clear signal to the Taliban of a collapse of U.S. resolve to safeguard the interests of Afghanistan - the stealthy exit of the U.S. from the Bagram airbase also left an indelible impression as far as the Taliban was concerned: that the U.S. had acknowledged the Taliban's supremacy in return for the safe passage of their troops. All this has diminished the image of the U.S. in Asian eyes. In light of this, U.S. claims to 'make America great again' sound extremely hollow.

Old threats may resurface

Some political commentators seem to believe that after the initial success of the Taliban and the collapse of the Afghan state, the natural political dynamics of the region would assert itself. This seems like a pious wish. After two decades of active involvement in the affairs of Afghanistan, and spending over a trillion dollars in the process to defeat terrorism and the al Oaeda, the U.S. has left Afghanistan in a worse situation than when it entered. It is not possible to discern any reduction in terrorism or the demise of any of the better known terror groups, such as the al Oaeda and the Islamic State (IS), or for that matter, of lesser known terror outfits. As a matter of fact, there has been a resurgence in al Qaeda activities recently. The IS, after some earlier setbacks, is again regrouping and currently poses a real threat to areas abutting, and including, Afghanistan. Radicalised Islamist terror and the forces of 'doctrinaire theocracy' have, if anything, thus become stronger. The collapse of the Afghan state will ignite many old threats.

Compared to the situation when the U.S. left Vietnam in 1975 – which was also seen by many as a kind of 'retreat'- the Afghan 'misadventure' has been a disaster. Under the leadership of the Communist Party, Vietnam was able to emerge as a vibrant nation with a thriving economy. Under the Taliban regime, Afghanistan cannot hope for any such outcome. It would remain the 'sick man of Asia' for generations to come, a standing folly to perils of outside intervention in the affairs of another nation.

Stakes for India, Iran

Among Afghanistan's neighbours, India and Iran are two countries that would find accommodation with a Taliban-dominated Afghanistan very difficult. Pakistan may be an enigma of sorts, but the Taliban will need Pakistan at least in the short and medium term. Relations between Taliban Afghanistan and Uzbekistan and Tajikistan may not be easy, but will not lead to any major problems for now. India, even more than Shia-dominated Iran, may be the outlier among Afghanistan's neighbours for a variety of reasons, including its warm relations with the Karzai and the Ghani regimes in the past

two decades. If the 21st century was expected to become the century of progress, the situation in Afghanistan represents a severe setback to all such hopes and expectations. The aftershock of the takeover of Afghanistan by the Taliban can be expected to continue for long. For India, the virtual retreat of the U.S. from this part of Asia; the growing China-Russia-Pakistan across the region; and an Iran under a hardliner like Ebrahim Raisi. all work to its disadvantage. A great deal of hard thinking is needed as to how to retrieve a situation that for the present seems heavily tilted against India.

M.K. Narayanan is a former National Security Adviser and a former Governor

A report that is at odds with access to knowledge

There is a profound misunderstanding of the raison detre for granting copyright in educational content



RAHUL BAIAI & ANUPRIYA DHONCHAK

Tn 2002, in light of two progressive pronouncements by the Supreme Court of India (Miss Mohini Jain vs State of Karnataka and Ors. and State of Himachal Pradesh vs H.P. State Recognised and Aided Schools Managing Committees and Ors.), the right to education found a secure constitutional home in the fundamental rights chapter of the Indian Constitution. This fundamental right, set out in Article 21A, guarantees every child between the ages of 6 and 14 access to free and compulsory education. In a series of rulings (Anuradha Bhasin vs Union of India, and Avinash Mehrotra vs Union of India), the top court has interpreted the right in a broad and expansive way, holding that it imposes an affirmative obligation on the government and civil society to secure its en-

Consistent with this spirit, the Court held in Farzana Batool vs Union of India that, while access to professional education is not a fundamental right, the state must take affirmative measures to secure the right to education at all

State's failure

Against this backdrop, the cavalier dismissal of the right to education under the garb of "ensuring balance between copyright protec-

tion of the publishers and public access to affordable educational study material" by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce in a recent report (https:// bit.ly/3maSZhq), is deeply worry-The Committee suggests curtailing fair dealing provisions under Indian Copyright law which enable access to the work without the copyright holder's consent – since it was informed that the provisions pose "a detrimental impact on the publishing industry and authors who are mainly dependent on royalties". To highlight this as a concern instead of the abject state failure to remedy impediments to accessing educational material, exacerbated by the novel coronavirus pandemic, betrays complete ignorance of the state's obligation to secure the right to education.

The issue of 'purpose'

The Committee takes note of the Delhi High Court's landmark judgment in the DU photocopy case. In that case (The Chancellor, Masters & Scholars of the University of Oxford & Ors vs Rameshwari Photocopy Services & Anr.), the court (both the Single Judge and the Division Bench) adopted a robust understanding of the educational exception enumerated in the list of fair dealing provisions in the Copyright Act. Section 52(1)(i) allows the reproduction of any work by a teacher or a pupil in the course of instruction. The court held that 'course of instruction' therein is not confined to the time and place of instruction, and would include anything that could be justified for the purpose of instruction. This includes steps commencing at a time

prior to lecturing and continuing till after it. It also noted that apart from Section 52(1)(a), which provides for the right to a "fair dealing" of any copyrightable work, other rights/purposes enumerated under Section 52 would not have to meet the express requirement of fair dealing.

Thus, Section 52(1)(i) was recognised as enumerating an affirmative purpose exempt from infringement. The fairness of use under these Sections can be deemed to be presumed by the legislature as long as it is justified by the purpose specified. Consistent with this, the court also noted that there are no quantitative restrictions on the extent of the reproduction permitted as long as it is justified by a specific purpose un-

der Section 52. In its report, the Standing Committee notes that it is distressed that the conflict between educational institutions and copyright owners does not bode well for the "overall literary culture and image of the country". In a bid to make the system fair and equitable, it calls on the government to amend Section 52 to allow for such copying only in government-owned institutions. It further states that there should be a quantitative limit on how much copying is permissible and regulation of the storage of copied works in digital

A flawed view

The Committee's views are flawed for multiple reasons. First, they betray a profound misunderstanding of the *raison d'etre* for granting As the single juage eloquently not ed in the DU photocopy case, the purpose of copyright is to increase the: "harvest of knowledge, motivate the creative activity of authors and inventors in order to benefit the public". Therefore, the rights of publishers are only a means to an end.

Relatedly, the Committee misunderstands the role of fair dealing provisions within this framework. Fair dealing provisions are user rights which are no less important than the rights of publishers. Given the fundamental character of the right to education, the importance of these rights can be traced to the Constitution. Therefore, their interpretation should reflect their salutary nature.

Second, the Committee errs in assuming that the rights of publishers were not duly accounted for in the DU photocopy judgments. Addressing arguments regarding any adverse impact of adopting a broad interpretation of the educational purpose exemption on the market of the concerned copyrighted works, the Division Bench noted with an example that access to copyrighted material for literacy and education does not curtail the market for these works. It held that students are anyway not potential

customers of 30-40 reference books in the library, and that citizens with improved literacy, education and earning potential expand the market for copyrighted materials in the long run.

Third, having quantitative restrictions on the extent of permissible copying would be inapposite, because any limit would be arbicopyright in educational content. trarily arrived at. Instead, what is needed is a test suited to Indian realities and its development needs of making access to education more equitable and fairer in a context of deepening socio-economic inequalities.

Looking backward

The novel coronavirus pandemic has revealed the inadequacy of our fair dealing provisions to promote educational access. Specifically, these provisions were not designed to promote the free dissemination of educational content in digital form and to facilitate the sharing of resources required to effectively offer virtual education.

The Committee should have focused on suggesting amendments to Section 52 that would have made our copyright law fit for today's challenges. That it has decided to look backward instead of forward is deeply troubling. Given the Supreme Court's richly articulated constitutional obligation of the state to secure access to education, copyright law should facilitate, as opposed to attenuating its enjoyment.

Rahul Bajaj, a Rhodes Scholar, is a Senior Resident Fellow at the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy. Anupriya Dhonchak, also a Rhodes Scholar, is a law graduate from the National Law University Delhi

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.

A Taliban Afghanistan

A great humanitarian crisis looms over Afghanistan. Chaos – stemming from the fear of an oppressive regime – has led to a mad clamour for escape. That those who should have mattered have now fled the country exemplifies the catastrophic situation. But it is the common man, especially women, who face a setback.

The hard-won rights of women gained so far regarding gender equality, education, right to work, and protection against violence are again in peril.

Though the Taliban have claimed that women's rights and freedoms would be respected, going by the poor condition of girls in hitherto Taliban-controlled areas, much will be endangered. Intervention by international forces to protect the rights of the citizens is a must. N. SADHASIVA REDDY,

■ The miscalculations of the United States and a lack of insightful understanding of the situation by the major world powers are what have left Afghanistan in the

situation it finds itself in. The United Nations has again shown that it is not an effective world body. Russia and China's outreach and Iran's feelers toward the Taliban are only out of dire necessity. Between the calculations of

the various powers are the lives of the ordinary people. The visuals of some of them falling off an aircraft to their end is sure to send a chill down one's spine. The situation and the desperation on the ground is grim and clear. MADHUSREE GUHA,

Kolkata

■ The plight of Afghanistan today is the result of the 'Big Powers' failing miserably. It may not be an exaggeration to say that the U.S. ran away, embarrassing itself and its allies, and also letting down every one once it attained its objectives.

That China has expressed a desire to have friendship with the Taliban, in the background of Pakistan supporting the Taliban regaining control, is a development that is bound to create headaches for

C.A.C. MURUGAPPAN. Kothamangalam, Sivaganga, Tamil Nadu of cricket to secure an

■ We cannot expect Gandhian peace from the gun-toting Taliban. They are not going to listen to sermons. The Taliban back in the scene will only boost Pakistan's morale. If only the big powers, Russia, China

and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, had stood behind the United States, the Taliban could have been kept at bay. Meanwhile, let us pray for the country. M.R. ANAND, Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh

Victory at Lord's India played a special brand To read more letters online, scan the QR code

incredible win ('Sport' page, "Indian pacers pull off famous win after Shami-Bumrah show with bat", August 17). It was a remarkable story of grit, determination and a never-say-die spirit. India's sensational win once again underscores the fact that the beauty of cricket lies in its glorious uncertainties. This famous win should be recorded as one of the greatest victories in the history of Indian cricket. C.G. KURIAKOSE.

Malippara, Kothamangalam, Kerala

THE HINDU DELHI WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2021

Remembering the horrors of Partition

The journey of remembrance must be one of seeking forgiveness and not of keeping the past on the boil



C. RAMMANOHAR REDDY

Remembrances of mass killings and collective violence can play an important part in societies seeking forgiveness for the crimes they committed against humanity and resolving that they will never let those terrible events happen again.

Israel remembers the Holocaust for more reasons than one. For different reasons, Germany too remembers the Holocaust through discussions in schoolbooks, public events and more. Japan, by actively remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki, has not allowed the world to forget the destruction caused by the nuclear bombs dropped on the two cities. Not all nations, though, are committed to national remembrance. The United States, for instance, has not cared to publicly remember the genocide of the Native Americans during the 18th and 19th centuries.

A refusal to remember

The biggest example of forgetfulness of a 20th century event is that by India. It has never cared to collectively remember the estimated two million Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs who died in targeted murders and the tens of millions who were displaced in British India during the months before Independence. India's holocaust, which never has an 'H' to it, is for the most part something we remember as having happened because of British perfidy and Mohammed Ali Jinnah's cunning ways. As a society we bear no responsibility, we believe. But it is only by constantly telling ourselves what happened that we can come to terms with the mass murders of the time. By not remembering the crimes perpetrated on each other, we do not reach closure, we only push them aside in our

There is no national memorial for the millions murdered, sexually violated, and displaced during Partition. School textbooks only note the killings; they do not remember them. There are no names, there are no faces, there are no voices of those mil-



lions. In a reflection of the national attitude, the arts too barely remember the slaughters. Saadat Hasan Manto's stories, Bhisham Sahni's novel Tamas (which was also turned into a film for TV), and the fictionalised presentations in the film Bhaag Milkha Bhaag are exceptions. The academic world has over the past quarter century sought to make amends with a wide body of work of Partition studies and the creation of Partition archives, but these have not permeated into wider society. (There is, though, a Partition Museum that has been established in Amritsar, not by a government but by a trust set up by

a dedicated group of citizens.) The blame for this post-Independence refusal to remember and seek forgiveness must be laid squarely at the door of the governments since 1947. In their anxiety to deny the two-nation theory, the state of the new republic sought to gloss over the terrible killings of Partition. It did not forget the mass murders, but it did not seek to actively remember the horrors that had taken place only a few years earlier. Pakistan was no different in not remembering the violence that happened on its side of what became a new national border.

us get on with building a nation of communal harmony'. Yet it was the opposite that happened. In the absence of collective remembrance, people's memories of the mass violence became easy fodder for the embers of communal hatred. Indeed, the refusal to openly acknowledge and atone for the Partition slaughter was an important cause of the communal violence that dotted the decades after 1947. A string of violent events took hundreds of lives each time, if

Independent India's call was 'Let

not thousands, from Jabalpur (1961) to Ahmedabad (1969), Jamshedpur (1979), Moradabad (1980), Bhiwandi (1984), the Rath Yatra killings of 1989, Bhagalpur (1989), the Babri Masjid demolition violence of 1992-93, Bom-

Reopening wounds

ever since.

It is never late to begin the process of remembrance and to come to terms with the past without erasing it. This remembrance must be of all the communities - Hindus, Muslims, and Sikhs – in undivided India, on both sides of the present borders, in the west and the east, who saw unimaginable devastation. It must be a ourney of remembrance that seeks forgiveness and makes us say 'Never again'. But Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decision (let us make no mistake: the decision has the Prime Minister's imprint all over it) to institute August 14 every year as 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' cannot be such a beginning. No communities are mentioned in the Prime Minister's statement, but the choice of the date tells us what it is about. Up to two million people of all religions died, but it is on the day which marks Pakistan's emergence as a nation that

bay (1993); the list is endless extend-

ing to Gujarat (2002) and beyond. All

these conflagrations are testimony to

the outcome of the divisions built

around Partition that have lingered

This kind of remembrance will reopen wounds and give a new edge to the divisions that led to the deaths during Partition. If the post-Independence error was to avoid talking about the mass killings, the new decision will keep the past on the boil. This is not remembrance: it encourages us to let the wounds fester. We are surprised with this decision, but we should not be. It is in keeping with the idea of India as a Hindu Rashtra. A part of the Rashtra was 'lost' to Pakistan on August 14, 1947, and we are now told that we must remember on that very day those who lost their lives during the events that ended with the break-up of the socalled Akhand Bharat.

This is not a dog whistle ahead of the Uttar Pradesh elections; it is something more dangerous. Seventyfive years after the birth of two countries, this decision by the Prime Minister of India seems to be aimed at recalling that the emergence in 1947 of two independent nations, rather than just one, was a mistake that we cannot be allowed to forget. The institution of 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' will then not help us remember and grieve in silence for the people who were killed. It will have the opposite effect - perhaps even intentionally – of retaining the anger over Partition. Such a decision could have dangerous consequences in the future.

If we truly want to make a beginning at remembrance of the horrors of the time, we could start by establishing a national museum of Partition in the heart of New Delhi. Mahatma Gandhi had suggested after Independence that the Viceroy's House (now Rashtrapati Bhavan) should be turned into a hospital; the suggestion was not taken up. Perhaps, now we could turn the new residence of the Prime Minister, proposed as part of the Central Vista Redevelopment Project, into a museum that remembers the millions of people of all communities who were killed or were forced to flee their homes 75 years ago.

Such a national memorial in India could be a catalyst for Pakistan and Bangladesh to establish similar museums to honour the dead in those parts of British India. This may well mark a larger South Asian process of remembrance of everyone who died, whatever their religious denomination and wherever their location at the time of Partition. This would be a true collective atonement for those terrible events.

C. Rammanohar Reddy is Editor of The India

Celebrating Einstein's century

In a span of just two decades Einstein led physics out of its traditional moorings and laid the entablature of modern physics



In 1921, the Nobel Prize Committee requested two Nobel Prize winners, Allvar Gullstrand and Svante Arrhenius, to evaluate if Albert Einstein should be awarded the Nobel Prize. They concluded that Einstein would have to wait and the Nobel Committee decided not to award the Prize to anyone in 1921. Opinions changed in a year and when Einstein did receive the 1921 Prize in 1922, it was not for his theories of relativity but for "his services to Theoretical Physics, and especially for his discovery of the law of the photoelectric effect". The citation harked back to the revolutionary theories that Einstein had established in 1905. 'Annus Mirabilis', or the Year of Miracles, is how 1905 is remembered by physicists because Einstein, only 26 then, published four remarkable papers that year. One of them explained that light was made of photons and when light shone on metal, each photon's energy correlated to electron's speed on the metal's surface. This theory redefined the composition of light and Einstein himself dubbed it revolutionary. It was for this that he received the Nobel Prize.

Special theory of relativity

Einstein propounded theories of relativity. The special theory of relativity was published in 1905. The questions that necessitated research on relativity were deceptively simple. Ever since the pre-Newtonian days of Galileo, it was known that motion was relative. For example, if two bicycles ride in opposite directions, the speed of the second observed from the first is the sum of the speeds. James Maxwell had established that light was an electromagnetic wave and the value of its speed was calculated. Building on this, Einstein understood that while moving from one frame of reference to another, which is moving at a different speed, the speed of light remains a constant. He gave a physical interpretation to the equations governing the transformation from one frame to another based on this fact.

So, how does light's velocity stay constant? Einstein's theory establishes that time moves slower within a moving body when measured from a point at rest (but moves normally within the moving body itself) and the length of the moving body contracts when measured from an outside point at rest. When a moving body emits light, the length contraction and time slowdown of the

moving body are just exactly what are needed to restore the speed of light to its constant

Einstein's insight was that there was no absolute time because time was measured by the simultaneity of two events and this simultaneity would be observed differently, say, within a moving train versus from a railway platform. As lagniappe to the scientific community, Einstein published his famous mass-energy equivalence E=mc² in late 1905. A mundane example of the application of the special theory of relativity is the use of GPS on our phones: satellites account for time differences in their clocks due to their high speed and their positions away from earth's gravity and then calculate the geo-location.

General theory of relativity

From 1907, in bouts of scientific creativity, Einstein sought to generalise the special theory of relativity. Put simply, how does gravitational force act instantaneously between massive stars and planets that are millions of miles away? His research led him to geometry of curved spaces and multi-dimensional geometry that Bernhard Riemann had pioneered in the 19th century. With some help from his mathematician friend Marcel Grossmann, Einstein worked out equations using tensors, the mathematical implement to describe transformation of different dimensions. In November 1915, Einstein completed the general theory of relativity.

As per this theory, space and time form a continuum, like a fabric, and every object in the universe distorts this fabric, much like how dropping a large ball distorts a taut trampoline sheet. This distortion is gravity. It produces two effects. One, the fabric causes any other object in the vicinity to move towards the heavier object and this is why gravity causes an object to pull things towards it. Two, it bends light in the process of attracting it. This bending of light was what was observed as experimental verification of the theory, in 1919, by the English astrophysicist, Arthur Eddington. The theory is general enough to apply to all forms of motion, including those where gravity does not appear. Under specific simplifying conditions, the equations matched Newton's laws. The Nobel Laureate S. Chandrasekhar said that "it is probably the most beautiful of all existing

In just two decades, Einstein led physics out of its traditional moorings, laid the entablature of modern physics on Newtonian and Maxwellian pillars of classical physics and opened it up to newer questions.

Varahasimhan is a history of science enthusiast based

More feed, better productivity

The Sub-Mission on Fodder and Feed seeks to enhance livestock productivity and farmers' income

ATUL CHATURVEDI

A major stumbling block faced by Indian farmers pertains to the lack of affordable good quality feed and fodder for livestock. A study by the Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute has observed that for every 100 kg of feed required, India is short of 23.4 kg of dry fodder, 11.24 kg of green fodder, and 28.9 kg of concentrate feed. This is one of the chief reasons why Indian livestock's milk productivity is 20%-60% lower than the global average. If we break down the input costs, we find that feed constitutes 60%-70% of milk production costs. The significance of Sub-Mission on Fodder and Feed recently announced by the Indian government is underscored by the fact that livestock is the major source of cash income for about 13 crore marginal farmers and is an insurance in the event of crop failure. The lack of good quality feed and fodder impacts the productivity levels of cattle. As about 200 million Indians are involved in dairy and livestock farming, the scheme is important from the perspective of poverty alleviation.

Revised scheme

When the National Livestock Mission was launched in 2014, it focused on supporting farmers in producing fodder from non-forest wasteland/grassland, and cultivation of coarse grains. However, this model could not sustain fodder availability due to lack of backward and forward linkages in the value chain. Therefore, the Mission has been revised to make the programme focus primarily on assistance towards seed production and the development of feed and fodder entrepreneurs. It now provides for 50% direct capital subsidy to the beneficiaries under the feed and fodder entrepreneurship programme and 100% subsidy on fodder seed production to identified beneficiaries.

The Sub-Mission on Fodder and Feed intends to create a network of entrepreneurs who will make silage (the hub) and sell them directly to the farmers (the spoke). It is premised on the idea that the funding of the hub will lead to the development of the spoke. The large-scale production of silage will bring down the input cost

for farmers since silage is much cheaper than concentrate feed. Studies have indicated that by growing fodder crops one can earn ₹1.60 by investing ₹1 as compared to ₹1.20 in the case of common cereals like wheat and rice. Private entrepreneurs, self-help groups, farmer producer organisations, dairy cooperative societies, and Section 8 companies (NGOs) can avail themselves of the benefits under this scheme. The scheme will provide 50% capital subsidy up to ₹50 lakh towards project cost to the beneficiary for infrastructure development and for procuring machinery for value addition in feed such as hay/silage/total mixed ration. The scheme can be used for covering the cost of infrastructure/machinery such as bailing units, harvester, chaff cutter, sheds, etc. The revised scheme has been designed with the objectives of increasing productivity, reducing input costs, and doing away with middlemen (who usually take a huge cut).

Availability of green fodder

A major challenge in the feed sector emanates from the fact that good quality green fodder is only available for about three months during the year. So, the ideal solution would be to ferment green fodder and convert it into silage. Hence, under the fodder entrepreneurship programme, farmers will receive subsidies and incentives to create a consistent supply chain of feed throughout the year. The idea is that farmers should be able to grow the green fodder between two crop seasons and entrepreneurs can then convert it into silage and sell it at nearby markets at onetenth of the price of concentrate/dry feed ensuring affordable quality fodder to dairy farmers.

In this context, it is heartening to see successful models of silage entrepreneurship by several start-ups across the country. Since India has a livestock population of 535.78 million, an effective implementation of this scheme will play a major role in increasing the return on investment

Atul Chaturvedi is Secretary at the Ministry of Animal Husbandry and Dairying. Views are personal

DATA POINT

Getting hotter by the day

A recent IPCC report had issued a strong warning about an impending climate crisis, attributing rising wildfires heatwaves, extreme rainfall and floods to human activity. The report advised deep cuts to CO₂ emissions, failing which the rising temperatures will lead to permanent damage. Data show that July 2021 was the hottest July in the last 142 years for which data are available. The temperature rise is not limited to a region — every continent has recorded peak levels in the last decade. Asia recorded its warmest ever July in 2021. By Sumant Sen



was in place, surface temperature would increase by 4.1-4.8°C by 2100 compared to preindustrial levels

HIGHES1

1898 1918 1938 1958 1978 1998 2021

■ WARMEST JULY | The global surface

temperature in July 2021 was 0.93°C

more than the 1901-2000 average

CHART SHOWS TEMPERATURE DEVIATIONS IN JULY EVERY YEAR FROM

1901-2000

AVG. +0.2

+0.6

+0.4

-0.0



If current climate change are, the global surface temperature is estimated to increase by 2.7-3.1°C



■ A WARMER YEAR | The first table lists the deviation in global surface

The second table shows the extent to which regions were warmer than the

average. For instance, Africa's June in 2021 was the warmest ever in 142 years,

temperature from the 1901-2000 avg. for various periods in 2021.

If all countries adhere to Paris Agreement pledges and targets for emissions reductions, the global surface temperature is estimated to increase by 2.4°C

Deviation Ranking Periods July 2021 +0.93°C June-July +0.91°C 4th May-July +0.88°C 5th +0.86°C Apr.-July 6th +0.86°C 6th Mar.-July Feb-July +0.82°C 6th

+0.81°C

Region July '21 June '21 World 1st 5th Tied for 2nd Asia Africa Tied for N. America 6th

■ VARIOUS SCENARIOS | The chart depicts the future greenhouse gas emissions scenarios if no climate policies were implemented, if current policies continue, if all countries achieve their pledges for emissions reductions, and the necessary pathways which are compatible with limiting warming to 1.5°C or 2°C of warming this century

ANNUAL GLOBAL-GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION (IN GIGATONNES OF CO₂ EQUIVALENTS) No climate 4.1-4.8 °c Greenhouse gas emissions up to the present 2.7-3.1°c Pledges & (2.4 °c) 2°c pathways 2010 2030 2050 2070 2090 THE CHART IS SOURCED FROM OURWORLDIN

S. America 10th **EXTREME TEMPERATURES** | The chart shows the years in which extreme temperature events are projected to occur in a 10-year period under different global warming levels compared to the average. Dots represent years. Darker dots depict years that could have higher-than-average temperatures. Under current levels, nearly three years in a decade are likely to have high temperatures

HOT TEMPERATURE EXTREMES OVER LAND

FUTURE GLOBAL WARMING LEVELS 1850-1900 will likely will likely will likely occurs occur occur (3.8-6.0) (8.3-9.6)

The Man Pindu. FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 18, 1971

Giri cautions against indiscipline

The President, Mr. V.V. Giri, delivering the convocation address of the Bombay University this evening [Bombay, Aug. 17], said that the primary purpose of education should be to inculcate the virtues of humanism, tolerance, reason and breadth of vision among the students and instil in them the fervour for imaginative ideas and quest for truth. In this task the teacher played a unique and distinct role, he said. Viewed in this context, the President said in different parts of the country discipline and integrity were fast waning from among the people. Mr. Giri pointed out that if discipline was eroded either in the educational institutions or in the community life the future of the nation was bleak and whatever progress one might make or academic excellence one might acquire, one was doomed to failure. They must protect their community and educational institutions from this danger. The association and relationship between the students and the teachers was more than ordinary, he said. The President emphasised the importance of elevating the teacher-student relationship to one of understanding, cordiality and mutual co-operation.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO AUGUST 18, 1921

The nerve-centres.

Anatomy teaches us that there are nerve centres and nerve fibres all over the body. To the naked eye a difference is obvious between certain portions of the brain and spinal cord, viz the grey matter and the white matter. The grey matter is largely composed of nerve-cells, while the white matter contains only their long processes, the nerve fibres. It is the grey matter that nervous impressions and impulses originate and the nerve fibres conduct these impulses. Hence the functions of nerve-cells is consciousness. There are two systems of nerve-cells and fibres in the body viz, cerebro-spinal and Sympathetic Systems. The Sympathetic System of cells apparently have no consciousness. The functions of the body such as digestion, exertion, peristaltie action of the intestines are governed by this Sympathetic System, which are not normally under the control of the will. In the Yoga Sadhana of Siddhis, an effort is made to gain control over this System of nerve-cells which pertain to "Annamaya-kosha" (physical body) and "Pranamaya-Kosha" (psychological sheath).

FROM PAGE ONE

Taliban vow to honour women's rights

Many women have expressed dread that the twodecade Western experiment to expand their rights and remake Afghanistan would not survive the resurgent Taliban. Earlier, Enamullah Samangani, a member of the Taliban's cultural commission, made similar promises, saying the Taliban would extend an "amnesty" without giving details and encouraging women to join the government.

Samangani addressed the

concerns of women, saying Taliban were ready to "provide women with environment to work and study, and the presence of women in (government) different structures according to Islamic law and in accordance with our cultural values." While the Taliban pledged not to go after their enemies, there are reports that fighters have lists of people who cooperated with the government and are seeking them out.

India brings back Embassy staff

After spending the night at the airport, the Indians boarded the flight around 6

According to radar tracking websites, both flights took a long and circuitous route avoiding the Pakistani airspace and minimising travel through the Afghan airspace, to fly over Iran and returned to India over the Arabian Sea, and back over Gujarat.

"In view of the prevailing circumstances, it has been decided that our Ambassador in Kabul and his Indian staff will move to India immediately," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson tweeted, announcing the evacuation, but did not clarify whether India's diplomatic presence in Afghanistan had ended.

Government officials clarified that they would open the visa applications of Afghans of all religions, including Hindus and Sikhs, that they had earlier issued

On Tuesday, the MEA set up an "MEA's 24x7 Special Afghanistan Cell" for all those needing evacuation once commercial operations begin. In addition, the Ministry of Home Affairs introduced a new category of electronic visa called the "e-Emergency X-Misc Visa" to fast-track visa applications for all Afghans wishing to travel to India. It will be a six-month visa that will be granted online.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, who is in New York, tweeted, "Understand the anxiety of those seeking to return to India. Airport operations are the main challenge. Discussions on with partners in this re-

gard." The return of all diplomatic staff means that the Indian diplomatic mission in Afghanistan is at least, temporarily, closed.

The government will now have to decide on the nature of relations with the Taliban government in Kabul, once it is formally announced, and whether to even maintain a basic engagement in order to continue flight operations into Kabul to evacuate more civilians.

"It's not that we have abandoned the people of Afghanistan. Their welfare and our relationship with them are very much in our mind. We will, going forward, try and continue our interaction with them. I can't exactly say in what form or manner, as the sitmuch," Mr. Tandon said when asked about the future of India's diplomatic presence in Afghanistan.

Indians and Afghans wishing to travel may contact the helplines: +91-11-49016783, +91-11-49016784, +91-11-49016785 WhatsApp number: +91-8010611290

Email: SituationRoom @mea.gov.in

For online visa applications: https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/

(With inputs from Devesh

Centre gets notice on

tion about any software allegedly used by government to counter terrorism would compromise

us to say whether Pegasus was used or not... It is nobody's case that interception is done by governments for the purpose of national security. Softwares are used... They want to know which software is used... No government will say which software is used because if we divulge, terrorists may take advantage. Which software is used or not is a matter of national security. It cannot be a matter of public debate," Mr. Mehta stated at the start of the virtual

"Tomorrow, a web portal may start a narrative that certain military equipment are used for some illegitimate purpose. A petition may be filed by a person who has nothing to do with this issue and who wants the military to declare whether the apparatus was used or not. I will be failing in my duty if I advice the government to divulge it on affida-

The government had fairly agreed in court to form a committee of experts to inquire into the reports of Pegasus snooping, he noted.

Oppn. rebuts FinMin on cost of UPA oil bonds

Interest is just 3.2% of taxes: Congress

SANDEEP PHUKAN EW DELHI/ COIMBATORE

The Congress and the Left on Tuesday reacted sharply to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's assertion that it is difficult to reduce fuel taxes as the government has to foot the bill for oil bonds issued by the UPA, with former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram calling the argument 'incredible ignorance at best and motivated malignity at the worst'.

"The FM's statement that servicing oil bonds stands in the way of giving relief on petrol and diesel prices is astonishing," Mr. Chidambaram said, adding the NDA has no right to comment on the fuel subsidy after 'profiting several times over through exorbitant taxes and cesses on fuel'.

"The people know that UPA gave them relief and the NDA is crushing them through oppressive taxes and cesses," he said, pointing out that the UPA government's decision to subsidise fuel prices through borrowings, directly or through oil companies as a surrogate of the Central government,

was known to every analyst and lender, and was 'mentally added' to the fiscal deficit at the time.

"In either case, servicing the loan (interest) would be the responsibility of the Central government," Mr. Chidambaram said.

In Coimbatore, CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury criticised Ms. Sitharaman's comments and demanded a 'complete' withdrawal of the hikes in excise duty to contain inflation. Earlier on Tuesday, Con-

gress general secretary Ajay Maken said the Narendra Modi government is 'fleecing' the common people to make up for shortfalls in corporate tax collections due to the tax rate cuts announced in September 2019. He pointed out that the spending on the servicing of UPA-era oil bonds was merely 3.2% of the taxes collected on petroleum products. Countering Ms. Sitharaman's claim that high fuel prices are a legacy of UPA era oil bonds, the party claimed that spending on servicing of oil bonds is merely 3.2% of the tax collection from petroleum pro-

States differ with Centre on fuel

Asking us to cut taxes is an insult amid pandemic costs, falling revenues, they say

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

A day after Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman ruled out any immediate cut in fuel taxes levied by the Centre, and said States should cut their own taxes on fuel to give relief to consumers, several State governments were not amused and termed it an insult when their finances were already weak.

Ms. Sitharaman had as serted that the States gained more than the Centre from higher oil prices because they charge ad valorem duties, while the Centre charged a fixed levy, which would be difficult to slash as it had to subsidise fuel price reductions undertaken by the United Progressive Alliance government 2012-13.

"The Union Finance Minister has made it amply clear that the Centre has no intention to reduce the fuel prices. The stand that the States have the option to reduce it is tantamount to insulting the States, which are already in a financially weak condition," Kerala Finance Minister K.N. Balagopal said.

Arguing that petrol and diesel had become pricier



Making a point: A file photo of Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman speaking during the Monsoon Session. • PTI

because of the additional and special excise duties and cess imposed by the Narendra Modi government when global oil prices were declining, Rajasthan Transport Minister Pratap Singh Khachariyawas said Ms. Sitharaman had rubbed salt in the wound by telling a lie about the States making more mo-

"It would be wrong to pass the buck to the State governments, when the Modi government's real intention is to benefit the corporate sector," he said, seeking an apology from the Minister to the nation for telling "a brazen lie", and urgent cuts in fuel prices and restoration of the subsidy on LPG.

Tamil Nadu Finance Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan took to Twitter to respond to Ms. Sitharaman's jibes about the State announcing a three rupee cut in petrol taxes after hiking the duties by seven rupees earlier. The FM had also targeted the DMK for being party to the UPA "trickery" of issuing oil bonds to subsidise fuel pric-

The decision to reduce tax on petrol by ₹3 per litre was "integrity and not trickery," the T.N. Minister countered. "Between 2016 and 2020, the BJP's ally, the then AIADMK government had raised tax on petrol by ₹7 per litre in two stages. The DMK had argued against it when in Opposition. Now DMK formed Govt. & reduced petrol tax by ₹3/litre. With respect, this is 'Integrity', NOT 'Trickery'," Mr. Thiaga Rajan said in a tweet. The DMK had made a poll promise that it would reduce petrol prices if voted to power.

Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, who also holds the Finance portfolio, said there was no proposal before the government to reduce levies like neighbour-

ing Tamil Nadu had done.

Urging the Centre to take a helpful stand towards States, Mr. Balagopal said any attempt to include petroleum products under the Goods and Services Tax regime would further jeopardise States' interests. "Already, the Centre is reluctant to share revenues, and giving them more control would harm the States," he said.

In Telangana, officials renon-committal mained about replicating T.N.'s rate cuts. "The Centre collects all the cesses which are not shared with the States. No freedom exists for the States," a senior Finance Department official said.

(With inputs from Tiki Rajwi in Thiruvananthapuram, Deepa H. Ramakrishnan in Chennai, Mohammed Iqbal in Jaipur, B.S. Satish Kumar in Bengaluru, and M. Rajeev in Hyderabad)

Expansion of **Gehlot Cabinet** in progress'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Amid reports that supporters of Sachin Pilot are getting impatient about the proposed Cabinet expansion of the Ashok Gehlot government, the Congress on Tuesday said "work is in progress and a decision will come soon". "It is for the party to de-

cide on timings. I have been there, talked to everyone and am in regular touch with both Mr. Gehlot and Mr. Pilot and all senior leaders of Rajasthan. I have conveyed to all of them what the high command is doing...Don't ask me the date," Ajay Maken, All India Congress Committee in-charge for Rajasthan,

told reporters. "You think it is a delay but we have a strategy at hand. We know what we are doing and everything is under control. Are you hearing any different noises?" asked Mr. Maken.

Govt. invites bids for V-P Enclave

CPWD postpones opening of bids for construction of Secretariat buildings again

DAMINI NATH NEW DELHI

The government on Tuesday set in motion its plan to construct a new residence for the Vice-President by inviting pre-qualification bids for the proposed Vice-President's Enclave next to North Block and the Rashtrapati Bhavan at an estimated cost of ₹192 crore.

As a part of the larger Central Vista redevelopment project, the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) invited potential bidders for pre-qualification till August 31. The project was estimated to take 10 months and ₹192 crore, according to the pre-qualification bid docu-

The CPWD document "The proposed Vice President Enclave shall be constructed in plot of L&M Block adjacent to existing North Block, New Delhi. The existing temporary/permanent/semi-permanent structure of L&M Block shall be



In full swing: A file photo of workers at the Central Vista redevelopment project in New Delhi. • SANDEEP SAXENA

dismantled before start of tion noise, dust free area and new construction. The site is located in high security premises of North Block & Rashtrapati Bhawan. The pro-Vice President posed Enclave shall be of reinforced cement concrete framed structure building. The existing offices of North Block shall continue to function during the entire period of execution of this project, therefore utmost care is required to minimise construc-

other construction activity related issues."

Spread over 20,000 sq m, the buildings would include the V-P's residence, with basement, ground and first floor, a secretariat with ground and first floors, a guest house, sports facility, staff quarters, barracks, CPWD building and ancillary buildings. The bid document said

the contractor would have to

set up labour camps and provide for transportation of workers to and fro from the site in three shifts. Stringent access control measures for entry and exit of workers, material and equipment would have to be implemented due to the "high degree of security concerns at the site and the work itself", the CPWD said.

As it did for the Parliament construction project, the CPWD split the bid into two stages. After the potential bidders are short-listed in the pre-qualification stage, they will be invited to submit technical and financial bids.

Meanwhile, another project under the Central Vista revamp has seen further delays. The bids for construction of three buildings of the Central Secretariat were supposed to be opened on Monday, but was pushed to September 4, the fifth such postponement since the tender was floated on June 2.

sponsor J&K students

Army to

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Army will sponsor 110 students from Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh to its residential public schools and higher education institutions across the country from the current academic year, it said on Tuesday.

This is being done as part of 'Operation Sadbhavana' (operation goodwill), which aims to win the hearts and minds of residents of the two Union Territories.

Domiciled residents of J&K and Ladakh, sponsored by the Army's Northern Command headquarters would be eligible for admissions in the current academic year. From next ear onwards, they would be required to pass a special admission test.

"The initiative is aimed at providing quality education to deserving candidates," said an Army

pleas alleging snooping

national

"They [petitioners] want

He clarified that the government was not refusing to reveal anything to anybody at all. "We are just saying we will not reveal it public-

ly," he observed. vit," Mr. Mehta contended.

"As a responsible government, we are submitting that we will form a committee of neutral experts, whose report will be placed before the Supreme Court... I repeat, it is not my case that I will not divulge anything. All will be revealed before the committee... Let me do that before a committee... Permit us to form a committee... We will place its report before the Supreme Court itself," Mr. Mehta stated.

Justice Kant said there was no question of compromising national security.

"We are not going to ask you to divulge anything that will harm the defence of the nation... We are extremely reluctant to say anything on that. But the question here is that there are some persons of eminence who have come here, saying there has been interception of their phones... That can be done, but with the permission of the competent authority... What is the problem if that competent authority filed an affidavit before us? In the affidavit we don't want a single word on any aspect that relates to the security of the nation... All we are saying is that we are issuing simple notice... Let the competent authority say to what extent what information can be

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, for veteran journalists N. Ram and Sashi Kumar, said "the security of the state is as important to the citizen as it is to the state".

disclosed," he explained.



Muharram procession barred in Lal Chowk

Several Shia mourners detained

PEERZADA ASHIQ

Several Shia mourners were detained and journalists allegedly thrashed by the police, as the Jammu and Kashmir administration barred the Muharram procession in Srinagar's Lal Chowk on Tuesday.

Concertina wires and barricades were erected on several stretches to stop Shias, who traditionally organise processions on the 8th of Muharram in areas around Lal Chowk.

Locals said several mourners were detained when they tried to cross the barricades and converge onto the streets of Lal Chowk. Many were carrying placards with Islamic and 'free Kashmir' slogans written on

them. The police used tearsmoke shells and resorted to baton charge to disperse the mourners. Many were seen being pushed into police "We respect the religious

sentiments and practices of all, but at the same time, it is also our joint responsibility to defeat the ill designs of vested interests who try to disturb peaceful atmosphere," Inspector General of Police Vijay Kumar said.

The move to ban the procession came weeks after a government order said "the Muharram processions shall be observed as per the past practice".

On Tuesday, several photojournalists were allegedly beaten up when they were covering the clash.

Plea to further quiz Kappan dismissed Journalist and three others were held on their way to Hathras last October

ANUJ KUMAR

A Mathura court on Monday rejected an Uttar Pradesh police application seeking permission to take a further statement from journalist Siddique Kappan, who has been booked under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and is lodged in the Mathura jail.

Additional Sessions Judge Anil Kumar Pandey dismissed the demand of the police/ STF to further interrogate the journalist.

Kappan and three others were arrested on October 5, 2020, in Maat, Mathura,



Siddique Kappan

when they were on their way to a Hathras village to meet the family of an alleged rape and murder victim. The police held that they were planning to foment tension in the

In his application, Vinod Kumar Sirohi, Deputy Superintendent of Police, STF Field Unit, Gautam Buddh Nagar, who has investigated the case, said it was necessary to interrogate Kappan in relation to a sentence handwritten on the literature/ document of the banned organisation SIMI that was recovered from the room of the accused. "Apart from this, information is also to be sought from the accused regarding the work allotted to Kappan in the minutes of the general meeting of Popular Front of India," the application said.

Wills Mathews, advocate representing Kappan, submitted that the investigation was complete and the chargesheet was filed on April 3, 2021. He argued that the police's position that further investigation was needed, in this 10th month of registration of the FIR, was against the letter and spirit of Criminal Procedure Code and amounted to a violation of the Fundamental Rights of the accused. Mr. Mathews also pointed out that Kappan had expressed his willingness to undergo a lie detector test or brain-mapping in a reply on April 4 this year.

BJP leader shot dead in south Kashmir

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A Bharatiya Janata Party leader was shot dead by suspected militants in south Kashmir's Kulgam district on Tuesday, in the second such incident in the past eight days. The victim was identified as Javid Ahmad Dar from Brazloo Jagir in Kulgam.

"Dar was shot from a close range outside his house. He died on the spot," officials said. Dar was desig-

nated as in-charge of the Homshali Bugh constituency in Kulgam by the BJP three years ago. On August 9, two BJP leaders were killed in Anantnag

BJP spokesman Altaf Thakur called the attack "barbaric". "Militants are feeling frustrated, and targeting innocents won't lead to anything," he said.

Peoples Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti said there was no place for such acts of violence. dian Air Force.

HAL signs deal with GE Aviation for LCA Tejas

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) on Tuesday signed a \$716-mn deal with GE Aviation of the U.S. for 99 F404 aircraft engines and support services that will power the indigenous Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Mk-1A.

In February, the Defence Ministry signed a ₹48,000 crore deal with HAL to supply 83 LCA-Mk1A to the In-

"This is largest-ever deal and the purchase order placed by HAL for LCA," said R. Madhavan, CMD, HAL. The company was working closely with GE for its support to pursue the export potential of the LCA and also to supply spares to the global supply chain of GE 404 engines, he added. Ordering of the engines

marked a major milestone in the execution of 83 LCA contract, HAL said in a statement.

Tharoor's tweet creates a furore

M.P. PRAVEEN

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor seems to have created a social media storm with a tweet about the potential Malayali presence among the Taliban who took over Kabul.

Sharing a short video reportedly of a Taliban fighter weeping in joy on reaching the outskirts of the Afghanistan capital, Mr. Tharoor tweeted, sounds as if there are at least two Malayali Taliban here - one who says 'samsaarikatte' ['let me speak' in Malayalam) around the 8-second mark & another who understands him!"

However, a Twitter user said they were speaking Brahvi, which sounds similar to Dravidian languages and is spoken in the Zabul province of Afghanistan.

Mr. Tharoor, however, seemed far from fully convinced about that theory. "Interesting explanation. Will leave it to the linguists to figure this one out. But there have indeed been misguided Malayalis who joined the Taliban, so that possibility cannot be ruled out entirely," he tweeted.

This seems to have further infuriated many. especially Malayalis, who were already enraged by his earlier tweet.

A Twitter user said Mr. Tharoor had forced the entire Malayali community to defend itself against being branded as terrorist sympathisers.

"Why don't you leave us alone," he said.

"Shashi Tharoor tweets out BJP-RSS propaganda about Malayali Talibanis based on 'ONE' word in a video which sounds similar to Malayalam," another tweeted.

India must help Afghan brethren: PM

Modi says country must provide refuge to Sikh and Hindu minorities who want to come to India

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday chaired a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) where he instructed the officials concerned to ensure the safe evacuation of Indian nationals from Afghanistan within the next few days and also provide all possible help to "Afghan brothers and sisters who are looking towards India for assistance.'

According to sources present at the meeting, Mr. Modi also said that "India must not only protect our citizens, but we must also provide refuge to those Sikh and Hindu minorities who want to come to India, and we must also provide all possible help to our Afghan brothers and sisters who are looking towards India for assistance."

Nearly 140 people working at the Indian Embassy in Kabul, including Ambassador Rudrendra Tandon, staff at the embassy, and Indo Ti-



On safe ground: People who were evacuated from Kabul leaving the Hindon Air Force Station in Ghaziabad on a bus belonging to the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) on Tuesday. • R.V. MOORTHY

betan Border Police guarding the Indian embassy in Kabul, and four presspersons flew into Delhi late in the evening on an evacuation flight run by the Indian Air Force. Mr. Tandon was present at the CCS meet and briefed the Prime Minister on the ground situation in

Sources said the CCS was briefed in detail on the current and evolving security and political situation in Afghanistan. The committee was also

briefed on the recent evacuations of Indian Embassy officials and some members of the Indian community, as well as some members of the Indian media. The meeting was attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, being out of town, could not attend the meeting. Foreign Secretary Harsh Shringla was present. National Security Ad-

viser Ajit Doval, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister P.K. Mishra and Cabinet Secretary Rajeev Gauba were present.

The Home Ministry added a new category of visa to process applications of those who want to come to India from Afghanistan following the Taliban takeover.

She was released from Kabul prison KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE NEW DELHI The government of India should help find the women who had gone to Afghanistan to join the Islamic State,

govt. to locate daughter

Kerala woman asks

mother of one of the women

said on Tuesday, as turmoil

gripped that nation. K. Bindu, mother of Nimisha Fath-

ima, said she had heard her

daughter was released from

a prison in Kabul by the Taliban but had not received

any information about her

and expect the Government

of India to find my daughter.

I heard that she has been

freed but there is no confir-

mation of that and I am un-

able to understand the con-

dition that my daughter is

currently in," said Ms. Bin-

du. Latest reports have re-

vealed that the Taliban re-

gime in Kabul has freed a

large number of convicts

from two major prisons in

Kabul that held several fight-

With the release of the

women and other members

of the IS, security agencies

have heightened alert to lo-

cate them. However, it is not

vet known where the In-

ers of the IS.

"I am extremely worried

whereabouts.

Nimisha Fathima

dians are at present after their release. *The Hindu* has earlier reported that four Indian women who had accompanied their husbands to join the Islamic State in Khorasan Province (ISKP) are unlikely to be allowed to return to the country.

The women, all from Kerala, went to Nangarhar in Afghanistan during 2016-17 accompanied husbands and continued to stay there. In the course of various military incidents, the husbands were killed and the women were captured during the Ashraf Ghani regime. They remained in prison till being released by the Taliban after the capture of Kabul.

Two families in J&K wait for news of relatives

Kin of two teachers in Kabul appeal to L-G

PEERZADA ASHIQ SRINAGAR

There is a growing concern among the families of two Kashmiri teachers working in Kabul.

"My brother-in-law shifted to Afghanistan in 2017. He is stranded along with his wife. We appeal to the government and the Taliban regime to ensure that they return safely," the sister-in-law of Adil Rasool, who is working as assistant professor in Bakhtar University, Kabul, said.



Afghan security guards try and maintain order as hundreds of people gather outside the international airport in Kabul. • AP

Rasool is from south Kashmir's Kulgam district.

The family of Asif Ahmed

Shah, also an assistant professor in Afghanistan, expressed concern over the sitThe families are distressed and have requested the Centre to evacuate the teachers

NASIR KHUEHAMI

uation emerging there. "We are monitoring the situation. The unrest grew so fast there in the past one week. Otherwise, we could have ensured their return early. We appeal to the Centre to provide all the support for their safe return," a relative of Mr. Shah, also a resident of Kulgam, said.

Nasir Khuehami, a students' activist, appealed to

Lieutenant Governor (LG) Manoj Sinha to raise the issue with the Ministry of External Affairs. "The families are distressed and requested the Centre to evacuate them," Mr. Khuehami said.

The L-G said he had spoken to Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muraleedharan for immediate evacuation.

"He has assured the government is committed to bringing back every citizen safely as soon as possible. I assure the families of Professor Asif Ahmed and Professor Adil Rasool that they are safe and will be home soon," Mr. Sinha said.

'Sikhs from Kabul will be brought to India soon'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Tuesday said the Indian authorities are in touch with a group of Sikhs taking shelter in a gurudwara near Kabul in Afghanistan after the Taliban takeover of the country, and that they will be brought to India as

soon as possible. Mr. Puri, who was approached by BJP MP Hans Raj Hans for help to the Sikhs, also discussed the issue with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.

"We have been in touch with the Sikh leaders and those in Afghanistan. They will soon be brought back safely," said Mr. Puri.

INTERVIEW | SUSHMITA DEV

+ 'Opposition unity won't be affected'

Every party brings people from others, says ex-Cong. leader on joining Trinamool

SANDEEP PHUKAN Former Lok Sabha member Sushmita Dev, abruptly ended her three-decade-long association with the Congress to join the Trinamool Congress on Monday, said her decision was not driven by anger or negativity but what is 'emerging' nationally. Edited excerpts.

You were a part of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's core team, close to Sonia Gandhi; vet you decided to leave the Congress. Would it not be seen as a reflection on the leadership?

■ I am a small part of a party with a huge legacy. In my letter dated August 15, I believe I have made it crystal clear that they have done their very best for me. And although I didn't state this, but I believe I have done my very best in any capacity that they had given me an opportunity to work. And I have thought it through. Whether it comes to my region, what is emerging for the future, I believe what I have done will not be counterproductive to anyone concerned.

But something would have prompted you to leave. Were you upset with someone or

about something? This decision is not motivated by anger, anxiety or any negative feeling. Sometimes,

the situation doesn't permit to explain myself to anybowho dy. But I thought it through and my conscience is clear: I think I have made no ideological compromise. And I believe that as a very junior politician, what I see emerging nationally, I believe the decision I took that was also a factor. And beyond that, I don't think this is the time to speak further. I am only 24 hours into a new party

> You talked about how Abhishek Banerjee [Trinamool's national general secretary] and Rahul Gandhi would work together. But there is also this view that Trinamool has taken away a talented leader of the Congress and this could affect Opposition unity?

■ Does the Congress not bring people from other parties? Every party does. So why should an issue like this impact such a greater and a bigger cause? I think all the leaders involved here, whether it's the Chief Minister of West Bengal or the Congress president, don't you think that they are astute politicians to know that this cannot impact Opposition unity? I think to connect this with what is emerging in national politics is an oversimplification.

Many believe that the Bengal



India as a nation has been built over decades but is falling apart in the eyes of the people

elections were a turning point, even for national politics. Going ahead, do you think Mamata Banerjee and Trinamool are better placed than the Congress or its leadership to take on the Narendra Modi government in 2024 polls?

■ I think it's a fallacy to compare two parties or two leaders in this given situation. That would be derailing from the real purpose. I am repeatedly seeing that people on the streets want a change. And if any of us mean well, if any leader means well, any party right now means well, they must work together for this greater purpose.

India as a nation has been built over decades but is falling apart in the eyes of the people. And that is the larger picture. In this situation, it shouldn't be whose party is better, whose party is older or whose leader is stronger. We have to galvanise to put up that fight and that is what the nation expects from us.

What role do you see for

yourself in the Trinamool?

■ I have to say that first I met Abhishek Banerjee and he gave me a lot of time, almost an hour. And thereafter I met the Chief Minister of West Bengal; she gave me around half an hour, 45 minutes. It was a very free and frank interaction. I made it very clear that I haven't made this shift with a specific purpose in mind. Whether they have a specific purpose in mind, that will emerge in the next few days. But one thing we have agreed to is that whatever role they will give me and wherever they give me a role, I will have to come through. I have said that I have worked so hard in the three districts of Barak Valley [Assam] and I would definitely not like to compromise on what I have built over 10 years and what my father has built over 40 years. And Mamata Di is a mass leader and she knows what it is to build cadre. Not for a moment did she ask me to abandon anything. She said you have come, relax, go

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	Total	237

(UR — Un Reserved; OBC: Other Backward Class; SC: Scheduled Castes; ST: Scheduled Tribes; EWS

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Director & CEO Date: 15-08-2021

> No. A.12026/7/2021-Estt.IV Government of India Ministry of Jal Shakti Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation

Narmada Control Authority (NCA) is a Body Corporate set up by the Central Government in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 6A of the Inter State Water Disputes Act, 1956, for the purpose of securing compliance with the implementation of the decision and direction of the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal, The Narmada Control Authority has its headquarter at Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

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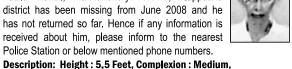
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Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

MISSING

Mehaboob, age 57, Ambanakulangara Veli Fazila Manzil, Mannanchery P/W-17, Alappuzha district has been missing from June 2008 and he has not returned so far. Hence if any information is received about him, please inform to the nearest Police Station or below mentioned phone numbers.



Body Shape: Lean, Wearing dress: Shirt and Pants Contact Number: ISHO Mannanchery

DvSP. Alappuzha District Police Chief, Alappuzha (1343/F2/2021/I&PRD)

9497975247 9497990041 94979 96982

Trinamool doesn't believe in poaching: O'Brien

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader in the Rajya Sabha Derek O'Brien on Tuesday said his party did not believe in 'poaching' or 'breaking any party' but was ready to welcome talented people with similar vision.

Mr. O'Brien was responding to questions from presspersons on Sushmita Dev joining the Trinamool Con-



gress from the Congress

"The All Indian Trina-

mool Congress does not believe in poaching and breaking. If there are talented people or share a similar vision and they reach out to us [AITC], we welcome them," he stated. Commenting on the im-

pact of Ms. Dev joining the Trinamool on the Opposition unity, he "reconfirmed" that Trinamool supremo Mamata Banerjee would attend a virtual meeting convened by Congress president Sonia Gandhi on August 20.

back to Assam, talk to your

"In Parliament, you have seen the Opposition working together. Everyone among them has a different relationship but our goal is the same," the Rajya Sabha member asserted.

Earlier, former Lok Sabha member and son of former President Pranab Mukherjee, Abhijit Mukherjee, had joined the Trinamool.

Award of DBT-Research Associateship in Biotechnology & Life Sciences for Candidates of North-East Region

Applications are invited from Indian Nationals of North-East Origin/Region for the award of "DBT-Research Associateship" for pursuing research in frontier areas of Biotechnology and Life Sciences. The Associateship is tenable in Research Institutions/Universities including non-profit R&D Institutions within India. The Associateships are awarded under a program sponsored by the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India.

Interested and eligible candidates are required to complete an online application at the following website: "http://ra.dbtindia.gov.in/". The last date for completing the online application for January 2022 batch is **September 30, 2021.** If needed, you may contact the National Program Coordinator by sending an email to "dbtra.mrdg@iisc.ac.in".

The National Program Coordinator, DBT-Research Associateship Program, Ground Floor, A-Wing, Department of Molecular Reproduction, Development & Genetics, Biological Sciences Building, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore-560012.

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The National Program Coordinator, DBT-Research Associateship Program, Ground Floor, A-Wing, Department of Molecular Reproduction, Development & Genetics, Biological Sciences Building, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore - 560012.

ED attaches assets linked to ex-MLA

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached assets worth ₹234 crore linked to former MLA Vivekanand Shankar Patil, who was the chairman of Karnala Nagari Sahakari Bank Limited, in connection with a bank fraud case.

The attached properties include the Karnala Sports Academy and several land parcels

The ED probe is based on a First Information Report registered by the Economic Offences Wing of the Mumbai police in 2019, after the fraud came to light during an audit conducted at the instance of the Reserve Bank of India.

The audit revealed that Mr. Patil, a four-time MLA, had allegedly been siphoning off funds from the bank through more than 60 fictitious loan accounts of organisations he had started.

Centre not for forming security force to protect judiciary, courts

SC had taken *suo motu* cognisance of attacks on judges, along with pending pleas

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Union government told the Supreme Court on Tuesday that it was "not advisable" to form a Central security force to protect the judiciary and court complexes. The government said security of courts was "better left to the States".

Appearing before a Bench led by Chief Justice of India (CJI) N.V. Ramana, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, for the Centre, said problems of security varied from State to State. The State police would be better equipped to gauge the deployment needs in local courts and take care of logistics of transporting crimiand protecting witnesses, among other crucial functions within court complexes. The Ministry of Home Affairs had issued ex-



tensive guidelines for the States to follow while protecting courts and the judiciary. Besides, Mr. Mehta said 'police' is a State subject under the Constitution.

The court had taken suo motu cognisance of the attacks on judges along with petitions pending since 2019 seeking better protection for the judiciary and in courts. The turning point was the recent murder of a judge in Jharkhand, Uttam Anand, in broad daylight.

The court had asked the Centre's opinion on forming a central security outfit in the manner of the Railway Protection Force to protect courts and judges. "It is not advisable to have

a central security force like the CRPF... There should be a fuller implementation of the guidelines of the Home Ministry. It is advisable that security is taken care of at the State level because problems vary from State to State. For example, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand have naxal problems... It has to be State-specific instead of country-specific," Mr. Mehta submitted.

But the court questioned the implementation of the guidelines and the poor security provided to courts.

"Question is whether the guidelines are followed and to what extent these governments are providing security... CCTVs cannot prevent a criminal from attacking a judge. There should be something in place to prevent threats, attacks on judges," Justice Surva Kant, on the Bench, told the Solicitor General.

Affidavits from States

Justice Kant said several States had not bothered to file affidavits detailing the security arrangements in place for courts. Others who had filed affidavits presented a "lazy picture" of the security arrangements. The Bench allowed the States to file their affidavits in 10 days subject to paying ₹1 lakh each as costs. The court warned that Chief Secretaries would be summoned in case of

CUCET to begin on Sept. 15 for 12 Central universities

Last date to register is Sept. 1, says National Testing Agency

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Central Universities Common Entrance Test (CU-CET) will be held on September 15, 16, 23 and 24 for admission to undergraduate, integrated and postgraduate programmes at 12 of the newer Central universities.

It will be conducted as a 120-minute, multiple choice, computer-based test, according to a National Testing Agency (NTA) notice.

Registrations opened on Monday, and the last date to register is September 1. According to a statement from the Central University of Punjab, which is acting as this year's nodal institution for the consortium that administers the examination and counselling process, the two Central universities of Kashmir and Orissa have



based test in over 150 centres across the country. • FILE РНОТО

opted out of the consortium this year and will invite applications for admission separately.

From the next academic year 2022-23, CUCET will cover admissions for all 45 Central universities, including the older and more prestigious ones such as the Del-University and the Iawaharlal Nehru University. The Centre had initially proposed to expand the test this year itself, in accordance with recommendations in the National Education Policy, but decided to delay implementation due to CO-VID-19 disruptions. The 12 participating institutions this year are the Assam University, and the Central Universities of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu, Iharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Punjab, Rajasthan, south

Gurkhas not to be tagged as foreigners

Assam govt. tells police's border wing

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT GUWAHATI

The Assam government's Political Department on Tuesday issued a notification ordering the State police's Border wing not to forward any case against Gurkhas to the Foreigners' Tribunals under the Foreigners' Act of 1946.

The official notification follows the Cabinet's decision on August 4 to exempt the community from being tagged as non-citizens and tried in the tribunals for ascertaining their citizenship or detaining and deporting

The Border wing is tasked with identifying people of

doubtful citizenship and serving them notices for a Foreigners' Tribunal – a quasi-judicial establishment

to take over.

According to the 2011 census, Assam has more than 5 lakh Gurkhas, most of whom came as members of armed forces under the British administration. Leaders of the community said about 22,000 Gurkhas were left out of the draft National Register of Citizens published on August 31, 2019.

The cases of some 2,500 Gurkhas are pending in a few of the 100 Foreigners' Tribunals in Assam. All such cases are to be withdrawn, a government directive said.

Wetland waddle



After the rain: A pair of one-horned rhinos enjoying the first wave of floodwater in the Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary in Morigaon district of Assam on Tuesday. • RITU RAJ KONWAF

Sikh emperor's statue vandalised in Pakistan

'Climate of fear' created, says India

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA LAHORE/NEW DELHI

A nine-foot-tall bronze statue of the first ruler of the Sikh Empire, Maharaja Ranjit Singh, was on Tuesday vandalised by an activist of the banned Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) at the Lahore Fort in Pakistan's Punjab province, according to media reports.

India has slammed the act, saying Pakistan has completely failed in its duty to prevent such attacks which are creating a "climate of fear" among the minority communities.

A video clip circulating on social media shows the accused chanting slogans. breaking the arm of the statue and dismantling Singh's bust from the horse and flinging it to the ground. The activist has been ar-

rested by the Punjab police, the Express Tribune newspaper reported. Shahbaz Gill, Special Assistant to Pakistan's Prime Minister on political communication, said that immediate action would be taken against the accused. India's External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said, "The Pakistani state has completely failed in its duty to prevent such attacks... This is creating a climate of fear for the minority communities to practise their faith."

Odisha plans 'odyssey' to wild cattle island

Hirakud reservoir to open for ecotourism

SATYASUNDAR BARIK BHUBANESWAR

There's every chance of visitors to the Hirakud reservoir in western Odisha bumping into the large numbers of cattle growing in the wild there for over 60 years.

The Odisha Forest and Environment Department is all set to begin 'Island Odyssey' and 'Hirakud Cruise' ecotourism packages for tourists to islands inside the reservoir when COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. 'Cattle island', one of three islands in the Hirakud reservoir, has been se-



Born free: Some of the wild cattle living on an island in the middle of the Hirakud reservoir. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

lected as a sight-seeing desti-

When large numbers of people were displaced from their villages when the Hirakud dam was constructed on the Mahanadi river in 1950s,

villagers could not take their cattle with them. They left their cattle behind in desert-

As the area started to submerge following the dam's construction, the cattle

moved up to Bhujapahad, an elevated place in the Telia Panchayat under Lakhanpur block of Jharsuguda district. Subsequently named 'Cattle island', the piece of land is surrounded by a vast sheet of water.

Hirakud Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Anshu Pragyan Das said, "The cattle show wild characteristics. They are not ferocious, but shy. If a person comes near, the animals just run away. When the Hirakud cruise begins, tourists will get to see these cattle from a distance. We are not going to disturb the cattle population." Ms. Das said the ecotourism project will be run with the involvement of local fisher families.

Acquitted men move Delhi HC seeking 'right to be forgotten'

Court asks Google, Centre to respond to petition

STAFF REPORTER

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday asked the Centre and search engine giant Google to respond to a petition by two businessmen, who have invoked the "right to be forgotten", and sought the removal of certain articles relating to a criminal case lodged against them, from various online

Justice Rekha Palli, however, declined to grant any interim relief to the businessmen at this stage saying, "You have a right to privacy but we have to see how we can balance it". The judge posted the case for further hearing on October 28.

Businessmen Jaideep Mirchandani, an NRI, and Siraj Amani, in their joint petition, said they were aggrieved by the certain online articles related to their arrest in a 2002 case, in which they were acquitted in 2016.

The petition argued that they "had been honourably discharged by the competent courts, yet the alleged articles and wrong information available online against petitioners continue to haunt them".

The plea said the businessmen have the "right to be forgotten" or a "right to delink" in the context of the facts and circumstances of the case.

It said the petitioners have a right to ask the authorities to remove all the links related to him on the search index, which is "irrelevant and obsolete".

Tinder to roll out ID verification

Popular online dating platform Tinder on Tuesday said it would make ID verification available to members around the world in the coming quarters.

The feature, it said, will initially be voluntary, except where mandated by law, and will evolve based on inputs received.

"ID verification is complex and nuanced, which is why we are taking a testand-learn approach to the roll-out," Rory Kozoll, head, Trust and Safety Product at Tinder, said.

TH CROSSWORD+ 13329

16 Popular bit of routine to stay healthy that's used by asthmatics (7) **17** Lack self-restraint, wasting money (7)

We are digital now. Come solve online.

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

19 Name enclosure in exterior of airplane – it houses the engine (7)

21 Director getting out of mini jet (4)

22 Dirty secret about celebrity finally released in exclusive (10) 25 Revolutionary type of music in online medley is unique (9)

26 Fellow catching thieves, extremely courageous (5) 27 Imprisons that crazy hater of mankind (13)

2 Huge yard with canopy (7)

3 Indicate antelope across river in back-country (10)

4 Son on ecstasy in pub, becoming more depraved (5)

5 Standard practice by Republican, one involved in deception (9)

6 Start to drink alcoholic spirit in cask (4) 7 Having great success in Ohio, raced up to oust President in

election (2,1,4)8 Helping to rescue old revolutionary by primarily intense

counter-attack (11)

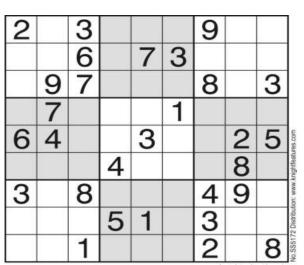
10 Flourishing cornfield in sight, mostly green (3-8) 13 Journalist and trendy girl, enthralled by drink, sleeping together (8,2)

15 Model perhaps repented snorting cocaine (9)

18 Snide rogue drinking up fine port in Ghana (7)

20 Tall stories after consuming drink? That's an understatement (7) 23 Roof worker in superstructure, literally upside down (5)

SUDOKU



Solution to puzzle 13328 Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★公公公

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FAITH

Mysterious workings of fate

Fate is powerful in the lives of people. All beings, right from Brahma to the tiniest ant, are under its influence and have to abide by its dictates. The truth is that one's good and bad deeds have to bear fruit. This means that each one has to experience the fruits of one's actions, good or bad. The effects last only as long as these are felt and experienced.

In the Ramayana, where the main purpose of Rama avatar is Ravana samhara, many practical aspects of destiny's role are discussed as and when the events unfold, pointed out Sri R. Krishnamurthy Sastrigal in a discourse. Alongside, there are many lessons for humanity trying to cope with calamities beyond one's control, as when Rama's coronation is cancelled. Rama accepts it with equanimity and shows by example the way to deal with such occurrences that are characteristic of life. Whoever thought that Kaikeyi, who had always showered affection on Rama, should turn and deflect in this manner? Rama tells Lakshmana that though Kaikeyi bears the burden of blame, it is clear that she is impelled by fate. Lakshmana represents the rational mind that does not believe in fate. He is angry with his father who has forgotten the dharma that the eldest son alone is heir to the kingdom and has tamely yielded to the wishes of Kaikeyi.

None can ever hope to decipher the mysterious workings of fate. It is known only after the event has taken place, that is, only when the result is experienced. The case of Parikshit is another example to illustrate the power of fate. The king is led to face the curse of death by snake bite for his inadvertent act towards a sage in meditation. A purana story describes how destiny had its final say despite all efforts on the part of the king to fortify himself against the curse from happening.

8 Tree in decay, largely discoloured (5)

9 Inflame with amendment finally in act (9)

ACROSS

12 Execute tips for judo here? (4) 14 Carelessly spill catches say in fielding position (3,4)

11 Slaving on base, attempts to get grooming products (10)

1 How thief might enter house using dishonest means (2,3,4,4)

24 Buddhist monk in cell, a master (4)

Biden defends U.S.'s Afghan withdrawal

As panic grips Kabul, American President admits Taliban takeover came quicker than anticipated

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

U.S. President Joe Biden on Monday defended the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan after the Taliban's stunning military takeover that triggered panic in Kabul with thousands mobbing the airport in a desperate attempt to flee.

In his first public appearance since the Islamist insurgents seized control of the country at the weekend, he admitted the Taliban advance had unfolded more quickly than expected.

Heaping criticism at the Western-backed government that was ousted with shockingly little resistance, he said U.S. troops could not defend a nation whose leaders "gave up and fled", as did President Ashraf Ghani.

"We gave them every chance to determine their own future. We could not provide them with the will to fight for that future," Mr. Biden said in his address at the White House. "American



Off to safety: Evacuees crammed inside a U.S. Air Force C-17 Globemaster III transport aircraft, carrying some 640 Afghans from Kabul to Qatar on Sunday. • REUTERS

troops cannot and should not be fighting in a war and dying in a war that Afghan forces are not willing to fight for themselves."

Panick stricken residents The Taliban captured Kabul, and most other main cities. with little bloodshed. But in the capital, panic gripped many residents who feared a repeat of the Taliban's brutal

Islamist rule from 1996 to 2001. At the airport, thousands of Afghans scrambled to board the few flights avail-

The United States has sent 6,000 troops to ensure the safe evacuation of Embassy staff, as well as Afghans who worked as interpreters or in other support roles.

Other governments including France, Germany and Australia also organised charter flights.

Taliban fighters have taken over checkpoints across Kabul, and militants with rifles slung over their shoulders walked through the streets of the Green Zone, the heavily fortified district that houses most embassies international organisations.

Mr. Ghani's departure on

Sunday finalised the collapse of his government. His whereabouts are currently unknown.

The Taliban sought to reassure the international community that Afghans should not fear them, with co-founder Abdul Ghani Baradar saying the militants needed to show that they could "serve our nation and ensure security". But many Afghans struggled to take comfort from such assurances. "It is a nightmare for educated women who envisioned a brighter future for themselves and generations to come," Aisha Khurram, a former youth representative to the UN, told AFP.

The State Department said any U.S. ties with a Taliban government would depend on their respect of human rights and rejection of extremism. Mr. Biden issued a stern warning to the Taliban, saying any threats to U.S. interests would be met with a "devastating" military

Saleh says he's 'legitimate caretaker President of Afghanistan'

I will never be under one ceiling with the Taliban, the former Vice-President says from Panjshir Valley

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Afghanistan's defiant Vice-President Amrullah Saleh said on Tuesday he is "the legitimate caretaker President" after President Ashraf Ghani fled the country.

"Clarity: As per d constitution of Afg, in absence, escape, resignation or death of the President the FVP becomes the caretaker President. I am currently inside my country & am the legitimate care taker President. Am reaching out to all leaders to secure their support & consensus," Mr. Saleh posted on Twitter.

It appears that Mr. Saleh has retreated to the country's last remaining holdout: the Panjshir Valley in the northeast of Kabul.

"I won't disappoint millions who listened to me. I will never be under one ceiling with Taliban. NEVER," he wrote in English on Twitter on Sunday, before going underground.

A day later, pictures began to surface on social media of the former Vice-President with the son of his former mentor and famed anti-Taliban fighter Ahmed Shah



Amrullah Saleh

Massoud in Panjshir - a mountainous redoubt tucked into the Hindu Kush. Mr. Saleh and Mr. Massoud's son, who commands

a militia force, appear to be putting together the first pieces of a guerilla movement to take on the victorious Taliban, as fighters regroup in Panjshir.

"We will not allow the Taliban to enter Panjshir and will resist with all our might and power, and fight them," one resident said on condition of anonymity.

History with Taliban

Such a battle would be the latest in Mr. Saleh's long struggle against the Taliban as a one-time insurgent vice premier.

Orphaned at a young age, Mr. Saleh first fought alongside guerilla commander Massoud in the 1990s. He went on to serve in his government before being chased out of Kabul when the Taliban captured it in

The hardliners then tortured his sister in their bid to hunt him down, Mr. Saleh has said.

After the September 11, 2001, attacks, Mr. Saleh then a part of the anti-Taliban resistance - became a key asset for the CIA.

Hasty U.S. pullout caused a severely adverse impact: China

'A regime cannot stand without the support of its people'

ANANTH KRISHNAN

China on Tuesday said the "hasty" United States withdrawal from Afghanistan had caused "a severely adverse impact" there and conveyed to Washington that it could not "on the one hand work hard to contain China" and "on the other count on China's support" to help stabilise the country.

The message was delivered in a phone call on Tuesday between Foreign Minister Wang Yi and Secretary of State Anthony Blinken, which China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) said in a statement took place at the latter's request.

Mr. Wang criticised the U.S. withdrawal to Mr. Blinken as well as it's broader Afghan strategy over the past 20 years, delivering a withering assessment of its legacy there, according to the MFA statement carrying a readout of the call.

The U.S. State Department in a brief statement said Mr. Blinken had, during the call, briefed China about developments in Afghanistan, including the security situation and efforts to bring U.S. and Chinese citizens to safety.

The MFA said Mr. Wang had "elaborated" on China's



position "saying that facts have once again proved that it is difficult to gain a foothold in a country with a completely different history, culture and national conditions by mechanically copying foreign models."

People's support

"A regime cannot stand without the support of its people, and using power and military means to solve problems will only cause more problems. Such lessons deserve serious reflection," he told Mr. Blinken.

He also said "the hasty U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan has caused a severely adverse impact on the situation in Afghanistan and it would not be responsible if it continues to create new problems."

He criticised the previous Donald Trump administra-

tion's move "to remove the Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement from its list of terrorist organisations and apply double standards on the issue of counter-terrorism". Among China's concerns in Afghanistan is the presence of ETIM jihadists there which Beijing has said has carried out attacks in its western Xinjiang region, which shares a border with Afghanistan.

Mr. Wang also said that cooperating on Afghanistan would not be possible while other tensions remained in the U.S.-China relationship. "China stands ready to have communication and dialogue with the United States to push for a soft landing of the Afghan issue, so that a new civil war or humanitarian disaster will be prevented in Afghanistan and the country will not relapse into a hotbed and shelter for terrorism," he said.

"However, the United States cannot, on the one hand, work hard to contain and suppress China and undermine China's legitimate rights and interests," Mr. Wang said. "On the other hand, it counts on China's support and cooperation. Such logic has never existed in international exchanges."

'Have taken Afghan Taliban on board'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Interior Minister Sheikh Rasheed Ahmad on Tuesday said Pakistan has taken the Afghan Taliban on board over the issue of the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) terror group, hoping that Afghanistan's

soil would not be used

against his country.

Mr. Ahmad's comments come as reports said key TTP commanders were released from jails in Afghanistan as the Taliban took over the country. Militants from the TTP or Pakistani Taliban have carried out major terror attacks across Pakistan in recent years.

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Online Submission

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Maulana Faqir Mohammad, former deputy chief of the TTP, was released on Sunday as the Taliban gained control of Kabul.

Mr. Ahmad said the banned TTP and Daesh militants were present in Afghanistan's mountainous ranges of Nuristan and Nighar.

18.08.2021

15.09.2021 (5.30 p.m.)

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Aicrosoft Team

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Prospective bidders should visit the above NMDC Limited website from time to time to tak

note of corrigendum, if any.
For further details logon to Tender Section of our website: www.nmdc.co.in under tende

The candidates can register the application only

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Last date for Registration and

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+ 'IS, JeM, LeT militants entered Kabul'

Taliban leaders trying to mobilise themselves to stop foreign fighters

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE

A large number of fighters belonging to the Islamic State (IS), Jaish-e-Mohammed (leM) and Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) have entered Afghanistan capital Kabul in the last few days, sources on the ground have informed.

The Taliban leadership is aware of the presence of these foreign terrorists, who entered the city carrying the Taliban flag. It is understood that the groups are operating in different parts of the city and are not under the control of the Taliban.

Under the agreement with the U.S., the Taliban are committed to preventing terrorist groups from operating in Afghanistan and are expected to evict these groups from Kabul in the next few days.

An Afghan human rights worker who works closely with the Taliban firming up the Taliban's rule over political office in Doha said the next Kabul. There are concerns about few days are going to be critical as the groups may indulge in operations on their own in violation of the orders of the Taliban leadership.

Taliban leaders are trying to mobilise themselves to prevent the foreign fighters from finding a base in Kabul and some developments in that direction took place late on Monday with the arrival of Mullah Yaqub, son of the late Mullah Omar, founder of the Taliban.

Possible clashes

Yaqub arrived from Quetta, where the Taliban leaders have been based for decades. He is the 'chief of oper-

under NABARD

ations' of the Taliban forces, and it is expected that he will soon begin possible clashes that may take place between these terror groups and the Taliban if the latter try to dislodge them militarily.

"Irrespective of the threats, the Taliban have asked them to leave Afghanistan and they will have to obey the orders," said the human rights worker over phone from a location in Afghanistan.

The Taliban have already engaged former President Hamid Karzai, Tajik leader and former CEO of Afghanistan Abdullah Abdullah and Hezb-e-Islami chief Gulbuddin Hekmatyar seeking support in forming the next government.

China stages assault drills near Taiwan

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chinese fighter jets, antisubmarine aircraft and combat ships conducted assault drills near Taiwan on Tuesday with the People's Liberation Army saying the exercise was necessary to safeguard China's sovereignty.

China has stepped up military exercises around self-ruled Taiwan, which it considers its own territory.

The recent U.S.-Taiwan provocations had severely violated Chinese sovereignty, Eastern Theatre Command spokesman Shi Yi said in a statement.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

(CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION) **E-TENDER NOTICE NO.** 22-CECNMS-2021-E-175921 23-CECNMS-2021-E-173493

DATED 13-08-2021 For and on behalf of The President of India The Chief Engineer, Construction, Southern Railway, Egmore, Chennai-600008 invites r for the following work(s) as r

Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) in our portal www.ireps.gov.in The Contractors intending to apply for the ender needs to get enrolled in the portal www.ireps.gov.in and only online enders will be accepted. lame of the work: Proposed new BG

line between Chinnasalem-Kallakurichi Proposed construction of Major Bridge 6x16.80m dear span PSC 'I' Girder a Ch: 17350 and other miscellaneous works Approximate Cash Value: ₹ 54457913.05 Earnest Money Deposit: ₹ 0.0

Period of Completion in Months: 12 (Twelve Name of the work: Ponmalai Workshop Proposed replacing of corroded roo heets (GI & AC sheets) including he damaged north light roofing in PONMALAI Workshop. Pink Book iten lo PB#1000/2018-19/NR-UW6 (PB

1057 of SR PINK BOOK 2020-21). Approximate Cash Value: ₹ 72815231.31 Earnest Money Deposit: ₹ 0.0 Period of Completion in Months: 10 (Ten)

Name of the work: Doubling of Track etween SALEM and OMALUR - Assembling and linking of track, Points and crossings dumping of ballast, Transportation of P.way SALEM and OMALUR

Approximate Cash Value: ₹ 43430601.85 Earnest Money Deposit: ₹ 0.0 Period of Completion in Months: 6 (Six)

Closing Date @ 15.30 hrs: 06-09-2021 For further details refer to web portal www.ireps.gov.in or contact Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Construction E.V.R. High Road, Egmore, Chennai-60008 Chief Engineer (Construction),

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राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से पांच साल की मरम्मत सहित के लिए, उपयुक्त श्रेणी मे

सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूरसंचार विभाग/ रेल्वे इत्वादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के ''ए'' एवं ''एए'' श्रेणों के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

मुख्यालय का नाम	100	कायालय आतारक्त मुख्य आभयता सा.ान.ाव. सम्भाग काटा
निविदा का कार्य	1	सम्भाग कोटा के अधीन बारां जिले में DMFT योजनान्तर्गत सड़क का निर्माण कार्य। [17 पैकेज]
निविदा की कुल लागत		रु.9918.20 लाख
बिड सिक्योरिटी	1	Bid Securing declaration form attached in RFP.
ऑन लाइन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख	#3	23.08.2021 से 13.09.2021 सार्व 6.00 बजे तक
ऑन लाइन निविदा फार्म जमा कराने की तारीख	48	23.08.2021 से 13.09.2021 सार्व 6.00 बजे तक
ऑन लाइन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तारीख	***	निविदा खोलने की तिथि 15.09.2021 अपरान्ह 03.00 बजे कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता, सा.नि.वि. संभाग कोटा
प्रीबिड मीटिंग की दिनांक	3448	03.09.2021 प्रातः 11.00 बजे (शुक्रवार), कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा.नि.वि. संभाग कोटा
निविदा वैधता अवधि	1	150 दिवस

निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विवरण वेबसाइट "www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in" http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in तथा http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाइट http://eproc.rajasthar

gov.in पर रजिस्टर करवाना आवश्यक है। UBN No. PWD2122WLOB04687 PWD2122WSOB04688 PWD2122WLOB04689 PWD2122WLOB04690 PWD2122WLOB04693 PWD2122WLOB04691 PWD2122WLOB04694 PWD2122WLOB04692 PWD2122WSOB04695

PWD2122WSOB04696 . PWD2122WLOB04697 PWD2122WLOB04698
 PWD2122WLOB04701 13 PWD2122WLOB04699 14. PWD2122WSOB04700 [सुरेश कुमार बैरवा]. अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग कोटा DIPR/C/7933/2021

Maki Kaji, godfather of Sudoku, dies in Japan

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Maki Kaji, the creator of the popular numbers puzzle Sudoku whose life's work was spreading the joy of puzzles, has died, his Japanese company said on Tuesday. He was 69 and had bile duct cancer. Known as the "Godfather of Sudoku,"

Kaji created the puzzle to be easy for children and others who didn't want to think too hard. Its name is made up of the Japanese characters for "number" and "single," and players place the numbers 1

through 9 in rows, columns and blocks without repeating them. Ironically, it wasn't

until 2004 when Sudoku became a global hit, after a fan from New Zealand pitched it and

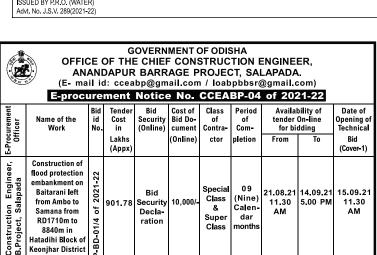
got it published in the British newspaper The Times. Two years later, Japan rediscovered its own puzzle as a "gyakuyunyu",

Kaji was chief executive at his puzzle company, Nikoli Co., until July and died on August 10 at his home in Mitaka, a city in the Tokyo metro area.

Originally, Sudoku was called "Suji-wa-Dokushin-ni-Kagiru", which translates to, "Numbers should be single, a bachelor".

Born in the main northern island of Hokkaido, Kaji started Japan's first puzzle magazine after dropping out of Keio University in Tokyo. He founded Nikoli in 1983, and came up with Sudoku about the same time.





Further details can be seen from the Govt, website www.tendersorissa,gov.in / www.dowrodisha,gov.in Addendum / corrigendum / cancellation if any required will be published in Govt. website only Chief Construction Engineer. Anandapur Barrage Project, Salapada OIPR-32180/11/0005/2122

e-Procurement Tender Notice (Paper Notification) TSSPDCL intends to float tenders for procurement of (a) 12.5 MVA Power Transformers (b) 11K 00A (TT) AB Switches with porcelain type solid core insulators (c) 8.0 Mtrs/140 Kgs & 9.1 Mtrs 280 Kgs PSCC Poles to various circles of TSSPDCL and (d) 33KV 800A (Conv.) Double Break At Switches with insulators on e-procurement platform. For further details of each item above, please visi www.tender.telangana.gov.in none: 040-23431319, 1035, 1033, 1026, 1360. DIPR R.O.No.14972/ADVT/1/2021-22 Dt. 17.08.2021 TELANGANA STATE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (TSTDC) Request For Proposal (RFP) - 2nd Call

election of Master Planning, Architectural & Engineering Consultant for Riverfror Development Project at Lower Manair Dam, Karimnagar, Telangana, India Development Project at Lower Manair Dam, Karimnagar, Telangana, India

Government of Telangana, India is developing a Riverfront with Tourism facilities at Downstream of
Lower Manair Dam, Karimnagar as a Leisure & Entertainment Hub. On behalf of Government of
Telangana, TSTDC is inviting proposals from experienced Master Planning, Architectural &
Engineering Consultancy Agencies for providing comprehensive services for Master Planning, detailed
Architectural & Engineering services for implementations of the project. More details on the scope of
services, eligibility criteria for selection and other terms of contract are provided in the Request for
Proposal (RFP). THE BIDDING PROCESS: A single stage bidding process is being adopted for selection of a qualified Consultant through the OCBS System. The RFP Document and any further updates
may be downloaded from the website www.tstdc.in / https://tourism.telangana.gov.in/home from
18.08.2021 onwards, Proposal Due date is before 16.00 hrs. 1ST on 30.08.2021. Contact details
for any clarifications: Executive Director, Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation
Ltd (TSTDC), Tourism House, Himayathnagar, Hyderabad - 500 029 India. Ph. : 941-99660 00393,
edprojects@tstdc.in Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation Limited, 3-6-891, Tourism House, R.O.No.: 2088-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2021-22 Himayathnagar, Hyderabad-500029.

MARKET WATCH

	17-08-2021	% CHANGE
Sensex	55,792	0.38
US Dollar	74.35	-0.14
Gold	46,460	1.08
Brent oil	69.81	1.02

NIFTY 50		
	PRICE	CHANG
Adani Ports	692.65	14.2
Asian Paints	3015.30	43.9
Axis Bank	756.75.	5.2
Bajaj Auto	3807.45	59.0
Bajaj Finserv	. 14737.25.	187.9
Bajaj Finance		
Bharti Airtel	626.35.	7.7
BPCL	465.00.	1.0
Britannia Ind	3696.50	41.2
Cipla	904.65	16.4
Coal India		
Divis Lab	4908.35	9.4
Dr Reddys Lab	4700.50.	39.3
Eicher Motors	2515.65	19.8
Grasim Ind	1481.00	-9.9
HCL Tech	1142.95	19.3
HDFC		
HDFC Bank	1514.65	-15.9
HDFC Life	669.40.	-4.1
Hero MotoCorp	2782.60.	35.2
Hindalco	436.60	5.1
Hind Unilever	2483.80	57.4
ICICI Bank	701.20	-1.4
IndusInd Bank	1000.20	18.8
Infosys	1741.65	37.2
Indian OilCorp	105.70.	-1.5
ITC	209.20	1.7
JSW Steel	744.25.	17.4
Kotak Bank		
L&T		
M&M		
Maruti Suzuki	6885.40.	58.5
Nestle India Ltd		
NTPC	117.40	-1.4
ONGC	113.85	-1.6
PowerGrid Corp		
Reliance Ind	2164.25	-9.2
SBI Life		
State Bank		
Shree Cement		
Sun Pharma		
Tata Consume		
Products Ltd.		30.6
Tata Motors		
Tata Steel		
	2553.76	

EXCHANGE RAT	163	l e								
Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 17										
CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL								
US Dollar	74.15	74.47								
Euro	87.24	87.65								
British Pound	.102.24	102.71								
Japanese Yen (100).	67.86	68.16								
Chinese Yuan	11.44	11.49								
Swiss Franc	81.38	81.73								
Singapore Dollar	54.55	54.80								
Canadian Dollar	58.76	59.02								
Malaysian Ringitt	17.50	17.58								

. 45.85

UltraTech Cement



Samsung to train youth for retail electronics jobs

Samsung Electronics on Tuesday said it has signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Skill Development Corporation for 'Samsung DOST (Digital & Offline Skills Training)' wherein it aims to make 50.000 vouth job-ready for the electronics retail sector over the next few years.

RBI allows HDFC Bank to issue new credit cards

BENGALURU The Reserve Bank of India

grew 25% to reach \$38 billion in FY21 while the overall retail market In India 7.3% contraction in the GDP. came under a two-month experienced multiple regional pockets during the course of the year, Bain &

Sterlite Power Transmission has filed preliminary papers with capital markets regulator SEBI to raise ₹1,250 crore through an initial share-sale. The initial public offer (IPO) will see sale of equity shares aggregating up to ₹1,250 crore by the company, according to the draft red herring prospectus. The offer will include a reservation of shares for employees of the company. PTI

Exporters to get duty relief as part of Jan. 1 RoDTEP scheme

The rebates range from 0.5% to 4.3% of the FOB value of outbound consignments

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Centre on Tuesday notified the rates and norms for the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme, with Commerce Secretary B.V.R. Subrahmanyam asserting it would put 'direct cash in the pockets of exporters' soon.

The RoDTEP scheme had kicked in from January 1, replacing the earlier Merchandise and Services Export Incentive Schemes (MEIS and SEIS) that were in violation of WTO norms.

A budgetary allocation of ₹12,454 crore has been made for 2021-22 under the scheme which covers 8,555 tariff lines, accounting for



Spinning shades: Yarns and fibres have been granted the highest rebate, toffees the lowest. • ARUNANGSU ROY CHOWDHURY

about 75% of traded items and 65% of India's exports. To enable zero rating of exports by ensuring domestic taxes are not exported, all taxes, including those levied by States and even Gram Panchayats, will be refunded

under the scheme

The rebates under RoD-TEP, which Director General of Foreign Trade Amit Yadav said is WTO-compliant as per legal advice, range from 0.5% to 4.3% of the Free On Board value of outbound consignments. The lowest rate is offered on items like chocolates, toffees and sugar confectionary, while yarns and fibres have been granted the highest rate.

"Steel, pharma and chemicals have not been included under the scheme because their exports have done well without incentives," said Mr. Subrahmanyam. "There are a couple of more schemes in the pipeline to help exporters, but RoDTEP, which is valid till March 31, 2024, will be our flagship scheme."

The top trade official also assured of a resolution of the pending dues under the MEIS and SEIS by the first week of September, through a 'staggered' mechanism.

Economy gaining a grip, price rise has peaked: RBI officials

'Time is nigh' for central bank digital currency, they write

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The economy is gaining traction with a gradual pickup in manufacturing activity and moderation in contraction of services, spurred by comfortable liquidity, RBI officials wrote in an article.

Observing that the retreat of the second wave of coronavirus pandemic had been slow, the officials writing on the 'State of Economy' in the August edition of the RBI Bulletin said, 'aggregate demand conditions are buoyed by the release of pent-up demand post unlock, while the supply situation is improving with the monsoon catching up to normal levels and sowing gaining pace'.

"Manufacturing is gra-



dually turning around." On inflation, the officials said the headline CPI inflation for July 2021 came in at 5.6%, down 70 bps from 6.3% in June, "reinforcing the view that the recent upsurge has peaked and the

worst would be behind us". On a central bank digital currency (CBDC), a fiat liability denominated in the national unit of account that is digitally issued and accessible to all economic agents, the RBI officials wrote "there is a quiet confidence within that its time is nigh".

'Complement cash'

They said the CBDC may not directly replace demand deposits held in banks and would complement physical cash. It would compete with other online and offline payment methods and thereby support a more resilient and diverse payment system while shunning the risks associated with private digital currencies.

The RBI was conscious that the CBDC had to be meticulously planned, designed and tested, they wrote.

Will enact judge's order if no SC stay: HC tells FRL

No third option: court on Amazon plea

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The Delhi High Court Tuesday said it would implement the single-judge order restraining Future Retail Ltd. (FRL) from going ahead with the ₹24,713 crore deal to sell its business to Reliance Retail, which was objected to by e-commerce major Amazon, in case no stay was obtained from the Supreme Court within four weeks.

Kait, hearing Amazon's plea for enforcement of the award by Singapore's Emergency Arbitrator (EA) restraining FRL from going ahead with the deal, said that in the absence of any stay from the apex court, he had no option but to enforce

Justice Suresh Kumar



the order passed by Justice J.R. Midha on March 18.

"Either get a stay within 2-3 weeks...or comply with the order. This court has no third option," he said.

Besides restraining FRL, Justice Midha had imposed costs of ₹20 lakh on the Future Group and associates and ordered attachment of properties. Further hearing is set for September 17.

RBI unveils financial inclusion index

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Tuesday announced the formation of a composite Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) to capture the extent of financial inclusion across the country. The FI-Index for the period ended March 2021 stood at 53.9 compared with 43.4 for the period ended March 2017.

The annual FI-Index will be published in July every year, the RBI said in a release. The index incorporates details of banking, ininsurance, vestments, postal as well as the pension sector in consultation with the government and respective sectoral regula-

'Scrappage norms to spur new vehicle demand by up to 30%'

Centre, States to get ₹40,000 crore additional GST: Gadkari

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The recently unveiled automobile scrappage policy will help boost new vehicle demand in the country by about 25-30%, leading to additional GST revenues of about ₹40,000 crore for the Centre and States, Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said on Tuesday.

The Minister added that the policy would help India become the top-most auto manufacturing hub in the next 5 years. "There are about 1 crore end-of-life vehicles in the country... and this data is three years old ... People will not buy new veh-



icle if they don't scrap the older vehicles," he said. He also clarified that reduction of road tax by up to 25% by States is not just an advisory.

"We are authorised under the concurrent list to decide the principle of taxation... Scrappage policy will lead to an increase in revenue for State governments as there

will be a 25-30% increase in auto sales and they will get GST... Centre and State governments will get ₹40,000 crore each... Employment will go up, pollution will decrease," he explained. Mr. Gadkari said the de-

partment had also requested the auto sector to give discounts of 5% on new models as incentive for consumers to scrap vehicles.

Amit Varadan, joint secretary, added that the Ministry had estimated savings of about ₹1.15 lakh in 5 years on new vehicle purchase following scrapping of the old vehicle. For trucks, this could go up to ₹8.32 lakhs in five years.

2021-2022 through Online only

Information Technology

Electronic Media

Tata Steel interested in **RINL: CEO**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

Tata Steel is interested in acquiring state-owned Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), the company's CEO and MD, T.V. Narendran, said. RINL, under the Ministry of Steel, owns a 7.3 million-tonne plant in Visakhapatnam.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on January 27 gave 'in-principle' approval for 100% disinvestment of government stake in RINL. Asked about Tata Steel's interest in RINL, Mr. Narendran replied in affirmative. "There is a great opportunity because it is east as well as it is south, it is a coastal plant, so there are many advantages," he told PTI.

Crystal Science

Applied Geology

English

SEBI cuts post-IPO lock-in for promoters to 18 months

Norms for issue of sweat equity by new-age firms also eased

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

Markets regulator SEBI has reduced the minimum lockin period for promoters' investment post an initial public offering (IPO) to 18 months from three years, under certain conditions.

The move comes at a time when many firms are eyeing a listing on the bourses.

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has also streamlined the disclosure requirements of group companies. In a notification, SEBI said that if the object of the issue involves offer-for-sale or financing other than for capital expenditure for a project, then the minimum promoters' contribution of 20% would be locked in for 18 months from the date of allotment in the

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Retail sales across India con-

tinued to recover in July,

reaching 72% of the pre-

pandemic levels of July

2019, and businesses are

pinning hopes on the festive

seasons for a further boost,

Retailers Association of In-

The rate of recovery was

In RAI's latest business

survey, retail businesses in

south India have indicated a

sharp comeback with sales

at 82% of the pre-pandemic

levels (July 2019), as against

to improve, registering sales

at 57% of pre-pandemic le-

vels. "This is mainly be-

cause of prolonged curbs in

However, west India is yet

50% sales in June 2021.

50% of pre-pandemic levels

in June 2021, the RAI said.

dia (RAI) said on Tuesday.



period is three years.

Holdings disclosure

Retail sales touch 72% of

pre-pandemic level: RAI

'Businesses eye festival season boost'

SEBI also amended the takeover regulations because of the implementation of the System Driven Disclosures. Under the new rule, certain disclosure obligations for acquirers / promoters on acquisition or disposal of shares aggregating to 5% and

In July this year,

quick-service

restaurant sales

were at 97% of

pre-pandemic

levels of 2019

Maharashtra that disrupted

the smooth functioning of...

retail in the State," RAI said

recovered the most with

sales at 97% of pre-pandem-

significant sales recovery for

retail businesses as the fes-

tive season approaches,

provided restrictions on

modern retail are relaxed

across the country, allowing

smooth operations and re-

turn to normalcy," said Ku-

mar Rajagopalan, CEO, RAI.

Quick service restaurants

"There is a possibility of

in a statement.

any change of 2% thereafter, annual shareholding disclosures and creation or invocation or release of encumbrance registered depository systems under takeover regulations would not be applicable.

The amendment will be effective April 1, 2022, the regulator said in a notification, dated August 13.

The regulator also eased norms on the quantum of sweat equity that can be issued by new-age tech firms listed on the Innovators Growth Platform. The yearly limit for sweat equity shares will be 15%, while the overall limit will be 50% of the paidup capital at any time.

This enhanced overall limit will be applicable for 10 years from the date of the company's incorporation.

SII buys stake

in biggest vial

REUTERS

BENGALURU

maker in India

Serum Institute of India

(SII) has bought a 50%

stake in vials maker Schott

Kaisha, the firms said, as

the world's largest vaccine

maker aims to secure phar-

maceutical packaging to

meet rising demand due to

chain is of strategic impor-

tance," said Adar Poona-

walla, CEO, SII. "As a long-

time customer, we use

(Schott's) vials and syring-

es to store our vaccines, in-

Schott Kaisha is a JV bet-

ween specialty glassmak-

ers Schott AG from Germa-

ny and India's Kaisha,

making the highest num-

ber of ampoules and vials

in the country at about 2.5

billion units per year.

cluding Covishield."

"Securing this supply

the pandemic.

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD. Regd. Office :- PSEB H.O.Building, The Mall, Patiala Corporate Identification Number (CIN) : U40109PB2010SGC033813

TENDER ENQUIRY No.: QQ- 2320/PO-P

Chief Purchase Officer/ MM, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL 2nd floor, Multistory Building, The Mall, Patiala, invites E-Tender for Procurement of 6,00,000 Nos 11 kV, Brown glazed Pin Insulators with cemented lead thimbles (without pins) suitable for small steel head G.I. Pins, as per PSPCL specification No. QQ-2320/ PSPCL/PO-P. For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab

NOTE: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in C - 308/21

DPRPB 76155/12/407/2021/6851

LOOKOUT NOTICE

Boby J.S. Various addresses used by the accused 1. Bobby J S (Joy Selina), S/o Joykutty, Mulakuvila, Melethil Veedu, Chenkulam PO, Poovapalli, Kollam, Kerala 2. Boby. J.S, 601/6(13,332), Mulakuvila, Emmanuel House, Puduppariyaram, PKD



3. Boby, J.S. Kulavanmukku, Kuzhalmannam PO, Palakkad The above shown is the photograph of Boby. J.S S/o Joyikutty, 11/396, Aneesh Bhavan, Kannadi PO, Palakkad who had been using the different addresses shown above. He is wanted in Crime Branch Crimes - 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336 / CB/ PKD/13 U/s 420, 465, 468, 471, 120(b) r/w 34 IPC cases investigated by Crime Branch, Palakkad. He has cheated the Government to the tune of Rs.13.24.80.000/-

Any information received about the person may be forwarded to 1. Superintendent of Police, Crime Branch, Palakkad 9497996945 9497990214 2. DySP III, Crime Branch, Palakkad 3. Detective Inspector-V, Crime Branch, Palakkad 9497981052

(1346/F2/2021/I&PRD)

office complex, 9th Main, 9th Cross, Jayanagara 2nd Block, Bengaluru - 560 011. No: EEP(S)/E-Procu/09/2021-22 **INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)**

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Project South, South Zone

(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only) (TWO COVER SYSTEM) The Executive Engineer, Project South, BBMP,

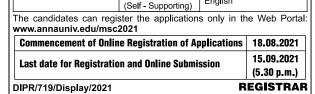
Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Name of the Work lApprox. Amount put to Tender Construction of Multipurpose Building in (र. in Lakhs) Byrasandra in Ward No-169 Byrasandra (Old 200.00 Annexure-2) New Sl. No-15 <u>Calendar of Events:</u> (1) Tenders must be submitted online

through e-procurment portal on or before 16.09.2021 at 4:00 pm. (2) Pre-Bid meeting will be held on 24.08.2021 at 3:00 pm in the Office of the Executive Engineer Project (South). (3) Last Date & Time for Receipt of Tenders is 16.09.2021 upto 4:00 pm (4) Opening of Technical Bid: **18.09.2021** at **4:30** pm (5) Financial Bid opening date: 23.09.2021 at 4:00 pm or After Technical bid Approval. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Engineer, **Project South**

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE. Follow Physical Hygiene



ANNA UNIVERSITY

Chennai - 600 025

Admissions to M.Sc. (5 year Integrated) / M.Sc. (2 year)

M.Phil. Degree Programmes for the Academic year 2021-2022

M.Sc. (2 year) / M.Phil. Degree Programmes offered in the University Departments of Anna University, Chennai – 25 for the Academic Yea

M. Sc. (2 year)

Medical Physics

Applied Chemistry

Applied Geology

Electronic Media

Mathematics



विज्ञप्ति संख्या 01/उपमहानिदेशक (अनुसंघान)/2021-भा वा अ शि प

Advertisement No. 01/DDG(R)/2021-ICFRE भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एव शिक्षा परिषद, देहरादुन 7वे वेतन आयोग के स्तर 15 के वेतनमान मे उपमहानिदेशक (अनुसधान), भा वा अ शि.प., देहरादून के पद को

प्रतिनियुक्ति के आधार पर भरने हेतू आवेदन आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं।

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जोधपुर विकास प्राधिकरण, जोधपुर की ओर से प्राधिकरण एवं राजकीय विभाग में नियमानुसा

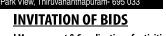
पयुक्त श्रेणी में विद्युत कार्यों हेतु पंजीकृत बिडर्स से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्युरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया र विद्युत कार्यों हेतु ऑनलाईन बिंड आमंत्रित की गई है। इन कार्यों की अनमानित लागत बिः बेचे जाने तथा प्राप्त करने की दिनांक, बिड शर्तें आदि का सम्पूर्ण विवरण वेबसाईट http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, www.jodhpurjda.org, www.sppp.raj.nic.in पर देखा जा सकता है। NIB CODE: JOD2122A0059, Tender ID/UBN No.: JOD2122WSOB00086,

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Providing Professional Management & Coordination of activities including upgradations by own Developments (New Construction & Refurbishments) and operation on lease basis for a period of 25 Years & Transfer to the Sargaalaya Arts & Crafts Village at Iringal in Kozhikkode District.

kerala.

Director

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01/09/2021, 2.00 PM Tender Id: 2021 TOUR 435408 1

Date: 17/08/2021

has allowed HDFC Bank to issue new credit cards, a source familiar with the matter told Reuters. However, the RBI's ban on the bank introducing new digital initiatives would continue, the source said. In December 2020, the central bank had issued the orders against HDFC Bank following repeated outages in the private lender's digital payment services. REUTERS 'e-retail rose 25% in FY21 on online shopping' MUMBAI The Indian e-retail market shrunk by 5% along with a Bain & Company said. The growth came even as India national lockdown and prolonged disruptions in Company said in a report. **Sterlite Power to raise** ₹1,250 crore via IPO



'Bowling first wasn't ideal decision by Root'

It was an indication that England was worried about India's pace attack, says Sachin Tendulkar

INDIA IN ENG

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

The legendary Sachin Tendulkar says the current England's team is in complete awe of India's world-class seam attack with only its skipper Joe Root looking capable of getting a big hundred.

In an exclusive interview. the iconic batsman spoke on a host of issues including India's victory, the standard of England Test team, Rohit Sharma's dominance against the new ball. Excerpts:

You have been a part of many memorable wins. How would you describe this victory at the Lord's?

When I saw Joe Root putting India in after winning the toss, I was really surprised and I felt that in itself was an indication that England was worried about our fast-bowling attack. I actually shared a message with a friend on Friday morning around 8 a.m. that if weather allows us, we are winning this Test match.

The surface looked dry to me later on, because you could see that first ball from Mohammed Siraj's new spell



Riding high: Virat Kohli made all the right moves and the Indian tail-enders and pacers backed him to the hilt. • AFP

took off from good length and hit Ollie Robinson on the chest. That was clear indication that the surface had over-dried and hence the ball took off from there. Bowling first wasn't an ideal

decision by the England captain and credit to our openers, they were brilliant.

What do you make of this

England batting line-up? This England team has had a

history of collapses. I felt that is where they lost the grip and if you look at their batting, how many batters can one say, this guy can come out and get a big hundred? In this team, I

don't see anyone other than Joe Root. Teams of past had number of such players whether Alastair Cook, Michael Vaughan, Kevin Pietersen, Ian Bell, Jonathan Trott, Andrew Strauss

Yes they might get an odd hundred but how many can get big hundreds consistently? Other than Root, I can't find anyone and that's the state of their batting today. May be the reason for Root to opt for fielding first.

How did you find Rohit's batting in first innings and how much of a concern is his propensity to play the hook and pull which is leading to his dismissal?

Whatever I have seen, I feel, he has taken the lead and he has shown the other side of his temperament and how he can change his game and adapt to situation and play accordingly

He has been a leader there and KL has supported him brilliantly. As far as playing pull shot is concerned, he has cleared the fence with that shot and I am looking at what he has been able to achieve for the team in both Tests

Rohit has left the ball and defended the ball brilliantly or equally well. He was always a fantastic player but seeing his last few innings in England, I can say he has definitely gone a notch higher.

Tendulkar and Ganguly praise Indian team



Sourav Ganguly. • FILE PHOTO Sachin Tendulkar. • AFP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA LONDON

Sachin Tendulkar led the cricketing fraternity in saluting the Indian team's "resilience and grit" during the incredible victory in the second Test against England at Lord's. "That was some Test match #TeamIndia! Enjoyed watching every moment of it. The resilience and grit that the team displayed in difficult situations is something that stood out for me. Very well played!" Tendulkar tweeted.

BCCI president Sourav Ganguly also lavished praise on the Indian team. "Fantastic win for india... what character and guts from the team... each and every one... such a pleasure to watch it from so close ... ?

V.V.S. Laxman termed it a "sensational win", "What an incredible day of Test Match Cricket and one to remember for a long time for every Indian Fan. Bumrah and Shami fighting with the bat early in the day, and the pace attack of Siraj, Ishant, Bumrah, Shami giving it their all and India registering a sensational win #LordsTest," he tweeted.

wicketkeeper-Former batsman Dinesh Karthik said: "From survival to revival, the final day at Lord's was no less than a bingeworthy thriller. Big win #TeamIndia. This one's highlights are gonna be replayed many times in the

India meets Pakistan in its opener

Final to be held on Nov. 14 with next day being a reserve day

T20 WORLD CUP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

India will clash with arch-rival Pakistan in their ICC T20 World Cup opener on Oct. 24 in Dubai, the ICC announced on Tuesday.

As per the schedule announced by the International Cricket Council (ICC), India's next opponent will be New Zealand on October 31 in Dubai, followed by a match against Afghanistan in Abu

ROUND 1

GROUP A

The Netherlands Namibia

Bangladesh

Papua New Guinea

THE SCHEDULE | ROUND

Teams

Oma vs PNG

Ban vs Sco

Ire vs Ned

SL **vs** Nam

Oct. 19 Oma **vs** Ban

Sco vs PNG

Scotland

Date

Oct. 18

Oct. 18

Oct. 19

GROUP

Sri Lanka

Dhabi on Nov. 3. India's remaining two Super 12 matches are against the winner of Group B (Nov. 5 in Dubai) and second placed side of Group A (Nov. 8 in Dubai).

The tournament's first round kicks off on Oct. 17 in Oman, with the hosts taking on Papua New Guinea and Bangladesh playing Scotland. Group A consists of 2014 champions Sri Lanka, Ire-

land, the Netherlands and

Namibia, while Group B has

ICC Men's

2021 schedule

Venue

Muscat

Muscat

Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi

3.30 p.m.

7.30 p.m.

3.30 p.m.

7.30 p.m.

The top two from each group advance to Super 12s

India

3.30 p.m. Muscat

7.30 p.m. Muscat

Date

Oct. 21

Oct. 21

Teams

Ban **vs** PNG

Oma vs Sco

Oct. 20 Nam **vs** Ned

Oct. 22 Nam vs Ire

Oct. 22 SL **vs** Ned

SL **vs** Ire

Bangladesh, Scotland, Papua New Guinea and Oman.

The top two teams from each group will qualify for the Super 12 stage.

The Super 12s – round two of the tournament, with two groups - will begin on Octob-

The first semifinal will be held in Abu Dhabi on November 10, while the second will be played in Dubai on Nov. 11. The final will be held in Dubai on Nov. 14 with Nov. 15 marked as reserve day.

Boycott criticises England's tactics

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Geoffrey Boycott feels England was "stupid" with its tactics in the second Test against India and also allowed emotions to get the better of it.

"This Test match has proved two things. Firstly, if you are stupid you do not deserve to win Test matches. As much as we love Joe Root for his magnificent batting, he cocked up with his tactics.

"Secondly, England cannot keep relying on Joe for all their runs. There has to be an improvement from the top three very soon because



Boycott. • FILE PHOTO

it is getting beyond a joke," Boycott, a former England wrote in The captain, Telegraph.

"Joe had been doing well with his field placings and captaincy but seeing Jasprit Bumrah at the crease was like a red rag to a bull. He encouraged Mark Wood to just pepper him with fast short balls. It is obvious the England captain and some of his players wanted payback for the working over Bumrah gave James Anderson in the first innings.

"Tempers were frayed. Heated words were exchanged as England seemed more intent on hitting Bumrah and Mohammad Shami instead of getting them out. The tail swiped and edged. The field spread out on both sides of the wickets to stop the run scoring and England suffered the embarrassment of India declaring."

Praggnanandhaa takes blitz title

SPORTS BUREAU RIGA (LATVIA)

Displaying his well-known skills in shorter time-controls, sixth seed R. Praggnanandhaa outsmarted five higher-ranked compatriots to win the RTU Open blitz chess title here on Sunday.

Praggnanandhaa scored 10 points from 11 rounds to take the honours ahead of training partner M. Karthikeyan, who tallied 9.5 points. Top seed Nihal Sarin came third with nine points.

The time control was three minutes per player



plus two seconds increment + per move. In the field of 178, there were 26 Indians.

Sathiyan, Manika on course; upset wins for Archana, Sreeja

SPORTS BUREAU

Indians had a good day at the office with India's top paddlers G. Sathiyan and Manika Batra along with Harmeet Desai, Manav Thakkar, Sreeja Akula and Archana Kamath progressing to the singles pre-quarterfinals of the World Table Tennis Budapest here on Tuesday.

Sathiyan, seeded fourth, dispatched Can Akkuzu of France in four games while the sixth-seeded Manika outwitted Germany's Sabine Winter in the round of 32.

Archana, ranked 134 in the world, defeated Yana Noskova of Russia (WR 58) in five tough games. Sreeja beat Linda Bergstrom of Sweden, ranked 72 places higher at 78, in five games.

Ruwan Filus of Germany, the third seed, was stunned by Tomas Polansky of the Czech Republic.

The results: Men's singles (round of 32, first round): G. Sathiyan bt Can Akkuzu (Fra) 14-12, 11-5, 7-11, 11-4; Harmeet Desai bt Csaba Andras (Fra) 6-11, 7-



Tough fight: Archana Kamath, ranked 134 in the world, defeated Yana Noskova, ranked 58, in five games, ■FILE PHOTO

11, 13-11, 11-7, 11-4; Manav Thakkar bt Pavel Platanov (Blr) 12-10, bine Winter (Ger) 8-11, 11-7, 11-6,

Women's singles (round of 32, first round): Manika Batra bt Sa11, 5-11, 11-9; Sreeja Akula bt Linda Bergstrom (Swe) 11-8, 6-11, 14-12, 2-11, 11-7; T. Reeth Rishya lost to Szandra Pergel (Hun) 10-12, 6-11, 11-6, 11-8, 11-7. Men's doubles (round of 16, first round): Harmeet Desai &

13-15, 11-5; Archana Kamath bt

Manay Thakkar bt Jeet Chandra & Manay Shah 5-11, 11-7, 11-7, 13-11; Sanil Shetty & S. Snehit bt Tomas Martinko & Simon Belik (Cze) 5-11, 11-9, 11-2, 11-8.

Women's doubles (round of 16, first round): Selena Deepthi & Sreeja Akula lost to Linda Bergstrom & Christina Kallberg (Swe) 11-8, 10-12, 11-5, 11-8.

Kohli did a great job, but Kohlism needs to be reviewed



All times IST

Venue

3.30 p.m. | Abu Dhabi

7.30 p.m. | *Abu Dhabi*

Muscat

3.30 p.m. | Muscat

3.30 p.m. | Sharjah

7.30 p.m. | Sharjah

7.30 p.m.

THE SCHEDULE SUPER 125								
	G R O	GROUP 1 GROUP 2						
Date	Teams	Time	Venue	Date	Teams	Time	Venue	
Oct. 23	Aus vs SA	3.30 p.m.	Abu Dhabi	Oct. 24	Ind vs Pak	7.30 p.m.	Dubai	
Oct. 23	Eng vs Wl	7.30 p.m.	Dubai	Oct. 25	Afg vs B1	7.30 p.m.	Sharjah	
Oct. 24	A1 vs B2	3.30 p.m.	Sharjah	Oct. 26	Pak vs NZ	7.30 p.m.	Sharjah	
Oct. 26	SA vs WI	3.30 p.m.	Dubai	Oct. 27	B1 vs A2	7.30 p.m.	Abu Dhabi	
Oct. 27	Eng vs B2	3.30 p.m.	Abu Dhabi	Oct. 29	Afg vs Pak	7.30 p.m.	Dubai	
Oct. 28	Aus vs A1	7.30 p.m.	Dubai	Oct. 31	Afg vs A2	3.30 p.m.	Abu Dhabi	
Oct. 29	WI vs B2	3.30 p.m.	Sharjah	Oct. 31	Ind vs NZ	7.30 p.m.	Dubai	
Oct. 30	SA vs A1	3.30 p.m.	Sharjah	Nov. 2	Pak vs A2	7.30 p.m.	Abu Dhabi	
Oct. 30	Aus vs Eng	7.30 p.m.	Dubai	Nov. 3	NZ vs B1	3.30 p.m.	Dubai	
Nov. 1	Eng vs A1	7.30 p.m.	Sharjah	Nov. 3	Ind vs Afg	7.30 p.m.	Abu Dhabi	
Nov. 2	SA vs B2	3.30 p.m.	Abu Dhabi	Nov. 5	NZ vs A2	3.30 p.m.	Sharjah	
Nov. 4	Aus vs B2	3.30 p.m.	Dubai	Nov. 5	Ind vs B1	7.30 p.m.	Dubai	
Nov. 4	WI vs A1	7.30 p.m.	Abu Dhabi	Nov. 7	NZ vs Afg	3.30 p.m.	Abu Dhabi	
Nov. 6	Aus vs Wl	3.30 p.m.	Abu Dhabi	Nov. 7	Pak vs B1	7.30 p.m.	Sharjah	
Nov. 6	Eng vs SA	7.30 p.m.	Sharjah	Nov. 8	Ind vs A2	7.30 p.m.	Dubai	
The top two from each group advance to the semifinals								

Pakistan New Zealand Afghanistan

KNOCKOUT STAGE

Date	Teams	Time	Venue
Nov. 10	Semifinal 1	7.30 p.m.	Abu Dhabi
Nov. 11	Semifinal 2	7.30 p.m.	Dubai
Nov. 14	Final	7.30 p.m.	Dubai

BETWEEN WICKETS SURESH MENON

India have just won a terrific Test at Lord's, and it's a good time to discuss their philosophy, Kohlism. That a team reflects its captain is one of the cliches of the sport. A great sight of the contemporary game is the passion and energy that Virat Kohli brings to it. And the supreme confidence too, not just in himself as a player but in his team as well.

When India came out to bat again after lunch on the last day, it was sheer chutzpah. The nine balls they played didn't matter to either Mohammed Shami or Jasprit Bumrah. But what it did to the English openers, who had begun to mentally prepare themselves to bat and then had to stop-start their routine all over again, was immense. The result was two ducks at the top of the order. India never let go after that. Results often balance on such subtleties.

Brave decision To understand your bowlers so well

and to recognise their power well enough to decide that 60 overs

would be enough to dismiss England is remarkable. In the end India didn't need even that much. Nor did they need a spinner. It was a brave decision to drop Ashwin, by far the best in the world; questions would have been asked had India failed to dismiss England. But 39 of 40 wickets so far have fallen to the seamers, and Ravindra Jadeja needed to bowl just

One of the unintended consequences of Bumrah's intimidatory bowling to James Anderson in England's first innings was England's tactics backfiring on the final morning. To attempt to dismiss numbers nine and ten through intimidatory bowling with the field spread out was

Heavy price

If England felt the match was theirs at that point and they needed only to teach Bumrah a lesson, they paid a heavy price short-sightedness.

Bumrah's attack on Anderson was out of character, and frankly, both unnecessary and unfair. He might have been advised by his captain. Television loved it of course, especially on the final day when the retaliations and reprisals took over. India seemed to have a pressing need to show who was boss, as did England. But the latter's ammunition was inadequate. Who did what first is unimportant in such cases.

And so to Kohlism. It can be defined as a philosophy where hostility and retaliating before being provoked is key. Confrontations are encouraged, in the belief it pumps up bowlers. It also involves conducting the emotional orchestra of that portion of the stadium where the Indian supporters sit. There is too the notion sometimes that a victory is not enough, it has to be accompanied by humiliation, a word that has no place in sport. Stump mikes did pick up much derisive laughter.

For years as Indian teams rolled over and died in the face of aggression (one top batsman even burst into tears when sledged), they were held up as examples of good behaviour. Actually, they just lacked the self-belief.

Then a number of things came together to give Indian teams the swagger they had lacked. The financial power of the cricket board, the No. 1 rankings, the victories abroad, the belief that international cricket would die without India's support. On the field, captains like Sourav Ganguly and Kohli refined the arrogance to a fine art.

But in Ganguly's time there were players like Rahul Dravid and others who ensured that things didn't go out of control. This is not to suggest that things went out of control at Lord's but it could have. There is no Dravid

in this team. If there is - Ajinkya Rahane, perhaps – the majority is likely to overrule him.

There is a choice to be made here. Do we want our cricket team to be seen as aggressive bullies who act as if the 22 yards and everything else belongs to them, or is there another way of winning that does not reach down into the lesser devils (as opposed to the better angels) of our

Need to pull back

To a generation brought up on aggression and giving as good as you got, Kohlism might appear natural and reasonable. Perhaps it is. But with three Tests remaining, and the relations between teams already beginning to dip, things could get worse. Both teams need to pull back, but especially the one which has Kohlism as its stated policy. Umpires will have a difficult time.

This Indian team is too talented, too various in its gifts, and too successful for it to be remembered merely for poor behaviour. To put down India's incredible showing on the final day to inspiration provided by the tensions earlier is unfair to the skill and motivation of the bowlers.

Aggression is welcome, even necessary, but it can slide into boorishness and gratuitous violence. That really is the danger.



TV PICKS

Champions League: Playoffs: 1st leg, Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD), 12.30 a.m. (Thursday)

IN BRIEF



Bond to join NZ coaching staff for T20 World Cup

Former fast bowler Shane Bond will join New Zealand team as "fourth coach" during the T20 World Cup in the UAE, soon after his Mumbai Indians stint in the remainder of the IPL. He will also be with the team in the three-game T20I series against India after the World Сир. РТІ

Goalless draws in LaLiga

Four teams got their LaLiga season off to a goalless start on Monday. While Villarreal was held by the visiting Granada, Elche managed to hold out Athletic Bilbao The results: Villarreal O drew with Granada O: Elche O drew with Athletic Bilbao O.



Football star Lloyd sset to retire LOS ANGELES

Two-time Olympic gold medal winner Carli Lloyd said on Monday she will retire from the US women's national football team later this year. Llovd, who was also named FIFA Women's Player of the Year twice, announced she plans to hang up her cleats after a series of national team exhibition matches in the fall.

JFC signs Anas

JAMSHEDPUR Jamshedpur FC (JFC), on Tuesday, completed the signing of defender Anas Edathodika ahead of the Indian Super League (ISL) 2021-22 season. The 34-year-old makes his return to JFC where he played previously in its debut season in 2017-18. ANI



completes Roma switch

Tammy Abraham has completed his move to Roma from Chelsea, the Serie A club announced on Monday, the England forward joined former Blues boss Jose Mourinho in the Italian capital in a deal worth £40 million (\$47 million). In a statement, Roma said that Chelsea would "retain the right to a percentage of any future transfer fee involving the striker". AFP

Organisers of Sao Paulo GP request date change

SAO PAULO The organisers of Formula 1's Sao Paulo Grand Prix requested a date change for the event but assuring that the race will go on this year. Authorities wish the race, set to be held on November 7, is pushed back a week, to be held on November 14. AP

Saumya & Rioux advance

SPORTS BUREAU ERWITTE (GERMANY)

Saumya Vig and Japan's Lisa-Marie Rioux fought back from 5-1 down in the second set to score a 6-2, 7-6 (3) victory over Elena Jamshidi and Sofia Nami Samavati of Denmark in the doubles first round of the \$15,000 ITF women's tennis tournament here on Tuesday.

The results: \$15,000 ITF women, Erwitte, Germany: First round: Lissa-Marie Rioux (Jpn) & Saumya Vig bt Elena Jamshidi & Sofia Nami Samavati (Den) 6-2, 7-6(3).

Thrilled at regaining full playing rights

'For a golfer, it's a big deal. I have a job next year,' Lahiri said of his return to the PGA Tour

RAKESH RAO

Anirban Lahiri is thrilled at returning to the FedEx Cup Playoffs and gaining full playing rights for the next season on the PGA Tour.

Addressing a virtual press conference on Tuesday evening, Lahiri said, "It has been a challenging year and now I have the reins back in my hand. If I play well over the next few weeks, I can make the season look a lot better."

Making the cut

Lahiri, 34, finished tied 46th last weekend in the \$4.6-million Wyndham Championship. The cheque of \$18,000 took his earnings to \$930,661 and placed him 121st on the Fedex Cup rankings on the PGA Tour. The top-125 keep their playing rights for the next season.

In the 21 events that Lahiri played, he made 11 cuts, dotted with three top-10 finishes, with the best of third place in the \$3.5-million Barbasol Championship.

BADMINTON

World champion P.V. Sindhu

resumed training for the first

time after the Tokyo Olym-

pics bronze-winning perfor-

mance, at the Suchitra Aca-

demy here on Monday even

as her Korean coach Park

Tae-Sang went on a vacation.

length physical conditioning

session at the Suchitra Gym

after being given a touching

reception on her arrival at

the campus after the Games.

tion right now as I have to

"I cannot think of a vaca-

Sindhu underwent a full-

V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM



Looking ahead: Lahiri last figured in the FedEx playoffs in 2018 and thereafter, could not keep his full playing rights after finishing 178th (in 2019) and 219th (in 2020). • AFP

Lahiri now looks ahead to doing well in the first of the playoffs, the \$9.5-million Northern Trust (August 19-22) in New Jersey.

From here, the top-70 from finishers will be eligible to play in the \$9.5 million BMW Championship. Thereafter, the top-30 figure in the season-ending \$12-mil-

prepare for couple of major

events scheduled in the next

few months. I wish to be a

near-complete player," Sind-

working on any specific area

of my game. First I should get

a feel of how my body res-

ponds for the first couple of

days and then plan out my

on-court training schedule,"

she said. "In terms of intensi-

ty of preparations, the ef-

couldn't afford to relax as the

journey for the 2024 Paris

Olympics would begin soon.

"I wouldn't say World No.

added she

forts will always be there."

"There is nothing like

hu told *The Hindu*.

Sindhu resumes training

Says emphasis will be on improvement

lion Tour Championship.

Lahiri last figured in the FedEx playoffs in 2018 and thereafter, could not keep his full playing rights after finishing 178th (in 2019) and 219th (in 2020).

Underlining the importance of finishing among the top-125 players, Lahiri said, "Eligibility is a big thing on

1 ranking is one of the imme-

diate goals. But, if everything

falls in place and I perform

well in some of the Majors, it

shouldn't be out of reach. I

am really pleased with my

defence and fitness levels at

Tokyo. Still, the emphasis

To the delight of all the

young talent at the academy

and the support and house-

keeping staff, the champion

every member of the Acade-

my who contributed to my

"I am grateful to each and

shuttler posed for pictures.

will be on improvement."

Meeting young talent

the PGA Tour. It guarantees you every start on all full field events, barring the invitational ones.

If I do well in the playoffs, I can enter a few more 'bonus' events. Earlier, I would wait to get into some events but now I can pick and choose which one to play.

"For a golfer, it's a big

deal. I have a job next year. For now, these next few weeks are really going to make a difference if I give myself opportunities to do

Long road to recovery

Reflecting on this fitness, Lahiri said, "It took me a full two months (post-COVID) to get close to my normal speed and strength.

"By June end, I started feeling better. I played lots of events, week after week. I had to manage my energy levels. As you know, Tokyo was hot and humid and took a lot out of us. But I am well conditioned. I am doing most of the things right to get back to my fitness levels of pre-COVID times"

Asked to reflect on his six winless seasons since joining the PGA Tour in 2016, Lahiri said, "I know I need to win. I know I have not played at my best. Since I played 12 PGA events before getting my PGA card, vou can call it my seventh or eighth season on the PGA Tour."



Staying fit: Sindhu underwent a full-length physical

Amul Lords and lords of taste!

Tailended batsmen!

Domestic PSA event from August 23

SQUASH

K. KEERTHIVASAN CHENNAI

For the first time, there will be a Professional Squash Association (PSA) domestic Challenger-10 squash tournament for men and women exclusively for Indians.

The "domestic PSA event" will be held at Indian Squash Academy here from August 23 to 26. The prize money tournament is \$12,000.

In June, PSA wrote to all the National Federations asking them to host domestic tournaments with a 50% reduction in prize money.

Reduced prize money

"With international travel remaining difficult, we are extending the option of hosting domestic and cross-border events with a 50% reduction in prize money until December 31. This applies to Satellite and Challenger Tour 3, 5, and 10 tournaments," it said.

PSA added it would give permission to host domesticonly tournaments on a caseby-case basis. "We do encourage all hosts, where possible, to hold regional tour-

"However, domestic-only tournaments will still be granted on a case-by-case basis," it said.

Abhay Singh, Harinderpal Singh Sandhu, S. Velavan, Rounak Yadav, Abhishek Pradhan, Abhishek Agarwal, Aadit Zaveri and Rahul Baitha will take part in the men's section.

In the women's category, Sunayna Kuruvilla, Tanvi Khanna, Urwashi Joshi, Sanika Choudhari, Sachika Balwani, Aparajitha Balamurukan, Abhisheka Shannon and Janet Vidhi, among others, will compete.

Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI) secretary Cyrus Poncha said since SRFI was not able to hold any tournaments for nearly two-and-a-half months due to the lockdown, this tournament will be of immense help to Indians who are looking for PSA ranking points.

"We last conducted a PSA event in Chennai (March 29-April 2) and after that, till Julv. we didn't have any major activity," he told *The Hindu*

Ravinder in semifinal

WRESTLING

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Upcoming Indian wrestler Ravinder showed tremendous defence skills to reach the 61kg semifinals of the junior world championship here on Monday even as three of his compatriots bit the dust in the quarterfinals.

In the pre-quarterfinal against Ivan Hramyka from Belarus, Ravinder's agility stood out as he won 5-2. Ivan had good attacking style but the Indian's better stamina helped him immensely.

In the quarterfinal against Brunei's Alibeg Alibegov, Ravinder's superior defence was on display.

Sindhu

Alibeg got hold of Ravinder's right leg and then also initiated a dangerous-looking double leg attack but on both occasions, Ravinder used his power and brain to wriggle out. He will now fight Armenia's Levik Mikayelyan for a place in the gold medal match.

Among other Indians in action, Yash (74kg) lost in the pre-quarterfinals while Vetal Shelkle (86kg), Pruthviraj Patil (92kg) and Aniruddh (125kg) lose their respective quarterfinals.

Going out of medal contention were Shubham (57kg) and Rohit (65kg), who lost their respective repechLukaku back at Chelsea as a more complete player Tve tried to master all the facets that a striker needs and I just want to keep improving

FOOTBALL

success," Sindhu said.

REUTERS Belgium international Romelu Lukaku said he has evolved since he last played in the Premier League two years ago and has returned to Chelsea as a more com-

plete player. The 28-year-old striker moved to Chelsea from Inter Milan last week for a reported sum of £97.5 million, earning him a second spell at the London club where he spent three seasons from

> 2011 to 2014. "I just feel more complete.

I've tried to master all the facets that a striker needs and I just want to keep improving on the small details all the time," Lukaku told the club's

Top scorer

Lukaku was Inter Milan's top scorer - with 24 goals - in Serie A last season, leading it to its first Scudetto in 11

"Italy is tactically and technically a better league but here in England, it's all about the intensity... but it's no problem for me because I've been here for eight years..." he said.



Focused: Romelu Lukaku, who led Inter Milan to the Serie A title, is keen on repeating it with Chelsea. • AFP

After leaving Chelsea, Lukaku switched to Everton before signing for Manchester

United in a big-money move in 2017 that ended in disappointment. Criticised for his

Osaka leaves press conference in tears

levels of fitness and lack of finesse, the striker left Old Trafford after just two

He said: "I don't really talk about my personal ambitions but they lean with the club's ambitions. That's why I came back... I'm a new version of that player from before."

Lukaku added that he likes manager Thomas Tuchel's system and is prepared to adapt.

"I can play as a two or by myself and I'm used to the system because it's what we play with the Belgian nation-

First major test for long jumper Shaili

Neeraj's breakthrough gold likely to inspire those at u-20 Worlds

ATHLETICS

STAN RAYAN

She is the under-18 World No. 2 this year, the u-20 Indian record holder and the National champion in women's section.

And the World Athletics championships, which begin in Nairobi on Wednesday, will be long jumper Shaili Singh's first major test.

With a 6.48m effort at the inter-State Nationals in June, the 17-year-old is the fifthbest jumper in the Worlds' entry list but she appears capable of much more.

"She is excited seeing the people here and the spirit but it all depends on the day," said Robert Bobby George, who has been coaching Shaili in Bengaluru for more three three years, from Nairobi. "It's her first international meet, I need a personal best from her."

High expectations For Bobby too, it will be the

first big test in nearly 20 years. He had coached his



In safe hands: Shaili Singh is being coached by Robert Bobby George for more three three years. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

wife Anju George to the long jump bronze at the 2003 Worlds and in Shaili's case, it will be a bigger challenge as expectations will be high.

Sweden's European champion Maja Askag (season best 6.80), Spain's Tessy Ebosele (6.63) and Italy's Arianna Battistella (6.55) are some of the athletes Shaili will be watching out for.

Indians have won just two golds at the u-20 Worlds and they came in the last two editions through javelin

thrower Neeraj Chopra (2016) and quartermiler Hima Das (2018). With Neeraj claiming gold

at the Tokyo Olympics, the focus will be on the two Indian javelin throwers, u-20 Federation Cup champion Kunwer Ajai Raj Singh Rana (SB 74.75m) - who had topped the 2018 Youth Olympics Asian qualifiers in Bangkok – and Jay Kumar (72.29). Ajai is the third-best thrower in the entry list where Ukraine's under-20

European champion Artur Felfner begins as favourite.

Opportunity

For Priya Mohan, the country's fastest quartermiler this year (53.29s) who missed the Olympics as she was not a national camper, Nairobi offers a wonderful opportunity to improve her timing with athletes like Nigeria's Imaobong Nse Uko (51.70) and Poland's Kornelia Lesiewics (52.02) in the fray.

With the World Championships, Commonwealth Games and Asian Games lined up next year, she will have a lot to look forward to.

Neeraj's breakthrough gold in Tokyo should also inspire the rest in the 27-member team to pull off a surprise or two.

er a peep into the future and youngsters like sprinters Godson Brume and Tina Clayton, middle-distance runner Diribe Welteji and high jumper Yonathan Kapitolnik could be big names in the next few years.

The five-day meet will off-

Reporter accuses her of using the media when it suits her **TENNIS** REUTERS

CINCINNATI

A tearful Naomi Osaka briefly left a press conference here on Monday after her relationship with the journalists was put under the spotlight by a reporter who accused her of using the media when it suits her.

Osaka has lately had a strained relationship with sections of the media, saying her mental health is adversely impacted by certain lines of questioning.

Hence on Monday when a local Cincinnati reporter at the Western and Southern Open suggested that Osaka benefits from her huge media profile but does not like speaking to reporters, the world number two teared up as she tried to formulate an

Background

answer.

"When you say I'm not crazy about dealing with you guys, what does that refer to?' asked Osaka, who is of Japanese-Haitian heritage.

"Ever since I was younger,



Under pressure: The exchange at the media meet highlighted the challenges Naomi Osaka faces as one of the world's most famous athletes. • AFP

I have had a lot of media interest on me, and I think it's because of my background

"I can't really help that there are some things that I tweet or some things that I say that kind of create a lot of news articles or things like that... but I would also say I'm not really sure how to balance the two. Like I'm figuring it out at the same time as you are, I would say."

During the exchange, she wiped away tears and pulled her visor over her eyes to hide her face before the moderator called for a pause to proceedings. Osaka left the room brief-

ly but returned to complete the news conference after regaining her composure. The exchange highlighted

the challenges Osaka faces as one of the world's most famous athletes.